

July 7, 2016

Air Force selects first enlisted Airmen for Global Hawk pilot training

The Air Force recently selected the first ten enlisted Airmen to attend RQ-4 Global Hawk pilot training, marking the first time since World War II enlisted Airmen will be behind the stick. The first combined enlisted and officer training course will begin October 2016, with the first enlisted Airmen expected to graduate in 2017.



WHO'S ELIGIBLE TO BE AN ENLISTED RPA PILOT?

- Applicants who have not been previously declined enlisted RPA pilot training.
- Currently, applicants must be a Career Enlisted Aviator (1AXXX or 1U0XX), staff sergeant through senior master sergeant.
 - **Note:** *In the future, we anticipate all enlisted AFSCs will be allowed to be considered for enlisted pilots. However, our current Air Force medical and testing systems are not ready to support the anticipated interest from all Airmen interested in applying for this new duty.*
- Be able to attain six years of retainability from course graduation date to complete the required undergraduate RPA training service commitment.
- Airmen interested in applying for RPA pilot duty should work with their supervisor and through the Air Force Personnel Center.
- Eligible applicants should apply by Nov. 18, 2016. ***The next boards will convene Jan. 23-26, 2017 to fill fiscal year 2017/2018 training seats.***
- AFPC will add enlisted RPA pilot categories to their annual flying training selection boards.

"We know our enlisted Airmen are ready to take on this important mission as we determine the right operational balance of officer and enlisted in this ISR enterprise for the future."

- Gen. David L. Goldfein, Air Force Chief of Staff

WHY THE RQ- 4?

- The RQ-4 is the most stable RPA community and presents an ability to integrate new capabilities in an effort to posture the force for a dynamic future operating environment
- Integrating enlisted pilots in RQ-4 operations in a deliberate, proactive manner capitalizes on the talent and capabilities of our enlisted force and will ultimately provide options that build a more agile ISR force in the future.
- The integration of enlisted pilots in the RQ-4 community, combined with additional AF studies, will inform whether we apply a similar approach to other weapon systems.

► RESOURCES

Website access to the following resources can be gained by clicking on the name.

[AF.mil](#)

[Airman magazine](#)

[Military OneSource/HomeFront](#)

[Air Force Personnel Center](#)

[Air Reserve Personnel Center](#)

[Department of Defense News](#)

[Department of Veteran Affairs](#)

[TRICARE](#)

[U.S. Government Website](#)

[Air Force Association Scholarships](#)

[Air Force Safety Center](#)

[Civil Service Employment Opportunities](#)

[NAF Employment Opportunities](#)

[Air Force Bands/Outreach](#)

► THIS WEEK IN AIR FORCE HISTORY

July 7, 1914 – Dr. Robert H. Goddard, the “father of American rocketry,” received a US patent for a two-stage solid-fuel rocket. It was the first of 69 patents he received for inventions.

July 8, 1944 – Lt. Col. Clifford Heflin flew his C-47 Skytrain on the first mission into France to rescue airmen who had parachuted behind enemy lines.

July 9, 1959: The last C-45 Beechcraft aircraft were phased out of the Tactical Air Command.

July 10, 2002- A C-5 Galaxy from the 436th Airlift Wing left Dover Air Force Base for Kabul, Afghanistan, with 13,115 pounds of school supplies collected by children from 58 American schools.

July 11, 1979: Skylab, “America’s first space station,” reentered the Earth’s atmosphere after 38,981 orbits. Skylab orbited the Earth from 1973 to 1979, and included a workshop, a solar observatory and other systems for exploring space.

July 12, 1942: The Curtiss-Wright Corporation delivered the first C-46 Commando to the Army Air Forces.

July 13, 1921: Brig Gen William “Billy” Mitchell’s Martin MB-2 and Handley Page bombers sank several ships off the Virginia Capes. The tests studied the use of bombs on ships to suggest how ship design could counter an air attack.



The OPM data breach, massive in its identity theft implications, gives rise to other crimes, and often one crime can result in two more. For example, phishing scams can morph into credit card fraud and social security abuse. Learn how to protect yourself [here](#).

To learn more about the Office of Personnel Management data breach, legitimate assistance being provided to impacted individuals, and to understand cybersecurity as it is grounded in the Air Force tradition, please go to the



For more information on Air Force heritage, visit <http://www.airforcehistory.af.mil>

The Defense Media Activity produces **Commander's Call Topics** weekly. For questions or comments about this or any other DMA product, send an e-mail to afbiographies.dma@mail.mil

Subscribe to AF news and information products, go to <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDODAF/subscriber/new>