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Flyover

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911th Airlift Wing Air Force Reserve Command - Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



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'Tis the season...for a "servant attitude"



Photos by Senior Airman Ian D. Carrier

Christmas is one of those special times of year when many people celebrate the holiday season by gathering for parties, sharing gifts, visiting family and friends, eating lots of food, or just enjoying some time off work to relax. Many consider it a time of giving. Here at the 911th Airlift Wing it's been a tradition for commander's, chief's, and first sergeant's to give their time during the holiday meals serving you.

Above: Col. Randal L. Bright, base commander, and Chief Master Sgt. James Fields, command chief, take their turn serving lunch at the dining facility.

Right: Santa takes some time from his busy schedule to visit the Airmen of the 911th Airlift Wing during the holiday meal at the dining facility, Dec. 3.





Commander's Corner

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<http://www.afrc.af.mil/911aw>

Another successful year

I hope everyone had a happy and fulfilling holiday season. Like a lot of people, mine was a little rushed with last minute shopping and events planning. All my anxiety could have been prevented with a little less procrastination on my part. I know if I left as many things to do for Unit Compliance Inspection (UCI) preparation as I did for Christmas shopping, next May would be a totally stressed out month. Luckily, I have a great staff who keep me organized and relatively on top of things.

The absolutely fantastic news from last year is everyone from the Operations Group and Maintenance Group made it through two years of activation with no fatalities, either from accident or enemy fire. This fine achievement is a testament to everyone's professionalism and training. I hope and pray our 32nd Aerial Port activation is also as successful and injury free.

Let's talk about standards for a moment. Labeling an exercise as a "contingency" or "wartime" deployment sometimes does funny things to people's reasoning. Some folks I know have taken "wartime" to mean they had been given some unwritten permission to start deviating from the rules and regulations. The danger in this reasoning is that it leads to negligence and complacency. If taking the time to do the job correctly and in accordance with directives gets replaced with just get it done, accidents start to happen. Like it or not, most all of our rules have been written for a reason, often involving safety. Focusing on standards and attention to detail are more important during contingencies, not less important. Please remember we all share equal responsibility to speak up when we see something that just looks wrong. One question I always ask is, "If we aren't using the Air Force standards found in our regulations, then what standards are we using?"

I would like to pass along a big thank you from the Operations Group to everyone on base for two years of successful deployments to the desert. The 911th's mission fighting our nation's global war on terrorism requires a total team effort. Everyone's hard work and dedication made it much easier to carry out the mission overseas. It reflects great credit on the 911th that our people maintained their professionalism and focus for two years and that no one was lost!

Now that most of us are back in the usual mode for a Reserve Wing, training and inspections are once again the main focus. If we keep the focus on standards and doing things the right way, it will continue to pay off in both safety and successful mission accomplishment.

I wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year!



**Lieutenant Colonel
Steven R. Clayton**



A holiday message to you from our Air Force leaders

The following is a holiday message from Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray:

“As 2005 draws to a close, we have the opportunity to reflect on the past year and prepare ourselves for 2006. For many of us, this season brings to mind a yearning for peace. Unfortunately, the enemies of peace are challenging those of us who promote liberty, tolerance and respect for human rights. That is why your service is vital to our nation. In this season of gift-giving, it is one of the greatest gifts you could bestow on your countrymen.

“We have seen this gift you have generously given – and not just to America, but to all nations. You brought food, shelter and security to those whose lives were devastated by the tsunami in Asia and the Indian subcontinent. You saved lives and restored services to those who felt the immense destruction of hurricanes

Katrina and Rita. You provided the conditions for the people of Afghanistan and Iraq to experience the gift of democracy.

You have created the shield that protects America, flying countless sorties over our homeland. And you have given the gift of national security, by committing yourself to excellence in performing your duties in countless other ways that do not always receive public recognition.

Peace
From
Earth

“This gift you give would not be possible without sacrifice. Whether active duty, Reserve, Guard, or civilian, you work under conditions that are very demanding. Some of you are separated from your families this holiday season, deployed to hazardous and austere locations. We are incredibly proud of you and your families, whose support makes your sacrifice possible.

“We are also filled with pride in those who have fallen this year while serving in our Air Force. We shall always remember the gift they gave, and keep their families in our hearts.

“But as we have given the gift of service to our country, we have received much in return. Sometimes, it has been a care package or kind note from a stranger. Or it has been the support of the communities that lie outside our gates. It has been the unspoken thanks in the exhausted eyes of someone evacuated from a disaster. But one thing is certain – we have received the gift of unwavering support from the people of this land.

“As the holidays approach, we urge all of you to reflect on the gifts you have given and received this year. We wish you the gifts of peace, health, and happiness in the coming year.” (AFPN)

QUICK CLIPS

Annual Awards Banquet

The Annual Awards Banquet is scheduled to be held at the Crowne Plaza, March 4, 2006.

This year, the Reserve Generation, a top forty band which is part of the Band of the US Air Force Reserve will provide entertainment.

This is the Wing’s formal/semiformal affair.

The cost per ticket is \$30 and can be purchased from your First Sergeant.

Look for more info in upcoming issues.

New Insurance Program

All members enrolled in the Service member’s Group Life Insurance will automatically be enrolled, as a rider, to the new Traumatic Injury Protection Insurance program, effective Dec. 1.

Congress mandated automatic enrollment for all SGLI-covered members and a member would have to decline SGLI coverage in order to cancel TSGLI coverage.

The cost of \$1 per month will be added to the member’s monthly SGLI premium regardless of the amount of the SGLI coverage.

The TSGLI benefit is a tax-free lump sum payment ranging from \$25K - \$100K depending on the extent of the injury. It has no effect on any entitlement for compensation and pension benefits.



Air Force releases new mission statement

The realities of the world have changed dramatically since the creation of the Air Force in 1947 and continue to change almost daily.

With these changes in mind, Air Force leaders released a new mission statement Dec. 7 that defines the current and future direction of the Air Force.

“Today, our world is fast paced, constantly shifting and filled with a wide range of challenges,” Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley wrote in a joint Letter to Airmen. “Our mission is our guiding compass, and now more than ever we need it to be clear and precise.”

The mission statement defines the “where and what” the Air Force accomplishes on a daily basis:

The mission of the United States Air Force is to deliver sovereign options for the defense of the United States of America and its global interests — to fly and fight in Air, Space, and Cyberspace.

The statement includes two new concepts, “sovereign options” and “cyberspace,” which the secretary and chief defined.

They said having sovereign options is the essence of being a superpower.

“Our task is to provide the president, the combatant commanders, and our nation with an array of

options ... options that are not limited by the tyranny of distance, the urgency of time, or the strength of our enemy’s defenses,” they said. “With one hand the Air Force can deliver humanitarian assistance to the farthest reaches of the globe, while with the other hand we can destroy a target anywhere in the world.”

The term cyberspace includes network security, data transmission and the sharing of information.

“We have quite a few of our Airmen dedicated to cyberspace ... from security awareness, making sure the networks can’t be penetrated, as well as figuring out countermeasures,” Secretary Wynne said. “The Air Force is a natural leader in the cyber world and we thought it would be best to recognize that talent.”

Adversaries of the United States will use any method or venue necessary to contest America, and it is an Airman’s calling to dominate air, space and cyberspace, the leaders said.

“If we can decisively and consistently control these commons, then we will deter countless conflicts,” they said. “If our enemies underestimate our resolve, then we will fly, fight, and destroy them.”

Using past air power pioneers as examples of understanding the mission, they said, “The Air Force’s mission statement has evolved over time, but it does not change the nature of who we are or what we do.” (AFPN)

Airmen give the gift of life



Central Blood Bank conducted a blood drive here, Dec. 4, in Hangar 418. Members like Master Sgt. Ronald Keck of the 911th Maintenance Squadron showed community support by donating blood during the holiday season. There were 47 members who attempted to give, but only 39 who were allowed. There were also eight referrals.

“I am proud to be associated with our Wing and all the folks here,” said Maj. Sharon Johnson, 911th Maintenance Squadron commander and blood drive coordinator for the wing.

The next blood drive is scheduled for February 2006.

Photo by Senior Airman Ian D. Carrier



Air Force declares F-22A operational

The Air Force's most advanced weapon system is ready for combat, Air Force officials here announced Dec. 15.

In reaching initial operational capability, the F-22A Raptor has been certified ready for employment.

Declaring the transformational fighter IOC means the Raptor's proven capabilities are now available for use in combat around the globe and are supported by a properly trained and equipped force. It also means the aircraft is qualified to perform homeland defense missions when required. In the words of Gen. Ronald E. Keys, Air Combat Command commander, "If we go to war tomorrow, the Raptor will go with us."

"F-22A IOC means our warfighters now have an unprecedented lethal mix of air-to-air and air-to-ground capabilities at their disposal," General Keys said. "The Raptor's cutting-edge technology brings us continued joint air dominance despite advancing enemy threats."

Reaching the IOC milestone culminates a collaborative effort between Air Force organizations and the service's industry partners over the past 25 years. The road to IOC included the F-22A System Program Office turning Air Force requirements into a successful acquisition program; developmental flight test and evaluation, simulation and ground testing at Edwards AFB, Calif., and Eglin AFB, Fla.; engine testing at Arnold AFB, Tenn.; missile testing at Holloman AFB, N.M., and over the Pacific Test Range; tactics development at Nellis AFB, Nev.; pilot and maintenance training at Tyndall AFB, Fla.; and deployability here.



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Ben Bloker

Crew chief Staff Sgt. Adam Murtishaw guides an F-22A Raptor into its parking space after a Dec. 14 mission. The 27th Fighter Squadron earned initial operating capability today, which means the stealth jet is combat ready. Sergeant Murtishaw is with the 27th Aircraft Maintenance Unit.

"The F-22A fulfills a long quest to bring fifth-generation capabilities of stealth, supercruise and precision to the warfighter today and 30 years from today," General Keys said. "Now that we have met our first promised milestone of a fully capable, multi-mission platform ready for combat, we are already focused on furthering our integrated tactics development, refining our deployability, and growing and training our force. To add to what we learned on our successful first operational deployment to the Utah Test and Training Range to drop (joint direct attack munitions), fly against double-digit (surface-to-air missiles) at Nellis, and work (close air support) with F-16 FAC-As, we will conduct our first routine peacetime exercise deployment by taking 12 Raptors to Alaska in June for Northern Edge."

Designed to ensure America's air dominance for years to come, the F-22A will ensure U.S. joint forces' freedom from attack and freedom to attack, even as adversaries continue to advance their

weapons and technologies.

"As I told (Air Force Chief of Staff) Gen. (T. Michael) Moseley, he and I have spent our lifetime executing, instructing, and providing air dominance for the joint force. Lamentably, we have never been privileged to hold a weapon like this in our hands. After reviewing our test results, seeing our operational deployment performance, and talking to the pilots that will go to war with it, I am confident that the F-22A joins the combat force at a far more mature and capable level than any of our previous great aircraft, and will take its rightful place in a long line of U.S. Air Force legends of the air," General Keys said.

The first combat-ready Raptors are assigned to the 27th Fighter Squadron, one of three squadrons assigned to the 1st Fighter Wing here.

The squadron's current combat deployment capability with the F-22A is a 12-ship package designed to execute air-to-air and air-to-ground missions. (AFP)



The Communications Corridor

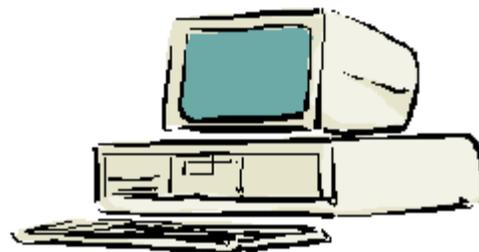
A link to better understanding

by Mr. Greg Nass
911th Communications Squadron

Thanks to everyone for your support and cooperation with the Department of Defense Network Security Stand Down. We were able to complete the exercise with minimal downtime to end users and network services. Thanks also to those users who have completed the DD2875 forms. For those of you who haven't, time is running out...

Don't forget to perform the 2006 Information Awareness Training. To retain network access, all users must complete this annual training before January 31, 2006. To get started, browse to www.my.af.mil and register for an Air Force portal account. Additionally, anti-piracy training is also required and can be accessed through the Pit Metrics Communication page.

Please keep in mind that we are required to have visual recognition and verify your Department of Defense identification card before resetting pass-



words. We are unable to perform this task over the telephone.

Tips and Tricks: Window Logo Key Commands

Windows logo key + E will open Windows Explorer.

Windows logo key + D will minimize all open windows displaying only the desktop.

Windows logo key + F will open the Search for Files window.

Windows logo key + R will open the run command. Type OSK in the open text box and click OK. This will open an on-screen keyboard.

We want to hear from you! Please feel free to e-mail 911aw.helpdesk@pittsburgh.af.mil with feedback on how we can better service your technical needs.

Work Group Managers (WGM)

**911th Maintenance Group: Phil Call/X8397; 911th Operations Group: James Wise/X8323;
911th Mission Support Group: Kenneth Malachi/X8206
Help Desk X8444 or e-mail 911AW.Helpdesk@pittsburgh.af.mil**



The 911th Operations Group said farewell to four of its Airmen at a retirement ceremony Dec. 3; Chief Navigator Lt. Col. Ronald W. Korn, Tactics Officer Lt. Col. Gary Fogel, Navigator Lt. Col. Mark Prentice and Loadmaster Senior Master Sgt. James R. Wagner. "One hundred and eight years of military experience stands up here on this stage," said 911th Airlift Wing Commander Col. Randy Bright in his closing remarks. Each member received a Meritorious Service Medal, and each member's spouse received a Letter of Appreciation. The ceremony was followed by entertainment and a party.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jessica Benigni



Air Force Office of Special Investigations

A request for your support and diligence

During the past several months there have been numerous reports of members' vehicles that were stolen with their military identification (ID), access badges, or uniforms still in the vehicle. Also incidences where their vehicle was broken into and an A-bag is taken from the back seat while their access badge is stolen from the rearview mirror.

I wanted to remind everyone about securing their military items, such as access badges, military ID cards and any other special organizational equipment that is not necessarily classified or controlled

but sensitive nonetheless and, which would allow someone to find out what our personnel information is or even worse our mission. Securing these items is vital to protecting our installations and fellow military members.

The Eagle Eyes Program is designed to help identify and prevent a potential terrorist or domestic attack, so let's not provide supplies for these groups.

Do not leave your access badge or ID in your vehicle. Also remove your A-bag or duty gear from inside the vehicle; lock these items in the trunk or remove them

all together. As a military member it is your responsibility to maintain control over your equipment and identification. Let's not be that someone who provides our enemies with the last piece of equipment needed to gain access to a military installation. In the event your vehicle has been stolen or broken into, report the matter to your local police department then immediately report the details to the Security Forces Law Enforcement Desk. If you have any questions or concerns contact AFOSI Detachment 325 OL-A, Pittsburgh IAP-ARS at (412) 474-8824. (PA)

Drug use - Rolling the dice, taking chances

by 1st Lt. David Sever

911 Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Over the past few years the Air Force Reserve Command has noticed an increase in the number of Airmen testing positive for drug use. This can probably be attributed to many things, numerous deployments, pressures at home, peer pressure, stress from a job or just the prevalence and glamorization of drugs in our society. Without a doubt, illicit drugs are out there and they are easy to obtain. Whether the intent of drug use is to escape problems or just "feel good and have fun" for a short period of time, the consequences can be devastating. The bottom line is short term gratification with long term consequences.

The Air Force now requires mandatory, random drug testing. Let's take a look at what can happen if you would test positive for an illicit drug. Automatically, your continued service in the Air Force is terminated. At a minimum you will receive a Letter of Reprimand (LOR) and an Unfavorable Information File (UIF). Because the Air Force is not tolerant of illicit drug use, the most likely scenario will be court-martial under Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). You could receive confinement for up to one year, hard labor without confinement for three months, a bad conduct or dishonorable discharge, reduction in rank to E-1 and forfeiture of 2/3 pay and allowances for up to one year. One other thing, you now have a federal conviction on your

record for the rest of your life. How are your stress and fun levels now?

To date, the 911th AW has had four Airmen test positive for drug use. Through administrative action they lost the opportunity to continue their service and face discharge that is less than honorable. If you test positive you do not get a "do over." No means no and this is a very unforgiving issue.

The Air Force stresses the concept of the "Wingman" as someone you can rely on at any time to take care of you. As an Air Force family, we should all be looking out for each other. Think about flying on an aircraft or driving a vehicle that has been maintained by someone impaired by drug use. Would you want to receive medical care, have your permanent personnel records maintained or your food prepared by an impaired troop?

As a Reservist you probably have a great deal of time, effort and personal sacrifice invested in your military career. The Air Force has invested a great deal of time and money in you. The rewards can be great and, equally, the consequences can be devastating. If you have been using or are using illicit drugs, it is time to stop and think about the consequences to yourself, your family and the Air Force. Serving your country in uniform is one of the highest honors one can have. The bottom line is that drug use is a career ending activity. Is it really worth the risk of having a temporary escape or a moment of euphoria once you consider the extent of the damage you could do?



**Technical Sergeant
Randy Higgins**

Unit: 911th Maintenance Squadron

Job: Machinist

Job Scope: Continue Progress

Most demanding job aspect: TAS!

Most rewarding job aspect: Seeing the progression of younger troops

Hometown: Wellsville, Ohio

Hobbies: Hunting & fishing

Favorite food: Pizza

Favorite music: Montgomery-Gentry/Country

Favorite movie: Deerhunter

Who'd play you in a movie? Emilio Estevez

Favorite TV show and why? House - I like the honesty

Favorite saying: Imagine that

If you weren't working right now, what would you be doing? Anything outdoors

Leadership starts with the man in the mirror

As a general officer, I am frequently in front of audiences talking about leadership. One of my favorite groups to address is an Airman Leadership School class.

In my discussions with them — and every group I face — I always ask two questions: First, has anyone ever worked for a bad boss or leader? Unfortunately, 75 percent or more of the hands reach for the sky. I then ask for examples of what made these leaders bad.

The answers are normally the same: Not involved with his or her subordinates; not concerned about me or my training; is concerned only with his or her advancement, at any cost; lacks integrity; doesn't support the boss or the mission; is a tyrant to work for — frequently screams and yells at folks; harasses people or condones it on and off duty; doesn't know the mission and doesn't trust those who do; sets low standards for himself or herself, allowing the shop to skate by.

You get my drift, and you may have met some of these leaders yourself.

The second leadership question is: Have any of you worked for great leaders, and what made them great?

Sadly, fewer than 25 percent of the hands go up, but those that do are raised with enthusiasm.

Their examples are exactly what you would expect and hope for in our Air Force leaders: Integrity; concerned about me, my development and my family; sets the example on and off duty; lives and breathes the Air Force's core values of "integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do"; sets high standards for themselves and our shop; takes none of the credit for the good stuff we do, but takes all of the blame for the bad; praises in public, kicks tail in private; loves his job, his life and his family; and makes work fun.

If the Air Force is going to excel and get the most out of our people, we must reverse the negative leadership examples. Our people are our most important asset. We need to treat them as such.

I'm challenging all leaders and supervisors to look in the mirror and reflect on our own strengths and weaknesses, then set out to improve ourselves, so our people can realize their full potential. When we do that, we can take the Air Force to even greater levels.

It is the best investment we can make for our greatest asset — our Airmen and their families. Your Airmen need you to be great.

As for me, I'm heading to the mirror. (AFPN)

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