

WWII vets honored, Pg. 10/ 709 MUNS combat dining in success, Pg. 11

WARPRIOR



*SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS
B-2 BOMBERS SET NEW RECORD*

Leadership: dreaming, learning, becoming more

By Staff Sgt. Alexandra M. Boutte
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

In the words of President John Quincy Adams, “If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”

Adams explained the essence of leadership in fewer than 20 words by stating that a leader is one who motivates others to be more than they thought they could be.

What Adams meant by dreaming did not mean what we do when we are asleep. Instead, he meant imagining things that could be, that do not currently exist—whether it is a new solution to a problem or to better someone or a group of individuals. Dreaming in this context is the active and purposeful use of imagination, creativity and intuition. Visionaries are called great leaders because they are comfortable exploring the unknown, thinking and sensing what might be possible rather than accepting what already is.

However, it is tough to have much in the way of vision without a solid foundation of learning.

Learning is one of the characteristics of an inquiring mind, the active search for new understanding and skills. Learning requires willingness to move beyond familiar levels of understanding. Leaders are insatiable and persistent learners, and by setting the example of personal and professional growth, others are more motivated to do the same. Because quality leaders are open to learning, they tend to be more receptive to others’ viewpoints and ideas. Consequently, they are much more likely to give honest, constructive feedback.

In addition to having a strong willingness to learn, leaders are energetic and usually accomplish a great deal. They have effective systems for organizing and planning. They set goals and follow through with them. They delegate tasks and authority and are willing to work with others toward a common goal. Leaders accomplish more because they set high standards for themselves and others and do not accept mediocrity.

By getting others to accomplish more, leaders are pushing others to become more. Becoming more means growth. Leaders are constantly expanding others’ capacity to grow. To cite a few examples, it may include encouraging others to become better public speakers, more skilled listeners or better managers. Over time, leaders become more true to themselves and are prone to expressing more of their talents and character over time.

Just as an acorn is a seed, it “becomes more” by growing into an oak tree. As a result, leadership isn’t something that you are born with—it is



Courtesy artwork

something that you can learn.

Although leaders frequently do have great authority and control, their true power comes from their ability to inspire. People support and follow leaders because they respect and admire them. They are worthy of loyalty. There is a misconception that leaders motivate their followers but the truth is that leaders can only spark and cultivate the desire in people to dream, learn, do and become more.

Perhaps Adams said it best when he said that it is the person's actions that determine whether he or she truly is a leader. It is not the title on the business card or name on the door, but the individual’s day-in and day-out conduct and actions that determine whether he or she is a leader. Or as the maxim goes—it’s not what you say, it’s what you do.

Focusing, Inspiring, Motivating and Developing Airmen

Chief Master Sgt. Stuart Allison
509th Mission Support Group



U.S. Air Force photo /Airman 1st Class Keenan Berry
Chief Master Sgt. Stuart Allison is the superintendent of the 509th Mission Support Group at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo.

We all know the importance of feedback.

Feedback facilitates a meaningful and purposeful dialogue between supervisors and the Airmen they lead. Feedback forces supervisors to get to know their subordinates by asking deeper questions about finances, relationships and other things that can impact an Airman’s career.

In this week’s commentary I want to highlight an additional strategy to focus, inspire, motivate and develop Airmen – if you want to get better results then have to ask better questions.

Asking your Airmen powerful questions will prompt them to evaluate their actions and motivations. From there, they will gain insight not just into what to improve but how to improve. You will also learn more about your Airman and gain a deeper understanding of who they are. An example of questions could be:

What do you treasure most about the Air Force?

What is interesting about the Air Force?

What are you excited about in the Air Force?

How can you add value to the Air Force daily?

How can you innovate and improve mission effectiveness?

How can you inspire, motivate, and develop others?

How can you grow and develop daily?

How can you enjoy the Air Force?

What is your outcome today/right now?

Why are you so lucky to get to do this?

How can you enjoy today fully?

How can you feel even more amazing right now?

Our lives move fast in the Air Force. A week or a month goes by in a blur. When we stop to reflect, everything slows down and comes back into focus. Asking your Airmen these questions will allow them to slow down, reflect and refocus. You Airmen’s answers will provide a deeper understanding and dialogue that will enhance the feedback you give.

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For more information, call the Warrior office at 660-687-6126, email: Whiteman.Warrior@us.af.mil, fax us: 660-687-7948, or write to us at: 509th Bomb Wing, 1081 Arnold Ave., Bldg. 59, Whiteman AFB, Mo., 65305.

To advertise in *The Warrior*, call the *Sedalia Democrat* at: 1-800-892-7856.

On the cover

Courtesy photo/Sagar Pathak
A B-2 Spirit soars through the sky, with the late afternoon sun at the rear. Team Whiteman set a new record for the number of sorties flown in a month this April.

NEWS BRIEFS

B-2 Barista Café

The Mission's End is proud to announce the opening of the B-2 Barista Café. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Spirit Café

Don't have plans for Friday evening? Go to the Spirit Café!

Not sure what to eat on Friday evening? Go to the Spirit Café!

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It sounds so good I want to go to the Spirit Café too! So, don't waste time. Tell a friend and take a friend to the Spirit Café today!

Whiteman Commissary Warehouse Sale

The Whiteman Commissary will have their annual Spring Warehouse Sale May 3 and 4, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For additional information call the commissary at 687-5655.

CCAF GEM Program

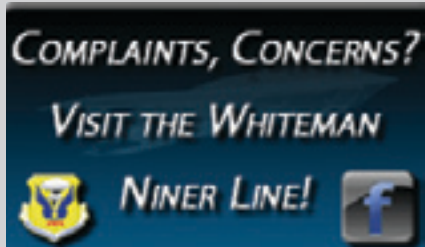
Military members avoiding taking classes because of work shifts, deployments or other time constraints have a new program to assist them. Community College of the Air Force degree requirements can be met through distance learning using the CCAF General Education Mobile (GEM), a partnership between CCAF and other schools. For more information call (660) 687-2420.

Air Force Housing Web Site

Visit www.Housing.af.mil to find your new home with the Air Force. This web site serves as a one-stop shop for Airmen and their families to obtain information about the housing options and support services available to them at Air Force bases worldwide.

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WEATHER

Today	Saturday
Chance of Storms	Chance of Storms
Hi 72	Hi 81
Lo 57	Lo 54
Sunday	Monday
Chance of Storms	Storms Likely
Hi 78	Hi 72
Lo 63	Lo 61

Remembering customs and courtesies

By Senior Airman Daniel Phelps
442nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

When young Airmen are going through basic military training, MTIs and other leaders keenly emphasize Air Force customs and courtesies. However, as time goes by, it is not uncommon for some of those basic practices to slip from mind and be forgotten.

Since etiquette and professionalism is important and helps present a strong military force, it is nice to have reminders of some of those things that might have fallen to the back burner.

• **Saluting commanders' vehicles:** All military members have the responsibility to salute moving staff vehicles. Staff vehicles are government vehicles used for official business.

These vehicles can be a car, van or bus, but are usually cars.

A staff vehicle may have an officer's rank displayed on a bumper plate on the right front bumper, or on a flag located on the right front fender (note: marked staff vehicles are usually only for officers in the rank of colonel or above).

• **Back packs and purses:** In accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-2903, "Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel," Airmen must ensure any backpacks worn while in uniform fit within certain parameters.

Black backpacks may be worn with any uniform combination, but solid-color black backpacks are the only versions authorized while wearing any blue uniform. Airman battle uniform-patterned, olive drab or sage green backpacks may be worn with the ABU.

Small logos are authorized, but backpacks with ornamentation, a high gloss, designs or hanging or dangling objects are not approved to wear while in uniform. Backpacks may have small gold or silver clasps, but no chains.

Airmen may wear a backpack on their left shoulder, or on both shoulders, so as not to interfere with rendering a proper salute.

• **National Anthem, Reveille and Retreat:** During the playing of Reveille, Retreat and the National Anthem daily, even as a civilian or in civilian clothes, you should stop and face the flag or the music if walking and stop your

vehicle safely if you are still in your vehicle.

While in physical training gear, you should stop and face the flag or the music, but saluting is not necessary.

At the first sounds of Reveille or Retreat, stop where you are and turn to face the flag, or in a case where the flag is not visible, turn in the general direction of the flag or the sound and, if in uniform, stand at parade rest. If not in uniform, protocol still dictates that you stop and face the flag or the music out of respect.

However, when the Retreat music concludes, come to attention and render a salute when you hear the first note of the National Anthem.

When driving, as the first note of Reveille, Retreat and the National Anthem plays, you should bring your moving vehicle safely to a complete stop as you would if an emergency vehicle were approaching and put the car in park. Base guidance is that personnel turn off any music playing in the vehicle. Everyone inside the vehicle, including the driver, should remain seated at attention.

Air Force secretary reports on total force balance



U.S. Air Force photo/Scott M. Ash

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III present the structure of the Air Force to the Senate Arms Services Committee April 29, 2014, in Washington, D.C. James and Welsh said the Air Force's future will more fully incorporate personnel from the Reserves and National Guard.

By Amaani Lyle
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James outlined April 30 the service's progress in leveraging the talent and capabilities of the Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve within the total force concept.

James, along with Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III, testified at a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing.

A tiger team of three generals from each reserve component conducted a comprehensive review of mission requirements, recommended ideas for improving collaboration and sought avenues to balance total force capabilities, James told the senators.

"We laid in force structure changes to take advantage of the Guard and Reserve's strength," James said. "For example, in the area of (intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance), we've increased reserve components' presence in the MQ-1 (Predator) and (MQ-9 Reaper) fleets of remotely piloted aircraft, so we're going from 17 percent to 24 percent representation in that arena."

In the cyber arena, James said, three new Air Force Reserve units will reflect an increase in that capability in fiscal year 2016.

Meanwhile, James said the Air Force will decrease its active component end-strength by 17 percent while decreasing the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard end-strength by 3 percent and 0.4 percent, re-

spectively, by fiscal 2015.

"In the future, we hope to garner enough savings by moving capability and capacity to the reserve component so that future end-strength cuts may not be necessary," she said.

The secretary also reported better projection and budgeting of Guard and Reserve man-day use, with a 70 percent increase in planned man-years over the next two years.

James told the senators that Air Force leaders agree with 86 percent of the suggestions put forth by the National Commission on the Structure of the Air Force, established by Congress as part of the fiscal 2013 defense spending bill. However, she added, they differ with the commission's recommendation that Air Force Reserve Command be disestablished.

"We're all for integration, and of course, that is the basis of that recommendation," James said. "But we feel ... in fiscal year 2015, we don't have a good alternative way to manage and provide for ... 70,000 members of the Air Force Reserve, so we would disagree with that proposition, at least for (fiscal 2015)."

James reported that the Total Force Continuum, another group of generals, will lead the charge for myriad initiatives, one being facilitating an Airman's ability to serve in the active force, the Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve in the course of a career.

To facilitate a new total force personnel and pay system in support of the continuum of service, the secretary said, the Air Force has integrated force support squadrons at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.; March Air Reserve Base, Calif.; and Pease Air National Guard Base, N.H.

"One unit is essentially serving all of the three different components in the geographic area with respect to personnel systems," she explained.

James noted an uptick in shared active and reserve-component squadrons, or Air Force associations, from 102 to 124, a 22 percent increase in recent years.

"It's a form of integration, and we're kicking it up a notch and doing more of these in the future," she said.

To retain talent across the total force, the secretary said, the Air Force has reduced the active-duty service commitment payback in the Palace Chase Service Commitment Waiver Program from three reserve years for every year of active commitment down to one.

Palace Chase is the name of the Air Force program in which an active-duty Airman transfers to the reserve component. The program also expanded to include rated officers, James said.

"Bottom line there is we're making it easier and more attractive to people to enter the Guard and Reserve," she added.

James also reported seeking authority from the Defense Department to implement aviator retention pay to traditional reservists.

"As an aviator leaves active duty (for) the Guard and Reserve, I want to be able to (offer) that incentive pay," she said.

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509th Bomb Wing

General Curtis E. Lemay Award

(Outstanding Bomber Crew):
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Maj. Brian A. Stiles, Mission Commander;
Maj. Joshua D. Wiitala, Pilot

Bomb Instructor of the Year:

Capt. Marcus C. Antonini,
13th Bomb Squadron

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Ms. Linda Reiling, 509th MXG

Financial Management

NCO of the Quarter:
Staff Sgt Angela Rice,
509th CPTS

Financial Management

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2nd Lt. Jared Abramowicz
509th CPTS

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509th MXG
Senior Airman Justin D. Francisco,
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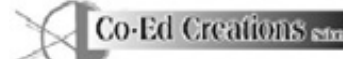
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Keynote Speaker:
Brig. Gen. Glen D. VanHerck
Commander of the 509th Bomb Wing,
Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo.

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Speech M-W

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American History T-Th

SESSION 2 (JUNE 30th - JULY 18th) 5pm - 9:20pm
Speech M-W

Principles of Management M-W
American History T-Th

DAY SHIFT (9am - 1:20 pm)
Comp. 1 M-W

SESSION 3A (JULY 21st - AUG 7th) 5pm - 9:20pm
Humanities T-Th

SESSION 3B (JULY 21st - AUG 22nd) 5pm - 9:20pm
College Algebra M-W
College Algebra T-Th

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B-2 WITH RECORD-BREAKING APRIL

U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Bryan Crane

The "Spirit of Pennsylvania" takes flight at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Apr. 28, 2014. The 509th and 131st Bomb Wings set flying records this April, totaling the most sorties (142) and flying hours (839.3) ever achieved with 20 operational B-2s.

By Senior Airman Bryan Crane
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Whiteman Air Force Base set a new record in the month of April for most sorties and hours flown in a single month by 20 operational B-2 Spirits.

In close cooperation with the 131st Bomb Wing, the 509th Bomb Wing flew 142 sorties for a record total 839.3 hours.

The 509th Operations Group worked hand-in-hand with the 509th Maintenance Group and the 131st Bomb Wing to enhance the overall B-2 flying mission, setting an effective flying plan with a large surge at the beginning of the month.

"This month helped us show our ability to get into a demanding environment and continue to produce high-quality aircraft," said Col. Chase McCown, 509th Maintenance Group commander.

In the aircraft maintenance field, maintenance professionals look at metrics and performance indicators that give them a quantifiable way to determine how well they are doing, McCown said.

With the record amount of hours flown in April, the maintenance crews stayed well above normal in eight separate metrics, including a B-2 mission-capable rate of nearly 70 percent.

"With the low-observable capabilities of the B-2 and the amount of maintenance that system requires, it can be difficult to

keep our metrics at such a high rate," McCown said. "Our metrics were outstanding in April, being 15 percent above our average mission-capable rate."

While conducting the B-2 sorties the bomb wing also flew a total of 320 sorties in the T-38 Talon.

"We planned very effectively for the month," said Col. Edward Martignetti, 509th Operations Group commander. "We executed at a very high level. This matters because we proved we have proficient operators and maintainers that can surge operations and put jets in the air."

The operations group had to incorporate into these sorties flying missions that would also complete specific training requirements for the bomb wing.

"We had mission qualification sorties, upgrade training sorties and check rides that are annual evaluations," Martignetti said. "We also conducted long-duration sorties that can last up to 24 hours, worked with special operations on dynamic targeting, integrated with our F-22 Raptor counterparts about low-observable survivability techniques and attended our first air show after the sequester at Barksdale Air Force Base, La."

McCown was quick to give credit to his Airmen working on the flightline, in the back shops and in the weapons storage area.

"Our field grade officers and captains built a schedule that was aggressive and executable," McCown said. "Our chiefs and

senior NCOs were engaged and led throughout, and our younger NCOs and Airmen executed very, very well. Everybody doing their piece is the only way you fly 800+ hours in one month."

The Airmen who made this happen were also proud of their contribution.

"It takes a lot of blood, sweat and tears to get these machines in the air, but I love every second of it. I'm proud to be part of such an accomplishment," said Senior Airman Brian Jones, 509th AMXS assistant dedicated crew chief for the "Spirit of New York."

Martignetti was impressed with all the Airmen working this month, including those from the 509th Mission Support Group.

"Not only did the operations and maintenance groups increase their workload," Martignetti said. "We also had a more robust movement of parts and supplies through the system to get the equipment we needed out to the maintainers. One example of OG/MXG/MSG working together is the massive quantities of JP8 jet fuel required to sustain operations of this magnitude--each group plays a critical role in refueling the B-2."

Having a month like April is important to proving operational capability and achieving strategic deterrence objectives.

"We know the adversaries are watching us," McCown said. "And any bad guy in the world watching us over the last 30 days saw a whole lot of airplanes doing a whole lot of flying -- that's a strong message in itself."



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Bryan Crane

The "Spirit of New York" takes off during a base exercise at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Whiteman set a record for sorties in a single month with 20 operational jets.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Bryan Crane

The "Spirit of Arizona" taxis during a base exercise at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Whiteman AFB set a record for hours flown in a single month with 20 operational B-2s, flying 839.3 hours in April.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Bryan Crane

A B-2 takes off from Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., during a sortie Apr. 28, 2014. The record-setting month was the result of intense and extensive collaboration and communication between the 509th and 131st Bomb Wings.

Maj. Gen. Vander Hamm takes flight at the 509th

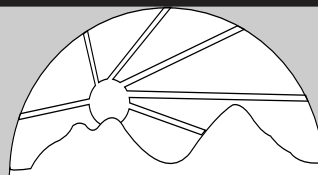


U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Keenan Berry
Maj. Gen. Scott Vander Hamm, Eighth Air Force commander, prepares for flight in a T-38 Talon at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 2, 2014. Vander Hamm is a former commander for the 509th Bomb Wing and was visiting Whiteman for the first time since becoming the Eight Air Force commander.

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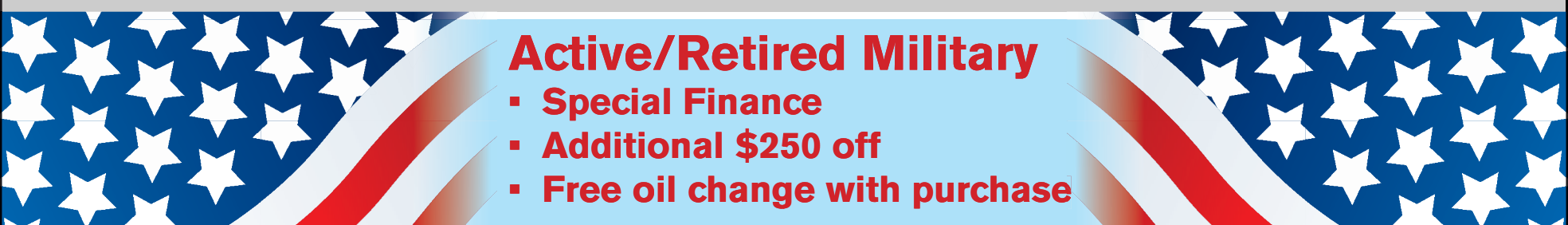


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Demand Reduction keeps Whiteman running



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Bryon Caraway, 509th Comptroller Squadron finance specialist, initials a specimen bottle while Master Sgt. Todd Schafer, 509th Bomb Wing drug testing program administrative manager, observes at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., May 8, 2014. This procedure confirms the sample belongs to the member.



James Sales, 509th Bomb Wing demand reduction program manager, explains testing procedures to Duane Pease, 72nd Test and Evaluation Squadron instrumentation supervisor. The Demand Reduction program must ensure all steps within the procedure are done in accordance to the Air Force instructions.

By Airman 1st Class Keenan Berry
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

The 509th Bomb Wing Demand Reduction Program at Whiteman Air Force Base has been operating for 20 years to ensure Whiteman succeeds in keeping the community safe and the environment drug-free.

“We randomly test civilian and military personnel for drugs,” said James Sales, 509th Bomb Wing demand reduction program manager. Some of the types of testing commanders have available to them are “command-directed, unit sweeps, dorm sweeps, gate checks and consent tests. Demand Reduction serves as a deterrent to drug use, and helps maintain the health and wellness of the fighting force at Whiteman Air Force Base,” he said.

Demand Reduction is directed by its Air Force Instruction (AFI) to test military members randomly eight times a month and civilians twice a month. Each morning the DOD test database determines whether it is a random test day or not. If it selected as a test day, the database will produce a list of members assigned to the different units on base to provide a sample.

A notification is sent out to the units’ trusted agents, who play a vital role in the overall success of the demand reduction program. Selected members will sign for their notification with instructions to report to the Demand Reduction office within a two-hour time frame to provide a sample. The chain of custody starts when the member provides the sample until it is quality checked, packaged and shipped. Under normal circumstances it takes 7 to 10 days to receive testing results.

“We test for illegal drugs, as well as prescription medication such as tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), cocaine, heroin, opiates, opioids, amphetamines, morphine, benzodiazepine and spice,” Sales said.

Each sample is tested once it reaches the lab. If the sample arrives at the Lackland AFB lab and if the package or sample does not meet specific guidelines for testing that are mandated by the AFI, the sample will be deemed non-testable. It will then be reported by the lab and coded as a non-testable sample.

When the result is “positive” for a prescription medication/drug, it is then reviewed by an appointed medical review officer. If the member has a legal prescription for the medication the test is then reported as a negative result with no further actions required.

“Whether the result is a negative or positive, there is a chain of custody the moment that member provides the sample until the results are identified at the lab and Demand Reduction receives the results,” Sales said.

There is no question illegal drug usage impacts an individual’s career and life, but it can also affect co-workers, family and friends.

“The Air Force has a zero-tolerance policy when it comes to illegal use of drugs,” Sales said. “Every Airman has the right, and wants to work in, a drug free environment. In that sense, commanders, first sergeants, supervisors and members on this base understand the purpose we serve and know it’s necessary.”

The program is in place to ensure military readiness, maintain good order and discipline. While the goal of the program is to maintain a safe working environment for everyone, its impact is understood and appreciated by the members who maintain the program.

“It’s been a pleasurable experience so far,” said Master Sgt. Todd Schafer, 509th Bomb Wing drug testing program administrative manager. “I enjoy playing a part to ensure the Air Force upholds a zero-tolerance policy for drug use. The mission depends on Airmen being at their best.”



LEFT: James Sales, 509th Bomb Wing demand reduction program manager, applies a security label to a sample. Security labels are applied to ensure the samples have not been tampered with.
RIGHT: U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Todd Schafer, 509th Bomb Wing drug testing program administrative manager, places lab label on a member’s specimen bottle at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., April 30, 2014. This procedure is done to prepare the bottle for collection and shipping to Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.



U.S. Air Force photos/
Airman 1st Class
Keenan Berry



Duane Pease, 72nd Test and Evaluation Squadron instrumentation supervisor, initials his sample. This procedure confirms the sample belongs to the member.

World War II internment camp survivors honored 70 years later

By Amaani Lyle
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Nine U.S. Army Air Forces airmen who were interned at the Wauwillermoos Camp in Switzerland seven decades ago finally were honored with the Prisoner of War Medal, April 30.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III presented the awards to eight surviving men and to the family of a Ninth airman in a ceremony at the Pentagon.

In 1943 and 1944, Welsh said, the men were "barely old enough to grow facial hair" while flying bombing missions into the heart of Nazi Germany, fully aware of the fear and peril awaiting them, when they were shot down over Switzerland.

"During that time period, for these men and their bomber crewmates, the chance of surviving a combat tour without being shot down, captured or killed was about 25 percent -- a 1-in-4 chance of survival," Welsh noted. Aircraft loss rates of 30 to 50 percent, he added, were not uncommon on missions against the most well-defended targets.

"It's the kind of courage we read about in books, that people make movies about and that these humble, grateful survivors praise on their fallen comrades, but rarely seem to recognize in themselves," Welsh said. "But make no mistake about it -- these men have that kind of courage."

But the courage of these men, Welsh recounted, wasn't limited to the skies over Western Europe. "Each of them has a story about a mission that didn't go well, about a



U.S. Air Force photo/Jim Varhegyi

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III (center) presented nine Prisoner of War Medals to Army Air Corps veterans and family members during a ceremony April 30, 2014, at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. From the left are Tech. Sgt. Alva H. Moss, Sgt. William G. Blackburn, 1st Lt. Paul J. Gambaiana, retired Lt. Col. James I. Misuraca, retired Maj. James V. Moran, 1st Lt. James F. Mahon, Staff Sgt. John G. Fox, Sgt. George E. Thursby. The son and grandson of Staff Sgt. Thomas J. Sinitsky, who died recently, accepted the award on his behalf.

day when he and his crew were the ones who didn't return, about a day when his aircraft was either shot down or damaged so badly that they had to crash land in Switzerland," the general said.

Today's ceremony came about as the result of nearly 15 years of effort by Army Maj. Dwight S. Mears, an Iraq War veteran and an assistant professor of history at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, New York -- to learn more about his late grandfather, Army Air Forces Lt. George W. Mears, who was captured after his B-17 Superball was shot down in 1944.

"My grandfather was wounded, his

controls were shot away, and he lost two engines, but he managed to fly the crippled bomber to Zurich, where the entire crew was interned," Mears wrote.

Because Switzerland was neutral during the war, the Americans were not allowed to leave the country. But many, including the Airmen being honored today, wanted to get back into the fight or return home, Welsh explained. "For those who tried to escape and were caught, the punishment was severe."

They were captured and interned with the very basest criminals in Swiss society, Welsh said. "They slept on lice-infested straw. Sewage and waste overflowed in

many of the common areas. Many prisoners became very sick, and there was no medical treatment available."

There was, however, solitary confinement, starvation and mental terror, the general added. And after the war, many of the survivors carried the secrets of the horrors they endured.

But Switzerland's neutrality rendered internees ineligible for the POW Medal, because existing law required captivity by a belligerent force in a declared conflict, or alternately, captivity by "foreign armed forces hostile to the United States," Mears wrote.

Congress passed an amendment to the fiscal year 2013 defense appropriations bill that allowed the Wauwilermoos Airmen to be considered for the medal. Air Force officials agreed that these airmen deserved recognition for their sacrifices while trying to reach allied lines in France.

"They served each other and our country proudly," Welsh said. "They saved a world and they inspired a nation."

The eight surviving POW Medal recipients are:

- Retired Lt. Col. James I. Misuraca**
- Retired Maj. James V. Moran**
- 1st Lt. Paul J. Gambaiana**
- 1st Lt. James F. Mahon**
- Tech. Sgt. Alva H. Moss**
- Staff Sgt. John M. Fox**
- Sgt. William G. Blackburn**
- Sgt. George E. Thursby**

The son and grandson of Staff Sgt. Thomas J. Sinitsky, who died recently, accepted the award on his behalf.

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Thanks from the 709th for successful dining-in



Members of the 709th Munitions Squadron pose for a group photo at the Combat Dining In, May 2, 2014, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. This was the 709th MUNS' first-ever Combat Dining In.



Senior Airman Jarod Hay, 709th Munitions Squadron weapons maintenance team member, is sent to the grog during the 709th MUNS Combat Dining In. The origins of the dining-in can be traced back to the old English monasteries. After the military adopted the tradition it became more formalized. British soldiers brought the custom to colonial America, where it was borrowed by George Washington's continental army.



Maj. Robert Leo, 709th Munitions Squadron commander, executes the final leg of the Grog at the Combat Dining In. It's suggested the custom for modern dinings in began in the 1930s with General H. "Hap" Arnold's "wing-dings."

By Tech Sgt. Asa McCurdy
709th Munitions Squadron

The lifeblood of any unit is the people, and the camaraderie forged through months, possibly years, of working together for mission accomplishment. For the men and women of the 709th Munitions Squadron that spirit is forged in the crucible of strategic deterrence, inspections, site visits and good old-fashioned fun.

As a unit this year, we executed 16 site visits ranging from the Department of Energy to Boeing, the latter of which is working towards extending the lifespan of our nation's deterrent force. The hardships of nine inspections, ensuring our maintenance management and practices are top-notch, brought our squadron together as we pushed through as a team.

The teamwork demonstrated daily, ensuring our weapons were prepped and ready if and when the need should arise to demonstrate our capability through either an exercise or when the president makes the ultimate call, is awe inspiring. For me, it is very satisfying knowing that our squadron, and our bomb wing, is a very important part of the United States' strategic deterrence and global power mission.

Over the course of this year, it was important to have some fun as a team and we did just that last Friday, with the 709th Munitions Squadron's very first Combat Dining In.

This event was a quality evening of camaraderie, and new experiences, as many of our members, including our most seasoned, had never been to a Combat Dining In in their careers. We grew as a squadron, pulling together to accomplish a fantastic evening that we all will remember. Of course, we could not have done it without the help of the Civil Engineer Squadron, the 1-135th Attack Battalion, the Mission's End, Security Forces Mobility, Public Affairs, the Communications Squadron, Honor Guard and our distinguished guests Col. Chase McCown and Lt. Col. Mark Riselli, commander and deputy commander of the 509th Maintenance Group, respectively.

I can say that throughout the year we fought hard together, and the event certainly put an exclamation point on the previous year. I am extremely grateful, and couldn't be prouder, of how the entire 509th Bomb Wing pulled together and helped out one of its smallest squadrons put on one awesome event - making our team, and yours, even stronger.



Members of the 709th Munitions Squadron partake in a pulled pork dinner at a Combat Dining In. The 709th MUNS executed 16 site visits over the last year, including the Department of Energy and Boeing.

U.S. Air Force photos/Senior Airman Bryan Crane

WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE

MAY 2014

ASIAN AMERICAN and PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

8 May - 1400 - Proclamation Signing Ceremony at EO Office
 9 May - 1630 - 1730 Youth Center Kids Fun Run
 19 May - 1200 - Lumpia Sales at Base Chapel
 21 May - 1130 - Story Time/Crafts at the Library

27 May - 1000- Cherry Blossom Tree Dedication
 1100 -1300 - Cultural Celebration at Armory
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Air Force Installations around the world will be participating in the Annual America's Armed Forces Kids Run. The Whiteman AFB Youth Center will hold their run on Friday, May 9 at the Base Lake. The run is designed for youth to have fun with their families and be introduced to the lifetime fitness activity of walking and running with the emphasis on a healthy lifestyle.

Sign up now!
Parents may call the Youth Center at 687-5586 or stop by to sign up!



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Returning Home Care

Military members returning home from a 30 day or longer deployment are entitled to 16 hours of FREE child care. Come to the FCC office for an application prior to participation. Reservations are needed to be made at least a week prior to the care date. Call for more details.

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509 FSS PAGE EDITOR: KYLE C. HAMRICK
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Concealed Carry on Base

All personnel are prohibited from carrying a concealed weapon on base at any time.

People obtaining Concealed Carry permits are on the rise nationwide. Regardless of the reason why, there are rules to having privately owned firearms (POF's) on a federal installation. For instance, dorm residents cannot have POF's or ammo in the dorms at any time and they cannot store them in their vehicle or a friend's house on base, they must be stored in the Security Forces Squadron

armory or off the installation entirely.

Housing occupants need to have their POF's registered through their units Firearm Registration Monitors (FRM). They have ten duty days to do so once they obtain base housing or three duty days to make any additions if they purchase weapons not already registered in their name.

For more detailed information on having POF's on base contact your units FRM, if you do not know who your unit's FRM is contact your first Sergeant.

Emergency Reporting Procedures for on Base



By Tech Sgt. Chris Gunn
509th Civil Engineer Squadron

All emergencies (Fire, Police and Medical) can be reported by dialing 9-1-1.

If using a phone connected to a regular phone line whether it be a base phone, pay phone (on base), or phones in housing, the call will be answered by WAFB Fire Emergency Services Dispatch.

If using a cellular phone, cable phone service or a computer phone service on base, the call will be answered by Johnson County Dispatch.

The "9-1-1" caller needs to ensure they do following:

- Identify themselves
- State they are calling from WAFB
- Provide their address
- State the nature of their emergency

• Remain on the line until told to hang up
Once Johnson County Dispatch takes all of your information they will call the appropriate emergency response agency on base whether the fire department or law enforcement, medical ambulance services are dispatched from the fire dispatch center. Following these procedures will ensure the fastest emergency response.

This is Whiteman AFB Fire & Emergency Services Hot Tip of the Week. If you have any questions please contact 687-6080/6083.



Exchange Warns Shoppers About Used-Vehicle Scams

DALLAS – The Army & Exchange Service is warning military shoppers about scammers posing as service members offering to broker the sale of used trucks, cars, boats and motorcycles through the Exchange.

In one recent case, a scammer posing as an Airman from Utah defrauded a Missouri man out of at least \$2,000 for the sale of a used Toyota Tacoma, saying that the truck would be delivered to the Whiteman Air Force Base Exchange once payment was made. The victim received email correspondence that included the Exchange name and logo, even though the Exchange does not have the authority to sell vehicles in the continental United States.

"Unfortunately, this victim wired funds, but no vehicle was received and the 'seller' is nowhere to be found," said Rick Koloski, the Exchange's Loss Prevention vice president.

"This has been an ongoing scheme,

where these scammers have used the Exchange trademarked logo and name to purportedly sell used vehicles in the United States," Koloski said. "We have received a steady flow of calls from people who have been wrongly informed they are waiting on a motor vehicle from the Exchange."

Shoppers who believe that they may have been taken advantage of can file a complaint through the Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov.

The Exchange is authorized to sell new cars and motorcycles, but only overseas. Exchange facilities are located solely on military installations. While the Exchange does have mail order and Internet offerings, the Exchange does not advertise in civilian outlets such as metropolitan newspapers or automobile sales magazines. All advertisements for legitimate Exchange offerings are published in outlets whose audiences mostly comprise military members.

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