PG. 8 Gen. Paul J. Selva stops at Whiteman as he tours the triad.

Whiteman load crew participate in GSC challenge

PE 3 OFF

Commentary

Emerging Worship at the Stealth Lounge

By Chaplain (Capt.) Ken Johnson 509th Bomb Wing Chapel Service

Perhaps you have heard rumors about something "emerging." That seems to be the pace of our Air Force; something new or emerging to make life better for all. Emerging Worship at the Stealth Lounge is the new thing.

On Sept. 13 our Base Chapel Protestant community will be launching a new worship service called Emerging Worship at the Stealth Lounge. Emerging Worship is not only new, it is also focused on young adults, mid-shifters and their families, although all are welcome to come. This gathering is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. and allow for a unique style of worship service that does not look like church as usual.

It will allow all to come gather at a place where friendships and connections are made, to participate in a non-judgmental environment where people can ask deep questions, and allows for all to participate in a worship experience with personal appeal. This will be a unique experience of image driven, multi-sensory, participatory and experiential worship. OK! That was a mouthful. This is a unique experience that will allow participants to ask tough, life questions in a setting for candlelight worship, spoken word, unplugged guitars, plush couches, brewed coffee, pub tables and free food. This is a place where the "dude up front" is not the only one speaking, but all have an opportunity to engage in a healthy conversation concerning topics such as existence, ethical decisions and personal expression of faith. Emerging worship is not your typical worship experience. Not that traditional or contemporary protestant worship is bad, but we are offering a different flavor that addresses the common concerns and life challenges of our young Airmen, single or married. In addition, this Emerging Worship Service will address those mid-shifters and their families who were not able to attend worship services on Sunday morning at their local church

This service will be offered at what has been traditionally known as the Spirit Café. The name "Stealth Lounge" will replace Spirit Café. For those who are not familiar with this location, we are located directly behind the Base Exchange and next to our current base Bowling Alley.

Curious? Come check us out.

AF Senior leaders give State of the Air Force address



Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James provides an update with Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III on current Air Force operations during a press briefing in the Pentagon, Aug. 24, 2015. U.S. Air Force photo/Scott M. Ash

By Senior Airman Hailey Haux Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs Command Information

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James and Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. Mark A. Welsh III held a State of the Air Force address at the Pentagon, Aug. 24.

The first topic of discussion was about Airman 1st Class Spencer Stone's heroic actions aboard a train in France. James briefed that Stone's unit will be nominating him for the Airman's Medal

"American Airmen bind themselves to a set of core values: integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do," James said. "Airman Stone and his friends personified 'service before self.' Their fearlessness, courage, and selflessness inspire us all."

In her opening statement, James pointed out the many achievements the Air Force has

made such as responding to an Ebola outbreak in West Africa, providing humanitarian relief in Nepal, maintaining ongoing commitments in Afghanistan and in the Pacific, and reassuring allies in Europe in the face of a resurgent Russia.

James announced an upcoming training exercise that will involve an F-22 Raptor deployment to Europe. Welsh highlighted the advanced aircraft's capabilities saying that European allies would like the Air Force to operate with them in multiple types of scenarios.

"Being able to train side by side with them and do that kind of training is really important to us," he said. "This is a natural evolution in bringing our best air-to-air capability in to train with partners who have been long and trusted ones.

James also discussed the fight against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant where the Air Force has executed nearly 70 percent of the air strikes and flown more than 48,000 sorties U.S. Air Force photo/Scott M. Ash

supporting operations in Iraq and Syria. "We are now one year into Operation Inherent Resolve," James said. "We've said from the start this would be a multi-year fight requiring political, economic, and military actions. We've made good progress with our strategy of deny, disrupt, and ultimately defeat. Thanks to airpower, we denied their advances and have completely disrupted their tactics, techniques, and procedures."

The secretary went on to say the Air Force is still the greatest on the planet because of its Airmen.

"America expects an Air Force that can fly, fight and win against any adversary," James said. "We must continue to give our nation the Air Force capability it needs today and well into the future. This will only occur by properly investing in our Airmen and our capabilities."

James and Welsh then answered a multitude of questions from media on a wide-range of topics.

THE WARRIOR

Editorial Staff

Brig. Gen. Paul W. Tibbets IV 509th Bomb Wing commander

> Capt. Karl Wiest **Chief, Public Affairs**

2nd Lt. Matthew Van Wagenen **Public Affairs Officer**

Airman 1st Class Jovan D. Banks Editor

Senior Airman Keenan Berry Senior Airman Joel Pfiester Airman 1st Class Jazmin Smith Airman 1st Class Michaela Slanchick **Photojournalists** The Sedalia Democrat Layout and Design

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The deadline for article submissions to the Warrior is noon Friday. If a holiday falls on Friday, the deadline then becomes 4 p.m. Thursday. Articles will be published on a spaceavailable basis. Submissions does not guarantee publication.

For more information, call the Warrior office at 660-687-6126, email Whiteman.Warrior@ us.af.mil, fax 660-687-7948, or write to us at Whiteman Warrior, 509th Bomb Wing, 509 Spirit Blvd. Suite 116, Whiteman AFB, Mo., 65305

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On the cover

Base, Mo. Whiteman was among the

first stops for Selva as he visits all

three legs of the nuclear triad.

U.S. Air Force photo/ Senior Airman Joel Pfiester Gen. Paul J. Selva, 10th Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is greeted by Brig. Gen. Paul W. Tibbets IV, 509th Bomb Wing commander, Aug. 21, 2015 at Whiteman Air Force

News



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Ready, set...load



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Keenan Berry

U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Kevin Hernandez-Vasquez, 509th Munitions Squadron conventional maintenance journeyman, prepares a power cable for a fuse at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Aug. 11, 2015. This procedure is done to prepare for installation of a power cable into a MK-84 bomb body.

By Senior Airman Keenan Berry 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Integrated teams from the 509th and 131st Bomb Wings participated in the bomb build and load portion of Air Force Global Strike Command Global Strike Challenge here Aug. 11 and 12.

The conventional load competition entails demonstrating loading procedures in accordance with technical orders (TO) in a timely manner.

"We basically merge technical data and compliance needs to figure out how fast we can accomplish these tasks," said Tech. Sgt. Christopher Wark, 509th Munitions Squadron assistant shop chief of conventional maintenance. "It's a massive ordeal to undertake and consolidate down to an hour and fifty minutes. This is a unique opportunity for the junior Airmen who won't get to experience this unless they deploy and even then, they won't load this fast."

In addition, Wark considers this to be a once in a career lifetime opportunity for Airmen to operate under these conditions.

Time speed varies upon equipment malfunction. Conventional load crews use 300 pieces, consisting of a wide range of components, to consolidate this operation.

"Everything we do in accordance with the TO's," said Wark. "The Air Force's number one concern is safety. We want to ensure everyone is safe while operating step by step, piece by piece with the technical data. If even the smallest component is out of place, it can put some-

See Load, page 6



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Keenan Berry

Members from the 509th Munitions Squadron prepare the gantry assembly on the Munitions Assembly Conveyor at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Aug. 11, 2015. Conventional load crews must complete bomb loads within an hour and fifty minutes to receive a high score.

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News



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Airman receives Whiteman Top III MVP award



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Keenan Berry

U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Melissa Weikle, 509th Maintenance Squadron aerospace ground equipment journeyman, receives the Whiteman Top III MVP award at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Aug. 21, 2015. Weikle completed her endof-course exam with a 92 percent, scored a 95 percent on her physical training test and is only two classes away from her earning Community College Air Force degree.



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MUNS conducting inventory

The 509th Munitions Squadron will be conducting a 100% stockpile inventory from Sept. 1, 2015 to completion, projected to Sept. 11, 2015. 509th MUNS will not be able to receive or turn-in munition assets during this time-frame. Any munitions users needing munitions issued or turned in, please do so either the week prior or after the inventory. During this time 509th MUNS will only process emergency requests, submitted in writing, and approved by the group commander (or equivalent). If you have any questions or concerns regarding the inventory, munitions issues and turn-in, please contact Tech. Sgt. Bowlin at 687-8052.



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Load Continued from Page 3-



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Keenan Berry U.S. Airman 1st Class Tyler McLelland, 509th Munitions Squadron conventional maintenance journeyman, removes the shipping plate from a BLU-109 at Whiteman Air Base, Mo., Aug. 11, 2015. This procedure is done to initiate the installation of the bomb fin and hardback assembly

one's life in harm's way or cause malfunction. Attention to detail is everything and more when we are adhering to procedures."

News

Preparation for the competition is a lengthy, enduring process.

"There was a lot of hard work that went into this competition," said Staff Sgt. Ryan Marler, 131st MUNS journeyman. "We learned the procedure of building bombs and studied for tests eight to nine hours a day, a month prior to the competition."

The team accredits their leadership for their hard work in this competition.

"The leadership led and the team built," said Airman 1st Class Tyler McLelland, 509th MUNS conventional maintenance journeyman. "The leadership ensured we were prepared before the challenge and we executed as expected."

The leadership reciprocates their gratitude for their subordinate's performance.

"This is my second year doing this," Wark said. "I was once in their shoes as an Airman who competed, and to see these Airmen mastering their normal duties within 30 days of this time restricted result is amazing. We went from our first bomb build in six hours down to an hour and twenty minutes which is outstanding."

Wark added that he had nothing to do with the outcome of the competition. He provided his crew with the tools and they performed.

Whiteman leadership, to include Brig. Gen. Paul Tibbets VI, 509th Bomb Wing commander, will be representing the load crew in attending the score postings at Barksdale Air Force Base, La., Oct. 20 and 21. The crew is thrilled to take home the title as Global Strike Conventional Load Crew of the Year.

"We worked hard, we shed our sweat, blood and tears," said McLelland. "As far as I'm concerned, we've already won; we are the best hands down!"



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Gen. Paul J. Selva visits Team Whiteman

Feature



Gen. Paul J. Selva, 10th Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is greeted by Brig. Gen. Paul W. Tibbets IV, 509th Bomb Wing commander, Aug. 21, 2015 at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Whiteman was among the first stops for Selva as he visits all three legs of the nuclear triad.







Brig. Gen. Paul W. Tibbets IV, 509th Bomb Wing commander, salutes as Gen. Paul J. Selva, 10th Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, departs from Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Aug. 21, 2015 Selva is the nation's second highest-ranking military officer. During his visit to Whiteman, he met with several units on base and was given a tour of a B-2 Spirit.

U.S. Air Force photos/ Senior Airman Joel Pfiester



Gen. Paul J. Selva, 10th Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, speaks with Airmen during a tour of a B-2 Spirit, Aug. 21, 2015 at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Selva is the nation's second highest-ranking military officer.



tour of a B-2 Spirit.

Brig. Gen. Paul W. Tibbets IV, 509th Bomb Wing commander, greets Gen. Paul J. Selva, 10th Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Aug. 21, 2015 at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Selva is the nation's second highest-ranking military officer.

Capt. Corey Wiechmann, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, speaks with Gen. Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Selva visited several units on base and was given a on base and was given a tour of a B-2 Spirit.



Gen. Paul J. Selva, 10th Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, enters the cockpit of Paul J. Selva, 10th Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Aug. 21, 2015 at a B-2 Spirit, Aug. 21, 2015 at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Selva visited several units

News

10 The Warrior Aug. 28, 2015 U.S. Airman recognized as 'hero' in Paris



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Ryan Crane

Airman 1st Class Spencer Stone (right), Aleksander Skarlatos and Anthony Sadler pose for a photo in Paris Aug. 23, 2015, following a foiled attack on a French train. Stone was on vacation with his childhood friends, Aleksander Skarlatos and Anthony Sadler, when an armed gunman entered their train carrying an assault rifle, a handgun and a box cutter. The three friends, with the help of a British passenger, subdued the gunman after his rifle jammed.

By Tech. Sgt. Ryan Crane

Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa

PARIS (AFNS) -- U.S. Ambassador to France, Jane D. Hartly, recognized Airman 1st Class Spencer Stone for his actions in saving countless lives during a terrorist attack aboard a train headed toward Paris Aug. 21.

"We often use the word hero, and in this case I know that word has never been more appropriate," Hartley said.

"They are truly heroes. When most of us would run away, Spencer, Alek and Anthony ran into the line of fire, saying 'Let's go.' Those words changed the fate of many."

Stone and his two friends, Aleksander Skarlatos and Anthony Sadler, were on vacation and headed from Amsterdam to Paris when an armed man entered their cabin.

"It wasn't a conscious decision," Skarlatos, an Army National Guard Soldier stationed in Oregon said. "We didn't even have time to think about it. We just acted."

The trio had just spent the previous three days enjoying Amsterdam on their vacation. They were excited to make it to Paris so they got up early and made their way to the train station. Their train wasn't leaving for four hours so they killed time buying souvenirs and, according to them, eating the best ice cream they ever had. They thought their vacation was off to a great start.

Their train arrived and it was time to depart Amsterdam.

"We had first class tickets," Stone explained, "but we just found a spot we liked somewhere else on the train. Turns out our wagon didn't have Wi-Fi so we decided to use our first class tickets and moved to another wagon."

After about an hour on the train they were settled in somewhere in Belgium.

"I was asleep with my headphones on and my friend, Alek, was sitting to the left of me and Anthony was sitting to my right across the aisle," Stone said. "I wake up and I see Alek moving around saying 'oh crap! oh crap!""

Skarlatos motioned to the gunman who entered the cabin brandishing an AK-style assault rifle.

"I kinda turn around and see the guy," Stone said, "and he's got the AK, he's trying to charge it. I just throw my headphones off and turn around in my seat, get low and kinda look around.'

At this point the gunman had passed Stone and Skarlatos. It was at that moment their lives changed.

"Alek taps me on the shoulder and says 'go get 'em!' and that's when I got up and I sprinted at him," he said.

"It was a long sprint. It felt like slow motion."

"I heard him charge it (the assault rifle) a few more times, and heard a 'click.' It still wasn't working."

Stone explained that every time he heard a click, he feared that he would die.

"I heard the 'click' and thought, 'whew! I'm still here," he said.

See Hero, page 12



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Hero Continued from Page 10 -

Stone finally made contact with the gunman, throwing his body into him. The two started grappling.

"I was feeling for the gun and couldn't find it," Stone said. "I felt it a couple times but he kept taking it away. So I just put him in a rear naked choke to protect myself and my friend, Alek, came up and took the AK. But he just kept pulling weapons left and right. He pulled a handgun and it seemed liked he pointed it back at me and I heard it click."

It is not apparent why the guns malfunctioned so many times, but it gave the trio time to wrestle them away from the gunman.

"I saw him making a slashing motion," Stone explained. "When I leaned over his shoulder I see he has about a six-inch box cutter blade and I look down and my thumb is hanging halfway off."

At this point Stone lost his grip on the gunman.

"I let him go and by that point the shooter was in the middle and me, Alek and Anthony are just surrounding him and we just started pounding him," he said. "I got him in another choke and I choked him out until he went unconscious and my friend kept hitting him in the face with the gun."

The gunman was down. The trio began assessing any other threats in the area.

"My friend (pointed) out the guy who got hit in the neck," Stone said. "I don't know how he got hit but he was spurting blood everywhere. So I yelled out 'I'm a medic I'm a medic!' and took the guy and held him down. I just stuck my finger in his neck, found what I thought was an artery and just pressed down. I held that position until authorities came."

At this point, Stone was pretty badly wounded. His thumb was nearly severed and he had sustained gashes that were dangerously close to major arteries. The nurses later told him that he was lucky that the cuts were not further over.

Despite his wounds he never had a second thought about helping someone else.

"I felt like I was the only person who could help him," Stone said. "I didn't really care about my injuries at that point because I thought that guy was gonna die, so I wanted to give him a fighting chance."

Stone said that he believes everything happens for a reason. Every moment in life leads to the next. He said that there was a reason he and his friends were on that train and that they moved to first class.

News

"I feel good that we were able to save those people there in that right moment," Stone said.

Stone, 23, has been in the Air Force for nearly three years. His training as a medic prepared him for how to react in a situation like this, but his family taught him to help those who need help.

"I would say it was more so how I was raised and the Air Force just gave me the tools I needed to be the person I have always wanted to be I guess," Stone said. "There have been a bunch of influential people in my career so far that have just helped me gain the knowledge that I have."

When asked about his family, Stone cracked a smile.

"Oh yeah; my family is proud of me. My brother is yelling "My brother is an international hero!" screaming over the phone. My mother, sister, friends, family neighbors — everyone is excited for me."

The story has been played out in the public light over the past few days and is certainly an intense ride. Many said that it feels like a movie in the making. Jokingly, Stone said that if they ever do make this into a movie, he knows exactly who he wants to play him.

"Denzel Washington, but I don't think that would ever happen," Stone joked.

Despite his fairly calm demeanor only days after the attack, Stone was able to reflect on the event as a day that could have gone a lot differently.

"If it wasn't for Alek and Anthony, I'd be dead," Stone said. "I wouldn't have been able to do it by myself. He definitely woulda' got me."

The gunman had multiple magazines and almost 300 rounds of ammunition.

"He seemed like he was ready to fight to the end," Stone said. "So were we."





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FSS — Keeping You Connected

The Warrior 13 Aug. 28, 2015



509 FSS PAGE EDITOR: KYLE C. HAMRICK CONTACT US! 687-7929

participation. Reservations need to be made at least a week prior to the care date. Call for more details.





Houses For Sale

3 Bedroom Home in Nice Neighborhood. 1200 square foot ranch style house. Sells at Auction September 10 @ 6 pm. Open House, Thursday, September 3rd, 6-7pm. Minimum bid: \$49,000. Contact Dick Hutchison 660-620-2569.



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