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The Warrior Oct. 9, 2015

# AF leaders testify before Congress on bomber structure

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

**WASHINGTON (AFNS)** -- Military experts in Air Force long-range strike capabilities testified Sept. 29 before a House Armed Services subcommittee on the Air Force bomber force structure.

Gen. Robin Rand, the commander of Air Force Global Strike Command; Lt. Gen. Arnie Bunch, the military deputy for the office of the assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisition; and Randy Walden, the director of the Air Force Rapid Capabilities Office, all responded to questions from the Seapower and Projection Forces subcommittee on the Air Force's efforts to award a long-range strike bomber.

"This is a case, sir, where we need to go slow to go fast," Bunch told lawmakers. "We've got a fair, deliberate, disciplined and impartial process anytime we do a competition. And we've been transparent and working with industry to get this done and documented so we can make that decision. It's coming soon."

All three leaders agreed combat commanders and the nation need a new long-range strike bomber in the bomber fleet.

"A key to our success will be our ability to modernize, sustain and recapitalize our bomber forces," said Rand, who's responsible for all U.S. intercontinental ballistic missile and bomber forces. "However, modernization and sustainment can only take us so far, so we look forward. And with the LRS-B, that future looks promising. The LRS-B will extend American air dominance against next generation capabilities in an anti-access environment by its long-range, significant payload and survivability."

When it comes to affordability of the new bomber, Bunch said they aren't just focused on developing and procuring the LRS-B, but they are focused on the entire lifecycle cost of



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Whitney Stanfield

Gen. Robin Rand, the Air Force Global Strike Command commander; Lt. Gen. Arnie Bunch, the military deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisition; and Randall Walden, the Air Force Rapid Capabilities Office director, testify during a hearing in Washington, D.C., Sept. 29, 2015. They are experts in Air Force long range strike capabilities.

the platform.

"It is not enough to simply acquire them, we must also be able to afford to operate and sustain them," Bunch said. "The steps we have taken to build in margin, and open systems up front, will allow us to address the evolving threat and embrace technological advancements. The long-range strike bomber is crucial to our ability to execute the national military strategy in the future and ensure national command authorities have viable military options in the face of a technologically advanced adversary."

With less than 160 Air Force bombers, the newest of the three bombers is more than two decades old.

"The Long-Range Strike Bomber program will be built as a capability for today, with an eye on tomorrow, both from a threat and evolving technology perspective," said Walden, whose office handles LRS-B development, upgrades to Washington D.C.'s Integrated Air Defense System, and experimental operations

of the X-37 Orbital Test Vehicle.

"The open missions system that General Bunch brought up not only introduces evolving capability with greater ease and lower integration costs; it serves as the catalyst for greater competition throughout the life of the LRS-B program," Walden continued. "This, in turn, presents a greater value for our Air Force and our nation."

When asked about the impact that would occur if the Air Force wasn't able to acquire a new bomber, the trio agreed the new LRS-B is crucial to the branch's ability to execute national military strategy.

"The purpose of the long-range strike with a bomber is to be able to hold any target in the planet at risk, not within weeks or months, but in hours," Rand said. "That's the beauty of what the long-range bomber can do. Longrange strike gives combatant commanders and our senior leaders in this nation great flexibility to make sure that we are able to deter adversaries and assure our partner nations."

## THE WARRIOR

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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

U.S. Air Force photo/ Airman 1st Class Michaela R. Slanchik Tech. Sgt. Nicholas Fonzo, 509th Maintenance Squadron low observable technician, dons his respirator mask prior

nician, dons his respirator mask prior to performing maintenance on a Minuteman II Missile static display Sept. 1, 2015, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. In addition to aircraft painting and other normal duties, low observable technicians perform cosmetic maintenance on static displays at Whiteman.

# **Whiteman hosts Retiree Appreciation Day**



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Michaela R. Slanchik

Veterans attend Retiree Appreciation Day at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Oct. 3, 2015. The event consisted of briefings, prizes and base tours for the attendees.

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# **NEWS BRIEFS**



U.S. Air Force Eagle Eyes provides service members and civilians a safe, discreet and anonymous option to report criminal information, counterintelligence indicators or force protec-

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### Air Force Housing website

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### Stealth Lounge

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## WEATHER

Saturday

Partity Cloudy	Suring
Hi 67	Hi 71
Lo 56	Lo 45
Sunday	Monday
Sunny	Sunny
Hi 83	Hi 76

# Whiteman Hot Topics

Every week we'll address concerns expressed by the Whiteman community. This week, we'll focus on questions regarding base

We have been experiencing mold problems for the past 4 years that we have been living here. Balfour Beatty just sprays Clorox. What will it take for them to do their jobs correctly?

**Answer:** BBC takes moisture-related work orders very seriously and considers each call an urgent matter. Every situation is unique; however, BBC has a very specific policy regarding mold that is strictly followed. Residents who feel they have unresolved mold concerns should contact the BBC Community Manager at 687-0559 or stop by the Community Management Office. If you have a specific issue that you feel is not being addressed by BBC, you should bring your concerns to the Government Housing Office and discuss with your chain of command.

Whose job is it to trim bushes in the yards of the homes on

base? Is it a Force Protection issue to not have them trimmed?

**Answer:** In accordance with the Whiteman AFB Resident Guide. the BBC Community Management Office provides yard service for all unfenced areas, including the unfenced front and sides of the home. Residents are responsible for yard maintenance within the fenced area of their backyards. Residents are also responsible for maintaining landscaping in the flower beds around their home year round. Bushes should be maintained below the window level for safety reasons and for pest control. BBC trims bushes around every neighborhood twice a year – once in the spring and again in the fall. Additional landscape services, such as tree pruning and erosion control, may be requested by the Resident as a routine service request.

If you have questions or concerns you'd like us to address please email the 509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs office at 509.bw.pa@



# Airman receives **Diamond Sharp** Award

Master Sgt. Steven Fagan, 495th Fighter Group, Detachment 303 interim first sergeant, presents the Diamond Sharp Award to Senior Airman David Beck, 495th FG, Det. 303 integrated avionics journeyman, Sept. 11, 2015, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. Beck organized the Philip Macri Golf Tournament which raised \$10,000 for local disabled students, coached two little league baseball teams, and earned a 3.4 GPA on a class toward his bachelor's degree in biology.

# **National Disability Awareness** Month proclaimed



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

Col. Matthew Brooks, 509th Bomb Wing vice commander, signs the National Disability Awareness Month proclamation at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Oct. 6, 2015. This national campaign, held each October, raises awareness about disability employment issues and celebrates the many contributions of America's workers with disabilities.

# **News**

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# Women's health: Take time to get checked

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (AFNS) -- Each October during Breast Cancer

Awareness Month, women are reminded to put themselves first and make time for their health. Making health a priority helps people stay in optimum shape and keeps illnesses and disease at bay.

Women often put their families' needs ahead of their own, ignoring minor symptoms year after year until they affect their health. Using preventive care is one of the best ways for someone to stay healthy.

Each year, women should get a wellwoman exam. Typically during the exam, blood pressure is checked and women should talk to their health care provider about what other screenings, immunizations or family planning they might need based on their age, health habits, and family and medical history.

The American Cancer Society recommends all women should begin cervical cancer screening at age 21. Women from ages 21 to 29, should have a Pap test every three years. Thanks to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, most private health plans must cover this and other preventive care services at no cost. TRICARE also covers annual preventive women's health services that may include a Pap test, pelvic and breast exam, and

mammogram at no cost.

There are other actions you can take to live a healthy life:

- Maintain a healthy weight
- Exercise for at least 30 minutes at least five days a week
  - Limit alcohol use
  - Quit smoking
  - Practice safe sex
- Get seven to eight hours of sleep per
- See your health care provider every
- Get appropriate screenings as recommended by your health care provider

It's important to get screenings, especially if someone is at a higher risk for certain diseases like breast cancer or diabetes. Talk to a health care provider about family, emotions, stress and nonphysical concerns as well. Life events can bring higher stress with symptoms of anxiety, depression and sleep difficulties. These concerns are just as important to discuss as physical health in order to stay or become healthier.

For more information on best health practices pertaining to age, visit the Office of Women's Health website. For more information about TRICARE, visit "Is It Covered?" on the TRICARE website.



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Feature
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# University of Missouri honors service members during military appreciation game

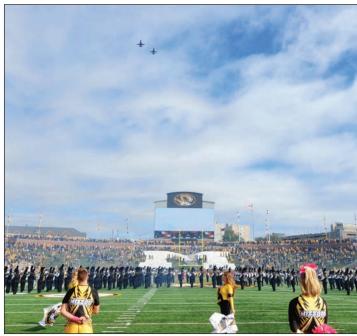
U.S. Air Force photos/Airman 1st Class Jazmin Smith



Members from Team Whiteman attend a free "tailgate" event at the Hearnes Fieldhouse Oct. 3, 2015, in Columbia, Mo. The tailgate event at the University of Missouri offered food, drinks and commemorative military appreciation day shirts for service members and their families. Entertainment was provided by the MU cheerleaders, golden girls and the Marching Mizzou band.



From left, R. Bowen Loftin, University of Missouri chancellor, Gen. Robin Rand, Air Force Global Strike Command commander, Brig. Gen. Paul Tibbets IV, 509th Bomb Wing commander, Col. Michael Francis, 131st Bomb Wing commander, Joe Scallorns, AFGSC civic leader, and Mack Rhoades, University of Missouri director of athletics, stand on the end zone at Faurot Field Oct. 3, 2015, in Columbia, Mo. Each commander and Scallorns received a commemorative football from Rhoades, as part of Mizzou's military appreciation game.



Two T-38 Talons perform a flyover at the University of Missouri football game Oct. 3, 2015, in Columbia, Mo. More than 500 members from Team Whiteman attended the military appreciation game at Mizzou.



Air Force ROTC Detachment 440 cadets from the University of Missouri stand with Gen. Robin Rand, Air Force Global Strike Command commander, Oct. 3, 2015, in Columbia, Missouri. While attending Mizzou's military appreciation game, Rand met with the ROTC cadets and answered their questions about the U.S. Air Force.

# News

# Top III MVP awarded



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

Staff Sgt. David Holland, 509th Maintenance Squadron NCO in charge of deficiency analysis, receives a Whiteman Top III award at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Sept. 30, 2015. Holland received this award for potentially saving a woman's life by performing SABC.



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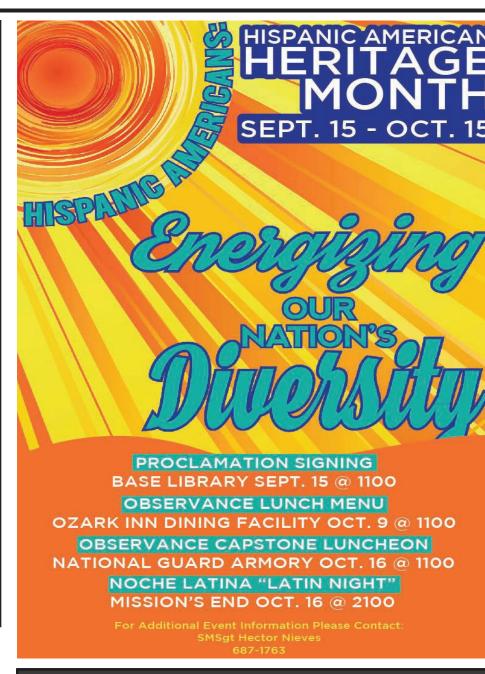
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**News** Oct. 9, 2015

# Shelter from the storm: Barksdale welcomes East Coast visitors



Aircrew depart an F-15E Strike Eagle at Barksdale Air Force Base, La., Oct. 1, 2015. Hundreds of aircrew and a large contingent of aircraft including Strike Eagles and KC-135 Stratotankers flew in from Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C., to avoid potential damage from high winds associated with Hurricane Joaquin, a Category 4 storm with winds up

By Airman 1st Class Curt Beach

2nd Bomb Wing Public Affairs

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE, La. -- Hundreds of aircrew and a fleet of more than 65 aircraft including F-15E Strike Eagles and KC-135 Stratotankers arrived here, Oct. 1-2, to avoid potential damage from Hurricane Joaquin along the East Coast.

The aircraft and their crews are from the 916th Air Refueling Wing and 4th Fighter Wing at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina, and will be sharing space on the Barksdale flightline through the weekend.

"It is with great pleasure that we welcome our fellow combat warriors to Barksdale Air Force Base and the Shreveport-Bossier Area," said Col. Kristin Goodwin, 2nd Bomb Wing commander. "We are primed to ensure Seymour Johnson Airmen have a comfortable stay as we welcome them with Barksdale's southern hospitality."

Hurricane Joaquin, a Category 4 storm with winds up to 130 mph, battered the Bahamas and was initially forecasted to move toward the U.S. and through the Carolinas. Governors have declared states of emergency in at least five states due to potential flash flooding regardless of the storm's path.

"It's great that the Air Force has facilities where aircraft can escape to in order to evade harm or weather elements," said William Flentge, 2nd Operations Support Squadron airfield manager. "It's nice to have a facility that can accommodate fighter aircraft. We've had extensive improvements to the airfield pavement over the past two years."

Barksdale's B-52 Stratofortresses will not be adversely affected by the visiting aircraft, and flight operations will continue as scheduled, Flentge said.

Last year, Seymour Johnson's aircraft were relocated to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, as a precautionary measure to protect them from Hurricane Arthur.

"I want to personally thank everyone in advance for their efforts to keep the Airmen, families, the base and defense assets safe in the coming days," said Col. Mark Slocum, 4th FW commander.

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Members of the 509th Maintenance Squadron low observable shop perform maintenance on a Minuteman II Missile static display at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Aug. 21, 2015. The missile was sanded, primed and then painted during the restoration process.



A low observable technician from the 509th Maintenance Squadron paints a Minuteman II Missile static display Sept. 14, 2015, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. The missile was sanded, primed and painted in order to restore it.



A Minuteman II Missile static display at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., was completely restored by the 509th Maintenance Squadron low observable shop recently. The missile was sanded, primed and then painted during the restoration process.



Senior Airman Carlos Colon, 509th Maintenance Squadron low observable technician, sands a Minuteman II Missile static display at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Sept. 1, 2015. As part of the restoration process, the missile was sanded, primed and painted.



Senior Airman Carlos Colon, 509th Maintenance Squadron low observable technician, sands a Minuteman II Missile static display at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Aug. 21, 2015. The missile was sanded, primed and then painted as part of the restoration process.



Senior Airman Cody Rowland (left) and Senior Airman Greg Bauman (right), 509th Maintenance Squadron low observable technicians, discuss their Minuteman II Missile static display restoration plan Aug. 21, 2015, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. In addition to aircraft painting and other normal duties, low observable technicians perform maintenance on static displays which includes sanding, priming and painting as part of the restoration process.



Members of the 509th Maintenance Squadron low observable shop perform maintenance on a Minuteman II Missile static display at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Aug. 21, 2015. The missile was sanded, primed and then painted during the restoration process.



Members of the 509th Maintenance Squadron low observable shop perform maintenance on a Minuteman II Missile static display at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Aug. 21, 2015. The missile was sanded, primed and then painted during the restoration process.

# **News**

# Whiteman Fire Emergency Services Reminds Whiteman AFB Residents:

# Hear the beep where you sleep. Every bedroom needs a working smoke alarm!

Location matters when it comes to your smoke alarm. That's the message behind this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!"

Along with firefighters and safety advocates nationwide, Whiteman Fire Emergency Services is joining forces with the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) during Fire Prevention Week, October 4-10, to remind local residents about the importance of having working smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home, including the basement.

"In a fire, seconds count," said Mr. Tim Robinson Assistant Chief Fire Prevention. "Half of home fire deaths result from fires reported at night between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when most people are asleep. Home smoke alarms can alert people to a fire before it spreads, giving everyone enough time to get out."

According to the latest NFPA research, working smoke alarms cut the chance of dying in a fire in half. Meanwhile, three out of five fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign includes the following smoke alarm messages:

• Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.



• Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. This way, when one sounds, they all do.

- Test alarms at least monthly by pushing the test butn.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or sooner if they don't respond properly.
- Make sure everyone in the home knows the sound of the smoke alarm and understands what to do when they hear it.
- If the smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside. Go to your outside meeting place.
- Call the fire department from outside the home.

The Whiteman Fire Emergency Services will be hosting activities during Fire Prevention Week to promote "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!" Through these educational, family-oriented activities, residents can learn more about the importance of having a working smoke alarm in every bedroom

To find out more about Fire Prevention Week programs and activities Whiteman AFB, please contact the Whiteman AFB Fire Prevention Office at 687-6083 or 687-6080. To learn more about smoke alarms and "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!" visit NFPA's Web site at www.firepreventionweek.org and www.sparky.org/fpw.



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News The Warrior Oct. 9, 2015 11

# Hispanic Heritage Month: A wealth of traditions



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Rose Gudex

Senior Airman Andrea Londoño, who is assigned to the 4th Manpower Requirement Squadron command support staff, was born and raised in the Central Valley of California. Her mother is from Mexico and her father is from Colombia. Londoño is proud to continue her family heritage and military legacy in the Air Force.

### By Senior Airman Rose Gudex

21st Space Wing Public Affairs

# **PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. (AFNS)** -- (This feature is part of the "Through Airmen's Eyes" series. These stories focus on individual Airmen, highlighting their Air Force story.)

Every Airman's uniform says "U.S. Air Force" on a patch above the left pocket, over the heart. The right side has the Airman's last name, showing they are an individual with a story of where they came from.

Senior Airman Andrea Londoño, from the command support staff for the 4th Manpower Requirement Squadron attached to Air Force Manpower Requirements Determination Squadron at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, was born and raised in the Central Valley of California. Her father is from Colombia, while her mother is from Mexico. To develop a better understanding of her heritage, Londoño has visited both Colombia and Mexico several times.

While she grew up learning English and American customs and traditions, she learned about her Colombian and Mexican heritage from her parents and was raised in their cultures and faith. She reveled in them.

"The great thing is, of course, learning to speak two languages at once," Londoño said. "That was very important to my parents."

Another thing very important in her family was respect, particularly respect for elders.

"You don't talk back and the way you address them (is respectful)," she said. "I noticed that's huge in both (Colombia and Mexico). You don't see kids talking back, but rather obedience, which you don't see a lot of here."

In line with respect for elders, Londoño said rarely are retirement homes seen in either country. With family being such a key part of her parents' cultures, elders often go back to live with their children and are taken care of by their families.

A benefit of having the whole family together is celebrating holidays together, Londoño said. Her family celebrates Christmas the night before the actual holiday, unlike the typical American tradition of getting up early Christmas morning to open presents.

Following close behind is a New Year's tradition from many Hispanic cultures, including both Mexico and Colombia, in which each person eats 12 grapes at midnight for good luck -- one grape for each month of the year.

Colombia has even more specific traditions to bring prosperity in the New Year, which Londoño has not experienced, but recalls her father describing.

To bring wealth and prosperity, one would make sure to wear yellow undergarments as the New Year tolls. In addition, they had to run fast out the front door and around the house with a suitcase in tow to ensure plenty of travel for the coming year.

The Hispanic culture is so rich, Londoño said. There always seem to be what she calls "festive days."

"When I was there, it seemed like every week was a festive week," she said. "Monday would be a parade or something was going on. There are a lot of festivities. We celebrate everything."

Part of the festivities is the amazing food, which Londoño said is the best part of Hispanic culture. She said it is so delicious because it is always fresh.

"I don't remember seeing a microwave when I was in South America," she said. "Everything was fresh -- go get the cow, veggies, and cook the food."

Another important difference in the culture is the attire and their accessories. Londoño described the items important to her

heritage

"They look like ponchos, but in Colombia they're called ruanas," she said. "Certain authentic purses -- to this day, those are still my purses -- bracelets, and anything with a flag."

In addition to the tangible differences between Hispanic and American cultures, Londoño said the biggest trait she developed because of her heritage is discipline and a good work ethic.

"(I see how) self-disciplined people are and how respectful they are and how educated," she said. "Everyone is a professional. it seems like."

To do that very thing and become a professional, Londoño spent a few years chasing a couple dreams after high school. While first pursuing a soccer scholarship and then an associate's degree in criminal justice, which she earned, military service was always in the back of her mind.

"My grandpa was actually a command chief in the Colombian army," she said. "That's where his strict discipline came in with his kids -- my dad, my aunts and uncles -- which then of course carried on to us, my sister and me."

Ultimately, her grandfather's military service, combined with other family and friends in the military, pushed her to want the same thing. After considering it for a long time, Londoño decided the Air Force was for her.

After joining, she said the best part of being a Hispanic Airman is being different.

"I like being different. I like not fitting in. I live being able to bring something else to the table," she said.

Even though she didn't grow up in either Mexico or Colombia, Londoño is proud to be a Hispanic American because her parents instilled in her the heritage from each country.

"It's such a privilege and an honor," she said. "I'm very

12 The Warrior Oct. 9, 2015

# News



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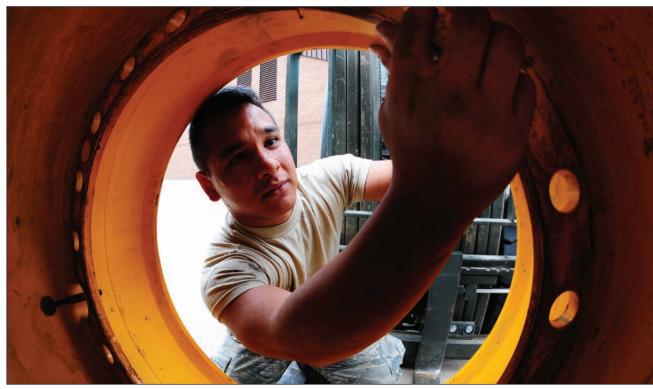
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# Paving roads with diligence



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

Airman 1st Class Chaiya Thamvongsa, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron pavement and equipment journeyman, inspects a loader's tire at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Oct. 5, 2015. If the pavement and equipment shop discover any defects on the tires, such as holes or cracks, they will turn them over to vehicle maintenance for repair.

By Senior Airman Keenan Berry

509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

The pavement designed for vehicle transportation, fences used to safeguard the installation's perimeter, and signs for directions are all fruits of the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron (CES) pavement and equipment shop's hard work. Rain, sleet or snow, they are constantly grinding to ensure the installation is maintained in accordance with U.S. Air Force standards.

"Dirt boys" are responsible for handling installation ground and pavement operations concerning the airfield, runway and roads.

"It's imperative we keep the airfields and runways free of defects," said Senior Airman Kalen Dozzi, 509th CES pavements and equipment journeyman. "Defects, such as spalls (holes), can cause harm to the aircraft's exterior, which may lead to serious damage."

If Airfield Management identifies a spall on the flightline, they will perform a sound check. This involves using a rod to hit the pavement. If they hear a loud thud, this indicates a defect within the concrete. Next, they expand their probing until a metallic sound results. The area is then spray painted and the ground and pavements shop is notified of the defect.

"We gather our equipment and head to the marked area," said Airman 1st Class Chaiya Thamvongsa, 509th CES pavements and equipment journeyman. "Once we find the marked area, we jackhammer it out. Depending on severity, we will jackhammer 6-12 inches. If we go down six inches and there is still brown pavement, this means the spall is going through the pavement. This indicates

a high level of severity and requires further jackhammering."

The severity of the spall determines how long it takes for the area to be aircraft ready again, with the repair time varying upon the amount of maintenance.

After the pavement and equipment shop removes the old concrete, they will put down some base course (a layer of material in an asphalt roadway) and form the new concrete.

But it's not just the flightline that receives this attention.

509th Security Forces Squadron members perform periodic checks around the perimeter fence to ensure it's intact. If they discover a breach or a defect, they will alert the pavement and equipment shop to repair the damage.

"We will also maintain, repair or build perimeter fences, or security fences, with three strand barbed wire to keep wildlife from entering the installation," said Thamvongsa. Occasionally, the fences will be damaged by floods that occur from heavy rain. We will remain on duty until the fence is repaired."

As the seasons change, so does the nature of the ground and pavement shop's workload. During the winter, they clear snow on the flightline using snow brooms, plows and blowers.

They also spread de-icer on the streets, which is a sandy material used to melt snow and create traction for vehicles.

"Dirt boys" have a big job to do, but some wouldn't have it any other way.

"I feel like a big kid doing this job," said Thamvongsa. "I get to play with big equipment, operate forklifts, destroy and reconstruct stuff. It's quite a job to have, and I'm glad I am doing this for my





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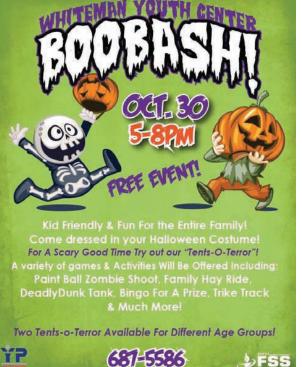
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Call for more details.

# 377th ABW transfers to AF **Global Strike Command**

20th Air Force Public Affairs

F.E. WARREN AIR FORCE BASE, Wyo. (AFNS) -- The 377th Air Base Wing at Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico, became part of 20th Air Force Oct. 1, as it shifts from Air Force Materiel Command to Air Force Global Strike Command.

The 377th ABW, along with the 28th Bomb Wing from Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota, and the 7th BW from Dyess AFB, Texas, moved into AFGSC as part of a consolidation of missions into AFGSC Numbered Air Forces.

The consolidation of the 377th ABW along with the three Air Force intercontinental ballistic missile wings into 20th Air Force is specifically intended to help streamline the nuclear enterprise by placing operational mission support within the Air Force's nuclear major command. The move of the B-1B Lancers from the 28th BW and the 7th BW from Air Combat Command into 8th Air Force will consolidate all the bombers into one Numbered Air Force within AFGSC.

"The U.S. Air Force is always seeking to improve the way we do business," said Maj. Gen. Jack Weinstein, the commander of 20th Air Force. "The transfer of the 37th7 ABW highlights the continued improvements the Air Force is making in the nuclear enterprise to ensure we remain the most credible, capable and

reliable force for our nation "

Weinstein further stated that the nuclear capabilities of the U.S. military form the backbone of U.S. national security.

The realignment of the 377th ABW is designed to enhance operational and maintenance support to multiple organizations, providing vital expertise within the nuclear enterprise, to include: The Department of Energy, Sandia National Laboratories, the Air Force Research Laboratory, the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center, the Space and Missile Systems Center, the Air Force Inspection Agency and the Air Force Safety Center.

The move of the 377th ABW to 20th Air Force will not affect employment within the surrounding communities of Kirtland AFB and will primarily be administrative in nature. The 377th ABW will continue to serve as the host installation for various tenant units at Kirtland AFB. Approximately 1,796 military and government civilians will be realigned from AFMC to AFGSC, but will still remain at their current positions.

"The stewardship of Kirtland AFB under Air Force Material Command was second to none," Weinstein said. "We are proud to welcome the 377th to (20th Air Force) and we will strive to continue their superb legacy and warfighter support to our Air Force."

# Pregnant! Now What...?

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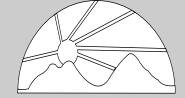
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Family Advocacy Clinic 2nd Floor of Medical Clinic Call Dana at 687-5509/Mae at 687-4589 to sign up

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Masons-2nd & 4th Thurs. 7:00 p.m. - Knob Noster Masonic Lodge AF & AM

Garden Club-1st Thurs. of each month 6:30 p.m. - Trails Regional Library - Knob Noster Branch

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Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)-Every Fri. 8 p.m. -Basement of Methodist Church • Every Tues. Noon - 101 Gray Lane, Chapel Annex 2 at WAFB

Knob Noster Board of Aldermen-1st & 3rd Tues. each month - Basement of City Hall

Whiteman Area Piecemakers Quilt Guild-3rd Thurs. each month 7 p.m. - Methodist Church

AMVETS-Membership Dinner 1st Tues. each month 6 p.m. - AMVETS Building

VFW-1st Fri. each month 7 p.m. - VFW Building

VFW Auxiliary-1st Fri. each month 7 p.m. - VFW Building

Boy Scouts - Troop 509 Methodist Church, Peter Blaszczyk, 660-563-6333

Cub Scouts - Pack 405 Kevin Templin 660-864-6455

Cub Scouts - Pack 509 Methodist Church

Girl Scouts - Jo Ellen Elwell 563-3514

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