

WARRIOR



OPERATION SPIRIT

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MEMBERS OF TEAM WHITEMAN HELP FAMILIES UNDERSTAND DEPLOYMENT PROCESS

EDUCATION AND PREPARATION

pg 3 509 SFS PREPARES TEACHERS FOR ACTIVE SHOOTERS

The 509th pioneers aerial refueling



Courtesy photo

A KB-29 Superfortress (tanker) from the 509th Bombardment Group (BG) at Roswell Army Air Field, N.M., refuels an aircraft mid-flight. The 509th BG was chosen to pioneer aerial refueling when it received the KB-29 in 1948.

By Airman 1st Class Jazmin Smith
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Ask any of the Airmen stationed at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, how the base's mission of strategic deterrence, global power and combat support anytime, anywhere is possible, and they'll tell you to take a look at the aircraft lining the flightline.

Over the past century, air power has been developing — from more advanced designs and weapons systems to increased range and capabilities, the Air Force is ever-evolving to ensure today's missions are carried out successfully.

The 509th Bomb Wing (BW) has a long history; a part of the legacy we know today can be traced back to the improvement of tankers, and it's this contribution that has enhanced operations today.

"This is one more example of how the 509th was integral in the development of tactics, techniques and procedures that impacted not only the Wing, but the whole Air Force," said David Easley, the 509th BW historian.

In 1947, the 509th fell under a different title and location. Known to the Airmen at Roswell Army Air Field, New Mexico, as the 509th Bombardment Group (BG), their mission was to maintain combat proficiency with the B-29 Superfortress bombers and the F-51 Mustang and F-84 Thunderjet fighters.

At the time, Roswell was the only ex-

perienced nuclear force charged with strategic bombardment training. When the range to which aircraft could travel kept pilots from reaching their destination as quickly as possible, the 509th BG made it a priority to expand upon the concept of aircraft refueling.

Under the command of General Curtis LeMay, the first two squadrons for aerial refueling were formed, and the 509th Air Refueling Squadron was born.

As flexibility is oftentimes said to be the key to air power, the mission was reshaped to accommodate practicing air-refueling concepts and procedures on the KB-29 Superfortress.

As there was an abundance of the B-29, these bombers would be modified to serve another purpose. The KB-29, an aircraft prototype capable of providing in-flight refueling, was developed.

After the end of World War II, it was clear that the race to develop the finest aircraft would be paramount, as air-to-air combat and ground attacks were becoming increasingly common in warfare.

The way militaries fought in conflicts had changed forever, and with advancements in aerial refueling, aircraft no longer had to divert, thus the potential radius of combat operations increased drastically.

Fast-forward nearly seven decades and many more advances in aerial combat, and the mission of the 509th, have come a long way.

The B-2 Spirit, housed at Whiteman, and oftentimes deployed to support the mission abroad, couldn't have reached the capabilities it has today without the improvements made by generations prior.

"The advancements made back in the 1950s in air refueling technology and capability allowed the U.S. Air Force to force project on a global scale," said Col. Michael Pyburn, the 509th Operations Group commander. "That leap revolutionized how we employ airpower. This became evident in the Strategic Air Command deterrence missions of the 1960s, as well as during the war in Southeast Asia, and firmly established the U.S. Air Force as the preeminent air force in the world.

"We continue to hold that distinction today," added Pyburn. "While other countries possess the ability to air refuel, no one else has the capacity that the U.S. Air Force has. For more than 60 years, and through multiple conflicts and crises, our extensive tanker fleet has allowed us to place U.S. and coalition assets either on the ground or in the air as required at a time and place, and for a duration of our choosing."

To be the world's greatest air force, Airmen must continue to be innovative. The only thing that is constant is change ... With the B-2s, along with many other premier aircraft which provide worldwide capability, it's no wonder the U.S. Air Force takes the lead in airpower.

THE WARRIOR

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Published by the **Sedalia Democrat**, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with Whiteman Air Force Base.

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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 space-available 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

U.S. Air Force photo/
Senior Airman Sandra Marrero

U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Christopher Walker, a 509th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, helps Nakai, the son of Tech. Sgt. David Brandon, the 509th Medical Operations Squadron mental health flight chief, try on protective gear during Operation Spirit at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Nov. 21, 2015. Walker and other firefighters showed children how they help keep Airmen safe during deployments.

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 protection concerns.

To submit a web tip go to <http://www.tipsubmit.com/WebTips.aspx?AgencyID=1111> or the AFOSI web page at <http://www.osi.af.mil>

How to report an anonymous tip using a smart phone:

1. Use the smart phone app
2. Manually select an agency
3. Choose USA then Federal Agency then select AFOSI

4. Create a passport, select New Tip and fill out the form with as much information as possible.

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Air Force Housing website

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Stealth Lounge

If you are a young Airman, let the Stealth Lounge make your time at Whiteman more fun. Stop by after work to play some pool, darts, foosball, or the newest games on Xbox One or Playstation 4. The lounge opens at 4 p.m. during the week and noon on weekends. There is free dinner every Friday at 4:30 p.m. There are also free premium snacks and Wi-Fi. Come for the free stuff, stay for the fun and friends.

Please like the Stealth Lounge on Facebook to stay up to date on special events and tournaments.

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Keys, wallets, bicycles, jewelry and other items have been turned in as found property to Security Forces Investigation Section. To inquire about lost property, go to building 711, room 305, or call Detective Steven Scott at 660-687-5342.

WEATHER

Today	Saturday
Rain Likely	Chance of Rain
Hi 40	Hi 40
Lo 36	Lo 33

Sunday	Monday
Chance of Rain	Mostly Cloudy
Hi 43	Hi 44
Lo 33	Lo 34

Preparing our educators



U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Meagan Jordan, a 509th Security Forces Squadron member, aims a firearm down a school hallway during an active-shooter training event at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Nov. 18, 2015. This event entailed teaching elementary school staff how to identify a threat and defend themselves and others during an active-shooter attack.



U.S. Air Force Airman Alac Springer, a 509th Security Forces member, adjusts his helmet before an active shooter training event at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Nov. 18, 2015. This event entailed teaching the elementary school staff how to identify a threat and defend themselves and others during an active-shooter attack.



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Devin Pope, a 509th Security Forces Squadron training instructor, briefs elementary school faculty about active-shooter scenarios at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Nov. 18, 2015. This event entailed teaching the staff how to identify a threat and defend themselves and others during an active-shooter attack.



U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Robert Torres, a 509th Security Forces Squadron member, enters a classroom during an active-shooter training event at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Nov. 18. This event entailed teaching the elementary school staff how to identify a threat and defend themselves and others during an active-shooter attack.

*U.S. Air Force photos/
Senior Airman Keenan Berry*

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Join us
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December 1
at the **Spirit Chapel**
from **1900-2000**

Enjoy hot chocolate and
cookies with us too!

See our interfaith bell choir and participate in a kid's Hanukkah craft
with Capt. Shalita at the tree lighting ceremony at Mission's End.

Team Whiteman,

Check out the "Frozen" themed Christmas Tree & Menorah Lighting event this Tuesday on Dec. 1, from 5:15 to 7:45 p.m. We've got plenty to do for our Whiteman families including crafts, games, photos with Santa, getting to meet Princess Anna and Elsa, great music, and more!

Also, we are excited to announce that the B-2 Barista Café will be open specifically for the event, and there will be a live nativity taking place at the chapel from 7 to 8 p.m.! Don't miss this great event!

Air University focused on deterrence

By Lt. Col. David Huxsoll
42nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala -- The end of the Cold War, coupled with the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq, caused American decision makers to focus on present-day conflicts, but a resurgent Russia, the rise of new non-state actors and new threats in the cyber realm have brought about a renewed focus on the concept of deterrence, according to faculty and researchers at Air University.

Joint Publication 1-02 defines deterrence as “the prevention of action by the existence of a credible threat of unacceptable counteraction and/or the belief that the cost of action outweighs the perceived benefits.”

“Part of what makes deterrence difficult is that deterrence is successful when nothing happens, so it’s very hard to measure,” said Dr. Adam Lowther, a former AU research professor, who now serves as the director of the School for Advanced Nuclear Deterrence Studies.

Lowther said conflict can be conceived as a pyramid.

“At the top of that conflict is nuclear conflict,” he said. “At the bottom is terrorism as we generally think of it. The top is the worst case but least likely. At the bottom is the least dangerous but most likely.”

The nuclear deterrent force remains to be defined by the triad of bombers, intercontinental ballistic missiles and submarines.

“The Air Force and the Navy are all looking to update their nuclear arsenals,” said Col. Charles Patnaude, Air University Global Strike Command chair.

However, deterrence is not an exclusively military concept, said Lt. Col. Dave Lyle, deputy director of warfighting and education and AU’s Curtis E. LeMay Center for Doctrine Development and Education.

“It’s part of everyday human interaction,” he said. “We have different competing interests, we have different ways we would like to see the world and we try to influence others to go along with the way we like to see things happen.

“When you’re talking about trying to deter terrorists or non-state actors, they usually exist in a much larger social context. We concentrate on how many foreign fighters are in one area of Syria, but the even more interesting question is ‘where are they all coming from?’ What is causing them to want to collect in this one area to fight in support of their ideology?”

Air University has committed its intellectual resources to the study an understanding of deterrence. The 2015 AU Strategic Plan identifies deterrence as an area where it is committed to providing research, analysis, and recommendations that address priority issues for the Air Force.

“Deterrence is resurgent,” Lowther said. “Both an interest and need for an understanding of deterrence is really returning, and Air University and the Air Force are making a distinct effort to improve the understanding of Airmen in regards to deterrence -both conventional and nuclear and in the new realms of cyber.”

THINK SAFETY

Beat the Boss

The Beat the Boss program is a monthly PT test competition between 509th units that will recognize outstanding teamwork and devotion to fitness at the Squadron level. Active duty 509th Airmen who score the same or higher than the commander's score of 96.3% will earn a one-day pass and those who score a 100% win a one-day pass and one of the commander's coins.

Here are the Beat the Boss results:

Senior Airman James Testerman
DET 303 • 96.7%

Capt. Christopher Clark
509th Maintenance Squadron • 97.9%

Capt. Garrett Bartee
94th Bomb Squadron • 97.3%

Capt. Jesse Hemsworth
509th Medical Group • 96.6%

Capt. Jay Hessenthaler
20th Reconnaissance Squadron • 96.8%

Airman 1st Class Kevin Brodbeck
509th Maintenance Squadron • 97.9%

Airman Miles Newson
509th Maintenance Squadron • 100%

Maj. David Leonard
509th Bomb Wing • 99.5%

Senior Airman Vincell Shadricks
509th Security Forces Squadron • 98.5%

Staff Sgt. Jessica Vizcaino
509th Security Forces Squadron • 97.6%

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Operation Spirit supports deployed families

By Senior Airman Sandra Marrero
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Most families do not go through a deployment alone. From an expeditionary unit to their family unit, service members and dependents rely on a team of people to stay resilient through what can be a challenge on many fronts.

On Nov. 21, 2015, the Airman and Family Readiness Center (AFRC) at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., hosted its 10th annual Operation Spirit, an event that allowed approximately 120 school-aged children and their families to get a taste of the deployed experience to learn about supporting services.

Together, participants experienced a simulated deployment. The day began with an 8:30 a.m. telephone “recall” to report to the deployment center, where children shuffled their way through a realistic deployment line and met with their mission commander for a briefing. Finally, they made their way to a simulated austere environment filled with tents like the ones their loved one may live and work in during combat operations.

“Understanding deployment phases reduces emotional and psychological fears associated with this significant event for our military families, building and sustaining resilient families,” said U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Michelle Caldwell, a 509th Force Support Squadron (FSS) readiness NCO.

The primary goal for Operation Spirit was to help family members form a support network. Unlike previous years, this Operation Spirit split participants into groups, creating an opportunity for social interaction.

“Building camaraderie between deployed families helps them realize that even if they’re thousands of miles away from their family member, they have an Air Force family at home that supports them,” said Master Sgt. Jennifer Sherman, a 509th FSS readiness NCO. “When we get teams together, we’re showing those who may think they don’t have much social support they have people to rely on when they have fears or concerns.”

However, anxiety can come from both sides, with families worrying about their Airmen and deployed Airmen preoccupied with how things are going back home. The event lets Team Whiteman know that the entire family unit can receive help when facing the challenges associated with deployment.

Operation Spirit featured several stations that highlighted resources for

people who are stateside or in-theater. The “tent city” included representatives from Whiteman’s fire department and medical clinic, the Military and Family Life Counselor, the Key Spouse program and the AFRC, among other agencies.

“A spouse may not know all the programs that are available, but going through this lets them know what’s out there,” said Senior Airman Stephanie Tornero, a 394th Combat Training Squadron commander’s support staff member. “I used to work in deployments and I’ve seen what kind of stress that puts on people and their families. This event makes them feel more involved in what their family members go through, and I think that’s great.”

Operation Spirit was a combined effort between the 509th Bomb Wing and Whiteman’s tenant units. Approximately 80 volunteers came together to help their fellow Airmen who are deployed overseas. It’s another example of how wingmen come together to help one another to continue the mission.

“Deployed members can feel secure that their family has the ability to take care of anything that happens while they are away,” said Caldwell. “Now they can give their full attention to the job and mission at hand.”



U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Christopher Walker, a 509th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, helps Nakai, the son of Tech. Sgt. David Brandon, the 509th Medical Operations Squadron mental health flight chief, try on protective gear during Operation Spirit at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Nov. 21, 2015. Walker and other firefighters showed children how they help keep Airmen safe during deployments.



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. John Arnio, left, and Senior Airman Devin Pope, 509th Security Forces Squadron training instructors, lead a formation of children during Operation Spirit at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Nov. 21, 2015. Operation Spirit is an annual event that informs children and families by taking them through a simulated deployment process.



The Airman and Family Readiness Center made informational booklets available to military dependents during Operation Spirit at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Nov. 21, 2015. The event was designed to help deployed families form a support network while they are separated from their family members.



U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Daryl Allen, the 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron first sergeant, shows children his first sergeant insignia during Operation Spirit at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Nov. 21, 2015. Allen told children to look for the diamond if they need any assistance during their simulated deployment.

*U.S. Air Force photos/
Senior Airman Sandra Marrero*

Headquarters Nuclear post elevated to 3-stars, new leader assumes duties

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- The Air Force passed another important milestone Nov. 20 as Lt. Gen. Jack Weinstein, the new deputy chief of staff for strategic deterrence and nuclear integration at the Pentagon, assumed his new duties.

The move elevates the position to the three-star level, another step toward strengthening leadership focus on the nuclear enterprise. Before Weinstein started his new job, the directorate was led by a two-star general. His move comes a short time after the Air Force upgraded Air Force Global Strike Command to a four-star command, and made the nuclear lead on the Air Staff, commonly referred to as the A10, a three-star billet.

The secretary of the Air Force made the decision to upgrade AFGSC to a four-star position in early 2013, to reflect the mission's vital nature. An internal Department of Defense review ordered by former Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel echoed that intent in an early 2014 recommendation, along with elevating the Headquarters Air Force directorate responsible for strategic deterrence and nuclear integration to a 3-star general position.

"We live in a dynamic global environment with ever-evolving threats," said Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James. "A persistent and strong leadership focus is a must for this special trust and responsibility mission. We owe this to our nation and our warfighters. No doubt, this move strengthens the nuclear enterprise."

Gen. Robin Rand assumed command of Air Force Global Strike Command July 28th, beginning the upgrade transitions and Weinstein's assignment to the A10 office completes that plan.

"Our leadership is squarely in the middle of the nuclear policy discussion," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh. "Appointing a 4-star at (Air Force) Global Strike Command and now having a 3-star at the Headquarters directorate level will best guide the future of this enterprise as we modernize and execute this critical national security mission."

Weinstein comes to the Air Staff from 20th Air Force at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming, where he commanded all the intercontinental ballistic missile wings in the Air Force.

As the commander of all ICBM forces, he was uniquely positioned to understand the importance of the nuclear deterrent capability and how it contributes to global security.

"It is an understatement to describe the current world environment as anything less than dangerous," said Weinstein in his change of command speech Nov. 16, listing a host of nuclear-armed and ambitious potential adversaries. "But Americans are safe from this threat because of a nuclear deterrent force led by Airmen in ICBM launch control centers and Eighth Air Force bombers, and sailors in sea-launched ballistic missile submarines."

Succeeding Weinstein at 20th AF is Maj. Gen. Tony Cotton, previously deputy director of the National Reconnaissance Office.

See a problem? Own It!

Air Force earns spot in Mountain West championship game



U.S. Air Force photo/Mike Kaplan

Air Force Falcons cornerback Jesse Washington goes airborne to defend a pass against Utah State, Nov. 14, 2015, at Falcon Stadium. Air Force beat the Aggies 35-28.

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. (AFNS) -- The Air Force Falcons football team has clinched a spot to play for the Mountain West championship against West Division champions San Diego State Dec. 5.

The Falcons (8-3) punched their ticket to the 2015 Sports Authority Mountain West Football Championship when they defeated Boise State 37-30 on Nov. 20 and with Colorado State's 28-21 win over New Mexico on Nov. 21. Air Force closes the regular season at New Mexico on Nov. 28 at 10:15 p.m. EST.

"I'm so proud of our entire football program, from our players, coaches and staff, on this significant accomplishment," said Jim Knowlton, the U.S. Air Force Academy's athletic director. "It doesn't happen without the support of the entire Academy, starting with our superintendent, Lt. Gen. Michelle Johnson."

The location of the championship will be determined by the rankings after this week's games.

Kickoff against San Diego State in the Dec. 5 championship game is at 7:30 p.m. EST.



View the *Whiteman Warrior* online by logging onto www.whiteman.af.mil

Warthogs win battle in Warsaw



U.S. Air Force photo/Technical Sgt. Emily F. Alley

Senior Airman Phil Schneider looks over a highway south of Warsaw, Missouri as he calls in a simulated air strike to an A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft from the 442d Fighter Wing in his field training exercise to become a JTAC on 19 November. JTACs rely on geographic markers to direct aircraft and identify targets for airstrikes. The training gives student JTACs practice in communicating with pilots in realistic missions.

By Technical Sgt. Emily F. Alley
442d Fighter Wing

Residents of Warsaw, Missouri may not have realized it, their city hosted a military exercise November 19. The premise that day was that simulated large, enemy armored vehicles had rolled into Warsaw, Missouri.

The exercise was part of a longstanding program that the 442d Fighter Wing, and particularly it's 303d Fighter Squadron, have accomplished for years. The program, called the JTAC Training Program, is ongoing at the 303d. Air Force Tactical Air Control Parties, Joint Terminal Attack Controllers- the Airmen who deploy with Army soldiers who have the power to

call in airstrikes, and several A-10 Thunderbolt II attack pilots converged in Warsaw November 16-20 to simulate a battle. The skies and streets of Warsaw hosted a simulated War that has been going on for the better part of a decade now.

On a wind-beaten hill south of the city, several student JTACs, their instructor, and several pilots participated in Operation Warsaw Resolve. They were not alone. Three miles above, two A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft prepared for a simulated airstrike directed by one of the students. His target was a red truck parked a restaurant parking lot.

"As you move into the target area, you'll see a water tower which is the largest identifiable feature in the area," the student radioed the A-10.

One of the challenges the class worked through that day, in order to complete their Field Training Exercise and graduate as JTACS, was the ability to communicate effectively with an actual pilot.

"Today we're moving at a slower pace," explained JTAC instructor Staff Sgt. Steven Smith. "We're making sure procedurally it's a clean mission."

For example, both the pilot and the JTAC always have to agree they are looking at the same target. Both carry modern equipment- like radios, cameras and GPS- but it is only effective if they both understand what's happening on the ground.

"See that bend in the road?" asked Smith, gesturing from the hill down to the highway. "To you or me, that looks significant. But from the big picture, where the pilot is sitting, it's not obvious."

From a map, the bend became inconsequential.

"It's easy for a JTAC to become frustrated with the aircrew," added Maj. Rick Mitchell, an A-10 pilot and the 442d Fighter Wing's liaison for JTAC training. "They say, 'How does this guy not see what I'm talking about?'"

See JTAC, page 14

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12-5PM
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Register now for the extended duty care program. It is available to help DoD parents meet child care requirements for extra duty during exercises and emergencies. Care is provided in a contracted, licensed family child care home to augment regular care arrangements and is FREE. Come to the FCC office for an application prior to participation. Reservations need to be made at least a week prior to the care date. Call for more details.

JTAC

Continued from Page 12

Meanwhile, the student JTAC and the A-10 flying above him worked through that exact challenge. To complicate the scenario, there were technical problems with the camera, so the JTAC had to provide a verbal walk through, called a "talk on" to the pilot.

"You're looking for a building shaped like a semi in a parking lot," the student radioed.

"There are a lot of buildings and lot of parking lots!" Smith said to the student.

"Right now," Smith explained quietly, "the pilot is looking on the west side of the highway. The target's to the east. I'm waiting for the student to realize that."

"Forget the semi. Look at the water tower," the student directed.

"Where does he need to go from there?" Smith asked. "Now what? What is he looking at?"

The team worked through the scenario, until they had identified the target.

"Does the ground commander concur?" the pilot asked through radio.

"The ground commander concurs," replied the student.

Within a few minutes, two tiny A-10s appeared as dots in the sky above the student. The scenario was true to life, except for the actual bombs.

"They're simulating dropping the bomb now," said Mitchell. "In about 30 seconds, you'd hear an explosion."

By then, the aircraft were invisible. They'd peeled away from the hill and flown into the sun, where it would be difficult to shoot them, if you even knew they were there. The red truck was still there. The pilots returned to their safe holding airspace, waiting for the next JTAC student to take command.

The intent of the simulated mission that day was to "halt enemy forces from crossing the Ozark River and pushing into south Warsaw territory. Neutralize surface to air threat capability and degrade enemy forces by 60 percent" while the end state goal was to keep "the town of Warsaw free of enemy control."

"I really believe that most residents probably enjoy the show," said Mayor Eddie Simons, of Warsaw, about the exercises.

"We've been fighting in Warsaw since 1993," Mitchell joked about how long the 442d Fighter Wing has participated in the JTAC training program.

While the JTACs were successful, Mitchell had another goal: his JTAC training program is about building relationships. Students face the challenge of learning to communicate with the pilots- the nuance of successful communication comes from a good relationship. He took the JTACs to lunch after the exercise.

"This, to me, is what makes the A-10 awesome," he said. "We develop bonds, we get to know them."

The challenge for pilots comes from balancing many other responsibilities and skill sets they are expected to remain qualified and proficient in.

"It takes motivation from the line pilots up through the Commander to make it happen" Mitchell added.

However, to him, the investment is worth it. They're training JTACs in Warsaw that they'll likely meet again- maybe in Afghanistan or Syria.

"When you can picture a face to a radio call sign, it adds another layer to an already dynamic, challenging situation," said Mitchell. "The sense of urgency is amped up even a notch higher than it already was. It shouldn't, but when you have a personal relationship with a guy under extreme duress, that's instinctually going to happen."

In fact, for Smith, that investment is the reason he brought his students to Warsaw for their final exercise. His own training began with the 442d Fighter Wing when he was a new JTAC. He also deployed to Afghanistan in 2014 and worked closely with the wing to call in real-world airstrikes.

"Me and the pilot, we have each others' backs," said Senior Airman DeVaughn Wilkins, one of the students who successfully completed the exercise to become a JTAC. "A ground commander relies on me to get the bombs on target and my decisions will shape the battle space."

While the JTACs benefit from the real-world relationship they gain in training with the A-10s, the aircrews also benefit from a return to the principles of their close air support mission: responding to the needs of their allies on the ground.

