

# WARRIOR



# DOC IN THE HOUSE

WHITEMAN PULLS OUT ALL THE STOPS FOR 2017 AIR SHOW

PG 8

▶ **UNITED FORCE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM**  
BOMBER ASSURANCE AND DETERRENCE EXERCISE HELD IN EUROPE  
PG 5

▶ **WHITEMAN WELCOMES NEW CC**  
NEW BOMB WING COMMANDER  
PG 2





## WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE 509TH BOMB WING COMMANDER

COLONEL JOHN J. NICHOLS IS THE COMMANDER, 509TH BOMB WING, WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE, MISSOURI. HE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COMBAT READINESS OF THE AIR FORCE'S ONLY B-2 BASE, INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT OF THE B-2'S COMBAT CAPABILITY AS PART OF AIR FORCE GLOBAL STRIKE COMMAND. AS WHITEMAN'S INSTALLATION COMMANDER, HE PROVIDES LOGISTICS SUPPORT FOR THE AIR FORCE RESERVE 442D FIGHTER WING; MISSOURI AIR NATIONAL GUARD 131ST BOMB WING; AIR COMBAT COMMAND 20TH ATTACK SQUADRON; AND THE MISSOURI ARMY NATIONAL GUARD 1ST BATTALION, 135TH ASSAULT HELICOPTER BATTALION. ADDITIONALLY, HE MANAGES FLYING ASSETS IN EXCESS OF \$46 BILLION AND AN ANNUAL OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE BUDGET OF \$147 MILLION.

COLONEL NICHOLS RECEIVED HIS COMMISSION THROUGH THE U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY IN 1992. FOLLOWING GRADUATION, OVER THE SPAN OF SEVEN YEARS AND FOUR ASSIGNMENTS HE SERVED AS AN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER. COLONEL NICHOLS THEN ATTENDED SPECIALIZED UNDERGRADUATE PILOT TRAINING AT VANCE AIR FORCE BASE, OKLAHOMA, AND SERVED MULTIPLE FLYING ASSIGNMENTS IN THE B-1. WHILE SERVING AS THE 28TH OPERATIONS GROUP COMMANDER AT ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE, S.D., COLONEL NICHOLS LED THE STANDUP OF THE 432D ATTACK SQUADRON. THE WING'S FIRST AND ONLY MQ-9 UNIT. COLONEL NICHOLS ALSO COMMANDED THE 14TH FLYING TRAINING WING AT COLUMBUS AFB, MISSISSIPPI.

PRIOR TO HIS CURRENT ASSIGNMENT, HE SERVED AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS, HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE GLOBAL STRIKE COMMAND, BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE, LOUISIANA.



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

June 2011 – May 2013, Commander, 28th Operations Group, Ellsworth AFB, S.D.  
June 2013 – June 2014, Chief, Combat Plans Division, 609 Air Operations Center, Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar  
July 2014 – July 2016, Commander, 14th Flying Training Wing, Columbus AFB, Miss.  
July 2016 – June 2017, Deputy Director of Operations, Air Force Global Strike Command, Barksdale AFB, La

# Weekly commander's message

Team Whiteman,

Today, I have the honor of receiving the flag of the 509th Bomb Wing – a flag all of you have carried proudly for years.

This standard -- our standard -- represents the thousands of dedicated bomber Airmen who have served within our unit, as well as those who serve today. It represents our heritage, and it is a testament to the achievements of our wing, both past and present.

I take the flag humbly, as I am in awe of you and the incredible reputation of our Total Force team.

On day one as your new commander, I ask that you continue to do two things moving forward.

First, do your best every day. In this day and age, that is what is required of every Airman – civilian, officer or enlisted – in order for us to remain the world's premier bomber force.

Second, take care of one another on and off duty. We are a family and we need to treat each other as wingmen.

As for me, I promise you that I will do both those things and

that you, your families and our mission will always be my top priorities.

We live in dynamic times and we are charged to execute a vital mission. I know that together we will rise above any challenge and defeat any adversary – just as the 509th and Team Whiteman have done for decades.

Together, we will also care for our families and our communities. Michelle and I believe in the power of kinship and community, as we have seen firsthand the great effects associated with both in good times and in bad.

In closing, I am honored to lead the 509th Bomb Wing and to join Whiteman's Total Force Team. I look forward to meeting all of you and learning how everyone contributes to our mission with expertise and professionalism.

-v/r

JJN

JOHN J. NICHOLS, Colonel, USAF  
Commander, 509th Bomb Wing



## THE WARRIOR

### Editorial Staff

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Airman Taylor Phifer

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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 space-available basis. Submissions do not guarantee publication.

For more information, call the Warrior office at 660-687-5727, email 509.bw.pa@us.af.mil, fax 660-687-7948, or write to us at Whiteman Warrior, 509th Bomb Wing, 509th Spirit Blvd. Suite 116, Whiteman AFB, Mo., 65305.

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

## On the cover

U.S. Air Force illustration/  
Senior Airman Jovan Banks

A B-29 Superfortress, named **Doc** takes flight as part of the 2017 Wings Over Whiteman air show at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., June 11, 2017. The restored aircraft was flown to Whiteman by U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Paul W. Tibbets IV, the 509th Bomb Wing commander, to perform during the event. Doc is one of only two B-29s in flying status.

## 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 the AFOSI web page at <http://www.osi.af.mil>.

How to report an anonymous tip using a smart phone:

1. Open 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.

How to report an anonymous tip via text message:

Text "AFOSI" plus your tip information to 274637 (CRIMES)

### Stealth Lounge

If you are a young Airman, let the Stealth Lounge make your time at Whiteman more enjoyable. 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 Thursday at 5:30 p.m., with an optional discussion on spiritual resilience to follow at 6:30 p.m. There are also free premium snacks and Wi-Fi. Come for the free stuff, stay for the fun and friends.

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

### Air Force Housing website

Visit [www.housing.af.mil](http://www.housing.af.mil) to find your new home with the Air Force. This website 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.

### Found property

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
Chance of Storms	Mostly Sunny
Hi 90	Hi 92
Lo 70	Lo 73
Sunday	Monday
Partly Sunny	Sunny
Hi 82	Hi 84
Lo 68	Lo 61

# 13th Bomb Squadron: "Appropriating" planes once again



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Tyler Alexander

**Members of the 13th Bomb Squadron (BS) reenact the "acquiring" of a North American B-25 Mitchell at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., June 11, 2017. The 13th BS celebrated 100 years of service on June 14, 2017. Nearly 75 years ago, the 13th "acquired" 24 B-25s from the Dutch Air Force during World War II.**

**By Tech. Sgt. Tyler Alexander**

509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

On June 14th, 2017, the 13th Bomb Squadron (BS) "The Grim Reapers" turned 100. Yes, 100 years old. They have participated in every major conflict since World War I and are one of the more storied squadrons in the Air Force. That's not to say they didn't go through their rough and tough adolescent years. What better way to celebrate the big 1-0-0, and their headstrong adolescent years, than to reenact one of the greatest "appropriations" in military history.

Nearly 75 years ago, the 13th BS was anxious to take the fight back to the Japanese after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Their only issue? They were without any aircraft. Forward deployed at the time to Brisbane, Australia, the 13th BS pitched tents and questioned how they were to fight without their beloved A-20 Havoc

medium bombers.

The commanding officer at the time, U.S. Air Force 1st Lt. Bob Strickland, called the Far East Air Force (FEAF) headquarters in Melbourne, Australia, pleading with the higher headquarters to get his men planes. Their response to Strickland: The unit would be getting B-25 Mitchells and they were inbound. Unfortunately, two weeks later, those planes never made it to the 13th BS. In fact, the Dutch Air Force ended up receiving the planes.

So with no planes and a desire to get in the fight, the grim reapers did what they had to. They "appropriated" the planes from the Dutch. The 13th crafted some authorization paperwork stating the planes belonged to the U.S., then 24 members of the 13th BS "tactfully appropriated" the B-25s and the rest, as they say, is history.

Now the 13th BS comes full circle as they took advantage of a B-25 being present at the 2017 Scott Air Force Base (AFB) air show and

had the B-25 fly to Whiteman AFB. Working with the Commemorative Air Force (CAF), the Grim Reapers waltzed out to the flightline at Whiteman and placed their reaper logo over the "show me" logo of the CAF B-25 and claimed the aircraft as their own.

The B-25s the 13th BS took control of during World War II would go on to fly vital combat missions in the Pacific. The 13th BS continued to fly combat missions through the Korean War, logged their 1000th combat sortie during Vietnam, participated in the Global War on Terror while flying B-1 Lancers, and the Grim Reapers proudly led the fight against ISIS when the B-2 Spirit bomber launched from Whiteman in January of this year and struck targets in Libya.

Despite their old age, the Grim Reapers clearly still have what it takes to get the mission done and will always be ready to take the fight to the enemy.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Tyler Alexander

**A B-2 Spirit bomber pilot from the 13th Bomb Squadron (BS) stands in front of a North American B-25 Mitchell at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., June 11, 2017. The 13th BS has participated in every war since World War I and celebrated 100 years of service on June 14, 2017.**

## Reel Time Theaters

*We're saving a seat for you.*

**FRIDAY, JUNE 16 • 7 p.m.**

Cars 3 (PG)

Adults - \$6.25, children - \$4.00

**SATURDAY, JUNE 17 • 7 p.m.**

Cars 3 (PG)

Adults - \$6.25, children - \$4.00

**SUNDAY, JUNE 18 • 3 p.m.**

Cars 3 (PG)

Adults - \$6.25, children - \$4.00

TEAM WHITEMAN'S MISSION IS TO  
EXECUTE STRATEGIC DETERRENCE, GLOBAL STRIKE  
AND COMBAT SUPPORT...ANYTIME, ANYWHERE!

ENVISIONING BEING AMERICA'S PREMIER BOMB WING  
TOTAL FORCE AIRMEN EXECUTING SAFE, SECURE AND  
EFFECTIVE NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL  
AIRPOWER...COMBAT-READY TODAY, INNOVATING FOR TOMORROW!

## Members of Team Whiteman honor fallen



Members of Team Whiteman took part in an operator challenge workout at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., June 9, 2017, to pay honor to service members lost in a combat mission. The HH60G Pave Hawk, "Pedro 66," carrying five Airmen was shot down in Afghanistan on June 9, 2010, killing five Airmen. The memorial workout included teams that completed six rounds of 66 arm snatches, 66 pushups, 14 pullups and a 400-meter run wearing a weighted vest.

*U.S. Air Force photos/  
Airman Michaela Slanchik*

# Air Force B-2 “Spirit” Stealth Bombers arrive in UK



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Miguel Lara III

**A B-2 Spirit deployed from Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, approaches the runway at RAF Fairford, U.K., June 9, 2017. The B-2 routinely conducts bomber assurance and deterrence missions providing a flexible and vigilant long-range global strike capability, and is just one demonstration of the U.S. commitment to supporting global security.**

**By Maj. Jeffrey M. Bishop**

U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa Public Affairs

**RAF FAIRFORD, United Kingdom** -- Two B-2 Spirit stealth bombers joined B-1B Lancers and B-52H Stratofortresses June 9 to participate in theater bomber assurance and deterrence operations.

Three B-52Hs from Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana, and three B-1Bs from Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota, along with approximately 800 Airmen, are currently supporting exercises Saber Strike and BALTOPS in the European Theater.

While not actively participating in ongoing regional exercises, the B-2s join the other Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC) assets in support of recurring bomber assurance and deterrence operations. Bomber deployments enhance the readiness and training necessary to respond to any contingency or challenge across the globe.

“The bomber assurance and deterrence missions these three aircraft are supporting are key to reinforcing our

commitment to our allies in NATO -- in a very visible, very tangible way -- that we stand shoulder to shoulder with them, no matter what,” said U.S. Air Force Col. Jared Kennish, 322nd Air Expeditionary Group commander.

U.S. Strategic Command routinely conducts bomber operations across the globe as a demonstration of commitment to collective defense and to integrate with geographic combatant commands operations and activities.

“This short-term deployment demonstrates the flexible global strike capabilities of the U.S. bomber force, and ensures bomber crews maintain a high state of readiness,” said Kennish. “The training will provide opportunities to integrate capabilities with regional partners, and is part of the United States’ commitment to supporting global security.”

A number of Total-Force Airmen from Whiteman Air Force Base are supporting the B-2 operation. Many, including Kennish, are members of the Missouri Air National Guard’s 131st Bomb Wing (BW). The Guard wing has cleared a number of operational performance evaluations and readiness assessments to obtain full operational

capability to perform the strategic bomber mission of the B-2 alongside the active duty 509th BW, at home and at Fairford.

Members of the 131st BW have been a part of every previous bomber assurance and deterrence operation; however, this is the first time that the operations of all three strategic bombers has been led by a Guardsman, further signaling the full arrival of the Total Force construct in Air Force Global Strike Command.

“There may have been a time early in our transition when people wondered if our two wings could make [total force integration] work in the B-2 operations, maintenance and support missions, but we’ve long since proved the concept at Whiteman,” said Kennish. “Operations like the ones we’re supporting this month just put an exclamation point on our record of total-force team success.”



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Randahl Jensen

**A B-1B Lancer from Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota, a B-2 Spirit from Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, and a B-52 Stratofortress from Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana, are parked on the ramp at Royal Air Force Fairford, U.K., June 12, 2017.**

# 509th SFS Airman receives Whiteman Top III MVP Award



U.S. Air Force photo/Airman Taylor Phifer  
Airman 1st Class Austin J. Bechler, a member of the 509th Security Forces Squadron, received the Top III MVP Award at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., June 8, 2017.



View the *Whiteman Warrior* online  
by logging onto [www.whiteman.af.mil](http://www.whiteman.af.mil)

# Whiteman hosts 2017 Wings Over Whiteman Airshow



The 2017 Wings over Whiteman air show at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., June 10-11, 2017 hosted more than 80,000 people and featured performances by the Air Combat Command F-16 Viper Demonstration Team, the 442d Fighter Wing's A-10 Thunderbolt II, and more! Attendees of the air show also had the opportunity to tour various static displays and ground events.

*U.S. Air Force photos/Senior Airman Jovan Banks, Airman 1st Class Jazmin Smith, Airman Taylor Phifer  
Additional photos may be found on pages 10 and 11*



Spectators had the opportunity to tour numerous static displays during the Wings Over Whiteman air show at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., June 10, 2017. The event featured performances by the Air Combat Command F-16 Viper Demonstration Team, the 442d Fighter Wing's A-10 Thunderbolt II, and more.



The Wings Over Whiteman air show featured aerial performers from across the country, as well as from Canada at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., June 10-11, 2017. The air show saw 80,000 people attend the event.



# CHAPEL SERVICES

## Catholic Services

Weekend Mass at Base Chapel	Sunday: 11:00 AM
Reconciliation	after Mass or by request
Religious Education	Sunday: 9:30 AM
Scripture Study at Base Chapel	Sunday: 6:00 PM
Women's Study at Base Chapel	Tuesday: 7 :00 PM

## Protestant Services

Worship services at Base Chapel	Sunday: 9:00 AM
Stealth Lounge Young Adult Bible Study	Sunday: 4:00 PM
Women's Bible Study at Base Chapel	Wednesday 6:30 PM
	Thursday: 9:30 AM

## Muslim Prayer Room

Muslim Prayer Room at Base Chapel Complex

## Jewish Prayer Room

Jewish Prayer Room at Base Chapel Complex



## Scholarship Grant

Whiteman's Top 3 Association is awarding two \$250 Scholarship Grants for Whiteman enlisted personnel and family members (E1-E6)

► Eligibility:

- All active duty/reserve/ANG E1-E6 and their immediate families
- Must be enrolled, or will be enrolled, in a degree program in an accredited school
- Must submit an application, narrative, and transcripts to the base education office (Room 236 or 242) no later than June 30, 2017

► Selection Criteria:

- Winners will be determined by the Whiteman Top 3 Committee
- Committee will consider applicants based on education goals, scholastic achievement, and need

► POCs:

- Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Fisher, 687-1491, [thomas.fisher.5@us.af.mil](mailto:thomas.fisher.5@us.af.mil)
- Master Sgt. Joseph Abernathy, 687-1465, [joseph.abernathy@us.af.mil](mailto:joseph.abernathy@us.af.mil)

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