

# WARRIOR



a royal

appearance

B-2 WOWS CROWDS AT 2018 RIAT PG. 8

## INSIDE:

- WHITEMAN'S NEWEST TSGTS
- AFGSC COMMAND CHIEF VISITS
- AF HELPS THAI SOCCER TEAM



# UEIs help Team Whiteman continue on its path of excellence

**By Col. Ken Eaves**  
131st Bomb Wing Commander

The Unit Effectiveness Inspection Capstone event is upon us. It is time to panic. We need to lock all of our skeletons back into the closet. We need to replace all of our binders with pretty new ones. We need to...wait a minute, what are we talking about? I thought we fixed all of this? If this is your thought, then you would be correct.

For those who have come into the Air Force in the last five years, or if this is your first inspection with the 509th and 131st Bomb Wings, then this article is for you.

Back in January 2013, the then-Air Force inspector general, Lt. Gen. Stephen Mueller, rolled out the Commander's Inspection Program under the new Air Force Inspection System. In his roll-out, he provided the following:

"We can no longer afford to waste time preparing for inspections. Truth is we never could, but the cost of wasted effort is more obvious than ever. In the new inspection system, inspection preparation will be unnecessary and ineffective. Inspection preparation will become less necessary as commanders strengthen their day-to-day core mission capabilities and continually improve their own ability to detect and prevent atrophy and build trust up and down the chain that honest, accurate reporting is more highly valued than green metrics (or green grass).

"Inspection preparation will be less effective as commanders further ingrain inspection – critically assessing how a unit can improve – into the daily fabric of unit culture.

"In the new Air Force Inspection System, commanders will inspect their unit's ability to execute the mission and manage resources and people to improve performance."

In other words, commanders would be expected to evaluate their own readiness, and inspectors would assist commanders in that endeavor. Through the Commander's Inspection Program, we made the first substantial move in giving back the authority and responsibility to commanders. Readiness became the true focus, it was no longer about the inspection. The Air Force had put words into action!

## Inspecting to improve

Air Force Instruction 90-201 defined the new program, stating: "(An) inspection is an inherent function of command exercised at every level to evaluate the state of discipline, economy, efficiency, readiness and resource management. Inspection preparation is inherently wasteful if not directly aligned with mission readiness. Units are inspection ready when commanders focus on mission readiness and on building a culture of disciplined compliance in which every Airman does his/her job right the first time and when no one is looking. The intent of the Inspector General is to continuously improve the AFIs so there is an ever-shrinking difference – both real and perceived – between mission readiness and inspection readiness. Airmen and commanders must stay focused on the mission and not the inspection."

The AFI provided a simple, but impactful sentence: "The purpose of inspecting is to improve."

It further defined the purpose of UEIs, stating that they "validate and verify a wing's CCIP for accuracy, adequacy and relevance, and provide an independent assessment of the wing's resource management, leadership, process improvement efforts and ability to execute the mission.

So why am I telling you all of this?

Brig. Gen. John Nichols, commander of the 509th Bomb Wing, and I are looking forward to the arrival of the Air Force Global Strike Command inspector general and his team to put the finishing touches on a two-year journey, in which they partnered with us to make us better. You hear the general and I always tout how great we think this total force integration is, how great we think our team is and how great our Airmen are. Frankly, you prove this over and over again. But, it helps when outside entities validate what we say.



Does this mean that we don't have any issues? Absolutely not. There are always areas where we can and should improve, across every spectrum of what we do. That is what is great about our current inspection program – you own it. Commanders, at the lowest level, are not only charged to have their units as ready as they can be with the available resources, but also to identify and document where they fall short.

Inspectors who show up here for the UEI will not be looking at our shortfalls, but will be looking to see that we knew we had shortfalls. We actually are rewarded in a way by being fully transparent. If readiness is the goal, then we need to identify what inhibits our readiness and put plans in place to fix issues or seek the necessary resources to execute the mission.

But, what if the inspectors find something we didn't identify on our own? Frankly, this is likely going to happen. We are human and we, on occasion, miss things. This will not be the end of the world, but depending upon the issue, may sting a bit. However, it will provide us with an area that we can improve upon and we will do that. With that said, this is a different story if the issue was known and an individual or organization purposefully sought to hide the problem; but, we don't need to discuss this because that wouldn't happen with our great Airmen.

Finally, the commanders' expectations during this UEI are that each of you be the great Airmen that we know you are and that you will showcase the great team that we know we've built. Be professional. Show proper customs and courtesies. Don't argue with the inspectors. If you have a contentious issue, up-channel it to at least a group commander, if not a wing commander. And lastly, bring energy, enthusiasm and pride for what you do for our nation.

In addition, as the general says, just because we don't prep for an inspection, doesn't mean we don't pick up the house before company comes to visit. When your mom comes to visit, you probably don't remodel the house, but you at least clean up the house. Our house is this base and your workspace; please help us put our best foot forward. (On a side note, if you don't pick up your house when your mom comes to visit, shame on you. She deserves better!)

As I mentioned earlier, this UEI should not be considered a significant emotional event. It is wholly intended to help us continue to be the best.

Lead strong; make a difference!

## THE WARRIOR

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509th Bomb Wing Commander

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For more information, call the Warrior office at 660-687-5727, email 509th.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 photo by  
Tech. Sgt. Brian Kimball

**A U.S. Air Force B-2 Spirit flies past a crowd of spectators during the 2018 Royal International Air Tattoo at RAF Fairford, England, July 14, 2018. This year's RIAT celebrated the 100th anniversary of the RAF and highlighted the United States' ever-strong alliance with England.**



## NEWS BRIEFS



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**EagleEyes**  
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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.

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1. Open the smart phone app
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4. Create a passport, select New Tip and fill out the form with as much information as possible.

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

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### WEATHER

<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
Sunny	Chance of Showers
Hi 83	Hi 81
Lo 60	Lo 64

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>
Chance of Storms	Mostly Sunny
Hi 78	Hi 80
Lo 65	Lo 63

## Congratulations to Whiteman's newest Tech. Sgt. selects

<b>Staff Sgt. David Alexander</b> 509th AMXS	<b>Staff Sgt. Brian Harris</b> 509th MXS	<b>Staff Sgt. Linda Ramirez</b> 509th BW
<b>Staff Sgt. Sarah Allman</b> 509th MUNS	<b>Staff Sgt. Austin Ishmael</b> 509th MUNS	<b>Staff Sgt. Matthew Ramirez</b> 509th MXS
<b>Staff Sgt. Gerson Anayaguillen</b> 509th LRS	<b>Staff Sgt. Raffinee Johnson</b> 509th LRS	<b>Staff Sgt. Jennifer Reeves</b> 509th CES
<b>Staff Sgt. Edward Ball</b> 509th MXS	<b>Staff Sgt. Andrew Jones</b> 509th AMXS	<b>Staff Sgt. Johnathan Ridley</b> 509th MUNS
<b>Staff Sgt. Erwinjohn Barzaga</b> 509th MDOS	<b>Staff Sgt. Brandon Juneman</b> 509th MUNS	<b>Staff Sgt. Erik Riener</b> 509th MXS
<b>Staff Sgt. Thomas Bennett</b> 509th BW	<b>Staff Sgt. Christopher Kirchner</b> 372nd TRS	<b>Staff Sgt. Ronald Robles</b> 509th LRS
<b>Staff Sgt. Dominic Bergamasco</b> 509th CS	<b>Staff Sgt. Nicholas Kirchner</b> 509th LRS	<b>Staff Sgt. Kevin Sanders</b> 372nd TRS
<b>Staff Sgt. Troy Billard</b> 509th MXS	<b>Staff Sgt. Robert Kitchens</b> 509th MXG	<b>Staff Sgt. Matthew Savage</b> 325th WPS
<b>Staff Sgt. Tyler Bouchard</b> 509th AMXS	<b>Staff Sgt. Spencer Kling</b> 509th LRS	<b>Staff Sgt. Aaron Shive</b> 509th AMXS
<b>Staff Sgt. Kyle Burian</b> 509th MXS	<b>Staff Sgt. Matthew Knox</b> 509th MUNS	<b>Staff Sgt. Christo Signoretti</b> 509th MXS
<b>Staff Sgt. Travis Capley</b> 509th MUNS	<b>Staff Sgt. Allen Lin</b> 509th FSS	<b>Staff Sgt. Grey Smith</b> 509th MUNS
<b>Staff Sgt. Patrick Celeste</b> 509th MXG	<b>Staff Sgt. Christopher Lineberry</b> 509th OSS	<b>Staff Sgt. Megan Solari</b> 509th CS
<b>Staff Sgt. Charles Chaney</b> 509th MXG	<b>Staff Sgt. Mark Lopez</b> 509th AMXS	<b>Staff Sgt. Jennifer Solia</b> 509th LRS
<b>Staff Sgt. Nicholas Chapman</b> 509th AMXS	<b>Staff Sgt. David Maskowaski</b> 509th MXS	<b>Staff Sgt. Negron Soto</b> 509th AMXS
<b>Staff Sgt. Joshua Clark</b> 509th SFS	<b>Staff Sgt. Joshua McClain</b> 509th MXS	<b>Staff Sgt. Stanley Stephens</b> 509th CS
<b>Staff Sgt. Victoria Connell</b> 509th MXG	<b>Staff Sgt. Jesse McCullough</b> 72nd TES	<b>Staff Sgt. Colin Strickland</b> 509th AMXS
<b>Staff Sgt. Daniel Cook</b> 509th LRS	<b>Staff Sgt. Emily McDonald</b> 509th BW	<b>Staff Sgt. Clay Stuedle</b> 509th CES
<b>Staff Sgt. William Copp</b> 509th CES	<b>Staff Sgt. Matthew Meagher</b> 509th CPTS	<b>Staff Sgt. Christopher Taylor</b> 509th LRS
<b>Staff Sgt. Cyrus Deloe</b> 509th AMXS	<b>Staff Sgt. James Miller</b> 509th MXG	<b>Staff Sgt. Spenser Thrasher</b> 509th AMXS
<b>Staff Sgt. Kimberly Desilus</b> 509th MUNS	<b>Staff Sgt. Charles Moran</b> 509th AMXS	<b>Staff Sgt. Jacob Tracy</b> 509th SFS
<b>Staff Sgt. Lawrence Devonshire</b> 509th MUNS	<b>Staff Sgt. Joshua Mousaw</b> 509th SFS	<b>Staff Sgt. Michael Trent</b> 509th MUNS
<b>Staff Sgt. Samantha Dickerson</b> 509th BW	<b>Staff Sgt. Patrick Nelson</b> 509th AMXS	<b>Staff Sgt. David Vanik</b> 72nd TES
<b>Staff Sgt. James Doan</b> 509th SFS	<b>Staff Sgt. Collin Nichols</b> 509th CES	<b>Staff Sgt. Joshua Vasquez</b> 20th ATKs
<b>Staff Sgt. Andrew Eia</b> 509th SFS	<b>Staff Sgt. Keith Noble</b> 509th AMXS	<b>Staff Sgt. Gabriel Villalobos</b> 509th SFS
<b>Staff Sgt. Michael Esterberg</b> 509th OSS	<b>Staff Sgt. Tanner Parker</b> 509th MXS	<b>Staff Sgt. Eric Wienke</b> 509th CON
<b>Staff Sgt. Elijah Fleming</b> 509th AMXS	<b>Staff Sgt. John Pena</b> 509th SFS	<b>Staff Sgt. Robert Willis</b> 509th LRS
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**FRIDAY, JULY 27 • 7 p.m.**

Mission Impossible – The Fallout  
(PG-13)

Adults - \$7.00, children - \$4.75

**SATURDAY, JULY 21 • 7 p.m.**

Mission Impossible – The Fallout  
(PG-13)

Adults - \$7.00, children - \$4.75

**SUNDAY, JULY 22 • 3 p.m.**

Mission Impossible – The Fallout (PG-13)

Adults - \$7.00, children - \$4.75

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EXECUTE STRATEGIC DETERRENCE, GLOBAL STRIKE  
AND COMBAT SUPPORT...ANYTIME, ANYWHERE!

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TOTAL FORCE AIRMEN EXECUTING SAFE, SECURE AND  
EFFECTIVE NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL  
AIRPOWER...COMBAT-READY TODAY, INNOVATING FOR TOMORROW!

## AFGSC command chief visits WAFB



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jovan Banks  
U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Mazzone, command chief of Air Force Global Strike Command, visits with Airmen during his B-2 Spirit tour at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, July 19, 2018. Mazzone was the key note speaker for the 2018 Senior NCO Induction Ceremony, where he talked about leading, educating and mentoring.

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- \* Complete a DD Form 2876-2 and mail it to:  
HealthNet Federal Services  
PO Box 8458  
Virginia Beach, VA 23450-8458

### **TOWN HALL MEETING**



Professional Development Center

July 30 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Aug. 6 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

**OR**

**LIVE** on AFMS-Whiteman-509th-Medical Group Facebook Page





# International rescue effort saves trapped soccer team

By Staff Sgt. Jessica H. Smith  
18th Wing Public Affairs

**KADENA AIR BASE, Japan (AFNS)** -- Twelve boys ranging from age 11 to 16, along with their soccer coach, found themselves stranded in a cave in Thailand's Chiang Rai province, June 23, 2018. After being trapped for 17 days, an international rescue team successfully ended a nearly 3-week operation.

At the request of the Royal Thai government, members of the 320th Special Tactics Squadron from the 353rd Special Operations Group, and members of the 31st Rescue Squadron from the 18th Wing at Kadena Air Base, Japan participated in rescue efforts.

Upon arrival, members were divided into teams to help the mission. Some assessed possible rescue operations at the mouth of the cave while others created helicopter landing zones by clearing areas of the surrounding jungle and planned for scuba tank cache locations.

With 24-hour operations and 16 to 18 hour shifts, the international rescue team worked around the clock to overcome the many challenges they faced.

"It's important for people to understand that this kind of rescue had never been attempted by anyone in the world," said Tech. Sgt. Adam Lopez, 31st RQS pararescueman. "It was the most technically difficult mission any of us have ever been involved with."

## Difficult Mission

Confined space diving is considered to be extremely hazardous for even the most highly trained and competent divers, making it a high-risk mission for the rescuers and those trapped in the cave, he explained.

Unsure of where the children were within the cave, and whether they were even alive, the team needed to operate with a problem-solving mindset and communicate with all others in the mission – regardless of the inevitable communication barriers – to determine what efforts could be provided and by who.

"It was important for all the different supporting players to come together because everyone brought a different expertise to the table – no single entity had all the skills or answers to be able to complete the rescue," said Tech. Sgt. Michael Smith, 31st RQS pararescueman. "We all had something to offer and we needed to be united to complete the mission."

As soon as the location of the children was determined, safety and risk mitigation became a priority for the rescue team and all others involved to ensure the best possible outcome, explained Staff Sgt. Jamie Brisbin, 31st RQS pararescueman.



U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Jessica Tait

**Airmen from the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command conduct a combined land survey with Thai rescue authorities July 1, 2018, in Chiang Rai, Thailand. The U.S. team delivered search and rescue assistance to the already tremendous effort underway by Thai authorities.**

Having found the children, the international rescue team began the real prep work for fulfilling the rescue plan. However, because of the complexity of the effort, the team feared the loss of some of the children, unsure if everyone would survive.

"Due to the technical difficulty of this mission, we didn't expect all of the children to survive the rescue," Lopez said. "However, we had the right people and equipment in place, and we knew that due to the

low oxygen levels in the cave, as well as the worsening weather that was sure to further flood the cave, we had a small window of time to execute a rescue. The risk mitigation that went into planning this rescue was done with such a high level of attention to detail that we knew the plan was solid."

## Working as a team

Kadena AB Airmen took on the role of executing logistics dives to pre-position scuba tanks that would later be used for divers to swap used tanks for full tanks, explained Master Sgt. Christopher Uriarte, 31st RQS pararescueman. The team placed over 200 tanks strategically throughout the cave on the first day.

Another role performed by members of Kadena AB involved carrying the children from chamber to chamber and diving with them from the third chamber to the second chamber where they were handed off to Australian team members before being further guided by Thai members.

"It was an amazing experience to have so many people, regardless of nationality or culture, working together towards a common goal," said Stephen Drakes, 31st RQS survival, evasion, resistance and escape (SERE) specialist. "Obviously communication is the immediate barrier to any multi-national effort, and that was true during this rescue as well – we were able to overcome communication barriers by building solid relationships with the folks we worked with day-in and day-out. By the time we were pulling the kids out of the cave, we were operating as a cohesive team."

While almost everyone involved had a personal sense of pride in their contribution to the success of the life-saving mission, many also found professional value in it.

"What I took away from this mission was gratitude toward our leadership; because this mission was so high risk, I expected that our involvement – specifically the confined space diving – would be restricted," Uriarte said, "But we kept our leadership up to speed on our decision-making process and how we planned to mitigate risks, and they fully supported our decisions on how to execute at the tactical level."

Overcoming so many difficulties and barriers may have been an accomplishment experienced only by those directly involved, but as news of the last child being rescued spread throughout the media – making it a 100 percent successful rescue mission – the world sighed in relief too.



U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Jessica Tait

**Airmen from the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command prepare for dive operations July 2, 2018, in Chiang Rai, Thailand. At the request of the Royal Thai government, USINDOPACOM sent a search and rescue team from Okinawa, Japan to assist Thai rescue authorities in locating 12 youth soccer players and their coach.**



# Whiteman celebrates newest senior NCOs



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jovan Banks  
Senior NCO inductees gather together after a Senior NCO induction ceremony, July 20, 2018 at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri. Senior NCO induction ceremonies honor the future senior NCOs and are a long-standing tradition that signifies the inductees have reached the top tier of the enlisted core.



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



**RECYCLE THIS PAPER ...  
THINK GREEN!**



# B-2 wows crowds at world's largest military airshow

## From Staff Reports

A B-2 Spirit from Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, was featured at the 2018 Royal International Air Tattoo at RAF Fairford in Gloucestershire, England, July 13-14, 2018.

RIAT is the world's largest military airshow and the U.S. Air Force participates annually as a symbol of commitment to its British and European allies.

The weekend-long airshow drew a record 185,000 attendees this year. There were 79 military delegations, including 64 military chiefs, from around the world. U.S. Air Force Gen. David Goldfein, chief of staff of the U.S. Air Force, also attended.

The B-2's RIAT flyby was a surprise; the stealth bomber flew direct from the United States to commemorate the RAF centennial.

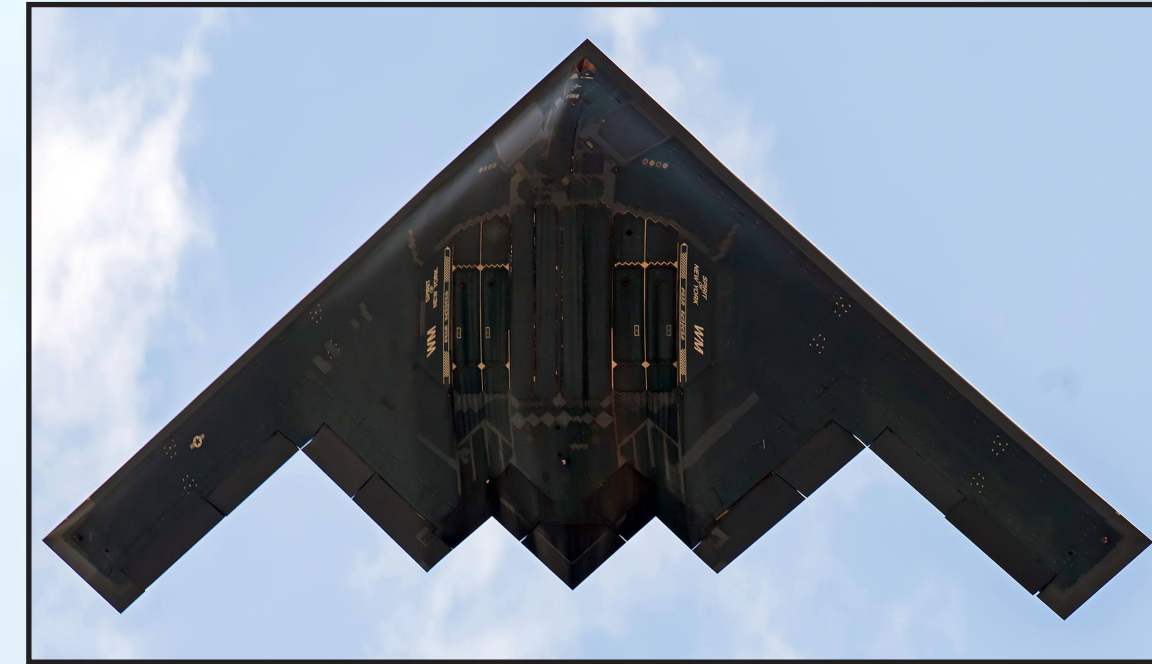
The B-2, flanked by F-15Cs, wowed crowds at RIAT and around the globe as pictures and videos of the flyby quickly went viral on social media.

"Team Whiteman was honored to participate in this year's RIAT, especially to help celebrate the Royal Air Force's 100th anniversary," said Brig. Gen. John Nichols, commander of the 509th Bomb Wing at Whiteman AFB. "Being a part of the airshow reinforces our shared values and strong alliance with the United Kingdom."

Other participating U.S. Air Force aircraft included the F-35, KC-135, MC-130, F-15E, F-15C, B-1, C-17, HH-60Hawk and KC-10. There were a total of 302 aircraft representing 30 nations at RIAT.



Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Brian Kimball

Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo



# Air Force updates to AFI-36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance

Secretary of the Air Force  
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- The Air Force announced a series of uniform updates to Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel, effective July 13, 2018.

"These changes stemmed from the 100th Air Force Uniform Board, which incorporated direct feedback from Airmen," said Lt. Gen. Gina Grosso, deputy chief of Staff, Manpower, Personnel and Services. "There are additional Uniform Board initiatives that are ongoing and still being analyzed for consideration and implementation by senior leaders."

The notable changes Include:

## Grooming and Appearance Standards

- No minimum hair length for females, but up to a maximum bulk of three-and-half inches from scalp, allowing for proper wear of headgear.

- Females are also authorized locs, which must be lightly fused or interwoven to present a neat, professional appearance.

## Dress Uniform

- All enlisted personnel may wear three-and-a-half inch or four-inch chevrons.
- All or some ribbons and devices may be worn on service dress uniform.
- All, some or no ribbons and devices

may be worn on blue service uniform.

## Outer Garments, Headgear, Rank Insignia and Accessories

- Males who are off duty in civilian clothes are authorized to wear earrings on or off installation.

- Females are authorized to wear round or square white diamond, gold, white pearl or silver earrings as a set with any uniform combination.

- Eyeglasses and sunglasses may have a small logo that can contrast with frame color or lenses. Conservative, clear, slightly tinted or photosensitive lenses are also authorized.

- Airmen may wear either a sling style backpack or two strap backpack.

- Handbags for all uniform combinations will be solid black leather or vinyl without ornamentation with black or white stitching.

## Physical Training Gear

- Short- and long-sleeved solid white, black or light gray form fitting undershirts may be worn and visible under the short-sleeved shirt.

- A balaclava (black) may now be worn with PT gear while performing physical fitness activities outdoors.

For the complete list of changes, Airmen should go to: [http://static.e-publishing.af.mil/production/1/af\\_a1/publication/afi36-2903/afi36-2903.pdf](http://static.e-publishing.af.mil/production/1/af_a1/publication/afi36-2903/afi36-2903.pdf)



## New Program!

## Sponsorship Awareness for Airmen and Families

## Important to Know!



**Aug. 3, Oct. 12 and Dec. 7**

**Time: 1 - 3 p.m.**

**Located at the PDC**

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