

# ROBINS REV-UP

August 10, 2012 Vol. 57 No.32

## Base, Navy collaborate on weapons system software

**BY JENNY GORDON**

jenny.gordon.ctr@robins.af.mil

For the last several years, software engineers at Robins have collaborated with the U.S. Navy on various projects, including one that involves a familiar weapons system.

One unique ongoing partnership capitalizes on radar system similarities between the Air Force F-15 Strike Eagle and Navy F/A-18 Hornet, the aircraft also used by the Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Squadron.

It all started when teams of software engineers from the 402nd Software Maintenance Group would travel to the Naval Air Warfare Center in China Lake, Calif., to work extended temporary duty as part of its F/A-18 APG-73 Radar Operational Flight Program

### THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE MISSION

**Software engineers:**

Cuong Ly, Dan Crews, Darel Lundy, Ben Bernal, Zoran Sevaric, Thuan Ngo, Dave Yager

**Hardware engineers:** Van Lu, Mike Foss

**Engineers:** Ray Palmer, Yen Lundy, Chris Bard

**Project manager:** Jon Wright

**Configuration manager:** Jessica Johnson

**Radar OFP director:** Chris Overcash

agreed on the need for a Radar Test Bench at Robins," said Jon Wright, the 577th Software Maintenance Squadron F/A-18 radar project manager.

This testing capability was delivered here in October 2010. Raytheon was originally responsible for creating the radar system. The APG-73 radar offers many capabilities, including an all-weather, search-and-track sensor that provides the flexibility needed for air-to-air and air-to-surface missions.

"Its arrival increased the overall radar OFP development and testing capability of Robins, further strengthening the successful partnership between the Air Force and Navy," added Wright.

Basically, the radar testing bench is a series of instrumentation systems which enable the software development team to generate radar target simulation,

► see **RADAR**, 12

workload.

"In order to meet radar OFP development and testing requirements and continue the level of support for future joint software development efforts, the Navy

### NEWS

#### YOU CAN USE

##### Reconnecting with Retirees

The Robins Retiree Activities Office staff is trying to get military retirees more involved here.

Retired Master Sgt. Rick Delaney and his wife, Pat, a retired senior master sergeant, are still pushing the Robins Reconnecting Retirees campaign – a program aimed at reaching out to veterans who don't work on base, and encouraging them to participate in on-base activities.

Through their service, they have earned a number of benefits such as using the commissary and Exchange.

Also, because of their experience, socializing with younger Airmen and civilian employees gives them an opportunity to share their knowledge.

"We're trying to get off-base retirees to come back on base in a mutually-beneficial partnership," said Delaney. "It's about bringing them here and showing them there are things happening."

The office serves as a point of contact for military retirees, assisting callers and visitors with questions ranging from volunteer opportunities and ID cards, to pay and casualty assistance. They're available Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from noon to 3 p.m. in Bldg. 767.

Military retirees are encouraged to call to be included in the RAO database. For more information, call 478-327-4707.

##### ANG Gate closed

Gate 15, the Air National Guard Gate, is closed to inbound and outbound traffic.

The gate will be closed for about six to eight weeks, and possibly longer. Appropriate signage has been placed near the entrance to direct off-base drivers.



U.S. Air Force photo by MISUZU ALLEN

Majs. Christopher "Torch" Coddington (front) and Stephen "Ritalin" D'Amico (back), 339th Flight Test Squadron, talk to John Kieweg, F-15 Functional Test Flight Chief, during pre-flight tests at F-15 Functional Test. See more photos of how Team Robins helps Eagles return to their nests on page 8.

## Employee program offers assistance at work, home

**BY JENNY GORDON**

jenny.gordon.ctr@robins.af.mil

The Employee Assistance Program, provided by Federal Occupational Health, can help members of the workforce with personal and family problems in order to ensure a happier, healthier and more productive life at home and work.

There are a variety of services available for government employees at Robins, including professional short-term counseling services that can provide referrals to community

resources based on needs, health insurance coverage and financial resources.

Free consultation is also available with financial experts, and can include help with living will preparation; health care powers of attorney; real estate, estate or retirement planning; education funding and investment strategies.

EAP's training program is also available for supervisors and employees, which includes workshops, features and benefits, how to access resources and more. Other services include critical incident stress management counseling and

supervisor and risk management consultation.

Program services here are available by calling Jamie Tillit at 327-7577 or Lynn Irvine at 327-7683. Located in Bldg. 207, the Occupational Medicine Clinic, office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only, unless it's an emergency.

There is also access by calling 800-222-0364, 24 hours a day. You can also visit [www.foh4you.com](http://www.foh4you.com) for educational materials, self-assessment tools and more specific information on services.



## Language of compassion: Airman's unit steps in during deployment

**BY JENNY GORDON**

jenny.gordon.ctr@robins.af.mil

When Airman 1st Class Jules Gounongbe received word in December 2011 that he would be deployed for six months, the news gave him exactly one week to prepare to leave his young family.

Preparations are always challenging for families, but for Gounongbe, who would be leaving for his first deployment the day after Christmas, the days ahead would present a host of new worries and sleepless nights.

First, his wife, Annabel, was seven months pregnant. Second, the Ivory Coast native had only recently arrived in

the U.S. during the Thanksgiving holiday to be with her husband.

And, oh by the way, she spoke very little conversational English.

"It was a confusing time. I didn't know exactly what to expect or where I was going. I was very worried about my family," recalled Gounongbe, also from the Ivory Coast.

Gounongbe, who works in Clothing and Issue with the 116th Logistics Readiness Squadron, and his wife married in 2009. They also have a 3-year-old daughter, Perla.

"My wife doesn't speak English very well, so for her to go to places like Wal-Mart was impossible," he continued. "She had no driver's

license. She was mad at me at the time for leaving, but of course this is my job."

Gounongbe recalled meeting with his first sergeant just before leaving to discuss his concerns.

"It created a few obstacles," said Master Sgt. Robert Goodwin, 461st Support Squadron first sergeant.

"First and foremost, Staff Sgt. Chadidscha Willis offered for the family to move in and live with her, while he was deployed," he added.

Willis is a coworker of Gounongbe.

He breathed a sigh of relief, knowing his wife would be taken care of while he was



Courtesy photo

Airman 1st Class Jules Gounongbe, 116th Logistics Readiness Squadron, sits with his wife, Annabel, son, Kayden, and daughter Perla. The Airman, who recently reunited with his family following a deployment, met his new son for the first time.

► see **HELP**, 12

# Page Two

## Helping agencies to get boost through integration, marketing

BY KENDAHL JOHNSON  
kendahl.johnson@robins.af.mil

Robins is implementing a plan to promote community resiliency and interagency coordination that will address issues which arose during the Caring for People Forum in the spring, as well as the 2011 Air Force Community Assessment Survey.

The plan will serve as an action guide for the Robins Community Action Information Board by establishing goals in areas that forum and study participants feel are in need of attention, including those specific to Robins. Target areas include mental health, wellness, safety, suicide prevention, education and training, and career development, to name a few.

“With an ongoing reduction in resources, there is a need for base agencies to continue to become truly integrated and ensure community members are aware of existing resources and able to get the help they may need,” said Stuart Bapties, CAIB co executive director.

Bapties said helping agencies are already

doing a fantastic job providing resources to help base members, but efforts in marketing these resources need to be improved.

The plan calls for a reinvigoration of such programs as the Integrated Delivery System, a combination of various helping agencies which delivers responsive community care through coordinated events, programs and services.

Bapties said a renewed sense of purpose in entities like the IDS can be achieved by agencies working together in a collaborative manner to ensure families are more aware of available care and support.

“We want to assist families and individuals in making positive choices, even in the face of adversity,” he said.

In addition to an improvement in marketing, other goals outlined in the plan include increasing communication effectiveness, community cohesiveness and family support, placing a stronger emphasis on unit resiliency, strengthening community resilience through improved health, and broadening opportunities for youth and teen fitness and activities.

To review the Community Action Plan in its entirety, visit [www.robins.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-120725-066.pdf](http://www.robins.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-120725-066.pdf).

**“We want to assist families and individuals in making positive choices, even in the face of adversity.”**

Stuart Bapties



U.S. Air Force photo by MISUZU ALLEN

Horizons, formerly known as the Officers' Club has a new name. The facility will now be Horizons Event Center. New signage will be installed soon.

## What's in a name: Horizons reopens with new name

Horizons reopened its doors Wednesday with a different name and a different focus. It is now the Horizons Event Center, open for meetings only.

Over the next several weeks, it will gradually expand from hosting meetings to a venue capable of supporting conferences and events fully catered by outside sources, such as the golf course, base restaurant or Pizza Depot, and eventually off-base vendors.

Horizons, formerly known as the Officers' Club, has been closed for the past six weeks for maintenance and sustainment issues. Following an assessment of the facilities, it was determined it would be too costly and impractical to fully restore the kitchen to its previous functionality.

“Doing so would result in an unfavorable return on investment, as well as an unnecessary risk to the installation's overall morale, welfare and recreation fund,” said Col. Mitchel Butikofer, installation commander.

As a result, the facility will no longer be offering buffet-style lunches or evening dinner.

“While a difficult decision, I believe it to be the best one for our Airmen and their families,” Butikofer said.

Facilities currently operating in Horizons, like the Barber Shop, will remain open and will continue to serve customers. To schedule a haircut, call 918-4775. To reserve a room in Horizons Event Center, contact Pamila Swartzlander at 926-2105.

## Museum of Aviation named STEM Awards Program finalist

The Museum of Aviation Education Department has been named a finalist in the annual S.T.E.M. Education Awards.

The awards were created by the Technology Association of Georgia and the TAG Education Collaborative to recognize schools, extracurricular programs, public-private partnerships, science agencies and post-secondary education outreach programs for outstanding efforts and achievement in supporting and promoting science, technology, engineering, and math education in Georgia.

The museum is a finalist in the Science Agency category.

“We applaud the Museum of Aviation for its extraordinary efforts to bolster awareness about the importance of STEM, and for its hard work to increase student participation in science, technol-

ogy, engineering and math programs,” said Michael Robertson, TAG-Ed director. “Georgia will need to fill some 211,000 STEM-related jobs by 2018, so we're pleased to showcase the schools, programs and organizations helping to develop a strong future workforce for our state.”

The museum was nominated for the award by Warner Robins Mayor Chuck Shaheen.

“We're honored to be recognized by the Technology Association of Georgia,” said Melissa Spalding, museum director of education. “I'm so proud of our entire education department staff for the outstanding programs they carry out all year.”

Winners will be announced during a special, half-day event Sept. 14 at the Savannah International Trade and Convention Center.

To learn more, visit: <http://bit.ly/STEMAwards>.

## It's a freedom you defend ... vote

BY CAPT. AMANDA RUST  
Installation Voting Assistance Officer

Did you know that there are only 88 days until Election Day Nov. 6?

Do you have questions about requesting or submitting an absentee ballot? The Installation Voter Assistance Office is here to help. The office provides non-partisan voting guidance to military members, their voting-age dependents, and other voting-age citizens with base access.

Here are some important dates to be aware of:

**Aug. 15:** Recommended date to submit your Federal Post Card Application by in order to obtain a voting ballot on time.

**Sept. 27 through Oct. 4:** Absentee Voters Week.

**Oct. 6:** Recommended date for voters in Iraq, Afghanistan, ships at sea, and other locations without access to the military postal system to mail absentee ballots.



**Oct. 13:** Recommended date for voters in overseas military installations to send voted ballots in to be counted.

**Oct. 29:** Recommended date for state-side uniformed service members to mail absentee ballots.

If you have any voting-related questions, contact your unit voting assistance officer or the IVAO at DSN 497-VOTE (8683); commercial 478-327-8683 or email us at [robins.vote@robins.af.mil](mailto:robins.vote@robins.af.mil).

For more information, visit [www.robins.af.mil/library/votingassistanceprogram.asp](http://www.robins.af.mil/library/votingassistanceprogram.asp) or [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).

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# AIR FORCE



## Air Force assures F-22 readiness following extensive 'life support' testing

Following months of life support systems components testing in the F-22 Raptor, officials have "determined with confidence" the source of previously-unexplained physiological incidents, the Air Force's Air Combat Command director of operations said at a Pentagon news conference.

In turn, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta last week approved a gradual lifting of restrictions he placed on F-22 flights in May.

The combined medical disciplines of flight medicine, toxicology, physiology, human factors and occupational health have enabled the service to assemble "pieces of the mosaic" which reside in the cockpit, said Maj. Gen. Charles Lyon, who was designated by Air Force Secretary Michael Donley in January to lead an F-22 investigative task force.

The general pinpointed the upper pressure garment, oxygen delivery hoses, quick connection points and the air filter canister, that had been used for a few months in the aircraft, as contributing factors to previously-unexplained physiological incidents in which some pilots complained of hypoxia-like symptoms.

To read more, see [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil).

## AF chief of staff reflects on time as service chief, career

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz met with media in the Pentagon recently to share his thoughts about his nearly 40 years of military service in the Air Force and four years as the Air Force's senior uniformed leader.

"When former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates spoke at my Chief of Staff welcoming ceremony in August of 2008, he quipped that he and I had something in common, that both of us were planning to retire," Schwartz said. "Indeed, when he asked me to continue to serve, those earlier retirement plans were put on hold. Today, however, I do plan to retire, and am preparing to hang up my blue uniform for the final time."

As the Air Force Chief of Staff, Schwartz has led about 680,000 active duty, National Guard, Reserve and civilian forces serving in the United States and around the world. As a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, he functions as a military advisor to the Secretary of Defense, National Security Council and the President.

For more, visit [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil).

## Luke Air Force Base selected for F-35 pilot training

It's official, the F-35 is going to Luke. Air Force Secretary Michael Donley announced that Luke Air Force Base has been chosen as the location of the Air Force's F-35A Lightning II pilot training center. The base will receive 72 aircraft, for a

## Phasing Spirits



U.S. Air Force photo by SENIOR AIRMAN NICK WILSON

Crew chiefs from the 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and 131st Bomb Wing perform a phase inspection on a B-2 Spirit at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. The B-2 is 'phased' every 1,000 flight hours to search for discrepancies which could cause major damage.

total of three fighter squadrons.

"This is a great day for Luke," said Brig. Gen. J.D. Harris, 56th Fighter Wing commander. "Our selection for F-35 training ensures the long-term viability of our mission of training the world's greatest fighter pilots, which we've been doing at Luke for seven decades."

The F-35, manufactured by Lockheed Martin, is a fifth-generation fighter aircraft intended to be the Air Force's premier strike aircraft through the first half of the 21st Century. It is a multi-role fighter that's expected to eventually phase out the service's F-16s

and A-10s.

Aircraft will begin to arrive at Luke in late 2013, although the exact timing will depend on production schedules. However, construction on base to prepare for the aircraft, is expected to start almost immediately.

The record of decision cited several reasons why Luke was the service's top choice, including facility and ramp capacity, range access, weather, as well as capacity for future growth. To find out more, visit [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil).

## U.S., Poland develop partnership through Exercise Screaming Eagle

Airmen from the 435th Air Ground Operations and 86th Airlift Wings trained with Polish military members in Exercise Screaming Eagle IV July 24 through Aug. 3.

"Poland is one of our strongest and closest allies in the world and is a leader in Europe," said President Barack Obama. "What we want to do is to create an environment in this region in which peace and security are a given. That's not just good for this region. It is good for the United States of America."

Screaming Eagle is an annual exercise at Poland's 33rd Air Base that allows pilots from the 37th Airlift Squadron to conduct training with the C-130J Super Hercules aircraft while facilitating training for several other units.

"Poland provides an excellent place for our aircrews to increase proficiency on several different flying scenarios, as well as training opportunities for maintainers, aerial porters and the airborne personnel we have with us," said Capt. Dean Brown, exercise mission commander and 37th AS pilot.

For more, visit [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil).

— compiled by Holly Logan-Arrington

## Arctic Thunder

An F-22 Raptor performs a flyover during the 2012 Arctic Thunder Air Show and Open House July 28 at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska. The base opened its gates early for families with special needs and disabled children allowing them a sneak peek. The events included an all-star lineup, featuring the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds F-16 Flight Demonstration Team, the U.S. Army Golden Knights Parachute Team and many other civilian and military performers.



U.S. Air Force photo by FIRST LT. JOEL COOKE

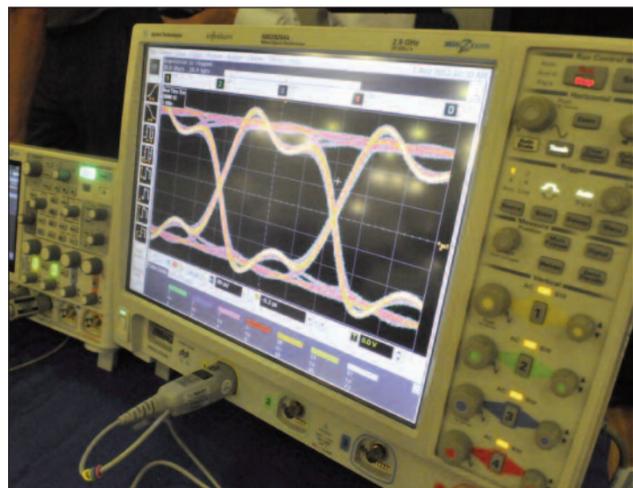
# STATE OF THE ART TECHNOLOGY EXPO



Elaine Liner, Wolfvision regional sales manager, talks with Darryl Gates, 78th Force Support Squadron, at the Information Technology Expo.



Left and below are examples of new devices showcased Aug. 1 at the Information Technology Expo here. Representatives from more than 25 companies displayed their latest wares.



## ROBINS REV-UP

COMMANDER  
Col. Mitchel Butikofer

## HOW TO CONTACT US

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## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Submissions must be received by 4 p.m. Wednesday, the week prior to the requested Friday publication.

They should be e-mailed to [lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil](mailto:lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil) and [vance.janes@robins.af.mil](mailto:vance.janes@robins.af.mil)

Submissions should be of broad interest to the base populace. For information, call Lanorris Askew at 472-0806.

## DELIVERY

To report delivery issues, call 472-0802.

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# On the Fly

## Mandatory supervisor training changes

Air University has changed the registration process for Virtual Mandatory Supervisor Training. New supervisors must register for mandatory classes by creating an AU portal account via <https://auportal.maxwell.af.mil>.

Mandatory supervisor training courses include: the USAF Supervisor Course, Civilian Personnel Management Course, and Military Personnel Management Course.

Air Force Materiel Command guidance requires new supervisors to complete the training within 120 days of being assigned to a supervisory position.

Additionally, Air Force Human Resources Management School recently announced an Advanced USAF Supervisors Course for new Air Force supervisors of civilians, who assume their position with at least three years of prior federal supervisory experience and have not taken the USAF course in the past.

Acceptance into this course for experienced supervisors requires evaluation by local and AF HRMS training officials to verify they meet enrollment requirements. The

advanced course is 24 hours while the initial course is 40 hours.

For more information, call Tina Spriggs at 472-3407.

## Upcoming

The following leadership class is scheduled for August:

► Doug Keene will present “High Velocity Tenets” Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m. in Bldg. 905, Room 139.

## Et cetera

**The 4th Annual “Feds Feed Families” Food Drive runs through Aug. 29.** Feds Feed Families is a voluntary effort undertaken by federal employees to bring nonperishable food items to their offices for distribution to local food banks. The 2012 goal for the Air Force is 348,000 pounds.

For more information, call 1st Lt. Alicia Harvey at 472-5553 or visit [www.fedsfeedfamilies.gov](http://www.fedsfeedfamilies.gov).

To assist in **reducing alcohol-related incidents**, the 78th Force Support Squadron is offering a designated driver program at the Heritage Club and Pizza Depot.

For groups of two or more, designated drivers will receive free fountain soft drinks, fruit juices or non-alcoholic frozen drinks.

To learn more, call 468-2670.

Also, Airmen Against Drunk Driving provides rides free of charge to any Robins DoD ID card holder. Coverage is from Perry to Macon.

For a free, anonymous ride, call 472-0013.

The **U.S. Postal Service Contract Unit** in Bldg. 910 is open Mondays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, call Roy Williams at 229-332-0098.

**The Museum of Aviation is open** every day except Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years Day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free. Education classes for pre-k through 12th grade are conducted all year long.

Additionally, several areas are available for private or group events, and the Victory Café caters on site.

For more information, call 926-6870 or visit [www.museumofaviation.org](http://www.museumofaviation.org)

**To have a leave recipient listed here**, email Lanorris Askew at [lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil](mailto:lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil). Submissions will run for two weeks.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

## Higher Learning

Representatives from colleges and universities throughout the U.S. participated in an Education Fair here, Aug. 1. The event was hosted by the Robins Air Force Base Military Education and Training Office.

## Get Your Tickets Now!



**Sept. 15, 2012 6 - 11 p.m.**

**ROBINS AFB MUSEUM OF AVIATION  
CENTURY OF FLIGHT HANGAR**

**Keynote speaker: Lt. Gen. Andrew Busch**

**ENTERTAINMENT: THE BAND OF THE AIR FORCE RESERVE**

## Ticket Sales

Category (1) \$10  
E1 - E4/ GS 9 Below

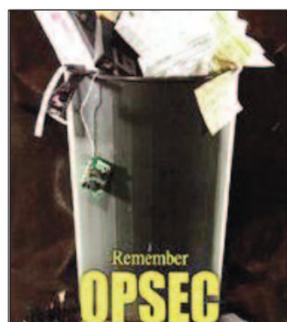
Category (2) \$20  
E5 - E7/ 01- 04/ GS 10 - 13

Category (3) \$30  
E8 - E9/ o5 Above

For tickets, call Ryan Prosperie at 478-951-5000 or for more info visit [robins.af.mil](http://robins.af.mil)

## Give Parents a Break Night

Free childcare will be provided for children ages six weeks to 12 years old. For children aged five to 12 years old contact Mandie Holovach at 327-6833; for those six weeks to 4 years call CDC East at 926-5805. Care will be free with First Sergeant or Airman and Family Readiness Center referral or \$4 an hour without referral. Deadline is Aug. 30. Space is limited.



**THINK OPSEC:  
YOUR TRASH  
COULD BE  
AN ADVERSARY'S  
TREASURE**



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Mechanics Mike Sheppard and John Davis, remove a panel as part of an inspection. F-15 Functional Test is the last stop for aircraft going through maintenance. After they pass flight checks and a test flight, they are sent to be painted and then returned to the unit to which they belong.

# Freedom flight

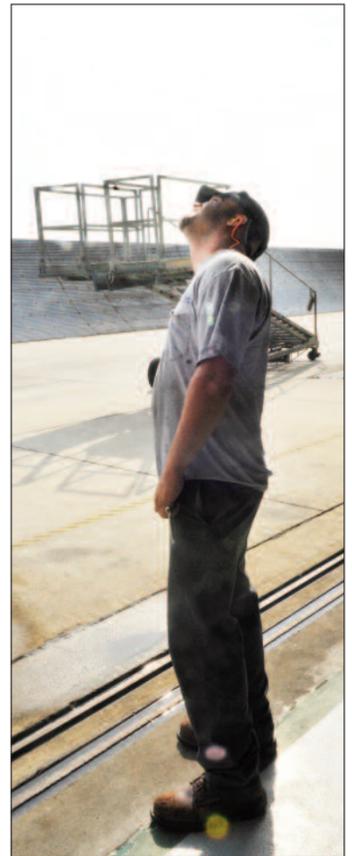


U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP



U.S. Air Force photo by MISUZU ALLEN

F-15 Functional Test Flight ensures aircraft are ready for trip home



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Above, mechanic Derrick Schultz, stands at the rear of a test bay to watch an F-15 launch for a test flight.

Far left, mechanics work in concert with test flight pilots to certify aircraft as worthy to return to the fight.

Left, an F-15 taxis to the Robins runway.



U.S. Air Force photo by MISUZU ALLEN

Mechanic Gregory Westberg, enters the cockpit during the F-15 Functional Test.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Maj. Christopher "Torch" Coddington, 339th Flight Test Squadron, runs an F-15 through pre flight tests.

FRI 10 SAT 11 SUN 12 MON 13 TUE 14 WED 15 THUR 16

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

OUT AND ABOUT

**ON TAP**

**AFMC "Back to School" Family Fun Daze**  
Saturday  
2 to 5 p.m.  
Heritage Club  
Entertainment, games, food and prizes  
For details, call 472-7864.

**Runaway Bar Bingo**  
Wednesday  
6 pm.  
For details, call 468-4515.

**Dept. of Labor TAP/VA Workshop**  
Wednesday through Thursday  
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Bldg. 794  
For details, call 468-1256.

**Group Pre-Separation Briefings**  
Thursday – Retirees  
Aug 23 – Separatees  
Aug. 30 – Retirees  
12:30 to 4 p.m.  
Bldg 794  
For details, call 468-1256.

**Beginning Genealogy**  
Thursday  
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Base Library  
Register by Tuesday  
For details, call 497-8761.

**UPCOMING Robins Bowling Festival Commanders Tournament**  
Aug. 17  
1:30 p.m.  
Free

For details, call 468-2112.

**Boss N' Buddy**  
Aug. 17  
4 to 5 p.m.  
Heritage Club  
Members free, Guests \$5  
For details, call 472-7864.

**Georgia Heat Softball Tournament**  
Aug. 17 and 18  
5:30 p.m.  
Fitness Center  
Register by Tuesday  
For details, call 468-2128.

**Kings & Queens Tournament**  
Aug. 17  
6 p.m.  
\$15  
Bowling Center  
For details,

call 468-2112.

**Volkssport in Rome, GA**  
Sept. 8  
\$35 per person  
Register by Aug. 25  
For details, call 468-4001.

**Ropes Course**  
Sept. 22  
\$50 per person  
Panola Mountain State Park  
Register by Sept. 8  
For details, call 468-4001.

**ONGOING Dine N' Drive**  
Every day in August  
7 to 10 a.m.  
Golf Course  
AGF members \$19  
Guests \$25  
18 holes with cart and breakfast  
For details, call 468-4103.

**Private Pilot Ground School**  
Now through Sept. 26  
\$605 per person  
Tuition assistance available for those who qualify  
For details, call 468-4867.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

**Help wanted**

Maj. Steven Miner, Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command Expeditionary Combat Support Programs chief, talks with Trooper Deon Cockrell, a Texas State Policeman, at a recent Career Expo here. Both regional and national companies were on hand for the event pitching opportunities to military members searching for civilian job opportunities.



**Time is running out! Take advantage of Disney's Military Salute Program Expires Sept. 30, 2012**



- 4-day park hopper **\$138**
- 4-day base w/water park fun & more **\$138**
- 4-day park hopper w/water park fun & more **\$165**



For more information call Information Tickets and Travel at DSN 468-2945 or commercial 926-2945

**E1 - E4 Play for Points!**

Earn points by playing golf, taking lessons or just hitting range balls.

- 9 holes of golf** = 1 point or with cart 2 points
- 18 holes of golf** = 2 points or with carts 3 points
- Lessons** = 3 points
- Range Balls** = 1 point per bucket
- Lunch at Fairways Grille** = 1 point
- Breakfast at Fairways Grille** = 3 points

Sign-up at the golf pro shop today!

Collect the most points by Sept. 30 and win a one month membership and 10 range tokens (\$86 value)





# Medic's message

AFMS - Robins - 78th Medical Group  
Like us on Facebook!

## Make it a cookout to remember

BY 1ST LT. SARAH HILL  
78th Medical Group

With summer upon us and picnic and barbecue invitations rolling out, here are some tips for protecting yourself and guests from food-borne illnesses.

Did you know food-borne illnesses affect one in six people yearly? Of those cases most are caused by Salmonella bacterium. Four simple steps, can help protect everyone.

**Step 1, Clean:** Wash your hands, utensils and surfaces often. Hands should be washed under warm water for 20 seconds. After using any utensil or surface wash it thoroughly using the hot cycle on the dishwasher or with hot soapy water. If you want to be extra sanitary use one tablespoon of bleach in a gallon of water to sanitize washed utensils. Wash all fruits and veggies to remove contamination from these “ready-to-eat” foods.

**Step 2, Separate:** Keep raw foods separate from meats, poultry, seafood and eggs. That prevents cross contamination between raw meats and fruits and vegetables. When shopping keep them separate in the cart, try putting produce in the child carrier and meat in the main basket. When

you get the groceries home, separate produce and meats – if possible try to store produce above meats. Also, use separate cutting boards for produce and meat, poultry, seafood and eggs.

**Step 3: Cook:** This step is important because its how pathogens in raw meats are killed. Cook all meats and microwave leftovers to an internal temperature of 165 degrees (for more on minimum cooking temperatures check out the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Food Safety Website). Use a food thermometer to ensure food is at the proper temperature. Once food is cooked keep it at 140 degrees or higher.

**Step 4, Chill:** Refrigerate foods promptly to inhibit pathogen growth. Perishable foods should be reheated within two hours. When thawing frozen foods, never thaw on the counter, always thaw under warm running water or overnight in the refrigerator.

Adhering to those four steps will make your next barbecue a success instead of the one your family and friends remember because everyone got sick.

For more information, visit [www.FoodSafety.gov](http://www.FoodSafety.gov) or call Public Health at 478-327-8019.

## Tuition Assistance changes underway

The Air Force has moved to initiate more efficient processes across all functional communities.

On Thursday, the Central Office (AETC/A1RE) located at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, will take over all military tuition assistance actions except tuition assistance approvals and invoices, processing reimbursements, TA waivers, and posting grades. The rest of the Air Force has already rolled up, leaving AFMC one of the last MAJCOMs on the schedule to finalize the process.

### Why centralize?

- ▶Enhanced fiscal accountability and program management.
- ▶Enhanced accuracy and availability of data; cost manage-

ment; analysis; oversight.

▶Dramatically reduces base-level transactional workload and focuses resources on face-to-face services such as counseling and test administration.

▶Invoice payment cycle time reduced.

▶Opens door for additional improved business processes – cost-saving initiatives.

▶Single focal point for all academic institutions - standardization.

### Impact to Airmen?

The process will be seamless. Airmen will continue to use the “Air Force Virtual Education Center” to apply for TA, just as they’re doing now. Under the Central Office, all student reim-

bursements and grade reporting will be managed and tracked by the Centralization Office.

Students who fail to successfully complete a course while using TA or request a TA waiver for reimbursement, will deal directly with the Central Office instead of their local base education and training office, to include posting of grades.

The Robins Education and Training Office will continue to support Team Robins’ active duty military community, providing counseling, testing, TA approval and limited VA information.

For more information, call the Military Education and Training Office in Bldg. 905 at 497-7304.

## RADAR

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perform troubleshooting and technical investigations, and provide overall radar software engineering development and support.

The similar radar systems on the F-15 and F/A-18 use the JOVIAL programming language, which can generate high resolution and ground maps, making use of image-correlation algorithms to enhance accuracy for the pilot. Signal processors are similar as well.

Multiple on-screen displays inside one lab allow users to recreate what a pilot sees while inside an aircraft. The software has the capability to do such things as identify aircraft, with this information sent from various radar dishes located outside the building complex.

The test bench allows for the development of code, the capability to load and test it, and essentially allows its users to ensure the software is performing as it should. It is here where the process simulates what occurs during a real-world mission.

“Working with the Navy is a mutual benefit for us,” explained Chris Overcash, 577th SMXS Radar OFP Flight director. “Overall, what we’re trying to do is protect pilots and aircraft from enemy threats and ensure mission success. We need to be able to interpret and relay accurate information to them.”

“It’s a mutual benefit by doing the work here where everybody is a winner. You are not only able to develop better quality software, but it’s also a benefit to the warfighter and taxpayer,” he said.

## HELP

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away. But the good deeds didn’t stop there. The whole squadron really came together to support the family until Gounongbe returned in late May. His wife would even go shopping with Annabel to pick out baby items.

Interpreters from the community also volunteered to accompany Annabel, who spoke

French, to scheduled doctor visits.

Gounongbe called his wife repeatedly the first month he was away, but after a time she instead gave him words of encouragement to allay any fears he had.

“You don’t have to worry about me,” he remembered his wife saying. “Just be safe over there.”

He was also able to Skype with his wife after their son,

Kayden, was born Feb. 16.

It allowed him to see and hear the newest member of the family.

“I was so happy to see my baby for the first time,” he said. “Everyone is doing well since I’ve been home.

“You know, when I think about it, I knew at the time that if my wife or kids needed something, my coworkers would be there,” he added. “It’s so amazing – it’s like one big family.”