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# ROBINS REV-UP

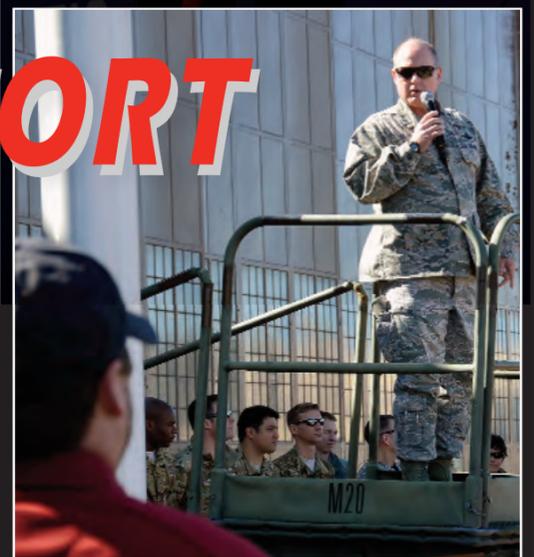
*'Team Robins - Performing to Our Potential'*

*'Making Tomorrow Better than Today'*

Feb. 12, 2016 Vol. 61 No. 6



U.S. Air Force photo by TOMMIE HORTON



U.S. Air Force photo by ED ASPERA

Maj. Gen. Eugene Haase, AFSOC vice commander, addresses the Robins workforce after landing. The crew talked to Robins employees, sharing stories and talking about their responsibilities flying the aircraft.

## AFSOC VICE COMMANDER TALKS MISSION, CAPABILITIES

BY JENNY GORDON  
jenny.gordon.ctr@us.af.mil

When you're leading troops across unpredictable terrain or taking fire from enemy forces, it's comforting to know an Air Force AC-130U gunship has got your six from somewhere above.

The mission of these "Spooky" gunships – operated by Air Force Special Operations Command – is so critical overseas that they're currently experiencing a high operations tempo. And, because they're used so much, it's important to upgrade and maintain them as quickly as possible so they can get back to the warfighter.

That's where the AFSOC Acceleration Plan comes in – an ambitious undertaking by the Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex to perform programmed depot maintenance on six MC-130H Combat Talons and AC-130U gunships this fiscal year.

Last week's successful delivery of the first aircraft from that plan equates to a successful mission accomplished by a team that spans across

▶ see MISSION, A6

## Robins sends first expedited gunship home early

BY JENNY GORDON  
jenny.gordon.ctr@us.af.mil

Behind every successful aircraft production story at the Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex, there are the countless contributions of team members who help make it happen.

There's the recent case of an Air Force Special Operations Command's AC-130U gunship that was produced here in a record 100 days. It returned to its customer at Hurlburt Field, Fla., on Saturday.

Two interesting takeaways from this particular aircraft: First, the last time Robins produced a gunship at record pace was in February 2009. That was at 128 days. Second, AFSOC's requirement for this first AC-130U stood at 152 days, Robins produced it in 100 days.

On this latest world-class team effort, it couldn't have happened without the enterprise team of part-

ners from the Defense Logistics Agency and its vital supply chain role, the 402nd Commodities Maintenance Group, Air Force Life Cycle Management Center System Program Office, various maintenance support agencies, nondestructive inspection testing teams and many others.

Known as the C-130 Air Force Special Operations Command Acceleration Plan, due to the current high demand of AC-130U gunships and MC-130H Combat Talons flying worldwide missions, there's a direct need for increased aircraft availability.

The first gunship was produced by a team from the 560th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron – the first of six accelerated AFSOC planes scheduled at Robins in fiscal 2016. A second MC-130H is currently on station.

A squadron internal goal was to turn the aircraft around in 97 days – it was produced in 100 days -

▶ see GUNSHIP, A5

## LCMC, C-5M Super Galaxy – in good company

BY JENNY GORDON  
jenny.gordon.ctr@us.af.mil

The National Aeronautic Association announced earlier this month that the C-5M Super Galaxy has been nominated as one of nine finalists for the 2015 Robert J. Collier Trophy.

Known as the benchmark of aerospace achievement, past winners have included the crews of Apollo 11 and Apollo 8, the Mercury 7, Howard Hughes, the B-52, F-22 and International Space Station. "It's an honor to make the top nine

and to be named as a finalist," said Col. Raegan Echols, Air Force Life Cycle Management Center C-5 System Program manager.

On March 8, Echols will travel to Washington D.C. with Lockheed Martin officials to brief the C-5M's world-class capabilities for final award consideration.

The final decision will be announced that evening.

Known as the premier strategic airlifter in the Department of Defense inventory, the aircraft has surpassed dozens of aviation records. Notably, the April

flight of eight C-5M aircrew members from Travis Air Force Base, Calif., who conducted a one-hour flight that claimed 46 new world aviation records.

That was just after the aircraft had undergone the transforming Reliability Enhancement and Re-engining Program, conducted at Lockheed Martin facilities in Marietta, Ga.

Part of the modification program involves the replacement of the fleet's commercial engine, allowing significantly more cargo to be carried over long distances as a result of its increase in

thrust, shorter take-off roll and faster climb rate.

The C-5M, which has been called a game-changer, claimed records during that April 2015 flight for altitude in horizontal flight, altitude with payload, time-to-climb, time-to-climb with payload and greatest payload to 9,000 meters, while loaded with pallets, fuel and the aircrew, for a total of 731,220 pounds.

That's nearly 366 tons. The flight took four minutes and 36 seconds to get to 9,843 feet, among its record-setting performances.

### FRIDAY FLYBY: Remember to conserve power over the long holiday weekend!

#### Dixie Crow Chapter of Old Crows

The 2016 Dixie Crow Chapter of the Association of Old Crows' Electronic Warfare/Information Operations Symposium 41, will be March 20 through 24 at the Museum of Aviation.

Visit [www.dixiecrow41.org/](http://www.dixiecrow41.org/) for information and registration for the Old Crows Symposium.

In related news, the 2016 Program Executive Officer Review and Outlook will be March 24 in the Museum of Aviation's Century of Flight Museum from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. See story on page A2.



#### Celebrating Diversity: Black History Month

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and the central role they have played in U.S. history.

In 1922, a time of both gender and racial discrimination, Bessie Coleman broke barriers and became the world's first black woman to earn a pilot's license. Because flying schools in the United States denied her entry, she learned French and moved to France to achieve her goal. After only seven months, Coleman earned her license from France's well known Caudron Brother's School of Aviation.



COLEMAN

Weekend Weather

Friday 66/36



Saturday 48/26



Sunday 49/32



*"Stay resilient – know when to ask for help."*

# SECOND FRONT

## VPP update, EMXG culture of success

BY JENNY GORDON  
jenny.gordon.ctr@us.af.mil

The Voluntary Protection Program Safe Site Challenge continues at a steady pace across Robins.

Currently there are 254 safe sites, of which 81 percent have achieved Gold status. As of Feb. 1, the status across the installation includes: 206, Gold; 37, Silver; and 11, Bronze. That number includes units from across the 78th Air Base Wing, Air Force Sustainment Center operating locations at Robins, Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex, and Air Force Life Cycle Management Center and 448th Supply Chain Management offices.

Sustaining a culture of safety happens every day here. Take for example the VPP culture within the 402nd Electronics Maintenance Group.

Charles Neal, 402nd EMXG VPP program manager, explained that with its versatile workforce of 1,040 trained specialists across the organization, enthusiasm needs to be part of the VPP program.

The group is currently awaiting a visit from OSHA to be assessed as an OSHA VPP Star Site. There are currently two at Robins – the 402nd Software Maintenance Group and 402nd Maintenance Support Group.

“If you do just straight facts and talk of rules and regulations, you lose people,” he said. “In EMXG, there are people who bring fun and games into it in order to not lose enthusiasm about the program.”

One area that stands out is that the 402nd EMXG experienced no lost time in 2015 due to employee injuries.

For calendar year 2015, the group’s rates for injuries and time lost, known as TCIR, Total Case Incident Rate, and DART, Days Away Restricted Transfer, was below the industry standard.

Zero days were lost in 2015 due to illnesses and/or injuries. The TCIR rate last year included a total of 10 OSHA-reportable mishaps, minor incidents that workers reported to work the following day.

According to Neal, from last September until November, the group went over 100 days without a single injury, a first for the group in over a decade.

The 402nd Software Maintenance Group also had a zero DART rate for 2015. According to safety officials, injury trends are down across the WR-ALC and 78th ABW, specifically they’re at a three-year average low.

“The numbers are decreasing which is the way we want them to be,” said Jim Howard, WR-ALC safety and occupational health specialist representative with the 402nd EMXG.

While there are environments within EMXG complexes where work in sheet metal, radar and chemicals are a constant presence, safety is always on the minds of everyone. It’s agreed that care, commitment and timely response are ingrained in its culture – that everyone takes responsible ownership for not only their own safety but the safety of others.

“EMXG is a solid opportunity to see a safety management system that is engaged with VPP,” said Johnson.



## AFSC exec tours Robins

Above, Mike Arnold, 561st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron director, briefs Jeffrey Allen, Air Force Sustainment Center executive director, on F-15 transition plans during his visit to the Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex Feb. 7 through 9.

From left, Thomas Fischer, Air Force Sustainment Center Robins Operating Location Engineering and Technical Management director; Jeffrey Allen, Air Force Sustainment Center executive director; Mike Arnold, 561st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron director; and Brig. Gen. Walter Lindsley, Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex commander, look at an F-15 pin. A recent change to how the part is used is an example of progress made during the F-15 transition plan. Allen was here to receive Team Robins mission updates.



U.S. Air Force photos by TOMMIE HORTON

## 2016 Program Executive Officer Review & Outlook

ROBINS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Robins Air Force Base in partnership with the Robins Regional Chamber of Commerce Aerospace Industry Committee, has announced the date for the 2016 Program Executive Officer Review and Outlook. The event will be March 24, from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Museum of Aviation’s Century of Flight Hangar.

The event supports the May 2015 Air Force Strategic Master Plan: “The Air Force will invigorate the extraordinary talent resident in America’s industrial, commercial, and academic sectors by increasing communication, healthy competition, and transparency.”

The one-day PEO R&O is designed to inform the private sector on portfolio focus areas and acquisition forecasts that are essential for Robins organizations to achieve their mission of providing war-winning capabilities on time and on cost. The PEO R&O accomplishes this by bringing interested parties together for a series of presentations by Air Force senior leadership. Confirmed briefers include Lt. Gen. John Thompson, Air Force Life Cycle Management Center commander, and Lt. Gen. Lee Levy, Air Force Sustainment Center commander. Eight program executive officers are also

expected to provide an overview of their respective portfolios, to include anticipated funding as well as projected future requirement opportunities. All materials and discussions will be unclassified.

Attendance is open to all interested parties. Early registration price (before Feb. 26) is \$75, then the registration cost increases to \$90. Lunch is included. Current government employees will be admitted free and may purchase lunch for \$15. For additional information including the latest agenda and speakers, visit <http://warnerobins.chambermaster.com/events/details/7-30-am-aic-program-executive-officer-review-and-outlook-5596>.

For information not on the website, contact the Robins Regional Chamber AIC PEO conference chair, David French, at 478-953-6800 or [dfrench@merc-merc.org](mailto:dfrench@merc-merc.org), or the AIC committee chair, Lisa Frugé-Cirilli, at 478-319-0179 or [Lisa.Fruga@baesystems.com](mailto:Lisa.Fruga@baesystems.com).

Parties interested in the PEO R&O event may also be interested in attending the 2016 Dixie Crow Chapter of the Association of Old Crows’ Electronic Warfare/Information Operations Symposium 41, which will be held at the same location March 20-24. Visit <http://www.dixiecrow41.org/> for information and registration for the Old Crows Symposium.



U.S. Air Force photos by TOMMIE HORTON

Above, Airman 1st Class Mathew Ogden, Robins Honor Guard, drapes a U.S. flag over a casket during a funeral honors ceremony practice. Honor guard members serve for 180 days and practice about five hours each day to perfect the moves they will make during military honors ceremonies.

## Local goodwill adds realism to Robins Honor Guard training

BY ANGELA WOOLEN  
angela.woolen.ctr@us.af.mil

**H**aving new equipment helps everyone. Even if the equipment happens to be caskets.

A year ago, Master Sgt. Matthew Hurless, Robins Honor Guard program manager, called two local funeral homes to ask about purchasing a casket, and they both offered to give one to the Robins Honor Guard.

With the addition of the new caskets, the guard is able to train more effectively.

“They’re perfect. We put weights in them to get a realistic feel when they have to do a detail,” Hurless said.

An honor guard member serves for 180 days and practices about five hours daily to perfect the movements performed during a military funeral.

During the first few weeks, members sometimes get blisters from holding the rifles because they have to practice so much.

“Receiving the caskets from the funeral homes is important for our airmen not only because they know what the mission was but also so they can train on equipment that is new and current,” said Tech Sgt. Juan Garcia, Robins Honor Guard flight sergeant.



Staff Sgt. Philip Yago, Robins Honor Guard, holds a folded U.S. flag during funeral ceremony practice.

The two caskets are the same model though one is blue and one is gray.

“That they were given by community members makes it even more special,” he said.



Staff Sgt. Ashley Mazie, Robins Honor Guard bugler, plays taps during a funeral honors ceremony practice.

## AROUND THE AIR FORCE

**Celebrating the leaders who helped shape America**

BY LT. GEN. LEE LEVY

Air Force Sustainment Center commander

Originally observed only as Washington's Birthday to celebrate the life and accomplishments of our first president, Presidents' Day has expanded to honor all presidents of the United States.

Each president is unique in contributing to the shaping of our country. The first president, George Washington, was the Electoral College's unanimous choice for president, and he served as a unifying force for the new nation. Abraham Lincoln maintained the Union through the Civil War and abolished slavery. Harry S. Truman signed Executive Order No. 9981 which resulted in the desegregation of the Armed Services. These are just a few presidents among the many we have had in our lineage of leadership who have made significant contributions in shaping America.

Presidents Day also reminds us of the scope of

our liberty in its very name and subject. The United States of America is "The Grand Experiment" of democracy because it is the first country with governance and leadership that is "by the people, for the people." George Washington said, "The preservation of the sacred fire of liberty... is finally staked, on the experiment entrusted to the hands of the American People." We have the privilege and responsibility of choosing our representatives and exercising democratic opportunities many other countries do not have.

As a particular reminder in this presidential election year, keep in mind that there are political activities of federal employees that are prohibited by law.



Levy

While it is a freedom of Americans to vote, the Hatch Act prohibits federal employees from activities such as campaigning while on duty, in the federal workplace, wearing an official uniform or insignia, or using a government vehicle. Keep this in consideration especially as we move closer to elections.

Whatever your personal plans for the weekend, whether they involve travel or enjoying time at home, remember there is no Air Force without you – our airmen. You are vital in preserving our hard-won freedoms that even our very first president worked to establish. The efforts we put forth and the results we accomplish together are a connection with George Washington and the founding of our nation.

Our essential task of delivering combat power for America ensures our continued freedoms today and tomorrow, and it is my honor to serve alongside you.

**In Other News****Officer developmental education application window opened Feb. 8**

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, TEXAS (AFNS)** – Eligible active-duty officers can apply for intermediate and senior developmental education opportunities this month.

Officer nominations, with senior rater endorsements, started being accepted Feb. 8 and are due to the Air Force Personnel Center no later than March 14. "There are many opportunities available to those interested in taking the next step to grow personally and professionally," said Kris Hunter, AFPC Developmental Education deputy chief.

Intermediate programs include the Air Command and Staff College, sister service schools, international schools, a variety of fellowship programs and more.

**OPM offers limited enrollment period for new self-plus-one option**

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, TEXAS (AFNS)** – Employees currently enrolled in self and family coverage in the Federal Employees Health Benefits programs can change to the new self-plus-one option during the Office of Personnel Management limited enrollment period open now until Feb. 29.

The self-plus-one option allows enrollees to cover themselves and one eligible family member.

**This week in Air Force History**

On February 12, 1959, Strategic Air Command retired its last B-36 Peacemaker, thus becoming an all-jet bomber force.

Eligibility for the self-plus-one option is the same as for the self and family enrollment. Eligible family members include spouses and children under age 26. A child with a mental or physical disability that existed before age 26 is also eligible for enrollment as a family member.

"This is not a second open season," said Erica Cathro, an Air Force Personnel Center human resources specialist. "Only employees enrolled in self and family will be allowed to change to self plus one during this period. No changes in plans, option changes, or increases or other decreases will be allowed."

**Campbell to lawmakers: Afghanistan not a short-term problem**

**WASHINGTON (AFNS)** – The

situation is extremely complex in Afghanistan, but one simple truth is that 2016 cannot be a repeat of 2015, Army Gen. John Campbell told the Senate Armed Services Committee Feb. 4.

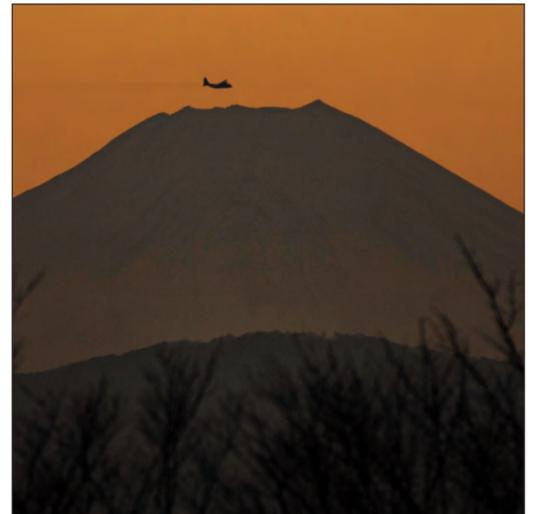
Campbell, the commander of NATO's Resolute Support Mission and U.S. forces in Afghanistan, said the Taliban were emboldened by the U.S. withdrawal and the concomitant reduction in close air support. The Taliban "have fought the Afghan security forces very tough, and we can't let that happen as we move forward," he said.

Campbell told the committee that the current plan, which calls for a reduction in U.S. service members in the country to 5,500 by Jan. 1, 2017 – would limit the train, advise and assist mission in Afghanistan. "The 5,500 plan was developed primarily around counterterrorism," he said. "There is very limited train, advise and assist (funding) in ... those numbers."

"To continue to build on the Afghan security forces, the gaps and seams in aviation, logistics, intelligences, as I've talked about, we'd have to make some adjustments to that number," he said.

**February issue of Airman magazine available**

**FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MD. (AFNS)** – The February issue of Airman magazine is now available to download and is viewable through



U.S. Air Force photo by OSAKABE YASUO

**Hercules meets Mt. Fuji**

A C-130 Hercules assigned to the 36th Airlift Squadron flies near Mount Fuji, Japan, during a routine sortie at Yokota Air Base, Japan. The 36th AS regularly conducts training missions to remain proficient in the necessary skills to support any contingency.

a Web browser.

In the cover story, "Missing in America," you'll read about a group of former service members who walk the streets of Los Angeles searching for homeless veterans to help.

In the next feature, you will read about an original Rosie the Riveter from World War II, who worked on airplanes for almost 50 years.

Lastly, you'll learn about the sacrifices involved in being a part of the U.S. Air Force Drill Team.

You can download Airman magazine's February issue for your tablet.

For more stories, visit Airman Online, the website for the official magazine of the U.S. Air Force at <http://airman.dodlive.mil/>.

**COMMANDERS ACTION LINE**

[robins.actionline@us.af.mil](mailto:robins.actionline@us.af.mil)

The Commanders Action Line is an open-door program for Team Robins personnel to give kudos, ask questions or suggest ways to make Robins a better place to live, learn, work and play.

The most efficient and effective way to resolve a problem or complaint is to directly contact the responsible organization. That gives the organization a chance to help you, as well as a chance to improve its processes.

If you do contact the Commanders Action Line, please fully explain whom it is you want to recognize and why, what you have a question about, or your suggestion. Discourteous or disrespectful submissions will not be processed.

Commander's Action Line items of general interest to the Robins community will be printed in the Robins Rev-Up.



**Col. Jeff King**  
Installation Commander

**Customer Service Points of Contact**

78th Comm Group First Response Center – 478-926-4357 or DSN 468-4357  
78th Civil Engineer Service Call Desk – 478-327-7447 or DSN 497-7447  
78th Force Support Squadron CC – 478-926-5023 or DSN 468-5023  
78th Medical Group Patient Advocate – 478-327-8475 or DSN 497-8475  
78th Security Forces Squadron CC – 478-926-3212 or DSN 468-3212  
Civilian Personnel Customer Service – 478-222-0601 or DSN 472-0601  
Comptroller Front Office – 478-926-4462 or DNS 468-4462

Family Housing – 478-926-3776 or DSN 468-3776  
Equal Opportunity – 478-926-2131 or DSN 468-2131  
Household Goods – 478-222-0114 or DSN 472-0114  
Inspector General Complaints – 478-222-0818 or DSN 472-0818  
Inspector General Inspections – 478-327-5523 or DSN 497-5523  
Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) – 478-327-7272 or DSN 497-7272  
Vehicle Dispatch (Transportation) – 478-926-3493 or DSN 468-3493

**ROBINS REV-UP 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.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:lanorris.askew.ctr@us.af.mil) and [vance.janes@us.af.mil](mailto:vance.janes@us.af.mil)

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

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**Geoff Janes**

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**EDITOR**  
**Lanorris Askew**

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**Ray Crayton**  
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**STAFF WRITERS**  
**Jenny Gordon**  
**Angela Woolen**  
**Holly Logan-Arrington**

**COMMANDER**  
**Col. Jeff King**

**HOW TO CONTACT US**

Robins Public Affairs  
620 Ninth Street,  
Bldg. 905  
Robins AFB, GA 31098  
478-926-2137  
Fax 478-926-9597

## GUNSHIP

Continued from A1

from a 152-day requirement. That's 52 days faster than their accelerated target from the customer, according to Jake Dickson, C-130 AFSOC Acceleration Flight Chief.

"This aircraft is a shining example of what you can do with a well-formed team and a well-thought out plan, and it goes to show what this workforce can produce," said Dickson. "This really was a far-reaching effort to plan this aircraft out to the tiniest detail to synchronize everything for success."

During its temporary home at the depot, it was fully de-painted, and received extensive metal bond repairs and structural maintenance repairs due to corrosion issues. It had also sustained significant dents caused by hail damage.

"These aircraft fly on a regular basis, so there's a lot of wear and tear

on them, a lot of corrosion from normal use," said Kevin Johnson, AFSOC Acceleration Flight PDM dock supervisor.

Nearly 50 mechanics are dedicated to the accelerated line, working three shifts, five days a week.

"We have a very highly skilled, highly trained and highly motivated team who are excited about this program," said Johnson, adding that while speed was important, safety and quality were never sacrificed.

"We're very proud of them," he added. "Everyone's dedication and commitment was overwhelming."

Jim Russell, 560th AMXS director, explained that accelerated work on this first gunship required a network of support.

That included ensuring the aircraft had the required personnel to work on it and ensuring it was fully supportable with required parts prior to its arrival.

On the significance of its return overseas, one only has to turn on the



AC-130

news to see the impact these aircraft have on world events.

That impact can be traced back to Robins personnel who touched the aircraft at some point in its service life.

With a second Combat Talon already here, two more are scheduled to arrive this fiscal year at Robins,

along with two additional gunships.

"Now that we've proven we can do this work, we're going to take on additional accelerated aircraft," said Russell. "When we show that we can accelerate an airplane and we can cut flow days off, that's huge to the viability of Robins Air Force Base."

## MISSION

Continued from A1

AFSOC, Lockheed Martin, the 402nd Aircraft Maintenance Group, 560th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Defense Logistics Agency and many others.

On Jan. 29 – just days away from that initial delivery – a crew flying a combat-ready AC-130U from Hurlburt Field, Fla., landed at Robins to the anticipation of hundreds of base employees.

The crew spent a few hours on the flight line, giving the workforce the unique opportunity to tour the aircraft, and thanking them for their dedication.

Among the crew was Maj. Gen. Eugene Haase, AFSOC vice commander, who made the hour-long flight to Middle Georgia from the Gulf Coast.

Working closely with Robins leadership on the acceleration program during the past year, Haase described the quick turnaround at Robins was directly proportional to aircraft availability downrange.

“This has been a real success story,” said Haase, on the AFSOC Acceleration program. “The quicker we get them out of the PDM line here, the quicker we can get them into the battlespace and also train with them back at Hurlburt Field.”

Capt. Karl Cirulis, an AC-130U pilot with the 4th Special Operations Squadron, said there’s a high demand for gunships all over the world, resulting in the need for their continued upkeep in the depot.

“Every time we fly we’re pushing the aircraft to the limit . . . just to get airborne we’re using maximum power,” he said. “Any time we’re pushing them out as far as maintenance, it alleviates the stress put on the aircraft downrange. The maintenance here is vital to us.”

To perform that maintenance,

a dedicated team of 560th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron mechanics was assembled last year to accelerate the workload.

Ongoing process improvements in the squadron have resulted in the first accelerated aircraft – the first of six in fiscal 2016 – delivered in 98 days from a 183-day customer requirement.

Looking out at a line filled with dozens of visitors – many of them C-130 mechanics, waiting for a few minutes to tour the inside of the aircraft – Jim Russell, 560th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron director, highlighted the significance of the visit.

“Now they understand how important their maintenance piece is to the overall mission of AFSOC,” said Russell. “To have the operators standing by every piece of equipment, explaining how things tie in to what they do, was a pretty unique aspect.”

Stepping out from the aircraft following a tour was Zach Hartzog, a C-130 scheduler.

“I enjoyed it, especially the gun portion which I thought was pretty interesting,” he said.

Seeing an AC-130U in battle-ready form was an eye-opening experience for work lead Tim Martin.

“To see the work we do in action feels pretty good. It makes the work worth it,” he said.

The significance of the acceleration workload across other maintenance squadrons at Robins remains to be seen. Lessons learned are also being studied by maintenance group and squadron commanders



**“This has been a real success story. The quicker we get them out of the PDM line here, the quicker we can get them into the battlespace ...”**

**Maj. Gen. Eugene Haase**  
AFSOC vice commander

from the Ogden and Oklahoma City air logistics complexes, who toured the AFSOC acceleration line last week, according to Russell.

The feedback from the visit was positive, with interest in the line’s upfront supportability and choreographed synchronization efforts that were performed on the first aircraft.

There’s currently a second AFSOC aircraft on station, a Combat Talon that recently had its outer wings installed.

Being able to cut flow days in half on the accelerated PDM line was not lost on members of the program office.

“Being able to slash nearly 50 percent of the time it usually takes to get one of these aircraft out is monumental,” said Lt. Col. Joseph Wimmer, Air Force Life Cycle Management Center, Special Operations Forces/Personnel Recovery, Fixed Wing Branch material leader. “The less time that this aircraft spends in the depot means more time we have in the ability to get them modified, enabling them to do the things they need in order to support the warfighter, troops on the ground and our national objectives overseas.”

While it’s not every day a gunship arrives on the Robins flight line for several hours of morale boosting and appreciation, it was a welcome addition before its voyage home.

“We’re grateful that AFSOC took an afternoon to fly a sortie here and have our civilian airmen see the aircraft in its full configuration,” said Col. Jennifer Hammerstedt, 402nd Aircraft Maintenance Group commander.

“A lot of people know what the gunships and what AFSOC does for the warfighter – but to meet the air crew and ask them questions sends a great message to our folks of who is on the receiving end of what we produce.”



**The AC-130U is a heavily armed aircraft, complete with state-of-the-art electronic and infrared countermeasures systems which enhance its capabilities against modern threats.**

# SNAPSHOTS



U.S. Air Force photo by  
TOMMIE HORTON

Above, Lt. Col. Richard Palmer, 78th Medical Support Squadron commander, provides Maryalice Morro, Carl Vinson VA Medical Center director, with a tour of the 78th Medical Group's facility Feb. 5. The 78th MDG is using its ties with community health care partners to come up with ways to share training opportunities.

At right, Morro is greeted by Senior Airman Jan Ronel Recano, 78th Medical Operations Squadron technician, during the facility tour.

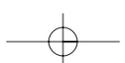




# Water, Water Everywhere

A large water puddle sits near the Robins Air Traffic Control Tower Feb. 5 after a week of steady rain caused flash flooding throughout Middle Georgia. The tower, which is seven stories tall and has a daunting 100-plus steps to the top, controls anywhere from 22,000 to 24,000 aircraft operations annually.

U.S. Air Force photo by TOMMIE HORTON





UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
**AIRPOWER**  
C-17G GLOBEMASTER III

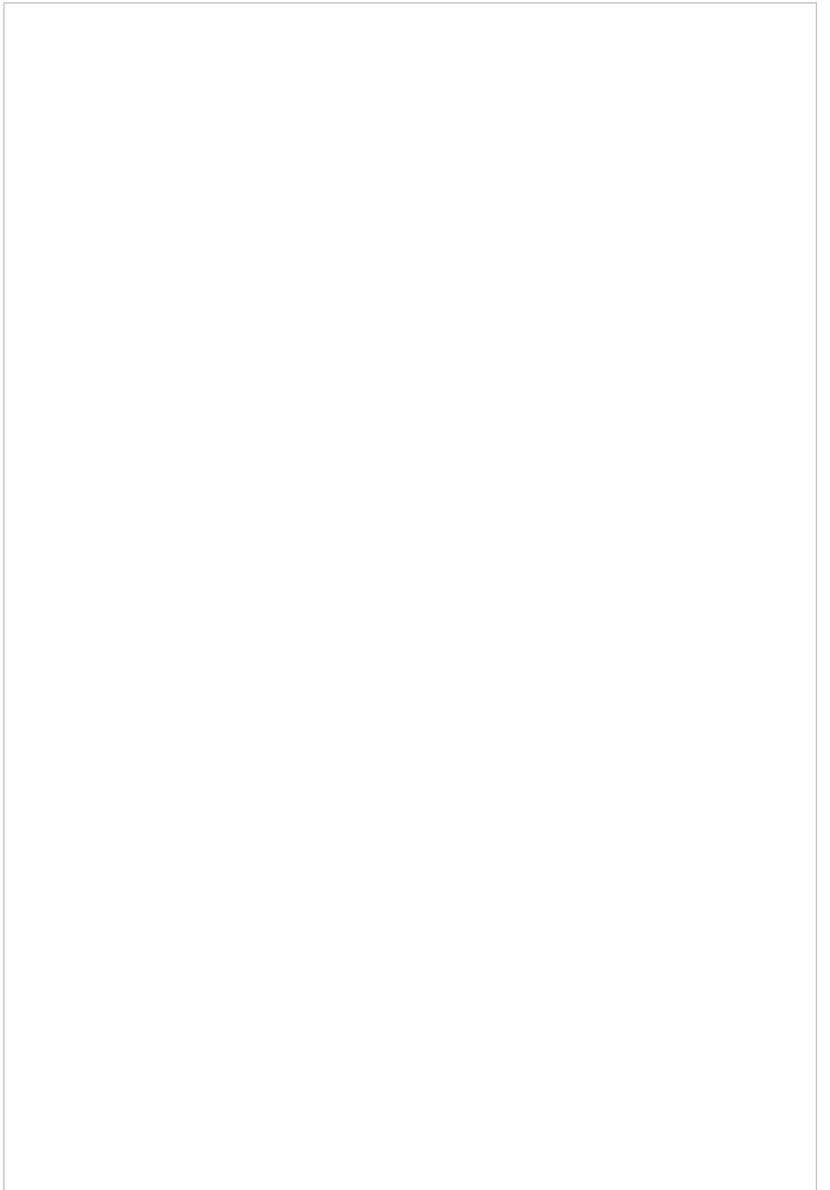
*PLEASE RECYCLE THIS PAPER*



**THINK  
OPSEC:**

**IF YOU  
DON'T  
WANT IT  
READ.....**

**SHRED  
INSTEAD**





## Thought for the Day

"A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives."

– Jackie Robinson



## What's inside

Zika virus awareness, B2

New Base Library hours, B4

Holiday hours, B5

# Lighter Fare

THE ROBINS REV-UP ■ FEBRUARY 12, 2016

THE PLACE TO LIVE, LEARN, WORK AND PLAY



## THE PUCK STOPS HERE

U.S. Air Force photos by TOMMIE HORTON

Macon Mayhem – dressed in camouflage, red, white and blue – and Mississippi RiverKings players square for a military appreciation match Feb. 5 at the Macon Coliseum.

## Local hockey team honors military

BY ANGELA WOOLEN  
angela.woolen.ctr@us.af.mil

Hockey in Macon went camo for military appreciation days last week. The Macon Mayhem – who play at the Macon Coliseum – had special camouflage jerseys for the three-game salute.

"We've done it in hockey for a while," Mark Richards, Mayhem president, said of the military appreciation nights.

Before the Feb. 5 game, Senior Airman Evan Ivery-Long, a 78th Communications Squadron network security technician, sang the national anthem. It was his first time attending a hockey game.

And, he wasn't the only first-timer.

Helping to drop the puck with their father Col. Jeff King, Installation and 78th Air Base Wing commander, were Sam, age 12; Matthew, age 11; and Noah, age 9.

Matthew King was the one who was chosen to drop the puck.

"I was nervous," Matthew admitted afterwards.

He also noted how tall the hockey players were with their skates on and how cold the ice was.

All three children received a puck to take home. One had just flown over the glass and was still chilly to the touch.

Airman First Class Michael Murphy, 78th Command Post controller, sang the "Star Spangled Banner" on Feb. 4 and 6. The Robins Honor Guard



The Macon Mayhem are a Southern Professional Hockey League team based in Macon and plays in the Macon Coliseum. The team was formerly the Augusta RiverHawks, who suspended operations for the 2013 -14 season due to an ice system failure at James Brown Arena.

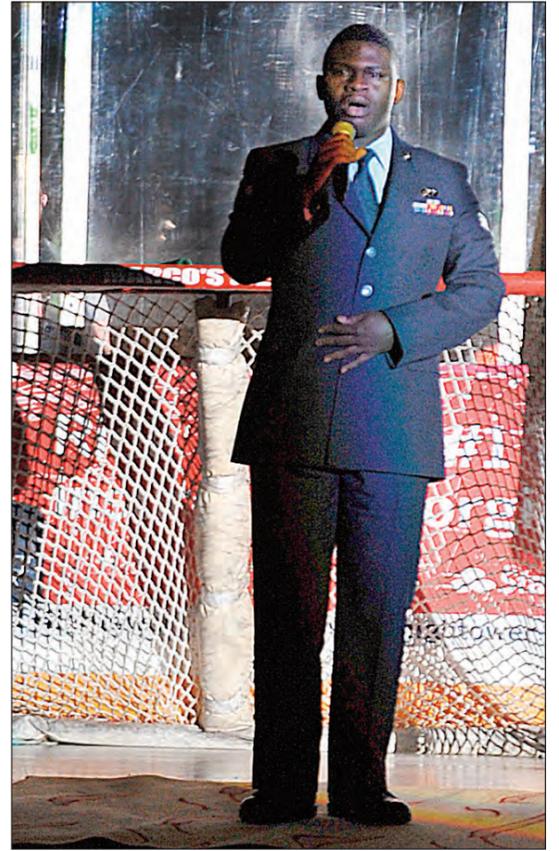
presented colors all three nights.

"We're fortunate to have [Robins Air Force Base] here. This is just a way to give back to the military with a small show of support," Richards said.

Macon Mayhem players also paid a special visit to the Robins Exchange earlier in the week to invite Team Robins members to military weekend games.

For more information, visit Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MaconMayhemHockey/?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/MaconMayhemHockey/?fref=ts).

**Editor's note:** No federal endorsement is intended nor implied.



Senior Airman Evan Ivery-Long, 78th Communications Squadron network security technician, sings the national anthem before the start of a Macon Mayhem hockey game. The Mayhem, hosted Military Appreciation games the first week of the month.



Above left, Col. Jeff King, Robins Installation and 78th Air Base Wing commander, stood by while his sons (from left to right) Sam, 12; Matthew, 11; and Noah, 9; dropped the ceremonial puck signaling the start of a hockey match between the Macon Mayhem and Mississippi RiverKings at the Macon Coliseum. Right, Macon Mayhem super fan, Kenny Bobby, and the team's mascot pose for a picture with the Robins Honor Guard.

# A BETTER YOU

## RAISING AWARENESS

# Med Group addresses concerns about Zika virus

BY HOLLY LOGAN-ARRINGTON

holly.logan-arrington@us.af.mil

It's not mosquito season yet, but the flying insects are already on people's minds these days with the buzz about the Zika virus in the news.

The Zika virus is a disease that's transmitted by the Aedes species of mosquito which is native to Georgia, the same species of mosquito that transmits dengue fever and chikungunya. Its spread to Georgia has put some people on edge.

Staff Sgt. Brittany Guynn, 78th Aerospace Medicine Squadron Public Health Flight Communicable Disease and Prevention NCOIC, said currently, the only reported cases of Zika virus in the U.S involve people traveling back from Mexico, countries in Central America and northern South America, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

As of Feb. 3, the first Zika virus case in Georgia was confirmed in a woman that traveled to Columbia in December, Guynn said. Another case reported in Texas that was spread via sexual contact with an individual that had recently traveled to Venezuela.

Guynn said the mosquito-borne disease is rarely life-threatening.

"The virus typically causes mild illness with symptoms that include fever, rash, joint pain, red eyes or conjunctivitis, headache and muscle pain," she said. "Symptoms may last for approximately a week."

Since there's no medication to treat Zika virus at this time, treatment consists of rest, hydration, and medication for fever and pain, Guynn said.

Public health works to prevent the spread of disease.

Robins' Public Health Flight and the 78th Medical Group constantly fight disease with prevention and treatment to protect Robins' workforce, enabling the mission to continue with little or no interruption.



### WHAT TO KNOW

Visit the CDC website at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) for up-to-date information about the Zika virus.

Zika virus is spread to people through mosquito bites. The most common symptoms of Zika virus disease are fever, rash, joint pain and red eyes.

The illness is usually mild with symptoms lasting from several days to a week. Severe disease requiring hospitalization is uncommon.

The latest guidelines concerning travel include travel to Mexico, Central and South America and the Caribbean.

Those who have traveled to those locations should not donate blood for 28 days following their return.

### DID YOU KNOW?

**Only female mosquitoes bite because they require blood to produce eggs.**

"We provide education to deployers and family members who may travel outside the U.S on how to protect themselves from illnesses, to include mosquito-borne illnesses," Guynn said. "Additionally,

through the mosquito-prevalent months of April through October, we trap mosquitoes and send them to the U.S Air Force's School of Aerospace Medicine at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio to be tested for diseases."

Guynn said Robins Public Health then educates the public on the diseases found in the local area and how people can protect themselves and their families.

Public health also works with 78th Civil Engineering's Pest Management to have areas where there are high numbers of female mosquitoes sprayed with pesticides.

As Zika virus has been spread sexually, Guynn said people should use safe sex practices.

"We advocate safe sex or abstinence at all times and military personnel are offered this education regularly throughout their military careers," she said.

Because there's currently no vaccine to prevent Zika virus, preventing mosquito bites is the most effective way to protect oneself against mosquito-borne illnesses like Zika virus, Guynn said.

"Some of the best ways to prevent mosquito bites are to wear long sleeves and long pants, use DEET products (such as OFF bug spray) on your skin when you're outdoors, and treat your clothing with permethrin," she said. "Also, eliminate areas where mosquitoes can breed by emptying anything around your home or workplace that could collect standing water.

People should come to public health for travel medicine clearance before going out of the country, Guynn said.

"We ensure that travelers are up to date on their vaccines and receive any required medications for malaria prevention," she said. "Travelers also receive a briefing and information sheet about the travel area."

If travelers experience any symptoms upon return, they should see their medical provider, Guynn said.

# Ditch the habit: Robins joins Great American Spit out Feb. 19

BY HOLLY LOGAN-ARRINGTON  
holly.logan-arrington@us.af.mil

Whether you smoke or chew, tobacco is a habit that's bad for you.

Smokeless tobacco – commonly called *chew*, *snuff* or *spit* – is as addictive as smoking, and contains chemicals known to cause cancer and add to the negative outcomes of a long list of other health issues, said Stuart Bapties, Health and Wellness Center Flight chief.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, the 28 cancer-causing chemicals in smokeless tobacco put regular users at risk for mouth cancer.

Bapties said smokeless tobacco users are 50 times more likely than non-users to get cheek, gum and throat cancer. And at some point, 75 percent of smokeless tobacco users may develop leathery white patches



or red sores in their mouths, which can turn into cancer.

Tobacco can negatively impact one's professional performance too.

"Smokeless tobacco use reduces stamina and performance capacity, and increases stress, impairs vision, and decreases healing time while making

you more susceptible to injury," Bapties said. "Smokeless tobacco users are more likely to miss work or deployment due to illness or other complications."

Tobacco use can also wreck your love life.

"Tobacco use can lead to erectile dysfunction for men under age 40," Bapties said. "The nicotine restricts blood flow that can cause impotence, and it can worsen impotence caused by other conditions."

Tobacco use also causes a higher risk of heart disease, high blood pressure, and heart attacks from the effects of nicotine and high levels of salt in smokeless tobacco, the CDC reported.

Additionally, Bapties said smokeless tobacco users are more likely to develop cavities and gum disease which can lead to bone and tooth loss.

Bapties said the only way to stop the damage caused by tobacco is to quit.

All military members and Defense Department civilians, military retirees and dependents of both can call the HAWC at 478-327-8480 to get help with developing a personalized quit plan and gain access to tobacco cessation medications.

Robins' HAWC also offers quit lines and online programs to aid with stopping tobacco use.

The HAWC in Bldg. 827 and the Civilian Health Promotions staff in Bldg. 207 will hand out gift bags filled with educational materials, tools to help people quit, and prizes to those who commit to quit for 24 hours during the Great American Spit out the week of Feb. 19.

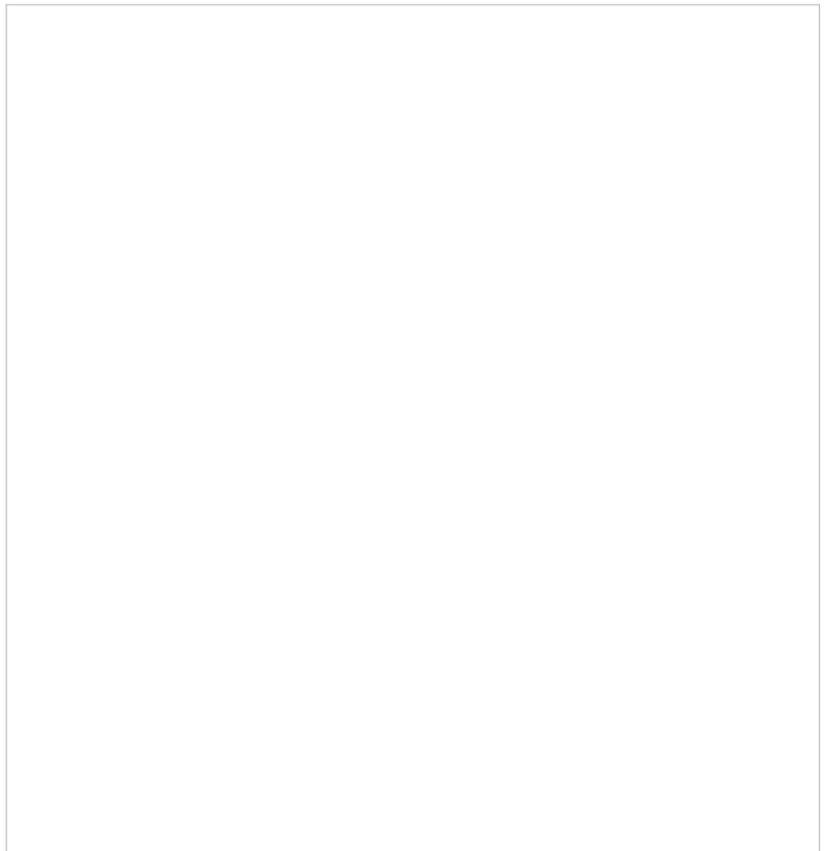
For more information, call the HAWC at 478-327-8480.



Feb. 19  
Commit to Quit

PRIVATE  
INFORMATION  
IS WORTH  
KEEPING  
HIDDEN

Protect  
Your  
Personal  
Information





# HAPPENINGS/SERVICES

FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>ON TAP</b> <b>Puppy Love 5K Fun Run</b> Today 7:30 a.m. Main Fitness Center For details, call DSN 468-2128.  <b>Story time</b> Today 10 a.m. Base Library For details, call DSN 468-2128.		<b>Valentines Big Bingo</b> Sunday 2:15 p.m. Heritage Club Bingo Room More money games For details, call DSN 468-4515.		Members \$50 per couple, nonmembers \$75 per couple For details, call DSN 468-2670.	<b>UPCOMING</b> <b>Boss N Buddy and BFF's Night</b> Feb. 19 4 to 5 p.m. Heritage Club Lounge For details, call DSN 468-2670.	
		<b>Valentines Dinner &amp; Dance</b> Sunday Featuring the Fabulous Boomers Band from 6 to 9 p.m.; dinner from 5 to 7 p.m. Heritage Club Ballroom				

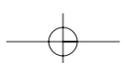


## Library New Hours Starting February 22

Tuesdays - Fridays  
**11 a.m. - 7 p.m.**

Saturdays  
**11 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

Sundays, Mondays  
& Federal Holidays  
**Closed**





## PRESIDENTS' DAY HOURS

### 78th FSS

- ▶ Fairways Grille – open 7 to 10:30 a.m.
- ▶ Golf Course – open normal hours
- ▶ Bowling Center – open 1 to 8 p.m.
- ▶ Fitness Center – open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- ▶ Wynn Dining Facility – open normal hours
- ▶ Flight line Kitchen – open normal hours

### AAFES

- ▶ Main store – open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- ▶ Service Station – open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ▶ Shoppette – open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### 78th SFS

- ▶ The Russell Parkway and Watson Boulevard gates will be open Monday. All others will be closed.

### 78th Med Group

- ▶ Closed Monday

\* Unless listed, all FSS activities will be closed. For a complete list of FSS hours, visit <http://www.robinsfss.com>. For more Robins Exchange holiday hours visit <http://www.shopmyexchange.com>.



**USE YOUR  
WITS  
NOT YOUR  
WATTS.  
POWER  
DOWN  
FOR  
THE  
HOLIDAY**

