

ARCTIC WARRIOR

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON'S SOURCE FOR NEWS

COLD-WEATHER COMBAT

USARAK Soldiers at Northern Warfare Training Center

Page 11

MAJOR MOVE

673d LRS shifts all C-17 assets to 176th Wing

Page 2

POLAR FORCE!

What will be open, what will be closed

Page 12

PAID
EGRWS / PRSRT-STD
U.S. POSTAGE
ANCHORAGE PUBLISHING
PERMIT No. 220
POSTAL CUSTOMER

LRSEs move all C-17 assets

By **AIRMAN 1ST CLASS CRYSTAL JENKINS**
JBER Public Affairs

Eight C-17 Globemaster III aircraft based at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, are quickly approaching the second anniversary of their assignment from the 3rd Wing to the 176th Wing, Alaska Air National Guard.

Now, the 176th Wing and numerous mission partners are undertaking a streamlined change in flightline supply operations.

In one of the newest total force integration associations of its kind, the 673d Logistics Readiness Squadron Materiel Management flight is conducting a complete C-17 aircraft supply turnover to the 176th LRS.

“The countless efforts of many have gone into making this feat an actuality,” said Alaska Air National Guard Senior Master Sgt. Joslyn Childs, 176th LRS Materiel Management superintendent. “To take on the massive amount of inventory, an increase in manning has been necessary – along with an innovative remodel of both a warehouse and a newly renovated 24/7 aircraft parts store. Embracing a total force concept, we have worked tirelessly together, towards the transfer of more than 5,000 line items which include 36,000 separate units from Boeing, worth \$32 million, to be maintained between two locations.”

In addition to moving an enormous amount of aircraft parts, there is also the transfer of 22 vehicles and 52 equip-

ment accounts without affecting the operation tempo.

As Alaska Air National Guard Senior Master Sgt. Paul Jenkins, a 176th LRS Asset Management chief inspector, finishes a 32-year commitment to his unit, he uses his experience to accomplish this final task.

“I input around 400 line items a day into the integrated logistics supply system (ILS-S) knowing every day brings us closer to our estimated completion date,” Jenkins said. “The biggest challenge now is keeping the flow of parts coming in and having two locations until the projected military construction of the new LRS complex.”

After the requests are entered by the 176th LRS, the 635th Supply Chain Operations Wing at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, must process and approve the items for shipment as part orders must be sourced and filled in order of priority safely to all U.S. Air Force or ANG C-17 aircraft world-wide.

Once an item is clear to ship, the 673d LRS Materiel Management storage and issue section pulls the order from the ILS-S; personnel retrieve the line item from the warehouse and take the parts to an inspection area for a quality assurance check.

“After we pull the order of line items, the inspection team checks to make sure each one has the right stock number, right quantities and are in the right packaging,” said Maggie Shaffer, a 673d LRS inspection materiel



Alaska Air National Guard Airman 1st Class Alan Merritt, a ground transportation specialist with the 176th Logistics Readiness Squadron, prepares a shipment of items for delivery March 11 at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson. In one of the newest total force integration associations of its kind, the 673d Logistics Readiness Squadron's Materiel Management flight is conducting a complete C-17 aircraft supply turnover to the 176th LRS. The 176th Wing controls the C-17 Globemaster III aircraft on JBER; controlling the supplies will streamline processes. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Crystal A. Jenkins)

examiner and identifier. “At the same time, we also check to make sure the item’s shelf life is still good.


“Since the start of this transition, we have seen a huge influx of work, [so there’s] an all-hands-on-deck approach,” Shaffer continued. “On most days an average of 100 line items are ready for the 176th LRS ground transportation to pick up. We have seen days where more than 250 line items go out on a single day requiring several pick-ups and deliveries.”

In order to provide parts for all eight C-17 Globemaster III aircraft, the 176th LRS physical inventory element will now be keeping accountability of all parts, pre-positioning them so when the aircraft needs them, they are ready for issue.

“Although this is a huge task, we are working hard and doing everything we can to make the transition as seamless as possible. When everyone pitches in and does their part, things flow very smoothly,” Shaffer said.

Multiple agencies includ-

ing the National Guard Bureau, Pacific Air Forces, 673d LRS, 773d LRS, 732d Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 3rd Wing, Boeing, 635th SCOW, will continue to meet and discuss observations, recommendations and progress status until the final transfer is complete.

“It’s a huge undertaking, and without all of the units working together, this job wouldn’t be possible,” Jenkins said. “I am proud of the work everyone is putting in, and I have every confidence we will reach our goal.” 

**Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson/
 673d Air Base Wing Commander**
 Col. Patricia A. Csank (USAF)

**Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson/
 673d Air Base Wing Vice Commander**
 Col. Adam W. Lange (USA)

**Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson/
 673d Air Base Wing Command Chief**
 Chief Master Sgt.
 Charles C. Orf

**Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson/
 673d Air Base Wing Sergeant Major**
 Sgt. Maj. Jerry H. Byrd Jr.

ARCTIC WARRIOR

The *Arctic Warrior* is published by Wick Communications, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Public Affairs Office.

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *Arctic Warrior* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or the Department of the Army.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by U.S. government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, the Department of the Army, or Wick Communications of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made

available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

To advertise in the *Arctic Warrior*, call (907) 352-2250 or email advertising@frontiersman.com. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the *Arctic Warrior* staff.

Editorial office and mailing address: JBER Public Affairs, 10480 Sijan Ave., Suite 123, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK 99506; telephone (907) 552-2549.

Send emails about news stories and story submissions to arcticwarrioreditor@gmail.com. Deadline for article and photos is 4:30 p.m., Monday, for the week of publication. Articles and photos will be published on a space-available basis and are subject to editing by the *Arctic Warrior* staff. Submission does not guarantee publication.

JBER Public Affairs Chief
 Lt. Col. John Ross (USAF)

Public Affairs Operations Chief
 Dana Rosso

Public Affairs Superintendent
 Senior Master Sgt. Matthew McGovern

Arctic Warrior staff
 Chris McCann - managing editor
 Justin Connaher - photo editor
 Ed Cunningham - webmaster

Command Information NCOIC
 Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Foster

Alaska National Guard continues search

By **SGT. DAVID BEDARD**
and **LT. COL. CANDIS**
OLMSTEAD
AKNG Public Affairs

Soldiers and Airmen with the Alaska National Guard continued the search Tuesday for a Cessna 172 and pilot after his hunting partner reported the pilot overdue March 6.

A UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter from the ANG's 1st Battalion, 207th Aviation Regiment, departed from Bryant Army Airfield at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson to conduct a search in the vicinity of Rainy Pass.

Alaska Air National Guardsmen with the Alaska Rescue Coordination Center are leading the joint-agency coordinated effort. They sent an HC-130 Combat King II, four aircraft from Civil Air Patrol, and a UH-60 Black Hawk out this morning with a solid search plan.

The Black Hawk had two

pararescuemen from the 212th Rescue Squadron and one Army Guard critical-care flight paramedic from Golf Company, 2nd General Support Aviation Battalion, 104th Aviation Regiment, to provide emergency medical treatment if required.

The Alaska National Guard, United States Coast Guard, Civil Air Patrol, Alaska State Troopers, National Park Service and multiple good Samaritans have assisted with search operations, said Alaska Air National Guard Lt. Col. Keenan Zerkel, AKRCC director.

"We have implemented multiple search efforts from the air and ground as weather allows," he said. "Additionally, we've been conducting an electronic search overhead for the aircraft emergency locator transmitter since the start of the mission. ...with the improved weather, we are focusing a visual search on the higher levels of terrain."



Alaska National Guardsmen launch from Bryant Army Airfield on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson via a 1st Battalion, 207th Aviation Regiment, UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter with two pararescuemen from the 212th Rescue Squadron and an Army critical-care flight paramedic from Detachment 2, Golf Company, 2nd General Support Aviation Battalion, 104th Regiment, to conduct search-and-rescue operations for a missing aircraft near Rainy Pass March 12. The Guardsmen joined an Alaska Air National Guard HC-130J Combat King II aircraft from the 211th Rescue Squadron, also launched from JBER. (U.S. Army National Guard photo/2nd Lt. Balinda O'Neal Dresel)


The RCC received radar reduction information from the Federal Aviation Administration, Civil Air Patrol and the Air Guard's 176th Air Defense Squadron, providing the last known position of the aircraft, but due to the aircraft's altitude and surrounding terrain, the position

is not definitive.

Zerkel also credited Steve Perrins of the Rainy Pass Lodge for helping the search.

"They have been an incredible help by providing accurate weather reports, conducting a ground search, providing fuel to the State Trooper A-Star helicopter

and other logistics to searchers, and coordinating communication with passing aircraft," he said.

Because Rainy Pass is a high-traffic area with confined terrain, the RCC requests pilots stay vigilant and check the common traffic advisory frequency. 

'Captain Marvel' learns from real Airmen

By **AIR FORCE STAFF SGT. JANNELLE MCRAE**
SECAF Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, Va. — Less than one percent of Americans serve in the Air Force. But motion pictures give the global audience a glimpse into the service's history of breaking barriers and a taste of its fighting spirit.

To ensure an accurate depiction of military service, filmmakers and actors immersed with Airmen from across the Air Force during the filming of "Captain Marvel," starring Brie Larson as Carol Danvers.

Larson's character is a young Air Force pilot in the late 1980s. After graduating from the U.S. Air Force Academy, she excels in pilot training, flies the F-15 Eagle and moves quickly to the world of test flight. An incident leaves Carol infused with extraordinary powers.

"When I graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1982, there were about 150 women pilots in the United States Air Force, and none of them

were fighter pilots because it was actually against the law for women to fly fighters," said Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson during the showcase of "Captain Marvel" at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C., March 7. "Today, we have 850 women flying for the United States Air Force and the defense of this country, and about 80 of them are fighter pilots.

"I've talked to Airmen who have helped with the technical assistance on this film and they were pleased that the co-directors had really captured what it means to be an American Airman ... that ethos of going higher, further, faster," she added.

Airmen partnered with Marvel Entertainment through the Air Force Public Affairs Entertainment Liaison office, which offered access to resources including personnel, aircraft and equipment, technical assistance and military advice and locations. This ensured the portrayal of the Airmen and missions were plausible and realistic.


"Our mission is to project and protect the image of the Air Force through entertainment media," said Lt. Col. Nathan Broshear, Air Force ELO director. "Motion pictures like 'Captain Marvel' provide an incredible platform to educate and inform the American public about the people, culture and heritage of the U.S. Air Force ... inspiring the next generation of Airmen."

Ryan Fleck, who co-directed the movie with Anna Boden, expressed his appreciation for every Airman's professionalism and respect.

"Everyone we met in the Air Force was so selfless and giving to our process, and I was really impressed," he said. "We couldn't necessarily figure out what an intergalactic space warrior was up to, but we could come to the Air Force and see what it was like to be a pilot. Every detail, every phase of the process was huge, not only for us in the writing, but for Brie as well when she is playing the character ... from how she held her helmet to how she walks."

Additionally, materials collected from Airman Magazine Archives and consultations with Air Force Materiel Command, Edwards Air Force Base, California, and U.S. Air Force Academy historians resulted in period-correct 80s and 90s hardware, uniforms and details.

The Air Force's involvement also impacted character development and storylines. In December 2017, Larson, Boden, Fleck and producer Jonathan Schwartz visited Nellis AFB, Nevada, and spent one-on-one time with Brig. Gen. Jeannie Leavitt, Air Force Recruiting Service Commander and the Air Force's first female fighter pilot.

"We put Brie Larson in the back-seat of an F-16 (Fighting Falcon) so she could experience being in a high performance fighter aircraft firsthand. I think that helped her understand what it was like," said Leavitt. "I appreciated the fact that they wanted to get the characters to be an accurate portrayal of a female fighter pilot in the Air Force." 

Combat Survival Training course

By **AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JONATHAN VALDES**
JBER Public Affairs

The 3rd Operations Support Squadron's Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape personnel conducted a Combat Survival Training course at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson March 7.

Combat Survival Training is the SERE refresher course for high-risk personnel, which allows them to get reacquainted with some of the skills they learned during the much more extensive S-V-80A course conducted at Fairchild Air Force Base in Spokane, Washington.

"Students are required to go through the refresher course every 36 months, and it allows us to give them any updates that have come during the time gap," said Tech. Sgt. Justin Covieo, a 3rd OSS SERE specialist. "The training lasts a full day, and the students will use equipment to mimic what they would actually have if they were trying to survive in a combat situation."

The course is designed to give attendees an opportunity to test themselves and show how prepared they are.

"While in the classroom, we are able to see the tactics, techniques and procedures that we normally use, and it helps refresh us," said Air Force Lt. Col. Henry Schantz, who serves as the 525th Fighter Squadron commander. "By going outside and testing out the equipment, it helps groom our knowledge."

The Combat Survival Training course can play a major role for each student taking the class because every situation can be different, and every tool provided can be utilized in one way or another.

"The skills that we learn in Combat Survival Training are applicable both for our military job and for being a civilian," Schantz said. "We can use some of the things we learn for lifesaving, immediate care or just how to survive in case of something similar to the 7.0 earthquake last [November]."

The refresher course also prevents personnel from becoming complacent.

It teaches them techniques to survive for days at a time by using the skills they've gathered from the main course as well as the one-day refresher event.

"The course is very important,



LEFT: Air Force Lt. Col. Henry Schantz, 525th Fighter Squadron commander, uses a signal smoke flare during a Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape Combat Survival Training course.


BELOW: Air Force Staff Sgt. Sean Todd, 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron computer display maintenance technician, configures a combat survival evader locator radio during a Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape Combat Survival Training course at JBER.



LEFT: Tech. Sgt. Michael Banks, 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron flight engineer, analyzes an evasion chart during a Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape Combat Survival Training course at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson March 7. Combat Survival Training is the SERE refresher course for high-risk personnel to get reacquainted with some of the skills they learned during the extensive S-V-80A course at Fairchild Air Force Base in Spokane, Washington. (U.S. Air Force photos/Airman 1st Class Jonathan Valdes Montijo)

especially for some of the remote areas we fly in Alaska," Schantz said. "It enables us to survive in

locations where we are isolated by mountains or terrain, and survive off the land, navigate, communicate and

effect our own recovery. It helps us come home to our families and our job and complete our mission." 

Through March 23

ASAA basketball tourney

Alaska's best boys and girls high school basketball teams crown new multiple champions at the Alaska Airlines Center Wednesdays through Saturdays.

Game times vary; for information, visit asaa.org.

Friday

The Grand Illusion

Get a little hocus-pocus in your spring break with this free family-friendly magic show at the Frontier Theater starting at 6 p.m..

For information, call 552-3998.

Saturday

Spring Meltdown

End the winter skiing season with a bang at Hillberg Ski Area. The annual meltdown features an uphill-downhill race, a terrain park contest, and the famous Slush Cup. Registration starts at 11 a.m. and events kick off at 1 p.m.

For more information or to register, call 552-4838.

Shamrock Shuffle

It's the 8th Annual Shamrock Shuffle, an Anchorage 5K race celebrating St. Patrick's Day. For information, visit skinnyraven.com.

March 22

Free movie night

Head to the Frontier Theater for a free showing of Ralph Breaks the Internet. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the show starts at 6; concessions are cash-only. For information, call 552-8529.

March 23

SKAN24

Got the Nordic skiing bug? Ski Kincaid Park all

night solo or as a relay with this 24-hour lap-format race. If that's too daunting, try a 12- or 6-hour version. The race starts at 10 a.m. Saturday; for information, visit anchoragenordicski.com.

March 24

Nike Site Summit

Learn about the human and natural history on Mount Gordon Lyon – including the former Cold War missile base with this class at the Eagle River Nature Center starting at 2 p.m. For information, visit ernc.org.

March 30

Mushrooms of spring

Spring's on its way – learn about the choicest spring mushroom, the morel, including how to tell real from false morels and where to find them. The class is free at the Eagle River Nature Center at 2 p.m.

For more information, visit ernc.org.

Earth Hour at the Zoo

Join the Alaska Zoo and millions around the world in Earth Hour. Bring a beeswax or soy candle and enjoy a candlelit walk through the zoo. For information, visit alaskazoo.org and earthhour.org.

Ongoing

Night at the Fights

The Egan Center hosts Thursday night boxing and mixed martial arts fights at 7:30 p.m. For more, visit thursdaynightfights.com.

Evening hikes

Alaska Outdoors hosts weekly hikes Monday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday hikes are easy, 3.5 to 4.5 miles

and perfect for beginners or families with kids. Thursday hikes are moderate difficulty. For information, visit alaska-outdoors.org.

Winter reading challenge

Adults can register to win prizes in this JBER Library challenge through March 15. For information, call 384-1640.

Fit to Fight skiing

Cross-country skiing at Eagleglen Fitness Park is open every day except federal holidays. Bring your own gear or check out free equipment from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, call 552-2023.

Civil Air Patrol

Adult members of the Civil Air Patrol meet at the Aero Club Hangar the first and third Tuesdays of each month; cadets meet Saturdays. For more information or to join, call 350-7951.

Thursday science club

Youth are invited to the JBER Library to experiment and think about science from 6:30 to 7 p.m. For information, call 384-1640.

Library story times

The JBER Library hosts preschool story times Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 to 11 a.m.; Toddler Tales Wednesdays from 10 to 10:30 a.m., and all-ages story time Tuesdays from 6:30 to 7 p.m. For more information, call 384-1640.

Model railroading

The Military Society of Model Railroad Engineers meets at 7 p.m. Tuesdays and 1 p.m. Saturdays in the basement of Matanuska Hall. They host an open house every third Saturday through April.

For more information, call 552-5234, e-mail msmrre@gmail.com or visit facebook.com/msmrre.

Chapel services

Catholic Mass

Sunday
9 a.m. – Arctic Warrior Chapel
Monday and Wednesday
11:40 a.m. – Arctic Warrior Chapel
Tuesday
Noon – JBER Hospital Chapel
Friday
Noon – JBER Hospital Chapel

Confession

Confessions are available anytime by appointment or after any mass. Call 552-5762.

Protestant Sunday worship services

Gospel
9:30 a.m. – Midnight Sun Chapel
Contemporary
11 a.m. – Arctic Warrior Chapel
Traditional
11 a.m. – Heritage Chapel

Religious Education

For schedules, call the Religious Operations Center at 552-5762.

High jumps from Blackhawks



Paratroopers with the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, U.S. Army Alaska, sit on a UH-60 Blackhawk during airborne operations at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson March 6. About 300 paratroopers took turns jumping onto the snowy drop zone from the helicopters. (U.S. Army photo/Sgt. Alex Skripnichuk)

Saint Patrick of Ireland: Victim - or victor?

By **ARMY CHAPLAIN (CAPT.)
BRETT NEWMAN**
1-501st PIR Chaplain

With St. Patrick's Day just around the corner, have you ever taken the time to wonder what this day truly represents?

Sure, in our day and age, St. Patrick's Day has become an excuse to dump excessive amounts of green dye into everything from running rivers to rivers of beer, and to pinch those caught without green clothing, but is there more to the story than merely a day of raucous celebration?

After all, if St. Patrick was nothing more than Irish pest control, why all the hubbub?

The truth is, Patrick was not an Irish snake charmer; in fact, he was not even Irish.

Rather, Patrick was a Roman citizen who grew up in the colony of Britannia. His grandfather was a priest and his father a deacon, but he admitted he had no interest in following God as a child. All this changed during his teenage years, however, when his village was sacked by ma-

rauding Irish raiders.

Many were killed in the attack and Patrick himself was captured. The raiders took him back to Ireland where he was sold as a slave.

Patrick spent six years as a slave, forced to tend the flocks of his new Irish master. While this was a period of isolation and loneliness for Patrick, it was also a time for him to renew his relationship with God.

Like Job of the Old Testament, it only took losing everything for Patrick to be awakened to his intense need for God. What happened next is unclear; Patrick may have been freed by his master, but the common story is that Patrick received a vision guiding him away from slavery and back to Britain.

After returning from slavery, Patrick felt the call to follow in his grandfather's footsteps into ministry. This is when Patrick's story takes yet another interesting twist.

The story goes that Patrick received another vision, but this one was of Irish people calling for him to return to Ireland. While it may seem unthinkable to return to those who

had caused so much hurt, Patrick followed the call and returned to Ireland as an evangelist.

In those days, Ireland was a pagan country ruled by a religious sect known as the Druids. Into this world came Patrick who boldly, yet humbly, proclaimed his faith to any who would listen.

Despite many threats to his life and well-being, Patrick had experienced the joy and freedom that comes from a relationship with God, and he wanted to bring this joy to the very people who had ripped him from his home and enslaved him during his youth. His life and work was so compelling that, eventually, the Irish king himself converted to Christianity.

So, did Patrick rid Ireland of all the snakes? No... not actual snakes, at least. But he did follow a calling on his life that led him to live for something greater than himself.

In a world that tells us we can never rise above a system that victimizes us, Patrick's life is an example of one who did not let his victimization define him.


Yes, Patrick was a victim of bru-

tal hatred, but he went on to live a victorious life through the power of his faith. Patrick eventually became the Bishop of Ireland, and, later, the patron saint of this island nation (despite never being officially recognized as a saint by the Catholic Church).

But, more than living out his calling, there is something else that made Patrick a victor rather than a victim: forgiveness.

Patrick could have come up with any number of excuses why he did not want to serve the Irish people, and no one would have blamed him. Yet unforgiven hurts infect us and fester in our hearts until anger and resentment is all we can see.

Patrick chose to forgive those who had done him wrong, and to willingly serve those who had forcibly enslaved him. Truly, in this act of forgiveness, Patrick found unending freedom.

How will you celebrate this St. Patrick's Day? While there is nothing wrong with enjoying a celebration, maybe this is the year you can find true victory in your life. 

Hospital Family Day hours

The 673d Medical Group is open on Pacific Air Forces family days to ensure patients have access to acute care and several other services. Specialty care, surgical services, the laboratory, pharmacy and radiology will be open on a limited basis. For information, call 580-2778.

Firewood permits

Firewood is \$35 per cord or \$17.50 per half-cord. To receive a permit, an iSportsman permit is required. For information, visit <https://jber.isportsman.net>.

Main Pharmacy hours

The main JBER pharmacy, on the first floor of the JBER hospital, is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The pharmacy at the Exchange is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Fridays for civilian prescriptions and refills, and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for refills only.

iSportsman enrollment

Anyone choosing to rec-

reate in JBER training areas must obtain an iSportsman permit and sign in and out using the iSportsman system prior to recreating. A pass costs \$10; \$5 for those 60 and older and disabled persons. Passholders may also need an installation access pass. For information, visit isportsman.jber.net or call 552-8609 or 384-6224.

Reserve 'Scroll'

Officers wanting to transition to the Air Force Reserve must have their commission transferred to a list called "the Scroll" and approved by the Secretary of Defense.

The process averages 120 days, but can take longer, and must be approved before participating in the Reserve, which may mean a break in service. Even if you're unsure about transitioning to the Air Force Reserve, the process can be initiated. For information, call 552-3595.

Pothole repair

The 773d Civil Engineer Squadron encourages all

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson personnel to report potholes. For holes in housing areas, contact Aurora Housing at 753-1051. Other requests are tracked by 773d CES. Note the location, including cross-streets or building numbers. Then email 773ces.ceoh.potholerepair@us.af.mil or call 552-2994 or 552-2995. Include contact information for crews.

U-Fix-It Store

The U-Fix-It stores, open to all Aurora Military Housing tenants, issue home maintenance items. Availability is subject to change and limits; some items may have a cost. The JBER-E location, at 6350 Arctic Warrior Drive, is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, closed from 1 to 1:30 p.m. for lunch, and Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.

The JBER-R office is at 338 Hoonah Ave., open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and closed from 1 to 1:30 p.m. A blind-cleaning machine is

available at the JBER-E location; priority goes to those PCSing. For information, call 375-5540.

DLA Document Services

Defense Logistics Agency Document Services duplicates and prints documents, including color, large-format photos, engineering drawings, sensitive materials, manuals and training materials. They design, print and distribute business cards, letterhead, invitations and programs, and provide devices to print, scan, copy and fax, and provides maintenance and ink cartridges. They offer document automation and content services for building digital libraries. To register, go to <https://www.dso.documentservices.dla.mil>. For information, visit documentservices.dla.mil or call (808) 473-1699 or (315) 473-1699.

OTC pharmacy counter

The pharmacy at the JBER hospital has over-the-counter medication for DoD beneficiaries from 7:30 to

10:30 a.m., Monday through Friday. Flyers and those on personnel reliability program status, pregnant, or under the age of 2 are not eligible.

The clinic offers pain relievers; cough, cold and allergy medications; ointments; constipation and diarrhea medications, and others.

For information, visit JBERPharmacy on Facebook.

ASYMCA Bargain shop

The ASYMCA Bargain Shop, 8515 Saville Ave. on JBER-E, is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the first Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For information, call 753-6134.

Richardson Thrift Shop

The JBER-Richardson Thrift Shop, Building 724 Quartermaster Drive, is open Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday from noon to 6 p.m., and first and third Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For information, call 384-7000.

Air Force budget focuses on modern threats

By **CHARLES POPE**
SECAF Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, Va. — The Air Force's budget would rise to \$165 billion in fiscal year 2020 under the White House spending plan unveiled March 12, a \$10 billion increase that allows the service to grow, modernize and effectively adapt to an array of changing global threats.

As written, the proposed budget attaches numbers to larger strategic goals that include the need to meet challenges posed by China and a resurgent Russia, provide a safe, secure and effective nuclear deterrent while continuing to disrupt violent extremists in a cost-effective manner.

The spending plan provides funding for the Air Force to continue restoring readiness with special attention on training, maintenance, spare parts and flying hours.

The proposed budget for fiscal 2020 provides money to modernize nuclear ballistic missile operations, strategic bombers, nuclear air-launched cruise missiles, and intercontinental ballistic missiles as well as associated nuclear command, control and communications systems.

One of the more significant additions to this year's budget is a \$14 billion investment in the Air Force's space portfolio, a 17 percent increase over the previous year.

This investment includes \$72.4 million to establish the headquarters for Space Force, which will be a new service within the Department of the Air Force.

The budget allows the Air Force to continue its dominance in space while also providing funding to train 1,480 new pilots, an increase



from 1,211 trained this year.

Overlying all of it is funding to continue the progress on improving readiness across the Air Force's 690,000 total force.

Related is a 3.1 percent pay raise for service members as part of the larger Department of Defense budget.

Taken as a whole, the proposed budget for fiscal year 2020, which begins Oct. 1, continues Air Force efforts to add equipment and per-

sonnel, training and support to offset an era of lean budgets.

As Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson has said, the new budget is crafted to align the Air Force closer to the National Defense Strategy.

To get there the budget calls for purchasing an additional 48 F-35A Lightning II and eight upgraded F-15EX Strike Eagle fighters.

It also provides funding for 12 KC-46A Pegasus tankers as well as funds for third-generation GPS satellite and money to finance four launches of space vehicles for national security.


Additionally, the budget proposal includes funds for training and for modernizing live and virtual ranges and infrastructure that provide realistic – and crucial – training capabilities against the most advanced threats.

The Nevada Test and Training Range, the Joint Pa-

cific Alaska Range Complex, the Utah Test and Training Range, the Space Test and Training Range and several other, smaller range complexes will receive targeted funding to better replicate the capabilities of peer adversaries.

Related to that focus, the fiscal 2020 budget includes funding to underwrite 1.1 million peacetime flying hours, the maximum amount of sustainable training, to prepare pilots and Airmen to be effective members of joint forces.

While the Air Force budget proposal is carefully crafted and is a proxy for the service's priorities, the document represents an early, and uncertain, starting point of a months-long process.

Congress retains the ultimate authority on how tax dollars are spent with deliberation expected to stretch until the current fiscal year ends on Sept. 30 – and possibly even beyond. 

Wilson to step down as Secretary of the Air Force

NEWS RELEASE

SECAF Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, Va. — Upon a favorable final vote by the regents, Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson announced her resignation March 8.

After serving in her position as the service's top civilian since May 2017, to accept the role as president of the University of Texas at El Paso.

Wilson will continue to serve as the 24th Secretary of the Air Force until May 2019.

"It has been a privilege to serve our Airmen over the past two years," said Wilson in her letter of resignation to the President of the United States. "I am proud of the progress we have made to restore our nation's defense."

During her service, Wilson has been responsible for the affairs of the Department of the Air Force, including organizing, training and equipping and providing for the welfare of all active-duty, Guard, Reserve

and civilian forces as well as their families.

Moreover, she has been leading the way in improving the lethality and readiness of the Air Force.

What was once a 660,000-person total force in 2017 is now 685,000 strong.

She oversees the Air Force's annual budget of more than \$138 billion and directs strategy and policy development, risk management, weapons acquisition, technology investments and human resource management across a global enterprise.

"We hit the lottery with Secretary Wilson," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein. "Under her leadership, we became a better U.S. Air Force and our Airmen will continue rowing hard, becoming even faster, smarter. As she takes her talent and leadership to my home state of Texas, I wish her the very best."


Prior to assuming the secretary of the Air Force position, Wilson was president of the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, a



Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson testifies before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Washington, D.C., Dec 6, 2017. Wilson has announced her resignation, and will continue to serve until May. She plans to accept the role of president of the University of Texas at El Paso. Wilson has been the Air Force's top civilian since May of 2017, and has improved the lethality and readiness of the service during her tenure. (U.S. Air Force photo/Wayne A. Clark)

member of the U.S. House of Representatives, a member of the National Security Council staff and also served in the private sector.

"My greatest appreciation and thanks to Secretary Wilson for her premier leadership of the world's greatest Airmen and Air Force,"

said Under Secretary of the Air Force Matthew P. Donovan. "We wish her the best at the University of Texas El Paso." 

COMBAT in the COLD

Cold Weather Leaders Course 19-004 students use ski poles to steady their weapons as they fire on the Northern Warfare Training Center's Black Rapids Training Site range March 5. The Cold Weather Leaders Course trains squad- and platoon-level leaders in the knowledge and skills required to successfully conduct small unit operations in a cold, snow-covered environment. Emphasis is placed on the effects of cold on personnel and materiel, use of basic cold weather clothing and equipment, winter field craft, snowshoe and ski techniques and winter or cold regions navigation and route planning. Attendees receive comprehensive instruction and training materials enabling them to implement basic cold weather and ski training programs within their units. Cold weather risk management procedures are stressed throughout the course of instruction. (U.S. Army photos/John Pennell)

ON THE COVER: A student at the CWLC practices downhill skiing during the course.



ABOVE LEFT: CWLC students drape a T-10 parachute over an improvised thermal shelter at the Northern Warfare Training Center's Black Rapids Training Site March 3. The CWLC trains squad- and platoon-level leaders in the knowledge and skills required to successfully conduct small-unit operations in a cold, snowy environment. Emphasis is placed on the effects of cold on personnel and materiel, use of clothing and equipment, winter fieldcraft, snowshoeing and skiing, and navigation and route planning.

ABOVE: Staff Sgt. Rex Christensen, NWTC instructor, talks with his squad of students March 1 after their first over-snow movement on snowshoes.

LEFT: Students pull loaded ahkio sleds March 5 at the Black Rapids Training site. Attendees receive comprehensive instruction enabling them to implement cold weather and ski training programs within their units.

Polar Force to affect services on JBER

By **AIRMAN 1ST CLASS
CAITLIN RUSSELL**
JBER Public Affairs

The 673d Air Base Wing, 3rd Wing, 176th Wing and 477th Fighter Group will participate in exercise Polar Force from March 25 to April 5. This means some base services will either be closed or have limited hours. The two-week exercise designed to test Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson's readiness.

Facilities like the Iditarod Dining Facility will continue normal operations, but will have limited services.

"The dining facility will still be offering customers plenty of dining options," said Senior Master Sgt. Edward Tompkins, 673d Force Support Squadron sustainment flight superintendent. "The main line and express zone will continue to operate as normal. The Wilderness Inn on [JBER-Richardson]

will not be affected by the exercise, as well as Provisions on Demand and the flight kitchen."

For personnel who will be working late hours, the Iditarod offers a midnight meal from 11 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

Tompkins also said if members are unable to make it to the Iditarod during meal hours, the salad bar and the Grab 'N' Go items area will be available between meals.

For Polar Force participants who have children, the Child Development Centers and School Age Programs will also extend their hours, opening at 6 a.m. and closing at 7 p.m. Members need to make reservations as soon as possible to their facility to guarantee proper staffing.

The Elmendorf Fitness Center will open from 5 a.m. to 2 p.m., with limited services due to manning.

"The Fitness Assessment Center will be closed from



Airmen with the 773d Civil Engineer Squadron repair damage on a flightline after a mock attack during exercise Polar Force 19-1 at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Oct. 24. Some facilities will have limited hours or be closed during the next iteration of the exercise. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Crystal A. Jenkins)

March 25 to April 5 and we are offering additional test slots March 18, 20 and 22 at 1 p.m.," said Joshua Grieser, 673d FSS Elmendorf Fitness Center director. "Personnel can sign up for these times through their unit deployment manager. We are not anticipating Hangar Five to be

affected; however, access to facilities during Polar Force could change at any time due to exercise requirements."

The Military Personnel Services office will also be closed except for appointments. Those who need ID cards or DEERS services can visit [www.rapids-appoint-](http://www.rapids-appoint-ments.dmdc.osd.mil)

ments.dmdc.osd.mil for alternate locations; the Finance office will also be closed.

The hospital and Two Rivers and Kenecott youth centers, JBER-Elmendorf Legal office, Public Affairs studio, and Buckner Physical Fitness Center will have normal hours. 