

# DESERT EAGLE

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## Weather-system Weaponry

See page 5 for an Arabic translation





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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

Commentaries and Warriors of the Week are scheduled according to a squadron rotation. Unit commanders and first sergeants are the points of contact for submissions.

For more information, call 436-0107.



Senior Airman Jason Jarman, U.S. Air Forces Central weather systems support cadre, inspects a Tactical Meteorological Observing System computer here Monday. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kasey Zickmund)

# Remember Your Intent

By Lt. Col. Michal Holliday  
379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer  
Squadron commander

During the past 11 months I've had the incredible opportunity to work with some of the finest people our country has to offer.

I routinely witness people performing remarkable work under very challenging conditions. However, I've also witnessed how quickly a deployment passes by and people losing track of their original deployment goals.

It's been my experience that most people deploy here with some type of goal. Some want to lose weight, further their education, improve their technical skills or study for their next rank. But shortly after arrival, life gets in the way and the deployment goals become the unfulfilled dreams of our past.

I'm guilty of this very issue. When I first arrived here last June, I brought several books I wanted to study during my deployment – hoping to go home smarter than I arrived. But, over the course of the year, my books have collected dust as I've found other pastimes to occupy my free time.

What happened – how did I end up 11 months down the road wishing I had spent more time studying?

I forgot my original intent – I allowed other interests to occupy my time – I didn't check my vector along the way to see if I would end up where I desired to be at the end of this deployment.

If you don't pay attention to the path you're on, you're not going to end up where you want to be.

Clearly, a plan will require changes along the way as life intersects your goals, but changes in your plan should be conscious decisions you make after you've analyzed the given data – not something that happens due to inattention to your surroundings.

To achieve your goals you can follow some basic steps we've all learned throughout our lives:

Set measureable and achievable goals. We all have things we want to achieve, but goals we set should be something we can achieve and measure. A goal to be the best heavy equipment operator in the next three months just isn't realistic. First – how would you determine that you are “the best,” and second - when will you find time to learn this skill? A goal to complete a college course over the next three months is something you can measure (i.e. are you getting the work turned in) and achieve (classes are offered that meet your schedule and requirements).

Post those goals where you can  
**SEE INTENT ON PAGE 3**



## Commander's Action Line

- The Action Line is your direct link to Brig. Gen. Stephen Wilson, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing commander.
- Use it if you have questions or comments about the base that cannot be resolved by your chain of command or base agencies.
- Each question will be reviewed, answered and may be published on a case-by-case basis. E-mail [379aewactionline@auab.afcent.af.mil](mailto:379aewactionline@auab.afcent.af.mil).





## GRAND OPENING! FOX Sports Skybox

**June 25, 7:30 p.m., FOX Sports Skybox**

**Come enjoy an evening of cool comfort in the newly-renovated FOX Sports Skybox, a sports bar-themed facility. For more information, call 437-0064.**

### FROM INTENT ON PAGE 2

see them on a regular basis to remind you of your objectives. Once you make a goal, you need to post this someplace to remind yourself of your objective. Tape it to your monitor, put a reminder in your wallet, put a string around your finger – do something that will help you remember the thing you wanted to achieve.

Chart your performance and correct your course as necessary. When I got here, I thought I could complete three college courses. I enrolled in the courses, set a goal to get straight A's in all three courses, and placed reminders throughout my work and room. The problem is, my work schedule just won't allow me to attend three courses and I need

to drop one of them. This isn't a failure – merely a course correction. Figure out what you can achieve and re-vector as necessary. Keep track of your performance – how many pounds did you lose this week and how close are you to your ultimate goal? Your goal to lose 75 pounds was a little over-ambitious – don't stop working out – just figure out what the proper goal should be and continue down your new path.

Finally, as you achieve your goals, set new goals and continue down the path of continued self-improvement. Self-improvement is a constant process. As leaders in today's Air Force, we need to always seek ways to improve ourselves and ultimately

improve our execution of the mission. Whether that is through fitness, knowledge, leadership or personal financial improvements, it doesn't matter – what matters is that we constantly strive to improve.

As I wrap up my deployment, one of the other things I've witnessed is how people forget their original intent and actually end up in a worse condition than when they arrived.

Sadly, some Airmen deploy and lose focus of why they are here. They're distracted by their surroundings and make poor decisions.

When they are held accountable for those actions, through non-judicial punishment, they wonder how they ever let themselves get to that

point. They did not come to the desert with the intent of going home having their career negatively impacted. They didn't wake up one morning and say, "today I'm going to screw up my career, my life and potentially my family's life."

They were distracted; they lost their focus and forgot their original intent.

Stay focused! You started this race strong, finish strong. When you get that crazy idea to step outside the bounds of good behavior, remember your original intent.

Along with taking care of yourself - don't forget your Wingman standing beside you. They can always use a word of encouragement and a gentle reminder to stay focused.

Remember your intent!



# Tactical weather systems improve mission success throughout AOR

Staff Sgt. Kelly White  
379th Air Expeditionary Wing  
Public Affairs

Nothing ruins outdoor plans like bad weather – vacations, weekend get-aways, sporting events and the like. The end result often entails more than mere disappointment. Lots of time, energy and money can be spent getting ready for a big shindig only to see it be totally washed out.

In much the same way, bad weather can put the kibosh on vital military operations – from movement of ground forces, to air drops and aerial refueling. This is why Air Force Forces Tactical Weather Systems maintenance Airmen deployed to this non-disclosed Southwest Asia location are seldom here. Their mission has them on a “whirlwind” tour supporting TWS at air bases and Army forward operating bases across the CENTCOM area of responsibility.

“You could say we’re the ‘geek squad’ for TWS,” said Senior Master Sgt. Robert Love, Air Force Forces Weather Systems Support Cadre NCO-in-charge. “If the local weather personnel can’t fix the system, they call on us.”

When called upon, the cadre of about a half-dozen Airmen, deployed from the 2nd Combat Weather Systems Squadron, Hurlburt Field, Fla., repairs weather equipment used to enhance the effectiveness of Air Force, Army, Special Forces, joint and combined operations.

At home station, the team’s focus is testing, acquisition, standards and training of tactical and fixed meteorological systems. When deployed, they focus on the equipment they’ve sent out to the field.

“It’s a rare opportunity where a person can go from cradle to grave on a weapons system the way we do,” said Sergeant Love.

“Our guys travel to three different sites supporting Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, and Southwest Asia AORs,” he added. “Sometimes they have to catch fixed-wing or rotary aircraft at a moment’s notice – fully loaded for combat, wearing their (indi-

vidual body armor) and (advanced combat helmet), and carrying full combat loads for their weapons.”

It’s also not unheard of for these troops, after working on TWS equipment, to find themselves sitting on the compound’s defensive fighting position during the night, he added.

“Some of the locations they travel to are extremely small, where they can literally throw a rock from one side of the base to the other,” Sergeant Love said. “Couple that with the fact airlift isn’t always available, there are times our guys are stuck at a location for a week or longer.”

While travel to and from FOBs throughout the AOR can often be arduous and dangerous, it’s also one of the things these troops like most about what they do.

“I’ve traveled to 30 or more sites in Afghanistan,” said Staff Sgt. Dan Ruehl, WSSC-OEF NCO-in-charge. “Sometimes we take just a backpack with basic equipment, other times we take hard cases we have to lug around several places till we get to the FOB we’re going to. But, traveling to FOBs, meeting different people and being in new environments is what I’ve enjoyed most about this deployment.”

It’s this kind of flexibility and tireless dedication that’s been key to the team’s success here.

“There’s rarely any down time for them,” said Sergeant Love. “They have remained motivated during their entire deployment and because of that, all three AORs’ TWS are at a 99-percent in-commission rate.”

The team has accomplished this while also making sure they leave their operations here better than when they arrived.

“We’ve increased our footprint to meet the warfighters’ needs,” Sergeant Love said. “Before, we would travel from here to the locations, but we found that not as responsive to the warfighters’ needs. Therefore, we made this base the main center, with two geographically-separated tactical centers in the OIF and OEF AORs. This allows our guys to travel faster to the location since they remain intra-theater, instead of having to travel inter-theater.”



**Staff Sgt. Terry Steimle, U.S. Air Forces inspects a Tactical Meteorological Observer range, here Tuesday.**

القوات الجوية الأمريكية المركزية، يتفقد نظام مراقبة الأرصاد  
عنه في جنوب غرب آسيا بتاريخ 8 يونيو 2010.

One NCO on the team said their new way of doing business benefits everyone in the fight.

“I was here two years ago, when equipment down-time was 7-10 days,” said Tech. Sgt. Matthew Nece, WSSC-OIF, NCO-in-charge. “Now that we’re based in-theater full-time, down-time is cut to 24-48 hours.

“I also felt more a part of the mission this time – being downrange, closer to the group I was supporting,” he said. “I like being more hands-on verses being a help desk. We still do help desk support, but we also go there to deal with and train both Army and Air Force personnel.”

While the Airmen of WSSC agree they have all benefitted professionally from their deployed experience here, they said they’re most pleased to have been instrumental in fostering mission success throughout the AOR.

“When a system goes down, it’s up to us to fix it as quickly and effectively as possible,” said Senior Airman Dave Watters, WSSC technician. “If it’s not fixed, planes don’t fly. If readings are wrong, people can get hurt. What we do helps prevent that from happening.”



# أنظمة الرصد الجوي التكتيكي تحسن من فرص نجاح المهمة في جميع أنحاء منطقة المسؤولية



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kasey Zickmund

Central weather systems support cadre, serving System, prior to shipping it down-

الرقيب تيري ستيميل، أحد كوادر مساعدة أنظمة الرصد الجوي في الجوية التكتيكية قبل شحنه إلى إحدى المواقع العسكرية الغير معن

أحد ضباط الصف في الفريق قال، إن طريقهم الجديدة للقيام بهذا العمل ساعدت الجميع في المعركة.

"لقد كنت هنا قبل عامين، حينما كانت المعدات تبقى معطلة من 7 إلى 10 أيام"، قال الرقيب OEF-SSWC. "والآن بعد تمررنا في ماثيو نيس، المسرح بشكل دائم تم تقليص الوقت ضابط الصف في إلى 24-48 ساعة.

"و أضاف، شعرت وبشكل أكثر بآثني جزء من المهمة هذه المرة - وأقرب إلى المجموعة التي كنت أدعها" قال الرقيب. "أحب أن أكون مساعداً فعال بدلاً من المساعدة المكتيبة. بالتأكيد ما زلنا نقدم المساعدة المكتيبة، ولكننا أيضاً ما زلنا نذهب إلى هنالك للتعامل مع وتدريب كلا من الجيش وأفراد القوات الجوية."

في حين أن الطيارين من الـ SSWC إتفقوا جميعاً بأنهم إستفادوا مهنيًا من خبرة إنتشارهم هنا، ولكن قالوا بأنهم أكثر سعادة لأنه كان لهم دور فعال في تعزيز نجاح المهمة في جميع أنحاء منطقة المسؤولية. "عندما يتعطل النظام، فإن الأمر يعود إلينا لإصلاحه في أسرع وقت ممكن وبشكل فعال"، قال كبير الطيارين ديف واتيرس، فني الـ WSSC. "إذا لم يتم إصلاح الطائرات فإتينا لا تستطيع التحليق. وإذا كانت القراءات خاطئة، يمكن أن يضر ذلك بالناس. ما نقوم به يساعد على منع ذلك من الحدوث."

واضاف انه أيضا من غير المعتاد أن هذه القوات، وبعد العمل على معدات الـ TWS، أن تجد نفسها متأهبة في مواقع القتال الدفاعية للمجمع خلال الليل.

"بعض المواقع التي يسافرون إليها صغيرة للغاية، حيث يمكنهم حرفياً رمي حجر من جانب واحد من القاعدة إلى الآخر"، قال الرقيب لوف. "بالإضافة إلى ذلك، فإن النقل الجوي غير متوفر دائماً، هناك أوقات يعلق رجالنا في الموقع لمدة أسبوع أو أكثر."

إن السفر من وإلى الـ FBOs في جميع أنحاء منطقة المسؤولية غالباً ما يكون شاقاً وخطراً، إضافة إلى ذلك فإن هذا أحد الأشياء التي تحب عمله هذه القوات إلى حد كبير.

"لقد سافرت إلى 30 موقع أو أكثر في أفغانستان"، قال الرقيب. دان رويل، ضابط الصف المسؤول في الـ WSSC-FEO. "في بعض الأحيان نأخذ حقيبة الظهر فقط مع المعدات الأساسية، وأحياناً أخرى نأخذ صناديق صلبة وننتقل بها حول أماكن عدة حتى نصل إلى الـ BOSF المقصود. ولكن، السفر إلى BOSF و الإجتماع بأشخاص مختلفون والتواجد في بيئات جديدة هو أكثر ما استمتعت به في هذا الانتشار."

إن هذا النوع من المرونة والتفاني من غير تعب هو مفتاح نجاح الفريق هنا.

"نادراً ما يكون هنالك وقت عسير بالنسبة لهم"، قال الرقيب لوف. "لقد استمروا بتشجيع طوال فترة إنتشارهم وبسبب ذلك فإن مناطق مسؤولية الـ TWS الثلاث تحضى بمعدل 99 بالمئة من العمل.

لقد انجز الفريق هذا العمل بينما كان يتأكد أيضاً بأنه سوف يترك عملياته هنا بأفضل مما كانت عليه حين وصوله.

"لقد قمنا بزيادة تواجدنا هنا لتلبية إحتياجات القوات المقاتلة"، قال الرقيب لوف. "في وقت سابق، كنا نسافر من هنا إلى المواقع، ولكن وجدنا أن هذا لا يفي بإحتياجات القوات المقاتلة. ولذلك، قمنا بجعل هذه القاعدة المركز الرئيسي، إضافة إلى اثنين من المراكز الجغرافية التكتيكية المنفصلة في مناطق المسؤولية التابعة للـ FEO و OIF.

لقد سمح هذا لرجالنا بالسفر بسرعة إلى الموقع بما أنها لاتزال داخل المسرح، بدلاً من الإضطراب إلى السفر بين المسارح."

## بقلم الرقيب. كيلبي وايت الجناح الجوي 379، العلاقات العامة

لا شيء يحبط خطط الإستمتاع في الهواء الطلق مثل سوء الأحوال الجوية - العطلات، قضاء عطلات نهاية الأسبوع والمناسبات الرياضية وما شابه ذلك. النتيجة النهائية غالباً ما تنطوي على أكثر من مجرد خيبة أمل. في كثير من الأحيان، فإن الجهد والمال يمكن أن تهدر في الإستعداد لحفلة راقصة كبيرة لترى انها قد الغيت تماماً لسوء الأحوال الجوية.

وبنفس الطريقة، فإن سوء الأحوال الجوية يمكن أن يضع عراقيل على العمليات العسكرية الحيوية - من حركة القوات البرية، إلى الإنزال الجوي و التزود بالوقود في الجو. هذا هو السبب في أن أفراد الطيران للقوات الجوية لصيانة أنظمة الرصد الجوي التكتيكي، المنتشرون في هذه المنطقة غير المفصح عنها في جنوب غرب آسيا، نادراً ما يكونوا هنا. مهمتهم غالباً ما تجعلهم في "زوبعة" من الجولات لمساعدة TWS في القواعد الجوية وقواعد عمليات الجيش المتقدمة في جميع أنحاء منطقة المسؤولية للقيادة المركزية الأمريكية.

"يمكن القول اننا 'الفرقة الموهوبة' لـ TWS"، قال الرقيب أول روبرت لوف، ضابط صف ونائب قائد قوات مساعدة أنظمة الرصد الجوي. "إذا لم يتمكن أفراد الرصد الجوي المحليين من إصلاح النظام، فإنهم يقوموا بدعوتنا لإصلاحه."

عندما يتم إستدعائهم، يقوم كادر من حوالي نصف دزينة من أفراد الطيران، المنتشرين من سرب أنظمة الرصد الجوي القتالية الثانية من هورلبرت فيلد في ولاية فلوريدا، بصيانة معدات الرصد الجوي المستخدمة لتعزيز فعالية القوات الجوية و الجيش و القوات الخاصة و العمليات المشتركة والموحدة.

في القاعدة الأم، فإن تركيز الفريق هو على الاختيار والإقتناء والمعايرة والتدريب على أنظمة الأرصاد الجوية التكتيكية والثابتة. وعند الإنتشار، فإنهم يركزون على المعدات التي أرسلت إلى الميدان.

"إنها لطريقة إستثنائية حيث يمكن لشخص أن يذهب من المهدي إلى اللحد بالتعامل مع نظام الأسلحة بالطريقة التي نقوم بها"، قال الرقيب لوف.

"رجالنا قاموا بالسفر إلى ثلاثة مواقع مختلفة لدعم العمليات العراقية والحرية الدائمة و المناطق المسؤولة في جنوب غرب آسيا" اضاف الرقيب. "في بعض الأحيان انهم مضطرون إلى اللحاق بالطائرات ذات الأجنحة الثابتة أو المروحية في أي لحظة - محملة بالكامل للقتال، يرتدون (دروع الجسد الفردية) و (خوذة قتالية متطورة)، ويحملون المعدات القتالية الكاملة لاسلحتهم."





U.S. Air Force photo/Tech Sgt. Michelle Larche

**Brig. Gen. Stephen Wilson, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing commander, transfers the 379th Expeditionary Maintenance Group colors to Col. John Kubinec during the 379th Expeditionary Maintenance Group Change-of-Command ceremony here, June 4. Col. Larry Stehenson relinquished command of the 379 EMXG to Col. John Kubinec. During Col. Stephenson's year-long tour as commander, the group generated more than 26,000 sorties and flew more than 110,000 hours.**



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech Sgt. Michelle Larche

**Brig. Gen. Stephen Wilson, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing commander, transfers the 379th Expeditionary Operations Group colors to Col. Chris Kulas during the 379th Expeditionary Operations Group Change-of-Command ceremony here Thursday. Col. David Been relinquished command of the 379 EOG to Col. Chris Kulas. During Col. Been's year-long tour as commander, the group generated more than 26,000 sorties and flew more than 110,000 hours.**



## Senior Airman Brittany Deziel

379th Expeditionary Medical Group

Aerospace Medical technician

**Home station:** Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas

**Arrived in AOR:** January

**Deployment goals:** To truly feel I've helped somebody in some way, shape or form. Also to gain experience in my career field and better myself as a medic.

**Best part of the deployment:** Experiencing cultural differences, meeting new servicemembers and helping deployed members with their healthcare.

**Hobbies:** Drawing, dancing and outdoor activities.

**Best Air Force memory:** Teaching basic EMT classes and self-aid buddy care to Airmen deploying into the AOR.

Knowing they have the skills to help their fellow Wingmen during times of need is comforting to me when I know there are not always enough medics to help.

*Nominated by Master Sgt. Clint Moore: "Airman Deziel adapted very well for her first deployment. As a vital member of Emergency Medical Response, she's always demonstrated professionalism, hard work and a desire to learn new things."*



U.S. Air Force photo//Senior Airman Kasey Zickmund

## Airman 1st Class Melinda Gutierrez

379th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron

Base Defense Operations Center sensor operator

**Home station:** Beale AFB, Calif.

**Arrived in AOR:** February

**Deployment goals:** To complete 4-5 CLEPS, complete at least one in-residence class toward my CCAF, train to run a marathon and gain as much experience as possible.

**Best part of the deployment:** When I was selected to work as part of the CENTCOM Forward Headquarters and Combined Air Operations Center guard force and getting certified as a BDOC sensor operator.

**Hobbies:** Running, working out, reading, talking to my husband, shopping, watching movies, and playing basketball and softball.

**Best Air Force memory:** When I was TDY in Ecuador, I was the POC for the Toys for Tots charity. I organized, scheduled and delivered toys to 29 different organizations.

*Nominated by Master Sgt. Bryan Gavin: "Airman Gutierrez was nominated as she stands out among her peers and excels at all responsibilities she is assigned. She continues to perform above her current rank."*



U.S. Air Force photo//Senior Airman Kasey Zickmund

## Tech. Sgt. Quinton Holoway

379th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron

Outbound Cargo, Deployment and Distribution Flight

NCO-in-charge

**Home station:** Misawa Air Base, Japan

**Arrived in AOR:** January

**Deployment goals:** Increase my level of physical fitness, travel and enjoy some of the amenities of downtown.

**Best part of the deployment:** Opportunity to work with other professionals from various locations within the career field.

**Hobbies:** Reading, shooting pool and playing dominos.

**Best Air Force memory:** Participating as a member of the traveling honor guard at Shaw AFB, S.C., honoring deceased veterans.

*Nominated by Master Sgt. Renee Munshower: "Sergeant Holoway is a devoted and hard-working individual with a strong work ethic and leadership qualities. He has stepped up and tackled assigned tasks without fail. He is directly responsible for the processing and transportation of 7,000 assets through the AOR and stateside."*



U.S. Air Force photo//Tech. Sgt. Michelle Larche





U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kasey Zickmund

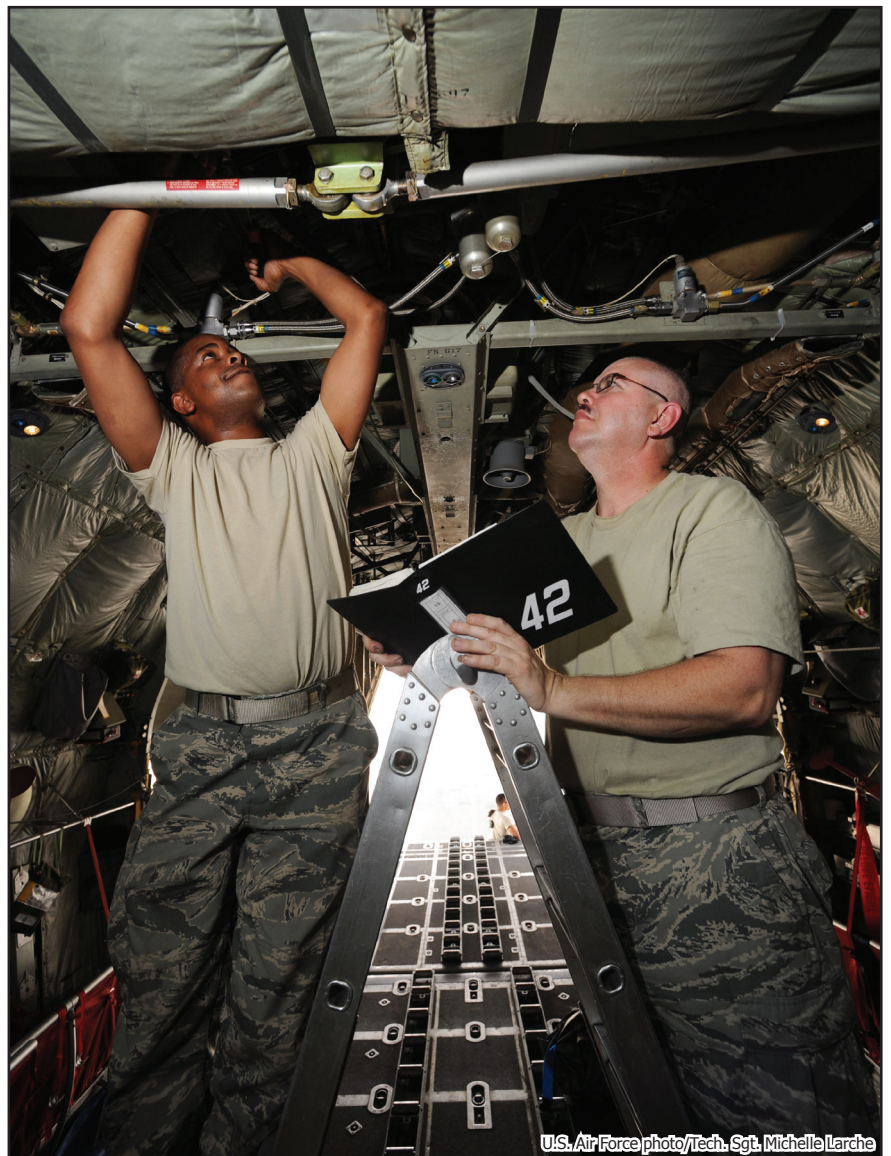
**TOP LEFT:** Staff Sgt. Kevin Hennelly, 379th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron air traffic controller, coordinates with an aircraft seeking landing clearance on a flight-line here, Thursday.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kasey Zickmund

**BOTTOM LEFT:** Airman 1st Class Kevin Strickland, 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron heating, ventilation, and air conditioning journeyman, adds adhesive to a ceramic shower tile here, Thursday.

**BOTTOM CENTER:** Tech. Sgts. Troy Wallace (left) and Larry Bailey, 379th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron technicians, disconnect aileron control cables in a C-130 aircraft here, Monday.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Michelle Larche





**TOP RIGHT:** Staff Sgt. Scott Martin (left) and Master Sgt. James Wheeler, 379th Expeditionary Communications Squadron VIPER team members, set up communications here to allow airborne distinguished visitors on a C-17 to utilize phone and computer communications, Tuesday.

U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Michelle Larche



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kasey Zickmund

**Senior Airman Kevin Butler, 34th Aircraft Maintenance Unit hydraulics systems journeyman, replaces a B-1B Lancer boiler actuator here, Thursday.**



# Monthly enlisted promotions

Congratulations to the 76 Airmen promoted to the ranks of airman first class, senior airman, staff sergeant, technical sergeant and master sergeant between May 6 and June 2.

**The following technical sergeants were promoted to master sergeant:**

- Charles Bartosh, 609th Air Operations Center
- Chante Capers, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing
- Daniel Craig, 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron
- Chad Grant, 609th Air Communications Squadron
- Christopher Malley, 379th Expeditionary Contracting Squadron
- Michael Roxberry, 609 AOC
- Andrew Slater, AFCENT
- Carla Vincent, 379th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron

**The following staff sergeants were promoted to technical sergeant:**

- Andrew Alford, 8th Expeditionary Air Mobility Squadron
- Joshua Finkbeiner, 379th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron
- Christopher Frye, 763rd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron
- Azreal Kelly, 379th Expeditionary Maintenance Operations Squadron
- Joseph Pierson, 8 EAMS
- Shaun Prouty, 379 ECES
- Michael Sebel, 609 ACOMS
- Christopher Seivert, 379th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron

**The following senior airmen were promoted to staff sergeant:**

- Bradley Cummings, 379th Expeditionary Communications Squadron
- Evan Fronheiser, 379 ECES
- Jeremiah Gardner, 763 ERS
- Nathan Hanmer, 609 ACOMS
- Geoffrey Hirschfeld, 379 Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
- Mario Knight, 379 ECES
- Gregory Lane, 379 EAMXS
- Jace McCorkle, 7th Expeditionary Air Command and Control Squadron
- David Morgan, 379 EMXS
- Cody Murray, 379 ESFS
- Keon Nicholas, CENTCOM
- Miguel Rosario, 379 ESFS
- Heather Serra, 379th Expeditionary Medical Group
- Dinesh Sheonath, 379 EMDG
- Ryan Snyder, 763 ERS
- Isaac Stein, 379 ECES

-Alicia Stine, 1st Expeditionary Red Horse Group

-Jason Suggs, 763 ERS

-Dmario Williams, 763 ERS

**The following airmen first class were promoted to senior airman:**

- Scott Adams, 379 ECES
- Spenser Amos, 379 ECS
- Brandon Ansbro, 379 EMXS
- Michael Banks Jr., 379 ECONS
- Mandela Barrolle, 379th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron
- Brittany Beutler, 379 ESFS
- Andre Bibb, 379 ECES
- Jonathan Brenner, 379 ESFS
- Scott Flack, 763 ERS
- Brandon Garcia, 379 EAMXS
- Anthony Garzon, 379 EAMXS
- Aulin George, 379 EAMXS
- Joel Hanley, 379 EAMXS
- Chad Hardesty, 379 ESFS
- Jesse Hunt, 763 ERS
- Devin Hofner, 340 Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron
- Zackary Ladwig, 763 ERS
- James Lewis, 763 ERS
- Aldo Lotito III, 609 ACOMS
- Sean McKinney, 379 EMXS
- Jamaar Meadows, 379 ECS
- Stephen Medford, 379 ECES
- Victor Ramirez, 379 ELRS
- Floyd Reeves, 8 EAMS
- Colin Renahan, 379 EAMXS
- Randall Sorensen Jr., 763 ERS
- Kathryn Tesch, 379 EAMXS
- Justin Venables, 379 ECES
- Stacy Webb, 379 ECES
- Daniel Winders, 379 EAMXS
- Austin Winegardner, 379 ECES

**The following airmen were promoted to airman first class:**

- Charles Bowman Jr., 379 ESFS
- Maria Casanova, 379 ECES
- Nathan Conley, 379 ESFS
- Login Costello, 379 ECES
- Justin Hailey, 379 EAMXS
- Daniel Internicola, 379 ESFS
- Fitzroy Marlin, 379 ECES
- Brittany Porter, 71st Expeditionary Air Control Squadron
- Ryan Schwartz, 379 ESFS
- Joaquin Wooten, 379 ESFS

## Monthly award winners

Congratulations to the following nine monthly award winners for April.

**The Base Honor Guard award winners for the month of April are as follows:**

- Airman of the Month: Senior Airman Eysira Vasquez, 379th Expeditionary Force Support Squadron
- Non-Commissioned Officer of the Month: Staff Sgt. Tavarus Powell, AFCENT

-Trainer of the Month: Airman 1st Class Cecille Finch, 379th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron

**The Base monthly award winners for the month of April are as follows:**

- Airman of the Month: Airman 1st Class Dustin Cunha, 379th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron
- NCO of the Month: Staff Sgt. Ramon Mestas, 8th Expeditionary Air Mobility

Squadron

-Senior NCO of the Month: Senior Master Sgt. Roberto Carreno, 379th Expeditionary Communications Squadron

-Company Grade Officer of the Month: Capt. Ferdinand Maldonado, AFCEE

-Civilian of the Month: Mr. William Cline, 64th Air Expeditionary Group

-Team of the Month: 379 ELRS Fuels Expeditionary Storage Drawdown team



# May's non-judicial punishments

*Editor's Note: This list does not include actions from the month still under investigation or those disposed of through LORs, UIFs, etc.*

An active-duty airman first class from the 609th Air Operations Center received an Article 15 for disrespecting an officer with profane language, assaulting an NCO by lunging, disrespecting an NCO with profane language, drunk and disorderly on station and consuming more than three alcoholic beverages. This NJP action resulted in reduction to the grade of airman, suspended forfeiture of \$650 pay per month for two months, restriction for 30 days, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

An active-duty senior airman from



the 379th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron received an Article 15 for failing to verify a weapon was in half-load. This NJP action resulted in reduction to the grade of airman first class, forfeiture of \$423 pay and a reprimand.

An active-duty airman first class from the 379 ESFS received an Article 15 for negligently discharging a weap-

on at the armory. This NJP action resulted in reduction to the grade of airman and a reprimand.

An active-duty airman from the 379 ESFS received an Article 15 for failing to obey a lawful order. This NJP action resulted in reduction to the grade of airman basic, suspended forfeiture of \$723 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

An active-duty airman first class from the 379th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron received an Article 15 with four different specifications for dereliction of duty, which were job specific. This NJP action resulted in suspended reduction to the grade of airman, forfeiture of \$811 pay per month for one month and a reprimand.

## EO on Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment may occur anywhere. Some examples of sexual harassment include:

- Paying unwanted attention to someone by staring at their body, following or blocking a person's path.
- Displaying sexually suggestive visuals such as centerfolds, calendars, cartoons, screensavers on computer monitors, photos and the like.
- Items such as ashtrays, coffee cups or figurines depicting sexual parts of the body through actuality or innuendo.
- Sexually oriented entertainment in organizations, base facilities or officially-sanctioned functions.
- Sexually suggestive gestures with hands or through body movement - examples include, but are not limited to blowing kisses, licking lips, winking, grabbing crotch, lowering pants or raising skirts.
- Hanging around, standing close to or brushing against a person.
- Touching a person's clothing, hair or body, hugging, kissing, patting or stroking.
- Touching, pinching, bumping or cornering a person.

These are just some of the behaviors that could be claimed as sexual harassment. For more information contact Senior Master Sgt. John Mills 379 AEW Equal Opportunity, at 437-2512, or visit him at the Learning Resource Center Bldg 10010. He is available to conduct refresher training at future Commanders' Calls.

*"Our Greatest Strength is Our Diversity"*

## Commander's Blog and 379 AEW Web site



Visit <http://379aew.dodlive.mil/> for inside access on base events, units and missions through the commander's perspective.

Visit [www.379aew.afcent.af.mil](http://www.379aew.afcent.af.mil) for up-to-date Air Force news, multimedia and features on Air Force and Southwest Asia events.

Video stories added this week:

-379 EMXG Change of Command



# World's largest tanker op fuels



**Tech. Sgt. Jeff Stoermer, 340th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron boom operator, positions a refueling boom to refuel an E-3 Sentry while flying over Afghanistan May 25.**

By Staff Sgt. Kelly White  
379th Air Expeditionary Wing  
Public Affairs

In some form or fashion, every Airman deployed to the CENTCOM area of responsibility feels the effects of round-the-clock air operations, but perhaps none are more in tune with it than those working at the 340th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron in Southwest Asia – the largest tanker operation on the planet.

“Right now, there are more than 30 airplanes and almost 50 crews performing aerial refueling missions for

(Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom),” said Lt. Col. Michael Frymire, 340 EARS commander. “Obviously, we’re 24/7/365, and all that we accomplish, with what little we have, keeps things here very interesting.”

While there are other tankers in theater supporting Operation Enduring Freedom, the 340 EARS KC-135 Stratotankers are the sole providers of air refueling over Iraq and providers of 45-50 percent of refueling over Afghanistan.

“Using my own paradigm from other flying squadrons, the amount of infrastructure we have here – based

on the size of the operation – it’s pretty amazing we’re able to sustain it,” Colonel Frymire said.

“We have an interesting dynamic,” he said. “We’re Total Force – completely ‘rainbowed’ between active-duty, Guard and Reserve. There aren’t too many flying organizations that do that.”

Because of this dynamic, the squadron is constantly experiencing personnel turnover.

“There are about 15 different units here at any given time, and we have weekly deployment and redeployment – crews coming in, crews going out – and we do that continuously,” said the colonel.

Not only can the constant crew turnover be trying for actual flying missions, it takes its toll on the 340 EARS Airmen whose jobs are to keep track of it all – from the commander’s support staff, to operations officers, mission planners, communications, intelligence, records management, and more.

“A lot of times it gets absolutely crazy over here,” explained Colonel Frymire, “and most of our folks work seven days a week. I try not to kill them with 12-hour shifts, but there’s a definite burn-out factor. It’s tough on them, because things never stabilize.”

The 340th Aircraft Maintenance Unit is also hard at work making the mission happen.

“Our AMU is amazing,” said Colonel Frymire. “We can’t get off the ground without their support.”

Capt. Clarence Lovejoy, 340 EARS assistant director of operations, one of the many behind-the-scenes Airmen whose dedication and expertise helps make refueling happen AOR-wide, tackles the daily task of flight scheduling.

After deciphering air tasking orders from the Combined Air Operations Center and extracting, from this large document, the points most pertinent to the aircrews, he builds their daily flight plans and tracks every flight hour for the nearly 50 crews.

“We keep up a pretty good pace,”



# half of CENTCOM's air assets



**An E-3 Sentry receives fuel from a 340 EARS KC-135 Stratotanker while flying over Afghanistan May 25.**

Captain Lovejoy said. “We do a lot of planning, but it’s basically the crews that handle the workload. They’re flying long sorties.

“Our crews often will push their monthly flying hour limits, so we have to sit them down for a few days,” he explained. “And on top of flying hours, we have to keep them on a circadian rhythm, which is probably the biggest challenge.”

Another challenge is fitting the right crew with the right aircraft.

“Not every crew here can fly every configuration of the airplane,” said Colonel Frymire. “Our jets are subtly different. The (multi-point refueling system) pods on the sides require special aircrew certifications.

“Our alert requirement every day is typically a MPRS tail, because we can do either boom or drogue, which means we can refuel the Navy or the Air Force,” he added.

Daily and alert missions aren’t all

the squadron flies.

“We support (Combined Forces Air Component Command), CAOC and (Combined Joint Special Operations Air Component), so we do several special ops missions every day, as well,” said the colonel.

Regardless of what type of mission the 340 EARS flies, there’s one thing they all have in common – refueling other aircraft in the skies over the AOR. This responsibility rests on the one enlisted aircrew member on board – the boom operator.

From a prone position in the tail area of the KC-135, the boom operator views the receiving aircraft, positions the boom apparatus to connect with the receiver and provides it with the fuel needed to complete its mission.

“This is some of the best flying,” said Tech Sgt. Jeff Stoermer, 340 EARS boom operator. “In 60 days

here, we do what it takes a year to do at home station.”

In addition to operating the boom, his position entails several other responsibilities.

“I’m the third set of eyes, after the pilot and co-pilot,” Sergeant Stoermer said. “I also do loadmaster and flight engineer functions – kind of a ‘Jack of all trades on board the aircraft.’”

Colonel Frymire said he’s most impressed with how all of the Airmen in his squadron perform so well at a mission that is ever-increasing in its demand on them.

“The volume of work all these folks do is just unbelievable,” he said. “We’ve been here doing this refueling mission for a while, and we make small changes and continuous process improvements over time.

“But at the end of the day, it’s just people working hard, focusing on the mission and getting it done – that, and lots of coffee.”



# In the Chapel

## VICTORY CHAPEL

Open seven days a week,  
24 hours a day,  
"And overtime on Sundays"

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### Protestant Saturday

7:30 p.m., Contemporary, Chapel

### Sunday

9:45 a.m., General Protestant,  
CAOC 1st Floor conference room

9:45 a.m., Contemporary, Chapel

11:30 a.m., Traditional Service,  
Chapel

1:30 p.m., LDS Service, Chapel

4 p.m., Liturgical, Chapel

7:30 p.m., Gospel, Chapel

### Roman Catholic Mass

6 p.m., Monday-Friday

Blessed Sacrament Chapel

### Saturday Mass

6 p.m., Mass, BPC Mall area

### Sunday Masses

8 a.m., Victory Chapel

11 a.m., Mass, CAOC 1st floor  
conference room

6 p.m., Mass, Victory Chapel

Muslim  
Buddhist  
Orthodox  
Jewish

### Earth Religions

See Chapel staff or call 437-8811 for  
more information.

# No Quitters Allowed

By Chap. (Maj.) Mike Newton  
379th Air Expeditionary Wing Chapel

A few assignments ago, I agreed to play on an over-35 men's basketball team.

After the season began, I reconsidered my decision a few times. The interesting part was the timing on when I wanted to quit. It always seemed to be the day after a game in which I did not perform well, when I was down on myself and quite sore, I wanted to quit.

I think I would have quit if it hadn't been for a powerful lesson taught to me by a coach I had in my younger days. He used to say, "The best shooters are the ones who never quit shooting." He was right.

Aiming and missing is important. It means you're trying. Often it takes courage and a thick skin to keep trying in the face of continued misses. Anais Nin said, "Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one's courage." This has been my experience. Has it been yours?

If you have tried to break a bad habit or achieve a new skill or push yourself in new areas and have failed, don't feel sorry for yourself or disheartened. You can do it. You can grow. You can make yourself and your family proud, not only because you did it but because you would not quit until you did it. That is the point of my message to you – don't quit or give up on yourself.

Determination is a key mindset if one is to grow in life. If you give up too easily, you will never know what you could have been or could have

achieved. Along with determination, there are some simple skills that will make you more successful in your persistence.

The first, be a problem solver rather than just problem describer. There are plenty of folks out there who can tell you when there is a problem, but only a few who help you solve the problem. The American poet, Henry David Thoreau said it best, "There are a thousand hacking at the branches of evil to one who is striking at the root." Do you hack at the branches in your life or can you go to the

root?

Striking at the root of our problems takes personal courage and humility.

Ultimately, to be a problem solver, you must be willing to see that...in fact, you might

be the problem you seek to solve. If you can't learn to do this, you

will spend the best parts of your

life blaming others and feeling like a victim. All you have to do is take a long look in the mirror. Practicing self-reflection is the second skill that will help you be successful.

Self-reflection will do wonders for the completion of your character and soul, not to mention the ways it will help you grow.

Lastly, to grow, we all need help from time to time. Healthy people know how to get help when they need it. It is part of what the coach said earlier, "never quit shooting." The 379th Air Expeditionary Wing Chaplain Office has 14 committed professionals who can help you do just that. We are ready to help you increase your spiritual readiness. Come talk to us today.





**Follow the happenings of the 'Grand Slam' Wing at <http://379aew.dodlive.mil>, on Facebook at '379th Air Expeditionary Wing' and on Twitter @379AEW**

### **Right Start/Right Finish**

All servicemembers redeploying in the next two months must plan early in order to avoid missing mandatory Right Start and Finish briefings. ID cards and CED orders or an out-processing checklist are required. Following is the schedule for June briefings at the CC Theater. Right Start begins promptly at 7 a.m. and Right Finish at 5 p.m. For more info, call 437-3058.

**June 16, Right Finish**

**June 18, Right Start and Right Finish**

**June 25, Right Start and Right Finish**

### **Leased Vehicle Maintenance**

The 379th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron Leased Vehicle Maintenance shop provides oil changes and replaces wiper blades, light bulbs and corrects other minor deficiencies on leased vehicles. Leased Vehicle Maintenance is located in the back of Bldg. 6387, hours of operation from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday-Thursday. Additionally, vehicle operators are responsible for ensuring their vehicles are turned in for scheduled maintenance prior to the due date and/or mileage annotated on the service reminder stickers. These stickers are located on the upper left hand side of the vehicles windshield. For best service, call ahead of time to check customer wait times. For more information, contact the Leased Vehicle Maintenance office at 436-0640.

### **Rising 6 Mentorship Award Program**

Rising 6's monthly Mentorship Award Program submissions are currently being accepted until June 25. Junior enlisted members may submit an AF 1206 award package for an E-7 through E-9. The award provides recognition to enlisted leaders and shows appreciation for all they do. Servicemembers do not need to be part of the Rising 6 to nominate someone. For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Matthew Hensley at 436-1738.

### **Airfield Driving**

All personnel driving on the airfield must have an Airfield Drivers License and monitor the Ramp Net in case of emergencies and for overall situational awareness. Personnel without an Airfield Drivers License or Ramp Net-capable radio should contact their Unit Airfield Driving Program Manager immediately. Additionally, all personnel driving on the Main Ramp when a Ramp Freeze is initiated

must pull over and stop their vehicles immediately until announced over the Ramp Net that the Ramp Freeze has ended. Contact your Unit Airfield Driving Program Manager for more information.

### **Personnel Traveling in the AOR**

All base personnel deploying or going TDY to forward locations in the USCENTCOM or AFRICOM AORs are required to process through the 379 EMDG for an immunizations and medical record review and medical threat briefing. For more info or to schedule an appointment, call 588-5412.

### **Voting Monitors Needed**

The Wing Voting Officer is looking for volunteers to act as voting monitors from each squadron. This additional duty is not overly time consuming as the wing program is already organized. Please obtain permission from your supervisor and submit your name, unit and expected redeployment date to [vote@auab.afcent.af.mil](mailto:vote@auab.afcent.af.mil).

### **Vehicle Security**

When leaving vehicles unattended, make sure to secure the vehicle prior to leaving it. Lock all doors and roll-up all windows. Make sure no operations security material, CAC cards, line badges or other personal items are left unattended inside the vehicle. It is important for everyone to practice good OPSEC.

### **235th Army Birthday**

Celebrate the 235th Army Birthday Ball June 17. The off-base location will be announced at a later date. Tickets are on sale for \$100; admission for ranks E1-E6 is \$80 (cash only). For more info, call Army Staff Sgt. April Plante at 432-3506.

### **SGLI Premium Refund Update**

The SGLI Refund for December and March were posted in affected members' paycheck in May. However, due to a system glitch at DFAS, the SGLI refund for April did not get included for the May payroll. Deployed members in support of OEF/OIF who arrived in the AOR on or before April 1, and continued to serve thru May, will receive two-months of SGLI credit in June for the contributions made in April and May.

DFAS is currently working on the on-going problems and are asking for servicemembers continued patience. SGLI refunds, also known as "SGLI Premium Reimbursement Allowance," only applies to servicemembers in the theater of operations for OEF/OIF who have SGLI coverage. This allowance has been in effect since 2006. To ensure proper amounts are credited, members are asked to monitor their LES.

For more information on SGLI refunds, contact finance office at 437-8686.





Staff Sgt. Benjamin Mayssonet, 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron water/fuels maintenance, drills holes for waste pipeline support hangers here, Wednesday. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Michelle Larche)