

# PLANETALK

167TH AIRLIFT WING

NOVEMBER 2023

Next UTA 2-3 DECEMBER



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### ON THE COVER

*A C-17 Globemaster III aircraft with the 167th Airlift Wing receives cargo from a forklift and simulated fueling during a Multi-Capable Airmen (MCA) training at the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Nov. 5, 2023. The MCA training focuses on developing competencies outside of the Airman's primary Air Force Specialty code, ensuring Airmen are ready for contingencies and are able to operate with varying levels of capacity and support. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Edward Michon)*

### ON THE BACK COVER

*U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt Kenneth Casey, an aircraft maintainer with the 167th Maintenance Group, directs a pallet while being observed by Master Sgt. Corbin Householder, left, 167th Operations Group loadmaster, as part of a Multi-Capable Airmen (MCA) training at the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Nov. 5, 2023. The MCA training focuses on developing competencies outside of the Airman's primary Air Force Specialty code, ensuring Airmen are ready for contingencies and are able to operate with varying levels of capacity and support. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Edward Michon)*





167AW WING COMMANDER  
**Col. Martin Timko**

## Vision

The Premier Airlift Wing  
Mission Ready, Committed to Airmen and Community,  
and Dedicated to Continuous Improvement



167AW WING COMMAND CHIEF  
**Command Chief Master Sgt. Mark Snyder**

Mighty Airlift Wing!

Another UTA in the books, highlighting our Mobility Machine continuing to get things done. Pleased to see the clean-up of annual training requirements while watching first-hand the kickoff of our Multi-capable Airmen (MCA) training efforts spanning skillsets from Communications, Maintenance, Operations, POL and the Small Air Terminal. Awesome to see the teamwork, and unified results when Comm Techs, Crew Chiefs, Fuelers, Loadmasters, and Port Dawgs get together to make goodness happen on the flightline. We will continue the momentum from this weekend to increase opportunities for exposure and touches on these skillsets with an eye to expansion, to include other specialties in the future. My charge has been to think "Herk Days" of our C-130s of the past, when we were a very self-reliant unit, able to perform much in-house without outside assistance. Small, smart, agile teams are the future in getting the mission done, no matter where, with our Mountaineer Pride and excellence showing through.

As we continue to hone our knowledge and skills, we are ever mindful of what is occurring with world events, especially knowing that 167AW members are in the fray contributing to various global mobility efforts. It is not lost on this wing commander that it is a very stressful time, with what is in the headlines, the looming expiration of the Federal Fiscal Continuing Resolution, and all the other things that tend to weigh on us as we navigate daily life. Awareness of this stress is the first step in working to reduce it and hopefully mitigate it. The command staff and I are continuing to provide events, opportunities, and methodologies to hopefully aid each other through our daily efforts. Going forward, we will take some time to step away from the mission, even if just for a day, to enjoy each other's company and camaraderie. I charge each and every one of you to keep on the lookout for fellow members who are having a rough time, especially as this holiday season approaches. What is traditionally a time of cheer and gatherings can also be a reminder of loss and tragedy for certain individuals. Please do not let this go unheeded: if you know of a fellow wing member becoming isolated or withdrawn, take the time to be inclusive, even with just a chat to see how they are doing. Team Martinsburg is stronger together and by looking out for one another during these stressful days, we will emerge a more resilient unit for the future, ready to handle whatever the mission asks of us.

Clearly October UTA was an anomaly with its cruddy, rainy weather, since the beautiful weather returned in time for our November Drill Weekend. Although it was quite brisk to be out at the POW/MIA Remembrance Run at 0600 on Saturday! My sincere gratitude to all of the members who made this year's run another successful event, as we take time to honor those who gave of themselves in service to the nation.

Checking the calendar reveals dwindling pages left and four weeks until December UTA. Eagerly anticipating our next assembly, especially with what should be a great Family Day for that Sunday. Until that time when we meet again: be well, stay safe, and most importantly: STAY MIGHTY

--Marty

Team 167,

What a weekend! First, I want to say a huge congratulations to newly pinned Chief Master Sergeant Chris Thomas in the Communication Squadron. Your leadership there is invaluable! It was exciting to see the Multi-Capable Airman (MCA) proof of concept implemented this weekend. Thanks to all the Wing members who are making this much needed concept come to life. As we are required to do more with less, having the ability to reach outside your AFSC and assist each other will be critical to overall mission success. I want to encourage our members to dive deep into their career fields and learn as much as you can. This will help you when you need to assist someone else in theirs as you'll be able to easily flow back into your primary specialty. The world dynamics are changing quickly. We may be asked to step up and participate in a myriad of ways, so a solid foundation of our career fields is paramount.

As we move into the holiday season, please keep in mind those who are less fortunate or who may be struggling. I want to encourage everyone who can donate to do so with a local cause of your choice. The Wing has multiple ways to assist locally with things like Ops Adopts, Sleeping in Heavenly Peace, and the Toys for Tots auction with the SAT to name a few. Giving when you can, will make a difference to a child or family who may not have the financial means to have toys under the tree or even a bed to sleep on. I realize not everyone has the means to participate, but if you do, consider assisting those in need. Let's make sure we check on each other during this season. There could be someone dealing with something that we don't know about, and a simple buddy check could make the difference in their lives and change their trajectory. Lastly, I want to encourage volunteerism. Our Wing puts on several outstanding events throughout the year, but they can't be done without volunteers. The Wing's Family Readiness Group is one of the ways you and your family can get involved. The camaraderie and joy that these events bring never goes unnoticed. Lending and extra hand helps give everyone time to enjoy these awesome events like our upcoming Family Day. Speaking of Family Day, if you haven't heard, this year is going to be over the top! Be sure to bring your family out for what is going to be an epic day.

Thanks for all you do daily and keep up the good work! #FearTheUnicorn  
Chief

# 167th Airlift Wing conducts Multi-Capable Airmen training

by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle

A Multi-Capable Airmen (MCA) proof of concept training event was conducted at the 167th Airlift Wing, Shepherd Field, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Nov. 5, 2023.

Approximately 50 Airmen representing maintenance, operations, logistics and communications functions participated in the training as part of the shift in how the U.S. Air Force prepares Airmen to generate aircraft missions in contingency environments.

MCA training readies Airmen to deploy as small, agile, multidisciplinary teams to support Agile Combat Employment (ACE) operations. With the cross-utilization training Airmen will provide a capability not just a specific function.


"Multi-capable Airmen is not just a concept or a buzzword, it is an agility, competency-based training program that will provide you with the knowledge required to operate outside of enduring locations," said Master Sgt. Kelly Ellington, MCA program manager for the 167th AW. "It is having a mentality of being willing to look to the left and to the right to learn something new."

The MCA training event included powering, fueling and loading an aircraft, and setting up remote communications capabilities. Airmen typically responsible for one of these tasks provided instruction to other Airmen who typically perform other functions tied to mission generation.

While some Airmen performed the tasks for the first time other Airmen observed.

A mission generation table of authorizations provides a blueprint for building MCA, identifying key Air Force Specialty Codes (AFSC) and primary cross-functional tasks. This proof-of-concept training event is the start of what will be continual training. The MCA training framework will progress from individual to small team training and education.

"This event isn't about making subject matter experts. It's about building confidence and familiarity across AFSCs to get the job done on the road," said Chief Master Sgt. Michael Darby, the maintenance lead for the wing's MCA working group. "The goal is to reduce ground-time for the aircraft, especially when we have limited personnel in a contested environment. Limiting our exposure on the ground, or being able to move at a moment's notice, will keep our people and our jets safer."

Multi-Capable Airmen is one of the five drivers for change in force presentation and employment introduced by Gen. CQ Brown, Jr., while serving as the Air Force's Chief of Staff. The other drivers for change include Air Force Force Generation, or AFFORGEN, Agile Combat Employment (ACE), Mission Command, and the A-staff construct for expeditionary wings. 



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Raymie Roberts, center, 167th Operations Group loadmaster, instructs Tech. Sgt. Corey Chaney and Tech. Sgt. Daniel Barrow on how to tighten tie-down chains to secure a vehicle inside of a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft as part of a Multi-Capable Airmen (MCA) training at the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Nov. 5, 2023. The MCA training focuses on developing competencies outside of the Airman's primary Air Force Specialty code, ensuring Airmen are ready for contingencies and are able to operate with varying levels of capacity and support. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class James DeCicco)



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Derek Meacham, Master Sgt. Travis Hall, Tech. Sgt. Thomas Yeargan and Tech. Sgt. Thomas Sherfey, with the 167th Maintenance Group, participate in Multi-Capable Airmen (MCA) training at the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Nov. 5, 2023. The MCA training focuses on developing competencies outside of the Airman's primary Air Force Specialty code, ensuring Airmen are ready for contingencies and are able to operate with varying levels of capacity and support. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Edward Michon)



Air transportation specialists train aircraft maintainers on proper pallet building procedures during a Multi-Capable Airmen training at the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Nov. 5, 2023. The MCA training focuses on developing competencies outside of the Airman's primary Air Force Specialty code, ensuring Airmen are ready for contingencies and are able to operate with varying levels of capacity and support. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Edward Michon)



# STARBASE Martinsburg, DDRP team up for second annual Family STEM Night

by Tom Markland, *The Journal* newspaper, Martinsburg, W.Va.

Families flocked to the Emivest Aerospace Hangar on Wednesday to see robots, animals and much more, as part of STARBASE Martinsburg's Family STEM Night.

More than 40 local organizations filled the massive hangar, with one shared goal — to spark interest in local kids for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

Groups like the Civil Air Patrol, Tri-State Astronomers and Smart Exotics all came out for the event, each hosting wildly different displays featuring everything from exotic reptiles to detailed displays of the solar system.

Outside the hangar, many organizations put on demonstrations, including the Martinsburg Police Department, which brought three trained drug dogs for kids to watch work. A wide variety of food trucks also offered diverse options for kids and their families.

Wednesday's program was the second year of a partnership between STARBASE Martinsburg and the Air National Guard's Drug Demand Reduction program, which both organizations hope to continue for years to come. The idea is for the program to run every year during Red Ribbon Week, a national drug-use prevention campaign.

"We wanted to get the word out, and this lets them reach out to the community," said Sherra Triggs, program director at STARBASE Martinsburg.

According to Triggs, the program has grown significantly since its inception last year, with more than 10 new vendors joining the event's roster.

The STARBASE program has been introducing students from Berkeley and Jefferson counties to STEM for 20 years now. Every year, it brings students from local fifth-grade classrooms to the 167th Airlift Wing, giving them a crash course in a variety of STEM topics and providing an opportunity to participate in more hands-on activities than they would in a conventional classroom.

With funding from the Department of Defense, STARBASE has expanded since then, creating an afterschool program for middle schoolers and creating a summer program for local high schoolers just two years ago.

"What better way to showcase what we have here," Triggs said.

For Sgt. Christina Rader, senior regional manager for the Air National Guard's Drug Demand Reduction program, the night was all about reaching out to the local community.

"A lot of our program is drug testing, but this community outreach is our favorite part," Rader said.

According to Rader, the STEM Night program helps the Air National Guard reach past its usual military audience into the wider community.

For more information about the Air National Guard's Drug Demand Reduction program, visit [facebook.com/ANGcares](https://facebook.com/ANGcares). 🐾



**U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Staci Lentz, 167th Medical Group, demonstrates how to use a tourniquet at STARBASE Martinsburg's Family STEM Night event Oct. 25, 2023, at the Emivest Aerospace Hangar. An estimated 700 people attended the second annual event that featured 40 vendors and a wide variety of science, technology, engineering and math related activities. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)**



**U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Stephen Mier, 167th Medical Group, demonstrates cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) at STARBASE Martinsburg's Family STEM Night event Oct. 25, 2023, at the Emivest Aerospace Hangar. An estimated 700 people attended the second annual event that featured 40 vendors and a wide variety of science, technology, engineering and math related activities. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)**



**U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Jet Savusdiphol, 167th Operations Group, fits an aircrew helmet on a child at STARBASE Martinsburg's Family STEM Night event Oct. 25, 2023, at the Emivest Aerospace Hangar. An estimated 700 people attended the second annual event that featured 40 vendors and a wide variety of science, technology, engineering and math related activities. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Emily Beightol-Deyerle)**



# Annual POW/MIA event held on UTA

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Hope Golden , Tech. Sgt. Amber Crawford and Staff Sgt. Alexis Whishand, represent the 167th Logistics Readiness Squadron for the 167th Airlift Wing's annual POW/MIA Walk/Run, Nov. 4, 2023. The event started at 6:00 a.m. and the flags were carried by wing members until 6:00 p.m., with a total of 162 Airmen on 26 teams participating. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech Sgt. Joshua Kozak)







## Defenders volunteer at local Humane Society

*Members of the 167th Security Forces Squadron volunteered at the Berkeley County Humane Society before the start of their evening shift, Oct. 25, 2023. Airman 1st Class Michael Ferreira, Master Sgt. Joe Charette, Airman 1st Class Blake Benchoff and Staff Sgt. Josh Lebo donated cat and dog food and spent the afternoon walking dogs, cleaning the cat room, and socializing with the animals.*



# Airmen to see changes in deployment cycles with AFFORGEN

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFNS) -- Big changes are underway for deployed Airmen as the U.S. Air Force transitions away from the expeditionary Air Force model of force presentation to the Air Force Force Generation model after more than 20 years of contingency operations.

## What you need to know:

- The Air Force is changing the way it presents and generates forces for the first time in more than 20 years.

- The changes are designed to improve Air Force readiness for the high-end fight and to better communicate the capabilities that the service can provide to the Joint Force.

- All Airmen, except those assigned to joint positions, will be assigned to one of four phases that deploy on a 24-month cycle, or possibly more frequently for units assigned to the air component to a Combatant Command.

- Implementation of the new Air Force Force Generation model will evolve over time.

This change establishes a more structured and predictable cycle to better prepare Airmen for distributed, high-end combat operations by allowing focused time for individual and unit training and certification. The model also seeks to give joint leaders a more accurate picture of Air Force readiness and how the service can better support joint operations while maintaining that readiness.

According to Air Force senior leaders, the Air Force remains unmatched in its ability to provide airpower anytime, anywhere, but the service is now adapting to changes in the strategic environment to continue to fly, fight and win. While today's Airmen are used to operating from main operating bases in uncontested environments, future conflicts will present radically different challenges that make this hard-earned experience less applicable.

AFFORGEN and related concepts are some of the ways the Air Force is advancing its warfighter culture to ensure its ability to win tomorrow's conflicts as part of the joint team.

"We have been able to get away with taking three Airmen from this base, five Airmen from this base, and two Airmen from that base, deploying them and expecting them to come together on day one and be a team," said Lt. Gen. James Slife, headquarters Air Force deputy chief of staff for operations, during an AFFORGEN panel at the Air Warfare Symposium March 8. "We don't actually think that's the way the future operating environment is going to permit us to operate."

Slife's comments reinforced comments made by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. CQ Brown, Jr., during his keynote address on the state of the Air Force during the September 2022 Air,

Space and Cyber Conference.

"We need an approach that serves our national security and defense strategies, our joint warfighting concept and recognizes the changing threats and tendencies in the character of warfare," Brown said, emphasizing the need to accelerate the adoption of new operational concepts. "Adoption is making the concepts part of our DNA, part of our culture."

Brown considers AFFORGEN as one of the drivers for culture change, particularly in the way the Air Force presents and deploys forces — others are agile combat employment, mission command, multi-capable Airmen and the wing A-staff construct.

Brown instituted his strategic approach of "Accelerate Change or Lose" when he became the Air Force's Chief of Staff because he saw uncontested air dominance was not assured, and AFFORGEN, along with other drivers for change, are a way for the service to maintain its dominance in a changing operational environment.

AFFORGEN establishes a 24-month rotational cycle broken into four, six-month phases: Prepare, Certify, Available and Reset. Airmen and units build readiness through the prepare and certify phases, deploy during the available phase and reintegrate and reconstitute during the reset phase.

While Airmen in joint assignments do not typically support Air Force deployments, they could be tasked worldwide and should ensure they remain ready. Airmen assigned to the air components of combatant commands, such as Indo-Pacific Command or European Command, may deploy for operations and exercises within their specific CCMD's area of responsibility. However, in some cases they may also be tasked to deploy outside of that AOR.

AFFORGEN will continue to evolve as Airmen deploy and provide lessons learned to their units. The Headquarters Air Force Lessons Learned Directorate, along with the Headquarters Air Force Directorate of Operations are the focal points for AFFORGEN-related lessons learned, studies, analyses, assessments, modeling, simulation and policy. In addition, the Air Force Expeditionary Center is responsible for developing a standardized way for commanders to coordinate training, share lessons and mentor their successors.

## Force elements

Under AFFORGEN, the Air Force presents capabilities as force elements made up of multiple unit type codes. Each type of FE provides a specific operational capability:

- Mission Generation:** Provides combat, combat support (those that are specifically identified on the aviation/operation

UTC's mission capability statement) and combat service support capability. There are multiple types of MG FEs: Mobility, Air Superiority, Global Precision Attack, Suppression of Enemy Air Defenses, Long Range Strike, High-Altitude Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance, Air Refueling, Intra-Theater Airlift and Combat Search and Rescue.

- Open the Airbase:** This FE provides capabilities to open an airbase, regardless of follow-on mission(s), including command and control, force protection, cargo and passenger handling, logistics, airfield operations, force accountability, finance and contracting, host nation support, reception and bed-down of follow on forces.

- Command and Control:** This FE provides the capabilities to establish an Air Expeditionary Wing C2 structure and includes initial wing operations, maintenance, mission support and medical group commanders as well as the Air (A) and special staffs.

- Establish the Airbase:** This FE provides sufficient forces to support most missions or weapon systems. It integrates with the Open the Air base and C2 FEs as required and provides the earliest capability to enable and sustain the generation of missions.

- Operate the Airbase:** This FE enhances combat support and combat services support capabilities beyond what the Establish the Airbase FE provides and brings it to full operational capability.

- Robust the Airbase:** This FE provides additional combat support and combat service support to increase the robustness of the capabilities already in place.

- Demand Force Teams:** DFTs are units or capabilities with unique or highly specific combat, combat support, or combat service support capabilities. Examples include the Expeditionary Medical Support System, Rapid Engineering Deployable Heavy Operations Repair Squadron – Engineer, or Combat Camera squadrons.

In addition to being part of an FE, USAF-funded active-duty Airmen are assigned to deployment phases A, B, C, or D, which replace the previous P-and X-bands. Airmen will begin deploying under AFFORGEN in October, with phase C followed by D, A, and B phases every six months. These phases then repeat every 24-months.

AFFORGEN FEs are intended to be tailorable but not divisible. This means if a joint force commander only requests a specific subset of UTCs from a FE, the remaining UTCs will remain unavailable for use during that AFFORGEN cycle.



# Airman SPOTLIGHT

Name:

**Nanishka Quiles-Perez**

Hometown:

**York, Pa.**

Job Title:

**Materiel Management Specialist**

Staff Sgt. Nanishka Quiles-Perez is a hazardous materials specialist in materiel management for the 167th Logistics Readiness Squadron and she is the Airman Spotlight for November 2023.

As a materiel management specialist, she is responsible for managing, administering and operating supply systems and activities, specifically for HAZMAT items needed at the wing to carry out the mission. An incredibly detailed and critical job, she ensures every asset is accounted for and where it needs to be whenever Airmen need them.

Her supervisor, Master Sgt. Lewis Staubs, noted her outstanding dedication, versatility, and commitment to service.

"As a Hazmat Specialist in Materiel Management, she has demonstrated an exceptional proficiency in her duties and willingness to go beyond," said Staubs. "This year, she was one of the first to volunteer for the COOP IX event and later was selected to bilingually narrate the ceremony announcing the trilateral agreement between the 12th Air Force (Air Forces Southern), the Peruvian Air Force, and the West Virginia National Guard. As if these accomplishments weren't enough, she balances her DSG duties with pursuing a master's degree, performing State Active Duty with the Department of Corrections, and actively participating in ROTC. I'm proud to serve alongside Guardsmen like Staff Sgt. Quiles Perez."

**Hometown:** York, PA, currently live Morgantown, WV, born in San Juan, PR

**Job Title:** Materiel Management/ HAZMART

**How long have you served in the unit?** 5 years as of March 8, 2023

**How does your job support the 167th's mission?** I currently work in HAZMART, responsible for the tracking, receiving, and issuing out hazardous materials. We have a system that we use to track all the materials we have within the pharmacy, anything from paint, oil, grease, sealant, etc. All these items are essential for maintenance and other shops within the base. These hazardous items help these shops complete their required daily activities and maintain base readiness. Lastly, the most important part is we dispose of the hazardous material in a safe way.

**Civilian job:** I am currently on State Active-Duty orders aiding the West Virginia Corrections Division. I work at North Central Regional Jail (NCRJ).

**Education:** High School Diploma, bachelor's degree in criminology with a minor in Forensics from WVU, currently perusing my Master's in criminal justice at Fairmont State University.

**Hobbies:** I like kayaking, white-water rafting, hiking, working out, watching crime documentaries/shows. I also like baking.

**Goals:** To become financially stable and comfortable enough to be able to buy a house for my grandma and uncles in Puerto Rico and one for my mom and little sister. I want to graduate with my master's degree. I want to travel and see as many countries as possible. Militarily, my main goal at the moment is to be able to commission through Air Force ROTC at WVU in May 2024 and go active duty as an officer. I want to do 20 years in minimum and then retire from the Air Force. I want to finish my military service back in the Guard whether it will be before or after the 20-year mark in my career. I want to potentially start a second career working for the FBI, another federal agency, or a police department as a detective or crime scene investigator.



**I am proudest of:** How far I've come and how resilient I have been through my life overall. I have been pursuing commissioning for about 7 years. I had to drop out of college and pay some loans before I could go back and work on getting my degree again; that took me about 5 years. I am proud to be part of the world's greatest Air Force and to show women and minorities that we can make it too. I am proud of all the opportunities I have been able to experience and all the goals I've accomplished so far.

**People may be surprised to know this about me:** Out of all the service members within my family, I am the only one in the Air Force. My grandfather, served in the Puerto Rico Army National Guard with, his brother and my uncles. I have four cousins in the Army.

**The most exciting thing I've done in the military is:** Experiencing my first ever Hawaiian Luau with my co-workers or climbing Koko Crater Railway Trail in Hawaii while on annual training. Also, going to Peru as a translator for exercise Cooperation IX and meeting military members from many different countries. Also, narrating the ceremony between the 167th Airlift Wing, 12th Air Force and the Peruvian Air Force for the trilateral signing agreement.

**One/Some of the most valuable lessons I've learned throughout my career:** Thanks to the opportunities provided to me, I had the opportunity to work with the Army and see how they operate. Treat all members of the armed forces with dignity and respect, not one is better than the other and we all need to work in conjunction. All different aspects, Guard, Reserve, Active Duty have their different duties but at the end of the day, we all need one another. It does not matter how many times life knocks you down, what does matter is that you get up and keep fighting. Don't be afraid of failing, failure is okay. There are no successes without failure.

**My advice to the newest Airmen in the Wing:** Take advantage of all the opportunities given to you, volunteer for everything, get your name known by your leadership. You will meet great people, develop bonds that will last a lifetime and create a second family. You will be challenged and developed mentally, professionally.

**The best thing about working with my team is:** The close knit family that I gain from being at the unit. The sense of belonging and acceptance, the friendliness and understanding from my NCOs, SNCOs, and Officers. Everyone is willing to help and give a hand to anyone in need whether it is within the unit, shop or personal life. I have been lucky with my supervisors, they showed me that they care for their Airmen, me and others, and they push them to develop further in their personal life and career. My supervisors have been nothing short of supportive on everything I do, they are the reason I have had the chance to take on all these opportunities. Lastly, they always make sure that people know they are appreciated for their hard work.





## 167th Family Readiness Group holds annual Halloween Bash and Trunk or Treat

*This year's annual 167th Family Readiness Group Halloween Bash & Trunk or Treat was held on a beautiful Saturday afternoon on 28 October. About forty of our guard children and their families enjoyed seasonal crafts and games, a hayride to the base pumpkin patch, breaking candy filled pinatas, and the fan favorite cake walk. DJ Richard Chancellor provided the tunes for the event and brought along some of his family's barnyard friends for the children to see. The event closed with everyone visiting the Med Group Humvees and the creatively decorated vehicles of our service and family members for the Trunk or Treat. The Copenhagen family won for Best Decorated Trunk. (Photos by Sherry Lewis, Airman & Family Readiness Program Manager)*





# FAMILY DAY

Sunday, 3 December 2023

1200-1400

Hangar 308



Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus  
Bounce Houses, Cake Walks, Crafts  
C-17 Aircraft Tour, STARBASE activities  
Ginger Bread House Competition



Mobile Rage Room  
Axe, Knife, Star Throwing  
Archery, Splatter Paint Room  
Escape Room, Photo Booth



## Get Ahead of the Winter Freeze

Has your furnace been inspected by a qualified professional in the last year?

Have your chimneys and vents been cleaned and inspected by a qualified inspector?

Is your wood for the fireplace or wood stove dry and seasoned?

Is your fireplace screen metal or heat-tempered glass? Is it in good condition and secure in front of the fireplace?

Do you have a covered metal container ready to dispose of cooled ashes?

Do your children know to stay at least three feet from the fireplace, wood stove or space heater?

Do your space heaters have an automatic shut-off?

Are your space heaters plugged directly into an outlet and at least three feet away from anything that can burn?

Have you tested your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms?

It's fire season ladies and gentlemen. Please take a moment to check out these tips to protect yourself and your family. Contact the 167th Fire Prevention Office at 304-616-5753 for more information.





CULTURAL  
AWARENESS

# OBSERVANCE



NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH  
TRIBAL NATIONS SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS



Every November, the Department of Defense (DoD) joins the Nation in celebrating National American Indian Heritage Month. The event is also known in some circles as American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month. It's an opportunity to recognize the rich and diverse cultures, traditions, stories, and important contributions of Native American and Alaska Native peoples. There are over 9 million American Indian and Alaska Natives living in the United States today.

With over 574 federally recognized tribes, there are hundreds of different cultures that are as unique as the people they represent.

For 2023, The Society of American Indian Government Employees (SAIGE) has chosen the theme: "Tribal Nations Soaring to New Heights."

For more than 100 years, generations of Mohawk ironworkers shaped the skylines of North American cities. These men built prominent landmarks, including the Empire State Building, the Chrysler Building, the George Washington Bridge, and the World Trade Center.

The Mohawk tradition of ironworking began in the mid-1880s. They were hired as unskilled laborers to build a bridge over the St. Lawrence River onto Mohawk land. Quickly, they earned a reputation for being hard workers on high steel, earning the nickname "skywalkers."

In the 1960s, when New York City announced plans for the World Trade Center, which would be the tallest in the world, hundreds of Mohawk men played a vital role in the construction.

After the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the towers, descendants of the original ironworkers returned to the structure to aid in rescue and cleanup at ground zero.

Fittingly, Mohawk ironworkers then helped build the new Freedom Tower, now known as One World Trade Center.

American Indians and Alaska Natives have built a legacy of professionalism and selfless service that inspires future generations.



# Misinformation

Misinformation thrives on social media where anyone can share almost anything they choose, and attention spans are short. Here's a quick guide to help you understand what misinformation is and how to recognize it.

## Why do people share misinformation?



Many people share misinformation unknowingly and sometimes with good or altruistic intentions — whether to articulate their perspectives, warn others away from danger or join others in trying to make sense of the world around them.

But some research suggests that some people also knowingly share things they suspect are false — whether to damage “the other side” in a political debate, get social media likes and shares, or conform to their ideological identities.

Bad actors — such as hyperpartisans, trolls and even foreign agents — create and share disinformation to cause division and confusion, to promote political interests and points of view or for financial gain.



Mis- and disinformation are fundamentally exploitative in nature, often targeting our most deeply held values and beliefs to **elicit a strong emotional reaction** that overrides our more rational thought processes.

**Watch out!** While the emotions most often elicited by mis- and disinformation are fear, anger and outrage, more agreeable emotions like curiosity and hope are also used to bypass our cognitive defenses.

## Misinformation:

Information that is misleading, erroneous or false. Misinformation is generally shared — and sometimes created — by people who are unaware that it's inaccurate. This is the best term to use when the intent of the creator or sharer is unknown.

## VERSUS

## Disinformation:

A subset of misinformation that is deliberately created or shared with the intention to misinform and mislead others, usually to achieve a desired ideological, political or financial result.



### Remember:

The intent behind the creation or amplification of false information is often impossible to determine.

## Types

Adapted from First Draft's [seven types of mis- and disinformation](#), created by Claire Wardle.

Misinformation can be categorized based on what makes it false or misleading. The following five types are commonly found online:



### False context

An image, video, quote or other piece of content is presented in a new, false context that changes its meaning.



### Fabricated content

Misinformation that is entirely made up, such as computer-generated imagery or entirely fictional reports presented as “news.”



### Stolen satire

A specific type of “false context” misinformation in which all or part of a piece of satire is presented as authentic.



### Imposter content

Content — such as a fake tweet from a public figure, or a fake ad — that falsely uses a well-known name, brand or logo to fool people into believing that it is authentic.

### Manipulated content

Photos, videos, graphics and other types of content that have been “doctored” in some way, such as having one or more elements artificially added or removed.



## Red flags

## WATCH OUT!

If you see these common misinformation themes and “rumor cues,” proceed with caution:

### Phrases

- “Let that sink in”
- “The media won’t report this”
- “Make this go viral”
- “Do your own research”
- “There are no coincidences”

### Patterns

- Manipulated text on signs or t-shirts
- Doctored “amazing” nature or space photos
- Photos of protests and crowds
- Screenshots of articles with no links



## Your best defenses

1. Checking out unfamiliar people and sources
2. Glancing through social media comments for replies that call a post into question
3. A quick internet search using key terms from a questionable post



## Key resources

- [“Misinformation” lesson](#) from NLP’s Checkology® virtual classroom
- NLP’s weekly email newsletters: [The Sift®](#) (for educators) and [Get Smart About News](#) (for non-educators)
- NLP’s [Viral Rumor Rundown blog](#)
- [First Draft](#) website
- [The Media Manipulation Casebook](#)



## Antiterrorism & Force Protection - Suspicious Personnel

*submitted by Capt. Roderick Toms*

These tips are on suspicious people and activity.

### GENERAL SECURITY:

- Instruct family and friends not to provide strangers with information about you or your family.
- Be alert to strangers who are on government property for no apparent reason.
- Report all suspicious persons loitering near your residence or office; attempt to provide a complete description of the person and/or vehicle to Security Forces.
- Don't open doors to strangers.
- Report all threatening phone calls to security officials.

### BE SUSPICIOUS:

- Be alert to public works crews and, if overseas, other foreign nationals requesting access to your residence; check their identities through a peep-hole before allowing entry.
- Be alert to peddlers and strangers.
- Write down license numbers of suspicious vehicles; note descriptions of occupants.
- Treat with suspicion any inquiries about the whereabouts or activities of other family members.
- Report all suspicious activity to Military/Security Forces or local law enforcement.

These tips, and other important information are located in the CJCS Guide 5260, Service Member's Personal Protection Guide: A Self-Help Handbook to Combating Terrorism, which can be found on the base intranet.

REMEMBER: Antiterrorism and Force Protection is EVERYONE'S job.  
The 167th Airlift Wing Antiterrorism Officer is Capt. Roderick Toms, 242-5084.





# Sexual Assault Prevention & Response

**Have questions? Need Help?  
We're here for you!**

**West Virginia National Guard  
Sexual Assault Response Coordinator:**

Jenny Colagrosso  
Office: 304-561-6681; DSN: 623-6681  
24 hour Blackberry: 304-541-0573  
jenny.r.colagrosso.civ@mail.mil

**167th Airlift Wing  
Sexual Assault Response Coordinator:**

Lindsey Hash  
Office: 304-616-5991; DSN: 242-5991; Cell: 304-839-9157  
lindsey.hash@us.af.mil

**167th Airlift Wing  
Volunteer Victim Advocate:**

Emily Beightol-Deyerle  
Office: 304-616-5251; DSN: 242-5251; Cell: 304-268-3706  
emily.beightol\_deyerle.2@us.af.mil

**24/7 Sexual Assault Support for DoD Community  
DoD Safe Helpline:**

Call: 877-995-5247  
Texting: (\*55-247);  
Texting outside the US: (202-470-5546)  
Online Resources: [www.safehelpline.org](http://www.safehelpline.org)  
Online Chat: [www.safehelpline.org](http://www.safehelpline.org)







# 167th LEGAL TEAM

The 167th Legal Office provides professional legal advice and counsel to command and staff agencies.

We also provide on-target and on-time legal advice and assistance to military members, retirees and their family members. Legal assistance is provided in a wide range of areas including:

- Family Law
- Will & Living Wills
- Landlord-Tenant Issues
- USERRA Rights.

The contents of your legal assistance appointment are attorney-client privileged.

All staff members are Drill Status Guardsmen (DSGs) and have limited availability to provide legal assistance outside of the UTA weekends.



***Need to create a will or power of attorney? Access the worksheet here.***



***If you are under investigation for military misconduct or subject to adverse military administrative action, please contact the Area Defense Counsel for legal advice.***

Headquarters (Bldg. 120) Rm 114  
Phone: 304-616-5336; DSN: 242-5336  
167HQ.JA.Legal@us.af.mil





# COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### STOP Human Trafficking

**Force, fraud, or coercion to compel a person to provide labor, services, or commercial sex.**

**Victims come from all backgrounds and can be women, men, and children.**

**Any minor (under 18 years of age) involved in commercial sex is a victim of human trafficking.**

### Recognize SIGNS

**Physical/Environmental Indicators include signs of abuse, no identification, confined to worksite.**

**Psychological/Behavioral Indicators include submissive, anxious, lack of free will.**

### REPORT IT

**Chain of Command**

**Local Law Enforcement**

**DoD Inspector General Hotline**

**1-800-424-9098 or visit <http://www.dodig.mil/hotline>**

**National Human Trafficking Hotline**

**1-888-373-7888.**



167th AW POC'S

Primary- MSgt Michael Savolt  
ext 5062

Alternate- Capt Heather Caviness  
ext 5181

For more information go to:

**CTIP.defense.gov/**

Current as of:  
16 Aug 2023



**Domestic Violence** is a pattern of coercive, controlling behavior that can include physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, sexual abuse, or financial abuse. Domestic Violence is a pervasive, life threatening crime that affects million of individuals across the United States regardless of age, economic status, race, religion or education.

There is help near you!

Berkeley County:

236 West Martin Street, Martinsburg. WV 25401  
304-263-8522

Jefferson County:

113 East Third Avenue, Ranson, WV 25438  
304-725-7080

Morgan County:

131 Congress Street. Berkeley Springs, WV 25411  
304-258-1078

EPEC is the only licensed domestic violence services provider in the Eastern Panhandle.

Trained domestic violence advocates are available 24/7 to take your call.

Free, Confidential hotline:  
304-263-8292

All services are free and confidential. They are available to you regardless of race, age, economic status, religion, or sexual orientation.

All are welcome here.





# ACCOLADES



## Welcome

AB Izaiah Cortes, CES  
SrA Jordan Kendig, SFS

## Welcome Back from Technical Training

AB Riley Blair, MX  
Amn Zane Melton, FSS  
AB Wesley Mills, LRS  
AB Connor Shade, SFS  
Amn William Stafford, LRS

## Promotions

### To Airman

Hunter Link, CF

### To Airman 1st Class

Brayden Locke, LRS

### To Senior Airman

Kaden Burnett, SFS  
Ryan Greene, LRS  
Ella Joseph, OG  
Stephen Mier, MDG  
Colin Roberts, AMXS  
Destiny Thorne, MDG

## Promotions

### To Staff Sergeant

Samuel Bartolomeo, AS  
Elizabeth Casteel, FSS  
Hope Golden, LRS

### To Major

Kevin Rudisill, AS  
Taylor Wasson, AS

## Retirements

SMSgt Michael Bittinger, AW  
CMSgt Troy Brawner, AW

## Room for nursing mothers added in ops building

*A Mother's Room, outfitted with comforts for nursing mother's who need to pump breast milk at work, has been established on the first floor of the operations building. Per Air Force guidance released in 2019, commanders can support nursing mothers by providing private, secure and sanitary locations with adequate lighting, comfortable temperature, table, chair and electric outlets. "Please join me in thanking Maj Belfield for making the dream of a Bldg 309 Mother's Room a reality," said Lt. Col. Buck Holsinger, 167th Operations Support Squadron commander. "She has not only identified a space, properly outfitted it with furniture, but also ensured ambiance for those coworkers that are able to balance service to family with service to country." Anyone needing access to the room should contact Maj. Belfield, Master Sgt. Mossholder, or Senior Master Sgt. Jenkins.*

## Retirees Association

The 167th Retirees Association is an "All Ranks, All Services" organization which meets the third Tuesday of each month at 1900 hrs in the Base Auditorium, Building 120. Retirees are welcome to drop in or contact us at [ww167RA@gmail.com](mailto:ww167RA@gmail.com)

