

# Roll Call

Airmen: Winning the Fight. Strengthening the Team. Shaping the Future.

December 2013

## What A Year It's Been

Roll Call! What a year it's been, one that history will certainly not forget. Yet it's again time to close another chapter in our Air Force story. As we wind towards the close of 2013, it's worth reflecting on how we've *won the fight*, *strengthened the team*, and *shaped the future* throughout the year.

The trials and triumphs of 2013 cannot be overstated. We maintained a critical presence of nearly 23,000 Airmen in the CENTCOM region, and supported Combatant Commanders worldwide with more than 217,000 Airmen; tragically, 16 of our fellow Airmen paid the ultimate sacrifice and many more were injured defending our nation. We responded without hesitation to natural disasters on our own soil in Oklahoma, and on the soil of our allies in the Philippines; we selected the first 1,200 Airmen to fill Developmental Special Duty positions; and we launched and operationalized the second satellite in our next-generation missile-warning constellation. We also took strides with our communication efforts, both through new media and face-to-face initiatives, and we navigated the perilous waters of sequestration and furlough. This just brushes the surface of the large collection of feats our Airmen have achieved this year. Your efforts have been tremendous, individually and as a team.

As it is at the end of every year, we are still the greatest Air Force in the world. We still provide global vigilance, global reach and global power to our nation. We continue to prevail against seemingly insurmountable odds, because we have an indestructible corps of Airmen who stand ready to defend our nation. Much has changed around us, but our resolve and our mission stands firm.

As you gather with your team to wrap up the year and begin to look to the future...take a moment to reflect on your accomplishments. What have you done that has lifted your team to a new level? What can you continue to pursue? What have you learned and how can we benefit from that knowledge in the future? These are important questions that can prepare us all for what's ahead.

Next year will bring new challenges. We'll operate with a reduced budget; we'll defend our nation in familiar and unfamiliar environments; and we'll go through some significant force management that will require leadership at every level of command.

We'll prevail. We always have, and always will. Airmen are our greatest asset and strength. You've proven it time and time again. Thank you for what you've done this year, and for what you continue to do every day.

The World's Greatest Air Force  
*Powered by Airmen...Fueled by Innovation*



Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors, and provide additional face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams.