

Air Force World

Two Air Commandos Die After Training Accident

Two special tactics airmen assigned to the 24th Special Operations Wing at Hurlburt Field, Fla., died from injuries sustained during an Aug. 3 military freefall training mission at nearby Eglin Air Force Base.

TSgt. Timothy A. Officer Jr., a tactical air control party airman, and TSgt. Marty B. Bettelyoun, a combat controller,

both assigned to the 720th Operations Support Squadron, were rushed to nearby hospitals but later died, according to an Aug. 4 news release.

Officer and Bettelyoun “were the epitome of a special tactics airman: professional, dedicated, and prepared to give their lives in service to their country,” said Col. Wolfe Davidson, 24th SOW commander. “Our community has

★ screenshot

USAF photo by A1C Deana Heitzman




taken a huge loss with their deaths, and they will be sorely missed.”

Both air commandos were experienced combat veterans with multiple deployments in “combat zones and sensitive areas around the world,” states the press release. Officer received several medals for his “bravery against armed enemies” in Iraq and Afghanistan, including a Bronze Star Medal with Valor Device.

“They were respected by their peers for not only their ability on the battlefield, but also for their incredible commitment to friends and family,” said Davidson.

First Four-Star Leads AFGSC, New AETC Commander

Gen. Robin Rand took the reins of Air Force Global Strike Command from Lt. Gen. Stephen W. “Seve” Wilson during a

A large F-16 fighter jet is shown on a runway in the foreground, with another jet in flight in the background. The scene is set against a clear blue sky and a red-roofed building in the distance.

08.09.2015

An F-16 from the 31st Fighter Wing takes off from Aviano AB, Italy, on its way to Incirlik AB, Turkey, where it will be used for Operation Inherent Resolve. Six F-16s from the 31st deployed to Turkey after that country's leaders agreed to host US aircraft conducting anti-ISIS operations.



Defending the Base: USAF airmen from the 8th Security Forces Squadron perform a shoot, move, and communicate drill during a three-day combat readiness training exercise at Kunsan AB, South Korea, aimed at polishing their base defense skills. Tensions on the peninsula were high after the legs of two South Korean soldiers on border patrol were severed in explosions Aug. 4. The South Korean troops stepped on land mines planted by North Korean soldiers on the South Korean side of the demilitarized zone.

July 28 ceremony at Barksdale AFB, La., becoming the first four-star leader of the command.

Lt. Gen. Darryl L. Roberson took up Rand's former assignment, assuming command of Air Education and Training Command at JBSA-Randolph, Texas, July 21.

Roberson was tapped to take over AETC earlier this year, as the command transitioned from a four-star major command to a three-star billet in order to elevate the commander of AFGSC to a four-star position.

Wilson, who had served as AFGSC commander since October 2013, oversaw several initiatives and changes across the command, including the establishment of the Force Improvement Program—the bottom-up, commandwide initiative to reinvigorate nuclear operations, management, and leadership.

Falcon 9 Flaw Preliminarily Pinned

A support strut on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket failed at a fifth of its designed load, putting stress on an upper stage liquid oxygen tank and causing the rocket to explode during launch on June 28, according to the company's initial assessment.

The SpaceX-led investigation overseen by the Federal Aviation Administration, NASA, and the Air Force, is still ongoing, but engineering teams spent "thousands of hours going through the painstaking process of matching up data across rocket systems down to the millisecond to understand that final 0.893 seconds prior to loss of telemetry," according to a late July company news release.

"Despite the fact that these struts have been used on all previous Falcon 9 flights, ... SpaceX will no longer use these particular struts for flight applications," announced the company. "In addition, SpaceX will implement additional hardware quality audits throughout the vehicle to further ensure all parts received perform as expected."

The Air Force will not decide whether SpaceX remains certified to boost national security payloads until the investigation is complete. The company expects to return the Falcon 9 to flight this fall.

AEHF Reaches Initial Operational Capability

Air Force Space Command declared initial operational capability July 28 for the Advanced Extremely High Frequency joint communication system.

AEHF satellites—the first having launched in August 2010—provide 10 times more capability than the 1990s-era Milstar satellites, which remain in orbit, according to officials.

The 4th Space Operations Squadron at Schriever AFB, Colo., operates all three AEHF satellites currently on orbit. The Air Force expects to launch the fourth, fifth, and sixth AEHF satellites in 2017, 2018, and 2019, stated a news release.

F-16D Structural Fixes Complete

Air Force and industry teams at 10 bases recently completed structural modifications to correct cracking found on 83 of the Air Force's two-seat F-16Ds, officials announced. All 157 of the Air Force's F-16Ds were grounded following the discovery of canopy sill cracks on four aircraft at Luke AFB, Ariz., in July 2014.

Luke AFB, Ariz., hosts the largest F-16D fleet and was the top priority for the retrofits, the majority of them completed there by last December.

Technicians completed modifications to the Air Force's final F-16D this April, according to the press release.

Shaw F-16 Collides With Cessna

An F-16 assigned to the 20th Fighter Wing at Shaw AFB, S.C., was involved in a fatal midair collision with a Cessna 150 north of Charleston, July 7.

Maj. Aaron Johnson, an F-16 pilot from the 55th Fighter Squadron, "survived the collision by ejecting from his fighter," according to a base news release.

Civilian investigators with the National Transportation Safety Board issued a preliminary report later in July stating that Johnson was actively looking for and maneuvering to avoid the civilian aircraft before impact.

Recovered debris indicated the aft fuselage of the F-16 struck the Cessna head-on, grazing the civil aircraft's upper wing surface left to right, and obliterating the forward fuselage, which was largely unrecovered.

The aircraft collided at approximately 1,400 feet altitude and debris—including large portions of the Cessna's wings and aft fuselage—was contained within a relatively concentrated zone approximately 11 miles north of Charleston.

Both people aboard the Cessna—pilot Joseph Johnson, 30, and his father, Michael Johnson, 68—were killed. NTSB stressed that the report findings are preliminary and subject to later change.

KC-46 Costs Boeing

Boeing announced a second-quarter penalty of \$536 million on its KC-46 tanker due to fixing problems with the jet's integrated fuel system.

Boeing is developing the tanker under a \$4.9 billion program that also includes setting up the factory, test, and delivering the first 18 jets by August 2017.

Boeing said the charge reflects "higher estimated engineering and manufacturing costs ... while holding to the program schedule" for first production deliveries. Boeing said it's "disappointed" but is "investing the necessary resources to keep this vitally important program on schedule for our customer."

The program calls for 179 aircraft to be delivered by 2027. The charge covers costs to redesign the fuel system, make factory changes to accommodate the redesign, certify the changes, and test them.

Boeing President and Chief Financial Officer Dennis Muilenburg said the company has "a clear understanding of the work to be done and believes strongly that the long-term financial value of the KC-46 program will reward our additional investment."

Liberty at Last

The Oklahoma Air National Guard's first MC-12W Liberty intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance aircraft arrived at Will Rogers ANGB, Okla., July 10.

The new flying mission marks the first time since 2007 that Will Rogers has hosted permanent flight operations, officials announced.

The Oklahoma unit lost its C-130s and moved to Tinker AFB, Okla., becoming a KC-135 associate unit with the Active Duty 507th Air Refueling Wing in 2007, leaving a detached headquarters at Will Rogers. The unit will be redesignated the 137th Special Operations Wing, operating 13 MC-12s in the manned ISR and Aviation Foreign Internal Defense roles.

The Air Force Special Operations Command-aligned ANG unit will preserve the Air Force's accumulated expertise in manned, tactical ISR, after Air Combat Command's divestiture of the mission.

The 137th ARW flew its final KC-135 sortie June 30.

Colombian Power Trip

A B-52 bomber from Minot AFB, N.D., launched July 9 on a 16-hour, nonstop training sortie, rendezvousing with Colombian air force aircraft over Colombia, US Strategic Command announced.

The 5th Bomb Wing crew also flew a demonstration as part of the international air show in Antioquia, Colombia.

Clean 'er Up: Maintainers work on a TF34 A-10C engine at Moody AFB, Ga. The 23rd Component Maintenance Squadron Propulsion Flight supplies the engines to the 74th and 75th Fighter Squadrons. Each A-10 is powered by two of the turbofan engines, which provide a high thrust-to-weight ratio.

The RPA Fix?

Newly trained pilots just out of undergraduate flight training will be assigned to fly remotely piloted aircraft as a stopgap measure to relieve an RPA pilot shortage, Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James announced in July.

"We'll have 80 undergraduate pilot training graduates over the next 12 months and they will be assigned to RPA positions. ... After that tour they'll go on to another airframe," James said at a July 15 event in Arlington, Va.

Because of the high operational demand for pilots and a shortage of instructors, the RPA schoolhouse is currently producing a little over half the required number of RPA pilots. James said RPA operators are flying four times the amount that manned pilots do, logging an average of 850 to 900 flight hours annually.

"They fly six days in a row and are away from their families about 13 hours a day," she said. USAF also is implementing new incentive bonuses of \$15,000 a year for five- or eight-year commitments and petitioning Congress to reallocate \$100 million to address key RPA infrastructure and support needs, such as ground control stations, simulators, and facilities.

The funds also would allow USAF to hire additional civilian instructor pilots and speed technological developments, James said. Accelerating development of "automatic takeoff and landing will ultimately allow us to use fewer personnel in the launch and recovery part," she explained.

UPT graduates will begin shipping to RPA units in August and bonuses will take effect in 2016, she said.

"The aircraft's participation in this air show and the training conducted alongside our Colombian partners allow our strategic aircrews to maintain a high state of readiness and crew proficiency," US Strategic Command Commander Adm. Cecil D. Haney said in a release.

A B-52 conducted training in the US Southern Command area of responsibility last year during Exercise PANAMAX and also appeared at the Colombia international air show back in 2006, according to STRATCOM.



USAF photo by Ann Greg Nash

Strike Eagle Return

Airmen flying and maintaining F-15Es at Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.—the world's largest Strike Eagle base—are dealing with personnel shortages and age-related problems typical of old, heavily used fighters. But pilots and maintenance personnel recently told *Air Force Magazine* aircraft availability and combat readiness are actually on the upswing.

This was proved in a recent deployment to Southwest Asia, during the first half of 2015. Aircraft and personnel from Seymour Johnson's 4th Fighter Wing deployed to join the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing at an undisclosed location. They flew regular counter-ISIS missions on the deployment while flying significantly more often than is typical at home station.

The North Carolina base is home to four F-15E squadrons totaling 94 aircraft and has the largest maintenance

group in the Air Force. Every maintainer is needed (in fact the unit is actually significantly undermanned)—reflecting a widespread shortage of USAF maintainers.

At Seymour Johnson, officials say aircraft availability has improved compared to a year ago, when many F-15Es were stuck in depot longer than expected. The time aircraft spend in depot has improved, although the 25-year-old F-15Es seem to experience breakdowns in cycles, officials said. Recently, wiring and oxygen systems were among the problematic components.

Airmen asked not to be identified because of operational security concerns, but one maintainer noted that, ever since sequestration ended in 2013, maintainers have been supporting the same number of home-station sorties, plus deployments, with "a lot fewer people."

Airmen "were, and are, doing a lot more with less," he said.

Hill Inaugurates First F-35 Squadron

The 388th Fighter Wing at Hill AFB, Utah, activated its first F-35A Lightning II squadron in a July 17 ceremony, becoming the first operational Air Force unit to fly combat-coded F-35s.

The unit is slated to be one of three Active Duty F-35 squadrons at Hill, supported operationally by Air Force Reserve Command's 419th FW. The 34th FS was scheduled to receive its first F-35 airframe this month and grow to 15 aircraft by next summer, in time for the Air Force's planned initial operational capability.

The squadron was formerly one of Hill's F-16 units and stood down in 2010 as part of a downsizing.

Claude M. Bolton Jr., 1945-2015

Retired Maj. Gen. Claude M. Bolton Jr., who headed some of the Air Force's most classified and significant programs and oversaw Army acquisition, died July 28 in Chantilly, Va.

Bolton joined the Air Force through the ROTC program in 1969. He trained as a pilot and flew F-4 Phantom fighters. During the Vietnam War, he logged 232 combat missions, 40 of them over North Vietnam.

After the war, he became a test pilot and worked on the F-4, F-111, and F-16 programs. In 1982, he became the program manager for the Advanced Tactical Fighter, later to become the F-22. He went on to be the program element officer for the F-16, and then the head of the Low Observables Vehicle Division in the Office of Special Programs.

He was later deputy manager of the B-2 bomber program, before heading the AGM-129 stealth cruise missile project. Later jobs included commandant of the Defense Systems Management College at Fort Belvoir, Va., and assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisition. He was program executive officer of fighter and bomber programs from 1998 to 2000 and closed out his USAF career as commander of the Air Force Security Assistance Center, retiring in 2002.

Shortly thereafter, President George W. Bush named Bolton assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, technology, and logistics, a post he held until 2008. In retirement, he was executive in residence at Defense Acquisition University, mentoring rising military acquisition professionals.

New Bosses at 9th, 25th Air Forces

Maj. Gen. Bradford J. "B. J." Shwedo assumed command of 25th Air Force during an Aug. 3 ceremony at JBSA-Lackland, Texas. Shwedo, who previously served as director of capability and resource integration for US Cyber Command at Fort Meade, Md., replaced Maj. Gen. John N. T. "Jack" Shanahan, who was promoted to lieutenant general, following the change of command, for his new role as undersecretary of defense (intelligence) for joint and coalition warfighter support.

Maj. Gen. Mark D. Kelly Jr. assumed command of 9th Air Force from Maj. Gen. H. D. Polumbo Jr. during a July 31 ceremony at Shaw AFB, S.C. Kelly previously led the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. Polumbo is slated to retire Oct. 1, according to his official biography.

Jersey Devils in Bulgaria

Eight F-16s and 150 pilots, maintainers, and support personnel from the New Jersey Air National Guard's 177th

Peek-a-Boo, I See You: SrA. Paul Cauge from the 274th Air Support Operations Squadron, uses a laser rangefinder designator for a close air support training mission at Grayling Air Gunnery Range in Michigan during Northern Strike 2015. The exercise involved military personnel from 20 states, as well as Canada, Latvia, Poland, and Australia.



USANG photo by MSgt. Scott Thompson

The War on Terrorism

US Central Command Operations: Freedom's Sentinel and Inherent Resolve

Casualties

As of Aug. 11, four Americans had died in Operation Freedom's Sentinel in Afghanistan, and seven Americans had died in Operation Inherent Resolve in Iraq and Syria.

The total includes 10 troops and one Department of Defense civilian. Of these deaths, three were killed in action with the enemy while eight died in noncombat incidents.

There have been 35 troops wounded in action during OFS and one troop in OIR.

Incirlik Joins the Fight

After months of negotiations, Turkey agreed to allow US and coalition airplanes to launch air strikes against ISIS extremists from Incirlik Air Base, near the Syrian border, according to press reports.

The news came one day after President Barack Obama spoke with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan "about deepening our ongoing cooperation" in the fight against ISIS, according to the White House.

A US State Department official told Turkey's *Hurriyet Daily News* "that the Incirlik base was expected to open in early August to be used in the anti-[ISIS] fight."

Although Turkey already agreed to host training for Syrian opposition fighters, it previously prohibited the US-led coalition from launching strikes in support of Operation Inherent Resolve from its soil.

Tanker Squadron Activates at al Udeid

Air Forces Central Command activated the 22nd Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron on July 24 at al Udeid AB, Qatar, to provide KC-135 tankers for operations over Iraq and Syria.

The 22nd EARS will operate as a second KC-135 squadron alongside the 340th EARS—US Central Command's largest tanker squadron, already operating at al Udeid.

The 22nd previously operated from the transit center at Manas, Kyrgyzstan, for operations over Afghanistan until the center's drawdown in 2014.

The 22nd EARS flew its final refueling mission from Manas on Feb. 24, 2014.

Iraqi F-16s Arrive at Balad

The first four Iraqi Air Force F-16s ferried to Iraq proper arrived at Balad AB, Iraq, on July 13, Turkey's *Daily Sabah* reported.

Due to Iraq's shaky security situation, Iraqi F-16 pilots are undergoing training with the Arizona Air National Guard's 162nd Fighter Wing in Tucson, where the initial two F-16s were delivered last December.

Eight of Iraq's 36 jets on order are slated for delivery to Tucson, where one was already lost in a fatal crash in June.

US State Department spokesman John Kirby said Iraqi pilots flying from Balad could potentially join the anti-ISIS coalition. "Our expectation is that if and when they start flying missions and combat sorties in Iraq, that's what they'll be used for," he said.

Controlled Flight Into Terrain

The F-16 pilot killed during an Operation Inherent Resolve sortie last December violated the safe minimum altitude for landing approach, was briefly disoriented, and flew into the ground, according to Air Combat Command.

The cause of the accident was "the mishap pilot's unrecognized descent into the ground," according to the accident report, released on July 13.

The F-16 was deployed to an undisclosed base in the Middle East and was returning from an abortive sortie with his wingman, who had suffered a minor mechanical malfunction, Dec. 1, 2014. The aircraft crashed some 11 miles short of the runway.

The board determined the pilot "intentionally" flew below the minimum safe altitude, beginning his landing approach "against" instrument procedures. This significantly reduced his reaction time, contributing to the accident.

The aircraft was assigned to the 77th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron deployed from Shaw AFB, S.C., at the time of the accident. In addition to the death of the pilot, destruction of the aircraft and its weapons is estimated to be a \$30.8 million loss.

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By the Numbers

The number of "baseball-to-basketball-sized" chunks of space debris generated when a retired Defense Meteorological Satellite Program satellite exploded in February, according to Air Force Space Command's accident report, released July 20.

Fighter Wing at Atlantic City deployed to Graf Ignatievo AB, Bulgaria, for Exercise Thracian Star, July 13-24. (See "Tankers and Tigers," p. 60.)

"We came over here primarily to do air-to-air training in basic fighting maneuvers and tactical intercepts," said 119th Fighter Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Timothy Hassel. Thracian Star gave the pilots "a chance to fly against an actual MiG"—both MiG-21s and MiG-29s—and practice interoperability with allied aircraft from Greece, Poland, and Romania, according to a Hellenic air force press release.

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Bye, Bye Trucks in the Sky

C-145 Skytrucks began departing Air Force Reserve Command's 919th Special Operations Wing flight line at Duke Field, Fla., for "The Boneyard" in June.

Duke will retain five aircraft for its Aviation Foreign Internal Defense mission, retiring the rest of the 16-strong fleet through August, according to a July 10 release. The slimmed-fleet will ensure air advisors "stay current in an aircraft" while Air Force Special Operations Command plans to lease AvFID aircraft more tailored to the specific capacity-building needs of partner air forces.

"It's cheaper to do that. ... The chances you're going to buy the right airplane for the country you're going to work with was pretty slim," AFSOC Commander Lt. Gen. Bradley A. Heithold explained earlier this year.

Duke plans to stand up the 49th Special Operations Squad-

ron this fall. It will fly the larger Dornier C-146 Wolfhound for its new nonstandard aviation mission.

Air Advisor Academy Stands Down

The Air Force's Air Advisor Academy at JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., inactivated and was subsumed into the US Air Force Expeditionary Center's schoolhouse during a July 10 ceremony. The training of specialized advisors to build foreign partners' capacity transitions from Air Education and Training Command to the center's Expeditionary Operations School under Air Mobility Command, according to a news release.

The move permits air advisor trainees to take advantage of shared training and range slots with the center's other courses and to enjoy more exchange of tactics and doctrine with complementary disciplines at the school.

The first class to graduate under the new arrangement began in June. USAF had elevated its air advisory course to a stand-alone school in June 2012.

Starter-Generator Caused Crash

A starter-generator failure led to the crash of an MQ-9A Reaper on Dec. 12, 2014, in the Central Command area of operations, according to an investigation report released June 30.

The Reaper, controlled by airmen operating from 28th Bomb Wing at Ellsworth AFB, S.D., was flying a combat support mission and briefly lost its satellite return link when the pilot noticed the starter-generator malfunctioned and the aircraft was being powered by backup batteries, according to the report.

The pilot and crew commander tried to send the Reaper to the emergency launch and recovery element; however, the aircraft did not have enough battery power to lower its landing gear. It crashed in the mountains 67 minutes after the starter-generator failed. The wreckage was not recovered, so the exact cause of the failure is not clear, but General Atomics said the "symptoms" of the failure were "similar to other starter-generator failures preceded by erratic voltage," states the report.

Keeping Mothers in Service

Airmen who recently gave birth now will have one year to pass their fitness test, instead of the previous six-month deferral, announced Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James. The service also increased deferral for deployments, short tours, dependent-restricted assignments, and temporary duty assignments to one year.

"The goal is to alleviate the strain on some of our talented airmen who choose to leave the Air Force as they struggle to balance deployments and family issues, and this is especially true soon after childbirth," James said in a July 14 press release.

The Air Force is still considering extending its maternity and convalescent leave period. Airmen currently receive six weeks of maternity leave, according to the release.

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Senior Staff Changes

RETIREMENTS: Lt. Gen. Noel T. Jones, Lt. Gen. James M. Kowalski, Maj. Gen. Kurt F. Neubauer, Maj. Gen. Howard D. Stendahl, Lt. Gen. Thomas W. Travis.

CONFIRMATIONS: To be General: Carlton D. Everhart II. **To be Lieutenant General:** John N. T. Shanahan. **To be Major General:** Dondi E. Costin, Theron G. Davis. **To be Brigadier General:** Steven A. Schaick. **To be ANG Brigadier General:** David W. Ashley, Jeremy O. Baenen, Stephen F. Baggerly, Samuel W. Black, Christine M. Burckle, David B. Burgy, Janus D. Butcher, John D. Caine, Craig A. Campbell, Joseph S. Chisolm, Floyd W. Dunstan, Douglas A. Farnham, Laurie M. Farris, Jerry L. Fenwick, Dawn M. Ferrell, Douglas E. Fick, Arthur J. Floru, Donald A. Furland, Timothy H. Gaasch, Kerry M. Gentry, Jerome M. Gouhin, Randy E. Greenwood, Robert J. Grey Jr., Edith M. Grunwald, Gregory M. Henderson, Elizabeth A. Hill, John S. Joseph, Jill A. Lannan, James M. LeFavor, Jefferson A. Lewis, Timothy T. Lunderman, Eric W. Mann, Betty J. Marshall, Sherrie L. McCandless, Kevin T. McManaman, David J. Meyer, Steven S. Nordhaus, Scott W. Nomandean, Richard C. Oxner Jr., Kirk S. Pierce, Theresa B. Prince, David L. Romuald, Edward A. Sauley III, Keith A. Schell, Brian M. Simpler, Charles G. Stevenson, Bradley A. Swanson, Dean A. Tremps, William M. Valentine, Richard W. Wedan.

CHANGES: Brig. Gen. (sel.) Mark A. Baird, from Cmdr., AF Instl. Contracting Agency, AF Instl. & Mission Spt. Center, AFMC, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, to Spec. Asst. to the Cmdr., AFMC, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio ... Maj. Gen. (sel.) Dondi E. Costin, from Command Chaplain, PACAF, JB Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, to Chief of Chaplains, USAF, Pentagon ... Lt. Gen. Samuel D. Cox, from DCS, Manpower, Personnel, & Svcs., USAF, Pentagon, to Cmdr., 18th AF, AMC, Scott AFB, Ill. ... Gen. Carlton D. Everhart II, from Cmdr., 18th AF, AMC, Scott AFB, Ill., to Cmdr., AMC, Scott AFB, Ill. ... Maj. Gen. Sandra E. Finan, from Cmdr., AF Nuclear Warfare Center, AFMC, Kirtland AFB, N.M., to Spec. Asst. to the Asst. C/S, Strat. Deterrence & Nuclear Integration, USAF, Pentagon ... Brig. Gen. John R. Gordy II, from Exec. Officer to the Dep. Cmdr., USAF & SACEUR, Stuttgart, Germany, to Sr. Defense Official, Defense Intel. Agency, Ankara, Turkey ... Maj. Gen. Gina M. Grosso, from Dir., Sexual Assault Prevention & Response Office, USAF, Pentagon, to DCS, Manpower, Personnel, & Svcs., USAF, Pentagon ... Maj. Gen. Garrett Harencak, from Asst. C/S, Strat. Deterrence & Nuclear Integration, USAF, Pentagon, to Cmdr., AF Recruiting Svc.,

AETC, JBSA-Lackland, Texas ... Brig. Gen. Patrick C. Higby, from Cmdr., 81st TW, AETC, Keesler AFB, Miss., to Dir., Cyberspace Strategy & Policy, Office of Info. Dominance & CIO, OSAF, Pentagon ... Brig. Gen. (sel.) Cameron G. Holt, from Dir., Staff, AF Instl. Contracting Agency, AF Instl. & Mission Spt., AFMC, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, to Cmdr., AF Instl. Contracting Agency, AF Instl. & Mission Spt. Center, AFMC, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio ... Maj. Gen. Scott W. Jansson, from AF PEO, Weapons, AF Life Cycle Mgmt. Center, AFMC, Kirtland AFB, N.M., to Cmdr., AF Nuclear Weapons Center, AFMC, Kirtland AFB, N.M. ... Maj. Gen. (sel.) James C. Johnson, from Cmdr., AF Recruiting Svc., AETC, JBSA-Lackland, Texas, to Dir., Sexual Assault Prevention & Response Office, Pentagon ... Gen. Darren W. McDew, from Cmdr., AMC, Scott AFB, Ill., to Cmdr., TRANSCOM, Scott AFB, Ill. ... Lt. Gen. John W. Raymond, from Cmdr., 14th AF (Air Forces Strat.), AFSPC, Vandenberg AFB, Calif., to DCS, Ops., USAF, Pentagon ... Brig. Gen. (sel.) Steven A. Schaick, from Command Chaplain, AETC, JBSA-Lackland, Texas, to Dep. Chief of Chaplains, USAF, Pentagon ... Gen. Paul J. Selva, from Cmdr., TRANSCOM, Scott AFB, Ill., to Vice Chairman of the JCS, Jt. Staff, Pentagon ... Lt. Gen. (sel.) John N. T. Shanahan, from Cmdr., 25th AF, ACC, JBSA-Lackland, Texas, to Dir., Defense Intel. (Warfighter Spt.) Office of the USD for Intel., Pentagon ... Maj. Gen. (sel.) Sarah E. Zabel, from Dir., Cyberspace Strat. & Policy, Office of Info. Dominance & CIO, OSAF, Pentagon, to Vice Dir., DISA, Ft. Meade, Md.

COMMAND CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT CHANGE: CMSgt. Craig A. Neri, from Command Chief, 45th SW, AFSPC, Patrick AFB, Fla., to Command Chief, 14th AF (Air Forces Strat.), AFSPC, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

SES RETIREMENTS: Harry C. Disbrow Jr., Judith B. Oliva.

SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE CHANGES: Monica A. Anders, to Resource Dir., AF Instl. & Mission Spt. Center, AFMC, JBSA-Lackland, Texas ... Scott M. Anderson, to Exec. Dir., AFSPC, Peterson AFB, Colo. ... Wendy Kay, to Dir., Security, Spec. Prgm. Oversight & Info. Protection, Office of the Administrative Asst. to the SECAF, OSAF, Pentagon ... John M. Miller, to Dep. Asst. Secy., (Acq. Integration), Office of the Assistant SECAF, Acq., Pentagon ... Rajesh R. Naik, to Chief Scientist, 711th Human Performance Wg., AFRL, AFMC, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio ... Robert C. Shofner, to Dep. Dir., Strat. Plans, Prgms, Rqmts., & Analyses, AFMC, Wright-Patterson, Ohio. ☉

Not-So-Mighty ISIS: A B-1B peels away from a USAF KC-135 after refueling in the skies over the Middle East July 23 during a mission for Operation Inherent Resolve. Coalition aircraft have now been striking ISIS targets, including staging areas, armored personnel carriers, and IED facilities, for more than a year.



USAF photo by SSgt. Sandra Weich