

# AFTERBURNER

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# AFTERBURNER

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On Memorial Day 2018, Airmen from the 144th Fighter Wing placed American flags at the headstone of fallen servicemembers at Liberty Veterans Cemetery, Fresno, Calif. (Courtesy photo by U.S. Air National Guard Capt. Chance Pasley)

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Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein

## Commander's Comments



*Courtesy of Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs*

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein directed all Air Force wings with flying and maintenance functions to execute a one-day operational safety review by May 21, 2018.

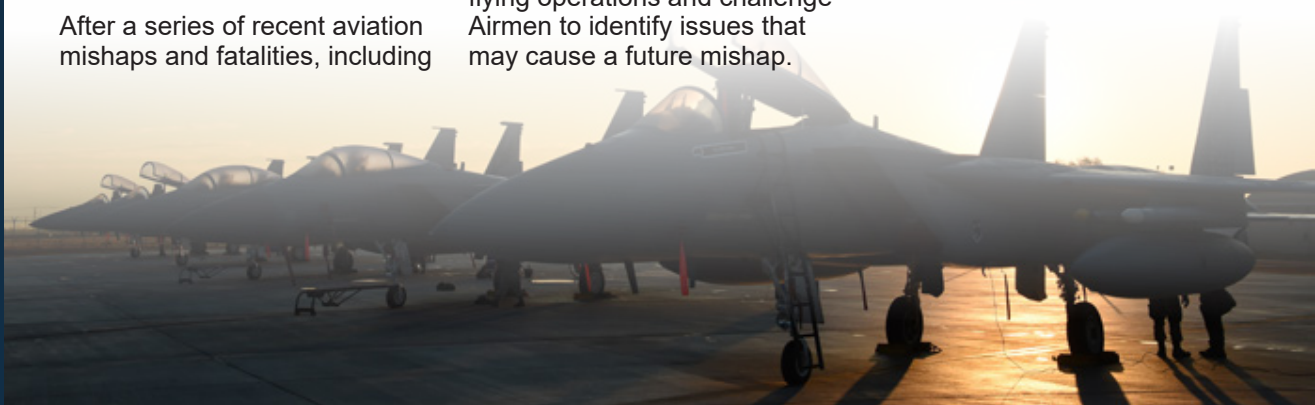
“I am directing this operational safety review to allow our commanders to assess and discuss the safety of our operations and to gather feedback from our Airmen who are doing the mission every day,” said Goldfein.

After a series of recent aviation mishaps and fatalities, including

a WC-130 crash May 2, the Air Force is taking swift action to ensure the safety of its force. Although safety statistics over the past decade show Air Force Class A and B aviation mishaps trended downward, the Air Force’s manned aviation mishap rate increased since the beginning of fiscal year 2018.

During the safety review, commander-led forums will gather feedback from Airmen who execute the Air Force’s flying operations and challenge Airmen to identify issues that may cause a future mishap.

“We cannot afford to lose a single Airman or weapons system due to a mishap that could have been prevented,” said Goldfein. “Our men and women have volunteered to give their last full measure for America’s security. My intent is to have commanders lead focused forums with their Airmen to help identify gaps and seams that exist or are developing, which could lead to future mishaps or unsafe conditions.”





# Chief's Corner

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**By Chief Master Sgt. Clinton Dudley**  
*144th Fighter Wing Command Chief*



The old aphorism, “You can lead a horse to water but you can’t make them drink,” is the foundation of the second rule of mentoring. Many a mentor has fallen into the subtle trap of driving the mentoring process, only to reach a point of disappointment and frustration when the Airman’s energy and enthusiasm begins to wane. The drive that was there at the beginning starts to give way to other demands in the Airman’s world. For some, the newness of mentoring wears off, sapping some enthusiasm. For others, day-to-day responsibilities begin to take over, and mentoring becomes a luxury the Airman cannot afford. In any case, mentoring meetings become less frequent and tangible progress on mentoring goals slows.

When the drive fades, many mentors see a vacuum that they are tempted to fill. The temptation is palpable, since the mentor is losing the connection that had been built early in the process. They see the progress slowing and want to step in to get it back. There is also a self-esteem component at work: is my Airman losing interest because I’m not a good mentor? Some mentors step into the gap by driving the meeting schedule. Others begin to take over on the Airman’s goals, giving more advice and taking a more active role in the steps the Airman is taking. Both of

these actions can lead to either an Airman disengaging from a mentor entirely or, worse, an Airman being dragged along by an enthusiastic mentor who has taken the wheel.

Unfortunately, driving the mentoring process generally backfires on the most well intentioned mentor. The fact is mentoring isn’t for everyone at all times. There are some Airman who are attracted to the idea of mentoring, but really don’t have the time to devote to it. They have other pressing issues that take up more of their time and attention, making mentoring a tertiary priority at best. This Airman may start working with a mentor with the best intentions, only to disappear two or three months in, leaving the mentor wondering what went wrong.

There are some simple things a mentor and Airman can do early in the process to help keep the mentor out of the driver’s seat.

1. Agree on a meeting schedule early in the process and turn over responsibility for the schedule to the Airman.
2. Let the Airman know the best way to get on your schedule and give her or him permission to book

meetings. If you have an administrative assistant, tell him or her that the Airman is allowed priority access to your schedule.

3. Protect meetings with your Airman. When you have other priorities that compete with your meeting schedule, set a higher bar for what would cause you to reschedule.
4. Promise to respond to requests from your Airman within a short timeframe (e.g., one or two business days). Too many Airman are left hanging by busy mentors.
5. Don’t chase the disengaged Airman. If it has been a while since you have met, send a gentle reminder. You can open the door to reconnecting periodically, but don’t start chasing the Airman.

These deceptively simple guidelines will help you transfer ownership of the mentoring process to the Airman, which is where it belongs.

# Memorial Day

By Senior Master Sgt. Chris Drudge

Fresno Air National Guard Base, Calif.-- Memorial Day is a time to remember those men and women who have given their all for their country to protect our way of life.

For some it is the end of a long weekend or the start of summer, but for most of us, it is a somber day of reflection.

Airmen of the 144th Fighter Wing not only understand this but also live it. Several 144th FW members volunteered their time and services to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedom of our great nation.

Whether it was taking a troop of Boy Scouts to a local cemetery to place 1,400 flags in remembrance of all the veterans buried there, a group from a particular squadron taking time to place American flags at another cemetery, or several other Airmen presenting the Remembrance Boxes at a ceremony for the local community, it seems the American Airman ethos lives on in them.

On Memorial Day 2018, Airmen from the 144th Fighter Wing placed American flags at the headstone of fallen servicemembers at Liberty Veterans Cemetery, Fresno, Calif. (Courtesy photo by U.S. Air National Guard Capt. Chance Pasley)



# Technology to Support Health & Readiness

By Stephanie Grant, Director of Psychological Health

The 144th Fighter Wing is partnering with the California Air and Army National Guard in an innovative pilot program with the Defense Health Agency (DHA) utilizing mobile apps to fight stress and build resilience. Capt. Matthew Kleiman, the National Guard Bureau (NGB) Director of Psychological Health, recognized the value of mobile apps for use in health care. In September 2016, he requested a pilot program created by DHA Connected Health to increase the awareness and use of these tools across the NGB. Below are a couple of the mobile apps that were developed to support service members and their families.



**Virtual Hope Box** can be used by service members in treatment and between sessions to help cope with stress and regulate emotions. The app helps them to:

- Store items on their phone that they find supportive: photos, music, videos, messages from loved ones and inspirational quotes.
- Distract themselves from negative thoughts with games, mindfulness exercises and positive messages.
- Create personalized coping cards that provide a battle plan in times of stress.
- Plan positive activities.
- Use relaxation exercises including guided imagery, controlled breathing and muscle relaxation.



**PTSD Coach** helps service members identify/understand/manage symptoms related to PTSD. Family and friends can also use the app to learn more about PTSD and better understand how best to support their loved one. This app helps them to:

- Understand the effects of exposure to trauma.
- Get information on PTSD and treatments that work.
- Take a self-assessment of symptoms.
- Get options for seeking professional evaluation and treatment.
- Identify and track symptoms over time and in different situations.
- Manage symptoms using tools that teach healthy coping skills.
- Identify resources and create a customized support network.

# Earn an F-15 Ride!!!

By Chief Master Sgt. Clinton Dudley  
144th Fighter Wing Command Chief

How does it work? Send a potential Airman to a recruiter and make sure they give your card or name to the recruiter. Once the individual enlists, you will receive credit/points. It's that easy! Note – referral period will run from now through September 30. The top five members with the most accessions/points will receive a ride in an F-15 Eagle.

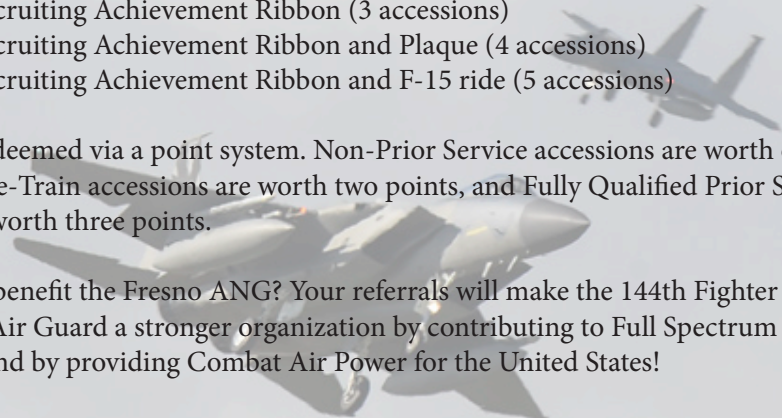
- Tier 1 – CA Recruiting Achievement Ribbon (3 accessions)
- Tier 2 – CA Recruiting Achievement Ribbon and Plaque (4 accessions)
- Tier 3 – CA Recruiting Achievement Ribbon and F-15 ride (5 accessions)

Rewards are redeemed via a point system. Non-Prior Service accessions are worth one point, Prior Service Re-Train accessions are worth two points, and Fully Qualified Prior Service accessions are worth three points.

How does this benefit the Fresno ANG? Your referrals will make the 144th Fighter Wing and the California Air Guard a stronger organization by contributing to Full Spectrum Readiness requirements and by providing Combat Air Power for the United States!

We are not asking you to qualify the members. All recruiters need is their name and phone number. They will contact and share the benefits that come with being a member of the Fresno Air National Guard.

Your story is our number one recruiting tool, so let potential Airmen know how you have benefited from being in the Fresno ANG!!



# Air Force Transitions To A Single Combat Uniform

*Courtesy of Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** -- Air Force leaders announced the service will move to a single combat utility uniform, adopting the Operational Camouflage Pattern, or OCP, already in use by the Army and Airmen in combat zones and in certain jobs across the Air Force.

Starting Oct. 1, 2018, Airmen who have serviceable OCPs may wear the uniform, and Airmen can purchase OCPs at Army and Air Force Exchange Services at the following locations: Aviano Air Base, Italy; Charleston Air Force Base, South Carolina; Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina; and MacDill Air Force Base, Florida. These initial locations will allow uniform manufacturers to produce additional stocks for other locations, eventually outfitting the total force in the coming months.

The service will fully transition to by April 1, 2021.

Air Force leaders decided to transition to the OCP following feedback from Airmen that it is the best, battle-tested utility uniform available. It will also eliminate the need to maintain

two separate uniforms – one for in-garrison and one for deployments – and it is a visible reminder of the service's identity as a joint warfighting force, Air Force officials said.

"We looked at all utility uniforms currently in our inventory to find the best-of-breed," said Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. David L. Goldfein. "We spoke to and listened to Airmen on this, and the OCP was choice."

"The uniform works in all climates—from Minot to Manbij—and across the spectrum of missions we perform," Goldfein added. "It's suitable for our Airmen working on a flight line in Northern Tier states and for those conducting patrols in the Middle East," he said.

More than 100,000 Airmen have been issued or are already wearing OCPs or equivalent two-piece flight suits—from Airmen deployed to Air Forces Central Command, to those serving in Air Force Special Operations Command, and most recently, aircrews in Air Mobility Command and defenders in Air Force Global Strike Command.

## **Preserving service & squadron identity**

As with the Battle Dress Uniform, or BDU, worn by all services until about 10 years ago, the OCP Airmen wear will have distinctive Air Force features. The name tape and Air Force lettering will be a spice-brown color, and T-shirts and belts will be tan. Most rank will also be in thread.

Squadron patches will also be worn on the OCP, said Goldfein. Bringing back squadron patches was among the recommendations made by Airmen as part of the ongoing effort to revitalize squadrons.

"Unit patches express squadron identity and heritage – something our Airmen are incredibly proud of and want to celebrate," he said.

Unit patches and special functional identifiers (Security Forces, Fire, Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Tactical Air Control Party, Combat Controller, etc.) will be attached to Velcro fabric on the sleeves. All patches will be in subdued

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colors; headquarters patches and the U.S. flag will be worn on the right shoulder, and unit patches and authorized duty identifiers will be worn on the left shoulder.

Airmen can find guidance for proper wear of the uniform in the coming months via an Air Force Guidance Memorandum, followed by updates published in AFI 36-2903.

### Proven for better fit and functionality

Feedback from the force indicated Airmen find the OCP more functional—from the slanted, Velcro chest pockets to the easily-accessible shoulder pockets. Female Airmen have made it clear that this uniform is a better fit, as well.

“The Army has done considerable work to make the OCPs a better fitting uniform for female service members,” said Maj. Gen. Bob LaBrutta, director of military force management policy, deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel services. “The uniform comes in 20 female sizes and 37 unisex sizes. Female Airmen, currently issued the unisex uniform in U.S. Air Forces Central Command, report a better fit and higher morale as a result.”

Enlisted Airmen should start to see an increase their annual clothing allowances starting Oct. 1, 2018.

“Many of our Airmen already have this uniform from their numerous deployments, so they will be able to make the transition easily,” said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright. “For other Airmen, we must provide enough time for their clothing allowance to fund the items to avoid out-of-pocket expenses.”

Effective April 1, 2019, Airmen can purchase the uniform at any AAFES store that carries them and AAFES online services will open purchases to Airmen around October 2019. The schedule will be updated monthly on the AAFES and Air Force’s Personnel Center websites.

The delay in availability allows the supply chain to produce and field enough uniforms, boots and other associated uniform items to meet both Army and Air Force requirements. Enlisted Guard and Reserve Airmen will receive the new uniform through their unit’s clothing replacement procedures.

The Air Force will also outfit Basic Military Training, Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, and Officer Training School starting October 1, 2019.

“This celebrates joint warfighting excellence as OCPs will become the joint combat uniform for Airmen and Soldiers while patches and nametapes will identify our respective services,” Goldfein said. “We’ll maintain our distinctive Air Force uniforms in blues, service dress, mess dress, and PT gear.”



Patrol caps will be worn with nametapes placed on the back using Velcro or sewn on. Officer rank will be sewn on the front of the hat and centered ½ inch above the visor.

T-shirt will be Tan.

Name and USAF tape embroidery will be spice brown thread.

Right Sleeve

(max. 2 Velcro patches) Subdued U.S. Flags are mandatory and will be centered at the top of Velcro.

The following patches are approved to be worn under the U.S. Flag:

Higher headquarters (HHQ) subduced cloth patch, Directorate subduced cloth patch, Inspector General identification subduced cloth patch, or subduced cloth patches/badges of awarded campaigns/combats while assigned to the awarding unit.

Left Sleeve

(max. 2 Velcro patches) Organizational unit of assignment subduced cloth will be centered at the top of the Velcro area unless one of the following patches are worn:

Duty Identifier Tabs, or Joint qualification tabs may be worn. (e.g. Army Ranger, Sapper, Airborne, Air Commando, SERE, EOC) above the unit patch.

Right or Left Sleeve

The following patches will be worn on either sleeve in place of either the HHQ or organizational unit patch:

Weapons Instructor Course patch (graduate or instructor), USAF Test Pilot School and School of Advanced Air patch, Space Studies patch, Critical Care Air Transport Team patch, Test Pilot School graduate patches or other completed equivalent schools

Boots will be Coyote Brown.

# TIMELINE

## 2018

**1 OCT** Serviceable OCPs may be worn. Airmen can purchase OCPs at the following AAFES locations: Aviano AB, Charleston AFB, Shaw AFB and MacDill AFB

## 2019

**1 APR** Expansion of in-store AAFES sales locations continues. Tan T-shirt must be worn (Desert Sand is authorized until this date)

**OCT** Online sales projected to be available

## 2020

**1 JUN** Coyote Brown boots must be worn (Tan is authorized until this date). DLA issued green socks must be worn (Desert Tan, Tan authorized until this date)

## 2021

**1 APR** OCP Mandatory Wear Date

# BENEFITS

- The OCP works in all climates and across the spectrum of missions we perform
- Over 100,000 Airmen have been issued and/or are already wearing OCPs. This includes Air Force Central Command, Air Force Special Operations Command and our Air Force Global Strike Command Defenders
- The OCP will bring back Air Force heraldry with unit patches
- The OCP celebrates our joint warfighting excellence and close ties with the Army

# AIR FORCE OCP UNIFORM GUIDANCE

Further official wear guidance will be available soon in AFI 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance

# Upcoming Events & Announcements

## Legal

Legal Assistance is available on UTA weekends at the following times:

- Article 137 briefings held in the Chapel, Sat. at 3 p.m.
- Sun., 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., walk-ins are available for deploying service members
- Please visit our website:  
<https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil/lass/lass.html>  
to receive a ticket number to bring with you to your appointment

## Funday!

Come and join the Rising Six (Airman's Council) on a playful after drill game night in the Dining Facility on Saturday, June 2, at 4:00 p.m.

- Challenge your boss
- Free snacks and refreshments
- Bring your favorite games

Because having fun is the best stress relief!

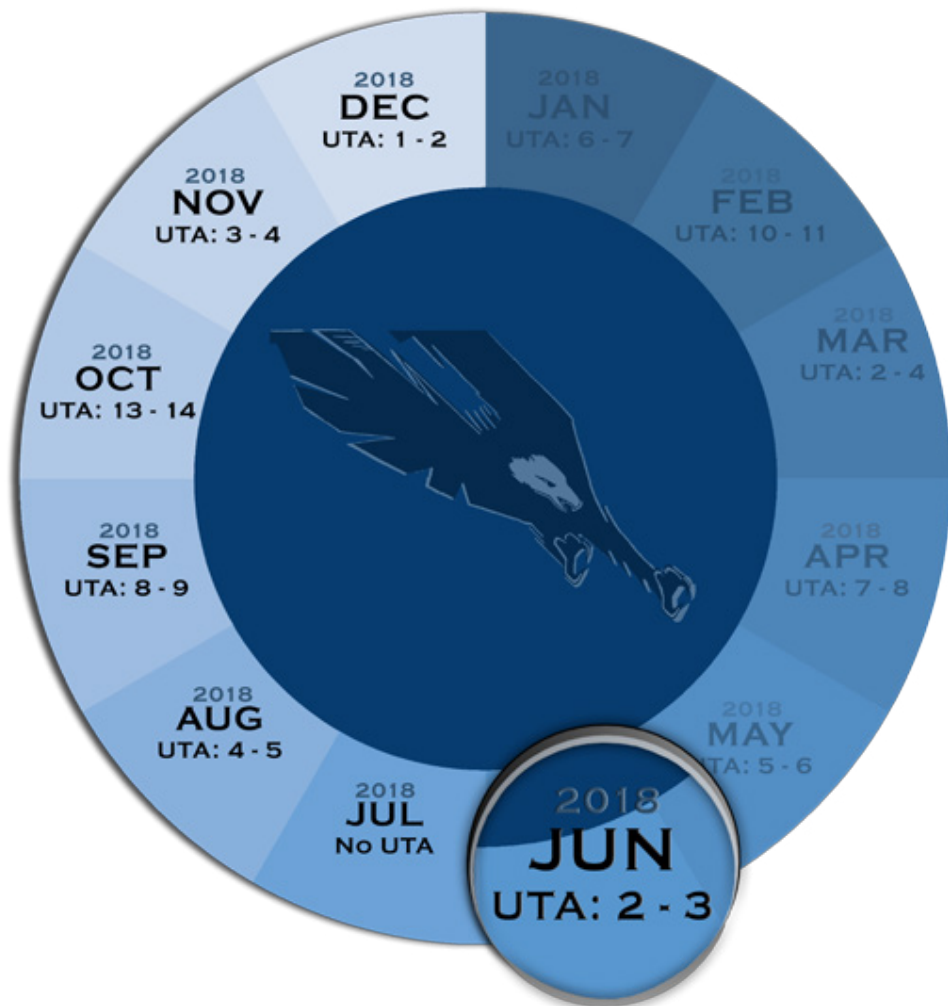
## Supervisor Safety Training

The training will take place on Sunday June, 3, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the Maintenance Classroom. This is a two part training, a computer based training and a classroom portion. The CBT should be completed prior to the classroom portion and a copy of the completion certificate should be brought to the classroom.

Credit cannot be given until both parts are completed. Members who are unsure of whether or not they have taken the course, can contact their unit training manager.

## Operational Safety Review Day

The Air Force has experienced a drastic increase in severe aviation mishaps over the last 8 months. As a result, Chief of Staff of the Air Force has directed an operational pause to review our practices and collect feedback. The 144FW will stand-down flying and implement this Operational Safety Review Day on June 3, 2018. Operations and Maintenance will get together in small groups to discuss Aviation Safety. In these groups, Commanders and Chiefs will facilitate guided discussions designed to inspire constructive ideas. Questions and concerns can be directed to the Safety Office 454-5175.





# AFTERBURNER



## Mission Statement

**Federal Mission** - The 144th Fighter Wing is to provide Air Superiority in support of worldwide joint operations as well as Air Defense of the United States. Additionally, the wing provides agile combat support, and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance to combatant commanders around the globe. The Wing also provides a variety of homeland defense capabilities to U.S. NORTHCOM.

**State Mission** - The 144th Fighter Wing provides a variety of Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA) capabilities to the Governor of California. Primary contributions include Ready manpower, reconnaissance assets, response to chemical, biological and radiological attacks, security, medical, civil engineering and command and control.



A U.S. Air Force F-15C Eagle from the California National Guard's 144th Fighter Wing participates in NORAD's 60th anniversary celebration at Peterson AFB, Colo. May 11 and 12. Along with Fresno's F-15s, there were also F-16 Falcons from Colorado's ANG and F-22 Raptors from Alaska. (U.S. Air Force photo by Mr. Rollan Yocum)

## Top 3 Priorities

### 1. BE READY TO DEPLOY AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE.

All 144th Fighter Wing Airmen will be combat ready whenever the Combatant Commander calls or a deployment tasking is assigned.

### 2. BE READY TO PERFORM OUR STATE MISSION.

All Airmen must be ready when the Governor calls and needs the support of the 144th Fighter Wing.

### 3. CONTINUE ALERT OPERATIONS.

We have a 24/7/365 alert mission -- we must flawlessly continue to execute that mission.