



## Reflections of Honor & Pride

As I approach my retirement, I have taken time to reflect on a tremendous 30 years of service in our United States Air Force Reserve. I consider myself truly blessed to have served alongside some of the finest men and women I have ever known. I have experienced great highs during my career and have visited many wonderful places in the line of duty. I have also experienced great loss and defeats, and I've lost brothers and sisters that I have flown side-by-side with in the cockpit.

People will say that the best times of their lives are often the toughest times, and I can truly attest to that. From hiding in bomb shelters in Saudi Arabia as SCUD missiles rained down, to avoiding Small Arms fire on approach into Mogadishu, to dodging RPGs from the Taliban in Afghanistan, my career has been filled with exciting times, to say the least.

Most people would opt for a more peaceful and tranquil lifestyle, but I like many others in my Air Force

Reserve, have chosen to take the more challenging and difficult road in the name of freedom and service. We serve a cause that is bigger than all of us, which gives us the pride and energy to continue to fight on, making us the greatest military in the world!

Make no mistake, while we maintain a great technological and military advantage, our greatest advantage is our Airmen Warriors! Our resolve to unite as a country and fight for democracy and freedom enabled us to succeed during the Revolutionary War, and that spirit and drive thrives in us today and pushes us onward.

While I do look forward to retirement, believe it or not, I will miss my time with my military family. I may not miss those early morning wake-ups on UTA weekends that I have experienced for the past 30 years. But the reality of it is that I will miss my family here at Maxwell, and I will miss the common bond that we share as we prepare to "Provide Combat Capability Anywhere... Anytime!"



**908th Airlift Wing Vice Commander  
Col. Jimmie "Pat" Brooks**

Don't ever forget that we are an All-Volunteer Force; we serve because it is in our heart. Respect each other and mentor each other. Remember that servant leadership gains respect, and respect is the reason that we follow leaders. Don't ask others to do something that you yourself would not do. Treat each other as a Wingman; never ever leave anyone behind.

Once again, I thank you for the opportunity to serve you over the last three years. My time at the 908th Airlift Wing has truly been the greatest assignment of my 30-year career. I treasure the relationships and friendships I have made here.

As Amy and I head home to Texas, we will never forget the warmth and hospitality that we felt from this wing in Alabama. We are proud to have served with you!

## Key Events on the Horizon

### 50 METER TARGETS - MAY UTA

Maxwell Blvd Gate Closed - Saturday, May 5 from 0400-1400

689th NOS Change of Command - Saturday, May 5 at 1400

Col. Brooks Retirement - Sunday, May 6 at 1300

Chief Master Sgt. Counce Retirement - Sunday, May 6 at 1530

### 100 METER TARGETS - BETWEEN MAY & JUNE UTA

Memorial Day - Monday, May 28

Montgomery Biscuits Military Night - Saturday, May 12 at 1805

Gathering of Eagles Luncheon - Tuesday, May 29 at 1100

Montgomery Biscuits host Gathering of Eagles - Tuesday, May 29 at 1835

### 200 METER TARGETS - JUNE UTA

Lt. Col. Lobb Retirement - Saturday, June 2 at 1330

Lt. Col. Hilyard Retirement - Saturday, June 2 at 1500

Lt. Col. Lobb Social - Saturday, June 2 at 1600

908th Night at the Biscuits - Saturday, June 2 at 1800

### NO UNIT TRAINING ASSEMBLY IN JULY

## Find us on the Web

908th Airlift Wing Digital Site Links

Facebook: [facebook.com/908AW/](https://facebook.com/908AW/)

Website: [908aw.afrc.af.mil/](http://908aw.afrc.af.mil/)

Maxwell AFB Digital Site Links

FB: [facebook.com/MaxwellAFB/](https://facebook.com/MaxwellAFB/)

Web: [maxwell.af.mil/](http://maxwell.af.mil/)

# Maxwell Blvd Gate will be Closed from 0400-1400 on Saturday, May 5, 2018.

THE DAY STREET GATE WILL BE THE ONLY GATE OPEN DURING THIS TIME.

For people traveling from the North, please use I-65 and take the Day street Exit # 171.

For people traveling from the East, please use I-85 and take the Day street exit.

For people traveling from the South, please use I-65 and take the W. Fairview Ave exit #170 and head West until you reach Air Base Blvd, then head North on Air Base Blvd.

The first map below shows the routes that will be blocked off. The second map is a suggested route from the Downtown Area.

