

SOUTHERN FLYER



SOUTHERN
FLYER

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Our Future is Bright

We are at the onset of the most dramatic change in Air Force Reserve Command since we became our own command in 1997. There are three major shifts announced within the last two weeks that will have dramatic impact on us as a wing and as individual Airman serving in Reserve Command. I am excited about all three initiatives because they will improve our lives as Air Force Airman and Reservists.

First, Lieutenant General Maryanne Miller was nominated to be the first Air Force Reservist to receive a fourth star and take over a major active duty command. She will become the commander of Air Mobility Command. This brings our perspective into the highest level of Air Force leadership and strengthens our position as equal partners in the total force. The Air Force cannot do its mission, especially the mobility mission without Reserve forces. This is testimony to how critical we are to the nation's efforts.

The second major event is the reorganization of the Surgeon General's office at Air Force Reserve Command. They are adding a lot of staff to work down the back log of medical packages in their offices. This has had a huge impact on not only us, but all Air Force Reserve Command. They have also changed out the senior leadership with the intent of refocusing getting Airmen ready and able to do their mission.



COL. KENNETH OSTRAT
Commander, 908th Airlift Wing

Finally, in Fiscal Year 2021, we will start to see the change of some Air Reserve Technician positions to Active Guard Reserve positions. This is inarguably a complex issue and we will be deliberative in how we implement it. The status change can be a great benefit for some members, but may not be the best solution for all. We will work with units and individuals as the program is developed to ensure this roll out is the best for all.

Lots of change coming, all of it good. It's a great time to be in the Air Force Reserve and I'm proud to be here with you.



COVER PHOTO:

A C-130 Hercules belonging to the 908th Airlift Wing flies over Riverwalk Stadium, home to the Montgomery Biscuits, at the end of the National Anthem as part of flight night June 2.



"Provide Combat
Capability Anywhere...
Anytime"

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908th Air Advisors help Iraqi air force provide vital air to Italian pilots

By Capt. Ben Hughes
386th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

BAGHDAD, Iraq – The Iraqi Air Force provided an Italian Air Force aircraft with vital liquid oxygen for their pilots at Al Muthana Air Base on May 13.

After relocating the aircraft to northern Iraq last month, the Italian pilots were flying out of country to receive LOX, which is a pilot's

main source of breathable air above 10,000 feet and would be used in case of emergency when there is a loss in cabin pressure.

Through a pre-existing relationship with U.S. personnel, the Italians learned there was liquid oxygen in Baghdad because Iraqis have their C-130J Super Hercules aircraft there. The Italian pilots quickly understood

that the Iraqi maintainers were committed to ensuring they could deliver the critical supply.

“Working with the Iraqi guys was really good because they were really helpful,” said Italian Air Force Lt. Col. Mirko Codato, Task Force Air Kuwait group commander. “They immediately tried to figure out a

See Vital Air, Page 6



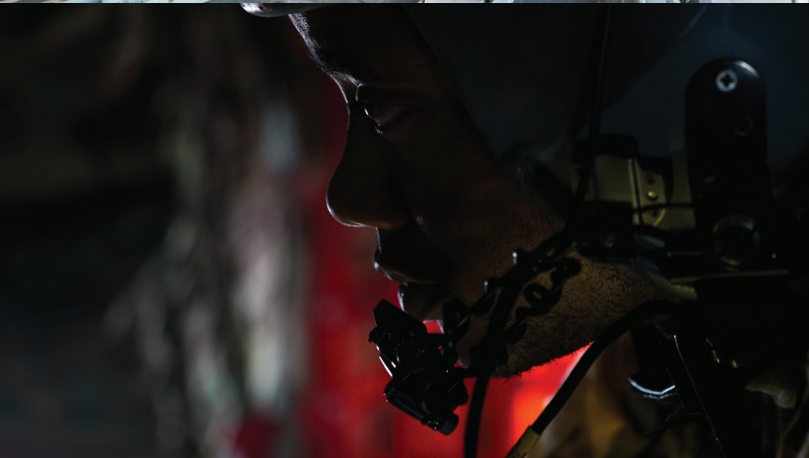
U.S. Air Force photos by Master Sgt. Burt Traynor
U.S. Air Forces Central Command

A U.S. Air Force C-130 Hercules assigned to the 746th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron departs Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, to conduct a supply airdrop over an undisclosed location in support of Combined Joint Task Force - Operation Inherent Resolve's Operation Roundup, June 3, 2018. This was the first combat airdrop

in almost 14 years for the C-130H squadron deployed from the 908th Airlift Wing, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. In conjunction with partner forces, Combined Joint Task Force - Operation Inherent Resolve's (CJTF-OIR) mission is to defeat ISIS in designated areas of Iraq and Syria and set conditions for follow-on operation to increase regional stability.

Airdrop in More Than a Decade

SUMMER 2018 5



908th Air Advisors Train, Assist

by Senior Master Sgt. Tim Smith
770th Air Expeditionary Advisory Squadron Lead Advisor

Airmen from the 908th Airlift Wing assigned to the 770th Air Expeditionary Advisory Squadron are playing a vital part in a mission within the Coalition Aviation Advisory Training Team in Baghdad, Iraq.

Four members from the 908th Maintenance Group are working hand-in-hand with the Iraqi air force at Martyr Muhammad Al'aa Airbase to train, advise, and assist the Iraqi maintainers to help them build a self-sustaining aviation enterprise within Iraq.

As the fighting in Iraq has begun to slow, Iraq's Air Force has begun to shift from a high tempo wartime mission to one with more time for training and standardization. With the influx of US equipment, and the slow phase-out of Eastern Bloc aircraft and mentality, there is a paradigm shift taking place.

Many of Iraq's air force officers have been trained in the US, not only on maintenance practices, but "big picture" leadership and strategic planning. Then we expand on that stateside training by adding Airmen from across the USAF to make up the only Air Expeditionary Advisory Unit in Iraq. Spread across six bases and 10 airframes, Air Advisors work with their Iraqi counterparts daily to impart training processes and best maintenance practices, as well as long-term planning goals.

"It's an unusual dynamic for us here as enlisted members, since we mainly advise at the officer level for the processes, as well as hands-on training," said Tech. Sgt. Steven Smith, 908th Engine Shop Specialist from Jacksonville, Ala.

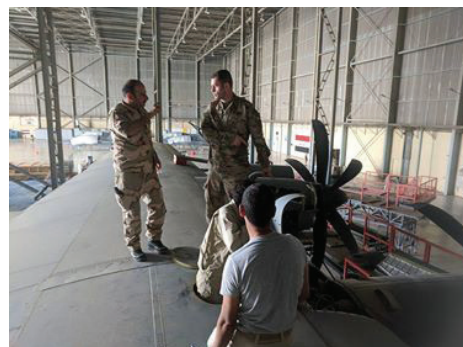
His Iraqi counterparts have leaned heavily on contract maintainers in the past, but with drawdowns in the region, they are striving to become better at training their own airmen to maintain the engines for the fleet of C-130Js they operate.

"We had to bring our concept of train-the-trainer to the forefront to help them in delegating decision making to lower levels," said Smith.

Iraqi maintainers have been turning wrenches for decades, but when the country has been in some state of war almost continuously since 1980, any air force that has operated in a contingency capacity for that length of time is one that has been worn thin. Lacking logistical/supply chains and having lost many members to wartime attrition has resulted in an air force that is being forced to rebuild.

In the face of that rebuild, Iraq's aircraft maintainers have welcomed the insight provided by US advisors, and the relationships built in the process. The US has invested time and money into equipment and training for the Iraqi air force, and the advisory role is important to ensure the smooth transition into using those resources effectively and safely.

Tech. Sgt. Lee Phillips of the 908th Structural Shop from Pike Road, Ala., works with the Iraqi fabrication personnel said, "The Iraqi sheet metal



t Iraqi air force to Stand Alone



workers' basic skills are solid but, helping them realize their long term training goals is paramount."

Phillips counterpart, Chief Warrant Officer Adnan Qasam is the Iraqi sheet metal shop chief. His shop handles everything from small metal patches, up to larger fixes such as the CH2000 spotter aircraft they recently repaired after a hard landing damaged the lower fuselage structure.

"Helping these guys return their assets to the fight by using their own organic capabilities instead of relying on outside help, is pretty rewarding," explained Phillips.

These Air Advisors were tasked with maintenance instruction, but as they quickly found out, it is a "jack-of-all-trades" assignment.

Each day brings some sort of challenge for the Iraqis that is outside the scope or expertise of our advisors. They really have to excel at not only their primary mission, but being flexible and persistent enough to solve problems they don't deal with every day.

The ability to adapt to the needs of the mission can be seen when 908th Airmen were called on to help establish relationships between Coalition partners and the Iraqi maintenance unit.

Italian aircraft operating in-theater, had no capability for liquid breathing oxygen refills. Iraq's 23rd Technical Wing had the capability to produce the oxygen, but the no one knew how to use the lab equipment on-site to test it. Working with the equipment manufacturer in Massachusetts, advisors were able to get the equipment going, and Iraqi maintainers up to speed on using it in order to service the Italian aircraft. Helping Iraq build these partnerships with other nations will allow them to be able to project their airpower outside their borders and be a functional part of the world-wide aviation community.

Coalition Forces are working together in the region to battle ISIS, and merging the Iraqi Air Force effectively into the fight has required years of patience and planning. U.S. advisors have enabled the Iraqis to acquire and maintain a true picture of their airspace, and to work seamlessly with coalition partners to not only defend their own country, but join in the fight by making strikes on ISIS targets outside their borders, in Syria.

"Several of these guys have been in the air force longer than I have been alive," said 908th Fuel Systems Advisor, Tech. Sgt. Ivan Desindes from Gadsden, Ala., as he and his Iraqi counterpart, Warrant Officer Saeed Shikir, study fuel system diagrams. Many Iraqi maintainers were previously qualified on E-Model C-130s, and are working to complete the upgrade process to be certified on the differences between those and the newer J-Model airframes they now operate. "They are solid mechanics, but I'm here to teach them to merge their past experience with the newer electronic systems of the J-Model," explains Desindes.

The work being done by the advisors can be seen at the higher levels of the Iraqi air force.

See Advise & Assist, Page 11

Reserve Wing Leading Airlift Joint Task Force – Inherent Resolve



by Bradley J. Clark
908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

According to the United States Air Forces Central Command Combined Air Operations Center From January 1, 2018 to June 30, 2018 There have been 4,724 Airlift and Airdrop Sorties consisting of 23,850 Short Tons of Cargo, 46,789 Passengers, and 203,440 Pounds of supplies Airdropped in support of Combined Joint Task Force - Inherent Resolve.

In a six week time period, from the middle of May through the month of June, Airmen from the 908th Airlift Wing's 357th Airlift Squadron deployed to the 746th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron at Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar have flown more than 670 hours, most of which has been in support of Combined Joint Task Force - Inherent Resolve's Operation Roundup.



Lift in support of Combined Resolve's Operation Roundup



Vital Air

Continued from Page 3

solution to get us the liquid oxygen.”

Air advisers assigned to the 770th Air Expeditionary Advisory Squadron partnered with their Iraqi counterparts to get authorization from Lt. Gen. Anwar Hamad Amin, commander of the Iraqi Air Force, to support to the Italians. The Iraqi airmen also provide the Italian pilots certificates that confirm the purity of the liquid oxygen.

On the aircraft, the LOX is

converted to breathable oxygen and allows the aircrew to safely operate at high altitudes and it prevents hypoxia.

The Italian pilots are now able to receive LOX about once a week and it only takes approximately half an hour to get refilled, said Codato. The Italian aircrew is able to spend more time on their mission supporting the coalition and less time dealing with additional authorizations and clearances to cross borders.

“To watch (Iraqi airmen) building relationships with coalition partners like that, is pretty gratifying,”

said Senior Master Sgt. Tim Smith, lead advisor, 770th AEAS. “Hopefully it will let them build those additional relationships outside their country, so that they can project their air power outside of Iraq.”

The Iraqi Super Hercules maintainers understand the importance of supporting their allies and that they are all working towards the same goals, said Iraqi Air Force 1st Lt. Alaa Aziz, an oxygen officer.

“We have a big heart. Our hands and arms are open,” said Aziz. “Anything we can supply the coalition forces to help them, we are ready.”





Advise & Assist *Continued from Page 7*



Brigadier General Husni Khazaal Al maliki, Commander of the 23rd Technical Wing said, “We appreciate the hard work of the advisors here with us, and our mission and air force has a bright future, when partnering with the coalition.”

Husni has been a pivotal asset in adopting suggested changes and passing them up the chain of command, as well as ensuring they are enforced down to the lowest levels of maintenance. His wing is responsible for maintaining Iraq’s fleet of C-130Js as well as fleets of Antonov AN-32, KingAir 350, and 12 South Korean T-50 fighter jets.

The changes being made at this central location for Iraq’s fixed wing fleets will also expand across the country and change the new F-16 operations becoming standard practices throughout the Iraqi air force.

The advising work here will be an enduring presence, to ensure Iraq’s airmen will continue to grow into a capable, sustainable, affordable and professional force that can continue to keep their country and population safe from the instability in the region.

GIVING



Is the Good Life

Sit back, relax and save lives.

Give blood!

908 Airlift Wing Blood Drive

In the bloodmobile

Sunday, August 5

10 am – 3 pm



All blood donors will receive a recognition item.

Donors who give blood twice between
June 1 - August 31 will receive a beach towel.



LIFESouth
CommunityBloodCenters

www.lifesouth.org
888-795-2707

All donors will receive a recognition item and a free cholesterol screening. Donors must be 16 or older, weigh at least 110 pounds, and show photo I.D. 16-year-olds require written parental permission.

Winter Wonderland: Family Day 2018

Staff Sgt. Briana Nelson
908th AW/DTF Flight Chief

Not too many things pass by more rapidly than a year... with that being said the Holiday Season will be upon us before we know it. As sure as that is to bring up some anxiety of gift shopping and travel plans – hopefully it also brings about excitement to spend time with family and friends.

Being a member of the 908th is like being a part of an additional family. That is precisely what we hope this year's Winter Wonderland themed Family Day will bring about.

You can expect plenty of hot cocoa, food, prizes and this year even some friendly competition as we kick off our first ever Commander's Cup Challenge. Envision your squadron competing in seven rivalries to obtain bragging rights of the 908th Airlift Wing's first Commander's Cup trophy.

Family Day will be on 1 December 2018 and will run from 1000-1500; giving you time to get a few things squared away in your work area and releasing you early enough to enjoy your squadron's Christmas party festivities that evening.

This year was focused on offering a wide array of games and activities for all ages and diverse interests. One thing is for sure this will be more than a day of bouncy houses and face painting (although we will offer that too). So please come out ready to compete, eat and enjoy your family!



908th News Briefs

ONGOING

Wing App for Mobile Devices

The 908th has an app for your mobile devices. It works with both Android and Apple devices including everything from cellular phones to tablets. The app has tons of great information, including a phone book/directory, news section, weather updates, references, a suggestions section, a PFT calculator, and even allows for push button notifications to stay up to date on any info released by the wing. Do yourself a favor and download the App today! Look for "908th Airlift Wing" where ever you get your applications from.

Facility Improvements

Change is coming, so be aware. Construction will be taking place in just about every facility that the 908th owns or occupies over the next year so be mindful of limited parking spaces, which in turn might alter your work/travel hours in order to accomplish the mission.

Recruiters New Program

The Get1Now program is designed to make it easy for our Reservists to refer an individual to get information about the Air Force Reserve. The best lead source that we have are the leads that our Citizen Airman generate from their peers. The G1N is easy to use, simply log on to <https://get1now.us/> or download the App to your cell phone, (after registering input the referral's information). At that time, that information will be processed and routed to the local recruiter that covers the area that the referral lives in. Reservists will be eligible for an award upon submission of a lead that meets basic AFRC qualification requirements upon processing by AFRC recruiters or advisors (Awards can be found on the website). All actively participating Air Force Reservists and Air Force Reserve civilian employees are eligible to participate. This is a great opportunity for our Reservists to Share Your Adventure!

New to the 908th

Col. Christine Barber, ASTS
Col. Gregory Halen, MXG
Maj. Sharon Bush-Coaxum, ASTS
2nd Lt. Alex Bruce, AES
Senior Master Sgt. Amos Pelfrey, MXS
Master Sgt. David Jacobs, CES
Tech. Sgt. Xavier Rodgers, AMXS
Staff Sgt. Jeremy Brown, AMXS
Staff Sgt. Makenzie Carlson, 25 APS
Staff Sgt. Macybelen Gallaher, ASTS
Staff Sgt. Joseph Jahnsen, 25 APS
Staff Sgt. Joshua Powell, CES
Staff Sgt. Sean Stevens, SFS
Senior Airman Korshontes Butts, FSS
Senior Airman Velijulisa Canty, OSS
Senior Airman Dillon Gullede, 25 APS
Senior Airman Brandon King, 375 AS
Senior Airman Regis Lasiter, MXS
Senior Airman Kasean Mclean, 25 APS
Senior Airman Philip Perezwilliams, AMXS

Senior Airman Tyler Phillips, CES
Senior Airman Clayton Proctor, CES
Senior Airman Dustin Sanders, AMXS
Senior Airman Luke Trissel, MXS
Senior Airman Howell Tyler, MSG
Senior Airman Diana Vickers, SFS
Senior Airman Ariel Wright, AMXS
Airman 1st Class Benjamin Burdette, CES
Airman 1st Class Jamonica Curry, ASTS
Airman 1st Class Owen Etienne, AMXS
Airman 1st Class Gabriel Getchell, AMXS
Airman 1st Class Jordyn Kennedy, AES
Airman 1st Class McKenzie Lewis, LRS
Airman 1st Class Marcus Moore, MXS
Airman 1st Class Neandre Phillips, FSS
Airman 1st Class Destinee Saserm, SFS
Airman 1st Class Valencia Washington, ASTS
Airman Basic Jamal Jones, FSS
Airman Basic Nicholas King, MXS

Gaining Altitude

Emily Bryant
Austin Coar
Tyler Dowland
Larry Ellis
Mia Jefferson
Brittney Jenkins
Savannah McCale
Kiet Trinh
Elicia Walker
Steven Ward

Jon Blaine
Shavante Burt
Cody Clifford
Phillip Copeland
Jordyn Davison
Morgan Elston
Richard Evans
Jasper Fryer
Michael Gates
Gabriel Getchell
Darrell Jackson
Jordyn Kennedy
Seunghwan Kim
Aaron Lawerance
Matthew Matassa
Malachi Norris
Jamarius Ragland
Zachary Tomlinson
Asyndace Turner
James Williams

GAINING ALTITUDE

Jamaal Dewberry
Sharon Jackson
David Jacobs
Jennifer Wilson



Wesley Eidson
Tarrel Jackson
Larry Livingston

Edward Buchanan
Corey Hall
David Parks
Alexis Seymore
Larry Williams



Glen Gilbert
Victor Negrete
Cynthia Russold
Jerome Williams



Felicia Buffet
Barrie Byrd
Amber Green
Billie Johnson
Demishia Jones
Anthony Marks
Jordan Mayo
Devon Middleton
Jackie Reynolds



Nicholas King
Mickey Lane
Joshua Onuoha
Symone Porter

UTA Lodging

- * Make reservations, cancellations or changes at least 48 hours prior to your arrival.
- * Maxwell Toll-Free **1 (800) 673-9356**
Direct **(334) 953-8557/8558**
- * Input your unit authorization code
(Given by unit's First Sergeant)
- * Dial **953-8557 or 953-8558**
- * Upon request, input USER ID
- * Upon request, input PIN number, then "#."
PIN is assigned during Newcomers. **If not known, contact your Squadron Lodging Rep.**
- * Make, change, cancel, check reservation
Reservation: input arrival date followed by departure date, then type [ADT, IDT, or both (ADT: Annual Tour, Mandays, Special Tour) (IDT: UTA, AFTP, RMP, Make-up UTA). UTA is IDT.]
- > ADT only? Call Lodging: **(334) 953-6133**
- * If a scheduled UTA weekend, system will tell you where you will be staying

Questions?

Contact Tech. Sgt. Cedrea Young
(334) 953-1690, option 1

Emer cell: (254) 258-1884

DSN: 493-7332 cedrea.young@us.af.mil

Checkout time:

No time to go to the front desk, or phone charge? Drop the keys in the drop box in Bldg 682 (Main Lodging) for your convenience.

DO NOT USE this box if you have charges on your bill.

In accordance with AFI 34-246 smoking is prohibited in lodging rooms. You may be charged a minimum of \$50 for cleaning for violating this AFI.

UTAs FY18

Aug. 4-5

Sept. 8-9

UTAs FY19

Oct. 13-14

April 6-7

Nov. 3-4

May 4-5

Dec. 1-2

June 1-2

Jan. 10-13

July No UTA

Feb. 2-3

Aug. 3-4

March 2-3

Sept. 7-8

SUMMER 2018 **15**

908TH UNIT TRAINING ASSEMBLY

August

Start	End	Event	Location/OPR
Friday, August 3, 2018			
1500	TBD	Commander's Staff Meeting	Bldg 804/42ABW Conf Rm
1700	TBD	First Sergeants' Meeting	Holiday Inn Express, Prattville
Saturday, August 4, 2018			
0630	0700	Sign In	Orderly Room
0800	1100	Lab work/DNA/HIV/Blood testing	Bldg 760/Lab
0800	1530	Physicals	Bldg 760/Flr 1
0830	1530	Immunizations	Bldg 760/Flr 1
0900	1100	Newcomer's MPS Inprocessing	Bldg 1056/Classroom
0900	0930	SAPM Training	Bldg 1056/CC Conf
0900	1000	UDM Meeting	Bldg 848/ CF Classroom
0900	1000	Fitness for Duty (DD 689)	Bldg 760/Flr 1
0900	1000	First Duty Station Briefing	Bldg 1056/Classroom
1230	1530	CDC Testing	Bldg 903/FSDE
1300	TBD	Quarterly Awards Board	Bldg 1056/CC Conf
1600	1630	Sign Out	Orderly Room
Sunday, August 5, 2018			
0530	1030	Fit To Fight Testing	HAWC
0700	0730	Sign In	Orderly Room
1230	1300	Readiness Reporting/DRRS/ART Briefing	Bldg 1055/908 CAT
1330	1430	Wing Commanders Call	Polifka Auditorium
1400	1600	AFSC SPECIFIC TRAINING	Designated Workcenter
1600	-	Sign Out	Orderly Room

Support functions' schedule

Activity	Dates & hours of operation	Location/Ext.
Newcomers' Trg Flt	Sat 0700-1600	Bldg 1056/Rm 101
MPS Customer Svc	Sat 1300-1600 Sun 0700-1300 M-F 0900-1600 (Closed 1300-1600 every Wed except drill week)	Bldg 1056/3-5522
Reserve Pay	MTTHF 0800-1600 / Wed 0800-1200 Sat 0900-1500 Sun 1200-1500	Bldg 1056/3-6722
Medical Records	Sat 0800-1500	Bldg 760 2nd Floor/ 3-5714
Individual Equipment		Bldg 1154/3-6020
Clothing Sales	Sat 0900-1500	Bldg 851/3-7505
Restricted Area Badge	M-F 0730-1600	Bldg 502/3-4283
Geneva Conv Cards	M-F 0730-1600	Bldg 502/3-4283
Dining Hall	Breakfast: 0600-0800 Lunch: 1100-1300 Dinner: 1600-1830	Bldg 668/3-6450
Lodging Office		Bldg 682 /240-5600
Photo Lab	M-F 0730-1600	Bldg 926/3-7981
Comm Help Desk		Bldg 848/3-9703

AIRMAN & FAMILY READINESS INFO

Money, Money, Money. MONEY!! This is a time to prepare for your financial freedom! Start Small, Think Big. Set a Goal, Make a Plan and Save automatically so YOU can reach financial freedom.

Tonya Kimball is the Personal Financial Counselor assigned by OSD to serve the 908th for financial advice and management. She is ready to answer any financial questions you may have, and/or to schedule a private, confidential meeting to go over your financial situation. Mrs. Kimball can assist you and your family manage finances, resolve financial problems and reach long-term goals such as getting an education, buying a car or home and planning for retirement. Got questions about the BRS? Deploying? Student Loans? Security Clearance flags? Overwhelmed with Debt? Or do you have individual or small business tax questions? She can help. She is available to you anytime!!

Please feel free to reach out to her if you have any questions/concerns at 334-618-6991 or email PFC.Maxwell.USAF@Zeiders.com.

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SOURCE**



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Operation: Military Childcare Aware offers reduced-fee child care. Call 800-424-2246 or visit

www.childcareaware.org for more information.

YMCA membership: In partnership with the Department of Defense, The Armed Services YMCA is proud to offer 6-month gym memberships at participating YMCA

facilities nationwide. Call your local YMCA or visit

<https://www.asymca.org/ymca-dod-military-outreach-initiative> for more information.

Our Military Kids Grant: For children of Reservists deployed overseas 120 days or more receive a \$500 (max) grant per child. This can be used for youth sports, fine arts, or

tutoring for ages 5-12th grade. Apply at www.ourmilitarykids.org

Some other resources available include: Car Care, Yellow Ribbon, Give Parents a Break, Hearts Apart Dinner, Free on-line tutoring, and more. For more info call the 908th Airman and Family Readiness Center at 866-351-8788 or 334-953-9018.

All of Maxwell Air Force Base is standing by to support our Reserve Families too!

908th Command Post (For 24/7 Emergency Support) 334-953-7474
More Information can be found at our website: www.908aw.afrc.af.mil/
Download the "908th Airlift Wing" App now in your app store

908th Airman & Family Readiness 866-351-8788
And on Facebook: www.facebook.com/908AW
A&FRC Facebook: www.facebook.com/908AFRC