

SOUTHERN FLYER



You Are Ready, Keep it Up!

While much of this wing is deployed or are about to deploy, please let us know how we can support you and your families. While we are executing the mission, keep a few things in mind:



COL. CRAIG DRESCHER
Commander, 908th Airlift Wing

Citizen Airmen
Excellence In All We Do
Teamwork *Tactical Airlift*
Be Bold *Ready Today*
 Innovative
 Execute with Precision and Excellence
Integrity First *Finish Strong*
 Leading Tomorrow **Thank You**
 Take care of your Wingman
 Agile Combat Support *Anytime Anywhere*
Service Before Self *Readiness in Strength*
 908th Airlift Wing **Look to Improve**
 If you Fail, Fail Quickly and Learn From it

There is more than one way to be an effective Leader

In the last edition of the Southern Flyer I spoke about the leadership perspectives from Gen. Brown, Chief of Staff of the Air Force and Chief Master Sgt. Bass, Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force. In this edition I would like to give you one of my perspectives on leadership. Always remember that the definition of leadership will vary depending on each individual's experience and background.

Leadership is one of those topics that can generate great conversation and lead to some pretty spirited debates from time to time. We've all been in one of those conversations where someone takes a soundbite or quote from their favorite leader and then integrates it into their leadership style. There are about six common leadership styles, and many others that are customized by the leader utilizing them. Every style, common or not, has advantages and disadvantages, depending on the situation and the end result that is trying to be obtained. Some leadership styles are completely autocratic and some are totally all inclusive to allow everyone to have a say in decisions being made.

Whatever leadership style you decide to use in your daily leadership roles, I think it's important to have two criteria at the top of the list, trust and credibility. I firmly believe that each person in the relationship has to possess these two criteria before real leadership and followership can happen.

Speaking of followership, we all have seen and heard more advertisements about how to become more effective and better leaders by attending this or that class or seminar. There are no shortages of those opportunities. How many classes or training opportunities have you seen that tell you how to become a more effective or better follower? I would be willing to bet that you probably haven't seen any. I believe one part of being an effective leader is also being a better follower. Please let me explain. The Air Force has prioritized the importance of diversity and inclusion. I think one of the most overlooked parts of this priority by many members is the ability to include diversity of thought. Diversity of thought requires us, even leaders, to give the opportunity to others to express their thoughts and opinions when seeking a goal or resolution. With that in mind, it means those of

us in the senior ranks may have to lay our rank to the side and give younger Airmen the opportunity to lead in certain situations. More importantly, it requires us to stop and listen! During my 22 years in the Air Force I have reflected back and seen where I and many leaders that I have served with have probably not met that standard, which resulted in stifling a process or limiting the options of how to best resolve a situation.

As a previous first sergeant and now your command chief, it is assumed that I have all the right answers for many different situations. The reality of that is, I do not have all the answers. Realizing that, I have had some great opportunities to step back during my career and pass the leadership role to younger ranking Airmen that had more information and experience to share, which resulted in me being the follower and a better resolution to the situation at hand. The three most important benefits of me following during those times resulted in me learning something new, the younger Airman being empowered in their abilities to lead others, and the mission continuing without undue delay. I consider this a win-win for all involved.

In closing, being a "leader" doesn't always require the most senior ranking individual to be the one who supplies all the information or make the decision. Sometimes it requires the "leader" to step back and follow those who have more knowledge of the situation. If leaders will look for opportunities to follow, they will instill confidence in those who are leading, the team will become stronger, and the formal leaders will become more effective in their roles. My challenge to you is to look for opportunities to follow in order to become a more effective leader.



CMSGT. TRACY CORNETT
Command Chief, 908th Airlift Wing

SOUTHERN FLYER

July - Aug 2021
Vol. 58 Issue 4

IN THIS ISSUE

- 02 You Are Ready, Keep it Up!
- 03 There is more than one way to be an effective Leader
- 05 AF releases updated PFT score breakdown
- 06 AFAS assistance now available to Reservists in all statuses
- 07 AF recruiting seeks to broaden applicant pool to find best, brightest
- 08 Yellow Ribbon enables Resilience and Reintegration
- 10 Crew Chiefs Ensure Aircraft Readiness
- 11 Beta Integrated Defense Leadership Course bolsters 'Defender' combat readiness

LEADERSHIP

Gen. Charles Q. Brown, Jr.
Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Lt. Gen. Richard Scobee
Commander, Air Force Reserve Command

Maj. Gen. John Healy
Commander, 22nd Air Force

Col. Craig Drescher
Commander, 908th Airlift Wing

Maj. John T. Stamm
Chief of Public Affairs
908th Airlift Wing

SOUTHERN FLYER STAFF

Bradley J. Clark
Editor/Deputy Chief, Public Affairs
908th Airlift Wing

Staff Sgt. Maximillian Goldberg
Senior Writer/Photographer, Public Affairs
908th Airlift Wing

Senior Airman Shelby Thurman
Lead Writer/Photographer, Public Affairs
908th Airlift Wing

"The 908th is made up of service members who are Capable, Innovative Citizen Airmen ... Ready Today, Leading Tomorrow who Provide Combat Capability Anytime...Anywhere."

This funded Air Force Reserve Command newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the "Southern Flyer" are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the U.S. Government, Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force. Editorial content of the Southern Flyer is edited, prepared and provided by the 908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

We solicit articles and photographs and reserve the right to edit materials to conform to Southern Flyer editorial policies. Because of the printing and mail-out schedule the newspaper goes to press on Friday, two weeks prior to the unit training assembly. The submission deadline is the Monday two weeks prior to the UTA.

Address: 908TH/PA, 401 W. Maxwell Blvd., Maxwell AFB, AL 36112

E-mail: 908aw.pa@us.af.mil

Phone: (334) 953-6804/7874 or DSN 493-6804/7874;
Fax: (334) 953-6355



Air Force releases updated fitness test score breakdown

The Air Force will resume physical fitness testing July 1 with only three components: push-ups, sit-ups and the 1.5-mile run.

Without the waist measurement as a scored component, push-ups and sit-ups will increase from 10 to 20 points each, while the 1.5-mile run will remain at 60 points. Scoring will fall into five-year age groups, as opposed to the previous 10. The waist measurement will no longer be required as part of the physical fitness test but a separate assessment of body composition, as required by DoD Instruction 1308.3, will continue starting in October. Testing for body composition may continue to use some form of waist measurement and may be administered during PT testing to reduce scheduling and administrative burdens, but body composition will not be a component of the PT test itself. Further details on the body composition program will be released at a later date.

The Air Force has also worked on alternative strength and cardiovascular testing exercise options with plans to announce them in the coming weeks. Once announced, members and fitness monitors will have approximately six months to familiarize themselves with use and execution of the alternative testing options prior to having them available in January 2022. Members will have a

choice of which testing options they choose for their physical fitness assessment components. The six-month timeline will help ensure fitness assessment cells are prepared to train physical training leaders to administer tests using the new options.

"We are moving away from a one-size-fits-all model," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. CQ Brown, Jr. "More testing options will put flexibility in the hands of our Airmen – where it belongs. We know not all Airmen maintain their fitness the same way and may excel in different areas. Alternate components provide choices while still providing a mechanism to determine overall fitness."

These changes align under the Air Force's Action Order Airmen, people-first approach.

"Physical fitness is an important part of our everyday lives, it's more than just a test – it's a way of life, our readiness and ultimately our future success," said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force JoAnne S. Bass. "July 1st is a chance to refocus on building a lifestyle of fitness and health, and I know our Airmen will be ready."

For additional information, Airmen can visit myPers or the Air Force's Personnel Center's fitness program page.

The Space Force will follow these policies until service-specific fitness policies are developed and fielded.



COVER PHOTO:

The normal FOD walk looked and felt different. Maybe that's because it had just the commander, vice commander and one aircraft on the line. Commander of the 908th Airlift Wing, Col. Craig Drescher, walks the flightline, June 27, 2021, at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. He was scanning the flightline for foreign object and debris because the 908th AW has a tradition of performing a FOD walk every Sunday together. (U. S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Shelby Thurman)

Air Force Aid Society financial assistance now available to Reservists in all statuses

The Air Force Aid Society is now providing emergency assistance to all Airmen and Guardians, regardless of duty status.

Before the change in policy took effect on May 6, only Reservists or Guardsmen on an active-duty status were eligible for AFAS emergency assistance.

"This is great news for our Reserve Citizen Airmen," said Mandie Holovach, Air Force Reserve Command's Airman and Family Readiness program specialist. "AFAS provides emergency assistance when unexpected financial emergencies arise, and now their no-interest loans and grants are available to Reservists in all statuses."

AFAS is the official charity of the Air Force. It promotes the Air Force mission by helping to relieve the distress of Air Force members and their families and

assist in financial aspects of their education.

Reserve Citizen Airmen living within 50 miles of an Air Force installation can apply at <https://my.afas.org/memberportal/Login/Login.aspx>.

Members can locate an installation by visiting <https://afas.org/contact-locations/>. If not within 50 miles of an Air Force installation, but within 50 miles of another branch of service's installation, members can apply through Navy Marine Corp Relief, Army Emergency Relief or Coast Guard Mutual assistance. If there is not a military installation within 50 miles, members can contact the American Red Cross at 1-877-272-7337 for assistance.

For more information, contact your local A&FR office or center or visit <https://afas.org/>.

ANATOMY OF OUR LOGO

The new Air Force Aid Society logo represents both an homage to a rich heritage strongly rooted in our connection with the U.S. Air Force, and a nod to our exciting future directions as the official charity serving and supporting a diverse, evolving Total Force.



Air Force recruiting seeks to broaden applicant pool to find best, brightest

Air Force Recruiting Service is casting a wide net seeking out the best and brightest to become Airmen and Guardians. The goal is to reach out to underrepresented groups which will help diversify the force and tap into some areas that could pay dividends to manning and help inspire youth from all parts of America.

AFRS' top Airman uses a sports analogy to describe how recruiting is trying to build the ultimate team by broadening their reach to all corners of the country.

"At the end of the day, recruiting must be about getting the 'best athletes' on the team," said Maj. Gen. Ed Thomas, AFRS commander. "Fighting and winning wars is our job and we need the best warfighters in order to do that. But not all parts of the nation can see themselves wearing our jersey and they're not showing up for tryouts. So, recruiting for diversity is really about attracting many and then selecting the best to join our team."

An example is AFRS has traditionally been strong recruiting in the "southern smile," a reference to the southern states, with great effectiveness. While it is imperative recruiters continue recruiting this fertile region, there are still many untapped areas of American talent. Thomas believes if we aren't tapping into these areas, then AFRS isn't really getting all of the best in the country.

"Why should we accept anything less as America's Air and Space Forces," Thomas said. "We should

go after the best, the most talented recruits out there across America. If we're not diverse, then it's statistically improbable that we're doing that."

While the enlisted force has a healthy diversity rate resembling the American population by and large, certain operational career fields and rated career fields are still lagging behind.

"On the enlisted side, I would say we're doing relatively well, but we still have room for improvement," Thomas said. "We're meeting or exceeding nearly every diversity target that we have. However, our

"Fighting and winning wars is our job and we need the best warfighters in order to do that."

officer ranks, specifically in our pilots and rated aircrew, we still have a lot of work to do. We're not close to reflecting the country, in drawing the best from all of America. It will take time to get there but the progress must be swift. Rated diversity, I believe, is the key to creating a service that truly is a warfighting organization that attracts and retains the most capable Airmen and Space Professionals."

However, while Thomas is committed to improving diversity, he's just as passionate about maintaining high standards and combat readiness.

"There is only one path to increasing diversity, and that's getting more high-quality diverse candidates that can outperform the next guy or

gal in the recruiting line," Thomas said. "Anything else is a failing proposition for national security."

While the Air Force drives for increased diversity in the ranks, Pentagon leaders remain vigilant that selection processes remain focused on bringing in the most capable Airmen and Guardians.

"We want to recruit and develop a diverse Air Force and Space Force which capitalizes on our nation's strengths to meet the challenges of tomorrow," said Craig Ploessl, Secretary of the Air Force/Military Force Management, assistant deputy, recruiting and accessions. "We can do this without changing standards."

In a move to improve the Air Force's rated diversity, Air Force leaders officially released the service's Rated Diversity Improvement Strategy March 17, 2021, to attract, recruit, develop and retain a diverse rated corps.

Acting Secretary of the Air Force John P. Roth, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. CQ Brown, Jr., and Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Joanne S. Bass signed the newly released RDI Strategy, co-sponsored by Air Education and Training Command's RDI team headquartered at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

"The RDI Strategy is part of the Air Force's broader initiative to improve diversity and inclusion across the entirety of the force," Bass said. "We will continue to take action in ensuring diversity, inclusion and equal opportunity for all service

See Recruiting, Page 12

Yellow Ribbon Program enables Resilience and Reintegration

By Bradley J. Clark
908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. – For more than a year now the 908th Airlift Wing has been preparing for the wing's largest deployment in its history and quite possibly its last as a C-130 tactical airlift unit.

Members have had to train on such topics as weapons firing, self-aid buddy care, and extensive job skills. They also have to update paperwork and administrative items, along with preparing the things in their civilian lives outside of the military.

Every aspect of a member's life can be affected by a deployment, and sometimes our members need help to get things inline and to have peace of mind so they can have a successful deployment accomplishing the mission.

That's where Yellow Ribbon comes in.

"The Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program is a program established through the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008 to assist National Guard and Reserve Members as they transition between their military and civilian roles," explained Tech. Sgt. Gabrielle Bates, Yellow Ribbon coordinator for the 908th Airlift Wing. "The program is for the members, their support system, and leadership to be in a person-oriented atmosphere with subject matter specialists and topics related to Reservists deploying."

The program was created and designed to help the members and their families through every aspect of a deployment.

"The goal of Yellow Ribbon is to minimize stress for service members and their families during all phases of deployment," continued Bates. "The purpose of the YRRP is to inform, educate, assist, and honor the Airmen and their support systems."

908th members and their families benefit from the program in many ways.

"While the program is not mandatory it is highly recommended for members to attend," said Bates. "Each phase of a deployment cycle can have its own unique



challenges. We give the member an opportunity to ask the questions, find the resources or referrals, network, and educate themselves on their benefits and entitlements all in one place."

Yellow Ribbon has been around for more than a decade now, yet there are still many things most members don't know about the program.

"One of the key aspects of the YRRP is connecting the member to resources and people they can relate to, network with, and learn from," explained Bates. "At an event some of the key services that members are sometimes not aware of are the legal services and federal resume writing sessions provided. We recruit a JAG representative to brief the members and family on their legal rights during deployment as well as draw up legally binding wills and power of attorney. A current working will and power of attorney are essential documents to have during a deployment. A resume writing session shows you how a resume for a federal job differs from a civilian one and how to write it. This can be very important for members seeking employment opportunities when they return."

Yellow Ribbon isn't just for the service members, their families have the opportunity to gain vital knowledge as well.

"At an event family members are provided up-to-date, relevant information and resources that cover almost any aspect or concerns that a member's support systems may encounter throughout the deployment cycle," said Bates. "Some sessions offered are topics such as 'Address your Stress,' 'iRest,' and 'Preparing for the Unexpected,' that focus more on the support system and family at home preparing for the new normal while the member is away."

The program is not just beneficial to the service member and their families, but to the 908th Airlift Wing and the rest of the Air Force as well.

"People first, Mission always" these four words sum up the importance of Yellow Ribbon to service members and their families," said Bates. "When Airmen and their families are taken care of they can give their best to the mission. YRRP provides the tools to families so Airmen can have peace of mind that their families are prepared for the rigors of deployment while they are away."

So what exactly does a member get to do when they go to an event in the Yellow Ribbon program?

"At an event the service member gets to network with resource and subject matter experts, along with fellow service members across all areas of life phases and career backgrounds," according to Bates. "They get to attend any session topic they are interested in throughout the weekend and learn or refresh themselves as they see fit. They also have the opportunity to interact with leadership in a relaxed informal environment and address the

inquiries that may arise over the weekend."

While not every single member of the 908th is currently eligible for the Yellow Ribbon program at the moment, many will be throughout the course of their time in the wing.

"Any Air Force Reservist who has been called to active duty in support of a deployment for 90-days or more during a 24-month period, resulting in 50% separation from their support systems is eligible to attend an event," explains Bates. "Members can attend an event up to 120 days prior to their orders start date. Members cannot be on leave or in medcon status during an event."

Arguably the best news for service members interested in participating in a Yellow Ribbon event would be the cost.

"All Services provided over an event weekend are paid for at no cost to the service members or their guests," said Bates. "The member and their guests are in an orders status for the entire weekend. Member and guests are provided with a catered breakfast and lunch on Saturday and Sunday. All hotel and airfare is provided for the member and guests as well. However, if the member chooses to drive to the event location they can be reimbursed for mileage if driving would be more cost effective than flying."

If you are interested in the YRRP or have more questions about the program, contact Tech. Sgt. Gabrielle Bates and take advantage of this great program.



908th Crew Chiefs Ensure Aircraft Readiness

By Staff Sgt. Max Goldberg
908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. – Crew chiefs from the 908th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and the 908th Maintenance Squadron played a key role in Auburn Tide, a week-long deployment readiness exercise that took place here in late March.

Auburn Tide served to increase the 908th Airlift Wing's mission readiness as its members prepare for the largest deployment in the wing's history.

The main role of a crew chief is to ensure the proper function of the various systems and components that keep the aircraft flight ready and mission capable. They determine what maintenance is required and communicate the necessary repairs to maintenance technicians.

"We get the plane ready for flight," said Tech. Sgt. Matthew Marshall, a crew chief with the 908th AMXS. "Before it takes off we inspect it; when it lands we inspect it. We maintain a majority of the systems on the aircraft."

During Auburn Tide, 908th AMXS crew chiefs worked closely with their counterparts in the 357th Airlift Squadron and the 908th MXS.

"We do our pre-flight and then the flight engineers will do their own," said Marshall. "We help them out through all of it. If we can fix it we will, or we'll coor-

dinate with a specialist who's qualified on that system."

908th AMXS crew chiefs sometimes encounter issues that require a more specialized technician to resolve. In these cases an isochronal, or "ISO" crew chief is called in to help.

"Sometimes instruments or other equipment will malfunction and you really have to troubleshoot," said Senior Airman Yesenia Vasquez, an ISO crew chief with the 908th MXS. "An experienced crew chief can find the issue and fix it quickly so the aircraft can get in the air and keep the mission moving."

Crew chiefs play an essential role alongside the rest of the wing's individual units. Working together throughout the course of Auburn Tide, our crew chiefs helped ensure mission capabilities and deployment readiness as many of its members prepare to take part in the 908th's largest deployment to date.



908TH SFS LEADS FIRST INTEGRATED DEFENSE LEADERSHIP COURSE

By Bradley J. Clark
908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. – The 908th Security Forces Squadron sent 15 defenders to the first ever Integrated Defense Leadership Course at Camp James A. Garfield and Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Ohio in May, 2020.

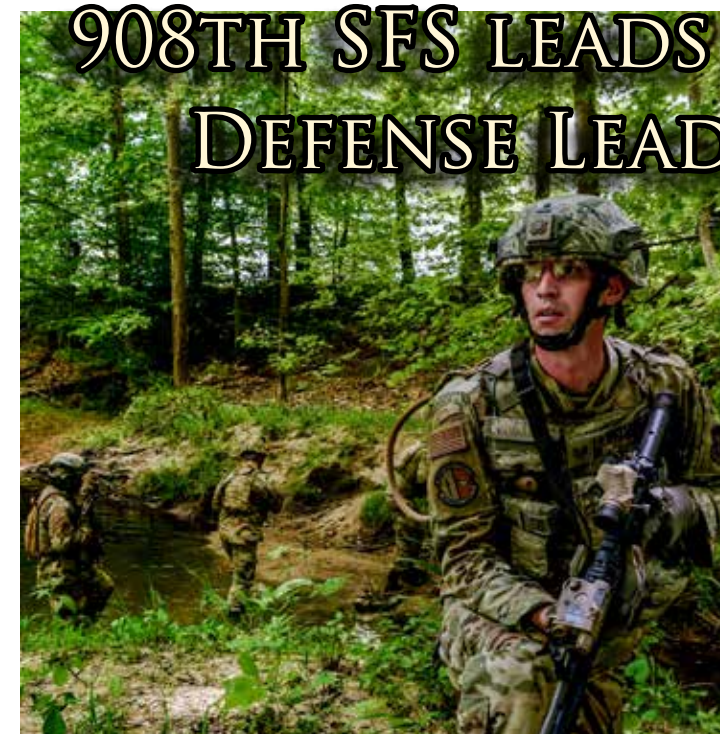
The 908th members were chosen to attend due to the fact that Security Forces Tier Training is currently only authorized for members tasked to deploy due to COVID-19 restrictions, according to Master Sgt. Christopher Foote, 908th SFS noncommissioned officer in charge for security forces training and readiness.

The course provided a several benefits to the 908th Airlift wing and its members who participated.

"Members accomplished 120-150 hours of SF core skills training on 54 Job Qualification Skills tasks directly tied to unit Mission Essential Task Lists," explained Foote. "The course lasts 15 days, primarily focused on field skills that are difficult for units to conduct training on at home station due to lack of proper training areas, equipment, time, and subject matter experts. The ultimate focus of the training is to prepare Defenders for the future fight and to develop resilient skills under stress at all levels."

Not only did the 908th SFS members receive some valuable training, they excelled at that training according to Foote.

"Airman 1st Class Zachary Foster was recognized by the cadre as a top performer," said Foote.



Recruiting Continued from Page 7

members, generations to come.”

Air Force diversity includes, but is not limited to personal life experiences, geographic and socioeconomic backgrounds, cultural knowledge, educational background, work experience, language abilities, physical abilities, philosophical and spiritual perspectives, age, race, ethnicity and gender.

“AETC is focused on accelerating the Department of the Air Force efforts to improve the diversity of

our rated career fields,” said Lt. Gen. Brad Webb, AETC commander.

“We will consider success when diversity and inclusion are fully ingrained throughout the force, and every Airman and their families are supported and empowered to reach

“The RDI Strategy is part of the Air Force’s broader initiative to improve diversity and inclusion across the entirety of the force.”

their full potential.”

While Air Force recruiters continue casting a wide net to secure enlisted and officer recruits, AFRS’ Detachment 1 is tasked with increas-

ing rated diversity within the Air Force.

“Our intent is for every youth to have an opportunity to connect with someone they can identify with,” Thomas said. “That may be based on race or gender. It could also be where they grew up or simply finding someone who’s accomplished their dream. Our AFRS Det. 1 is all about creating that excitement and understanding of what we do. It’s a very attractive lifestyle. But, if we don’t tell people about it, if we don’t show them, if we don’t let them taste it, then we potentially lose very high quality, often diverse, recruits.”

Let’s Talk Mental Health

By Amy Kemp-Wellmeier

908th Airlift Wing Director of Psychological Health

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. -- The pandemic has disrupted many aspects of our lives, leading to relationship difficulties, depression and other mental health issues. These issues can be treated by counseling, medication or both. Yet many people don’t share their pain because of the insensitivity that often surrounds mental health. This prevents them from getting the help they need to feel better and function fully.

Revealing mental health issues and having people show support can help turn it around, as well as removing the stigma. This can help make a big difference in people’s lives.

Has someone revealed a mental or emotional health issue to you?

Ignoring that person, or telling them to snap out of it, to just calm down, that things will be better in the morning, or that therapy is for weak people, can make matters worse for someone who is struggling.

Show support. It’s not always easy to find the right words, but the key is to acknowledge them without judgment. Say something like, “It must be hard for you,”

and “I’m here to listen if you want to talk about how you feel.”

Talking about it is the first step to getting help. Speak up. Show support. Together, we can shatter stigma.

Do you keep silent about feeling depressed, anxious or upset?

There is no shame in having mental or emotional distress or reaching out for help. The real shame is the stigma, misunderstanding, insensitivity and other reactions people may have about it. Likewise, the fear the effect that speaking with someone may have on their military career or civilian job can keep people from getting the support they need.

It takes courage, but it’s the first step to getting the help you need to feel better. Here at the 908th we have several providers on staff who are ready to hear your story and help you work out the challenges of life. The Chaplains and Director of Psychological Health can provide confidential support. Additionally, no records of your seeking help are kept, so it will not have a negative effect on your career or interactions with others. Call and talk to the DPH at (334) 953-5980

Active and Reserve forces team up to ensure deployment readiness

By Staff Sgt. Robert Kingery
Air University Public Affairs

MAXWELL AIR FORCE

BASE, Ala. -- The 42nd Airbase Wing’s Logistics Readiness Squadron conducted a deployment record review and briefing for the 908th Airlift Wing members preparing to deploy June 15, 2021, at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.

The deployers had the opportunity to meet with representatives from Airman and Family Readiness, Chaplain, Finance, Medical and Public Health during this massive undertaking.

“Since that latter part of 2020, Airmen from the 908th AW have been preparing for the 908th AW’s largest deployment in history,” said Lt. Col. Douglas Werner, deputy commander of the 908th Operations Group. “From neurological testing to small arms training, chemical warfare training to orders processing—a combined effort from members of the 42nd ABW and 908th AW significantly contributed to the deliv-

ery of combat power and readiness of nearly 300 expeditionary reserve Airmen.”

This deployment is a historic event as it is the largest deployment in the 908th Airlift Wing’s history.

“Preparing expeditionary airmen during a pandemic has not been without challenges,” Werner said. “Airmen across Maxwell had to weave through a dynamic set of CDC guidelines, DoD policies, and reporting instructions across multiple areas of responsibility in order to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus. One unique outcome of the pandemic is the restriction of movement required of expeditionary Airmen in conjunction with OCONUS travel. Ordinarily, Airmen would process through the deployment line just prior to departing for the AOR. However, in order to preserve ROM integrity, the expeditionary Airmen processed through the deployment line well in advance of their projected departure, allowing time for strict adherence to quaran-

tine protocol prior to departing.”

The partnership with the 42nd ABW is an important one in helping to accomplish the out processing in a timely manner.

“Members from the 42nd ABW and the 908th AW worked closely with each other to ensure the process went smoothly, and smoothly it went. All the records were scrubbed and expeditionary training was completed one and a half hours earlier than planned,” said Werner.

The deployment readiness during this historic undertaking could not be achieved without the total force integration of the 908th AW and the 42nd ABW.

“It takes an entire team to deliver effective combat power to the different operational and geographic commands,” Werner explained. “Through mutual support agreements and cooperation, the extraordinary efforts of the entire Maxwell team are making a difference in the preparedness of deploying Airmen.”



Deploying or Just Need Help?

AIRMEN AND FAMILY READINESS IS HERE FOR YOU

The Airmen and Family Readiness section is a Wing provided program to assist our members and their families with anything they might need from resiliency and emotional support deployments to civilian job research and resume building. We are currently located on the 2nd Floor of the 908th Wing Headquarters building (1056 Rm 223) and can be contacted at 334-953-9018 or 908FSS.FSE.AFRC@us.af.mil . Some of the programs we provide are:

Deployment programs to include; TAP, United Through Reading, Our Military Kids Grant, Car Care, Yellow Ribbon, Tutoring, Pet Care, Give Parents Break, Hearts Apart Dinner, YMCA Membership (Free), Red Cross, United Through Reading, and Air Force Doll.

Employment programs to include; ONET, VMET, DOL Apprenticeship, Hiring our Heroes, Department of Labor, State Employment, Financial Management, Federal Jobs, Troops to Teachers, DoD Skill Bridge, and Small businesses.

Information and referral programs to include: Military One Source, Voting Assistance, Air Force Aid,

MFLC/PFC, Child Care, and Key Spouse.



GIVE A SHOUT TO YOUR FELLOW AIRMEN! ...

...by nominating them to be featured in “I am the 908th”

“I am the 908th” is a biweekly publication which aims to highlight members of the wing who go above and beyond to achieve our mission of providing combat capability anytime, anywhere.

Send the name and unit of your nominee to 908th Public Affairs at 908aw.pa@us.af.mil and get your wingmen recognized for all their hard work.



“READINESS IN STRENGTH”

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 Master Sgt. Ce'Drea 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 FY21
July 10-11 (24-25)
Aug. 7-8 (21-22) Sept. 11-12 (18-19)

UTAs FY22
Oct. 2-3 April 2-3
Nov. 6-7 May 14-15
Dec. 4-5 June 4-5
Jan. 8-9 July 9-10
Feb. 5-6 Aug. 6-7
March 5-6 Sept. 10-11

Parentheses indicate Bravo UTA

908TH UNIT TRAINING ASSEMBLY July

Start	End	Event	Location/OPR
Friday, July 9, 2021			
1500	TBD	Commander's Staff Meeting	Bldg 1050/357th Conf Rm
1700	TBD	First Sergeants' Meeting	Bldg 845/AMXS Conf Rm
Saturday, July 10, 2021			
0630	0700	Sign In	Orderly Room
0730	1530	Clothing Issue	Bldg 1154/Rm 131
0730	0815	Mask Issue for Weapons Qual	Bldg 1154
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 Classrm
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
1600	1630	Sign Out	Orderly Room
Sunday, July 11, 2021			
0700	0730	Sign In	Orderly Room
0700	1100	CBRNE	Bldg 1154/Room 119
1200	1600	CBRNE	Bldg 1154/Room 119
1230	1300	Readiness Reporting/DRRS/ART Briefing	Bldg 1055/908 CAT
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



**908th Airlift Wing
401 W. Maxwell Blvd.
Maxwell AFB AL 36112-6501**

**Presorted
First Class
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #700
Montgomery, AL**

TO THE FAMILY OF:

Members of an Air Force Reserve Command security forces fireteam prepare to enter a room containing opposing force members during a live-fire training exercise in a facility at Camp James A. Garfield, Ohio, May 20, 2021. Security forces members from multiple units across AFRC participated in the beta edition of the two-week Integrated Defense Leadership Course, held May 10-24 at CJAG and Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Ohio. The IDLC was designed to provide Reserve defenders with intensely focused hands-on training to achieve and maintain combat readiness. (U.S. Air Force photo by Eric M. White)