



Combat Airlifter

E & E BUNDLE:

Lifesaving supplies from the skies

pages 8-11



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN RHETT ISBELL

The Escape and Evasion bundle is designed to speedily and reliably supply or resupply downed aircrew or someone who is stranded in a remote location an airplane cannot get to. It is intended to be picked up and immediately wearable to reduce the time needed for resource recovery.

AIRMAN LIVES TLR

U.S Air Force Maj. Andrew Miller, 61st Airlift Squadron director of operations, details his personal experience of how Herk Nation starts at Little Rock AFB.

PAGE 2

LOCAL CITIZEN RECEIVES 2018

LRAFB CORNERSTONE AWARD

The 2018 Team Little Rock Cornerstone Award was presented to Thad Gray, Little Rock Air Force Base Community Council executive board member at Little Rock Air Force Base on Feb. 19.

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CONSTRUCTION

Traffic changes around the Redmond Road area.

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HONORARY COMMANDERS TOUR

19TH MAINTENANCE GROUP

Team Little Rock honorary commanders are given quarterly tours to learn about the Air Force and the multitude of missions at Little Rock AFB.

PAGES 12-13

New office locations

Team Little Rock is taking a broad, deliberate approach to position staff to respond to Airmen when and where they need it, and to help ensure Airmen get the best, most efficient care possible. Please see below for movements of personnel and helping agencies across the base.

NEW LOCATION

Bldg. 1260

■ Inspector General

Bldg. 1250

■ Public Affairs

Bldg. 1240

■ Director of Staff

■ Equal Opportunity

■ SAPR

■ Special Victims' Counsel

Walters Community Support Center

Bldg. 940

■ Welcome Center

■ Community Support

Coordinator

■ Violence Prevention (Green Dot)

For the most current information, Airmen and their families are encouraged to download the Little Rock AFB App or visit www.littlerock.af.mil

Airman lives Team Little Rock

By Airman 1st Class Kristine M. Gruwell

19th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Red, white and blue banners hung on light poles catch first-time visitors' and service members' eyes as they drive through a military installation gate. "Home of Combat Airlift," are the words painted across these banners, giving each person a glimpse of the common focus that unites the mission sets at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas.

Little Rock AFB is home to many different units including the 314th Airlift Wing, 189th AW, 913th Airlift Group, and the host, the 19th AW. Each of these units contribute to combat airlift, whether through training or operations, all using a model of the C-130. Little Rock AFB maximizes these synergistic relationships to meet contingency and emerging requirements providing tactical airlift where and when it's needed.

"There is no other base in the C-130 community that offers as much of the C-130 experience as Little Rock AFB," said U.S. Air Force Maj. Andrew "Bull" Miller, 61st Airlift Squadron director of operations. "That's why they call it the 'Home of Combat Airlift.'"

Between different C-130 models and the units who operate them, the traditions and the community are what unite Team Little Rock. According to Miller, since his birth at Little Rock AFB 35 years ago, the combat airlift lifestyle hasn't changed much, if at all.

Throughout his Air Force career, Miller has consistently come back to Little Rock AFB, from training as a young pilot to training others throughout the various units populating the base.

"What's awesome about Little Rock Air Force Base is there are so many facets to the C-130 community that are manifested here,"

Miller said. "Through the 19th AW side, to the 314th and the 189th, we touch the C-130 community from every possible aspect."

C-130 heritage flowed throughout Miller's veins seeing as his father was a C-130 navigator. After his graduation from the Reserve Officer Training Corps, he went through training to become a pilot. Miller was very excited to follow in his father's footsteps in being a crew member on a C-130E.

"Since the very beginning of my life, I have had a significant connection to the base, to the community and to the C-130 enterprise," Miller said.

Miller had the opportunity to train with the 314th AW when it was the host unit of Little Rock AFB. He went through

"The best thing about the C-130 community from my limited perspective is there's not another community in the Air Force that's as close-knit as the C-130 community. There's not another base that offers as much of the C-130 community as Little Rock AFB."

the E- model schoolhouse as well as the C-130 Center of Excellence as a new pilot. This marked the beginning of an ongoing partnership between Miller's operational missions and his educational development throughout his career. He experienced exactly how Herk Nation starts at Little Rock AFB.

The first time Miller was assigned to the 19th AW was when the 61st AS was transitioning all aircraft to the J- model. The new C-130J was built differently and had a new crew construct. Though even after the transition was complete, the culture

surrounding the C-130 hadn't changed.

Experiencing once again the training side of Little Rock AFB, Miller went to instructor pilot school at the 189th AW experiencing the Air National Guard. Miller said it was interesting to see how they do business compared to the 19th AW. He got to experience how the 189th AW completes their mission to train operationally ready pilot instructors which contributes to the overall combat airlift enterprise.

With this knowledge he gained from training at the 189th AW and 314th AW, Miller now leads the operations and Airmen within an airlift squadron at the 19th AW.

"It's not difficult to see that when people come through these programs and they come back, there's an influence from Little Rock that is more than just the individual units," Miller said. "They're more than just the names of the organizations. It's the C-130 community as a whole and to be honest, it's as close to family as you can get in the military from my perspective."

Having experienced teamwork among the numerous C-130 units on Little Rock AFB, Miller's career is a testament to the partnerships which define the Home of Combat Airlift. Numerous aspects of the mobility enterprise work together as an indistinguishable team of Active Duty military, civilians, Air Force reservists and Air National guardsmen at Little Rock AFB to execute the global mobility mission on behalf of the Nation, Joint Force, allies and coalition partners around the world.

"The best thing about the C-130 community from my limited perspective is there's not another community in the Air Force that's as close-knit as the C-130 community," Miller said. "There's not another base that offers as much of the C-130 community as Little Rock AFB."

EDITORIAL POLICY

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COMBAT AIRLIFTER OF THE WEEK



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS KRISTINE M. GRUWELL

NAME AND RANK

Airman 1st Class Nikoleta Steblak

UNIT

19th Force Support Squadron

DUTY TITLE

Services apprentice

HOMETOWN

Mukachevo, Ukraine

TIME IN SERVICE

1 year, 8 months

TIME AT LITTLE ROCK

1 year, 4 months

GOALS

Commission as an officer, go on another Defense Threat Reduction Agency TDY/special duty assignment, and finish her master's degree

HOBBIES

Puzzles and working out

AIR FORCE CORE VALUE PORTRAYED

Integrity First

HOW DOES THE INDIVIDUAL PORTRAY THE CORE VALUE?

Airman 1st Class Nikoleta Steblak puts honesty above all else and was raised to place value in integrity. Steblak says it is better to admit when you have failed in an area than lie about it because it takes courage to be honest.

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Thad Gray, Little Rock Air Force Base Community Council executive board member, receives the cornerstone award presented by U.S. Air Force Col. Gerald Donohue, 19th Airlift Wing commander and U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Justin Strain, 19th AW command chief, at Little Rock AFB on Feb. 19. Gray exemplified outstanding service and commitment to the men and women of Little Rock AFB.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS KRISTINE M. GRUWELL

Local citizen receives 2018 Cornerstone Award

By Airman 1st Class Kristine M. Gruwell
19th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The 2018 Team Little Rock Cornerstone Award was presented to Thad Gray, Little Rock Air Force Base Community Council executive board member, at Little Rock AFB on Feb. 19.

The Cornerstone Award was created to honor a prominent civic leader who exemplifies outstanding service and commitment to the men and women of Little Rock AFB and continues to strengthen the base's foundation.

Gray was presented the award for displaying unending commitment and support to the base through his service to military members and their families. From 1989-2000, Gray served as an honorary commander and president of the Little Rock AFB Community Council. Currently, he serves as an executive board member for the council.

"We are only successful as a consequence of the robust support we receive from the community, especially from the leaders who are part of the Little Rock AFB Community Council," said U.S. Air Force Col. Gerald Donohue, 19th Airlift Wing commander.

The Gray family has supported Little Rock Airmen and the base over generations. They donated land to the base and Gray's father was one of the base's "founding fathers." His hard work and dedication to service members has inspired his son, Daniel Gray, to carry on the support shown to Airmen from the community as a member of the Little Rock AFB Community Council.

"I feel tremendously honored and surprised in receiving the cornerstone award," Gray said. "I have had the great opportunity to serve on the community council for many decades and I will continue to support what the Air Force does."

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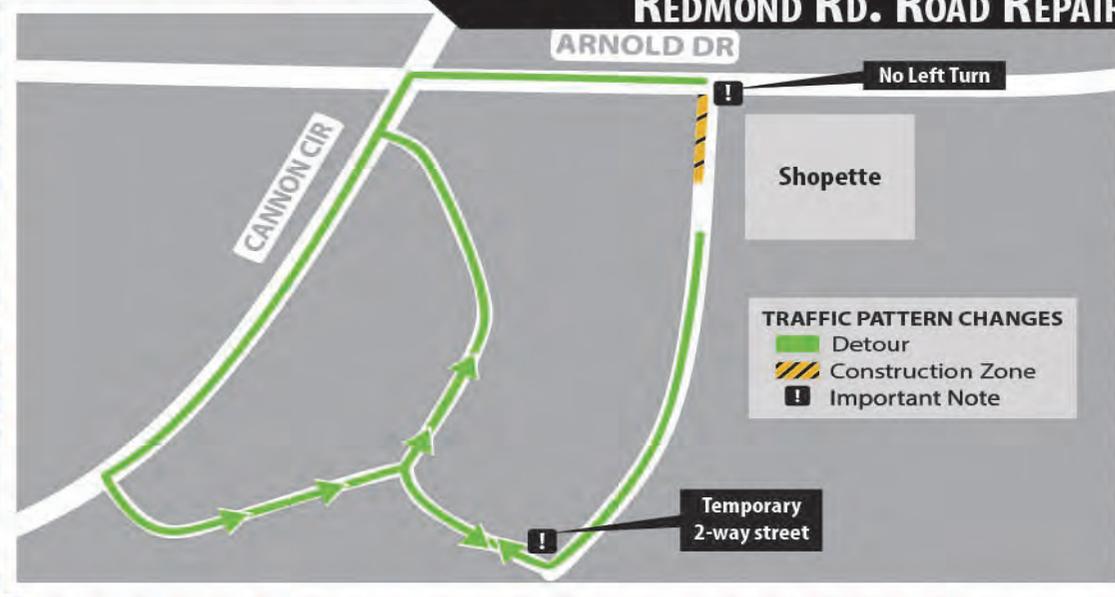
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U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Micah Fernandez, 41st Airlift Squadron loadmaster, prepares to throw an Escape and Evasion bundle out of a C-130J over Louisiana on Feb. 13. In a real-world scenario, Fernandez would throw the bundle out to a stranded, or otherwise unreachable, service member in need of aid.





E & E bundle

Lifesaving supplies from skies above

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN RHETT ISBELL
19TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Whether trekking through hot, humid woodlands, an arid desert or traversing icy, frost-covered terrain, 34th Combat Training Squadron Airmen and other military personnel supporting Exercise Green Flag Little Rock train in realistic combat scenarios and multi-service environments.

These service members are regularly confronted with the reality of isolated, insular operatives in need of mission-critical supplies while out in the field. After using simulated, standard supply packs for this purpose, it was discovered that attempting to create an entirely new supply method could be a superior solution.

See Bundle, 11



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN RHETT ISBELL

U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Nathan Pratt, 61st Airlift Squadron loadmaster, throws an Escape and Evasion bundle out of a C-130J over Arkansas on Jan. 30. The E and E bundle is capable of transporting blood packs and other medical supplies.



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. John Gordon, 34th Combat Training Squadron NCO in charge of mission support, holds up an E & E bundle at Little Rock Air Force Base on Feb. 23. Gordon headed the design and implementation of the E and E bundle.

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Bundle

Continued from page 9

Recently, a member of the 34th CTS has been heading a project to solve this problem and find a more reliable alternative to send those potentially life-saving materials in a swift, flexible manner by creating a backpack capable of being dropped by parachute directly to operatives in need.

“The escape and evasion bundles are used for resupply or initial supply of a downed aircrew or somebody who’s stranded in a remote location an airplane can’t get to,” said U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. John Gordon, 34th CTS NCO in charge of mission support. “We can put anything from MREs [Meals Ready-to-Eat], food, water, radios, first-aid kits, 550 cord, blood packs and other lifesaving equipment in them, and it’s turned out really well. It just adds another option for what we can utilize this for.”

Setting out to craft such a dynamic transportation method wasn’t a ‘one-and-done,’ venture. Gordon continuously

received feedback from his team members in the field on more efficient tactical alterations to the E & E bundle design.

The critiques for the bundle came from SERE Airmen using it during GFLR, which is a joint-training exercise with the objective of providing the maximum number of airlift crews, mission planners and ground support elements to a simulated combat environment with emphasis on joint force integration.

“Giving feedback has been a routine item for us,” said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Jonathon Peavy, 34th Combat Training Squadron DET 1 section chief. “Can we drop it without straps, can we make the outside more of a canvas layer, so doesn’t have a sheen on it and it’s not reflective, change the stainless steel metal accoutrements to black or tan, so it blends in better. It’s a regular feedback item that we visit.”

All of these changes and tweaks from the different members in the field molded the E & E bundle toward a common goal: survivability. Ensuring the supplies are able to endure the drop and remain usable for the intended party.

“The need in the field was to get resupplies in, and that’s not a new concept at all,” Gordon said. “That’s a capability we have. The change is how we get it to them. Survivability is what we’re after, and this provides that survivability for the stuff that we’re trying to get to the guys on the ground.”

After a couple years of constantly shifting the design of the E & E bundle to become a trustworthy lifeline for those in need, Gordon and Peavy feel like they’ve managed to craft a product ready for real-world circumstances.

The future of the E & E bundle appears

hopeful, with multiple organizations including Air Force Special Operations Command and SERE units in the United States and New Zealand currently testing its capabilities. The E & E bundle has an endless array of possibilities available to it thanks to the innovation and man-hours put into its construction.

“If somebody’s on the ground, then we can at least resupply them by dropping a low signature pack,” Peavy said. “It allows another thing to bring to the fight as Air Mobility Command ... for somebody who’s having the worst day of their life.”



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Honorary commanders tour 19th Maintenance Group



(Left) Members participating in the honorary commander tour view a C-130J at Little Rock Air Force Base on Feb. 27. Team Little Rock honorary commanders are given quarterly tours to learn about the Air Force and the multitude of missions at Little Rock AFB.

(Below) Paulette Nieuwenhof, 314th Airlift Wing honorary commander, inspects a C-130J tire as part of a tour of the 19th Maintenance Group at Little Rock Air Force Base on Feb. 27. Honorary commanders were given a tour on a C-130J to see the cargo compartment, cockpit and the outside of the aircraft.



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U.S. Air Force 1st Lt. Isaac Hood, 19th Maintenance Squadron maintenance flight commander, briefs honorary commanders on how C-130Js function at Little Rock Air Force Base on Feb. 27. The Honorary Commander Program encourages community leaders to promote continued awareness of Air Force missions within the community.



U.S. Air Force Col. William Phillips, 19th Maintenance Group commander, briefs honorary commanders on day-to-day activities for the 19th MXG at Little Rock Air Force Base on Feb. 27. The Honorary Commander Program gives community partners an opportunity to learn about the Air Force and the missions of Team Little Rock.



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YARD SALE, 3/16, 7 am, 362 New Country Rd., Cabot. Craft items, furniture, women's/kid's clothing, holiday decor, angels, dolls, glassware, knickknacks, most items 50¢, more!

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FREE TO good home, 9 month old female orange cat. Playful & likes to be petted. (501) 259-2005.

FREE LONGHAIR black, male cat, approx. 3 yrs. old. Text CAT to (501) 231-2757, Jax.

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PARALETS, \$100; love bird, male, \$75. (501) 772-0716.

BLACK & WHITE stray cat now needs new home after caring for him for 7 yrs. Moving, must rehome. (501) 351-4590.

HORSE SADDLE, 16" seat, \$300. (501) 983-1445.

AUTOS/ACCESSORIES

2003 CORVETTE, 50th Anniversary Edition, 57,000 miles, extremely clean, like new, white exterior, camel interior, \$13,000 obo. (870) 217-1303, leave message.

2015 KIA Forte, 67,000 miles, white w/gray interior, bluetooth capable, USB port, pwr. windows, \$8,500. (501) 835-0513.

HOTSHOT EXHAUST manifold for Honda, \$50 obo. (501) 606-1314 or 882-2142.

'92 CHEVY K1500, clean title, needs work, \$2,500. Text only: (501) 218-5012.

2009 HYUNDAI Sonata, runs & drives great, 17" rims, some dents, \$2,000. (501) 239-1083.

FORD 5TH wheel tailgate, fits '92-'96, great condition, \$125. (501) 454-0101.

1992 CADILLAC Seville, 108,000 miles, white sidewall tires, 1 owner, \$2,850. (501) 985-1274.

2006 FORD Expedition, red, 175,000 miles, \$4,500. Call/text: (501) 730-4503.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

14' TRACKER Jon boat, easy load trailer, 9.8 hp. Mercury motor, excellent condition, \$2,100. (501) 743-7077.

2007 VULCAN 900 classic LT motorcycle, 10,300 miles, \$3,300. (501) 425-3968.

LIKE NEW, 2016 22' Puma camper, outdoor kitchen, fridge, A/C, electric hitch, loaded, used 4 wks., \$12,500. Call/text: (501) 590-2564, Cabot.

BLUE OX Sway Pro wt. distribution hitch, \$100; 50 amp. surge guard, \$100; X Chock tire locking chocks w/ wrench, \$40/2; slide-out stabilizers, \$30/4; Jack-in-a-box slide-out stabilizers, \$40/2; leveling blocks, \$10/10. (318) 707-3470, Cabot.

2013 HONDA TRX 420 FPE ES 4x4 w/power steering, 420 orig. miles, 1 owner, \$4,300. (501) 288-0850.

POLARIS SLINGSHOT, extra clean w/top, all extras, backup camera. (501) 454-7501.

'04 COACHMAN 25' bumper-pull, sleeps 6, very nice, self-contained, \$4,500. (501) 251-7016.

KAWASAKI 750i 4x4 w/cover & trailer, only 900 miles, title in hand! \$4,500. (501) 951-5732, 8 am-5 pm, Mon.-Sat.

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DELUXE ROLLING garden scooter w/tractor seat & basket, \$45. (501) 231-2757, Jax.

SEVERAL LAWNMOWER hoods & mowing decks, \$50 hoods, \$100 decks. (501) 983-1445.

OLD FORD tractor backhoe, operational, 4 new tires, \$5,500. (501) 983-1445.

2003 FARM Pro diesel, no loader, needs repair, \$1,800. (501) 983-1445.

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