



VOLUME 67 • NUMBER 23 • FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2019

Change of Command

Pages 8-9



U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Sam Barrett, 18th Air Force commander, transfers command of the 19th Airlift Wing to U.S. Air Force Col. John Schutte at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, June 27, 2019. Schutte assumed command following his assignment as the 314th AW vice commander at Little Rock AFB.

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

AMC PHOENIX SPARK TANK

NEW SUBMISSION GUIDANCE

Airmen who wish to submit ideas to Phoenix Spark Tank can through the U.S. Air Force Ideation Platform website, which facilitates idea submissions but also serves as a way to view, vote and provide input for submissions Airmen would like to see implemented by AMC and the Air Force.

PAGE 2



19TH MDG REALIGNS AS PART OF AF MEDICAL SERVICE REFORM

The 19th Medical Group at Little Rock Air Force Base held a ceremony June 24 to redesignate the 19th Aerospace Medicine Squadron and 19th Medical Operations Squadron as the 19th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron and the 19th Healthcare Operations Squadron, respectively.

PAGE 2



UDM: WE STAND READY

The unit deployment manager assignment, in which Airmen step away from their career fields for up to two years, is a pivotal part of force generation to ensure emerging operations are met with equipped Airmen.

PAGE 7

AMC Phoenix Spark Tank establishes new submission guidance

By Diana Cossaboom

Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. – Calling all innovators! This year's Air Mobility Command Phoenix Spark Tank has rolled out a new way for AMC Airmen to submit inventive ideas.

Airmen who wish to submit ideas to Phoenix Spark Tank can do so through the U.S. Air Force Ideation Platform website, which not only facilitates idea submission, but also serves as a way to view, vote and provide inputs for submissions Airmen would like to see implemented by AMC and the Air Force.

"Spark Tank is a way for us to stay competitive and move the Air Force and AMC more quickly forward with innovative ideas that make processes and equipment better," stated Shane Hershman, AMC chief learning officer.

Submissions are due to the website for respective Wing or directorate review by July 22.

"The Air Force is actively looking to support promising innovation projects," said Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Mendoza, AMC Enterprise Learning Office project noncommissioned officer. "Phoenix Spark Tank 2020 is for projects that have the highest probability of delivering revolutionary impact to AMC and the Air Force within six months to two years, as determined by a panel comprised of the leaders of AMC. The winner will compete at the AF Spark Tank in February 2020."

Specific criteria for the campaign include: potential for impact (in time savings, in cost savings or benefit and in morale), feasibility of solution, and ability to articulate a path forward.

Submissions can be made at usaf.ideascale.gov under the AMC Spark Tank 2020 campaign, and can be reviewed at the same website under the AMC Phoenix Spark Tank 2020 platform.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS AARON IRVIN

The new 19th Healthcare Operations Squadron unveils their guidon as part of a redesignation ceremony at Little Rock Air Force Base on June 24. The redesignation comes as the result of Air Force Medical Service Reforms and is designed to increase the combat readiness of Team Little Rock.

19th MDG realigns as part of Air Force Medical Service Reform

By Senior Airman Rhett Isbell

19th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The 19th Medical Group at Little Rock Air Force Base held a ceremony June 24 to redesignate the 19th Aerospace Medicine Squadron and 19th Medical Operations Squadron as the 19th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron and the 19th Healthcare Operations Squadron, respectively.

The redesignation is the result of the Air Force Medical Service Reform and are designed to increase

the combat readiness of Team Little Rock.

"We're realigning healthcare for all Airmen under a single squadron," said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Joshua Hartman, 19th HCOS commander. "Right now you also have primary care services split between Airmen due to their careers, but with the reorganization we took all of our active-duty patients and moved them under the same care model."

The first and most apparent change of the restructuring

See Realigns, 5

EDITORIAL POLICY

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COMBAT AIRLIFTER OF THE WEEK



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY MAJ. ASHLEY WALKER

NAME AND RANK

Tech. Sgt. Brittney Jones

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913th Maintenance Squadron Command Support Staff

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U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS AARON IRVIN

The new 19th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron unveils its guidon as part of a redesignation ceremony at Little Rock Air Force Base on June 24. The re-designation comes as the result of Air Force Medical Service Reforms and is designed to increase the combat readiness of Team Little Rock.

Realigns

Continued from page 2

turing has already occurred with Team Little Rock members' primary care managers being adjusted with the goal of expediting patient care to keep Airmen in a constant state of combat readiness by providing more focused and consistent care.

"We made an effort to empanel Airmen from the same squadrons to specific PCMs," Hartman said. "We took it a step further now by consolidating the number of PCMs seeing nothing but total force members, while the remaining ones see retirees and dependents."

Another result of the redesignation is how it allows PCMs a greater level of attention and communication with their patients because the administrative side of the healthcare process is now structured. Aside from increasing readiness, these alterations are designed to

encourage the growth of better joint leaders and foster unit-level innovation.

"The importance is the mission impact for limiting the duty restrictions for patient's chronic health issues," said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Micah Schmidt, 19th MDG chief of medical staff. "We're able to focus our effort where it makes the greatest impact to the mission due to the realignment."

By placing emphasis on the success of these reforms, both Airmen and Medical Group staff have ensured Team Little Rock members are still in committed, capable hands.

"Regardless of changes, the medical group will continue to focus on delivering safe, trusted care to all beneficiaries," Hartman said. "The goal ultimately is to improve readiness in the population we serve."

For questions, call the 19th Medical Group at 501-987-8811.

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U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS AARON IRVIN

U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Vincent Daus, 19th Maintenance Squadron unit deployment manager, sorts through deployment folders at Little Rock Air Force Base on June 5. UDMs are responsible for ensuring emerging operations are met with enduring Airmen.

UDM: We stand ready

By Airman 1st Class Aaron Irvin
19th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

“We stay ready so we don’t have to get ready,” is the mantra of the 19th Maintenance Squadron unit deployment manager, whose main focus is to ensure Airmen are prepared for a deployment when called upon.

A UDM is a special-duty assignment in which Airmen step away from their career fields for up to two years. The position is a pivotal part of force generation to ensure emerging operations are met with equipped Airmen.

“Our job is to have a member fully qualified and trained-up at a moment’s

notice,” said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Vincent Daus, 19th MXS UDM.

On average, there are nearly 55 different items that must be completed to ensure an Airman is deployment-ready.

“UDMs really take off a lot of the stress that comes with preparing for a deployment,” said U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Hunter Golembiewski, 19th MXS crew chief. “They make sure all of your questions are answered and that you are fully equipped with everything to succeed down range, while knowing that your family will be taken care of back home.”

UDMs may have a long list of daily requirements but each get a real sense of

See Ready, 11

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19th Airlift Wing welcomes TLR leader as new commander

STORY BY STAFF SGT. DANA J. CABLE
19TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Black Knights, alongside partner units and members of the supportive community, welcomed Col. John Schutte as the new 19th Airlift Wing commander June 27, 2019. Schutte assumed command of the 19th AW from Col. Gerald Donohue in a ceremony presided over by Maj. Gen. Sam Barrett, 18th Air Force commander.

Prior to this assignment, Schutte was also a member of Team Little Rock as the vice commander of the 314th AW, where he oversaw the nation's C-130 "Center of Excellence" for tactical airlift training C-130 aircrew members from across the Department of Defense and 47 partner nations.

"It's a rare opportunity to go from being the vice commander of a mission partner wing to the installation commander," Schutte said. "I am grateful for the relationships we have established and look forward to working alongside you to continue to strengthen Team Little Rock and the greater tactical airlift tribe."

As the installation commander, Schutte will lead the "Home of Combat Airlift," responsible for organizing, training and equipping the personnel who operate and maintain 46 C-130 aircraft while providing for the health and welfare of more than 9,600 Airmen, civilians and family members.

According to Barrett, Schutte is the right leader, at the right place, and at the right time.

"The opportunity to move up within the Little Rock team, coupled with his Air Education and Training Command experience sets him up nicely as he already understands the geography, the local community, and the mission," Barrett said.

See New, 10



U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Sam Barrett, 18th Air Force commander, U.S. Air Force Col. Gerald Donohue, and U.S. Air Force Col. John Schutte, standing at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, June 27, 2019. Schutte assumed command from Donohue during the ceremony.



Melanie Schutte, wife of U.S. Air Force Col. John Schutte, is welcomed by the Black Knights during the 19th Airlift Wing change of command ceremony at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, June 27, 2019. U.S. Air Force Col. John Schutte assumed command of the 19th AW during the ceremony.



Little Rock Air Force Base Honor Guard members during the 19th Airlift Wing change of command ceremony at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, June 27, 2019. U.S. Air Force Col. Gerald Donohue relinquished command of the 19th AW during the ceremony.



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

Barrett stands at attention during the 19th Airlift Wing change of command ceremony



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. DANA J. CABLE

U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Sam Barrett, 18th Air Force commander and U.S. Air Force Col. Gerald Donohue, congratulate U.S. Air Force Col. John Schutte after accepting command at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, June 27, 2019.



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

Members post the colors during the 19th Airlift Wing change of command ceremony at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, June 27, 2019. During the ceremony U.S. Air Force Col. Gerald Donohue relinquished command of the 19th AW to U.S. Air Force Col. John Schutte.



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

U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Sam Barrett, 18th Air Force commander, provides remarks during the 19th Airlift Wing change of command at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, June 27, 2019. Barrett was the presiding officer of the ceremony in which U.S. Air Force Col. Gerald Donohue relinquished command of the 19th AW to U.S. Air Force Col. John Schutte.

New

Continued from page 8

Having been a partner in the consistent focus on the readiness and operational excellence that defines the Home of Combat Airlift, Schutte outlined his expectations of the men and women of the 19th AW in projecting and sustaining agile combat airlift across the globe.

"We must be relentless in our pursuit of operational excellence, individual excellence, and installation excellence," Schutte said. "The strategic environment demands nothing less, and frankly the citizens of this great nation expect nothing less."

Schutte also noted need for continued focus on developing and maintaining readiness competencies to be prepared to meet future national security demands.

"You have led not only the C-130

community, but I would hazard to say, the entire Mobility Air Force in this effort" Schutte said. "You have proven yourselves Ready Warriors, but there is more work to be done."

Barrett echoed these sentiments and thanked all Airmen present for their service and sacrifice.

"We all know what's on the line," Barrett said. "Our job is to defend the nation against a multitude of threats. You are the heart and soul of a lethal and ready force that ensures America's continued prosperity and defense."

Prior to departing, Donohue thanked the 19 AW for their hard work and dedication to the Combat Airlift mission.

As he left, Donohue had one final request of the attendees which left the auditorium ringing with a charged chant of, "We Are ... Black Knights."

"I am nothing but proud of the combat

culture you have established here and the ethos that you show," Donohue said. "I feel very fortunate to be able to look at my commander and tell him that I believe unequivocally, this is the most ready, capable wing in Air Mobility Command and that is not because of me -- that is because of all of you."

Schutte concluded the ceremony by

thanking Black Knights for their tireless efforts toward mission accomplishment.

"You have chosen to serve at a critical juncture in the history of our Republic, and I am honored to serve alongside you," Schutte said. "Thank you for all you have accomplished already and all that we will do together as we stand tall and meet the challenges before us."



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Ready

Continued from page 7

accomplishment on everything coming together and becoming a fine-tuned machine in order to get an Airman out the door.

“We make sure you don’t fall flat on your face,” said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Bryan Smith, 19th MXS UDM. “We set you up for success. It’s not your job to know everything you have to do to get ready to leave. That’s our job.”

Although getting an Airman on an aircraft is the end result of a tasking, the UDMs remain in contact with the

deployed Airman to ensure they have everything necessary to achieve the combat airlift mission.

Following a deployment, the UDM welcomes Airmen back as they complete the in-processing checklist before reintegrating back home.

“I love sending people out, but I also love bringing them home,” Smith said. “Team Little Rock has always done a good job at welcoming Airmen returning from deployments. After returning from my last deployment, I was just overwhelmed after getting off the aircraft to see all of the people and families genuinely happy to see us.”

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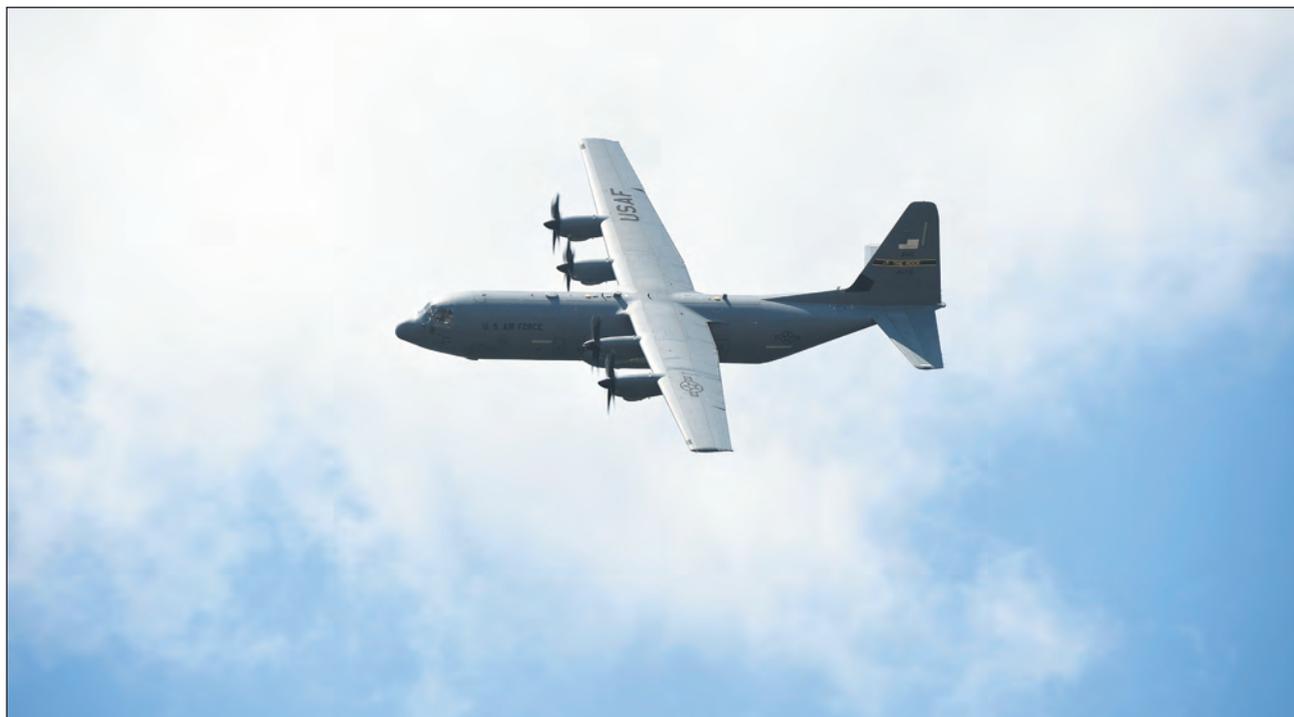
U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN RHETT ISBELL



U.S. Air Force Col. Gerald Donohue, 19th Airlift Wing outgoing commander, boards a C-130J before his final flight at Little Rock Air Force Base on June 21. The flight coincides with the end of his time leading the Home of Combat Airlift.



U.S. Air Force Col. Gerald Donohue, 19th Airlift Wing outgoing commander, performs preflight checks before his final flight at Little Rock Air Force Base on June 21. Donohue's two-year tenure has featured a focus on returning to readiness and spearheading combat airlift.



(Above) U.S. Air Force Col. Gerald Donohue, 19th Airlift Wing outgoing commander, performs his last flyover before landing at Little Rock Air Force Base on June 21. Donohue's friends and family were able to see his final pass before landing.

(Below) U.S. Air Force Col. Gerald Donohue, 19th Airlift Wing outgoing commander, is sprayed with water by his children after landing at Little Rock Air Force Base on June 21. Donohue's next assignment is at the Pentagon, Washington D.C., where he will serve at the Air Force Warfare Integration Center.



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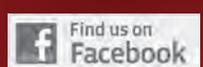
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