

COMBAT AIRLIFTER

FRIDAY, DEC. 27, 2019



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

U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Luke Hughes, 61st Airlift Squadron instructor loadmaster noncommissioned officer in charge of training, looks out the back of a C-130J during the fly-in exercise at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, March 13, 2019. The second-annual fly-in includes C-130J units from around the globe.

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW: JANUARY-JUNE

Team Little Rock opens welcome center

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Dana J. Cable
19th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

All Airmen arriving at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, will now be met with a streamlined in-processing method at the newly established Combat Airlift Welcome Center, located in the Walters Community Support Center.

The Combat Airlift Welcome Center will be one of the first stops for new Airmen arriving at Little Rock AFB and will serve as a one-stop shop for new Airmen and their families to process through the military personnel section, medical, traffic management office and finance, as well as get exposed to base helping agencies.

In early December 2018, U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Justin Strain, 19th Airlift Wing command chief; Stephanie Wynn, community support coordinator; and other key Team Little Rock members went to visit Whiteman AFB, Missouri, to tour their Task Force True North beta site. TFTN is a program based on the U.S. Special Operations Command's Preservation of the Force and Families Program.

"When we went to Whiteman we saw their entire TFTN program and decided to implement parts of that here at Little Rock," Wynn said. "We liked their set-up and saw how with a one-stop center, they saved hundreds of man-hours per person in-processing. We were very impressed with their welcome center."

The idea to stand up the welcome center next door to the Airman and Family Readiness center was a strategic one. Airmen also go to the Walters Community Support Center for their newcomer's briefings, Green Dot and resiliency classes.

In just over two months after touring Whiteman's welcome center, the Combat Airlift Welcome Center opened its doors.

"Whiteman has been incredibly helpful ever since they found out we were going to stand up our own welcome center," Wynn said. "We have reached back and asked questions. They have sent us checklists and have been nothing but helpful."

Within 72 hours of arrival, Airmen will be met by a team of trained personnel and an array of support functions consolidated at the welcome center to help them through the permanent change of station process. This includes assistance with travel vouchers, help with updating required paperwork, and scheduling follow-on appointments.

Unit command support staff personnel will schedule the initial appointment for incoming Airmen on the welcome center SharePoint site.



(Above) Team Little Rock leadership prepares to cut the ribbon during the opening ceremony of the new Combat Airlift Welcome Center at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, Feb. 11, 2019. All Airmen arriving at Little Rock AFB will now be met with a streamlined in-processing method at the newly established Combat Airlift Welcome Center, located in the Walters Community Support Center.

The sponsorship program remains a unit responsibility. Sponsors will escort in-processing Airmen to the center and remain with them during their appointment.

"We require the sponsor or a sponsor representative to come with them because we want to keep the connectedness with the unit," Wynn said. "Say there is an Airman meeting with finance and there is a problem or they are going to have to bring some paperwork back, their sponsor can help them through that process and the unit is aware of it."

In-processing Airmen are encouraged to bring their spouse and family to the appointment.

"The benefit of bringing your family is multi-fold," Wynn said. "They can be connected with resources immediately and when they go through medical in-processing, they are going to be assigned primary care managers for the whole family, so getting all that done and getting them on Tricare online and making sure the spouse knows how to do that is very important."

Airmen and family members returning to the welcome center for follow-on actions will not need an appointment.

"The resource center we have in the front is open for anyone on base," Wynn said. "You do not have to be an in-processing Airman to use the resource center. It is there for people to get connected with resources on or off base so they know what's available to them. The children's play center is also open to everyone as well."

With one-on-one in-processing, every appointment will look different and will be tailored to the Airman to receive personalized treatment.

"You have one chance to make a first impression," Strain said. "We hope to give that initial feeling of belonging here and show off our available resources and to make that a natural part of everyday here at Little Rock AFB."

According to Wynn, the welcome center may add more

See Welcome, 10

EDITORIAL POLICY

How to reach us

404 Graham Road,
Jacksonville, Ark. 72076
Phone: 501-982-9421
Fax: 501-985-0026

E-mail:

combatairlifter@arkansasleader.com

Advertising:

combatairlifter@arkansasleader.com

Deadline

Noon Fridays. Submit articles through e-mail.

Published by North Pulaski Printing, Inc., 404-B Graham Road, Jacksonville, AR 72076, phone number (501) 982-9421, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 19th AW. This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for the members of the U.S. military services. Contents of Combat Airlifter are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute en-

dorsement by the Department of the Air Force or North Pulaski Printing, Inc. of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 19th Airlift Wing. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise noted. Combat Airlifter reserves the right to edit all items.

EDITORIAL STAFF

| | |
|--|---|
| Col. John Schutte 19th Airlift Wing Commander | Garrick Feldman Editor and Publisher |
| 1st Lt. Jessica Cicchetto Chief of Public Affairs | Christy Hendricks Managing Editor |

Content provided by 19th Airlift Wing Public Affairs
Contact 19aw.pa@us.af.mil



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, Arkansas, Feb. 19, 2019. Gray exemplified outstanding service and commitment to the men and women of Little Rock AFB.

Supportive local citizen receives 2018 LRAFB Cornerstone Award

Story and photos 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, Arkansas, Feb. 19, 2019.

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."

2nd annual C-130J fly-in grows Herk Nation



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

(Above) U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Kadeem Warren (from left), 36th Airlift Squadron loadmaster, and U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Vincenzo Gallegos, 36th AS evaluator loadmaster from Yokota Air Base, Japan, load a M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System onto a C-130J during the fly-in exercise at Arkansas International Airport, March 12, 2019. The fly-in allows for side-by-side training and increases the capability of the C-130J force to operate together cohesively in a deployed environment.

(Below) A C-130J from Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, conducts an airdrop during the fly-in exercise at Arkansas International Airport, March 13, 2019.



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



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

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Shaun Pinheiro-Pires, 321st Field Artillery Regiment M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System launcher chief, awaits direction to load HIMARS onto a C-130J at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, March 12, 2019. The U.S. Army routinely conducts exercises with the U.S. Air Force to increase effectiveness and joint operations.



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



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

(Above) U.S. Air Force Col. Gerald Donohue, 19th Airlift Wing commander, speaks to his co-pilot before taking off during the second-annual C-130J fly-in at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, March 15, 2019. The fly-in allows for side-by-side training and increases the capability of the C-130J force to operate together cohesively in a deployed environment.

(Left) U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Brandon Villao, 41st Airlift Squadron loadmaster, tests the airflow of his mask at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, March 15, 2019. Eight bases across the C-130J community came together to train during the second-annual C-130J fly-in hosted by the 19th Airlift Wing.

(Below) A C-130J from Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi flies over Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas during the fly-in exercise, March 15, 2019. Eight C-130J units from around the globe came together to enhance mobility partnerships across the C-130J enterprise during the second-annual C-130J fly-in at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, March 9-16, 2019.



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

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Scott Coleman, 61st Airlift Squadron loadmaster, and U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Luke Hughes, 61st Airlift Squadron instructor loadmaster noncommissioned officer in charge of training, loads a C-130J during the fly-in exercise at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, March 13, 2019. The fly-in allows for side-by-side training and increases the capability of the C-130J force to operate together cohesively in a deployed environment.



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

Little Rock takes readiness training cross-country



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

(Above) U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Jonathan Borgos-Colon, 41st Airlift Squadron instructor loadmaster, does preflight inspection on a C-130J at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, April 9, 2019. Semi-annual readiness training allows Team Little Rock Airmen to maintain their combat edge by practicing and honing skills that make them more effective at providing agile combat airlift, regardless of the location or conditions.

(Right) Airmen from the 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron load a buffer stop assembly onto a C-130J at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, April 12, 2019.



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



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

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Troy Iversen, 19th Logistics Readiness Squadron aerial delivery supervisor, prepares parachutes for repackaging at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, April 7, 2019. ROCKI 19-06 combined Little Rock Air Force Base's semi-annual exercise with Green Flag Little Rock, which enabled Airmen to experience comprehensive scenarios to realistically capture the range of requirements necessary to provide tactical airlift to joint and international partners.)



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

U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 1st Battalion, 14th Field Artillery Regiment, fire High Mobility Artillery Rocket near Fort Smith, Arkansas, April 12, 2019. ROCKI 19-06 combined Little Rock Air Force Base's semi-annual with Green Flag Little Rock, which enabled Airmen to experience comprehensive scenarios that realistically range of requirements to be able to provide tactical airlift to joint and international partners. The joint training allowed both Airmen and Soldiers to execute realistic simulated training of rapidly deploying long-range weapon



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

Numerous pilots and loadmasters assigned to the 19th Airlift Wing simulate waiting to be decontaminated during a basewide readiness exercise at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas April 15, 2019. AERPS equipment consists of a rubber mask, multiple layers of boots and gloves, fan filter system and an audio and speaker system.

COMBAT AIRLIFTER JANUARY-JUNE 2019



APRIL

Combat Airlifter

HORSING AROUND

Members of the 15th Airlift Wing and their families spent time with the horses at the 15th Airlift Wing's Equine Center in New Braunfels, Texas, on April 10. The center is a place where the wing's members and their families can enjoy the outdoors and spend time with the horses.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

19th ARXCS Announces Plans

The 19th Air Force's 19th Air Force Support Center (AFSC) is planning to move to a new location in New Braunfels, Texas, in the fall of 2019. The move is part of a larger effort to consolidate the 19th Air Force's operations in the area.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

Combat Airlifter

TESTING READINESS

Members of the 15th Airlift Wing's 15th Airlift Squadron (ALS) are testing the readiness of the wing's C-130 Hercules aircraft. The testing is part of a larger effort to ensure the aircraft are ready for deployment.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

23rd AF Commends Two

Two members of the 23rd Air Force were commended for their actions during a recent mission. The commendations were presented to them by the 23rd Air Force's commander.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

Combat Airlifter

INNOVATION

Members of the 15th Airlift Wing are participating in a Spork Task competition. The competition is a test of the wing's innovation and problem-solving abilities.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

23rd AF Commends Two

Two members of the 23rd Air Force were commended for their actions during a recent mission. The commendations were presented to them by the 23rd Air Force's commander.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

MAY

Combat Airlifter

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

Combat Airlifter

JUNIOR ROTC EXPO

Members of the 15th Airlift Wing's Junior ROTC program participated in an expo at the wing's headquarters. The expo was a chance for the students to learn more about the military and the wing's mission.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

15th Airlift Wing

Members of the 15th Airlift Wing participated in a recent mission. The mission was a test of the wing's ability to conduct complex operations.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

Combat Airlifter

TLR Airmen compete in CLEAR CHALLENGE

Members of the 15th Airlift Wing's TLR Airmen competed in the CLEAR CHALLENGE. The challenge is a test of the airmen's physical and mental abilities.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

19th ARXCS Announces Plans

The 19th Air Force's 19th Air Force Support Center (AFSC) is planning to move to a new location in New Braunfels, Texas, in the fall of 2019. The move is part of a larger effort to consolidate the 19th Air Force's operations in the area.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

Combat Airlifter

ABILENE TROPHY

Members of the 15th Airlift Wing's LRAF Community Council competed in the Abilene Trophy. The trophy is a test of the council's ability to conduct community outreach.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

23rd AF Commends Two

Two members of the 23rd Air Force were commended for their actions during a recent mission. The commendations were presented to them by the 23rd Air Force's commander.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

Combat Airlifter

WINGMAN DAY

Members of the 15th Airlift Wing participated in Wingman Day. The day is a chance for the wing's members to spend time with their families and friends.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

23rd AF Commends Two

Two members of the 23rd Air Force were commended for their actions during a recent mission. The commendations were presented to them by the 23rd Air Force's commander.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

JUNE

Combat Airlifter

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

Combat Airlifter

LRAF fire fighters always ready

Members of the 15th Airlift Wing's LRAF fire fighters are always ready to respond to emergencies. The fire fighters are trained to handle a wide variety of emergencies.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

15th Airlift Wing

Members of the 15th Airlift Wing participated in a recent mission. The mission was a test of the wing's ability to conduct complex operations.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

Combat Airlifter

C-130s OVER NORMANDY

Members of the 15th Airlift Wing's C-130 Hercules aircraft celebrated D-Day. The celebration was a chance for the airmen to honor the military's role in the Normandy invasion.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

19th ARXCS Announces Plans

The 19th Air Force's 19th Air Force Support Center (AFSC) is planning to move to a new location in New Braunfels, Texas, in the fall of 2019. The move is part of a larger effort to consolidate the 19th Air Force's operations in the area.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

Combat Airlifter

19th LRS honors fallen Airman

Members of the 19th Air Force's 19th Logistics Readiness Squadron (LRS) honored a fallen airman. The honor was a chance for the squadron to remember the airman's service.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

23rd AF Commends Two

Two members of the 23rd Air Force were commended for their actions during a recent mission. The commendations were presented to them by the 23rd Air Force's commander.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

Combat Airlifter

Change of Command

Members of the 15th Airlift Wing participated in a change of command ceremony. The ceremony was a chance for the wing's members to bid adieu to their former commander and welcome their new commander.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

23rd AF Commends Two

Two members of the 23rd Air Force were commended for their actions during a recent mission. The commendations were presented to them by the 23rd Air Force's commander.

PHOTO: JAMES HARRIS

Welcome

Continued from page 2

agencies over time to try and find the best fit for what works for the base.

“Our goal is to show people when they come here they are a part of ‘Herk Nation’ and a part of our community, and we are all better for it,” said U.S. Air Force Col. Gerald Donohue, 19th AW commander. “We need to let them know they are welcomed into our family immediately and throughout their time here at Little Rock. That will enable us to continue to have strong ties with our Airmen and their families, and ultimately it will benefit our Air Force as a whole by promoting resilience from the start.”

Expect to see more movements of personnel and helping agencies across the base as Team Little Rock takes a broad, deliber-

ate approach to position staff to respond to Airmen when and where they need it, and to help ensure Airmen are getting the best, most efficient care possible.

Move locations:

Bldg. 1260

- Inspector General

- Bldg. 1250

- Public Affairs

Bldg. 1240

- Director of Staff

- Equal Opportunity

- SAPR

- Special Victims’ Counsel

Walters Community Support Center

- 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.



U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Khim Mallari, 19th Comptroller Squadron financial operations technician, helps U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Andrew Smith, 19th Airlift Wing director of staff, fill out a Defense Travel System form during a mock in-processing at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, Feb. 8, 2019. The Combat Airlift Welcome Center will be the first stop for new Airmen arriving to Little Rock AFB and serve as a one-stop shop for new Airmen and their families to process through the military personnel section, medical, traffic management office and finance.



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. Schutte assumed command following his assignment as the 314th AW vice commander at Little Rock AFB.

19th Airlift Wing welcomes TLR leader as new commander

By Staff Sgt. Dana J. Cable

19th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

U.S. Air Force Col. John Schutte, 19th Airlift Wing commander, gives his first remarks after accepting command at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, June 27, 2019. During his remarks, Schutte noted a need for continued focus on developing and maintaining readiness competencies to be prepared to meet future national security demands.

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.

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."

See New, 13

AETC recognizes 62nd AS as top ops squadron

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

The 62nd Airlift Squadron received Air Education and Training Command's Top Operations Squadron for 2018 at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, earlier this year.

This award is given to squadrons for exceptional execution of the flying training mission. However, the 62nd AS also focused, during this time, on what it means to develop students not just as operations, but as Airmen, too.

"A whole new generation of Airmen is coming through our doors, pushing us to adapt our instruction to sharpen the competitive edge of strategic and tactical combat airlift while creating a teamwork and wingman-ship mentality in each individual Airman," said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Shane Saum, 62nd AS director of operations.

Some difficulties flying squadrons face include being unable to complete their flight hours due to weather conditions or maintenance. The 62nd AS found ways around those hurdles to further develop Airmen with the competencies and skillsets needed to do the combat airlift mission in a contested environment, leading them down the path toward the award.

Regardless of home station flight conditions, instructors and students flew to other locations such as Louisiana and Tennessee to complete more than enough flight hours.

"We switch aircraft if one has a maintenance issue and go to one of our other flight locations to make sure we complete our flight hours," Saum said. "Never have we flown more hours than we have this last year. That increase in operations and deliberate training contributed to winning us this award."

The 62nd AS instructed 4,000 sorties, flew over 11,000 hours, graduated about 330 students to seven different major commands and four international students to their respective country. This increase in flight hours for student loadmasters and pilots necessarily required more focus on safety in flight, and the 62nd AS managed to prevent hard landings and other potentially injury-causing events in 2018.

"The things we do are inherently dangerous," said U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. CJ Campbell, 62nd AS operations



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

A C-130J from the 314th Airlift Wing flies over Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas during the fly-in exercise, March 15, 2019. Eight C-130J units from around the globe came together to enhance mobility partnerships across the C-130J enterprise during the second-annual C-130J fly-in at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, March 9-16, 2019.

superintendent. "As instructors, we pride ourselves on a year of flying safely."

Instructors have capitalized on their increased flying hours to give students more experience flying while also recruiting potential students. The 62nd AS has conducted recruiting missions to numerous colleges in Florida, Virginia and many other states. Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets from those colleges received an incentive flight by the 62nd AS, and new Airmen enlisted in the back of a C-130J as well.

"There're a lot of things we are trying to do to promote 'Herk Nation,' like showing incoming Airmen what it's like to be part of this kind of Air Force family" Saum said. "Our moto is 'Herk Nation Starts Here' because we get that initial phase with the new Airmen who are beginning their C-130J career."

"We're doing things right," Campbell said. "Instead of just going down a checklist and hitting every box, we went above and beyond to ensure mobility Airmen are ready for any operation they're assigned to after coming through our doors. We are already doing a cool job, but

when you get recognized for it, that takes our motivation to a whole new level to grow and hopefully get recognized again and again."



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

(Above) Little Rock Air Force Base Honor Guard 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.

(Right) 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.



News

Continued from page 11

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.”