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STRENGTH OF PURPOSE

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**Fujii Upgraded to MOH**

President Joe Biden during a July 5, 2022 White House ceremony bestowed the nation’s highest military honor, the Medal of Honor, to four Army soldiers for heroism during the Vietnam War. Among the four was Army Aviation Hall of Fame inductee Specialist Five Dennis M. Fujii who received the award for actions over four days in February 1971 treating wounded and directing air strikes against enemy positions after his air ambulance was forced to crash land. For more details, see page 154 of this issue.

**Fenton Assumes Command of USSOCOM**


**McCurry Takes Command of USAACE and Aviation Branch**

Then-BG Michael C. McCurry assumed command of the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker from MG David J. Francis during a change of command ceremony on Howze Field July 21, 2022. LTG Theodore D. Martin, U.S. Army Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth commander, facilitated the ceremonial passing of the unit colors. McCurry, who was promoted to MG effective Aug. 1, comes to USAACE from his most recent assignment as director of Force Development (G-8), U.S. Army, Washington, DC. Francis departs for Germany and his assignment as director, J-3 Operations/Cyber, U.S. Africa Command.

**AMCOM Welcomes O’Connor**

MG Thomas W. O’Connor, Jr. receives the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command colors from GEN Edward M. Daily, commanding general of U.S. Army Materiel Command, during an Aug. 12, 2022 change of command ceremony at Redstone Arsenal, AL. O’Connor, a Master Army Aviator whose previous assignment was as Deputy CG, Eighth Army, assumed command from MG K. Todd Royar (back to camera) who retires with over 34 years of service.

**Free Child-Care Pilot for Guard Soldiers**

Army National Guard troops in six states now have a new option for securing childcare for drill weekends. Members of the Army Guard who are assigned to units in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Ohio, Virginia, and Washington state are able to enroll in the program starting Sept. 1 in preparation for drill weekends beginning in November: Contact your unit for more information.
"I am as proud of my time with Bell’s Team Valor and UAW as I am my time in the service. We’re all committed to Army modernization."

Scott Ford
UAW 218 Member, U.S. Army Veteran

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Resources are tight, supply chain issues, and inflation are putting significant strain on the force. All that said, the resilience of our Army Aviation Soldiers and their families will once again rise to the challenge and emerge ever stronger.

Since my last article, I have continued my pilgrimage to visit all the chapters, always reinforcing that we at AAAA National simply exist to support you and the chapters. I have just returned from a visit to the Northern Lights chapter in Alaska and am scheduled to visit Badger, Land of Lincoln, Great Lakes, Wright Brothers, and Bluegrass, enroute to the Aircraft Survivability Equipment Symposium in Lexington, Kentucky. I believe that brings me to 48 of our 76 chapters that have hosted me for discussions about making our Association stronger.

For us at AAAA, we are entering our busiest six months as we plan and execute our key engagements with our aviation and industry family. By the time you read this, the annual Aircraft Survivability Equipment (ASE) Symposium will have taken place in Lexington, KY. That event will be the kick-off to our meeting cycle which includes the vastly expanded Joseph P. Cribbins Readiness Conference in Huntsville, AL, November 14-16, and the Corpus Christi, TX Luther Jones Depot Forum on December 6-7, 2022. For me, the highlight of all these upcoming events is the private awardee dinners we hold for our winners and their families. AAAA flies them in from around the world to be recognized, creating a lifelong memory for these awardees. Getting to know their stories as a family and hearing of their sacrifices make all that we do at AAAA worthwhile.

Each of these annual events works one mission area of our Army Aviation Community and each one is indicative of how AAAA uses its “Four Pillars” of Networking, Recognition, Voice, and Support to achieve our Mission statement to “Support the U.S. Army Aviation Soldier and Family.” Our Aviation family is so strong and it’s... everywhere! I am in Alaska, I look up and there is LTC (Ret.) Eric Johnson, a fellow AAAA member from Alabama, on a cruise/tour. I walked into a store in Fairbanks; the lady asked me where I was from. I told her Alabama. She replied that her husband went to flight school there. Our network is like no other.

As we continue to emerge from the COVID-19 restrictions and distractions, I can’t emphasize enough how important it is to come together physically to engage face-to-face, working to get the best solutions for our Army. Whether you are industry, uniformed, (Active and Reserve Component), or an allied nation, recent events in Europe have proven yet again that we must be prepared in every aspect from materiel, to training and doctrine, and even research and development, to meet the threats around the world. Virtual meetings have their place, but there is no substitute for rolling up our sleeves and jointly seeking the best possible outcomes for our Soldiers. We at AAAA seek to be a key enabler and facilitator for those engagements. Speaking of Aviation Soldiers… we need to continue to work the Recognition pillar through you in your units and our chapters. Take the time to write and send in nominations for the dozens of awards that AAAA and industry sponsor in the course of the year. Whether it is Unmanned Systems, ASE, Air Traffic Control, and even aeromedicine, AAAA has an award to recognize the excellence among us. We can’t recognize if we don’t have nominations. I am asking leaders at all levels to take the time to get your deserving individuals and units into the pool of potential winners by filling out a simple form. Some of you do an amazing job of making sure their personnel get nominated for virtually every single available award, and we appreciate that. Deserving people deserve to be recognized.

Keep sending in the good ideas to make our association better and stronger. Hope to see you at one of these events. GET THOSE NOMINATIONS IN ... especially for our National awards at the Summit. Suspense is January 1! www.quad-a.org/awards Above the Best.

MG Tim Crosby, U.S. Army Retired
35th President, AAAA
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It is a tremendous honor to serve as the 17th Chief of the Army Aviation Branch and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence.

Our outstanding Soldiers, Civilians, and Families of Army Aviation are truly inspiring, and leading our Branch toward Army 2030 and beyond is a distinct privilege.

The commitment of our Soldiers and the devotion of our Families enables Army Aviation to remain ready to fight and win and ensures we maintain the sacred trust with our fellow Soldiers on the ground. As proud parents of Soldiers serving in Aviation, Armor, and the Infantry, Sadie and I fully understand what is expected of our Aviators and are forever grateful for the sacrifice and dedication of our Army Families.

Our family is excited to return to Fort Rucker and reunite with the gracious Wiregrass Community, where Sadie and I began our Army journey together 29 years ago. We are thankful for the incredible strides MG Dave and Jodie Francis have made in modernizing our force and improving life for Soldiers and Families here at Fort Rucker; their accomplishments over the last 38 months are phenomenal.

MG Francis led lasting change in our Branch and set the conditions for Army Aviation to meet the challenges of Large Scale Combat Operations on future battlefields. We will continue the work to relentlessly pursue the most significant and sweeping transformation in over 40 years; to provide a modern, trained, and fit force of Aviation Leaders and Soldiers focused on mastering the fundamentals of our profession as the aerial arm of combined arms maneuver.

Coming directly from HQDA G-8, I can tell you that teamwork in Aviation force development and modernization efforts has always been a trademark of our branch, and it remains fundamental to our success. The partnership across the entire Army Aviation Enterprise, with the “Six Pack,” our National Guard & Reserve leaders, and industry remains vital to staying on glideslope. Leveraging these relationships as we continue to drive change across leader development, training, readiness, maintenance, and doctrine to become the Aviation Branch of Army 2030 will be invaluable.

These are challenging times around the world. As we continue to improve our readiness and shape our posture to meet the pacing threat of China and the urgent challenge posed by Russia, current events in Ukraine are providing valuable insights. Future Vertical Lift (FVL) capabilities of FLRAA, FARA, and FTUAS are crucial, and the “Human” domain remains imperative to effectively achieving transformation goals.

Maximizing the development of our Aviation Soldiers and Leaders during institutional training will be paramount for preparing them to arrive at units ready to progress and sustain our force. Initiatives such as the Unit Trainer Evaluator (UT/E) focus our training on Aviation warfighting skills and enable Combat Aviation Brigade leadership to generate more tactically proficient crews, platoons, and companies.

Our Future Vertical Lift aircraft will bring increased levels of survivability, speed, range, and the convergence of lethal effects to the combined arms team. The synergy with improvements in training and tactics will ensure our Aviation force is ready to fight and win in large scale combat operations.

This is an exciting time to be a member of the Aviation enterprise, and I am humbled and honored to assume the mantle as Branch Chief. Thank you for your continued dedicated service and sacrifice to our Nation, and thank you to our Families who remain faithful, supportive, and vital to our mission. Sadie and I are honored to serve with each of you.

Above the Best!

MG Michael C. McCurry II is the Army Aviation branch chief and commander of the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker, AL.
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POWER TO PROTECT
Greetings from the Pentagon, where I have the honor to serve alongside an incredible team in DAMO-AV as the new Director of Army Aviation. I’d like to thank BG Clair Gill for his leadership in advancing Aviation interests within the Army and DOD this past year.

I can report we are in excellent shape as we continue to synchronize efforts across the Army Aviation Enterprise to modernize the force, build readiness, and train formations in the art and science of large scale combat operations.

The Army of 2030 is where we are going, but I’d like to take a moment to reflect on the recent past and recognize the stellar role Army Aviation units played in some incredibly complex and dynamic environments. In my previous assignment as Deputy Director for Regional Operations & Force Management on the Joint Staff, I had a unique perspective to observe first-hand the operational successes of Army Aviation over the past two years. I can tell you, the demand for highly trained Army Aviation capabilities among the combatant commanders remains high – and with good reason. The capability and flexibility Army Aviation brings to the fight is unmatched. Our incredible leaders and Soldiers in all of our formations have truly impressed me with incredible courage and missions accomplishment.
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Last year, as the drawdown in Afghanistan quickened, the 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB) demonstrated flexibility and adaptability in the face of a dynamic situation by far exceeding the expected mission set for their deployment in support of Operation Freedom’s Sentinel (OFS). Arriving in April 2021 as part of Task Force Talon, they received a change of mission from steady-state aviation operations to the full retrograde of Afghanistan. After closing almost all the bases in Afghanistan and participating in the final joint tactical exfiltration of Bagram Airfield, Task Force Talon transitioned to operations at Hamid Karzai International Airport (HKIA) in Kabul to support the remaining U.S. citizens and Department of State personnel at the U.S. Embassy. We all observed the scenes at HKIA unfold daily on the news as the Afghanistan government collapsed and the Taliban assumed control. Task Force Talon crews conducted thousands of hours of accident-free aviation operations while transporting over 1,500 Americans and Allied personnel from the U.S. Embassy and an additional 8,000 Americans and at-risk personnel from the areas across Kabul to the airport for evacuation.

Army Aviation continues to have a profound impact in the CENTCOM area of responsibility (AOR) and across the total force as 11th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade (ECAB)(USAR) supports Operation Spartan Shield/Operation Inherent Resolve (OSS/OIR) with 36th ECAB (ARNG) to provide support as well.

Europe

After the sudden invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces, Army Aviation once again found itself executing operations as elements of the 82nd CAB and 1st Air Cavalry Brigade (1ACB) deployed to Europe to deter further Russian aggression and demonstrate America’s resolve to its NATO allies. 1ACB and 82nd CAB highlighted Army Aviation’s ability to improvise and adapt in the face of uncertainty. 1ACB deployed as the OAR rotational CAB; conducted Saber Strike ’22 and rapidly repositioned into staging bases in Poland, demonstrating the CAB’s agility and proficiency to conduct mission essential tasks while integrated with our NATO partners.

Similarly, the 82nd CAB supported the 82nd ABN DIV in assuring NATO allies by rapidly deploying a Task Force to establish Temporary Safe Haven operations in Europe. Task Force Temporary Safe Haven consisted of a small CAB headquarters leading a split-based organization of multiple organizations including intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR), medical and veterinary, Military Police, Civilian Affairs, and PSYOP. The CAB also rapidly deployed and established UAS operations within days of standing up.

Combined with ongoing support to exercises in the Indo-Paciﬁc AOR, the common thread in these examples is the excellence in leadership and warfighting demonstrated by Aviation formations that enables Army Aviation to provide unmatched capability to operations around the globe.

Looking Forward

Looking forward, in DAMO-AV we are laser-focused to ensure our Aviation units are fully resourced and trained so that they can continue to excel in the face of adversity and provide unparalleled support to the Soldier on the ground. We’ll do this by encouraging unit commanders to maintain
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focus on executing their flying hour program to generate and maintain readiness while improving safety. Effective air-ground operations in large scale combat operations require fully trained, fully modernized aviation units. Full execution of a unit's flying hour program is paramount to generating and maintaining readiness. This requires training and sustaining the readiness level directed by your command. Units will be allocated hours based on their forecasted/assigned missions and it is up to commands to manage them. Meaning, if you’re given enough hours to achieve T3 readiness, that’s the level we expect you to achieve.

Modernization
To guide this effort, the Army is implementing the Regionally Aligned Readiness & Modernization Model (ReARMM). This balances OPTEMPO for commanders, units, Soldiers and Families with dedicated periods for mission, training, and modernization. For units in the modernization period, modernization is the mission! Winning in future environments against peer and near-peer adversaries will require technological leaps in reach, lethality, and survivability. This is the impetus for developing Future Vertical Lift aircraft and enablers. ReARMM is the Army’s plan for fielding these and other new technologies while meeting our directed readiness requirements. Operational readiness rates, training proficiency, and overall readiness goals will be appropriately metered during modernization. Our forward-assigned combat aviation brigades will execute in-stride modernization as they remain in continuous employment, while our Reserve Component expeditionary combat aviation brigades will be modernized through their existing life-cycle models.

In line with our modernization efforts, we are also evaluating how best to structure Army Aviation to support the Army of 2030 and the National Defense Strategy. Per the Army’s Multi Domain Operations (MDO) concept, Divisions will be the primary combat unit of action to conduct large scale combat operations. We are examining options for how Aviation units can best support Divisions for large scale combat operations while setting the conditions to field Future Vertical Lift beginning in 2030.

New Key Personnel
As is usually the case over summer, there’s been a fair amount of turnover in DAMO-AV. I’d like to welcome our new division chiefs: COL Mark Ott, Modernization Division, and LTC (P) Kevin Consedine, Operations and Readiness Division. COL Ryan Sullivan will assume Deputy Director duties. Please reach out to any one of us if you think we can be of assistance. I’m looking forward to working closely with our new Branch Chief MG Mac McCurry to leverage his years of experience on the Army Staff and support his vision for Army Aviation. Given the leadership in the branch, the quality team in DAMO-AV, and the professionalism of our aviators, aircrews, and maintainers, the future is bright for Army Aviation.

MG William D. "Hank" Taylor is the Director of Army Aviation at Headquarters, Department of the Army G-3/5/7 (DAMO-AV).
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Serving the US Army and our allied partner nations
The Role of the Aviation Mission Survivability Officer Versus the Aviation Tactics Instructor

By CW5 Travis Haney

There are many questions from the field on the roles of the Aviation Mission Survivability Officer (AMSO) and the Aviation Tactics Instructor.

The emerging development of the Unit Trainer Evaluator (UT/E) combined with the pending release of AR 95-1 and the TC 3-04.9 are blurring the lines of these roles. LTC Brian Silva's article "Training for How We Will Fight: Aviation Tactics Instructor Course" in AAAA Army Aviation Magazine, 31 May 2022, page 52, provides an excellent breakdown of the development of the Aviation Tactics Instructor. LTC Silva identifies the requirements for the Aviation Tactics Instructor Course (ATIC) and the milestones over the coming years. He also provides a clear delineation between the AMSO and Tactics Instructor roles. This article will expand upon that idea by giving a perspective from the Aviation Mission Survivability Officer Course (AMSOC) Manager.

Army Doctrinal Publication (ADP) 3-90 defines Tactics as “The employment, ordered arrangement, and directed actions of forces in relation to each other.” The AMSO and the Tactics instructor must be experts in tactics but from differing perspectives. Tactics Instructors must visualize the fight and understand how to employ aviation assets to meet all criteria for mission success. This involves, but is not limited to understanding capabilities and limitations, maneuvering formations, and how we will need to employ munitions to enable success. The Tactics Instructor must also be able to train and evaluate the ability of the organization to plan, fly and fight with this mindset. So, where does the AMSO come into this process?

The AMSO is also an expert at tactics, specifically from the enemy’s perspective. The AMSO identifies the...
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Enemy Order of Battle to understand what elements will support key targets during each phase of the planning cycle. The AMSO understands specific Air Defense (AD) elements and where to find them on the battlefield. This information feeds the targeting cycle enabling the formation to effectively plan and execute missions in Large Scale Combat Operations (LSCO). The AMSO is responsible for training and evaluating Aviation Mission Survivability (AMS) tasks. The AMSO must also train and mentor the Intelligence Officer (S2) at every echelon on Aircraft Survivability Equipment (ASE) capabilities and limitations and significant Army Aviation threats. The AMSO informs the S2 about Fused Mission Planning and the intelligence products required for mission success, such as Detailed Target Analysis, HLZ mensuration, Pattern of Life Analysis, Real-Time intelligence updates of SIGINT, COMINT, or other collection products providing accurate depictions of the current battlefield.

**The Path Ahead**

While the ATIC has an outlined path for the future, the AMSOC change is still in development. In Spring of 2023, Directorate of Training Development (DOTD), Survivability Branch will hold a Critical Task Site Selection Board (CTSSB) to refine the critical tasks of the AMSO. It will help delineate the shared responsibilities of the Tactics Instructor and the AMSO and identify tasks each performs separately. The CTSSB will enable the Survivability Branch to identify the tools and resources to continue the development of the AMSOC Program of Instruction (POI). Upon approval of the UT/E program, future AMSOC students will have to complete UT/E Phase 1 before attending the course, facilitating removal of Fundamentals of Instruction (FOI) to allow time for AMS UT/E training. The future intent is to complete academics and simulation requirements for AMS UT/E upon graduation. The new AMSOs will finish the flight portion at their units to be a functioning AMSO after the course. Future capability could mandate UT/E Phase 1, day and night before attendance. It may be possible in the future to allow the course to run in conjunction with ATIC and assume a flying portion, enabling ATIC and AMSOC students the opportunity to train and learn from each other in a controlled schoolhouse environment.

The AMSO and Tactics Instructor are force multipliers for the commander. Each has shared training responsibilities and offers precise and discrete areas of expertise. As with any new change, a culture shift is necessary. It begins at the lowest levels and works its way up. The aviators training at the Advanced Warfighting Skills (AWS) Course, AMSOC, future ATIC and Aviation Captains Career Course (AVCCC) will be the leaders spearheading the change.

Above the Best!

---

**CW5 Travis Haney** is the Army Aviation Mission Survivability Officer at Headquarters, Department of the Army, Deputy Chief of Staff G-3/5/7, DAMO-AV.

**CW5 Michael “Myke” Lewis** is the ninth chief warrant officer of the Aviation Branch with the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, Fort Rucker, AL.

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WE’VE STOOD WHERE YOU STAND

For 21 years and 7 months, Bruce Melendez proudly served in the U.S. Army in various roles including CH47 Mechanic, CH47 Flight Engineer, CH47 Technical Inspector, CH47 Test Pilot Course Instructor, Squad Leader and Platoon Sergeant.

Today, Bruce is our Flight Test Lead; a role for which his time in the service prepared him well. His service to our country continues to be his life work as he contributes his knowledge as a civilian.

He knows what you demand - he’s stood where you stand.
As we transition from COIN to LSCO, we are shaping the force to change how we fight to meet future challenges and become Army 2030. Army Aviation is currently undergoing one of the most comprehensive transformations that we have seen in the last 40 years.

We are not only changing how we conduct operations with doctrinal concepts, but we are changing organizations through force design. We are modernizing aircraft & equipment. We are preparing to introduce Future Vertical Lift aircraft into our formations. Our Soldiers’ competency, proficiency, and quality are fundamental to all of these changes.

We need to update Individual Training on pace with our emerging operational requirements, changes to the force, and changes to the technology and equipment we use to execute the mission. Every Soldier must undergo specialized training to master the tasks critical to contributing to the Aviation mission. Throughout their career, those tasks evolve to match the increased responsibility placed on our Aviation warfighters. The process we use to revise and change Individual or Military Occupational Skill (MOS) training is the Critical Task Site Selection Board (CTSSB). The CTSSB process is how we update Soldier MOS training with input for our units in the field doing the mission.

To realize MOS training modernization goals, we need our Aviation Soldiers, senior enlisted advisors, and leaders in the field to respond to Aviation DOTD CTSSB Surveys to help determine what Soldier MOS tasks should stay in training and what should go. Our leaders must also enable the CTSSB process by ensuring that their most talented and proficient Soldiers will participate in these boards when called.

Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) Pamphlet 350-70-1, “Training Development in Support of the Operational Training Domain,” dated 12 February 2021, and TRADOC Pamphlet 350-70-14, “Training and Educational Development in Support of the Institutional Domain,” dated 15 April 2021 cover the CTSSB process in detail. CTSSB leverages a collaboration between senior leaders, subject matter experts, and Soldiers to determine what tasks are relevant, need emphasis within our Aviation MOSs, what tasks are antiquated, and what tasks we should remove from skill qualification curriculums. Soldier and leader input is critical to this process.
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- UH-60/S-70 Patented Hoist Arm System
A CTSSB convenes for MOS or additional skills identifier (ASI) every three years; it is the process that creates, validates, and revises the Individual Critical Task List (ICTL) of functions fundamental to a particular Military Occupational Skill. The CTSSB is the formal ending to the job analysis cycle culminating with the production of the ICTL. This phased board process takes input from various subject area perspectives to develop the optimal methodology for training a task. Additionally, the board specifies whether task training will occur at the institutional resident or unit level. Qualified Soldiers currently working in the MOS or ASI comprise the board. The importance of serving on a CTSSB cannot be stressed enough; this allows Soldiers to play a critical role in shaping the future of their MOS or ASI while also shaping the future of Army Aviation.

The Army Aviation Branch uses the CTSSB process to prepare Soldiers to do their jobs proficiently to win tomorrow’s war. Without a deliberate CTSSB planning process, we risk having jobs that evolve absent of relevance—leading to bayonet training for a technological war. Continuing to train and send Soldiers unprepared to operate at the highest level of proficiency or execute misaligned unit-level training is something we cannot afford as we pursue Army 2030 goals.

Leader selection of the right CTSSB participants from the operational force is vital to the board’s effectiveness. As we transition from COIN to LSCO, we must get this right. Board members should represent the knowledge and skill of the Aviation Enterprise as they determine what tasks and skill levels are critical to the MOS or ASI accomplishment. We also need to maximize the participation of the Army Reserve and National Guard in this process. Resources, time, and equipment available in the Reserve components present unique training challenges and perspectives. Reserve Component participation in the CTSSB process ensures that MOS training will be successful and sustainable across the Total Force.

The Army’s peacetime mission is to prepare for war, and a large part of that preparation is training. Our Soldiers are our greatest assets and deserve the best training available. The Army uses tried and proven processes such as CTSSBs to ensure our Soldiers receive the most relevant training to succeed in combat.

Above the Best!

SGM Frederick D. Jordan is the senior enlisted advisor in the USAACE Directorate of Training and Doctrine; CSM James D. Wilson is the command sergeant major of the Aviation Branch at the United States Army Aviation Center of Excellence—both located at Fort Rucker, AL.

Enlisted Aviation Soldier Spotlight

Each month we will feature a past AAAA National or Functional Enlisted or NCO Award winner as part of our ongoing recognition of the Best of the Best in our Aviation Branch. The CY 2021 National winners were featured in the March/April AAAA Army Aviation Mission Solutions Summit issue.

Avionics Award, 2019
Sponsored by Cubic Defense Systems, Inc.

SSG Jacob E. Hurley
Company D, 1st Battalion, 52nd Aviation Regiment
Task Force Apocalypse
Operation Freedom’s Sentinel, Afghanistan

SSG Hurley has been an indispensable subject matter expert during his time as an Avionics Supervisor for TF Apocalypse in support of Operations Freedom’s Sentinel and Resolute Support. A “go-to” resource for military and civilian avionics professionals, he encountered several battle damage repairs consistently leading the theater in repair time and quality. After a CH-47F received enemy fire that destroyed almost 100 wires, his expertise and leadership ensured that all wires were spliced resulting in no subsequent faults or issues with the aircraft. His actions directly affected the outcome of multiple mission sets across southeast Afghanistan and his maintenance expertise contributed to an average Task Force operational readiness rate of over 90%. His technical prowess proved to be invaluable to his section during the repair of four battle-damaged aircraft which required over 480 maintenance man hours dedicated to testing avionic systems and splicing or replacing hundreds of electrical wires, ensuring minimal downtime, and positively affecting the operational readiness of the fleet by 18%. He managed in excess of 9,450 maintenance man hours of avionic work, which enabled the unit to fly over 16,000 combat hours. SSG Hurley’s actions clearly identify him as the winner of the 2019 Army Aviation Association of America Avionics Award.

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Proactive Design & System Development
By CW4 Salem St. James

Today’s development and management systems are increasingly complex, and in many cases hazard analysis is conducted after the design is completed.

Traditional safety engineering techniques regard hazard analysis and accident prevention with a reactive approach, focusing on individual and component failures. This does not facilitate an efficient safety process. Including hazard analysis into the engineering and design process enables decision-makers to establish a more effective and cost-efficient system.

The System-Theoretic Process Analysis (STPA) is a contemporary technique that incorporates hazard analysis into the development phase, allowing identified hazards to be eliminated from the beginning. Although STPA incorporates traditional methods of hazard analysis, it was developed to pick up where current methods left off, providing an examination of the entire system rather than simply focusing on individual components respective to accidents. This technique seeks to identify an inadequate control within the design to eliminate it altogether.

The design of complicated systems demands a hazard analysis technique that can adapt to its complexity. Naturally, the complexity increases when humans are factored into the system. The STPA process includes human behavior in its analysis, making the process more dynamic due to human unpredictability. Because it’s often inconsistent, human behavior requires additional analysis to determine the worst-case behavior and incorporate the respective control structure that reduces or eliminates human error. Without including human behavior into the analysis, as well as the interaction between humans and machines, engineering accidents out of the design process will become increasingly difficult.

For example, on the UH-60M Black Hawk, the hydraulic system’s design incorporates the human-machine relationship into the hazard analysis process. There are three independent hydraulic systems, and each can provide pressure to the flight controls for system redundancy. Establishing which system is in control is an incremental process of pilot-operated switches and corresponding advisory lights, keeping the crew informed of which system is currently in operation and reducing the risk of a pilot mistakenly turning off the wrong one. Additionally, should one of the systems fail or a pilot turn off the system erroneously, the backup hydraulic pump automatically turns on, providing pressure to the flight controls and illuminating a different colored warning light that informs the crew the backup is operating. Due to the nature of the toggle switches, it is impossible for the pilots to turn off two hydraulic pumps at the same time.

The success of engineering system designs in today’s rapidly advancing world depends on staying proactive and incorporating critical factors such as risk and hazard analysis into the development phase. Regarding humans within the system and the goal to ensure safety, it is critical for the design to include redundancy, incremental control, and error tolerance. Ensuring controls are in place to prevent mistakes and misunderstood instructions, as well as inadequate procedures, allows the human operator to not only recognize when an error is made, but also to have enough time to correct it. Without a strong understanding of the benefits provided through this more proactive systems approach, we risk falling behind or becoming stagnant with reactive accident prevention and safety programs that continue to result in preventable mishaps.

CW4 Salem St. James is an aviation mishap investigator at the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center at Ft. Rucker, AL.
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Together, improving life
Modernization of Army systems is necessary for our ability to compete and win on the Multi-Domain Operational Battlefield.

The UH-60 Victor is the Army Aviation's initial platform that has a Modular Open System Approach incorporated into the design. The opportunity for fielding the UH-60 Victor Black Hawk began for the Army National Guard in March 2019 when the 1-106th AHB received a notification of fielding.

The UH-60 Victor provides an integrated avionics suite that modernizes the UH-60 Lima Black Hawk with a glass cockpit, including an integrated computational system and visual/control display units that replace the analog gauges. It also is an open and scalable, fully integrated mission equipment package that enhances pilot situational awareness and mission safety, decreases workload and life cycle cost, and provides a common training environment.

As Army Aviation leaders, we focus on the MAN-EQUIP-TRAIN for mission success. The 1-106th AHB had over 60 Aviators requiring a transition from the UH-60 Lima to the UH-60 Victor in less than two years. To accomplish the training quickly and efficiently, the 1-106th AHB aircrews conducted an eight-week UH-60 Mike Model course at the Eastern Army National Guard Aviation Training Site (EAATS), Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania. Aviators then conducted a follow-on two-week UH-60 Mike to Victor course either at EAATS or at home station.

In addition, the unit faced the challenge of training more than 125 aircraft maintenance personnel. All this training and integration required a balance of family life and operations, including preparation for an upcoming deployment. Balance, patience, and partnership resulted in a successful UH-60 Victor fielding.

Balance
Soldiers were able to achieve a work-life balance, while maintaining their civilian careers. The more experienced senior Aviators were spaced consecutively to begin the transition from analog to digital without neglecting the unit’s responsibility to employ and retain the junior Aviators. In the move from analog to digital we also exploited the “tech savvy” of the junior Aviators and put them in unique leadership/training roles.

Patience
During any fielding, there are always issues that occur with a new piece of equipment. The 1-106th AHB aircrews were excited to get their hands on the new system and begin training. It takes patience not to rush to failure and despite deadlines, to ensure that no shortcuts were taken that could jeopardize the safety of the Soldiers while maintaining Army standards.

Partnership
Most important of all the key themes to the UH-60 Victor program was the partnerships within the Department of Army. The 1-106th AHB partnered with U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command for the UH-60 Victor evaluation and established a working group consisting of organizations across the Army and Aviation Enterprise to address fielding and operational testing issues and set the conditions for program success.

Initial UH-60V Impressions
The 1-106th AHB aircrews are impressed by the improved flight management and tactical situational awareness—reducing the overall crew workload. With upgraded flight displays and avionics, combat Aviators developed a greater confidence to successfully navigate through all modes of flight. The 1-106th is honored to be the first unit equipped with the UH-60 Victor Black Hawk and stand poised and ready for future missions.

Way Ahead
1-106th AHB will conduct an initial operational test of the UH-60 Victor beginning in July 2022 with a culminating record test in August 2022. The record test will set the stage for a future decision on full-rate production.
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Army Aviation is always advancing, and so too must the training of future Army Aviation mechanics. The 128th Aviation Brigade is the epicenter of this training, combining the knowledge provided by NCOs with the experience of working on full-scale model aircraft to allow the future generation of Aviation mechanics to arrive at their units better prepared. When over 50% of any course is centered on the Training Aids, Devices, Simulators, and Simulations (TADSS), it is important that they receive the same attention as the aircraft that the Soldiers will soon be tasked with maintaining.

The TADSS that are provided at the 128th Aviation Brigade provide simulations from singular systems on aircraft, virtual training simulators, and full-scale aircraft. It is important that they receive the same attention as the aircraft that the Soldiers will soon be tasked with maintaining. The TADSS that are provided at the 128th Aviation Brigade provide simulations from singular systems on aircraft, virtual training simulators, and full-scale aircraft. It is important that the TADSS allow for student interaction. Many students arrive to training with very little to no knowledge of how a helicopter operates or is maintained. Students take the knowledge that they have gained in a classroom and apply it immediately; they leverage their instructors' experiences to gain a better appreciation of the maintenance tasks they will complete at their units.

With the incoming generation of Soldiers being more technologically focused than previous generations, the TADSS must also adapt. We are seeing this change as more training becomes virtual. Virtual simulations allow Soldiers to interact with a representation of the aircraft and even troubleshoot faults prior to training on a hands-on trainer. These virtual environments reduce the wear and tear of physical trainers while still giving the experience of working on the helicopter. If the virtual simulations are kept up to date, they provide the crawl component of the crawl, walk, run training progression.

While virtual simulations provide the visual understanding of the systems that students will see in the units, it cannot replace the benefits of putting hands on the components. Some components require system specific trainers. Therefore, teaching specific systems requires TADSS that do not focus on the aircraft type. These TADSS allow instructors to teach an understanding of how the system operates regardless of the aircraft that it is installed on.

The full-scale aircraft trainers are built with the purpose of giving the student the experience that they would not get from virtual trainers. They can turn wrenches, run wires, and understand that not every component is easily accessible. Full-scale models of the aircraft TADSS are what students will see at their units and brings a level of realism to the schoolhouse that cannot be found on a projector or computer screen. In many cases, not only are students taught the helicopter on these TADSS, but they are also taught basic maintenance principles while operating the training devices.

The NCOs and officers in the 128th Aviation Brigade are always looking for ways to improve and advance the TADSS, thus providing future Aviation mechanics with the best and most current training. This means investing the time and money to ensure that the TADSS are performing at their best. Students are always looking for the next opportunity to get onto the aircraft trainers, and with a better trainer, the students will leave the schoolhouse better prepared to maintain the Army's aircraft.

Born Under Fire!

SSG David M. Conniff is the training management NCO for Co. C, 1-210th Aviation Regiment, 128th Aviation Brigade, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA.
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Modeling & Simulation of Helicopter Slung Loads

Dr. Thomas L. Thompson

Slung loads transported by Army helicopters vary widely in size, weight, shape and how they are rigged to the host aircraft.

Wheeled vehicles, trailers, containers, weapons systems, boats, bridge sections and portable shelters are examples of the types of loads that have been certified for external transport by Chinook and Black Hawk helicopters. The unsteady forces and movements acting on slung loads may produce large oscillations that result in the load contacting the aircraft or coupling with the aircraft dynamics to degrade handling qualities. In recent years, the Army has invested S&T funds to improve our ability to predict the motion of a slung load and its effect on aircraft handling qualities. This article will discuss progress in these areas and ongoing efforts to validate and apply a coupled aircraft/slung-load simulation model to support airworthiness certification of new slung loads.

The primary obstacle in predicting the motion of a helicopter slung load is the complexity of the unsteady aerodynamics, which results from the large regions of separated flow and periodic vortex shedding that are characteristic of the airflow around most slung-load shapes. These flow phenomena often produce large, oscillatory forces and movements that have been quantified in flight testing, but until recently, have generally not been predicted very well. However, beginning in 2014, Dr. Marilyn Smith and her graduate students at Georgia Tech demonstrated the ability to model the complex physics of the slung-load flow field. Dr. Smith and her team then used the results of the CFD simulations, which often took days to run on high-performance computing systems, to develop a reduced-order model that approximates the CFD results but can be run in a few seconds. The reduced order model, called GT Aerodynamics of Bluff Bodies (GTABB), is a physics-based model, so it can be extended to predict the behavior of other load shapes.

The aircraft handling qualities can be significantly affected by the magnitude and frequency of the load aerodynamic and inertial forces and movements, which are transferred to the aircraft through single or dual cargo hooks. Flight Testing conducted by the Aviation and Missile Center’s Technology Development Directorate (TDD) has demonstrated that slung load effects on aircraft handling qualities are greatest for heavy loads (relative to the aircraft weight) and long sling lengths. For these conditions, TDD flight test results showed that the frequency of the load motion resulted in increased pilot workload and decreased ability to perform a given task. Results of the testing were used to develop revised ADS-33 handling qualities criteria for slung-load operations.

The Systems Readiness Directorate (SRD) has been working to develop and validate a coupled aircraft-load simulation model that can be used to support the certification of new slung loads. The vision for such a model was cast by Dr. Bill Lewis, who led the organization from 2004-2011. Dr. Lewis envisioned a model that could (a) estimate the airspeed at which the oscillations of a load become unstable, and (b) assess effects of the load on the handling qualities of the host aircraft, either through piloted or desktop simulation. The model results could then be used to design a more efficient, cost-effective flight test program to certify the new load and also to determine if proposed modifications to a certified load warranted additional flight testing. Such a model appeared out of reach initially, because of our inability to model the unsteady aerodynamics of the load. However, given Georgia Tech’s success with GTABB, SRD collaborated with Georgia Tech and Advanced Rotor Technology (ART) to couple the GTABB load aerodynamic model with ART’s FLIGHTLAB rotorcraft modeling software package. SRD will now use the integrated model to validate predictions of aircraft and slung-load behavior for a variety of aircraft-load combinations against flight test data acquired by TDD. Given the variety of slung loads carried by Army aircraft, the validation process will likely be lengthy, but the quest to develop a model that can predict the complexities of aircraft-slung load behavior is a worthy endeavor that can potentially increase our efficiency and effectiveness in certifying new slung loads.

Dr. Thomas L. Thompson is the Chief Engineer for Aeromechanics at the Systems Readiness Directorate, U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation & Missile Center, Redstone Arsenal, AL.
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**Ask the Flight Surgeon**

Off-Post Care, Communicating with Your Flight Surgeon & the New Electronic Medical Record  
By Mr. Joseph J. Pavelites, SFC Robert P. Plotts, MAJ Albert J. Lee

**Q:** I just reported to my first duty station, and I was referred to an off-post, civilian doctor for specialty care. Do I have to get these medical records back to my flight surgeon, and if I do, will the records be sent automatically?

**FS:** That is a great question. First off, no matter what Army component you are in, you are very likely to see an off-post provider at some time during your career. Getting that information back to a flight surgeon for review is not only a military obligation, but also sound Aviation medicine and a critical aspect of good communication with your flight surgeon. Secondly, your medical documentation will have to be placed into a new military health system (MHS) electronic medical record (EMR) known as MHS-GENESIS.

AR 600-105 and AR 40-8 requires pilots and flight crews to report all changes in health status and treatment, thereof. Specifically, AR 600-105 states in section 4–2. “Determination of medical fitness” that your flight surgeon needs to be informed about any changes in your health, illnesses requiring the use of medication, visits to a health care provider, restriction to quarters, or hospitalization and exposure to exogenous factors that might require a restriction from flying duties. As a review, exogenous factors can be any number of external influences that can temporarily or even permanently restrict your flying activities. Some examples include the use of alcohol & tobacco, immunizations as well as

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blood and plasma donations. Additionally, all medications, including over-the-counter medicines, as well as dietary supplements, need to be cleared by an aeromedical provider. So, make sure to have a discussion with your aeromedical provider as to the safety and efficacy of these products before taking them.

Please keep in mind that your flight surgeon needs to be informed in a timely manner of visits to any kind of health care provider. This includes visits to chiropractors, dentists, naturopaths, pharmacists, physical therapists, nutritionists, holistic healers, etc. It is not just your aeromedical providers and medics that can influence your health and safety in flight. Optimally, talk with your flight surgeon before receiving care with other providers on post or off. Remember, very few providers have training or experience with Aviation Medicine. An otherwise excellent healthcare professional might not even consider the limits and safety requirements of your profession or the impacts of their care plan on your career.

Will the records of your off-post visit make it back into your military health record automatically? Perhaps, but not likely. Be proactive and get copies of all your records from outside care, in digital or printed form, as soon as practicable and provide them to your aeromedical health care team or patient administration (PAD) office for addition to your EMR. In the past, the EMR at military treatment facilities (MTFs) was split among several systems, while the new EMR, MHS-GENESIS, is a single health record for service members, veterans, and their families. However, it is not replacing the Aeromedical Electronic Resource Office (AERO), the program that processes and stores your flight physicals. Included in the new EMR is the MHS-GENESIS Patient Portal that replaces the TRICARE Online Secure Patient Portal. The MHS Genesis Patient Portal is a secure website for 24/7 access to your health information, management of appointments and messaging your care team. More information about MHS-GENESIS can be found at https://health.mil/Military-Health-Topics/MHS-Transformation/MHS-GENESIS.

Please note that as your local MTF transitions to MHS-GENESIS, there will be some growing pains for the medical staff and providers. New orders placed on the old systems for prescription medicines, imaging, off-post referrals, etc., may not be carried over to the new system. You may have to contact your local MTF to make sure that during this transition your orders are still active or will be placed again in MHS-GENESIS. Likewise, when you bring in your off-post medical documentation for entry in MHS-GENESIS, uploading this information is done differently from the old system and might be a new process for the medical staff. Keep a copy of the original documentation and check on your Patient Portal to see that it has made it into your record.

As a side note, getting all medical documentation into the EMR quickly and effectively can also influence the length of time it takes to apply for a waiver. The waiver process relies heavily on a team approach that often includes assessment and treatment from off-post medical specialists. Easy access to the documentation from these referrals will help reduce the time it takes for your aeromedical provider to collect all relevant supporting information to submit for possible waiver approval.

In summary, get your medical information to your flight surgeon and review your care together. Expect changes in your EMR and get familiar with your MHS-GENESIS Patient Portal as the opportunity arises. Having a complete medical record will assist you and your aeromedical provider to develop the right plan to help keep you flying safe.

Fly Safe!

Questions?
If you have a question that you would like to have addressed, email it to AskFS@quad-a.org; we will try to address it in the future. See your unit flight surgeon for your health issues.

The views and opinions offered are those of the author and researchers and should not be construed as an official Department of the Army, Department of the Navy or Department of Defense position unless otherwise noted.

Joseph J. Pavelites is a master's degree candidate in Environmental Toxicology at the University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL; SFC Robert P. Plotts, BA, MBA, is a Special Forces Medic and Drive Medical Technician at 3rd Special Forces Group, Fort Bragg, NC; and MAJ Albert J. Lee is a flight surgeon and director of the U.S. Army Occupational Medicine Residency at the United States School of Army Aviation Medicine, Fort Rucker, AL.
Corporal Lason Arreola’s accomplishments as a 9A4, Aircraft Survivability Repairer, are nothing if not amazing. He has distinguished himself as a subject matter expert in the repair of Night Vision Goggles, Aviation radios, and Aircraft Survivability Systems (ASE) and was an integral part of the implementation of a new infrared countermeasure system. His maintenance experience has contributed to the superb upkeep of ASE installed on 16 MH-47G and 10 MH-60M helicopters valued over one billion dollars. He has been an integral part of maintaining no notice deployment aircraft resulting in ASE being Fully Mission Capable before departure. He was selected as the first choice for a no-notice deployment to the USS Lewis B. Puller ESB3 vessel in the Mediterranean Sea. His professionalism and expertise are the prime example of what a leader should be. His consistent dedication to the team and the mission has ensured that he, the unit, and the Soldiers he works with are ready to go at a moment’s notice both physically and mentally. CPL Arreola’s accomplishments, professionalism, and mission-focused approach to Aircraft Survivability for the Warfighter make him the only choice for the 2022 AAAA Aircraft Survivability Equipment Award.

CW4 Smith serves as a Regimental Flight Lead, Company AMSO, and Company Instructor Pilot for Delta Company 1-160 SOAR(Abn.), the Army’s largest assault helicopter company. He has consistently used his versatile skill set to solve complex aviation survivability problems worldwide. During the winter of 2021-2022, CW4 Smith deployed as the overall Helicopter Assault Force (HAF) AMSO and supported four distinct aircraft models on a nationally directed mission of the utmost importance. His detailed route and threat analysis plus interagency coordination directly enabled the successful flight deep into contested regime territory. In addition to this combat deployment, he led planning efforts towards multiple other high-priority contingency operations such as the Regiment’s Denied Area Planning Team MH-60 Flight Lead. His efforts enabled other Flight Leads across the Regiment to plan and operate against synchronized integrated air defense networks during a period of heightened political volatility worldwide. CW4 Smith’s remarkable leadership and unique ability to plan strategically imperative missions directly contributed to USSOCOM mission success. These successes elevate Army Aviation’s standing in the eyes of national policymakers and senior elected officials and fully demonstrates the relevance of Army Aviation in Joint All Domain Operations. For these accomplishments, he is clearly deserving of the 2022 AAAA CW3 Christopher M. Allgaier Aviation Mission Survivability Officer Award.

Sergeant Mills E. Braswell distinguished himself through outstanding service and accomplishment as an Avionics technician and trainer. His drive and focus allowed him to progress to Fully Mission Qualified status six months ahead of the Aviation Maintenance Training Program’s standard. He achieved a technical expertise for both the MH-47G Chinook and MH-60M Black Hawk usually seen in more seasoned repairers. SGT Braswell served as an Avionics Maintenance Team Leader for the retrograde of Bagram Air Base Afghanistan for a total of 75 days. SGT Braswell was the sole Fully Mission Qualified Avionics Mechanic in charge of providing mission support and maintenance of 5 MH-47G Chinooks. SGT Braswell is a Subject Matter Expert in the integration of the Harris wideband and multi-channel radios for the MH-47G Chinook and MH-60M Black Hawk. He spearheaded the training and implementation of the Eclipse Automatic Wire Test Set, testing for erroneous faults of the full authority digital engine control system (FADEC), making its use as standard operating procedure prior to and after every phase maintenance inspection. SGT Braswell’s relentless determination and mission focus mark him as deserving of the 2022 Army Aviation Association of America Avionics Award.
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I want to take a minute to introduce myself. I am COL Brock Zimmerman and I am extremely proud and honored to join the Aircraft Survivability Equipment (ASE) Team as the new Project Manager. I am an Armor Officer who transitioned to the Acquisition Corp in 2010 and was initially assigned to the Maneuver Center of Excellence, Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Benning, GA as a Capability Manager for Armored Brigade Combat Team. In 2013, I was assigned to the Program Executive Office, Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors (PEO IEW&S) and served as the Assistant Product Manager for Information Warfare and subsequently as a Department of the Army Systems Coordinator for Systems Special Programs. Following this assignment, I transitioned back to the CENTCOM Theater of Operations as the Tactical Radio Integration Lead for Afghanistan’s Ministries of Defense and Interior. Upon redeployment, I served as the Strategic Initiatives Group Executive Officer for the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology) at the Pentagon. Finally, from 2018–2021, I had the honor to serve as a Product Manager within PEO IEW&S, for Information Warfare at Ft. Meade, MD. Enough about me. Now to the part you really want to hear about, the latest update on the ASE PMO portfolio.

Infrared Countermeasure

The Army’s Advanced Threat Infrared Countermeasures (ATIRCM) Program has protected CH-47 crews and aircraft from advanced threat Man-Portable Air-Defense Systems (MANPADS) since 2009, amassing nearly 300,000 hours flown in hostile environments. This venerable countermeasure system is now scheduled for Demil/Disposal in FY24 – FY26 as the fleet transitions to the Common Infrared Countermeasure (CIRCM). CIRCM is the next-generation, lightweight, laser-based, infrared countermeasure system for rotary-wing, tilt-rotor, and small fixed-wing aircraft across the Department of Defense (DoD). The CIRCM Open System Architecture provides flexibility to adapt to technology and threat evolution. CIRCM achieved Full Rate Production (FRP) in April 2021 and is on schedule to achieve all Initial Operational Capability (IOC)
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requirements with fielding to H-60M, CH-47, and AH-64 fleets in 4QFY22.

**Missile Warning**

Highlighting the dynamic nature of aircraft survivability to maintain overmatch of emerging threats, ASE Missile Warning Product Office (PM MW) continues to support programs in all phases of the acquisition life cycle. **Common Missile Warning System (CMWS)** provides mission critical missile warning and countermeasures cueing to protect all deployed Army aircraft and crews from MANPADS threats. CMWS successfully completed Transition to Sustainment (T2S) for hardware in 1QFY22. Concurrently, the CMWS team completed testing of the Kilo-A software, which supports a Full Materiel Release in 1QFY23. PM MW will sustain software updates to maintain relevancy for future threats.

The **Limited Interim Missile Warning System (LIMWS)** Quick Reaction Capability (QRC), a 2-color Infrared (IR) sensor-based system, incorporates a fiber optics digital backbone on Army helicopters. This system improves detection times; range; and detection of advanced threats. LIMWS QRC completed Urgent Materiel Release and achieved First Unit Equipped in 3QFY22.

Building upon the success of CMWS and LIMWS, the Army began the process for development of the **Improved Threat Detection System (ITDS)**, the next generation missile warning and threat detection system. ITDS will provide advanced threat detection capabilities for the enduring fleet and Future Vertical Lift platforms. PM MW continues to provide Army Aviation with the capable, reliable, and relevant missile warning protection.

**Threat Warning**

The **AN/AVR-2B, Laser Detection System (LDS)**, continues fielding to the fleet with several platforms completed. PMO ASE entered into a collaborative air and ground effort to develop the next generation LDS with PM Vehicle Protection System (PM VPS) called the VVR-4/AVR-4. The VVR-4/AVR-4 will bring more capability than the current LDS and the processor will become a software application.

The latest version of the **Radar Warning Receiver (RWR)**, the **AN/APR-39D(V)2** , completed development and testing and received Full Material Release in July 2020. Currently, the AN/APR-39D(V)2 is being fielded to the First Unit Equipped (FUE). The fully digital Modernized RWR (MRWR), AN/APR-39E(V)2, possesses increased capability and will be the enduring RWR program for Army Aviation. The system recently completed several design reviews including the Preliminary and Critical Design Reviews. Over the last year, the Army accepted the first prototype MRWR systems and began initial government qualification testing, with flight testing on the horizon.

**Common System Integration**

Over the past few years, the area that has seen the most growth in PM ASE is the Common Systems Integration Product Office (PD CSI). The CSI Product Office continues to manage the Joint Urgent Operational Needs Statement (JUONS), which is the CIRCM QRC effort that is deployed and supporting theater operations. The CIRCM QRC is an effort to integrate other missile warning systems with CIRCM.

PD CSI’s JUONS effort rapidly integrated advanced ASE onto specific deployed aircraft. This effort achieved its Initial Operational Capability in spring of 2017 and Full Operational Capability in early fall 2018. To date, the JUONS aircraft have flown more than 50,800 combat hours with no aircraft shot down by enemy missiles. Replacement of the JUONS aircraft with either CMWS or LIMWS and CIRCM is underway. PD CSI also manages PM ASE’s FMS portfolio, which consists of 39 cases; ASE’s Training Aids, Devices, Simulators and Simulations (TADSS); the coordination of Future Vertical Lift (FVL) integration and ASE modernization; and the Block Modification transition to PEO Aviation.

The TADSS Team fielded the **ASE B-Kit Emulator (ABE)** to the National Training Center (NTC), Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC), and the Joint Multinational Readiness Center (JMRC) over the last year to foster better training of Army aircrews and ground commanders by emulating an ASE response to a simulated Integrated Air Defense Systems (IADS) threat environment when ASE is not actually installed on the aircraft. In addition, the current ASE managed Block Modification process, located at two sites, is so successful that the Aviation Enterprise is embracing the model and shifting Block Mod responsibility to PEO AVN.

**The Future**

Besides ITDS, the VVR/AVR-4, AN/APR-39E(V)2, and the numerous CSI activities, PMO ASE continues to align our modernization strategy with the Aviation Enterprise. We are working ways to reduce size, weight, power, and cooling capabilities; combining and digitizing our A-Kits into one backbone; sharing our sensor information with other systems and users; and incorporating new technology to help maintain overmatch capabilities for the future. PM ASE’s product and technical teams are working closely together to modernize ASE’s approach to system development that includes incorporating a Modular Open Systems Approach (MOSA) in all our programs and transitioning ASE software to be compatible with the Future Airborne Capability Environment (FACE).

**Final Thoughts**

In closing, I want to thank Mr. Doug Barnes who served as Acting PM for over 7 months. Under his steady and exemplary leadership, the PMO met or exceeded all mission requirements. I also want to recognize the dedication and accomplishments of the PM ASE workforce. Through their diligence and professionalism, we maintain a survivability capability that enables our aviation equipment and aircrews to safely return home from deployments worldwide.

I eagerly look forward to working with DoD, sister Services, Army elements, and of course our Industry Partners and Academia to ensure we continue to develop, field, and sustain our world-class capability. But we must not be complacent. The world continues to be a volatile and threatening environment as evidenced by Russia’s recent attack on Ukraine. We must meet demanding Army requirements to aggressively modernize our fleet to ensure we outpace and overmatch our numerous and varied threats. Reassuringly, I know the dynamic and diverse Survivability Team assembled across the operations and acquisition domains will continue the PM ASE tradition of providing unsurpassed protection to our aviation assets and personnel well into the future.

**COL Brock A. Zimmerman is the Project Manager for Aircraft Survivability Equipment located in Huntsville, AL, under the Program Executive Office Intelligence, Electronic Warfare & Sensors.**
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Winning matters is the Army’s mantra, and training to win in Multi-Domain Operations (MDO) is no small task. The ability to pace our threat and adapt to the changing tide of war is at the forefront of this battle. The Army 2030 strategy encompasses bold Division realignments with added and focused capability sets. Soldiers are the Army’s most valuable weapons system and, as Russian Army has proven in Ukraine, technology alone doesn’t matter without the proper training to effectively employ such systems. So, what must be done to ensure training is successful?

The United States Army Aviation Center of Excellence (USAACE) forges Army Aviators from basic to graduate level functional and professional military educational courses in our warrior ethos. Currently, the tactics transformation occurring at USAACE is well on its way to shaping future Aviators for MDO. This includes the Aviation Tactics Instructor Course (ATIC), the Advanced Warfighter School (AWS), and the Unit Trainer Evaluator (UT/E) effort on which the transformation stands. This effort’s goal is to create combat multipliers with depth of knowledge on Large-Scale Combat Operations (LSCO) for the commander at home station where the most effective training will occur.

Challenges at Home Station

One of the biggest challenges our units face at home station is the lack of access to classified networks. Most units have a Secret Internet Protocol (SIPR) café or grouping of secret computers at the brigade level, but this does not make it easy for elements below brigade to educate themselves about threat as well as utilize advanced mission planning tools at the secret level. Our training aids, devices, simulators, and simulations (TADSS) must also be able to operate at the classified level in order to effectively train against Large Scale Combat Operations (LSCO) threats. The competition of comparing and mitigating risk between cyber vulnerabilities and operational needs must be worked out so commanders may ensure their soldiers are able to train properly for MDO.

The second issue soldiers face is training at their fingertips. Senior leaders have stated that, “When I work on my car or my home I have videos I can research online on my phone. Why can’t we have that for our warfighters?” The COVID-19 epidemic showed the Army that it can and must be able to continue individual training utilizing modern day hand-held computing technologies which greatly enable learning for procedural processes as well as fundamental threat knowledge. Lastly, home station capabilities are not designed the same as our combat training centers (CTC). That is not to say that capabilities at the CTCs should not be shared downward to home station, though it would be preferred that the Army develop capabilities which grow warfighter skills from...
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foundational learning out of its centers of excellence (COE). Through individual, crew, and collective training at the COEs, warfighter knowledge and capability can be pushed into our home station approach and grow into the larger Brigade and Division level training sets.

**Individual Training**

USAACE is currently modifying additional classrooms to ensure all of our professional and functional military education courses can incorporate classified education on threats, fused mission planning capabilities, and practical exercises. Home station classified training areas can be difficult to certify, however, most major installations include a Mission Training Center (MCT) where classified training can occur. Aviation units must utilize these assets to get after academic topics which require this level of access. For unclassified up to controlled unclassified information (CUI) training, Army Aviation is investing in the Virtual Training Suite (VTS) software. VTS is a U.S. Government owned and Program Executive Office for Aviation (PEO AVN) managed suite that provides a secure cloud based common use platform with reusable assets and real-time global concurrency. In plain speak, this provides a gaming engine level 3D dynamic model for our aircraft which includes system and sub-system level user interface capabilities that can be downloaded to any iOS/Android device. Survivability branch is working with the Program Management Office for Aircraft Survivability Equipment (PM-ASE) to transfer the Computer Based ASE Training (CBAT) Interactive Multimedia Instruction (IMI) to VTS, allowing aircrew members to train everything from cockpit ASE procedures to expendable and countermeasure loading and installation from a mobile hand-held device. These models are U.S. Government owned and so the ability to build on them for other training needs becomes easier as the cost is simultaneously reduced.

**Crew Training**

When it comes to aircrew training, the best method to train against threat is to fly against actual threat systems, however this is expensive and many units do not have installed ASE. The Threat Integrated Air Defense System Capabilities Development Document (TIADS CDD) requires that embedded training capability be developed and installed in all of our aircraft to accomplish training against threat, replicated virtually. The ability to create a virtual electronic combat range is a concept the Army has been developing for many years. The ASE B-Kit (ABE) emulator software forms the backbone of this capability to stimulate ASE indications without the need for ASE. For home station training, the development of the Embedded ASE B-Kit emulator (E-ABE) loaded on aircraft allows the programming of threat for training regardless of ASE equipping or the need for ground threat emitters (GTE). At USAACE, a project called the Fort Rucker Helicopter Aircraft Survivability Equipment Training System (FR-HASE-TS), which utilizes ABE software to provide a proof of concept training system with after action review (AAR) capability, is in development for use in foundational tactical training. The end state will be software solutions that can be utilized for foundational training at USAACE and mirrored at home station where advanced threats can be replicated virtually wherever and whenever needed to train for LSCO.

**Collective Training**

Collective training incorporates events in which soldiers demonstrate proficiency in group exercises key to their mission essential tasks. Training Aircraft Survivability Equipment Stimulation Suite (TASS) is designed for Army aircraft use during force-on-force exercises to stimulate ABE software in order to activate cockpit warning and indications coupled with GTEs. The ABE software is embedded on the Advanced Smart Onboard Data Interface Module (ASMODIM) which is loaded on aircraft upon arrival to the CTCs. This proven capability at the CTCs, through the ASMODIMs, can be fielded to units at home station to facilitate larger collective exercises such as gunnery and warfighter exercises. This will help fully prepare our units for larger Joint exercises. The key to MDO is interoperability and TASS allows for this in collective training sets. The ASMODIM also provides AAR capabilities tied to weapons systems and force-on-force exercises which is critical to units understanding where they need improvement and how they must focus their training to accomplish that.

**Summary**

Army Aviation understands that finding the right solutions to fit our home station training needs are crucially tied to our overall success in LSCO and MDO. The systems listed above are in development to effectively meet those needs and provide our warfighters the tools they need to effectively train. Vince Lombardi once said, “Practice doesn’t make perfect. Only perfect practice makes perfect.” Army Aviation understands this and is working hard to perfect our warfighter training tools and improve our warfighter skills.

Above the best!

**CW4 Christopher P. Crawford is an AMS training developer with Survivability Branch, Directorate of Training and Doctrine, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence at Fort Rucker, AL.**
The Aviation community continuously bears witness to the setting of new precedents— but none more radical in recent years than those represented by current world events. After more than two decades of war focused centrally on counter-insurgency, first-hand observations of large scale offensive operations in the European Theater have fundamentally re-shaped our thoughts on modern-day Aviation Survivability. In an age where technology forces the evolution of the battlespace at a near-cyclic rate, survivability efforts must rapidly adapt to the capabilities presented on the battlefield. For this reason, the aviation community must rally together and rise in a united front in order to undertake a tasking of continuously increasing magnitude. While working towards that goal, the threat will continue to evolve. With the battlespace changing so rapidly, and in tandem, the requirements of survivability, how can we bridge the widening gap between the evolving needs of our warfighters and the lengthy timeline of materiel solutions? While we certainly hope that the organizational cogs in the aviation community are making meaningful strides to expedite these timelines, we understand that “hope” offers little protection to the warfighter. In the interim, we turn to an answer that comes in the form of an all-too-familiar phrase. Rooted in a quote attributed by John Wooden that “Champions are brilliant at the basics”, the phrase has been repeated by commanders and industry leaders alike. “Brilliance in the basics” is touted as the basis for success at any level. So how can the “basics” be our most useful tool in bridging a gap created by complexity? The “basics” of any military activity are housed in the Mission Planning Process. The process itself is as indigenous to survivability success as any materiel solution innovated. If we are to successfully bridge the current gap in the short term, we must return to being brilliant in our mission planning processes. 

But what exactly does “brilliant” aviation mission planning look like in the setting of modern-day warfare? In order to be brilliant in the basics of mission planning, you must intimately understand two things: The Opposition...
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and Yourself. Whether the opposition is the manpower behind the opposing force, the equipment they possess, the weather they fight in, or the terrain they fly in, the keys to defeating each mechanism will be densely entrenched in what details are understood about every domain of the battlespace. Intelligence collection, exploitation, analysis and dissemination is how we discern the details of each of those domains and their sphere of influence. For this reason, as far as “Brilliant” Mission Planning goes, no capability could be more critical than timely and accurate intelligence.

Making Intelligence Support to Aviation Brilliant

Intelligence support to aviation has an admittedly sordid history, with some having referred to the process as being outright “broken” even despite abundant opportunity for the application of lessons learned in Iraq and Afghanistan. (Aviation Digest, June 2013) Though present-day intelligence support to aviation may “leave something to be desired,” it is worth noting that some forward progress has been made since Major Koehler and Doctor Tatarka detailed the issues facing the two communities and made recommendations to correct them in 2013. The most recent of which is the establishment of an Intelligence Staff (G2) at the United States Army Aviation Center of Excellence (USAACE). With the Aviation Survivability Development and Tactics (ASDAT) office now fully assimilated into the USAACE G2, progress in intelligence support to aviation is poised to continue forward markedly.

Current progress considered, a great deal of work must still be done in order to develop an intelligence mechanism that is not only competent in the air domain, but also brilliant at it. Until developments made in the world of artificial intelligence can be safely applied via algorithms in real-world applications, our intelligence capability will remain largely dependent on developed human talent. That same human talent will need to be cultivated and advanced by the members of the aviation community with the ability to do so. Simply existing as a seasoned aviator or an industry leader qualifies you for such contribution. Not only does existing as a member of the community qualify you, it compels you. In the true spirit of “The buck stops here” there is no member of the aviation community who is incapable of positively influencing aviation intelligence-based development at some level. For this reason, every member of the community bears shared responsibility in ensuring the functionality of the aviation intelligence apparatus. A functionality that must undergo an essential transformation from wherever it currently exists, if we intend to successfully bridge a solutions gap that glares at us from a Ukrainian FLOT.

The New Mold

Historic US-involved conflicts have been the casted mold for the subject matter expertise of our intelligence analysts for more than two decades. In those two decades, that craft has been refined with purposeful precision in order to ensure an out-matched opposition. However, with the world watching alongside us, the intelligence community learned in late February of this year that the mold in which we’ve operated must be recast. Intelligence collection against a disciplined peer, equipped with modern technology, will require adaptations of our analytic processes and an overhaul of practices once considered “tried and true”. In order to re-establish the intelligence subject matter expertise we once possessed, the intelligence community will undoubtedly have to hone their expertise in the air and space domain. Their aim to meet that metric successfully will be dependent on current aviation and survivability communities embracing their intelligence counterparts with open arms and forming relationships that facilitate abundant opportunity to “coach, teach, and mentor.”

In addition to ensuring that the brilliance of our mission planning process is founded on in-depth intelligence preparation of the battlespace, we must also give timely acknowledgement to key developments as they occur on the battlefield. The first 100 days of Russia’s war with Ukraine represents a staunch reminder of how important it is to rapidly acknowledge the issues faced on the battlefield as they occur and to develop timely solutions. We could not have formerly predicted the extent of influence of the “tertiary party” (many of which came to the aid of Ukraine), the true resiliency of a modernized Integrated Air Defense System or the rampant logistical challenges faced by a near-peer in a cross-border operation. Armed with those details now, we must appropriately apply that knowledge to better inform and prepare the elements it would affect – not the least of which is our intelligence counterparts and the warfighters they work to support. Finally, if any “key lesson learned” can be gleaned from the Russian-Ukraine conflict it is that if we aspire to employ true brilliance in our mission planning process as a means to reinforce our survivability efforts, it becomes unequivocally critical that we not only train how we intend to fight, but do so in the environments we expect to encounter. The modernization of survivability will rely most heavily on an accurate replication of the true hardships of war and the realities of a multi-faced, near-peer domain. That replication will require an unprecedented level of intelligence support from a community we must work in unison to develop. The aviation intelligence community will have to crawl before it walks and walk before it can run – but the time to crawl is right now… for survivability’s sake.

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not reflect the official policy or position of the Department of the Army, DOD, or the U.S. Government. (See AR 360-1, para. 6-8d).

Sarah A. Roth has been an intelligence analyst for over 12 years and currently serves as the primary intelligence officer of the Aviation Survivability Development and Tactics (ASDAT) Team, headquartered at the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, Fort Rucker, AL.
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In late December of 2021, the Army Communications-Electronic Command’s Software Engineering Center’s Army Reprogramming Analysis Team (ARAT) turned 30 years old. For over three decades, ARAT has provided Mission Software updates for Army aircraft survivability equipment (ASE) and target sensing systems (TSS) giving aviators awareness of and survivability against enemy radar-guided weapons systems. ARAT’s infrastructure was a four-person operation at its humble beginnings in 1992 at Eglin Air Force Base, but now is comprised of a 150+ people workforce located across the United States. Since its birth, ARAT has been crucial to the survivability of America’s Army, from supporting the Soldier in post-Gulf War operations including the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and now preparing the Soldier for readiness against peer/near-peer adversaries in current global situations.

In the Beginning

The Army originally established the ARAT as a way to rapidly update radar warning receivers (RWR) with new threat definitions and support Army Electromagnetic Support (ES). Today, ARAT is embedded in the Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System (JCIDS) and the Army’s Defense Acquisition System processes, ensuring that that every new Army electromagnetic warfare (EW) system ensures Soldier readiness and survivability as well as mission success. To do that, ARAT’s internal engineering capabilities have grown and evolved to meet the challenges found in detecting peer/near-peer advanced radar threats operating around the world today.

The Army established ARAT after Operation Desert Storm as a software reprogramming capability for aircraft sensors that require target recognition to function. Initially, ARAT supported the AN/APR-39(V)2 and the AN/APR-39A(V)1 RWR. Those systems were sufficient for the time, because the radar threats of the early 1990s were simpler than the complex systems brought on by today’s advanced EW technology.

At the recent “EW Complex Emitter Summit” hosted by the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition & Sustainment, researchers and scientists outlined current and future trends in radar development. These trends are moving the air defense radar environment from fixed parameters and consistent radar signatures to highly cognitive operating capabilities involving machine learning and AI to select the optimal operating parameters for the current combat situation. As radars become more software controlled, they will be able to select from an increasingly broad list of parameters and will be able to adjust to changing target scenarios. Radars with enormous flexibility, combined with computer-speed agility, will greatly challenge current EW equipment detection, identification and denial capabilities.

Transitioning Capabilities

Given the evolving capabilities of threat radars, preparing to effectively reprogram ASE and TSS is more important than ever for ARAT, as the Army moves away from Counter-Insurgency Operations to Multi-Domain Operations (MDO). Rooted in competition with peer and near-peer adversaries, the Army's focus on MDO is apparent even in its transition from using the term Electromagnetic Warfare in lieu of Electronic Warfare, shifting from radar-specific threats to all threats in the Electromagnetic Spectrum.

The Army’s Waypoint 2028–2029 strategy focuses on becoming a MDO-capable Army requiring synchronization across all services to compete with peer/near-peer threats. Adversarial countries now employ Integrated Air Defense Systems (IADS) consisting of advanced radar threats in the air and ground do-
mains to conduct tactical and conventional warfare, while also exercising cyber and information warfare in the cyberspace/electromagnetic spectrum domains. ARAT delivers reprogramming to existing systems to meet these threats, but will also reprogram future systems that will play an ever-greater role in commanding the electromagnetic spectrum—ensuring joint service coordination and cooperation and enabling U.S. forces to prevail in competition against adversaries.

Today, ARAT supports eight airborne RWR and TSS, the newer of which are far more capable in their detection capabilities than their predecessors. ARAT has modernized its development, test, and delivery capabilities with the focus on programming, testing, and delivering software for these systems within reduced timelines. ARAT also supports Electromagnetic Attack (EA) threat load development for the Duke V2/3 counter Improvised Explosive Device (IED) system, which protects ground troops from enemy IED threats. MDO will require systems under development that combine these ES and EA capabilities and provide protection for both airborne and ground based soldiers and systems. To prepare for this, ARAT is working with Army G2, Army Cyber Center of Excellence, Project Manager (PM) EW&C, and PM ASE to be certain intelligence data and infrastructures are in place to support the EW needs of these systems as the Army fields them. Only by having quality threat information provided by the national Intelligence Centers (ICs) can ARAT provide timely reprogramming in support of MDO operations.

**Aviation Focus**

From an aviation focus, ARAT is contributing to overall Army readiness with its support to one of the Army’s latest airborne TSS, the AN/APR-48B Modernized Radar Frequency Interferometer (MRFI), which entered First Unit Equipped status in 2019. ARAT developed an MRFI Mission Data Load for each operational region of interest, as defined by the Army Survivability Development and Tactics Team, before the system entered post-production software support. By providing prioritized requirements to the IC, ARAT has been able to gain the parametric signature data of emerging threat systems in each Army-defined operational region. ARAT has also rebuilt its development and testing capabilities to ensure they can program and test the MRFI in a way which accounts for capabilities of the newest threat systems.

From an RWR equipment capability perspective, ARAT has been heavily involved in testing the AN/APR-39E(V)2 Modernized RWR, which is the Army’s cutting edge RWR prototype. ARAT engineers have worked with the Project Management Office and Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) to build high fidelity simulations models used to test the RWR prototype against advanced threat simulations. The result of this testing has enhanced the overall system capability. Once ARAT establishes the E(V)2 Software Development Environment in late 2022/early 2023, ARAT will build Mission Data Files for each operational region before the RWR enters First Unit Equipped status. Until that time, ARAT will continue working with the Army stakeholders and the OEM to test the E(V)2 to make sure it is the best performing RWR yet.

**Looking Forward**

Looking further into the future, ARAT is working with the Army’s stakeholder organizations for programs such as Future Vertical Lift (FVL) and Multi-Function Electronic Warfare (MFEW) to make certain that future reprogramming needs are not overlooked. These systems will integrate into the Army’s future MDO operating concept. With ARAT constantly incorporating technological innovation in operational reprogramming and injecting operational requirements into capability development, the Army will increase superiority against Peer/Near-Peer threats in a MDO environment.

With 30 years, hundreds of mission products, and several wars under its belt, ARAT has placed itself into a “must have” organization for the Army. From the two systems it supported in the early 1990 to the yet to be fielded EW systems central to the success of MDO, ARAT looks forward to another decade of enabling the Army “To deploy, fight, and win our Nation’s wars by providing ready, prompt, and sustained land dominance by Army forces across the full spectrum of conflict as part of the Joint Force.”

*Kyle Champion and Lynn Berg are threat analysts and William Hersey is the chief of the Air Mission Requirements Branch for Team ARAT, all located at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.*
U.S. Army Aviation faces a challenging threat environment characterized by a diversity of legacy and emerging threats. One of the important roles of the Army’s Science and Technology (S&T) community is to develop the new advanced technologies that will allow Army Aviation to detect, defeat, and survive these threats. These technologies are developed at the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command (DEVCOM) in a coordinated initiative across multiple centers and laboratories. This allows DEVCOM’s scientists and engineers to holistically consider diverse technologies across technical domains and areas of expertise to create effective solutions.

Within the coordinated survivability S&T initiative, the C5ISR Center develops technology in the Electronic Warfare (EW) areas of advanced sensing and electronic attack which enable aircraft survivability and freedom to maneuver in multi-domain operations. These are the core electronics technologies within the holistic survivability suite. The current C5ISR S&T approach in this domain focuses on four primary areas: team-based effects, multi-function technologies, system-level adaptability, and evolutionary development. These areas are technically and conceptually interrelated and development is closely coordinated across the four primary areas.

In late 2021 and early 2022, C5ISR Center conducted a technology survey and technical analysis to characterize the state of electronics technologies in the survivability domain. The survey and analysis were broad based, considering developments not only at other government organizations, but also across industry and academia. The survey phase involved coordination with government program managers, industry RFIs, site visits, and technology interchange meetings. The technical analysis phase included parametric analysis, modeling and simulation, laboratory characterizations, and comparisons between technologies. After the completion of the survey and analysis, the results were used to drive key decision points in C5ISR S&T projects. In this way, the survey and analysis are now driving C5ISR S&T technology investments for next-generation survivability. This article carefully selects two highlights from the survey and analysis activity to share with the broader aviation community. Each of these highlights has significant implications for future survivability systems.

**Emerging Hardware Chipsets**

The first highlight was the identification of new emerging hardware chipsets. At a technology level, these chipsets offer a potentially generational advance in capability across a range of technical parameters. However, more interestingly, at the survivability system level, these chipsets have the potential to change the next-generation EW survivability sensor and effectors that can simultaneously achieve enhanced performance and reduced size, weight, power, and cost (SWaP-C) across multiple functions. It is rare to identify technologies that can drive significant improvements in both capability and SWaP-C. However,
these emerging chipsets are also differentiated by their high degree of scalability. The chipsets can be effectively tailored for smaller and larger form factor applications, and can support both detection and transmit functions. In this way, early S&T investments in these new emerging hardware chipsets can serve as a foundational building block of future multi-mode and multi-domain survivability systems. Current C5ISR Center projects are developing this building block technology and demonstrating it first in a multi-mode system configuration. However, due to its fundamental scalability, the technology can be tailored in future efforts to support multi-domain applications across a wide range of Army platforms, including small UAS, large rotary wing, high altitude platforms, and various ground vehicles. In this way, future survivability systems may gain increased commonality at the component level. This will increase the prevalence and impact of this emerging technology and may help to reduce cost across domains.

New Techniques Frameworks

The second major highlight was the identification of new techniques frameworks that enable increased technique portability between survivability systems. EW survivability systems are programmed with techniques that change their processing and transmit behavior. The new technique frameworks offer more effective methods to port techniques between systems and applications. This will allow techniques to not only be shared more easily between government organizations, but it will also increase the government’s access to a wider range of industry techniques. For example, techniques are developed today in-house by government multi-service laboratories, DARPA, and large defense companies. However, they are also sometimes developed for niche applications by small businesses. With the new frameworks, the government will be able to more easily access and combine techniques from across multiple sources. This enables a new best-of-breed approach at the techniques level.

Although open techniques frameworks have been used in the past, the innovation in the new frameworks is the better technical representation of a wider range of techniques across functions. For example, a counter radar waveform is often fundamentally different than a protocol-based counter communications waveform. The new frameworks are able to effectively represent a range of techniques across these varied technology classes. This facilitates a transition from federated systems to increasingly multi-mode and multi-function systems.

Looking to the Future

In the future, aircraft survivability systems will operate in fundamentally new ways, with a new focus on team coordination to optimization survivability of the formation at an overall reduced SWAP-C. Further, the systems will have multi-function capabilities, will continuously adapt to changing environments, and will be designed so that they can be evolutionarily enhanced as technologies and threats change. In combination, the emerging advanced chipsets and the new techniques frameworks are an important part of this future vision. The new chipsets will enable higher performance systems at smaller form factors for multiple functions across the team. Similarly, the new techniques frameworks will enable best-of-breed multi-function techniques in each system across the team. Moreover, the scalability of these technologies may allow for significantly increased commonality between the technologies in multi-domain survivability applications. By finding the right technologies, S&T can help drive not only improved system performance, but also increased technology leverage across applications and missions.

Mr. Joseph Otagaro is the chief and Mr. Mark Calafut an engineer of the Electronic Warfare Air/Ground Survivability Division of the Research and Technology Integration Directorate (RTI), in the Combat Capabilities Development Command (DEVCOM) Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Cyber, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (C5ISR) Center, located at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.
The Product Manager Air Warrior (PdM AW), under the leadership of BG Christopher Schneider, Program Executive Officer Soldier (PEO Soldier), and Colonel Derek Bird, Project Manager Soldier Survivability, is the material developer for Army Aviation aircrew life support and aviation-specific crewmember mission equipment. The PdM AW designs, develops, and delivers cutting edge aircrew and personnel recovery equipment that enhances situational awareness, survivability, and safety while maximizing Soldier performance inside and outside of the aircraft.

Current Focus

In Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) the Air Warrior team continues its focus on delivering Air Soldier System (Air SS) Soldier and Aircraft Kits while working diligently to ensure delivery of additional capability in the near future. For example, the team equipped aircrews with the new Rotary Wing Helmet (RWH) and Apache Aviator Integrated Helmet (AAIH), new 72 Hour Survival Items, and for those aircrews in units with an overwater mission, the Lightweight Immersion Suit for Aviation (LISA). The Air Warrior team also delivered airframe kits to equip UH-60M aircraft and aviators with an upgraded Head Up Display system primarily consisting of a new Common Helmet Mounted Display (CHMD) and new aircraft-mounted symbol generator, the Advanced Sight Display Computer (ASDC). This new system is modernizing the enduring rotary wing Utility and Cargo fleets while providing aviators with a wider field of view color display with flight symbology that more closely aligns with the symbology on the aircraft’s instrument panel displays.

The Air Warrior team also pressed forward to prepare for first fielding of the Android Tactical Assault Kit (ATAK)-based Nett Warrior-Aviation...
Primary Survival Gear Carrier (PSGC) and provide rotary wing aircrews with a mission and survival vest system that incorporates an integrated full body harness supporting hoist insertion and extraction, Soldier Protection System (Modular Scalable Vest) ballistic protection tailored to the aircrew mission, detachable leg straps to facilitate continued wear of the ACE while off-aircraft, personal flotation, and a new tailorable gear carriage system. Unlike the “one size fits all” PSGC, ACE comes in five sizes and the unique cummerbund flotation capability eliminates the flotation collar from the shoulder/neck area, relocating that capability to the torso. The ACE also introduces the Aircrew Tether System (ATS), an integrated component of ACE which provides an integrated vest-mounted rapid release of the nonrated crew member from the aircraft’s safety tether in the event of an emergency.

Informing future platform-integrated capability is another Air Warrior focus area in FY22 as the team equipped additional 82nd CAB aircraft with the PdM AW’s quick-mount Aviation Information System (AIS) in support of their mission at JRTC. Paired with the NW-A EUD, AIS enables convergence within the Mobile Handheld (M/HH) Computing Environment, implements core ATAK capability with aviation-unique plugins, achieves Common Operating Environment (COE) convergence objectives, and enables a common mission command solution across the aviation fleet. The AIS provided the aircrews with the air/ground tactical network connectivity to their Nett Warrior-equipped ground forces and was the first sortie in the development of digital air/ground operational Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTPs) and Concepts of Operations (CONOPS) that will inform future Army aviation platform-integrated (“behind the glass”) capabilities. The AW team is closing out FY22 by providing the same capability to several aircraft in the 25th CAB that will result in a second Combat Aviation Brigade equipped with the full Nett Warrior-Aviation and AIS suite to provide operational feedback to the Army Aviation Center’s Aviation Enablers—Requirements Development Directorate.

**EDGE 22**

In FY22 PEO Soldier and PdM AW products once again contributed to the success of the Army’s Experimental Demonstration Gateway Exercise 2022 (EDGE 22), held at Dugway Proving Grounds, Utah in May 2022. During EDGE 22, several PEO Soldier capabilities enabled three UH-60L Black Hawk aircraft belonging to the 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade to participate as surrogate Future Long Range Assault Aircraft, demonstrating advanced capabilities in tactical Situational Awareness. These aircraft were equipped with the PdM AW AIS, with infantry Soldiers onboard equipped with the Project Manager Integrated Visual Augmentation System (IVAS) Nett Warrior tablets and Integrated Visual Augmentation System (IVAS) head borne goggles, enabling virtual SA updates and tactical network connectivity while enroute to the objective.

**Project Convergence 22**

As in years prior, this event served as a gateway for Project Convergence 22, which PdM AW will also support in October and November of 2022 with the NW-A and AIS capability. Project Convergence is a campaign of learning that began in 2020 and is held annually to bring together key technologies designed to fight across air, land, sea, space and cyberspace. These exercises apply space, aviation and network capabilities including high-fidelity modeling to assess how the Army, as part of the joint force, would fight in the Indo-Pacific Theater.

In summary, under the PEO Soldier the PdM AW protects, sustains, and enables Army aircrew Situational Awareness (SA) and survivability. Although the primary focus remains on protecting and integrating the aviation Soldier with the platform, emerging capabilities are allowing unprecedented SA enhancements for both the aircrew and the Soldiers they carry into battle. The Air Warrior team will continue to seek and embrace convergence and interoperability opportunities whenever possible by working closely with other Product Offices, Program Executive Offices, and Services to ensure the aviation Soldier has the equipment they need to safely and efficiently conduct combat operations and return to friendly forces.

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Dr. Carlos Correia is the product manager and Mr. Jim Isaacs is the deputy PdM for Air Warrior located in Huntsville, AL.
Thank you to the hundreds of units and offices that responded to this year’s request for information and to each activity listed. This directory of Army aviation units, organizations, offices and key personnel includes information from both the Active and Reserve components, principally at the battalion level and above, and by key supporting organizations. All information is presented in alphabetical state order by city and installations, then by U.S. territories, followed by overseas regions and countries.

Organizations that did not provide input in 2022 or who did not follow published requirements are noted as “*Update Not Provided This Year.” Additionally, for units and organizations that have not updated their data since 2017, key personnel names, personal email listings and photos have been deleted due to likelihood of personnel turnover.

For future updates, instructions and forms are available all year on the website homepage under the “Magazine” tab, on the pull down menu. Please contact bluebook@quad-a.org or call (203) 268-2450 with any questions.

Joe Pisano/Editor

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August/September 2022

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The Army Aviation Association of America Scholarship Foundation, Inc. (AAAASFI) is proud to announce the selection of 347 deserving Army Aviation Association of America (AAAA) family members to receive $595,500 in scholarship grants.

This year there were 688 applicants that completed the application with a selection rate of approximately 62%. As in previous years, the competition was tough with 55% of freshmen attaining a 4.0 or higher-grade point average (GPA).

The success rates for applicants based on the member affiliate's demographic group were:
- 60% of enlisted applicants that applied won awards
- 55% of warrant applicants that applied won awards
- 65% of commissioned applicants that applied won awards
- 66% of civilian applicants that applied won awards

This year we saw 32 of our 79 AAAA chapters participate in the annual Chapter Matching Program. This program allows our chapters to raise money and have it matched by the Scholarship Foundation based on their chapter size. For our AAAA and Senior chapters the match is up to $5,000, for our Master chapters it is up to $4,000 and our Super chapters the match is up to $3,000.

The key take-away here is that 100 percent of your donations go directly to scholarships because AAAA pays overhead costs less management fees of the Scholarship Foundation, which is a separate corporation. Please ask your chapter officers for more information and encourage your local chapter leadership to sponsor a scholarship for your own chapter, if there isn't one already. Let's get the remaining 45 chapters into the program.

The first Annual AAAA Scholarship Fundraising Dinner Concert, featuring American Country Music Artist, Michael Ray, will take place on Tuesday, November 15, 2022, during the Cribbins Army Aviation Readiness Symposium in Huntsville, AL. Join us for a Country style fun-filled evening all while supporting AAAA families.

Take a few moments to look through the following pages and please join me in congratulating our most deserving 2022 awardees. If you have any questions about the program, contact us at (800) 722-ARMY, or scholarship@quad-a.org.

BG (Ret.) Michael C, Flowers
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$3,000 for 1 year - Kailynn M. Nunez - Grandchild of CW3 Melvin Canon, Warrenton VA - Arizona Christian University (ACU)

**Washington-Potomac Chapter (John R. Rawling) Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**
$3,000 for 1 year - Robert A. Brunney - Son of MSG Robert Brunney, Fort Riley KS - Neumont College of Computer Science

**Robertson Fuel Systems, LLC (John R. Rawling) Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship**
$3,000 for 1 year - Austin L. Wooten - Daughter of CW3 Robert Brunney, Fort Riley KS - Neumont College of Computer Science

**Morgan Rae Kauwosky Memorial Scholarship**
$3,000 for 1 year - Ainsley A. Morgan - Daughter of CW4 Phillip Morgan, Lafayette LA - Louisiana State University

**Central Florida Chapter (AVT Simulation) Matching Scholarship**
$3,000 for 1 year - Patrick R. Hetz - Grandchild of CW2 William Riley, Bonita Springs FL - University of Wisconsin

**Central Florida Chapter (Cole Engineering) Matching Scholarship**
$3,000 for 1 year - Ayana P. Ferguson - Daughter of Mr. Antoine Ferguson, Oviedo FL - Florida A&M University

**Central Florida Chapter (Critical Design Associates) Matching Scholarship**
$3,000 for 1 year - Luca A. Vizzari - Son of COL Kevin Vizzari, Oviedo FL - Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

**Central Florida Chapter (Digiflight) Matching Scholarship**
$3,000 for 1 year - Alexis L. Lacy - Daughter of COL Benjamin Lacy, Merritt Island FL - Wake Forest School of Medicine of Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center

**Central Florida Chapter (Microhealth) Matching Scholarship**
$3,000 for 1 year - Rana G. Wyatt - Grandchild of CW4 John Wyatt, Orlando FL - University of Florida

**Central Florida Chapter (AMD) Matching Scholarship**
$2,500 for 1 year - Patrick R. Hetz - Grandchild of CW2 William Riley, Bonita Springs FL - University of Wisconsin

**Central Florida Chapter (Air Systems) Matching Scholarship**
$2,500 for 1 year - Ayana P. Ferguson - Daughter of Mr. Antoine Ferguson, Oviedo FL - Florida A&M University

**Central Florida Chapter (Angel Flight) Matching Scholarship**
$2,500 for 1 year - Alicec B. Forcino - Grandchild of COL Michael Forcino, Daytona Beach, FL - Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship Foundation</th>
<th>Scholarship Name</th>
<th>Match Scholarship</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<td>MSG Gary I. Gordon and SFC Randall D. Shughart Memorial</td>
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<td>Daughter of COL Reggie Harper, Fort Hood TX - Texas A&amp;M University</td>
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<td>MSG Ostovich and Lucky Wright Scholarship</td>
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AAA Scholarship Foundation Inc. 2022 Awardees

Idaho Snake River Chapter (CPT Ed W. Freeman Memorial) Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Jacob M Sauer - Son of LTC John Sauer, Boise ID - Boise State University

Idaho Snake River Chapter (CW2 Jesse D. Phelps Memorial) Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Jenna M Russell - Grandchild of Maj A. Russell, Sandpoint ID - Eastern Washington University

Idaho Snake River Chapter (CW4 Jon L. Hartwely Memorial) Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Morgan J Skala - Sibling of SSG Shane Poldoro, Fort Knox KY - Ohio University

Idaho Snake River Chapter (CW4 Sten P. Gearhart Memorial) Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Elia J Lampe - Daughter of COL Charles Lampe, Grimes IA - University of Iowa

Lindbergh Chapter Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Rodney D Reichert - Grandchild of LTC David Reichert, Bradenton FL - Northwestern University

Lindbergh Chapter Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Mitchell W Harris - Son of LTC Joshua B Harris, Collinsville IL - Missouri University of Science & Technology

Lindbergh Chapter Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Megan M Matasci - Son of LTC Michael Schrumpf, Perryville MO - Maryville University

Lindbergh Chapter Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Matthew J Boyce - Son of Mr. Mark Boyce, St. Charles MO - Truman State University

ARMY AVIATION Magazine

Arkansas Chapter (LTG Rev. Eugene M. Gribble Memorial) Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Laura S Gribble - Daughter of LTC Eugene M. Gribble, Fort Smith AR - University of Arkansas

Arkansas Chapter Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Michael A Gribble - Son of LTC Eugene M. Gribble, Fort Smith AR - University of Arkansas

Army Aviation Magazine

Birmingham University of Alabama at Birmingham

Birmingham University of Alabama at Huntsville of Ms. Dawn Schmit, Jacob E Schmit - Son of Mr. John Schmit, Huntsville AL - The University of Alabama

Birmingham University of Alabama at Huntsville Daughter of Mr. Greg Schmit, Jacob E Schmit - Son of Mr. John Schmit, Huntsville AL - The University of Alabama

Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Faith S Almond - Grandchild of LTC William Pohlmann, Madison AL - Auburn University

Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Karleigh A Milic - Daughter of LTC Michael Milic, Annapolis MD - UMASS Amherst

Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Kasey G Greenwood - Daughter of COL David Greenwood, Mount Angel OR - Pepperdine University

Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Yolanda Powell-Friend - Daughter of LTC Michael Powell-Friend, Huntsville AL - Mercer University

Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Monica Southerland - Daughter of Mrs. Yolanda Powell-Friend, Huntsville AL - Mercer University

Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Amanda Powell - Daughter of LTC Michael Powell-Friend, Huntsville AL - Mercer University

Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Alexander E Covert - Son of LTC Alex Covert, Madison AL - Case Western Reserve University

Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Kasandra M Slocum - Daughter of COL Michael Slocum, Harvest AL - University of Kentucky

Tennessee Valley Chapter Matching Scholarship $2,000 for 1 year - Caleb M Thome - Son of COL Michael Thome, Huntsville AL - University of Alabama

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<td><strong>August/September 2022</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Raritan Valley Community</strong></td>
<td><strong>Grandchild of Mr. Chester Andrew D Galloway</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mid-Atlantic/Monmouth</strong></td>
<td><strong>University of Richmond</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Brentwood TN - Embry</strong></td>
<td><strong>of CPT Art Jacobs, Perpetual Matching (SFC Andrew McClure)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Air Assault Chapter</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Washington-Potomac</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,000 for 1 year - Hannah E Flood - Daughter of COL Ronald Lukow, Fairfax Station VA - University of Richmond</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Washington-Potomac</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,000 for 1 year - Sophia A Ashton - Grandchild of BG Harry Bendorf, Fairfax VA - Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Don and Ruth Luce Memorial Perpetual Scholarship</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$1,500 for 1 year - Rosemary N McWhirter - Daughter of COL Robert McWhirter, Ovens Cross Roads AL - Mississippi State University</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$1,500 for 1 year - Casey E Sullivan - Daughter of LTC Kevin Sullivan, Parker CO - Colorado State University</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Chapter (COL James E. Young) Perpetual Matching Scholarship</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$1,500 for 1 year - Josie M Ugileno - Grandchild of CW4 Richard Kimble, Bloomsbury NJ - Ramapo College of New Jersey</strong></td>
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<td>Bannister Enterprises Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship</td>
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<td>717th Cavalry Association (Ruthless Riders) Heritage Matching Scholarship</td>
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<td>Davis Aircraft (Pamela Dukas Memorial) Scholarship</td>
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<td>COL John W. Marr Memorial Perpetual Scholarship</td>
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<td>Families of the Fallen Perpetual Scholarship</td>
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<td>Aviation Center Chapter Perpetual Matching Scholarship</td>
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<td>North Texas Chapter (Lawrence &quot;Larry&quot; D. Bell Memorial) Perpetual Matching Scholarship</td>
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AAAA Scholarship Foundation Inc. 2022 Awardees

North Texas Chapter (LTG Bob Williams Memorial) Perpetual Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Blake E Campbell - Grandchild of CW4 William Campbell, Denton TX - St Mary's University of Minnesota

North Texas Chapter (Mike Kawa Memorial) Perpetual Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Jaci D Price - Grandchild of CW2 Arthur Price, Crowley TX - University of North Texas

North Texas Chapter (Red River 44 Memorial) Perpetual Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Alena Correll, Arlington, TX - University of Texas at Arlington

Stonewall Jackson Chapter (SSG Darryl D. Booker) Perpetual Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Elizabeth H Woodward - Grandchild of COL James Horden, Richmond VA - University of Virginia


Volunteer Chapter (CW3 Tim Flanigan Memorial) Perpetual Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Loleita A Cruz - Daughter of SSG Jose Cruz, Oak Ridge TN - Tennessee Tech University

ACME Aerospace Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Mia A Ludwig - Grandchild of LTC Steven Ludwig, Mill Creek WA - New York University

Art and Dotty Kesten AAPi Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Sierra D Lynn - Daughter of CW5 Dan Lynn, Waialua HI - University of Alabama

CSRA Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Alex R Botello - Son of 1SG Ernie Botello, Moore OK - Oklahoma State University


DynCorp International Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Katrina H Douglas - Grandchild of CW4 Thomas Hirschler, Lakewood WA - University of Arizona

Meggitt Defense Systems Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Maria L Gross - Daughter of LTC Michael Gross, Lebanon PA - Lafayette College

Peduzzi Associates Limited Perpetual Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - John L Hutto - Grandchild of BG Thomas Konitzer, Augusta GA - The Citadel

Robertson Research Group, Inc. Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Alexis K Murty - Daughter of Maj Steven Murty, Le Claire IA - The University of Tennessee

The WO1 Arthur F. Cheney Memorial Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Connor M Johnson - Grandchild of Capt William Johnson, Lake Jackson TX - Georgia Institute of Technology

Timken Aerospace Transmissions, LLC (Purdy Systems) Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Ashley F Penzrcyn - Daughter of Mr. Alexander Penzrcyn, Wallingford CT - Albertus Magnus College

Vencore, Inc. Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Emma M Karls - Daughter of CWS Justin Karls, Adams TN - University of Tennessee

Vertex Aerospace LLC Corporate Perpetual Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Jillian K Alexander, Englewod, FL - Virginia Tech

114th Aviation Company Heritage Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Caroline G Tanner - Grandchild of Maj Albert Apel, Enterprise AL - Rice University

Mike Novosal Dustoff Association Heritage Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Haley L Crawford - Daughter of CPT Gregory Crawford, Midland MI - Saginaw Valley State University

Potomac Knights Chapter of the 114th Aviation Company Heritage Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Daniel A Boyea - Grandchild of CW2 Ira Boyea, Unciontown OH - The Ohio State University

TCAA (Transportation Corps Aviation Association) Heritage Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Hannah M Hamontree - Daughter of LTC George Hamontree, Riverview FL - Old Dominion University

The Army Aviation Heritage Foundation Sky Soldiers Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Allee J Foley - Grandchild of CPT James Fink, Tucker GA - The University of North Georgia

Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association of Florida (VHPA) Heritage Matching Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Austin M Sponeer - Grandchild of CW2 Gary Sponeer, Mount Dora FL - Stonehill College

1LT Kathryn M. Bailey Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Laura M Anderson - Daughter of CW4 Mark Anderson, Peachtree City GA - University of Georgia

1LT Kathryn M. Bailey Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Mitchell Hemmingsen - Grandchild of CW4 Douglas Hemmingsen, Burnsville NC - Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

COL Larry and Julie Holcomb Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Benicio T Beatty - Grandchild of CW5 Donald Beatty, Lebanon PA - Brown University

COL Lewis J. and Betty L. McConnell Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Hugo L Vargas, Laguna Hills, CA - University of California, Irvine

CW2 Keith E. Cedras Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Samuel Webster - Son of Lt Col John Webster, Gilbert AZ - Arizona State University

CW3 Stephen A. Hansen Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Thomas D Sparks, APO, AP - ISSA College/Lionel University

CW4 Jimmy B. Johnston & Family Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Aurelia L Villalobos - Spouse of Mr. Samuel Villalobos, Corpus Christi TX - John Patrick University

CW4 Jimmy B. Johnston & Family Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Evan A Ryza - Son of Mr. Christopher Ryza, Corpus Christi TX - Texas A&M University Corpus Christi
### 2022 Awardees

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<th>Scholarship Foundation</th>
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<td>Corpus Christi Chapter Matching Scholarship</td>
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<td>Daughter of COL Kiara I Rios Villanueva, Fort Hood TX - University of North Texas</td>
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<td>Army Aviation Magazine</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>August/September 2022</td>
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AAA Scholarship Foundation Inc. 2022 Awardees

Delaware Valley Chapter (Harry McGinness Memorial) Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Matthew W Debaney - Son of COL Richard Debaney, Springfield PA - University of Southern Indiana

Delaware Valley Chapter (Harry McGinness Memorial) Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Samuel B Debaney - Son of COL Richard Debaney, Springfield PA - Cabrini University

Delaware Valley Chapter (Harry McGinness Memorial) Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Margaret Hickey, Savannah, GA - Georgia Southern University

Delaware Valley Chapter (Harry McGinness Memorial) Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Jackson P Galvan - Grandchild of CW3 Jackson Rainwater, Weslaco TX - Texas Tech University

Delaware Valley Chapter (Harry McGinness Memorial) Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Colin A Cowell - Son of LTC Gregory Cowell, New Tripoli PA - Millersville University

Winona State University
King, Princeton MN - Lydia G King - Daughter
Matching Scholarship
North Star Chapter
University - WA - Washington State Daughter of COL Michael Fleetwood - Nicole L Fleetwood - $1,000 for 1 year - Jackson P Galvan - Grandchild of CW3 Jackson Rainwater, Weslaco TX - Texas Tech University

Mount Rainier Chapter Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Rachel M Lesing - Daughter of CW4 Raymond Lesing, Fredericksburg PA - Southern University

Mount Rainier Chapter Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Emmanuel D Beatty - Grandchild of CW5 Donald Beatty, Lebanon PA - DeSales University

North Star Chapter Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Aaron M Swedden - Son of SGM Mark Swedden, Blanchfield MN - Cedarville University

North Texas Chapter Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Jordan R Price - Grandchild of CW2 Arthur Price, Crowley TX - University of North Texas

North Texas Chapter Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Hannah R Goodman - Daughter of Mr. Todd Tuttle, New Braunfels TX - Texas A&M University

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AAAA Scholarship Foundation Inc. 2022 Awardees

North Texas Chapter Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - 1LT Jason Hamre, Flower Mound TX - University of Houston

North Texas Chapter Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - John A Hutton - Grandchild of Capt Michael Hutton, Dallas TX - University of Texas - Austin

North Texas Chapter Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Jonathan L Robertson - Grandchild of LTC Jim Wingate, Fort Worth TX - University of South Carolina

North Texas Chapter Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Adam Goodman - Son of Mr. Kendall Goodman, Southlake TX - Tarleton State University

North Texas Chapter Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Sarah Goodman - Daughter of Mr. Kendall Goodman, Southlake TX - Texas A&M University

Tarheel Chapter (1SG John Hunter Memorial) Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Hannah H Achilles - Sibling of SPC Cameron Achilles, Rocky Mount NC - Brevard College

Tarheel Chapter (CPT Christopher M. Plummer Memorial) Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Bryanna M Reilly - Daughter of CSM Michael Reilly, Durham NC - Flagler College

Tarheel Chapter (CW3 Kevin Hatcher Memorial) Matching Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Allyson L Farina - Daughter of CW3 Roger Farina, Sanford NC - North Carolina State University

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August/September 2022

Army Enterprise AL - University of Tennessee Knoxville
Daughter of CW4 Abbigail C Upchurch - $1,000 for 1 year - University of Texas - Austin

Army Enterprise AL - Mississippi State University
Mr. Kevin Bush, Harvest, AL - Son of COL George R. Crook - $1,000 for 1 year - University of Central Florida

Army Enterprise AL - University of Cincinnati
Darla H Nielson, Columbus OH - Daughter of COL Morgan S Bean - $1,000 for 1 year - Brevard College

Army Enterprise AL - University of Cincinnati
Defense University
Grandchild of CPT Jeffrey Gyorcik - $1,000 for 1 year - Columbus OH - University of Cincinnati

Army Enterprise AL - The University of Alabama
Brian Mullady, The Villages FL - Son of Mr. Kendall Goodman, Southlake TX - $1,000 for 1 year - Liberty University

Army Enterprise AL - The University of Alabama
Anna L Farina - $1,000 for 1 year - University of South Carolina

Army Enterprise AL - The University of Alabama
David B. McCraney, Seminole FL - Daughter of CW3 Randy Watkins - $1,000 for 1 year - University of Alabama

Army Enterprise AL - The University of Alabama
Mary Jane McCraney, Seminole FL - Daughter of CW3 Randy Watkins - $1,000 for 1 year - University of Alabama

AAA Life Member (COL Bernard B. Quedens) Memorial Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Luke T Johnson - Grandchild of Capt William Johnson, Lake Jackson TX - Georgia Institute of Technology

AAA Life Member (COL George R. Crook) Memorial Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - John D Bush - Son of Mr. Kevin Bush, Harvest AL - Mississippi State University

AAA Life Member (COL George W. Sibert) Memorial Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Bryce D Jones - Son of CW4 Katherine Metz, Enterprise AL - The University of Alabama at Birmingham

AAA Life Member (COL Sidney W. Achee) Memorial Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Carla M Heberle Rivas, Merizo, GU - Point Loma Nazarene University

AAA Life Member (COL Robert W. Siegert, Jr.) Memorial Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Abigail C Upchurch - Daughter of CW4 Craig Upchurch, Enterprise AL - University of Tennessee Knoxville

AAA Life Member (COL Sidney W. Achee) Memorial Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Connor E McCrane - Son of Maj Scott McCrane, Seminole FL - University of Central Florida

AAA Life Member (COL William A. Rathbone) Memorial Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - Chloe Tyler - Grandchild of Capt William DuBose, Arvada CO - University of Hawaii

AAA Life Member (COL Heyward E. Brown) Memorial Scholarship
$1,000 for 1 year - William A. Rathbone)

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<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (COL William A. Roehl) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Grace P Leiva - Daughter of CW3 Jenniffer Hoover, Boulder MT - Montana State University</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (CW3 Williamean Mason) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Austin BK Miller - Son of COL Jason Miller, Cedar Park TX - Texas A&amp;M</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (CW4 Charles R. Graeber) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Adam K Stevens - Son of Mr. Curtis Stevens, Huntsville AL - University of Alabama in Huntsville</td>
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<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (CW4 James R. Oden) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Jake R Young - Grandchild of MAJ James Cooper, Edmond OK - Oklahoma State University</td>
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<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (CW4 Willard G. Turman) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Evan J Rice - Son of COL Daniel Rice, Canton GA - Auburn University</td>
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<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (CW5 Clarence R. Clarkson, Jr.) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - William Heyland - Son of COL William Heyland, Huntsville AL - University of Alabama</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (LTG John M. Wright, Jr.) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Sydney G Corcoran - Grandchild of LTC Fred Bagley, Sarasota FL - Texas A&amp;M</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (LTG Gerald R. Worthington) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Matthew M Maher - Son of COL John Maher, Gurley AL - Mississippi State University</td>
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<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (LTC John F. Stacy) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Luke Bauer - Grandchild of CW4 Keith Kraus, Elbert CO - Boston University</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (LTC John H. Anderson) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Brady S Jackson - Grandchild of CAPT Gary Rouzh, Painted Post NY - Elon University</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (LTC Norman G. Laumeyer) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Gabriela N Perez - Daughter of Mr. Francisco Perez, Enterprise AL - Troy University</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (LTC Stuart G. McLennan, Jr.) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Jack S Carnahan - Grandchild of LTC William McEwee, Savannah GA - University of Tennessee</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (LTC Walter S. Makuch) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Grace Kermagis - Grandchild of CW2 Anthony Kermagis, Valparaiso IN - University of Dayton</td>
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<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (LTC Walter M. Stacey) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Luke S Davis - Grandchild of CAPT Gary Davis, Avon IN - Indiana University</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (MG Orlando E. Gonzales) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Jacob W Weber - Grandchild of Mr. Jacob Weber, Canton MI - Michigan State University</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (MG Mr. Henry S. Wann) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Ammarr B Hanna - Daughter of CW4 Duane Sandbothe, Savannah GA - Georgia College and State University</td>
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<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (MG James O. Woddard) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Chlo Romero - Grandchild of LtCol Marvin Fuller, Katy TX - University of Texas</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (LTC John J. Mounts) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Jonathan S Hart - Grandchild of CW4 Sterling Hart, St. Augustine FL - Rider University</td>
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<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (LTC Robert L. Hamilton) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Jeremy J Schmit - Son of Ms. Shawn Schmit, Huntsville AL - Auburn University</td>
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<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (LTC Robert M. Tyson, Jr.) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Rachel E Morgan - Daughter of COL John Michael Morgan, Pinehurst NC - Sheridan College</td>
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<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (Mr. Eugene C. Witty) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Lee Hyder - Son of COL Lee Hyder, Carthage NC - United States Military Academy</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (Mr. Frank O. Grey) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Sina J Ballew - Daughter of CW3 Jeffrey Ballew, Pineville LA - Louisiana State University</td>
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<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (Mr. Henry S. Wann) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Ammarr B Hanna - Daughter of CW4 Duane Sandbothe, Savannah GA - Georgia College and State University</td>
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<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (Mr. Leonard J. Mounts) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Jonathan S Hart - Grandchild of CW4 Sterling Hart, St. Augustine FL - Rider University</td>
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<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (Mr. Ralph C. Cropp) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Alexander M Pace - Son of Mr. Alva Pace, Midlothian VA - University of Colorado</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (Mr. Robert M. Tyson, Jr.) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Rachel E Morgan - Daughter of COL John Michael Morgan, Pinehurst NC - Sheridan College</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (Mr. Ron E. Krape) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Grace E Finlay - Daughter of MAJ Alec Finlay, Madison AL - University of Tennessee - Knoxville</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (Mr. Walter J. Bordiuk) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Alexander M Pace - Son of Mr. Alva Pace, Midlothian VA - University of Colorado</td>
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<td><strong>AAAA Life Member</strong> (Mr. William R. Stephens) Memorial Scholarship $1,000 for 1 year - Kayleigh N Minyard - Grandchild of Capt William Toler, Eatonton GA - Towson University</td>
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Get Ready! Scholarship Applications for 2023 Are Now OPEN!
SPECIAL FEATURE:  
80th Anniversary of Army Aviation

Army Aviation in 1963-1972:  
The ‘Golden Age’ Begins,  
Part II

By Lieutenant General Harry W.O. Kinnard, U.S. Army Retired

Editor's Note: In celebration of the 80th Anniversary of Army Aviation, we continue reprinting a series of articles from the December 1992 50th Anniversary issue of ARMYAVIATION Magazine penned by many of the original pioneers in each of the remaining issues this year.

Airmobility Goes to Vietnam

After Air Assault II, and an agonizing wait, full of doubt about the future of the 11th AAD, and of airmobility itself, the news broke. The good news was that a regular Army division, the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) would be activated on 1 July 1965 and deploy to Vietnam. It was to take its colors and unit numbers from the 1st Cavalry in Korea, and its people from the 11th AAD and the 2nd Division, at Fort Benning.

The first bad news was our authorizing of only one parachute qualified brigade instead of three, as I had recommended, and the loss of our 24 armed Mohawks, on the altar of appeasing the Air Force. Worse was the news that the President had not announced a state of National Emergency, simultaneously with announcing our activation and deployment. I had been assured he would do that by the Army Chief of Staff. Without that announcement our activation and deployment would not have happened.

Instead, I suggest the referenced reading permitted recounting this campaign.

The ‘Golden Age’ Begins

In briefest summary, in a 35 day campaign, we drove the enemy into his Cambodia sanctuary, killing an estimated 1,800 men and inflicting severe losses in wounded and equipment.

For this campaign, the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) received the only Presidential Unit Citation won by an entire Division in the Vietnam War (and only the fifth one in our Army’s history). Secretary of Defense McNamara called the Pleiku campaign “an unparalleled success,” and added, “unique in its valor and courage, the Air Cavalry Division has established a record which will stand for a long time for others to match.”

Perhaps more importantly, air mobility worked as well, or better, in hard, demanding combat as in all the testing which had gone before. The success was even more remarkable because we had not been designed primarily for low intensity (or counter guerrilla) combat, nor for operations in an undeveloped country of mountains and jungles. But airmobile units are so flexible, and so capable that we succeeded in spite of those tremendous obstacles.

And how had we done in five functions of combat in this 35 day Pleiku campaign?

Mobility was so good it virtually eliminated questions of terrain. We could put people, weapons and supplies down virtu-
ally anywhere, even in atrocious weather or at night. This allowed us to focus on the enemy instead of terrain and allowed massing in time and space at speeds never known before. A major bonus was economy of force because we could operate without holding out a specific reserve. Instead, any unit, not in actual contact, was a potential reserve, which, if needed, we could quickly move and commit.

Firepower proved a major advantage as we repeatedly emplaced tube artillery, in supporting positions totally inaccessible to ground bound units. It was quite rare to engage the enemy for long without the support of at least one battery of tubes. And our one-of-a-kind aerial rocket battalion was a marvelous adjunct to our tubes. Their range was that of our helicopters, and they always enjoyed the advantage of elevated observation. Being wonderfully responsive, they turned many a hairy situation into another victory.

During this 35-day campaign, we fired 33,108 rounds of 105mm howitzer ammunition and 7,356 2.75 inch rockets. The gunships, and even the door gunners also provided essential firepower at the critical minutes of our assaults. Air Force close support, too, was excellent, although limited by weather, rear basing and mountainous, jungle terrain. Only the B-52 “Arc Light” strikes were disappointing, they turned many a hairy situation into another victory.

Logistics, the final function, had initially concerned me, as to whether we could keep up with speeds and distances never faced before. The Pleiku Campaign allayed all those concerns. For example, we “retail” delivered by air 5,048 tons of cargo from the “wholesale” airfield at Pleiku. In addition, before the Air Force got in gear, we “wholesale” delivered 8,216 tons into Pleiku from depots at Qui Nhon and Nha Trang.

All this was in addition to airlifting many infantry units, including 48 infantry battalions, some 67 artillery batteries, and the air evacuation of 2,700 refugees. In this 35 day period of intensive flying, we had 56 birds hit in flight. Four of these were shot down, of which three were recovered.

We had also kept our birds flying under the severe strain of a prolonged pursuit, and at the end were putting back into the more mission-ready aircraft than we were being dead-lined for combat. In short, every function had worked in combat beyond my best hopes.

Better yet, this continued to be true in the many subsequent operations of the 1st Air Cav, and true, as well, of the operations of the 101st when it became our second Airmobile Division in June 1968. Important, too, as the uniform success of all the other Army divisions in Vietnam who, in varying degrees, all became airmobile. This was particularly true in the later years, especially 1967 and 1968, when there were enough aviation assets to satisfy most requirements for airmobility, in every division.

It is fair to say that our Army in Vietnam became an airmobile Army. A key measure of our Army’s effectiveness in Vietnam was its ability to fight, with unbroken success at a ratio, between the number of our troops and those of enemy forces, far smaller than had historically been true in previous, successful counter guerrilla combat. Airmobility, not just in Air Assault division, but in all divisions, accounted for this success.

Air mobility had also answered two perennial questions about vulnerability and sustainability. Properly used the helicopter was highly survivable. And in prolonged, high intensity campaigns (particularly of the 1st Air Cav) removed any doubts about operating on a sustained basis. In substantiation of these two points, these figures are pertinent: from September ’65 through April ’66, the 1st Cav flew 401,373 sorties in 161,673 hours and delivered 82,214 tons of combat cargo and 522,916 passengers. Combat damage was:

- One aircraft hit per 272 flying hours.
- One aircraft shot down per 4,494 flying hours.
- One aircraft destroyed per 11,556 flying hours.
- One aircrewman killed per 5,992 flying hours.
- One aircrewman wounded per 1,264 flying hours.
- 61% of all aircraft shot down were recovered and repaired.

The only remaining favorite question about airmobile forces was their cost. My answer was (and is) that cost, per se, means nothing. What is important is cost effectiveness, or military worth. Not how many dollars are spent, but what those dollars buy in capabilities such as deployability, flexibility and lethality. On that basis I firmly believe airmobile units are less costly than any other kind.

Best of all, by the end of the war in Vietnam, the Army in general knew that airmobility was here to stay. Certainly, airmobility would change, and grow, but the thousands of people who had learned first-hand the virtues of three dimensional combat, would never again accept just two dimensions.

A new kind of land combat, AirLand Battle, could already be visualized by those with eyes to see.

Endnote

b. We Were Soldiers Once... And Again, by LTG Harold G. Moore and Joseph L. Galloway, Random House.
LIKE MANY AAAA CHAPTERS, THE MINUTEMAN CHAPTER HAS RECENTLY PUSHED THROUGH NUMEROUS CHALLENGES THAT HAVE IMPACTED THEIR ABILITY TO GROW AND NETWORK.

YEARS OF COVID-19 HAVE IMPACTED MAJOR TRAINING EVENTS, AND NEAR-TERM DEPLOYMENTS HAVE ALL INFLUENCED STANDARD CHAPTER ACTIVITIES. BUT CHANGE IS THE ONE CONSTANT THAT KEEPS THE CHAPTER ON A PATH TOWARDS IMPROVEMENT. THE MINUTEMAN CHAPTER LIES GEOGRAPHICALLY AT THE CENTER OF NUMEROUS AVIATION INDUSTRY COMPANIES. THIS BRINGS A SOLID BASE OF DEFENSE INDUSTRY MEMBERS, CIVILIAN COUNTERPARTS, AND RETIREES TO THEIR TEAM. BALANCING OUT THEIR MEMBERSHIPS ARE THE OUTSTANDING AVIATION PROFESSIONALS FROM THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD UNITS THROUGHOUT MASSACHUSETTS INCLUDING THE 3-126TH GSAB, AND OTHER ARMY AVIATION UNITS THROUGHOUT NEW ENGLAND. THE CHAPTER LOOKS FORWARD TO EMBRACING THIS CHANGE, CONTINUING TO GROW THEIR MEMBERSHIP, AND ENABLING MAJOR CHAPTER LEADERSHIP CHANGES SOON. THE CHAPTER HOPES THIS CHANGE WILL CAPITALIZE ON THEIR STRENGTHS IN THE REGION TO SUPPORT THEIR MEMBERS!

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH AND ACTIVITIES

AS THE MINUTEMAN CHAPTER CONTINUES TO RESET AND GROW ITS MEMBERSHIP, ACTIVITIES, AND CAMARADERIE THROUGHOUT THE NEW ENGLAND REGION, IT HAS RECENTLY HELD MANY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES. THE CHAPTER RECENTLY SPONSORED A MEETING THAT DISCUSSED INCLUDING BLIND SPOTS AND BARRIERS TO WOMEN IN AVIATION, A REVIEW OF THE TENETS OF ARMY AVIATION, AND THE ARMY AVIATION MAINTENANCE TRAINING PROGRAM.

THE MINUTEMAN CHAPTER GOLF FUNDRAISER WAS HELD IN THE FALL OF 2021 WITH OUTSTANDING PARTICIPATION AND FUNDRAISING RESULTS. THIS EVENT INCLUDED THE AWARD OF THE COVETED GREEN JACKETS TO THE WINNING TEAM, COMPLETE WITH EMBROIDERED “BO-SOX” PATCH TO SIGNIFY THE CONNECTION OF THE CHAPTER WITH THE 3-126TH GSAB AND THE BOSTON AREA. MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE EVENT RAISED MOST OF THE FUNDING THAT SUPPORTS FOUR ANNUAL AAAA SCHOLARSHIPS TO THEIR AAAA MEMBERS. THE CHAPTER LOOKS FORWARD TO THE 2022 ITERATION THIS FALL AND HOPES TO SEE ANY MEMBER IN THE AREA ATTEND THEIR EVENT!

CHAPTER RECOGNITION AND MEMBER SUPPORT

IN THE PAST YEAR, THE CHAPTER HAS MADE IT A POINT TO RECOGNIZE MEMBERS WITH THE ORDER OF SAINT MICHAEL AWARD ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS. ADDITIONALLY, THEY HAVE BEGUN RECOGNIZING OTHER INDIVIDUALS WITH THE ORDER OF OUR LADY OF LORETO TO THANK THEM FOR OUTSTANDING SUPPORT TO THE ARMY AVIATION FAMILY AND AVIATION COMMUNITY.

THE CHAPTER’S GROWTH ALSO INCLUDES DIRECT SUPPORT TO UNIT SUPPORTED EVENTS TO BUILD MEMBERSHIP AND EDUCATE THEIR SOLDIERS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS. THE CHAPTER ALSO PLANS TO HOLD QUARTERLY CHAPTER MEETINGS, HOLD OFFICER ELECTIONS, AND CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE AAAA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. THE CHAPTER WELCOMES FRESH IDEAS FROM CHAPTER MEMBERS THAT WILL HELP INCREASE THE NETWORKING, VOICE, RECOGNITION, AND SUPPORT OF THE CHAPTER.

PREPARING FOR DEPLOYMENT

AS A LARGE PORTION OF THE MINUTEMAN CHAPTER MEMBERS PREPARE FOR YET ANOTHER OVERSEAS DEPLOYMENT, THE MINUTEMAN CHAPTER REMAINS PREPARED TO SUPPORT THEM. A RENEWED LEADERSHIP EFFORT REMAINS IMPORTANT TO MANAGING CHANGE AND GROWING OUR FAMILY. THE CHAPTER HIGHLY ENCOURAGES ALL CHAPTER MEMBERS TO REACH OUT, GET INVOLVED, OFFER IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENT, AND IF TIME ALLOWS- BECOME A VALUED MEMBER OF THEIR LEADERSHIP TEAM.

MOVING FORWARD

THE MINUTEMAN CHAPTER HAS A DIVERSE MEMBERSHIP BASE AND FANTASTIC LOCATION FOR SUCCESS. THEY LOOK FORWARD TO REVITALIZING THE CHAPTER TO SUPPORT THE UNITED STATES ARMY AVIATION SOLDIERS AND FAMILY THROUGH THE NETWORK, VOICE, RECOGNITION, AND SUPPORT THAT IT PROVIDES. ABOVE THE BEST!

FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME IF YOU NEED HELP FOR YOUR CHAPTER, EXECUTIVE BOARD SUPPORT, WOULD LIKE YOUR CHAPTER FEATURED IN THE AAAA MAGAZINE OR TO OBTAIN CLARIFICATION OF NATIONAL PROCEDURES.

LTC (RET.) JAN S. DRABCZUK
AAA A VP FOR CHAPTER AFFAIRS
jan.drabczuk@quad-a.org
AAA Chapter News

Joe Cardona Speaks at Narragansett Bay Chapter

The 2022 Rhode Island Army Aviation Dining In and AAAA Narragansett Bay chapter event was held on Friday, June 17, 2022 at the Quonset O Club in North Kingston. The guest speaker at the event was LT Joseph Cardona, the Long Snapper for the New England Patriots and a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy. As a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, LT Cardona took some good natured toasts about Army Football during the infamous grog ceremony. Joe gave an inspirational speech, posed for numerous selfies and even allowed our Aviation Soldiers a chance to wear his Superbowl rings! Pictured are (l to r): LT Joe Cardona (NE Patriots Long Snapper), COL John MacDonald (SAAO/CDR, 56th Troop Command), LTC Jeff Sills (incoming 126th AVN BN CDR), and LTC Brent Groeneveld (outgoing 126th AVN BN CDR).

TN Valley Golf Tourney Raises Over $40K for Scholarship Fund

The Annual TVC-AAAA golf tournament once again exceeded expectations, raising more than $40K for the chapter scholarship fund thanks entirely to their extremely generous industry sponsors. 242 players participated on 61 teams, completely filling both the Highlands and River Courses at the Robert Trent Jones golf course in Hampton Cove, AL. There were 28 sponsors and a record 5 DIAMOND sponsors this year. A special thanks to our GOLD sponsors i3 and Navigator, our Platinum (lunch) sponsor Miltope, and our DIAMOND sponsors Collins Aero, Strata-G, S3, Iron Mountain, and Stevens Aero (Double Diamond). Pictured are Mr. Brad Bruce, tournament director, and Ms. Sarah Huskey presenting the donation check to Mr. Ray Sellers, chapter VP Government Affairs and AAAA National VP Civilian Affairs.

AAA News - Order of St. Michael Inductees

Air Assault Chapter

COL Travis M. Habhab is inducted into the Silver Honorable Order of St. Michael by COL (Ret.) Henry “Hawk” Ruth, chapter president, during a ceremony on May 31, 2022 at the Division Parade Field, Fort Campbell, KY. Habhab was recognized for his career-long service to Army Aviation on the occasion of his change of command of the 101st Cbt Avn. Bde.

Aviation Center Chapter

LTC (P) Danielle Rodondi is inducted as a Knight of the Honorable Order of St. Michael by MG David Francis, commanding general of the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker, during a June 7, 2022 change of command ceremony at Lyster Army Medical Center, Ft. Rucker. Rodondi was recognized for her outstanding support of Army Aviation while serving as Center commander as she departs for the War College.

LTC Jennifer Benincasa and LTC John Venezia are inducted into the Bronze Honorable Order of St. Michael by COL Nicole Powell-Dunford (left), USAACE Command Surgeon, and COL Dan Porter (right), School of Army Aviation Medicine, during a June 17, 2022 ceremony at Ft Rucker, AL. Benincasa was recognized for her outstanding support of Army Aviation while serving as the Aerospace Medicine program director and Venezia for his contributions to Army Aviation as he assumes the position of Dean of the School of Aviation Medicine.

On 2 June 2022, chapter president Robert “Bob” Doerer inducted CW4 Severt “Eric” Roen into the Bronze Honorable Order of St. Michael. Roen was the Senior Aviation Warrant Officer Analyst and Personnel Development Manager within the USAACE Organization & Personnel Force Development Directorate (OPFD) in addition to UH-60M Flight Instructor supporting 1-212th Aviation Regiment. His next assignment is in Honduras where he will be the TF/1-228th Battalion Standardization Officer.

Dr. Paul M. St. Onge, a research scientist with the U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory (USAARL), is inducted as a Knight of the Honorable Order of St. Michael by USAARL deputy commander, LTC Jason R. Yellman, during a June 29, 2022 ceremony at Ft. Rucker, AL. St. Onge was recognized for more than 15 years supporting Army Aviation, contributions to countless research programs at USAARL, with almost 50 technical publications and presentations supporting Aviator Health, Altitude Physiology, Degraded Visual Environments and Cognitive Workload.
OsMs Continued

On June 28, 2022, during the 1-14th Aviation Regiment’s monthly AH-64E Aviator Academics at Hanchey Army Heliport, Fort Rucker, Alabama the commander, LTC Ryan Kelly (left) with the assistance of his Senior Warrant Officer Advisor, CW5 James Small (right), inducted into the Silver Honorable Order of Saint Michael DAC Franklin Diaz, Battalion Standardization Officer (2nd from right), and Chief Warrant Officer Three Christopher M. Lee, Battalion Safety Officer into the Bronze OSM. Both remain an integral part of the unit as primary trainers of future AH-64E aviators.

Idaho Snake River Chapter

Ms. Amanda Signorio is inducted into the Honorable Order of Our Lady of Loreto by chapter president, LTC Granger M. Amthor (right), during a January 21, 2022 ceremony at Meridian, Idaho. Signorio, the wife of SFC Michael J. Signorio (left), was recognized for her outstanding support of Army Aviation while serving as the 1-183rd AVN Regiment Family Readiness Group (FRG) Committee Chair for 5 years having a positive impact on the unit.

Keystone Chapter

MAJ Kandy N. Heekin and CPT Nathan A Bevans are inducted into the Bronze Honorable Order of St. Michael during a May 20, 2022 ceremony at Zimmerman Hall, Lebanon Valley College, Lebanon, PA by AAAA National President, MG (Ret.) Tim Crosby (right) and LTC Michael S. Gross (left), S3, Eastern ARNG Aviation Training Site (EAATS). Heekin and Bevans, who are both assistant operations officers for the 28th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade, were recognized for their numerous contributions to Army Aviation and the Keystone Chapter.

Tarheel Chapter

CW5 Jeffrey T. Gordon and MAJ Jack E. Potvin are inducted into the Bronze Honorable Order of St. Michael by Tarheel Chapter President, LTC Mark Pickett, during a June 6, 2022 ceremony at the AASF#2, Mid-Carolina Regional Airport, Salisbury, NC. Gordon was recognized for more than 30 years of service to Army Aviation culminated as the standardization officer for the 449th Cbt. Avn. Bde and Army Aviation Support Facility #2. He was one of the founders of the North Carolina Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team which combined the NCARNG UH-60 platform, Emergency Management, and multiple North Carolina Fire Departments to provide enhanced rescue services to the Citizens of North Carolina. Potvin was recognized for his outstanding service to Army Aviation over multiple deployments as a UH-60 logistics, maintenance and standardization officer.

Tennessee Valley Chapter

Mrs. Charity A. Evans is inducted into the Bronze Honorable Order of St. Michael by LTC(P) Joseph Carl Alexander, Product Manager, UH-60M Black Hawk, at a June 24, 2022 ceremony in Huntsville, AL. Evans was recognized for her outstanding support of Army Aviation over the past 17 years and most recently while serving as the deputy UH-60M product manager on the occasion of her change of duty to Director of Acquisition Operations at the UAS Project Office.

COL James DeBoer is inducted into the Bronze Honorable Order of St. Michael and his wife Kathryn DeBoer, into the Honorable Order of Our Lady of Loreto, by BG Robert Barrie, Program Executive Officer Aviation and COL. Jay Maher, Project Manager, Apache Attack Helicopter Office, during a May 25, 2022 ceremony at The Summit, Redstone Arsenal, AL. DeBoer was recognized for his exceptional leadership throughout his 26 years of service and multiple deployments culminating with his service as the project manager for the Fixed Wing Project Office. Kathryn DeBoer was recognized for her eighteen years of contributing to the Army Aviation community serving as a Family Readiness Group Leader and various other volunteer positions.

LTC (P) Daniel R Thetford is inducted into the Bronze Honorable Order of St. Michael by COL Calvin Lane, Utility Helicopters Project Office Project Manager, during a June 10, 2022 ceremony at Redstone Arsenal, AL. Thetford was recognized for his significant contributions to Army Aviation over the past 20 years on the occasion of his UH-60V Product Manager change of charter and departure for the Air Force War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, AL.
Army Aviation’s First Branch Chief Laid to Rest

Major General Carl Herbert McNair Jr.
U.S. Army Retired

Friends and family gathered at Arlington National Cemetery on August 4, 2022 to pay their respects and bid farewell to Major General Carl Herbert McNair Jr., U.S. Army Retired. McNair, who passed on May 2, 2022 at the age of 88, had a long and distinguished career of 32 years with the U.S. Army; one of his most impactful accomplishments having been instrumental in the planning and conception stage of the Army Aviation Branch and, in 1983, becoming its first chief. Following retirement, he held challenging leadership positions in multiple defense corporations. He was an unofficial voice of Army aviation and served as President of AAAA and President of the AAAA Scholarship Foundation, Inc. Board of Governors. An April 2004 inductee into the Army Aviation Hall of Fame, and in July 2015 into the Living Legends of Aviation, one of his most cherished undertakings was with the Arlington National Cemetery Commemorative Project resulting in the creation of the books Where Valor Rests—Arlington National Cemetery and For Children of Valor, memorial gifts now presented to the families who have lost loved ones in the defense of freedom.

May he rest in peace.

The caisson bearing MG (Ret.) McNair makes its way to the gravesite at Arlington National Cemetery.

Left: UH-60 Black Hawks from 12th Aviation Battalion at Fort Belvoir, VA, perform a flyover at Arlington National Cemetery during the interment service. Right: A UMPA wreath honors the life and work of MG (Ret.) McNair at the gravesite. AAAA’s wreath was presented at the internment services as well.

AAAAs Awards

Order of St. Michael Inductees

Silver
Air Assault Chapter
CW5 Richard T. Nielsen
Aviation Center Chapter
COL Stephen W. Owen
COL Ryan K. Welch
Colonial Virginia Chapter
COL Clifton T. Causey
Gold Standard Chapter
CW5 William Kail
Iron Mike Chapter
CW5 Donald E. Barnett
Mount Rainier Chapter
COL D. Shane Finison
COL Christopher C. Vine
North Country Chapter
COL Travis L. McIntosh

Bronze
Air Assault Chapter
CW4 Ryan E. Pummill
Colonial Virginia Chapter
SFC Freddy Calderon
Delaware Valley Chapter
SFC Jeremy C. Dudley
SFC Antonio O. Lewis
Desert Oasis Chapter
SFC Justin T. LaFountain
Empire Chapter
MSG Joel Beardsley
Grizzly Chapter
LTC David D. Lovett
Tarheel Chapter
CW5 Jeffrey T. Gordon
MAJ Jack E. Potvin
Tennessee Valley Chapter
MAJ Joshua J. Redmond
Washington-Potomac Chapter
TOBIN A. BROWN
Phantom Corps Chapter
CPT Trevor J. Schmitt
LTC Archie L. Smith
Rio Grande Chapter

CPT Weston R. Rinehart
No Chapter Affiliation
CSM Joseph Ard, Jr.
CW4 Billy G. Clayburn, Jr.
CPT Casey Colbert
LTC J. Brian Halsey
SGM Michael S. Hosier
LTC Mark T. Leisten
CSM Richard E. McCurdy, Jr.
CW5 Mark L. McIntosh
CSM Manuel Rios
LTC Christopher M. Ruff
CSM John C. Schmidt
CPT Mitchell E. Vaughn
MAJ Michelle A. Vu
LTC Matthew D. Williams

Honorable Knight Inductees

Gold Standard Chapter
COL Brent A. Clemmer
Washington-Potomac Chapter
CPT Kayla Eppele
No Chapter Affiliation

MAJ Peter B. Postma
MAJ Theresa R. Simard
CPT Kelsey R. Smith
1LT Alicia L. Taylor

Our Lady of Loreto Inductees

Colonial Virginia Chapter
Yolanda Conrad
Lindbergh Chapter
Shirley Stenberg
North Country Chapter
Jessica Cain
Gina Hanrahan
Susan Rollie
Katie Weesley
Phantom Corps Chapter
Rebecca DeLoach
Janel Jackson
Tara Long
Fares Short
Tennessee Valley Chapter
Pamela Guillermo
Meet Jerry and Ann Stahl, the Central Florida Chapter’s southernmost members... that’s because they live in Key West, Florida, the southernmost city in the United States.

The Stahls moved to Key West about five years ago, having lived in the Orlando area for over twenty years. Both Jerry and Ann are Life Members of AAAA, having left long-lasting positive impacts on Army Aviation, the Aviation Soldier, and the Central Florida Chapter.

Jerry and Ann’s support to the Central Florida Chapter spans over two decades, with both serving on the Chapter’s Executive Board for over 15 years each. Jerry served as the Chapter President for two consecutive terms, while Ann served multiple terms as the Vice President for Membership.

Under their combined leadership and dedication, the Chapter orchestrated numerous community affairs and outreach programs. They initiated the Holiday Food Basket program, which provides Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets to families of central Florida deployed Soldiers. They expanded the Chapter’s support for the annual Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Campaign, in which the Chapter’s December monthly social is now one of the most widely attended events for the Orlando military community.

Ann’s personal and professional dedication to the entire Aviation community is nothing short of remarkable... the Chapter’s membership numbers grew, and the monthly social events became so well-attended that most were nearly standing-room only.

While President, Jerry created the Chapter’s Board of Advisors, made up of past Chapter presidents, to provide advice and counsel to the Executive Board. He also served as the President of the Central Florida Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) and as the President of the Combined Professional Associations Group. Jerry believes strongly in the importance of service to the entire military community through involvement in a wide variety of professional organizations.

Jerry’s career related to Army Aviation spans over five decades, beginning in the early 70’s. He retired in 2003, having served for over 31 years as a Department of the Army Civilian, culminating the last 18 months of his career as the Deputy Program Executive Officer (PEO) for Simulation, Training, and Instrumentation (STRI). But he and Ann remained very active in Army Aviation and the Central Florida Chapter long after his retirement.

As a result of their efforts in support of Army Aviation and the Aviation Soldier, Jerry received the Bronze Order of Saint Michael, and Ann received the Order of Our Lady of Loreto.

Jerry and Ann said for several years, that if they were to ever move from Orlando, it would be further south... well, in 2017 they did it and haven’t regretted it. They continue to be very active in their new local community, both having graduated from the Key West Ambassador program. This provides them the opportunity to volunteer for numerous activities and events, such as the annual Fantasy Fest and the Zombie bike parade. Jerry even became a certified bicycle helmet fitter...to this he says in jest, “who would have thunk it!”

So, if you’re ever in Key West and you see a hot pink golf cart with AAAA stickers prominently displayed on the back, say hello to Jerry and Ann Stahl. Their heart will always be with the Aviation Soldier, and they’ll continue to be the southernmost members of AAAA’s Central Florida Chapter.

CW4 Becki Chambers
AAAA Vice President for Membership
NEW AAAA Life Members
Lincolnberg Chapter
LTC Thomas D. Kuykendorf, Ret.
Washington-Potomac Chapter
CJM Alex Collins

NEW AAAA Members
Aerodrome Chapter
PFC Daniel G. McAdams
Aloha Chapter
PFC Leovigildo L. Amby
Aviation Center Chapter
2LT Carson F. Adams

W.O.1. Joshua D. Hilmes, Deputy Commander, USACRC, received the
Award of Valor for his service in Afghanistan. He was posthumously
promoted to Major on June 27, 2022.

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Upcoming Events
October 2022
10 - 12 USAO Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
Convention, Washington, DC

November 2022
14 - 16 AAAA Cribbins Army Aviation Readiness
Conference, Huntsville, AL
14 AAAA National Executive Board and Scholarship
Foundation Board of Governors Meetings, Huntsville, AL

OSMs Continued

COL Roger D. Kuykendall, project manager of the
Aviation Turbine Engines Project Office, is inducted into the
Silver Honorable Order of St. Michael, and his wife,
Melissa Kuykendall, into the Honorable Order of Our
Lady of Loreto, by chapter president, Mr. Gary Nenninger,
during a June 23, 2022 ceremony at Redstone Arsenal,
AL. LTG Thomas Todd (left), Deputy Commanding
General, Acquisition and Systems Management, United
States Army Futures Command, Austin, TX and former
PEO Aviation, assisted. The Kuykendalls were recognized
for their long-standing significant contributions to and
support of Army Aviation.

Aviation Center Chapter

On April 27, 2022 on West Beach, Lake Tholocco, Fort
Rucker, AL, at the United States Army Combat Readiness
Center organizational day, BG Andrew C. Hilmes,
USACRC Commanding General, was inducted as a
Knight of the Honorable Order of Saint Michael by COL
Ronald L. Ellis, Deputy Commander, USACRC. Hilmes
has been the CG for three years making it his longest
assignment as an officer. He relinquished command to
BG Gene D. Meredith on June 20, 2022.

AAAANETWORK I RECOGNITION I VOICE I SUPPORT
Sadie McCurry is no stranger to the Wiregrass and is very much coming back home having been born at Lyster Army Hospital “when it was still a hospital on Fort Rucker” and going to high school in Enterprise when her family was stationed there.

She first met 1LT “Mac” McCurry when he was there on a TDY trip from Fort Bragg, after which they dated long distance, and are now married for 28 years. Sadie “feels blessed to call ourselves an Army family. Both of our fathers are Army Aviators, and three of our children have chosen to serve our country as well.”

The McCurry’s twin daughters (Armor Officer and an Apache Pilot, also married to an Apache Pilot) are both stationed at Fort Carson, CO, and their precious 15-month-old granddaughter lives there with her Dad while her mom is currently deployed. Their oldest son is a Paratrooper stationed at Ft. Bragg. In addition, the McCurys have 3 children who will be attending elementary, middle, and high school while living at Fort Rucker.

The McCurys have averaged moves every 2 years with a few times moving every year, and Sadie shared that “each place we have lived has been memorable in its own way. Being stationed in Korea and in Germany gave me a true appreciation for being a guest in a different country and learning about different cultures and making friends around the world has been extremely rewarding. Our children have handled deployments with grace and resilience, but I won't pretend there haven't been challenges. Giving birth in Alaska to our 6th child (while Mac was deployed to Iraq) was particularly memorable! Fortunately, another “battle Buddy” helped me through this time. Our Army family is so very important, especially during times like this.”

I was interested in how she maintained her individuality. She explained, “It has at times been a struggle, but I think everyone grapples with that challenge from time to time. As a stay-at-home mom for most of my life, my days have included household tasks and taking care of my children…my most important role. However, I also believe that one of my most important roles as a mom is to set a good example and let my children see me working in my strengths, regardless of my circumstances (being in a remote location, for example). Hopefully, this encourages them to work within their God-given strengths as well.”

Sadie is an avid reader and podcast listener who “loves to learn and explore different views and opinions. My faith centers me and helps me to make sense of all the “noise” that comes my way. I believe wholeheartedly in treating every human with respect, even if we differ in our world view.”

She has volunteered and served her community through...
Looking for Employment?

Some Organizations and Resources to Consider

Military Spouse Chamber of Commerce (MSCC) (milspouse@chamber.org) – A voice for those considering starting a business endeavor, are already a business owner, freelancer, self-employed, or an entrepreneur.

Hiring Our Heroes (hiringourheroes.org) – Participate in free professional development and paid on the job training opportunities.

Arm-Me-Up Army Spouse Career Campaign (armmeup.org) – Access targeted, no cost, one on one career and employment services for Army spouses through this direct pipeline to employers and job placement.

Military Spouse Education and Career Opportunities (My SECO) (myseco.militaryonesource.mil) – Provides mentors to help develop employment skills and learn job strategies for your chosen career field.

The Rosie Network Service 2 CEO Program (therosienetwork.org) – Offers free individualized small business training and mentorship programs for the military community.

USO Pathﬁnder Program (USO.org/programs/USO-pathfinder) Work with a specialist to develop a personalized Action Plan and access services and resources that are the best fit for you.

Scan this code to access links to many more resources (i.e., Starting or Growing a Business, MilSpouse Roadmap, Career Planning, Grow Your Skills, Job Search, License, Scholarships and Grants.

FRGs, Spouses Clubs, chapel programs, and youth activities. “I have been very blessed to not HAVE to work outside the home, but I do wish I had spent a little more time being intentional about my career aspirations over the years. I still hope to return to school and become a registered nurse. And I believe my years of experience as a mom and Army spouse should help!”

An important goal that Sadie hopes to work on in her role as “Army Aviation’s 1st Lady” is “increasing human-to-human connection and properly welcoming new Army families into the community. During the pandemic we saw the rise of many virtual platforms and new ways of working and meeting. And these were good for a season. However, I absolutely believe we, as humans, need to reconnect and bond face-to-face rather than screen-to-screen. In the name of efficiency, we have lost a bit of the intangible benefits of connection, and I would like to work to bring those back. Whether an Army family serves for 3 years or 30 years, it is important to connect with battle buddies and fellow Army families.”

I know that you will agree how very fortunate we are being able to welcome Sadie “back home” and look forward to the future with her and her family at the helm of our Army Aviation family.

Judy Konitzer is the family forum editor for ARMY AVIATION; questions and suggestions can be directed to her at judy@quad-a.org.
T-901 Passes First Test

The U.S. Army announced on July 7, 2022 the successful completion of the first round of tests of its Improved Turbine Engine Program engine that will power AH-64 Apache attack helicopters, UH-60 Black Hawk utility helicopters and the Future Attack Reconnaissance Aircraft. The first engine to test began with an initial light off on March 22 and has now completed more than 100 hours of run time, the Army said in a July 7 statement. The new engine which provides 3,000 shaft horsepower and greater fuel efficiency will continue into preliminary flight rating testing that will begin this fall through 2023. The engine will log a total of 5,000 hours of testing to achieve full qualification.

Invictus Prototype Over 90% Complete

On July 12, 2022 Bell released new pictures and video of the first prototype of its Invictus 360, which it says is now over 90% complete. The advanced helicopter is the company’s entry into the Army’s Future Attack Reconnaissance Aircraft program, or FARA, where it is in competition with Sikorsky’s Raider X.

Contracts – (From various sources. An ** by a company name indicates a small business contract / **** indicates a woman-owned small business)

Aerovironment Incorporated, Simi Valley, CA, was awarded a $10,082,845 firm-fixed-price contract for the Puma 3 AE Unmanned Aircraft System; work will be performed in Simi Valley, with an estimated completion date of June 30, 2022.

Area-I LLC, Marietta, GA, was awarded an indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity contract with a maximum ceiling value of $30,505,000. The contract will be a mixture of firm-fixed-price, cost-plus-fixed-fee and cost only for the procurement of an unmanned aircraft system, the Agile-Launch Tactically-Integrated Unmanned System (ALTUIS), including mission system payloads, training, logistics support, engineering services, test and test support services, and other sustainment and development services in support of U.S. Special Operations Command. Most of the work will be performed in Marietta, with expected completion by July 2027.

General Electric, Lynn, MA, was awarded a $22,116,200 firm-fixed-price contract for maintenance and overhaul of the 701D engine; work locations and funding will be determined with each order, with an estimated completion date of June 30, 2027.

Longbow LLC, Orlando, FL, was awarded a $14,217,951 firm-fixed-price contract for life cycle contract support services and supplies for the Apache AH-64D/E Model Fire Control Radar; work will be performed in Orlando, with an estimated completion date of December 31, 2026.

Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation, Stratford, CT, was awarded two contracts: a $429,174,259 firm-fixed-price contract for maintenance and overhaul of UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters; work locations and funding will be determined with each order, with an estimated completion date of June 28, 2027; and a $7,591,514 firm-fixed-price contract for overhaul and repair of UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters; work locations and funding will be determined with each order, with an estimated completion date of December 31, 2027.

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ANNOUNCING RELATED TO ARMY AVIATION MATTERS
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SIZE OF COMPANY: Large, 1,000 Employees and Up
CATEGORIES: Manufacturing

https://www.collinsaerospace.com/jadc2
Changes of Command/Responsibility

Night Stalkers Welcome Waleski

COL Roger P. Waleski assumed command of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) from COL Andrew R. Graham during a June 20, 2022 ceremony at the GEN B. Doug Brown Compound, Fort Campbell, KY. The ceremony, hosted by BG Phillip Ryan, commanding general of U.S. Army Special Operations Aviation Command, was the regiment’s first nighttime change of command. Waleski comes to the Night Stalkers from the Air Force War college in Montgomery, AL and Graham moves to U.S. Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, FL where he will serve in the commander’s action group.

Kulik Takes Command of USAAB-J

LTC Courtney Kulik receives the colors of U.S. Army Aviation Battalion Japan, from COL Terry Butcher, U.S. Army Japan deputy commander, during a July 7, 2022 ceremony at Kastner Army Airfield, Camp Zama, Japan.

Tigersharks Welcome Holten

LTC Kevin Easter presents the colors of the 1st Battalion, 229th Aviation Regiment (Attack), 16th Combat Aviation Brigade to 7th Infantry Division commanding general, MG Stephen G. Smith, as he relinquishes command to LTC Nicholas Holten (left) at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA on Jun. 10, 2022.

Hogan Takes Over at CCAD

COL Kyle M. Hogan (left) prepares to receive the colors of Corpus Christi Army Depot (CCAD) from AMCOM Commander, MG K. Todd Royar (back to camera), during a change of command ceremony aboard Naval Air Station Corpus Christi July 15, 2022. Hogan, who serves as the depot’s 28th commander, assumed command from COL Joseph H. Parker.

Awards

1-168 GSAB Crew Receives Broken Wing Award

Five members of the Washington National Guard’s 1st Battalion, 168th General Support Aviation were awarded the U.S. Army Aviation Broken Wing Award on June 18, 2022. On Nov. 20, 2020, CW3 Ryan Schwend (center), CW2 Eugene Park (right), SGT Andrew Donley-Russell (2nd right), SGT Ty Higgins (left), and SSG Ben Kamalii (2nd left) safely landed their CH-47 Chinook in Afghanistan after a sling load came apart in flight and flew up into the bottom of the aircraft severely damaging it.

Hawk Ruth Honored at 101st Division

COL (Ret.) Henry C. “Hawk” Ruth (white hat) stands behind 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) commanding general, MG Joseph P. McGee, with two other veterans, during a division revue of the more than 18,000 Screaming Eagles on May 26, 2022 at Fort Campbell, KY. McGee selected Ruth, a former Brigader commander in the Division, to represent the enduring power of Army Aviation in the Division.
People On The Move

Flight School Graduates

AAAA provides standard aviator wings to all graduates and sterling silver aviator wings to the distinguished graduates of each flight class ... another example of AAAA’s SUPPORT for the U.S. Army Aviation Soldier and Family.

AAAA congratulates the following officers graduating from Flight School XXI at the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, Fort Rucker, AL.

48 Officers Jun 30, 2022
Class 22-017
Commissioned Officers
1LT Flege, Christian B. - DG
2LT Campbell, James L. - HG
CPT Hanson, Jacob S. - HG
1LT Hug, Adam C. - HG
1LT Blumenschein, Andrew M.
1LT Bruhn, Natalie C.
2LT Glancey, Madeleine R.
1LT Hicklé, Connor J.
2LT Howard, Mark S.
1LT Hunter, Joshua H.
1LT Lehman, William E.
1LT Olszewski, Sarah W.
1LT Parra, Michael A.
CPT Rushing, Deven H.
1LT Schumer, Dylan L.
1LT Smith, Zachary J. *
2LT Vinberg, Nicholas P. *
1LT Voitek, Gregory E.

Warrant Officers
WO1 Case, Ian M. - DG
WO1 Baumm, Jonah W. * - HG
WO1 Mahadeo, Shaan A. - HG
WO1 McManus, Christopher C. - HG
WO1 Wilson, Thomas S. * - HG
WO1 Banks, Thomas E. *
WO1 Corkhill, Joseph N.
WO1 Coyle, Kaden S.

WO1 Deckert, Troy, Jr.
WO1 Fort, Kyle C.
WO1 Harding, Shawn M.
WO1 Harris, Grayson P.
WO1 Henry, Paul D.
WO1 Kucko, Alexander M. *
WO1 Lafferty, Ethan R.
WO1 Lewis, Tyler J.
WO1 Liles, Wyatt W.

WO1 Long, Douglas S.
WO1 Maldonado, Joshua
WO1 Navarrete, Alexander M.
WO1 Peterson, Casey T. *
WO1 Pettis, Dustin J.
WO1 Rice, Blane G.
WO1 Sinay, Michael S.
WO1 Stanley, Matthew R.

W1 Strnad, Nicholas J. *
WO1 Tevebaugh, Ashley O.
WO1 Wild, Frederick E., III
WO1 Winters, Carlton J., Jr.
DG: Distinguished Graduate
HG: Honor Graduate
* = AAAA Member

Non-Rated Warrant Officer Graduates

AAAA congratulates the following officers graduating from the Aviation Maintenance Warrant Officer Basic course at the U.S. Army Aviation Logistics School, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA.

13 Officers
Class 003-22
WO1 Michele M. Gooden- * - DG
1LT Jaber Salem Al Shoraim
WO1 Michael Bob Johnson, III
WO1 Javon Dominique Kelley
WO1 Joel David Martin

Class 004-22
WO1 Ricardo Jr Rios * - DG
WO1 Anthony Tyler McKay
WO1 Ryan Michael Pease
WO1 Bryan Edward Stanton
WO1 Jesse Roy Vanolinda

Class 002-22 mc
CW2 Chad Victor Pryor -DG
CW2 Timothy Paul Brodeur
CW3 Austin James Corbine
DG: Distinguished Graduate
* = AAAA Member

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Remember ★ Honor ★ Teach

Supporting FAA Families

★ December 17, 2022 ★
National Wreaths Across America Day

$5 of each wreath purchased is donated to the Scholarship Foundation.
People On The Move

Advanced Individual Training (AIT) Graduates

AAFAA congratulates the following Army graduates of the indicated Advanced Individual Training (AIT) courses at the 128th Aviation Brigade, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA and the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, Ft. Rucker, AL.

AH-64 Attack Helicopter Defender Repairer (15R)
Class 009-22
PV2 Tara Marie Garback - DG
PV2 Tyler J. Lunsford - DG
CW2 Hamad M H B Al Sulaiti
PV2 Lauren Elizabeth Arell
PV2 Christopher Ayala
PFC Eric Manuel Carelojalzmin
PV2 Jose C Garces
PFC Miguel Antonio Guerrero
PV2 Tang Tan Le
SPC Milton Ortegaguzhnay

PV2 Brandon Recinos
PFC Noe Enrique Rochaamaya
SGT Kenny Rico
SGT Derrick Dean Pili
SGT Donald Edward Parkhurst
SGT Blake Steven Kearl
SPC Jerad Robert Eskridge
PFC Blaze M. Stiles - DG
PFC Matthew Joseph Hall
PFC Devin Michael Hansen
2Lt Krist Hasanbega
PV2 David Thomas Keffler, Jr
PFC James David Lane
PV2 Eliza Daniel Lauver
PV2 Markoe D. Lelandspencer
Class 006-22
PV2 Juan I. Targa-Sanchez
PFC Alex Ramirez Valdez
Class 026-22
AB Michael Lewis Thompson II
AMN Elise Margaret Twymen
AMN Lane Travis Wilson

Aircraft Powertrain Repairer (15D)
Class 002-22
PV2 Altaf Ali Zareen - DG
PFC Ethan Andrew Kraf
PV2 Robert Andrew Peltzer
PFC Jonathon W. Garner
PFC Jonas M. Gaa
Class 003-22
PV2 Branden Newton Murano
PFC Michael Anthonie Murphy
PFC Adairyn Devon Pope
PV2 Ryan Derick Quigley
PV2 Kyle Joseph Sacco
PFC Kolton Lee Werner

Aircraft Powertrain Repairer (15D)
Class 002-22
PV2 Koji D. Kondro - DG
PV2 Ethan James Baker
PV2 Miguel M. Benitez III
PV2 Oleh Blahyi
PFC Fabrice Dumas
PV2 Nathaniel Kyle Eckert
PV2 Andrew Joseph Garcia
PFC Kaden Lee Hage
SPC Bradley Chase Kearns
PV2 Riley Hunter Kraemer
PV2 Robert Andrew Peltzer
PFC Jonathan W. Peternel
PFC Erik Thomas Reese
PFC Anthony A. Saucedo

Aircraft Electrician (15F)
Class 002-22
PV2 Allen David Flores - DG
PV2 Darin Jason Cox
PV2 Brandon Michael Gibson
SPC Bryan Michael Marsden
PVT Antonio Gei Martin
PVT Antroy Demetrix Mulgrave
PFC Yusuf Shittu
Class 003-22
PV2 Joel L. Bond II - DG
SPC Lucas S. Gambino
PFC Zachary Graves Howe
PFC Sidonje Jethro Lawson
Sgt Nathan Cole Stephens
PVT Logan Gene Tichenor

Aircraft Structural Repairer (15G)
Class 002-22
PV2 Reese E. Taylor - DG
PV2 Mattyl W. Wilson - DG
PFC Karen Daniela Bentzeneck
PFC Caedmon A. Dorn
PFC Markes Anthony Flot
PFC Skyler Allen Harvey
PFC Madison Ann Hedges
Sgt Alexander R. Lamothe
PV2 Edward Manzano II
PV2 Byron M. Metcalf III
Sgt Jonathon W. Millard
Sgt Jorge B. Villalobos
PFC Elizabeth Mary Nicolai
Sgt Richard M. Pacheco
PFC Kevin J. P. Pacheco

Aircraft Hydraulics Repairer (15H)
Class 002-22
PV2 Marcus Newton Murano
PV2 Michael Anthony Murphy
PFC Marcus Newton Murano
PFC Michael Anthony Murphy
PFC Benjamyn Denard Pope
PFC Kyle Joseph Sacco
PFC Kolton Lee Werner

On The Move
People On The Move

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Avionic Repairer (15N)
Class 001-22
PFC Emma L. Respress * - DG
PV2 Chyanne V. Caldwell
PFC David Keith Dumas
PV2 Manuel Izquierdo
PFC Claudia M. Martinez
PFC Samuel Stone Neeley
PFC Isabella P. Williams

Class 002-22
PFC Yansel Blazquez * - DG
PV2 Aaron M. McAllister
PFC James D. McGaughey
SPC Richard W. Polidoro
PV2 Timothy Allen Walker
SPC Adam Colby Waters
SPC Junior P. Yupanmorales
AH-64 Armament/Electrical/Avionic Systems Repairer (15Y)
Class 001-22
PV2 Malik O. Agus * - DG
PFC Michael Samuel Allen
PV2 Austin Nathanial Beck
PFC Kasae A. Collins
PFC Jace L. Cuttermccarthy
PFC Lorrie Harrison Elliott
PFC Freddy A. Estrada
PV2 Gabriel Dillon Fritz
PV2 Jaelon Darnae Jones
PV1 Bryan Nathanial Lowe
PV2 Ethan H. Lundberg
PFC Stanley J. Sims Jr
Class 002-22
SPC Austin William Clark
SPC David Brian Cook Jr
CPL Bryce F. Devoss

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Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Graduations

UAS REPAIRER
AAAA congratulates the following Army graduates of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Repairer Course, MOS 15E, at Fort Huachuca, AZ.

SPC Nathaniel Smith
PFC Shawn Hull
PV2 Damien Macadangdang
PV2 Levi Manley
PV2 Joseph Rosko
PV2 Taylor Wilkinson

- DG: Distinguished Graduate
- HG: Honor Graduate
= AAAA Member

UAS Operator
AAAA congratulates the following Army graduates of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operator Course, MOS 15W, at Fort Huachuca, AZ.

PV2 Brandon Phipps -DG
SPC Nathaniel Smith
PFC Shawn Hull
PFC Trevor Myers
PV2 Damien Macadangdang
PV2 Levi Manley
PV2 Joseph Rosko
PV2 Taylor Wilkinson

- DG: Distinguished Graduate
- HG: Honor Graduate
= AAAA Member

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- Leonardo DRS

Thank You Sponsors
By LTC (Ret.) Patrick “Josh” Baker
AAAA Representative to the Military Coalition (TMC)
josh.baker@quad-a.org

Aviation Budget Remain Overnight (RON)

It’s a fair bet that pretty much everyone in our community has experienced a “RON” during a cross country flight due to weather. The “RON” in this example is analogous to the delayed National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and Defense Appropriations bills. In our case we have a bifurcated weather delay due to the awaited conference of both defense bills. Both conference sessions are expected to occur following the November elections. Since the last report the Senate released its version of the NDAA inclusive of the funding tables. In general, the SASC marked to the President’s Budget (PB) Aviation request. The only two major exceptions are a $90 million increase for inflation adjustment in the overall Army procurement lines and a $23 million RDT&E increase for FLRAA. Additionally, SAC-D released a “Chairman’s Mark” that is expected for use during conference with HAC-D.

Notable SAC-D marks:

- MQ-1 + $350 Million (12 Extended Range Grey Eagles for the National Guard)
- CH-47 + $200 Million (+5 Air Craft)
- CH-47F Mods + $12.50M Million (DVE)
- FVL Tech + $10 Million (Adaptive flight controls, Digital Twin Pathfinder)
- RDT&E
- FVL Adv Tech + $24 Million (Various)
- AV Adv Tech - $6 Million (Maintain FARA ecosystem)
- FLRAA + $35 Million (Program increase, Modular command, control and communications)

The House completed the NDAA floor vote on 14 July 2022 by a vote of 329 to 101. Various amendments were provided by Members during the NDAA floor vote. So, we must provide a “tip of the hat” to the House for the regimented and efficient passage of the NDAA. The House also passed the first six FY23 appropriations bills (in the form of a ‘minibus’) on July 20, but this package did not include the Defense appropriations bill. This will be discussed later in the article. There are funding level differences between both bodies that will only be rectified during conference. The final version of the appropriation bill should be above PB levels, but HAC-D marked to PB levels.

Other Potential Delays prior to the Continuing Resolution

Political posturing is ALWAYS at play when it comes to NDAA and Defense Appropriations Bill. The House has yet to conduct a floor vote on the Appropriations Bill due to fear of the lack of votes for passage at PB levels (can’t pass it with D only votes, and Rs want higher topline). When considering this is an election year Members are sensitive to any public perceptions related to defense matters. In this case there is likely concern in the House that not increasing funding above PB levels in the Appropriations bill will exact national criticism in light of current global events. The worst of all cases is when committee leadership cannot reach an amenable agreement on funding differences during conference. This is a real and present danger to the efficient passage of the defense bills. Members can and will be resolute on certain matters/programs with no room for negotiation. When this happens the bills can become at risk for passage and experience significant delays. The aforementioned can span beyond political party affiliation. Just because the Democratic Party holds a majority in the House and Senate does not mean that Committee Chairmen will not enter heated debate.

The Bad Weather and Long “RON”

We fully expect a lengthy Congressional “RON” moving forward. The remaining work and debate on the respective Defense Bills could drag out our understanding of expected program authorizations and appropriations. The almost certain Continuing Resolution (CR) will limit budget authority to FY 22 levels until the FY 23 Appropriations bill is passed (best case end of calendar year, but more likely next spring). This is problematic as it could drive reduced scope for many of our key modernization programs thus delaying programs. While the Department has become very used to dealing with a CR weather delay; this one could be problematic given the critical ramp up points at which many Army aviation programs find themselves.
25 Years Ago
August/September 1997
Order of St. Michael
Major General Daniel J. Petrosky (left), Chief of the Aviation Branch and Commanding General, U.S. Army Aviation Center, presents the Order of St. Michael to Brigadier General William S. Wallace, then Commander, National Training Center, during the 22 May ceremony. Brigadier General Wallace was recognized, in part, for his efforts to fully integrate Aviation into combined arms training at the NTC. He has now taken command of the 4th Infantry Division (Mech.), Ford Hood, Texas.

Honoring Rescuers
UH-60 Black Hawk crew members were accorded the Sikorsky Rescue Award by the Pikes Peak Chapter of AAAA. The awards were issued to those crews involved in search and rescue missions within the Colorado Mountains. Those honored belonged to the Stetson Troop 43 ACR, and are from left to right: CW2 Jeffrey Meyer, SPC Taymen Byrd, SGT Hun R. Jensen, CW2 Joel Stevens, CW2 William Ferguson and 1st Lieutenant Dawn Sharp. Absent were: CW2 Kent Sapp, CW2 Scott Knox, SFC Eddie Barber and SGT James Shostedt.

Briefings
Ronald V. Hite, Lieutenant General, U.S. Army (Ret.), has been appointed Senior Vice President of Cyprus International, Inc. Until his retirement, he was Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Research, Development and Acquisition.

50 Years Ago
August/September 1972
SR-71 Sets New Records
Appearing more like a modern projectile than a reconnaissance aircraft, a U.S. Air Force SR-71, cruising at speeds zippier than a 30-06 rifle bullet, and at altitudes loftier than 80,000 feet, set new duration and distance records during a flight lasting 10½ hours and covering 15,000 miles. The record-breaking flight of April 1971 was released to the public in July 1972, when the USAF announced that the crew had been presented with the Mackey Trophy.

Tenant Helps Landlord
Navy crewmen help attach a sling to a UH-1 Huey helicopter on dispatch from the U.S. Army Aeromedical Depot Maintenance Center. The aircraft in distress was a U.S. Navy T-34 training plane that had made a forced landing on Padre Island off Corpus Christi, Texas. Lieutenant Colonel Billy R. Hawkins and CW3 Jim Swindle were the UH-1 pilots, with Randy Havel, a civilian, as crew chief. The T-34 was brought back to the Naval Air Station where, conveniently enough, ARDMAC is a tenant.

Trio of Note
CW3 Victor Turzanski (left), an Army Aviator with World War II-Korea service with the U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force, recently received a USAAVNS certificate for 12,000 accident-free flying hours. Colonel Earl W. Fletcher (center), now Assistant Commandant at USAAVNS, will be succeeding Colonel Hubert S. Campbell. Colonel Harold T. Smith (right) will be acting Deputy Commander of the Aviation Center.
Specialist Five
Dennis M. Fujii

Army Aviation Hall of Fame 2004 Induction –
Nashville, TN

SP5 Dennis M. Fujii distinguished himself in February 1971 in Laos while serving as a crew chief aboard a helicopter ambulance of the 237th Medical Detachment.

The team’s mission was to evacuate seriously wounded Vietnamese military personnel from a battlefield. While approaching the heavily defended landing zone Fujii’s helicopter was shot down. Another American helicopter extracted all the downed crewmen except for Fujii, who was unable to board due to intense enemy fire directed at him. Rather than further endanger the lives of his comrades aboard the second helicopter, Fujii waved the craft out of the combat area and remained behind as the only American on the battlefield in Laos.

During the night of Feb. 19 and all through the next day, Fujii disregarded his own wounds as he administered first aid to the South Vietnamese casualties. When his position was attacked by a reinforced enemy regiment supported by heavy artillery, Fujii called in American helicopter gunships to assist the small unit in repelling the attack. For more than 17 hours, Fujii repeatedly exposed himself to hostile fire as he left the security of his entrenchment to better observe enemy troop positions and to direct air strikes against them. On Feb. 20 he was evacuated, but the helicopter was shot down. Two days passed before Fujii finally was rescued.

For this and other contributions, Fujii was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, Purple Heart, two Air Medals, and Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm. And, on July 5, 2022, following Congressional approval, President Joe Biden upgraded his Silver Star and awarded Fujii the Medal of Honor for his actions on Feb. 19, 1971.
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X600: Rugged Mobile Workstation  
Getac's newest device is optimized for SWaP-C, with a large 15.6” FHD display. It features an Intel® Core™ 11th gen i5/i7/i9 H-Series processor and delivers powerful AI/ML capabilities and performance with optional NVIDIA® Quadro® RTX3000 discrete graphics controller.

ZX10: Rugged Android Tablet  
Our largest Android 11 OS device features Qualcomm Snapdragon 660 Mobile Platform and Adreno™ 512 GPU. For enhanced field communication, an 8MP front camera and best-in-class 16MP rear camera deliver exceptionally high-quality photo/video capture.

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