

## FLORIDA WEST COAST CHAPTER AIR AND SPACE FORCES ASSOCIATION



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NEWSLETTER

Apr - Jun 2022

### AFA NEWS



### **NEW NAME REFLECTS FULL SUPPORT FOR BOTH SERVICES**

After 76 years, the Air Force Association is changing its name to the Air & Space Forces Association to better match its mission supporting and advocating for both Airmen and Guardians. It also unveiled a new Star-Delta logo "that reflects the dynamism and permanent bonds between these two services and their respective warfighting domains," said AFA Chairman Gerald Murray, former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force. The Association will retain its AFA acronym.

AFA's new Star-Delta Logo embraces both the heritage and heraldry of the Air Force and the innovation and unique identity of the Space Force. The Star is derived from the original "Hap Arnold" Army Air Corps Star, elements that defined AFA's identity since its founding in 1946. The new logo combines a stylized reimagining of the Hap Arnold star with the Space Force's distinctive Delta and Polaris, both drawn from the Space Force logo. ✨

### CHAPTER NEWS



#### ***PRESIDENT'S NOTES***

Your Florida West Coast Chapter has been busy and have had some amazing successes these past few months! First, we teamed up with the University of South Florida, Sarasota/Manatee campus to host UKRAINE: What's Next? What started out as an idea for a 1½ hour discussion with Gen Phil Breedlove -- USAF (Ret) and a former SACEUR -- morphed into a series of 4 sessions each 3 hours long.

The first focused the Military's aspects of the war. Gen Breedlove was our keynote speaker and did an amazing job of bringing us up to date and behind the scenes of the current situation. Then we had a panel discussion that included Cyber and Intelligence experts and AFA Mitchell institute Dean LTG Dave Deptula, USAF (Ret.) Feedback has been incredible with all demanding more forums like this! See the articles on pages 4 and 5 for more info.

Our next Forum focused on the Financial implications caused by the war on world and US markets and the impending problems with food supplies as the Ukraine produces roughly 30% of the worlds wheat supply!

Our 10 May Forum focused on Cyber Security, more about that in the next newsletter. The May 24 Forum will look at Diplomatic and Humanitarian Aspects. **You can REGISTER FOR FREE at [sarasotamanatee.usf.edu/ukraine](http://sarasotamanatee.usf.edu/ukraine)**



[www.floridawestcoast.afaflorida.org](http://www.floridawestcoast.afaflorida.org)

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I cannot stress enough how well received these events have been. The first two had over 600 participants register to view! Your chapter has received excellent exposure and will continue to team with USF on future topics of Military, economic and strategically important issues. We have found a very successful way to EDUCATE, ADVOCATE and SUPPORT!

Additionally, 18 April was the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the DOOLITTLE RAID on Tokyo. In honor of that War/World changing event we teamed with the Sarasota VFW to host a talk by Tom Casey, the President of the Doolittle Tokyo Raiders Association. Tom gave a very descriptive talk on the raid and shared personal insights from the Raiders and his association with them. See the article on pages 4 and 7 for more info. We hope to have more programs with the VFW in the future!

All of these events showcase YOUR Chapter. I sincerely hope you will join in our future events! ★

## ZOOM MEETING

President Gray kicked off the chapter's 2022 series of programs with a virtual meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup>. The program featured a presentation on China which is based on a class he has been teaching at the Education Center at Temple Beth Israel, "America in the World, 2022".

In it he noted the U.S. now faces 4+1 threats – China, Russia, Iran, North Korea and terrorists. He focused on China because of the rapid growth -- both economically and militarily – the country is experiencing.

He noted China is responsible for 20% of the construction going on in the world. Not only in China with their massive infrastructure expansion but also that associated in its Silk Road projects Central Asia and Africa. China currently consumes 60% of the worlds annual steel and concrete production. Gray also featured a presentation that compared the economies of the US vs China and that looked at the relative military strengths. Notably, while the U.S. Air Force is larger and more sophisticated; China is rapidly expanding and modernizing their force. ★

## "UKRAINE...WHAT'S NEXT?" – PART 1

The first of four-part series of programs dealing with Ukraine was livestreamed on April 6 from the University of South Florida (USF) Sarasota-Manatee Campus. It brought together leading experts on a range of topics to share insights on the global and local impacts of the ongoing war in Ukraine. ➡

The series – which began as an AFA chapter initiative – grew significantly in scope when USF joined in as a co-sponsor. In addition to AFA and USF, the list of co-sponsors included Cyber Florida, the Global Interdependence Center, the USF Institute for Public Policy and Leadership and USF ResearchOne. USF reported around 250 people registered for the event.

The three-hour virtual program, "Ukraine: What's Next?" was moderated by AFA Chapter president, retired Air Force Major General Scott Gray. It focused on the war, Russia, escalating global security issues, military strategy and intelligence, cyber security, and the diplomatic and humanitarian crisis.

The program kicked off with an historical review of Ukraine and Russian relations presented by Dr, Golfo Alexopoulos, Director of the USF Institute on Russia. It set the perspective for the day – highlighting the intertwined relations of the two countries over nearly two thousand years of shared experiences.

Retired Air Force four-star General Phillip Breedlove, a former Supreme Allied Commander for Europe (SACEUR) offered his military and intelligence insight in the keynote address. As SACEUR he reported directly to NATO's governing body, the U.S. President, and Secretary of Defense.



Retired USAF General Philip Breedlove, former SACEUR

Breedlove, who retired in 2016 after 39 years of service, testified in February 2016 before the U.S. House Armed Services Committee that "the U.S. military must rebuild in Europe to face a more aggressive Russia [which] poses a long-term existential threat to the United States."

"Mr. Putin has the initiative, and we don't," Breedlove said in an [Air Force Magazine interview](#) on March 22. "In our current state, our nation is completely deterred, and the NATO alliance is completely deterred, and Mr. Putin is not deterred."

Breedlove currently serves on the Georgia Tech Advisory Board as a distinguished professor in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs. He is a senior adviser to Culpeper National Security Solutions and on the board of directors of the Atlantic Council.

He noted that the outpouring of grief for Ukraine — while important — could be overshadowing the international community's need to redefine the entire security architecture of Europe.

"We're all focused now on the atrocities and the battle and buildup of forces, but I think it's important to look backward and understand that this is a conflict completely contrived by Mr. Putin for a purpose," Breedlove said. "And that purpose is to change the face of Europe."

Breedlove's presentation was followed by a roundtable discussion in which a panel of four leading experts on topics ranging from military intelligence to cybersecurity shared their insights concerning ongoing war in Ukraine. The panel included Dr. Ron Sanders, staff director for the Florida Center for CyberSecurity, Luke Bencie, the managing director for Security Management International, Serge Jorgensen, founding partner and CTO of Sylint, a Sarasota based cyber security firm and retired Air Force Lieutenant General David Deptula, Dean of AFA'S Mitchell Institute.

For those of you that missed the presentation, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=la3FUtifriU> to see a recording of the program. ✨

## **“UKRAINE...WHAT’S NEXT?” – PART 2**

The second webinar in our Ukraine series focused on the global and local financial impacts resulting from the Russian invasion of Ukraine. It was held on April 27 in the Selby Auditorium at the Sarasota – Manatee campus of the University of South Florida. The 100 seat auditorium was filled to capacity and over 250 were registered for the virtual presentation. The program was moderated by David R. Kotok, the Chairman and CIO of Cumberland Advisors.

The featured speaker was Katarzyna M. Zajdel-Kurowska who is a former member of the Management Board of the National Bank of Poland.

The panel dedicated to looking at the economic reaction to the Russian Invasion was moderated by Michael S. McKee, international economics and policy correspondent for Bloomberg Television and Radio.

William Kennedy, CEO and CIO of RiskBridge Advisors and Chair of the Global Interdependence Center led the panel dealing with asset market allocation in response to the Russian invasion.

The discussions were wide ranging – dealing from the impact of shortages of Russian and Ukrainian agricultural (corn and wheat) and mineral products (oil, gas, zeon and palladium) to the immediate need for financial support to the Ukrainian government (\$2.0 billion per month) and, in the longer term, a new “Marshall Plan” to help with the post war rebuilding of Ukraine.



To see the recording of the meeting go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8N2zwKobfyw>

Our May 10 Forum will focus on Cyber Security and the May 24 Forum will look at Diplomatic and Humanitarian Aspects. **You can REGISTER FOR FREE at [sarasotamanatee.usf.edu/ukraine](https://sarasotamanatee.usf.edu/ukraine)** ★

## **DOOLITTLE’S RAIDERS 80<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY MEETING**

On Monday April 18<sup>th</sup>, at 400 pm, a special meeting of the Sarasota AFA Chapter hosted a celebration to honor the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the famous Doolittle Tokyo Raiders attack on the Japanese homeland. The meeting was held at the VFW Sunshine Post 3233 (124 S. Tuttle Ave, Sarasota).



The speaker was the President of the Doolittle Raiders Association, Thomas G. Casey. Tom – who is a chapter member -- has managed the Doolittle Raiders business affairs for 25 years. He told the story of how the raid was created and executed and talked extensively about both the Navy and Army Air Corp roles in this heroic epic. His presentation dealt with the final results of the raid and its impact on military leaders and the people of Japan. He highlighted the impact of America’s first strike against Japan and how it lifted the morale for American citizens after three months of losses to the Japanese forces throughout the South Pacific. This celebrated event in our nation’s history was a turning point in the War with Japan and helped turn

the tide in WWII.

At programs end, a brandy toast was made by President Scott Gray to honor the 80 Doolittle Tokyo Raiders who dropped the first bombs on the Empire of Japan. The brandy toast was the closing feature of the Raiders gatherings over the 80 years since the event in 1942.

For more information about the raid, see the article on page 7. Tom recommends “The Doolittle Raid” by Carroll V. Grimes as the most encompassing book on the subject. ★

## NAPLES CIVIL AIR PATROL CADET RECEIVES AFA AWARD

1LT Julie McDonald, CAP [julie.mcdonald@flwgcap.us](mailto:julie.mcdonald@flwgcap.us)

Cadet Captain Gabriel Katz of Civil Air Patrol's Naples Cadet Squadron was selected to receive the Air Force Association's "Civil Air Patrol Outstanding Cadet of the Squadron" Award for 2022. This award is presented annually in a special awards ceremony to recognize the achievements of the most accomplished cadet that year.

Katz has shown exceptional leadership qualities while working within his squadron, group and the Florida Wing. He currently serves in his squadron as the Cadet Aerospace Officer and is a past cadet commander. He also serves the Florida Wing as a Cadet Emergency Services Officer and as the Cadet Advisory Board Council Chair for a second year.

C/Capt. Katz earned his Private Pilot license on December 23, 2020 at the age of 17 and has become the second cadet in recent years to pass his CAP Form 5 and become a CAP pilot -- earning his CAP Pilot Wings on December 2, 2021. Very few cadets earn this achievement while in high school.

Outside of CAP, Katz is an honors student with a 3.56 GPA, works part-time and volunteers in the community. He is expected to attend Embry Riddle University in the fall.

The Air Force Association (AFA), a long-term partner with the Civil Air Patrol ("CAP"), has established grants and awards to recognize the efforts of CAP members in their leadership skills and to promote aerospace education to today's youth. The Air Force Association supports outstanding cadets at the squadron level--like Katz--with an award package that includes a silver medal accompanied by a sky-blue ribbon and a certificate (pictured above). The award was presented virtually on March 7, 2022 by Major General David Scott Gray, United States Air Force (ret.) President of the Florida West Coast Air Force Association Chapter 429. General Gray was delighted to recognize Katz's exceptional Civil Air Patrol accomplishments and academic achievements.



Outstanding CAP Cadet of the Year, Captain Gabriel Katz of the Civil Air Patrol's Naples Cadet Squadron with his mother, Anne Katz.

Established in 1941, Civil Air Patrol is the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force and as such is a member of its Total Force. In its auxiliary role, CAP operates a fleet of 555 single-engine aircraft and 2,250 small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) and performs about 90% of all search and rescue operations within the contiguous United States as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center. Often using innovative cellphone forensics and radar analysis software, CAP was credited by the AFRCC with saving 108 lives last year.



CAP's 56,000 members also perform homeland security, disaster relief and drug interdiction missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies.

As a nonprofit organization, CAP plays a leading role in aerospace education using national academic standards-based STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education resources. Members also serve as mentors to over 23,000 young people participating in CAP's Cadet Programs. For more information go to [www.GoCivilAirPatrol.com](http://www.GoCivilAirPatrol.com) or visit

[www.CAP.News](http://www.CAP.News) ★

## CHAPTER RECEIVES MAJOR DONATION

Our thanks go out to local attorney and Air Force veteran David S. Band. Band recently directed a \$5,000 donation to the chapter from the Tillie Jennie and Harold Schwartz Family Charitable Foundation. The grant will be distributed equally over the eight quarters of 2022 – 2023. This donation provides a major leap in our capability to pursue the Air & Space Forces Association's mission – "to promote dominant U.S. Air & Space Forces as the foundation of a strong National Defense; to honor and support our Airmen, Guardians, and their Families; and to remember and respect our enduring Heritage".

In 2016 Band prepared – on a pro bono basis -- all of the legal documents required for the chapter to apply for incorporation as a nonprofit charitable organization in the State of Florida. Key to that initiative was the need to bring the chapter back into compliance with the IRS's reporting requirements. The application also included changing the chapter's name from the Sarasota-Manatee Chapter to the Florida West Coast Chapter.

Band is a founding shareholder in the Band, Gates and Dramis law firm. He is also a leader in Sarasota's philanthropic community, contributing and/or raising millions of dollars for Sarasota's charities. He was instrumental in the development and growth of the Out of Door Academy, Goldie Feldman Academy, Caring Children's Charities, Sarasota Film Festival, Asolo Theater, Sarasota Ballet, and United Cerebral Palsy. David has been honored by the YMCA, Community Video Archives, Goodwill and the Sarasota Manatee Jewish Federation, among others. ★



## AIR FORCE TRIVIA

### MATCH THESE ACTIVE AIR FORCE MAJOR COMMANDS WITH THE LOCATION OF THEIR HEADQUARTERS.

Answers on page 9



- Barksdale AFB, Louisiana
- Hickam AFB, Hawaii
- Hurlburt Field, Florida
- Langley AFB, Virginia
- Ramstein AB, Germany

- Randolph AFB, Texas
- Robins AFB, Georgia
- Scott AFB, Illinois
- Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

## 2<sup>St</sup> QUARTER FACTOID

### 80th ANNIVERSARY OF DOOLITTLE RAIDERS ATTACK ON TOKYO



April 18, 1942 – From the decks of the USS Hornet, Lt. Col. James Doolittle led 16 B-25 bombers from the U.S. Navy aircraft carrier Hornet in a spectacular surprise attack for a raid on Tokyo. They launched from the maximum range, 650 miles from their target. Essentially unarmed to extend their flying range, the B-25's flew unmolested to Tokyo and dropped their bombs, proceeding to China where they arrive at the very limits of their fuel.

Of the 16 USAAF crews involved, 14 complete crews of five returned to the United States or to US forces elsewhere, except for one who was killed in action. Eight aviators were captured by Japanese forces in Eastern China and three of these were later executed. All but one of the B-25s were destroyed in crashes; while the 16th landed at Vladivostok, in the Soviet Union.



Although the bombing did minimal damage physically, the psychological impact was great. For the Americans and their allies, this raid symbolized the first “strike back” at the Japanese and raised American morale substantially. It signified that the Japanese were not invulnerable and therefore could ultimately be defeated.

The Japanese, buoyed by their constant success in the Pacific up to that point, were forced to contemplate the implications of the war if it was allowed to be carried to Japanese soil. The raid prompted the Japanese to retain four army fighter groups in Japan during 1942 and 1943, when they were badly needed in the South Pacific. The attack also compelled the Japanese to push beyond their originally planned defensive perimeter, thereby increasing the vulnerability of their supply lines. This change in Japanese attitude affected military decisions in such crucial battles as the battle of Midway and the Coral Sea.

Doolittle received the Medal of Honor and was promoted two ranks to brigadier general. ★

## AIR FORCE NEWS



### AIR FORCE LOOKING AT WAYS TO ELECTRIFY AIRFIELD OPERATIONS

Dec. 3, 2021 | By Greg Hadley

The Air Force uses billions of gallons of fuel every year, the vast majority of it aviation fuel to power its fleet of aircraft. But as the Defense Department seeks to increase its energy efficiency and secure its power grids, the department's biggest consumer of fuel is looking at ways it can transition to other kinds of more sustainable energy, Lt. Gen. Warren D. Berry -- the Air Force's deputy chief of staff for logistics, engineering, and force protection -- said Dec. 2.

Testifying before the House Armed Services readiness subcommittee on operational energy and logistics, Berry told lawmakers that USAF wants to move from diesel fuel to electric batteries or solar cells for several key airfield operations. “A large part of our support equipment that we use to generate air power [runs on] diesel. There's a great capability as we look at leveraging what commercial industry is doing with electrification, to use perhaps photovoltaic cells to provide lighting on the airfield, as we do aircraft operations or munitions loading operations, to electrify loaders that put munitions on aircraft,” Berry said. ➡

Such a move, he argued, isn't just about trying to be more environmentally friendly. It enables the service to build "resiliency and redundancy" and not be "beholden" to petroleum, oil, and lubricants. Lawmakers and generals at the Dec. 2 hearing noted that diesel fuel refined in different parts of the world does not always meet the same standards and can lead to engine issues. ★

## THE CANDY BOMBER

Taken liberally from Wikipedia



Lt Gail Halvorsen, the "Candy Bomber," greets children of isolated West Berlin sometime during 1948-49 after dropping candy bars from the air on tiny parachutes. USAF photo.

The Air Force lost another of its exceptional leaders in February 2022 with the death of Colonel Gail Halvorsen, the "Candy Bomber." While many Air Force awards are related to action in combat, Halvorsen was noted for his humanitarian efforts which started during the Berlin Airlift - perhaps one of the first "battles" of the Cold War – and continued throughout his life.

Halvorsen piloted C-47s and C-54s during the Berlin airlift ("Operation Vittles"). During that time he founded "Operation Little Vittles", an effort to raise morale in Berlin by dropping candy via miniature parachute to the city's residents. Halvorsen began "Little Vittles" with no authorization from his superiors but over the next year became a national hero with support from all over the United States. Halvorsen's operation dropped over 23 tons of candy to the residents of Berlin. He became known as the "Berlin Candy Bomber", "Uncle Wiggly Wings", and "The Chocolate Flier".

Halvorsen received numerous awards for his role in "Operation Little Vittles", including the Congressional Gold Medal. However, "Little Vittles" was not the end of Halvorsen's military and humanitarian career. Over the next 25 years, Halvorsen advocated and performed candy drops in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Albania, Japan, Guam, and Iraq. Halvorsen's professional career included various notable positions. He helped to develop reusable manned spacecraft at the Directorate of Space and Technology and served as commander of Berlin Tempelhof Airport. He retired in August 1974 after logging over 8,000 flying hours. From 1976 until 1986 Halvorsen served as the Assistant Dean of Student Life at Brigham Young University.

He wrote the books "The Berlin Candy Bomber" and "The Candy Bomber: Untold Stories from the Berlin Airlift's Uncle Wiggly Wings".

Among his many awards and honors, the Air Force presented Halvorsen with its Cheney Award for humanitarian service as well as the Legion of Merit. It also named an award for outstanding achievement in air transport for him. In addition, the service named a key piece of cargo handling equipment the Halvorsen Loader and named the C-17 Aircrew Training Center in Charleston, S.C., for him. In 1974, the West German government awarded Halvorsen its Order of Merit service cross. He was inducted into the Utah Aviation ➡

Hall of Fame in 2001 and received the Congressional Gold Medal in 2014. The Utah legislature recognized him with a resolution in 2017 praising him for “unselfish acts” that brought honor “to himself, his family, the United States Military, the citizens of Utah, and the citizens of the United States.” ★

## **GBSD FINALLY GETS A NAME: ‘SENTINEL’**

By Greg Hadley and John A. Tirpak

The Air Force unveiled a name and designation for the intercontinental ballistic missile system long known as the Ground-based Strategic Deterrent: LGM-35A Sentinel. The new designation, approved by Secretary of the Air Force Frank Kendall, modernizes the inter-continental ballistic missile leg of the Nation’s nuclear triad.

The Sentinel is set to replace the Minuteman III as the land leg of the U.S. nuclear triad, beginning with initial operational capability in 2029 and full operational capability by 2036.

Kendall said: “Our nation’s nuclear deterrent force, two legs of which are operated by airmen, has quietly provided a strategic security shield for decades. “All that time, the Department of the Air Force has kept the watch; always vigilant and ready.



“The name Sentinel recognizes the mindset that thousands of airmen, past and present, have brought to the deterrence mission, and will serve as a reminder for those who operate, secure, and maintain this system in the future about the discipline and responsibility their duty entails.”

The LGM-35A Sentinel will provide continuity in strategic deterrence while being cost-effective. It will replace the USAF’s land-based intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) fleet consisting of LGM-30G Minuteman III. The ageing LGM-30G has been operating since the 1970s.

Planned to remain operational into the 2070s, the LGM-35A Sentinel is a fully integrated launch, flight and infrastructure system equipped with the latest command and control functions. The USAF’s missile bases, including Wyoming, F.E. Warren, Montana, Minot and Malmstrom, will house the new LGM-35A. ★

## **TRIVA ANSWERS**

- Air Force Global Strike Command, Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana
- Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
- Air Force Reserve Command, Robins AFB, Georgia
- Air Force Special Operations Command, Hurlburt Field, Florida
- Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, Illinois
- Pacific Air Forces, Hickam AFB, Hawaii
- United States Air Forces in Europe, Ramstein AB, Germany
- Air Combat Command, Langley AFB, Virginia
- Air Education and Training Command, Randolph AFB, Texas

The Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Florida West Coast Chapter of the Air Force Association, a non-profit civilian organization. It is normally published in February, May, August and November. Special editions or supplemental issues may be published as required. The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Air Force, the Air Force Association or their officers.

We welcome articles, editorials or comments of interest to the membership. Please include your name, mailing address, e-mail address and phone number with submittals. We reserve the right to edit any submissions for length and/or clarity. Submissions can be sent via e-mail to [michaeler@mindspring.com](mailto:michaeler@mindspring.com) ; or mail to: Air Force Association, Florida West Coast Chapter #429, Attn: The Newsletter, 1580 Shadow Ridge Circle, Sarasota, Florida 34240.



# THE AIR & SPACE FORCES ASSOCIATION



## *AFA Mission*

***Our mission is to promote dominant U.S. Air & Space Forces as the foundation of a strong National Defense; to honor and support our Airmen, Guardians, and their Families; and to remember and respect our enduring Heritage.***

### ***To accomplish this, we:***

**EDUCATE** the public on the critical need for unrivaled aerospace power and promote aerospace and STEM education for a technically superior and professional workforce to ensure national security;

**ADVOCATE** and promote aerospace power to favorably shape policy and resourcing decisions to guarantee the strongest aerospace forces in the world;

**SUPPORT** Airmen, Guardians, and the families of the Total Air Force and Space Force, including Active Duty, National Guard, Reserve, civilians, families, and members of the Civil Air Patrol.

The Florida West Coast Chapter of the Air Force Association is incorporated in the State of Florida as a qualified 501(C)(3) charitable organization. Our Registration Number is CH48270.

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