

ARCTIC WARRIOR

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON'S SOURCE FOR NEWS

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FUR RONY GRAND PARADE

Air Force Staff Sgt. Brianna Woodruff, 673d Security Forces Squadron, poses with Star the reindeer before the Rony Grand Parade on 4th Avenue in Anchorage Feb. 23. Fur Rony is the nation's premier winter festival, and leads into the start of the Iditarod Sled Dog Race. (U.S. Air Force photos/Staff Sgt. Westin Warburton)

BELOW: Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Charles C. Orf, 673d Air Base Wing Command Chief Master Sgt., and his family wave to the crowd during the parade. Fur Rony runs through Sunday, with carnival rides, competitions, games and much more. For information on the schedule of events, including the ceremonial start of the Iditarod, visit furrondy.net.



The crowd cheers as team Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson passes by during the Rony Grand Parade in Anchorage Feb. 23. Rony continues through Sunday, with the Running of the Reindeer, poker and hockey tournaments, talent shows, Alaska Native art markets, and more.

RIGHT: An Explosive Ordnance Disposal Airman with Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson waves to the crowd during the Fur Rendezvous parade.



Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson/
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ARCTIC WARRIOR

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Editorial office and mailing address: JBPR Public Affairs, 10480 Sijan Ave., Suite 123, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK 99506; telephone (907) 552-2549.

Send emails about news stories and story submissions to arcticwarrioreditor@gmail.com. Deadline for article and photos is 4:30 p.m., Monday, for the week of publication. Articles and photos will be published on a space-available basis and are subject to editing by the *Arctic Warrior* staff. Submission does not guarantee publication.

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Air Force network moving to the cloud

By **AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JONATHAN VALDES**
JBER Public Affairs

Air Force Network users will soon migrate into the “cloud” at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, under directive of Air Force Space Command.

Cloud Hosted Enterprise Services is an initiative to move select Air Force information technology services, including e-mail, collaboration services, and personal data storage, to a private, commercial cloud.

Implementing this change will help personnel to focus on JBER’s mission.

“Handing these types of IT management activities over to a secure commercial provider, will help us shift our technicians to emphasize mission defense,” said Air Force Master Sgt. Amanda Defazio, 673d Communications Squadron Project Manager. “It will allow our

warfighters to focus on core mission assurance.”

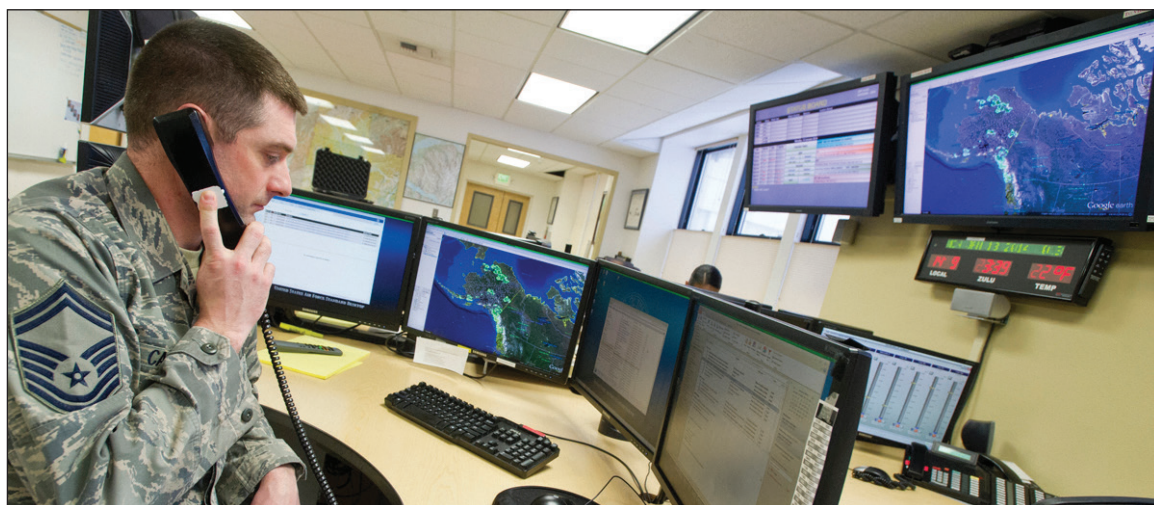
Over a three-week period beginning in March, technicians will migrate JBER e-mail from AFNET to Microsoft’s secure commercial cloud solution.

“To ensure a smooth transition, the migration will follow a phased schedule which started with a test user group on Feb. 19,” Defazio said. “It [was] followed by the communications squadron on Feb. 26, 25 percent of the base [will be] on March 5, and the remainder of the base March 19.”

One of the most beneficial changes to the users will be increasing e-mail storage capacity.

“Currently we have 100MB of storage,” said Defazio. “Now we are moving to 100GB. You will not have to keep deleting emails or seeing ‘your mailbox is full’ messages.”

Awareness of this process



Air Force Network users will soon migrate to a cloud-based service for email and data storage, which will help prevent “your mailbox is full” messages. There are some things users can do to smooth the process. (U.S. Air Force photo/Justin Connahey)

is important for all AFNET users as JBER approaches its projected start date.

“We have already started to send out notifications letting people know they will be migrated within the next 30 days,” said Airman 1st Class Kimberly Mello, 673d CS Client Systems Technician. “We also include steps to prepare, what to expect and self-help guides, if anyone wants to learn more about CHES and what the

difference will be. Furthermore, we give 15, seven, three and day-before-migrate notices.”

Cleaning up your mailbox, keeping your computer patched and visiting the SharePoint page JBER Cyber Support Dashboard can help with the transition.

Defazio stressed the importance of users following the instructions.

“Keep track of when your migration day is,” Defazio

said. “Prepare before it happens, make sure you read through the instructions and understand your part of the migration to perform on migration morning.”

Mello added it is important to use the Cyber Support Dashboard for self-troubleshooting and general information once users have migrated over to make the process go more smoothly.

For more, visit the 673d CS home page. 

673d MDG hosts 'Girls' Night Out' March 7

By **AIRMAN 1ST CLASS
CAITLIN RUSSELL**
JBER Public Affairs

The 673d Medical Group will host a 'Girls' Night Out' event at the Arctic Warrior Events Center on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson March 7 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

"'Girls' Night Out' is a free event that works to highlight women's health through activities, information booths and more," said Lisa Schuette, 673d Aero-medical Squadron public health educator. "The event was designed to provide the women of JBER with information about health care in a fun and relaxed way."

The event began in 2012 due to an increase in cervical cancer rates throughout the nation. 'Girls Night Out' is intended to increase aware-

ness of proper preventive care.

"Last year, we had approximately 120 participants at the event," Schuette said. "We would love even more participants and are constantly working to improve the event while still highlighting women's health."

Activities for 'Girls' Night Out' will include spa treatments, food and beverages, live music from the 9th Army Band jazz combo, and around 20 JBER organizations on hand to speak about women's health topics.

The event will also include hairstyle and make-up demonstrations, a photo booth and free childcare on-site. Participants needing childcare must register prior to the event.

The 673d MDG Radiology and Women's Health clinics will also have a booth



The 673d Medical Group hosts a "Girls' Night Out" event at the Arctic Warrior Events Center at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in 2017. "Girls' Night Out" was designed to bring the women of JBER information about health care in a fun and relaxed way. This year's event is March 7. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Valerie Halbert)


with information on mammograms and Pap smears.

"While healthcare will not be provided at the event, information on appointments and different types of health screenings will be available," Schuette said. "Care providers will be available

to discuss risks for different diseases, preventative measures, and answer questions or concerns."

Participants will have a chance to win door prizes donated by different organizations in the JBER and Anchorage community.

"The event has evolved and become more popular over the years," Schuette said. "It's a great way to show appreciation to the women on JBER."

For more information on the event or to register, call 552-5006. 

PJs lead precision jumpmaster training

By **DAVID BEDARD**

176th Wing Public Affairs

Alaska Air National Guardsmen of the 176th Wing's 211th and 212th rescue squadrons as well as 144th Airlift Squadron led the Precision Jumpmaster Course during January and February 2019 at Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point, Hawaii.

Alaska Air National Guard Senior Master Sgt. Jeremy Diola, a pararescue man with the 212th RQS Combat Development Team, said the course qualified 12 precision jumpmasters with the ability to jumpmaster a group of military parachutists to land precisely at an identified objective landing zone.

"Once we get to the objective area, we have to worry about so many other things," Diola said. "We have to worry about water survival. We have to worry about technical rescue."

Alaska Air National Guard Master Sgt. Chris Bowerfind, a pararescueman and 212th RQS Silver Team noncommissioned officer in charge, said participants included pararescuemen from the 131st, 308th and 212th Rescue Squadrons as well as combat controllers and pararescuemen from the 123rd Special Tactics Squadron. Other Special Warfare Airmen from the 3rd and 25th Air Support Operations Squadrons participated as well as 211th RQS and 130th Rescue Squadron HC-130J Combat King II crewmen, 144th Airlift Squadron C-17 Globemaster III crewmen, Marine Corps KC-130J Super Hercules crewmen, Navy parachute riggers and Army paratroopers.

Bowerfind said the training expanded beyond its origins as a rescue-exclusive course.

"It's evolved from a rescue-centric jumpmaster course," he said. "The reason why we call it precision jumpmaster now – specifically under Air Force Special Warfare – is because it's no



Participants in the Precision Jumpmaster Course exit an aircraft Jan. 21, somewhere over Oahu Island, Hawaii. The course taught students representing several services how to integrate with aircrew to precisely infiltrate a drop zone. Alaska Air National Guardsmen of the 211th and 212th rescue squadrons led the course, which is no longer rescue-exclusive. (Courtesy photo)

longer relegated [solely] to pararescuemen."

Previously called Battlefield Airmen, Air Force Special Warfare Airmen include pararescue, combat rescue officer, combat control, special tactics officer, special operations weather team, tactical air control party personnel and non-rated air liaison officer.

Precision is the name of the game, and jumpmasters learn how to use instruments like wind-drift indicators, a disco-ball-like device that measures wind speed and direction in real time, to

accurately predict how parachutists will descend to their objective.

Bowerfind said one aspect, which differentiates Precision Jumpmaster from similar training in other services, is the close integration between the jumpmaster and the aircrew.

"Crucial is actually an understatement," he said of aircraft pilots, combat systems officers and loadmasters. "The mission is not doable without them."


During a standard parachute drop, traditional jumpmasters are accustomed to

sending out a stick of parachutists after the pilot activates a light indicating the aircraft is generally over the objective. Bowerfind said the training can be an eye-opener for otherwise experienced military parachutists.

"They're used to the green-light-go method of the standard jumpmaster programs," he said. "What they're seeing now is we have more accuracy and more team cohesion. All of our guys land in the water 10 feet apart from each other."

When it comes to continually achieving precision re-

sults, Bowerfind said pararescuemen of the 212th RQS have a particular advantage at their home station of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, because they are stationed meters away from their partner flying squadrons.

"We are extremely fortunate in the 176th Wing to be able to literally walk across the street and talk to any aircrew on any given day about any operation – whether it's just a basic training sortie around the local area or a real-world mission in the middle of the night," he said. 

**Through Sunday
Fur Rondy**

Alaska's biggest winter festival kicks off the Iditarod, and includes carnival rides, races, auctions, contests and much, much more. For information and a schedule of upcoming events, visit furrondy.net.

**Friday
Member appreciation day**

Head to the PermaFrost Pub for an evening of St. Patrick's Day food and fun starting at 3:30 p.m. It's free for members, but everyone is welcome. For information, call 552-3669.

Friday open swim

Escape the cold with some free family fun at the Polar Paradise Pool at the Buckner Physical Fitness Center from 4 to 8 p.m. For more information, call 384-1369.

**Saturday and Sunday
Seawolves vs. UAF hockey**

The Seawolves close out the season with a pair of games against their arch-rivals at Sullivan Arena both evenings at 7 p.m. For information, visit go-seawolves.com.

**Saturday
Rage City Rollergirls**

The Sockeye Sallys take on Far North Derby at the O'Malley Sports Complex. Doors open at 6 p.m., wheels roll at 7. The Rage City Juniors kick things off with a mashup exhibition, too. For information, visit ragecity-rollergirls.org.

**March 8
Marvel vs. DC trivia**

Head to the Arctic Oasis dressed as your favorite superhero and show off how

much you really know about Marvel and DC with this trivia contest starting at 6 p.m. Prizes go to the top three places. For information, call 552-8529.

**March 9
IditaZoo**

Celebrate all things mushing at the Alaska Zoo. Meet a musher and dogs, race through zoo grounds, get hands-on with a craft station, and much more from noon to 4 p.m. For information, visit alaskazoo.org.

**March 16
Nighttime photography**

Spring is coming, but there's still time to get great photos of the aurora. Head to the Eagle River Nature Center and learn how to properly expose the night sky with this class from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.; bring your camera, tripod, and warm clothes.

For information, visit ernc.org.

**Ongoing
Singles Thursdays**

Head to Hillberg Ski Area, where every Thursday singles get free rentals, lift tickets and tubing from 4 to 8 p.m. For more information, call 552-4838.

Evening hikes

Alaska Outdoors hosts weekly hikes Monday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday hikes are easy, 3.5 to 4.5 miles and perfect for beginners or families with kids.

Thursday hikes are moderate difficulty. For information, visit alaska-outdoors.org.

Winter reading challenge

Adults can register to

win prizes in this JBER Library challenge through March 15. For information, call 384-1640.

Family skate series

Skate at the Westchester Lagoon every Saturday through the end of February with warming barrels, free hot chocolate, and music from 3 to 5 p.m.

Fit to Fight skiing

Cross-country skiing at Eagleglen Fitness Park is open every day except federal holidays. Bring your own gear or check out free equipment from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, call 552-2023.

Civil Air Patrol

Adult members of the Civil Air Patrol meet at the Aero Club Hangar the first and third Tuesdays of each month; cadets meet Saturdays. For more information or to join, call 350-7951.

Thursday science club

Youth are invited to the JBER Library to experiment and think about science from 6:30 to 7 p.m. For information, call 384-1640.

Library story times

The JBER Library hosts preschool story times Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 to 11 a.m.; Toddler Tales Wednesdays from 10 to 10:30 a.m., and all-ages story time Tuesdays from 6:30 to 7 p.m. For more information, call 384-1640.

Model railroading

The Military Society of Model Railroad Engineers meets at 7 p.m. Tuesdays and 1 p.m. Saturdays in the basement of Matanuska Hall. They host an open house every third Saturday through April; everyone is invited. For information, call 552-5234, e-mail msmrre@gmail.com or visit [facebook.com/msmrre](https://www.facebook.com/msmrre).

Chapel services

Catholic Mass

Sunday
9 a.m. – Arctic Warrior Chapel
Monday and Wednesday
11:40 a.m. – Arctic Warrior Chapel
Tuesday
Noon – JBER Hospital Chapel
Friday
Noon – JBER Hospital Chapel

Confession

Confessions are available anytime by appointment or after any mass. Call 552-5762.

Protestant Sunday worship services

Gospel
9:30 a.m. – Midnight Sun Chapel
Contemporary
11 a.m. – Arctic Warrior Chapel
Traditional
11 a.m. – Heritage Chapel

Religious Education

For schedules, call the Religious Operations Center at 552-5762.

Paratroopers and President



Paratroopers wave their berets as President Donald Trump speaks at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Feb. 28. The president was at the base to meet with service members after returning from a summit in Hanoi, Vietnam. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Westin Warburton)

Purim celebrates hope when all seems lost

By **CHRIS MCCANN**
JBER Public Affairs

The feast of Purim is a Jewish holiday based on the events of the biblical book of Esther.

In the Persian city of Shushan (now Shush, Iran, near the Iraqi border), the king, Ahasuerus – perhaps Artaxerxes II – sponsored a six-month feast for officials of the vast Persian empire. Drunk, he asked his wife Vashti to dance naked in front of the crowd; she refused, so Ahasuerus had her executed and demanded all the young women of the empire brought so he could choose a new queen.

Mordechai, a Jewish man living in the capital, was raising his orphaned neice Esther, and brought her as demanded; she was chosen as the new queen. However, she did not tell Ahasuerus she was Jewish.

Not long after she was made queen, Mordechai discovered a plot to assassinate the king; those responsible were caught and hanged. It was noted in the king’s records, but went largely unnoticed.

Ahasuerus had a chief minister

named Haman, a self-aggrandizing man. When Mordechai failed to bow to him one morning, the minister decided to kill not only Mordechai but all the Jews.

“There are a people, scattered throughout your entire kingdom, whose laws are different,” he told the king. “It is in Your Majesty’s best interest to eliminate them.”

The king gave him permission and funds to do so, and Haman cast lots – purim, in Hebrew – to set a date for the massacre: Adar 13, by the Jewish calendar.

Mordechai overheard this, and told the Jews of Shushan to fast, repent, and pray.

He urged Esther to ask the king to revoke the order. However, speaking to the king before being summoned could be punished by death. Esther tried anyway, inviting him to a feast with Haman.

Haman, on his way in, was again vexed by Mordechai’s refusal to bow, and he ordered a gallows built, intending to kill him the next day.

Later, Esther mentioned to the king that someone planned to kill her

and her people.

“If we were only to be sold as slaves, I would not complain,” she said. “But we are to be massacred.”

The king demanded to know who would have the gall to murder his wife and her whole people, and she explained Haman, his chief minister, had come up with the plan.

Furious, Ahasuerus went to the garden to gather his thoughts; Haman stayed in the banquet room, pleading with Esther for his life.

When the king returned, Haman was lying on Esther’s couch, face-down in terror.

“What!” cried the king. “He means to ravish my queen in my own palace?”

Ahasuerus had Haman hanged on the gallows he had built for Mordechai.

Esther raised one more issue – the decree that the Jews would be massacred soon, in all 127 provinces, from India to Ethiopia.

The king called his scribes and sent letters to every prince and satrap, in their native languages, declaring the Jews had the right to defend

themselves, and any province or people who attacked them could be destroyed and plundered. Ahasuerus sealed the letters and dispatched them with couriers on the fastest horses.


When the 13th of Adar came, some people did attack Jews – but being forewarned, the Jews were able to defeat them.

The next day became an official holiday of merrymaking, sending food baskets to friends, and giving to charity.

The feast of Purim, a minor holiday, has four obligations for Jews – eating at least one festive meal, sending baskets of food, giving charity to the poor, and listening to the public reading of the book of Esther, chanted in Hebrew from a handwritten parchment scroll.

There is no mention of God in the book – not once.

The great rabbis of history saw this omission as a lesson in itself; we do not see God, even when we are in a crisis, but he is nevertheless there, guiding us.

Purim reminds us even when all seems lost, there is always hope. 

Hospital Family Day hours

The 673d Medical Group is open on Pacific Air Forces family days to ensure patients have access to acute care and several other services. Specialty care, surgical services, the laboratory, pharmacy and radiology will be open on a limited basis. For information, call 580-2778.

Firewood permits

Firewood is \$35 per cord or \$17.50 per half-cord. To receive a permit, an iSportsman permit is required. For information, visit <https://jber.isportsman.net>.

Main Pharmacy hours

The main JBER pharmacy, on the first floor of the JBER hospital, is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The pharmacy at the Exchange is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Fridays for civilian prescriptions and refills, and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for refills only.

iSportsman enrollment

Anyone choosing to rec-

reate in JBER training areas must obtain an iSportsman permit and sign in and out using the iSportsman system prior to recreating. A pass costs \$10; \$5 for those 60 and older and disabled persons. Passholders may also need an installation access pass. For information, visit [isportsman.jber.net](https://jber.isportsman.net) or call 552-8609 or 384-6224.

Reserve ‘Scroll’

Officers wanting to transition to the Air Force Reserve must have their commission transferred to a list called “the Scroll” and approved by the Secretary of Defense.

The process averages 120 days, but can take longer, and must be approved before participating in the Reserve, which may mean a break in service. Even if you’re unsure about transitioning to the Air Force Reserve, the process can be initiated. For information, call 552-3595.

Pothole repair

The 773d Civil Engineer Squadron encourages all

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson personnel to report potholes. For holes in housing areas, contact Aurora Housing at 753-1051. Other requests are tracked by 773d CES. Note the location, including cross-streets or building numbers. Then email 773ces.ceoh.potholerepair@us.af.mil or call 552-2994 or 552-2995. Include contact information for crews.

U-Fix-It Store

The U-Fix-It stores, open to all Aurora Military Housing tenants, issue home maintenance items. Availability is subject to change and limits; some items may have a cost. The JBER-E location, at 6350 Arctic Warrior Drive, is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, closed from 1 to 1:30 p.m. for lunch, and Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.

The JBER-R office is at 338 Hoonah Ave., open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and closed from 1 to 1:30 p.m. A blind-cleaning machine is

available at the JBER-E location; priority goes to those PCSing. For information, call 375-5540.

DLA Document Services

Defense Logistics Agency Document Services duplicates and prints documents, including color, large-format photos, engineering drawings, sensitive materials, manuals and training materials. They design, print and distribute business cards, letterhead, invitations and programs, and provide devices to print, scan, copy and fax, and provides maintenance and ink cartridges. They offer document automation and content services for building digital libraries. To register, go to <https://www.dso.documentservices.dla.mil>. For information, visit [document-services.dla.mil](https://documentservices.dla.mil) or call (808) 473-1699 or (315) 473-1699.

OTC pharmacy counter

The pharmacy at the JBER hospital has over-the-counter medication for DoD beneficiaries from 7:30 to

10:30 a.m., Monday through Friday. Flyers and those on personnel reliability program status, pregnant, or under the age of 2 are not eligible.

The clinic offers pain relievers; cough, cold and allergy medications; ointments; constipation and diarrhea medications, and others.

For information, visit JBERPharmacy on Facebook.

ASYMCA Bargain shop

The ASYMCA Bargain Shop, 8515 Saville Ave. on JBER-E, is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the first Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For information, call 753-6134.

Richardson Thrift Shop

The JBER-Richardson Thrift Shop, Building 724 Quartermaster Drive, is open Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday from noon to 6 p.m., and first and third Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For information, call 384-7000.

962nd AACS nabs innovation award for EFBs

By **AIRMAN 1ST CLASS
CAITLIN RUSSELL**
JBER Public Affairs

The 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron Standards and Evaluation office was recently recognized as the innovation team of the quarter at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

The unit achieved the award by configuring 200 Electronic Flight Bags and training 170 personnel on their proper use and regulations. By going digital, the 962nd AACS will save \$90,000 in yearly printing costs and more than 350 man-hours.

“Our unit procured and has started implementing Electronic Flight Bags, which are portable electronic devices that consolidate flight information onto a tablet,” said Air Force Capt. John Newman, 962nd AACS E-3 Sentry electronic combat officer. “We have stacks and stacks of paper publications

that we use for reference. Now, instead of having to spend the time searching for the right answer, we can access it much faster.”

Previously, pilots and aircrew carried bags full of manuals and publications for their missions. These manuals included everything from detailed instructions on how to manually lower landing gear to instructions on landing aircraft at remote locations. Depending on mission requirements, bags like these can weigh as much as 200 pounds.

Frequently updating them to meet changing technology, mission planning, procedures and airfield infrastructure required an excessive amount of man-hours and resources.

“EFBs provide personnel with the capabilities to be anywhere in the world and have access to updated publications and all paper documentation in PDF format,” said Air Force Tech Sgt. Christopher Filiponi, 3rd



Air Force Staff Sgt. Tracey Kolb, 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron airborne radar technician, performs a pre-flight inspection with an Electronic Flight Bag aboard an E-3 Sentry at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Feb. 27. EFBs are portable electronic devices that consolidate flight information onto a tablet. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Caitlin Russell)


Operations Group EFB program manager. “In the future, the goal is to also have access to emails, Excel spreadsheets and more on the EFB.”

Newman said having a tool that will save personnel time and resources, was the

main reason for procuring the EFBs. He also said the overall feedback from the unit was positive, and aircrew are excited to be moving towards a more efficient and user-friendly tool.

Program organizers are

currently standardizing the EFBs and have begun issuing them for the initial trial period.

The goal is for the EFBs to replace paper manuals as the primary source for flight information. 

Accident brings JBER Soldier, Airman together

By **LORI NEWMAN**
BAMC Public Affairs

The hand-scribbled note taped to his dog tags simply said, “Request to go to the CFI” with a phone number. The note was written from one amputee to another.

Army Staff Sgt. Kayshawn Porterfield was following in his father’s footsteps. He joined the Army with a plan of becoming a lifelong Soldier and his Army career was progressing. He was moving up in rank quickly, had finished the basic airborne course at Fort Benning, Georgia and was stationed at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson with the 1st Battalion, 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, U.S. Army Alaska..

Aug. 16, 2018 started like any other summer day. Porterfield’s unit was scheduled for a static line parachute jump, which would be his 10th. This time something unexpected happened. As he jumped from the aircraft, the

static line that deploys the parachute wrapped around his left arm.

“It yanked my left arm above my head and I was hanging by my arm,” Porterfield said. “My arm went numb and I saw my hand detach from my body. I saw it all right before my eyes. I thought I was going to die.”

After deploying his reserve chute, he made it safely to the ground.

“God was with me and when I hit the ground I was just thankful to be alive,” he said. “I purposely landed on my right side so I didn’t hit my left arm. When I hit the ground I applied my own tourniquet from my rucksack. The medics were nowhere around me.”

There was a road guard about 50 meters away.

“I started yelling at him to call the medic,” Porterfield said. “I didn’t want to go into shock.”

Thankfully, the medics were coming over the hill in a Humvee. They placed him on a gurney and applied an additional tourniquet on



Army Staff Sgt. Kayshawn Porterfield exercises in the pool at the Center for the Intrepid, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, Feb. 20. (U.S. Army photo/Jason Edwards)

his arm at his shoulder. He believes having both tourniquets saved him from losing much of his forearm. He was airlifted to the hospital, and said adrenaline kept him from passing out.

On the rescue helicopter, he met Air Force Master Sgt. Jeremy Maddamma, 212th Rescue Squadron, Alaska Air National Guard.

Maddamma is an above-the-knee amputee who spent three years recovering from his injuries at Brooke Army Medical Center and the Center for the Intrepid.

“When we picked him (Porterfield) up I could see

his arm was missing,” Maddamma said.

Once Porterfield was at the hospital, Maddamma stuck around to make sure hospital personnel had all the information they needed.

“I introduced myself to Kayshawn, tapped on my socket and showed him my X3 calf (prosthetic leg). I wanted to assure him everything was going to be OK.”

Maddamma also gave Porterfield some advice from one amputee to another.

“I told him he should request to go to the CFI and I wrote it down for him along with my phone number,”

Maddamma said. “I made a request to the nurses to ensure the note stayed with his possessions and I watched the nurse attach it to his dog tags.”


Porterfield took his advice and called the CFI.

“The CFI staff started giving me exercises and talking to me about the things I needed to do before I even got to San Antonio,” Porterfield said.

As Porterfield continues his recovery, Maddamma said he hopes he receives the same care and healing he did.

“The personnel at the CFI are amazing,” Maddamma said. “I am forever grateful for the love, support, care and respect I received from everyone... I am also forever grateful for the relationships and friendships with staff and fellow patients at the CFI.”

Porterfield agrees.

“I think it will be a nice journey here,” Porterfield said. “I’m trying to take it day by day. It’s been a process, but I’m loving it so far and I can’t wait to see what happens.” 

Alaska Guard hosts leadership summit

By **ARMY 2ND LT. BALINDA O'NEAL DRESEL**
JBER Public Affairs

The Alaska National Guard hosted a Transformational Leadership Summit for senior non-commissioned and field grade officers to provide military professionalism and ethical fitness training to key members of the organization here Feb. 11 and 12.

In its third year, the event brought Air and Army leaders together to participate in learning sessions, small group discussions and continue to build trust throughout the organization.

"We hope, that by having annual conferences, it continues to show members of the organization, as our number one resource, we are invested in them," said Chief Master Sgt. Winfield Hinkley, the AKNG's senior enlisted leader, affirming that the conference has been the biggest task since taking over the position of being the adjutant general's advisor on all matters for enlisted personnel and their families last August.

The planning team, which consists of the SEL, state command chaplain and a volunteer committee, coordinates the administrative and logistical aspects of the event and conducts portions of the training themselves.

The SEL and SCC partnership ensures the created trainings maximize the impact of leadership issues unique to officers and enlisted members alike.

"Each time we conduct a conference, more members of the Alaska National Guard step forward with an interest to be involved," said Chaplain (Col.) Richard Koch, the state command chaplain and cosponsor of the event since its origination. "Our newest senior enlisted leader completely embraced leadership concepts, military professionalism, and ethical fitness training efforts even before he arrived in Alaska last sum-



Alaska National Guard senior leaders participate in a Transformational Leadership Summit at the Arctic Warrior Events Center on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Feb. 11 and 12. The training is part of a two-day conference that provides military professionalism and ethical fitness training to key members of the organization. "We hope, that by having annual conferences, it continues to show members of the organization, as our number one resource, we are invested in them," said Chief Master Sgt. Winfield Hinkley, the AKNG's senior enlisted leader. (U.S. Army National Guard photo/2nd Lt. Balinda O'Neal Dresel)

mer – having joined our discussions via teleconference."

"Developing dynamic teams that are energized to develop members to overcome challenges they don't even know are around the corner is a passion of mine," said Hinkley, who attributes his past experience at the Air National Guard Training and Education Center for opening his eyes to a hunger for professional development in the force. "Our members want to be fed and want to be equipped to feed themselves, and I want to be a part of that."

The Alaska National Guard makes it a priority to shape and sustain a healthy culture and considers integrity, honor and professionalism essential to an ethically fit force.

Good character, honest

choices and a bold commitment to high standards is vital to the organization.

"When all service members see the values demonstrated consistently among the leaders, then a shared culture driven by a high standard of ethical behavior creates an environment that promotes and nurtures a passion among the entire team to accomplish the mission," said Koch, who was happy to see how universally engaged and enthusiastic the joint audience of Alaska Air and Army Guard field grade officers and senior NCOs were throughout both days of training.

Energetic discussion filled with personal stories, lessons learned, and encouragement resonated amongst the senior leaders during the learning sessions, small-group discussions and open panel forum


– consisting of the Alaska Air and Army commanders and their senior enlisted leadership.

"I have found that many want to share their wisdom and feel the energy of transforming a member but lack the tools to jump right into it," said Hinkley, who said he wants to help build a team of Alaska Guard members who can both write and deliver organized material that drives the organization down a path of lifelong learning. "I want to build that base of lessons and delivery skills that creates the appetite to continue development of our force well past my time in the organization."

The group was left with a challenge to commit what they have learned to action and hold themselves accountable for carrying it out.

"It's what you do from here that will define the success of this training," said Hinkley. "If you choose to do nothing, you have wasted your time, but if you show tangible actions, you show you are fully committed to all your members and the culture of our organization."

The planning team is looking at targeting junior level leaders for future conferences

"Members are part of the Alaska National Guard for a very long time and I would like to see the building of trusting relationships start at the lowest level to build the return on investment," said Hinkley. "Our Army and Air National Guard will continue you to work with each other and the more synergy we build early in a member's career the better." 

A VISIT FROM THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF



President Donald Trump speaks to service members at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Feb. 28. The President was at the base to meet with service members after returning from a summit in Hanoi, Vietnam. “The men and women who serve at JBER share one vital mission, to serve in our country’s last frontier as America’s first line of defense,” the President told the assembled Soldiers and Airmen. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Westin Warburton)

