

Tough trip: Airman moves to JBER

By **AIRMAN 1ST CLASS CRYSTAL JENKINS**
JBER Public Affairs

“The Air Force is telling me, ‘Stay away, don’t come back,’” said Tech. Sgt. Jordan Masingale. “We just kept thinking, why? It’s not going to be that bad. Why are we evacuating? It’s only supposed to be a Category 2 storm.”

Within 48 hours of the mandatory evacuation of Tyndall Air Force Base, Hurricane Michael made landfall on Oct. 10 as a high-end Category 4 storm affecting the Florida panhandle region.

The weather station at Tyndall Air Force Base recorded a wind gust of 129 mph before the calm eye of the storm moved overhead, and documented maximum sustained wind speeds of 155 mph.

These unprecedented high winds, storm surge and flooding ultimately caused catastrophic damage spanning three states.

“Obviously knowing what we know now, we are happy we evacuated,” Jordan said. “When we drove in for the first time it was eerily silent, and we literally called it the dead zone because there was no cellular service or radio stations for weeks.

“We didn’t recognize anything; there were no road signs to tell you where to go, and the buildings, which had been landmarks, were all but demolished. Power lines and trees were down everywhere giving off the overwhelming scent of fresh-cut pine. It was just unbelievable, something



Hurricane Michael ripped through Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, and the surrounding area leaving severe damage through its path. The storm sustained winds up to 150 mph, which significantly damaged every structure throughout the base. Many Airmen previously at Tyndall have moved to JBER to continue working with F-22 Raptors, and installation leadership has been working to ensure the easiest possible transition despite the circumstances. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Liliana Moreno)

we’ll never forget.”

For more than seven years, the F-22 Raptor avionics specialist had called Florida home. Prior to the storm, Jordan had received orders to move to Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, and had begun preparing to sell his home.

Just two days before the natural disaster hit, the Masingale family had completed everything they needed to do to out-process the base and begin their journey north.

“After the hurricane we honestly didn’t know what to think; our lives were turned upside down and all of our plans were changed without warning,” said Arianna Mas-

ingale, Jordan’s wife. “For the first couple of weeks, nobody could access our records to do our final out-processing. Then we found out that it was deemed unsafe for the Traffic Management Office to pack up our things. And to top things off, we were left with the fact that we now owned a house that was uninhabitable.”

Following the storm, martial law was declared, which meant all Tyndall personnel were only allowed to be in the vicinity until dark, giving them just eight hours a day to try and get their lives back in order.

“Because no one was allowed to stay overnight in

the disaster zone, thousands of people were in similar situations all at the same time,” Arianna said. “This made the closest hotel with a vacancy more than 150 miles away. We knew right away this was going to be extra hard on our 5-year-old son and decisions had to be made quickly.”

In order for their son to have some stability throughout this stressful time, the Masingales made the decision to have him stay with his grandparents in Arkansas so they could handle things back in Florida.

“Our families were great throughout the entire process and did everything they could to help us find some normal-

cy in all of the chaos,” Jordan said. “After seeing the widespread damage at Tyndall and seeing what my non-military community members were going through, I found an immediate appreciation for being an Airman. While we got our home insurance claim filed, we worked side-by-side trading needed supplies with our neighbors and doing as much as we could to prevent further damage in our neighborhood.

“Despite the chaos and confusion after Hurricane Michael, we were finally able to receive our orders and proceed to JBER,” Jordan said. “On Nov. 19, we left See **Tyndall**, page 4

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Last issue of the Arctic Warrior hits stands

Editorial by **CHRIS MCCANN**
Arctic Warrior editor

To the readers of the Arctic Warrior:

This is the last issue of the Arctic Warrior. We will be moving coverage of the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson community online – using jber.jb.mil, the JBERAK Facebook page, and, perhaps most importantly, the JBER Connect smartphone app.

This issue marks the end of nearly nine years of the Arctic Warrior – and of a significant part of my life.

I joined the Army in 2003 as a public affairs Soldier.

In training, they told me military newspapers were on the way out and I would likely never be very involved in production of one – so I largely tuned out of the layout and design aspects of class.

My first duty station was the XVIII Airborne Corps'

garrison Public Affairs office at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where I was, much to my chagrin, immediately assigned the editorship of the sports section of the installation's newspaper, the Paraglide.

Wildly out of my depth as a private, I was mentored by a previously enlisted Army civilian, Ali Leone, who served as the Paraglide's editor.

Under her guidance, I grew to love layout and design, and in less than a year, when she took leave, I – a newly minted private first class – was handed the responsibilities of being editor of the entire paper for two weeks.

As the Army phased out garrison slots for public affairs Soldiers, assigning everyone to brigade combat teams, I was moved to Fort Drum, New York.

The 2nd BCT, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), which I was joining, had



returned days before from Iraq, so as everyone was on block leave, I reported to the garrison public affairs office.

There I met Lisa Albrecht, the editor of the Blizzard. While not a veteran, she had edited the Blizzard since my former mentor, Ali, had written for it years before.

I worked extensively on the Blizzard, doing layout and design, writing stories, and taking photos.

When our brigade deployed to Iraq in 2006, I created, laid out, designed and wrote for our publication, the Sandstorm – a nod to the Blizzard, but without snow.

Every two weeks, we turned in a CD to a local Iraqi print shop, and picked up bales of our magazine to distribute to our outposts.

After a second trip to Iraq in 2010, I left the Army,


moved to Anchorage and took a position with the public affairs office at the new Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

The Arctic Warrior began just after Fort Richardson and Elmendorf Air Force Base merged in October of 2010; I came on board in February of 2011.

Within a few months, I became the editor of the community section, and a couple of years ago, took over full editorial responsibility.

Even before joining the Army, I'd worked in the newspaper industry at university and at local publications.

It's tough to see the Arctic Warrior go. It's been a privilege.

But we remain committed to bringing the happenings around JBER and the Anchorage community to you in a new, efficient and more dynamic format which engages our readers. 

Polar Force ends with lessons for JBER's future

By **AIR FORCE STAFF SGT. JAMES RICHARDSON**
JBER Public Affairs

Exercise Polar Force 19-4 has come to an end as Airmen from units across Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson applied their expertise to a variety of mission scenarios.

Polar Force is a biannual two-week exercise designed to test JBER's mission readiness. In this iteration, Airmen from the 673d Air Base Wing, 3rd Wing, 176th Wing and 477th Fighter Group participated in an assortment of demanding situations designed to demonstrate their ability to survive and operate in adverse conditions.

"This is the first time in six years that all Air Force units on the base have exercised together, making this a massive undertaking with a lot of valuable insight," said Air Force Col. Patricia Csank, commander of JBER and the 673d ABW. "At the wing level, we need to clearly understand all partner requirements so we are disciplined and ready to respond to whatever the mission calls for."

Airmen practiced self-aid and

buddy care, unexploded ordnance training, rapid deployment, runway repair, aircraft launching and building security during the exercise, as well as less common scenarios such as Noncombatant Evacuation Operations and hospital expansion.

"We are already planning for the fall Polar Force. Exercises are important to connecting the dots between readiness and lethality, and finding our gaps and blind spots so we can be smarter in the way we employ our resources," Csank said. "It's how I know that if something were to happen right now, JBER is without question ready to respond."

Polar Force not only tested the Airmen's ability to respond to trying situations, but also put the 3rd WG and 477th FG to the ultimate test of air superiority during the largest known F-22 Raptor "elephant walk" in history. JBER Airmen demonstrated combat agility in generating and launching 24 F-22s, a C-17 Globemaster III and an E-3 Sentry.

"What the exercise does for us is give us the opportunity to demonstrate our ability to pack up our squadrons, our Airmen and our




Service members participate in a Mission Assurance Exercise at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson March 21. The exercise tested the installation's capabilities to response to with a simulated biological attack. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Adriana Barrientos)

aircraft, and deploy to another location to deliver that combat air power where it's needed," said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. John Krellner, the 3rd Operations Group deputy commander. "It takes an immense amount of logistical resources, support resources, to pull together an organization such as an F-22 squadron or an E-3 squadron to get them out the door."

Alaska's 176th Wing, one of the nation's busiest Air National Guard wings, tested its readiness capabilities during a super drill weekend – a

combination of several drill weekends allowing Guardsmen the ability to support active-duty exercises like Polar Force.

"That's why these types of exercises are so valuable: They help ensure the Alaska Air National Guard can deploy, on very short notice, a powerful force capable of delivering overwhelming combat power in support of U.S. interests anywhere in the Pacific theater," said Alaska ANG Brig. Gen. Darrin Slaten, the 176th Wing commander. 

From **Tyndall**, page 2

Florida, driving to California to attend our year-long awaited wedding. Although wildfires threatened our drive, being able to visit with family and friends allowed us to have one whole day where we weren't thinking about all of the craziness we had just been through."

After leaving California, the Masingales traveled to Alaska, arriving the evening of Nov. 29.

Little did they know, they were about to be awakened by the largest earthquake to shake Anchorage in more than 50 years.

"I had experienced really bad storms during my time spent at Tyndall and was feeling pretty resilient at this point, but I was not prepared for that earthquake," Jordan said. "My wife on the other hand, being from California, was completely calm and collected. That's when I knew we were fine."

Once the aftershocks of the 7.0 magnitude earthquake subsided, the Masingales were able to find a home and begin settling.

Upon his arrival, Jordan received




A destroyed civil engineering building on Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, was among 1,165 assets evaluated by an environmental recovery assistance team Nov. 5, 2018. The extent of the damage on the base meant many aircraft – and the pilots, maintainers, and other personnel who support them – needed to move. Some are making the move to JBER. (Courtesy photo)

a message from the 3rd Wing command chief, Chief Master Sgt. Brian Stafford.

"Sitting in my inbox on my first day at JBER was an email directly from Chief Stafford," Jordan said. "He asked me if I was OK, and if

there was anything my family needed. It was refreshing to know that someone from the top cared enough to reach out and make sure we were OK. Since then, we have experienced a warm welcome and have been provided with resources to help us

continue with getting things fixed.

"My hope is that the other Tyndall Airmen and families who are arriving to their next duty locations, know that everything is going to be all right and there are resources available to them that can help." 

JBER Connect app is available for download

By **CHRIS MCCANN**
JBER Public Affairs

Technology marches on.

This is the last issue of the Arctic Warrior; Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson's news will migrate to an app.

JBER Connect is now available to download from the Google Play and iTunes stores. With JBER Connect, you have all the resources of the installation on your phone – from gate hours to medical resources, from PCS information to JBER Life's events calendar.

Personnel from the 673d Communications Squadron and the 673d Air Base Wing public affairs office have been working on the app for weeks.

"It's been a lot of work, but we're very excited to bring this new re-

source to the JBER community," said Dana Rosso, deputy public affairs officer and part of the app development team. "It's still a work in progress as we improve things, but we are ready for people to download it and see how it works."

The team made sure the app is user-friendly and easy to navigate.

One of the most useful aspects of the app is the JBER Connect Resources section. It is easy to navigate and includes categories like "marital and relationship support," "sleep concerns," "anger management" and many others. "We've tried to make it as easy as possible to find the right resources," said Garry Berry, JBER Community Support Coordinator. "Seeing just a huge list of 'available resources' can be quite overwhelming. We've put a lot of thought into

breaking it down so someone who's in need of help or support can find exactly who can help them and how to contact that office without adding to that stress."

Another big piece is the calendar.

"There were several different calendars out there," said Rosso. "JBER Life had one. There was a calendar of Army events, a calendar of 3rd Wing events, a 673d Air Base wing calendar – and no one place where people could check out everything that's going on. Now we have one."

Whether you're looking for story time at the library, a professional military education graduation, yoga classes or kayaking trips, the single calendar is a one-stop shop.


"We're super excited to release this app," Berry said. "Most people use their phones for so many things,

and this app ensures they can quickly access the many resources and services here at JBER. We have a very large installation with so many options. As such, it is often times challenging to know where things are located.

"One consolidated app that houses services across the entire installation really shows how much we've come together over the years and makes everything transparent."

Users can also easily access JBER's social media outlets – like Flickr, where public affairs posts images of events like graduations and promotion ceremonies for download.

"It's just everything you need, right in your pocket," Rosso said.

The app is available for download now for all smartphones. 

Trusted Traveler: What it means for JBER visitors

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

In an effort to streamline installation visitor access, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson's 673d Security Forces Squadron is amplifying awareness of the base's Trusted Traveler program.

Intended to reduce wait times during the identification process, under JBER's Trusted Traveler program, Department of Defense employees, service members, family members ages 18 and older, and retired service members can escort as many individuals as can lawfully be seated in their vehicle.

"The Trusted Traveler program makes it easier to get on the installation," said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Donald Nachand, 673d SFS Visitor Control Center noncommissioned officer in charge. "It allows more expedited access to the installation which prevents the back up of traffic and maintains flow."

The program plays an important role in mitigating traffic congestion on the installation and at JBER's two visitor centers.

"You don't have to stop at the Visitor Control Center,



Airman 1st Class Brandon Calwile, a 673d Security Forces Squadron installation entry controller, checks identification at the Boniface Gate at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Sept. 20, 2018. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Crystal A. Jenkins)

get out of your car or have all the vetting that is required to come on the installation; you're just showing that one ID and you're coming on base," Nachand said.

Even with the Department of Homeland Security's REAL ID act in effect, the Trusted Traveler Program shouldn't experience any difficulties.

"The REAL ID Act is a federal act that makes sure all security enhancements are placed on ID cards issued to people in the United States," said Nachand. "The ID itself will not affect the program. The one concern would be when we issue passes to individuals; we need to make

sure they have a compliant ID card."

On Jan. 2, the Alaska Division of Motor Vehicles began issuing REAL ID Act compliant driver licenses.

For those who don't possess a REAL ID Act compliant license, there are alternative credentials that qualify the visitor to receive a JBER Defense Biometric Identification System card/pass. Some of those IDs are:

- Federally issued verification cards
- U.S. passport or cards
- Veterans Health Identification Card issued by the Department of Veterans Affairs
- U.S. Permanent Resident Card or U.S. Certificate

of Naturalization or Certificate of Citizenship

- A driver's license or ID card issued by a state that meets the Real ID standards or has an extension

- State-issued Enhanced Driver's Licenses


For a complete list, visit <https://www.dhs.gov/real-id>.

Anyone wishing to have visitors stay on the installation longer than 60 days should fill out a Long Term Visitor Worksheet available online at <https://www.jber.jb.mil/Portals/144/Info/BaseAccess/>.

Nachand encourages sponsors to complete the form 30 days prior to their visitors' arrival.

"If they wait until the last minute to fill the visitor work sheet when their visitor is already here, the visitor will be denied access," Nachand said. "Follow the proper steps to prevent that hardship."

Every installation entry controller has been thoroughly trained on the Trusted Traveler program and REAL ID and can assist if there is any confusion.

"All of them are paying close attention to CACs and dependent ID cards," said Nachand. "If someone doesn't have the proper ID, they will be sent to the Visitor Control Center. We want to make sure we keep JBER secure as possible." 

Friday

ASL class

Join the Library for this class which teaches elementary school-aged children the basics of sign language from 2 to 3 p.m. It's an excellent opportunity for home schoolers. For information, call 384-1640.

Lunch with a vendor

Get specials on cruises and Kenai Fjords tours with vendors at Information, Tickets and Travel. Vendors are available from 11 a.m. to noon; deals are available all day. For information, call 552-0297.

Saturday

Ping Pong tournament

Show off your skills and crush the competition at the Warrior Zone starting at 2 p.m. with this tournament with prizes for the top three finishers. For information, call 384-9006.

**Saturday and Sunday
Alyeska Slush Cup**

Even Alyeska's season must come to an end. Check out the spring carnival with long lift operations, great conditions, and the slush cup – skimming a 90-foot pond in a zany costume. For information, visit alyeskaresort.com.

Monday

Clothing and book swap

Bring a bag to the JBER Library from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. to swap freshly laundered clothing with no rips or stains. The library will be giving away books as well. For information, call 384-1640.

Wednesday

Ladies' night at the range

Women of all skill levels

can head to the Skeet and Trap range for this introduction to shotguns, safety and shooting from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For information, call 384-1480.

**April 19
Teens' Easter egg hunt**

The JBER youth centers invite teens to search in the dark for prize-filled eggs starting at 9:30 p.m. Bring a flashlight and a basket. For information, call 384-1508 or 552-2266.

**April 20
Easter Bunny ice cream**

Tickets go on sale April 1 for this event featuring ice cream, crafts, and much more with the Easter Bunny from 11 a.m. to noon. For information, call 552-8529.

Paws to Read

The JBER Library invites children in kindergarten through 5th grade to read to a service dog from 10 a.m. to noon. For information, call 384-1640.

**April 22 and 25
Earth Day 2019**

Join the Environmental Quality Office in celebrating Earth Day with activities, giveaways, and displays at the Library April 22 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and April 25 at the Joint Military Mall from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

For information, call 384-0250.

**Ongoing
Open swim**

The first Friday of each month is free open swimming at the Polar Paradise pool in the Buckner Physical Fitness Center from 4 to 9 p.m. For more information, call 384-1369.

Glide Fit

Try a new way to get in shape with this class at the Buckner Physical Fitness Center pool Saturdays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. or Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Test your balance while working out on a stand-up paddleboard. Open to ages 13 and older. For more information, call 384-1301.

Night at the Fights

The Egan Center hosts Thursday night boxing and mixed martial arts fights at 7:30 p.m. For more, visit thursdaynightfights.com.

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.

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.

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.

North to Alaska



Crewmembers from the Coast Guard Maritime Security and Response Team – West, San Diego, load equipment for a training mission onto an Alaska Air National Guard C-17 Globemaster III April 2 at Naval Air Station North Island, Coronado, Calif. The MSRT-W members are scheduled to take part in a multi-agency readiness exercise upon their arrival in Alaska. (U.S. Coast Guard photo/Petty Officer 2nd Class Joel Guzman)

No regrets: Living and deciding wisely

By **ARMY CHAPLAIN (LT. COL.) GREG THOGMARTIN**
JBER Deputy Chaplain

Jesus once told his disciples, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.” (Luke 9:57)

Did you ever wonder what he meant by that?

My thought for at least a part of what he intended is that he was addressing our tendency to second-guess our decisions and commitments. He was asking us to choose not to live by regrets.

You know that little voice that says, “If only...”

Instead, Jesus called his disciples to follow another voice and to find the freedom that His truth and wisdom make in our lives.

A life without regrets demands a few of things from us. First, make wise choices.

Every decision has its own consequences. When we make good decisions, we find we can own and live with the consequences. The ability to make wise choices involves patience

and gathering good information.

Don’t make it your habit to do your decision making by shooting from the hip – or the lip, as the case might be.

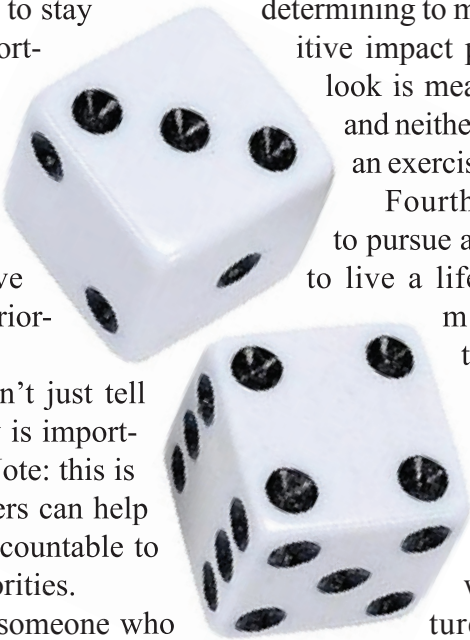
A second need is to stay focused on the important things.

Major on the majors and minor on the minors. Don’t just talk your priorities, rather live them. Make your priorities come alive.

For example, don’t just tell me that your family is important, but show me. Note: this is one area where others can help us by holding us accountable to those expressed priorities.

Everyone needs someone who loves them enough to want the best for them and respects them enough to expect the best from them.

Third, practice situational awareness. If I would live a life without regrets I must be aware of how my life impacts others. As a chaplain friend would say, “Check your wake!”



Every now and then I have to ask myself, “What am I leaving behind me? Or what is the effect of my life?”

So, this means an occasional look to what is my impact on others and determining to make the most positive impact possible. But that look is meant to be a glance and neither a longing gaze or an exercise in navel-gazing.

Fourth, to be focused, to pursue a goal, and to seek to live a life without regrets may imply a certain amount of risk or demand more than a little daring at times.

A friend shared this poem with me that pictures how that risk might look:

“To laugh is to risk appearing the fool.

To weep is to risk being sentimental.

To reach out to another is to risk exposing our true selves.

To place your ideas, your hopes,

and your dreams before the crowd is to risk loss.

To love is to risk being loved in return.

To live is to risk dying.

To try at all is to risk failure.

But to risk we must.

Because the greatest hazard in life is to risk nothing.


The woman or the man who risks nothing, will do nothing, have nothing of value, and ultimately will be nothing.”

Finally, in the midst of this risky journey it is important to soak up the grace of God.

Grace is that undeserved kindness that allows me to move beyond my failures. It also empowers me to get past my disappointment in others when they fail me.

Grace can shape me so my wake is not full of garbage and mess. Grace can work to allow my life with all of its rough edges still to have a positive effect on the lives of others.

Grace can free us to find the future that God has for us.

May God’s amazing grace be poured out upon you richly! 

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 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.

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773d LRS installs big rig driving simulator

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

Personnel with the 773d Logistics Readiness Squadron ground transportation section recently installed a driving simulator to further innovation and safety at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

The interactive driving simulator provides a dynamic training environment for a wide variety of commercial truck applications.

The single operator unit allows drivers to interact with computer-generated vehicles in a realistic environment.

“While the simulator isn’t exactly the same as our real machinery, it allows the Airmen to train without causing real damage to our equipment,” said Tech. Sgt. Anthony Quail, 773d Logistics Readiness Squadron noncommissioned officer in charge of training, validation and operations. “We are currently in the beginning stages of the program. We’re working on creating lesson

plans and scenarios for our Airmen.”

The simulator features four monitors, three pedals, a steering wheel, an adjustable chair and a gear shift to make training as realistic as possible.

It also includes a high-resolution visual system, multiple malfunction capabilities, a scenario developer that can recreate collisions, and more than a hundred different simulations to familiarize drivers with variables.

“The settings allow for a variety in training, which can help Airmen overcome fears of driving specialized vehicles in a slew of conditions,” Quail said. “It’s a great tool to potentially reduce accidents on the base.”

Airmen will have the capabilities to test different vehicles, road conditions and equipment before taking their newly acquired skills into the real world.

“Having the opportunity to train on the simulator has helped me learn how to drive stick-shift,” said Airman 1st Class Collin Parrish,



Chief Master Sgt. Jeffrey Ruckman, 673d Civil Engineer Squadron superintendent, tests the 773d Logistics Readiness Squadron ground transportation section's new driving simulator at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson April 5. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Caitlin Russell)

773d Logistics Readiness Squadron ground transporter. “I learned everything from how to start a manual transmission, how to feather the clutch and how to shift gears. The entire process of learning manual is made easier by working first on the sim-

ulator and then moving to a tractor trailer.”

Parrish also said having the simulator as a training tool provides a solid foundation to build upon.

“The goal for the simulator is to increase our safety and training, while also low-

ering the cost of damages and repairs to our equipment,” Quail said. “We appreciate having the ability to further our skills on the simulator, and create more confident and efficient Airmen.

The training our personnel will get is invaluable.” 

Last Doolittle Raider passes away in Texas

By **AIR FORCE MASTER SGT. ANDREW STEPHENS**
AETC Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — A legendary chapter in Air Force history has come to a close.

Retired Lt. Col. Richard “Dick” E. Cole, the last survivor of the “Doolittle Raid,” died April 9, in San Antonio.

“Lt. Col. Dick Cole reunited with the Doolittle Raiders in the clear blue skies today,” said Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson. “My heart goes out to his friends and family as our Air Force mourns with them. We will honor him and the courageous Doolittle Raiders as pioneers in aviation who continue to guide our bright future.”

On April 18, 1942, the U.S. Army Air Forces and the Doolittle Raiders attacked Tokyo in retaliation for the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, which boosted American morale in the early months of World War II.

“There’s another hole in our formation,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein. “Our last remaining Doolittle Raider has slipped the surly bonds of Earth, and has reunited with his fellow Raiders. And what a reunion they must be having. Seventy-seven years ago this Saturday, 80 intrepid Airmen changed the course of history as they executed a one-way mission without hesitation against enormous odds. We are so proud to carry the torch he and his fellow Raiders handed us.”

Cole was born Sept. 7, 1915, in Dayton, Ohio. In 1938, he graduated from Steele High School in Dayton and attended two years of college at Ohio University before enlisting as an aviation cadet on Nov. 22, 1940.

Soon after he enlisted, Cole received orders to report to Parks Air College in East St. Louis, Illinois, for training before arriving at Randolph Field, Texas and later, Kelly Field, Texas. He completed pilot training and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in July 1941.

While Cole was on a training mission with the 17th Bombardment Group at Pendleton, Oregon, word came that the Japanese had attacked Pearl Harbor.

The 17th BG flew anti-submarine patrols until February 1942, when Cole was told he would be transferred to Columbia, South Carolina. While there, he and his group volunteered for a mission with no known details.



Retired Air Force Lt. Col. Richard E. Cole, Co-Pilot to Jimmy Doolittle during the Doolittle Raid, smiles as he honors the U.S. flag during the singing of the national anthem at an airshow in Burnet, Texas in 2016. Cole was honored by the community and guests as the only remaining military service member alive from the April 18, 1942 Doolittle Raid. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Vernon Young Jr.)

Cole would later say that he thought his unit was heading to North Africa.

For weeks, Cole practiced flying maneuvers on the B-25 Mitchell, a U.S. Army Air Corps twin-engine propeller-driven bomber with a crew of five that could take off from an aircraft carrier at sea, in what some would call the first joint action that tested the Army and Navy’s ability to operate together.

When the carrier finally went to sea to bring 16 bombers closer to maximize their reach, it wasn’t until two days into the voyage that the Airmen and Sailors on the mission were told that their carrier, the U.S.S. Hornet, and all of its bombers, were heading in the direction of Tokyo.

In an age-before mid-air refueling and GPS, the U.S.S. Hornet weighed less than a quarter of today’s fortress-like aircraft carriers. With Cole as the copilot to then-Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle, the B-25 Mitchell bomber #40-2344, would take off with only 467 feet of takeoff distance.

What made the mission all the more challenging was a sighting by a Japanese patrol boat that spurred the task force commander, U.S. Navy Adm. William F. “Bull” Halsey, to launch the mission more than 650 nautical miles from Japan – 10 hours early and 170 nautical miles farther than originally planned.

Originally, the Mitchells were supposed to land, refuel and proceed on to western China, thereby giving the Army Air Corps a squadron of

B-25s and a commander.

But now the aircrews faced increasing odds against them, in their attempt to reach the airfields of non-occupied China. Still, Cole and his peers continued with their mission.

Flying at wave-top level around 200 feet and with their radios turned off, Cole and the Raiders avoided detection for as much of the distance as possible.

In groups of two to four aircraft, the bombers targeted dry docks, armories, oil refineries and aircraft factories in Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka and Kobe as well as Tokyo itself.

The Japanese air defense was so caught off guard by the Raiders that little anti-aircraft fire was volleyed and only one Japanese Zero followed in pursuit. With their bombs delivered, the Raiders flew towards safety in China. Many Airmen had to parachute out into the night, Cole himself jumping out at around 9,000 feet. All aircraft were considered lost with Cole’s own aircraft landing in a rice paddy full of night soil.

Of the 80 Airmen committed to the raid, eight were captured by Japanese forces with five executed and three sent to prison (where one died of malnutrition).

All of the 72 other Airmen found their way to safety with the help of Chinese farmers and guerrillas and continued to serve for the remainder of World War II.

The attack was a psychological blow for the Japanese, who moved

four fighter groups and recalled top officers from the front lines of the Pacific to protect the cities in the event American bomber forces returned.

After the Doolittle Raid, Cole remained in the China-Burma-India Theater supporting the 5318th Provisional Air Unit as a C-47 pilot flying “The Hump,” a treacherous airway through the Himalayan Mountains.

The USAAF created the 5318th PAU to support the Chindits, the long-range penetration groups that were special operations units of the British and Indian armies, with Cole as one of the first members of the U.S. special operations community.


On March 25, 1944, the 5318th PAU was designated as the 1st Air Commando Group by USAAF commander Gen. Henry H. Arnold, who felt that an Air Force supporting a commando unit in the jungles of Burma should properly be called “air commandos.”

Cole’s piloting skills blended well with the unconventional aerial tactics of Flying Tiger veterans as they provided fighter cover, bombing runs, airdrops and landing of troops, food and equipment as well as evacuation of casualties.

Cole retired from the Air Force on Dec. 31, 1966, as a command pilot with more than 5,000 flight hours in 30 different aircraft, more than 250 combat missions and more than 500 combat hours. His decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak leaf clusters; Air Medal with oak leaf cluster; Bronze Star Medal; Air Force Commendation Medal; and Chinese Army, Navy, Air Corps Medal, Class A, First Grade. All Doolittle Raiders were also awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in May 2014.

In his final years, he remained a familiar face at Air Force events in the San Antonio area and toured Air Force schoolhouses and installations to promote the spirit of service among new generations of Airmen.

On Sept. 19, 2016, Cole was present during the naming ceremony for the Northrop Grumman B-21 Raider, named in honor of the Doolittle Raiders.

“We will miss Lt. Col. Cole, and offer our eternal thanks and condolences to his family,” Goldfein said. “The legacy of the Doolittle Raiders – his legacy – will live forever in the hearts and minds of Airmen, long after we’ve all departed. May we never forget the long blue line, because it’s who we are.” 

JBER youth take state military awards

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

For more than two decades, the Boys and Girls Clubs of America has partnered with the Department of Defense to sponsor the Military Youth of the Year competition, which recognizes high school students based on leadership, service and academic excellence.

This year's Alaska Military Youths of the Year are Patrick Wooden, age 16, and Alondra Vazquez, 15, members of the Kennecott and Two Rivers youth centers at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

"We work constantly with the youth in preparation for the competition," said Cody Frederick, Kennecott Youth Center recreation specialist. "They start writing their speeches and practicing public speaking about six months

before the event. Youth are selected for the award based on their community service, personal achievements, leadership and grade point average."

Boys and Girls Club of America serve and support half a million military youth and their families every year, including the 484 affiliated youth centers on military installations worldwide.

At the local level, clubs select candidates from ages 14 to 18 for youth of the month. Of those, one goes on to represent their club in the state competition.

The program is designed to promote service to club, community and family, academic success, strong moral character, life goals and poise and public speaking.

Both winners of Alaska Military Youth of the Year have earned the title through countless hours volunteering at the youth

center, and for their overall dedication to themselves and the community.

Patrick has volunteered approximately 100 hours with the Kennecott Youth Center and other organizations over the past year, received the Presidential Service Award, and referees for Youth Center soccer games.

"Alondra was the definite choice as the Two Rivers Youth Center candidate for Alaska Military Youth of the Year," said Brandon Gurley, Two Rivers Youth Center recreation specialist. "We're very proud of her and how well she's done here."

Alondra placed second in the state competition and received a \$500 scholarship from the University of Alaska Anchorage.



Additionally, the winner will serve a one-year term as the military spokesperson for the Department of Defense, the military services and the Boys and Girls Club.

Competitors for Military Youth of the Year must demonstrate academic excellence, give speeches,

volunteer in the community and submit four essays.

Each candidate submits essays on their healthy lifestyle, military connection, youth center, and personal brand.

Both Alondra and Patrick said that being the Alaska Military Youth of the Year is a great accomplishment and plan to continue their service to the youth centers and community.

For more information visit www.bgca.org/. 