

# THE JET GAZETTE

READY TO SERVE...NEIGHBOR & NATION

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE 141ST AIR REFUELING WING

**MAY 2023**

## LILAC PARADE

THROUGH THE YEARS

## SEXUAL ASSUALT

SECAF REINFORCES  
ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

## DISASTER PLANNING

S&E PREPARE FOR EARTHQUAKE

## GREEN BELT TRAINING

REDUCING WASTE THROUGH  
PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS



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## THE MISSION

THE MISSION OF THE JET GAZETTE  
IS TO EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE EVENTS  
AND INFORMATION OF THE 141ST AIR REFUELING WING  
TO UNIT MEMBERS, THEIR FAMILIES AND RETIREES  
AND TO RECOGNIZE PERSONAL AND UNIT  
ACHIEVEMENTS WITHIN THE WING.

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FRONT COVER PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN KEITH JAMES





# NOTES FROM THE TOP

Sixteen years ago this summer, fresh off of eight years of active duty, I became a member of the 141st Air Refueling Wing. The best professional decision I ever made, with first joining the Air Force being a close second.

It was culture shock at first. Certainly not because of the great people or the Guard Family atmosphere--I noticed and appreciated those things almost immediately. I would get used to the "first-name-basis," the good and bad of long-standing relationships and yes, the quirkiness, pretty quickly. A matter of fact, I love those things. When I look back on it, the most shocking thing was (and still is) how we somehow train to an active duty standard with far less time and far fewer resources. Whatever is lost with actual time, we gain it back and then some drawing on the considerable civilian talents of our predominantly drill status force. Beyond this not-so-secret weapon, it really comes down to creativity and being exceptional at managing our precision training time.

I've seen it both ways. Early on as a DSG I remember showing up to drill, getting the work I was given done in a few hours, maybe knocking out a CBT or two and then sitting around talking about college

football. Not the best use of my time or the military's....And I love talking about sports! Still trying to decide if leaving active duty was the best decision at the time, this honestly felt a bit disheartening. After all, I joined the Guard to do something; just like I did when I first joined the Air Force. It wasn't necessarily anyone's fault, and I definitely had responsibility in the matter.

I've also watched countless drill plans get executed with almost ruthless precision giving our Airmen both innovative and realistic training, as well as truly meaningful personal connections that kept them returning drill-after-drill and year-after-year--no doubt achieving the goal of being excited to come back, even as Fairchild is in the rear view mirror.

The difference between a highly effective training experience and wasting your time is absolutely everything! It's about wartime readiness to deter and defeat our adversaries and the capability to respond to disasters with little or no notice. It's about retaining our incredible Airmen and their selfless families. It's about individual resilience and connectedness. Finally, it's most certainly about Guard Family! After a few years of trying



just about every drill construct we could dream up and gathering your critical feedback, Wing leadership has coalesced around a model where most of our units will drill for four days, every other month beginning in October 2023. The Operations Group will continue in a quarterly model, but directly aligned with this six drill construct. There's also a serious discussion of our 242 CBCS and 256 IS brothers and sisters joining us, but we will stay ready to support them on a monthly basis if needed.

On behalf of Colonel Jim "JMac" McGovern, who's been an innovative leader on this subject years before many of us initial skeptics, please know this decision was not taken lightly or without careful consideration over the impact to you, your families, or your employers. As I've heard him say many times, "It's time to get the band back together" and squeeze every moment of time for your training.

Bringing everyone together in a more unified and focused drill scheduling construct is just one of several key ways we will accomplish this vital effort. I know JMac has been out at your roll calls this drill and will be out again in June to carry this message, along with several other topics crucial to the well-being and future of our Wing.

I also know he and the rest of the Wing leadership team appreciate your questions and feedback, so please let us have it!

~ See You At Drill, Chuck



# CHIEF'S CORNER

CHIEF MASTER SGT. JEFFREY BARTON  
141ST MISSION SUPPORT GROUP SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER



What does mentorship mean to you? There are many ways airmen can receive mentorship throughout their career. This could be through one of our various online programs like MyVector or by working with someone to help you resolve an issue you may not know how to solve.

During my career I have had many people serve as mentors to me. I didn't necessarily seek them out and ask. They became my mentor through conversation on various topics that I was curious about and as I gradually got to know the people in my unit better.

While on active duty I had many different mentors depending on where I was. This was something that I feel was beneficial to me because it gave me a different perspective on issues I had faced. Since I have joined the Air National Guard,

which I hate to admit was a very long time ago, my view on what mentorship looks like has changed.

As Guardsmen we tend to be at the same base for a long time and we don't get a rotation of new people and personalities, that you may get on the active duty side. This means we might have the same mentor for many years, which can create a much stronger bond.

I have always, and will always look for new people to help mentor me. It's usually easy to find mentors in your own unit, but I would encourage everyone to get out of your comfort zone and meet different members throughout the wing.

You never know who your next mentor might be. This will also help you gain different perspectives and you might learn about what other units are facing.



# Green Belt Training

Reducing waste through  
Continuous Process Improvement

Washington Air National Guard Green Belt course graduates stand for a class photo after presenting their project to Wing leadership.







Select Airmen of the 141st Air Refueling Wing participated in a process improvement course called the Air Force Continuous Process Improvement, or Green Belt Training, to identify value-added steps and reduce wasted man-hours in the production and execution of the quarterly newcomers' brief at Fairchild Air Force Base, April 4 – 7, 2023.

The Green Belt Training is a course that teaches continual process improvement. One of the tools used was based on a Lean Six Sigma process. LSS, by definition, means to create a process that has fewer than 3.4 errors in one million opportunities. The course teaches LSS by utilizing a 5-step approach to problem solving; define, measure, analyze, improve, and control.

Processes studied with LSS can be simple day to day activities or larger issues that can be improved explained Choon Young, Lean Six Sigma instructor. We usually think that process improvements need to be a large issue or project, but it doesn't necessarily have to be. LSS is often the most beneficial on small issues that are repeated over time, therefore decreasing waste.

"Lean Sigma Six can benefit anyone who takes the course," said Choon. "New soldiers or Airmen coming into the military would benefit greatly from the course because they'll know the technical tools to implement throughout their career and as they rise in rank and supervisory status."

The course started with Airmen selecting a project from a list given to them by the wing commander. The class chose to improve the process of producing and delivering the 141 ARW right start briefing. The quarterly right start briefings are 90 minutes and are attended by 30 inbound airmen, along with 20 wing representatives: accounting for approximately 75 misused man-hours per brief. The class goal is to reduce the waste of man-hours by shortening the length of the brief and streamlining the process of putting together the brief.

"The right start briefing is so important because if airmen are not given proper information on what resources, benefits, and amenities are available to them, they're more likely to not be able to pass that information along when in a leadership or supervisor role," said Staff

Sgt. Evan Boone, finance management specialist. "That disconnect can waste opportunities for our troops like tuition assistance, outdoor recreation, and medical insurance."

The class developed a value stream map to outline the brief's process steps; mapping each step of the process from the initial commander's request to have the brief to the closing comments of the brief, explained Tech. Sgt. Daniels, logistics specialist. Value-added, non-value-added, and required topics were identified, and time spent on each topic was assessed. After developing a current state map, the class built a future state map which removed non-value-added topics and time spent, condensing the brief close to their goal of 60 minutes.

The next right start brief will be conducted during August drill and the airmen in the LSS class will help facilitate the implementation of their improvement plan. Once the classmates have followed up on individualized tasks divvied out during the course, the airmen will graduate with their "green belt" on May 8th.





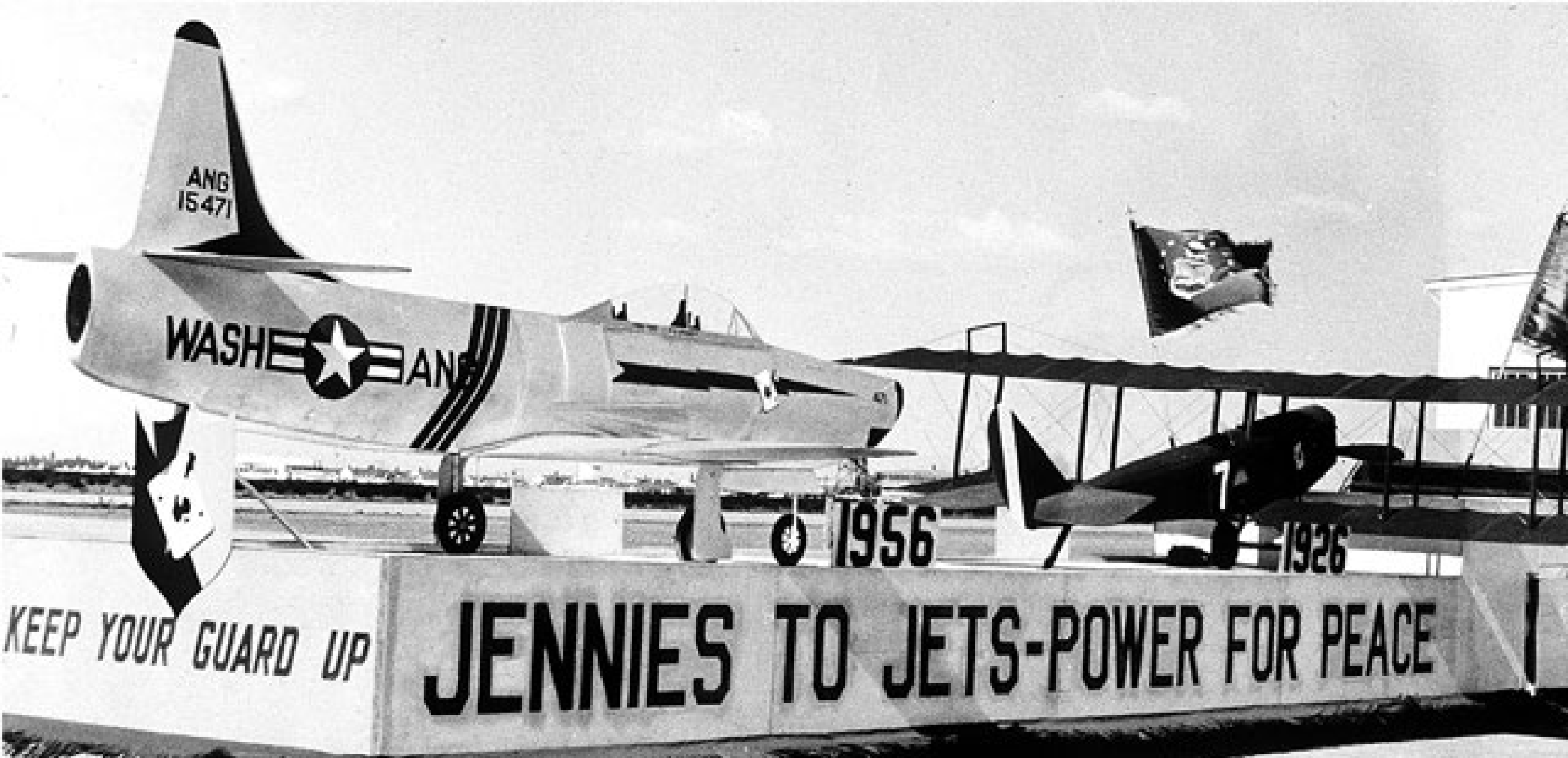


# LILAC PARADE THROUGH THE YEARS

Story and Photos by: Tech. Sgt. Kayleigh Phillips







Every May spring starts showing her colors with lilac blooms throughout "The Lilac City", Spokane. It also marks the start of one of the community's pillars, the Spokane Lilac Festival. 141st Air Refueling Wing airmen will participate in the event during the annual Armed Forces Torchlight Parade which honors military members and veterans throughout the region on May 20, 2023, at 7:45 p.m.

The Lilac Festival has been steeped in tradition since 1938 and celebrates its 85th birthday this year. At its inception, Mrs. Charles Goodsell, president of the Spokane Floral Association chaired the





one-day event which later held the moniker of "Spokane's Best When Lilac Drest". The event included a lilac show where lilac shoots were distributed to the community, accompanied by a small parade with a float and marching bands. The Davenport Hotel was also dressed to the nines, adorned by lilacs. Enthusiasm around the event grew and the one-day event quickly became a weeklong festival with new events and gatherings.

In 1942 through 1945, the festival ceased due to World War II, but soon after the war ended lilac enthusiasts formed the Lilac Festival

Association, and created the new moniker of "Spokane, The Lilac City". The first formal Lilac Festival kicked off in May of 1947 with thousands of residents in attendance.

The 1950th festival marked the first year that a military float entered the parade which honored Armed Forces Day. That day is now recognized every third Saturday in May and the parade became the Lilac Festival Armed Forces Parade. The 141st Air Refueling Wing participation dates to 1955, with airmen marching and a float embellished with the beloved ace of spades logo.





Since the parade name change, military tradition is kept alive by honoring US Military personnel with the title of Grand Marshall most years. Team Fairchild annually participates in the festivities in some form or fashion and the 141st float makes an appearance along with marching airmen.

All historical information pulled from: <https://spokanelilacfestival.org/history>





# Planning for Disaster

## SEARCH & EXTRACTION'S ROLL IN IMPENDING DISASTER

Photos and Story Courtesy of Search and Extraction



The Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake: Emergency managers have been planning for this disaster for the last few decades. It's predicted that this earthquake will have a magnitude of 8 or 9 and will be felt throughout the Pacific Northwest. Up to six feet of the Oregon and Washington coastlines will be submerged into the Pacific Ocean. 15 to 30 minutes after the quake, 30-to-40-foot tsunamis will batter any remaining structures along the coast and will cause widespread flooding, landslides, and potential dam failures. Deaths are expected to exceed 10,000 along with countless injuries (Jetstream Max: Cascadia subduction zone, 2022). The odds of this happening at any point over the next 50 years is about 1 in 10 (CASCADIA Subduction Zone Earthquakes, 2013).

The Washington Army and Air National Guard are expected to play a major role in responding to this catastrophic event as part of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) region X's Homeland Response Force (HRF). Specifically, the 141 Air Refueling Wing's Search and Extraction (S&E) team. S&E is a specialized team that is trained to International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) levels in search and rescue techniques. Every team member has certifications in structural collapse rescue, ropes rescue, confined space rescue, and Hazmat Operations. In a disaster response scenario, like







an earthquake, S&E teams would work alongside civilian first responders.

The S&E team brings many capabilities to a disaster like the Cascadia earthquake. Urban search techniques and casualty detection are some of the first they would deploy. Thermal imagers, scope cameras, and listening devices would be used to locate casualties that are trapped in collapsed structures or hard to reach areas.

Once a trapped victim has been located, the team has a variety of capabilities they can use to extricate them. If a structure has collapsed or is unstable, they would construct lumber shoring to stabilize the structure allowing rescuers to make entry and access victims. If collapsed concrete walls or flooring is preventing egress, the team has the skills and equipment to cut through both concrete and metal to reach casualties.

Ropes rescue is another method that could be utilized in rescuing people from different levels of a structure. Once rescuers reach a victim, they provide initial medical treatment, package them, and transport them to a medical treatment area.

One capability that sets S&E apart from civilian urban search and rescue teams is their training and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) which prepares them for working in hazardous environments. Whether its chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear, this team is uniquely equipped to continue rescue efforts while other teams must fall back.

The Fairchild S&E team is actively training up new team members and are continuing to recruit so that we have a large team of trained and ready members for when the call comes. Rescuers receive approximately 160 hours of training to become fully qualified, and they participate in annual exercises


along with other CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package elements. In addition to earthquakes, S&E can respond to many other disasters that overwhelm local emergency responders including, hurricanes, tornados, landslides, and terrorist attacks.

When disasters strike, the National Guard is often called upon to help a community in crisis. This commitment to helping those in need is one of the reasons so many of us joined the Guard. However, to be of assistance, you must be trained and ready to respond when the need arises. If you are interested in being a part of this unique and exciting mission, please reach out to MSgt Greg Harada to learn more at (509)247-7047 or [gregory.harada.1@us.af.mil](mailto:gregory.harada.1@us.af.mil). Also, check out the 141 Second Refuel featuring S&E at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=yoU1DQqrA0s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yoU1DQqrA0s).









Secretary of the Air Force Frank Kendall signed a proclamation reaffirming the Department of the Air Force's commitment to preventing sexual assault and sexual harassment, as well as supporting sexual assault survivors during a ceremony at the Pentagon April 27.

In conjunction with the proclamation, he also announced a new provision to the Department's leave policy that enables sexual assault survivors to take up to 30 days of non-chargeable leave as they seek resources to support their recovery.

"There is no higher priority than taking care of our Airmen, Guardians and their families," Kendall said. "April's observance of Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month offers an opportunity to take stock of our efforts and recommit ourselves to ending sexual violence and supporting survivors. Our core values require it, and we have to stay focused on this topic year-round to meet the obligations we share with those whom we serve alongside."





The Department's year-round efforts include implementing FY22 National Defense Authorization Act requirement to establish an independent Office of Special Trial Counsel to oversee the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault and other victim-based offenses. Additionally, Department experts are focused on research-informed prevention strategies and ensuring comprehensive support for survivors.

Officials are implementing the 'Safe-to-Report' policy, pioneered at the U.S. Air Force Academy, which removes barriers to reporting by eliminating punishment for minor collateral misconduct such as underage drinking. Many other ongoing actions are linked to the Department of Defense's Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military, including:

- Developing a plan to ensure an independent reporting structure for Sexual Assault and Response Coordinators. This structure will provide independent oversight and empower SARCs to best support survivors while still maintaining direct access to commanders.
- Enabling sexual harassment survivors' access to advocacy support from Sexual Assault Prevention and Response victim advocates.
- Increasing full-time victim advocates to strengthen the response workforce available to ensure critical support and care of victims.
- Researching prevention training initiatives including a Sexual Communication and Consent Program at basic military training, designed to increase military trainees' understanding of consent and sexual assault.

"Each member of our team shares in the enduring responsibility to eliminate sexual assault and harassment from our ranks," Kendall added. "I urge every Airman, Guardian, and Department civilian to treat each other with dignity and respect, hold others accountable to our high standards of conduct, and to take care of your teammates."

Resources for sexual assault and harassment can be found at [www.sapr.mil/victim-assistance](http://www.sapr.mil/victim-assistance).



# HISTORY

XB-15 VISITS FELT'S FIELD



The XB-15 was one of the more bizarre planes ever developed by the Boeing aircraft company in its pursuit to develop a long range bomber for the United States. This experimental design model which was the forerunner to the B-17 bomber visited Felts Field, Wash.

The best way to go about describing these incredibly unique pictures is to first fill you in on one of the earliest 116th Observation Squadron Commanders, Maj. Caleb V. Haynes. Haynes took over the squadron essentially after the accidental death of the squadron's first commander, Maj. John T. Fancher. He served the 116th both as Commander and Regular Army Aviation Instructor from May 19, 1928 until July 17, 1931.



After leaving the squadron in good hands, he attended special training and general staff courses eventually taking the reins of the 49th Bomber Squadron as early as June 1936.

When a devastating earthquake hit the region of Chile on Jan. 24, 1939, the United States sent Red Cross relief supplies in its new experimental bomber, the Boeing XB-15. On Feb. 4, Haynes commanded and piloted the plane loaded down with 3,200-lbs of medical supplies from Langley Field, Va. He arrived in Santiago, Chile on Feb. 6, needing only two stops for refueling along the way.

For this amazing achievement of cargo delivery by a single (experimental) aircraft, Haynes was awarded the Army's

Distinguished Flying Cross and that year was awarded the Mackay Trophy (established on Jan. 27, 1911, this trophy is still awarded annually to the USAF for the "most meritorious flight of the year.")

So, now you know the reason why this truly one-of-a-kind plane landed at Felts Field, Wash. just a few months after its historic flight...Haynes was obviously feeling homesick for our great Northwest! Actually, Haynes was returning the prototype to the Boeing factory so he could test even more freshly created prototype bombers and stopped by his old stomping grounds along the way just to say hi.





# DFAC

## LUNCH MENU



1100-1300

### FRIDAY

- Baked Mac n Cheese
- Red Curry Cod
  - Rice and Vegetables

### SATURDAY

- BBQ Chicken
  - Pot Roast
- Peas, Rice and Broccoli

### SUNDAY

- Salmon
  - Chicken Penne
- Corn, Rice and Succotash



# PROMOTIONS

**SMSgt PAULA GRIESEMER 141 ARW**

**SMSgt JOSUA OENS 141 MDG**

**MSgt BENJAMIN CHAREST 141 LRS**

**MSgt JAKE CORNELLA 242 CBCS**

**MSgt ROBERT PECK 242 CBCS**

**SSgt BRETT BEEMAN 141 CES**

**SSgt MADISON MILES 256 IS**

**SrA BRYCE CHERRSTROM 256 IS**

**SrA TIFFANY FITZNER 141 FSS**

**SrA CHRISTOPHER PLUNKETT 141 SFS**

**A1C JACOB OSKORUS 141 LRS**