

August 2021



Red Tail Review

The 477th Fighter Group Newsletter

Inside:

- 477th FG in the Community***
- CDC's Upgrades***
- This Month in History: July and August***

Vision: To Be the World's Premier Air Power Provider

Announcements

477th Fighter Group Annual Awards followed by Commander's Call

Sunday, Aug. 8, 10 a.m. at the AWEC

NOTE: Leave your phones and smart devices in your vehicles.

477th FG Family Picnic Postponed

One-on-one Education Advice for GI Bill, Tuition Assistance, Local Training Now until Aug. 15

To schedule your appointment
Contact 477th Fighter Group Education and Training Office
907-551-4750



477th FG Fiscal Year 2021 Unit Training Assembly Schedule

| Month | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | April | May | June | Aug | Sept |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------|-----|-------|
| (Primary) | 3-4 | 7-8 | 5-6 | 7-10 | 27-28 | 29-31 | 1-3 | 1-2 | 5-6 | 7-8 | 11-12 |

477th FG Fiscal Year 2022 Unit Training Assembly Schedule

| Month | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Feb | April | Apr - May | June | July | Aug |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|-----------|------|-------|-------|
| (Primary) | 2-3 | 6-7 | 4-5 | 8-9 | 5-6 | 26-27 | 2-3 | 30-1 | 4-5 | 30-31 | 27-28 |

Red Tail Review Newsletter

Leadership

Col.

Jonathan Gration, Jr.
Group Commander

Chief Master Sgt.
Mary Dearman
Group Superintendent



Mission

We Provide Combat
Air Power

Vision

To Be the World's Premier
Air Power Provider

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907-551-0477

Staff

Ms. Song Jordan
2nd Lt. Kaitlyn Lawton
Staff Sgt. Melissa Estévez

ON THE COVER: A scenic photo of the Chugach mountain range and the Matanuska river. (U.S. Air Force photo by Song Jordan)

A Note from Your Chaplain: August 2021 UTA

Welcome to August drill.

Hopefully, you have enjoyed some of Alaska's sunny summer days with loved ones.

Now it is time again for school to be back in session and the state fair to come to town.

My three kids (ages 8, 10, & 12) tell me they are excited about going back to school again and seeing their friends.

There is a sense of comfort when routines are once again established, and life becomes more predictable (something that many missed during the lock downs).

And just when we thought the pandemic was over, we are again being asked to wear masks.

I like to remind people that we have gotten through hard times and will again.

Spirituality can help you with this, whether you participate in a formal religious system or have simply spent time reflecting on your life's direction. Your core beliefs and values can help you to find strength, meaning, and purpose.

My prayer for you this drill is that your spirituality is a source of strength as you continue the good fight.

477th FG Chaplain contact information: 477FG.HC.chaplain@us.af.mil or 907-551-4723. □



Chaplain Ben Butcher

Not all Heroes

wear Combat Boots



OPSEC

... It's everyone's responsibility!

477th Fighter Group in the Community



The Chugiak-Eagle River Chinooks baseball team hosted the 477th Fighter Group at one of the last games of the season in Chugiak, Alaska on July 27, 2020. Before the game began, Tech. Sgt. Micah Lawlor, a 477th Maintenance Squadron low observables technician sang the National Anthem. Col. Brian Budde, the 477th FG deputy commander threw out the commemorative first pitch. Recruiters also set up a display booth at the event. (U.S. Air Force photo by Song Jordan)



New Recruit: Antony Rogel Amaya



Name: Antony Rogel Amaya

Hometown: San Salvador, El Salvador

Current Hometown: Anchorage, Alaska

Expected Future Unit: 477th Aeromedical Flight

Expected Future Duty Title: Health services management technician

What do you do, when you are not serving during a UTA? I work 12-hour days as a car wash detailer and delivery driver.

Why are you joining the Air Force Reserve? To serve this great country and launch my career.

What do you hope to accomplish while serving? I hope to grow as a person and develop professionally.

What are your hobbies? Reading books, listening to music, and watching movies.

Do you have any family members who also served or serving in the military? I have an uncle-in-law who just retired from the U.S. Navy.



Education Opportunities

By Master Sgt. Angeline Tyree, 477th Fighter Group Education and Training Chief



AFVEC can lead you to many educational opportunities.

Do you want aid in funding your degree? USAF Tuition Assistance will fund the whole or part of an undergraduate to graduate degree program. If you are interested in learning more please visit the AFVEC page. Or contact 477th Force Support Development and Education for aid in what these programs might hold for you.



SkillBridge

The SkillBridge program allows transitioning Airmen to participate in apprenticeships, internships, or on-the-job training. Eligible Airmen must be within 180 days of approved retirement or separation to start a program. Prior to submitting an application for SkillBridge, you must contact your education office to set up an appointment to discuss the program. After you meet with your education officer, you will be able to submit your application.



For help with Chapter 1606, 1606 AFSC Kicker, Post 9-11 GI Bill, Forever GI Bill, Montgomery GI Bill, please contact 477th Force Support Development and Education, 907-551-4750. You can also find more info at the VA website: www.va.gov/education/about-gi-bill-benefits/



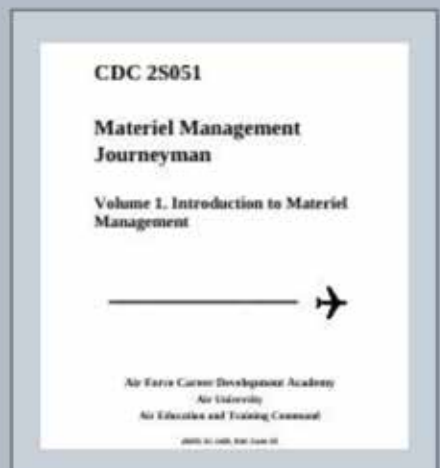
Associate to Baccalaureate Cooperative (AU-ABC) directs Airmen with associate in applied science degrees from the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) to a collection of accredited colleges and universities to consider when completing a four-year degree. The program maximizes the application of military career education and training, and provides multiple online academic and support services for the enlisted member.

HAVE 2 WAYS OUT



www.BeReady.af.mil

AF Career Development Academy transforms CDC content, delivery to Airmen



AF CAREER DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY TRANSFORMING CDC CONTENT, DELIVERY TO AIRMEN



With a charter to help advance force development and transform how Airmen learn, the Air Force Career Development Academy at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., has reimagined the service's career development course design and delivery model to bring it into the 21st century learning environment. (U.S. Air Force graphic by Dan Hawkins)

By Dan Hawkins Air Education and Training Command

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. (AFNS) --

With a charter to help advance force development and transform how Airmen learn, the Air Force Career Development Academy at Keesler Air Force Base has reimagined the service's career development course design and delivery model to bring it into the 21st century learning environment.

Using an approach to modernization centered on rapid curriculum development and agile curriculum updates, with an emphasis on tasks that are mission-focused, the effort ties to the people-first approach of Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. CQ Brown, Jr.'s Action Order-A (Airmen) and directly contributes to developing Airmen to ensure they are ready for the future fight.

"We want every Airman trained within a modern, learner-centric model that befits their experience and education right when they walk in the door, as well as throughout

their careers," said Maj. Gen. Andrea Tullos, Second Air Force commander. "The CDC modernization program is another great example of how we are accelerating change by investing in learning options that allow Airmen to learn in the connected way they're already familiar with in today's world."

The legacy CDCs used textbook-style delivery with between 100 and 600 pages of reading, evaluated with multiple-choice assessments. The more modernized process includes the use of interactive, student-centric instruction with a focus on performance-based assessments and realistic scenarios.

"It's no secret our CDC systems, processes, and courseware needed to be modernized because the program wasn't meeting the needs of today's Airmen or the career fields," said Lindsey Fredman, Air Force Career Development Academy director. "Our new approach, which will be housed in myLearning, is now more mission-focused, Airman-centric and competency-based than ever before."

The CDC modernization process is done in four stages:

analysis and discovery; design and prototyping; beta testing and implementation; and followed by evaluation.

Under the old model, the analysis and discovery process to develop or update a CDC could take two to three years depending on the number of tasks involved.

“Using rapid curriculum development, updates for an entire modernized course can take as little as a month or two,” Fredman said. “Moving forward in design, we now use CDC writers to provide subject matter expertise on their career field’s tasks, and provide that information immediately to the instructional designers, speeding up the process to develop and implement robust, effective courseware.”

Another new aspect in CDC design is the introduction of interactive content, which allows students to pace themselves through realistic training scenarios and performance-based assessments.

“Whereas before CDCs were simply words on paper, we have brought interactive training to the curriculum,” Fredman said. “For example, in the helicopter maintenance course, we are integrating interactive 3D engine models to identify components and even replicate malfunctions so an Airman has to diagnose and solve a realistic scenario that could happen out in the field during the training.”

Another example is in the missile and space systems electronic maintenance career field CDCs, which are currently undergoing modernization.

“We’ve been working with AFCDA since March to modernize the 2M0X1A 5-level CDCs into a fully interactive online course,” said Master Sgt. Peter Pleasanton, a 532nd Training Squadron flight chief based at Vandenberg Space Force Base, California, and the 2M0X1A CDC author. “We are developing content in Adobe Captivate and will be using myLearning.”

Another example is the 2T3X1 Air Force specialty code, which is the mission generation vehicular equipment maintenance career field.

“We really appreciate the guidance and IT support from AFCDA as we bring our CDC delivery method to an electronic platform that has interactive capabilities versus 14 volumes,” said Master Sgt. Arun Sebastian, assigned to the 344th Training Squadron at Naval Base Ventura County-Port Hueneme, Calif., and author for the 2T3X1 CDCs. “With our career field being extremely hands-on oriented, the interactive capabilities modernizes and expands the learning environment.”

From an agility perspective, the focus on task analysis specifically means courses can be updated much closer to real-time thanks to the use of proven AFNET-approved

software.

“Considering the CDCs have been predominantly PDF text booklets for the last couple of decades, the career field is excited to have this opportunity to modernize the course,” Pleasanton said, adding the target for completion of the 2M0X1A CDC modernization is in fall of 2021.

The focus on tasks in the new process also meant removal of information Airmen didn’t necessarily need in the context of the CDC itself.

“In every instance, we are really taking hard looks at the ‘fluff’ in terms of content and where it can be cut down,” Fredman said. “One of the biggest things we learned was Airmen in the field felt there was too much content that didn’t tie directly to a task, or it wasn’t mission-focused.”

Understanding that some of that extra information might prove useful to Airmen outside their CDCs, the AFCDA now provides career fields proposed training plans that bridge knowledge gaps from the CDCs to tasks normally performed on the job, Fredman said.

As part of the modernization process, AFCDA is collaborating with certain career fields, such as logistics readiness, civil engineering and dental, to assist with the modernization process, Fredman said.

“We are working together to develop the 2T3 CDC’s which is one of the biggest changes our career field has seen in the realm of upgrade training,” Sebastian said. “Our career field manager is excited to see the product improve upgrade training across the enterprise.”

Using an AFCDA liaison to ensure the process is standardized, the liaison can guide a career field as they take on task analysis and even course design to further speed up the modernization process.

“We really appreciate the guidance and IT support from AFCDA as we bring our CDC delivery method to an electronic platform that has interactive capabilities versus 14 volumes,” Sebastian said. “With our career field being extremely hands-on oriented, the interactive capabilities modernizes and expands the learning environment.”

“For instance, the medical career fields have instructional designers and many are using our CDC model to help them modernize,” Fredman said. “Career field managers are helping by leveraging resources they have to help speed up the timeline by helping us build courses.”

After the collaborative courses are built, AFCDA takes ownership of any updates, student management, courseware validation, and end of course surveys. Career field managers will also have access to data that will provide information on how individual career fields are performing. □

This Month in History

JULY and AUGUST

By Calistra Alba
477th Fighter Group Historian

Note from the editor: July and August are featured because a unit newsletter was not published in July.

JULY

July 4, 1942

As a part of the Tuskegee experiment, the 302d Fighter Squadron was constituted.

July 23, 1943

Col. William L. Boyd assumed command of Selfridge Field, Michigan. The former base commander, Col. William T. Colman, a White officer, was awaiting court martial trial for shooting and wounding a Black driver. The 332d Fighter Group was stationed at Selfridge Field at that time. A majority of the 332d FG service members were Black.

July 17, 1944

Three 302d FS members each shot down aircraft: one German Messerschmitt, Me-109 during a mission to escort Consolidated B-24 Liberator bombers from the 304th Bombardment Wing to Avignon, France. The victors included 1st Lieutenants Luther H. Smith, Jr., Laurence D. Wilkins and 2nd Lt. Robert H. Smith. All of the downed airplanes were ME-109s. Later, Smith and Wilkins were each awarded a Distinguished Flying Cross for their heroic actions.

July 27, 1944

The 332d FG escorted B-24s from the 47th Bombardment Wing raiding an arms factory in

the Budapest area of Hungary. 2nd Lt. Emory L. Robbins, Jr. of the 302d FS and his P-51C Mustang fighter were reported missing in the area of the air combat.

July 27, 1945

The War Department issued an Adjutant General letter that re-designated the 477th BG, Medium, as the 477th Composite Group and assigned the 99th Fighter Squadron from the 332d FG in Italy to the 477th CG, but effective June 22, 1945. By the same authority, the squadron was moved without personnel or equipment, from Italy to Godman Field, Kentucky, the base of the 477th Composite Group.

July 1, 1947

The 477th Composite Group and 617th Bombardment Squadron were inactivated, after years of relocations and racial tensions.

July 26, 1948

President Harry S. Truman signed Executive Order 9981, ending racial segregation in the military.

July 31, 1985

The 477th BG was re-designated the 477th Special Operations Group.

July 1, 1987

The 302d Special Operations Squadron was re-designated the 302d Tactical Fighter Squadron and assigned to the 944th Tactical Fighter Group.

July 19 – Aug. 2, 2003

The 302d FS deployed personnel and eight aircraft to Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska in

support of Patriot Angler IV.

July 17, 2012

Righting an injustice of the treatment of the 477th BG by the U.S. Army Air Forces, Gen. Norton A. Schwartz, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force officially approved and recognized the 477th Bombardment Group's historical emblem as the official emblem of the 477th BG. Due to Air Force Instruction standards, the emblem was retired to the organizations official heraldry records.



The 477th Bombardment Group (Medium) historical emblem, the official emblem of the 477th BG.

AUGUST

Aug. 25, 1943

Two months after its activation, the 477th BG (Medium) was inactivated. At the time of its initial activation and inactivation, the group was a "White" organization, meaning it was not yet considered to be a Tuskegee unit.

Aug. 3, 1944

The Tuskegee Army Airfield post exchange restaurant was integrated without violence after 12 Black officers led by Captain Willard B. Ransom entered the west dining room of the restaurant and demanded service. Before then, African

American officers were only allowed to eat in the east dining room.

Aug. 19, 1944

Tuskegee Army Airfield dining facility integrated when, 14 Black officers entered the section reserved for White officers and demanded service. They were served, but White officers complained to the commander, Col. Noel Parish. He reluctantly refused to restore segregation at the facility because it violated a 1940 War Department regulation entitling all officers at an Army base to use its facilities.

Aug. 21, 1944

Military officials re-designated the 302d Fighter Squadron as the 302d Fighter Squadron, Single Engine.

Aug. 23, 1944

Flight Officer William L. Hill of the 302d FS shot down one Me-109 during a mission to escort B-24 bombers of the 55th Bombardment Wing to Markersdorf Airdrome, Germany.

Aug. 24, 1944

1st Lt. Charles McGee of the 302d FS, shot down a German FW-190 fighter jet, during a mission to escort B-17 Flying Fortress bombers of the 5th BW to Pardubice Airdrome, Czechoslovakia.

Aug. 12, 1995

Air Force officials righted a 50-year injustice, when they exonerated all service members who stood against an unlawful order at Freeman Field, Indiana, in 1945. Air Force officials removed letters of reprimand that had been included in 15 of the officers' records. They set aside Lt. Roger C. "Bill" Terry's court-martial conviction. Officials also restored all the rights, privileges, and property Terry lost because of his conviction.

Aug. 11, 2006

The 477th Expeditionary Special Operations Group withdrawn from provisional status. □



Some masks are better than others

Recommended



Medical procedure masks (sometimes referred to as surgical masks or disposable face masks)



Masks that fit properly (snugly around the nose and chin with no large gaps around the sides of the face)



Masks made with breathable fabric (such as cotton)



Masks made with tightly woven fabric (i.e., fabrics that do not let light pass through when held up to a light source)



Masks with two or three layers



Masks with inner filter pockets

Not Recommended



Masks that do not fit properly (large gaps, too loose or too tight)



Masks made from materials that are hard to breathe through (such as plastic or leather)



Masks made from fabric that is loosely woven or knitted, such as fabrics that let light pass through



Masks with one layer



Masks with exhalation valves or vents



Wearing a scarf/ski mask



Keep a selfie of you and your pet in your emergency kit to prove ownership.

Information is Available Know Where to Find It



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