



# THE NORTHERN LIGHT

Monthly Newsletter  
And Spotlight

Proudly serving the People of Misawa Air Base, Japan

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## Readiness Beyond the Mission

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Nathaniel W. Stedman, 35th Security Forces Squadron base defense operations center controller/patrolman, recently received a coin for his quick response time and acting beyond the call of duty during a visit to Lake Ogawara.

During a Cub Scout campout, Stedman noticed about 20 kids who were playing in Lake Ogawara.

He overheard a few kids joking about a drop-off in the water and became aware that there was a potential risk. .

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## Kendall to be SecAF

### SECAF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Frank Kendall won confirmation from the Senate July 26 to be the 26th Secretary of the Air Force, placing an official with decades-long service in defense issues in the top civilian job at a time when the department is navigating new global challenges and wide-reaching modernization efforts.

The vote reflected both Kendall's well-known record in previous active duty and policy jobs and his philosophy for leading the Department of the Air Force.

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## Around the Wing



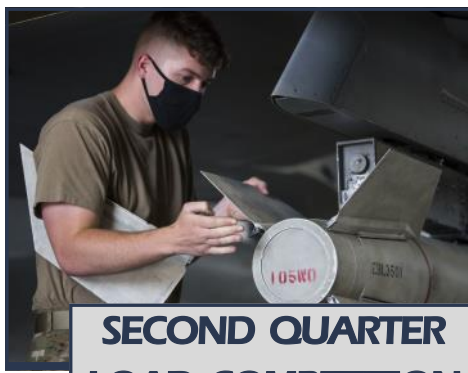
### EXERCISE TR/RW 2107

Marines with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron (HMLA) 169 executed one of the longest maritime HMLA self-deployment flights in 1st Marine Aircraft Wing history during exercise Tiltrotor/Rotary Wing (TR/RW) 2107.



### ALTERNATE FUEL

The 35th Logistic Readiness Squadron Fuels Management Flight conducted an alternate mode of fuel resupply test at Misawa Air Base, Japan, July 21, 2021.



### SECOND QUARTER LOAD COMPETITION

Congratulations to the 14th Aircraft Maintenance Unit load crew members for winning the Second Quarter Load Competition and Airman 1st Class Miura Takuho, 3rd Air Wing armament flight member, for winning the "Jammer" Driver Competition.



### MORE

Check out the Misawa Air Base Facebook for more information!

## Legal Blotter

The following personnel at Misawa AB were punished under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ):

### Nonjudicial Punishments (Article 15):

A Senior Airman from the 35th Communications Squadron received an Article 15 for leaving work early without authorization and making a false official statement. The member received a reduction to Airman, suspended reduction to Airman Basic, 14 days of extra duty, and a reprimand from the commander.

An Airman First Class from the 35th Force Support Squadron received an Article 15 for being derelict in the performance of their duties by failing to follow Restriction of Movement (ROM) procedures and which failure also caused the member to miss their scheduled flight. The member received a reduction to Airman, suspended reduction to Airman Basic, and a reprimand from the commander.

A Senior Airman from the 35th Force Support Squadron received an Article 15 for stealing from the Exchange. The member received a suspended reduction to Airman First Class, suspended forfeitures of \$1,185.00 pay for 2 months, 14 days of extra duty, and a reprimand from the commander.

A Senior Airman from the 35th Maintenance Squadron received an Article 15 for drunk driving. The member received a reduction to Airman First Class, forfeiture of \$1,185.00 pay for 1 month, suspended forfeiture of \$1,185.00 pay for 1 month, and a reprimand from the commander.

A Senior Airman from the 35th Maintenance Squadron received an Article 15 for being derelict in the performances of their duties. The member received a suspended reduction to Airman First Class and a reprimand from the commander.

### Discharges:

An Airman Basic from the 35th Logistics Readiness Squadron was involuntarily separated for a pattern of misconduct and received a General service characterization.

A Senior Airman from the 35th Comptroller Squadron was involuntarily separated for a pattern of misconduct and received a General service characterization.

An Airman Basic from the 35th Logistics Readiness Squadron was involuntarily separated for failing to adapt to military environment and received an Entry Level Separation service characterization.

## POLICY UPDATES

### Guidance on Special Leave Accrual related to COVID-19

Air Force and Space Force members performing active service, and Reserve and Guard Airmen on Title 10 or Title 32 orders, can now accrue up to 120 days of annual leave for fiscal year 2021 instead of the typical 60 days of leave.

Members will automatically be approved for the special leave accrual and can carry over use or lose leave earned Oct. 1, 2020 through Sept. 30, 2021 until Sept. 30, 2024. This update comes as many Airmen and Guardians have been unable to use their existing leave balances due to travel restrictions and the COVID-19 pandemic.

For more information, see the Department of the Air Force Guidance on Special Leave Accrual Related to Coronavirus Disease 2019 for Fiscal Year

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Heroic

Suddenly, he saw a child struggling to stay afloat and immediately realized what was happening. Stedman instantly took action and ran into the lake to pull her from the sudden drop.

"At that point, it was like her fingertips were at the top of the water. I had to pull her up," said Stedman. "I didn't want her to be scarred from water."

Jason Wysong, a Cub Scout master, was at the campout with Stedman when the incident occurred.

"I didn't see him go into the water, but I turned around and he was holding up one of my Cub Scouts and she was crying, and he was soaking wet," said Wysong. "We asked what happened, and he's like, 'you know, she went underwater so I grabbed her.' It wasn't even a think-about-it thing, he held his camera up, reached in and grabbed her out of the water. It was pretty neat to see someone respond like that. One of the things that needs to be noticed, you know?"

Wysong got in contact with Stedman's leadership and informed them of what had happened.

On July 1, 2021, Stedman walked into the 35th Fighter Wing conference room to give a security brief, but to his surprise he was awarded a coin for his selfless act.

"If anybody would have been where I was, and saw what I saw, I would expect the same thing," said Stedman.

Since this incident, Wing Safety has posted warning signs about the drop-off until permanent changes can be installed to prevent any further incidents.



SECAF

With his confirmation, Kendall will be able to more fully articulate his priorities and policy preferences for how best to position the Air and Space Forces to contend with China, Russia and other strategic competitors, as well as continue to modernize the force and adapt to budget pressures.

The broad strokes, however, are already known.

"If confirmed, my priorities would be straightforward and mirror precisely those articulated by Secretary of Defense (Lloyd) Austin as they apply to the Department of the Air Force – taking care of our people, mission performance and building teams. Our military is people first and foremost," Kendall told the Senate Armed Services Committee during his confirmation hearing May 25.

"With regard to mission performance, I believe the range and severity of the threats that we face and will face, the rapid pace of technological innovation, and the need to rapidly harness that technology in new operational concepts demand a sense of urgency and a like focus on getting our choices right," he said during that hearing.

Kendall also committed during his confirmation hearing that he would ensure the U.S. Space Force's continued growth and evolution.

The two-year-old Space Force, Kendall said in May, is "a critical contributor to our national security. If confirmed, I'll be honored to have a role in making it a success."

While the Senate's action marks the first time Kendall will work directly within the Department of the Air Force, he is hardly unfamiliar with the mission, the Department of the Defense and national security.

He previously served in a number of senior positions for the Department of Defense, including as the Pentagon's No. 3 official for four years during the Obama administration.

Kendall assumes the seat occupied by John Roth, who has served as Acting Air Force Secretary since Jan. 20.

A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, Kendall served 10 years on active duty in the Army, a tenure that also included a stint teaching engineering at West Point. Kendall spent time in the Pentagon as director of the tactical warfare program before moving to become assistant deputy undersecretary for Strategic Defense Systems. Kendall also worked in the private sector in defense-related jobs, most notably as Raytheon's vice president of engineering during the mid-1990s.

In addition to graduating from West Point, Kendall earned a master's degree in aerospace engineering from The California Institute of Technology. He earned his law degree from Georgetown University Law Center as well as an MBA from C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University.