



THE NORTHERN LIGHT

Monthly Newsletter
And Spotlight

Proudly serving the People of Misawa Air Base, Japan

Vol. 34 No. 1



Team Misawa ACE week enhances MCA capabilities

U.S. Airmen from various units in the 35th Fighter Wing conducted a weeklong Agile Combat Employment (ACE) training exercise at Misawa Air Base, Japan, 6 through 11 Dec.

Six F-16 Fighting Falcons and a crew of 56 Airmen simulated a mock deployment to an "austere" environment on the south ramp of the flightline, opposite to where operations typically occur.

Prior to movement, the 35th Logistics Readiness Squadron (LRS) tested a new cargo deployment function (CDF) process that centralized representatives from all units and their unpacked cargo in one location to collectively pack individual storage units, reducing the CDF timeline and deployment footprint.

Enhancing pg 2



Vision

CSAF CHARLES Q. BROWN, JR.

It is an honor to be your Chief of Staff and it is an exciting time to serve in our United States Air Force. On 31 August 2020, I published my strategic approach titled Accelerate Change or Lose. It recognizes that we live in a world that is driven by rapidly changing technology and an environment that includes aggressive and capable global competitors. Therefore, if our Nation's military is to remain the best in the world, we need to do our part to challenge the status quo and make necessary changes in our Air Force today so we are ready for tomorrow. For example, we cannot assume air dominance is guaranteed and we need to recognize good enough today will cause us to fail tomorrow.

Culture pg 2

Around the Wing



MISAWA LEADERSHIP VOLUNTEERS

In case you missed it... Misawa leadership and volunteers served a meal to service members at Grissom Dining Facility this past weekend as a thank you for their hard work and time over the past year.



HAPPY NEW YEAR MISAWA

Happy New Year Team Misawa 2020 was a truly memorable year for the U.S.-Japan Alliance, and we look forward to making our friendship in 2021 even more remarkable!



WILD WEASEL OF THE MONTH

SrA Lynn, Information Systems Technician, 35th MDSS. Lynn took over as the lead pastor of a local church, Ascension Life Church. He has set up a toy drive, provided meals for more than 30 children and coordinated trips to a local orphanage.



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 in DECEMBER 2020 (UCMJ):

Nonjudicial Punishments (Article 15):

An Airman First Class from the 35th Security Forces Squadron received an Article 15 for wrongful use of marijuana. The member received a reduction to Airman Basic, suspended forfeiture of \$866.00 pay for 2 months, 60 days restriction to Misawa Air Base and a reprimand.

An Airman First Class from the 35th Maintenance Squadron received an Article 15 for making a false official statement, wrongful use of marijuana, and driving while impaired by marijuana. The member received a reduction to Airman Basic, suspended forfeiture of \$866.00 pay for 2 months and a reprimand.

An Airman First class from the 610th Aircraft Control Flight received an Article 15 for drinking alcohol while underage, driving on suspended driving privileges, and driving while drunk. The member received a reduction to Airman, suspended reduction to Airman Basic, forfeiture of \$500.00 pay for 2 months, 30 days restriction to Misawa Air Base and a reprimand.

A Master Sergeant from the 35th Contracting Squadron received an Article 15 for being derelict in the performance of his duties by willfully pursuing unprofessional relationships with several co-workers. The member received a reduction to Technical Sergeant, suspended forfeiture of \$2,031.00 pay for 2 months and a reprimand.

An Airman First Class from the 35th Operations Medical Readiness Squadron received an Article 15 for being derelict in the performance of his duties by accessing protected health information without a need-to-know or other authorization. The member received a suspended reduction to Airman and a reprimand.

A Senior Airman from the 35th Security Forces Squadron received an Article 15 for being derelict in the performance of his duties by using his cellphone and loitering on his post. The member received a suspended reduction to Airman First Class, forfeiture of \$1,085.00 pay for 2 months with half suspended, 30 days extra duty with the portion in excess of 10 days suspended and a reprimand.

An Airman First Class from the 35th Security Forces Squadron received an Article 15 for sleeping on his post as a sentinel or lookout of an Entry Control Point. The member received a reduction to Airman, suspended forfeiture of \$971.00 pay for 2 months, 30 days extra duty with the portion in excess of 10 days suspended and a reprimand.

The following personnel at Misawa AB were administratively separated:

Discharges:

An Airman Basic from the 35th Security Forces Squadron was involuntarily separated for Drug Abuse and received a General service characterization.

An Airman Basic from the 35th Maintenance Squadron was involuntarily separated in lieu of trial by court-martial for wrongful use of marijuana and received an Under Other Than Honorable Conditions service characterization.

Follow us on:



www.misawa.af.mil

More Stories, Photos & Videos on



Enhancing

“The aim of this new CDF is to eliminate unnecessary travel times while bringing the process closer to those who use it most,” said Capt. Chase Barnes, the 35th FW Inspector General chief of wing plans and programs. “Past exercises have shown that some containers arrive to the CDF with unused space so units worked together to fill those empty spaces, ultimately allowing for more room in the aircraft for equipment or people.”

The training also integrated Multi-Capable Airmen (MCA) concepts, which focuses on teaching skill-sets outside of one’s respective career field. For example, during this training a 35th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief taught a 35th LRS Airman how to marshal an F-16.

Utilizing the MCA concept in combination with ACE deployments, the U.S. Air Force can maintain mission capability with fewer deployed Airmen.

“As a 35th LRS Airman, marshalling jets isn’t something we get to do every day,” said Airman Corey Tidwell, a 35th LRS fuels distribution journeyman. “I’m used to being around the jet when it’s off so it was different to be right there with the engines running. It was a great experience and I am very proud to be a part of it all.”

In addition to interweaving career fields, personnel received Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) training from two 35th Medical Group personnel. This training simulated a more realistic approach by using a mannequin with fake blood and injuries to assist in broadening the casualty care knowledge base of Airmen, enabling them to be capable of executing the mission across an expanded spectrum of mission-sets.

TCCC is a new Air Force initiative, which will eventually replace the current Self-Aid Buddy Care training to better prepare personnel to perform potential lifesaving treatment in a variety of challenging environments, whether in contingency or garrison operations.

“ACE is changing the nature of how we approach contingency operations,” Barnes said. “This event is one of our introductions into the concept of ACE and its importance will build upon captured lessons learned and continual execution.”

This concept strengthens our “Fight Tonight” mentality, ensuring the preparation of personnel for no notice contingencies and the capability of Airmen to rapidly deploy and operate out of an austere location.

Airmen observed strict preventative measures to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 infection and were able to take full advantage of the opportunity to strengthen ACE capabilities, further ensuring our ability to maintain peace and security in the Indo-Pacific.



Vision

Leaders have a responsibility to provide clear guidance so that you ... our talented Airmen at all levels ... are informed and empowered to problem-solve, come up with unique solutions, and make smart recommendations and decisions. Acceleration requires harnessing energy and focusing it in a purposeful direction. The consequences of failure – and success – are profound. Only together will we succeed in accelerating the required change. As we pursue this endeavor, I ask we remain diligent and hold each other accountable to use Accelerate Change or Lose in the emails we write, in the presentations we brief, and in the words we speak rather than allow it to become an overused, stale, and forgotten acronym. I came to this revelation shortly after publication that this strategic approach is bigger than an acronym which is why I want to us all to embrace Accelerate Change or Lose. As we speak the words Accelerate Change or Lose, let these words remind us of the importance of this strategic approach to our future and the sense of urgency that is required. Key areas in which we will focus our efforts to accelerate the change we need are captured in four categories: Airmen, Bureaucracy, Competition, and Design Implementation. These Action Orders were tasked to the Air Staff in September 2020, but most of the Air Force is seeing them now for the first time. You will notice the following is written in five paragraph operation order format, just as you would see as a joint warfighter. This is a journey and there will be many waypoints ahead. Let me walk you through the Action Orders.

Action Order A: Action Order A emphasizes the Air Force’s mission to “recruit, access, educate, train, experience, develop, and retain Airmen ... with the attributes required to compete, deter, and win in the high-end fight.” One way to achieve this is to find and enhance universal skillsets that are important to all Airmen regardless of their specific Air Force Specialty Code. We need to ensure the way we place our Airmen in specific jobs offering opportunities for advancement fosters a diverse and inclusive culture promoting dignity and fairness.

Action Order B: Bureaucracy exists in any large organization -- it is a necessity to address complex Air Force-wide decisions, but not a requirement for all of our decisions. I believe our bureaucracy requires a “tune-up” to enable us to make decisions at the speed needed in the dynamic global environment. Even with the best Airmen, poor organizational structure and bureaucratic processes can be a barrier to achieving effectiveness, driving innovation, and achieving success. Per Action Order B, the Air Force “must change its decision processes in order to make analytically-informed and timely decisions ... to enable the USAF to outpace key competitors’ decision cycles.”

Action Order C: Competition Accelerate Change or Lose ... but lose to who? While the stakes are clear enough, we must fully understand our competitors. Our National Defense Strategy acknowledges “an increasingly complex global security environment, characterized by overt challenges to the free and open international order and the re-emergence of long-term, strategic competition between nations.” Action Order C states, “[T]he USAF must accelerate its understanding and mastery of these competitions to accrue warfighting advantages to the United States and U.S. allies and partners; enhance collective deterrence credibility; and drive the competitions to areas of U.S. advantages and/or competitors’ weaknesses.” We need to understand the competition’s ambitions and understand how they may conduct future warfare. Similarly, we need to understand and capitalize on our advantages and identify areas we need to improve our capabilities. To do this, Airmen must be taught the background and context of our competitors from language and culture, to professional military education and strategy.

Action Order D: Design Implementation We must learn how to be agile and adapt to the future. No matter what happens with the budget, it will require us to make tough choices. We need to continue developing a lethal and affordable force that Congress supports. Action Order D drives the Air Force to “make force structure decisions in Fall 2020 and amend force planning processes to create the fiscal flexibility required to design and field the future force we need.” We need to begin by determining what we will need in the future and then make decisions now that support that vision. We need to identify systems and programs that are outdated and/or unaffordable to make way for capabilities that will make us competitive in the future high-end fight. Finally, and most importantly, we as an Air Force need to understand our future design so that we can consistently explain it to all stakeholders, to include Congress and our industry partners.

Conclusion It is a consequential time to be in the Air Force as we have an opportunity to make decisions today to shape the Air Force we need in the future. Change is critical and speed is paramount. My strategic approach of Accelerate Change or Lose explains the why. These Action Orders provide the what. It’s the way we address these Action Orders that will provide the how. It is all of us ... our talented Airmen ... that are key to cutting unnecessary bureaucracy, recognizing and understanding our competition, and thinking of creative ways we can reshape the design of our Air Force. The Air Force must accelerate, must change, and must prepare for the future! I’m excited to serve with you during this pivotal time.