

THE SECTOR

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Eastern Air Defense Sector

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PMI conducted by 213th EIS

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Technology/infrastructure, manning, and readiness

I hope all of you have been able to get outside this summer, enjoy the warm air and relax a bit. We're over halfway through the calendar year and it's important to reflect and acknowledge the volume and quality of work we've accomplished. Instead of listing off our accomplishments from 2023, I'm going to focus on three specific items as examples. As you may expect, these examples will relate back to technology/infrastructure, manning, and readiness.

First of all, I'd like to thank everyone for the effort, flexibility and professionalism displayed during the Cloud Based Command and Control (CBC2) team's visit in June. We had members of the CBC2 team at EADS for most of the month, culminating with over 70 folks here for the last week of the month when Minimal Viable Capability Release (MVCR) #1 was launched. CBC2 is on track to bring revolutionary capability to tactical C2, and as we were briefed by the CBC2 team, is the Secretary of the Air Force's #1 acquisition priority. Leadership from both NORAD and CONR have passed along their appreciation for EADS going "above and beyond" to assist the CBC2 team during their install and testing.



Col. Joseph F. Roos

More recently, we've had visitors from the Air National Guard Manpower office here for a week as part of their BCC Manpower Study. For those of you that directly participated in the manpower study, which has been going on for over a year, thank you for your diligence, attention to detail, and professionalism! For those of you that did not directly have to participate, thank you for picking up extra work in your work center while others focused on the study. It was another great team effort! The manpower team will now begin to analyze their data, probably ask a few more questions, and assemble their report. This process will take them another 5-7 months. We will keep you updated when the results are published.

Finally, to close on a topic I often bring up – Readiness. In the month of July, on top of defending the EADS Area of Operations **and** the Washington DC Special Flight Restricted Area (SFRA), we provided airspace warning and control over 18 days for 8 different Temporary Flight Restricted (TFR) events. We succeeded as usual through our teamwork, our focus on mission critical tasks, and our proficiency in the homeland defense mission. This high operations tempo has been maintained while also having to upgrade and test two C2 systems, support training requirements of our higher headquarters, and provide qualification training to our own personnel. The cost of all this work on each of you does not go unnoticed. My thanks to you and your families & friends for being part of the EADS team, your flexibility, and your commitment to our mission.

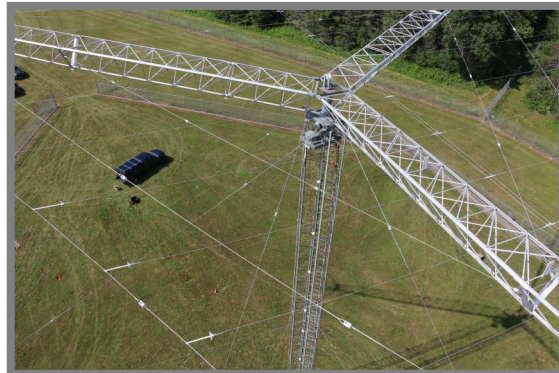
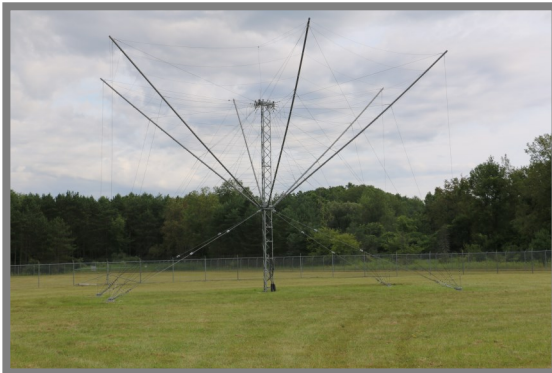
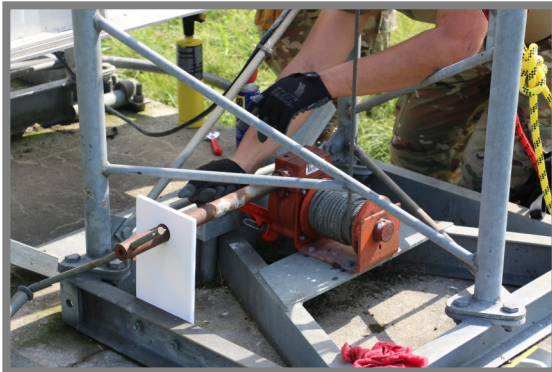
As mentioned, this was just a sample of all the great work occurring across all of our organizations and locations. Thanks for all you each do to keep our mission a success. Stay safe, stay connected and stay steadfast in your dedication to EADS!

On the cover: Following a visit with the 213th Engineering Installation Squadron, Chief Master Sgt. Natasha VanDeusen repels down a 96 feet tall rotatable logic periodic high frequency antenna after climbing her way to the top.

213th EIS performs PMI on EADS HF antennas



Picture above are Master Sgt. Nicholas Carrier (left), and Master Sgt. Michael Harrigan (right), who made their way to the top of a 96 feet tall rotatable log periodic high frequency antenna to perform an inspection



Pictured on the left are Master Sgt. Nicholas Carrier (center), along with members from the 213th Engineering Installation Squadron from Newburgh, N.Y., who spent the week of July 31 conducting preventative maintenance inspections on the high frequency antennas out at the Bldg. 866 site.

Photos by Patrick Young, 224 ADG Public Affairs

Looking forward to Agile Ops center construction

by Dr. Brian “Doogie” Tuttle, Capabilities and Requirements 224 ADS/DOM

Last May, the Naval Information Warfare Center (NIWC) completed its 100% Design Phase for the EADS Agile Operations Center. After a period of review by EADS personnel, EADS commander Col. Joseph Roos approved the plan on July 6. Construction at WADS started last April, and it is scheduled to begin at EADS next February.

What is Agile Ops Center? The Agile Ops Center is, first and foremost, a hardware management system. It will remove various computers from the operations floor and place them in racks in Room 102. There, they can be easily separated by classification level and accessed by the SPTS personnel who ensure they are running properly. The machines will be connected to a matrix switch (simply put, a powerful KVM).

At the other end of the circuit, the mission crew operators will have a single mouse/keyboard and several displays on which they can choose the systems they need to perform their duties, regardless of where they are seated. It will not completely solve the problem of stovepipe auxiliary systems to augment Battle Control System-Fixed (BCS-F), but it will simplify the mission crew operator desks greatly and allow greater flexibility to arrange the information displays more ergonomically.

Agile Ops Center and Cloud-Based Command and Control (CBC2) will create synergizing effects. If CBC2 can condense even just two of our third-party systems (e.g., RS4 and AMOSS) onto a single display, it will simplify both the temporary operations floor and the Agile Ops Center itself by allowing deprecation of those systems, thus freeing up rack space and reducing demands on power and HVAC systems. Moreover, even after CBC2 attains full operational capability (FOC), Agile Ops Center will allow Sectors to easily install and experiment with new systems not yet ready for integration.

What changes will be made to the building layout, and what is the timeline? Several rooms will change function after the EADS Agile Ops Center is constructed. Below is the general flow of events and to create the new layout:

February-March 2024, Room 102 and 101A—The construction team will transform Room 102 (currently CPST) into the CNET (the room that will house equipment). They will also divide Room 101A (currently the Battle Cab) into two parts: one half will be the JICC and the other the Battle Cab. JICC personnel will then move into their new room.

March 2024, Room 113 and 103—The construction team will transform Room 113 (currently the JICC) into a new White Cell that DMO and DOX personnel will occupy. They will then transform Room 103 (currently the White Cell) into the new CPST, the room in which Mission Systems (SCPM) personnel will operate.

March 2024, SPST builds Temporary Ops Floor—The Support Squadron (SPTS) will create a temporary operations floor in Room 122.

April-July, Mission Crew occupies Temporary Ops Floor—Starting in late April, the mission crews conduct mission and (sim-over-live) training activities in the temporary operations floor in Room 122.

April-July, Room 101—The construction team will remake the Operations Floor (in Room 101).

August—NIWC’s team will perform system testing and provide operator training for the ADS and SPTS.

...Looking forward (continued from previous page)

Bear in mind that this schedule could be delayed, pending the results of WADS Agile Operations Center construction, which is occurring right now.

Once in place, the Agile Ops Center's streamlining effect will change the way both support personnel and mission crew operators perform their mission critical tasks. Along with Advanced Battle Management System (ABMS) components such as CBC2, C2IMERA and WIDOW, it is an important part of what will become the Theater Operations Center-Fixed (TOC-F) system.

Some (not all) articles about Agile Ops Center published in *The Sector*:

“Inductive thinking leads to innovation: Agile Ops Center” describes how 224 SPTS and 225 SPTS members collaborated to generate the idea for the Agile Ops Center.

[https://usaf.dps.mil/sites/34151/224ADS/DOM/DOM%20Sector%20Articles/2022-02%20-%20DOM%20-%20Agile%20Ops%20Center%20-%20Inductive%20Thinking%20\(The%20Sector.%20Feb%202022\).pdf](https://usaf.dps.mil/sites/34151/224ADS/DOM/DOM%20Sector%20Articles/2022-02%20-%20DOM%20-%20Agile%20Ops%20Center%20-%20Inductive%20Thinking%20(The%20Sector.%20Feb%202022).pdf)

“Agile Operations Center: What is it and why do we need it?” describes the capabilities that Agile Ops Center would bring to the Sectors. This article was published one month prior to the Air Reserve Component (ARC) Weapons and Tactics Conference (WEPTAC) at which Agile Ops Center was added into the Air National Guard's Modernization Book, a list of prioritized requirements for which National Guard and Reserve Equipment Appropriations (NGREA) funding is sought.

[https://usaf.dps.mil/sites/34151/224ADS/DOM/DOM%20Sector%20Articles/2020-09%20-%20DOM%20-%20Agile%20Ops%20Center%20\(The%20Sector.%20Sep%202020,%20with%20General%20Pierce's%20response\).pdf](https://usaf.dps.mil/sites/34151/224ADS/DOM/DOM%20Sector%20Articles/2020-09%20-%20DOM%20-%20Agile%20Ops%20Center%20(The%20Sector.%20Sep%202020,%20with%20General%20Pierce's%20response).pdf)

Team building at Bald Mountain



Members of the Top 3 Council, Rising Six Council, along with the 224th Air Defense Group Senior Enlisted Leader, Chief Master Sgt. Robert Zoldi, all participated in a group hike up Bald Mountain in Old Forge, N.Y.

Defenders train to fight

Members of the 224th Security Forces Flight spent time during the August regularly scheduled drill practicing the “Shoot, Move, and Communicate” close movement technique.



Master Sgt. Adam Scott instructing Defenders are proper communication techniques.



Airman 1st Class David Blovat demonstrating one of the supported firing positions.



Featured above (left to right), Master Sgt. Bryan Norman, Master Sgt. Adam Scott, and Tech. Sgt. Trevor Beebe.



Tech. Sgt. Rowland Towle simulating the “move back” technique.



Photos by Patrick Young, 224 ADG Public Affairs

Gear, plan, skills: Check 3 GPS

by Colt Brumm, 224th Air Defense Group Health and Occupation Safety Manager

During the “101 Critical Days of Summer” we tend to see an increase in the severity of off-duty injuries. The springtime’s relatively mild sprains and strains give way to summer’s fractures, tears, and concussions, because we do more stuff overall during the summer and the stuff that we do tends to produce more severe injuries. It turns out that it is just a lot easier to get badly hurt from trail running and fireworks than it is from snowshoeing or Easter egg hunts.

With that in mind, it is particularly critical during the summer to practice good off-duty risk management. Our mission isn’t just 24/7 but also all-season, and we need you healthy just as much in July as in January.

One good model for off-duty risk management is *Check 3 GPS*, which stands for **Gear, Plan, and Skills**. Whether you are planning a simple barbecue, going for a jog, heading out to camp, mowing your lawn, taking a drive somewhere, or hiking Mt. Everest, the same basic formula can help reduce the chances of things going poorly: make sure you have the right gear in good condition, a solid plan that is well-communicated to those who need it, and are operating within your skill level.

Gear should certainly include having the right safety gear, like helmets and life jackets, but it also means checking the gear that you are going to use for the activity to make sure it is operating safely. Is your boat properly maintained? Are the gear shifters on your bike working properly? Do you have enough water, snacks, and emergency gear for that hike?

Plans don’t have to be long, written novels that cover every single possible contingency. Having a plan means thinking about the details of what you want to do **before you do it** and communicating that to anybody who might need that information. For a round of golf, this might be as simple as checking the weather, slapping on some sunscreen and a hat, and telling your playing partners when tee time is. For an overnight hiking trip or hitting the water in your kayak, you’ll definitely want someone to know where you are going and how long you plan to be there.

Skills don’t just include the question “Can I do this?” but also “Can I do this safely?” That key difference is one that a lot of 4-fingered high school shop teachers and tingling DIY electricians can attest to. Knowing how to turn on the saw, change out that outlet, start a campfire, ride an ATV, or shoot a crossbow and knowing how to do so safely are very much different things. Also, even if you might normally be able to do those things with relatively low risk, when you are tired, dehydrated, intoxicated, or distracted your skills are diminished.

If you have the right gear, plan, and skills, bad stuff can still happen but it is much less likely than if you don’t.



Don't be like AC/DC

by Michelle Leonard, 224th Support Squadron Installation Emergency Manager

Angus Young wrote, in the epic song Thunderstruck that he “was caught in the middle of a railroad track.” Had he followed his emergency preparedness orientation he would have known the last place you want to be in a thunderstorm is outside. He also would have realized that thunder is the sound that accompanies lightning, but the lyric “you’ve been lightning struck” doesn’t have the same ring to it.

Lightning kills about 30 people annually in the United States; but most people survive. The majority of people who die from lightning strikes are killed instantly by cardiac arrest, as the bolt's massive electrical voltage short-circuits the heart's natural rhythm. Humans hit by lightning may also have their eardrums blown out by the incoming pressure wave, their respiratory system paralyzed, or suffer secondary burns as their hair or clothing catches fire. But lightning doesn't kill all of its victims; around 90% of people struck survive. A lightning bolt can pass through your body within mere fractions of a second - often, not even enough time to leave a mark. To avoid being struck and stay safe during thunderstorms and lightning by following these steps.



Check the forecast

- Sign up for free emergency alerts with New York Alert (alert.ny.gov)
- Watch for signs of potential lightning strikes
- Avoid moving between buildings when “Lightning within 5” is announced on base

If you are under a thunderstorm warning

- When thunder roars, go indoors! Move from outdoors into a building or car with a roof.
- Pay attention to alerts and warnings.
- Avoid running water.
- Turn Around. Don't Drown! Do not drive through flooded roadways. Just six inches of fast moving water can knock you down, and one foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away.

Stay Safe After Thunderstorms & Lightning

- Pay attention to authorities and weather forecasts for information on whether it is safe to go outside and instructions regarding potential flash flooding.
- Watch for fallen power lines and trees. Report them immediately.

By simply monitoring local weather and following weather watches and advisories, you can avoid being THUNDERSTRUCK.

THE SECTOR

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Understanding your IMR page

By Tech. Sgt. Lori Olsen, 224th Air Defense Group Medical Technician

Aeromedical Services Information Management Systems provides a “MyIMR” page for AF members to access their Individual Medical Readiness status at any time. In addition, the page also includes information regarding deployment related medical requirements, and other medical programs supported by ASIMS. The link is <https://asimsimr.health.mil/imr/myimr.aspx>. This page is accessible to members who have a valid DoD CAC card. The guide will explain how to understand your page and how you can ensure you remain current on your medical requirements. Remember, it is your responsibility to meet and maintain your own IMR requirements (AFI 10-250, 1.11.1; AFI 44-170, 1.2.11.1).

ASIMS sends twice monthly email notifications to all AF members who are due or overdue for any IMR or Deployment Health Assessment item. The emails are sent to members’ official .mil or .gov duty email address as listed in the virtual MPF. Please note that emails are not sent to .com addresses like yahoo.com or gmail.com. Due to DoD health privacy regulations, the content of the email is generic. The email will say if you are due for one or more required readiness items and will include a link to the MyIMR page where you can see the details. Even if you don’t get an email, you can check your MyIMR page at any time, using the link listed in the Intro section.

Your MyIMR page has several tabs. At the top of every tab, it will show your base, name and duty email. The source of your name and assigned base is the AF Personnel system, and the source of the duty email is the virtual MPF (vMPF). If your duty email is incorrect, please go to the AF Portal, search for “vMPF” and look for instructions on how to correct the duty email. Your corrected email should flow automatically from the vMPF to ASIMS within 2-3 weeks.

The tab colors follow the usual stoplight coloring system. Red = Overdue for a required item, or Not Ready due to a medical or dental issue. Yellow = Due. Green = Current.

Your “IMR Action List” will display any due or overdue items for which you are required to take action. If your action list says, “(Nothing Due)” then congratulations! You are current and do not require anything at this time.

The first step of the annual PHA is the member questionnaire, which is abbreviated as PHAQ. Please note the <Start PHAQ> button. When you need to complete an online health assessment, you will see a <Start> button and you should click it and complete the assessment. The “Action List Help” link will take you to a document that describes all the different action items and what they mean.

The IMR Action list, is your overall IMR status, and details on five of the DoD IMR elements; PHA, Dental, Labs, Profile and Medical Equipment. Contact your healthcare team if you have questions about any of this information. In the Profile section, you can obtain a copy of your most recent AF 469 (duty or deployment limiting medical profile form) or your AF 422a (medical clearance form for various items), if you have one. These 2 items are only visible when they are in effect (Figure 2). The “Other” column will show any other deployment related items that aren’t part of IMR.

Anyone who is yellow for an IMR item will have a GoRedDate, which is the date that person will turn red if they fail to take action and accomplish the item. If you are due for multiple things, the GoRedDate will be the soonest date you will turn red. If you are already red, there will not be a GoRedDate. Items that are red adversely affect your IMR rate and also your Unit’s IMR rate.

continued on next page

Understanding IMR continued...

Remember that your action list will only show you items that require you to initiate action to correct (ex: get an immunization, or get your PHA done). Another example: If you are a dental class 3, you will be red, but since you are already under the care of the dental clinic you will not have “Dental” listed on your action list. There is nothing to do except continue to follow the care plan provided by your dental team to resolve the problem as quickly as possible. The same is true for a Profile. Please contact your health care team directly if you believe that any of your information is incorrect.

224th SF holds pit master contest



Featured above (left to right) Master Sgt. Joseph Pruckno, Master Sgt. Robert Aikens, Tech. Sgt. Brett Kilborne, Master Sgt. James Boeher, Master Sgt. Adam Scott, and Master Sgt. Bryan Norman.

Photo by Alicia Morales, 224 ADG

The 224th Security Forces Squadron held the second pit master smoke off competition at the beginning of July. Members were encouraged to come out and purchase different dishes prepared by the Defenders, and then vote on their favorite cuisine. After the votes were tallied, the 2023 Pit Master winner was Tech. Sgt. Brett Kilborne (featured in the center in the above photo) with his popular “pig shots” recipe.

JADOC celebrates “topping out”

By Lt. Col. Joshua Jessup, 224th Air Defense Group Detachment 1 Commander

On July 26, 2023, the JADOC celebrated the “topping out” milestone of the second phase of its military construction project. The tradition originated several hundred years ago in Scandinavia with a tree placed on the top of a new building in appreciation for the timber that was used in the making of it. In modern construction, a topping out ceremony is held when the final steel beam is emplaced. The beam is first adorned with a symbolic tree to honor the ancient tradition and an American flag to honor our country. It is then signed by all those involved in the project. The celebration included 224th ADG Det 1, Air Force Civil Engineering Center, Naval Facilities Washington, 11th Civil Engineering Squadron, Jacobs Inc., and the Grunley Construction Firm and their subcontractors.



Photos by Lt. Col. Joshua Jessup, 224 ADG Det 1

Four Airmen were promoted in July. Promoted Airmen are on the right in the photos below and are identified by their new rank.

Photos by Patrick Young, 224 ADG Public Affairs



Tech. Sgt. Tyler Harrington was promoted on July 19. Col. Aaron Mahoney was the promoting officer.



Staff Sgt. Thomas Carlson was promoted on July 19. Col. Aaron Mahoney was the promoting officer.



Staff Sgt. Robert Kraeger was promoted on July 19. Col. Aaron Mahoney was the promoting officer.

Stridsvagn 103: Sweden's battle tank

By SSgt Andrew M. McNamara, C2 Mission Systems 224th Support Squadron

During the Cold War most European nations chose to align themselves either with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization or the Warsaw Pact, made up of the Soviet Union and its satellite states.

Despite the period of armed tension, several nations chose to remain neutral and the Kingdom of Sweden was one of them.

Following the 1809 Finland War, in which Sweden suffered her greatest territorial losses, the Swedes decided to move towards a more neutral foreign policy. This policy has continued to present day, although Sweden has recently requested to join NATO due to the Ukraine conflict.

During the early stages of WWII, the Swedish government concluded that an independent neutrality policy would be impossible to attain and enforce without increasing the size of the army. Reserves were mobilized and more Swedes conscripted to participate in regular large-scale exercises.

Sweden was able to avoid the destruction and horror of WWII through careful diplomacy, rapid building up and modernization of military, and openly engaging in military exercises. This was an orchestrated effort to show the world that the Swedes were ready to defend their homeland.

The upgrades and modernization continued into the Cold War and the innovative Swedes developed and produced more indigenous weaponry, including delta-wing fighter aircraft, such as the J35 Draken (the aircraft that discovered the Cobra Maneuver), Saab 37 Viggen, and the Gotland-class of diesel-electric submarines.

For the army, survivability was placed at the top of priorities for designing a new tank for Sweden's armored force. Their military experts got to work and in 1956, the first Stridsvagn 103 rolled off the production lines.

It was a revolutionary design, as it was the first tank to not have a turret, the most vulnerable section for an enemy to target. The number of crew members was just three, in the positions of a commander, a driver who shared gunner responsibilities with the commander, and a rear driver.

Despite the unconventional design, the Stridsvagn 103 presented a less exposed target, making it difficult for enemy armor to get a good shot.

For the seemingly challenging task of aiming the gun without the ability to revolve a turret, the problem was resolved by utilizing a gear and suspension system, that effectively allowed the whole tank to act as a turret and employ the main gun as needed.

Although the Stridsvagn 103 never saw combat during the Cold War, and would later be retired in 1997, the tank still stands as a testament to the incredible innovation of the Swedish people, their desire to remain free, and to always be ready defend their freedom through the invention of outstanding indigenously-produced weaponry.



The Stridsvagn 103 main battle tank on a field maneuver.

continued on next page

Stridsvagn 103 continued...

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Video: Stridsvagn 103 demonstrates the suspension and gear manipulation that depresses the main gun.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4RVbqyz2lk4>

Picture:

<https://russellphillips.uk/the-swedish-strv-103-s-tank/>