

Ahead of the storm

Citizen Airmen on standby to support hurricane evacuation missions

By 1st Lt. Rachel Ingram

445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs



1st Lt. Rachel Ingram



Tech. Sgt. Anthony Springer

(left) Senior Airman Jacob Dorsey, 445th Maintenance Squadron crew chief, tows a C-17 Globemaster III into a hangar for a pre-flight inspection in anticipation of an upcoming hurricane evacuation mission, Aug. 1, 2020.

(right) The 445th Airlift Wing moved five utility trucks and 26 personnel from the Southern California Edison utility company from March Air Reserve Base, California, to Stewart Air National Guard Base, Newburgh, New York, Nov. 2, 2012 in support of the humanitarian relief efforts to restore power to the areas affected by Hurricane Sandy.

Each hurricane season, a crew of 445th Airlift Wing Airmen stands ready to fly at a moment's notice. With often as little as 24-hour notice, they'll depart Wright-Patterson Air Force Base to assist in the evacuation of personnel and equipment before the storm makes landfall.

As the trajectory of each storm changes, the details of the individual mission do as well.

"Standby status means that a call might come any time of day or night," said Maj. Karen Gharst, commander, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. "Even after the initial call, the departure time or arrival location of the mission could still change, sometimes even on the same day."

The nature of hurricane evacuation missions demands a great deal of flexibility, but without the willing crews, valuable assets would sit in the path of serious storms.

"Consider, for example, an Air Force base with a fighter wing," said Lt. Col. Eric Florschuetz, chief of

current operations, 445th Operations Support Squadron. "They have a lot of people and equipment to evacuate, but they don't have the aircraft necessary for transporting cargo."

That's where the C-17 Globemaster III comes into play. The 445th Airlift Wing has nine, and during hurricane season, one remains readily available, on standby status, to fly in support of hurricane evacuation missions across the Air Force.

"It's our responsibility to make sure there is a jet ready to go at a moment's notice," said Chief Master Sgt. Scott Bunch, chief enlisted manager, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

In some cases, aircraft, personnel and other military assets are sheltered at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, an ideal evacuation site due to its inland location. Other times, the 445th just assists in transporting equipment from one location to another.

FM available to assist Airmen with pay needs

The 445th Airlift Wing Financial Management Office is available to assist Airmen with military pay and travel pay needs.

Currently, the 445th FM office is scheduled to be opened Saturday and Sunday on both unit training assembly weekends from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. to assist reserve members with travel vouchers (e-Finance or Defense Travel System) and military pay issues.

As the COVID-19 situation changes, the FM Office will adjust its schedule as needed to provide customer service.

When visiting the FM office,

and requesting DTS or e-Finance help, the FM office cannot create DTS or e-finance travel voucher but will assist members in correcting voucher errors.

If a member needs assistance creating a travel voucher, each squadron has an assigned Organizational Defense Travel Administrator (ODTA) to assist its members with creating vouchers and attaching the required documents to process the travel vouchers.

FM's goal is to ensure members are reimbursed for their travel ex-

penses as accurately and quickly as possible.

FM weekday office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., and closed Wednesdays.

In addition to walk-ins and appointments, Airmen are encouraged to send correspondence via email to the military pay and travel pay e-mail addresses: 445AW.pay-help@us.af.mil and 445FM.dtshel-desk@us.af.mil. The email boxes are encrypted.

For travel voucher questions, call 937-713-1607. For reserve pay questions, call 937-257-4397.



What it means to #BeThe1To

By Ms. Jennifer Marquez

445th Airlift Wing Director of Psychological Health

Buckeye Flyer

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To say this year has been unique in the challenges it has presented is an understatement.

While our world is experiencing some uncertain times, one way we can remain united and consistent is being there for our fellow wingmen while also practicing healthy self-care.

September is the National Suicide Awareness month. The first quarter (January – March) report released by the Department of Defense Suicide Prevention Office reported 124 deaths by suicide across all military branches: 85 active duty, 16 Reserve and 23 National Guard.

Though the number of deaths by suicide decreased by 12 from the previous year first quarter, the data shows that our efforts may be helping but also need to increase to aid in prevention of death by suicide. Air Force Reserve lost

two members in the first quarter of this year.

The theme for this year's Suicide Prevention Awareness month is #BeThe1To. We can #BeThe1To by practicing the ACE: Ask, Care and Escort initiative. If you see someone in distress but are uncomfortable approaching the individual and using ACE, you can reach out to your first shirt, director of psychological health (DPH) or chaplain.

Getting involved in any situation where there may be barriers personal or organizational can be challenging. It is more than OK to involve another person to assist someone in need if you don't feel comfortable. By bringing attention to the situation, you did do something and by doing something you have made a difference.

To "be there" means to listen and not judge by what you are hearing.

Think of how you feel when you feel judged. Not so great right? A person that is feeling depressed, hopeless or suicidal will have a better outlook on their situation if they have someone to listen to their concerns without judgment.

We can all collectively or individually #BeThe1To take preventative actions against suicide and promote healing while providing help and giving hope.

A final reminder, if someone makes the decision to take their life it is not your fault. Please show yourself the same kindness and compassion you would someone in crisis.

For resources or support contact your DPH at 937-257-6267 or 937-701-1124. If in a crisis, please call the crisis line 800-273-8255 or text 838255.



445th AES flight training ‘takes off’

By Staff Sgt. Ethan Spickler
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron conducted an Air Readiness Mission training Aug. 15, 2020 at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

ARM is a component of the squadron’s training plan and allows them to prepare to meet their mission objectives. The training took place aboard a C-17 Globemaster III. Members of the squadron participated in various medical emergency scenarios during an active flight.

The training involved AES personnel and aircrews working together to ensure the expedient and efficient availability of in-flight medical care.

The mission of the 445th AES is to provide time sensitive, mission critical en route care to patients to and between medical treatment facilities. Care is provided by Air Force medical professionals specially trained to operate within the global AE system. They can operate anywhere air operations occur in support of the full range of military operations, humanitarian assistance and disaster response.

ARMs allow AE Airmen to simulate these emergency scenarios at any time. This training is comprehensive and allows Airmen to prepare for any possible situation they may encounter by simulating the exact structure and service that would be necessary during a real-world mission.

“During training, we will run all kinds of scenarios,” said Maj. Dennis Young-Peter, a flight nurse with the 445th AES. “Scenarios can range from a patient experiencing pain or having a psychological issue to there being an emergency involving the aircraft itself. Our Airmen have many capabilities, and training like



Staff Sgt. Ethan Spickler

Staff Sgt. Tyler Frisby, 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron AE technician, cares for a “patient” during an AE training mission on board a 445th Airlift Wing C-17 Globemaster III, Aug. 15, 2020.



Senior Airman Amelia Gillies

Lt. Col. Kimberlee Sandusky, 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, looks on as AES flight nurses Capt. Brianne Koessel and Michael Schibler inspect medical equipment on a C-17, Aug. 15, 2020.

this allows them to be prepared for any situation that demands their expertise.”

Providing an effective flow of information between personnel on the aircraft is essential when lives may be on the line, and medical personnel are able to ensure that care is facilitated by placing Airmen in different roles depending on their skillsets and patient requirements.

“While we are on the aircraft, we have one person who is designated as the mission-crew coordinator,” said Young-Peter. “The mission-crew coordinator is responsible for all medical personnel and patients on the flight. They are the direct link to the pilot, who is the ultimate authority on the aircraft. This allows there to be an accurate and timely communication channel between the mission elements.”

Along with the mission-crew coordinator, there is also a second flight nurse on board who is tasked with administering care directly to patients utilizing a team of AE technicians. The goal of AE technicians is similar to the flight nurses, their ultimate concern being the health and safety of their patients.

“The biggest difference between the flight nurses and the technicians is that flight nurses have a larger scope of practice,” said Staff Sgt. Logan Wild, an AE technician. “The technicians are able to fulfill patient care objectives depending on the care required, and they supplement the ability of the flight nurses to provide for patients.”

The ARM is an opportunity for Airmen to practice their skills and build unit cohesion. ARMs are used to ensure that they are equipped with the tools needed to provide in-flight medical care in any conceivable circumstance.



Around the wing...



1st Lt. Rachel Ingram

Airman Matthew Dazen, a crew chief with the 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, prepares to perform a pre-flight inspection on a C-17 Globemaster III, Aug. 1, 2020. Once completed, the pre-flight inspection is valid for only 72 hours. If the mission does not depart within that timeframe, a new pre-flight inspection must be completed.



Capt. Wilson Wise

Members of the 445th Logistics Readiness Squadron's transportation maintenance flight construct storage boxes for deployer cargo. Wright-Patterson Air Force Base is a staging area for pre-deployers. The project was part of the 2020 Annual Tour.



Senior Airman Amelia Gillies

Airmen from the 445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron work together during a training event to build a tent that will act as a staging ground for patients before they are transported out to the flightline and flown to a hospital. The patient staging function is comprised primarily of physicians, nurses, medical technicians, administrative personnel and medical support services.



Senior Airman Amelia Gillies

Tech. Sgt. Taylor Harnist, vehicle maintenance journeyman with the 445th Logistics Readiness Squadron, repairs a vehicle at Germain Ford of Beavercreek, July 30, 2020. Germain Ford established a program with LRS to provide hands-on training to LRS Airmen.



Wing recognizes 2nd quarter CY 2020 award winners

CGO



Capt. Kristina Fleming, clinical nurse, 445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, is the 445th Airlift Wing Company Grade Officer of the Quarter. Fleming was part of the wing's COVID Commando team that deployed to New York City in support of Operation Gotham 2020 and was part of the first wave of 1,500 medics deployed to the busiest New York City hospital. She reported within six hours of notification with boots on ground in 24 hours. Her dedication was lauded by the Vice Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff. Capt. Fleming supported COVID efforts that peaked with 1,682 admitted and 571 deaths. Fleming is a subject matter expert in patient electronic medical records and assisted the team lead in patient documentation and tracking with zero discrepancies noted. During her off-duty time, Fleming sought a master's degree in nursing and is enrolled in the Family Nurse Practitioner Program.

SNCO



Master Sgt. Justin Williams, Senior Air Guard Reserve member, 445th Security Forces Squadron, is the 445th Airlift Wing Senior NCO of the Quarter. Williams developed and coordinated a wing active shooter and force protection condition exercise; validating the training of more than 500 wing personnel. The master sergeant provided diversity, readiness and leadership training to 60 future Airmen in the Developmental Training Flight, establishing the foundation for future Air Force warriors. Sergeant Williams orchestrated squadron innovation funds approval; he developed an upgraded warfighter mobile simulation program that was awarded \$72,000 to increase lethality. During his off-duty time, Williams donated \$480 in support of a local ministry and provided meals for more than 20 families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. He is working on his Master of Science degree in organizational leadership.

NCO



Tech. Sgt. Anthony Anderson, aerospace maintenance craftsman, 445th Maintenance Squadron, is the 445th Airlift Wing NCO of the Quarter. Anderson led a complex mission repair by coordinating with five various career fields to replace two cracked winglets and five failed inter-flight control modules, resulting in \$1 million and 40 man hours in savings. He revised the home station check process, managing 38 members and merging the HSC 600 hour refurbishment inspections, recovering four non-mission capable days per aircraft. Sergeant Anderson led six HSC inspections; nine carded areas, 210 discrepancies and four time compliance technical orders, achieving an 84 percent mission capable rate, surpassing Air Force Reserve command standards. Anderson volunteered 16 hours for COVID-19 relief efforts by collecting and delivering \$1,320 in food and supplies that assisted 10 families.

Amn



Staff Sgt. Lauren Howard, aircraft guidance/control system journeyman, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, is the 445th Airlift Wing Airman of the Quarter. Howard was selected as the subject matter expert for a stab repair team helping to replace a bad indicator and rapidly returned an aircraft to fully mission capable in two shifts and supported 1,300 flying hours per quarter. She volunteered for an Air Mobility Command contingency where she provided 24/7 maintenance support and generated four urgent COVID-19 missions; 72 pallets with vital test kits were airlifted. She fixed a persisting fuel problem. She discovered and replaced a bad multiplexer joint probe, saving a last-minute AMC mission. Howard volunteered nine hours at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base United Service Organizations (USO), restocking supplies. She is working on her bachelor's degree at Franklin University and has a 4.0 GPA.



SPOTLIGHT



Senior Airman Angela Jackson

Rank/Name: Tech. Sgt. Taylor D. Harnist

Unit: 445th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Duty Title: Vehicle Maintenance Craftsman

Hometown: West Harrison, Indiana

Civilian Job: HVAC Technician

Education: William Henry Harrison High School, attended Univer-

ity of Maryland Global Campus

Hobbies: Raising three children, fishing and shooting guns

Career Goal: Own a family HVAC business (civilian)/Retire with more than 20 years of service (military)

What you like about working at the 445th?: The people

Why did you join the Air Force?: Serve and see the world

HURRICANE, from page 1

“Last year, the taxiways here were lined with aircraft from other installations,” Florschuetz recalled.

The first hurricane evacuation mission of the 2020 season for the 445th departed the week prior to the August unit training assembly, in anticipation of Hurricane Isaias’ projected landfall along the Atlantic coast.

“We sent a crew to Patrick Air Force Base in Florida to pick up helicopters and move them to Moody Air Force Base, Georgia,” Bunch said.

In addition to the flight crew, comprised of members from the 89th Airlift Squadron, a crew chief from the 445th AMXS also flies on the mission to address any maintenance issues with the aircraft that could potentially arise.

“Accomplishing these time-compressed missions is truly a collaborative effort between maintenance



Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

Members of the 445th Airlift Wing and 920th Logistics Readiness Squadron, load equipment onto a C-17 Globemaster III before delivering the cargo and members of the 920th Rescue Wing to Robins Air Force Base, Georgia, Sept. 13, 2018 in support of Hurricane Florence.

and operations,” added Florschuetz. “Neither squadron can do it without the other. We have each other’s cellphone numbers and are in constant, close contact as these missions are developing in the days leading up to a hurricane.”

After the storm passes, the 445th is on standby, once again, to return the cargo and personnel. In instances where a coastal base sustained severe storm damage, the crew may fly additional missions to bring relief supplies along with heavy equipment to support cleanup efforts.

“One of the most gratifying parts of being in the 445th is supporting missions like these where we

are directly impacting American lives,” Gharst said. “It’s a privilege to work closely with our ops peers to carry out such an important and vital mission.”



News Briefs

Retirements

September 2020

MSgt Angela Bowen, MXG
 TSgt Kendrick Clay, 87 APS
 TSgt Gerald Karkiewicz, MXS

August 2020

Lt Col Sharon Ellis, AES
 Maj Ryan Wellman, 89 AS
 MSgt David Lowe, CES
 TSgt Kendal White, OSS

Awards

Meritorious Service Medal

Maj Ryan Wellman, 89 AS
 MSgt Elizabeth Olmstead, ASTS

Air Force Commendation Medal

Capt Jessika Wray, ASTS
 SMSgt Sarah Katoski, ASTS

TSgt John Allen, AMDS

Promotions

Master Sergeant

Bradley Fryman, OSS
 John Ireland, ASTS
 Zachary Thorsky, AW
 Susanne Villioth, OSS

Technical Sergeant

Caleb Fuchs, FSS
 Kenneth Oliver, MXS
 Jonathon Schneider, AMXS
 Curtis Ward, AMXS

Staff Sergeant

Lauren Howard, AMXS
 Kayla Liggett, AMDS
 Kulwinde McDaniel, ASTS
 Nathan Pritchard, OSS
 Travis Smith, AMXS

Senior Airman

Alyssa Flynn, AW
 Collin Kipp, AMXS
 Spencer Stanley, FSS
 Precious Turner, FSS
 Viktor Vasilizhenko,

AMDS

Devonte Wright, AMXS
 Erin Zimpfer, AW

Airman 1st Class

Brian Graves, 87 APS
 Caleb McWilliams, AMXS
 Luis Ramirez-Rosado, AMXS
 Madison Scott, AMXS

Airman

Quinn Creager, AMDS
 Matthew Dazen, AMXS
 Erwin M'bassidje, OSS

Newcomers

Lt Col Michael Bennett, 87 APS
 Maj Chris Moran, AW
 Capt John Boylson, 89 AS
 Capt Nicholas Hausfeld, 64 IS
 Capt Raymond Hunsucker, ASTS
 2nd Lt Ryan Benson, 89 AS
 SMSgt Sarah Williams, LRS

MSgt Cassey Aniceto, 89 AS
 MSgt Kenneth Hansen, 87 APS

MSgt Heather Singh, FSS
 TSgt Travis Cox, AES
 TSgt Matthew Elliot, MXS
 TSgt Stephanie Koth, AW
 TSgt Brandon Palmer, AMXS

SSgt Aaron Branham, 87 APS

SSgt Jarell Davis, ASTS
 SSgt Ryan Edens, MXS
 SSgt Danielle Furhiman, ASTS

SSgt Jingam Gui, ASTS
 SSgt Andrew Ivory, 89 AS

SSgt Jacob Kreuzer, AMXS

SrA Jailen Ditmann, ASTS

SrA Jessica Fouse, 87 APS

SrA Quin Geans, AW
 SrA James Moran, LRS
 A1C Precious Turner, FSS
 AB Erwin M'Bassidje, OSS



Senior Airman Erin Zimpfer



Staff Sgt. Joel McCullough

(left) Lt. Col. Chris Sopko (right), assumes command of the 445th Operations Support Squadron, Aug. 1, 2020. Lt. Col. Michael Baker (left), incoming 445th Operations Group commander, officiated the ceremony.

(right) Col. Raymond Smith, 445th Airlift Wing commander, administers the Oath of Office to Col. Michael Baker, incoming 445th OG, prior to assuming command, Aug. 2, 2020.



445 CES uses AT to complete Wright-Patt AFB projects



Senior Airman Amelia Gillies



Senior Airman Amelia Gillies



Senior Airman Amelia Gillies



Staff Sgt. Joel McCullough

- 1) Reserve Citizen Airmen from the 445th Civil Engineer Squadron renovate a building at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Warfighter Training Center, Aug. 6, 2020.
- 2) Tech. Sgt. Robert Golubich, water and liquid fuel systems craftman, repairs the out frame of a facility at the WTC.
- 3) Tech. Sgt. Bryan Keiffer, pest management craftman, cuts a panel of plywood to make repairs at the WTC.
- 4) Airmen from the 445th CES replace the flag pole at the newly constructed Heritage Park outside the 445th Airlift Wing Headquarters, Aug. 1, 2020.

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