

445th AW participates in Ultimate Caduceus exercise USTRANSCOM event trains nearly 240 medical personnel

*By Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs*



Medical personnel load patients on a C-17 Globemaster III during U.S. Transportation Command's Ultimate Caduceus training exercise, April 28, 2021 at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio – Eighty members of the 445th Airlift Wing participated in U.S. Transportation Command's (USTRANSCOM) week-long aeromedical and global patient movement exercise called Ultimate Caduceus, April 26-30, 2021.

Ultimate Caduceus is an annual patient movement exercise designed to test the ability of USTRANSCOM to provide medical evacuation.

USTRANSCOM is a unified, functional combatant command which provides support to the 10 other U.S. combatant commands, the military services, defense agencies and other government organizations.

More than 240 personnel participated in the field training exercise. The exercise simulated bringing injured troops from overseas, triaging them to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and then moving them to longer-term and advanced care centers known as Federal Coordinating Centers (FCC). FCCs were used to treat aeromedical evacuation patients during Hurricanes Irma and Maria.

The participating units in the exercise included the 445th AW, 88th Air Base Wing, Air Force Materiel Command and the 711th Human Performance Wing from Wright-Patterson AFB; USTRANSCOM and Air Mobility Command located at Scott AFB, Illinois;

305th Air Mobility Wing, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey; the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS); and several local hospitals.

Medical personnel received hands-on experience for possible real-world events and were able to interface with key agencies.

During the exercise, personnel scrambled to put up tents, set up and utilized medical equipment, promptly loaded and unloaded patients on a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft, carried litters and performed triage in order to prepare for the possible challenges of the future.

"The exercise provided all participating agencies with insights to enhance our Aeromedical Evacuation, Critical Care Air Transport Team, medical staging capabilities and interoperability for Global Patient Movement," said Mr. Jeffrey Hoffer, USTRANSCOM training and readiness joint exercises branch chief and Ultimate Caduceus program manager.

According to the USTRANSCOM website, using a hub (in this case, Wright-Patterson AFB) and spoke (final definitive care destination(s)) system, the Continental United States (CONUS) patient distribu-

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Photos by Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

First Lt. Tyler Trease, 445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron clinical nurse and officer in charge of exercise planning and safety, reviews a patient's medical documentation during the Ultimate Caduceus training exercise, April 28, 2021.

FSS completes AT at Pittsburgh ARS, runs base's DFAC

By Staff Sgt. Darrell Sydnor
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

It can be said that an apron is just a cape on backwards. But the Airmen who prep, cook and store food for hundreds of military men and women aren't born into greatness, they're trained.

Members of the 445th Force Support Squadron's Food Services Flight at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio traveled 250 miles for their annual tour to the 911th Airlift Wing at Pittsburgh International Airport Air Reserve Station, Pennsylvania to prep, cook and serve breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Master Sgt. Bryan Ulloa, 445th FSS food services operations manager explained why such great lengths were taken to get the training needed.

"Services Airmen completed their annual tour at Pittsburgh ARS to accomplish home station training and sign off on key tasks. The Airmen were able to become qualified in upgrade training and complete their 5 level or 7 level tasks," said Ulloa.

Since the 445th Services Food Flight is co-located with the active duty, they don't get to use the kitchen at Wright-Patt AFB as a full kitchen.

"It's not often we get the opportunity to be in an actual kitchen. A lot of the active-duty bases have transitioned to a more civilian workforce, and at this particular base, the unit actually owns the kitchen and it's mostly military. Coming here, allows us to utilize the kitchen and operate in a way a reserve base would function," said Ulloa.

To make sure all of his Airmen become subject matter experts, Ulloa pushes for them all to have that hands-on-training. He knows that while many think cooking food is just like whatever you do at home, there are vital steps that have to be taken by the heroes in the kitchen.

"One of the key things is that we strive to make sure is nobody gets sick, which is even more important if you are down range, because if one person gets sick it can potentially spread to the rest of the population and essentially stop the entire mission," said Ulloa. "The intent of food service for the Air Force is quality of life. It's a morale booster for the troops. As they say, 'Troops move on their stomach.'"

Using another cook's kitchen can potentially cause fires, but the 911th AW commander and former 445th Operations Group commander, Col. John Robinson, welcomed the partnership.

"It's awesome to have reserve partners come in. The 445th has an opportunity to use their skills here at the 911th and the 911th gets the opportunity to have augmentation for our drill weekend," Robinson said.

Robinson added, "Air Force Reserve Command is one big team. When you see people coming from differ-

ent bases working together with our people, it's always great to see that. They work together and provide support for each other. That's what AFRC is about."

Capt. Danielle Daley, 911th Force Support Squadron operations officer and former readiness officer at the 445th FSS, echoed Robinson's sentiment.

"That's the nature of what we do as reservists. We just have an awesome opportunity to be able to create relationships with just any and everybody across the command. It's definitely been a benefit to us here that we have a partnership with Wright-Patterson," said Daley.

The leadership of the 911th AW was more than eager to help another reserve team accomplish their training. Lt. Col. Sabrina Ocampo, 911th FSS commander and former 445th Services Flight officer-in-charge says she knew the caliber of Airmen coming into her kitchen.

"I already have a history and background, and I know that Wright-Patt sent superstars, so I don't have to even worry about it. I know they can run circles around this kitchen even though they don't have kitchen experience back home," said Ocampo. "I understand that the subject matter expert experience that they have they brought here."



Staff Sgt. Darrell Sydnor

Senior Airman Kurt Jones, 445th Force Support Squadron food services apprentice, pours an egg mixture, as Tech. Sgt. Jermaine Wade, 445th FSS food services craftsman, supports the baking pan as they make bread pudding at the Pittsburgh Air Reserve Station dining hall, April 30, 2021.



FSS customer service goes digital with kiosk

By 1st Lt. Rachel Ingram
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Customers seeking services from the 445th Force Support Squadron are greeted by a new, digital sign in system. Featuring a user-friendly interface, the kiosk adds customers to the queue for each office located within FSS.

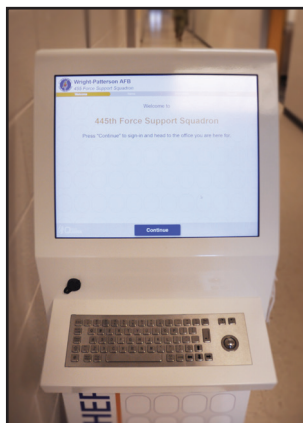
During sign in, the kiosk delineates tasks for which each office is responsible, then notifies that office of the customer's arrival. This helps to prevent Airmen from wandering the building seeking the appropriate office to assist them.

"An available representative from the office can come meet that person in the hallway and assist them," said Airman Hayden Dutro, knowledge management apprentice, 445th FSS.

Inside the customer support office, for example, a monitor mounted on the wall of the office shows a running list of each person awaiting service and designates which specific task they require assistance.

"This has improved our efficiency, reduced customers' wait time, and eliminated paper waste associated with a handwritten log sheet," said Tech. Sgt. Catherine Gamble, NCO in charge of customer support, 445th FSS.

During peak times when there is a backlog, customers can opt to wait offsite. When their name is



approaching the top of the queue, they'll receive a text message to return to the customer support office to meet with a technician.

"We're still learning all of the capabilities of the kiosk, but so far the most valuable feature we've identified is the text message notification system," Gamble said.

Due to COVID-19, only a limited number of people can wait in the lobby so having the text notification option is dual purpose as it minimizes the risk of potential exposure to the virus, and enables members to accomplish other tasks while waiting their turn.

"We serve the entire base, so a lot of people come through here," she added. "This helps us

manage the flow much better."

Following peak times, the kiosk compiles metric data from which reports can be pulled. Prior to installing the kiosk, the only way to glean that data was by sifting through paper sign-in logs and creating spreadsheets.

"Now when AFRC asks us for reports, we can provide the raw data to them at the touch of a button," said Chief Master Sgt. James Candler, squadron superintendent, 445th Force Support Squadron.

System administrators can also filter the data to view how many people come to FSS by the day or time, the average wait time, or average length of time being served.

"During the April Scarlet unit training assembly, 92 customers signed in on the kiosk," Dutro said. A recent technical school graduate and brand new to the military, Dutro was the key individual responsible for setting up the kiosk and orienting administrators on the system.

In the end, both customers and technicians benefit from the digital system and the way it simplifies the sign in process while reducing the experienced wait time.

"It's a win for the customers and it's a win for us as a whole," Gamble said. "This was a big step forward into the age of technology."

AMDS Airman earns Airman Leadership School award

Senior Airman Sharnita Lloyd, 445th Aerospace Medicine Squadron administration apprentice earned the Airman Leadership School Academic Achievement Award, Feb. 6, 2021.

The ALS was held virtually at McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base, Tennessee.

The Academic Achievement Award is presented to the student with the highest overall average on all academic evaluations.



Courtesy Photo

Senior Airman Sharnita Lloyd, 445th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, accepts the Airman Leadership School Academic Achievement Award and command chief's coin from Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Williams, 445th Airlift Wing command chief, April 25, 2021.



445th SFS conducts combat arms training



Photos by Senior Airman Angela Jackson



(top left) Tech. Sgt. Julio Medina, fire team member, 445th Security Forces Squadron, inspects an M9 during combat arms training, May 2, 2021. SFS Airmen conduct M4 and M9 qualifications training throughout the year.

(top right) Tech. Sgt. Joel Ford, fire team member, 445th SFS, loads an M4 magazine prior to qualification training. (left) Members of the 445th SFS fire in the prone position. The bi-annual requirement began with classroom instruction, followed by range qualification. The combat arms training helps security forces Airmen maintain readiness.

Citizen Airmen team plans for upcoming Georgia IRT

*By Senior Airman Erin Zimpfer
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs*

AUGUSTA, Ga. – Several members from joint services met at the Central Savannah River Area Regional Commission office April 27, 2021 in Augusta to attend the final planning meeting for the upcoming 2021 East Central Georgia Innovative Readiness Training.

The upcoming Georgia IRT is a joint-service training mission led by the U.S. Air Force Reserve and supported by members of the Air National Guard, Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve and the Navy Ophthalmic Support and Training Activity (NOSTRA).

The medical IRT will provide medical troops and support personnel hands-on readiness training to prepare for future deployments while providing direct and lasting benefits to four counties, offering no-cost medical, dental, optical and veterinary services.

“Participation in IRT reinforces the value of joint cooperation and the synergistic ef-

fects it has on educational development and personal growth,” said Maj. Kim Ebel, 445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, mission officer in charge.

Andy Crosson, the executive director of CSRA-RC said they love partnering with the joint services to bring these services to the communities they serve.

“There is lasting impact for everyone who participates in the IRT, us, the service members, and the community. It is something you will never forget.”

The IRT is scheduled to take place in June 2021, with services being offered at schools in Jenkins, Burke, Hancock and Warren counties in Georgia.

Community members will be able to receive medical services June 10-17, 2021. Approximately 20 members from the 445th Aeromedical Staging and Aeromedical Evacuation squadrons will be participating.

445th AW hosts Flight Commander's Edge

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

The 445th Airlift Wing held its first Flight Commander's Edge workshop May 3-5, 2021 at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force to develop and support tomorrow's leaders.

A team lead by Lt. Col. Karen M. Gharst, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander, planned and coordinated the event. To gain insight into how the course could benefit the 445th, Gharst attended the most recent Youngstown Air Reserve Station FCE course and gathered lessons learned and best practices.

"I spoke to attendees and read all of the surveys after the event, and it seems that all of the students really enjoyed it and took away some valuable lessons," said Gharst. "This course is a great way to encourage professional development and deliver specific development needs to the wing. With that information in mind, we put together an amazing team to make it happen here."

The 445th AW's FCE attendees included 31 senior enlisted and junior officers. They heard from a variety of speakers including Brig. Gen. Mitchell Richardson, Mobilization Assistant to the Director of Operational Capability Requirements, Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategy, Integration and Requirements, Headquarters U.S. Air Force and former 89th Airlift Squadron commander,

Attendees heard discussions on topics such as conflict management, emotional intelligence, preparing to command, ethical leadership and how to develop personally and professionally. Additionally, the students and presenters were given a unique behind-the-scenes tour of the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force's restoration unit. The feedback from the event was positive and constructive.

"The most positive, consistent feedback we received was that the briefers were all very dynamic and delivered interesting messages. The commanders across the wing did a great job, and we really appreciate their support," said Gharst. "Many of the attendees mentioned that a lot of the information they received about leadership was new to them."

The three-day event not only gave participants the chance to hear about relevant leadership topics and

learn from subject matter experts, it also gave them a chance to provide their own input and develop their own leadership perspectives by interacting with speakers.

"It was very organized, planned out and the presenters did an outstanding job," said Senior Master Sgt. Michael W. Pressler, 445th Maintenance Group main-

tenance operations superintendent, who attended the course. "Multiple topics were covered and I learned many great things about leadership. It was by far the best leadership course that I have ever attended."

The Flight Commander's Edge course was created in 2018. The training's design allows course planners and participants to tailor the course to their specific environment, and each wing can determine how it will implement and allocate appropriate support for its own course, providing versatility. Gen. David L. Goldfein, former Chief of Staff of the Air

Force, personally promoted the program as a way to provide quality development for wing leaders.

"We are looking to build flight commander leadership within the squadrons," said Lt. Col. Jonathan Askins, the 445th AW chief of safety, who was one of the event's planners. "Having direct interaction with our leadership was a great opportunity to build on that. We got a lot of positive feedback, and I think there is a demand for professional development courses of this caliber."

The 445th Airlift Wing is currently one of only a handful of units that has taken advantage of Flight Commander's Edge in this format, and given its successful first run, it seems that the 445th FCE course will continue to grow and evolve over the years to come.

"Our vision is to do this at least once a year," said Gharst. "Many of our participants wished the course was longer and that they had more time. I think that shows how important this course is. I believe that Flight Commander's Edge will offer wing leadership an effective way to address strategic issues and local leadership challenges."



SPOTLIGHT



Courtesy Photo

Rank/Name: Senior Airman Megan Hartley

Unit: 445th Civil Engineer Squadron

Duty Title: Emergency Management

Hometown: Troy, Ohio

Civilian Job: I am currently backfilling our emergency management Air Reserve Technician positions while they are vacant. I have been working closely with the 788th EM Flight to build up a training program

and prepare for CBRN (Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear defense) exercises.

Education: I am a full-time student at Ohio State University, transitioning from a middle childhood education major to a natural resource management major.

Hobbies: Anything and everything that requires me to be outside. From hiking, biking and walking my dog to kayaking, I have a strong love for the outdoors. If I have to be stuck inside I enjoy reading and painting.

Career Goal: I have a couple of different ideas of what I would like to do. I hope to one day go on active duty. This was my original goal but I joined the Reserve to help pay for college. I'd like to possibly pursue my new major, move out of Ohio to a State/National Park area and become a park ranger or work at an education center at a State/National Park.

What do you like about working at the 445th?: Working with the 445th has given me the opportunity to utilize my training and experience in a full-time capacity. I am

still learning a lot with the 445th. Between BMT (basic military training), technical school, seasoning training, COVID-19, and breaking my foot causing me to be out for a while, I haven't had a huge interaction with many of the 445th members outside of my shop. I am hoping that being on orders will give me the opportunity to interact and get to know more Airmen. As for now, I have enjoyed my time working at the 445th and look forward to many more years.

Why did you join the Air Force?: I have a long line of military family members before me and some of my closest friends joined as well. I didn't have an interest in joining until after I started college when I joined ROTC during my 1st semester and really liked it. At that point I had been training with one of my best friends at the gym as she was getting ready to go to BMT herself. I'm not sure what pushed me over to join, but I came to an agreement with my parents that I would join the Reserve initially, to see if I would like the military and so I could finish my degree.

445th AW Inspector General tidbits



Goal of AFIS

The Air Force Inspection System goal is to stop "inspection prep". It is unnecessary and ineffective. Most inspections are done by the wing commander's IGI team on a continual basis.

Purpose of AFIS

AFIS enables Commanders to inspect their units' ability to execute the mission, manage resources, lead the people and improve performance on a daily basis. It replaces the "single snapshot in time" look with an ongoing construct where every Airman is a sensor, smart compliance is promoted and innovation is rewarded.



News Briefs

Retirements

June 2021

CMSgt David Filipkowski, FSS
MSgt Ricardo Mamuyac, ASTS

Awards

Meritorious Service Medal

SMSgt Victoria Errett, MXG

AW

Maj Audric Bills
Maj Christine DuBray
SMSgt Jessica Osmer
MSgt Terry Reisinger
MSgt Precious Sims

Air Force Commendation Medal

Capt Andrew Bowman, AW
Capt Wilson Wise, AW
SSgt Derrick Bennett, AW

Air Force Achievement Medal

TSgt Jarred Steel, MXS
SSgt Charles Swaim, MXS
SrA Angela Jackson, AW

AMDS

MSgt Aubrey Booher
MSgt Christian De La Cruz
TSgt Kathleen Burden,
TSgt Anna Noel
TSgt Kevin Strickland
TSgt Christian Terrill
SSgt Melvin Castro
SrA Sharnita Lloyd

Promotions

Master Sergeant

Chad Engman, CES
Catherine Gamble, FSS
Kristina Matlock, AMDS
Matthew Pfeifer, 89 AS
Scott Reed, MXS
Justin Rogers, LRS
Robert Schnelle, 89 AS

Technical Sergeant

Marissa Ayres, FSS
Brandon Fisher, AMXS
Michael Kessinger, AMXS
Michael Wilson, AMXS

Staff Sergeant

Anthony Bleything, CES
Urowayinor Dore, CES
John Fowler, AMXS
Connor Karman, AMXS
Connor McCann, LRS
Michael Price, CES
Dejanae Sargent, LRS
Brooke Thornton, MXS

Senior Airman

Caleb Kraus, AMXS
Joseph O'Bryan, CES
David Sifuentes, FSS
Victoria Smith, ASTS

Airman 1st Class

Daivony Benton, LRS
Samuel Weaver, MXS

Airman

Vanessa Dongmo, LRS
Meggie Samuel, 87 APS
Ethan Stone, AMXS
Jeffrey Wenger, AMXS

Buckeye Flyer

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tion process can manage current workload. Contingency planning and patient movement exercises continue to refine and advance the interagency effort that would be required to accommodate a larger number of ill and injured service members coming back from a large-scale conflict or contingency.

"The exercise is intended to simulate a peer or near-peer encounter where we have a large number of casualties that need to be redistributed throughout the United States because the system becomes overwhelmed where any single point in the U.S. cannot handle the number of casualties. Therefore, they need to be moved across the country to other medical facilities whether it's DOD (Department of Defense), VA (Veterans Affairs) or civilian counter agencies," said Chief Master Sgt. Scott Luff, chief enlisted manager for the 445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron.

Key players participating in this year's exercise noted that this year's large joint exercise had some challenges.

The largest challenge of the exercise was to realistically replicate a near-peer contested environment to stress and challenge medical teams executing CONUS patient distribution in support of large-scale overseas military contingency operations, said Hoffer.

Lt. Col. Jennifer Cowie, community readiness policy analyst at Headquarters Air Force, echoed those

challenges.

"We were moving a lot larger patient load than we were used to and doing that mind shift from what we've been doing for the last 20 years post-911 to a mass casualty movement," Cowie said.

Ultimate Caduceus concluded April 30, 2021 with lessons learned and feedback that can be used for future real-world scenarios.

"The exercise went extremely well with a high-volume of simulated combat patients being regulated by Theater Patient Movement Requirements Centers and distributed to a CONUS DOD Military Health System facility, a VA Medical Center, or a participating National Disaster Medical System bed via the hub and spoke method," said Hoffer. "The training audience was comprised of active duty, Reserve and civilian medical professionals seamlessly integrating and executing the demanding mission profiles."

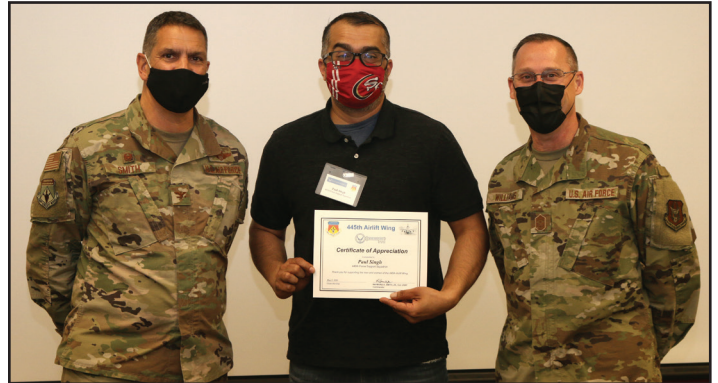
"It was a high-paced tempo, and we were sprinting the entire time. I think overall, our crews learned a lot, had good attitudes and everyone came away learning something not only about themselves but about the mission and how about to integrate with all the partners. Our crews thought this was great in preparation to upcoming deployments. They were happy. It was a good twist to what we were used to seeing," said Cowie.



445th AW honors wing key spouses



Mrs. Stephanie Smith, 445th Airlift Wing key spouse mentor, speaks with key spouses during the wing's Key Spouse Appreciation Day breakfast, May 2, 2021. The Key Spouse Program is an official Air Force commander's program that promotes partnerships with unit leadership, key spouses, family members, Airman and Family Readiness Center and other community and helping agencies.



Col. Raymond Smith, 445th Airlift Wing commander and Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Williams, 445th AW command chief, present a certificate of appreciation to Mr. Paul Singh, spouse of Senior Master Sgt. Heather Singh, 445th Force Support Squadron services superintendent, May 2, 2021. The wing honored its key spouses with a Key Spouse Appreciation Day.



Key spouses from the 445th Airlift Wing pose for a photo during a C-17 Globemaster III tour, May 2, 2021.



First Lt. Rachel Ingram, 445th Airlift Wing, public affairs officer, helps Jackson Kirstein, son of Capt. Nathaniel Kirstein, 89th Airlift Squadron, C-17 pilot, with a craft during the 445th Key Spouse Appreciation Day, May 2, 2021.

Photos by Tech. Sgt. Joel McCullough

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