

Keeping the mission moving





On the cover

SrA Thomas Elswick (driving) and SSgt Matthew Drangstveit (guiding), both from the 380th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron's Air Terminal Operation Center, load a pallet on a 60K-Loader. See page 6 for more information on the 380 ELRS ATOC. Photo by A1C Kelly LeGuillon.

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Submit stories and photos to 380aew.pa@adab.afcent.af.mil. The SAND SCRIPT staff reserves the right to edit all submissions for content, policy and style.



photo by A1C Kelly LeGuillon

Be counted!

From left: A1C Journey Walton, 380th Expeditionary Maintenance Group voting representative, fills out absentee ballot registration forms with Brig Gen H.D. Polumbo, 380th Air Expeditionary Wing Commander, and CMSgt Kevin Slater, 380 AEW Command Chief Master Sergeant.

Action Line

► If you have a question or comment you would like to direct to the wing commander, send an e-mail with subject line "Commander's Forum" to: 380aew.pa@adab.afcent.af.mil. The commander will provide a response by e-mail for most issues; however, Public Affairs may consolidate duplicate questions and print the responses in a future issue of the Sand Script. People are encouraged to work issues through their chain of command prior to using the forum.

The Airman's Creed

I am an American Airman.

I am a Warrior.

I have answered my Nation's call.

I am an American Airman.

My mission is to Fly, Fight, and Win.

*I am faithful to a Proud Heritage,
A Tradition of Honor,
And a Legacy of Valor.*

I am an American Airman.

*Guardian of Freedom and Justice,
My Nation's Sword and Shield,
Its Sentry and Avenger.*

I defend my Country with my Life.

I am an American Airman.

Wingman, Leader, Warrior.

*I will never leave an Airman behind,
I will never falter,
And I will not fail.*

Perspective

Saving lives on the ground

by Lt Col Tim MacGregor

908th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron Commander

KC-10 Extender advanced tanker and cargo aircraft aircrews and maintainers have been flying combat and combat support missions for nearly 18 uninterrupted years from the airfield that's now home to our 380th Air Expeditionary Wing.

Today, KC-10s comprise approximately 80 percent of the wing's daily flying missions.

Most of the wing's KC-10 aircrew members, home based at either McGuire Air Force Base, N.J. or Travis Air Force Base, Calif. will spend at least two, and frequently three 60 to 70 day rotations per year here at the 380 AEW, every year. There are a couple KC-10 Airmen who have been here over 200 days in the past twelve months alone, 60 to 70 days at a time. Crewmembers accumulating 200 plus combat missions over the span of 10 plus deployments to the 380 AEW are not uncommon.

KC-10 crews rarely fly the cargo or passenger hauling missions here in the AOR that they frequently fly from home station, focusing instead on their aerial refueling capability in support of United States and coalition fighter, bomber, transport, and command and control aircraft flying combat missions over Iraq and Afghanistan. In the aerial refueling role, the combined team efforts of the men and women of the entire 380 AEW come together to enable coalition airpower to save the lives of Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines on the ground in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Though not every KC-10 sortie launched from the 380 AEW every day offloads jet fuel in-flight to a fighter or bomber aircraft engaged in direct combat operations against enemy forces, statistics show that several times per day, on average, KC-10s refuel aircraft such as A-10s, F-15Es and B-1s that are attacking enemy forces who are threatening the lives of Americans and Coalition members engaged in ground combat.

The fuel that 380 AEW KC-10s provide in-flight is absolutely essential to the fighters and bombers that are protecting our fellow Americans on the ground. Without the KC-10's fuel, those fighters and bombers either couldn't get to the fight, or couldn't stay in the fight long enough to get the mission done and eliminate enemy forces and materiel.

While only four KC-10 aircrew members are directly involved in executing each mission over hostile territory on a given sortie, they rely mightily on the incredible efforts, skills and dedication of the entire 380 AEW team.

Whether it's the maintainers who keep the jets in mission capable flying condition; the Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels management specialists storing and distributing the millions of gallons of JP-8 jet fuel we routinely consume and air refuel; the Security Forces Defenders provide unparalleled force protection for the combat crews and aircraft; or "Always-On" Comm, Fire Dogs, or Force Support Airmen running the services that are the heartbeat of the wing; the men and women of the 380 AEW are indeed integral parts of the "One Team" that enables the KC-10s to do their part in the "One Fight."

Men and women of the 380th, you should take great pride and satisfaction in knowing that the missions you perform can quite literally be traced directly, on a virtually daily basis, to wing KC-10, E-3, U-2 and Global Hawk combat sorties that have, and will, help save the lives of your fellow countrymen, and our Coalition partners.

Though you may not see it every day, or get the feedback every day, the jobs you are doing make a difference. Because of what you do, an Airman, Soldier, Sailor or Marine will live to fight another day. Someone's son or daughter, husband or wife, mommy or daddy will live to return to the embrace of loved ones back home. What an incredible privilege we have to do that.

That's what you're doing here, and it's important.



photo by A1C Kelly LeGuillon

380 EMSG welcomes new commander

Col Darren Daniels, new 380th Expeditionary Mission Support Group Commander, receives his group's guidon from Brig Gen H.D. Polumbo, 380th Air Expeditionary Wing Commander, during the 380 EMSG change of command ceremony Wednesday.



photo by A1C Kelly LeGuillon

380 ELRS welcomes new commander

Lt Col Tanya Kubinec, new 380th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron Commander, receives her squadron's guidon from Col David Funk, 380th Expeditionary Mission Support Group Commander, during the 12 ERS change of command ceremony Tuesday.



photo by A1C Kelly LeGuillon

12 ERS welcomes new commander

Maj Rob Matlock, new 12th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron Commander, receives his squadron's guidon from Col Kyle Garland, 380th Expeditionary Operations Group Commander, during the 12 ERS change of command ceremony Tuesday.



photo by A1C Kelly LeGuillon

Desert Diamond Award

Congratulations to A1C Leigh Holler, 380th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron, for receiving the Desert Diamond Award. The Desert Diamond Award is given to Airmen who make wing-wide impacts noticed by the First Sergeant's Council. Anyone in the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing may receive the award if nominated by a first sergeant and voted on at a general First Sergeant's Council meeting. Only eight Desert Diamond Awards are awarded per rotation.



Congratulations to the 380 AEW's newest TSgts and MSgts

photo by A1C Kelly LeGuillon

From left: Brig Gen H.D. Polumbo, 380th Air Expeditionary Wing Commander, with MSgts Dwayne Allen, Robert Coulter, Donald Birchard, Lee Meyers, Melinda Drake, Dorian Dillon, Darryl McCamish, Daniel Scherl, Christopher Phillips, and CMSgt Kevin Slater, 380 AEW Command Chief Master Sergeant. Not pictured: MSgt Timothy Sloan, Thomas Barger, and Clifford Hughes.

From left: Brig Gen H.D. Polumbo, 380th Air Expeditionary Wing Commander, with TSgts Frank Mamea, Charles Murray, Kimberly Rodger, Sean Kramer, Douglas Prater, Timothy Fancher, Joshua Hill, Jose Zamora, Phillip Campo, Brian Tonnancour, Jayme Scammahorn, Mark Smith, Michael Snow, and CMSgt Kevin Slater, 380 AEW Command Chief Master Sergeant. Not pictured: TSgts Geebio Gargard, Justin Harris, and Kelly Brian.



photo by A1C Kelly LeGuillon

Chilly treat from the Chapel

Chaplain (Capt) Katherine Scott and TSgt Jurgensmeier, chaplain's assistant, spend an afternoon handing out popsicles to Airmen on the flightline recently.



photo by A1C Kelly LeGuillon

Turning the tide

Col Bruce VanSkiver, former 380th Air Expeditionary Wing Vice Commander, turns the hose on the crowd after being sprayed down for his final flight aboard a KC-10 Extender Friday.

380 AEW Monthly Award Winners



Congratulations to A1C Journey Walton, 380th Expeditionary Maintenance Group, who earned the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing Airman of the Month Award for June.



Congratulations to 1st Lt Darryl Hebert, 380th Expeditionary Force Support Squadron, who earned the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing Company Grade Officer of the Month Award for June.



photos by A1C Kelly LeGuillon

Congratulations to SrA Jepheth White, 380th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, who earned the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing Honor Guard Member of the Month Award for June.



Congratulations to SSgt Kevin Pearson, 380th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron, who earned the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing Noncommissioned Officer of the Month Award for June.



Congratulations to MSGt Dietrich Kirk, 380th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron, who earned the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Month Award for June.



Congratulations to Shelby Christopher, 380th Expeditionary Communications Squadron, who earned the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing civilian of the Month Award for June.



Congratulations to the 380th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron Fire and Emergency Services Flight, who earned the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing Team of the Month Award for June.

Keeping the mission moving

by SrA Ross M. Tweten
380th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

“If the cargo or passengers never get off the aircraft to meet their requirement the Air Force has bestowed upon them, then how would this war carry on?” asked SSgt Patrick David of the 380th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron’s Air Terminal Operation Center.

They process, weigh, tag, load, balance, upload, break down, download, build up, ship out, and reunite. Simply put, they move us, and all our stuff. They’re the 380 ELRS ATOC, comprised of 12 Airmen, and according to SSgt Joseph Garcia of the 380 ELRS ATOC, “Whether it’s cargo or passengers, if it has to go, we’ll make it go.”

The ATOC is comprised of several unique functional areas. Together, they directly support the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing’s mission, by moving people and cargo safely and expeditiously.

“Virtually every person and piece of cargo here had to come through the ATOC at some point in time,” said SrA Joseph Bixler, 380 ELRS ATOC. “It’s extremely rewarding to be entrusted with millions of dollars worth of mission essential equipment day in and day out.”

The ATOC’s Passenger Service section processes passengers, and also checks, weighs, and tags baggage. They also reunite mishandled baggage, commonly referred to as lost luggage, with its warrior in a timely manner. The Load Planning section consists of weight and balance of the aircraft to prevent mishaps. The Cargo Processing section breaks down pallets then uploads the TMO trucks so the cargo can be turned over to the customers. They also build up pallets and rolling stock cargo to be shipped. Joint Inspections section inspects cargo and hazardous items to ensure they are air worthy.

“We move things that most people believe can’t be moved, and do it in a short amount of time,” said Sergeant Garcia. “The cargo taskings can be something as small as a bag of mail or something vital such as parts for an aircraft. The personnel tasking can range from a single TDY passenger to a full AEF rotation. Winning the Global War On Terror requires equipment and people to run them, and we move the equipment and the people to where



SSgt Patrick David, 380th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron Air Terminal Operation Center, looks on inside the cab of a 60K-Loader as a pallet is loaded.



photos by A1C Kelly LeGuillon

Airmen from the 380th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron’s Air Terminal Operation Center load a pallet on a 60K-Loader on the flightline recently.

they need to go.”

A big and sometimes dangerous aspect of the ATOC’s job is driving a myriad of vehicles and Material Handling Equipment. A key piece of equipment is the 60K-Loader. Known as the Tunner, valued at a shade under \$2 million, it’s the weapon of choice for the Airmen of the ATOC.

“We’re in command of a fleet of mechanical marvels,” said Sergeant David. “It takes a lot of dexterity and skill to operate and maneuver the Tunner to the cargo deck of any airframe with an assortment of cargo pallets and rolling stock secured to the deck, ready for upload. Its versatility helps us bring the fight to the respective AORs with astonishing speed and efficiency.”

An exciting event in the ATOC world is an Engine Running Operation. During EROs the crew loads the aircraft from behind while the aircraft’s engines are still running. The ERO has two purposes: to minimize both the aircraft’s ground time, and the aircrews’ duty day. The average ERO offloading/uploading can be completed in less than 20 minutes.

During the past six months, the ATOC has coordinated cargo and passenger movement for three rotations, for an airframe mission relocation, and two joint international exercises. They’ve handled more than 4,000 personnel and 3,500 short-tons of cargo during the past six months.

Like any deployed unit, the ATOC is extremely busy, but the frenetic pace of the deployed environment can be amplified in the ATOC environment.

“The AOR’s airflow has got to be the most challenging part of our job,” said SSgt Matthew Drangsveit, 380 ELRS ATOC. “Whether it’s not having enough to deplete back-logged cargo and redeploy Airman, or having too much at one time which tends to stretch us thin with our 12-man shop, airflow constantly presents us with a challenge. Of course, we’d prefer to have too much airflow because that would mean all of the 380th’s warriors would always be able to get back home in a timely manner. But, like any good thing, too many missions has its down side. We must have ample time to properly inspect, build, manifest, and loadplan the cargo for those missions.”

The Airmen of the ATOC know they’re a critical link in the kill chain. Their role in bringing the fight to the enemy is significant. As such, they take a lot of pride in their mission.

“Like any career field, there would be no way this war could be fought and someday won without ATOC,” said Airman Bixler. “It’s extremely rewarding to see troop and cargo movements in the news and think to myself if it wasn’t for myself and my fellow coworkers, that would never have been possible.”

Warrior of the Week

SrA Debbie Villanueva



courtesy photo

908th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron

Duty title: Boom Operator

Hobbies: Fresh-water fishing, camping, drawing, traveling

Most fulfilling part of my job: Providing critical fuel to fighters during combat missions to help save lives and continue to fight the Global War On Terror.

Supervisor's Comments: Airman Villanueva has been deployed to the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing three times in the last two years. In her time here, she has flown more than 90 combat missions, refueling 805 receivers and offloading more than 7.5 million pounds of fuel. She has 674 flying combat hours which means she has been airborne in the AOR for over 28 days. Airman Villanueva is an essential part of the Air Refueling mission. On any given day she is the key to ensuring our receivers get time-critical gas, keeping them in the fight. Airman Villanueva is extremely motivated and dedicated to the mission. She's an asset to the crew, and essential in keeping the fight overhead.

Community Standards

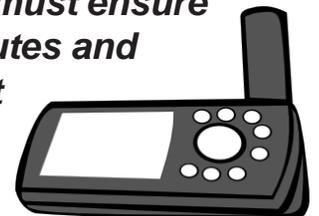
Tip of the Week

Driving Requirements

► *Prior to departing the base on Group Commander Authorized Travel (GCAT), drivers must ensure they have local maps depicting routes and safe havens. Drivers will check out*

a GPS from their unit before traveling off the installation. If

a unit has exhausted its supply, GPS units can be borrowed from other units.





Winner
**“I better stretch
before I go in ...
don’t want to pull a
hammy.”**

- TSgt Steve Briggs
380th Air Expeditionary Wing
Safety Office

Other submissions:

“The Hokie Pokie, a long-standing Air Force Firefighter tradition.”
TSgt Andrew Mintier, 380th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

“The Village People reunion tryout, take two.”
A1C Ian Metz, 380th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

“Safe!”
TSgt Michael Vincent, 380th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron

Caption Contest

Send your caption to
380aew.pa@adab.afcent.af.mil
by 1700 Thursday.

Captions should be in good taste and no more than 25 words. The winning caption is published in next week’s Sand Script.

