



Photo by Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald

Staff Sgt. Nicholas O'Reilly, munitions inspector, 455th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Munitions Flight, processes 30mm high-explosive cannon ammunition using a GFU-7.

## Warriors keep close-air support of U.S., Coalition forces a reality

by Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald  
455th Air Expeditionary Wing  
Public Affairs

Keeping a mission-capable supply of bullets coming as A-10 pilots respond to requests for close-air support is a key role for a group of Bagram Airmen taking part in the ongoing Global War on Terrorism.

Deployed from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., the 455th Air Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Munitions Flight's role is to provide ammunition to those experiencing face-to-face combat with enemy aggressors.

"Our job is to fully maintain, assemble and deliver a ready supply of ammunition for all A-10 operations in support of Marine, Army and other Coalition forces fighting on the front lines in the war on terrorism," said 2nd Lt. J. Brent McCraney, munitions flight commander, a native of Charlotte, N.C.

U.S. and Coalition aircraft as well as various support agencies deployed here also benefit from the work of the munitions flight. "If C-130s or C-17s need a re-

— See 'A-10 Ammo', Page 3

### Good To Know

❑ **A-10 orientations** — The 354th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron gives weekly A-10 mission briefs and tours Sundays at 1530L (1100Z) at A-10 operations in the 455th Expeditionary Operations Group Headquarters. To sign up, e-mail Capt. Steven Raspet Saturday by 1630L (1200Z).

❑ **Hometowners** — To send a news release to your hometown newspaper, fill out a hometown news release form, which can be found at this link: <S:\SHARED FILES\455 AEW PA NEWS, INFO\Hometown News Release>. Once you've filled out the form, save it, and e-mail it to PA at [baf-455aew-pa@baf.afgn.army.mil](mailto:baf-455aew-pa@baf.afgn.army.mil). Visit Tent 719 for details or call 231-3260.

### 3-Day Forecast

**Friday**

Mostly cloudy  
H 54/L 27



**Saturday**

Partly cloudy  
H 55/L 30



**Sunday**

Partly cloudy  
H 55/L 29



Source: 455th EOG Weather



## Celebrating Christmas: What's the meaning of it all?

by Chaplain (Maj.)  
Gary Ziccardi

CJTF-76 Bagram Theater  
Internment Facility chaplain

Bright lights, parties, stores crowded with shoppers, cookies, candles and decorations all over the place. Is this what Christmas means?

Rushing to make preparations for family gatherings and spending more than we can afford. Is this what Christmas means?

These activities are the by-products of an event that occurred 2000 years ago, but they do not represent the true meaning of Christmas.

Christians believe that God fulfilled a promise to send a Savior by coming to earth in human form through a child born in Bethlehem, a small town in what is now Israel.

Christians believe that this person named Jesus taught us how to live by loving and caring for others, by giving to others without expectation of gifts in return.

Christians also believe when Jesus was executed by those who did not believe his message that he was God on earth, that he came back from death to show he has power over sin and death.

He now lives in the hearts of those who believe their mistakes and sins can be forgiven by God. His presence also should affect the way a Christian acts towards others. A story I read illustrates this:

An African boy listened carefully as the teacher explained why Christians give presents to each other on Christmas day. "The gift is an expression of our joy over the birth of Jesus and

our friendship for each other," she said.

When Christmas day came, the boy brought the teacher a seashell of lustrous beauty. As she admired it, she asked the boy where he found such a beautiful shell.

The youth told her that there was only one spot where such extraordinary shells could be found. When he named the place, a certain bay several miles away, the teacher was speechless.

As she exclaimed again how wonderful the gift was, she said to him, "You shouldn't have gone all that way to get a gift for me."

His eyes brightened and he answered, "The long walk is part of the gift."

The real meaning of Christmas is sharing the love of God that he shared at the birth of Jesus by going the extra mile for others.

## Take steps to decrease potential impact of winter weather

by Tech. Sgt. Donald Kuhlman

455th Air Expeditionary Wing ground safety manager

Some enjoy it and some loath it, but winter is definitely upon us.

Statistically, Bagram receives more rain/snow mix than just snow.

When snow does fall, it usually melts in a day or two. Snowfall usually occurs in late December to early February. Average temperatures range from mid 60s during the day to low 20s at night; if you add wind chill to these temperatures, they are significantly less.

I would encourage everyone to be extra vigilant for frost and ice on walking surfaces, especially in front of the shower facilities.

Two preventable conditions are hypothermia and frostbite.

Hypothermia is the lowering of the body's inner core. At first, the victim is cold, and then stops shivering. He or she has a loss of feeling, poor coordination and impaired speech.

To prevent frostbite, follow these tips:

- Keep active and maintain a state of physically fitness;
- Wear clothes properly and keep them dry
- Stay hydrated; and
- Seek shelter before hypothermia occurs.

Frostbite occurs when tissue freezes from exposure to temperatures below 32 F.

With frostbite, an intense coldness is followed by numbness and affected area seems painless.

Rapidly re-warming the body at temperatures slightly above body temperature is the single most effective treatment for frostbite. Do not rub or use dry heat on any of the areas affected.

If someone is suffering from either hypothermia or frostbite, immediately seek medical attention.

On a side note, portable heaters aren't allowed in B-hut quarters. Fire remains one of our biggest preventable hazards, so let's all do our part to seek out and correct any such hazards.

For more information on how to prepare for cold weather operations in Afghanistan, visit the following link: <S:\SHARED FILES\Safety\Safety Training\Winter Safety>.



## A-10 Ammo From Page 1

supply of defensive countermeasures, we're here to take care of them," said Master Sgt. Christopher Nastase, munitions systems superintendent. "We also account for and maintain munitions for some deployed Coalition aircraft as well as 11 on-base customer accounts, such as security forces and explosive ordnance disposal."

Sergeant Nastase, a native of Omaha, Neb., said his team of warriors makes the A-10 mission possible.

"Without us, the A-10s wouldn't have much impact in supporting the troops on the ground," he said. "We help make all this a reality."

### Enjoying the experience

Senior Airman Matthew Logue, conventional maintenance crewmember, said he's enjoying this deployment.

"Unlike back home, this is no longer a training environment," the Airman said. "Dealing with the real munitions every day is a nice change."

When he lays his head down at night, Airman Logue, a native of Atoka, Okla., feels as though he and his co-workers made a difference in the lives of others.

"Every piece of munitions an A-10 pilot uses to save the life of any of our guys or to end the life of a

terrorist, I know we had a hand in it," he said. "Anything we can do to help stop the growing threat of terrorism across the globe is worth the effort. Isn't this the reason why we're all serving in today's military?"

Since Sept. 15, the 455th EAMXS Munitions Flight has expended more than 23,000

rounds of 30mm ammunition, 15,000 countermeasures, 103 2.75-inch rockets, 14 MK-82

500-pound air burst bombs and nine GBU-12 laser-guided bombs in support of the ongoing Global War on Terrorism.

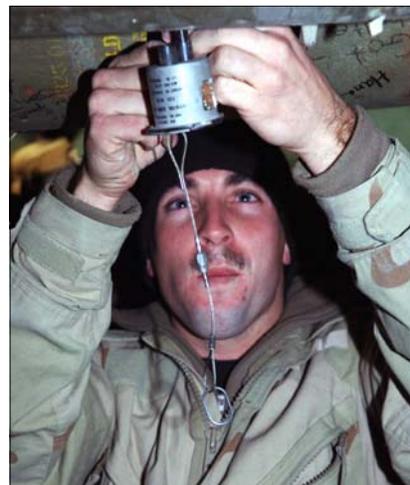


Photo by Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald

**Senior Airman Edward Stottlemyer, munitions inspector, 455th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Munitions Flight, inspects a bomb fuse initiator.**

## 455th AEW's Top Performer — CGO Category

### Job title

Chief of standardization and evaluation

### Deployed unit

455th Expeditionary Operations Group

### Home station

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

**How do you feel about making history here in Afghanistan as part of the ongoing Global War on Terrorism?** It is great to be here making an impact on the Global War on Terrorism. We are here to bring the 9/11 attacker's



**Capt. Jim "Kilroy" Roy**

allies to justice the only way they understand, with 30mm.

**What have you enjoyed most about your time here?** I have enjoyed flying, supporting the troops on the ground and making the Taliban regret the day they attacked us.

**What advice would you give to others for a successful Air Force career?** A successful Air Force career is what you define it! Just by being here we have done more than 90 percent of America in the war on terrorism. If you want to get out after this, you can be proud.



Photo by Master Sgt. Timothy Leahy

***Turkey Day fun***  
Bagram warriors play a game of flag football at the Korean Compound on Thanksgiving Day. Six teams took part in the friendly competition.

## 455th AEW's Top Performer — Senior NCO Category

### Job title

Superintendent

### Deployed unit

451st Air Expeditionary Group  
Civil Engineer Flight

### Home station

Pope Air Force Base, N.C.

### Hometown

Connersville, Ind.

### What have you enjoyed most about your time at Kandahar?

I've enjoyed working alongside great people in overcoming challenges and conducting our mission. This is where all we've trained for at home station is put to the test.

**How do you feel about making history here in Afghanistan as**



***Master Sgt.  
Jason Baker***

**part of the ongoing Global War on Terrorism?** It's great to be part of a force that's spreading peace and democracy. With the help of our allies, we will root these terrorists out and a stabilized, democratic, Afghan government will prevail.

**What advice would you give to your fellow senior NCOs for a successful Air Force career?** First of all, don't ever forget where you came from. Get out from behind the desk and get down in the trenches with your people; get to know them. Secondly, be willing to accept change. The Air Force is becoming so technologically advanced that you need to seek ways to accomplish the mission smarter and faster.

[americasupportsyou.mil](http://americasupportsyou.mil)

## Americans send messages of support, thanks

Just wanted to say "thank you" for everything you do. I am a paramedic from New York City and was there through 9/11.

I have nothing but the utmost respect and admiration for the job you do and the tremendous risks you take defending this country and serving your mission.

No matter whether people in this country agree or disagree with its policies, the people will always be behind you.

May the mission be completed as quickly as possible so that all of you may come home. Take care.

**Ed Hartung, Howard Beach, N.Y.**

I am around 50 years old and I am just amazed at the young men and women in the military that do so many awesome things.

You are really making a difference on the war on terror because you have a positive impact with the civilians you meet.

I hear such fantastic stories from friends and relatives about how you are using your brains and technology to do your job.

Just continue to be kind to each other and kind to those you are serving. We love you.

**Nancy Cox, St. Simons, Ga.**

Thank you all for your amazing bravery, courage and skill in Iraq, Afghanistan and around the world. We are so proud of you. Come home safe to your loving families and friends--they too need our support! Happy holidays and thank you all so much!!

**Humphry Rolleston, U.S. citizen since 2002,  
New York City, N.Y.**

I am so very thankful for the courageous men and women of the United States Military. Nothing can ever compare to what you all do for the sake of our wonderful nation.

Thank you doesn't seem to be big enough words to contain the emotion that is felt behind them.

I feel honored and blessed that I am one of the many souls you are fighting for.

Thank you and God bless you all.

**Roberta Hopkinson, Pittsburgh, Pa.**

We cannot thank you enough for the sacrifice you are making to keep all of us safe here at home. The work you are doing will positively change the world in the future.

We pray for your safe return and that the Middle East and the world will some day be peaceful.

You are doing the world a great service and we are all very proud of all of you!

**Mark Sisler, Glen Rock, Pa.**

God bless every one of you! Every time I feel hope for the future and pride in country fading (usually when reading a newspaper or watching network news), I need only remember the young people serving mankind in this nation's armed forces, and then I know this world is indeed a better and safer place because of them.

You are standard bearers for a nation with few secrets, and a guiding light for an imperfect world. Thank you. We are, in spite of what you might read or hear, a grateful nation, but please be careful in your duties and come home safely to us.

**Mike Junge, Castle Rock, Colo.**

My wife, children and I would like to express our deepest appreciation for the sacrifices our military men and women endure 24/7.

To get in this fight, I joined the TSA at the lowest level, a screener. I wanted to try to do something.

I was then accepted as a National Screener where I help other airports throughout the USA move America with safety as our goal. I feel this helps, but it is still not enough in my book.

Please accept this little token on our part. We really support you and our country's mission. May God bless each and every one of you.

**Michael B. Burke, San Antonio, Texas**

I am proud of everyone who rose to the occasion and stood up to protect me and my family in these scary times. I do not think I would have the courage, heart, will and energy to do what you do every minute you are away.

I will hug my kids and husband extra tight tonight and thank God for people like you. Thank you for everything you give and the sacrifices you are making. Come home soon, come home safe.

**All my respect and love,  
Terri Vassios, Littleton, Colo.**





## Bagram Bob

With the temperature dropping steadily over the past few weeks, it's time to review some of the winter-related uniform guidance to ensure we're all in compliance. This week's column will look at the current guidance.

**Q** **uestion:** I've noticed some Airmen wearing their winter gear improperly. Can you discuss the proper wear of the uniform here during this time of the year?

**A** **nswer:** What a timely topic! I couldn't have asked a more appropriate question. When we first arrived at Bagram, we found out that AFI 36-2903, *Dress and Appearance of Air Force Personnel*, still applied.

Also applicable throughout our time in the AOR are the USCENTAF/455 AEW Supplements to AFI 36-2903.

For current guidance in addressing your question,

I touched base with Chief Master Sgt. Ricker, the 455th AEW command chief, and also referenced these USCENTAF/455 AEW supplements.

Below is some of the current guidance:

- The black watch cap is only authorized when worn with an outer garment, i.e., gortex/field jackets and Air Force PT jackets;
- When in uniform, Airmen shouldn't put their hands in their pockets. Authorized gloves should be worn to keep your hands warm during the cooler months of the year; and
- The black fleece liner will not be worn as an outer garment. This includes Air Force personnel assigned to Army locations.

Officers, NCOs and supervisors are encouraged to immediately correct Airmen not conforming to these and other Air Force uniform standards, which apply to all members of the 455th AEW and other service Base Operating Support installations.

If this or other topics brings questions to your mind that you'd like to see addressed, drop an e-mail to [baf-455aew-pa@baf.afgn.army.mil](mailto:baf-455aew-pa@baf.afgn.army.mil). In the subject line, type in "Bagram Bob."

You can also visit the 455th AEW/PA office in Tent 719.

# ENDURING FAITH CHAPEL

## WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICES

### Gospel

Sundays ..... 1730L (1300Z)

### Jewish

Fridays ..... 1900L (1430Z)

### Korean Protestant

Sundays ..... 1545L (1115Z)

### Latter Day Saints

Sundays ..... 1300L (0830Z)

### Liturgical Protestant

Sundays ..... 0830L (0400Z)

### Muslim

Fridays ..... 1800L (1330Z)

### Seventh Day Adventist

Saturdays ..... 0930L (0500Z)

### Protestant

Sundays ..... 1130L (0700Z)

### Roman Catholic

Saturdays ..... 1945L (1515Z)



## PRAYER REQUESTS

Visit the chapel offices, located near the Dragon DFAC, or call 231-4755.

Sundays ..... 1000L (0530Z)

## OTHER SERVICES, MEETINGS

### Catholic Mass

Weekdays ..... 1130L (0700Z)

### Chapel Cleanup

Saturdays ..... 1100L (0630Z)

### Gospel Bible Study

Thursdays ..... 1900L (1430Z)

### Noon Day Prayer

Weekdays ..... 1215L (0745Z)

### Promise Keepers Men's

### Fellowship/Bible Study

(conference room on first floor of base operations)

Wednesdays ..... 1900L (1430Z)

### "Friends of Bill" (AA meeting)

(Inner Strength Café, the

chapel at Camp Lacey)

Saturdays ..... 1930L (1500Z)