



# U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command FLIGHT

April 2022

Volume 3 • Issue 4



## AMCOM 101 for Missiles focuses on sustainment implications, readiness reporting updates

The U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command hosted its annual 101 for Missiles March 1-2 and it arguably could not have come at a more relevant time.

AMCOM and the Army missile community come together annually to discuss support to warfighters around the world.

Maj. Gen. Todd Royar, AMCOM commander, provided opening remarks in a hybrid forum to nearly 100 attendees March 1 from Bob Jones Auditorium at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. Attendance was up from the 80 who registered in 2021.

“We all see what’s going on currently in the news today – no surprise. If you read open source, there’s a lot of discussion on missiles, a lot of discussions on air superiority, a lot of discussion about contested air defense capabilities that are out there,” he said. “Consequently, there are some implications that I think we have inside of large-scale combat operations that make a difference on the sustainment.”

The AMCOM commander outlined potential sustainment...[READ MORE](#)



## Individuals, teams receive recognition for value engineering efforts that saved millions



The commander of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command, Maj. Gen. Todd Royar, recognized innovation and collaboration at this year’s Value Engineering/ Army Working Capital Fund Investment Program Awards Ceremony, Feb. 25 at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama.

Value Engineering is used to analyze supplies, services, buildings and systems

to achieve the best result, speed delivery, and enhance the performance of the equipment and services provided to U.S. forces, while reducing costs.

The VE awards recognize Team Redstone employees’ efforts that resulted in cost savings or cost avoidances, quality improvements, or efficiencies to the Department of Defense. In FY21, the Team Redstone VE program claimed \$213 million in savings and cost avoidances on 78 completed VE projects.

“We consistently field requests from outside organizations for training examples, policies, lessons learned and success stories,” said Tom Reynolds, U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation and Missile Center value engineering and life cycle cost reduction manager. [READ MORE](#)

## 'Flexibility'

*Have you ever had one of those days where you come to work thinking you know what your schedule is only to find out that the plan had changed and you did little of what you had anticipated?*



*Current events in Europe have made the past month or more that way. What I’m proud of is your ability, as a team, to react quickly to change. Your flexibility to change course on the proverbial dime is absolutely amazing and the sign of a great organization. Countless, logistics assistance representatives (LARs), item managers, transportation specialists, attorneys, operations personnel, etc. have all had a direct impact. While the current crisis is in Europe, I am equally confident in everyone’s ability to accomplish the same if the next crisis were to be somewhere else.*

*Flexibility, our ability to react quickly, does not happen by accident. It happens because you all know what your job is, think ahead, and can operate given a mission and the intent of what needs to be accomplished. We cannot conceivably have a foolproof plan for all contingencies, but we can set the conditions to succeed by being willing to be flexible during...*

**continued on Page 2**

**'Flexibility'**

continued from Page 1

*any contingency. I am proud of AMCOM's ability – your ability – to rise to any challenge on any day.*

*Army Strong!*

Maj. Gen. Todd Royar  
AMCOM commanding general



**ACLCL facilitates CH-47 reset, adds 6 to fleet**

Day or night, in sunshine or thunderstorms, Aviation Center Logistics Command teams out of Fort Rucker, Alabama, did what had to be done to unload aircraft arriving from combat zones for reset.

Reset is the Army's process of bringing equipment back up to operating standard following deployments and before being returned to their home units – or, in this case, to the home of Army aviation.

The Army tasked the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command Aviation Field Maintenance Directorate to plan and execute Special Technical Inspection and Repair activities for induction, repair and return of helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft.

And with that, the reset program began.

“Our mission here at the ACLCL was [that] all of the aircraft were going to be delivered to Fort Rucker initially until funding, manpower and slots became available and then we would we would start sending the aircraft to the reset facilities,” said Jack Martin, Knox Army Airfield manager and contracting officer representative.

“Previously, all aircraft returning from the [U.S. Central Command area of responsibility] were reset but, with current fiscal constraints, now aircraft are scored using the conditions-based decision support tool and prioritized accordingly,” said Neil West, AMCOM AFMD associate director. “The CBDST scores aircraft based on six factors – utilization, environment...[READ MORE](#)

**AMCOM's ACLCL has vital role in training Army aviators**

It's often said that U.S. Army aviation begins at Fort Rucker, Alabama. To be more specific, it begins at Cairns Army Airfield on Fort Rucker and takes place in a pure fleet of UH-72 Lakota helicopters.

Prior to 2016, Army aviators trained on the TH-67 Creek helicopter, which was introduced in 1993. The last remaining Creek helicopter has been divested and the fleet is now exclusively composed of Lakotas.

The UH-72, a commercial-off-the-shelf helicopter manufactured by Airbus, was introduced to the Army fleet as the medevac unit at Fort Rucker and has since transitioned to the primary trainer for the Army, according to Bob Butler, who works for Aviation Center Logistics Command and manages Cairns Army Airfield at Fort Rucker.

“This is the foundation for all of Army aviation. [READ MORE](#)



**P2P** Performance-to-Promise is a measurement of how an organization holds itself accountable to the commitment to meet worldwide customer-required delivery dates.  
March 2022

**Letterkenny Army Depot**  
98.0% 8.8%

**Corpus Christi Army Depot**  
93.0% 3.1%

**Missile SA**  
84.0% 7%  
Second pass

**Aviation SA**  
92.6% 2.6%  
Second pass

**SA** Supply availability is defined as the percentage of demands placed on the wholesale echelon of supply that are not backordered, excluding future material obligations.  
March 2022

**Aviation Center Logistics Command**  
Mission-capable aircraft **77.8%**  
Non mission-capable supply **4.8%**  
Feb. 16 - Mar. 16

## ‘A purse and a prayer’ – Soldier inspired by mother’s refusal to accept less

After a five-year stint in the Marine Corps, Chief Warrant Officer 5 David Longoria aspired to make a life on the music scene in Nashville, Tennessee. It’s a good thing for the Army that



didn’t work out.

Though his father served two tours in Vietnam, Longoria’s mother was the impetus for his decision to serve. Raised in Corpus Christi, Texas, he was inspired by the woman who left Mexico at 14 and was issued a U.S. work visa to be a nanny.

“It really just came to a sense of service to the country that’s been so good to her and my family – all the opportunities that have been given to me because they provided her the opportunity to succeed,” he said. “She got her citizenship ... and would not accept the life that was presented in

front of her. I wish somebody would write a song about this: I always call it ‘a purse and a prayer’ – that’s all she had.”

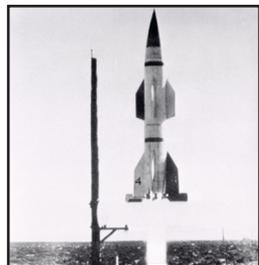
Longoria knew he wanted to be in the military to repay the debt of gratitude he said he owed this country, but saw himself more like Tom Cruise circa 1986 in “Top Gun.”

“I really wanted to go to the Naval Academy and I had the work ethic but my aptitude just wasn’t there. My scores were just above average – which was not going to be competitive, and I knew that,” he said. “I even actually joined Navy [Junior...[READ MORE](#)]

## This month in history



April 2, 1865: Ulysses S. Grant led the Union Army in an attack against the Confederate lines at Petersburg, Virginia. By mid-afternoon, Confederate troops had begun to evacuate the town. The Union victory ensured the fall of Richmond, the capital of the Confederacy, located just 25 miles north of Petersburg. As an American hero, Grant was later elected the 18th President of the United States (1869–1877), working to implement Congressional Reconstruction and to remove the vestiges of slavery.



April 8, 1952: A tactical missile known at various times and places as the Hermes C1, Major, Ursa, XSSM-G-14, and XSSM-A-14 was officially named Redstone after Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama, where Dr. Wernher von Braun and his team had moved in 1950. The single-stage Redstone with its warhead attached was originally 63 feet long and 70 inches in diameter. Later production models had a length of 69 feet and a weighed as much as 62,000 pounds at launch, depending on its payload.



April 12, 1983: The U.S. Army established the aviation branch. Army Aviation became increasingly important with advances in helicopter technology, leading to the UH-1 Iroquois (or Huey), CH-47 Chinook transport and the AH-1 Cobra attack helicopters. All saw extensive action in the Vietnam War. Emphasis on helicopters became even more pronounced during the 1970s and 1980s. In the 1980s, the Army introduced new, more capable helicopters, such as the UH-60 Black Hawk transport and AH-64 Apache attack helicopters, both of which saw extensive service in Operations Just Cause and Desert Storm.



April 13, 1743: Thomas Jefferson was born at Shadwell in Albemarle County, Virginia. Returning to the United States after the ratification of the Constitution, Jefferson served as the nation’s third president. He was also the first secretary of state and served as vice president. Jefferson was the first leader of one of the nation’s two earliest political parties, the Republican Party, from which today’s Democratic Party descends.



April 30, 1789: George Washington delivered his first inaugural address to a joint session of Congress, assembled in Federal Hall in the nation’s new capital, New York City. The newly elected president delivered the speech in a deep, low voice that betrayed what one observer called “manifest embarrassment.” Washington had not sought the office of president and was humbled by the request to serve.



The *AMCOM Flight* is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command. Contents are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government or the Department of the Army. Questions, comments and story ideas may be [emailed](#) to AMCOM’s Public and Congressional Affairs Office, or call 256-842-3546. [Past editions](#) of *The AMCOM Flight* are available on AMCOM’s [Command Information Portal](#).