

51st Fighter Wing Commander's Talking Points

2015 Accomplishments -- 365 Days of Hard Work

Thank you for your dedicated efforts this past year. We all returned from the holidays safe and sound, and that speaks volumes of Osan's professional wingmen, leaders and warriors. 2016 is here, another year down. We've accomplished this by zeroing our focus to ensure the mission never faltered or failed. You, the Airmen of the 51st Fighter Wing did that, and I couldn't be more proud.

Take a look back at what we've done this past year; even with a closed runway and unprovoked aggression from the North, we still accomplished so much. Here are just a few highlights: Our fire and emergency services flight recently won the Air Force Chief Master Sergeant Ralph E. Sanborn Fire Department of the Year award for a medium base, showcasing how we continually lead the charge!

We proved we can operate anywhere in Korea when we moved our air assets to Suwon for a month and a half while we made some needed upgrades to our runway. Speaking of that, we now have a second operational runway that will enhance our ability to Fight Tonight. We hosted numerous distinguished visitors including the Secretary of Defense and the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, and showed them what Osan is all about. We strengthened our relationship with our Korean allies during joint exercises, festivals, and the Seoul International Aerospace and Defense Exhibition, which enhanced our interoperability and showcased our ability to work together seamlessly.

It's time to look ahead to the future and focus on what's to come. Now is not the time to be complacent. There's still a constant threat from up north, there is still unrest in the world and terrorists are still waiting and planning their next strike. We must remain vigilant as we continue into this new year, ready to face the challenges ahead. Keep up the great work.

Goals for 2016

Two weeks days into January and Osan is already leading the way! We hosted international media and conducted a combined US/ROK demonstration of coalition airpower. Your efforts over the last week prove that our Alliance is unbreakable and highlight the true resolve and professionalism of Osan Airmen. Let's build on this incredible pace and set up some accurate and measurable goals we all can accomplish. Our theme for 2016 is getting better at what we are already best at: the highest level of contingency readiness short of wartime operations. We accomplish this by continually looking for ways to maximize combat capability and build on our strong alliances while caring for our Airmen and their families (on and off the peninsula).

Ultimately, we must continue to foster leadership through deliberate professional development, maintain a culture of fitness and continually strengthen our community bonds within the local area and with the rest of Team Osan.

I hope the break this holiday season charged your batteries enough to finish strong throughout the rest of your tour here, but remember to keep safety in mind. We had a great year and we should continue to lead the charge as we stampede into 2016. Thank you again for everything you do Mustangs!

“As we move into the New Year, I extend my deepest gratitude for the work each and every one of you do for Osan and the ROK. Your tireless contributions to the mission in 2015 were essential to guarding the freedom of 51 million.

Col. Andrew Hansen
(Mustang 1)

LEADING
THE
CHARGE