

51st Fighter Wing Commander's Talking Points

“Airmen are our most important asset and preparing them for impactful changes is a leadership priority. We are counting on and thank each of you for leading the way and taking care of our Airmen.

Deborah L. James
Gen Mark A. Welsh
CMSgt James A. Cody

LEADING
THE
CHARGE

Celebrating Our Independence

We are American Airmen. We are built on a foundation of integrity, selfless service and excellence. This is part of what makes us the world's greatest Air Force. The other part is that we are still an all-volunteer force. Each one of you has willfully pledged to help defend our nation against all enemies foreign and domestic, which extends to aiding our allies. Independence Day is a reminder of what we have sworn to protect -- our friends, our families, our sons, daughters, allies and partners. Thanks to all those who joined me on the flightline with the rest of Team Osan as we celebrated 240 years of independence during the annual Liberty Fest. What a show!

[Osan Liberty Fest information \(on page 2\)](#)

Always Ready, Always Vigilant

We display our readiness capabilities constantly and I am proud of how dedicated the Mustangs are to ensuring the 51st Fighter Wing is ready to “Fight Tonight.” In the recent weeks, we’ve seen increased provocation from North Korea with the firing of two missiles. ISIS has called out for sympathizers to attack U.S. and NATO facilities around the world, including here in the Republic of Korea. We must remain vigilant and prepared to respond at any time to emerging threats to us and our allies. It is essential we remain committed to ensuring the highest degree of readiness. I have zero doubts in our capabilities: we are proud and professional Airmen, skilled and able to accept any challenge placed in front of us and stampede over it in true Mustang fashion. Leading the charge!

[ROKAF/Air Force complete Buddy Wing exercise](#)

Evolving the Air Force

Our Air Force is constantly evolving. We are the youngest of the U.S. Armed Forces and have advanced our force to be the best. With advancement in assets and capabilities comes hard decisions and change. We have a new Enlisted Evaluation System, new leadership development tools and just recently rolled out the plan for a Blended Retirement System. The new BRS puts Airmen in control of their retirement and allows 85 percent of Airmen to receive retirement benefits, even if they don't qualify for full retirement. Leaders and command teams, make sure your Airmen understand this new system and how it affects them. To find out more about how the BRS works, visit the links below.

[Official Military Compensation Website](#) [BRS Training Modules](#)