

AFROTC DETACHMENT 465

Home of 2023 #1 Small Detachment in the Nation



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Cadre's Corner

Written By: TSgt Ashley DeWolf

For those who don't know me, I'm Technical Sergeant (TSgt) Ashley DeWolf, and my primary Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC) is 1N1 – Imagery Analyst. Currently, I have the privilege of serving as an 8B3 AFROTC Accession Instructor, responsible for guiding AS100 (freshman-level) cadets as they begin their journey into the Air Force. As we kick off a new semester, I want to extend a warm welcome to both returning and new cadets. Your dedication, resilience, and enthusiasm inspire me daily, and I look forward to another semester of learning and growth together.



AFROTC Accession Instructor



This past month, I celebrated a personal and professional milestone—my promotion to Technical Sergeant. This promotion was especially meaningful as I was promoted in the same month as my sister, who flew in from Washington, D.C., to promote to Lieutenant Colonel. My husband ((S)Sgt DeWolf) and three sons tacked on my new stripes, while my parents, including my father (a retired

Major), were also present to share in this special occasion. In the Air Force, "tacking on stripes" refers to a tradition where a newly promoted Airman has their rank insignia (stripes) lightly tapped or "punched" on to their uniform by a mentor, fellow service member of the same rank or higher, or family members. This signifies congratulations and symbolically secures their new rank in place, representing good luck and ensuring they don't "lose" their promotion. Although my official promotion date was January 1st, I wanted the cadets to be part of this moment, reinforcing the deep sense of camaraderie and tradition that makes the Air Force so unique.





The promotion to TSgt is one of the most challenging in our enlisted structure, with only a small percentage of Airmen advancing each year. Several factors make this rank particularly difficult to achieve. First, there is intense competition—many highly qualified Staff Sergeants compete for a limited number of promotion slots, making the selection process extremely competitive. Additionally, the transition to TSgt comes

with significantly increased leadership expectations, as it marks a shift from technical expertise to supervisory and leadership roles. Beyond that, TSgts are expected to master their Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC) at an advanced level while also mentoring and managing junior Airmen. The selection process is rigorous and involves a combination of performance evaluations, test scores, and scrutiny by a promotion board. These high standards ensure that only the most qualified and capable Airmen earn the rank.

The Air Force's long-standing traditions of promotion and re-enlistment ceremonies serve as reminders of our commitment to service, excellence, and heritage. As I step into this new role, I am incredibly grateful for the wisdom of my fellow cadre members and the lessons I continue to learn from the exceptional cadets I instruct. I am proud to be part of the world's greatest Air Force, and I look forward to seeing each of you grow into incredible Air Force Officers.



New Wing Commander

C/Col Grant Bowden

My name is Cadet Grant Bowden, and I am the Detachment 465 Cadet Wing Commander (CW/CC) for the Spring 2025 semester. I am currently a senior studying political science and history, and will be graduating and commissioning as a 2nd Lieutenant this May. After graduation, I am headed to Laughlin AFB, in Del Rio, Texas to begin my career in the US Air Force!

As CW/CC, I am responsible for leading the Cadet Wing in our mission. I applied to be the CW/CC because throughout my AFROTC experience, I looked up to those in that position before me, and I wanted to leave an impact and make the lives of the cadets around me even just a little bit better before I graduated from the program. Our Detachment does really great things, and has the potential to do even more, and I wanted to be a part of expanding that impact. That's why my mission and vision for our cadet wing focuses on iteration – refining our plans and operations, capturing what we learn so we don't lose momentum, and expanding the scope of what we try to accomplish – all to accelerate the rate at which we improve in the long term.



Mission

Recruit, retain, and train cadets into leaders of character, who are prepared to fight and win as future 2nd LTs.

Vision

Plan Forward, Expand Impact, Move Faster

Why PT?

C/Capt Wyatt Vivier

PT spelled out is Physical Training, and what that means in simple terms is time that we as cadets devote to the physical requirements of being an Air Force Officer. We train our muscular and cardiovascular endurance for our Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA) movements, and practice skills that will provide us with a healthy lifestyle beyond our time in AFROTC.

On Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings at 0600, cadets come together to complete prescribed workouts written by myself or my technicians. Some of the workouts we've done this semester are bodyweight circuits, partner workouts, running, and cardio training, and even some weighted resistance training.



My philosophy as Physical Fitness Officer aligns with our Cadet Wing Commander's desire to build physically fit and resilient cadets for not only their time in the program, but for the rest of their lives. The revamp in our training philosophy has allowed cadets to expand their knowledge of healthy habits and workouts, as well as revolutionized their idea of fitness.

The goal for the semester is to inspire cadets to take more accountability for their health and teach them positive habits to practice the rest of their lives. One way we measure our fitness as defined by the Air Force is through our Physical Fitness Diagnostics (PFD). We had our first diagnostic on 30 January, and the Cadet Wing performed well! Our second assessment of the semester was 27 February, and the results were even better than January's, showing the strides our cadets can make with their fitness knowledge and training. The bar has been set high and it's exciting to see what we all accomplish physically this semester!

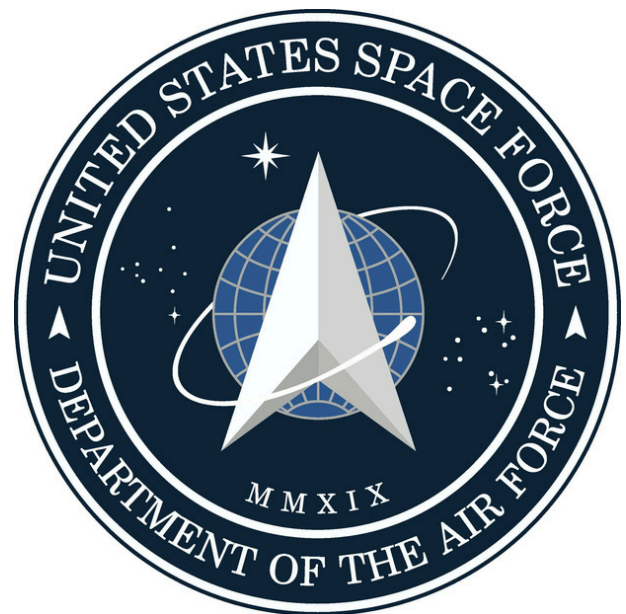
i5 Program

C/3C Dillon Kim

My name is Dillon Kim (C/Kim) and I am the i5 Detachment Commander at Det 465. I am pursuing a data science major with a focus in Artificial Intelligence and have always been passionate about striving towards the next big thing. I started as a mechanical engineering major, and while there is much innovation to be done in that realm, the advances in cyberspace and space are near limitless. This led me to pursuing a career within the United States Space Force.

i5 is a perfect gateway for cadets who have similar passions to kickstart their own journey into the unknowns of Space and Cyberspace. The organization provides many Professional Development Opportunities (PDTs) to cadets that range from online webinars with actual Space Force officers to contributing to Military AI (Artificial Intelligence) frameworks. i5 also conducts "War Games", essentially simulations of cyberspace battles that can be both fun and challenging for cadets to take part in. It was encouraging to see that 10 cadets were interested, more than enough to form our own detachment at UNL. As we continue to work with USAFA to make our i5 detachment operational, we are designing a candidacy program to streamline the interested cadets into i5 members so they can benefit from i5's opportunities as quickly as possible.

The mission of the USSF is to develop our nation's interests in, from, and to space. I am confident that the i5 detachment at UNL will develop cadets into leaders of character who will fight and win those wars.



Cadets in the Community

Airman's Attic

C/4C Tyson Klingler

I'm Cadet Klingler and I had the opportunity to volunteer at the Airman's Attic on February 8th on Offutt Air Force Base with a handful of other cadets from Detachment 465. While we were there, we were assigned with various tasks that included the rearrangement of their food pantry, the organization of their clothing section, as well as the organization of the kid's section. Soon after getting there, I realized just how important the Airman's Attic was and how impactful it was to the airmen at Offutt AFB.



Even though it was a Saturday, there were countless people coming and going with items that were donated there. My time there has reinforced my values because it showed me the importance of being generous and helping my fellow wingmen.

Track & Field Volunteering

C/3C Wyatt Christensen

I'm Cadet Christensen and I'm a sophomore at Air Force ROTC (AFROTC) Detachment 465. On February 7, there was an opportunity to volunteer to work at UNL's Frank Sevigne Husker Invitational Track Meet with other members from both Army ROTC (AROTC) and Navy ROTC (NROTC). For the Friday section of the event, we worked on the Pentathlon Long Jump. We were responsible for raking the sand pit after each athlete's jump was measured, which was a great opportunity to work with members of the other branches to foster a spirit of a Joint Force all working towards the same goal. It was also a great way to grow our relationship with UNL's Athletic Department. Overall, it was a great experience getting to be a small part of making a Big Ten Track & Field event function, as well as watching all of UNL's track and field athletes in action.

Superbowl Party

C/4C Rachael Stanley

This semester, I have been given the chance to be a Tech for the Engagement Squadron. One of the first tasks us Techs got assigned was to plan a Super Bowl Party for the Detachment. Lots of planning went into this event, such as figuring out how many people would attend and knowing how much food and drinks to buy. To ensure everyone had something they could enjoy, we sent out a form where cadets could list any preferences they had regarding snacks and refreshments. In the end, we had about 20 people attend and just the right amount of food! To make the party a bit more interesting, we had a Super Bowl Score Prediction competition where cadets could guess what the ending scores would be. Overall, it was a great party with the Eagles securing a win!



Cadet Spotlight

C/Capt Matthew Leslie

I am Matthew Leslie and I am an AS300 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. I am a Political Science major studying the subareas of American Government and Policies and the Biology and Psychology of Political Science. This semester, I am a Flight Instructor for a flight of BCLs where I guide the underclassmen through the challenges of ROTC and expectations for the upperclassmen.

Outside of AFROTC, I play as a defenseman for the UNL's Men's Ice Hockey Club, ranked 23rd in the nation. I've been playing hockey since I was 5 years old and wanted to continue that journey through college and have been playing for the UNL Club for the last 3 years. We recently won the inaugural Nebraska Cup in front of a record setting crowd, beating UNO 6-1 in the finals. The Nebraska Cup is a competitive series between Creighton University, UNO, and UNL with the winner being the person who wins the most games against one another.

Flyin Irish Basketball Tournament

C/Capt Wyatt Vivier

This year at the Flyin Irish Invitational Basketball Tournament, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Detachment 465 accomplished something they never had before: winning a game at the tournament. Sights were set high after a dozen hours of practice, a scrimmage with UNO's Det 470, and an intramural game days before hitting the road.



However, this tournament isn't just about basketball. It is a wonderful networking opportunity for cadets as well as a great way for our cadets to get to know each other and bond through the act of competition. The team got really close after 20 hours in the car, late nights up playing games, and playing 3 basketball games in 2 days. We are already looking forward to hitting the road again next year to celebrate the 40th anniversary with the hosts at Notre Dame!

Congratulations to our Cadets at Notre Dame!



Wyatt Vivier
Trent Tucker
Brandon Lahne
Madison Pozzi
Ethan Covington
Josiah Madson
Olivia Fortin
Joe Stuedemann
Colton Choat
Caitlyn Cronbaugh
Grace Anderson
Abigail Hughes

AFROTC Lingo

Written By: Cadet Madison Pozzi

One of the hardest parts of Air Force Reserve Officer Training, is learning all of the acronyms. Below is a cheat sheet of some of our common acronyms to help understand your cadet.

- Air Force Officer Qualifying Test (AFOQT) - A standardized test that measures a cadet's verbal, math, and academic aptitudes. The test is used to select applicants for commissioning, as well as specific jobs, including Pilot. This test takes approximately five hours, and is similar to other standardized testing
- Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) - An educational program that allows college students to receive officer training while also earning their degree, then commissioning into the Air Force as a Second Lieutenant (O-1) following graduation.
- Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC) - An alphanumeric code that is used by the U.S. Air Force to identify a specific job.
- AS100 - First-year cadets, usually freshmen.
- AS200 - Second-year cadets, usually sophomores.
- AS300 - Third-year cadets, usually juniors.
- AS400 - Fourth-year cadets, usually seniors.
- Basic Cadet (BC) - Formerly IMT. Cadets in their first year of training who are not scheduled to attend Field Training; Usually freshmen.
- Basic Cadet Leader (BCL) - Formerly FTP. Cadets training to attend Field Training during the upcoming summer; Usually sophomores.
- Cadre - Active-duty commissioned officers and enlisted that lead the AFROTC program. They also teach aerospace classes.
- Dress Blues - Dress uniform consisting of a short or long-sleeve blue shirt, navy blue slacks, belt, black shined low-quarters and flight cap.
- Enrollment Allocation (EA) - Earned by cadets their AS200 year; this provides the cadet with a spot in the Air Force, with their job to be determined later.
- Extended Cadet Leader (ECL) - Cadets that have completed Field Training as well as at least two years of LLAB, but still have one or two academic terms left; Usually fifth years.
- Field Training - Typically two weeks over the summer between AS200 and AS300. This is a leadership evaluation at Maxwell Air Force Base. Completing this allows a cadet to move into the POC.
- Flight Time - An allotted time for a flight to complete extra training. This time is not mandatory and is held by the flight trainer.
- General Military Course (GMC) - The category of cadets that have not attended Field Training. This consists of IMTs and FTPs.
- Intermediate Cadet Leader (ICL) - Cadets returning from Field Training; Usually juniors.
- Leadership Laboratory (LLAB) - An allotted time period used for military training. For GMC cadets, this time is used to train, including, but not limited to, marching and drill, tactics, and procedures. POC cadets learn leadership skills by leading the GMC cadets.
- Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) - Enlisted officers that have not commissioned. In the U.S. Air Force staff sergeant (E-5) and technical sergeant (E-6) are considered NCOs.

- Operational Camouflage Pattern (OCP) - Camouflage uniform currently utilized by both the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Army.
- Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA) - A fitness test consisting of a minute of push-ups, a minute of sit-ups, and a mile and a half run. Each component has an associated number of points related to the number of repetitions completed.
- Physical Fitness Diagnostic (PFD) - Physical fitness assessment that is practice for the PFA. Used to see where the cadet is at with physical fitness.
- Physical Training (PT) - An allotted amount of time dedicated to performing physical activity.
- Physical Training Gear (PTG) - Uniform worn when completing PT.
- Professional Military Training (PMT) - An allotted time to complete training. This includes PT and LLAB.
- Professional Officer Course (POC) - The category of cadets that have completed Field Training. This consists of ICLs, SCLs, and ECLs.
- Senior Cadet Leader (SCL) - Cadets scheduled to commission in the upcoming year; Usually seniors.
- Service Dress - Long-sleeve dress blues with the navy-blue service coat. Service coat displays ribbons and, a silver name tag, if the cadet has completed Field Training.
- Uniform of Day (UOD) - The uniform that will be worn during the day.
- Warrior Knowledge - Specific statements that are to be learned verbatim by cadets. This includes but is not limited to the Air Force Song, the Chain of Command, and a series of quotes and mission statements.

