

AFROTC DETACHMENT 465

Home of 2023 #1 Small Detachment in the Nation



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Cadre's Corner

Written By: TSgt Miller

It's with a mix of emotions that I write my final article, not just as a member of the cadre here at Detachment 465, but as an Airman completing my service in the Air Force. The past seven years in Air Force ROTC, and particularly my last three at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, have truly been the highlight of my career.

As I transition to the next chapter, I wanted to share a couple of lessons that have shaped my journey:

* Bloom where you are planted. I didn't join the Air Force to push paper, and frankly, filling out forms wasn't exactly my passion. But as a new Airman, once I mastered my primary duties, I actively sought out new opportunities. I became Vice President of the Booster Club, a Volunteer Victims Advocate, and even spent a month supporting Wounded Warrior.

Between those and two deployments, I was rarely at my desk. My leadership, who incredibly supported these "adventures," even gave me a commemorative plaque, cut in half – a testament to their understanding that personal fulfillment directly impacted my job performance. You won't always love your job, and some days will be tough, but finding other ways to contribute made me a better Airman and made those challenging days much more bearable.



TSgt Miller presenting the Profession of Honor Award to 2nd Lt Viver

* Don't take "no" as the definitive answer. When I was at my previous AFROTC unit in Delaware, I was told to look for open Air Force positions. I scrolled until I found it: Administrator Detachment 465, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. My Chief immediately told me "no," citing a 24-hour overlap between my report date for UNL (June 30th) and my last day in Delaware (July 1st). I wasn't about to let 24 hours and a single "no" stand in the way of what I wanted. Don't let the first "no" stop you from pursuing your goals!

I have no doubt that the future of the Air and Space Force is incredibly bright with the caliber of leaders coming out of Detachment 465.

Honor Guard

Written By: C/Lt Col Shelby Stevens

My name is Shelby Stevens and served as the Honor Guard Commander for Spring 2025. I am an AS300 cadet majoring in Data Science and I am from Hubbard, Nebraska.

Honor guard is an extracurricular AFROTC team where cadets present the colors during the anthem at a variety of events, such as Husker basketball games, a hockey game, Dining out and Chancellors Review

During the awards ceremony in May, I formally passed on the role of Honor Guard Commander to Cadet Briseno. Throughout the semester, he has consistently demonstrated strong leadership and dedication to the Honor Guard program.

He volunteered countless hours to support various color guard events, assisted with a wide range of tasks, played a key role in mentoring the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) cadet drill team and organized training sessions. Cadet Briseno's contributions this semester were invaluable, and I am confident he will thrive in his new role as Honor Guard Commander.



Change of Command to C/Briseno

Honor Guard's Newest Actives

This semester, Cadet Briseno successfully trained seven cadets into the Honor Guard program. He led instruction on the proper execution of both Joint and Air Force color guards, ensuring the candidates were fully prepared to professionally represent our Detachment and the United States Air Force. The following individuals have demonstrated exceptional dedication, professionalism, and excellence throughout their training. Congratulations to our newest active members and welcome to the Flying Husker Honor Guard!

Newly Trained Cadets:

Grace Anderson

Wyatt Christensen

Caitlyn Cronbaugh

Brandon Dubas

Hunter Falkinburg

Josh Havlovic

Josiah Madson



C/Briseno handing out Honor Guard cords

Civil Air Patrol Honor Guard Trainings

Written By: C/3C Ayden Briseno

Hello, I'm Ayden Briseno, an Electrical Engineering Sophomore at UNL. As well as being a full time student I am also a cadet at Detachment 465, aspiring to become an officer in the United States Air Force. I am honored to be serving as the 2025-26 Color Guard Commander this academic year and hope to bring exciting new ideas to our Flying Husker Honor Guard.



C/Seaman presenting certificate and coin to C/Briseno



C/Seaman presenting certificate and coin to C/Stevens

Over the spring semester, Cadet Stevens and I made several trips to the Lincoln National Guard Base, where we provided guidance to Civil Air Patrol (CAP) cadets on Honor Guard and Drill. This consisted of giving the cadets tips on marching, bearing, professionalism, and attention to detail. Our support helped the CAP cadets improve significantly and ultimately secure first place overall in their drill competition.

It was a valuable learning experience, as I hadn't realized how significant the differences were between color guard drill and honor guard drill. The Flying Husker Honor Guard primarily focuses on color guard and often collaborates with joint service teams, so we had to refresh our knowledge and skills specific to honor guard drill.

On 16 May, the CAP cadets came to UNL to present us with a certificate and coin showing their appreciation. Working with and supporting these cadets was an incredibly rewarding experience, and it's a partnership the Flying Husker Honor Guard greatly values. We look forward to strengthening this relationship and hope to continue collaborating with them in the coming year.

New Cadet Wing Leadership

Written By: C/Col Josephine Hartley

My name is Cadet Josephine Hartley, and I will serve as the Deputy Cadet Wing Commander (CW/CD) for Detachment 465 during the Fall 2025 semester. I recently completed my junior year as a Construction Management major, and my assigned Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC) is Nuclear/Missile Operations Officer.

In my role as CW/CD, I will work closely with Cadet Elena Burgwald, the incoming Cadet Wing Commander. We are both honored and excited for the opportunity to lead, support, and mentor cadets throughout the wing. As we are preparing to welcome new cadets this fall, we have finalized our wing staff and are actively developing the Operations Plan for the semester.



Change of Command Ceremony

The mission of AFROTC is, "Develop Air and Space Force leaders of character whom we expect to fight and win our nation's wars." To support that mission, our vision for the semester—while still being finalized—will likely emphasize resiliency, discipline, ownership and integrity. Cadet Burgwald and I believe these qualities are essential to shaping not only strong cadets, but also capable and principled Second Lieutenants. While the vision will apply to the wing as a whole, each class may place greater emphasis on different aspects. Freshmen will need resiliency as they face the initial challenges of joining the program. Sophomores, preparing for Field Training, will focus on sharpening their skills and building discipline. Juniors, stepping into Professional Officer Course roles, will be expected to take ownership of their new responsibilities. Finally, seniors must lead with integrity, mentoring younger cadets and setting the standard as they prepare to commission.



CW/CC C/Colonel Elena Burgwald



CW/CD C/Colonel Josephine Hartley

Awards Ceremony

Written By: C/4C Hunter Falkenburg

The awards ceremony is a significant event held each semester within the detachment. It is a time during the semester when we formally recognize fellow cadets for their outstanding achievements, both within ROTC and beyond. The ceremony features a variety of awards presented by Cadre, cadets, and outside organizations. These awards honor accomplishments in areas such as physical fitness, academics, leadership, and overall contribution.



Academic Honors award recipients

Some awards are given to individuals, while others recognize the achievements of entire flights or groups—for example, the Honor Flight and Warrior Flight awards. One of my personal favorites is the NCO Stripe Award, which allows cadets to nominate their peers. It gives cadets the opportunity to recognize the positive impact their fellow cadets have made within the detachment.

This semester, our detachment accomplished several notable things, including organizing the Battle for Nebraska against the UNO detachment. This event consisted of a series of physical competitions where both detachments faced off in a spirit of camaraderie and challenge. Our cadets also successfully planned and executed a Dining Out event, celebrating Air Force tradition and the bonds we've built with one another.

At the awards ceremony, I was honored to receive three awards, one of which recognized my induction into the Honor Guard. The Honor Guard is a team of cadets who perform color guard duties at public events such as football and basketball games, representing the detachment with precision and pride.



C/Ward receiving the NCO stripes award

In addition to the Honor Guard, there are several other specialized organizations cadets can join, including Arnold Air Society, Pershing Rifles, i-5, and Honor Guard. Each group offers a unique opportunity to engage in different aspects of Air Force and military culture, such as rifle movements and ceremonial presentations of the colors. Beyond that, I also received the AFROTC Achievement Award and AFROTC Academic Honors. The Academic Honors award is presented to cadets who earn a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher, recognizing their commitment to academic excellence. Overall, the award ceremony is a special event that allows cadets to be recognized for their outstanding achievements throughout the semester. It highlights part of the detachment and cadets that would otherwise go unnoticed.

Whiteman Air Force Base Visit

Written By: C/3C Wyatt Christensen

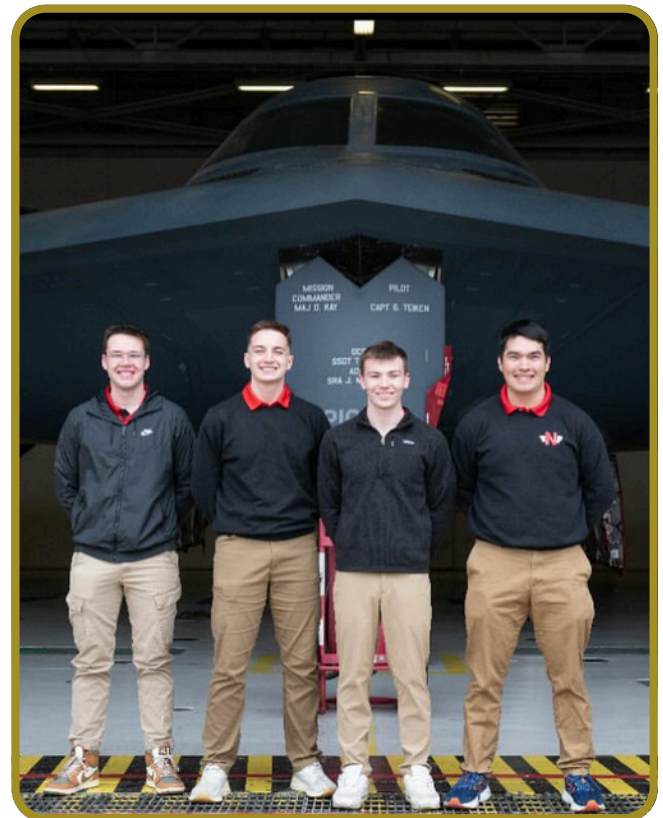
My name is Cadet Wyatt Christensen, and I am a sophomore at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, currently assigned to Detachment 465. On April 18th, 2025, we traveled to Whiteman Air Force Base, located about 45 minutes east of Kansas City. There, we met with pilots from the 393rd Bomb Squadron (BS), who briefed us on their unit's history and the capabilities of the B-2 Spirit.

We learned that the 393rd BS is the same squadron that dropped the two atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki during World War II (WWII) while flying the B-29 Superfortress. To date, they remain the only squadron to have employed nuclear weapons in combat. Today, they are the only operational stealth bomber squadron in the United States Air Force (USAF), flying the B-2 Spirit—currently the only active stealth bomber in the world capable of striking any target globally from Whiteman AFB.

After the briefing, we had the opportunity to see the Spirit of Louisiana, one of the B-2 aircraft. All B-2s are named “Spirit of [State],” with the exceptions of The Spirit of America and The Spirit of Kitty Hawk, the latter named in honor of the Wright brothers’ first flight. We were joined by three pilots from the 13th Bomb Squadron. One of the pilots, Lt. Norder, is an Alumni from Detachment 465 and training to fly the B-2 soon.

B-2 pilots are among the few in the USAF who are dual-qualified in both the B-2 Spirit and the T-38 Talon, allowing them to maintain flight hours. We were allowed to walk around the bomber and even sit in the cockpit. Afterward, we visited the loading simulator, which contained training munitions representing the full range of ordnance the B-2 can carry. One of the most impressive was the GBU-57A/B

Massive Ordnance Penetrator (MOP), weighing 5,000 lbs. and capable of penetrating up to 200 feet of concrete. Overall, it was an incredible experience, and I had a great time.



Commissioning

Written By: 2Lt Raen Lubben

Commissioning is a moment every cadet looks forward to as it marks the achievement of our first major milestone. All the late nights, early mornings, and countless hours of studying and training have finally paid off, and we have earned the “butter bars” we have dreamed about.

Now it is time to apply what we have learned over the past four years. We were given opportunities to lead teams, manage resources, and develop communication skills. However, the greatest skill we learned is the importance of teamwork.

Detachment 465 is one of the best teams anyone can join. Cadets and cadre work together to challenge, support, and develop each new cadet into the best version of themselves which is my biggest takeaway. Creating a team like Detachment 465 that is dedicated to doing their best, working hard and is rooted in trust is the ultimate achievement. As I move forward into my new career as a second lieutenant I'll carry that lesson with me: that great leaders don't just lead individuals, they build and empower teams.



Congrats to the newest 2nd Lieutenants from
Detachment 465!

Grant Bowden - Intelligence
Colton Choat - Pilot
Ethan Forcade - Nuclear/Missile Operations
Jared Gallub - Medical School
Maggie Gochenour - Security Forces
Grant Grosserode - Nuclear/Missile Operations
Raen Lubben - Gold Bar Recruiter/Aircraft
Maintenance
Jadon Smith - JAG
Wyatt Viver - Aircraft Maintenance



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.

