Davis-Monthan AFB & The City of Tucson

"Airpower for America Since 1927"

60th USAF

80th Davis-Monthan

September 14, 2007
Evening Events

Cocktails and Touring the D-M Heritage Hangar

Posting of the Colors

National Anthem

Welcoming Remarks and Introductions

The Warrior Table

Invocation

Dinner

Guest of Honor Senator Jon Kyl

Tribute Productions' Casting and Entertainment
“1940 Big Band”

Colonel Kent Laughbaum

The Airman's Creed

Birthday Cake Cutting Ceremony

Air Force Song

Swing Dancing and Social
Senator Jon Kyl of Arizona

Jon Kyl was elected to the U.S. Senate from Arizona in 1994 and re-elected in 2000 and 2006, after having served four terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. He serves on the Senate Finance Committee, where he is the ranking Republican on the Subcommittee on Taxation and IRS Oversight, and on the Judiciary Committee, where he is the ranking Republican on the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology, and Homeland Security. As chairman of the Senate Republican Conference, he directs the communications operations of Senate Republicans and is the third-ranking member of the Republican Leadership. Among recent accomplishments and legislative efforts, Kyl has:

—Led efforts to increase funding for border security and to reimburse states for the cost of providing federally mandated health care to undocumented immigrants and incarcerating criminal aliens;
—Served as the driving force behind the landmark Arizona Water Settlements Act;
—Won passage of legislation to establish the Ecological Restoration Institute at Northern Arizona University, and to expand Arizona’s Petrified Forest National Park;
—Won passage of a historic bill guaranteeing the rights of crime victims; and
—Successfully fought for strong anti-terrorism tools for law enforcement, including the “Lone-Wolf Fix” to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

Before his public service, Kyl practiced law at Jennings, Strouss & Salmon in Phoenix. In 1985 he served as chairman of the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce. Born in Oakland, Nebraska, Kyl received both his bachelor’s and law degrees from the University of Arizona. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa and was editor-in-chief of the Arizona Law Review. He and his wife Caryll have two children, Kristine Kyl Gavin and John Kyl, and four grandchildren.
Dear Friends,

Since the earliest days of aviation, airmen at Davis-Monthan and the citizens of Tucson have shared a common bond of friendship and service. During the last 80 years we have grown strong together, and share a tremendous sense of optimism in the future.

In 1919 city leaders devoted acreage to create the first-ever city owned municipal airfield in the nation. That land is now part of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base. Davis-Monthan was formally opened on September 23, 1927. Charles Lindbergh, fresh from his non-stop crossing of the Atlantic Ocean, flew his "Spirit of St. Louis" to Tucson to dedicate Davis-Monthan Municipal. The airport was named in honor of Lieutenants Samuel H. Davis and Oscar Monthan. Davis and Monthan were two of Tucson's very own sons. They were also World War I-era pilots. Sadly, both of these officers died in military aircraft accidents.

During World War II Davis-Monthan was home to the B-24 "Liberator" bomber and an enormous flying training program. This program helped ensure that American airpower prevailed in Europe and the Pacific. Airmen, by the tens of thousands trained at Davis-Monthan during the world war, and after achieving victory many returned to Tucson to live. The families of these airmen populate Tucson today in great numbers.

Immediately following World War II, Strategic Air Command began operations at Davis-Monthan. America's first jet bomber, the B-47 Stratojet, was based here throughout the 1950's. These aircraft were constantly "On Alert" for possible war against the Soviet Union. Later, Davis-Monthan became home to several Titan-II intercontinental ballistic missiles. Ultimately the deterrence provided by these forces ensured our country remained
As early as 1953 Davis-Monthan AFB was home to jet fighter aircraft as pilots trained in the F-86, the F-100, and beginning in 1964, the world-famous F-4 Phantom. Many of the pilots who served in Korea and Vietnam trained at Davis-Monthan AFB, making our Air Force the greatest in the world.

In 1971 the 355th Fighter Wing transferred to Davis-Monthan AFB, and the men and women of Davis-Monthan continued to deploy to Southeast Asia until 1974. Initially equipped with the A-7D, the 355th FW transitioned to the A-10 Thunderbolt II in 1976. By the end of the decade, with the phase-out of the A-7, the 355th Fighter Wing became the Air Force's largest A-10 unit.

As Davis-Monthan entered the 1990s, it continued to train A-10 fighter pilots for assignments to units in the United States, England and Korea. D-M eventually became home to EC-130's and HH-60 rescue helicopters. Moreover, D-M is also home to HQ 12th Air Force.

Just as Tucson has grown in significance as a forward thinking western city, Davis-Monthan has grown to become one of Air Combat Command’s premiere Air Force bases. We share a common vision of hope for the future! The same sense of service to nation reflected by Tucson’s early citizens Samuel Davis and Oscar Monthan continues as over 1000 of your Airmen are deployed around the world today defending America!

Tonight we celebrate the 60th birthday of our Air Force, and the 80th birthday of Davis-Monthan. Thank you for sharing this important evening with your Airmen. May the bonds of friendship continue to keep us strong.

Colonel Kent Laughbaum
Commander
355th Fighter Wing
In combat, lives depend on equipment performance. Raytheon solutions have earned mission assurance-based trust from the warfighter, delivering proven performance in the most demanding conditions.
United States Air Force

60th Anniversary

Heritage to Horizons:
Commemorating 60 Years of Air & Space Power

October 2006 - November 2007
Charles Hamilton
Tucson's First Flight
February 19, 1910

Charles Lindbergh
Spirit of St. Louis
September 23, 1927

B-24 Liberator
1942-1945

Lucky Lady II
First Around the World
February 26, 1949
B-47 Stratojet
303rd Bomb Wing
1953

EC-130 Compass Call
55 Electronic Combat Group
2007

HH-60 Pave Hawk
563rd Rescue Group
2007

A-10 Thunderbolt II
355th Fighter Wing
2007
With special thanks to Count Ferdinand von Galen!
Friend to America’s Airmen
Chairman of the Board of the Arizona Aerospace Foundation
60th USAF and 80th D-M Anniversary Logo

The 60th USAF and 80th D-M Anniversary logo was created by Airmen from across Davis-Monthan AFB. The design is rich with symbolism. Most importantly, it is a reminder of the close relationship shared by the Airmen at D-M and the citizens of our host city, Tucson.

The front of the emblem symbolizes our Air Force heritage at Davis-Monthan AFB. The HAP Arnold wings speak of the beginnings of American Airpower and the crucial role the base played in its establishment. In 1927, Charles Lindbergh landed here to dedicate the airfield with his Spirit of St. Louis; 80 years later we have grown into a strong combat team, with thousands of our Airmen stationed around the globe. As the skyward contrails of the Air Force Memorial attest, our progress is ever increasing thanks to the service, ultimate sacrifice and support of our Airmen and Citizens.

The back of the emblem commemorates the close relationship Davis-Monthan and the City of Tucson have maintained since 1927. The city’s support enabled critical B-24 Liberator training, providing the capability to send Airmen to every theater of combat in World War II. This is still the case today, as the City of Tucson’s unending support provides the capability to train and deploy Airmen world-wide to project airpower in the Global War on Terror.

The seven stars in front of the B-24 represent the seven wars and campaigns that DM has directly supported: WWII, Korea, Viet Nam, Cold War, Gulf War I, Gulf War II, and Afghanistan.
America's Airmen stationed at Davis-Monthan AFB deeply appreciate the sponsors of our USAF 60th and D-M 80th birthday celebration!
Special Thanks for Incredible Support!
355th Services Squadron
355th Civil Engineering

USAF 60th and D-M 80th Birthday Committee

Capt Jerime Reid
2Lt Brooke Arnold
Ms. Frances Pientack
Mrs. Heike Smith
Mr. Larry Sanders
CMSgt Jeremy Samuel
MSgt Prezell Hudson
MSgt Danny Nearn
MSgt Paul Richard
Mr. Doug Herndon

Mrs. Nancy Blythe
Mrs. Karen Halstead
Mr. Tom Murphy
MSgt Nancy Montez
Ms. Kathy Knop
TSgt John Bleam
1Lt Levi Davis
MSgt Todd Fuller
2Lt Robin Herndon
Mr. Charlie Niblett

Special Thanks to our Warbird Pilots!

Mr. Robin Stoddard
Capt Don Walpole
Roy and Dee Dee McCaldin
Dr. Ken Wagner
Danny Donn
The Air Force Song

Off we go into the wild blue yonder,
Climbing high into the sun.
Here they come,
zooming to meet our thunder;
At 'em boys, give 'er the gun!

Down we dive, spouting our flame
from under,
Off with one hell-of-a-roar!
We live in fame, or go down in flame.

Nothing will stop the U.S. Air Force!
Congratulations Davis-Monthan Air Force Base! Mission after mission and flight after flight, Raytheon has provided combat-proven precision warfare solutions. We are proud of our historic partnership and we look forward to the future.

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Raytheon
Customer Success Is Our Mission
The Airman's Creed

I am an American Airman,
    I am a warrior.
I have answered my nation's call.

I am an American Airman.
My mission is to Fly, Fight, and Win.
I am faithful to a proud heritage,
    A tradition of honor,
And a legacy of valor.

I am an American Airman,
Guardian of freedom and justice,
My nation's sword and shield,
    Its sentry and avenger.
I defend my country with my life.

I am an American Airman:
Wingman, Leader, Warrior.
I will never leave an Airman behind,
    I will never falter,
And I will not fail.