

STRENGTH
THROUGH
SUPPORT



Change of Command & Change of Responsibility

16 June 2026 | Wright-Patterson AFB



CEREMONY

- Welcome Remarks
- Arrival of the Official Party
- Presentation of Colors
- National Anthem
- Invocation
- Remarks by Lieutenant General Shipton
- Medal Presentation
- Remarks by Colonel Richards
- Medal Presentation
- Final Salute
- Change of Command/Change of Responsibility
- First Salute
- Remarks by Colonel Okumura
- Air Force Song
- Reception



CEREMONY PARTICIPANTS



PRESIDING OFFICER

Lt Gen Donna D. Shipton
Commander, Air Force Life Cycle Management Center

OUTGOING COMMANDER

Col Dustin C. Richards

INGOMING COMMANDER

Col Jason K. Okumura

OUTGOING COMMAND CHIEF

CMSgt Tessa M. Fontaine

INGOMING COMMAND CHIEF

CMSgt Jason W. Vollmer





88TH AIR BASE WING

LINEAGE

Designated 4000th Army Air Forces Base Unit (Command), and organized 1 Apr 44. Redesignated: 4000th Army Air Forces Base Unit (Air Base) on 21 Feb 45; 4000th Air Force Base Unit on 26 Sep 47; 2750th Air Force Base on 28 Aug 48; 2750th Air Base Wing on 5 Oct 49; 645th Air Base Wing on 1 Oct 92; 88th Air Base Wing on 1 Oct 94.

ASSIGNMENTS

Air Service Command, 1 Apr 44; Army Air Forces Technical Service Command (later, Air Technical Service Command; Air Materiel Command; Air Force Logistics Command), 31 Aug 44; Aeronautical Systems Center, 1 Jul 92; Air Force Life Cycle Management Center, 1 Oct 12.

STATIONS

Patterson Field, OH, 1 Apr 44; Wright Field, OH, 18 Aug 44; Wright-Patterson AFB OH, 13 Jan 48.

COMMANDERS

Unknown, 1 Apr 44 - Jul 45; Brig Gen Joseph T. Morris, Jul 45; Brig Gen C. Pratt Brown, Mar 52; Brig Gen Paul L. Barton, Oct 53; Brig Gen Donald L. Hardy, Aug 57; Brig Gen John D. Howe, Jul 58; Col James C. Cochran, May 60; Col Elbert Helton, Aug 60; Col Glen McClernon, Aug 62; Col Arthur E. Exon, Aug 64; Col Jowell C. Wise, Dec 65; Col

Colman O. Williams, Jul 68; Col Edmund A Rafalko, Sep 70; Col Irby B. Jarvis, Jr., Jun 72; Col Robert W. Clement, Jan 75; Col Titus C. Hall, Jan 76; Col Rano E. Lueker, Jan 77; Col James H. Rigney, Jr., Apr 79; Col Leonard R. Peterson, Jun 81; Col Charles E. Fox, Jr., Jun 84; Col Stephen F. Kollar, Mar 87; Col Dennis P. Tewell, Jul 89; Col William B. Drellana, Jul 90; Col Gerald K. Robinson, Jan 95; Col William J. Heitzig, Jun 96; Col Bobby L. Glisson, Jul 97; Col Richard C. Hughes (Acting), Dec 97; Col Michael A. Collings, Feb 98; Col Jeffrey R. Charles, Feb 00; Col Michael W. Hazen, Jun 00; Col Michael J. Belzil, Jul 02; Col Andrew K. Weaver, May 04; Col Colleen M. Ryan, Jun 06; Col Bradley D. Spacy, Jul 08; Col Amanda W. Gladney, Jun 10; Col Cassie B. Barlow, Jul 12; Col John M. Devillier, Jul 14; Col Bradley W. McDonald, Jun 16; Col Thomas P. Sherman, June 18; Col Patrick G. Miller, June 20; Col Christopher B. Meeke, June 23; Col Travis W. Pond, Jan 24; Col Dustin C. Richards, April 24; Col Jason K. Okumura, June 26.

COMMAND CHIEFS

CMSgt Clinton L. Allen, May 2005; CMSgt Scott A. Robinson, Feb 2006; CMSgt Martin K. Smith, June 2006; CMSgt John L. Hoffman, Jr., Oct 2008; CMSgt Shelina E. Frey, Jan 2011; CMSgt John Mazza, June 2012; CMSgt Charles R. Hoffman, Oct 2013; CMSgt Lisa R. Arnold, Apr 2015; CMSgt Kathlina G. Racine, Jan 2017; CMSgt Steven A. Arbona, May 2018; CMSgt Jason Q. Shaffer, July 2020; CMSgt Lloyd E. Morales, July 2022; CMSgt Tessa M. Fontaine, June 24; CMSgt Jason W. Vollmer, June 26.



OPERATIONS

Organized by Air Service Command to provide custodial and support functions for Wright Field. Expanded mission under the leadership of Brig Gen Joseph T. Morris, commander of both the unit and the Army Air Forces Technical Base, gaining full support responsibility for Patterson Field by early 1946. Became host wing for Wright-Patterson AFB on 5 Oct 49, exercising command jurisdiction over the base, and providing services necessary to support Headquarters of Air Materiel Command (later, Air Force Logistics Command) and numerous tenant units. Frequently supported humanitarian missions, such as the Xenia tornado relief, 3-11 Apr 74. Provided logistical support and served as a port of embarkation during contingency situations, most notably, 1965-1973 and 1990-1991.

After 1 Jul 92, provided logistic and administrative support for Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command, on-base and off-base tenant units in a five-state area, and managed resources with a real property value of more than \$5.24 billion. Supported Balkan Proximity Peace Talks, Oct-Nov 1995. Hosted the Air Force Marathon since 1997. Deployed personnel and munitions to Europe for Operation Allied Force in 1999. Supported Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, Noble Eagle, New Dawn, and Freedom's Sentinel. Today, the 88th Air Base Wing serves as the host wing for Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, providing installation and mission support to more than 100 mission partners and approximately 38,000 personnel.

DECORATIONS

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 Feb 72 - 31 Jan 74	1 Jan 03 - 31 Dec 03
1 Jan 83 - 31 Dec 84	1 May 08 - 30 Apr 10
1 Jan 87 - 31 Dec 88	21 Jun 10 - 20 Jun 12
1 Jan 89 - 31 Dec 89	1 Aug 13 - 31 Jul 15
1 Jan 90 - 31 Dec 91	1 Jan 18 - 31 Dec 19
1 Jan 95 - 31 Dec 95	1 Jan 22 - 31 Dec 23

SERVICE STREAMERS

World War II American Theater

MOTTO

"Strength Through Support"

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The vintage airplane, a Wright Flyer, is indicative of the aviation heritage of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, which the wing has supported since 1948. Wright-Patterson is known as the birthplace of aviation. The center portion – a Mach Cone or Shock Wave – denotes the aerospace mission of the wing. The stylized aircraft represent modern day weapon systems and symbolize the wing's ongoing support of Wright-Patterson AFB's role in the development of airpower.

RELINQUISHING COMMAND



Colonel Dustin C. Richards is the Commander of the 88th Air Base Wing at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, and relinquishes command during today's ceremony. The 88th Air Base Wing is the largest air base wing in the Air Force with more than 3,500 officers and enlisted Airmen, Air Force civilians and contractor employees. The wing provides support and services to the largest, most diverse, and most organizationally complex base in the Air Force which hosts a major acquisition center, research and development laboratories, a major command headquarters, an airlift wing,

and the world's largest military air museum. The base is home to more than 38,000 military, government civilian, and contractor employees and associate units.

Colonel Richards is a 2001 graduate of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. He has served in numerous Wings, Numbered Air Force, Air Staff positions, and commanded a Mission Support Group and three Civil Engineer Squadrons. He has deployed four times in support of Operations SOUTHERN WATCH, IRAQI FREEDOM, NEW DAWN, FREEDOM'S SENTINEL, and RESOLUTE SUPPORT. In his previous assignment, he served as the Senior Military Assistant, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Energy, Installations and Environment, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.



ASSUMING COMMAND

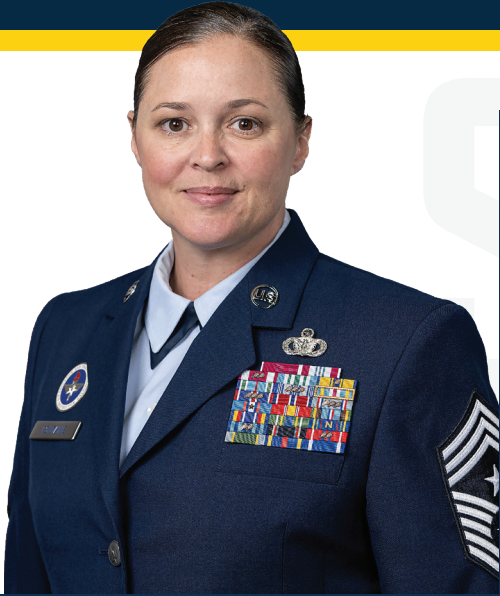
Colonel Jason K. Okumura assumes command of the 88th Air Base Wing at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, during today's ceremony. In his previous assignment, Colonel Okumura was the Commander of the 4th Mission Support Group, Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, Goldsboro, North Carolina. As the commander, he was responsible for the leadership of six squadrons including specialties such as the wing's civil engineers, communications and computer systems support, security and law enforcement, logistics readiness deployment and distribution, material management, vehicle management, and fuels management operations, contracting and procurement, personnel support, education, food services as well as housing, fitness, and recreational activities. Through these efforts he supported more than 13,000 people.

Colonel Okumura entered the Air Force in 2001 after graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree from Colorado State University. He is a Logistics Readiness Officer with experience in materiel management, distribution, and plans at tactical, operational, and strategic levels.

Colonel Okumura previously served as the Commander, 377th Mission Support Group, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico.



RELINQUISHING RESPONSIBILITY



Chief Master Sergeant Tessa M. Fontaine is the Command Chief of the 88th Air Base Wing at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, and relinquishes responsibility during today's ceremony. She leads and advises more than 3,500 officers and enlisted Airmen, Air Force civilians and contractor employees. The wing provides support and services to the most diverse, and most organizationally complex base in the Air Force which hosts a major acquisition center, research and development efforts, a major command headquarters, an airlift wing, and the world's largest military

air museum. The base is home to more than 38,000 military, government civilian, and contractor employees and associate personnel.

Fontaine was raised in Holyoke, Mass until she entered the Air Force in 1998. Her Security Forces background includes various bases, deployments, and duties. Additionally, she was assigned to the National Reconnaissance Office where she drove multiple joint espionage investigations securing convictions. From there, she served as a Military Training Instructor and in various leadership positions within Basic Military Training before returning to Security Forces. Prior to her current assignment she was the Command Chief for the Special Warfare Training Wing at Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA), Texas.



ASSUMING RESPONSIBILITY

Chief Master Sergeant Jason W. Vollmer assumes responsibility as Command Chief of the 88th Air Base Wing at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, during today's ceremony. In his previous assignment, Chief Master Sergeant Vollmer was the Command Chief Master Sergeant for the 66th Air Base Group at Hanscom Air Force Base, Massachusetts. He advised the installation commander on matters concerning the welfare, health, morale, proper utilization, training, and development of more than 10,000 active duty, Reserve, National Guard, Department of Defense civilians, and contractors across the New England area.



Chief Vollmer is a native of Wisner,

Nebraska, and entered the United States Air Force in January 2002. He graduated from the Electronic Warfare Systems course at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, in August 2002.

Throughout his career, Chief Vollmer has held a myriad of roles within the Maintenance and Electronic Warfare functional communities. Additionally, he has provided strategic leadership within Communications and Medical enterprises and has also filled developmental special duties as a Military Training Instructor and First Sergeant. His stateside assignments include Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, Hill Air Force Base, Utah, Hurlburt Field Air Force Base, Florida, Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina, and Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. Chief Vollmer has also served overseas at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, and has deployed in support of Operations ENDURING FREEDOM and FREEDOM'S SENTINEL to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, and in support of Operation INHERENT RESOLVE to Ahmad Al Jaber Air Base, Kuwait.*

*Biography edited for concision.



Command Chief Remarks

CMSgt Tessa M. Fontaine

Serving as your Command Chief has been a profound honor, and I want to express my deepest gratitude to the 88th Air Base Wing and Team Wright-Patt. Keep driving this war-fighting platform to new heights, embrace mission command, and never lose sight of taking care of our greatest asset—our people. Farewell, and thank you for the lasting, positive impact you have made on me and my family.

CMSgt Jason W. Vollmer

Jennifer and I are honored and excited to join the 88th Air Base Wing team. We are eager to meet the outstanding people who make this base and mission successful every day and to become part of the Wright-Patterson community. We look forward to serving alongside you, learning from you, and helping build on the wing's proud tradition of excellence.



The "88 ABW Command Chief" position was not established until 2005. From 1992-2005, the position of Command Chief Master Sergeant was at the Aeronautical Systems Center level, not the wing.



THE U.S. 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 now, Give 'em the gun!
Down we dive, spouting our flame from under,
Off with one helluva roar!
We live in fame or go down in flame.
Hey!
Nothing'll stop the U.S. Air Force!

