

Army War College salutes 65 years of air power, Air Force Birthday Sept. 18

Army War College celebrates 65 years of US Air Force air power, Sept. 18



The Army War College celebrated the rich history of the U.S. Air Force with a ceremony Sept. 18 at 11:45 a.m. in Bliss Hall.

Air Force students sing the Air Force Song during the Air Force's birthday celebration at The Army War College on Sept. 18. Photo by Megan Clugh.

Air Force Lt. Col. Chris Stricklin, a War College student, officiated the brief ceremony. “We must take occasions such as this at the Army War College as a chance to pause, reflect on our experiences and turn them into learning instead of just memories,” he said.

Faculty, staff and other War College students attended the ceremony that included two Air Force videos, the Air Force Song and a birthday cake. Army War College student Lt. Col. Tim Huening attended the birthday party and says he appreciates the Air Force’s contribution to Army airborne activities.

“It’s telling that we can get this kind of turnout and we can all celebrate a service and really appreciate the contribution that we all play on today’s modern battlefield,” said Huening.

In celebration of their 65th birthday, Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy issued the following message to the Airmen of the United States Air Force:

As we celebrate the United States Air Force's 65th birthday, we salute all of the dedicated Airmen who serve or have served in our Nation's youngest and most innovative Service.

Throughout our proud history, the Air Force has embraced the technology that continues to

revolutionize our capabilities in air, space and cyberspace. We owe an enormous debt to the ground-breaking visionaries and engineering pioneers who brought the technology of flight to life, and to the professional strategists and tacticians who imagined the military possibilities of these new technologies and propelled the science, theory and application forward.

While our Service enjoys an unbreakable connection to state-of-the-art technology, we must never forget that everything we do depends on our people, the living engine of our Air Force. Today, more than ever, the Air Force can take pride that our Service culture promotes and benefits from the know-how, determination, and commitment of a diverse group of men and women who embody our Core Values -- *Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence In All We Do* -- while pursuing adaptive and innovative solutions for our Nation's security.

Every day, our Airmen have an opportunity to add a bright new chapter to the Air Force story by serving our Nation in the world's finest air force. The challenges confronting our country are great; but our active duty, Guard, Reserve, and civilian Airmen have never failed to answer our Nation's call. Working together in common purpose as one Air Force, we will keep America secure today and for all the years to come.

Happy birthday, Air Force! Aim High ... Fly-Fight-Win!