January 2014

Welcome Back
By: Lieutenant Colonel Craig Hansen

Greetings! I’ll start by saying what a privilege it has been to serve as the commander of this detachment for these last six months. Much has happened since then. We’ve put an entire semester under our belt, commissioned a few new officers, and have witnessed growth and development within the cadet corps, as well as the cadre and. As I look back on this past term and forward to the future, I can’t help but think that we are on the right path and ready to take on the challenges we will surely face down the road.

For the first time in almost nine years, the detachment cadre is fully manned with four (always) our dedicated university employees at both Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC) and Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO). We recently welcomed Captain Mike Holt as the newest addition to the cadre. Capt Holt comes to us from Scott AFB, IL where he served as the operations officer in the security forces squadron, and recently completed a 365-day deployment to Ali al Salem Air Base in Kuwait. Welcome aboard!

This will be the last year AFROTC Detachment 205 will occupy the buildings located at 807 S. University Ave. During the 2014 summer break, the detachment will relocate to Kesnar Hall in the southwest corner of the SIUC campus. AFROTC has been located in its current facilities since December 1970. While the university has made significant efforts to maintain the Fronthouse and Backhouse, these building are showing their age. Kesnar Hall is currently home to the Army ROTC program at SIUC. AFROTC will occupy the entire second floor of the building (a significant increase in space!) and share some classrooms with Army. While it is often difficult to leave comfortable surroundings, this move will benefit the university, as well as the ROTC programs on campus.

The spring semester will be a busy time for all. Many cadets are preparing for either field training or the transition to active duty. I encourage all cadets to remember that academic performance must continue to remain high on your priority list. In today’s resource-constrained environment, the Air Force cannot afford to invest in those who demonstrate an inability or unwillingness to meet

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standards. Each cadet must strive to achieve balance in his or her own life. Superior achievement in one area does not make up for substandard performance in another. Keep your head in the game and stay focused on meeting your goal.

Stay safe, be strong, and LEAD!

A Warm Welcome from Your Cadet Wing Commander
By: Cadet Peters

As Cadet Wing Commander of the 205th AFROTC Cadet Wing, I am charged with the responsibility of leading the Soaring Warriors in accomplishing all training and operational requirements established by our cadre and Air Force ROTC. I’m excited to command the development of effective followers and competent leaders across all levels of this detachment.

Spring semester is always focused on the future—our senior AS400 cadets are concentrated on commissioning. Soon many of us will become Second Lieutenants in the Air Force, a culmination of our hard work and dedication in this program. AS300 cadets must begin their transition to the top tier of cadet leaders. AS200s are competing for a chance to attend Field Training. As the Air Force tightens its belt the opportunities to attend this required summer training become scarce and competitive. Lastly, our AS100s continue to acclimate to the military and college environment.

Military service is a privilege. It isn’t for everyone. But regardless of the bright futures of our cadets, it is certainly an honor to command all the training and operational efforts of Detachment 205. I’m looking forward to this semester and encourage all cadets to have fun and be prepared to train!

Thanks
Job Shadowing  
By: Cadet Richmond

Many cadets get the opportunity to visit military bases in the area. A select few from Detachment 205 had the opportunity to shadow the careers of active duty Air Force Officers at Scott Air Force Base this past week. On 21 January, Cadet Captain Justin Linder, Cadet Colonel Joel McIntyre, Cadet Third Class Kevin Kron, and Cadet Third Class Kinsey Richmond made the drive to Belleville, Illinois to meet with active duty pilots and Air Battle Managers.

Captain Berkeland was the guide on the visit. She allowed cadets to talk with pilots, weather personnel, and Air Battle Management personnel, both commissioned and enlisted. Cadets McIntyre, Kron, and Richmond were also given an on-site tour of the runways used on base. Scott Air Force Base is actually connected with a civilian airport, so cadets could see operations from both aspects. There was much to learn on this trip, not only from a career perspective, but military life in general. The efforts of Captain Berkeland and Cadet Linder are greatly appreciated for setting up this visit, and we look forward to making another trip there!

The Importance of Drill  
By: Cadet PuchBauer

Drill is an aspect that many cadets find challenging, as many struggle with the rules and multitasking that accompany it. However, Detachment 205 tries to combat this by holding outside drill meetings that are optional for cadets. This is time that is set aside specifically for working on drill technique, focusing on things such as column movements and leading a flight.

Drill practice is strongly encouraged, and can be very beneficial when cadets put in the work required to master drill before going to field training after the second year of college. It is also important to get an adequate number of cadets to simulate the field training experience as much as learning the movements, as this also shows the outstanding teamwork in Detachment 205 as well.

Another important aspect of drill is that it will not only help cadets in learning and executing specific motions, but also provide invaluable leadership experience and the opportunity to learn from senior cadets who are willing to teach.

Overall, drill practice is important to the AFROTC environment as it teaches required knowledge, builds leadership skills, encourages teamwork, and provides mentorship from older cadets.
Spring Semester in Photos

GMC building camaraderie within their flights

FTP learns a lesson from Cadet Peters

Several cadets job shadowing at Scott AFB

Cadets getting a tour of the C-22

Cadets presenting the colors at the Marion Robotics Competition

Cadets presenting the colors
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EDITORS COMMENTS

Welcome back!

I want to welcome back everyone from an eventful winter break. I hope everyone is ready for this exciting semester we will be having in ROTC.

Let’s have a great semester and end this year right detachment 205!

Cadet Pruim

Make sure to visit the cadet run Det 205 Facebook page at
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