FEBRUARY’S SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

**Vice President Pence Leads Delegation to the 2018 Winter Olympics in PyeongChang**

Vice President Mike Pence arrived in Korea on Feb. 9 to lead the U.S. Presidential Delegation to the 2018 Winter Olympics in PyeongChang. Members of the delegation included Mrs. Karen Pence, UNC/CFC/USFK Commander Gen. Vincent K. Brooks, former UNC/CFC/USFK Commander Gen. (retired) James D. Thurman, Chargé d’Affaires ad interim of U.S. Embassy Seoul Marc E. Knapper, 2002 Olympic Figure Skating Gold Medalist Sarah Hughes, and Mr. Fred Warmbier - the father of an American student who died after being jailed in North Korea.

**Journalists tour DMZ ahead of 2018 Winter Olympic Games**

Cmdr. Robert Watt, Royal Canadian Navy, Chief of Staff of the United Nations Command Military Armistice Commission, briefs journalists from international media outlets in the Demilitarized Zone on Feb. 7 ahead of the 2018 Winter Olympic Games, held in PyeongChang. During the tour, media representatives visited the Joint Security Area, the “Bridge of No Return,” and a checkpoint that overlooks the DMZ and North Korea.

**Secretary of the Air Force Visits Korea**

Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson visited the Republic of Korea from Jan. 27-30, as part of a regional tour.

Wilson visited to reaffirm commitment to the ROK-U.S. Alliance, highlight U.S. Air Force cooperation with allies, and ensure Airmen stationed abroad had the opportunity to hear from their senior leaders.

“No place on the world is it more important than here, now, for our Airmen [and allies] to be ready,” said Wilson. “And here on the Korean Peninsula, you Airmen are laser focused.”

Accompanied by U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David Goldfein, Secretary Wilson also met with Airmen from various units throughout the Peninsula to speak about maintaining readiness in the USAF, which is one of their main priorities.

**FEBRUARY’S KEY VISITORS**

We are honored to welcome Distinguished Visitors to learn about the Command, our mission, our people, and to exchange ideas.

- Andrzej Duda, President of Poland
- Borut Pahor, President of Slovenia
- Ifigeneia Kontoleontos, Ambassador of the Hellenic Republic to the ROK
- Vikram Kumar Doraiswami, Ambassador of India to the ROK
- Jean-Yves Le Drian, French Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs
- Timo Soini, Foreign Minister, Finland
- Grant Robertson, Minister of Sport/Finance, New Zealand
- Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-OK), Senior Member, SASC
- Sen. Joni Ernst (R-IA), SASC
- Sen. Mike Rounds (R-SD), SASC
- Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-AK), SASC
- Rep. Mike Kelly (R-PA), HASC
- Amb. Joseph Yun, U.S. Special Rep for NK Policy/DAS State for Korea and Japan
- Ellen Lord, Undersecretary of Defense, Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics
- Gina Haspel, Deputy Director, CIA
- Robert H. McMahon, Assistant Secretary of Defense Logistics and Materiel Readiness
- Michael Evanoff, Assistant Secretary of State for Diplomatic Security
- Gen. Gustave Perna, CG, US Army
- Robert J. Bianchi, Director, DeCA

**Military Olympians celebrate U.S. Troops and their families in Seoul**

Military Olympians participated in a festival held at Yongsan Garrison on Feb. 19 to celebrate U.S. troops and their families. Two-time U.S. Olympian Willie Banks (right) - whose father was a U.S. Marine, Lt. Col. Garrett Hines (left), and Sgt. Matt Mortensen (second from left), attended the Olympic WinterFest with other well-known athletes and celebrities.

Hines won the silver medal at the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympics in the four-man bobsled, and Mortensen just participated in the luge event at the PyeongChang Olympics.

“The ideals of the games are peace through sport and it’s a powerful thing. There has been... some level of peace during these games and that’s what you want to see,” said Hines.

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