



U.S. AIR FORCE

29 Mar 2017

USAF Liaison Report



Agenda

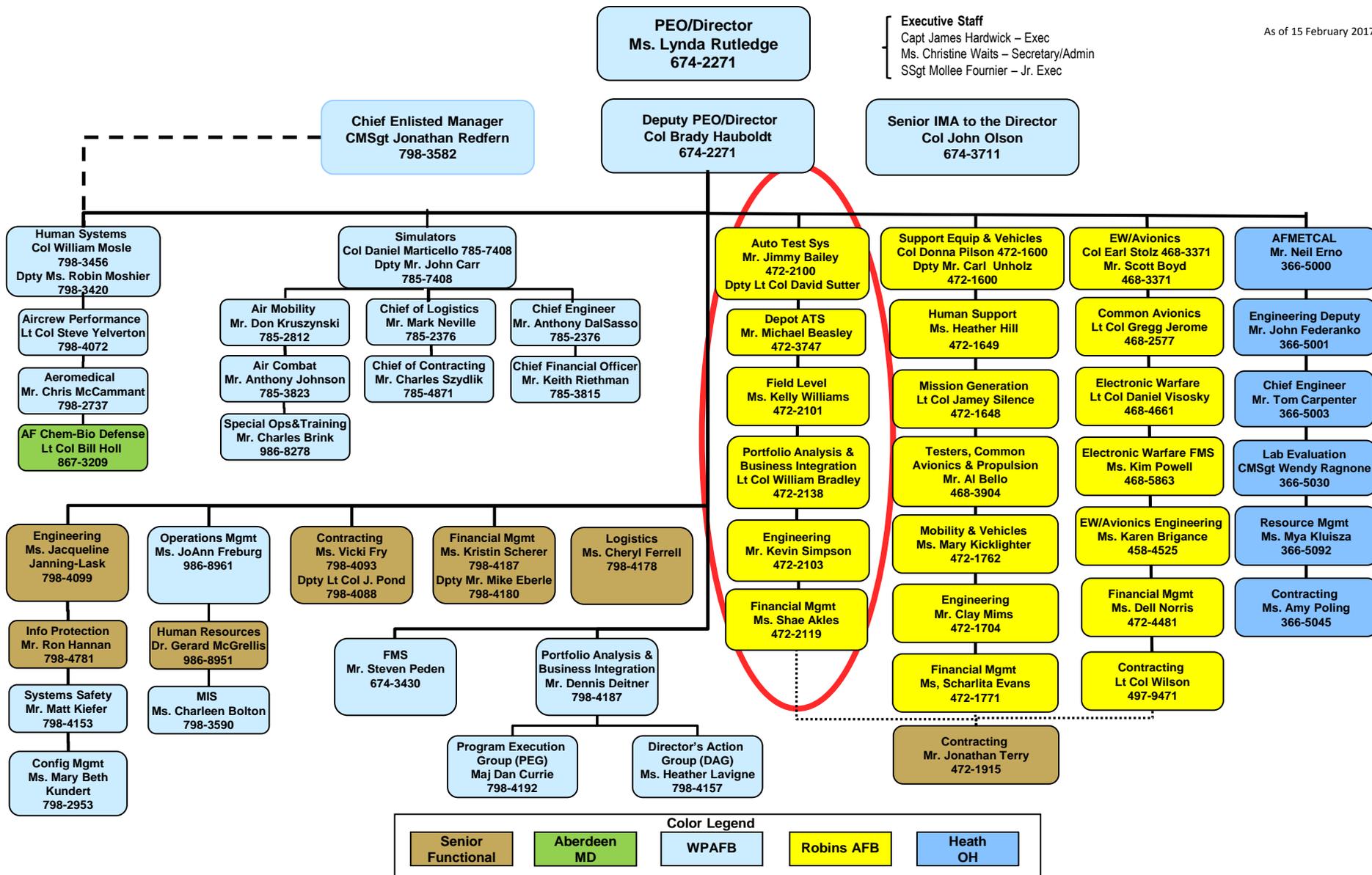
- ATS/PGM Update
- AF Budget
- AF News

Agile Combat Support Organizational Chart



As of 15 February 2017

Executive Staff
 Capt James Hardwick – Exec
 Ms. Christine Waits – Secretary/Admin
 SSgt Mollee Fournier – Jr. Exec



Color Legend

Senior Functional	Aberdeen MD	WPAFB	Robins AFB	Heath OH
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ATE Opportunities / Status

■ Armament Testers (O-Level Testers/ I-Level Testers)

- Bomber Armament Tester (B-52/B-1/B-2); decrease the number of testers for each platform
- Source Selection continuing; Contract Award May 2017

■ VDATS® Progress

■ VDATS® PRODUCTION & DELIVERIES:

- Total of **122** VDATS fielded/in production for legacy & new customer requirements
- Delivered for Legacy ATS replacements: 63 Digital-Analog (DA) stations
- Delivered for new workload requirements: 37 DA stations
- Being manufactured for legacy and new requirements: 22 DA stations

■ VDATS® CORE CONFIGURATIONS: DA-1 and DA-2

- **VDATS Customers:** AF Depots (Robins ALC, Tinker ALC and Ogden ALC), Tobyhanna Army Depot, BAE and currently one intermediate level location

- **VDATS® TPS REQUIREMENTS:** All TPS efforts (Contractor or Organic) must be developed **IAW the VDATS® TPS Style Guide & MIL-PRF-32070A**

- Approximately **1064 TPSs** developed and approved for production, and used on VDATS®

- VDATS® currently supports over 30 weapon system program workloads for numerous weapon system platforms including:

A-10, AC-130, B-1B, B-2, B-52, C-130J, C-17, C-5, E-8 (JSTARS), F-15, F-16, KC-135, MC-130H, Navy: EP-3, P-3C, SH-60B, UP/VP-3A, Navy Ships: OC-135, and UH-1N

ATS PGM Updates

■ JSECST

- Production of 670A testers: 22; Retrofit kits: 170 delivered to date
- CCB approval for retrofit kit installation completed Nov 2016
- Robins AFB Depot kit installed: 6 retrofits to date

■ CBATS Progress

- PXI based systems with 2 configurations
 - 101: (70) deployed at Hill AFB and Kadena AFB
 - 201: (58) deployed at Hill AFB, Kadena AFB, and Robins AFB
 - CBATS DXR Roll-up – In-use at Ogden ALC

■ ATS Challenges

- **Cyber Security (aka Information Assurance)**
 - Requirement for ALL ATS systems
 - Improvements for legacy ATS
 - Standards needed for future ATS acquisitions

■ Changes in ATS Leadership

- ATS Program Office Chief: Jimmy Bailey
- New Arrival - ATS Deputy Director: Lt Col David Sutter

Air Force Budget Status: Mar '17

- **FY17 Budget Request: \$167B (Base + OCO); Up 3% from FY16**
 - **DoDs FY17 budget still not approval; House is set to approve soon**
- **WASHINGTON (AFNS) – Per acting Air Force Secretary Lisa Disbrow:**
 - **The Air Force is “investing heavily” in legacy weapons systems to increase performance in areas of targeting, communications and survivability.**
 - **U.S. Air Force is amending their FY17 budget request to set priorities supporting this modified strategy**
- **Air Force FY17 budget already presented to Capitol Hill includes 43 F-35As, 24 MQ-9 and 15 KC-46A tankers**
- **Air Force recently announced the Northrop Grumman B-21 program, will be a minimum of 100 bombers. Previous statements indicated the AF would need 80-100 B-21 aircraft**

AF Budget

- This summer the Air Force expects to hold a light attack aircraft experiment, Senator John McCain has **proposed 300 of the fighters**
 - Chief of Staff General Goldfein agreed saying, “I’m not interested in something that requires a lot of research and development, I’m looking for something that **I can get right now.**”
- Nuclear Modernization has come to the forefront recently. The Air Force maintains **2 of the 3 legs of the nuclear triad**. During AWS17, General Goldfein was asked if the AF could afford to modernize the arsenal, he stated “I don’t think we can afford not to modernize it.”
 - Nuclear modernization should include upgrades or modifications to support equipment that is also well past its service life

AF Budget

- The DoD has requested an additional \$30 billion for FY17.
 - The Air Force needs additional funds to support an increase in end strength from 317,000 to **321,000**, congress already approved this increase.
 - The supplemental funding also includes \$596 million for 5 more F-35A aircraft and funds to continue **F-16 and C-130 modernization programs**.
- President Trump has release his budget blueprint for FY18, it includes a 3% spending increase for DoD's budget bringing it to \$603 billion;
 - Senator John McCain, chairman of the senate armed service committee has proposed a \$640 billion FY18 defense budget

AF News

- U.S. Air Force continues to struggle with personnel shortfalls: **shortage in maintenance, pilots, acquisition, and contracted personnel** according to acting Secretary of the Air Force Lisa Disbrow.
- AF expects to end FY17 with Active Duty end strength at 320,000 up from 317,000 in FY16. Acting SECAF stated that may need to **grow to 350,000** depending on national strategy during her state of the AF speech at AWS17.
- Air Force Materiel Command boss Gen Ellen Pawlikowski said AFMC is still digging out of a hiring freeze from 2013 and now with the current hiring freeze even more of a struggle. **With some 4,700 vacancies and a loss of about 400 civilians a month “if we freeze hiring, that adds up pretty quickly”.**
- AF is expected to **retire the MQ-1 in early 2018**. Remotely piloted operations will continue for the more capable MQ-9. The MQ-9 has **increased speed, high-definition sensors and increased payload** over the MQ-1.

Future Programs Impacting ATS Requirements

- Modernization of legacy weapons systems including F-15, F-16, and Minuteman missiles **all require ATS to support this effort**
- Continued procurement of new weapons systems including F-35, KC-46, MQ-9 and B-21 **all have ATS requirements**
- New procurements including **Air Force Trainer** aircraft and **OA-X** light attack aircraft program

Discussion



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