



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
SIXTEENTH AIR FORCE (AIR FORCES CYBER) (ACC)
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO – LACKLAND, TEXAS



April 3, 2020

Members of the FTVA,

When we last met, we connected the history of our ISR enterprise to our enduring missions. I'm sorry that our March event was cancelled, but I'd still like to share how the amazing Airmen of 16AF are making history today!

Our Distributed Common Ground System (DCGS) enterprise has revolutionized the way we support air components. With enthusiastic support from air component commanders, DCGS Airmen have organized in problem-centric teams...allowing full spectrum analysis and exploitation to produce intelligence on the most important operational problems. This approach will maximize outcomes that enable commanders to develop plans and adjust force postures to compete with peer adversaries...we are truly leading in new ways as we leverage our globally integrated ISR capabilities to address the National Defense Strategy.

One of our missions is to counter adversary malign influence wielded through disinformation. This is a serious threat, demonstrated by the spread of COVID-19 disinformation. Our Information Warfare Cell is on the front lines, establishing global partnerships to create outcomes that deny adversary plausible deniability. Airmen from our ISR wings are also finding ways to leverage publicly available information to gain insights that expose this activity. As we progress, we're demonstrating the power of a converged enterprise to create national-level outcomes.

As the COVID-19 situation evolves, our mission to operate and defend the Air Force networks is essential. As of a few weeks ago, hundreds of thousands of additional users required telework capability. In response, the 688th Cyberspace Wing synchronized the multiple organizations focused on expanding telework capacity. In less than two weeks, user remote access capability was expanded by 600 percent! The Airmen of the 688th are shaping the future of telework in our service...changing the way we think about distributed work while keeping our data secure.

Finally, on 16 March we stood up the 616th Operations Center. In order to maximize the integration of ISR, Cyber, EW, Information Operations, and Weather capabilities, the OC is operationalizing a new concept we call convergence. Convergence flows data across each capability to improve the effects of each individual capability and uses those insights to create new global information warfare outcomes. Converging these unique capabilities in a way that leverages our global vantage point and maximizes lethality will be the measure of effectiveness for 16th Air Force. This is a historic undertaking that will change the way our service fights.

I am so proud of our Airmen and I'm inspired daily as I watch them make history. But we don't achieve this alone. I am incredibly grateful for the support you show our Airmen and their families. It is an uncommon privilege to have such a network of professionals standing behind us. Sherie and I hope that you will remain safe and healthy. We look forward to seeing all of you in the fall as we continue to reflect on the history we make together.

“RISE UP!”

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Timothy D. Haugh'.

Timothy D. Haugh
Lieutenant General, USAF
Commander