



PRESS RELEASE

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Air Force Officials visit Lakehurst

Pentagon Generals view Air Force use of Navy facilities for Expeditionary Combat Support Training

Tuesday, October 8, 2002 – Lieutenant General Michael Zettler, the Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Installations and Logistics and Brigadier General Kevin Sullivan, the Air Force Director of Logistics Readiness, both from the Pentagon, visited NAVAIR Lakehurst yesterday escorted by Major General Christopher Kelly, the Commander of the Air Mobility Warfare Center located at Fort Dix.

The purpose of the visit was to become familiar with the new bivouac site that Lakehurst has prepared for the Air Force's 421st Ground Combat Readiness Squadron (GCRS), based at the Air Mobility Warfare Center, Fort Dix, NJ. The Squadron utilizes the site as part of their training for their airfield defense mission. Because of its close proximity to McGuire AFB and conducive terrain surrounding its runways, Lakehurst is an ideal location for the 421st GCRS to conduct field training for their Phoenix Readiness Program. Phoenix Readiness is a program designed to prepare and train Air Force and other Department of Defense personnel for contingency airfield operations in combat environments.

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Personnel from the Navy Mobile Security Group, stationed in Little Creek, VA are currently receiving this training along with Air Force units. More details concerning Phoenix Readiness may be obtained by contacting the McGuire AFB Public Affairs Office at 609-754-2104.

This joint usage of Naval facilities by Navy and Air Force organizations is just another example of the close collaboration among the various components of the Department of Defense and other federal, state and county agencies aboard NAVAIR Lakehurst – and among the three contiguous bases (Dix-Lakehurst-McGuire) that make-up the New Jersey Mega-Base. Along with the host mission of providing aircraft launch, recovery and support equipment systems to the fleet, Lakehurst is home to numerous tenant organizations that support our nation's homeland defense and homeland security.