



INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING

Premier Military Training for a
Secure and Prosperous America



AUGUST 2024 | NEWSLETTER

IRT Bolsters Cybersecurity in Texas

From May 6-15, the Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC) partnered with the Nueces County Courts for a full-scope penetration test in Corpus Christi, Texas. The United States Air Force (USAF) supported this mission to assess the county's network and cloud assets. Specifically, five AFRC units, one USAF unit, the Nueces County Courts, the district attorney's office, and the sheriff's office contributed to the mission's success.



Service members who disguised themselves in preparation for a full-scope penetration test discuss physical intrusion plans.

The cybersecurity assessment conducted by 29 service members included network enumeration, vulnerability scanning, exploitation testing, and mitigation recommendations on the physical and cyber levels. A total of 11 participants volunteered for the physical assessment element with the understanding that they could be apprehended.

“We want them to think like adversaries,” Senior Master Sergeant Cassie Beauchene, the Non-Commissioned Officer In Charge said. “They are in disguise. They may come in to publicly accessible areas to socially engineer or plant specialized equipment.” In the event participants are caught, they have a card from the sheriff letting officers know that they are part of an exercise.

“There is not a single military organization where you can do this wide of range of things ever—there are always a lot of guardrails,” said Major Amy Hunt, 75th Intelligence Squadron, Assistant Director of Operations and IRT cybersecurity mission officer in charge. “They can't believe they are allowed to do this. They get really excited.”

By the end of the mission, the service members' vulnerability report included recommendations to bolster the cyber and physical security defenses of the county's information technology (IT) systems. Proactive planning with the Nueces County IT Department, eight months ahead of the start date, to develop and scope a uniquely valuable training opportunity ensured smooth mission execution. The mission delivered 90 training hours across 5 USAF occupational specialties. Service members covered 913 USAF defensive cyber and cyber intelligence training tasks, increasing their readiness and depth of experience for effective cybersecurity. The mission provided approximately \$411,000 of fair market value to Nueces County Courts at no cost, bolstering the defense of information systems against malicious disclosure, theft, or damage. IRT civil-military partnerships continue to foster strong relationships between the military and American communities, enhance unit and deployment readiness for service members, and provide essential services to local communities. To find out more, visit irt.defense.gov.

DEFEND THE NATION

IRT provides hands-on, real-world training to improve readiness and survivability in complex contingency environments

SUCCEED THROUGH TEAMWORK

IRT is a collaborative program that leverages military contributions and community resources to multiply value and cost savings for participants

TAKE CARE OF OUR PEOPLE

IRT strengthens and builds partnerships, while providing key services for American communities utilizing joint training operations

IRT TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

- Civil-Military Partnerships
- Cybersecurity
- Penetration Testing

IRT LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Colonel James Hogan, Director
- Colonel Stephen Rubright, Deputy Director
- Major Melford Simpson, Operations Officer
- Chief Master Sergeant Alexander Wilson, Superintendent

COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Eduardo Beltran

Nueces County
Manager of Network Services



“It is like when you are buying a brand-new house and the builder has an inspector, but you want someone you trust to see what is wrong with the house, so you also get a private inspector. We are the builders, and the military are the private inspectors.”



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FAREWELL COLONEL CHATWICK

AIR FORCE RESERVE



This month, we celebrate the esteemed career of outgoing IRT Director, Colonel Jaclyn “Jackie” Chatwick, who retired on August 15 after 37 years of remarkable service in the Air Force. We highlight and celebrate the distinguished legacy she leaves for the Innovative Readiness Training program, as well as numerous assignments prior.

Since joining IRT in Fiscal Year (FY) 2020, Colonel Chatwick oversaw and executed IRT’s

mission to deliver joint training opportunities to increase deployment readiness and provide key services with lasting benefits to American communities. During her tenure, Colonel Chatwick oversaw the execution of 181 missions and initiated an additional 70 FY24 missions prior to her retirement. Under her leadership, these missions delivered approximately \$32 million in no-cost medical services and \$65 million in no-cost construction services to American communities while providing premier, real-world training for 21,984 service members, with an additional 7,835 service members projected to receive training in FY24.

Colonel Chatwick guided the IRT program through the unprecedented disruption from COVID-19, ensuring that the program came out stronger than before while ushering in the program’s first entirely virtual Annual Workshop for Operational Mission planners. Leaning into new opportunities, she led the program into the Pacific, a new theater for IRT. With strong civil-military partnerships and a growing list of impactful missions, this strategically important region is positioned to deliver exceptional remote and logistically challenging military training in the years ahead. As a testament to her commitment to quality and accountability, she championed and instituted an enhanced Managers’ Internal Control Program framework, effectively managing and mitigating risks associated with program resources by implementing a rigorous set of control factors.

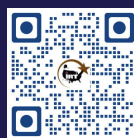
A Philadelphia native, Colonel Chatwick enlisted into the active Air Force in 1986, serving 14 years as an enlisted member before commissioning into the Air Force Reserve as a Services Officer. In her time as an officer, Colonel Chatwick served on numerous operational assignments and staff positions, including deploying to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and serving as Deputy Commander of the 960th Cyberspace Operations Group in San Antonio. Prior to joining the IRT program, Colonel Chatwick served as the Deputy Legislative Assistant to the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the Pentagon.

Beyond her professional achievements, Colonel Chatwick has been a mentor and friend to many. Her presence will be greatly missed but her legacy will continue to inspire the mission, community partners, and service members of many more IRT civil-military partnerships to come. As we bid farewell to Colonel Chatwick, we express our deepest gratitude for her invaluable contributions to our organization. We wish her all the best in her well-deserved retirement.

IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS

- Aug 1: Hoopa K’ima:w Construction DV Day
- Aug 1: Cherokee Veteran’s Housing DV Day
- Aug 1: Aloha Lives Here - Pu’uhonua o Waianae DV Day
- Aug 3: Fort Belknap Indian Health Services Start Date
- Aug 3: Camp Kamassa End Date
- Aug 6: Operation Appalachian Thunder End Date
- Aug 7: Mountain Maryland Wellness End Date
- Aug 8: Guam Wellness DV Day
- Aug 9: Fort Belknap Indian Health Services DV Day
- Aug 9: Guam Wellness End Date
- Aug 9: Greene County Wellness Start Date
- Aug 10: Ford Island Runway Restoration End Date
- Aug 10: Hoopa K’ima:w Construction End Date
- Aug 11: Cherokee Veteran’s Housing End Date
- Aug 11: Greene County Wellness End Date
- Aug 11: Greene County Wellness DV Day
- Aug 12: Ford Island Hangar 79 Restoration Start Date
- Aug 15: Ford Island Hangar 79 Restoration DV Day
- Aug 16: Ford Island Hangar 79 Restoration End Date
- Aug 17: Fort Belknap Indian Health Services End Date
- Aug 19: Williston Aerial Spray Start Date
- Aug 23: Williston Aerial Spray End Date
- Aug 26: Kauai Emergency Management Agency Planning Support DV Day
- Aug 31: Aloha Lives Here - Pu’uhonua o Waianae End Date

More information
on missions at:



FY24 IRT PROGRAM MANAGERS

Major Daniel LaVorgna
Army Reserve | Army Active Duty

Captain Scott Thurman
Army National Guard

Lieutenant Colonel Timothy Salvino
Marine Corps Reserve | Marine Corps Active Duty

Lieutenant Commander Shaun Shillady
Navy Reserve | Navy Active Duty

Lieutenant Colonel Steven Johnson
Air National Guard | Air Force Active Duty

Chief Master Sergeant Rebecca Coulombe
Air Force Reserve