

DESERT WINGS

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Harris expresses gratitude at final commander's call

By Kenji Thuloweit

412th Test Wing Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. David Harris took the stage at the base theater for his final Edwards AFB commander's call as Air Force Test Center commander June 20.

Harris has led AFTC for the past three years and is set to retire from the Air Force following a change-of-command ceremony scheduled for Aug. 3.

After recognizing more than a dozen local award winners, Harris expressed his gratitude and reflected on the work of the 412th Test Wing.

"In whatever capacity you serve, you are doing awesome work," said Harris. "In a thousand years little kids are going to study world history like we study the Egyptians and the Babylonians and the Romans. They are going to open their text books and there will be a whole chapter on the great American peace, where science and technology, quality of life, medical and all the other fields just blossom under American protection, and you're the ones providing that American protection."

Harris has served 31 years in the Air Force and said he wishes it could be 31 more.

"It's just been an awesome, awesome career for me."



Maj. Gen. Davis Harris, Air Force Test Center commander, held a commander's call at the base theater June 20. (U.S. Air Force photo by Matt Williams)

Harris is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School and served in many capacities in the test enterprise throughout the years. He was the 419th Flight Test Squadron commander at Edwards, 46th Test Group commander at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico, and 96th Test Wing commander at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, before returning to Edwards to head the AFTC.

See Harris page 3

Navy pilot killed in A-29 Super Tucano crash in N.M.

From Holloman AFB and U.S. Navy Public Affairs



An Embraer EMB 314 Super Tucano A-29 experimental aircraft flies over White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, last August. The A-29 is participating in the U.S. Air Force Light Attack Experiment (OA-X), a series of trials to determine the feasibility of using light aircraft in attack roles. (U.S. Air Force photo by Ethan Wagner)

An A-29 Super Tucano crashed over the Red Rio Bombing Range in New Mexico June 22 during a training flight as part of the Air Force's Light Attack Experiment.

U.S. Navy Lt. Christopher Carey Short, from Canandaigua, New York, was piloting the A-29 and was killed.

Another aircrew member suffered minor injuries and was airlifted to a local hospital.

The crash is currently under investigation, and no cause has

been determined at this time.

The Red Rio Bombing Range is part of the White Sands Missile Range, a U.S. Army installation and the Department of Defense's largest, open-air test range. Fire and police units from the White Sands Missile Range Directorate of Emergency Services initially responded to the report of the crash.

For additional information, please contact the Holloman Air Force Base Public Affairs office at 575-572-5406 or 575-572-7381 during regular business hours, or 575-572-7575 after hours. The 49th Wing Public Affairs Facebook page will also be updated as more information becomes available.

The 416th Flight Test Squadron [has sent test pilots and flight test engineers to Holloman](#) to participate in the Air Force's Light Attack Experiment. Additionally, an Edwards-based program manager remotely accomplished significant amounts of behind-the-scenes work from Edwards AFB.

In 2017, the Air Force established vendor parameters in the initial invitation-to-participate in its Light Attack Experiment. Private industry members were asked to propose aircraft that could potentially meet an Air Force need for a low-cost attack capability that is supportable and sustainable. The experiment is part of a broad Air Force effort to explore cost-effective attack platform options under the Light Attack Experimentation Campaign run by the Air Force Strategic Development Planning and Experimentation Office at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Former 412th TW vice commander Schott retires

By Laura Motes

412th Test Wing Public Affairs

Base leadership, family and friends came together at Club Muroc to celebrate the career and accomplishments of Col. Jason Schott during his retirement ceremony June 14. The 412th Test Wing's former vice commander retires after more than 25 years of active duty service.

Brig. Gen. Carl Schaefer, 412th Test Wing commander, presided over the ceremony.

"This is a sad day for me," said Schaefer. "It's a day I did not want to see come, but it is a celebration day for this family."

The general introduced the Schott family and thanked them for all their support throughout the years and gave a special thank you to the parents of Schott.

"When you see a son or daughter here in the air force celebrating this kind of milestone, they have already arrived with core values of integrity, service, excellence in all they do," he said. "I want to thank you for allowing him to serve his nation in the one percent that raised their hands to support and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Schott received his commission in 1993 as a distinguished graduate from the U.S. Air Force Academy. He served as an instructor pilot, flight examiner and developmental test pilot. He is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards and a command pilot with more than 2,800 flying hours in over 30 aircraft variants.

As 412th TW vice commander, he supervised and synchronized the mission activity of 30 groups, divisions and wing staff agencies. Leading the Air Force's second largest base, he oversaw



Brig. Gen. Carl Schaefer, 412th Test Wing commander (left), presented Col. Jason Schott, former 412th TW vice commander, with a shadow box featuring unit coins and other memorabilia during his retirement ceremony June 14. (U.S. Air Force photo by Matt Williams)

11,000 military, government civilian and contractor employees.

Schott thanked everyone for coming to celebrate his retirement.

"The fact that you would take time out of your busy day is very meaningful to me. You honor me and my family by being here."

At the end of the ceremony the vice commander made some closing remarks.

"I'm proud to have served with all of you," said Schott. "I know that at this time of my life I need to achieve a different balance in my life, but you're going to carry out the important work because America is an ideal that's worth sacrificing for."

Corvias Foundation awards scholarship to DHS student

From Corvias Foundation

Corvias Foundation, a private, charitable foundation and the charitable arm of Corvias, has been committed to supporting military families in the pursuit of higher education since 2006. This year, Corvias Foundation has awarded a college scholarship of up to \$50,000 to an outstanding student from Edwards Air Force Base as part of the 13th class of scholarship recipients.

Scholarship recipient, Zoexenita Mercado of Desert High School, has been active in the California Scholarship Federation, National Honor Society and School of Rock. Mercado aspires to be a surgeon and plans to attend the University of California, Davis.

The scholarships provide reliable, recurring financial assistance over each student's four years of study, as well as a support network that is committed to their academic and professional growth. Students receive scholarships in the amount of up to \$12,500 per year for four years to pursue a secondary education at colleges and universities around the country.



(Courtesy photo)

"Knowing that there's money I can use to pay for college, the scholarship has become a driving factor for me to do a 110% more in college," shared Mercado.

Corvias Foundation awarded the scholarships based on merit and need. Each student was required to respond to four questions that highlighted different aspects of their lives as students and as members of an active-duty military

family. This fall, each student will be attending the four-year institution of their choice to pursue their academic careers.

"Each of these students, children of military service members, strive to give back like their parents but in their own ways," said John Picerno, Foundation Founder. "Being able to support each of them means more to us than just writing a check, but also through ongoing academic support, mentoring, and internship opportunities."

Since 2006, Corvias Foundation has awarded more than \$7.6 million through 397 scholarships to military spouses and children at 13 different Army and Air Force installations. Among this year's scholarship recipients are aspiring engineers, doctors, lawyers, scientists, and entrepreneurs.

The Foundation awarded 11 scholarships of up to \$50,000 to children of active-duty service members stationed at Edwards Air Force Base in California, Fort Bragg in North Carolina, Fort Meade in Maryland, and Hurlburt Field in Florida.

412th Force Support Squadron upcoming events

Force Support Squadron 275-3826

Save the Date! Summer Bash is July 4 at 4 p.m. at Wings and Roberts Fields. Featuring musical performances by Parmalee and Temecula Road. Plus, an exotic car show, carnival rides, face painting, carnival games, food booths and fireworks at 9:40 p.m. FMI, visit www.edwardsfss.com. Volunteers are needed, call FSS today.

Club Muroc 275-CLUB

Club Muroc Summer Parties — Are you looking to host a squadron event or party this summer? Look no further than Club Muroc! For a low price per person, enjoy our "Patio Burger Burn" option, which includes burgers, hot dogs, macaroni salad, potato chips lettuce, tomato, and onions, condiments and water. All you have to provide are cooks, plates, napkins and utensils. Enjoy the secluded patio with access to the pool. Add our 20 foot water slide for an additional fee.

Kids Eat Free on Saturdays! Purchase one adult meal and receive one free kids meal valid for children under 12. Dine-in only.

Monday Pizza Night — Every Monday night from 5-8 p.m. Enjoy a 16" pizza made with fresh dough for dine-in, carryout or delivery. Make sure to try our delicious chicken buffalo pizza! For more options and to place your order, call 275-CLUB.

Wednesday Breakfast Special — Every Wednesday, 6:30 a.m.-10 a.m. Start your day off with scrambled eggs, bacon, toast and juice. Breakfast is served every weekday from 6:30 - 10 a.m. and all day Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Delivery Service — Did you know that we deliver to base housing? Call us Monday-Friday from 5-8 p.m. to place your order.

Birthday Packages — Parties include room rental for up to three hours, 20 kids and use of the projector for movies. Pizza and ice cream parties available.

High Desert Lanes Bowling Center 275-BOWL

Kids Bowl Free — Registered kids get two free games a day this summer. Include four guests with a family pass for a discounted price. This promotion is available until August 3. The Kids Bowl Free membership is free for each child 15 years and under. Must sign-up via www.kids-bowlfree.com and fill in all fields to obtain KBF® Coupons. "Family Pass" allows up to four additional family members over the age of 15 to receive coupons for two free games of bowling per day and may only be used while bowling with the KBF® member. Shoe rental not included.

Green Pin Special is every Monday, 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Get a strike when you have a green head pin and get that game free. Shoe rental not included. Cannot be combined with any other offers/specials.

Family Package Fridays is from 2-6 p.m. Price includes two hours of unlimited bowling, shoe rental, large one-topping pizza and a pitcher of soda.

Glow in the Dark Bowling is Friday and Saturday, 6 p.m.-midnight. Shoe rental included with price. Bowl as many games as you want. Don't miss out on all the fun at an affordable price and a fun atmosphere for the whole family.

Arts and Crafts Center/Auto Hobby 275-ARTS/AUTO

Instructors Needed! If you're creative, we need you. Arts and Crafts is seeking out instructors of all types. Come and share your creative knowledge with a diverse group of students looking for painting, photography, drawing, scrapbooking and other craft/art related instruction.

Auto Hobby hours are Wednesday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursday & Friday, 12 p.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Sunday, 12 p.m.-5 p.m. Engraving Shop Email Change

The Engraving Shop's email address is servicesengraving412@gmail.com.

Rosburg Fitness Center 275-GYM1

Fitness Classes — High intensity classes are Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 a.m. on the basketball court. Circuit training is Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. on the basketball court.

Are you a certified personal trainer? The Rosburg Fitness Center is currently looking for Certified Personal Trainers with at least 100 hours of individual fitness program experience to include fitness assessments, cardiovascular and strength conditioning programs. Certification must be current and include First Aid certification and either BLS/AED or CPR/AED certification. Please contact Mr. Peter Smith at 275-4961.

Library 275-BOOK

Storytime — Toddlers and preschool children are invited every Wednesday and Friday at 10 a.m. to enjoy a wonderful story and create very unique craft projects. Volunteer readers are welcome!

Education and Training 277-2713

Leadership Training Opportunities — Did you know that your Edwards Education and Training Center offers a variety of civilian leadership training programs to help civilian leaders in their day-to-day leadership paths? Examples of the courses that can be offered are: Leadership Gold, 360 Degree Leader and Leadership the Challenge. Please contact your Edwards Education and Training Center if any one of these courses are of interest to you.

National Test Center hours are Tuesday-Thursday from 8 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. only. To schedule an exam, or for additional information, please contact the AMU test examiner at 524-4431, or contact Education and Training. As always, the office is open for all your educational needs. As always, drop by the Ed Center for any questions.

Aero Club 275-AERO

Flight Instructors Needed!

**For more information
about 412th FSS offerings, visit
www.edwardsfss.com/wordpress**

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Carly is a shy 2-year-old Keeshond who's so completely sweet and submissive. She takes a little time to get to know people but is nothing but a gentle soul just yearning for a place to call her own. She does amazing with other dogs. A quieter calm home might make her most comfortable. She just needs another gentle soul to love. Call APET at 258-9525 today!

Outdoor Recreation 275-CAMP

Gun Safety Classes are on the fourth Saturday of every month from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Small fee per person. Open to ages 18 and up with classes being held at the Rod & Gun Club. Familiarization and how-tos of guns and shooting taught by California's fastest shooter, Len Paris. Includes a classroom portion on basic firearms and safety rules, followed by two hours of shooting practice on the range. Ammunition at no time will be allowed in the classroom. Guns will not be provided. Class size is limited so reserve your spot by visiting Outdoor Rec.

Pool Movie Nights are 4-8 p.m. Price includes food, goodie bags, relay races and door prizes. Space is limited so sign up fast.

Now Hiring Lifeguards for the Oasis Aquatic Center. Free training for applicants who pass the initial swim test. Swim test includes a 300 meter swim, two-minute tread with no hands and a timed deep-water brick retrieval. Must be 16 years or older to apply. Contact the Oasis Aquatic Center for more information.

Open/Family Swim at Oasis Aquatic Center is Monday-Friday. Hours are 3-5:30 p.m. Family pass is valid for four people for three months. Passes are available for purchase at Outdoor Recreation and the Oasis Community Center now. They must be shown to the lifeguards on duty for verification before entering the pool.

Free Lap Swim at the Oasis Aquatic Center hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 6-8 a.m. And Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. No children allowed unless they are able to swim laps unsupported.

Need Ski or Snowboard Gear? Outdoor Rec has all of the equipment you need. Check out the Equipment Rental pricelist on ODR's page at www.edwardsfss.com or stop by ODR today!

Numerous openings in RV Storage — Come over and park your equipment for our low prices and have access to them anytime you need.

Muroc Lake Golf Course 275-PUTT

Single Airman Golf Special — Single Airmen can enjoy 18 holes, cart, burger, fries and drink for a small price. Rental sets are provided for no charge if needed. Limited to the first 100 participants. Single Airmen are Air Force active duty or Air Reserve Component personnel permanently assigned to an Air Force installation or Air Force-led joint base without a spouse and a guest.

Information, Tickets and Travel 275-TRIP

New Travel Specialist — Save hours of searching the internet by contacting Candace at Edwards ITT. She has over 10 years of travel experience and is here to help you plan the vacation of your dreams. Custom packages are available including resorts, cruises, flights and tours.

ITT Pricelist & Other Events — To see the current ITT price list for events, parks, hotels and discount information, visit www.edwardsfss.com/wordpress/travel/itt.

Armed Forces Vacation Club — Let us find your dream vacation rental. Forget cramped quarters, get access to space-available resort

rentals worldwide for one low weekly price. ITT is located in the Oasis Community Center. Call 275-TRIP (8747) for more info.

Teen Center 275-8336

Teen Center Summer Programs are for ages 13-18. Six exciting trips beginning July 19 with Morro Bay Kayaking, Cal Poly campus tour and San Luis Obispo Farmer's Market Trip. Call the Teen Center to sign up. Other trips are Getty Center/Santa Monica; music video recording camp; Big Bear; and skateboard and science camps.

Ice Skating, Sky High Trampolines and Valencia Mall Trip is July 12 from 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Call for prices or to sign up now.

Instructional Classes — Gymnastics (ages 3-17 years) are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Email ssgymnastic1@yahoo.com for more information.

Youth Sports 277-8961

Youth Soccer — Sign up now until July 27. Season starts in September. Ages 5-14 with all teams being co-ed. Call for prices. Discounts for siblings who sign up. Late fee will be charged af-

ter July 27. Volunteer coaches are also needed. **Start Smart Soccer** for ages 3 and 4. Season begins Sept. 12. Sign up by Aug. 13. Call for prices.

Youth Baseball Camp for ages 5-13 is at Weining Field starting from 4-6 p.m. Dates are July 9-13 and July 17-20. Free for members with a fee for nonmembers. The Camp is open to boys and girls. Sports physical and shot records required. For additional information please contact Emil Graves at 277-8961.

Youth Programs 275-5437

Boys & Girls Club Power Hour/Project Learn is Monday-Thursday, 2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m. Making minutes count helps club members (ages 6-12) become successful in school by providing homework help/tutoring while encouraging members to become self-directed learners. See Ms. Breanne for details and to sign up.

Creative Kids - Art Daily at 3 p.m. in the art room area. Children will enjoy creating all types of cool arts and crafts.

Fitness Daily is at 3:30 p.m. in the Youth Center Gym. Join us for fitness. See what played like dodge ball, skating, volleyball and much more.

SUMMER BASH

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4 - 4PM
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A peek behind the curtain: PTSD barriers and stigmas

By Shireen Bedi

Air Force Surgeon General Public Affairs

Effective treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder is possible, but many Airmen falsely think seeking medical help for PTSD will hurt their career and will not help them get better.

These stigmas and misconceptions create perceived barriers, preventing Airmen from seeking care. Delaying treatment can cause the anxiety and fear following a traumatic event to affect an Airman's readiness.

"If not properly addressed, PTSD decreases Airmen's quality of life," said Capt. Jordan Fields, an Air Force clinical psychologist at Joint Base San Antonio, Texas. "They can be less engaged, isolate themselves, and become more irritable and angry. It tends to have a negative impact on relationships, job performance, and mission readiness."

Lt. Col. Joel Foster, the Air Force Mental Health Policy chief, says that many times Airmen delay seeking treatment for mental health problems because they have heard supposed stories of Airmen losing their jobs after going to the mental health clinic. Air Force mental health experts say these stories are largely myths, and that the vast majority of visits to the mental health clinic result in Airmen getting better.

"You can have one person in an entire squadron be discharged for mental health and word of that rare case spreads," said Foster. "As a result, the rest of the squadron will have that fear despite the overwhelming fact that there is a relatively low risk that their PTSD diagnosis will negatively impact their career."

As Foster explains, cases of Airmen losing careers from a PTSD diagnosis are extremely rare because current treatments have improved and access to mental health care has increased.

Some Airmen may put off seeking PTSD treatment because they do not

know what the therapy entails.

"People are hesitant to try something when they do not know what to expect," said Foster. "Many associate mental health with things they have seen on television, which is not always a positive image."

Foster explained that negative media portrayals of mental health creates an image that PTSD is a chronic, life-long disease that is difficult to treat. According to retired Lt. Col. Alan Peterson, consortium director, South Texas Research Organizational Network Guiding Studies on Trauma and Resilience in San Antonio, Texas, this is not the case.

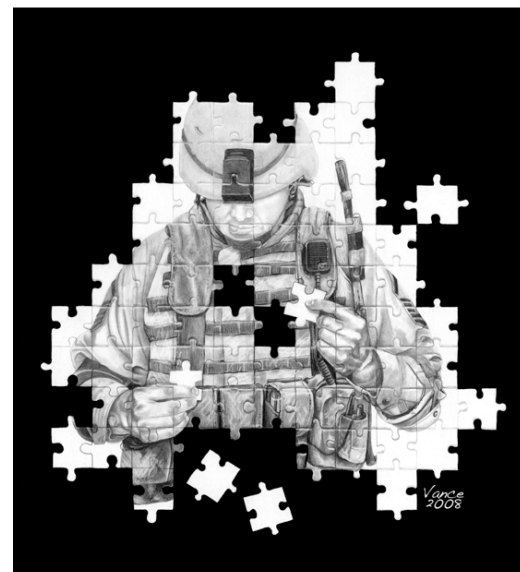
"This could not be further from the truth," said Peterson. "For active duty military who seek PTSD care, there is a very good chance that they can be treated within 10 sessions and be fully fit to support the mission."

According to Foster, mental health providers depend on a set of standard treatment practices, built on years of research, proven to be effective, and vary little from therapist to therapist. Protocol-based therapies have clear objectives in place for each session. Prolonged exposure and cognitive behavior therapy are two of the most common therapies.

"For example, with prolonged exposure, we will safely work with the patient to slowly discuss those feelings and emotions surrounding the traumatic event until the fear and anxiety subsides," said Foster. "Sessions are recorded for patients to review on their own. Often, they are given homework to help continue the therapeutic practices at home."

PTSD treatments are highly effective. Foster cited research that shows more than 80 percent of patients respond favorably to protocol-based treatments.

"I have treated many PTSD patients who respond extremely well to protocol-based treatment," said Foster. "After treatment many of them no longer meet



Those that suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) are consistently trying to regain some sense of the normalcy they had before events that caused pieces of themselves to go missing. Misconceptions and stigmas surrounding PTSD get in the way of successful recovery and the ability to return to duty. (U.S. Air Force illustration by Master Sgt. William Vance)

the criteria to be diagnosed with PTSD. It is a total loss of diagnosis. This is great for the active duty population because it allows them to do their job."

As Fields explains, treatment can be difficult, but worth it. Most patients are able to return to their jobs and lives.

"We are still learning more about PTSD itself, but it is important to know that it is very treatable," said Fields.

Researchers continue to look at ways to improve PTSD treatment so that Airmen can get even better results. Peterson established a group of 150 investigators to focus on developing and evaluating protocol-based treatments for PTSD in active duty military.

"One study, called Project Remission, involves a 3-week, full-time intensive treatment for PTSD," said Peterson. "The goal is to provide the most intensive treatment that has ever been developed where patients can return to duty after three weeks of treatment."

Read the full article [here](#)

From Harris, page 1

As commander, Harris directed a \$31 billion enterprise of more than 18,000 military, civilian and contractor personnel across Edwards AFB, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, and Arnold Air Force Base in Tennessee. The AFTC provides developmental test and evaluation of experimental and research manned and unmanned air, space and cyber systems for military services, DARPA, NASA and international partners, in addition to operation of the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School.

The general said he plans to spend some time after retire-

ment with his family and wished Edwards the best.

"What makes you happy is working hard towards an important goal, where people recognize your contribution," Harris said. "That's what happens in the United States Air Force. I'm afraid I'm going to be miserable not having it, not being able to look out over an audience like this and say these guys are my tribe, this is my team and I love every one of them. I love the mission, I love the smell of jet fuel in the morning — smells like victory."

This Week in Edwards History

On June 29, 1965, Capt. Joe Engle reached 280,600 feet (53 miles) in X-15 No. 3, becoming the third Air Force winged astronaut and the youngest pilot to receive astronaut wings. In this Edwards History Office file photo above, Engle is with his wife, Mary, daughter Laurie and son, Jon. (Edwards History Office file photo)



(U.S. Air Force photo by Ethan Wagner)

Meagher new 419th CC

The wing's bomber test squadron received a new commander June 15.

Lt. Col. Thomas Meagher assumed command of the 419th Flight Test Squadron during a change of command ceremony in Hangar 1210. Col. Christopher Spinelli, 412th Operations Group commander, presided over the ceremony.

Meagher takes over from Lt. Col. Miles Middleton who has commanded the squadron since 2016.

Meagher has more than 1,900 hours of flying time in more than 35 types of aircraft.

As 419th FLTS commander, Meagher will oversee the developmental test and evaluation of B-1, B-2 and B-52 bomber aircraft to include maintenance, flight test engineering, flight test operations and weapons upgrades for America's bomber fleet.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Don Allen)

416th FLTS changes hands

Col. Christopher Spinelli, 412th Operations Group commander (left), handed the 416th Flight Test Squadron guidon to Lt. Col. Scott Fann during a change of command ceremony June 1 in Hangar 1207. Fann takes over from Lt. Col. Chris Keithley.

Fann was previously the deputy commander of the 412th Operations Group, which conducts developmental test and evaluation of nearly every aircraft, including its associated weapons, in the Air Force inventory and several joint prototype aircraft.

As commander of the 416th FLTS, Fann oversees developmental test and evaluation at Edwards AFB for the F-16 Fighting Falcon. The squadron conducts program management, flight operations and test engineering for the Global Power Combined Test Force, overseeing the continuous modernization of the F-16. Additionally, the 416th FLTS provides training for other squadrons around the Air Force in high angle of attack departure recognition, avoidance and recoveries.

Fann attended the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School and was an experimental test pilot and flight examiner in the F-16, Blocks 25-52.

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