

HUNTSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL JROTC TRANSITIONS TO SPACE FORCE

A unique and historic event transpired in the City of Huntsville and the State of Alabama on January 13, 2022. At 5:30 PM that evening at the Huntsville High School Auditorium the Huntsville High School Air Force JROTC Program was transitioned to become the first Space Force JROTC detachment in Alabama United States. The Rocket City was selected as the one of 10 High School JROTC programs to change to become part of the Space Force Guardian Officers Development program. In addition to school officials, the ceremony was attended by the Corps of Cadets, their families, the Air Force JROTC Staff, members of the Montgomery, AL based Delta 13 Guardians unit, Space Force Guardians from the 20th Space Control Squadron Eglin Air Force Base FL and numerous local veteran organizations.

John Murphy, Post 237 JROTC/ROTC Liaison Officer represented the American Legion. The ceremony was conducted by the Corps of Cadets leadership group and hosted by LTC David W. Murphy, Senior Aerospace Science Instructor at Huntsville High. Other dignitaries included Brigadier General Leslie A. Mayer, Commander of the Jeanne M. Holm Center for Officer Accessions and Citizen Development for the Air Force out of Montgomery, AL, and Colonel Niki Lindhorst, Commander, Space Delta 13 based at Maxwell AFB in Montgomery, AL.

BG Mayer welcomed Huntsville for stepping forward as a leader in bringing Space Force into reality and spoke on the organization, development, and mission of Space Force and the part the JROTC Programs are expected to play in developing the officer corps the Force will need to guide our future security not just in the potential for military engagements in space, but with respect to cyber security and management of what occurs from the ground up to and through the atmosphere surrounding our planet. COL. Lindhorst also welcomed Huntsville as a leading member of the Space Force family and spoke to the role of Space Force Delta 13 in the development of space education courses and programs that will support the officer development curriculum both for the active services and the JROTC programs as well. →

The ceremony included the retiring of the Air Force guidon from Cadet Commander Counts to BG Mayer. The new Space Force JROTC Guidon was activated and presented from COL. Lindhorst to Cadet Commander Counts and then presented from LTC Murphy to the incoming Cadet Commander Holder. The ceremony was covered by local TV station WHNT and the link to their coverage is available on their website.



Air Force ROTC Instructor Staff, Dignitaries and Cadet Command Group.

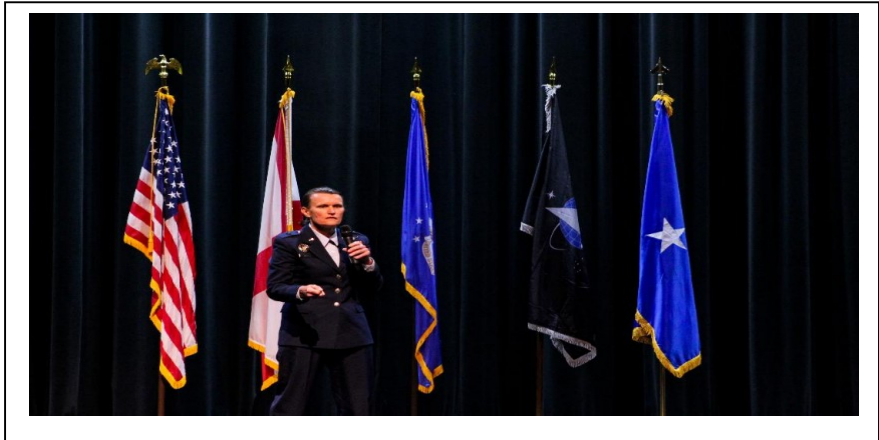


LTC David W. Murphy addresses the assembled audience.



LTC. Murphy presents the Space Force Guidon to incoming Cadet Commander Counts.

BG Mayer addresses the audience. New Space Force Flag second from right.



BG Leslie A. Mayer receives the retired Air Force Flag from Cadet Commander Counts