

DEFEATING THREATS TO THE HUMAN WEAPON SYSTEM (YOU)

Off-Duty Risk Exposure

Virtually every major weapons system in the USAF and USSF include one commonality: The human. Since the Army Signal Corps purchased the first military airplane from the Wright Brothers in 1909, our force has continuously evolved to become the most dominant Air and Space Force in the world. With our technological advances and mastery of the Air and Space domains, the human aspect often becomes a secondary line of effort in our development. As we advance through the 2020s and beyond, we can no longer afford to accept anything other than the absolute maximum capability of this human domain of a weapons system.

We develop ways to mitigate threats to our mechanical and cyber systems. We can do the same with our Human Weapons System (You). Being healthy, staying fit, mentally strong, adaptive to change and agile in problem solving increases the capability of each Airman, Guardian, and Civilian Human Weapon System. Every person, job, and mission is critical to our success.

To maintain the human weapon system in peak condition, it must be fed, hydrated, and rested. It needs frequent breaks from intense concentration and work where the mind can be rested and rejuvenated. We know we need to put effort into maintaining balance physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

A continuous, and unending threat to the human weapon system is poor decision making and unnecessary risks in the off-duty environment. As humans, we have an amazing capability to adapt, overcome adversity, and remain resilient in the face of difficult circumstances. However, we are neither indestructible nor immune to the potential consequences of our actions.

Threat, Off-duty Activities: Exposing the human weapon system to unnecessary risks while participating or taking part in common off-duty activities may result in damage or destruction of the physical body. That damage and destruction impedes the human weapon system from performing at its peak potential

Off-duty activities are important to help keep the human weapon system in tip-top shape. Attending a party, boating, skiing, fishing, skydiving, or riding motorcycles are some unique ways to unwind and blow off steam. While these activities can be fun and provide much-needed relaxation, they do involve taking risks.

Threat Defense: Apply the same risk management and sound decision-making toolkit you use at work. For instance, have fun riding your motorcycle, but make a plan to address some of the risks. Wear your helmet and other gear, check your bike and the weather, and ensure your training is up to date. If driving your car, wear your seatbelts, drive at a safe speed for the conditions, and put your phone down!

BOTTOM-LINE: Defend your human weapon system from unnecessary threats and risks