



MEDIA ADVISORY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

55th Wing Public Affairs
109 Washington Square, Ste. 221
Voice: (402) 294-3663
Fax: (402) 294-7172

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media rides offered on Blue Angels' C-130T Hercules

OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE, Neb. – Fifteen members of the media will have the opportunity to ride aboard the Blue Angels' Lockheed-Martin C-130T Hercules, affectionately known as “Fat Albert.” During the 2009 Defenders of Freedom Open House and Air Show, five members of the media will be allowed to ride inside the plane during its Aug. 28, 29 and 30 performances.

All interested media should contact the 55th Wing Public Affairs office at (402) 294-3663 by 4 p.m., July 31, to reserve a seat. This is a first-call, first-served opportunity. Media members must have their press credentials with them at all times during the Open House.

Since its introduction in 1970, Fat Albert has flown more than 140,000 miles each season carrying more than 40 maintenance and support personnel, their gear and enough spare parts and communication equipment to complete each successful event. The plane cruises at more than 360 mph at a height of 27,000 feet. Fat Albert is fueled by four Allison turboprop engines, which produce more than 16,000 shaft-horsepower and enables the plane to land and depart on runways as short as 2,500 feet.

(more)

Mission Statement: “The 55th Wing provides dominant intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, electronic attack, command and control and precision awareness to national leadership and warfighters across the spectrum any time, any place.”

For more information about the Open House and Air Show, please visit our Web site at:

<http://www.offuttairshow.com/index.html>.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: Interested media are asked to contact the 55th Wing Public Affairs office at 294-3663 by 4 p.m., July 31. Public Affairs will contact each media outlet that confirms interest as soon as possible if a change to the schedule is made.

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