

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

PRESENTATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

UNITED STATES SENATE

SUBJECT: "Death Benefits and Support to the Severely Wounded"

STATEMENT OF: GENERAL T. MICHAEL MOSELEY
VICE CHIEF OF STAFF
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

1 FEBRUARY 2005

NOT FOR PUBLICATION UNTIL RELEASED
BY THE COMMITTEE ON ARMED FORCES
UNITED STATES SENATE



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

GENERAL T. MICHAEL MOSELEY

General T. Michael Moseley is Vice Chief of Staff, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C. As Vice Chief, he presides over the Air Staff and serves as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Requirements Oversight Council.

General Moseley graduated from Texas A&M University in 1971 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science. He earned a Master of Arts degree from Texas A&M University in 1972, also in political science. He has commanded the F-15 Division of the USAF Fighter Weapons School at Nellis AFB, Nev., the 33rd Operations Group at Eglin AFB, Fla., and the 57th Wing, the Air Force's largest, most diverse flying wing, also at Nellis. The general has served as the combat Director of Operations for Joint Task Force-Southwest Asia. General Moseley also commanded 9th Air Force and U.S. Central Command Air Forces while serving as Combined Forces Air Component Commander for Operations Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. The general is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and has been named an officer of the Order of National Merit by the president of the French Republic. He has also been awarded the United Arab Emirates' Military Medal, 1st Class, by the president of the U.A.E.



General Moseley's staff assignments have been a mix of operational, joint and personnel duties. These include serving in Washington, D.C., as Director for Legislative Liaison for the Secretary of the Air Force; Deputy Director for Politico-Military Affairs for Asia/Pacific and Middle East, the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Chief of the Air Force General Officer Matters Office; Chief of Staff of the Air Force Chair and Professor of Joint and Combined Warfare at the National War College; and Chief of the Tactical Fighter Branch, Tactical Forces Division, Directorate of Plans, Headquarters U.S. Air Force.

EDUCATION

1971 Bachelor of Arts degree in political science, Texas A&M University, College Station
 1972 Master of Arts degree in political science, Texas A&M University, College Station
 1977 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
 1981 Fighter Weapons Instructor Course, U.S. Air Force Fighter Weapons School, Nellis AFB, Nev.
 1984 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
 1988 U.S. Air Force Joint Senior Battle Commander's Course, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
 1990 National War College, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.
 2000 Combined Force Air Component Commander Course, Maxwell AFB, Ala., and Hurlburt Field, Fla.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. June 1972 - May 1973, student, undergraduate pilot training, Webb AFB, Texas
2. May 1973 - July 1977, T-37 instructor pilot and spin flight test pilot; flight check pilot, and standardization and evaluation flight examiner, 3389th Flying Training Squadron, 78th Flying Training Wing, Webb AFB, Texas

3. July 1977 - September 1979, F-15 instructor pilot, flight lead and mission commander, 7th Tactical Fighter Squadron, Holloman AFB, N.M.
4. September 1979 - August 1983, F-15 weapons and tactics officer, instructor pilot, and flight lead and mission commander; standardization and evaluation/ flight examiner, 44th Tactical Fighter Squadron and 12th Tactical Fighter Squadron, Kadena Air Base, Japan
5. August 1983 - June 1984, course officer, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.
6. June 1984 - June 1987, Chief, Tactical Fighter Branch, Tactical Forces Division, Directorate of Plans, Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Operations, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.
7. June 1987 - June 1989, Commander, F-15 Division, and instructor pilot, Fighter Weapons Instructor Course, U.S. Air Force Fighter Weapons School, Nellis AFB, Nev.
8. June 1989 - June 1990, course officer, National War College, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.
9. June 1990 - August 1992, Chief of Staff of the Air Force Chair and Professor of Joint and Combined Warfare, National War College, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.
10. August 1992 - January 1994, Commander, 33rd Operations Group, Eglin AFB, Fla.
11. January 1994 - May 1996, Chief, Air Force General Officer Matters Office, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.
12. May 1996 - November 1997, Commander, 57th Wing, Nellis AFB, Nev.
13. November 1997 - July 1999, Deputy Director for Politico-Military Affairs, Asia/Pacific and Middle East, Directorate for Strategic Plans and Policy, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, D.C.
14. July 1999 - October 2001, Director, Legislative Liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.
15. November 2001 - August 2003, Commander, 9th Air Force and U.S. Central Command Air Forces, Shaw AFB, S.C.
16. August 2003 - present, Vice Chief of Staff, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command pilot

Flight hours: More than 2,800

Aircraft flown: T-37, T-38, AT-38 and F-15A/B/C/D

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Distinguished Service Medal

Distinguished Service Medal

Defense Superior Service Medal with oak leaf cluster

Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster

Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Air Medal

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Korea Defense Service Medal

French National Order of Merit

United Arab Emirates' Military Medal, 1st Class

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

2003 H.H. Arnold Award, the Air Force Association's highest honor to a military member in the field of National Security

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant July 9, 1971

First Lieutenant July 9, 1974

Captain Jan. 9, 1976

Major Oct. 1, 1983

Lieutenant Colonel March 1, 1986

Colonel April 1, 1991

Brigadier General Dec. 1, 1996

Major General Feb. 1, 2000

Lieutenant General Nov. 7, 2001

General Oct. 1, 2003

(Current as of December 2004)

Mr. Chairman, Senator Levin, and committee members, thank you for holding these hearings today. You have been stalwart stewards for the defense of our great Republic.

In war our top priorities are to accomplish the mission and to take care of our people. Back on the home front, the best thing we can do for those fighting our wars is to take care of their families. We owe our military men and women the certainty that if they are severely injured or killed, we will look after them and their loved ones.

If a service member is wounded in action, the Air Force will do whatever it takes to help them recover. Our Palace HART (Helping Airmen Recover Together) program follows Air Force wounded in action until they return to active duty or are medically retired. We work to retain them on active duty if it is at all possible. If we are unable to return an Airmen to active duty, we work to get them civilian employment within the Air Force. Finally, we also make sure they are counseled on all the benefits they are entitled to within the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Department of Labor. I am thankful for the work Dr. Chu has done in standing up the Joint Support Operations Center. This Department of Defense center is a great complement to our own program and will ensure that no injured Airmen is forgotten or neglected. As of today, 166 Airmen have been wounded in action; 145 of them have returned to active duty; 1 has medically separated; and 20 are on convalescent leave or awaiting a medical board.

At Walter Reed and at Andrews, I've met many of the injured Airmen and Soldiers returning from war. I am proud of them and their courage as they travel the hard road to recovery. Every Airman I've met wanted to return to active duty and their unit. Our skilled medical personnel have helped improve the odds of a full recovery far beyond the odds available

even 10 years ago. We currently have 11 Airmen being treated on an out-patient basis due to OIF and OEF injuries.

And what of the Killed in Action? When a military member pays the ultimate price for his country, I believe with all my heart that we must take care of those they left behind – their family. We cannot lessen their pain, we cannot heal their hurt, but we can help them with the unforgiving demands of continuing their lives. Here is where the Air Force focuses on the whole experience: from compassionately making the initial contact, to gently organizing the transition period and funeral, and finally to loyally helping the family adjust to the long-term loss.

I am proud of our professional and compassionate Casualty Assistance Officers. These highly trained volunteers are with the families from the point they are initially notified, and stick with them for as long as they are needed. This personal relationship is crucial to properly taking care of the bereaved.

The Casualty Assistance Officer, alongside chaplains and other friends within the community, help the family cope with difficult emotions, while also helping them navigate complex financial hurdles. Dr. Chu has detailed the financial assistance we currently give to the families. In 2003, this committee helped change the law; increasing the gratuity and providing it to the family of any military member, who died while on active duty, and we truly appreciate the full support.

We continue to work to improve the Air Force's process and attention to detail is taking care of the Airmen's families.

Besides the death gratuity and payment for funeral expenses, the other major payment to our Airmen is done under the Servicemember's Group Life Insurance (SGLI). This low cost insurance is a benefit that almost every Airman uses. Currently 99% of all enlisted members are

covered by SGLI with 88% electing for the maximum coverage of \$250,000. Only 0.02% elected for zero coverage. Amongst the officer ranks, 92% are elected for the maximum SGLI coverage. Only 4% elect zero coverage. SGLI is a great benefit, and I appreciate your desire to strengthen it further.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, the Department of the Air Force is part of a great joint team fighting a Global War on Terrorists. We are challenged every day in the conduct of combat operations across the globe. None of the challenges, though, are more personal or more important than taking care of our Airmen and their families. Thank you for the unwavering support you have given our Nation. And thank you for calling this hearing. I am grateful to you for the opportunity to reexamine this important issue.