

*“You’re a leader now!
Lessons from the future”*

Lt Col Melissa Dombrock, USAF

Leader/Pilot/FAO/Olmsted Scholar

Wife/Mom/Daughter/Friend

“Leaders aren’t born...
they are educated, trained and made”

~Gen Curtis E. Lemay

CAP: The early years paved the way



USAFA: Set a foundation





NPS, UPT:
Progression
to the
dream



C-17 Pilot!



C-17 Pilot: living the dream



Living the dream!



THE
OLMSTED
FOUNDATION

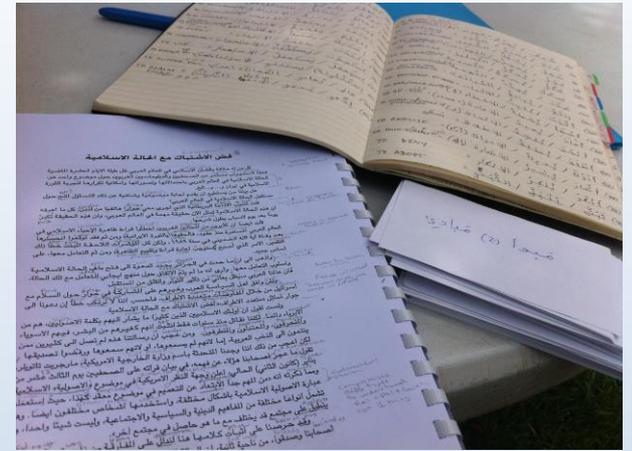
“The greatest leaders must be educated broadly”
~Gen Olmsted

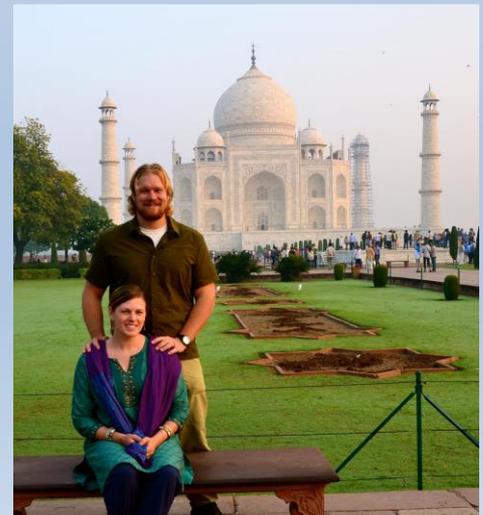
- Shaping Future Leaders since 1959
- Robust Alumni community (600+)
- AD 3-11 years total service
- “outstanding performance and aptitude for leadership”
- 15-20 Scholars/year (4-5 USAF)



US Air Force	
<u>Code</u>	<u>Specialty</u>
11	Pilot
12	Navigator
13	Space, Missile, Command and Control
14	Intelligence
18	Remotely Piloted Aircraft Pilot
21	Logistics
31	Security
32	Civil Engineering
33	Communications
38	Force Support
61	Scientific Research/ Development
62	Developmental Engineer
63	Acquisition

Olmsted: a new dream





“We travel because we need to...because distance and difference are the secret tonic to creativity. When we get home, home is still the same, but something in our minds has changed... and that changes everything.”





What's it really about (for me)?

- Living life authentically
- Choosing courage over comfort

- Developing relationships
- Empowering myself and others
- Multi-capable...many roles

Serve – Lead – Learn – Grow

What about you?

- Figure out what it's really about for you...what are your values? Who are you? What do you care about?
- Understand how you're doing (feedback)
- Be invested in your own knowledge/development
- You are a leader now!
- Seek opportunities to take risks, expand...grow!

What can I do now?

- Dream BIG! Then, create a plan
- Make goals that are attainable, with intermediate steps to get there
- Connect with a mentor
- Strive to be competitive and the best at where you're at
 - If you are doing your best, you will keep doors open for opportunities

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10 lessons I learned in CAP:

(that still apply to me today)

1. USAF Core Values & believing in something bigger than myself
2. How to build a team and work together...teamwork makes the dream work! We are always stronger together
3. Good leaders are also good followers first
4. Set goals and follow-through by making plans
5. Share successes and own failures
6. Trust and respect must be earned
7. Some friends are for life
8. Treat everyone with respect; connections and network matter
9. The BEST of me is what I will be...and that's my decision every day
10. Who I am is how I lead



Serve

Lead

Learn

Grow

Authenticity & Courage



*Who you are is
how you lead*

