



AOC cosponsors 1st Annual Robins Air Force Base Congressional Breakfast

The AOC, in collaboration with Robins, GA - based 21st Century Partnership, the Aerospace Industry Committee (Robins Regional Chamber of Commerce), and the Dixie Crow Chapter of the AOC convened its 1st Annual Robins AFB Congressional Breakfast on April 27 at the US Capitol in Washington, DC. The event was co-hosted by GA Senators Johnny Isakson and David Perdue and Representatives Austin Scott (GA-08) and Sanford Bishop (GA-02). The event keynote speaker was former GA Senator Saxby Chambliss and attendance was highlighted by military leaders from US Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC), including Gen. Ellen Pawlikowski, Commander, AFMC; Lt. Gen. John Thompson, Commander, USAF Life Cycle Management Center; and Lt. Gen. Lee Levy, Commander, USAF Sustainment Center. Additional attendees representing USAF leadership included the Honorable Ricardo Aguilera, Assistant Secretary of the USAF for Financial Management; Brig. Gen. Joseph Jarrard, the Adjutant General of Georgia; Brig. Gen. Albert Lupenski, Director, Plans, Programs, and Requirements, USAF Reserve, and Maj. Gen. James Martin, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget. There were also several state and local elected officials from middle Georgia who made the trip up to the nation's capital to attend the event and show their support for Robins AFB.

The mission of this collaborative event is to protect, preserve and promote Robins AFB by investing in its workforce, by creating a collaborative STEM/Education environment in Middle Georgia, and promoting innovation and technology centers of excellence to ensure current and future missions for Robins AFB. Robins AFB is a critical contributor to global security and the regional economic environment of Middle Georgia. Robins AFB must ensure that their modernization, and sustainment along with their life cycle capabilities meet our National Security Strategy supporting Combatant Commanders' requirements. Furthermore, it is imperative that Robins AFB and Middle Georgia industry develop and sustain an agile, adaptable, economic growth plan revolving around smart investments in technology and workforce development.

Specifically, Robins AFB EW/C2ISR/Software/Electronics enterprise and capabilities will be able to resource the entire range of Air Force Weapon Systems. Maintaining this capability and our technical superiority requires investment in not only intellectual capital of the Middle Georgia region, but also next-generation technology. As they plan for the future, the rapid pace of change occurring throughout the world compounds the uncertainty and complexity of the current and future security environment. To maintain success, we are pursuing collaboration to meet both the challenges and the opportunities in air, space, and cyberspace.

Over the next decade, Robins AFB will leverage operational agility as a way to adapt swiftly to any situation. Operational agility is the ability to rapidly generate — and shift among — multiple solutions for a given challenge. By using operational agility as a guiding principle in the conduct of Robins' core missions, we can preserve and enhance the base's capacity to act quickly in response to any challenge.

Overall, the event was a tremendous success with congressional and USAF leaders calling for it to be truly an annual endeavor. In the meantime, the AOC will continue working closely with its partners in middle GA to raise awareness about the mission at Robins AFB to leaders in Congress, the military, and defense industry. For more information on the event and the work of the partnership, please contact Ken Miller at the AOC at ken@kmsadvocacy.com.