A-10C II
DEMO TEAM
MEDIA KIT

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A-10 II DEMO TEAM MEDIA KIT

A-10 THUNDERBOLT II DEMONSTRATION TEAM FACT SHEET

The A-10 is the Air Force's premier close air support aircraft, providing invaluable protection to troops on the ground. The Air Combat Command A-10 Thunderbolt II Demonstration Team, stationed out of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, brings the aircraft to air shows around the country to showcase the unique combat capabilities of the A-10 "Warthog." They perform precision aerial maneuvers while highlighting the mission and professionalism of the men and women of the United States Air Force. Additionally, the team brings attention to the air force's proud history by flying formations with historical aircraft in the Air Force Heritage Flight.

BACKGROUND

The A-10 Demo Team originally consisted of two East and West counterparts before both were deactivated in 2011. The A-10 flew in heritage flight formations in 2012 and 2017 before reactivating as a single-ship demonstration in 2018.

The 10-member team consists of one pilot, a superintendent, a noncommissioned officer in-charge, three crew chiefs, an avionics systems specialist, an electrical and environmental technician, an engine specialist and a public affairs specialist.

A-10 THUNDERBOLT II FACT SHEET

The A-10 Thunderbolt II is the first Air Force aircraft specially designed for close air support of ground forces. They are simple, effective and survivable twin-engine jet aircraft that can be used against light maritime attack aircraft and all ground targets, including tanks and other armored vehicles.

FEATURES

The A-10 offers excellent maneuverability at low airspeeds and altitude while maintaining a highly accurate weapons-delivery platform. They can loiter near battle areas for extended periods of time, are capable of austere landings and operate under 1,000-foot ceilings (303.3 meters) with 1.5-mile (2.4 kilometers) visibility. Additionally, with the capability of carrying precision guided munitions and unguided munitions, they can employ above, below and in the weather. Their wide combat radius and short takeoff and landing capability permit operations in and out of locations near front lines. Using night vision goggles, A-10 pilots can conduct their missions during darkness.

Thunderbolt IIs have Night Vision Imaging Systems (NVIS), goggle compatible single-seat cockpits forward of their wings, Helmet Mounted Cueing Systems, and a large bubble canopy which provides pilots all-around vision. The pilots are protected by titanium armor that also protects parts of the flight-control system. The redundant primary structural sections allow the aircraft to enjoy better survivability during close air support than previous aircraft.

The aircraft can survive direct hits from armor-piercing and high explosive projectiles up to 23mm. Their self-sealing fuel cells are protected by internal and external foam. Manual systems back up their redundant hydraulic flight-control systems. This permits pilots to fly and land when hydraulic power is lost.

The Thunderbolt II can be serviced and operated from bases with limited facilities near battle areas. Many of the aircraft's parts are interchangeable left and right, including the engines, main landing gear and vertical stabilizers.

FEATURES (CON.)

Avionics equipment includes communications, inertial navigation and GPS, fire control and weapons delivery systems, target penetration aids and night vision goggles. Their weapons delivery systems include heads-up displays that indicate airspeed, altitude, dive angle, navigation information and weapons aiming references; and a low altitude safety and targeting enhancement system (LASTE) which provides constantly computing impact point freefall ordnance delivery. The aircraft also have armament control panels, and infrared and electronic countermeasures to handle surface-to-air-threats, both missile and anti-aircraft artillery.

The Thunderbolt II's 30mm GAU-8/A Gatling gun can fire 3,900 rounds a minute and can defeat an array of ground targets to include tanks. Some of their other equipment include electronic countermeasures, target penetration aids, self-protection systems and an array of air-to-surface weapons, including laser and GPS guided munitions, AGM-65 Maverick and AIM-9 Sidewinder missiles.

BACKGROUND

The first production A-10 was delivered to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, in October 1975. It was designed specifically for the close air support mission and had the ability to combine large military loads, long loiter and wide combat radius, which proved to be vital assets to the United States and its allies during Operation Desert Storm and Operation Noble Anvil.

In the Gulf War, A-10s had a mission capable rate of 95.7%, flew 8,100 sorties and launched 90% of the AGM-65 Maverick missiles.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

- **Primary Function:** A-10 – close air support, airborne forward air control, combat search and rescue
- **Contractor:** Fairchild Republic Co.
- **Power Plant:** Two General Electric TF34-GE-100 turbofans
- **Thrust:** 9,065 pounds each engine
- **Length:** 53 feet, 4 inches (16.16 meters)
- **Height:** 14 feet, 8 inches (4.42 meters)
- **Wingspan:** 57 feet, 6 inches (17.42 meters)
- **Speed:** 420 miles per hour (Mach 0.56)
- **Ceiling:** 45,000 feet (13,636 meters)
- **Maximum Takeoff Weight:** 51,000 pounds (22,950 kilograms)
- **Range:** 800 miles (695 nautical miles)
- **Armament:** One 30mm GAU-8/A seven-barrel Gatling gun; up to 16,000 pounds (7,200 kilograms) of mixed ordnance on eight under-wing and three under-fuselage pylon stations, including 500 pound (225 kilograms) Mk-82 and 2,000 pounds (900 kilograms) Mk-84 series low/high drag bombs, incendiary cluster bombs, combined effects munitions, mine dispensing munitions, AGM-65 Maverick missiles, laser-/GPS-guided bombs, unguided and laser-guided 2.75-inch (6.99 centimeters) rockets; infrared countermeasure flares; electronic countermeasure chaff; jammer pods; illumination flares and AIM-9 Sidewinder missiles.
- **Crew:** One
- **Date Deployed:** March 1976
- **Unit Cost:** $9.8 million (fiscal 98 constant dollars)
- **Inventory:** Total Force – approximately 281

Our Pilot

Captain Lindsay M. “MAD” Johnson

Captain Lindsay Johnson is the A-10C Thunderbolt II Demonstration Team Pilot and Commander, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona. She is responsible for showcasing the A-10 Thunderbolt II at over 20 airshows annually around the country, as well as internationally. She is also responsible for leadership of a 10-person team that includes maintenance and public affairs Airmen. She and the team highlight the capabilities of the A-10, as well as pay tribute to Air Force history by flying formation flights with the Heritage Flight Foundation.

Capt. Johnson commissioned through the United States Air Force Academy in 2014 where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Behavioral Sciences – Human Factors. She has since earned a master’s degree in Aviation Safety from the Florida Institute of Technology.

Capt. Johnson has served in Texas, Korea and Arizona. As a veteran instructor pilot, she has amassed over 1,250 flight hours, including 431 combat flight hours in support of both Operation Freedom’s Sentinel and the Resolute Support Mission. Prior to her current position, Capt. Johnson was an Instructor Pilot and Flight Commander, 357th Fighter Squadron, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona.

EDUCATION

2010: Yorktown High School, Yorktown, VA
2014: Bachelor of Science, Behavioral Sciences – Human Factors, United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO.
2020: Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, AL.
2022: Master of Science, Aviation Safety, Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, FL

ASSIGNMENTS

1. July 2014 – December 2016, Student Pilot, Laughlin AFB, Texas
2. December 2016 – October 2017, A-10C Student Pilot, 355th Training Squadron, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona
3. October 2017 – June 2019, A-10C Pilot, 25th Fighter Squadron, Osan AB, Republic of Korea
4. June 2019 – August 2021, A-10C Flight Lead and Chief of Flight Safety, 354th Fighter Squadron, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona (July 2019 – January 2020, A-10C Flight Lead, 354th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron, Kandahar AB, Afghanistan)
5. August 2021- November 2022, A-10C Instructor Pilot and Flight Commander, 357th Fighter Squadron, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona

Biography (cont.)

6. December 2022 – Present, A-10C Thunderbolt II Demonstration Team Pilot and Commander, Air Combat Command, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona

FLIGHT INFORMATION
Rating: Pilot
Flight hours: More than 1,250 including 431 in combat
Aircraft flown: T-38, A-10C
MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS
Air Medal with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters
Aerial Achievement Medal
Air Force Commendation Medal with an Oak Leaf Cluster

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION
Second Lieutenant May 1, 2014
First Lieutenant May 1, 2016
Captain May 1, 2018

(CURRENT AS OF JAN 2023)

A-10 DEMO TEAM MEDIA KIT

A-10 DEMO TEAM CONTACT LIST

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