



# NEWS RELEASE

## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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**THIS INFORMATION IS EMBARGOED UNTIL 6 p.m. Monday, May 5, 2008**

*Event to culminate in largest open house ever at Offutt*

### **Governor, Gen. Corley to announce Air Force Week in the Heartland**

**OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE, Neb.** – The “stars” will be out Monday evening at Offutt AFB for a very special announcement by Gov. Dave Heineman and General John D.W. Corley, commander of Air Combat Command.

The governor will announce that the Heartland will be one of only three locations designated to host an Air Force Week this year. The other two are at Philadelphia and Los Angeles.

That means the U.S. Air Force will bring its aircraft, systems and senior leaders to the Heartland between Aug. 9 and 17, sharing with Nebraskans and Iowans the service’s capabilities and introducing many of its men and women in blue “up close” in local communities.

ACC Commander Gen. John D. W. Corley, who took the ACC reins on Oct. 2, leads more than 96,000 men and women of the Air Force’s primary provider of air combat forces, operating 15 major Air Force bases and 13 additional units at other bases. When combined with their Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve complement, ACC includes more than 2,000 aircraft and 154,000 people.

“Air Force Week in the Heartland” will be celebrated across Nebraska and Western Iowa between Aug. 9 and 17th, opening with a major public event on Aug. 9th in Omaha, and featuring public events and

showcases of Air Force power in numerous locations around the state and in Western Iowa throughout the week.

It will culminate in the Defenders of Freedom Open House and Air Show at Offutt AFB Aug. 16-17, officially to be the biggest open house ever hosted by the base, with more performers and static displays than ever before. The Air Force Thunderbirds aerial demonstration team will perform both days, moving their regular schedule back a little to accommodate the many Air Force demonstration teams and other aerial acts that will be in the show during this spectacular Air Force Week event.

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*Those wishing to cover the announcement need to call Debbie Aragon at 294-3663 no later than 10 a.m. May 5.*