



# NEWS RELEASE

**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

## **HEADQUARTERS STANDARD SYSTEMS GROUP**

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## **SSG to Host Flag Day Celebration**

**MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, GUNTER ANNEX, Ala.** – The Standard Systems

Group will host a special Flag Day celebration beginning at 3 p.m., June 14 at the

Senior NCO Academy Auditorium. A formal retreat will follow at the Senior NCO

Academy flagpole.

This year's theme is "Renewing Our Allegiance" and Retired Air Force Col. Henry Fowler will be the guest speaker. Fowler was a prisoner of war in North Vietnam from 1967 to 1973.

Flag Day honors the adoption of the Stars and Stripes as our national flag by the Second Continental Congress on June 14, 1777. The Stars and Stripes first flew in a Flag Day celebration in Hartford, Connecticut in 1861, the first summer of the Civil War. The first national observance of Flag Day came on June 14, 1877, the centennial of the original flag resolution.

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***SSG TO HOST FLAG DAY CEREMONY***  
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The original flag went through many different changes over the years until an Executive Order of President William Howard Taft in 1912 established proportions for the flag and regulated the ordering of the stars into rows. The first Flag Day celebrations occurred in the mid-1880s and by 1894, Flag Day drew some 300,000 people to city parks in Chicago alone. A Proclamation by President Woodrow Wilson on May 30, 1916 officially established Flag Day, but it was not until August 3, 1949, when President Harry Truman signed an Act of Congress, that June 14th of each year became National Flag Day.

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