



225th DETACHMENT ROTC CADET WING  
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME  
NOTRE DAME, INDIANA 46556-5601



01 June 2018

Incoming Air Force Cadets,

My name is Cadet Finbar Berry. I am a junior majoring in Finance at the University of Notre Dame and have been a cadet in ROTC for 2 years. First and foremost, congratulations on completing high school and being accepted at one of the schools in Det 225! I am excited you are interested in joining our detachment. I remember when I was making the same decisions you are making now. I was nervous about what ROTC had in store for me and how it would impact my college career. Nonetheless, I joined Det 225 and have never looked back. I have made incredibly close friends, learned invaluable leadership skills, become a more focused student, and improved my physical shape. In all, you get what you put into this program.

At Det 225, you will join an organization which includes a diverse group of students from Holy Cross College, Bethel College, Trine University, Saint Mary's College, Valparaiso University, Indiana University-South Bend and the University of Notre Dame. Members of Det 225 are a close-knit community who are firmly dedicated to integrity, service, and excellence. At the detachment, you will be able to participate in a wide range of unique opportunities such as base visits where you fly A-10 and B-2 simulators, flying with the local Civil Air Patrol units, competing against the Army and Navy ROTC units in physical challenges and sports, presenting the American flag at sporting events then watching the game from the sidelines, community service and a myriad of other opportunities too numerous to list.

If you decide to join Air Force ROTC at Det 225, I highly encourage attending our New Cadet Orientation Program (NCOP) held from Sunday, 12 August until Thursday, 16 August 2018. This training program will launch you into your freshmen year. NCOP will introduce you to what it is like to be an Air Force cadet, teach you the basics of military life, and inform you of the vast opportunities open to you as you work to become an Officer in the World's Greatest Air Force. You will learn and practice military customs and courtesies, marching and drill, participate in group leadership scenarios, and PT (physical training). This week will also help you transition from being a High School student to a college student and provide tips and advice from upperclassman on managing the demands of academics, ROTC, and the host of other extracurricular activities the schools offer. NCOP is an incredible opportunity to meet other new cadets and get a head start into your first semester in ROTC; I have great memories and lasting friendships from my NCOP and am excited to provide the same experience to you and your fellow cadets!

If you plan to attend, please arrive on Sunday, 12 August between 900 and 930 at Pasquerilla Center, Notre Dame. If you are flying into South Bend and cannot arrive before 930, it is recommended you fly in on Saturday. Let the detachment know if this is the case so we can arrange for lodging and someone to pick you up at the airport.

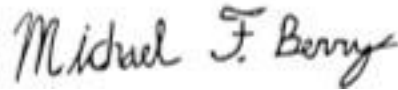
For your parents, the Detachment will host a reception Sunday morning followed by a Welcome Briefing and Q&A session with Colonel Bowen, our Detachment commander, other cadre members and upperclassmen so your parents learn about your life as a ROTC cadet. Parents are also invited to attend a graduation ceremony on Thursday at 1100 followed by a picnic. The final great part of NCOP is all NCOP cadets may move into their permanent dorms Thursday afternoon!

You get to move-in and set your dorm up before the rest of the incoming class arrives on Friday.

If you plan to attend the Notre Dame Marching Band camp, please let us know and we will in-process you with the Band and deconflict Thursday for you. Up to a third of the cadet wing is in the Band and we have a great working relationship with Dr. Dye and his team. Every year our incoming cadets do both NCOP and Band try-outs without issue. If you have other college program orientation conflicts, let us know those as well and we will work to deconflict them as well.

Again, thank you for your interest in our Air Force ROTC program. I hope to see you all at NCOP. It is an incredible opportunity to meet other cadets who, like you, want to be part of something bigger than themselves. Should you decide to pursue ROTC here at Det 225, you will be rewarded with amazing experiences and lifelong friendships made throughout your college career. Until 12 August, have a safe and relaxing summer and take pride in knowing that you will be joining one of the most prestigious and powerful organizations in the world, the United States Air Force.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael F. Berry". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

MICHAEL F. BERRY, C/Col, AFROTC  
New Cadet Orientation Program Commander

