



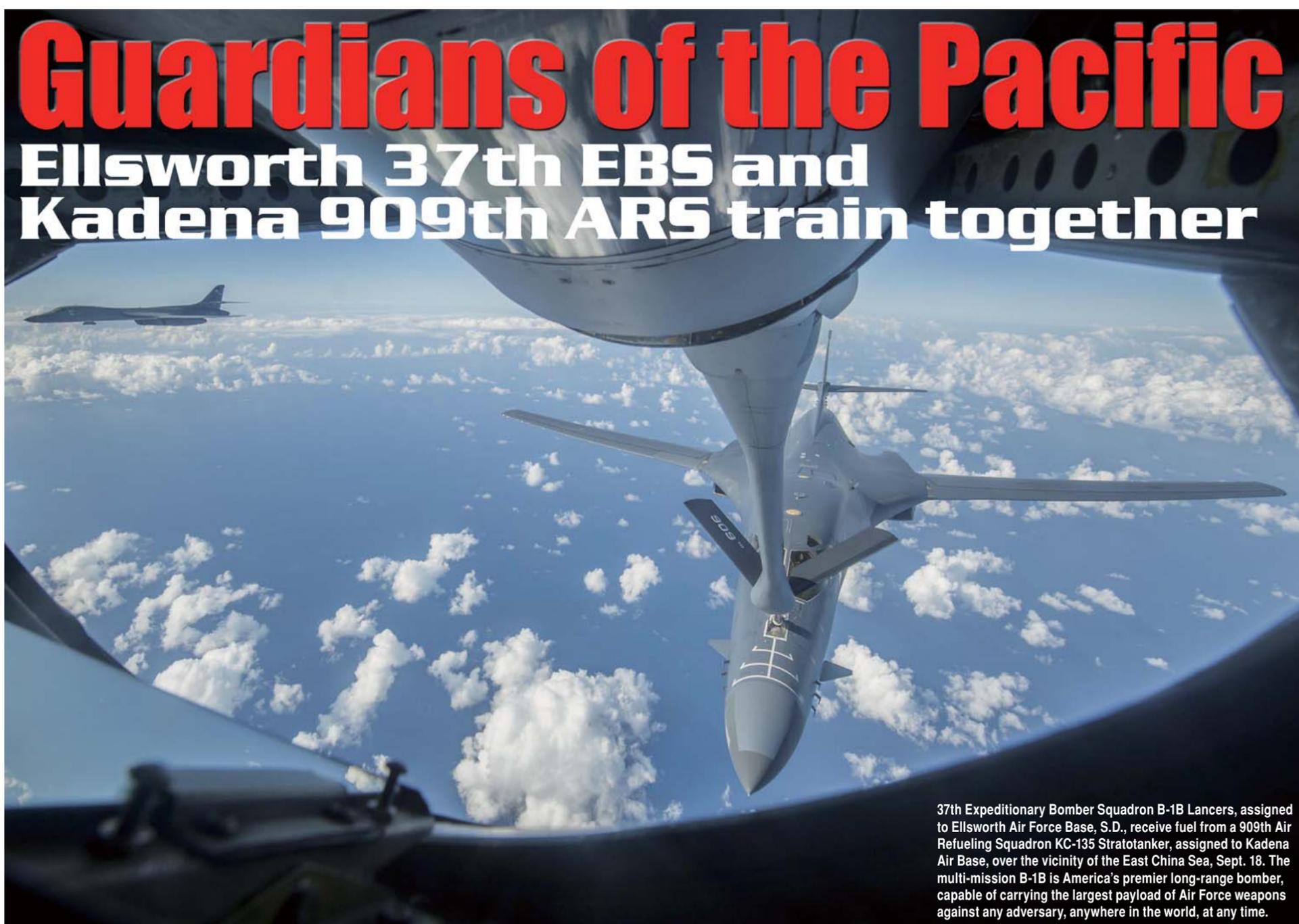
# AMURAI GATE



SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

# Guardians of the Pacific

## Ellsworth 37th EBS and Kadena 909th ARS train together



37th Expeditionary Bomber Squadron B-1B Lancers, assigned to Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D., receive fuel from a 909th Air Refueling Squadron KC-135 Stratotanker, assigned to Kadena Air Base, over the vicinity of the East China Sea, Sept. 18. The multi-mission B-1B is America's premier long-range bomber, capable of carrying the largest payload of Air Force weapons against any adversary, anywhere in the world, at any time.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Peter Reft)

# Japanese, Korean and U.S. aircraft conduct show of force in response to North Korean missile launch

**By Capt. Cassandra Gesecki**

U.S. Pacific Command

9/18/2017 - CAMP H.M. SMITH, Hawaii — United States Air Force and Marine Corps aircraft joined Japan Air Self-Defense Force and Republic of Korea Air Force aircraft in a sequenced bilateral show of force over the Korean Peninsula September 17, in response to North Korea's launch of an intermediate range ballistic missile (IRBM) over Japan on September 14.

Two B-1B Lancer bombers from Andersen Air Force Base, Guam; four U.S. Marine Corps F-35B Lightning II fifth-generation advanced fighters from

Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan; four Republic of Korea Air Force (ROKAF) F-15K fighters; and four Koku Jieitai (Japan Air Self-Defense Force) F-2 fighter jets executed this mission.

During the mission, U.S. and ROKAF aircraft flew across the Korean Peninsula and practiced their attack capabilities by releasing live weapons at the Pilsung Range training area. The F-35Bs, B-1B bombers and Koku Jieitai fighters flew together over waters near Kyushu, Japan.

U.S. Pacific Command maintains the ability to respond to any threat in the Indo-Asia-Pacific theater at a moment's notice.



(Courtesy photo)

^ B-1B Lancer bombers flanked by U.S. Marine Corps F-35 Lightning II and Japan Air Self-Defense Force F-2 fighters execute a bilateral mission over the Pacific Ocean, demonstrating the United States' ironclad commitment to our allies in the face of aggressive and unlawful North Korean missile tests, Sept. 17. This mission was conducted in direct response to North Korea's intermediate range ballistic missile launch, which flew directly over northern Japan on September 14.