

# USAFA CADETS IN FINLAND

## Helping MCFs through Spring Break Trips:

*ACCTS' Spring Break Trips are designed to help indigenous military Christian fellowships (MCFs) by providing:*

- 1. Opportunities for MCF members to meet and interact with US military cadets, midshipmen, and other personnel.*
- 2. A unique way for MCF members to minister to others outside their nation.*
- 3. Future opportunities for ministry in their own nation.*

“The three U.S. Air Force cadets who went on the ACCTS Spring Break trip to Finland showed good leadership skills and flexibility. They are all involved in military fellowship through OCF at the USAFA, and in Finland they were eager to share their faith with others,” reports team leader Bernhard Kaltenbach after the March trip.

“We were able to visit two military academies in Finland, thanks to the Finnish military Christians, LtCol (Ret.) Jari Rankila and Lt Atte Sievälä, who hosted us. The MCF of Finland is small, but they were great hosts and we feel they were also encouraged by our visit. Jari is interested in promoting ministry to younger people, and this was part of his investment in younger military Christian leadership.”

At both academies, the U.S. group was hosted and greeted by the commandants, who believe these visits are a good way to allow for the exchange of ideas and experiences. The three cadets presented a report on life at the USAFA, and had time for discussions with their Finnish counterparts afterward. A visit with the U.S. military attaché in Finland was also a highlight of this trip. The attaché gave them a thorough report on his role and career.

“One of the things the cadets learned on this trip was how blessed they are to have strong Christian support groups at their academy,” Bernhard concludes. “My prayer is that these young men will stay involved in military ministry throughout their careers.”