

# On-final



October 2003

Vol. 23, No. 10

507<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing - 513<sup>th</sup> Air Control Group  
Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma

## *Recruiter Andy*



*greet the  
troops on  
Family Day*

**507<sup>th</sup> ARW Mission:** Man, train, equip, and sustain an Expeditionary Reserve Force in support of DoD peacetime and wartime taskings.

**513<sup>th</sup> ACG Mission:** Citizen-airmen extending America's Global Power operating the world's best airborne battle management, warning and control platform.





## 507th OG Commander's Column

By Col. 'Farb' Phillips

### Forever ready, always there

**A unified team of citizen airmen fully engaged in global vigilance, reach and power. Forever ready, always there.**

As the new commander of the Operations Group, I was granted the privilege of writing the commander's article for this month's *On-Final*. I would like to touch on something that we all have an interest in. That is the vision of the unit, where it has been, where it is, and where it is going. Our published vision statement is this: ***A unified team of citizen airmen fully engaged in global vigilance, reach and power. Forever ready, always there.*** I believe that we have always and will always live up to this, our mission statement, because that is what we are: A unified team of citizen airmen fully engaged in global vigilance, reach and power. Forever ready, always there. There should be no doubt in anyone's mind that we have been and continue to be one very

powerful unified team of citizen airmen. We just proved that with our participation in the "War on Terror" at two overseas locations, as well as, here at home. We have proved that in every major U.S. conflict since I can remember and I know that we will do it again in the future. I don't think that anyone can say we were not fully engaged in global vigilance, considering we were scattered about conducting daily operations in three different countries at one point. We not only conducted daily operations but we did it in a very powerful and commendable manner. We certainly have the reach and power.

Finally I would like to say that since I have been a member of the 507<sup>th</sup> we have proven over and over again the truth of the last sentence. In my near 30 years of service, I have never had the privilege of being forever ready, always there like I have experienced in the 507<sup>th</sup>. This unit always volunteers no matter what the personal cost. It is always at the leading edge and it always does an enviable job when it is there. Each and every one of you are a very viable and important part of our successful mission; you are an exceptional group of people. I am personally proud to be an Okie who is one of a unified team of citizen airmen fully engaged in global vigilance, reach and power. **FOREVER READY, ALWAYS THERE.**



### THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

I send greetings to all those celebrating Military Family Month, sponsored by the Armed Services YMCA of the USA.

Our Armed Forces are upholding the noble tradition of duty, honor, and loyalty to our country as they secure our homeland and help make the world a safer place. Our Nation is strong because of our brave men and women in uniform. As we work to advance peace and to fight terrorism, the heroic contributions of our military members continue to inspire individuals across our country.

I thank our military families for their continued support of our active duty service members. Your encouragement helps prepare them for the important tasks they undertake in the defense of our freedom.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes. May God bless you, and may God continue to bless the United States and all who defend her.



To: Air Force Families

This month is set aside to recognize the invaluable contributions of the Military Family. I'm proud to join with the Armed Services YMCA in honoring you for the sacrifice, dedication and support you bring to our Air Force.

Strong military families are truly a national treasure. As our airmen continue to deploy around the world as part of the Expeditionary Air Force, your love and support on the homefront allows them to focus on the mission. The sacrifices that often come with military service are many - missed holidays, dance recitals and ball games -- and yet you continue to stand strong and support your loved ones.

My wife Sherry and I thank you for your unwavering commitment. Our Air Force is better because of the families that stand behind it. Enjoy the recognition you so richly deserve and know that throughout the coming year, your efforts are greatly appreciated.

GERALD R. MURRAY  
Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force



## Volume 23, No. 10

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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. **Copy deadline is NOON on UTA Sunday for the next month's edition.**

This is your news source. Take it home with you to share with family, friends, and employers.

**On The Cover**

**Family Day attendees had the opportunity to meet the newest Wing recruiter, Tech. Sgt. Andy.**

Photo by Maj. Rich Curry



507 ARW



513 ACG

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NEWS / INFORMATION / FAMILY READINESS / MORE!

**507th AIR REFUELING WING  
 and  
 513th AIR CONTROL GROUP**

TINKER AFB OKLAHOMA



**[www.afrc.af.mil/507arw](http://www.afrc.af.mil/507arw)**



# Defense leaders discuss Reserve component role in war on terror

By Donna Miles  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25, 2003 — National Guard and Reserve forces “have been absolutely essential” to the war on terrorism, the commander of U.S. Central Command told the Senate Appropriations Committee during a Sept. 24 hearing about the fiscal 2004 supplemental funding request for Iraq and Afghanistan.

“We couldn’t get the job done without them,” Army Gen. John Abizaid said. “It isn’t a matter of ‘nice to have,’ it’s a matter of ‘must have.’”

But Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told the committee that such heavy reliance on the reserve components — which has a large percentage of the military’s combat service support capabilities — “doesn’t posture us very well for the 21st century security environment we’re going into.”

Myers said Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld has ordered a rebalancing of the force to provide a better mix of capabilities between the active and reserve components. “Because it’s inevitable (that) if we’re going to send an active ground component ... into a situation, there’s going to be a reserve piece that goes with it,” Myers said. “And that may be fine for some situations, but probably not all.”

The Defense Department’s goal is to accomplish the rebalancing within the next two years.

About 170,000 Guard and Reserve members are currently on active duty, down from a high of 223,000 during major combat operations in Iraq, Myers said, noting that the number could drop more if a third multinational division joins Operation Iraqi Freedom.

However, if no additional multinational division materializes, Myers said, planners might have to use other options to keep manning on track in Iraq — including the possibility of more reserve component call-ups. Other options, he said, involve increasing the number of active duty troops committed to the operation or, ideally, getting enough Iraqis trained so they can assume a larger role in their defense.

Meanwhile, U.S. troops serving in or being deployed to Iraq “should expect to spend one year in Iraq,” Myers said, whether they are on active duty or in the reserve components.

“There is an issue of fairness here, and I think the National Guard will be the first to tell you that they are willing to pull their fair share,” he said. “They always have, and they’re very proud of that.”

Defense Department policy has been to issue one-year

mobilization orders to the reserve components, although service secretaries have the authority to extend that period. Current Army policy, for example, is that mobilized reserve component troops will spend up to 12 months in theater, in addition to active duty time spent to train up, ship out and demobilize at the end of their tours.

And when reserve components troops are called to active duty, Myers and Rumsfeld agree they need more notice than many have been getting.

“The system that is in place is designed for an industrial age, and as a result, a number of people were only given five, six, eight, 10 days notification of their call-up,” Rumsfeld told the committee. “And that’s just not respectful of them and their employers and their family. And we’re fixing that system. We cannot do that to the Guard and Reserve in terms of activation.”

The chairman agreed. “We can do a better job in providing predictability,” Myers said. “We can do a better job in communicating when people will come on active duty and when they will be leaving active duty.”

Myers said reserve component units to be called to active duty for the next rotation already have been alerted and are preparing for their missions.

Reserve component troops, Abizaid told the committee, have “been doing great work all the way from combat operations to support operations. They’re all over the theater.”

Myers said the war on terror demands that the military make maximum use of all its assets. “We are relying heavily on the reserve component,” he said. “And you would expect to do that if you’re a nation at war and the stakes are high.”

Myers said his meetings with reserve component troops, as well as those he met during his recent trip to Bosnia and Kosovo, confirm that they “couldn’t be prouder of what they’re doing,” and that despite the sacrifices, they are committed to the cause.

Sen. Robert F. Bennett, an Appropriations Committee member from Utah, agreed, relaying a story about a guardsman from his state who had returned home on leave from his deployment in Iraq while his wife delivered twins.

“They were sitting there in the crowd with these two babies less than a week old, the wife holding one, the G.I. holding the other,” Bennett said. “And in that meeting was a gentleman who wanted to make the point that everything (in Iraq) is disaster ... that nothing’s going well,” Bennett continued.

“This G.I. holding this baby spoke up and said, ‘I believe in the mission. I’m glad to be there. I’m leaving tomorrow and I’m glad to be going back.’”



# New website will help unit AEF deployment

The Air and Space Expeditionary Force Center recently launched an improved version of their Web site, "AEF Online," to help airmen learn more about the AEF and provide information about deployments.

According to Capt. Jimmy Wolfe, 507<sup>th</sup> Logistics Readiness Squadron Commander, "With more than 100 members of the 507<sup>th</sup> ARW anticipating an overseas Aerospace Expeditionary Force rotation in the spring, this site should be a 'must-see' for our people."

Wolfe said the website offers a straight forward approach to sharing information to help both reservists and family members prepare. "This site offers information on most AEF locations, including checklists, requirements, and base welcome guides, but also provides Family Support guides and information to support those back home."

"We've made the site more user-friendly and more pleasing to the eye. Our goal was to organize information to allow people to find what they need more easily and quickly," said Maj. Beverly Nozolino, the chief of the AEF Center systems integration branch.

"AEF Online helps airmen better prepare themselves for deployment," Nozolino said. "They can also use the site to learn more about the AEF, including information about the AEF Center, points of contact and useful tools."

Airmen will find more up-to-date information on the new site,

she said.

"Based on feedback received from airmen across the total force, the AEF Center Web team not only improved the usability of the site; it also added more relevant information," she said.

"The Web site is constantly evolving, seeking to incorporate contemporary and useful information regarding what airmen can expect when they deploy in support of current AEF operations," Nozolino said. "As the AEF enters a post-Operation Iraqi Freedom transition phase, we think now is a good time to make sure airmen know where to go to get the latest news and information about the AEF and deployments."

"The AEF is how the Air Force intends to conduct 21st century warfighting — it's here to stay," said Brig. Gen. Anthony Przybyslawski, the commander of the AEF Center. "As the AEF continues to evolve, especially during very dynamic contingency operations like Operation Iraqi Freedom, getting the most current and relevant AEF information out to our airmen is a top AEF Center priority. Our newly revamped Web site, AEF Online, is intended to do just that. We encourage all airmen to visit the site and, if they have ideas on how to make it even better, don't hesitate to let us know."

Airmen can access AEF Online from any dot-mil computer at <https://aefcenter.acc.af.mil>. (Courtesy of Air Combat Command News Service)

## New ribbon recognizes deployed airmen

by **Master Sgt. Randy L. Mitchell**  
**Air Force Personnel Center**  
**Public Affairs**

Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche has approved award of the Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon to recognize servicemembers' support of air expeditionary force deployments.

The ribbon will be awarded to Air Force active-duty, Reserve and Guard members who completed a contingency deployment after Oct. 1, 1999, according to officials.

"Deployed status is defined as either deployment on contingency, exercise, deployment orders or members sourced in direct support, in theater or out, of expeditionary operations with an overnight (stay) away from home station," said Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Simmons. He is the superintendent of the awards and decorations section at the Air Force Personnel Center here.

To qualify for the award, individuals

must have deployed for 45 consecutive days or 90 nonconsecutive days.

"Any contingency deployment qualifies regardless of the duty, destination or location of the temporary duty, consecutive 45 days, regardless of TDY length, counts toward an additional ribbon. For example, 90 consecutive days of TDY qualifies an individual for two (ribbons); 180 consecutive days qualifies him or her for four ribbons."

Permanent-party people overseas are not eligible for the ribbon, unless they are forward-deployed on a contingency deployment, according to Simmons. People deployed on an overseas short tour may receive both the expeditionary ribbon and the Overseas Short Tour Ribbon, providing they meet the requirements for both, he said.

To receive the award, people should report to their serving military personnel

flight once they return from deployment to validate entitlement to the ribbon, Simmons said. People must present a copy of their deployment orders and completed travel voucher; any citations or certificates received while deployed may also help prove entitlement.

"If the special order doesn't identify the TDY as a contingency deployment, the current squadron commander may validate (the ribbon) entitlement by evaluating the request and verifying any supporting documentation," Simmons said. "If necessary, (the commander) may also contact other people with first-hand knowledge of the member's deployment."

"The commander would then provide a memorandum to the (military personnel flight) validating the TDY and how many days the individual was deployed," he said. (Courtesy of AFPC News Service)



# Father McCool to provide drill weekend Mass

Father Patrick McCool will consecrate Mass for unit reservists this drill weekend beginning at 7:30 a.m. Sunday in the 513<sup>th</sup> Air Control Group conference room.

According to 507<sup>th</sup> Chaplain (Lt. Col.) James Bradfield, "Catholic Mass has not been provided at our unit for many, many years. It is our responsibility at the 507<sup>th</sup> Chaplain's Office to assure that the Major Faith Groups have a religious opportunity."

Chaplain Bradfield stated that the continuation of Catholic Mass will require unit participation. "If you like the idea of a priest providing Mass during weekend drills, make a strong effort to attend."

Bradfield stated that Protestant service will take place at the same time in the 513<sup>th</sup> ACG Auditorium. "We strongly encourage all supervisors to make it reasonably possible for unit reservists to attend the worship service of their choice. Both the Catholic Mass

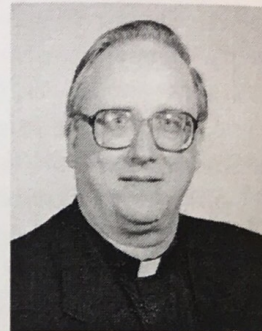
and the Protestant Worship should not last more than 30 minutes."

Reverend McCool attended St. Gregory's College from 1955 to 1956 and then St. Benedict College in Atchison, Kans., from 1957 to 1959, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He entered St. Gregory's Abby in 1956 and made profession as a Benedictine Monk on July 11, 1957. He studied theology from 1959 to 1963 at St. Gregory's Abby and was ordained on May 25, 1963. He was the Pastor of St. Vincent de Paul church in McLoud, Okla., from 1971-1976. He assisted various Catholic parishes on weekends across Oklahoma from 1963-1970. Father McCool has been involved with the academic life at St. Gregory's College/University since 1965. He taught English for over 30 years and have been a librarian since 1968. He became the Library Director in 1992 and retired from that position in 2002. He is also the Prior of the monastery (abbey) and have been the prior

for about 10 years.

Father McCool said he first began helping at Tinker AFB in August of 1979. "I was asked to help there for a "FEW" weekends and have been there ever since. I usually come over one day during the week and on weekends," he said. "Since Fr. Garcia is TDY, I have been coming over on Mon., Wed, and Friday and weekends. I enjoy helping out at Tinker and enjoy the many friends I have made since I have come here. I am involved with Mass, Baptism, Marriage, and Reconciliation. I also work with couples preparing for marriage and do consultations when needed."

For more information, contact the 507<sup>th</sup> Chaplain's Office at 734-5632.



## Chaplain's Corner

# Relationship training

**By Capt. Dwight L. Magnus  
507th Chaplain's Office**

In the comic strip Cathy, she comes into the living room and asks Irving if the ball game is over. Yes, he replies, but the sports wrap-up show is coming up next. Cathy then recounts the eight hours he spent watching the pre-game, the game, the post-game wrap up show. Then she asks Irving for a few minutes to talk about their relationship. To which Irving replies, "Again? Isn't that just like a woman to want to rehearse everything?!"

Beginning Saturday of this UTA, I will be leading an informal discussion on relationship issues. We will learn how to build healthy relationships with others, including peers and family. We will discuss healthy relationship attitudes and ideas so that individuals can develop and maintain close relationships with others.

This month we will highlight the area of marriage and families today. What is a family? What is a marriage? How is the family changing? Why so much divorce today? How can I make my family relationships stronger?

Take time during your lunch hour to listen, ask questions, or

give an opinion or two at the dining hall. Look for our sign in the mess hall. I hope to see you there.

Saturday Lunchtime Chapel Topic:

*Marriage and Families Today*

Sunday Sermon Topic:

*Turning God's Way*

## Relationship Training

I will lead a 20 minute roundtable discussion (Topic: Marriage and Families Today) designed to develop relationship skills in an informal setting.

Time: Saturday of UTA 11:30 a.m.

Place: New Side of Vanwey Dining Facility

Topics include: Marriage & Families Today, Love & Marriage, Children & Parenting, Dating & Mate Selection, Communication Skills, Conflict Resolution Skills, Role Relationships, Affection & Sexuality, Financial Decisions, Values, Beliefs & Behaviors

Master Sgt. John Terry and I recently attended an Air Force Marriage and Family Conference. We have a passion to help unit members strengthen their relationships. This training will include relationships in the family, our friendships, and in the workplace. Each Saturday of the UTA we will take one topic and discuss it. I will bring a brief opening discussion starter and then the floor will be open for discussion and questions.



*Invite your civilian boss to...*

# Come fly with us

All 507th Air Refueling Wing (ARW) and 513<sup>th</sup> Air Control Group reservists are invited to nominate their employers for an upcoming Employer Support Orientation Flight, scheduled for Friday, Nov. 14.

Employer support flights are sponsored to help better acquaint business leaders who employ reservists with the mission of the Air Force Reserve.

According to Maj. Richard Curry, 507th ARW Public Affairs Officer and unit representative for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) activities, "The November orientation flight will involve at least one of the 507th ARW's KC-135R 'Stratotanker' aircraft. We are looking to fly employers on a 2-3 hour mission."

Reservists may nominate their employers by filling out

the nomination form appearing on this page and presenting it to their commander.

Because of space limitations, reservists may also provide additional information to their commander to tell them why their boss should be selected for this flight. Public

Affairs is requesting that reservists do not nominate employers for repeat flights.

"In the past, this activity has been a regular event for our

units," Curry said. "So if we are unable to fly your employer on this mission, watch for future announcements and please try again."

All nominations should be given to an individual's commander prior to Oct. 27 so final selections can be made and employers contacted with flight information.



## Employer Orientation Flight Nomination form

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Address \_\_\_\_\_

Reservist's Name/Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Reservist's Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Reservist's Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Reservist's Unit \_\_\_\_\_





## 513th ACG Commander's Column

By Col. James Kerr

### The Nail

People who focus on the quality of a person's job performance miss a big picture when trying to clone a unit of "A" players at the cost of "B" player mentalities. The failure and success of a unit isn't decided by the bottom 10 percent or the top five percent, but the solid middle, the people who feel that gratifying work is more important than medals or promotions.

The U.S. Air Force isn't constrained by a drive to give pay raises on the basis of quality—everyone gets their fair share and the computer technician makes as much as the fuels specialist if they're the same rank. But lately civilian quality performance planning has entered the military arena and everyone is encouraged to become (or emulate as best they can) that top 10 percent. A recent article in USA Today really spells out the fact that, while companies vie for the "A" players, going to absurd extremes to steal talent, the "B" players are the ones on whom an organization depends for continuity and the foundation that allows the "A" players to prosper in the first place.

Talent is admirable and a benefit to any organization, but don't presume that you aren't important because you didn't think of a novel idea. Were it not for your accomplishments and support of the organization, that idea might never have

been heard and your organization would never have benefited. This may seem like common sense to you, but people don't always realize that leadership looks at things the same way.

"A" players don't stick around when opportunities dry up and migrate. The people who remain behind retain the experience to help our organization survive and move forward. "B" players don't live or die for promotion, but want to be challenged. They don't need to be pampered, but can die of neglect. They are honest, if not diplomatic. They're not troubled by an unmet drive for power, status, or money like the "A" players, who seek nothing else. "In my mind, these are the reasons why the "B" players are the truly gifted members of an organization.

There is an old adage that goes like this:

*"For want of nail, the shoe was lost.*

*For want of a shoe, the horse was lost.*

*For want of a horse, the knight was lost.*

*For want of a knight, the battle was lost.*

*So it was that a kingdom was lost... all for the want of a nail."*

It's been a long two years for all of us and we all have to take that step back and look at what we've learned, both as an organization dedicated to our nation's defense and as individuals who have sacrificed for their country. Ask yourself what you've learned and where you fit in to tomorrow's military.

A medal doesn't make you a winner (you determine that for yourself), but each of us has been a nail for our nation's drive to defend itself and justice worldwide. Whether you were an "A" or a "B," this organization's success is owed to you.

## Generals visit reservists stationed in Iraq

by 1st Lt. Elizabeth Paul  
U.S. Central Air Forces-Forward  
Public Affairs

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM (AFPN) — To learn firsthand the issues facing deployed members of Air Force Reserve Command, three Air Force Reserve generals traveled to several overseas locations Sept. 9 to 19.

Making the trip were Maj. Gen. John J. Batbie Jr., AFRC vice commander; Maj. Gen. James Bankers, 22nd Air Force commander; and Maj. Gen. Larry Twitchell, mobilization assistant to the commander of 9th Air Force and the U.S. Central Command Air Force. The trio went to Iraq, Afghanistan and other locations in Southwest Asia, as well as to Germany.

The trip to Iraq included visits to air bases at Tallil, Kirkuk and Baghdad International Airport — home to thousands of reservists and Air National Guard airmen. During those visits, the generals talked to reservists participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom and observed their working and living conditions.

"The reason we are here, first and foremost, is to thank you for your service and what you do," said Batbie during a town hall meeting at one of the bases.

Besides discussing issues relating directly to reservists in the field, the generals touched on other topics, including family support, pay, the future of the reserve components, equipment and training.

Batbie also talked to the deployed air-

men about when they can expect to go home. He said most of them should be off mobilized status no later than March and they can expect deployments to return to the volunteer, two-week tours of duty.

"Requirements are going to drive what's happening over here (Iraq) and in Afghanistan," the general said. "It will guide what's going to happen down the road, and we are going to try to do what we've done in the past with volunteers participating in two-week deployments or longer for AEF (air and space expeditionary force) support if at all possible."

Batbie said that by visiting the troops in the field he had a better understanding of conditions, which would help when he had to make decisions about future deployments. (Courtesy of AFRC News Service)



## FREE COLLEGE TESTING

Air Force Reserve members, spouses and civilian employees may take DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSSTs) or College-Level Examinations Program (CLEP) or Excelsior College Examinations (ECE) FREE! (Military Only for Excelsior examinations). These examinations test college-level knowledge you may have gained through your job, reading, travel, or hobbies. You must test at your Reserve DANTES approved test center. Testing at another DANTES test center will be on a case-by-case basis. The third Tuesday of each month at 0800 has been set aside for testing. You must call us four weeks prior to test date to ensure we will have your test. **For more information contact CMSgt. Epps in the MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.**

## PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

Become a certified professional in a field related to your military training. DANTES and AFRC funded certification examinations are available for certain career fields. Go to <http://www.voled.dantes.doded.mil> and click on certification programs, MOS matching and USAF Matrix which identifies the eligible AFSCs, certification exams available and internet addresses for more info. If you desire to take an exam, **contact CMSgt. Epps in the MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.**

## TUITION ASSISTANCE

Reserve members are eligible to apply for TA for Distance Learning and In-Residence courses to further their education up to a Master's Degree.

**The basic enrollment requirements are that, you must:**

Be a participating member in good standing (no UIF, Article 15, etc.).

**Retainability: Officers - two years; Enlisted - ETS after course completion.**

Enrollment form must show course number/title, credit hours and cost of tuition.

**Complete TA forms in our office PRIOR to class start date.**

**HQAFRC will approve/disapprove based on funding.**

Payment occurs after satisfactory course completion. TA reimbursement amounts are set at 75 percent (\$3500) per FY (Masters) or 100 percent (\$4500) per FY (Bachelors). **For more information contact CMSgt. Epps in the MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.**

## NCO Academy In-residence

Listed below are the FY 2004 NCO Academy In-Residence class dates: A letter of recommendation from your unit commander must be forwarded to 507 MSF/DPMT not later than 60 days prior to class start date:

Class	Quotas	Dates	Location
2004-2	1	19 Jan - 25 Feb 04	McGhee Tyson, TN
2004-2	1	05 Jan - 12 Feb 04	Tyndall AFB, FL
2004-3	1	24 Feb - 01 Apr 04	Tyndall AFB, FL
2004-5	1	26 May - 01 Jul 04	Tyndall AFB, FL
2004-6	1	02 Aug - 09 Sep 04	Tyndall AFB, FL
2004-7	1	20 Sep - 28 Oct 04	Tyndall AFB, FL

## COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF THE AIR FORCE (CCAF)

Effective July 1, 2003, there is a new way to order your CCAF transcripts. Students can order transcripts at <https://afvec.langley.af.mil/afcec>. If you do not have computer access, stop by the Education and Training Office in bldg 1043, room 206 for assistance. Students can order CCAF transcripts, view their progress report, and check receipt of their civilian transcript. Questions should be directed to the Education and Training Office at 734-7075.

## HOT TOPICS :

**CDC Testing** is accomplished at 0750 on Sundays of the (main) UTA. You do not have to schedule it, just be there NLT 0750 at Bldg 460 (the active duty HQ), Room 215. You need to enter through the MPF main door ( in the back near the ramps), turn right and take the stairs. If you cannot make it, our Education office also tests on Wednesdays at 0800 and 1300. You DO need to schedule this one 24 hours in advance. Important note: If you are retaking a test, make sure you bring the Commander's evaluation/authorization letter with you or you will not be allowed to test. If you are taking computer-based tests, call DPMT at 734-7075 at least two days prior to the UTA. Computer-based tests are also given Tues at 0730, Wed at 0800 & 1300, and Thurs at 1530. Call for appointment.

### EDUCATION REMINDER:

This is just to remind everyone who wishes to update their Education Records, officer and enlisted, that we need OFFICIAL Transcripts to send or accomplish any updates. This means that it CANNOT say "ISSUED TO STUDENT." You may have the college/university send it, we can request it, or you may bring it in as long as it is in a sealed envelope with a SEAL on the flap AND it does not say "ISSUED TO STUDENT."

**Pass and ID Hours of Operation:**  
1200-1600 on Saturdays of the UTA.

**IEU OPEN FROM 1200-1500 ON SATURDAY OF THE MAIN UTA.**

**Nomination packages for AMN, NCO, or SNCO of the quarter are submitted quarterly. Packages are due by 1400, on Saturday of the UTA after the end of the quarter. (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct)**

### FY2003/2004 UTA SCHEDULE

25-26 Oct 03	03-04 Apr 04
15-16 Nov 03	01-02 May 04
06-07 Dec 03	05-06 Jun 04
10-11 Jan 04	10-11 Jul 04
07-08 Feb 04	07-08 Aug 04
06-07 Mar 04	11-12 Sep 04

As of 5 Oct 2003



**Fri, 24 Oct 2003**

1300 Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room  
 1430 Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg Bldg 1043, ATN Room  
 1600 Top 3 Executive Board Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room

**Fri, 14 Nov 2003**

1300 Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room  
 1430 Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg Bldg 1043, ATN Room  
 1600 Top 3 Executive Board Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room

**Sat, 25 Oct 2003**

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
0730-0930	Newcomers In-Processing	Bldg 1043, Room 201C
0730-0900	Wing Training Office Closed	Bldg 1043, Room 206
0830-0930	Unit Career Advisors Mtg	513th ACG Conf Room
0900-1000	6 Month Contact Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
<b>0915-1115</b>	<b>Computer Based Testing</b>	<b>Bldg 1043, ATN Room</b>
1000-1130	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 1030, Room 214
1000-1100	Mobility Rep Meeting	To Be Determined
1030-1130	First Sgts Meeting	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1300-1530	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I	Bldg 1030, Room 214
1300-1400	Adverse Actions Mtg	Bldg 1043, Wing CC's Office
1400-1500	Training Managers Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
<b>1600-1630</b>	<b>Protestant Chapel Service</b>	<b>513th ACG Conf Room</b>
Unit Designated	Sign Out	Unit Designated

**Sun, 26 Oct 2003**

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
0730-0800	Protestant Chapel Service	513th ACG Auditorium
0730-0800	Catholic Mass	513th ACG Conf Room
0730-0930	MPF Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043
<b>0750-1115</b>	<b>CDC/PME Course Exams</b>	<b>Bldg 460, Room 215</b>
0800-1115	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II	Bldg 1030, Room 214
0830-1030	HazCom Tng	Bldg 1030, Room 104
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
<b>0930</b>	<b>Catholic Chapel Service</b>	<b>Base Chapel</b>
1245-1545	First Duty Station	Bldg 1030, Room 214
1300	SORTS/Post UTA Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1400-1500	IG period w/Capt. Vardaro	Bldg 1043, Room B-1
1500	Fly Safety Mtg	Bldg 1048, OPS Briefing Room
Unit Designated	Sign Out	Unit Designated

**Sun, 16 Nov 2003**

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
0730-0800	Protestant Chapel Service	513th ACG Auditorium
0730-0800	Catholic Mass	513th ACG Conf Room
0730-0930	MPF Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043
<b>0750-1115</b>	<b>CDC/PME Course Exams</b>	<b>Bldg 460, Room 215</b>
0800-1115	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II	Bldg 1030, Room 214
0830-1030	Unit Safety Rep Training	Bldg 1030, Room 104
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
<b>0930</b>	<b>Catholic Chapel Service</b>	<b>Base Chapel</b>
1245-1545	First Duty Station	Bldg 1030, Room 214
1300	SORTS/Post UTA Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1400-1500	IG period w/Capt. Vardaro	Bldg 1043, Room B-1
1500	Fly Safety Mtg	Bldg 1048, OPS Briefing Room
Unit Designated	Sign Out	Unit Designated

**TRAINING PLANNER**



The next Senior NCO Academy has been scheduled for 23 January 2004. Applications are being accepted for the following dates: 04C (15 Mar - 28 Apr 04), 04D (3 May - 17 Jun 04), 04E (1 Jul - 17 Aug 04), and 04F (27 Aug - 14 Oct 04). The suspense date to DPMT to review packages is 22 December 2003. This is to allow time for us to review and forward to the appropriate NAF. Questions, should be directed to MSgt. Cain at 734-7075.

Newcomers Ancillary Training Phase I & II are conducted **monthly** in **Bldg 1030, Room 214**. **Unit training managers are responsible for ensuring their new personnel are scheduled to attend** within 90 days of their first UTA. If you have any questions, contact the MPF Education & Training Office at **734-7075**.

Day	Time	Subject	OPR
		<b><u>Phase I</u></b>	
Saturday	1300-1400	Information Assurance	CF
Saturday	1400-1500	Drug and Alcohol, Suicide/ Workplace Violence Prevention	SG
Saturday	1500-1530	Local Conditions-Traffic	SE
		<b><u>Phase II</u></b>	
Sunday	0800-0830	Base Populace	CEX
Sunday	0830-0845	IG Briefing	IG
Sunday	0845-1015	UCMJ/Ethics	JA
Sunday	1015-1045	Counter Intel /Awareness	SFS
Sunday	1045-1115	Human Relations	ME
Sunday	1245-1545	First Duty Station	ME

All enlisted personnel are required to have the UCMJ briefing within two UTAs of their first reenlistment. This briefing is held during Phase II of the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 0845 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1030, Room 214.

All reserve personnel are required to have the DOD Ethics Briefing within 90 days of reporting for duty. This briefing is held in conjunction with the UCMJ briefing during Phase II of the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 0845 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1030, Room 214.

Unit Training Managers must schedule Chemical Warfare Training, by name, at least one UTA prior to the requested dates by calling CEX at 734-4460. All personnel must bring a complete training ground crew ensemble (GCE) including the mask and its hood to all classes. Those attending Initial must be prepared to process through a tear agent chamber. Wear of contacts is prohibited in all classes. Anyone arriving late, without a complete GCE with mask, or wearing contacts, will be released back to their unit and reported as a no-show.

**Drug Testing:** You must report within two hours of notification.

File for pay by:	Receive Direct Deposit by:
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28 Oct	03 Nov
30 Oct	07 Nov
04 Nov	12 Nov
06 Nov	14 Nov
10 Nov	19 Nov
13 Nov	21 Nov
17 Nov	28 Nov
19 Nov	01 Dec
25 Nov	05 Dec
01 Dec	10 Dec

If Last Digit of SSAN is:	Then Forward Listing to Unit Commander in:	Recertification due in by end of month in:
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1	November	January
2	December	February
3	January	March
4	February	April
5	March	May
6	April	June
7	May	July
8	June	August
9	July	September
0	August	October

**CMSgt. Charlotte A. Epps, Chief, Education & Training (ART)**  
**MSgt. Dennis O. Cain, Asst. Chief, Education & Training (ART)**  
**TSgt. Sharon Lochman, NCOIC, Schools and OJT (ART)**  
**TSgt. Melanie E. Cherry, Education and Training Advisor**  
**Mr. John Baker, Education and Testing Services Advisor**



# Senior Master Sgt. Don Coffey retires

Senior Master Sgt. Don Coffey will retire from the Air Force Reserve following more than 30 years of military service.

His retirement ceremony is scheduled for the November UTA.

Sergeant Coffey began his active duty Air Force career on Oct. 3, 1966. Over the next eight years he held positions as a phase dock chief and was involved in quality assurance, but mostly he spent his time as a crew chief. "I originally joined the Air Force to be a diesel mechanic (a recruiter promise), however, it worked out better that I got into aircraft maintenance," said Coffey.

Following active duty, Coffey spent the next 25 years with the 507<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing. He served as the Flight Line Production Superintendent during the Wing's involvement in Operation Enduring Freedom. "I've had a good career, but I am going to miss a lot of things about this place. I guess the one thing I will miss the most are these great people I work with. My co-workers are just like family," said Coffey.

His co-workers' feelings are mutual. "I could always count on Don as an excellent supervisor to accomplish any job; and he was equally reliable in posing helpful questions as my most constructive critic. I'm going to miss the conversations that began, 'I just wondered if you considered . . .' because now I might not. I give my sincerest thanks for all his subliminal guidance," said Capt. Brian Eddy.

Over the past 30-plus years, Coffey's career has lead him down many paths. One such path lead him into photography. "I actually got into taking pictures by coincidence. My wife was the office manager at our local newspaper and we attended all the high school sporting events. During one event her boss asked her to take a few shots. She did not like being on the sidelines, so she asked me to do it. Right then I was hooked. Eventually her boss taught me how to work in the

dark room and would point out ways for me to improve my shots. One Christmas she bought me a new camera - big mistake. Today, I own more than 20 cameras, numerous strobes, studio back-drops, dozens of lens, hundreds of filters, books and other "toys" that I just can't live without.

As Coffey's passion for taking pictures grew he found new ways of documenting his life experiences. For the past 20-plus years he has photographed the 507<sup>th</sup> ARW missions, the change's in the reserve campus, and the people who have come and gone. "I'd say I have about 20 albums of 507th shots with approximately 300 pictures in each. Also, I have around 60 albums of Wynnewood High School sports pictures.

I have approximately 20,000 negatives that I have available to make prints of on request. Roughly I shoot 150 rolls of film each year, said Coffey.

As for his plans during retirement, Coffey has that already planned out. "When I retire, I plan on taking pictures full-time. I am under contract with the Wynnewood Gazette. As for my

family, I plan on spending some quality time with them. Our first grandbaby was born eight days before I was activated. I plan on taking a lot of pictures of her."

As Coffey reflects back over 30-plus years of memories he is quick to say, "I've met some wonderful people that I will never forget. People like General Fogelman and his down-to-earth attitude and seemingly genuine concern for the enlisted people. Another person would be retired Master Sgt. Gene Clayton - one of the best crew chiefs I have ever known.

"I've had a good career - I even had the opportunity to see three Bob Hope USO shows at three different bases."

When asked what words he had for the airmen coming up behind him, Coffey said, "Try to look ahead and prepare for the future. Enjoy the time you have."



**Senior Master Sgt. Don Coffey sits in front of his photograph library of more than 18,000 photos. Coffey has 60 albums of military and personal photos. In addition he has numerous shoe boxes filled with photos, all of which have been taken over the years since 1976.**





**Chief Master Sgt. Mike Riley and Chief Master Sgt. Debbie Sheppard-Moore watch the last F-16 take off - Spring 1994**



**Top right: Present day Hangar 1030 under construction in 1982.**

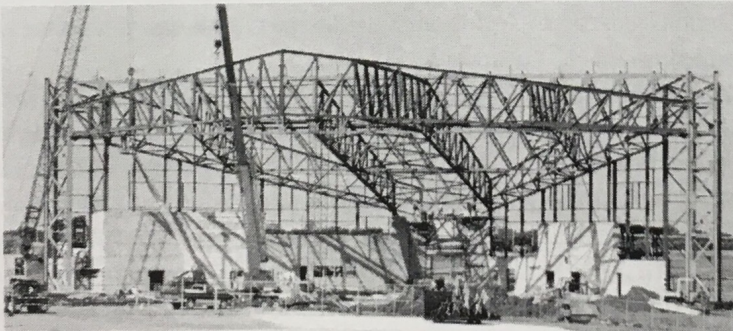


**Above: Kathleen Lowman and Neville Comas launch a plane from Cold Lake Canada.**



**Right: Trim pad- F4D engine run in Yuma Arizona.**

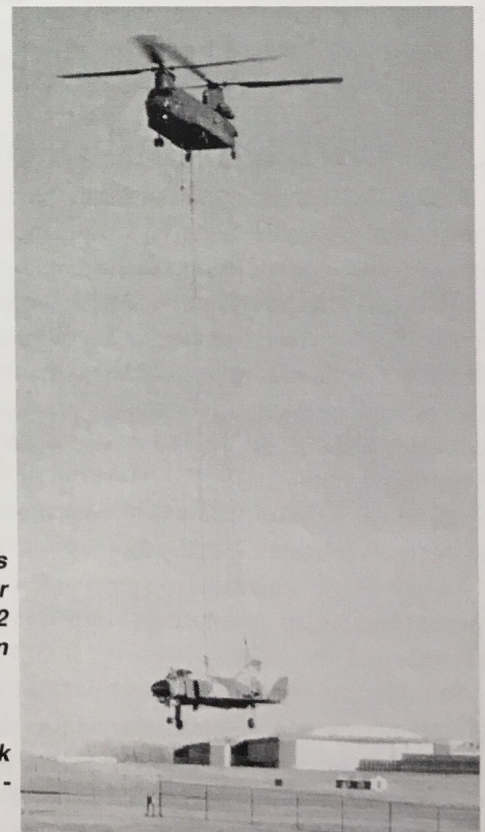
**Pictures by:  
Senior Master Sgt.  
Don Coffey**



**Above: The Fuels Cell hangar or building 1082 under construction Dec. 5, 1998.**



**Left: Flying back from Venezuela - 1993**



**"Miss Piggy" F4D 66-7518 comes home to be put on static display.**



# Unit bids farewell to Chief Deal

Last month Chief Master Sgt. Lawrence H. Deal, First Sergeant of the 507<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron, retired after 33 years of service to the United States Air Force.

Chief Deal began his Air Force career on Sept. 5, 1968. After completing basic military training at Lackland AFB, Texas, he went to Chanute AFB, Ill., to attend Aerospace Ground Equipment Technical School.

Upon completion of the course, Chief Deal's first assignment took him to the 605<sup>th</sup> Military Airlift Squadron, Anderson Air Base, Guam, where he worked as an aircraft generation equipment repairman supporting the airlift of personnel and equipment to and from the Republic of Vietnam. Shortly thereafter, he was assigned to Da Nang AB, Vietnam, where he worked with the 617<sup>th</sup> Military Airlift Squadron for three months. He then returned to Anderson AB for seven months before returning to the states where he was stationed at Tinker AFB, Okla., until he left active duty in September of 1972.

Chief Deal re-entered military service by joining the Air Force Reserve on June 28, 1974, becoming an AGE technician for the then 507<sup>th</sup> Tactical Fighter Group.

In May of 1992, Deal was hand-picked by the deputy maintenance commander to be the 507<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron's "first shirt", a position he held for the rest of his

career. During his career, the chief completed an Associates Degree in General Education from Rose State College in May of 1976 and received a Bachelor Degree in Public Administration from the University of Central Oklahoma in 1978.

His decorations include the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force

Achievement Medal with one device, Air Force Outstanding Unit Medal with five devices, National Defense Service Medal with one device, Vietnam Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award with six devices, NCO Professional Military Education Graduate Ribbon, and the Air Force Training Ribbon.



**Brig. Gen. Mark Pillar presents retirement paperwork to Chief Deal and his wife Anita.**

## Use caution and protect yourself against identity theft

Local Oklahoma news stations today are reporting that Oklahomans rank 34<sup>th</sup> in the nation for identity theft. Reports indicate that many instances of identity theft are not reported.

It doesn't matter whether you have worked your entire career, saving for your retirement or if you're just starting out in life, the financial hardships that identity theft creates can cause years of legal problems. Interestingly enough, today's AF Aim Points Key Message discusses how people can help protect themselves from identity theft.

AF people must be cautious with personal information to protect themselves against **identity theft**.

People whose identities have been stolen can spend months or years cleaning up the impact of the theft on their good names and credit records.

To minimize risk, follow these tips from the Federal Trade Commission, the nation's clearinghouse for identity theft:

- Don't carry your Social Security card with you; give out your Social Security number only when necessary
- Know your billing cycles; contact creditors if your bills don't arrive on time
- Remove mail promptly from your mailbox; ask your post

office to hold mail when you're out of town

- Protect credit card, bank and telephone accounts with a password
- Avoid giving out personal information over the Internet, by telephone or through the mail unless you initiate the exchange
- Order a copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting agencies every year and check it carefully
- Tear/shred charge receipts, copies of credit applications, insurance forms, physician statements, checks and bank statements, expired charge cards you're discarding and credit offers you receive in the mail
- Secure personal information in your home, especially if you have roommates, employ outside help or are having service work done in your home
- Before revealing any personally identifying information (for example, on an application), find out how it will be used and secured, and whether it will be shared with others
- For information to help protect against **identity theft**, log on to [www.consumer.gov/idtheft/](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft/).
- Official government sites always have a ".gov" extension.



# Halloween safety tips

## Before Halloween:

Plan costumes that are bright and reflective. Make sure that shoes fit well and that costumes are short enough to prevent tripping, entanglement or contact with flame.

Consider adding reflective tape or striping to costumes and Trick-or-Treat bags for greater visibility.

Because masks can limit or block eyesight, consider non-toxic makeup and decorative hats as safer alternatives.

When shopping for costumes, wigs and accessories look for and purchase only those with a label clearly indicating they are flame resistant.

Think twice before using simulated knives, guns or swords. If such props *must* be used, be certain they do not appear authentic and are soft and flexible to prevent injury.

Obtain flashlights with fresh batteries for all children and their escorts.

This is also a great time to replace the batteries in your home Smoke Alarms.

Review with your children the principle of "Stop-Drop-Roll", should their clothes catch on fire.

Openly discuss appropriate and inappropriate behavior at Halloween time.

Consider purchasing individually packaged healthy food alternatives (or safe non-food treats) for those who visit your home.

Take extra effort to eliminate tripping hazards on your porch and walkway. Check around your property for low tree limbs, support wires or garden hoses that may prove hazardous to young children rushing from house to house.

## Fun alternatives:

Ask around your community and check your local newspaper for information on special events.

Community Centers, Shopping Malls and Churches often have organized festivities.

## Before nightfall on Halloween:

Consider fire safety when decorating. Do not overload electrical outlets with holiday lighting or special effects.

Always keep Jack O' Lanterns and hot electric lamps away from drapes, decorations, flammable materials or areas where children will be standing or walking.

Plan and review with your children the route and behavior that is acceptable to you. Agree on a specific time when revelers must return home.

Confine, segregate or otherwise prepare household pets for an evening of frightful sights and sounds. Be sure

that all dogs and cats are wearing collars and proper identification tags.

Remind all household drivers to remain cautious and drive slowly throughout the community.

Adult partygoers should establish a designated driver.



## When Trick-or-Treating:

A parent or responsible adult should always accompany young children on their neighborhood rounds.

Remind Trick-or-Treaters:

Stay in a group and communicate where they will be going.

Only go to homes with a porch light on.

Remain on well-lit streets and always use the sidewalk.

If no sidewalk is available, walk at the farthest edge of the roadway facing traffic.

Never cut across yards or use alleys.

Never enter a stranger's home or car for a treat.

Always walk. Never run across a street.

Remove any mask or item that will limit eyesight before crossing a street, driveway or alley.

Don't assume the right of way. Motorists may have trouble seeing Trick-or-Treaters. Just because one car stops, doesn't mean others will!

Never consume food items or drinks that may be offered.

No treats are to be eaten until they are thoroughly checked by an adult at home.

Law Enforcement authorities should be notified immediately of any suspicious or unlawful activity.

## After Trick-or-Treating:

Though tampering is rare, a responsible adult should closely examine all treats and throw away any spoiled, unwrapped or suspicious items.

Make sure items that can cause choking (such as hard candies), are given only to those of an appropriate age.

We hope these tips will help you and your family have a safe and happy Halloween.



## Changes limit quarterly IDTs for reservists

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Changes went into effect Oct. 1 limiting the number of inactive-duty-for-training periods a reservist may perform during a three-month quarter.

The changes provide a training schedule policy for all Air Force Reserve Command airmen. They provide senior managers better management of training resources, according to Noah Gibson, chief of education, training and readiness policy in the Air Force Reserve's personnel programs and training division.

Under the new policy, individual mobilization augmentees who are required to perform 48 IDT periods per year will be authorized a maximum of 16 per quarter, not to exceed 48 training periods during the fiscal year. Augmentees who must perform 24 IDTs per year will be authorized by their supervisor or program manager to schedule a maximum of eight train-

ing periods per quarter not to exceed 24 per fiscal year.

In the past, the number of training periods IMAs could schedule during a quarter was unrestricted.

The changes also require IMAs to project a yearly schedule of IDTs with supervisors by Aug. 15 for the next fiscal year starting Oct. 1.

Unit commanders must prepare their fiscal year IDT schedule for unit training assemblies by May 15 for the upcoming year. They are also limited to scheduling 16 training periods per quarter, not to exceed 48 per fiscal year.

Units must go through their numbered air force commander to request an exception to policy. Also, IMAs must seek approval from their program managers and the Air Reserve Personnel Center commander in Denver to exceed the quarterly IDT limit. (Courtesy of AFRC News Service)

## Cold War Certificate Program now available

In accordance with section 1084 of the Fiscal Year 1998 National Defense Authorization Act, the Secretary of Defense approved awarding Cold War Recognition Certificates to all members of the armed forces and qualified federal government civilian personnel who faithfully and honorably served the United States anytime during the Cold War era, which is defined as Sept. 2, 1945 to Dec. 26, 1991.

A website has been set up to facilitate requests. For more information visit <https://coldwar.army.mil>. This is the only official site on which to request Cold War Recognition Certificates. This site is operated by the United States Army, the executive agency for the Cold War Recognition Program. Cold War Recognition Certificates are available to qualified individuals at no cost. Any other site offering these certificates or replicas for sale or purchase are not official sites and are not approved or endorsed by the US Army.

Who is eligible? All members of the armed forces and federal government

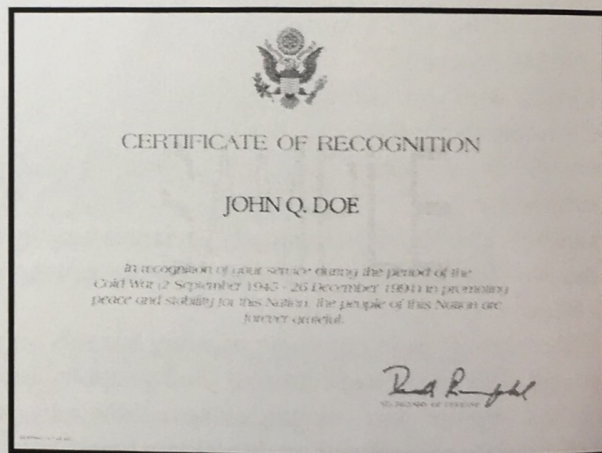
civilian personnel who faithfully served the United States during the Cold War era, Sept. 2, 1945 to Dec. 26, 1991. National Guard and Reservists are eligible. Contractors and volunteers are not eligible. Individuals requesting a certificate will certify that their character of service was honorable.

Acceptable supporting document for proof of service is any official government or military document with recipient's name, Social Security Number or Military Service Number or Foreign Service Number, and date of service. Any document which shows that the intended recipient was a U.S. government employee during the Cold War era will be accepted as proof. The document must contain the name of the recipient, the Social Security Number or Military Service Number or Foreign Service Number which was included in the request for the certificate, and a date showing at least one

day of service within the range of Sept. 2, 1945 and Dec. 26, 1991.

Examples of acceptable documents include a Leave and Earnings statement, DD214 or other Discharge Paper, or SF50 (Civilian Personnel Action Form.) Please send a copy of your supporting document, DO NOT SEND the original document. Original documents cannot be returned. Applications can be found at <https://coldwar.army.mil>.

Due to the remarkable success of this program, turn-around time for mailing certificates will be a minimum of six months. The CWRS Operations Team is working as fast as possible to clear the backlog. Please do not request feedback prior to six months from the request date.





ROA Scholarship winner shares essay

## Citizen Airmen: The Elite

By Markesha Shanea Polk

Throughout the course of trying to figure out what career I wanted to engage myself in, the first thought I had was that I wanted a job with prestige. I wanted to be one of the elite, someone with a job that is not easy to come by, and employed in a line of work that I truly excelled in. so I thought, maybe I should be a lawyer and maybe one day a judge. Possibly start out as a nurse and continue school to become a doctor at some point. I even fathomed studying politics to become some poor state's governor and hope to get the hang of it enough to be the first African-American female president. Sadly, those were the most prestigious jobs that I could think of at that particular point in time, but the good news is that I know better now.

Feb. 28, 2003, my mother, Angela Tullis, informed me that she was being shipped overseas with her unit to support what would eventually become Operation Iraqi Freedom. My thoughts raced...my Mom is going to be involved in a war? You've got to be kidding...my mom can't even cook rice without burning it, how is she going to help fight a war?

When we went to Tinker to see her off, besides the fact that I had to wake up at 4:30 in the morning, being grouchy was only one of the many emotions running through my body. I was so scared for her. My worst fear was in the front of my mind...I might never see my mother again; whom was I going to take for granted? Who was going to make sure that I only sleep past first hour? Who was going to buy my prom shoes? And (most importantly) who is going to look out for my mom?

Then it hit me (about a month after she was unharmed and safely home). Her fellow reservists were going to look out for her. She was going to do her duty, and her colleagues were going to be her support. Then I thought to myself, why didn't they send someone else to do it? The answer was as plain as day. She holds a position that belongs to one of the elite. Although other people hold the same position as her, it takes hard work and dedication to get there, and that kind of drive is very hard to come by. The fact that she was chosen to support a war that was hoped to be short, with glory sweet, says that she must excel in her line of work or else someone else would have been elected to serve. Although she was sad to leave her family, (I mean, hey, I'm a good kid, who wouldn't miss me?) she never showed any signs of being scared. She never thought once about not going because she knew it was her duty, and she was proud of that. She knew how important it was for her to fulfill her duty, because if she didn't go, one day she may not even have the freedom to decide anything.

Although my mom is a superstar, she's not the only one who thinks like that. Not too long ago, I got to meet some of the people she was serving with on that voyage and they have many of the same ideals. Being a citizen airman is a job of prestige. As a matter of fact, it is now at the top of my list.



## ROA Scholarship awarded during Family Day

Chapter 66 of the Reserve Officer Association awarded a college scholarship last month to Markesha S. Polk during Family Day activities.

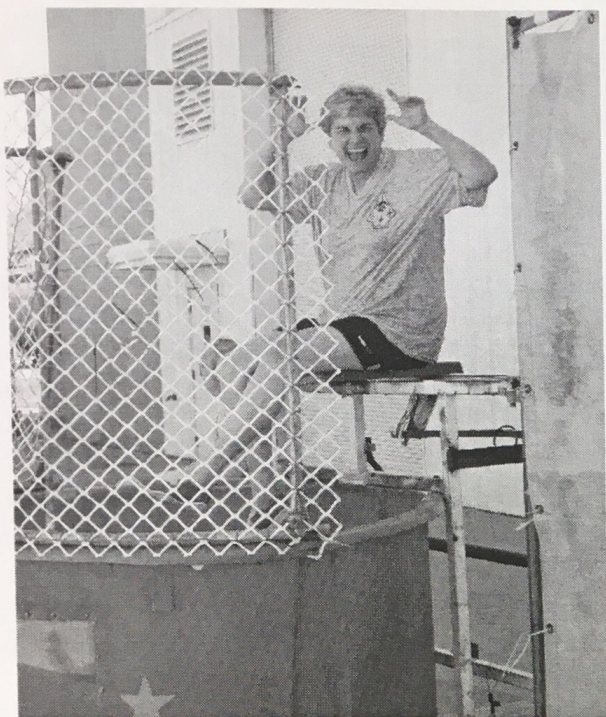
Ms. Polk is the daughter of Tech. Sgt. Angela Tullis, 507<sup>th</sup> Logistics Support Squadron.

Officials from the local chapter awarded her with a scholarship of \$400. As an applicant, Markesha was required to submit a complete application, which included a 500 to 900-word essay entitled: "What is a Citizen Airman."

During her high school career Markesha was involved in numerous

clubs and organizations in and out of school. According to ROA officials, Markesha's application reflects strongly on the commitments she has for bettering her community and country as a whole. The local ROA officer members raise funds throughout the year in order to provide dependents with scholarship money for college. Maj. Mark Dodds, scholarship coordinator, said ROA's intention is to support the families of the 507th Air Refueling Wing and 513th Air Control Group by providing scholarships to the children of unit members.





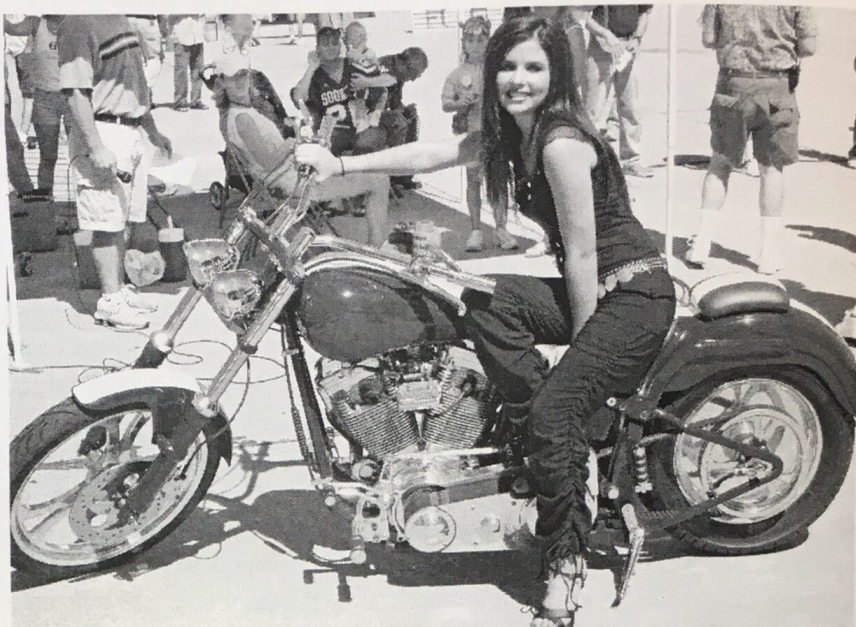
*Above:* Lt. Col. Renee Lane enjoys her turn in the dunk tank.

*Above right:* Lainey Edwards poses after her concert.

*Right:* The food lines were a popular place for all ages.

*Below:* The clowns quiz a little one on the type of balloon she wants.

*Below right:* Security forces lead Maj. Rich Curry off to jail in handcuffs.



Photos by Maj. Rich Curry, Capt. Bill Pierce, and Tech. Sgt. Ty Yoshida



Richard E. Blochowiak, right, advisor to the commander for Air Force Reserve programs, was instrumental in approving the request to allow Master Sgt. Dennis Orcutt to work on Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA) orders while helping structure and implement the Split Training Option (STO), Newcomers Training Flight (NTF) program at the 507<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing. Orcutt, a former member of the Wing Recruiting Office, is an IMA assigned to a unit at Wright Patterson AFB, OH and resides in Oklahoma. Col. Dean Despinoy, 507 ARW/CC (not pictured), presented Orcutt with an "Okie" plaque recently for his efforts in getting the program started. Capt. Karen Baskin is a co-OIC for the NTF program.



## Congrats to the family day winners!!

### ROA Computer Winner

Capt. Michelle Billetter (507th Med Sq)

### Turkey Fryer Winners:

Jim Hall (husband of Tech. Sgt Kelly Hall of the 507 MOF)

Tech. Sgt Jerry Wilgus (507 AMXS)

### Women's Bench Press Winners:

1st Place: Marcie Mitchell (Master Sgt. Ronald Mitchell's Wife - 507 MS) - Pressed 110 lbs.

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Tech. Sgt. Caroline Rutledge (507 MSF) - Pressed 100 lbs.

### Men's Bench Press Winners:

1st Place: Tech. Sgt. Ken Sarsycki (507 MSF) - Pressed 385 lbs

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Tech. Sgt. Anthony Lee (507 CP) - Pressed 365 lbs

### Car Show Winners:

"Best of Show" and "Commanders' Choice"-

Maj. John Mauer (970 AACS) - 1973 Z-28 Camaro

"Wow"-

Col. and Mrs. James Kerr (513 ACG) - 1970 Olds Cutlass 442

"Kids' Pick"-

Tech. Sgt. Kelly Hall (507 MOF) - C5 1998 Magnetic Red Corvette

"Easy Ryder"-

Tech. Sgt. David Brunsmann (513 MS) - 2002 Honda VTX 1800



Welcome and Congrats

**A1C Robert D. Comes, the newest aircraft mechanic with the 507<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, recently graduated from Aerospace Maintenance Apprentice (C-135) Technical School, Sheppard AFB, Tex., as a Distinguished Graduate and the Golden Wrench winner for his class.**

**The Distinguished Graduate is presented to the individual with the highest average for the 11 week tech school. Airman Comes graduated with a 95 percent average. The Knuckle Buster award is awarded to the best class performer, and is based on a majority vote of all classmates.**



# Parting shot



The Reserve Gold team, comprised of members from the 507th and 513th, competed with the 72nd OSS team on Sept. 16th. The Gold team won 20-0 and has a record of 2-0. Games for the Gold and White teams are scheduled for Oct. 28 at 5 p.m.; Oct. 31 at 6 and 7 p.m.; Nov. 4 at 7 p.m.; and Nov. 6 at 6 p.m.; Nov. 13 at 5 and 7 p.m.; Nov. 18 at 6 p.m.; Nov. 20 at 5 and 7 p.m.; Nov. 25 they play each other at 8 p.m. Playoffs begin on Dec. 4. Come out and show your support for our teams.

## On-final R-News

### Softball Congratulations

Congratulations to Master Sgt. Tracy North and Tech. Sgt. Ami DuBose, both from the 507th Maintenance complex, as their Women's Class D slow-pitch softball team went undefeated in the National tournament Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> in Texas - their team is **the national champions!**

### Wedding Congratulations!

Congratulations to Tech. Sgt. Michelle Adams and Master Sgt. Leland Tharpe on their marriage Aug. 23. Adams is the chaplain assistant for the 507 ARW Chaplain's Office and Tharpe is the chaplain assistant for the Tinker Active Duty Chaplain's Office.

### Angel Tree

Every year, unit reservists are asked to support the Angel Tree drive to provide Christmas presents for needy veterans.

Angel Tree requests are wishes for items area veterans have indicated they would like to receive.

Members may pick up an Angel Tree request from the 507<sup>th</sup> Family Support Office.

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Wrapped gifts, with the request card attached, must be returned to Family Support by Sunday of the December UTA.

### Silver Squadron plans meeting

The 507<sup>th</sup> Silver Squadron is planning their next breakfast meeting for 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Dec. 13, at the Golden Coral Restaurant on Air Depot Road in Midwest City.

The organization's meetings are open to any reservist, active or retired, who has served at Tinker AFB or other interested party.

### Operation Holiday Spirit

The Fourth Annual OPERATION HOLIDAY SPIRIT (OHS) fund raiser steak supper will be held on Friday night, Dec. 5th. For the fourth year in a row, the supper will feature massive steaks provided by Wheeler's Meat Market, chicken or a veggie plate. For the first time ever, the supper and its attendees (only if you want to participate) will role-play in a murder mystery theme - "Who Killed Mrs. Claus." The tickets are available for \$25 and \$15 respectively, until Dec. 4th.

OHS provides meals and clothing to the homeless, toys to needy children and provides help to needy reservists during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. For more information, to include becoming an OHS committee member, please contact Maj. Ralph Hawkins at 734-6778.

### 507th ARW Recruiters

#### Tinker AFB, OK

(In-Service Recruiter)  
Master Sgt. Larry Wheatley  
(405) 739-2980



#### Moore, Norman, OK

Tech. Sgt. Gene Higgins  
(405) 217-8311

#### Midwest City, OK

Tech. Sgt. James Vaughan  
Tech. Sgt. Marvin Greene  
(405) 733-9403

#### Altus AFB, OK

Master Sgt. Ronald J. Salafia  
(In-Service Recruiter)  
(580) 481-5123

#### Lawton, OK

Staff Sgt. Kamela  
Thigpen  
(580) 357-2784

#### Tulsa, OK

Master Sgt. Pam Peterson  
(918) 665-2300

#### Vance AFB, OK

Master Sgt. David  
McCormick  
(316) 652-3766

#### McConnell AFB, KS

Master Sgt. David  
McCormick  
(In-Service Recruiter)  
(316) 652-3766  
Tech. Sgt. Arthur Powell  
(316) 652-4350