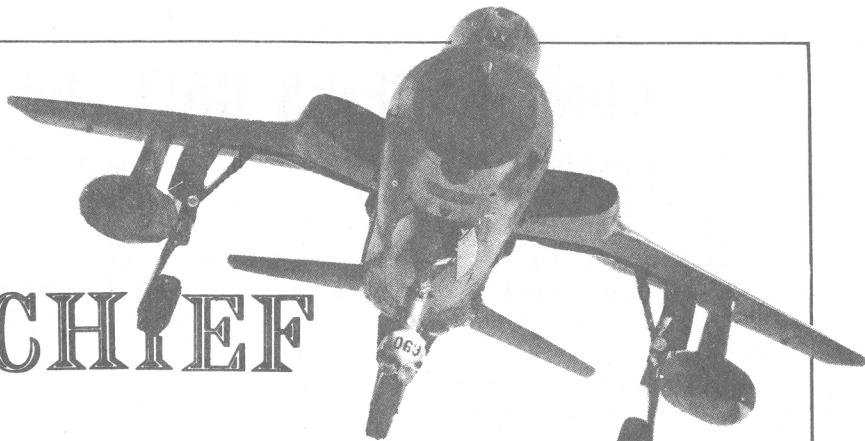




THE THUNDERCHIEF



Det. 507, 301st TFW

Tinker AFB, Oklahoma

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Officials Impressed With 507th

High-ranking military officials touring facilities of Detachment 507, 301st Tactical Fighter Wing, have all left with one thing in common -- they are visibly impressed with the abilities and capabilities of the unit members, detachment commander Maj. Roger P. Scheer says.

"The way we have successfully converted to the fighter, the way we passed our Operational Readiness Test and have continued to improve has definitely impressed everyone who has been here, the major said.

Gen. Robert J. Dixon, the new commander of the Tactical Air Command, was one of the last high ranking dignitaries to visit the Tinker AFB unit. The general made his visit on an initial fact-finding tour of TAC units, with the 507th the first Reserve unit on the list.

Although the General's visit lasted only an hour and a half, he seemed favorably impressed with the appearance and operation of the Unit. After the "in-briefing", an open discussion period

and short tour of 507th facilities followed.

Dr. Theodore C. Marrs deputy assistant secretary of Defense for reserve affairs, was another high level visitor who

came away with a good feeling toward the 507th.

"It's not just the airplanes, but the men in the unit, from the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)



Col Shannon, Gen Dixon, Col Taylor, Maj Scheer, LtCol Wallace

Re-Up Now, Scheer Urges

Under a program recently initiated by the Pentagon, first-term airmen who are within a year of discharge will be asked to reenlist immediately, Major Roger P. Scheer told the NCO/Airman Advisory Board.

The Detachment Commander explained that the personnel center in Den-

ver, Colo., will send a computer print-out each month which lists the men who are within a year of discharge, mainly to help unit commanders and first sergeants plan their needs for the upcoming year.

"It's important that these men understand what this print-out means and

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COMMANDER'S CALL: by Maj. R.P. Scheer

A recent article from the Tactical Air Command Press Service on the subject of child abuse warned against the dangers of rough play with small children.

One doctor said that a 20-pound child handled roughly by a 160-pound man is "about as vulnerable as a man would be if he were to take on a 1250 pound gorilla."

This illustration was startling to me as it demonstrates the power we adults have over children. But I believe the symbolism involved can be applied equally as well to other things as precious to us - our rights and responsibilities as citizens of this nation.

Each of us exerts a power over this very

valuable, and fragile, package of rights that have developed over the 200-year history of this country. Collectively, we have the ability to nurture these traditions and see them grow strong and healthy; or we can abuse them or neglect them and cause them irreparable harm. Whatever we do, let's be aware that we possess this awesome power of control over our own future.

Did you vote in the last election? Are you registered for the next?

Do you exercise, not merely discuss, your constitutional rights and responsibilities? Do you respect those of other persons?

Do you take for granted the benefits of citizenship? Are you



involved and interested in local and national issues?

Those of us connected with the Air Force can't pass this test just by doing our jobs well. We have to make a contribution in the communities we live in. We have the power, and it is up to each of us to use it with the realization of our own strength.

-SAFETY HAZARD-

The illustration below is an example of an unsafe condition. During a recent UTA an unidentified member of Det. 507 used this fire hydrant as a hitching post. There are plenty of parking places elsewhere. This person might have at least parked several feet away from the fire hydrant.



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lowest ranking airman to the highest ranking officer who create this impression," the major said. "We have accomplished a great deal, thanks to the dedication of the men, we have a lot to be proud of.

When the unit passed the ORI in December, and thereby declaring itself ready to meet any combat emergency, it became the first Air Force Reserve unit since the mid-1950's to have a front-line tactical fighter mission.

Thunderchief Staff

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Committee To Inspect Hair Length

Airmen may soon be advising sergeants to get a hair cut, if an enlisted group's recommendation is followed.

The NCO/Airman Advisory Board recommended last UTA that each unit of the detachment form a committee to check hair cuts during sign in on Saturday of the UTA's.

Sgt. Russell D. Wiley of the Civil Engineer Flight noted that his unit has a five-man committee which checked haircuts and "there were no problems at all."

"When a member of the committee told a man he needed a haircut, the man went to the barber shop before noon," Wiley told the council.

He noted that the committee ranges from airman to tech sergeant and when "we tell somebody he needs a haircut, he knows it's not just some lifer talking."

Wiley said that in his unit, a man who did not get his haircut by noon, when told of his hair length by a committee member, was red-lined by the first sergeant.

"We keep records, and if it's a recurring thing (the same man being told about his hair length each UTA), it will be brought to the attention of the first sergeant. The commander has assured the committee that appropriate steps will then be taken," Wiley said.

AWARDS GIVEN

TSgt. Hubert Rogers and SSgt. Rufus Leckie of the Organizational Maintenance Squadron have become the first recipients of new monthly awards to be presented by OMS.

Rogers was named "Crew Chief of the Month" and Leckie was named the "Knuckle Buster of the Month."

An OMS spokesman said the crew chief award is to honor the man who maintains his plane the best, the "one which has the least down time. Actually, the award will be for the outstanding performance of his aircraft."

The knuckle buster award will be based on job safety, skill and performance, the spokesman said.



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just what it is," Scheer said.

"Basically, it's so the Air Force Reserve can plan a year ahead, plan their needs and appropriations according to the men on board and the number of men who plan to reenlist.

"We must explain to the man the reason behind this policy. Only in this way will he know the real importance that higher Headquarters attaches to every member of the Reserve", the Major said.

However, he explained if a man is to be discharged, the personnel center wants as much time as possible to fill his slot with another airman.

"If the airman says he doesn't want to reenlist the personnel center will start programming someone else into that slot.

"Then, if he changes his mind and wants to remain in the same slot, it may no longer be available to him", the Major said.

"This program is not meant to antagonize anyone by forcing he or she into an early decision. The significance of the Total Force Policy makes it mandatory that future manning levels can be accurately predicted. All Commanders and supervisors have been instructed to brief their personnel on the details of this program. Please contact your supervisor if you have any questions before making a decision", the Major added.



NEWLY-WEDS UNITE -- Teresa and John D. Wesley, who receive the oath of enlistment from Capt. Bobby L. Gonshor, found out what united really means. Married only a matter of hours before repeating the vows for the Air Force, Mrs. Wesley departed shortly afterward for basic training, while John will wait until June for his training.

UNIT PROMOTIONS

TO MASTER SERGEANT

Dunn, Oran J. Jr.	507 CAM Sq
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TO TECH SERGEANT

Lankford, James D.	507 CE Flt
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TO STAFF SERGEANT

Jorski, John A.	507 CE Flt
Hawkins, Walter E. Jr.	507 CE Flt
Gray, Billy M.	507 CAM Sq
Neal, Roy D.	507 CE Flt

TO SERGEANT

McMullen, John E.	507 CAM Sq
Yort, Jerry D.	507 CE Flt

TO AIRMAN FIRST CLASS

Clark, Michael R.	507 CAM Sq
Coles, Ricky D.	507 CAM Sq
Delaughter, Dennis A.	507 MOS Flt
Robertson, Gary E.	507 CAM Sq
Sprague, David O.	507 COMM Flt

