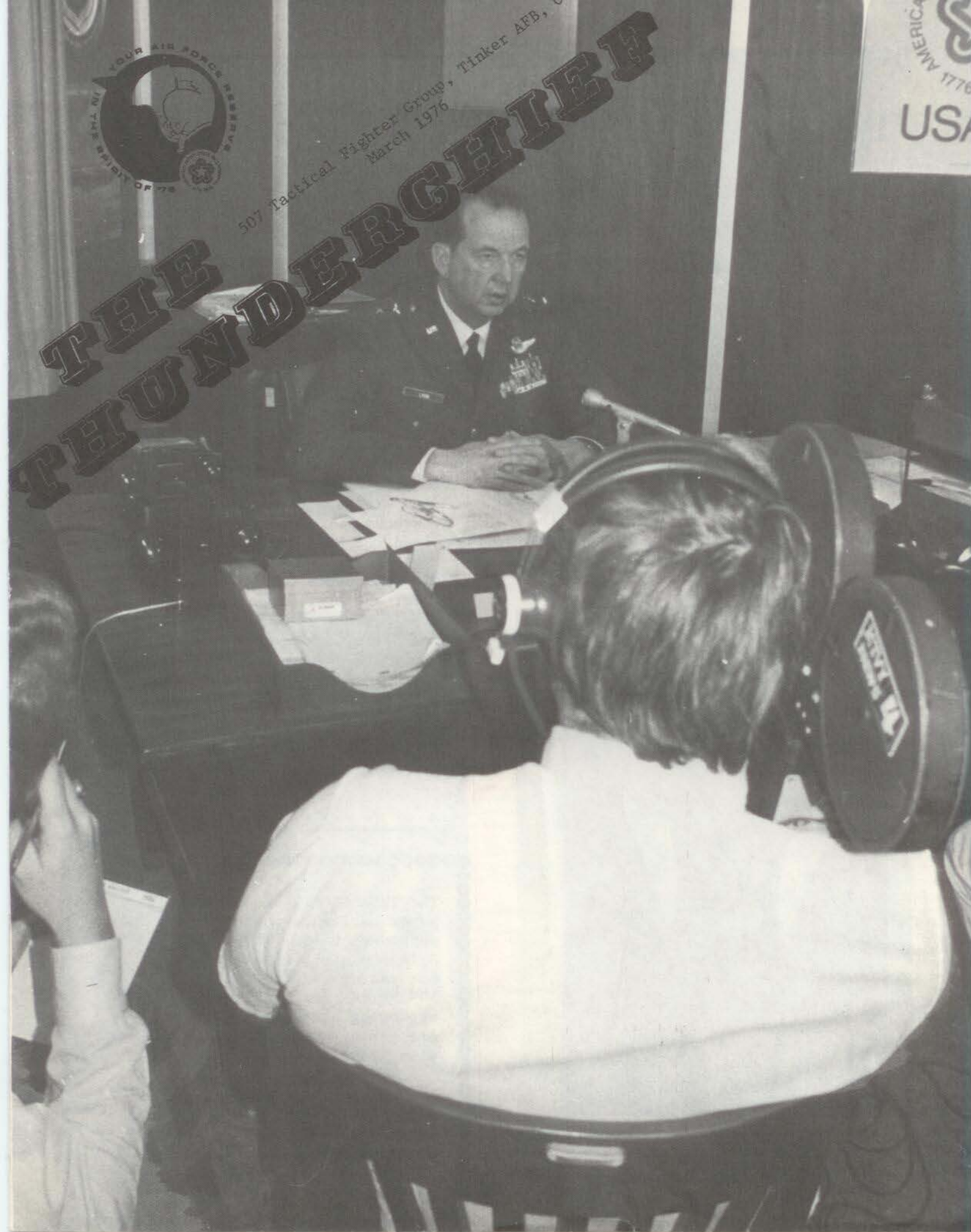




507 Tactical Fighter Group, Tinker AFB, OK
March 1976



THE THUNDERCHIEF

Lyon Cites More Fighter Aircraft Pegged For AFR

Air Force Reservists were challenged from the top to do a better job with fewer resources during an era of national belt-tightening.

That was the message conveyed by Maj. Gen. William Lyon, Chief of Air Force Reserve and guest speaker, during the 507th Tactical Fighter Group's Bicentennial Dining-Out held at the Officer's Club, Saturday, February 7, 1976.

General Lyon reemphasized the importance of the Air Force Reserve to the nation's total defense capability as greater than ever and noted that the latest in front-line fighter aircraft would be ticketed for Reserve units in the near future.

"I've truly enjoyed my visit with the 507th," said the general after two days touring ALC facilities and observing reserve operations during a training weekend. He called the 507th "one of our best units."

General Lyon presented command awards



Capt. Charles M. Sublett, 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron, accepts Top Gun Award for the third consecutive year from Maj. Gen. William Lyon.

to Capt. Perry D. Fletcher and Barbara Ann Vessels, Information Office, for their efforts in painting the Reserve Bicentennial emblem on the unit's hangar roof.

Capt. Charles M. Sublett, 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron and attorney in Tulsa, Okla., received the coveted Top Gun Award, which is given annually for the best performance in bombing and strafing scores on the gunnery range. Captain Sublett received a standing ovation from the Mess as he accepted this award for the third time in a row.

Capt. Ronald D. Hammons, 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron, was awarded the Pilot of the Month Award and Capt. Jerry A. Wrucha, Group Safety Officer, received the Most Improved Gunner Award.

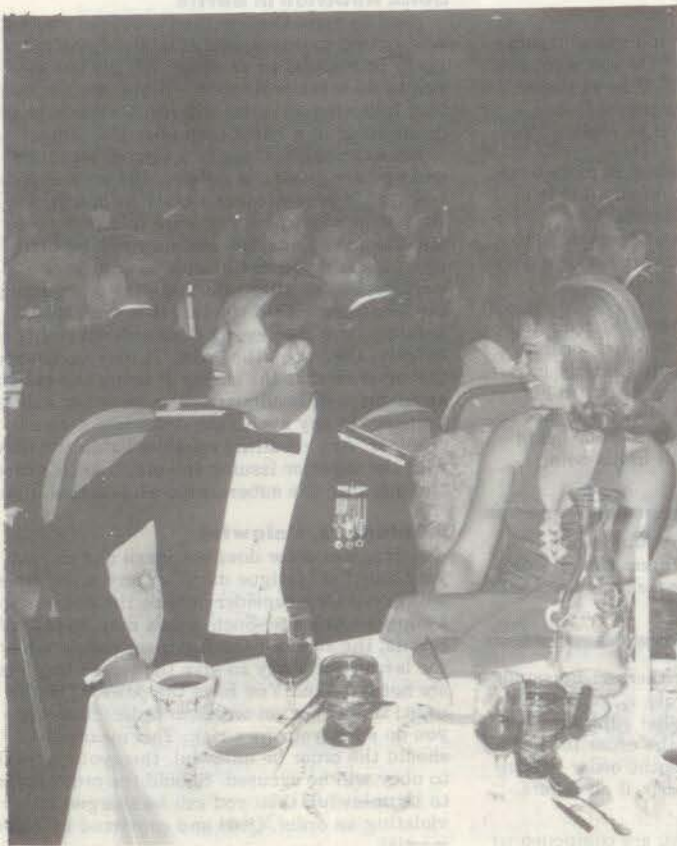
Guests at the Dining-Out included Maj. Gen. James G. Randolph, ALC commander and Mrs. Randolph; Maj. Gen. John W. Hoff, Central Reserve Region commander, Ellington AFB, Tex., Brig. Gen. Stanley F. Newman, 137th Tactical Air-lift Wing (ANG), Oklahoma City, Okla., and Mrs. Newman; Brig. Gen. Jack N. Kraras, ALC Mobilization Augmentee to the commander, and Mrs. Kraras; and Brig. Gen. John E. Taylor, Jr., 301st Tactical Fighter Wing commander, Carswell AFB, Tex.

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Lt.Col. R.P. Scheer.....Commander
Capt. P.D. Fletcher.....IO
Barbara A. Vessels.....Civilian IO
SSgt. Skip Dobie...Information Tech
Sgt. Richard A. Caram.....Editor
SSgt. R. K. Brown.....Illustrator



Head table guests, Brig. Gen. John E. Taylor, Jr., left, and Mrs. Randolph, right, enjoy the social hour before the unit's Bicentennial Dining-Out with Lt. Col. Roger P. Scheer, group commander, center, and Mrs. Scheer.



With Maj. James K. Webster, 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron, and Mrs. Webster, in the foreground, the mess enjoys guest speaker, Maj. Gen. William Lyon, Chief of Air Force Reserve.



Capt. Jerry A. Wrucha, safety officer, displays his surprise as he accepts the 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron's Most Improved Gunner Award from Maj. John J. Closner, III, squadron commander



"Hounddog 6, this is Hounddog 3, standing down. Have six enemy PWs; no casualties."

"Hounddog 3, this is Hounddog 6. How many dead enemy?"

"Hounddog 6, this is Hounddog 3. No dead enemy."

"Hounddog 3, this is 6—I want a report of three dead enemy."

In this hypothetical situation, what is Hounddog 6 telling 3 in response to the latter's statement that he has no dead enemy? At first blush it may appear that Hounddog 6 is ordering 3 to shoot three of the enemy PWs.

What if the patrol leader (Hounddog 3) responds to the statement, "I want a report of three dead enemy," by telling one of his men that the CO wants three of the enemy killed, and thereupon, the man to whom this information is passed raises his rifle to his shoulder and shoots three of the PWs.

Criminal Order

What has happened here? First, if shooting the PWs is what the CO meant (back to that later), then he has issued what is termed a "criminal" order; that is, the CO has issued an order which, if followed, will result in the commission of a clearly obvious crime. An individual who receives this type of order is under an obligation to disobey it (Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice requires that only "lawful" orders be obeyed). Should he follow the order and it results in a crime, he cannot defend himself by claiming, "I was only following orders." No one has the authority to give a criminal order and one who carries out such an order cannot defend using the order as a shield against conviction. The individual carrying out the order is responsible for the crime as is the one who orders it.

In the example given above, did the commander mean for the person receiving the order to shoot the PWs? Or did he mean for the unit to submit a false count or to resume its patrol and come back with three dead enemy lawfully obtained in hostile action? This latter order to go out and kill three of the enemy is not ordering any criminal act. It is an order to

become involved in combat activity and, if the situation allows, for the killing of three individuals during this combatant activity, then

to report the number of enemy killed. Killing an enemy combatant during combat is lawful. It is the killing of enemy noncombatants or captured PWs that is unlawful and murder.

Upon receiving a criminal type order, what should you do?

- **Seek clarification.** Ask the individual issuing the order what he means by it. "Do you want me to shoot three of the prisoners?" If he answers "No, I want you to resume your patrol," etc., then you have no problem. But if he replies "Yes

I want you to shoot three," then it is plain he is ordering a criminal act. What do you do? It's not easy to refuse an order in combat. Nevertheless, the answer plain and simple is that you cannot obey this order. You are under a duty to disobey it.

- **Try to have the order revoked.** Explain to the person giving the order that it is a crime, and that following it would result not only in your committing a criminal offense, but in his committing one also. Point out that obedience to the directive would lead not only to your being court-martialed but would result in his being court-martialed too.

Condensed from an article by Major James McGowan, Jr., former Chief, International Law Division, The Judge Advocate General's School, Charlottesville, Virginia.

- **Go to higher authority.** If the person issuing the criminal order will not revoke it, report the order to that person's next higher superior. Explain the criminal effect of the order to the superior and ask him to revoke the order or see to its revocation. In the last step, if all others fail, refuse to obey the order.

- **Report criminal acts.** If you are compelled to choose the refusal alternative, then report the order and its results, if carried out by others, to your superiors. You may also report violations of

the rules of war to the Inspector General, Provost Marshal, Chaplain, or a Judge Advocate. In any case, the law requires that you report such orders and actual or suspected violations of

the law of war immediately so that evidence will not disappear or get lost. Reporting the order and any violation of the law of war will protect you and may prevent further violations.

Quick Reaction in Battle

Keep in mind that on the battlefield you may be required to decide immediately if you are going to respond to an order. All the law asks you to do is *act reasonably*. If you are not sure that following an order will result clearly in the committing of a crime then obey the order.

For example, you are in a combat situation and you are given the order to fire on a church or hospital. You remember a block of instruction on the law of war where you were told that these buildings are protected and may not be fired upon. Should you not be able to request clarification, or after informing the one issuing the firing order that the target is a protected building, you are nevertheless ordered to fire and quickly, then obey the order. It may be known to the superior that the enemy is using the building as an outpost, headquarters or for other military purpose. In any event, the order is not clearly criminal. Any resulting criminal liability will rest with the superior issuing the order, in this case, and not with the subordinate who carried it out.

Criminal vs. Unlawful

A criminal order does not mean one to "cut your hair," do fatigue duty" or any other order which you may consider outside the authority of a superior to issue. Such orders may be *unlawful*, that is, the superior issuing them may not have the lawful authority to give the order; but, they are not *criminal*. You have the power (not the right) to disobey an *unlawful* order; however, you do so at your own risk. This means that should the order be unlawful, then your refusal to obey will be excused. Should the order prove to be unlawful, then you can be charged for violating an order, tried and convicted by court-martial.

The rule is: Follow lawful orders at all times; it is only criminal orders that you MUST disobey. There is no question about choice or risk. You are under a duty to disobey an order to commit a crime, and you assume no risk when you refuse



Tactical Air Command's Unit Achievement Award for an outstanding flight safety record was presented to Brig. Gen. John E. Taylor Jr., commander, Central Air Force Reserve Region, in ceremonies held January 9 at Carswell AFB. The 301st was cited by TAC for its accident-free flying operations from July 18, 1974 through July 17, 1975. "This award represents the results of the professional efforts in accident prevention by the 301st," commented General Hoff. In a letter accompanying the award certificate,

Brig. Gen. George A. Edwards Jr., TAC's chief of staff, congratulated the wing and said, "All personnel contributing to this admirable record are commended for their superb achievement." Flying units of the wing are the 457th Tactical Fighter Squadron at Carswell; 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron from the 507th Tactical Fighter Group, Tinker AFB, Okla.; and, the 508th Tactical Fighter Group's 466th Tactical Fighter Squadron at Hill AFB, Utah.

Editorial

Boiling A Frog

Believe it or not, there's a parallel between boiling a frog and complacency in accident prevention.

If you put a frog in a pan of hot water he'll leap out instantly and make himself scarce if he's smart.

If you really want to boil the frog you have to use a much more strategic approach. You sort of sneak up on him. First, you put him in lukewarm water. He likes it so he's likely to relax and doze off.

Now increase the heat very, very slowly. If he should wake up the water will be warm but still relaxing. He'll probably yawn and go back to sleep. Just keep increasing the heat very gradually until the water is hot and the frog is boiled.

In much the same ways many people are boiled into accidents. Slowly, degree by degree, they allow

impatience, carelessness and lack of attention to bring them to the point of mishap.

The "boiling" process may take many years, but the heat is on when bad habits are substituted for safe habits. And when a routine operation becomes a risky operation, trouble is inevitable. However, you don't have to "boil" and there are countermeasures you can take. Examine your safety habits and attitudes every day. It is necessary to do this frequently and regularly because human nature has a way of letting minor adjustments and allowances unconsciously cover up habits and attitudes that are going astray. Like boiling a frog, it's a slow, gradual process and it is hard to recognize or realize it's happening.

Take a clear look at yourself and how you're going to do things. It's the best way to stay out of hot water.

Energy Crisis Still A Crude, Contagious Madness

Why should the energy crisis become a primary concern for you as a member of our Air Force community?

You may doubt that we have an energy crisis. Or if you recognize that such a crisis exists, you are certain that it will not last for long.

To end all doubts, the energy crisis is worldwide and will be with us for a long time! We cannot expect a magic solution. It is a very real threat to our national security and economy.

To help you understand why we have an energy crisis, a few basic facts should be mentioned before we discuss contributions you can make to the Air Force energy conservation program.

There are two conditions that have created this crisis--increased demand and decreased supply. Natural resources used to create energy are being depleted at an alarming rate.

There are increasing demands by countries in Europe and Asia for energy.

The United States is an intensive energy-using nation and now consumes 35 per cent of the world's available energy.

Our whole economy has come to depend on crude oil products. Our consumption of oil has been increasing at the rate of five per cent each year.

This increase is attributed to many factors: A higher standard of living; a decreased efficiency in consuming equipment, notably the automobile; and a general waste of energy.

These factors, and our fight against air pollution, in which rapid conversions were made during the early 1970s, from coal and high-sulfur fuel oil to natural gas (now in short supply) and cleaner oil fuels, put the Nation's consumption of oil at an unprecedented high.

About 60 per cent of the world's known reserves of crude oil are in the Middle East. This supply is expected to begin to dwindle by 1985.

Since the discovery of crude oil in this country around 1900, we have used 50 per cent of our oil reserves. The latest U.S. Geological Survey estimates that we are likely to run out of domestic oil in 30 years.

The oil discovered in Alaska is not an answer to our problem since experts estimate that it will be used up in about 10 to 15 years.

How fast the world's reserves of crude oil are used up depends on two conditions: how effective conservation programs are, and how quickly other means of generating electricity are developed.

These include nuclear power plants, solar plants, and the hydrogen cycle.

There is much opposition to nuclear plants because of concern over potential radiation dangers. Present solar plants are tremendous in size and much research and development will be required before these plants can become a practical source of energy.

Still on the drawing board is the hydrogen cycle which would separate sea water into its components of oxygen and hydrogen. The hydrogen then could be used to create electricity.

Air Force engineers and scientists are involved in the national energy problem through conservation programs to save fuels, and research and development programs to harness the energy potential of the sun, the tides, and the wind.

The world's energy market has changed from a buyer's market to a seller's market, causing the cost of energy-producing resources, particularly crude oil, to spiral upward with no indication that the end is in sight.

In 1973, we imported one-third of our required oil. Most of this came from the Middle Eastern countries which have drastically increased their prices.

The oil-exporting countries also put into effect the embargo that had such a serious impact on the United States and the rest of the oil-importing countries. It caused those long lines of cars at gasoline stations and shortages of fuel oil for heat.

One of the primary uses of oil is to generate electricity, and soaring utility bills reflect today's cost to produce energy.

We can't do much about the price of energy, but we can control the amount we consume through conservation,



34

REPUBLIC P-47s

Thirty years ago this month, March, 1946, the Tactical Air Command was established and assigned to the Army Air Forces. The Headquarters was activated at Tampa, Fla., with Maj. Gen.

Elwood R. Quesada as commander. Aircraft in TAC's inventory included P-47s (shown above), P-51s, P-80s, P-61s, A-26s, B-25s, C-46s, C-47s, C-54s, and C-82s.

Test Initiated To Reduce Non-Prior ADT Tours

WASHINGTON (AFNS) - Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve nonprior service airmen who fail to perform satisfactorily will be ordered to 45-day active-duty-for-training (ADT) tours.

This is in lieu of being ordered to active duty tours of up to 24 months, Air Force Military Personnel Center officials said.

They stated this test will be effective until June 30, 1976.

Individuals presently on orders to serve, or serving, an active-duty tour of up to 24 months will not be affected.

The tours of duty will be performed at the parent organization, if a training capability exists.

If a training capability does not exist the individual will perform at the active Air Force installation nearest his home that possesses a training capability.

PROMOTIONS



TO CMSGT

Billy J. Bledsoe

TO MSGT

Phillip F. McConnell
Doris M. Kitse

TO SSGT

Quinnen S. Burdine
John M. Hazelwood
Danny L. Jones
Mathew W. Qualline
Ted C. Barnhart
Donnie R. Reed
Lynn J. Fry
Lymon L. Hendricks
Bobby J. Berry
David M. Hamilton

TO SGT

Richard A. Shobert
Ray A. Newmark
Nelson F. Echeverria

ON THE COVER:

Chief of Air Force Reserve, Maj. Gen. William Lyon, held a press conference with local TV and news media during his visit to the 507th in February.

Think ORI



Dobies Commended For Hangar Roof Painting

Maj. Gen. William Lyon, Chief of Air Force Reserve, presented command awards to SSgt. Skip Dobie, Information Office, and his wife, Rita, for their outstanding husband-and-wife efforts in painting the Reserve Bicentennial emblem on the unit's hangar roof.

Rita took an eight by ten inch photograph of the design and turned it into a reproduction measuring 80 feet by 80 feet.

Using 200 masking tape grids, the Dobies spent several hours drawing the design and painting on the corrugated aluminum hangar roof. The roof is four stories high and slopes approximately 30 degrees.

Members of the 507th volunteered over 200 hours to complete the painting which can be clearly seen by air traffic flying over Oklahoma City.