



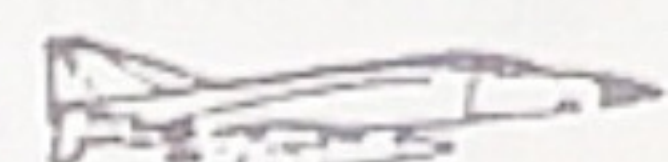
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An Air Force Reserve Newspaper

Tinker AFB, OK

January 198

New chemical warfare mask



(AFRNS)--Wearing chemical defense gear has never been considered fun. But a recent evaluation at Eglin AFB, Fla., showed that one could eat, sleep and work for more than three days while wearing the new MCU-2/P mask.

In fiscal year 1985, Air Force Reservists will benefit from this new development. Designed solely for Air Force groundcrews, the mask will replace the current M-17A1 mask, according to MSgt Don Richeson, AFRES disaster preparedness superintendent.

"The new mask has peripheral vision and an external charcoal-activated filter system, as opposed to the eyepieces and internal filter system on the current mask," Sergeant Richeson explained. "This new development provides increased protection to known war gases and allows filter changes in a contaminated environment."

Sergeant Richeson indicated the new mask features improved visibility, identification and communication. It has a canteen adapter and the filter threads are NATO interchangeable.

Seven years have been spent in extensive research since inception of the new mask in 1976. "All recognizable problems detected during testing have been corrected," the sergeant said.

Two modifications of the new chemical defense mask designed for aircrews are currently being developed. Also, a fully capsulated suit that protects the body from chemical agents is under

development. "An individual can work about eight hours in near 78-degree temperatures before being attached to a cooling system for rest," Sergeant Richeson said. "In this suit, one can eat, sleep, and eliminate body wastes."



SMSgt James L. Heit takes a drink through the Air Force's newest chemical defense mask, the MCU-2/P. The new mask features peripheral vision and an external filter system. (U.S. Air Force Photo by Greg Schmitt)

An outstanding rating is not impossible —

In a popular song, The Twelve Days of Christmas, someone's true love spent 12 days in a row showing his affection. And his idea is remarkably simple -- be persistent and achieve your objectives!

It's the same at the 507th. If you do something worthwhile every day, results will pile up. If you do it "by the book," month after month, you'll win the heart of your inspector. If you do it completely right, year after year, you'll earn the coveted MEI rating of outstanding!

So an outstanding rating is not impossible. There are no secrets known only to inspectors. There are no rules too complicated, no standards too high. The budget may be tight, UTA time limited, and your personnel new and untrained. But the outstanding rating is yours if you have the dogged determination to make it your objective and see it through.

How do you do it? You sacrifice on its behalf. You don't daydream, clock watch or cut out early to beat the traffic. You don't have bull sessions, coffee breaks or bring the TV for a bowl game.

Aside from these "don'ts" there are many positive steps. You plan till your planner hurts. You set the

highest possible standards of conduct, grooming and physical fitness. And you practice time management. You create excitement even about ordinary tasks, cooperate with other staff and give yourself thorough self inspections with regular follow ups. You fix problems permanently, not just on paper, and treat additional duties and primary duties with equal respect.

When all these are done, and the inspectors are on the ramp, it's time to do one more thing. Remember that the "G" in IG stands for genius. Recognize the IG as your partner. He's there for only one reason, to find every possible way to help you. He has the answers. Treat the IG as you would a guest in your home. Give him a thorough briefing, a totally honest look at both problems and accomplishments. Keep him busy. Plan a full schedule with no idle time. Show him your normal activity level, your "traffic pattern." Don't create an unreal atmosphere of calm, where he has nothing to do but rummage through files. Include him, entertain him, as a matter of courtesy and common sense in your daily routine. Meet his needs as if he were your friend, because he is.

Weight vs Reenlistment

A recent change to AFRESR 35-16 renders individuals ineligible for reenlistment who are on a weight adjustment observation period under AFR 35-11.

In a memo from the Quality Force Section of the 507th CBPO, SSgt Ebner said voluntary extensions may be granted (but are not automatically granted) for completion of weight adjustment observation period, not to exceed 23 months.

ON-FINAL IS A FUNDED CLASS II AIR FORCE NEWS-PAPER PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR PERSONNEL OF THE 507 TACTICAL FIGHTER GROUP (AFRES) AT TINKER AFB, OKLAHOMA 73145. OPINIONS EXPRESSED HERE-IN DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT THOSE OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE.

Inspector General conference period

The 12AF Inspector General will hold a conference period in building 1043, room 116, on Sunday 28 Jan 84, from 1300 to 1400 hours.

For further details consult a UTA Bulletin, which are available in each duty section.

COL JERVIS W. MCENTEE

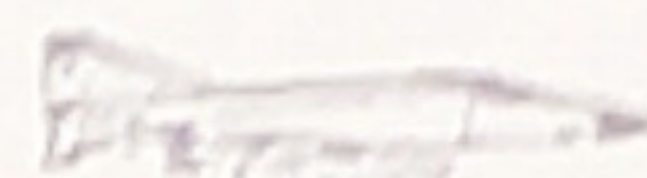
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Suicides warning signals



Suicide is a needless, tragic loss of life, and the Air Force, like all parts of society, is not immune to it.

The Air Force Office of Special Investigations recently released a study entitled, "Suicide Among Active Duty USAF members." It noted that military members have an overall suicide rate significantly less than that of the civilian population, possibly because there are a number of support systems available for troubled people.

Suicide nevertheless was one of the leading causes of Air Force deaths, outnumbered only by motor vehicle accidents, aircraft mishaps and heart disease. And it is likely that a number of the deaths reported as resulting from vehicle accidents, were actually suicides masqueraded to look like accidental crashes.



The study found that an overwhelming majority of suicide victims (86 percent) were deeply troubled people, many of whom had multiple problems, such as marital, financial and substance abuse. These problems were not necessarily the cause of the suicide, but frequently stemmed from the victim's immature approach to family responsibility.

Two of the most consistent problems of suicide victims, are marital discord and social problems. Hostile, non-supportive marriages deny the individual a psychological safe haven.



The cases reviewed for the study clearly emphasize certain warning signs that shouldn't go unheeded. If you hear a comment about suicide, take it seriously. Without exception! Some statements can be more subtle, such as "departure statements" in the form of vague remarks: "My problems will soon be over."

Behavioral warnings can be purchasing more life insurance, settling accounts, giving away prized possessions, becoming accident prone and having a preoccupation with death or disease.

The study ended by saying that peer sensitivity was one key to reducing the suicide rate, by early identification of members who are "at risk" and need professional help.

When the pressures of life build, and attempts to escape through substance abuse fail, and cause even greater financial problems, suicide is often simply the final point on a continuum of an inability to cope.

Espionage, Sabotage and Subversion

"Espionage, Sabotage, Subversion--These are three major ways that an enemy can destroy us. And all of them can be stopped from within with proper vigilance and security practices."

These are the feelings conveyed by TSgt Ed Bork, 507th TFG Security Manager during a recent interview.

As security manager for the group, Sergeant Bork is responsible for insuring security practices are maintained at the highest level by educating everyone of their personal involvement in the security program.

ARE YOU SECURITY IGNORANT?

Sergeant Bork said that recently the term security ignorance has been used within the group.

"That doesn't mean we are completely ignorant on security matters. One of Webster's definitions for ignorance is: lack in training. That's where we are now; making sure we are trained and know what's right when security is involved."

Sergeant Bork said previously the majority of the 507th's security training was accomplished by the 2854th ABG Security Police Squadron. Since training for reserve personnel is conducted on weekends, this required overtime and weekend work for them and rearranging of our training and work schedules, he explained.

"Having a security manager within each squadron is proving beneficial in getting our personnel trained and motivated to the point that everyone within the Group is putting proper emphasis on security and safeguarding classified information," he said.

DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

Sergeant Bork said one of the items Security Managers are stressing is that a clearance doesn't automatically give an individual access to classified information. The key to the issue

is that they must have a definite need to know. This especially applies in the home.

"What you tell your spouse in confidence could be inadvertently leaked to those who would use it in such a way as to cause my death and yours. It is not your wife's or husband's right to know what goes on within the unit by virtue of a marriage license," he said.

ARE YOU A SOURCE?

The notes and memos that you write down on pieces of paper may in themselves not be classified, but put together with other facts (such as newspaper articles, radio and tv interviews, telephone conversations, letters-both official and personal, excessive activity within the unit and flying schedules) may be pieced together to compromise our nation's security.

"The main point I want to stress is that everyone should stop and think. If you are unsure about possible security violations: Seek proper guidance and help," he said.



**SECURITY VIOLATIONS DON'T JUST HAPPEN
... SOMEBODY CAUSES THEM!**

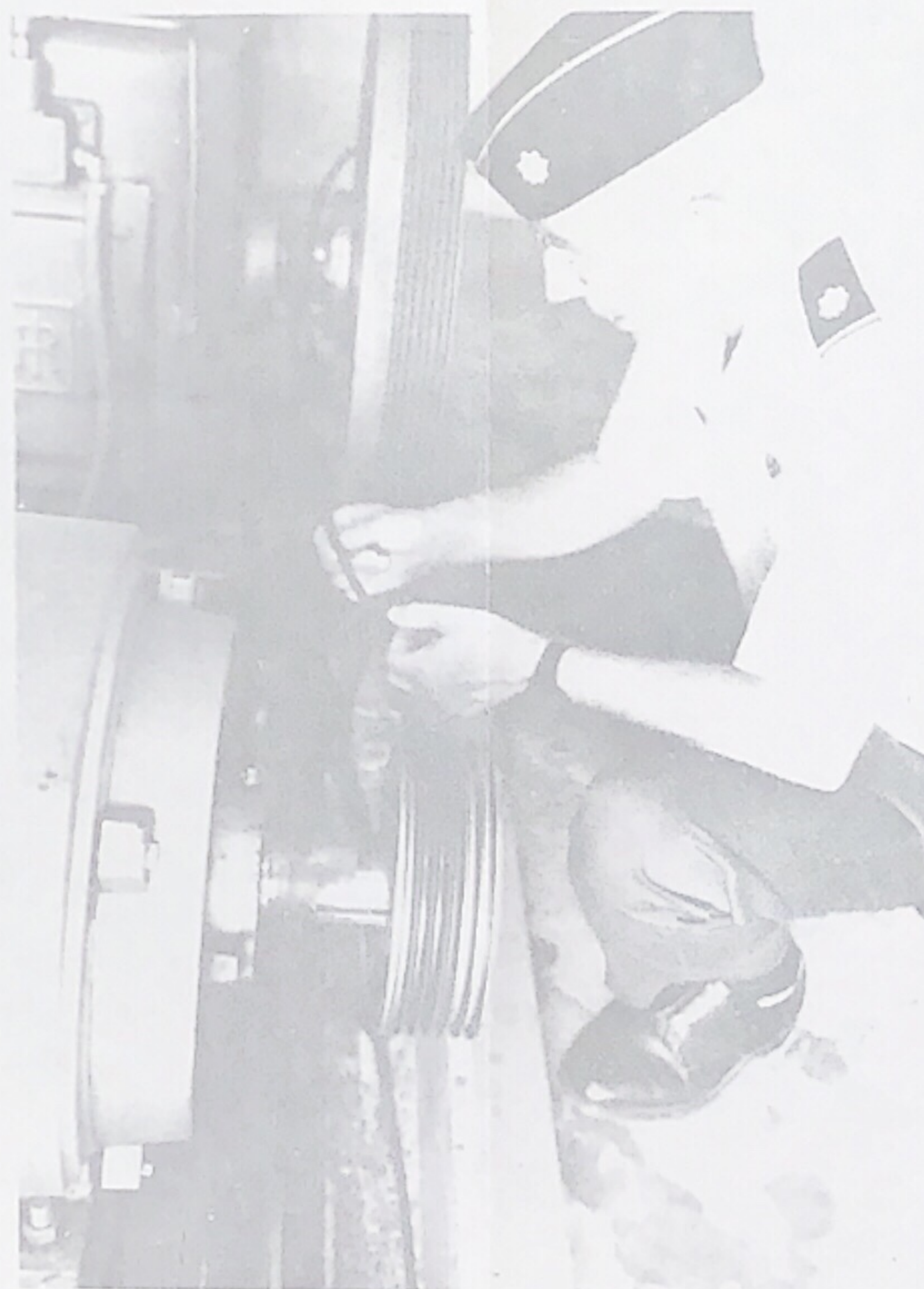
In and around the group



Maj Gen Burpee received a briefing on the daily flying schedule from Lt Col Duvall, the SOF (superior of flying). Flanking the General are Col Entee and Maj Eustace. General Burpee is the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center Commander.



Dedrick "Doc" Jackson works for the contractor that is responsible for custodial service on Tinker AFB.eldom seen by the regular Reservist, Doc is a familiar and welcome sight to those who work in the unit Monday thru Friday and is essential in maintaining the appearance of the 507th TFG area.



Lt Col Burt Acheson, Group Safety Officer, inspects the chard remains of the belts that drive the compressor that furnishes high pressure air to the hanger. (USAF Photos)



Maj Richard Froess, 507th Comm Flt Commander, recently presented an Air Force Commendation Medal to a former member of the unit (TSgt) Billy Ridley. Mr Ridley's wife attended the ceremony which was held at the Comm Flight's all-hands formation.



Members of the base fire department responded quickly and in full force to the alarm turned in on smoke coming from the room that houses the high pressure air compressor. The damage was limited to the chard and broken belts that drive the compressor.

New physical fitness program tested

A new physical fitness program for military personnel is being tested at 23 Air Force bases across the country, with between 150 and 400 people at each base taking part.

Results of the 23-base test will be reviewed and if the results are successful, the Air Force plans to implement the program worldwide.

The proposed program will add a pre-evaluation medical screening, warm-up exercises and timed sit-ups to the traditional 1.5 mile run. One of the current methods of testing, the three-mile walk, will be deleted from the new program as a test of fitness.

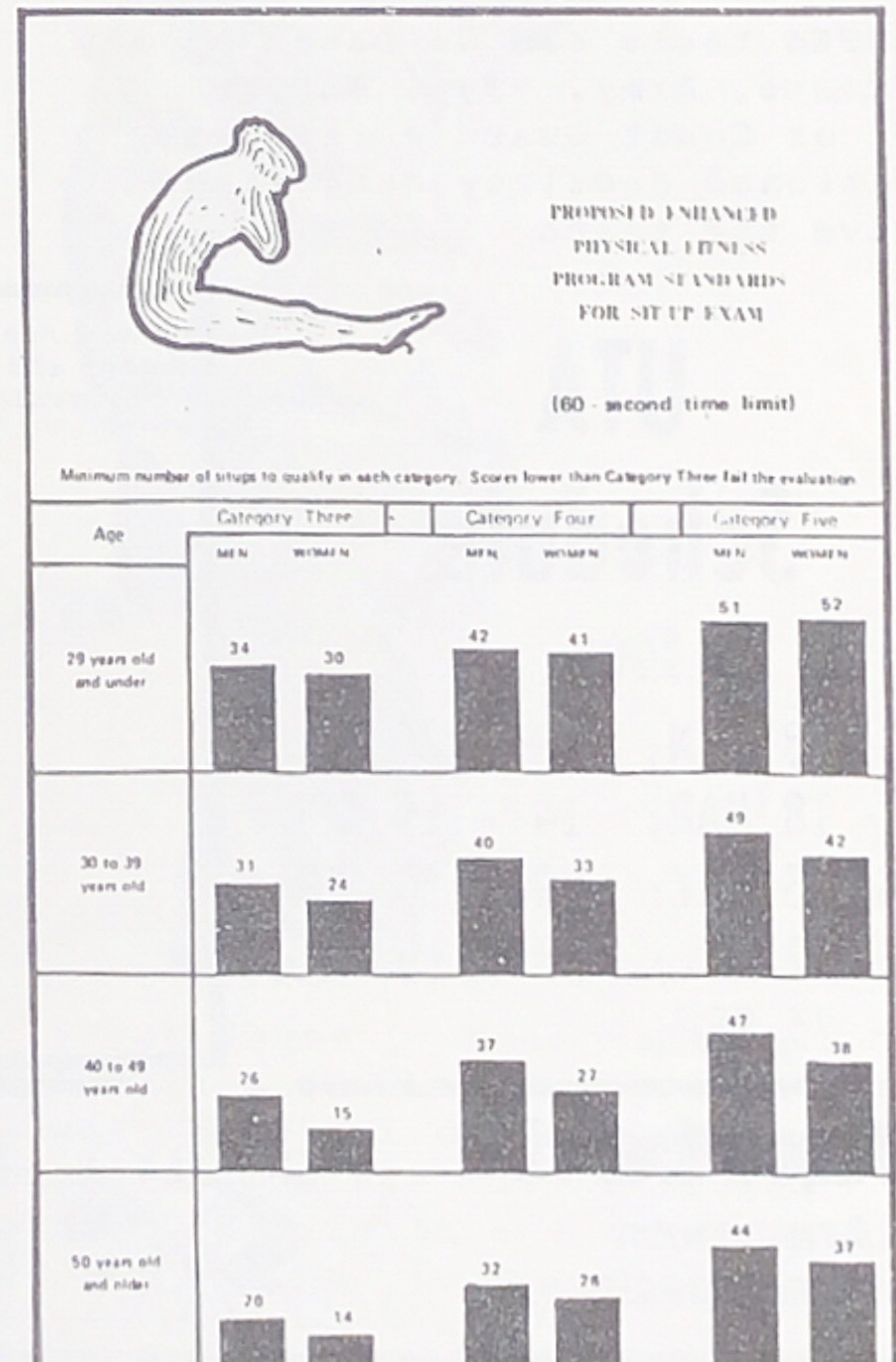
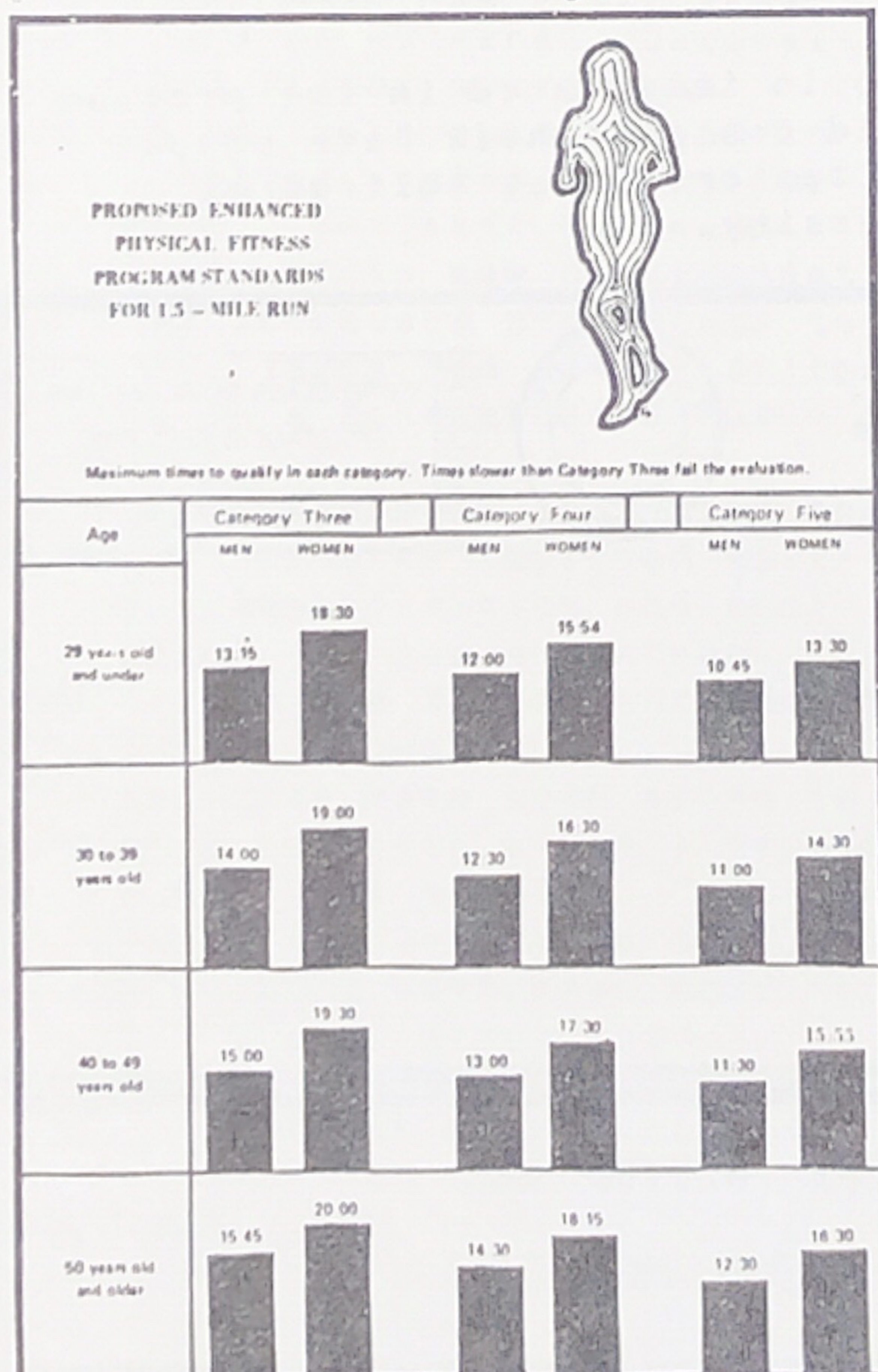
The new, tougher standards for the Enhanced Physical Fitness Program are based on sex and age. Performances in each of the two proposed evaluation areas (running and sit-ups) will be graded on a scale of two through five, with category five being the best possible score. Categories four

and five significantly exceed the proposed minimum Air Force standards. Category three meets the standard. Anything below category three fails.

People scoring in the four or five level on both evaluations will retest annually. Those earning a category three score will test semi-annually. A category two score will require quarterly retesting.

Air Force officials noted that an individual's overall rating will be the lower of the two evaluation scores. For example, someone racing to a category five finish in the 1.5 mile run, but recording only a category three score in the 60-second sit-up evaluation, would receive an overall rating of three and would be required to retest in six months.

The following charts illustrate standards under the new physical fitness testing program:



College credit without classes



(AFRES)-- Air Force Reservists, their family members and civilians working for the military are now eligible to participate in the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support program--earning college credit without attending classes.

The DANTES examination program is a nationally recognized testing program offering a unique opportunity to gain college credit by passing written exams. DANTES awards general undergraduate credits.

DANTES tests cover traditional subjects such as beginning German, French and Spanish, college algebra and calculus, psychology and anthropology, as well as more technical subjects such as risk and insurance, technical drawing and graphics, climatology and meteorology. More than 50 tests are offered in the DANTES program.

DANTES tests can be taken at any Air force, Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard active duty educational facility authorized to give the tests.

Academic credit obtained by testing can be applied toward Community College of the Air Force, civilian college and university degree program requirements and update of military academic education level.

Reservists can take the exams free-of-charge, but there is a \$25 charge for civilians taking the tests at a military installation. Local colleges and universities set rates for the exams.

"All candidates should be adequately prepared for the exams to cut down on the chance of retesting, which can take as long as six months," said Carl T. Obenland, AFRES headquarters program manager. "Exam study guides can often be obtained from a base education center to help prepare for the tests."

People interested in the program should contact their base education center, local college or university.

UTA Schedule

1984

07 - 08 JAN; 28 - 29 JAN;
17 - 18 MAR; 14 - 15 APR;
05 - 06 MAY; 09 - 10 JUN;
21 - 22 JUL; 18 - 19 AUG;
22 - 23 SEP.

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