



n-final

An Air Force Reserve Newspaper

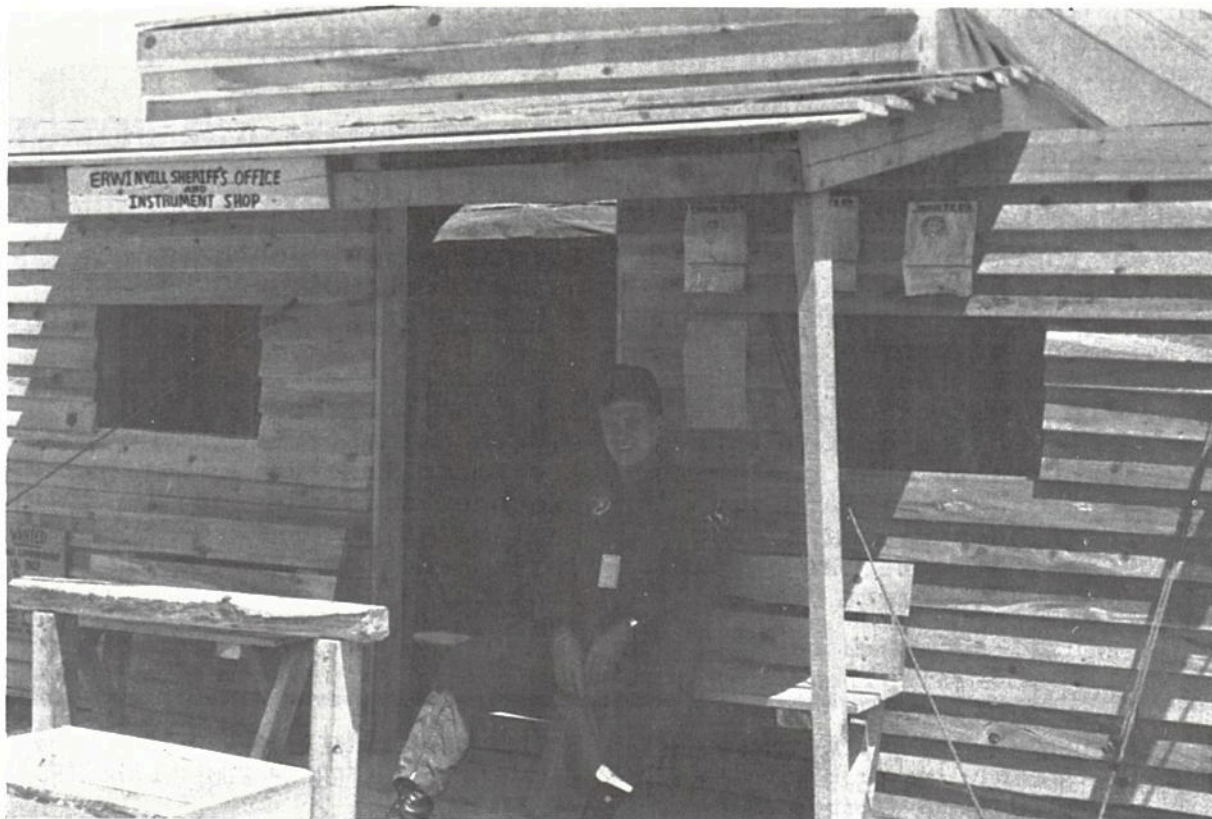
Tinker AFB, Ok

June 1985

507TH EXCELS IN TURKEY

The first Air Force reserve fighter unit to deploy bare base to a foreign country has returned home! 129 people from the 507th TFG, augmented by 318 members of the 301st TFW, Carswell AFB, Texas, combined skills to deploy to Sivrihisar Air Base, Turkey, where they worked under field conditions.

"We surprised a lot of people," said Brig. Gen. Ralph D. Erwin, 301st commander. "Even under these conditions, our people did an outstanding job meeting operational objectives of the exercise. Maintenance kept the aircraft loaded and flying, and aircrews flew their missions superbly."



This western jail front facade won first prize in the best tent contest. Complete with watering trough, hitching rail and wanted posters, the gentleman seated on the bench matched one of the posters! He is Lt. Col. Jerry A. Wrucha, 507th commander, wearing a Coronet Venom hat. The Turkish base commander was so impressed he requested the jail front for permanent display at the entry to the base gardens. (continued on page 4)

COLONEL'S JOURNAL

CORONET VENOM DEPLOYMENT

Thanks to each and every one of you who participated in our Coronet Venom Exercise. Even though we were in a bare base environment, you all made the best of what we had, pulled together, and made a success of the deployment.

We have received many congratulatory messages regarding Coronet Venom/Distant Hammer. One states that due to the unit's professional attitude we exceeded all planned objectives. Our sortie rate was 282 scheduled, 272 flown for a 96.4 percent completion. Effective sorties totalled 269 for a 95.4 percent rate. Our "casualties" were two dead birds and minor damage to aircraft they were trying to share air space with, plus some minor odds and ends.

I can't improve on the wording of the message from COMAIRSOUTH - "Established deployment and employment plans were again practiced and improved. Furthermore, all missions were executed with sound tactical and numerous training benefits. The continuous honing of proven procedures, coupled with the flexibility to incorporate new tactics, emphasizes readiness as the goal - . Each of you contributed to that goal with professional dedication. Safe yet rewarding training and an improved capability to fight were the results. Distant Hammer was truly a job well done. Thanks."

The people of the 507th are exceptional. I, as commander, appreciate your support, your participation in exercises such as this, and also the support of the nondeploying personnel who assisted in preparation and in maintaining the home front during the deployment. Thanks to you all.


JERRY A. WRUCHA, Lt Col, USAFR
Commander

FORMER

507TH COMMANDER

HEADS 10TH AIR FORCE

The new commander of 10th Air Force is Brig. Gen. Roger P. Scheer. He succeeds Maj. Gen. James C. Wahleithner.

General Scheer comes to Bergstrom AFB from the Pentagon where he served as deputy to the chief of the Air Force Reserve. Previously, he had been commander of the 301st Tactical Fighter Wing, Fort Worth, Texas, and commander of the 507th Tactical Fighter Group, Tinker AFB, Okla, from Jan. 1973 to May 1978.

ON-FINAL IS A FUNDED CLASS II AIR FORCE NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR PERSONNEL OF THE 507 TACTICAL FIGHTER GROUP (AFRES) AT TINKER AFB, OKLAHOMA 73145-5000. OPINIONS EXPRESSED HEREIN DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT THOSE OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE.

YOUR COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS, QUESTIONS AND REQUESTS ARE SOLICITED AND WELCOMED BY OUR STAFF. PLEASE SEND ANY CORRESPONDENCE TO THE

507 TFG/PA, TINKER AFB, OK 73145-5000 OR
CALL US IN THE GROUP PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
AT 734-3078.

LT COL JERRY A. WRUCHA
STAFF

COMMANDER

MR WHITIE BLANSHAN CIVILIAN PAO/EDITOR
MAJ JEFF THOMPSON RESERVE PAO/ASSOC. EDITOR
TSGT RICH CURRY 'NCOIC/REPORTER

FIGHTER COMP 1985 A BIT DIFFERENT

Several new events were scheduled for FIGHTERCOMP 85--fighter competition between the best A-10 and F-4 pilots, maintenance crews, and munitions loaders in the Air Force Reserve.

Nearly 450 reservists and 45 fighter aircraft participated in the five-day competition June 24-28 at Phelps-Collins Air National Guard Base, Mich. Word is expected this weekend on how well the 507th TFG crews performed.

Based on results of this competition, A-10 and F-4 teams will be selected to represent the Air Force Reserve in Tactical Air Command's world-wide gunnery competition scheduled October 6-19 at Nellis AFB, Nev. As the only F-16 unit in the Air Force Reserve, the 419th Tactical Fighter Wing from Hill AFB, Utah, will also represent AFRES at Nellis AFB.

The competition in Michigan was hosted by the 442nd Tactical Fighter Wing from Richards-Gebaur AFB, Mo., conducting its annual tour at the Guard base. Sponsor was Tenth Air Force, the reserve headquarters at Bergstrom AFB, Texas, responsible

for managing all Air Force Reserve fighter and air refueling units in the United States.

New events this year included Integrated Combat Turn competition, level bombing competition, and weapons tool box competition. As in the past, rotating championship trophies were given to the outstanding gunnery, maintenance, and munitions loading teams based on total scores. However, this year additional permanent trophies were given to the top A-10 and F-4 teams in each category.

"We realize each type of aircraft has different capabilities...different advantages and disadvantages," said Lt. Col. Roger Watson, project officer for the competition. "That's why we want to recognize the outstanding teams in each weapon system."

"The meet is designed to encourage the spirit of competition among reservists and help them sharpen their skills throughout the year," continued Colonel Watson. "This, in turn, contributes significantly to the readiness and combat capability of the Reserve Forces."

RESERVE FAIR DAY PLANS MADE

Saturday, July 20th, is Reserve Fair Day, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All 507th members, including 403rd CLSS and 72nd APS, are encouraged to invite family and friends to Tinker's "south forty" for a fun filled day of displays and demonstrations.

Saturday is designed as a light duty day, so each reservist can personally escort his family, friends and boss, and explain his reserve job.

Parking the extra cars will take everyone's cooperation. Each reservist is allotted four special parking

passes for visitors not having base stickers for their cars. Passes should be picked up from first sergeants during the June UTA.

Fast food can be purchased from booths staffed by the Air Force Sergeants Assoc., and the NCO Wives Club.

Demonstrations and displays include rappelling, egress, chemical warfare protection, munitions, maintenance, F-4 aircraft, battle damage repair and aircraft loading equipment.

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507TH EXCELS IN TURKEY

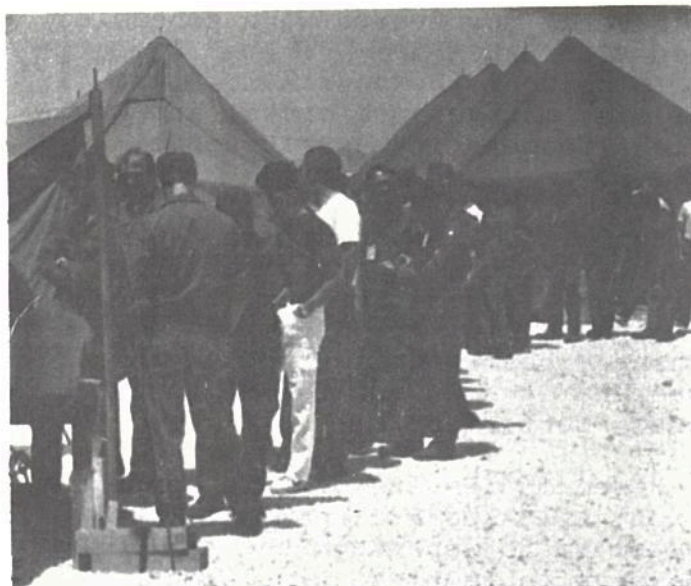
The unit deployed to Turkey as part of Tactical Air Command's Exercise, Coronet Venom 85. While there they took part in NATO Exercise, Distant Hammer 85, a southern NATO region exercise test of air, land, naval and amphibious forces.

The 17 F-4D Phantoms arrived at Sivrihisar AB on Sunday, May 5, and were declared fully operational the next day. 266 sorties were flown, including air defense escort, tactical air support of maritime operations, dissimilar air combat training, air combat training, joint combined air interdiction missions and air-to-ground missions.

American Phantoms were turned at Turkish air bases, while American maintenance personnel at Sivrihisar turned Turkish F-4's, F-5's and F-104's, providing cooperative experience for both nations.

The living and working areas at Sivrihisar were comparable to, but larger than, the tent city seen on the television show M*A*S*H. Weather and geography were similar to the high plains of Colorado. Because the area was leveled by graders prior to putting up tents, dust was a constant problem. The dust had a high volcanic ash content, making it whiter and finer than Americans are used to seeing.

Tent City was two acres of 92 tents, 62 for billeting more than 600 personnel, others for work and recreation, showers, laundry and dining. Food service personnel running two dining hall tents served more than 2,000 meals a day. Each billeting tent had a heater for chilly nights, and everyone slept on cots and sleeping bags.



"The popular line in front of the mess tent moved quickly," said TSgt Richard Curry, Public Affairs NCOIC. The cooks served over 2,000 meals per day - and it was good, hot food! Much better than M.R.D.'s, which means "meals, ready to eat."
(USAF photo)

Only three non-tent structures dotted the camp. Two were trailer-like structures housing the latrines; the third was a trailer van used as a mini-BX.

Tent City was constructed by active duty Prime Beef personnel from the 86th TFW at Ramstein AB, Germany, who arrived two weeks prior to the deployment forces. More than 3,000 sheets of plywood and 45,000 nails were used.

Also deployed in advance were members of the 1st Combat Information Systems Group. They established a secure communications system, autovon and on-site telephone and radio links.

These support personnel added approximately 100 Tent City residents.
(continued on page 5)

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

507TH EXCELS IN TURKEY

The deployment was big news in Turkey. Seventeen journalists visited the camp on May 6, touring the Tent City and the flight line. Stories and photos made the front page of several major Turkish newspapers.

Stars fell on Tent City when six generals/flag rank officers visited May 13. They were part of the Reserve Forces Policy Board's 39-member fact finding visit to Turkey. Board members now better understand elements of host-nation support for reserve forces.

Entertainment helped combat the strain caused by living and working under field conditions. Volleyball, baseball and horseshoe games were common. Movies were shown each night in one tent and VCR's in another, giving reservist's a choice.

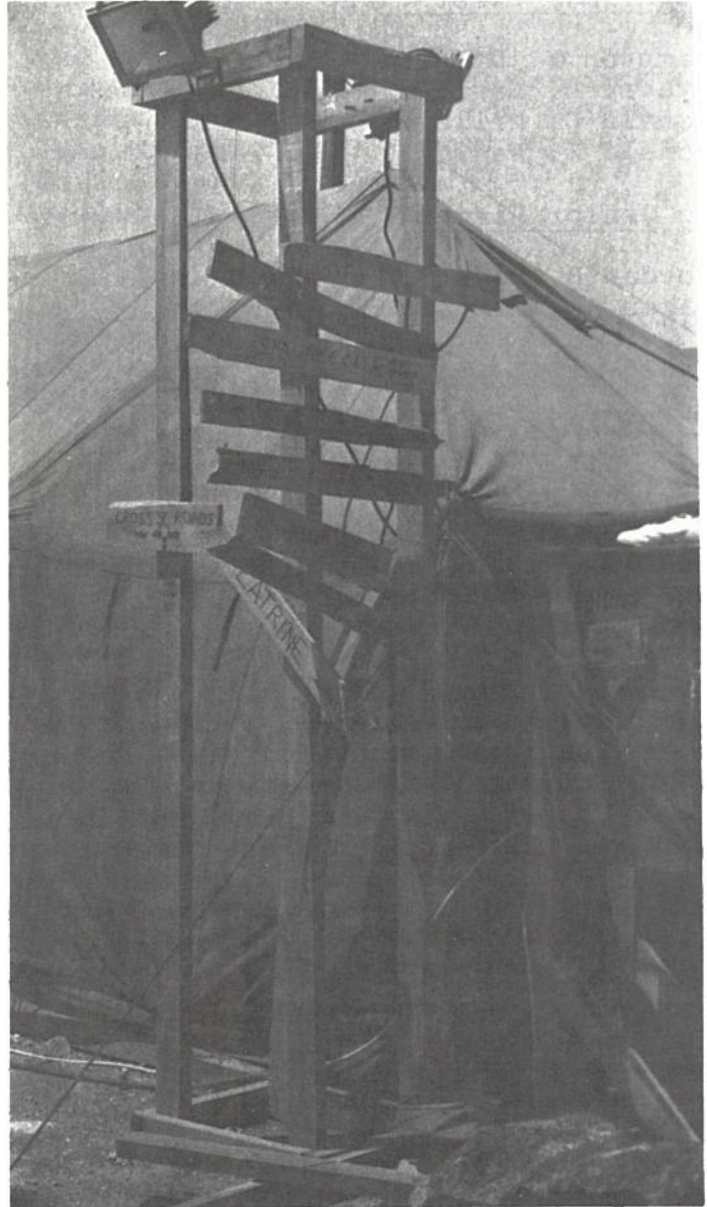
Reservists also had the opportunity to go off base to Eskishir, Ankara and Istanbul, plus Sivrihisar on bazaar day. Special fishing and boar hunting trips were available.

A best tent contest was held, and scrap lumber was used to build tables, porches and swings.

The winning tent featured a western jail front complete with iron bars, watering trough and hitching posts.

Redeployment was much like the trip over. The F-4's left Sat., May 17, and landed back home the next day. Three KC-135's and three KC-10's provided inflight refueling during the Atlantic crossing. Most support personnel arrived home May 18. They returned by C-141's, which took about 24 hours to make the trip.

Now that a bare base deployment has been successfully completed, 507th members look forward to the next opportunity to pack up, deploy, operate and return home from any place in the world.



The sign post always points towards home. Mounted on a night light stand, the signs directed travelers to Newalla, OKC and Shawnee, Okla., plus Dallas, Texas, the latrine and the phone booth. There was no phone in the booth, just a sign that said, "Speak real loud!" (USAF photo)

PROMOTIONS

To Airman

Rhonda C. Ritchey 507 TFG
Tracy L. Zamarripa 72 APS

To Airman First Class

Sampson K. Djonorh 507 CSS
Stacey E. Lasiter 507 CAMS
Ronald D. Mills 72 APS
Donald E. Paul 72 APS

To Senior Airman

Roydan B. Soder 507 CAMS
Karen A. Torres 507 CES

REENLISTMENTS

	<u>Years</u>
MSGT Bobby F. Hignite	2
MSGT Larry D. Skelly	6
MSGT Robert R. Tollison	2
TSGT Lee R. Little	6
TSGT Gary D. Martin	6
TSGT Stephen J. Wales	6
SSGT Martha E. Duncan	2
SSGT Stacie E. Johnson	2
SSGT Stephen W. Kelly	1
SSGT Brent C. VanCamp	4
SGT Delbert W. Sunderland	6

MOTHER'S DAY IN TURKEY

May 12th was Mother's Day, both in Turkey and the U.S., and the twelve mothers from the 301st TFW and 507th TFG who were deployed with CORONET VENOM will never forget it.

At a small canteen on Sivrihisar AB, Turkish hosts threw a party complete with table cloths, flowers and posters. A speech, on behalf of the Turkish base commander, honored the American mothers for being far from home, away from their families. A small Turkish boy, in traditional clothes, presented each mother with a small present, as several guests held back the tears.

FREEDOM IS NOT FREE



I watched the flag pass by one day
it fluttered in the breeze.
A young marine saluted it,
and then, he stood at ease.

I looked at him in uniform
so young, so tall, so proud;
with hair cut square and eyes alert,
he'd stand out in any crowd.

I thought how many men like him
had fallen through the years.
How many died on foreign soil?
How many mother's tear?

How many pilot's planes shot down?
How many died at sea?
How many foxholes were soldiers graves?
No, freedom is not free.

I heard the sound of taps one night,
when everything was still.
I listened to the bugler play,
and felt a sudden chill.

I wondered just now many times,
that taps had meant "amen".
When a flag had covered a coffin,
of a brother or a friend.

I thought of all the children,
of the mothers and the wives,
of fathers, sons, and husbands,
with interrupted lives.

I thought about a graveyard,
at the bottom of the sea,
of unmarked graves in Arlington,
no, freedom is not free.

-author unknown

ACTION LINE (IN RESPONSE TO YOUR QUESTIONS)

QUES: Should I prepare a power of attorney for my spouse to have around even though there is no present need for it?

ANS: Emphatically, no! Even though a husband-wife relationship may be very strong, once the power of attorney is used improperly, it cannot be undone. Generally, powers of attorney should be prepared only

for a specific need or purpose and used by a specific date. Otherwise, a wife or husband can use a general power of attorney in the absence of the spouse, when a marital dispute erupts. The document then becomes a weapon. The spouse returns from a long TDY to find the marriage in disarray and two dozen creditors yelling for money.

RESERVISTS MUST REGISTER

Federal law requires each male born after 1959 to register with Selective Service not later than 30 days following his 18th birthday. Male reservists serving on active duty for training, even if it is for a period of several months duration, must meet the registration requirements.

Those serving on active duty other than for training who are over the age of 18 but under the age of 26, are required to register within 30 days of their release from such active duty; those who are 26 or older upon release from extended duty are not required to register under current law.

As of November 1984, approximately 63,000 Guard and Reserve members had not registered. Those failing to register or failing to substantiate that they are not required to register after being notified and given ample opportunity to do so are referred to the Department of Justice for appropriate action.

DID YOU KNOW-?

THAT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY WOULD HAVE A MUCH BETTER CHANCE OF SURVIVING A NUCLEAR ATTACK IF YOU **TAKE TIME NOW** TO.....

- LEARN THE DANGERS
- MAKE PREPARATIONS
- KNOW ACTIONS TO TAKE IN EVENT OF WARNING, OR ATTACK WITH NO WARNING

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY PREPAREDNESS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE FROM...



YOUR LOCAL OR
STATE
CIVIL DEFENSE

LOCAL AND STATE CIVIL DEFENSE PHONE NUMBERS:

Del City	677-8966
Edmond	348-8830
Midwest City	732-2281
Mustang	376-2488
Norman	321-8884
Oklahoma City	231-2255
Oklahoma City	
*24-hour emergency	424-4307
Canadian County	232-8124
Cleveland County	872-5222
Oklahoma County	236-2727
Oklahoma State	521-2481

June 1985

PATRIOT BLAZER - GULFPORT - ANNUAL TOUR

Annual tour for many 507th members is close at hand -- Gulfport, Miss. from Aug: 17-31. Nickname PATRIOT BLAZER, the deployment is really a trail blazer, blazing the trail for the 507th TFG ORI (Operational Readiness Inspection) in June 1986.

PATRIOT BLAZER is therefore an ORE (Operational Readiness Exercise) to practice deploying as a unit.

SAT 17 Aug SIGN-IN at 0800 hours

SUN 18 AUG Initial support element deploys to Gulfport (some maintenance and civil engineering people)

MON 19 AUG F-4's, cargo and all remaining people deploy

FRI 30 AUG Redeployment back to Tinker AFB

SAT 31 AUG Normal work day, returning equipment to proper places before SIGN-OUT

Training objectives at Gulfport include:

- * Maintenance training (cross utilization, SOAP Lab, and hands on experience)
- * Task qualifications training
- * Combat arms training
- * Checkered Flag training
- * Aerobics training
- * OJT records review
- * Ancillary training

The overall objective, combat readiness in the F-4D, is spiced with having fun. "If you're not having fun, you're not doing it right!" said Lt. Col Jerry A. Wrucha, 507th commander.

UTA SCHEDULE

29 - 30 JUN; 20 - 21 JUL;
10 - 11 AUG; 14 - 15 SEP.
ANNUAL TOUR 17 - 31 AUG
PROPOSED FY 86

19 - 20 OCT; 16 - 17 NOV;
07 - 08 DEC; 11 - 12 JAN;
08 - 09 FEB; 08 - 09 MAR;
12 - 13 APR; 03 - 04 MAY;
07 - 08 JUN; 12 - 13 JUL;
23 - 24 AUG; 20 - 21 SEP.

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