

507th Tactical Fighter Group



n-final

An Air Force Reserve Newspaper

VOL VII NO 6

TINKER AFB, OK

JUNE 1987

507th earns second AFOUA

"I'm tickled pink about the 507th receiving the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award," said 507th TFG Commander Lt. Col. James L. Turner. "Everyone in the unit had a hand in earning it and I mean everyone."

"Nothing bothers the people assigned to the 507th," he added. Not a new commander coming in mid-stream immediately prior to a major inspection. Not the threat of a hurricane in a deployed area. Not the near-monthly deployments. "Nothing stops the SH OKies. Give them a problem and they deal with it head-on. They don't shrug it off."

"I just can't say enough good things about the 507th. 'OKies is tough' and we proved it by winning this award," continued the colonel.

Also during this time period, the unit received a second Tactical Air Command Flight Safety Award. "This award was a

shared tribute to the outstanding maintenance and superb professional aircrews," added the commander.

On top of continuing in an excellent manner with the primary mission, unit members also participated in a mass casualty/major disaster exercise off base in conjunction with base units. "We have also been assisting base units in chemical warfare training," said Colonel Turner.

The award, the second for the 507th TFG, will be presented to Colonel Turner at a special ceremony at Tenth Air Force Headquarters in August.

"I am very proud of all the members of this organization. When they wear the AFOUA ribbon on their uniform, they will have the visible proof of all the great things they have helped this unit accomplish," said the commander.

More award winners

Maj. Gen. Roger P. Scheer, chief of the Air Force Reserve and former 507th commander, presents Lt. Col. Clifford Cole, president of the Air Force section of Oklahoma's Reserve Officer Association chapter, with an award for his outstanding support and dedication to the ROA and the Air Force Reserve. During the Oklahoma ROA annual convention, General Scheer was presented the Oklahoma Department Minuteman of the Year Award. The award was given in recognition of his many years of outstanding service to the Air Force and the ROA. The general was also the guest speaker for the Air Force section of the convention. Colonel Cole is the 507th Combat Support Squadron commander.





14 May 1987

Lt Col James L. Turner
Commander, 507 TFG
Tinker AFB, OK 73145

Dear Colonel Turner *Good*

I welcome the opportunity to thank you and the other members of the 507 TFG for your warm hospitality during my visit of Wednesday, 6 May.

From the luncheon and mission briefing to the tour of your facilities and your readiness briefing, I was impressed by the caliber of Reservists you command. But your attitude of getting the mission done regardless of the obstacles was most impressive especially since it completely reflects the spirit of one of the units original leaders, our current Chief, Gen Scheer.

Please extend my thanks to Maj Walker and his maintenance team--their engine shop was tops; to Lt Col Eustace and his ops staff--their briefings and record would make any unit envious; to the hospital staff--they perform a valuable service in such cramped quarters; and finally to the other members of your staff, especially Lt Col Sharp, Lt Lee and to your exec, Mr Dave Mugg, who helped make my trip enjoyable and informative.

I say "Sierra Hotel" to a unit which is the epitome of combat readiness!

Sincerely

SHIRLEY M. CARPENTER, BG, USAF
Deputy to the Chief
of Air Force Reserve



Colonel's Journal

Career Advisors deserve thanks

by Lt. Col. James L. Turner
507th TFG Commander

I would like to take this opportunity to give an "atta-boy" to all unit Career Advisors for such an excellent job in retaining and caring for our Reservists.

For the first time this year, our retention rate has far exceeded HQ AFRES standards. This is definite proof that you are doing a great job. Keep up the good work! Without your help, our mission could not be accomplished.

So long and thanks

By 1st Lt. Larry C. Lee
ex-Chief, CBPO

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank those people who have become a very big and important part of my life...the men and women associated with the 507th. As I leave this place I have called home the past two and a half years, for a similar position with the 419th Tactical Fighter Wing, I would be remiss if I left without saying, "So long and best wishes!"

I know I will sorely miss all of you, but hopefully in my new capacity as CBPO chief at our wing headquarters, I will be afforded an opportunity from time to time to renew old friendships.

From my first day here through my last, I have seen the 507th climb upward reaching goals which were previously inconceivable. Rest assured, I will remain proud to have been and continue to be associated with this unit.

May success continue to follow you.

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"The editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 507th Tactical Fighter Group, U.S. Air Force Reserve, Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma."

Lt. Col. James L. Turner

Commander

Staff

Capt. Robert Klabzuba
TSgt. Cathi Benedict

PAO
NCOIC

Take care of your family; Enroll them in DEERS

If you haven't taken the time to enroll in Dependents Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System or if you've missed your units' scheduled enrollment, get prepared. You will be given the chance to accomplish DEERS signup this month.

Members of the 507th Tactical Fighter Group headquarters squadron and the 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron are scheduled for signup for DEERS during June UTA.

According to CMSgt. Doris Kitze, deputy chief of personnel, to help speed the processing during the UTA, those people who will only be here for the June UTA, members of the two units scheduled for the June UTA signup and those who missed their squadrons' signup earlier can also complete their DEERS enrollment during the June UTA.

All members must have the required paperwork to enroll their dependents. The required paperwork includes birth certificates, marriage licenses and/or divorce decrees. Single members must also enroll in the system.

The Civil Engineering Squadron signup is scheduled during their annual tour. "For others in annual tour status who also have missed their unit's earlier scheduled signup, we will process their DEERS enrollment during the week," said Chief Kitze.

"What people need to realize is that everyone must be enrolled in DEERS," stressed Chief Kitze. "Even if your spouse is active duty, if you are married to another reserve member or if you are single, you still must be enrolled in DEERS."

According to Chief Kitze, the only people that will not be required to be enrolled are those that have no prior-service and are waiting to attend basic training,

Enrolling in DEERS ensures that you and your dependents are eligible for medical benefits if you are recalled to active duty. For more information, call Chief Kitze or Lavisa Purify at 734-7491.

Bill changes Reserve survivor benefit plan

**By SrA. Diana Van Cleve
Air Reserve Personnel Center**

Two major changes to the Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan went into effect with the passage of the 1987 Department of Defense Authorization Bill.

A widow or widower can now remarry after age 55 and still retain the RCSBP annuity. Previously, if an individual remarried before age 60, the annuity would be lost.

The other change to the program will affect the reservist in case of divorce. In the past, the choice to leave the annuity to a former spouse was left entirely up to the reservist. Therefore, the former spouse would receive the payments only if the reservist chose to do so. Now, it's not always left up to the reservist.

For example, if a reservist is married to a person for just one year, then divorces, the spouse could receive the annuity as part of the divorce settlement. If a spouse obtains a written court order which entitles him or her to receive the annuity, then the spouse will get the payments regardless of any other conditions.

Blood drive set

The 72nd Aerial Port Squadron will be sponsoring a blood drive with Oklahoma Blood Institute's Sylvan N. Goodman Center June 6 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Air Freight Terminal, bldg 260. For more information, contact MSgt. Tony Stewart at 734-2081.

Soviet Threat; How real is it?

by SSgt. Ruth Gerken
433rd MAW, Kelly AFB

A great deal had been written in the past 20 years regarding the ever-increasing Soviet arsenal and its potential threat to the strength and cohesiveness of the NATO Alliance. Just how real is this threat to us today?

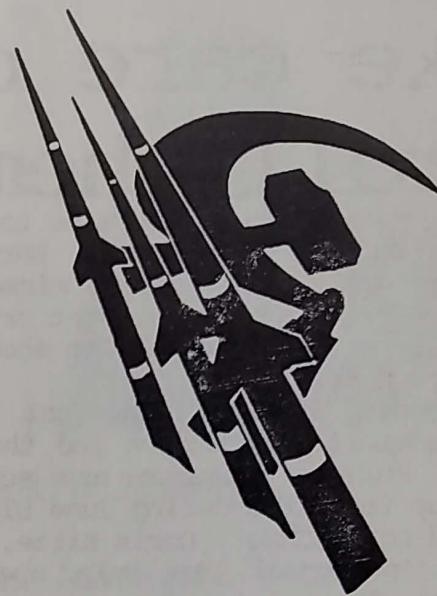
Where we place in the nuclear arms race, compared to the Soviets, is daily news. But where do we stand if we are faced with conventional weaponry? When we think of conventional weapons, tanks and guns come to mind but these are only the tip of the conventional weapon iceberg. Consider the following about some of the other forms of conventional warfare:

BIOLOGICAL WARFARE: According to experts, there are seven known biological warfare research and development centers in the Soviet Union. This is in direct violation of a treaty signed at the end of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention in 1972.

The Soviets, along with 100 other nations signed their treaty, agreeing that it would be illegal to "develop, produce, stockpile, or otherwise acquire or retain" biological or toxin agents. According to former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Negotiations Douglas J. Feith, "The Biological Warfare field favors offense over defense. It is a technologically simple matter to produce new agents but a problem to develop antidotes. New agents can be produced in hours; antidotes may take years."

CHEMICAL WARFARE: The USSR maintains the world's largest stockpile of Chemical Warfare agents. Virtually all Soviet conventional weapons are capable of delivering chemical munitions to both the forward battle zone and rear areas.

Several chemical agents, toxins, and combinations have been used by the Soviets in Afghanistan and by their client forces,



the Vietnamese, in Laos and Cambodia. Furthermore, Soviet research agencies are engaged in the development of new chemical agents with even greater lethality.

Other forms of conventional warfare also include: laser weapons, particle beam weapons, radio frequency weapons and kinetic energy weapons.

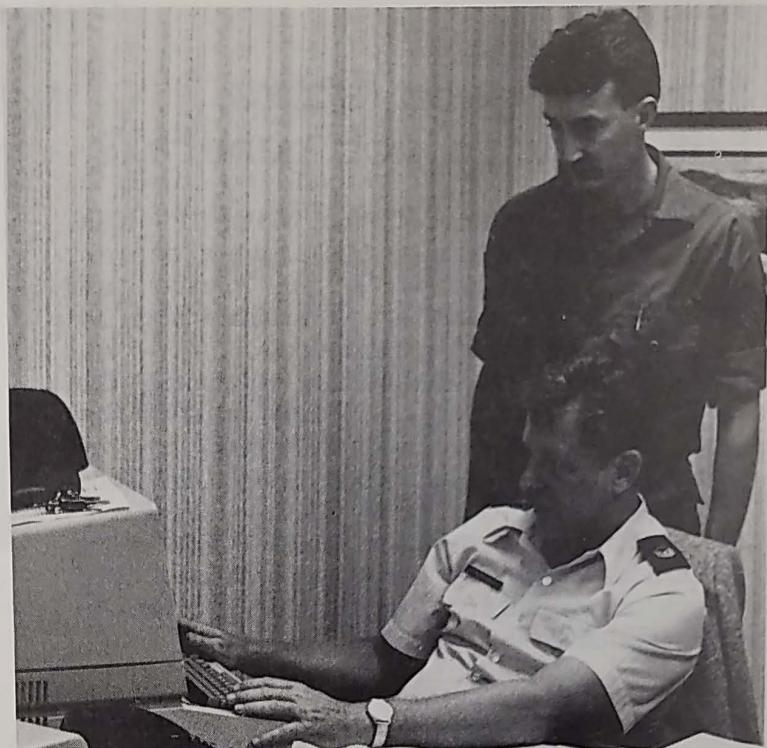
Of course, included in the Soviets inventory of conventional weapons are the standard tanks, artillery and armored vehicles.

During the past 10 years, the Soviets have significantly enhanced the performance of their tactical combat aircraft. Their newest generation of fighter-interceptors (Foxhounds, Fulcrums, Flankers) have true look-down/shoot-down capability that enable them to engage low-flying aircraft or cruise missiles.

Soviets also have six types of bomber aircraft in their inventory including the Tu-95 Bear, the Backfire and the Blackjack which is still undergoing flight testing.

Along with this inventory, the Soviets also have a large navy arsenal. They have 10 types of attack submarines to our one. Their surface ships compare to ours on equal terms, with few exceptions.

We may never be faced as a country with another world war, but if we are, are we really ready for it? Do we really know what to expect? How real is the threat? The facts speak for themselves.



May sees many visitors to 507th

May started out with the visit of Maj. Gen. Roger Scheer, chief of the Air Force Reserve. The general was here to speak at the Oklahoma ROA convention. During that same time...

The 10th Air Force Staff Assistance Visit was here through the May UTA to see how the 507th works all the programs we are tasked with accomplishing. Right: MSgt. Don Pursifull, CAMS, and SMSgt. Harry Norton, team member, check the maintenance programs in the computer. After the SAV left...

School, Reserves mix well

A1C Richard Kutner, personnel specialist, recently was named to Oklahoma University's Dean List for the Spring 87 semester. During that semester, his first at OU, he carried 15 hours and achieved a 4.0 average. He attributes part of the success to the strict study discipline acquired at tech school. His father, Maj. Sanford Kutner, is chief of Social Actions.

Chapel services set for June

Chapel services will be June 7 and June 21 at 8:30 in the Sooner Room. June 14 chapel services will be at the base Chapel.

The 507th was visited by Brig. Gen. Shirley Carpenter, deputy to the Chief, Air Force Reserve. After he left...

Left: Sgt. Barry Dillon, Citizen Airman magazine, visited the unit to get information and photos for articles scheduled for publication in the September issue. One of his many subjects was Larry Goodale, CAMS.

Other happenings in May included flyovers for Midwest City's Armed Forces Day parade and the Oklahoma City Memorial Day observance.

Wave Your Flag



Flag Day

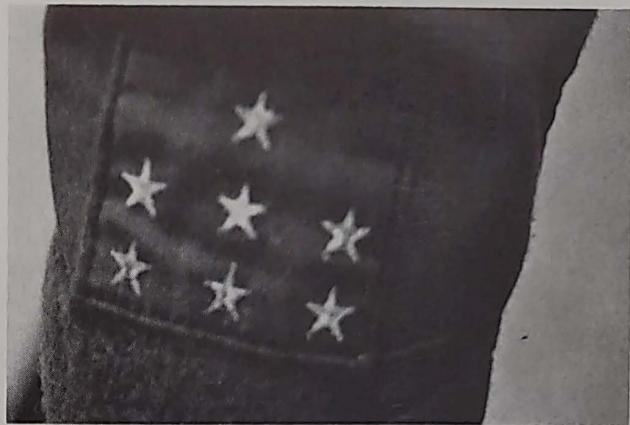


They may wear stars but they're not generals

Aircrew members of the 465th TFS have been sporting stars on the right sleeve of their flightsuits. It's not a new rank insignia. The stars are a visible sign of the aircrew flying experience.

According to flightcrew members, the gold and silver stars are worn to show how much time the crews have spent in the cockpit. Lt. Col. Mike Sies has the highest number of flying hours — 8,121.

The silver stars are awarded for every 500 hours of fighter flying time. Gold stars representing combat flying time in increments of 500 hours.



Reservist job rights extended by law

Does your civilian employer bend over backwards to accommodate you with the time off to attend UTAs, annual tours, school tours or other military related activities? Take the time to nominate him or her for an Employer Support Award. It certainly won't hurt and might even help some people who are having problems with their employers.

The nomination application is available through the Public Affairs Office, building 1043, room 7.

On the other hand, if your civilian employer gives you hassles when you ask for time off to perform your military duties, or if you are experiencing problems gaining employment because you are a reservist, do you know that all members of the Reserve and National Guard are legally protected from being fired from their civilian jobs or discriminated against by their civilian employers as they fulfill their military obligations.

A new law extends that protection to ban hiring discrimination based on workers' status as part-time service members.

Of course there are certain actions you must take so your employer doesn't have a true grievance against you. For example, if you walk into your boss's office on a

Friday afternoon and tell him/her that you will be gone the following Monday for the next two weeks because of your military obligation, that isn't fair to them or your co-workers. You must give them fair warning of your pending absence.

The Omnibus Veterans' Benefits Improvement and Health Care Authorization Act of 1986 contains that protection and reinforces the Veterans Re-employments Rights Act, in effect for almost 10 years. This law requires that reservists and National Guard members be permitted leave of absence from their civilian jobs to participate in military drills or active duty for training. The Department of Labor is charged with enforcing these laws.

For reservists and guardsmen who think their employers or would-be employers are in violation of the law, however, there is an alternative.

The National Committee of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve helps educate employers about their legal obligation to allow their employees time away from the civilian job for military training. The office's ombudsman program helps resolve employer-employee conflicts centering around Reserve or Guard service before they reach the Labor Department -- or the courtroom.

Major Allen, 'Shady Lady' reunited

Maj. Bill (Bombs) Allen, 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron, and "Shady Lady", aircraft #66-7773, go back 13 years together. They first met in 1974 at Korat Royal Thai Air Base, Thailand. "She was a good flying machine then," said Major Allen.

When the two were first introduced Shady Lady was already sporting battle damage. According to her maintenance records, her radome had been damaged when the aircraft was assigned to Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand. "She was already a proven war-fighting aircraft when I met her," said Major Allen.

The major and the lady flew a mission during the Mayaguez Incident in 1975. "That was the closest I got to war in her."

Shady Lady was the first F-4D Phantom flown after the unit's conversion from F-105s. But, Major Allen was not the first 465th pilot to fly her after she entered the AFRES inventory. That honor went to then-507th TFG Commander Col. Jervis McEntee.

Major Allen says he had no knowledge of Shady Lady being here before joining the 507th in 1980. "I had moved here from California, joined the unit and was

walking out on the flightline when I saw her. Pure coincidence. I couldn't believe it."

Shady Lady's first crew chief TSgt. Rodney Osbourne and assistant crew chief MSgt. Dave Lightfoot (then a staff sergeant), painted Major Allen's name on the forward canopy. "It was nice seeing my name on her again," he said.

The major now lives in Choctaw and works with FAA as a safety inspector in Oklahoma City. "Having Shady Lady here wasn't the reason I moved to Oklahoma. Things just worked out that way."

Now flown by the major and Capt. Mike (Baby Tuck) Tucker, she is what the major considers the 'showpiece' of the 507th. "She's gotten better with age. She's improved in both appearance and performance. Sort of like a fine wine," he added.

The major gives her current crew chief, TSgt. Howard Aliff and asst. crew chief TSgt. Marty Lochman, credit for her continued success. "She's kept in top condition by her maintenance crew," said Major Allen. "They deserve lots of credit for their work. She may be old but she still shows the right stuff."

72nd APS works on Telethon

Thirteen members of the 72nd Aerial Port Squadron became television stars March 18 when they volunteered to help Oklahoma Educational Television Authority during its annual fund-raising telethon. OETA is Oklahoma's statewide public television network.

This is the sixth year the 72nd has helped the OETA. This year while the 72nd was answering phones, \$21,500 was collected. Overall, OETA received \$1,211,825 during the 16-day telethon.

"We always have lots of fun working on this and plan on continuing this community service project," said MSgt. Betty Worley, 72nd APS project officer for the telethon.

72nd APS members who worked the

telethon were: MSgt. Betty Worley, TSgt. Debbie Robertus, TSgt. Scotty Schmidt, TSgt. Delmar Marsh, TSgt. Tony Davidson, SSgt. Harold King, SSgt. Milton Halleckson, SSgt. Donald Allred, SSgt. Carol Bow, SSgt. Clifton Howard, AB Jenna Petty and AB Lori Boxford.

Are you putting me on?



On-final

UTA SCHEDULE

June 6-7@ August 8-9*
July 18-19 August 29-30*
@The people who are having annual tour
June 5-19 will have their June UTA on the
20-21.

*These dates have been changed to accomodate the Tinker AFB Open House set for Sept. 12. Since this conflicted with our original September UTA date, there are now two UTAs scheduled for August.

Proposed UTA schedule for FY 88

October 3-4** April 16-17
November 14-15 May 21-22

December 12-13	June 18-19
January 9-10	July 16-17
February 20-21	August 20-21
March 19-20	September 17-18

Offschedule UTA for 403rd CLSS and
507th CS
November 7-8 (403rd only), February 6-
7, April 9-10, August 13-14

**The 12th Air Force Unit Effectiveness Inspection has been rescheduled from January 1988 to Oct. 1-7, 1987. The Fiscal Year 88 proposed UTA schedule has the October 87 UTA scheduled for Oct. 3-4.

PAY DATES

Document File Date	Scheduled Pay date
June 4	June 15
June 10	June 19
June 16	June 26
June 19	June 30
June 30	July 10
July 6	July 15
July 14	July 24
July 22	July 31

June UTA paydate is June 19. July UTA pay date July 31. The annual tour pay should be received at the end of the tour.

To meet the scheduled pay dates, the military pay section must have the necessary documentation by 10:30 a.m. to meet the deadline.

For more information, call 507th TFG pay section at 734-7207.

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