

507th Tactical Fighter Group



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On-final

Best in Air Force Reserve Intelligence Division wins for second consecutive year

The 507th Intelligence Division has been recognized as the Best in the Air Force Reserve.

The division, which last year boasted three winning members as Best in Air Force, has received the Biennial Outstanding AFRES Intelligence Division Award.

The award is presented every other year by Headquarters Air Force Reserve to the best in the command. According to the notification message, the 507th Intelligence Division competed against the largest group of unit nominations in AFRES history to win the award. The message cited the intelligence division for its "tremendous record of intelligence support to many

AFRES, Air Force and other DOD organizations."

In a letter to the 507th, Brig. Gen. John J. Closner, 10th Air Force commander, wrote, "This culminates an award winning year for the men and women of the 507th Intelligence office and highlights one of the best intelligence support functions within 10th Air Force."

Brig. Gen. Forrest S. Winebarger, 419th Tactical Fighter Wing commander, added his congratulations saying, "I am aware of the dedication and hard work expended by 1st Lt. Keith Seaman and his staff. Please pass on my most sincere appreciation for a job well done."

In a related development, SSgt. Steven Mc-

Daniel, 507th Intelligence Division NCO Air Reserve Technician, has been named the Air Force Outstanding Intelligence Reserve NCO of the Year for 1988. The announcement of the award came last Friday in a message from Air Force Headquarters.

According to 1st Lt. Keith Seaman, 507th Intelligence Officer, "Sergeant McDaniel is an impact performer who excels as stress levels rise. His performance has been truly outstanding over the past year. His total dedication to the Intelligence program and the Air Force Reserve has earned him the respect from the staff, aircrews and other Intelligence units and more than qualifies him for this award."

Air Force Reserve adopts high year of tenure program

A high year of tenure program went into effect in the Air Force Reserve Jan. 1. The program is designed to improve grade ratios, ensure sustained promotion opportunity for lower grade enlisted personnel and increase readiness by providing a force fit for the rigors of war, officials said.

"The HYT program limits participation to a total of 33 years total federal military service for all enlisted members unless selected for retention beyond HYT," said CMSgt. Henry J. Scott, deputy director of AFRES assignments and career motivation. "Each reservist will have an HYT date corresponding to the first day of the month following his or her pay date plus 33 years or age 60, whichever occurs first."

The program will be implemented in three increments. Increment One will affect reservists who have 33 or more years military service on or before Dec. 31, 1989 (those with a pay date of 1956 or earlier). The HYT date for them will be the first day of the month following the month of their pay date in 1992.

A 1992 HYT date for Increment One reservists "selects" them for three years participation past the program start date. For example, a pay date of June 13, 1947, equals a HYT date of July 1, 1992.

These reservists cannot participate beyond their HYT date or age 60, whichever occurs first, because no extensions or waivers will be granted.

Increment Two affects reservists with pay dates of 1957 through 1960. The HYT date is March 31, 1993, for

those in the 1957 year group; June 30, 1993, for 1958; Sept. 30, 1993, for 1959; and Dec. 31, 1993, for 1960.

Increment Three involves reservists with a pay date of 1961 or later. The HYT date for these reservists will be the first day of the month following their pay date plus 33 years.

For example, the pay date of June 17, 1961, equates to an HYT date of July 1, 1994.

Reservists in Increments Two and Three will have an opportunity to participate past their HYT date. Members in each year group will be offered the chance to participate for an additional three years.

A centralized board will convene at Headquarters Air Reserve Personnel Center in Denver to select reservists to participate past their HYT. The needs of the Air Force Reserve will determine the number of reservists retained, officials said.

If selected for HYT retention, reservists will be allowed to extend or reenlist for not more than three years from their HYT date. A new HYT date will be established on extension or reenlistment.

Once extended or reenlisted, reservists are not eligible for further participation beyond their HYT date. Reservists who will reach 33 years HYT before having 20 satisfactory years for reserve retirement will have their HYT date adjusted to allow them to attain 20 "good years." Special provisions are available to those who fail to attain enough years before age 60.

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U.S. Air Force Photo by TSgt. Cathi Benedict

Sgt. Terry Tardugno, fire control mechanic in A shop, tightens the panel after completing on-the-job-training with the attack control systems.

UTA Dates

April 1-2
May 6-7

June 3-4
July 8-9

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Commentary

Why not the best?

Commander stresses taking pride in self, unit

By Col. Larry Turner
Commander

Several years ago when I was earning an "honest living" as a high school football coach in South Texas, I had the opportunity to observe some time honored axioms of the trade. It seemed that anytime we got off the bus at another location and visited a clean, well kept facility with a freshly mowed and lined field, we would also meet a courteous and professional staff who, although in the camp of the "opposition," nevertheless elicited a grudging respect.

It also followed that usually, the ideas and opinions we had already formulated about this particular team from hours of film watching were confirmed and that sure enough, several hours later, we got back on the bus after a dog fight with a sound, well coached team that had shined their football shoes, kept their socks pulled up, their jerseys inside their pants and their enthusiastic fans in their corner all the way.

Chances are that the athletes and fans also showed good sportsmanship and once again, win or lose, it had been nice to do "business" with a group of people who had pride, professionalism, and talent.

We also tried to instill those methods and underlying philosophies in our program and although we never won a state championship, I'd wage that those kids involved at our school at that time



are still proud of the fact that they were part of a class act.

Lately, I have drawn some interesting and similar parallels from reading through inspection reports of other Air Force Reserve units.

Generally, those good units that have really done well earning the top ratings and "best seen to date" areas are also the units that knock the socks off the IG teams in the two areas that initially show unit pride most easily: Air Force

Regulation 35-10 compliance and Military Courtesy.

Why bring this up? Because I believe that these things, like those fundamental axioms I observed years ago, are integral to a really good team. They don't have to be emphasized again and again because they have become an ingrained part of the overall program.

However, at some time in the development of the teams' pride and spirit, you can bet these small, seemingly

unnoticed items have been hammered home to the leaders and members of the team (or squadron) as being very important.

I want you to know that I, like your individual squadron commanders, believe that these two items — AFR 35-10 compliance and Military Courtesy, (not only to the IG team but to each other) are important ingredients in our having the Air Force's premier F-16 unit here at the 507th. I want us to work together to ensure that we don't lose that keen edge of unit pride and professionalism that we grew up with in the military.

When the 12th Air Force IG team "gets off the bus" here at our unit in December to administer our formal Unit Effectiveness Inspection, I want them to smell fresh paint, see our clean, well maintained facilities and aircraft, and encounter a 507th team that is ready to eat nails while keeping their shoes shined, their socks pulled up, and their jerseys tucked in their pants. When the IG team leaves, they too, will have the impression of having met a champion.

Now about that "honest living." Yes, this job sometimes seems like work — but putting in time with the best, and getting paid for flying the Fighting Falcon from Tinker Field in 1989 — how could a person complain about that?

Keep up your outstanding work in helping to convert our Group and keep asking yourself, "Why not the best?"

Units net recognition for Direct Deposit participation

ROBINS AFB, Ga. (AFRNS) — Three Air Force Reserve units were recently recognized for moving closer to meeting the Air Force's goal of 100 percent participation in the Direct Deposit program.

The 939th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group, Portland IAP, Ore., received a trophy from the Air Force Accounting and Finance Center for the best Air Force Reserve participation in the Direct Deposit program. The award was presented in February at the Air Force Reserve joint staff conference in Denver.

The 939th ARR, the 916th Air Refueling Group, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C., and the 349th Military Airlift Wing, Travis AFB, Calif., were also commended by Headquarters Air Force Reserve for surpassing the AFRES goal of 65 percent participation by reservists at the end of fiscal year 1988.

Fifty-four percent of the Reserve was enrolled in

the Direct Deposit program, compared to 95 percent in the active force by the end of FY '88. AFRES officials have set a goal of 85 percent participation by reservists for FY '89.

In Sept. 1988 Secretary of the Air Force Edward Aldridge Jr. directed that Direct Deposit be mandatory Air Force-wide. Direct Deposit of drill pay could become required for some reservists as early as April 1989, according to military pay officials at the Air Force Accounting and Finance Center in Denver.

Center officials anticipate that current reservists and civilian employees will remain exempt from the program until they experience a status change such as reenlistment.

According to Mr. Stu Markle, 507th Budget Officer, there are major advantages in having your check mailed to the bank. The first ensures the check will

be there on payday. It can't be lost or stolen (and then take months to replace).

A second advantage comes in the event of mobilization. The Air Force Finance Center will not mail pay checks to reservists at a deployed location, he said, and since the Air Force Finance Center knows you're deployed, they won't mail the check to your home address. It could take up to six weeks to correct the problem, leaving both reservist and family without income. With Sure Pay, that problem is solved.

Even though the paycheck is sent to the bank, reservists will continue to receive their leave and earnings statement at home.

"It only takes a few minutes to start having your check mailed to your bank. I encourage reservists to stop by Military Pay in building 1043 during UTA or anytime during the month to make the change to Sure Pay," Mr. Markle said.

Chapel Services meet earlier

Chapel services have been rescheduled to 7:15:7:45 a.m. on UTA Sundays in the Sooner Room, building 1030. To accommodate the change, persons interested in attending the service should notify their supervisor for permission for early sign-in, if needed, on AF Form 40.

According to Chaplain (Capt.) Joel Clay, the time change was suggested since the later chapel time was causing problems with some units sign-in times.

Tenure . . .

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Those who have already established an expiration of term of service which extends past their newly established HYT date will serve to their ETS. Members whose current ETS expires before HYT date will be allowed to extend up to their HYT date.

Future reenlistments will not be for a period of service that extends past their HYT date.

Application of the HYT program to air reserve technicians has been deferred pending accomplishment of required coordination and regulatory changes.

When the HYT program is applied, provisions will be made to allow ARTs to attain civil service retirement eligibility. In the meantime, ARTs who leave or lose their civilian status are subject to HYT.

HYT also applies to reservists on statutory tours. Those in Increment One will complete their normal tour. If their tour completion date is before their HYT date, they are eligible for follow-on Selected Reserve participation up to their HYT date. If their tour date falls after their HYT date, they will serve out their statutory tour.

Increments Two and Three reservists

not on a statutory tour who are selected to serve on a stat tour may serve up to their HYT date if their tour date would go past their HYT date. In this case, the HYT date and tour completion date equal the same date.

These reservists will compete with others for HYT extensions and if selected will have their tour completion dates extended to the normal completion date for their statutory tours.

For more information about the high year tenure program, reservists may call CMSgt Dorris Kitzke, Deputy Chief, CBPO, at extension 4-7491.