

507th Tactical Fighter Group



Vol. IX No. 7

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Friday, July 7, 1989

On-final



U.S. Air Force Photo

Members of the 403rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron recently provided assistance in correcting corrosion problem identified on the E-3 aircraft. Pictured are, on wing, SSgt. Ricky Sanchez, SrA. Roy Godfrey, SrA. Michael Ellenburg and SrA. Benjamin Ervin.

403rd team helps fix E-3 Sentry

By TSgt. Alan G. King
403rd CLSS Public Affairs Representative

Members of the 403rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron have once again come to the front line to keep Air Force priority resources ready for action.

Early this year the 403rd assisted active duty teams in keeping B-1 tools and parts ready for immediate use. This month the Reserve team went to bat in support of an E-3 sheet metal project.

The project began last May when minor corrosion damage was found on an E-3 aircraft during a routine inspection.

According to 2nd Lt. James Wood, air reserve technician for the squadron, when the request for Reserve assistance came in, Reserve crews were ready to lend a hand.

"Part of our mission tasking is to support the E-3. So this was an excellent opportunity for us to get some hands-on training," he said.

Lieutenant Wood said the nine-member Reserve team was formed and quickly integrated with the civilian and active duty teams also working on the project. Working in Bldg. 240 on base, the crews buffed down the corrosion, replaced worn or damaged screw fasteners, and prepared the aircraft to go to the paint shop.

"We were called as extra help so the aircraft could quickly return to duty. When we work at our regular routine, we usually work on a particular project and move on. What was good about this was our people got to see the beginning and end. They watched the aircraft physically roll out. It's a good feeling."

Rules lighten moving woes

Reservists may now move from one commuting area to another and join another Air Force Reserve unit even when a unit vacancy does not exist.

"Ideally, these reservists will be assigned to shortage positions," said MSgt. Stu Sims, chief of AFRES assignments control division. "If necessary, they will be assigned as an overage so experienced personnel are not lost when they move."

If assigned as an overage, the reservist has two years to locate a unit vacancy, retrain or otherwise find a job.

Recent changes to the policy have affected the grades which fall under the program and imposed certain limitations on unit reservists. Senior master sergeants, chief master sergeants, and lieutenant colonels and above are not eligible for the program. Also, reservists relocating within a commuting area or wishing an assignment within a commuting area are ineligible.

For example, if the member is currently living in San Antonio and assigned to Travis, then this policy may not be used as authority for an assignment to

Kelly. Simply put, if the member is already living within (or moves from one place to another within) the commuting area of a unit but is assigned to another base, this program may not be used to justify an assignment to a unit within his or her current residential area.

Several other limitations may affect reservists taking advantage of the program. Higher grade reservists are ineligible if their assignment would create problems in the command and supervisory structure. Aircrew personnel may not exceed the number of people the commander has determined as required to maintain the unit's wartime readiness. Reservists being assigned as overages may not be overgraded but may, if desired, take a rank reduction to join the new unit. In addition, the losing commander must certify, in writing, the person meets all quality force standards and should be kept in the Reserve.

See the 507th CBPO in the top floor of Bldg. 1043 for additional information and details. (AFRNS)

Academy cadets visit 507th

A group of cadets from the U. S. Air Force Academy in Colorado received a tour of the 507th and its wartime capabilities during a recent stop in Oklahoma.

The cadets were provided information on the F-16 Fighting Falcon with a complete tour of the 507th hangar, egress shop and engine shop. While in the hangar, the cadets were given the opportunity to look inside the cockpit of the F-16 and ask questions of

pilot, Capt. David Lint.

Inside the egress shop, NCOIC MSgt. John Shelton gave the cadets a complete survival briefing about the ejection seat, accompanied by a videotape presentation.

The cadets travel to several different locations as part of their summer training at the Air Force Academy.

Blood Drive

Saturday
Outside Bldg. 1030
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

UTA Schedule
Aug. 19 and 20
Sept. 16 and 17

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'Young' citizen celebrates Fourth

By 1st Lt. Josie F. Jackson
403rd Tactical Airlift Wing

KEESLER AFB, Miss. (AFRNS) — On the Fourth of July I turned 13 years old.

A 13-year-old American, that is, because on that day on the bicentennial year I became an American citizen.

As our nation celebrated its 200th birthday, I became part of the American melting pot. And now, celebrating another Independence Day, I took special care in remembering the events that led to my own independence.

The path to becoming an American was mapped out long before that sunny July Fourth when close to 800 foreigners gathered in Miami Beach to pledge our allegiance to the U.S. Constitution.

It started in June 1969, when as a political refugee from Cuba, I arrived in my new country full of dreams for a future in a place where individual rights are guaranteed throughout the land.

I dare say that my quest for freedom began even before that.

As a teenager in Cuba, I was harassed by my teachers and peers because my family and I did not agree with the socialist government.

For our convictions, my mother was humiliated, my father ordered to work in a labor camp and I was forced to volunteer my time and work for the "Revolution" as a farmhand.

After experiencing the oppression of a regime that does not recognize human dignity, arriving on American soil was like literally breaking the shackles of communism and breathing liberty for

the first time.

America then meant having freedom of choice, the right to express myself without fear of persecution, the opportunity to be anything I wanted to be.

Today, being an American means all those things and more because for every right I choose to exercise and every freedom I enjoy, there is an immense responsibility to preserve them for fu-

ture generations.

It is this inherent responsibility — along with my rights as a citizen — that I celebrate every day, more so on July Fourth.

I salute a nation that is not perfect, but is trying to be. A nation struggling with the plight of the homeless, with the federal deficit, unemployment and crime. A country that is only as good as its citizens will allow it to be.

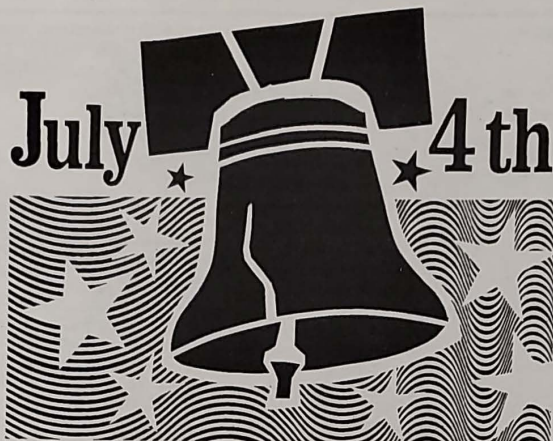
I believe the Declaration of Independence, which we celebrate with picnics, fireworks and parades, is not just a document signed 213 years ago.

It should not be relegated to history books or allowed to be a platform for politicians to use for personal gain. It should be a guiding light by which we should try to live and a constant declaration of what we stand for.

If I seem idealistic, I plead innocence as a young American as the reason.

On this July Fourth, I toasted to my country's independence, my own and that of all the people who have made a genuine commitment to peace, justice and equality for all.

Happy birthday America, and many happy returns.



Reserve news from around the group

Welcome aboard

Members give a hearty Okie welcome to 1st Lt. (Chaplain) Thomas "Tom" Elbert. The chaplain came on board recently as a newly assigned chaplain to the 507th. Chaplain Elbert says he is looking forward to helping serve the 507th members. To talk to any of the Chaplain staff, call 734-5632.

Headphones not for joggers

Warm weather is finally here and you just can't wait to get outside and enjoy fun in the sun with a little music, right?

While many joggers and walkers consider the use of portable radio headphones an asset to their fitness and recreation programs, the Air Force feels there are safety aspects to consider.

AFR 127-7 states the military posi-

tion: "The wearing of portable headphones, earphones, or other listening devices while operating a motor vehicle, or while jogging, walking, or bicycling on roads and streets on any Air Force installation is prohibited." For safety's sake, officials say don't wear them.

Plastic now accepted

The Air Force Exchange Service Class VI stores in the United States are now honoring credit cards from reservists and other authorized patrons. This is good news for many members of the military who have wanted to plop down the plastic for so long.

The stores accept Mastercard or Visa. They also honor the Discover card.

Once records have been verified, reservists are authorized to shop at the Class VI store, main exchange, shop-

ette or from the mail order catalog. A day's authorization applies to all AAFES facilities for a full day.

Commissary policy extended

The Department of Defense has extended the Jan. 1, 1989, interim commissary privilege to July 1, 1990.

DOD announced June 6 that the measure was taken "... due to the non-availability of the programmed commissary privilege card."

The same rules will apply for establishing eligibility: a copy of any active duty orders for 1988 or 1989 and a valid Reserve ID card for sponsors or proof of dependency to an eligible sponsor for dependents, along with a photo ID and orders.

DOD officials point out that each eligible member is allowed 12 shopping days for the period July 1, 1989,

to June 30, 1990 as a basic entitlement. When entering the commissary the qualifying order will be date stamped. Members are cautioned to use the same set of orders for each entry to avoid exceeding the prescribed number of entitlement days.

Members may shop when in an active duty status with orders effective for that day. (AFRNS)

Action photos needed

Members of TDY teams are encouraged to bring back good quality photos of 507th people and equipment in action.

The 507 TFG public affairs office has a constant need for either color or black and white photos, so call in advance of the TDY, and speak to 2nd Lt. Richard Curry at 734-3078.

CCAF helps reservists get degrees

By SSgt Stan Paregien
507th TFG (1P)

"The goal of education is the advancement of knowledge and the dissemination of truth." John F. Kennedy spoke these words of wisdom in a 1956 address at Harvard University. In the fourth century B. C., Plato said, "The direction in which education starts a man, will determine his future life."

Today thousands of students attend classes in universities across Oklahoma. The pursuit of a degree is a worthwhile undertaking as the 1990s approach.

Have you been dreaming about the day you'll be able to save enough money to attend college and earn a diploma? For many, that dream never becomes a reality because of financial hardships and family conflicts.

But as a member of the military, you

can enroll in the Community College of the Air Force with programs tailored to your occupational specialty. The best part is that the program is provided free of charge.

The Community College of the Air Force is a fully accredited institution open to all enlisted members of the Air Force, Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard. Graduates are awarded associate occupationally-related associate college degrees. The college translates what you have learned in Air Force technical schools and on-the-job training into college-level semester hours.

CCAF offers 68 Associate in Applied Science degrees in five major areas: Aircraft and missile maintenance, allied health sciences, electronics and telecommunications, management and logistics and public and support services.

Every enlisted member earns college

credits as he or she gains job knowledge. For example, basic training equates to four semester hours of physical education. Air Force technical training and professional military education may also translate into college credits.

The basic degree requirements are 24 semester hours technical education, 21 semester hours in general education, nine semester hours in program electives, six semester hours in leadership, management and military studies and four semester hours in physical education.

After you enroll in CCAF, progress is made toward a degree by involving yourself in numerous educational and job related activities such as technical training schools, various ECI courses, attending civilian colleges, and by taking CLEP/DANTES tests which are subject examinations.

Aside from having a college degree,

a recent survey revealed that CCAF graduates are better managers and have a better chance for a good job in the civilian market. Take advantage of the benefits of this program. For more information, contact Nancy Knight at 734-7075.



Annual tour proves . . .

Team spirit makes a difference

By SSgt. Stan Paregien

When 15 Okies and one Texan get together, what's the most likely outcome? Considering the rivalry in football across the borders, one might think the Texan would certainly come out on the short end of the stick.

On the contrary, there is at least one atmosphere in which these people of varying backgrounds are able to work together on the same team: the 507th TAC Hospital Clinic.

For two weeks, from June 2-16, the Reserve medical team was engaged in intense medical training on base to fine-tune their wartime medical readiness.

MSgt. Bob Weist, 507th Hospital Nursing Service superintendent, said the necessity of good training cannot be emphasized enough.

"Our wartime clinic tasking involves diagnosing wounds, assisting the sick, and getting wounded personnel help at medical facilities.

"Since we are part of the Tactical Air Command, if a battle occurs, we will be going into the war zone to aid our troops. Therefore, our field training is very important," he said.

The majority of training time during summer camp was spent working in the base hospital with active duty personnel. This hands on approach gave Reserve personnel the training they needed to be prepared for war.

"You know, there are some real dangers for medical people today. In the civilian and military worlds there is some worry over diseases, liability and getting sued. But what most doctors and nurses on the outside will never have to face is the possibility of being shot.

"As reservists ready to go into a combat zone, we must realize there will be some shooting going on from time to time. The most rewarding aspect of my job is training young people to be ready. The more training they have, the better they'll be able to cope and survive," Sergeant Weist said.

Maj. Thomas Crane agrees, "Two years ago we went to Spangdalem A. B. in Germany. We were the first Reserve unit to practice in the underground hospitals.

"These underground hospitals were designed to be used during attacks in war. This is the kind of scenario the men and women of the TAC Hospital train for on weekends and during the summer," he said.

While the reserve members pulled summer camp duty, they had the opportunity to care for actual patients. As medical officer of the day, Capt. David Vu saw his share of customers.

"We get an average of 30 patients a day. About half are emergencies. If they can't find an opening, they come to us for everything from birth control pills to poison ivy treatment. It's almost like a convenience store.

"We've had heart attack patients and cuts and bruises. One day a kid fell out of a tree and came in for an examination. It does get pretty busy at times, but we don't give patients any hassles," the captain said.

Major Crane pointed out that exercises at Tinker and other bases are beneficial for the overall training of medical personnel.

"Exercising medical skills at home base to backup a hospital is excellent for us. The active duty is very good in letting our people step right in and get the experience they need to be valuable. It's just great for the Total Force," he said.



MSgt. Patrick Hicks, standing, and SSgt. James Johnson, get a little on-the-job training in a Base Hospital laboratory.



MSgt. Hiroko Yates, above, 507th TAC Hospital Air Reserve technician, assists group personnel by phone. Dental technician SSgt. Judy Billman, right, helps Maj. (Dentist) Sheldon R. Omi complete a routine examination.



U.S. Air Force Photo
by SSgt. Stan Paregien

New valve makes anti-gravity suit safer for pilots

By Pat Leshner
Public Affairs
Aeronautical Systems Division

An Air Force inventor developed an electronic, rate-sensitive valve for anti-gravity suits that will enable pilots to fly today's sophisticated aircraft more safely and more securely.

Dr. Robert E. Van Patten, now retired, developed the valve while working at the Harry G. Armstrong Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory here. Dr. Van Patten was chief of the acceleration effects branch.

In order to fly at g-levels currently possible, pilots must perform an anti-gravity straining maneuver — raising blood pressure by muscular tensing and bearing down. For each higher gravity level reached, additional pressure is needed to keep blood pressure up and blood flowing to the brain to maintain consciousness.

With warning of impending g-forces and an effective straining maneuver, a pilot can avoid blackout, but the physical effort is very tiring. With maximal straining, most high-performance aircraft pilots can sustain eight or nine gs for only 30 seconds.

The new valve's quick action may reduce the amount of straining required of the pilots.

The valve connects to the pilot's anti-g suit with an umbilical hose.

Centrifuge studies have demonstrated about a one-half g increase in relax tolerance for subjects using the new valve, in comparison to the present Air Force high-flow valve.

An accelerometer in the valve senses the amount of change and how quickly it is occurring. When gravitational forces are equal to or greater than 3 g's, coming at a rate equal to or greater than 2 g's per second, the valve begins to inflate the anti-g suit rapidly. When g-forces drop below the threshold

level, the valve reverts to mechanical operation and adjusts accordingly.

The valve is equipped with a press-to-test button to ensure it is operational. If power fails, the valve will continue to work mechanically. The mechanical level is equivalent to standard valve operation that allows continuation of the mission at a slightly less efficient level.

In the event the system's solenoid sticks open, electrical power to the valve can be shut off, and the system will continue to operate mechanically. These features could mean some increase in sortie generation or the ability to endure combat engagement longer than an opponent.

With help from the 2750th Air Base Wing machine shop here, Dr. Van Patten designed and developed a prototype valve. A request from Essex Industries Inc., St. Louis, resulted in the valve becoming the first technology to be transferred under the Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986.

The act requires that technology developed through federal research be transferred to state and local governments and the private sector, including educational facilities and businesses.

Essex, a private manufacturer of standard airplane parts, will build and market the system to the aircraft industry. The valve is expected to be available within the next year.

According to Dr. Van Patten, Air Force will concentrate on a flight control activated anti-g valve.

He said the "intelligent" valve will use data from the digital flight control system to improve pilot anti-g protection even when automated maneuvering attack and missile evasion systems are in control of the plane.

The Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory is a part of Human Systems Division located at Brooks AFB, Texas.

System finds flaws

San Antonio Air Logistics Center, Kelly AFB, Texas, will soon begin development of a computer system that will "learn" how to find flaws in aircraft parts undergoing inspection in the Directorate of Maintenance.

The artificial intelligence neural network system will follow a learning pattern very similar to human logic patterns, said Paul Hurley, project manager.

"The system will be able to learn how to inspect parts in the same manner a person learns to read, write or ride a bicycle," he said.

The system begins by scanning the X-rays of a part for defects. If it finds a problem, the computer notes the type of defect, location and other parameters and adds the information to its memory bank. When another aircraft component of a similar type is inspected, the system will know what flaws to look for and where they may be located on that part.

"We're very excited about this project," said Joe Chavez, chief of the nondestructive inspection and testing section. "We believe its successful completion will mean significant monetary savings to the Air Force.

"This is a pilot program," he noted. "No other ALC has applied this type of system to the area of parts inspection."

Since the project is a first of its kind, Mr. Hurley said further study was needed to determine how much of the work would be done by a contractor. Also, to be determined is how long it will take to develop and install the system, he said. (AFLCNS)

28th Air Division lists sortie goals

Maintenance sortie goals and sorties generated by Tinker-based 28th Air Division aircraft maintenance units from June 26 through 30 are:

	8th Tactical Deployment Control Squadron 8th AMU	963rd AMU	964th AMU	965th AMU	966th AMU
Monthly Sortie Goal	20	52	63	35	40
Sortie Contract To Date	20	52	63	35	40
Flown To Date	29	55	65	39	40
+/-	+9	+3	+2	+4	+0

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