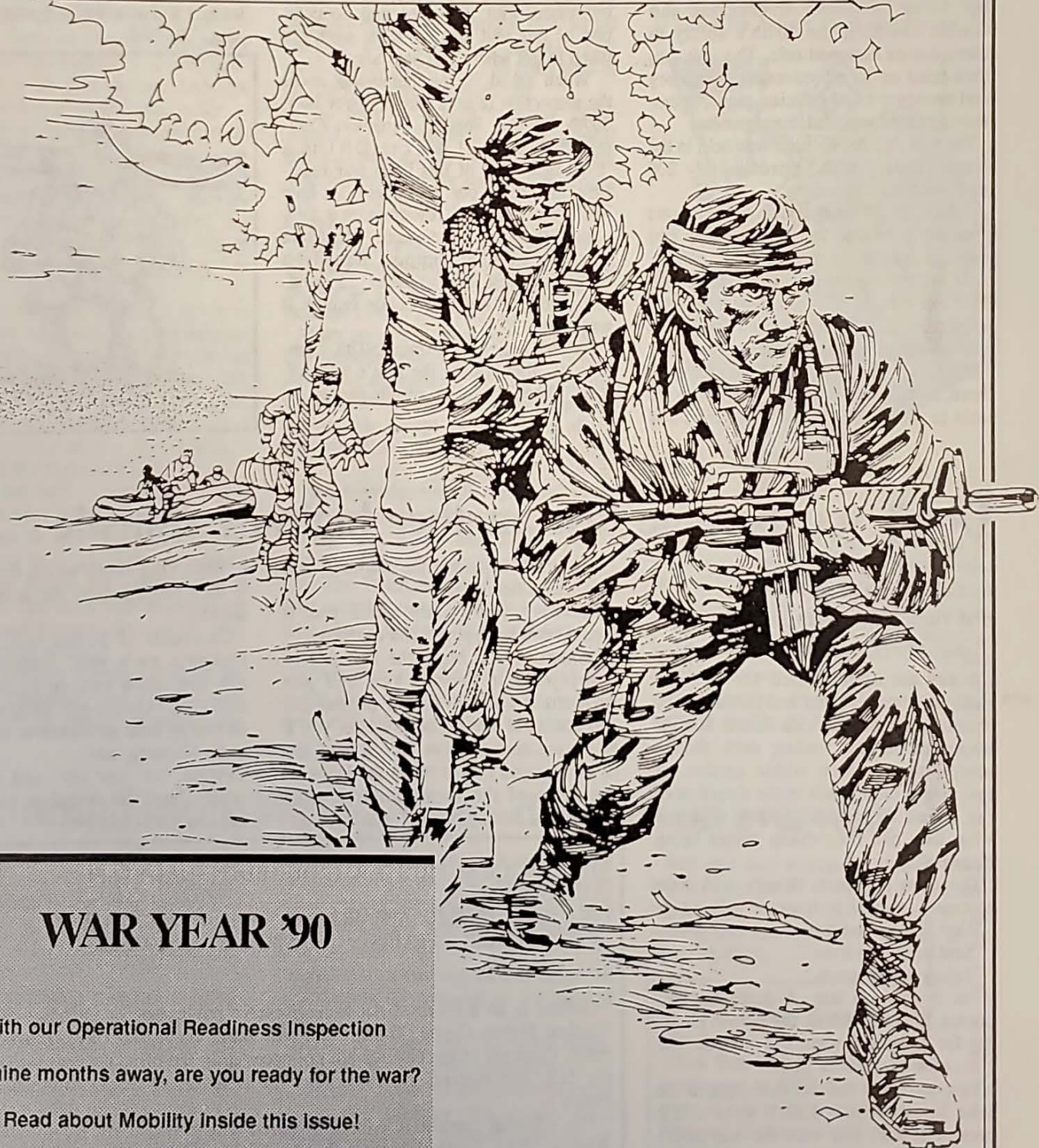


507th Tactical Fighter Group



n-final

Vol. X No. 1 507th Tactical Fighter Group, Tinker AFB, OK January, 1990



WAR YEAR '90

With our Operational Readiness Inspection
only nine months away, are you ready for the war?

Read about Mobility Inside this Issue!

Inspector General team gives 507th a "thumbs up"

The 12th Air Force Inspector General team visiting the 507th TFG last month departed December 6, but not before giving the unit a "thumbs up" approval.

The team visited the unit from November 30 to December 6, checking and double checking the 507th's ability to carry out its assigned role. The unit was then rated on its effectiveness, efficiency and economy of its policies, plans, operations, procedures and management.

The team's final outbrief was held in the Base Theater with approximately 200 unit members attending.

Throughout the outbrief, the unit was repeatedly praised for its leadership and management of its various organizations.

In his closing remarks to the unit, Col. William Brandt, IG team chief congratulated the unit. "You've been through a real tough period. Conversion to a new aircraft is probably the toughest job you'll have. I think it's impressive that you were able to make this conversion safely, and

that's the bottom line. The unit's had a solid, safe operation and the program should stay on track. You're next task will be the ORI this fall, but I have no doubt that you'll be ready for that. We were impressed with the spirit and cooperation of this unit and the team work it's taken to get where you are today."

When asked for his comments about the inspection results, Major Roger Barr, 507th Combat Support Squadron Commander said, "Like the ORI is a 'battlefield' test of this unit's war readiness, the UEI is our 'battlefield' for how well we manage our resources on a daily basis. I think it's a great accomplishment that the Combat Support Squadron received 5 best seen to dates, 23 excellents and 4 outstanding section ratings. It was a great job!"

Colonel James L. Turner, 507th Commander, also praised the unit's team effort. "These inspection results proved we

had the right people in the right jobs doing the right things at the right time.

"We worked hard this past year and now it's time to move on down the road. We said we were going to crawl before we walked and now we're going to start running," he said.



Don't you become just another highway statistic

By Capt. Guy C. Thompson

67th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing
Public Affairs Bergstrom AFB, Texas

A cry for help echoed through the twilight. It grew fainter and fainter by the second as exhaustion took its toll. No one responded to the wailing even though several people were within earshot. A few turned their heads in the direction of the sound momentarily, then resumed what they had been doing before being disturbed.

The cries persisted, though, and soon someone stopped to listen.

"Don't drink and drive."

"Seat belts save lives."

"Safety makes sense."

But it was too late. A death had occurred. The sad part is, the person pleading for assistance wasn't in trouble. The cries of help were for you.

Yes, you were the one drowning in the lake because you didn't wear a life preserver. And you were the one facing sentencing before the judge for running into the back of a station wagon full of kids after you left the bar late one night.

You chose to ignore the warnings and didn't take note until...

Yesterday, your family buried you. It would have been your 22nd birthday.

Tomorrow, you begin the first day of many years in prison. You had just received a much-deserved promotion. But instead of pinning on new bars, you'll be staring through them. You'll have lots of time in you cell to recall the looks on the faces of the three children right before you blindly plowed into them.

"What kind of life would they have had if they had survived the accident?" you wonder.

Thousands of people still die on the highways each year. Innocent children are too often run down by drunken motorists. On-the-job injuries continue to rise in both government and business at an alarming rate.

Please, for your sake and the sake of others, heed this desperate plea -- before it's too late. (TACNS)

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DIRECTOR, PUBLIC AFFAIRS...1ST LT. RICHARD CURRY
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"Frequent Flyer" rules favor Air Force and individuals

Frequent flier dividends from TDYs belong to Air Force By Col. Michael Lumbard Staff judge advocate Nellis AFB, Nev. Air Force people frequently going on temporary duty need to know the rules concerning airline giveaway programs. Most commercial air carriers offer some form of benefit program for persons who accumulate a certain number of miles on that airline. Although each airline has a specific name for its program, these benefit plans are normally called "frequent-flier" programs.

All travelers are encouraged to join these frequent-flier programs. Military travelers performing frequent TDY can save their units money and also receive some benefits themselves that they can keep.

However, military travelers, flying at government expense, are prohibited from "cashing in" on the mileage credits earned on official travel either for upgrades to first class or for travel tickets. Instead, the accumulated mileage is a benefit accruing to the Air Force -- specifically, the member's unit.

Here are the basic rules of the game: When a member has accumulated sufficient mileage to earn free travel awards that can apply to future flights, he should apply to the airline for the free travel coupons and turn them over to either the accounting and finance office or the traffic management office.

Likewise, military travelers who are involuntarily "bumped" and receive free travel coupons or money as compensa-

tion must turn in these coupons and checks.

All travel coupons will be used solely for any future TDY travel that the member makes. The airlines offer a choice of either free continental United States or international travel coupons that would be more advantageous to the unit. That decision should be based on what kind of future TDY travel is expected.

You may be asking yourself, "Why should I join a frequent-flier program if the Air Force gets all the benefits?" Well, you, too, may receive some benefit above and beyond helping your unit's TDY budget.

Most programs offer such benefits as discounts on motels and rental cars based strictly on membership status and not on mileage credits and TDY trips made.

Many programs offer freebies such as refreshments, use of airport VIP lounges or cabin upgrades that don't require usage of mileage credits. A member may legitimately accept these benefits of the frequent-flier program.

Unfortunately, not all Air Force members abide by these rules. Traffic management office and SATO people are alert for frequent official duty travelers. When they don't see a frequent flier award coupon for such individuals, they will contact the TDY traveler.

If Air Force members "cash in" frequent-flier mileage credits earned on their official duty travel, the member

have, in effect, used government property for their own benefit. They will then have to reimburse the government the full retail price of the tickets used. In addition, the commander may punish the people for misuse of government property either by Article 15 or court-martial.



You should voluntarily participate in the many frequent-flier programs available to the public so you and your unit may benefit from them. However, turn in those mileage credit coupons accumulated during official travel. Also, you should keep your personal travel mileage credits separate from your official duty mileage credits. (TACNS)

Preventing Fraud, Waste, Abuse depends on everyone

Contact inspector general to eliminate fraud, waste, abuse In May 1981, the inspector general of the Air Force was designated by the Air Force chief of staff as the focal point for fraud, waste and abuse matters.

Today, a continuing program is being waged to combat FWA. Exactly how much Air Force money is actually lost each year is unknown, the amount of money recovered annually is small compared to the total Air Force budget. Although FWA drains millions of dollars a year out of Air Force operating funds, most improper actions are committed by a small percentage of Air Force

people...probably less than one-half of one percent are quick to take advantage if given the opportunity. How do you spot a potential FWA problem? Perhaps this definition will help.

Fraud can include any theft or diversion of resources for personal or commercial gain.

Waste is defined as "the extravagant, careless, or needless expenditure of government funds; or the consumption of government property that results from deficient practices, systems, controls, or decisions."

Abuse is "the intentional, wrongful or improper use of government resources."

Any unit may discuss or pose an FWA inquiry or other IG complaint by contacting Lt. Col. James Feighny, 507th IG, or calling the toll-free FWA hotline at 1-800-538-8429.

Safety Belts Save

More than 15,000 lives could have been saved in 1987 if everyone had worn safety belts, according to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates. Seatbelts do save lives!

TSgt. Jim Willis: Reservist, Teacher, "NASA Man"

By SSgt. Stan Paregien
507th Public Affairs Office

One 507th Reservist who teaches elementary school full-time, has been honored with the adventure of a lifetime: An all-expense paid trip to NASA's Johnson Space Center.

TSgt. Jim Willis is a fourth grade teacher at Purcell Elementary School and works in the CAMS Sheet Metal Shop on Reserve weekends.

The prestigious journey to NASA was awarded to 80 teachers across the United States including Sergeant Willis. They all attended the NASA Educational Workshop for Elementary Teachers held in July. This was the third year for the workshop held in conjunction with NASA and the National Science Teachers Association out of Washington D.C. Sergeant Willis' most difficult challenge was qualifying to attend as part of the elite group. The strangest aspect was the odd way he found out about the competition.

"Someone had just left a notice from a magazine in my mailbox

Visits Johnson Space Center in Houston

at school. When I looked closer, I saw it had an address to write and ask for an application, so I went ahead and sent it in to get the package.

"Then they needed a resume of qualifications and four letters of reference. There were three essay questions that had to be answered. Altogether they received 10,000 applications from across the United States. Out of that number they chose 80 people. Only myself and a woman from Woodward were chosen from the Oklahoma area," said TSgt. Willis.

The groups were sent to four different sites. Willis' group was sent to the Johnson Space Center in Houston. All his expenses were paid including the flight, all his meals, and housing. This was the first year Johnson held the workshop for elementary teachers. In the past it had only been for high school science and math teachers, but the elementary teachers received royalty treatment from NASA.

"I was impressed. They just really rolled out the red carpet for us. We got to go into a lot of places the normal public is not invited. We got to go into the space module mock-up and I sat in the commander's seat and manipulated the electronic practice arm, moving satellites in and out. They also let me have the privilege of wearing an Apollo space suit. It was pretty thrilling," he said.

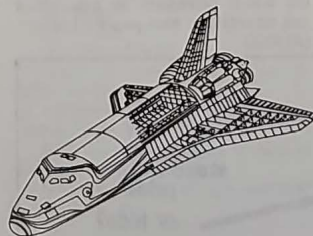
"They really rolled out
the red carpet
for us..."

Although it sounds like a vacation in paradise, the visitors didn't have a lot of free time.

"We were pretty busy; they kept us going all the time. We started out having breakfast in the Johnson Space Center. We would go from 8:30 until 4:30 each day. We got to take a look at some great facilities like the new shuttle space suits and the wet facility where the astronauts go to train in a weightless environment. We also got to see where the moon rocks are held," Willis said.

Imagine being able to sit and stand where few men and women have gone before. All the technological equipment only added to the thrill and excitement the teachers experienced during the two weeks.

"We went into Ellington Field and they gave us a briefing on the pilot aspect of training. We went aboard the Gulfstream II Aircraft they use to train pilots before flying the shuttle. It's all computerized



(U.S. Air Force photo by SSgt. Stan Paregien)

TSgt. Jim Willis, sheet metal worker with 507th CAMS shows a NASA model to his supervisor, SMSgt. William Green. Sergeant Willis, a Purcell teacher, was one of two Oklahomans invited to visit NASA last July in Houston.

and quite a sight. It was interesting to find out that the pilots have to fly 500 hours in groups of ten before actually flying shuttles," he commented.

Sergeant Willis was given the pleasure of borrowing some moon rocks from NASA. He was able to keep them several weeks, just long enough to exhibit them at school. And of course, he had to let proud friends and family drop by for a look. But having temporary possession of a piece of history from one of man's greatest triumphs was not as easy or care-free as it sounds.

"After I received the announcement that I had been approved for the moon rock loan, I had to take special steps in preparation to receive them. First, I had to guarantee that I would find a vault or safe with a combination lock to keep them safe at night. Then I had to sign a sheet saying I was ultimately responsible for them," he said.

The rocks are kept secure and under close supervision at all times. But surprisingly, the average person probably wouldn't recognize a moon rock if he saw one.

"It's not that they are so expensive. They are just rocks. But it has been a long time since anyone's been to the moon, and I'm sure its going to be quite a while before America has that opportunity again," TSgt. Willis said.

Out of approximately five lunar landings, over 300 pounds of moon rocks have been returned to the earth. At one time the rocks were kept strictly at Johnson Space Center. Now they are stored in three locations because of the fear of a fire or disaster destroying the total supply all at once.

How has he incorporated the trip into his classroom activities?

"I picked up a lot of videos along the way. The materials and posters I got are good not only for science projects, but also for creative writing and art," he said.

So with his new celebrity status as the Purcell "NASA Man", how has the community responded overall?

"It's been really good. A lot of parents came by school and asked me how the trip went. They were really excited. Now I'll be visiting different schools in the area telling them about one of America's greatest achievements," said TSgt. Willis.

Dependent IDs encouraged for Commissary use

ROBINS AFB, Ga. (AFRNS) -- 507th members should receive their new commissary privilege card by the January UTA. The U.S. Armed Forces Commissary Privilege Card, DD Form 2529, goes into effect Jan. 2, 1990.

The card represents one of several changes to the reserve benefits program that were approved by Congress.

It provides more flexibility in reserve members use of the commissary by allowing them to "spread" their 12 days of commissary shopping throughout the year.

Reservists also have the option of shopping while performing active-duty tours. Commissary entrance identification requirements for these tours remain the same -- one copy of orders and a red ID card for reservists and a copy of orders plus picture ID card for dependents.

Locally, members of the 507th Consolidated Base Personnel Office, are working with the various squadrons to ensure the cards are available for distribution.

"There's a slight problem with distributing these cards because they are "controlled" forms, just like an ID card. This means each form is accountable," said 1st Lt John Giamello, Chief of the 507th CBPO. "We don't expect to encounter any serious problems, though. We have the forms and distribution procedures in place. We're trying to ensure everyone has their card by the January UTA."

The commissary card will have an initial expiration date of Dec. 31, 1990, said Bob Burnett, chief of entitlements at Headquarters Air Force Reserve here. After 1990, cards will be valid on an annual basis from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.

AFRES officials still encourage reservists to obtain an AF Form 447, Reserve

Dependent Identification Card, for their dependents.

"The reserve dependent ID card also makes it easier for dependents to enter military installations. It will remain valid until it expires and is replaced by a proposed new DD Form 1173-1, reserve dependent ID card," Mr. Burnett said.



1st Lt. Suzanna Dooley, 507th Tactical Clinic, gives a reservist a flu shot during the November UTA. Reservists are reminded that the flu shot is mandatory for all members. The shots will be given again this month. (U.S. Air Force photo)

New manday policy allows more commander flexibility

The Air Force Reserve has changed the reserve personnel appropriation special tour man-day waiver program to give unit commanders more flexibility in managing reservists.

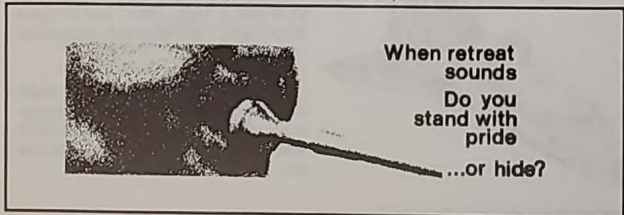
Under the change, wing and detached group commanders can approve waiver requests to exceed 90 days but not more than 139 days in a fiscal year. This change is likely to help reservists in this category because they should be able to find out faster if their waiver requests have been approved.

Numbered air force commanders may approve waivers for 140- 179 days in a fiscal year or delegate the approval to wing and detached group commanders.

The chief of Air Force Reserve or his deputy must approve requests for more than 179; however, once a reservist is approved to exceed 179 days, the AFRES vice commander may approve additional days. The AFRES vice commander also approves waivers for 179 days or less

when requested by an AFRES staff office for tours at or in support of the headquarters.

More details about special tour man-day waiver procedures are available at unit consolidated base personnel offices. (AFRNS)



When retreat sounds
Do you stand with pride
...or hide?

Changes in Europe seen as a challenge for U.S. military

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- The recent eruptions of democracy throughout Eastern Europe caught the United States by surprise and are causing the nation to examine the future of U.S. security policy and strategy both in Europe and globally, said the undersecretary of defense for policy.

Addressing an audience at the Hoover Institute Dec. 8, Paul Wolfowitz shared his optimism about present trends in Europe while indicating a need to "face the breakdown of the strategic model of containment that's provided a relatively stable framework -- even though a far from comfortable one -- for more than a generation."

The task, as he sees it, is to develop and articulate some long-term principles and

objectives to guide U.S. actions during this period of change.

"We're entering a period of reduced threat, almost certainly, but also one of diminishing resources, exceptionally rapid technology change and greater conceptual complexity," Mr. Wolfowitz said.

"I can only sketch the outline of future considerations as I see them," he said. "I do not envision finding a simple, formulaic blueprint or master plan adequate to cover all future contingencies. A vital element of a sound national strategy is flexibility, so that our forces and the missions they're able to perform can adapt to unpredictable and changing challenges."

Mr. Wolfowitz considered the implications of the changes in Eastern Europe



Recent changes in Eastern Europe are causing Pentagon planners to rethink current strategies to adapt to unpredictable and changing challenges. (U.S. Air Force photo)

and the Soviet Union for American security policy in Europe itself.

"Since the early 1950s, the commitment of large American conventional and nuclear forces to the defense of Western Europe has been the centerpiece of our NATO strategy that has helped to make possible the extraordinary changes we're witnessing today," he said.

These commitments were made for a number of reasons, according to Mr. Wolfowitz. Most important was "our desire to preserve the freedoms for which so much had been sacrificed in World War II" and protect the productive potential of Western Europe from Soviet domination.

"We knew our presence in Europe helped prevent global war. Left to its own devices, the Old World had bred two unspeakably destructive conflicts in the space of a generation, and the record of preceding centuries was none too reassuring either.

"As for the threat, it was clear-cut, if no less formidable for its simplicity. We feared a Soviet attack on Western Europe either directly, by invasion of the vast and well-drilled forces of the Red Army, or indirectly, by the practice of subversion and intimidation under the shadow of military threat."

(Continued on next page)

Mobilization: Are you prepared to go today?

No matter how prepared Air Force Reservists are for mobilization, they must also provide for their families well being.

The Air Force takes care of mobilization procedures for reservists, but reservists must handle certain mobilization procedures for their families care. Reservists can ensure a smooth transition by reviewing the following family mobilization checklist.

- Do you have:
- An updated will?
 - Copies of birth certificates for the entire family?
 - Certified copies of your marriage license or certificate?
 - Names, places and dates of birth of your parents and spouse?
 - A record of social security numbers?

- A record of immigration naturalization and citizenship documents (if required).

- Names, addresses and dates of attendance at civilian and military schools.

- A list of insurance policies, with premium due dates?

- Titles for real property and automobiles? * Bank names and addresses, with account and safety deposit numbers?

- A record of stocks, bonds and mutual funds?

- A record of credit cards, installments contracts, credit union and loans?

- Three years' worth of income tax records.

- Family members enrolled in Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS)?

- A record of past illnesses with names and addresses of physicians and hospitals?

- Power(s) of attorney?

- Copies of death certificates, divorce or annulment decrees terminating your or your spouse's previous marriage(s)?

- A list of fraternal and social organizations with their membership benefits?

- If single parent, provision for child care (AF Form 357)?

- Current DD Form 93, Emergency Data Form?

- Current VA Form 29-8286, SGLI Beneficiary Form?

If you can't answer yes to all of the above questions, chances are you need to visit the 507th CBPO during the next UTA.

Air Force Reserve News that you can use

Hot line needs suggestions

The Air Force Reserve is looking for items of interest for its retention hot line.

The nationwide hot line, 1-800-223-1784 or in Georgia 1-800-537-5907, gives callers a three-minute message on issues affecting personnel and retention in the Reserve. The hot line also provides information about vacancies for statutory active-duty tours.

Reservists can submit hot line suggestions to CMSgt. Henry J. Scott, deputy director of AFRES assignments and career motivation by writing to HQ AFRES/DPR, Robins AFB, Ga. 31098-6001.

Speakers are needed

Many people enjoy the challenge and excitement of speaking before a live audience. As a member of the 507th Speaker's Bureau, you are given the opportunity to tell the Air Force Reserve story from the enlisted perspective. Besides motivating and informing others, speaking before an audience holds hidden benefits for the lecturer.

The mission of the Speakers Bureau is to match the right speaker to the audience. We try to position speakers qualified on certain subjects with audiences that are interested in that area. Speech topics vary from F-16 eject seat mechanisms to military benefits.

Experience is not necessary for joining the Speakers Bureau because our public affairs office provides all the assistance you might need. This includes audio visual equipment support and assistance in topic preparation.

To become a volunteer member of the Speakers Bureau, contact the public affairs office in the basement of building 1043, or call extension 43078.

GPO makes good source

for military history

A good place to explore military history is in U.S. Government Printing Office publications. More than 100 books on military history and related subjects are available by mail or at the 26 Government Printing Office bookstores located around the country.

If you're just getting interested in the topic an important reference is "A Guide

to the Study and Use of Military History. This 524 page book represents a series of essays on military history, identifies domestic and international sources for its study and outlines the kinds of literature available.

In addition to overviews and general treatment, there are dozens of specialized books, such as U.S. Revenue Cutters in the Civil War, A Historical Perspective on Light Infantry, and A History of the Women Marines 1947-1977. Related subjects include art, technology, strategy, and logistics.

You can get more information about the history of the 507th by contacting unit historian TSgt. Terri Lundy at 4-3078.

Selection board dates change

The Air Force Reserve has rescheduled some of its selection boards for officers.

The consolidated nonline selection board for captain, major and lieutenant colonel, originally scheduled for October, is set for March 1990.

The selection board for captains, majors and lieutenant colonels in the judge advocate and chaplain fields will hold the line major board in March.

European changes seen as challenge for U.S. military

(Continued from previous page)

That threat hasn't disappeared, he emphasized, but has at least started to decline.

"If the Soviets deliver on their promises -- and if the conventional forces in Europe talks achieve their promise -- the Soviet conventional threat to Western Europe will be sharply reduced," said Mr. Wolfowitz. "A CFE agreement offers us the prospect of parity in conventional forces in Europe at significantly lower force levels. Parity is not a synonym for absolute safety, but it enhances stability, and it beats inferiority, hands down."

Such an agreement will "represent a major change in the magnitude and character of the Soviet military threat that has cast such a destabilizing shadow over Europe for the last four decades."

Then why should the United States remain in Europe?

Mr. Wolfowitz offered three reasons he believes "remain valid despite all the changes currently sweeping Eastern

Europe and the Soviet Union, indeed in part because of them."

-- First, the situation in Eastern Europe remains unpredictable. Despite the progress already achieved, the United States should "insure ourselves against the possibility of setbacks."

-- Secondly, the United States should expect the Soviet Union to remain a major power in Europe for the foreseeable future. It will certainly remain a competitor with the United States in some, though hopefully fewer, areas of international relations.

-- Third, the potential for unanticipated change and subsequent disorder in Europe remains substantial.

"Think about it: A year ago, anyone who would have raised the issue of German reunification in a seminar at a major university would have been dismissed as a dreamer or a crank," he said. "Nolonger. In an environment where long-established forms of government and social order are melting away, we must remain

in Europe as a force for continuity, as the glue in a framework of western collective security that permits change to take place peacefully.

"Our unique cultural affinity with Europe, coupled with our enduring military and economical power, mean that we must continue to play our part in Western Europe's collective security efforts, that role that caused us to put forces there in the first place.

"'Deterrence of Soviet expansion' has been the hallmark of our strategy for the past 40 years. I suggest that some phase like 'preserving the framework of peace' should become a comparable axiom with the approach of the 21st Century.

"It calls for a significant reorientation in our thinking and in the organization of our military forces at many levels. I see the management of this change as one of the chief challenges for the Department of Defense," Mr. Wolfowitz said.