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**Cover: TSgt. Lee Lytle, 507th CAMS
crew chief.**



EDITORIALS

Colonel's Journal

We must search for excellence within ourselves

*By Lt. Col. Robert Lytle
Commander*

We're seeing a revolution taking place in American management today; a quest to return excellence to our workforce.

We usually think of excellence as being superior, and when applied to persons, excellence denotes outstanding performance or flawless character. It is often accompanied by recognition and reward. That's why we usually associate excellence with athletes, the All-Americans or all-pros. It is easy to get the feeling that excellence refers only to a select few who make it big. Then we can brush it off as not applying to us.

I believe that excellence is a standard which appeals to our highest instincts and calls us to be more than we are. Once we experience excellence we can never be satisfied with the mediocre, the common or mundane.

Teddy Roosevelt once said, "I am only an average man but I work harder at it than the average man." And John Stuart Mill said it this way: "One person with a belief is equal to a force of 99 who only have interest."

More than 5 million people have bought the book "In Search of Excellence". In the book, the authors return again and again to the theme of values and standards. When basic values and standards run deep, they require and demand extraordinary performance from the average person.

Today, as a nation, we stand at a critical turning point. As members of the 507th, our call to excellence is no less important, be it our ORI or answering our nation's call.

In the book, "A Passion for Excellence", the authors conclude with this statement:

"When you have a true passion for excellence, and when you act on it, you will stand straighter. You will look people in the eye. You will see things happen. You will see heroes created, watch ideas unfold and take shape. You'll walk with a springier step.

You'll have something to fight for, to care about, to share, scary as it is, with other people. There will be times when you swing from dedicated to obsessed. We don't pretend that it's easy. It takes real courage to step out and stake your claim. But we think the renewed sense of purpose, of making a difference, of recovered self-respect, is well worth the price of admission."



507th Tactical Fighter Group Editorial Staff

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Toll-free help ready

DENVER (AFRNS) -- Air Force Reservists can obtain information about their entitlements through a toll-free number at the Air Reserve Personnel Center.

The number, 1-800-525-0102, is the reservists' link to answers on questions about changes from reserve to active-duty status as a result of Operation Desert Shield. Topics covered include pay, orders, nurse and physician corps, retirements, command chaplains, officer appointments, officer and enlisted assignments, and reference services.

This number is a source of general information and is not a substitute for more in-depth information available at local consolidated base personnel offices, said ARPC officials.

Editorials

The debate continues:

Global Reach- Global Power

*By Col. Robert D. Dubiel
assistant for Air Force Reserve Affairs
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WASHINGTON (AFRNS) -- Can you answer the following questions: Why should the United States develop new expensive weapons like the B-2, C-17, Advanced Tactical Fighter or SDI? What role does the Air Force -- and the Air Force Reserve -- play in the future national security posture of the United States?

If you can't answer these two timely and significant questions, you are passing up the chance to make an input into your future. As a reservist, you have a unique capability as an "informed" citizen to influence the opinions of your friends, business associates and government officials. And if there were ever a time for serious debate, straight thinking and influential discussion on defense issues, it's now, as the Congress wrestles with important decisions on the future size and strength of the nation's military services.

Recent opinion polls show the general public no longer perceives a Soviet threat and thus a need to spend large sums of money on defense. At a time when peace is breaking out all over and the federal budget is strained by an enormous deficit, many citizens and key government leaders want to slash the defense budget and kill key weapons modernization programs.

But is peace breaking out all over? Recent events in the Middle East, instability in Central and South America and the continued threats to peace in the Pacific rim should remind us that the world will continue to be a place filled with instability, conflict and shaky Third World countries armed with nuclear, chemical and conventional weapons. The United States has global interests and as Secretary of the Air Force Donald B. Rice recently stated, "The future portends a diversified threat."

The secretary explained his view of the future Air Force role in a white paper called "The Air Force and U.S. National Security: Global Reach -- Global Power." It outlines how the unique characteristics of the Air Force -- speed, range, flexibility, precision and lethality -- can contribute to national security in the future.

The dynamics of the future security environment will demand options to deter, deliver a tailored response and project power rapidly, flexibly and economically.

So, to answer the questions first posed, remember the following U.S. objectives and forces needed to meet them:

-- Continue to sustain deterrence. Modernized, improved strategic systems (the B-2, new ICBMs, SDI) are essential to assure a nuclear balance and achieve stability. The triad of manned bombers, sea-launched missiles and land-based missiles will remain fundamental.

-- Provide a versatile, lethal combat force. The United States will need theater and conventional forces for concentrated, powerful, short-duration operations and forces to rapidly project power over great distances.

-- Supply rapid global mobility. As forward forces and basing options decrease in the future, demand will increase for rapid airlift to meet short reaction times. Air refueling tankers remain indispensable as a force multiplier.

-- Control the high ground. Space-based communications, navigation and surveillance systems are critical for global force control, intelligence and war-fighting capabilities. They are highly reliable, durable and immune to all but the most sophisticated threats.

-- Build U.S. influence. Strengthen security partners through combined training, surveillance assistance (such as AWACS -- Airborne Warning and Control System), logistics and humanitarian aid, disaster relief and rescue operations.

In the 1980s alone, the Air Force received the call no less than 150 times to send forces into trouble spots around the globe. In the future, the capabilities of the U.S. Air Force and its Guard and Reserve components will become even more vital to national security.

As reservists, we will continue to bear an increasing share of responsibility in the Total Force. Will it be the kind of force that our nation needs to meet future threats to national security?

The great debate is on -- NOW. You are part of it and can affect its outcome. Remember "Global Reach -- Global Power" and defend it.

Air strikes start Desert Storm

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Air strikes at targets in Iraq and Kuwait signaled the change of Operation Desert Shield into Desert Storm, the operation to force Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to comply with United Nations resolutions, including pulling his forces out of Kuwait.

President George Bush ordered the move after deciding that no progress was being made in attempts to dislodge the Iraqi forces through international diplomatic efforts. In a national address Jan. 16, President Bush said that "the world can wait no longer."

"Now the 28 countries with forces in the Gulf area, have exhausted all reasonable efforts to reach a peaceful resolution, have no choice but to drive Saddam from Kuwait by force. We will not fail."

Initial reports from the early raids depict a highly successful effort on the part of the allied air forces, but Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney, in a briefing Jan. 17, reminded reporters that this is a multi-phase plan to achieve the president's goal of

forcefully removing Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has praised the air forces' performance but also urged caution in interpreting the results as a collapse of the Iraqi armed forces. In U.S. Central Command briefings in Saudi Arabia, officials said the raids primarily were aimed against military emplacements, air defense assets, and command and control targets. Officials said U.S. Air Force aircraft included in the raids were F-15E Strike Eagles, F-16 Fighting Falcons, F-4G Wild Weasels, A-10 Thunderbolts, F-111s, F-117s and B-52s. Navy and Marine aircraft included F-18 Hornets, AV-8 Harriers, A-7s and A-6s. Army AH-64 Apache attack helicopters also were involved.

Command and control for the operation was provided by Air Force E-3A Sentry and Navy E-2C aircraft, officials said. Air Force F-15s, Navy F-14s and Marine F-18s provided air cover during all phases, and EF-111s and EA-6s provided electronic combat support. Aerial refueling

came from Air Force KC-10s and KC-135s and Navy A-6s.

Secretary Cheney said the operation has included air forces from the United Kingdom, France, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

In explaining the massive operation to the nation, President Bush repeated the objectives of the operation. "Saddam Hussein's forces will leave Kuwait," he said. "The legitimate government of Kuwait will be restored to its rightful place and Kuwait will once again be free. Iraq will eventually comply with all relevant United Nations resolutions. And then, when peace is restored, it is our hope that Iraq will live as a peaceful and cooperative member of the family of nations, thus enhancing the security and stability of the Gulf."

At the same time, the president also renewed his pledge that this would not be another Vietnam. "Our troops will have the best possible support in the entire world, and they will not be asked to fight with one hand tied behind their back," the president said.

507th PRIME RIBS team is activated

Seventeen members of the 507th Civil Engineering Squadron have been recalled to active duty in support of Operation Desert Shield.

The reservists will be stationed within the United States to backfill active duty operations.

The group is a portion of the squadron's Prime Ribs section, a services team which will provide billeting, laundry and food service which are needed to assist

stateside bases. They reported to their active duty location within a week of activation.

They are part of approximately 335 additional Air Force reservists recalled by the Strategic Air Command in medical and civil engineering career fields. Bases affected include Offutt AFB, Neb.; March and Mather AFB in Calif.; Seymour-Johnson AFB, N.C.; and Grissom AFB, Ind. Individuals have been recalled for a period not to exceed one year.

10th AF Reservists support Desert Storm

BERGSTROM AFB, Texas -- Nearly one out of every seven Air Force Reservists is on active duty supporting Desert Storm...and many more are ready if needed, according to Air Force Reserve officials.

Included are more than 2,350 members of 10th Air Force. Reservists from 12 out of its 16 Wings and Groups have been recalled, and virtually all units have had some people serving in voluntary status.

The response to the first Air Force Reserve recall since the elimination of the draft has been tremendous, according to Brig. Gen. David R. Smith, commander of 10th Air Force.

"It's proving the Total Force works." -Brig. Gen. David Smith, 10th AF Commander

By January 15, more than 10,800 Air Force Reservists were supporting Desert Storm, including 1,260 volunteers and 350 Individual Mobilization Augmentees. During the first several weeks following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, more than 6,000 reservists were serving in volunteer status, but that number has dropped as individual units have been recalled to active duty.

Within 10th Air Force, elements of all three AFRES KC-135 refueling units, one KC-10 associate unit, one A-10

fighter unit, three security police flights, and two combat logistics support squadron aircraft battle damage repair teams had been recalled and deployed overseas. In addition, 10 fire fighting units and 10 medical units have been recalled to backfill in the United States.

"The commander of air operations for Desert Storm has indicated he is extremely impressed with the attitude and preparedness of all our units which are overseas," said General Smith. "In fact, I continue to receive reports from our untasked units that they are highly motivated, ready, and standing by for tasking."

"All recalled units are serving where they can do the most good," added General Smith. "Our Wings and Groups train as a unit, but individual squadrons are Air Force assets, capable of deploying wherever needed. We have TAC-trained security police guarding tankers, medical units backfilling at active duty hospitals, and fire fighters augmenting host-base fire departments."

From the onset of the Middle East crisis, Air Force officials indicated they would limit recall "to only those individuals and units which are needed when they are needed." As a result, the recall has been gradual.

Many aircrew and maintenance personnel from the tanker units began serving in voluntary status in August when Iraq first invaded Kuwait. Recall of AFRES tanker units did not begin

until 373 mid-December. Yet, by the end of December, reserve KC-135 crews had flown more than 1,910 hours and off loaded more than 1.5 million pounds of fuel to Air Force, Navy, Marine and allied aircraft. Additionally, they carried approximately 1,150 passengers and 60 tons of cargo.

Between Dec. 17 and Jan. 18, elements of all three Air Force Reserve KC-135 units were recalled. "The recall was limited to only those aircrew and maintenance personnel needed," said Lt. Col. Tom Graham, tanker operations officer for 10th Air Force. "In addition to providing aircraft and people for Desert Storm, the units are tasked to maintain strategic alert in the United States."

Air Force Reserve KC-10 volunteer crews, flying with associate units, logged another 3,850 flying hours by the end of December while off loading 1.5 million pounds of fuel, transporting 2,900 passengers, and hauling nearly 7,000 tons of cargo. While all three KC-10 units have provided volunteers, recall has been limited to the operations and maintenance squadrons at Seymour-Johnson AFB, N.C.

On Dec. 29, the 926th Tactical Fighter Group at New Orleans became the first Air Force Reserve fighter unit to be recalled for Desert Storm. The recall included most of its aircrew, maintenance and security police force as well as a few support personnel.



F-117s prior to deployment

507th Medics called to active duty

Fifty-three members of the 507th Medical Squadron, Air Force Reserve, were recalled to active duty today in support of Operation Desert Shield.

The Tactical Air Command gained-reservists will backfill at active duty hospitals in the United States.

Air Force Reserve officials said the medical personnel have been called to active duty for a period not to exceed 180 consecutive days unless relieved sooner. Officials said the reservists will backfill at active duty hospitals and may be deployed overseas later.

The Air Force Reserve medical program is a vital part of the Air Force's medical resource. As part of the USAF Surgeon General's initiative to bolster medical readiness, the Reserve program involves recruiting and training to assume an ever-increasing share of the combat-supporting medical needs of the Air Force.

According to MSgt. Hiroko Yates, 507th medical administrator, "The backfill was needed because of stateside medical shortages due to Operation Desert Shield."

Approximately 430 Air Force Reservists from seven TAC-gained medical squadrons, including the 507th, were recalled to active duty January 16. These units will provide the people necessary to extend the capability of the USAF hospitals. In addition, 130 Strategic Air Command Reservists were recalled January 14. The 130 SAC-gained Air Force Reservists will backfill for active duty medical staff at their home stations.

According to 1st Lt. Mary Weathers, 507th Nurse anesthetist, "I want to be involved and do my part. I have enjoyed being in the 507th and Air Force Reserve and feel good that I can contribute."

Major Stephen Gentling, 507th Hospital Administrator agreed, saying, "I'm glad that we are going as a unit. It's reassuring to know you're going with people who have the capabilities that these people have. We figured it was just a matter of time, because of the medical units involved."

Major Gentling said that to date, 18 people from the 507th medical had already been supporting active duty hospitals stateside, on short duty tours.

Letter praises MSgt. Jim Miller

As members of the 507th deploy to support active duty bases across the United States, letters of thanks are returning to the unit.

One such letter was recently received from Major John Saleeby, officer-in-charge of Bioenvironmental Engineering, 4th Medical Group, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.

It reads: "From November 13, 1990 through January 14, 1991, MSgt. Jim Miller (of the 507th Medical Squadron) provided voluntary manning assistance for the Bioenvironmental Engineering Section. His support was offered at a time when BES activity was severely curtailed by deployments in support of Operation Desert Shield.

"Sergeant Miller's enthusiasm, dedication, and professional skills resulted in many invaluable contributions to the morale and accomplishing of our section. In addition to providing Broken Arrow

training and expert consultation in many areas, he completed tasks ranging from asbestos sampling to special industrial facility surveys. He also managed several programs.

"Master Sergeant Miller's performance was nothing short of outstanding. We deeply appreciate his assistance, and we also appreciate the support of your unit by allowing him to work with us."

Gen. McIntosh vice commander

Brig. Gen. Robert A. McIntosh became vice commander of the Air Force Reserve Dec. 1.

General McIntosh will serve a four-year tour of duty at Headquarters AFRES, Robins AFB, Ga.

He was commander of 10th Air Force at Bergstrom AFB, Texas. He succeeds Maj. Gen. Alan G. Sharp who retired Nov. 30. General McIntosh had been 10th Air Force commander since July 1989; General Sharp had been vice commander of AFRES since December 1986. General McIntosh was commander of the 442nd Tactical Fighter Wing, Richards-Gebaur AFB, Mo., before becoming commander of 10th Air Force.

After separating from active duty in August 1971, he joined the air reserve technician program. His reserve assignments include Grissom AFB, Ind.; NAS New Orleans, La.; and Youngstown MAP, Ohio.

Register now for DEERS program

All CHAMPUS beneficiaries, including children under 12 months old, must now be enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System. Previously, infants were exempt.

The new rule became effective last year. The enrollment is necessary to automate the payment of CHAMPUS claims for infants and newborn babies, who had been exempt.

Before CHAMPUS can pay under its normal rules, eligible people must get an "automated" non-availability statement. Military treatment facilities issue the statement if they can't meet a CHAMPUS beneficiary's needs. That person must be registered in DEERS to receive the statement.

Now, CHAMPUS contractors will not pay claims without a non-availability statement when one is required, regardless of age.

Two examples show how the new rule affects children under 12 months old. In the first, a newborn baby needs to stay in a hospital after the CHAMPUS-eligible mother goes home.

The mother's non-availability statement is valid for the baby's expenses in the same hospital for up to 15 days after the mother's discharge. After that, CHAMPUS won't pay the baby's bills without an automated non-availability statement for him or her.

In the second case, an active duty member gives birth in a civilian hospital. CHAMPUS will cover her newborn's hospital expenses for up to four days without a statement. After that, CHAMPUS will consider the baby a new CHAMPUS patient and will require the statement.

But officials point out the statement isn't needed if that service member has purchased insurance that covers the baby, and will therefore not be using CHAMPUS for the baby's expenses.

To enroll a new baby in DEERS, a certificate of live birth is sufficient. It's generally available for the hospital in a few days; official birth certificates can take longer.

However, if the live-birth certificate is not issued within four days for an active duty mother's baby, a letter from the hospital verifying the child's birth date, name, sex and parents is acceptable to register the baby in DEERS at a personnel office.

Health benefits advisers at the nearest military medical treatment facility can answer questions about the new policy.

'Gray area' retirees must report

DENVER (AFNS) — The Air Reserve Personnel Center will mail the 1991 U.S. Armed Forces Commissary Privilege Card, DD Form 2529, to eligible Air Force Reserve members by mid-February.

ARPC must have the members' current address to make sure the cards are delivered.

The National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1991 authorizes new privileges for Reserve and National Guard members who qualify for retired pay at age 60.

These members are now authorized 12 visits to the commissary per calendar year and access to exchanges. They also have full use of morale, welfare and recreation revenue-generating activities such as golf courses, bowling lanes, marinas, ticket and tour services, and temporary lodging facilities. Access to exchanges and MWR activities requires a military or dependent ID card.

The act covers reservists and Guardsmen who have been notified they qualify for retired pay. The majority are gray area retirees in the Retired Reserve. Other retirement eligibles, such as liaison officers who participate for points only, are also covered.

The new commissary privileges offer an added benefit to reservists in the Selected Reserve who have 20 years of service toward retirement, said ARPC officials. If they are promoted out of their slot, they will continue to receive the card and will not have to turn it in. Reservists who have less than 20 years will lose their privileges unless they resume some form of participation.

Mail change of address cards to HQ ARPC/DSFS, Denver, CO 80280-5000. Information is available by calling toll-free 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 229, or DSN 926-6474.

Tracking system keeps pilots on mark

By 1st Lt. Rich Curry
507th Public Affairs

"Top Gun", may be just a Hollywood movie, but for the pilots of the 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron striving to be the 507th's "Top Gun", is a serious business.

"When a pilot prepares for a mission, he knows what types of skills he's going to need. But he also needs to know after the flight how effective he was. That's where we step in," said SSGT. Jim Hunt NCOIC of the 465th Weapons/Tactics section.



Capt. David Lint and Maj. Gene Kuper head back to OPS after a sortie. (U.S. Air Force photo by 1st Lt. Rich Curry)

To help pilots check their progress, the Tactics section analysis gun camera video tapes made during a mission and use a computer program to track scores. By analyzing the video, Sergeant Hunt can determine who got a "kill" or got "killed".

Sergeant Hunt said they track every mission, evaluating performance in air-to-air, and against other types of aircraft. Range scores from air-to-ground missions are also factored in. The computer program applies a specific rating factor for each type of mission.

"Defense is just as important as offense," he said. A pilot receives 100 points when he gets a "kill". However, 300 points are subtracted when he gets "killed". "It's rather expensive to die," he said.

The program can show the pilot's statistical scores of bombs dropped at the ranges and compile charts of each individual aircraft. "We can keep track of each bomb dropped from every aircraft and even how many dropped from each turret," Sergeant Hunt said.

By plotting this information they can tell where each pilot, on an average, is dropping the bombs. The information can also be used to determine if an aircraft needs to be bore sighted. "We've had a couple of aircraft that were consistently off target, even though the video taped showed the pilot was on the mark. We had them recalibrated and now those jets are producing a better track record," Sergeant Hunt said.

Sergeant Hunt said they can produce an overall training record to track training areas. With the printout, a pilot can look at his own personal record and see what areas need improved or what types of missions need to be flown to stay current. He can also see his countermeasure effectiveness.

While Sergeant Hunt sits there, reviewing the film with clipboard and scoresheet in hand one wonders if the "players" ever question the "umpires"?

"Sure. Air-to-air missions are harder to score and sometimes, I'll admit, it's a judgment call. But most of the times it's right there on the film."

While pilots are able to stay on the razor's edge with their training, the posted score sheets also create a "Top Gun" competition within the unit.

"We can show who our "Top Guns" are. We also know which aircraft is the cream of the crop and with that information, we know our top crewchiefs for the month and quarter," he said. "It really helps build a competitive spirit while training to fight and win."



Desert Shield

INFORMATION

Why did Iraq invade Kuwait?

FORT McPHERSON, Ga. (AFNEWS) — Why did Iraq invade Kuwait? The question lingers in the minds of many people, especially military people and their families.

Looking at pre-invasion problems identifies some possible causes: Iraq's war with Iran and subsequent financial difficulties, Iraq's access to shipping lanes, Kuwaiti overproduction of oil, even an Iraqi territorial claim to Kuwait that dates back to the 1600s.

Negotiations to settle differences failed, and in early August, Iraq invaded Kuwait. Understanding the history of the region helps clarify today's situation.

Until the Iraqi invasion, Kuwait was an independent Arab state lying at the upper corner of the Persian Gulf. It borders Iraq on the north and west, and Saudi Arabia on the south and west. It was founded in the early 1700s by a nomadic tribe that migrated to the Persian Gulf.

Kuwait first came to the attention of Europeans when Germany sought to extend the Berlin-Baghdad Railway to the port of Kuwait. Britain, eager to frustrate German plans, and Kuwait's ruling sheik, wanting to protect himself against nominal Ottoman control, agreed in 1899 that Britain would control Kuwait's foreign affairs.

When World War I broke out, Britain established a protectorate over Kuwait. Relations with Saudi Arabia were settled by treaty in 1922 and those with Iraq in 1923.

Kuwait remained under British protection until June 26, 1961, when Britain announced its recognition of Kuwait's independence. Six days later, Iraq claimed Kuwait was an integral part of that country. Iraq said Kuwait had

been a part of the Ottoman Empire and that ethnically, geographically and socially, Kuwait and Iraq were one country that had been arbitrarily divided by Britain. Threatened with invasion, the ruler of Kuwait appealed to Britain for military aid.

In early July 1961, British troops landed in Kuwait. On July 20, the Arab League admitted Kuwait to its membership, recognizing its claim to independence and denying Iraq's claim.

In May 1963, Kuwait was admitted to the United Nations. In October 1963, Iraq recognized Kuwait's independence. Ignoring the latter declaration, Iraq threatened to reclaim Kuwait by force again in 1973 and 1976.

Still, why invade Kuwait, a territory of 6,880 square miles of desert? Three percent of the land is marginally arable, but less than 1 percent is under cultivation. Fishing, especially shrimp for export to the United States and Europe, has been of increasing importance.

Kuwait's riches lie underground. The country exports over 1 billion barrels of oil a year. The nation's wealth from oil is staggering. This wealth, coupled with a small armed force, made the nation a tempting target.

Iraq was in financial straits because of its arms build-up and the long war with

Iran. Therefore, the annexation of oil-rich Kuwait would help.

Iraq had other reasons to seize the tiny state as well. Kuwait was also overproducing oil in violation of Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries quotas. Combined with overproduction elsewhere, excess pumping depressed the average price of OPEC barrels almost \$7. Iraqi leaders figured they were losing billions of dollars annually because of the lower price.

The overproduction problem was supposedly settled at an OPEC meeting in last July, especially after an Iraqi show of force on Kuwait's border. However, Iraq later demanded \$2.4 billion in compensation for oil Kuwait pumped from the disputed Rumaila fields.

Iraq also insisted Kuwait forgive \$10 billion to \$20 billion in loans that helped fund the war against Iran. Iraq insisted they defended the Arab world from Iranian fundamentalists on behalf of all Arabs.

(Continued on page 11)



Special Desert Storm Issue



Greetings from the desert

When are we going home?

By Capt. Greg Eanes
3490th Technical Training Group
Goodfellow AFB, Texas

SOMEWHERE IN SAUDI ARABIA — "When are we going home?" the Kuwaiti children ask their teacher each day. "I miss Kuwait. I miss my grandmother. When are we going home?"

"They draw black clouds instead of blue," said Afrah M. (last name withheld for security). Afrah is a volunteer teacher at the Free Kuwait School in Taif, Saudi Arabia, seat of the Kuwaiti government-in-exile. She was a mathematics major in college before the Iraqi invasion Aug. 2. She left Kuwait City Aug. 13 and stumbled on foot for 11 days across the desert to refuge in Saudi Arabia. She had nothing but the clothes on her back.

Afrah said the Free Kuwait School was an idea of two Kuwaiti women, themselves refugees from the holocaust engulfing the nation. This particular school serves about 95 refugee children ranging from age 4 to 13. There are no books for junior high or high school students.

Teachers are volunteers who, prior to the invasion, were ordinary

housewives, students. One was even a bank officer. They conduct classes in mathematics, science, geography, Arabic, drawing, music, religion and even English.

The children are all refugees and some are orphans or have had at least one parent killed by the Iraqis.

A few of the children were themselves targets of the Iraqis because they, even at their young age, had been active in the Kuwaiti resistance. They were used to distribute food, rations, pamphlets, information and served as runners between the neighborhoods.

Soon their faces became known to Iraqi patrols and then their names to the Muk-ha-barat, Saddam's gestapo. Once identified, they were no longer safe and had to be taken out of the country.

Their handmade crafts and schoolhouse drawings graphically depict the carnage of war.

They've had to grow up fast and have borne witness to such brutality that would make even the most hardened veteran quiver.

The casual observer might wonder how these memories will affect them in future years.

(Continued on page 16)

Special Desert Storm Issue

NCO races to remove activated flare

By SSgt. Lloyd W. Tilmon

SAUDI ARABIA (AFNEWS) — "It scared the hell out of me," said Sgt. William Sikorski, a munitions maintenance specialist crewmember, while describing his feelings after he picked up an armed flare in the munitions storage area recently and moved it to a safe area before it ignited.

Sergeant Sikorski, a member of the 23rd Tactical Fighter Wing, and other munitions storage personnel were stuffing flares into an SUU-25 flare dispenser when the incident happened.

"We were trying to load this flare and it wouldn't go in properly," the 22-year-old explained. "When we pulled it back out, you could hear the sudden pop as the timing sequence was initiated, which was the beginning of the countdown to the flare igniting."

Apparently the tube into which the flare was being stuffed had been damaged. When the munitions specialists attempted to remove the flare, the arming cap remained stuck, which was attached to a wire, which was in turn attached to the arming switch.

Realizing the flare was located on a munitions trailer with about 30 other

flares and the possible injuries to everyone the flare ignition could cause, Sergeant Sikorski took off with the flare.

He skirted around equipment in the yard until he had it in a clear area and set it on the ground. He managed to get about 10 feet away before the flare ignited, illuminating the area with light and heat equal to about 35,000 candle watts. The flare cartridge, which is similar to shotgun shell cartridge, was launched away from the flare into a stack of empty crates.

"Sikorski said something about this one's hissing, and then he took off running," said SSgt. Patrick Hourihan, a munitions crew chief. "He deserves a pat on the back."

Near the spot where the flare went off, evidence of the flare's intense heat is still visible. Sergeant Sikorski said he doesn't really recall every step he took to get the flare away from people and

equipment. Afterward, he said, he started thinking about his wife and child, back in Alexandria.

"It took me a while to get up the nerve to tell my wife what happened," he said. "She asked me not to every do it again, but she understood that I was just doing my job." (Courtesy CENTAF News Service. Sergeant Tilmon writes for 354th TFW Provisional public affairs)



Why did Iraq invade?

(Continued from page 9)

Finally, Iraq saw in Kuwait a way to compensate for the disadvantages (huge for an oil exporter) of being virtually landlocked.

With only 18 miles of coastline and with most of it blocked by Kuwait's Bubiyan Island, Iraq kept trying to either annex or lease the island. But Kuwait refused, figuring they'd never get it back. Finally, Iraq raised the old claim that Kuwait rightfully belongs to it since it was part of the province of Basra under the Ottoman Empire.

During negotiations just before the invasion, Kuwait made it clear it would pay Iraq a sizable sum for peace. The Iraqis, however, demanded Kuwait's total capitulation on all counts.

Negotiations broke down, and Iraq invaded Kuwait with 100,000 troops on Aug. 2. Despite a promise to establish a "free provisional government" and withdraw by Aug. 5, Saddam Hussein reneged and annexed the tiny nation. (Courtesy Army News Service. Based on a 17-page research paper, "History of the Middle East -- A Brief Overview," by Warner Stark, August 1990. For a copy, contact U.S. Army Forces Command Public Affairs, Strategy and Leadership Development Branch, Fort McPherson Ga. 30330-6000.)

Special Desert Storm Issue

Accommodations are "best"

*By TSgt. Marvin Kusumoto
1st Tactical Fighter Wing Deployed*

Billeting at any Air Force base is a quest for quality, making sure accommodations are the best they can be.

During the first weeks of Desert Shield, the billeting operation at one airfield in Saudi Arabia was a little more basic -- finding beds, blankets, linen and rooms for hundreds of Air Force people arriving daily.

This was the daunting responsibility of Capt. George Morehart and his three-member billeting team from Langley AFB, Va. Their job was to bed down the 1st Tactical Fighter Wing and other supporting Air Force units.

"We didn't know what to expect or how many people we had to billet," said Captain Morehart. "When we got off the airplane, we dug in and went to work."

The first step was easy. The host country air force quickly offered two new air-conditioned dormitories, meant for its forces, to the U.S. Air Force. The dorms were quickly readied for immediate occupancy.

The next problem was filling the empty rooms with furnishings, and, again, the host country air force came through with beds, mattresses, blankets and linen.

"They (the hosts) came through every time we needed something," said Captain Morehart.

"We worked almost 24 hours a day," said the captain, "accepting deliveries of beds at night, assembling them and assigning rooms. People were constantly arriving."

Captain Morehart said they received estimates on the total number of people expected to support operations here but that number always kept rising.

"We didn't know what or how many people to expect, until they arrived."

Reserve supports Gulf mission

(AFRNS) -- During the first four months of the Persian Gulf buildup Air Force reservists logged more than 107,000 hours of flying time.

They flew more than 135,000 passengers, hauled nearly 235,000 tons of cargo and pumped some 3 million gallons of aircraft fuel.

Reserve associate aircrews, flying C-5 Galaxy strategic airlift transports, put in more than 29,000 hours and transported more than 65,000 passengers and 137,000 tons of cargo. C-141 Starlifter associate crews logged more than 42,700 hours, while airlifting more than 30,700 passengers and 43,000 tons of cargo.

Although the host country air force had planned to assign only eight of its airmen per room, the billeting situation was critical and rooms were quickly arranged to accommodate 22 to 26 U.S. Air Force people per room.

"Some people grumbled," admitted Captain Morehart. "But most people were working long and hard. All they wanted was a place with air conditioning to rest and take showers."

Laundry service quickly became a priority, and billeting got with contracting people to arrange for regular laundry service for the dormitory residents.

With the two dormitories at full occupancy and the overflow sleeping on cots in hallways, U.S. Air Force commanders asked the host nation for other temporary quarters. The hosts then opened schools that were empty for the summer.

This began Phase II, according to Captain Morehart. His billeting team, now augmented by more people, added satellite operations at three nearby schools on the base.

"It meant more beds and material, daily water deliveries and rubbish pickups for nearly 1,000 people," Captain Morehart recalled. The opening of the Bedrock Tent City finally emptied the schools, just in time for them to open for the new school year. Billeting moved its satellite operations to tent city, processing in all the new residents and establishing laundry services.

Captain Morehart said there is a third phase in the works. The host nation is preparing a housing complex for the entire Air Force contingent. But that billeting challenge is still in the future.

For now, the billeting operation is a routine affair, keeping people happy and making a good bare base environment better.

Food is topshelf

Since December, U.S. troops serving in Operation Desert Shield are eating more than just meals ready to eat.

A new pre-cooked ration is being implemented to augment the MREs currently used by U.S. forces, according to a Army Maj. Gen. Dane Starling, U.S. Central Command's director of logistics.

According to General Starling, four millions meals were sent to deployed forces in December, with 20 million more expected to be shipped in January.

Special Desert Storm Issue

Bare base rises from the desert

By SSgt. Sarah L. Hood

SAUDI ARABIA (AFNEWS) -- It was just miles of sand wrapped around a runway. Less than a month later shrimp creole was the main course at the dining facility and the nightly movie rolled at 8 in the "base theater."

Billed as the biggest bare base buildup since the Vietnam War, this Desert Shield location houses the 4th Tactical Fighter Wing Provisional, a composite wing boasting a fighting force of five tactical fighter squadrons as well as C-130 airlift support.

Lt. Col. Randall Bigum, commander of the 53rd TFS, Bitburg AB, Germany, has had some experience with bare base operations, but nothing of this caliber.



"Frankly, it's a miracle of modern technology that we can raise an air base this size in the middle of the desert," Colonel Bigum said.

The modern miracle started when a team of engineers did a site survey in mid-November. Under Air Force criteria, a source of electricity and water make an area viable as a bare base location. The initial findings of the site survey -- no water, no electricity.

No problem.

Water was trucked in. Now, an average of 14,000 gallons of bottled water is consumed each week. About 75,000 gallons of a day of non-potable water is used for plumbing and 12,000 gallons of potable water is used daily for the dining halls.

Erecting a tent city on this patch of desert sand was a challenge.

"When we began preparing the base, we tried to dig down through the sand to find a hard surface," said Col. Hal Hornburg, commander of the 4th TFW Provisional.

After a few frustrating days of unsuccessful digging, a local Saudi Arabian contractor recommended using clay to build a hard surface for the tent foundations.

Some 350,000 cubic meters of clay was rolled, wetted, rerolled, then packed down. About 25,000 dump truck loads of clay later, the foundations were ready for tents and other structures.

The first tent went up Nov. 30. Now, more than 600 tents serve as living quarters and office space.

One success story at this base is the good, wholesome cuisine served up at the dining facilities.

"The dining hall has done a spectacular job," Colonel Bigum said. "You don't hear complaints about the food."

That comes as no surprise to Maj. Charles Tyler, 4th Services Squadron Provisional commander. The No. 2 concern after erecting tents and having somewhere to sleep was food.

"We didn't want to survive on MREs (meals ready to eat) so we used an M-K-T (mobility kitchen trailer)," Major Tyler said.

Troops were initially fed canned or dehydrated items. Fresh fruit and vegetables were scarce, but available, during construction of the base. Thanks to support from the Saudi government, services had access to local markets to supplement their food selection.

Ten days later, a central dining facility was up and running, serving about 1,300 people during a four-hour period.

"We combined two of these facilities and doubled the number of meals served," Major Tyler said. Ten days later, another facility was up and running.

The kitchens are run by Prime RIBS members, which stands for readiness in base services. Local contractors also supply cooks and clean-up personnel.

"This is a totally professional and dedicated group and the food quality shows it," the major said.

Helping services raise their dining and billeting facilities from the sand was the 4th Civil Engineering Squadron Provisional.

"With some technical assistance, flightline personnel basically erected the facilities themselves," said Major Richard Norris, base civil engineer. Within a month, general purpose structures, aircraft hangars and small expandable shelters were in place.

Twenty carpenters then set to work putting in floors, building shelves and cabinets, tables, desks and countertops. Fifteen plumbers set up show and latrine facilities while the mechanical shop put in loads of combination air conditioning and heating units.

"American ingenuity is the key," said Col. Pat Schaufelle, 4th Combat Support Group Provisional commander.

Special Desert Storm Issue

Let's remove the fear of

Chemical Weapons

by Col. Leonard M. Randolph

SAUDI ARABIA (AFNEWS) -- The threat of attack with chemical weapons has so occupied our minds here in the Middle East that it has been my observation that we have become inordinately concerned. Indeed chemical weapons are inherently dangerous and can be incapacitating or even fatal. But so can a loaded gun.

Why does it appear that we fear chemical attack more than an attack with conventional weapons? I think I may know why, but first let me present you with a contrast that may illustrate my point even before I make it.

Let me talk first about something most of us know a little about...AIDS. This dreadful disease is transmitted by a virus through contaminated needles, certain sexual encounters, and transfusion of infected blood or blood products. The treatment is ineffective and highly experimental, and there is no known cure at this time.

In a somewhat similar way, chemical weapons consist of various agents: the nerve agent, the incapacitating agents (like mustard), and the blood agents (such as cyanide). Their transmission, or mode of delivery, is also multiple.

Some of the main delivery avenues are long-range rockets, aircraft, tube artillery, and multiple launch rocket systems. Here the similarities with AIDS cease, however. You see,

treatment for exposure to chemical agents is generally highly effective, and there is a very successful cure rate.

That's right! Exposure to chemical agents is not the beginning of the end. You, and my doctors, can make a significant impact

on the ability of chemical weapons to affect operations.

Here's how.

Chemical weapons were first used against an opponent in 1915 when the Germans filled the air with chlorine gas as they attacked the French. Then in 1917 the Germans again, this time against the British, used a mustard agent. So, you see, chemical weapons are not new, and we've learned a great deal since 1915.

Dr. Ronald Gleadle, a British physician, has said "a chemical agent casualty is usually the result of bad training, bad discipline, or bad luck." I fully concur with that.

Our Disaster Preparedness people have prepared us very well to survive a chemical attack. All the training we've done becomes very important to us today. If we will simply do what we've learned, we'll be fine. On the treatment of nerve agent poisoning is highly effective, particularly if protective measures are used promptly. Mustard casualties are very similar to burn patients, and burn treatment is also highly successful. It is not the end of the world just because chemicals are being used. We can handle it.

Still not convinced? Read further.

The death rate for patients who definitely have AIDS is 100 percent. Now that's the end of someone's world. Since the very beginning of chemical warfare employment in

1915 to the present day, fewer than 5 percent of the casualties have died. That means that for seventy-five years, 95 percent or more of people exposed to chemical weapons have survived that exposure.

Now, what would you guess is the protective effectiveness of your gas mask and ground crew ensemble? If you guessed 100 percent, you'd be absolutely correct. Wear of a properly fitted and functioning gas mask with good filters and a fresh ground crew ensemble give you full protection against all known chemical agents. Granted, that stuff is a little uncomfortable to wear. But it's extremely protective.

The bottom line is this: If we do the right things, there is no reason for us to have chemical warfare fatalities and little reason to have casualties at all.



What I've hoped to do was bolster your confidence in your ability to survive an attack if chemicals were used and to continue to press the mission to completion. Indeed, the objective was to replace the unreasonable fear of survivability following attack using a chemical agent with a new confidence based on fact.

If you feel a little more relaxed, it worked. If you don't, read this article again. (Courtesy CENTAF News Service. Colonel Randolph is the CENTAF command surgeon.)

Special Desert Storm Issue

Desert Storm news you can use

Blood donors needed for Desert Storm

Should Operation Desert Storm need blood, the Armed Services Blood Program is ready. It has gathered blood since America deployed troops to the Gulf area. Unlike before, new technology keeps donated blood from going to waste. Where fresh blood is good for 35 days, frozen blood, today, is good for more than 21 years. Military, DoD civilians and family members who want to donate can get more information from the Armed Services Blood Program Office by calling DSN: 289-8011 or commercial 1-703-756-8011.

Books, magazines sent to Middle East

To boost morale and lessen boredom for off-duty Desert Shield people, the Air Force Library and Information System began shipping paperback books to the Persian Gulf area. They have since confirmed delivery. Eight publishers have now donated 500-1,000 copies of 21 different books. Further, more than 15,000 magazines a month now reach the Middle East.

Fact from Fiction

Rumors related to various aspects of America's presence in the Middle East are surfacing, such as:

Rumor: Saudi customs service doesn't process videotapes so almost anything can get through on video film.

Fact: Wrong. All video tapes sent to Saudi Arabia are reviewed by Saudi customs.

Rumor: Mail to APOs and FPOs is more heavily scrutinized and has more restrictions than does regular mail.

Fact: Wrong. APO and FPO mail is subject to the same regulations as mail entering Saudi Arabia through international mail.

Rumor: You can't Bibles to anyone in Saudi Arabia because it is "material contrary to the Islamic religion."

Fact: Wrong, the definition of "material contrary to the Islamic religion" includes religious material intended for public distribution as well as literature critical of Islam. No problems of religious materials sent for personal use by service members are expected.

Rumor: The Saudis will not allow mail with U.S. flag stamps into the Kingdom.

Fact: Wrong. All U.S. postage stamps are valid.

Rumor: Wives and girlfriends can only send pictures of themselves to their husbands or boyfriends if they are shown covered to the wrists and ankles.

Fact: Wrong. There is no objection to showing women dressed according to accepted American standards of good taste.

Rumor: the government won't tell you what is or is not "accepted American standards of good taste."

Fact: Right. The government is not going to get into the business of spelling out what is or is not good taste. It trusts the American people to show good judgment in the matter.

Rumor: News reports said military men and women are denied religious services.

Fact: Wrong. Those who want to may worship according to their beliefs. This right is exercised with sensitivity for the beliefs and feelings of our Saudi hosts. All service members' religious freedoms are respected.

Call toll-free for info

Air Force reservists, if confused about pay, orders, retirement, officer appointments, assignments, reference service or even the change from Reserve to active-duty as a result of Operation Desert shield, now have a point from which to get answers. It is a toll free telephone number -- 1-800-525-0102. While useful, the number is only a source of general information and no substitute for in-depth information available at local consolidated base personnel offices.

New CHAMPUS address listed

(AFNS) -- The office where most CHAMPUS adjunctive dental care claims should be sent has moved.

Adjunctive dental care is that connected to a CHAMPUS-covered medical condition.

The new address for the office that handles most CHAMPUS claims for adjunctive dental care is:

Blue Cross-Blue Shield of South Carolina, P.O. Box 100599, Florence, S.C. 29501-0099. The new telephone number is (803) 665-2320.

Claims for California should still be sent to:

Blue Cross of Washington-Alaska, CHAMPUS Dept., P.O. Box 34311, Seattle, Wash. 98124-1311. The toll-free telephone number is 1-800-537-0296.

Hawaii claims go to Blue Cross of Washington-Alaska, CHAMPUS Dept., P.O. Box 84567, Seattle, Wash. 98124-5867, toll-free 1-800-537-0929.

Special Desert Storm Issue

Greetings from the Desert

When are we going home?

(Continued from page 10)

Looking at their drawings, one sees airplanes shooting bullets, tanks in the streets, buildings aflame and dead soldiers sprawled on the ground...

"The children know," said one mother. "I gave my son some toy cars to play with. He said, 'Mommy, I want an airplane. With an airplane, I can return to Kuwait.'"

Another volunteer teacher said, "My 3-year-old son asked for a gun. A gun! He wanted a gun so he could kill Saddam Hussein."

Afrah related the story of one 9-year-old boy. "He told me he was stopped by an Iraqi soldier," she said. "The Iraqi soldier made him stop on the street because he wanted to kiss the little boy. He kissed the boy on the cheek, then the boy ran all the way home and showered three times...

"Another child came to us crying one day," Afrah said. "I asked why she was crying. Her reply was because her playmates said she had to be the Iraqi soldier that day."

Many of their crafts also reflect symbols of hope, such as ill-proportioned crayon colored drawings of the American "Stars and Stripes." Even toy panoramas contain toy soldiers sprawled on the

other side. Standing proudly behind the victors are three flags; the Kuwaiti flag, the British Union Jack and America's "Old Glory."

Three children have seen much of the horrors of war and they have heard much about Americans; how Americans were coming to help and do good things.

According to Afrah, many of these children and their teachers ran into some American soldiers. Smiles came to their faces at the sight of them. There was a lot of excitement and mixed conversation. This time, it was Afrah who asked, "When are we going home?" (Story courtesy of CENTAF News Service)

In addition, all military people will now have up to 180 days after leaving the region to file their 1990 tax return.

The extension also applies to spouses of people serving in the Persian Gulf, Commander Kusiak said.

"Any returns that are due for calendar year 1990 can be postponed if people avail themselves of that opportunity," he said.

Although civilians serving in the combat zone are not exempt from paying federal taxes by this order, they will also receive the same extension granted to military people -- of at least 180 days after they depart the region -- to file their 1990 tax returns.

Most states will be following the federal guidelines for tax exemptions and the 180-day extension, Commander Kusiak said.

council for the Department of Defense.

The president signed the order designating the Arabian Peninsula, airspace above and adjacent waters as combat zones. Specific areas include:

- The total land area of Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates.
-- The Persian Gulf.
-- The Red Sea.
-- The Gulf of Oman.
-- The Gulf of Aden.

Good News from IRS?

Tax exemption made

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Enlisted people serving in Middle East areas designated as combat zones will not have to pay federal income taxes on military pay while they are assigned to these areas, the White House said Jan. 21.

Commissioned officers in the Gulf region will receive a \$500 a month tax exemption from their military pay.

The stoppage of tax withholding is immediate as of Jan. 17, and people will see this change to federal tax withholding in their next pay check, said Navy Cmdr. Patrick Kusiak, chairman of the armed services tax

Pay charts reflect increase

Active Duty Monthly Basic Pay Table Effective Jan. 1, 1991. Years of Service. Table with columns for Pay Grade and Years of Service (2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 26) and rows for Commissioned Officers, Warrant Officers, and Enlisted Members.

Monthly Basic Allowance for Quarters Rates Effective Jan. 1, 1991

Table with columns for Pay Grade, Without Dependents, and With Dependents. Rows include Commissioned Officers, Warrant Officers, and Enlisted Members.

Basic Allowance For Subsistence Effective Jan. 1, 1991

Table with columns for Officers, Enlisted Members, and Cash/In Kind. Rows describe pay rates under various conditions like 'When on leave or authorized to mess separately' and 'When assigned to duty under emergency conditions'.

507th faced ORE demands

(Continued from previous page)

aware they can wear their winter weather gear, over their chemical suits.

Thus when exercise conditions dictate donning the ensemble, members can simply don their wet weather gear over the chem suit.

Careful attention must be paid to the wear of chemical gear and more practice given to personnel decontamination. He said everyone must process through the CCA to see how it's done.

The colonel stated, the whole concept of chemical warfare is really simple, but you have to learn it by doing. Members must learn to don the chemical gear correctly and completely as well as check each other.

"Everyone should take the attitude of 'I'm not going to let you die'. You know the best thing about an ORI is that it makes believers that everybody in a unit is important...from 702s to pilots," he said indicating the loss of one individual means having to pull other vital key people from their jobs to take up the slack. Everyone's survival is important to the team," he said.

Other problems cited included facility managers not following procedures by checking for damage or unexploded ordnances, and not rapidly reporting back to the SRC immediately after an attack.

"One of the things the IG like to see is as soon as condition yellow is declared for all facility managers to check their building within 15 minutes," the colonel said. He pointed out that failure to do so usually results in inspectors maintaining in a higher MOPP level for extended periods. By showing a rapid response and proving established facility manager procedures work, in the end, a unit can make an exercise easier on itself, he said.

Another main observation made by Colonel Lyle cited information flow shortfalls and good communications tactics. Both, he said, are a primary key to winning the war.

Colonel Lyle said the team was seeing a lot of reporting going on but that

members need to insure that information gets to the SRC. Just as important, he said, was the need to insure the information is understood. Communications breakdowns can occur in stressful times such as seen during an airfield attack.

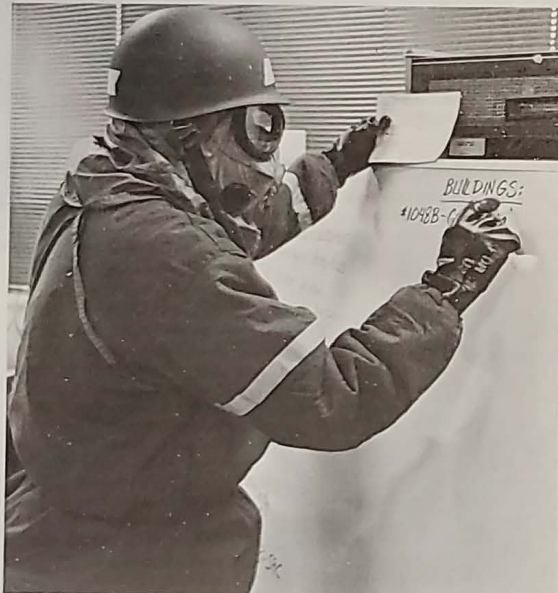
He said good communications requires both parties understand the message intended. Practices such as rephrasing the information and repeating it back can help eliminate confusion. If unsure, ask for clarification on conflicting information. Be specific: if a building is on fire, specify exactly where the damage has occurred. These tactics, while taking a few seconds longer, could mean the difference of spending several extra hours in condition black

until an error is discovered. They could also help avoid major mistakes that take personnel and resources away from the mission.

Everyone plays a key role in this factor. For example, Colonel Lyle said, "If a UXO (unexploded ordnance) isn't found, you stay in condition black until it's found and that information appears on the SRC board. It's very important that everyone does their job and they follow up on reporting procedures."

This becomes even more critical in a chemical environment. "It's important to spread the information quickly. We need to identify, mark and clean up all

(Continued on next page)



A unit member jots down a report at the alternate SRC. Inspectors said effective communications both up and down the chain are crucial to passing the inspection. (U.S. Air Force photo by 1st Lt. Rich Curry)



Ground crew conduct business in condition black. (U.S. Air Force photo by SSgt. Stan Paregien)



507th Civil Engineering cooks light up a burner unit in Tent City. (U.S. Air Force by SSgt. Stan Paregien)

ORE, weather test 507th

(Continued from previous page)

contaminates. The quicker you can do that the sooner the IGs will say 'Okay, these people really know their job' and the sooner you go out of black."

The colonel said IG teams design their scenarios to "put the pressure on a unit; to make it FOD up." While tension may become extremely high, and people irritable, "The worst thing a unit can do is to give up. You didn't do that. You've got to stay in there and keep plugging away. We've seen units where portions of the exercise seem to fail miserably and yet the unit still got an excellent rating because they got the mission done. They got the bombs on the aircraft and aircraft in the air."

Following proper buddy care and flightline safety (vehicle are speeding) procedures, and challenging all security violations completed the colonel's list. According to officials, members should

be alert to potential hostile actions. They stress that "when is doubt, challenge."

Weather-related mishaps caused some very real problems for unit members. According to MSgt. Cody Smith, 507th Ground Safety Technician, accidents, specifically injuries caused by falling were not being reported.

"Report all injuries immediately to the Safety office," he said. "There were at least 10 people injured by slipping on ice. Most were not severe, but we must become more safety conscious." He said not following safety practices have the same result, whether the situation is a real war or just an exercise. "Either way, you're out of action and someone has to replace you. Both you and the mission suffers."

Afterwards, Lt. Col. Robert Lytle, 507th Commander, stressed Colonel

Lytle's remarks, saying, "I saw a great attitude from our folks today. I think we have a very positive start and the right outlook."

Lt. Col. Robert Lytle, 507th Commander, said he was pleased with the enthusiasm members showed throughout the exercise. "I know the weather conditions were miserable. If there was any other way I would have called the exercise off. But we put in too much work and came too far to back away. This was our last shot to get things right before our ORI. I want to thank everyone for hanging in there and putting in a great effort."

"We're going to have to make some changes. Those things I've seen go wrong so far are not major problems, it's a combination of little things. But we do have to educate ourselves. We still have a long way to go," he said.

Ice presents chilling problem

*By 1st Lt Richard Curry
507th Public Affairs*

The 507th's Operational Readiness Exercise raged on last month in spite of severe weather conditions.

Because of poor weather conditions, all of the 507th's flying activities were sharply cut back.

Dense fog settled in covering the base and according to the wrench benders on the line, the combination of Oklahoma's high humidity and freezing temperatures posed another chilling problem—ice.

On a wet runway, the intake of an F-16 creates a vortex as sucks up

surface water. Normally the water from that miniature tornado has no effect on the engine's operation. In near freezing temperatures, such as last month's weather, the rapidly moving air quickly creates ice on the intake edge.

"It's amazing to watch the ice form," said SMSgt. David Lightfoot, aircraft maintenance supervisor. Sergeant Lightfoot described the process as being similar to high speed motion picture photography, like that used to demonstrate plant growth.

Within seconds, a thick layer forms, grows and spreads around the intake edge. At that stage the ice becomes a foreign object damage (FOD) risk. At stake are expensive repairs to the

F-16's multi-million dollar engine if ingested.

Helping to avoid that FOD risk was the Ice FOD Dolly, a two-foot square platform on wheels placed beneath the intake.

According to aircraft maintenance supervisor, SMSgt. Jerald Mallone, "I got the plans for the dollies from our active duty advisor wing, the 388th TFW at Hill AFB." Sergeant Mallone said once the plans were obtained, unit members constructed enough dollies for each aircraft in the 507th.

"The Ice FOD Dolly really help a lot to keep the ice from forming as the engines crank on the ramp," he said.

"SWAMEs" keep unit on the move

They're called "SWAMEs". That's short for Swift Action Mobility Element.

And when it comes to making sure that people, cargo and equipment make it to departing aircraft on time, the "movers and shakers" of this eight-member team become a primary focus of the unit's efforts to make it to the front line.

"Our mission is to ensure there's a smooth transition from a peacetime mode to a wartime posture," said 1st Lt Jayne Jackson, of the RMX office. She said during inspections a "sampling" of unit equipment is processed to demonstrate the unit's ability move people and equipment wherever they're needed.

The ORE's sampling included the equivalent of 13 aircraft loads, representing everything from spare aircraft engines, munitions equipment, people and personal gear.

"Everyone was enthusiastic enough to give it a good try," said MSgt. Mike McCarthy. Sergeant McCarthy said the unit processed almost twice as much equipment as last August's exercise in less time. "We had some frustrated cargo but most were simple errors and quickly corrected. We made all our departure times."

Although the mobility phase had originally been scheduled to run longer, IG inspectors cut the mobility phase short.

"The word I got back for the inspectors was they thought we go (deploy) if needed. We've got a lot of good people here and I think they did a super job."

Lieutenant Jackson agreed, saying, "I think we're in better shape now for ORI than before because we've taken the time to look at ourselves and those around us. We have a better comprehension for each other's needs."

Lieutenant Jackson said it's the simple things that can make or break a rating. "When each person takes pride in being a member of the 507th, we overcome the majority of our problems because we can now focus on the mission of this unit."

Mobility? It's in the bag

Most 507th members are well past the stage of worrying about what clothing to pack for the April's Operational Readiness Inspection mobility processing line.

However, there is still time to ensure you are prepared!

These are the minimum items you need to go through a mobility line for deployment, either real or exercise.

Anyone wearing glasses, contact lenses or hearing aids should have them to deploy. Two pairs of glasses are required, as well as one pair of fitted eyeglass inserts for the gas mask.

People wearing a specialized work uniform, such as cooks' whites or flight suit should have a minimum of two sets of that uniform in addition to the other required uniforms. "Utility uniform" refers either to battle dress uniform or fatigues. NO SQUADRON BALL CAPS ARE AUTHORIZED.

Remember, besides your personal bags, you have chemical warfare gear as well as job-related tools and equipment. Try to keep your baggage to a minimum.

Your unit mobility NCO has the latest list of your clothing requirements. It shows what you're required to have

Sidearms add realism for 465th pilots

*By 1st Lt. Rich Curry
507th Public Affairs*

Simulations during an exercise may be acceptable by inspectors and sometimes necessary.

If you listen to the philosophy of the 465th's Life Support Section, however, some simulation can pose a serious threat. With that in mind, the Life Support team issued 38 caliber pistols to the 507th pilots during last month's Operational Readiness Inspection.

"This is the first time we've issued weapons to our pilots in years," said SSgt. Leslie DeWitt, a Life Support

Equipment Inspector. "We've found out from going to other unit's ORI's that that's the way they're doing things. You know it's one thing to simulate issuing weapons, but it's another to fly a mission with the weapon actually strapped on to see how it feels."

Sergeant DeWitt said his day started with himself and at least one other Life Support person being issued the handguns from Base Security Police. Under armed escort the weapons were transported back to the unit. Prior to a mission, each pilot received and holstered his gun. After the flight, the weapons were checked back in.

According to SMSgt. Robert Kellington, NCOIC of Life Support, "We tried to get as close to real world conditions as possible." Sergeant Kellington said pilots were even issued real flight bags with spare chemical suits, personal decontamination kits (not training ensembles), and extra flight suits. "Those bags represent what a pilot would need to operate in a real war for up to 30 days," he said.

Sergeant Kellington expressed his thanks to the members of maintenance for making this portion of the exercise successful. "We wouldn't have been able to operate without their support. We were really operating as a team," he said.

Base clubs hold membership drive

*By Jeanie Ellis
TAFB Morale, Welfare and
Recreation*

If you are a reservist, you qualify to be a member of the Tinker Enlisted or Officer's Club.

Beginning this month, a membership drive will take place at both clubs. Reservists are encouraged and urged to join.

Joining this month will give reservists the opportunity to take advantage of special activities and prizes during the membership drive. Because some reservists will likely be unable to participate in all functions, those who live more than 50 miles from the base will be charged reduced rates for membership dues.

"We feel that a reservist who lives within 50 miles of Tinker Air Force Base can use the club more often and enjoy the activities," said Lt. Col. Ronald W. Jayne, the MWR Chief.

Monthly membership dues for reservists living outside the 50 mile radius are \$3 for the Enlisted Club and \$11 at the Officers' Club.

Reservists living within the 50 mile radius of the base will be charged at

the same monthly rate as active duty military and DoD civilian members: \$7 at the Enlisted Club and \$18 at the Officers' Club.

According to Colonel Jayne, the tradition of the Air Force Logistics Command Clubs has been to offer service members a place where they

can meet with friends, dine with families and feel at home.

The new slogan for AFLC Clubs, "Where You Belong," applies to both clubs at Tinker. The colonel said the slogan symbolizes the comfortable atmosphere of both the Enlisted and Officers' Clubs that will never go out of style.

Scholarship program set

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- The Retired Officers Association has scholarship loan appations available for the 1991-1992 school year.

TROA's scholarship loan program provides \$1,500 annual, interest-free loans to unmarried undergraduate students under the age of 24, who are dependents of active, Reserve and retired service members. The loans are awarded for up to five years of undergraduate study.

During the current school year, 680 students were awarded TROA loans totaling more than \$1 million. Of this group, 106 students received special \$500 grants, based on academic performance and extracurricular and community activities.

More information on applying for the loans can be obtained by writing to TROA Scholarship Loan Committee, 201 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA. 22314-2529.

Reserve News you can use

Chaplain needs assistant

A 702 administrative assistant is needed in the 507th Chaplain's office. See Chaplain (Capt.) Joel Clay in building 1030 to apply. The chaplain's phone number is extension 45632.

Incentive program

The following AFSCs have been authorized as the bonus AFSCs for the period of Jan. 1 through June 30: 454X3, Aircraft Fuel System; 462X0, Aircraft Armament Systems; 551X1, Construction Equipment, 605X5, Air Cargo Processor; 631X0, Fuel Specialist.

These apply to non prior and prior service enlistments, reenlistments, retraining and affiliation. The incentive amount varies depending on the type of program but will not exceed \$2,500. For more information, contact MSgt. Charlotte Epps, Group Career Advisor, building 1043, Room 211, or call 734-7491.

Uniform price reductions

Recent contract awards for Army Air Force Exchange Service- procured Air Force men's and women's service dress uniforms resulted in lower prices. these savings of 4 to 7 percent will be passed on to customers.

Uniform changes announced

The Air Force Uniform Board has approved changes to uniform requirements. Among them are:

- * Wearing of the polyester and wool lightweight blue jacket on commercial transportation.
- * Removing the loop and tab from the collar of the lightweight blue jacket.
- * Major commands adopting sew-on rank and accouterments on desert battle dress uniforms.
- * Authorizing chrome studs and cuff links for men's mess dress uniforms. AFR 35-10 will say the badges, cuff

links and studs will be worn as sets, not mixed.

- * Rewording AFR 35-10 to let MAJCOMS determine acceptable off-base wear of flight clothing.

- * Distinguishing the Civil Air Patrol uniform from the Air Force uniform.

- * Allowing women to wear black satin shoes with the mess dress uniform and use a patent leather or high-gloss material purse with any authorized footwear. AFR 35-10 will provide dimensions for commercial purses.

- * Allowing MAJCOM commanders to let people wear a black or brown turtleneck T-shirt with utility uniforms.

The board also announced:

- * Cotton poplin lightweight blue jacket will phase out by Sept. 30.

- * Only green or brown undershirts may be worn with the BDU.

- * Women's semi-box service dress coat will phase out March 31.

- * Men may wear the blue knit tie, which will be available through AAFES.

Gymnasium policy set

A policy letter was sent to all unit commanders recently outlining rules for the base gymnasium.

As applied to reservists, the gymnasium is available for use whenever a reservist is on orders, whether active duty, manday or inactive duty for training status.

When a reservist or National Guard member is not in a duty status, he or she is a civilian and not permitted access to the gym. Members should be prepared to establish duty status with a pink ID, AF Form 40a or ADT orders prior to using the facility.



Mail slowdown requested

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- The start of offensive operations in the Persian Gulf has prompted many troop movements, and officials are asking that family and friends of deployed troops limit mail to letters and audio cassettes.

"The task of supporting units on the move is a logistics challenge and every effort must be made to limit transportation support to what is necessary for sustainment," U.S. Central Command officials said. Actions are being taken to reduce the amount of personal articles that must be moved when combat and combat support troops are moved to other locations, officials said.

Army Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf, CENTCOM commander, asked family members and friends to voluntarily limit personal mail to first-class letters or audio cassettes.

Officials said this will reduce the difficulty for troops on the move to secure and transport personal articles and reduce the possibility of items being lost, damaged or delayed.

With the present tempo of Desert Storm operations, officials said the request to limit mail could last several weeks.