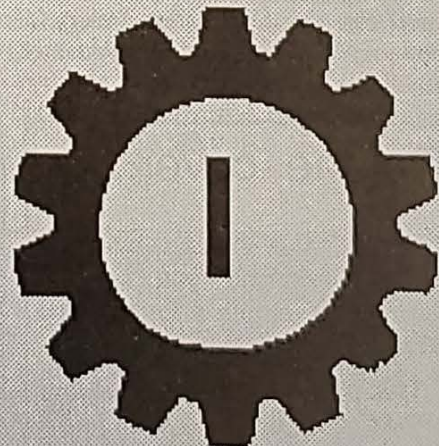
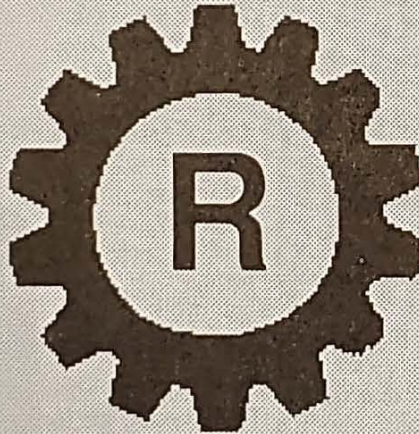
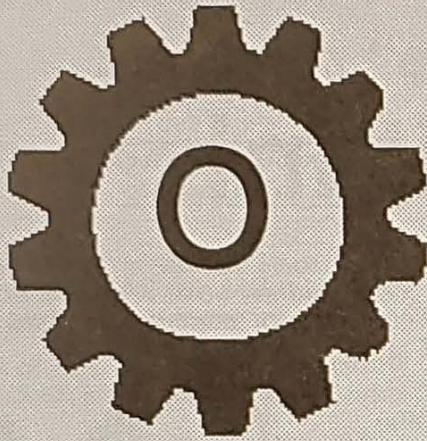




N-FINAL

Vol. XI No. 4
Tinker AFB, Oklahoma

507th Tactical Fighter Group
April 1991



Operational Readiness Inspection

Where do YOU fit in?

EDITORIALS

Colonel's Journal

You do fit in!

*By Lt. Col. Robert E. Lytle
Commander*

As we join together to congratulate and thank our fellow servicemen and women, I think there are many lessons to be learned from the past several months and our efforts in the Gulf.

Hundreds of thousands of stories have been written detailing every aspect of the war. Throughout them all, several themes keep reoccurring that show the rewards of professionalism, dedication, and persistence to accomplish the mission right the first time.

Everything worked. The years of training, having the right equipment and supplies and above all, the proper attitude about the task at hand. This did not happen overnight. It took years of planning and hard work. Those efforts paid off. Today the American public is overwhelmingly in support of our defense policies and our military. They know they can depend on us not only to defend this country and our freedom, but that we can also reach out in friendship to help those who are oppressed and tyrannized.

I encourage each of you to take the time to read as much as you can about Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Professional development not only involves

knowing your job but also how that job fits in to the entire effort. We can all learn something here about our upcoming ORI as well.

To successfully complete any mission, everyone must be able to do their job as if the entire war rests on their shoulders. It does. It requires everyone of us, doing our part, to make it happen. We've seen the results of teamwork and professionalism.

This month, we face our challenge to show what we are made of. Just like Desert Storm, this task demands our best. The fighting machine that we call the 507th Tactical Fighter Group, relies on each part functioning as a whole. I have watched you train these past months and I know we have what it takes to win. It's time now to prove it.



On the cover...

Like the gears in a machine, the 507th will depend upon everyone during this month's Operational Readiness Inspection.

This paper is dedicated to your efforts. While it would be impossible to list every single individual, job or section, this effort attempts to show the broader aspects of unit teamwork.

We hope it helps you understand your vital contribution and see how you fit in.

507th Tactical Fighter Group Editorial Staff

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EDITORIALS

Reserve's "quality" has been verified

*By Maj. Gen. John J. Closner
chief of Air Force Reserve*

The quality of the Air Force Reserve's support for Operation Desert Storm has been totally verified from day one.

As of Feb. 15, we had approximately 20,000 people mobilized, including most of our medical forces. We also mobilized medical personnel from the Individual Ready Reserve and for the first time in our history, brought back retired personnel. Additionally, we had more than 1,200 volunteers on active duty.



Our participation cuts across the spectrum of our specialties; security police, maintenance, individual mobilization augmentees, strategic and tactical airlift, refuelers and fighters are but a few examples. We put Westover AFB, Mass., on 24-hour operation and it served as a major strategic airlift hub for Desert Storm. Brig. Gen. Mike Walker and his people in the 439th Military Airlift Wing have turned as many as 20 C-5s in a 24-hour period there, providing maintenance, fuel and all kinds of passenger and aerial port services.

There are many "war stories" coming back. One of our A-10s came back from the front shot to pieces and with no hydraulics. A heavily loaded C-5 lost two engines to bird strikes taking off from Westover, and the crew got it on the ground safely. Another Reserve pilot got the first ever A-10 air-to-air kill by shooting down an Iraqi helicopter with his 30mm Gatling gun. I am proud of the airmanship of our people.

Our people are doing the job in a tough environment and they are doing it well.

On the home front, family and employer support of our mobilized people have been exceptional in most cases. These are such essential elements of our participation in the gulf war, that I want to emphasize the need for us to do more to recognize the support and to take care of the families left behind.

One thing that we have learned is that we are more prepared to deploy and go to war with our forces than we are in taking care of the people left behind. We are continuing to develop better support as each day goes by but we have plenty of future growth in supporting the needs of our families.

Let's work closely to help where we can, especially where there is financial hardship and other special needs. As the role of the Reserve grows in the Air Force of the future, often a person's decision to stay in the Reserve will hinge on continued family and employer support. (Reprinted from the Feb. 20 Air Force Reserve Information and Issues)

Women's History Month Proclaimed

*By Brig. Gen. Robert A. McIntosh
AFRES Vice Commander*

Public Law 100-9 has expanded the celebration of Women's History Week from 1 week to the entire month of March.

Recognizing the vital role that women have played in the defense of our nation, including the Desert Storm campaign, I take great pride in saluting the women of the Air Force Reserve for their untiring efforts. They have unselfishly carried out the mission of this command as we answer the call in defense of our great nation.

We can be extremely proud of our women, both military and civilian, who have elected to serve their country with their talents, dedication, and devotion. We are honored to have them as a part of the Air Force Reserve team.

SSgt. Eccles is 507th NCO of year

Staff Sergeant John R. Eccles has been chosen as the outstanding NCO of the year for 1990. SSgt. Eccles is a Special Cargo Handler assigned to the 72nd Aerial Port Squadron, Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. He is 43 years old.

Sergeant Eccles was born in Nowata on March 30, 1948. After graduating from High School in 1966, he enlisted in the Air Force. Upon completion of his basic training at Amarillo AFB, Texas, he was assigned to Loring AFB, Maine for on-the-job training as a Security Policeman. One year after being assigned to Loring Air Force Base, Sergeant Eccles volunteered for duty in Vietnam and reported to Ben Hoa Air Base, South Vietnam in 1968.

In January of 1971, he was honorably discharged from the Air Force. Upon returning home from

active military service, he enrolled at NE Oklahoma A&M Jr. College. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from OSU in



SSgt. John R. Eccles

1976 and was on the Dean's Honor Roll his senior year.

Sergeant Eccles is married and has two children. He actively participates in the activities of his community in Tulsa and at the Church of Christ in Nowata, Oklahoma. He recently completed two years on the Board of Directors for "A New Leaf", a sheltered workshop for mentally retarded adults.

In October of 1990, he volunteered and was selected for 180 days of active duty service at Dover AFB, Delaware. However, he was ordered back to Tinker AFB when his entire unit was recalled to active duty on 27 November 1990 to support "Operation Desert Shield". In addition to being selected as the Outstanding NCO, he was also the recipient of the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal.

Pat Heard retires with 30 years of service

Patricia Heard, formerly of the 507th Consolidated Base Personnel Office recently retired from the civil service with 30 years total service. Her last nine years had been spent working for the 507th Tactical Fighter Group.

Mrs. Heard started her civilian career as a clerk steno in the identification section in security police. She then transferred to Oklahoma City Air Force Station and was a clerk steno for the director of intelligence in the 32nd Air Division.

Her position was abolished in 1963 and she came back to Tinker in the central Gecia region as a clerk steno for the directorate of plans and programs.

In 1964 Mrs. Heard transferred to the Oklahoma City Air Force station as a clerk steno for the chief, consolidated base personnel office (CBPO). When the Air Force station closed in 1969, she went to the material services division, DMM, as a division secretary.

She later moved to the base procurement division as a secretary steno. In October, 1972, she moved to the consolidated base personnel office, 2854 Air Base Group, in the promotion and testing section as a military personnel clerk. She stayed there until January of 1981

and then moved to the 2854 ABG/DA as an office services assistant, working in the correspondence control section. She worked for the base commander's office and then the ALC commander's office.

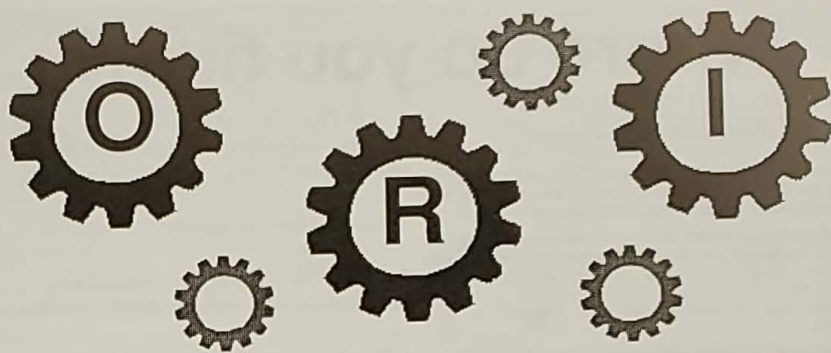
In August of 1982 she was promoted and transferred to the 507th Tactical Fighter Group, training office as a training technician. In January of 1990 her position was converted to an Air Reserve Technician position she became an overage in the 507th. In August, 1990 she was detailed into the 507th group career advisors office and on October 25, 1990, she was placed on a training instructors position within the human resources directorate.

She was in that position 37 days before retiring. Mrs. Heard is married to Johnny Heard, a telecommunications specialist with the 1845 EEG, Oklahoma City AFS. They have three children.

Mrs. Heard said she is not going to let retirement catch her napping.

"I currently belong to the Oklahoma City running club which I really enjoy, and I also like bicycling, water and snow skiing, and camping out," she said.

On-final Special ORI Report



Operational Readiness Inspection

Where do you fit in?

This month, the 507th Tactical Fighter Group will undergo a grueling examination of it's warfighting skills.

The examiners, members of the 12th Air Force's Inspector General's office, will hurl unit members into scenarios designed to simulate nothing less than total war. It's called an Operational Readiness Inspection.

According to Lt. Col. Roger Barr, an ORI is divided into four major areas: Initial response, employment, ability to survive, and combat support. During the week-long inspection, everyone in the 507th will participate in one or all of these areas to perfect our initial response.

"Initial Response includes all the activities from notification by higher headquarters until we're ready to launch combat sorties. Basically, it's getting the weapons systems (F-16s) ready to employ. The inspectors evaluate what shape the aircraft are in and how quickly we get them ready," Colonel Barr said.

He explained this area will include command and control, alert force reactions, security response options, and force generations. "The big players are you as an individual and everyone as a group," he said.

Employment is what the exercise is all about. It means getting the bombs on target and requires more than just pilots. The inspectors will observe all phases of sortie generation. Are the required number of aircraft delivered, properly configured and on time?

Combat turns are conducted to see if the unit can "test its wartime capabilities." Munitions load crews are evaluated to find out if they can handle the variety of weapons we could be tasked to deliver.

Now the pilots enter the picture. They are evaluated on all aspects of their role. Are they knowledgeable about the threats they'll encounter? Can they survive them? Are their aircraft avionics systems operable and helping them? Can they hit all kinds of targets under varying conditions? Can they, using teamwork, negate an attack by enemy fighters? These are the kinds of questions an ORI team wants answered. They want to make sure we can get on with our jobs without spinning our wheels.

"A classic case of "wheel spinning" would be going through all the drudgery of getting our force generated only to get wiped out on the ground. The ability to survive is probably the hardest part of an ORI," Colonel Barr said.

"Although it's hard to imagine being under attack while on home base during an inspection, it's something to think about. In a real-world situation, these airplanes we're launching are going to be hitting and hurting the enemy. They'll try to retaliate and do the same to us," he said.

(Continued on next page)

On-final Special ORI Report

Where do you fit in?

(Continued from previous page)

The colonel stated the ORI team wants to know if the unit can protect and preserve it's fighting force. Is it trained to survive chemical/biological attacks, nuclear fallout, and sabotage?

Less dramatic, but no less devastating, are natural events such as tornadoes, hurricanes, floods and storms. Accidents such as explosions, fires, and chemical spills are also possible. The Disaster Preparedness Mobility Teams are the key to our surviving these possibilities. Individual responses are also observed.

Don't take chemical warfare training or combat support duties too lightly, the colonel said, adding, members will get a chance to demonstrate it to someone from headquarters.

The term "combat support" has a behind-the-lines sound to it. Actually nothing could be further from the truth.

"Every squadron of the group is involved in 'combat support'," he said.

Some of the elements that are included in this area include:

*** Munitions storage, breakout, assembly and delivery.**

*** Protection of classified materials in a combat environment.**

*** Repelling terrorist attacks.**

*** Restoration of power, communications, damaged facilities, repair of bombed-out runways.**

*** Weather forecasting and observing flying operations.**

It's obvious that all these elements are more than important; they're critical. The ORI team thinks so too. That's why they look at them.

"The ORI team can hit a unit and evaluate the whole thing. The inspection will present a challenge to everyone. How well everyone knows their jobs and does them correctly will determine the final results," the colonel said.

Here are some important points to remember during the ORI. Show a sense of urgency, keep safety awareness involved in all actions, follow your checklist, and above all, don't be afraid to ask questions.

CES: Everything from soup to nuts

When it comes to meeting an Operational Readiness Inspection challenge, the men and women of the Civil Engineering Squadron handle everything from soup to nuts (the metal, fastener-type that is).

The role of Civil Engineering is pretty diverse, said CES commander Maj. Donald Ritenour.



Civil Engineering is divided into two separate sections, the Base Engineer Emergency Forces, or Prime BEEF, and the Readiness in Base Services program, called Prime RIBS. Both programs prepares engineering and services for their mission of supporting the wartime mission.

The Prime BEEF members total approximately 124 people, consisting of a 24 firefighters responsible for crash rescue as well as fire protection. Almost 100 members of Prime Beef consists of civil engineers whose wartime mission includes rapid runway construction, facility operation and maintenance as well as construction management.

The Prime RIBS program provides teams whose wartime tasks include establishing and operating feeding, billeting, and field exchange facilities as well as providing laundry, linen and mortuary support services.

"We can build a base from the ground up and, once built, maintain those needed services to keep it going," said Major Ritenour.

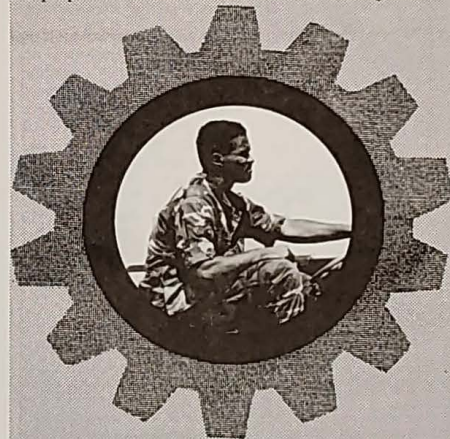
On-final Special ORI Report

CAMS: Keeping the fleet flying requires their best

Keeping a fleet of F-16s flying is no small task. During an Operational Readiness Inspection, that task is complicated with extreme working conditions such as airfield and ground attacks, and performing hard labor while wearing chemical gear for hours.

The men and women of the 507th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, however, meet that challenge with flying colors.

"We're here to provide Operations with mission-ready aircraft, on time, ready to fly, fueled, and loaded with the proper munitions to meet their air tasking order."



said CAMS commander Maj. James Walker. Accomplishing that task, the major said, demands initiative and leadership from every maintenance member.

He said the success or failure in meeting an air tasking order hinges on the efforts of every maintenance worker and working together as a team.

"I've been impressed by the dedication and abilities of the CAMS team to get the job done," he said. "We've got a good team. They know what needs to be done and they do it."

CAMS is the largest squadron within the 507th Tactical Fighter Group with more than 500 members assigned.

The mission of the 507th CAMS includes performing virtually all maintenance activity required to ensure the 507th's fleet of F-16 Fighting Falcons remain fully mission capable.

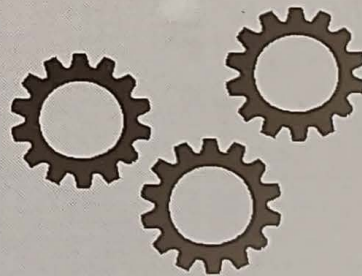


The squadron is divided into three major branches: Aircraft Generation Branch; Component Repair Branch, and Equipment Maintenance Branch..

The aircraft generation branch has the responsibility for the aircraft launch, service, on-equipment repair, inspections, preflight, basic post-flights, through-flights, recovery of primary mission aircraft, and ground handling.

The equipment maintenance branch performs heavy aircraft maintenance (phase inspections and extensive aircraft repairs), Aerospace Ground Equipment maintenance, munitions maintenance, fuel systems maintenance, egress systems maintenance and aircraft and equipment painting and corrosion control.

The component repair branch primarily does off-equipment repair of aircraft and support equipment components and maintenance beyond the capability of the AGB and the EMB. Primary systems maintenance includes avionics/electronics, jet engines, aircraft structures, environmental systems, pneudralic systems, electrical systems, survival equipment, and nondestructive inspection of aircraft component parts.



On-final Special ORI Report

507th CSS:**Support when you want it**

The 507th Combat Support Squadron, as the name implies, supports the group's Operational Readiness Inspection efforts in a variety of ways.

"Ultimately all of our efforts are focused on supporting Operations so they can stop the enemy dead in their tracks," said Lt. Col. Roger Barr, 507th CSS commander. "You might say we are the bedrock of the unit's mission. We're here to take care of business so others can complete the task at hand."

There are numerous details the support side must bear to support the mission, the colonel said. "For example," he said, "we make sure everyone is paid on time, have the proper orders and even proper clothing and special equipment necessary to perform their jobs. We keep the aircraft refuelled, operate supply/WRSK to make sure machinery keeps running and run a transportation program that ranges from driving the vehicles to repairing them." Support teams manage the packaging and crating of



supplies and equipment to be sent to other locations.

Moral and spiritual support is provided through the chaplain's office, weapons and security resource and contracting support when the local military operation doesn't have that service or product available. Disaster preparedness training and response teams are provided as well as overseeing all training in general to keep unit members educated about necessary wartime skills.

"We also handle information management and a mail program which includes distribution of war orders and publications such as tech orders and regulations," he said.

"In addition to equipment, we keep the personnel pipeline open, making sure replacement workers come into the system as they are needed," the colonel said. "Our mission is to do our job so well we are virtually unnoticed."

Reservists provide critical medical skills

When the allies launched the ground war to free Kuwait, the Air Force Reserve's medical corps was ready to care for casualties.

These medical forces account for 30 percent of the Air Force's wartime health care capability. Locally, more than 50 members of the 507th medics were called to support Operation Desert Storm by serving at Shaw AFB, S.C..

While most of the medical team will not be available during the unit's Operational Readiness Inspection, remaining members will be standing by to assist in real

world emergencies, said T.J. Bingham, a civilian employee with the medical unit.

Medical reservists are trained to perform a variety of duties ranging from serving as aeromedical evacuation flight crews specially trained to care for and manage patients aboard aircraft or in casualty staging facilities.

Medical reservists would also serve in fixed and mobile medical hospital facilities and also in liaison teams which process patients for transport from the battle zone to medical facilities with the capability to provide hospital care.

The medical forces for the Air Force Reserve and other reserve components offer a cost-effective pool of trained and dedicated personnel. They make up a major portion of the total Air Force aeromedical evacuation capability and other missions in the event of war or natural disaster.

On-final Special ORI Report

507th CSS:

Communications vital to winning the war



A lesson learned from Desert Storm is how critical command communications are to maintaining an effective fighting force.

"We saw the primary allied first strike targets in Iraq were command and control communications," said Capt. Harold Collins, Commander of the Communications Squadron.

A primary function of the communications members during a war is to provide support for ground autodin message processing and tactical telephone systems.

"We are here to provide support for all communication, both outgoing and incoming," Captain Collins said.

The most vital part of communication's mission is to ensure air tasking orders and supply replacement messages get through on time.

"If air tasking orders aren't there when needed, maintenance doesn't know what bombs to load and OPS doesn't know what targets to strike. We have to ensure that those communications are rapid, efficient and accurate," the captain said.

"Communications are vitally important to winning a war," he added. "We're here to make sure everything works."



On-final Special ORI Report

Center ensures base functions after attack

Located in a secured, windowless room are 10 men and women from different units making up the base. Seated in this small room with maps of the air base, surrounded by communications equipment, sit the members of the Survival Recovery Center.

"We have representatives from security police, nuclear, biological and chemical survivability, civil engineers, the hospital, communications, personnel and resource management," said the director of the SRC, Lt. Col. Roger Barr, commander of the 507th Combat Support Squadron.

"These experts in their areas are here to make sure the airfield is able to survive an attack. After an attack, they direct resources and prioritize recovery. The only reason the base exists is to produce combat sorties, which requires planes and air crews, the munitions, and the air base to operate," Colonel Barr said.

"The SRC is the nerve center for the air base to make sure the planes have a place to operate from - the bottom line reason we're here."

The SRC operates by receiving messages from all over the base about damage received during an attack, which is updated on the map to provide a quick reference for everyone. A status board also show what is open, and what action has been taken on it.

If the base comes under attack, the Survival Recovery Center spreads alarms over radio nets, giant voice and telephones, said Colonel Barr. After the attack is over, NBC would send out monitoring teams to see if chemical weapons were used.

"For example, if we have an airfield attack, we'll plot it on a map," said TSgt. Vincent Molzahn, of the 507th Disaster Preparedness Section. "Using wind speed, air stability and direction, and a large-scale map, we determine the coordinates and pass pertinent information off to the rest of the unit. We determine what and where the contamination is and whether another attack elsewhere will

affect us. With our figures, we can estimate how long contamination will last."

The civil engineers also have a variety of responsibilities directed from the SRC, including the fire department, said Major Donald Ritenour, commander of the 507th Civil Engineering Squadron. The civil engineer's first responsibility following an attack, though, is rapid runway repair.



"We have teams that go out and fill in craters, then have a team that assembles an aluminum matting and pulls it over the crater," Major Ritenour explained.

It is also possible that bombs will hit the airfield and elsewhere on the base without detonating.

"Sometimes, bombs and bullets don't do what they're supposed to do," said Colonel Barr. "If we are bombed, it is the explosive ordnance disposal team's job to render safe all the bombs that didn't detonate."

In addition to directing runway repairs, the SRC would direct repairs to the rest of the base. If there is a problem with communications or radar, the SRC coordinates between the communications commander at the central focal point and the rest of the support agencies. If an attack hits people, the hospital and personnel representatives come into play.

The hospital representative coordinates removing casualties to the hospitals and the flight surgeons' triage points. Working with the hospital representative and the mortuary, the personnel representative coordinates replacement personnel requests.

Another support function in the SRC involves the Resource Control Center. The RCC handles all fuels and transportation requirements for the unit, ensuring the busses keep running, moving people from the base to

the Toxic Free Area and fuel trucks keep planes and equipment ready for action. The RCC also manages the unit's War Resources Spare Kits, the controlled issue of spare parts for aircraft and support equipment.

The final support function controlled from the SRC is that of the security police. They are responsible for coordinating base security matters and passing information on to 507th security police teams.

The security police representative is a conduit between the SRC and the group operations center, Colonel Barr said. With the group commander nearby, keeping track of what's going on at the base and seeing that planes are taking off, he can work with the security police forces to direct air base ground defense efforts.

On-final Special ORI Report

Security Police Flight ready to defend

When it comes to protecting the base from aggressor assault, the 507th Security Police are ready to defend.

The flight has a wartime mission to perform resource protection, system security and base defense.

"We keep the area clear of aggressors so maintenance can prepare the aircraft and the pilots can complete their mission," said security police flight commander 1st Lt. Tony Hamel.

Among possible taskings, the lieutenant said security police teams man posts and patrols to protect systems against sabotage, man listening and observation posts, and establish defensive fighting positions.

The flight is organized into and train as four-man fire teams and 13-man squads. "We train for deployment to into any type of situation from bare bases to main operating bases," he said.

The lieutenant said their mission could be compared to "guerrilla-stye" combat. He described an airbase as an urban situation.

Unlike infantry forces, which deal with direct large ground assaults, a higher threat to airbase security comes from terrorist or smaller sized forces.

"We are prepared to deal with that type of problem. However, if a large force were to attack, we would remain there to stop their movement," he said. "Security police is the first into the area to secure the position and the last to leave."

Disaster Preparedness suits up



With the threat of chemical weapon use on the battlefield, comes the increasing need to ensure reservists are trained to survive and complete their mission.

The job of making sure members can survive to operate falls on the Disaster Preparedness section.

"Primarily, our job is done before the unit actually deploys," said Capt. Marcia Walker, OIC of Disaster Preparedness. "We strive to keep people trained to survive. Once they're there, it's too late to learn the lessons."

Captain Walker described her job as an on-going challenge to train members to recognize and respond to chemical attacks as well as properly

decontaminate equipment and facilities afterwards.

"During actual combat, our primary function is to advise commander and staff of any chemical threat and how to respond to it," she said.

"The ORI is giving us an opportunity to refresh people's memories to that chemical threat. In light of what has just gone on with Desert Storm, I think more people are paying close attention to their training. They're taking this seriously and that's the way it should be," she said.

Typewriters, webbelts tools of PERSCO trade

During an operational readiness inspection, personnel specialists from the 507th consolidated base personnel office, trade their blues and air conditioned offices for battle dress uniforms, helmets, chemical warfare gear, packed web belts and canteens.

All are members of specialized, deployable personnel teams, better known by their acronym PERSCO (Personnel Support for Contingency Operations).

"The PERSCO training provides reservists an opportunity to set up and operate a computerized personnel program under field conditions," said Captain Ted Covert, 507th CBPO Chief. "In combat, the team is responsible for keeping commanders at all levels informed about the current and

projected status of their forces and to provide a fully combat ready resource."

In preparing for this month's ORI, the team spent countless hours in training, Captain Covert said.

They learned how to set up and operate computers which can produce personnel rosters, casualty messages, daily strength reports, commander reports and emergency leave operations.

On-final Special ORI Report

465th TFS:

The point of the spear

The 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron is more than the flying arm of the 507th Tactical Fighter Group - it is the point of the spear when talking about the unit's war-time capability.

"The focus of an Operational Readiness Inspection, just like during a war, rests on operations," said Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Hugh "Bugs" Forsythe. "It's got to. We know we can't operate in a vacuum. We need the efforts of every maintenance and support person down to the last message runner. But if we can't destroy an enemy's ability to make war as well as retaliate against our forces, we have all lost. It's that simple."

Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Hugh "Bugs" Forsythe said the diversity of backgrounds helps the squadron training remain aggressive.

"We have people with backgrounds ranging from Lt. Col. Jim "Digger" Feighny, our DCO, who is a combat-veteran with a MiG- kill to his record, to 2nd Lt. Mark Case, an honor graduate of his F-16 training unit," he said.

The 465th is authorized 97 officers and enlisted members. Aside from the pilots, also assigned to the squadron are life support, intelligence, plans, command post, and safety personnel.

Some of the pilots assigned to the fighter squadron are combat veterans. As civilians, most are employed by the airlines. As reservists, they are required to fly the same number and type sorties as their active-duty counterparts to remain proficient and combat ready.

By helping each other come to know the F-16 like the backs of their hands, and what it takes to fight and win, the 465th is proving it intends to keep its spear razor sharp.



IG conference period set

A 12th Air Force Inspector General representative will hold a conference period in building 1043, room 102 (JAG office) from 10 to 11 a.m. on April 21.

The conference period is for all military and civilian personnel desiring to present a complaint or inquiry. Also, personnel may use this opportunity to provide information consistent with the Air

Force fraud, Waste, and Abuse Prevention (FWA) Program. Appointments are not necessary.

Supervisors should ensure personnel who desire to meet with the Inspector General's representative are afforded the opportunity to do so. Matters discussed during the conference period will be held in confidence, except to the extent

necessary to obtain official consideration.

Individuals unable to attend the conference period may contact any 12th AF Inspector during the inspection or call extension 45101 during the conference period.



Desert Storm

Information

Tuition refunds sought for reservists

WASHINGTON (AFRNS) -- Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney has written to the nation's 50 state governors asking for assistance in getting refunds for tuition and fees paid by reservists who could not finish school because they were called to active duty.

Federal law guarantees that members of the Guard and Reserve will have their job go back to at the end of Operation Desert Storm. However, no such obligation exists to protect those students called to duty.

Currently, students are not guaranteed refunds of tuition and fees they have paid for a semester they have not completed,

nor are they guaranteed the right to return to these colleges and universities upon completion of their active service.

Last February, Oklahoma State legislators held up the annual appropriation funding bill for the Regents for Higher Education. Senator Darryl Roberts, the Senate Majority Leader and a colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, started the delaying action after numerous state senators had received concerns from reservists attending public colleges and universities who had been called to active duty.

After receiving assurances from the higher education community that students who were recalled to active duty would be treated fairly, the bill was finally passed.

SAUDI ARABIA (AFNEWS) -- Wars tend to create new words, phrases and acronyms -- the Gulf War is no exception. Here are some of the words and phrases exchanged among troops in Saudi Arabia. Some of them have been around for years, others are only as old as Operation Desert Storm:

BCDs (birth control devices): Used to describe ugly military issue spectacles.

Deconflict: The process of separating allied aircraft during an attack so they don't interfere with one another.

Dog him out: To criticize.

Echelons beyond reality: Command decisions.

Get your gut right: To eat.

Grease: Food.

High speed-low drag: Paratroopers term for impressive.

Homes, Homeys: Friends.

Homey don't play that: Used by Patriot missile crews after shooting down Iraqi SCUD missiles.

Hooah: An upbeat word, but one that can be used to describe nearly any military situation while signaling that its speaker is alive and well.

HUMVEE: The successor to the jeep.

Desert troops coin new phrases

Desert Storm Special Insert

Uncle Sam's shopping list impressive

WASHINGTON (AFNEWS) -- What kind of shopping list did suppliers have in preparing for Operation Desert Storm? In his briefing Feb. 27 outlining how Desert Storm was waged, Army Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf, commander of U.S. Central Command, explained that the coalition had enough supplies and ammunition for up to 60 days.

The following is a list of some of the supplies ordered for theater operations as of Feb. 15, according to the Defense Personnel Support Center.

On the feeding front, more than 7.6 million cases of MREs, or Meals, Ready to Eat, were purchased, equal to roughly 91.2 million meals. As part of individual MREs, 299.1 million packets of salt were procured as were 6.8 million pounds of sugar, 5.1 million pounds of flour, 2.4 million pounds of coffee, 12 million bars of heat resistant chocolate, 51 million packets of instant coffee and 51 million packets of non-dairy creamer.

About half a billion dollars worth of medical supplies were also ordered. These included:

- 6.9 million adhesive bandages.
- 2.4 million tubes of lip balm.
- 5,236 surgical sponges.
- 731,165 cans of foot powder.
- 1,080 atropine injectors.
- 585,204 bottles of sunscreen lotion
- 616,296 bottles of water purification tablets.
- 32,703 cans of chigger repellent.

Clothing and ammunition supplies were also requested for the operation. More than 2.5 million cases of small arms ammunition highlighted U.S. needs.

Other items include 184,000 suspenders, 36,000 field packs, 530,000 desert camouflage covers for body armor, 376,000 goggles for sand, wind and dust, 1.34 million chemical suits and 250,000 canteen covers. (Courtesy Army News Service)

Reserve volunteer rate "outstanding"

ROBINS AFB, Ga. (AFRNS) -- A study recently released by Headquarters Air Force Reserve shows that more than 15,000 Air Force Reservists answered the initial call for Operation Desert Shield volunteers.

The study, based on the first 14 weeks of AFRES participation from Aug. 17 to Nov. 19, gives an average volunteer rate of 20.5 percent of assigned reservists.

Due to individual circumstances, the number of volunteers can change daily, according to Col. S.D. Porterfield, AFRES deputy chief of staff, comptroller.

Affecting these rates are new volunteers, previous volunteers who withdrew their statement, those completing their volunteer tour of duty and those volunteers who were placed on active

duty under the president's call-up order, he added.

"What this study does is emphasize the dedication we've seen before -- like in Grenada and Panama," said Maj. Gen. John J. Closner, chief of Air Force Reserve. "We've had outstanding support during this operation, from both reservists and their employers. And, while this isn't necessarily indicative of future events, I'd expect nothing less."

Waiver lets reservists sell leave

WASHINGTON (AFRNS) -- The Department of Defense has authorized a waiver on the number of unused accrued days of leave that can be sold for payment.

The waiver is the result of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and applies only to unused accrued leave from fiscal years 1990 and 1991.

Current law limits people to receiving payments for 60 days of unused leave during their military career. The National Defense Authorization Act for 1991 sets aside

this 60-day limit for reserve component members, retired Reserve members and retired regular, retired Reserve and Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve members ordered to active duty other than for training in support of Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

If separated or released from active duty under honorable conditions, the member may receive payment for such leave on the basis of the basic pay to which he was entitled on the date of discharge.

Seven 507th members earn CCAF degree

Seven members of the 507th are receiving associate in applied science degrees from the Community College of the Air Force this month.

Receiving degrees are SMSgt. Judy Branchfield, MSgt. Terry Woods, TSgts. Thomas Choate, William King, Alan Ward and Dennis Williams and SSgt. Scott Guthrie.

According to Nancy Knight of the 507th Training section, Sergeant Branchfield used the availability of the CLEP and DANTES subject exams at the Base Education office and attended Senior NCO Academy in residence to help complete the requirements needed to obtain hers AA Degree in Instructional Technology.

Sergeant Woods received the last credits he needed by finishing a Natural Science class at Rose State College last fall. He will receive a CCAF degree in Electronic Systems Technology.

Sergeant Choate finished SNCOA correspondence course which helped him complete his AA degree in Avionics Systems Technology. Sergeant King completed requirements for his AA degree when he successfully completed Command NCO Academy correspondence course. Sergeant Ward has since left the 507th to join another reserve unit. Sergeant Williams got the last credits he needed for the AA with the CCAF from Northeastern State University and Sergeant

Guthrie completed NCO Leadership School to obtain a degree in Aircraft Maintenance Technology.

"There are many creative ways to finish the requirements for an Associates of Arts degree," said Ms. Knight. "The important thing is to get it. It really does pay off, with future promotions and better employment opportunities." Ms. Knight said anyone interested in finding out how to obtain their degree may call the Training Office at extension 47075.

CCAF is the largest community, junior or technical college in the United States. The new graduates expanded the college alumni to more than 86,000 students who have earned occupationally related Air Force career field degrees from "the enlisted person's college."

The college is the only program of its kind in the armed forces. It awards associate degrees to enlisted members of the active force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard who complete in-service technical and management studies as well as college courses.

CCAF has 72 degree programs and is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges.

The graduates will receive their degrees in a presentation ceremony at 3:30 p.m. May 1 in the NCO Club.

Air Force Association hosts membership drive

The Air Force Association is conducting its annual membership drive from April 15 through May 24. AFA represents all active duty, reservists and guardsmen, officers, enlisted and civilians in Washington.

Membership is open to anyone interested in air power and its continued growth.

The fee is \$21 per year. The benefits include: a monthly subscription to the

Air Force Magazine, low cost group insurance, an AFA Visa and MasterCard program, automobile rental discounts and an employment transition service.

According to membership drive chairman for the 507th, Mr. Dave Mugg, "The AFA is the only organization that represents all of us in Washington."

He said that during this period of rapid international change and uncertainty, "we need to support our lobbies in

Congress and to get the air power message out."

For more information or an application, contact Dave Mugg at extension 45101 or stop in at the Group command Section in building 1043.

If you recently or will be renewing your application, contact Mr. Mugg so the unit can get credit for a renewal in the base drive.

89ers offers free game

To honor members of the armed forces, Oklahoma City's baseball team, the 89ers will offer free admission to all armed forces personnel and their dependents during their April 28th game against Iowa.

Any active duty, national guard or reserve member along with his or her family will be admitted without charge by showing a military ID card. Military dependents under the age of 10 without an ID card will be admitted free if accompanied by their parents.

The game will begin at 1:35 p.m. April 28th at the All Sports Stadium located at the State Fair Grounds. For more information, contact Jim Drummond or Kristin Cox at 946-8989.

Reserve news you can use

Direct deposit dodges dollar dangers

Finance officials strongly urge everyone, to use the direct deposit program for their pay.

If the family has access to the bank account, using direct deposit would ensure that money would be available to them in the sponsor's absence and would allow other obligations to be met.

Through direct deposit single people can ensure being paid on time each payday. The pay folks state that U.S. Treasury pay checks will not be sent to deployment areas, so direct deposit is the way.

Diners club cards good as cash for food

Air Force Morale, Welfare and Recreation club operations now accept Diner's Club credit cards. Diner's Club cards have been issued to military people and federal employees since June 1, 1990.

They may now be used on base to cover billeting, food service and travel expenses. Officers clubs, noncommissioned officers clubs, Airmen's clubs and consolidated clubs now accept the card for food expenses.

Employer Support

If one or more of your civilian co-workers has volunteered or been called to active duty for the war, you might pass on a special thanks to your employer from the Chief of the Air Force Reserve. Maj. Gen. John J. Closner considers civilian employers of Reservists to be among the "Unsung heroes" of Desert Storm.

General Closner said, "Employers throughout the nation are making

sacrifices as some of their employees temporarily left jobs in support of our nation's objectives. It's their attitude and support that help make our country unique among every nation on earth."

VA benefits

People mobilized for Operation Desert Storm will qualify for most veterans' benefits, according to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The law grants basic VA eligibility to people who originally enlisted after Sept. 7, 1980, and to all others who entered the service after Oct. 16, 1981, who complete the shorter of either 24 months of continuous active duty or the full period for which they are activated

. Reservists will be eligible for more benefits if Congress declares the Persian Gulf War an official wartime period. VA offices have more details.

Pay for unused accrued leave

The Department of Defense has waived the number of unused accrued days of leave that can be sold for payment. Current law limits people to receiving payment for 60 days of unused leave during their military career. The waiver is the result of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and applies only to leave for fiscal years 1990 and 1991. Finance offices have details.

Clear material beforehand

If you are asked to speak to a local civic group, school or agency about your unit's participation in Operation Desert Shield or Desert Storm, make sure you obtain the necessary review of your material through the office of public affairs. Contact public affairs at extension 47038.

Caution urged on contract agreements

Beware, you could be committing a crime without knowing it. No Air Force member or employee shall involve the Air Force in a contract or otherwise obligate the Air Force for payment of money for any purpose without authority.

A contracting officer is the only person authorized to enter into contracts on behalf of the government. If you have questions about proper contracting procedures, check with your local contracting office.

Promotions

Congratulations to the following individuals who were promoted in March.

To SrA

Jodie Brown, Renita Buckner, Cris Cunningham, Michael Gibbons, Andrew Green, Loren Hall, Sharon Knight, Glynn Lucas Jr., Scotty Moberly, Doan Nguyen, Hugh Quick, Terry Richmond, Kenneth Sarsycki, Malanie Sokolove, Jeffrey Teoli, Paul Vaughn Jr., and Paul Walker.

To SSgt.

Rebecca Benson, Shawn Blankenship, Dennis Brown, Byron Fisher, Sharon Godfrey, James Kutner, Crandall Lewis, Thresa Patterson, Jerry Sample and Richard Ward.

To TSgt.

Kevin Stiffam

To MSgt.

Billy Singleton