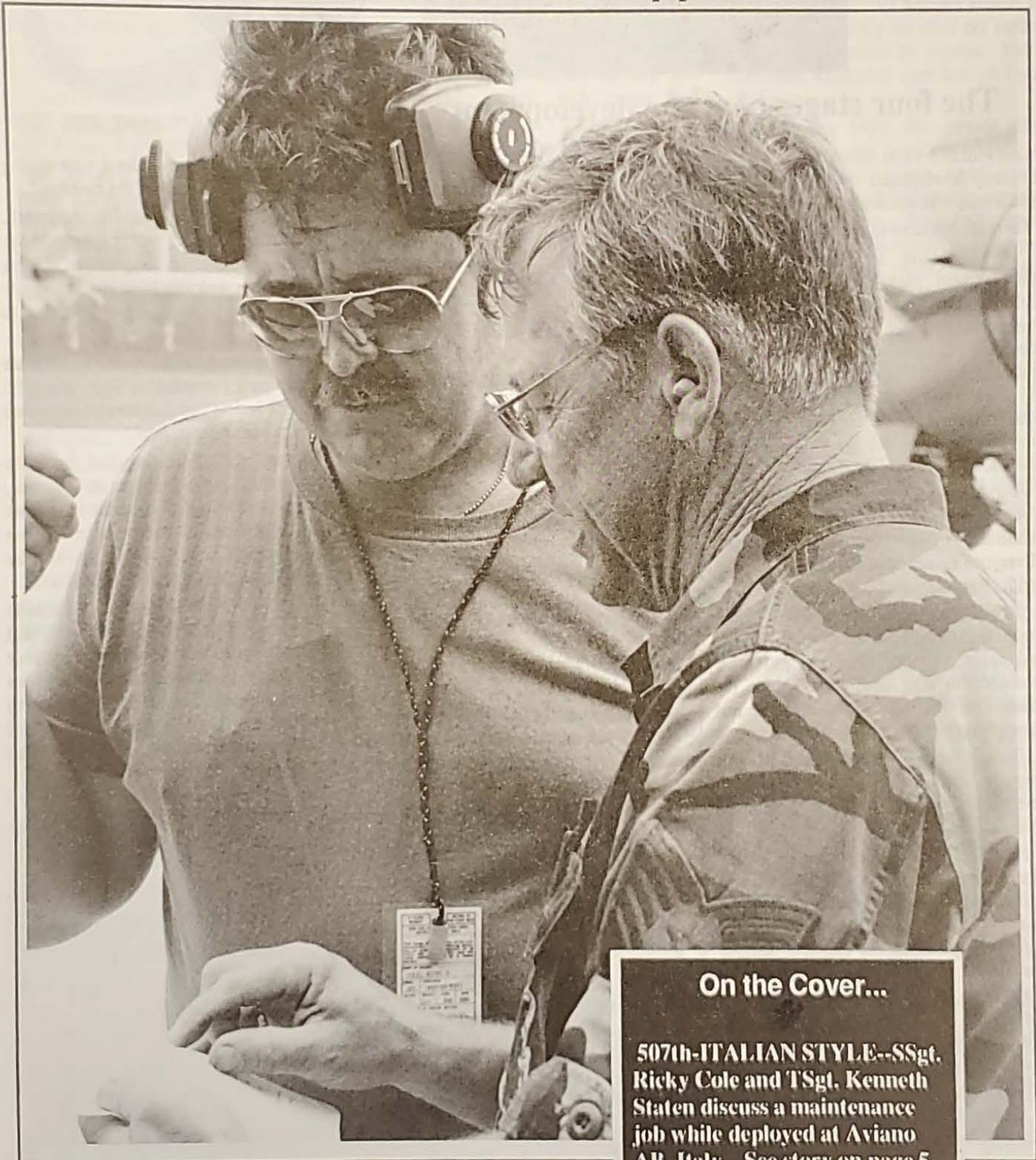


Your Air Force Reserve Newspaper



On the Cover...

507th-ITALIAN STYLE--SSgt. Ricky Cole and TSgt. Kenneth Staten discuss a maintenance job while deployed at Aviano AB, Italy. See story on page 5. (U.S. Air Force photo by TSgt. Stan Paregien)

Quality Talk

By Capt. Joel Clay, 507th Quality Officer



The four stages of group development

Last month I wrote about the four stages of group development. I would like to give you a recipe for successful teams.

There are ten steps to successful teams:

1) Clarity in team goals; 2) An improvement plan; 3) Clearly defined roles; 4) Clear communication; 5) Beneficial team behavior; 6) Well-defined decision procedures; 7) Balanced participation; 8) Established ground rules; 9) Awareness of the group process; 10) Use of the scientific approach. Much of this comes from the book *Group/Team Issues*, a reference manual.

First, let's look at Clarity in Team Goals. "A team works best when everyone understands its purpose and goals." Everyone agrees upon a workable mission with clear vision and end goals in mind.

Second, an Improvement Plan. "Groups help the team determine what advice, assistance training, materials, and other resources it may need. They guide the team in determining schedules and identifying mileposts."

Third, Clearly Defined Roles. "Teams operate most effectively if they tap everyone's talents, and all members understand their duties."

Fourth, Clear Communication. "Good discussions depend on how well information is passed between team members." There are many levels of information sharing, for example: sensing statements, thinking statements, feeling statement, and action and intention statements. Some other ideas are to speak with clarity and directness, be succinct, listen actively, avoid interrupting and talking when others are speaking.

Fifth, Beneficial Team Behaviors. "Ideally, team members should: * Initiate discussions, seek information and opinions, suggest procedures for reaching goals, clarify or elaborate on ideas,

summarize, test for consensus, act as gatekeepers, keep the discussion from digressing" and other helpful behaviors.

Sixth, Well-defined Decision Procedures. Important decisions should be made by consensus. Sometimes it is important to test for that consensus. Even in consensus, however, decisions should be made on basis of data, not feelings. Explore important issues by polling (voting), but decide by consensus. This insures no one is unsure about the decision and thus agrees with it. They may not agree with it in total, but they can agree with it in principle.

Seventh, Balanced Participation. All team members should participate in discussions and decisions and share commitment to the project's success.

Eighth, Establish Ground Rules. "Groups invariably establish ground rules or 'norms' for what will and will not be tolerated in the group.

Ninth, Awareness of Group Process. "Ideally, all team members should be aware of the group process -- how the

team works together -- along with paying attention to the content of the meeting."

Tenth, Use of the Scientific Approach. "Teams that use a scientific approach, the reliance on good data for problem solving and decision making, have a much easier time arriving at permanent solutions to problems.

Many arguments are between individuals with strong opinions. The scientific approach insists that opinions be supported by, or at least refer to data."

No matter what you may feel about the influx of Japanese products to America, the reason for their high quality of these products is directly attributable to their use of the scientific method. Our success depends on us using this method as well.

There is a wealth of reading available to make you a better group participant and leader. Invest some time in improving your competency in this area and watch your success increase in direct proportion to your skills. This will insure true Total Quality Management throughout the 507th.

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72nd Aerial Port Squadron merges with 507th

By SSgt. Larry Medina
 72nd Aerial Port Squadron

Changes in military structure are occurring nationwide and the Air Force Reserve is no exception. The 72nd Aerial Port Squadron merged with the 507th Fighter Group on June 1. This change follows 21 years of reporting directly to a Kelly AFB, Texas, C-5 Reserve unit, the 433 Military Airlift Wing.

The 72 APS was originally formed at Tinker Air Force Base in July, 1971. The unit retains its original mission to train personnel to deploy and provide sustained support of aircraft operations. Its strength has remained stable during the past 21 years, and its current mission statement includes a mobile mission. Current squadron strength is 102 members against an authorized manning of 126 positions.

Over the years, the squadron has participated in annual tours in Germany, Panama, England, Korea, and Saudi Arabia. In one noteworthy annual tour to Japan, members of the 72nd supported Ronald Reagan's Tokyo World Summit, including the loading and unloading of Presidential limousines. The unit has also participated in numerous exercises, including Patriot Partner in 1989.

Once a year, 72nd APS members, dressed in full chemical ensembles, practice for the inevitable, a chemical warfare attack, a simulate the loading and unloading of cargo aircraft under wartime conditions. Squadron members participating in the exercise learn to identify and protect themselves against chemical contamination in the event the unit is called into action. The realism of an enemy chemical or biological attack is very evident.

The 72nd was activated to support Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

The importance of that training became apparent on November 27th, 1990, when President George Bush ordered the unit to active duty to support Operation Desert Shield.

The unit had never been activated before, not even during Vietnam. The 72nd was

mobilized by request of Tinker AFB officials, through Headquarters Air Force Logistics Command, due to a dramatic increase in supplies being shipped to the Middle East. The 114 extra people affected by the call-up significantly increased the Air Force wartime tasking to process, load and unload military and commercial aircraft with cargo and passengers.

Even though the 72nd was MAC-gained,



MAC assigned the unit to Tinker, and members worked alongside 600 military and civilian employees in the Transportation Operations Division, including mobilized Reservists of the 136th Mobile Aerial Port Squadron from Irving, Texas. The deadline for assembly was November 28th, 12 hours after the recall order. Even the six people on temporary duty at the 512th Military Airlift Wing, Dover AFB, Delaware, were ordered to Tinker.

In the next few weeks, Tinker's Aerial Port of Embarkation surged to become the second largest aerial port in the world and the only inland United States Air Force facility of its kind. The hustle and bustle of the war effort was highly visible at Tinker AFB.

On base, one could see literally hundreds of pallets, loaded, processed and waiting to be shipped in what during peacetime were parking lots. As fast as personnel were unloading trucks and loading aircraft, more cargo was arriving.

Approximately 50 tractor-trailers appeared daily bringing supplies to be inventoried, processed and palletized. At least 14 loads of sorted mail also arrived at

the base each day from Dallas and San Francisco consolidation points of airlift to the Middle East.

In December, 72nd squadron members and Tinker personnel worked around the clock with virtually no days off battling wind chills of minus 36 degrees. Yet, at Christmas, 45 aircraft went through Tinker in 36 hours.

In January, 1991, the overall effort, estimated at some 5 billion pounds and more than 220,000 people, which equates to moving half of Oklahoma City complete with cars, trucks, household goods, warehouses and supermarkets. In the peak month of February, 14,000 tons of cargo were moved, more than 10 times the previous monthly average.

The 72nd APS was the only aerial port within the 433 MAW to be activated during Desert Storm. At a May 3, 1991 deactivation ceremony, Brig. Gen. Marcelite Harris told the more than 100 members of the 72nd APS: "You made the 'Total Force' concept work." In a previous visit of April, Donald Rice, Secretary of the Air Force, praised 72nd members for their wartime accomplishments.

The 1,800 airlift missions during the largest airlift in history was a record for the 72nd APS. The squadron's endeavors during the Persian Gulf War have been immortalized in Oklahoma City's Bricktown walk of fame.

Unit awards in 1991 included a 1991 Desert Storm Appreciation Award, a 1991 Reserve Officer's Association Award for Desert Storm Support, and a 1991 Organizational Excellence Award.

In addition to the contributions members of the 72nd have made to their communities, the unit has participated in numerous charitable causes over the years. Some of these include the annual toys for tots and food baskets for the needy campaigns, in addition to the squadron's annual involvement in public television's fund raising telethon.

Health expectations

By Dr. (Lt. Col.) Aberto Angles
507th Medical Squadron

The continuous explosion of technological advances from artificial intelligence to genetic engineering, as clearly demonstrated in Operation Desert Storm, have been the trademark of our scientific conquests. These achievements have programed us to assume that whatever goes wrong with your health can be fixed.

Your reliance in health care services for your entire health status and your complete dependence in government agencies like the Food and Drug Administration to see that everything that you consume is safe and nutritious is unrealistic.

If you are ill, do you expect your doctor to be able to fix everything that goes wrong, and you are so disappointed when he or she cannot, that you want to sue for malpractice? If so think about your expectations.

Do you assume because you seem healthy, don't smoke, are a light drinker, are not fat, and can walk upstairs without getting out of breath, that you don't need to bother with preventive measures or help from preventive health professionals, or periodic checkups, or a better organized and thought out approach to your health?

If so, think again because your assumption is INCORRECT.

You must realize that you can do something about how long and how well you live. This requires some

knowledge and commitment on your part. You have to know how to plan for and manage your health, where to get the assistance you will need along the way, and that the results will depend on the effort you put into it.

Over time this column will give you the know how to do the job, but the effort belongs exclusively to you. You must also recognize that modern medicine despite marvelous breakthroughs does not have perfect answers for everything.

Rehabilitation from Drug Abuse, though much better than drug addiction, leaves behind physical and emotional after effects that you have to live with for the rest of your life.

Surgical, Radiotherapy or Chemotherapy "cure" for cancer, when it is achieved, is much better than death, but sometimes leaves disabilities and discomforts that must be endured for the rest of your life.

You must pursue health and wellness with a vigor equal to your other life objectives. You must learn what you can expect and what you should not expect from the health care system available to you, and learn how to get what you need from that system and what you can do to improve the outcome.

The business of Health Care Professionals is helping you get better when you are ill; staying well is up to you.

Till next time, your Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Staff.



Condolences expressed to 507th family

TSgt. Billy Hughes dies

TSgt. Billy L. Hughes, age 57, was laid to rest July 15 in Oklahoma City after suffering a fatal heart attack three days earlier while on duty during a UTA drill.

Sergeant Hughes served in the Air Force from June 1955 until 1963. He joined the Air National Guard at Will Rogers airport in 1975 and served until 1982. He joined the 507th Fighter Group in 1982 as an Air Reserve Technician.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia; a son, Gary; daughter, Pam Draler of Ramona, California; a stepson and his wife, Don and Carol Vande; two grandchildren; mother, Nell Hughes of Walhalla, S.C.; two brothers; two sisters and many nephews and nieces.

Condolences to SMSgt. Kellington

Members of the 507th have expressed their condolences to SMSgt. Robert Kellington of the Life Support section.

Sergeant Kellington's daughter, Dana and son-in-law, Chris, died July 13 as a result of fatal injuries received in an automobile accident. The newlywed couple were married on June 26.

Dana was a 1990 graduate of Choctaw High School and was attending Rose State College majoring in criminal justice.

Chris was a 1987 graduate of Del City High School and was attending Rose State College majoring in Pre-Med and Physical Therapy.

Funeral services were held in Oklahoma City July 17.



READY FOR FLIGHT-- SSgt. Richard Lollis, aircraft mechanic and MSgt. Ronald Abersoll, armament systems mechanic, prepare a four-ship formation for take-off at Aviano AB, Italy. 507th

members deployed to Aviano for a month-long exercise called Coronet Soldier. U.S. Air Force photo by 1st Lt. Rich Curry)

507th members deploy to Italy

The 507th completed a month-long overseas deployment to Aviano AB, Italy July 12.

The deployment, called Coronet Soldier, was the first major overseas deployment for the unit since 1985 and represented months of planning.

The unit deployed 12 F-16 aircraft and more than 600 people in two-week shifts to perform the mission of the 507th

"I was happy with the quality of training we received and morale of our people on the deployment," said 507th Commander, Lt. Col. Robert Lytle. "The members of Aviano AB really went above and beyond in many areas to support us."

Major Rod Lane, 507th deputy commander for maintenance agreed, saying, "Maintenance received excellent support. Everyone at Aviano AB was really accommodating. If we needed it and they had it, we got it."

TSgt. Calvin Keller, of munitions storage, said he was impressed with the assistance received from the Aviano AB support personnel.

"We got here on the runway and ramps and found the active duty in the Zulu area ready to help us right away. They prepositioned the materials and really made us feel at home. The area was clear and available for our use, and they showed us everything we needed to know including how to shut the protective doors on the hangars."

While there, the 507th tried to return the hospitality by supporting the base with crews and a static display to explain the F-16 to Italian military members.

One of the benefits of a deployment is giving reservists the chance to do their jobs under different working conditions. Deployments also provide the opportunity for active duty and reserve to work together and develop a better appreciation of each other.

CMSgt. Jerry Elders, 507th maintenance supervisor, had some good words for the deployment, saying, "We've had a few minor problems, but the base supported us quite well. Working out of hardened shelters and doing integrated combat turns is a great benefit to our training."



ABOVE: SSgt Michael Vaughn and SSgt Richard Lilly prepare to refuel an F-16.

TOP RIGHT: SSgt. Sean Hall and SrA Marquette Anderson, ordnance equipment mechanics load a munitions assembly rack onto a trailer.

RIGHT: TSgt. Georgeanne Daidone, fixes up another plate of hot food for a hungry 507th member at the Aviano AB Dining Hall.



ABOVE: Lt. Col. "Bugs" Forsythe announces the "Uncle Bugs Campout". Returning unit members slept overnight in the hangar due to a broken aircraft.

BELOW: The happy campers.



ABOVE: After an almost all-night session, Okie "fixers" get their ride back home...back on.

BELOW: It's cot city in the hangar. Here CMSgt. Ray Deutsch and MSgt. Kenneth Kessee set up another one.





ABOVE: SSgt. Kathleen Lowman and SSgt. Linda Nichols at work on aircraft 329.

CENTER: Crew chiefs wait for the start of a mass take off.

RIGHT: SrA Charlett Brown keeps track of the daily work activities.



New ammo takes the "lead" out of shooting

ROBINS AFB, Ga. -- Concern for the environment is literally on the firing line in the U.S. Military.

In April 91, Air Force Reserve security police, to find a solution to the problem of lead pollution and ricochets, tested frangible ammunition. The test, observed by the Air Force Security Police Agency, Kirtland AFB, N.M., found the frangible ammunition to be a viable solution to both problems. Both bullet and primer are lead free and do not pollute the environment.

Firing ranges have come under Environmental Protection Agency fire for polluting water tables and the soil. The cost of cleaning up one cubic yard of soil

is \$100, making the average range clean-up cost about \$275,000.

Frangible ammo is also a solution to the problem of ricochets. At a 5-degree angle, the bullet disintegrates into powder upon impact on a hard surface. There is no splash back from the bullet to shooter when the bullet strikes a hard surface at 15 feet.

"Because of these qualities, the new ammo can replace the need for the current 22 Cal. rim-fire adapter," said SMSgt. Charles L. D. Mays, Air Force Reserve combat arms training and maintenance manager. "The frangible cartridge costs slightly more than the service round but does not cause lead pollution. Another important feature is

the ammo can be fired without modifying the rifle."

The Air Force has requested \$1.9 million of frangible ammo be purchased per year for the next two years. The Air Staff has tasked the USAF Ammo Control Point to determine price and availability of the frangible ammunition. The ammunition has become a multi-service issue. It is expected to be in the field by 1994.

Earlier this year the Air Force Reserve took another giant step closer to a pollution-free range environment. The Reserve received waiver authority to use a firearms training simulator. The simulator may be used to conduct firearms qualification training for some 42,000 reservists. (AFRESNS)

Engineers have rewarding weekend

By MSgt. Tom Clapper
507th Civil Engineering Squadron

It was not the Academy Awards where movie stars win Oscars, nor was it the Emmys where television actors are honored, nor the Tony for theatrical ability or Grammys for selling records. It was an afternoon of Civil Engineers being awarded and commended.

While the 507th Fighter Group was either enroute to or from Italy, Civil Engineering held an awards ceremony in the Base Prime BEEF building to honor those members of their unit who had made a difference and led by example.

A number of individuals received the Air Force Commendation Award for their outstanding individual performance.

Those include: SMSgt. Bobby Ficklin, SMSgt. Teresa Madison, MSgt. Thomas Irwin, and TSgt. Andrew May.

Receiving the Air Force Commendation Award in addition to the Air Force Achievement Medal was MSgt Richard Wood.

The following members received Air Force Achievement Medals:

CMSgt. Robert Carlile, Master Sergeants James Craft Karrick Davis, Loyd Gayman, Teresa Madison, and James Snell; TSgt. Robert Enriquez, TSgt. Clifford Demers, Staff Sergeants David Hastings, John Potter, Teresa Price, Terry Smith, and Cynthia Stanley; Sergeant Gerald Bowland, Senior Airmen David Haggard, James Kuntner, Mairbel Areanas, and Samuel Neal.

It was hot and humid in the Prime BEEF building, but everyone stood proudly at attention in respect for the actions that had earned these awards. Recognition had finally come to many who had exerted themselves and made the additional commitment to carry out through the most difficult of circumstances regardless of the many obstacles.

None of those honored was thinking of recognition. They all saw a difficult job that had to be done and determined to do it. But they were all proud to receive recognition that demonstrated their own commitment and the unit's thanks.

AFRES-owned installations change names not mission

ROBINS AFB, Ga. -- Nine Air Force Reserve-owned bases and units have changed names, but not missions.

Beginning June 1, 1992, Westover AFB, Mass., and Dobbins AFB, Ga., were renamed air reserve bases. Reserve units at municipal and international airports, except Portland IAP, Ore., were renamed air reserve stations.

To be renamed an air reserve base, the installation had to be a self-supporting

center of operations with all land, facilities and support needed to accomplish the unit mission.

Individual unit name changes are: O'Hare Air Reserve Forces Facility to O'Hare IAP Air Reserve Station, Ill.; General Mitchell IAP Air Reserve Forces Facility to General Mitchell IAP Air Reserve Station, Wis.; Greater Pittsburgh IAP Air Reserve Forces Facility to Greater Pittsburgh IAP Air Reserve

Station, Pa.; Minneapolis-St Paul IAP to Minneapolis-St Paul IAP Air Reserve Station, Minn.; Niagara Falls IAP to Niagara Falls IAP Air Reserve Station, N.Y.; Willow Grove Air Reserve Facility to Willow Grove Air Reserve Station, Pa.; and Youngstown MAP to Youngstown MPT Air Reserve Station, Ohio.

Mission Statement reflects ACC goals

By TSgt. Oscar Dixon
Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON -- The Air Force's mission statement was unclear, so in 13 words Gen. Merrill A. McPeak clarified it.

ACC Mission: "To defend the United States through control and exploitation of air and space."

That statement is the Air Combat Command mission, said the Air Force chief of staff during a speech at Air University, Maxwell AFB, Ala. "This statement describes our purposes today and what our purposes will be."

"How can you reorganize, restructure, how can you build a quality Air Force if you cannot say in clear, simple language what our mission is? We need a mission that unifies all our people."

McPeak said in the past that, if asked, Air Force people responded to the mission question with something like "to organize, train and equip forces for prompt and sustained air combat." And while he agrees these "functions" assigned to the Department of the Air Force by the National Security Act of 1947 and subsequent Department of Defense instructions are important, they're not the mission.

"(These) are functions we must do, and that we understand and do well," the general said. "But, we do not exist as an institution for the purpose of organizing, equipping, and training ourselves. We have a much broader, inspiring purpose."

The general said because Air Force people are loyal, without a clear understanding of overarching purposes, some give their loyalty to the next best thing -- their particular job or their equipment.

The central idea behind the new mission statement, the general said, is to define the Air Force's mission in terms of the medium in which it operates -- air and space. He explained the key words in the statement, control and exploitation, this way:

-- Control. "If we control air and space ourselves, we can move through it at will and we can decide who else shall move through it.

"Whoever does this, whoever controls air and space, accrues enormous military advantages."

-- Exploitation. "To exploit air and space means to understand this arena and to possess efficient and effective means to operate there.

"(We have) to make air and space work for us, to manage them in such a way as to reap the military advantages manifest therein."

The general said the Air Force has often translated its ability to exploit air and space into direct payoff in combat, and in performing non-combat tasks to achieve national objectives.

"So, control and exploitation cover the whole range of things we want to do in air and space."

McPeak added that because time is so critical to military operations, the value of air and space forces increases.

"We cannot know where the next trouble spot will be," he said.

"We know that every interesting location on Earth is visited several times a day by our large constellation of satellites. And we know that no place on Earth is more than 23 flying hours away from Whiteman AFB (Mo., future home of the B-2)."

McPeak said the mission statement is also important to help guide people through this time of change and challenge in the Air Force.

"The secretary (of the Air Force) and I are working hard to build a more combat-oriented Air Force. The Air Force is undergoing an almost physical transformation, a metamorphosis, a shedding of skin as we go to the next stage of development. Changes of this kind are always painful, but we can see that it's necessary and the Objective Air Force will be a better one."

In addition to the changes, the general said people face unpleasant challenges such as budget cuts, end strength reductions, force structure losses, base closures and program cancellations.

"These two sets of changes -- those we are stepping up to voluntarily and those being handed to us -- can weaken our Air Force. We must not allow this to happen.

"We need a mission that defines what makes us special, that can inspire, and that can make sacrifice seem worthwhile.

"Understanding our mission will help by giving us a steady compass bearing to get through this heavy weather and into the clear," he said. "That's why the mission statement is so important."



Summertime means fun time at Tinker

There is still plenty of time for you to take advantage of all the summer activities available on and off base, according to Morale Welfare and Recreation officials.

Are you considering going on vacation and need discount tickets for various attractions? Discounted tickets can be ordered through the ticketbox at Civilian Recreation, Bldg. 3001, area C, post Y-80 and Information Tickets and Tours (located at the Outdoor Recreation and Equipment Checkout Center, Bldg. 5935). Current outstanding events include the following here in Oklahoma:

- White Water
 - Frontier City
 - Oklahoma City 89ers baseball games
 - Enterprise Square, "The Disneyland of Economics"
 - General Cinema movies
- Other tickets are available for attractions outside OKC:
- Disneyland
 - Sea World
 - Silver Dollar City
 - Six Flags over Texas
 - Worlds of Fun
 - Universal Studios

For details or a price list, call Information Tickets and Tours at ext. 42289, or Civilian Recreation at ext. 42560.



News about the
Air Force

Also this summer, the Tinker Arts and Crafts Center Auto Hobby Shop, Bldg. 6002, is now open on Mondays.

A lap quilting class is currently being offered by the Tinker Arts and Crafts Center. Students are instructed on applique and quilting techniques. The class is held from 7 to 9 p.m., Thurs days. For details call the center at ext. 45615.

The Tinker Bowling Center, Bldg. 5703, has expanded the hours of operation for summer. The center has many leagues to choose from and caters to bowlers of all ages. The center also still offers children's bowling birthday parties. Call the center at ext. 43484.

Volunteers are needed for Outdoor Recreation's waterskiing classes. Positions for instructor, driver and teacher are open. Interested persons are encourage to call ext. 43162 or 42289.



Answers available on Veteran benefits

Do you have questions about benefits you're entitled to?

If so the answers are available free.

You have served your country well. Now it is time to go back to civilian life.

How can you make sure you get all the benefits you deserve?

In response to the new generation of veterans from Desert Storm and the military force reduction. The American Legion has prepared a special handbook about veterans benefits.

The booklet includes articles about education and employment assistance and much more. If you or a veteran you know need a FREE copy of the book "The American Legion Handbook of Veterans Benefits," write to:

The American Legion National Headquarters
ATTN: Veterans Handbook Requests
P.P. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN
46206-1055



The On-final is published for 507th members like these waiting to go home from Italy.

Besides, you don't have to wait in line to pick up your copy. (U.S. Air Force photo by TSgt Stan Paregien)

Reserve News you can use

Reservists may use gyms

Reservists may use Morale, Welfare and Recreation fitness centers on active-duty bases regardless of duty status, according to a new policy released by Air Force MWR officials.

Members of the selected reserve are required to maintain the same fitness levels as active-duty members. This change in policy is in line with Total Quality Force initiatives.

Officials point out that if facility availability is limited during peak periods, use by non-duty status reservists may be limited to other than peak periods.

Tinker AFB officials are currently staffing the issue of peak periods and how to best serve reservists. Officials said in addition to facility use reservists should be eligible to enroll in gym health fitness programs. On-final will publish more about the gym hours as the information becomes available.

Training videos available

The 507th Training Office has a selection of training videotapes available for checkout by unit members.

According to MSgt. Stephanie Thrower, Chief of the Training Section, the videotapes offer members the convenience of private education and are free.

Here are some of the selections available:

Confident Public Speaking, 3 volumes

High Impact Leadership, 3 volumes

How to Delegate work, 2 volumes

Building a Customer Driven Organization, 3 volumes

Team Building, 3 volumes

How to give Exceptional Customer service, 4 volumes

Self-Esteem & Peak Performance, 2 volumes

Project Management, 2 volumes

Professional Telephone Skills, 2 volumes

For more information about other training videos or to reserve a tape, call Training at extension 47075

Billeting Policy remains unchanged

Air Force Reserve officials are stating the Reserve billeting policy will remain unchanged according to an announcement made at the 10th Air Force Commander's conference last month.

As published in last month's On-final, the Reserve billeting policy had come under challenge by Defense officials. That policy, providing free billeting for reservists on inactive duty training such as UTA status, had been viewed inappropriate the comptroller of DoD.

The Reserve's billeting policy has been in effect for many years. Officials stated that providing free billeting was a necessary cost of doing business since the required personnel couldn't have been recruited without these services.

Both the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard currently provide inactive training status billeting. The Army and Navy do not.

Reservists meet for first training assembly

ROBINS AFB, Ga. -- About 50 Air Force Reservists assigned to the 8600th Air Force Reserve Command Support Group met for their first unit training assembly here July 11-12.

Formation of the group is the result of the Air Force Reserve's reorganization of its numbered air forces.

Some 61 additional air reserve technician positions and about 56 Category A reservist slots have been added to the Headquarters AFRES staff since the start of 1992. Before then, only a handful of key positions were held by ARTs and there were no Cat B reservists.

Officials expect most of the positions will be filled by October. (AFRESNS)

Reservist among Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen

ROBINS AFB, Ga. -- An Air Force Reservist and Gulf War veteran from the 37th Aeromedical Evacuation Group, MacDill AFB, Fla., is one of the Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year for 1992.

During the war, SSgt. Dean P. Handy was assigned to an aeromedical evacuation liaison team supporting the 18th Airborne Corps during its ground campaign into Iraq. The communications systems radio operator was responsible for providing communication for the team and came under Iraqi Scud missile attacks.

The 29-year-old sergeant joined the Air Force Reserve in 1987 after a four-year active-duty tour. He was one of five reservists representing the Air Force Reserve in the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year competition.

"To have my name brought up in the company of this year's winners is indeed a honor," Sergeant Handy said.

Senior Service Schools procedures change

ROBINS AFB, Ga. -- It is easier for Air Force Reserve officers to apply for senior and intermediate service schools.

Those applying for upcoming schools must follow new procedures and submit applications to their numbered air force by July 31.

"With the modifications in place, applying for schools should be better and easier for officers," said Tom Obenland, AFRES chief of training and education, deputy chief of staff for personnel.

"Some portions of the process will not be changed even though less paperwork is needed. The biographical sketch used in the older process is no longer required. Neither will the application form be used."

Obenland said the applications will flow through the NAF to arrive at Headquarters AFRES by Aug. 27.