

on-final

An Air Force
Reserve newspaper

SSgt. Taunya Avery helps
Maj. Jerry Irwin strap in for
a mission during Patriot
Hermano, the 507th's
deployment to Venezuela.
(Photo courtesy of MSgt.
Benny Reeves)



PUSH BUTTON TO OPEN DOOR
PULL RING OUT 6 FEET TO
JETTISON CANOPY



On-final

Vol XIII No 2
Tinker AFB, Oklahoma

507th Fighter Group
February 1993

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Closner Sends - February 1993

*By Maj. Gen. John J. Closner
Commander, Air Force Reserve*

Here's a challenge that might save your life. Decide if you might be the cause of our next flying accident. Once you've done that, help us prevent it.

Air Force reservists are busier than ever these days meeting a record number of commitments around the world. We're in Africa, the Middle East, Europe, Asia and Central America. We're also picking up more mission responsibilities within the continental United States. Many of our tanker and airlift aircrews who normally fly about 25 hours a month are now getting waivers to fly up to 150 hours a month.

Some of these individual missions are extraordinarily long.

For example, some pilots supporting Operation Restore Hope are logging 20 hours of uninterrupted flight in missions from California to Middle East staging bases. Put a few of these flights together within a fairly short period of time, and you can count on the fact that fatigue will become a part of your life. There is a real potential for this combination of factors to take its toll in human lives.

People can die when they compromise procedures and take unnecessary risks. I hope none of you are pressing your luck by flying overly tired, dehydrated, or when completely out of sorts with your body clocks.

It's imperative to know "when to say when." We must heed the signs that tell us we're not ready to give 100 percent concentration to the task at hand. Then we must act upon that realization. You, the nation and your families deserve nothing less.

1993 UTA dates listed

20-21 Mar 26-27 Jun 25-26 Sep

17-18 Apr 17-18 Jul

15-16 May 14-15 Aug

What's wrong with fraternization?

*by Capt. Jack Sisson
507th Social Actions Office*

When you hear the word fraternization, what mental image do you conjure up? Is it a negative or positive image? Is it an obvious example or is there an image at all?

Why even discuss the subject since we all have a pretty good idea of what it is, or do we?

Well, there's a lot of gray area associated with fraternization. Of course fraternization between officers and enlisted persons which prejudice good order and discipline should definitely be avoided. However, social contact between superior and subordinate which contributes to unit cohesiveness and effectiveness is encouraged.

The key is that officers and NCO's must insure their personal relationships with those they supervise or influence don't give the appearance of favoritism, or impropriety.

Excessive socialization, real or perceived, degrades leadership, interferes with command authority and mission effectiveness.

Leadership and supervision are difficult responsibilities under the best of circumstances. They can also be very challenging and rewarding. In this era of military service where the Air Force Reserve is a highly respected partner with the active duty component, our objective is global reach and power through quality and leadership.

Why even discuss the subject of fraternization? Because it still happens, and when it does it carries with it consequences. Leadership is compromised and supervision becomes even more difficult.

The rewards of leadership are lost in a sea of personnel problems. Most importantly, to the degree that we allow fraternization in our units, we degrade our ability to achieve global reach and power with our active duty partners.

Preview of upcoming events

MARCH

- 2NEW ORLEANS (O & B) 2-5
- 18MED SQ HSI 18-21
- 20AMN NCO OF QTR DUE 1400
- 26APRIL BULLETIN INPUTS DUE
- 31SGLI UPDATE SUSPENSE

APRIL

- 4DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME
- 5CE HONDURAS 5 APR - 5 MAY
- 6NEW ORLEANS (O & B) 6-9
- 13AIR WARRIOR -13-26
- 16QAF
- 17APRIL MRRRs TO UNITS
- 18CAPT UNIT VACANCY PKGS DUE
- 23MAY BULLETIN INPUTS DUE

MAY

- 14LDP GRADUATION 1400
- 15MAPLE FLAG, 15-29
- 22NEW ORLEANS (O & B) 22-25
- 28JUNE BULLETIN INPUTS
- 31MEMORIAL DAY

Ficklin bids farewell

SMSgt. Bobby W. Ficklin, 507th Civil Engineering Squadron, recently retired from the Air Force Reserve.

Sergeant Ficklin enlisted into the Army on March 3, 1953 where he worked in the aviation career field. Sergeant Ficklin separated from the military in 1961, and went to work with Civil Service here at Tinker AFB.

He joined the Air Force Reserve and the 507th Fighter Group in January of 1980, going to work in the Civil Engineering Mechanical Section. He retired from Civil Service in 1987. Sergeant Ficklin was promoted to senior master sergeant in May of 1990.

For the past three years, he served as the Services Superintendent where he supervised and monitored day-to-day activities and training of 17 services specialists.

Sergeant Ficklin participated in several deployments including an annual tour to the Honduras and an active duty tour to Offutt AFB, Neb., during Operation Dessert Storm.

Sergeant Ficklin is married and he and his wife, Pauline, have 3 boys; Rick, Jim and Don. During his retirement ceremony, Sergeant Ficklin stated he HAD to retire now. On December 1 of this year his son, Rick, sewed on Chief stripes, and now outranks him.

Meet Your New Senior Enlisted Advisor

by Major Donald W. Klinko

507FG/PA

Chief Master Sergeant Raymond G. Deutsch replaced CMSgt. Lee Adams as the 507th Fighter Group's Senior Enlisted Advisor at the close of the December 1992 Unit Training Assembly. Chief Adams retired from the Air Force Reserve following 39 years of service.

Our new Senior Enlisted Advisor was born in Sisseton, South Dakota. His family later moved to Beardsley, Minnesota, where he graduated from high school. It was from Beardsley, too, that he embarked on his extensive Air Force career.

Chief Deutsch joined the Air Force in December 1962, completing basic training at Lackland AFB, Texas. He remained "in-state" to enroll in the supply technician's school at Amarillo AFB.

Following that he reported to an overseas installation familiar to many 507th FG members--Cigli AB, Turkey--where he served as a supply technician from June 1963 through December 1964. The chief returned from Turkey to serve as a supply technician at Richards-Gebaur AFB, Missouri. He left extended active duty in December 1966.

Chief Deutsch remarked that he remembered the exact day so well because he knew exactly what he wanted to do: First, take the weekend off; Second, report for duty the following Monday as an Air Reserve Technician (ART) supply specialist at the 442nd Military Airlift Wing, Air Force Reserve, also at Richards-Gebaur AFB. He took time out to marry the former Alice Vanderlinde in 1968.

A civilian position with Headquarters Air Force Communications Command (HQ AFCC), also then located at Richards-Gebaur AFB, lured him away from the ART position in 1971, but he remained a reservist with the 442nd. In fact, even after his civilian job followed HQ AFCC's 1977 move to Scott AFB, Illinois, he remained with the 442nd as a reservist.

During his three decades in the Air Force, Chief Deutsch changed jobs several times. He's justly proud that the Air Force thought he mastered them all--he has attained a nine skill level in no less than six career fields. After working as a supply technician, he received Air Force Specialty Codes

(AFSCs) in jet engine maintenance, maintenance control, job control, materiel control, and became a First Sergeant.

Chief Deutsch first came to Tinker in 1981, when his civilian AFCC job brought him to the Headquarters Southern Communications Command.

He maintained his reserve assignment with the 442nd MAW for eighteen months, but when the position of NCOIC of Materiel Control at the 507th Tactical Fighter Group opened up, he took it. By late 1984, Chief Deutsch became the First Sergeant of the 507th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, which he remained until his recent appointment as the 507 FG Senior Enlisted Advisor.

Given the combination of his broad exposure to the technical aspects of Air Force maintenance and supply, anyone ought to listen closely when Chief Deutsch speaks about managing the enlisted force. "I've seen lots of changes in the Air Force over the past thirty years," he remarked, "but I don't think I've ever seen so many occurring all at once."

"Probably the biggest change affecting us in the Air Force Reserve involve our taking on a larger role than ever before in the Air Force's Total Force structure. We're now expected to do a lot of things that only the active duty force did before, and the trend in that direction is going to continue. Most of the changes and restructuring are necessary, but it's particularly important now that people in the Air Force Reserve don't lose sight of what we're really here for: to ensure



CMSgt. Ray Deutsch, new 507th Senior Enlisted Advisor, is captured building a cot during last summer's deployment to Aviano AB, Italy.

national defense."

Does he have some early advice to those for whom he's charged with making life easier?

"You bet. Let's get our people involved in Total Quality Management (TQM). One of the best things TQM can give us is new ideas. We're being forced to become more efficient, and some of the old ways of doing business just don't fit in anymore. But we sometimes keep using the old ways simply because nobody has come up with a better way. Young folks in the unit should let their shop chiefs know if they have ideas about how we can do something smarter or better or both.

"There's really no such thing as a completely bad idea. Younger enlisted people should pay attention to their Career Development Courses, and more civilian education certainly won't hurt either. Get educated, get upgraded, and get as much duty experience as you possibly can. Remember, you'll be running the show someday. You've heard that before, but 'someday' is going to be here lots quicker than you think it is and your Air Force Reserve part of the overall Air Force 'show' will be even bigger than it is now."

Major Roberts returns from Saudia Arabia

Maj. Barry K. Roberts of the 4401 ARGP/LGE recently returned from a tour of duty at Al Kharj, KSA.

Major Roberts left Oklahoma on May 30, 1992 and went to Shaw AFB for several days of in-briefing on the munitions function at Al Kharj.

When Major Roberts arrived at the AOR on June 4, he stayed at Eskan Village in Riyadh, and made the daily 150 kilometer commute to the base at Al Kharj.

The major who had been in charge of the Harvest Falcon branch had just been evacuated to Germany with a back injury, so Major Roberts was put into his slot temporarily.

Harvest Falcon is the term used to describe the operation which reconstitutes all the bare-base assets and vehicles which were left there after the war. Major Roberts was in charge of a branch with over 400 active duty personnel.

Much of the Harvest Falcon branch's efforts were directed to getting all the many kinds of portable structures, such as temper-tents, portable aircraft hangars (ACH's), General Purpose shelters, and Frame Strengthened Tension Fabric Structures (FSTFS, pronounced 'fists') into shape to be stored for later use.

This involved not only receiving, inspecting and repair, but also stocking each particular type of structure with all the hundreds of items of equipment and supplies needed to make it work.

"Around the middle of July, another officer arrived to take that position and I was finally sent to the Munitions Branch where I belonged," said Major Roberts.

His job was to reconstitute the munitions which were not used in Desert Storm and to return them to storage awaiting further instructions. The branch had around 100 people including active Air Force and DoD civilians from the U.S. Navy's Mobile Ammunition Evaluation and Repair Unit.

The branch Major Roberts worked in operates two munitions storage areas covering more than 4,000 acres and containing 16 million pounds of explosives.

It holds more than 1,000 different kinds of munitions and literally millions of separate items, including everything from 2,000 lb. bombs to the computer guidance units that can make them fly down chimneys.

"Storing ammo in the desert has its advantages and disadvantages. Everything gets full of dust, but nothing there rusts.

"No one has complained of frost-bite, but sometimes tools left too long in the sun can blister an unprotected hand. There are, to say the least, some unique management challenges," Major Roberts said.

When Major Roberts became chief of the Munitions Branch, he moved to "Oscar Site" which is the USAF compound here at the King Faisal Air Academy Annex on Al Kharj Air Base the base is about 150 kilometers south of Riyadh, on the outskirts of the city of Al Kharj, a town of about 60,000 people.

As the senior officer, Major Roberts became OIC of the compound which included 30 full-time residents who lived in three barracks.

Major Roberts and his personnel did have a few amenities at Oscar. They had a swimming pool, gym, recreation room with pool tables, ping-pong and video games, and their own satellite television hook-up.

Major Roberts worked on the Ammo side of the house through August when, to his surprise, he was informed that when the commander rotated out, he would serve in that spot until the new commander arrived.

Command orders and G-series were issued and Major Roberts became the only Reservist ever to command the 4401st Asset Reconstitution Group.

"I do not know how many Reserve majors get the opportunity to be in command of an active duty Group, but it was quite a compliment to me," said Major Roberts.

Reservists qualify for VA Home Loans

Washington -- Air Force Reservists who have completed six or more years of service in the selected reserve and are not otherwise qualified are now eligible for Veterans Administration Home Loans.

Public Law 102-547, signed at the start of Fiscal Year 1993, permits more reservists and national guardsmen to apply for these loans. Previously, members of the guard and reserve had to have served on continuous active duty for at least 90 days during the Persian Gulf War or for up to two years during other periods to attain home loan eligibility.

To qualify under the new criteria, reservists must have completed six years of honorable service in the selected reserve. Typically, this include a member's participation in weekend drills and annual training. The six years of service need not have been consecutive.

Additional information is available by contacting local VA representatives or calling the VA Hot Line at (800) 827-1000.

(AFRESNS)

Patriot Hermano



507th travels south of the border

The 507th Fighter Group took its mission south of the border to Venezuela during operation Patriot Hermano.

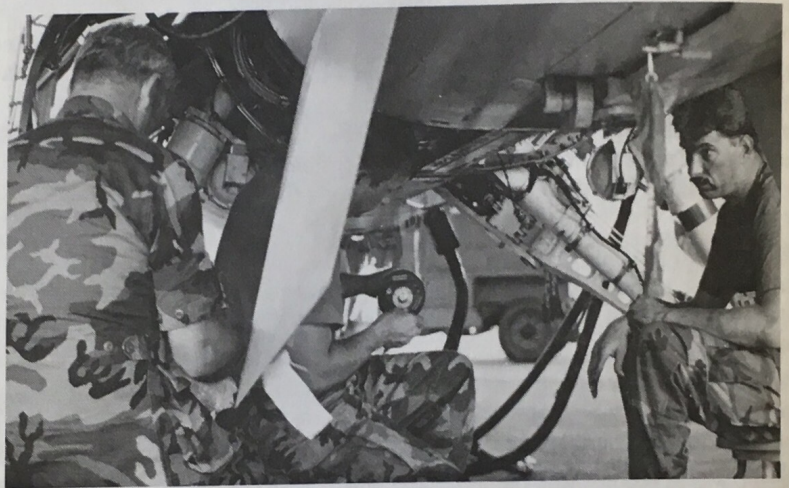
More than 40 members and six F-16s departed Tinker AFB on November 5.

After arriving at the El Libertador Air Base near Maracay, Venezuela, 507th members settled in for two weeks of air-to-ground missions, low altitude, and defensive reaction (air-to-air threat) training while flying with the Venezuelan Air Force.

According to Lt. Col. Waldo King, deployment commander for the 507th, "We did a lot of attack package work with the Venezuelans."

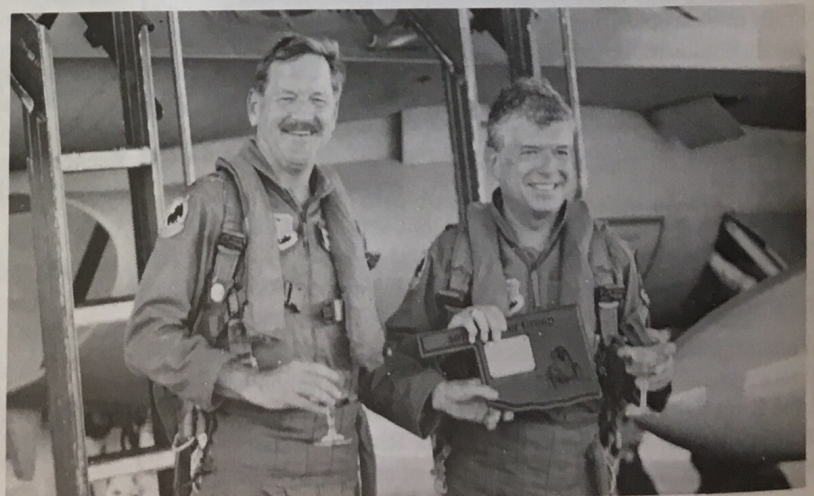
"A plus during this deployment was being able to go out and hit a lot of 'first look' targets," Colonel King said. "Being able to fly on an unfamiliar range helped us sharpen our skills tremendously. It was the best Maverick missile training deployment I've been on."

Colonel King said the group didn't encounter many language problems. "English is a fairly common in the flying sector. We enjoyed working with the Venezuelans. They were great hosts."



Above: Left to right, MSgt. Gene Steffens, SSgt. Keith Brown and SSgt. Phillip Ryan, keep an F-16 in top shape.

Below: Lt. Col. Waldo King, deployment commander, presents U.S. Ambassador to Venezuela, Michael Skol with an Oklahoma plaque after an orientation flight.





On the Road to Caracas: MSgt. Benny Reeves, SSgt. Keith Brown, SSgt. Darryl Murrah, MSgt. Gene Steffens and MSgt. Rick Hart prepare for an OKIE road trip over the weekend.

Photos courtesy of

TSgt. Benny Reeves

and

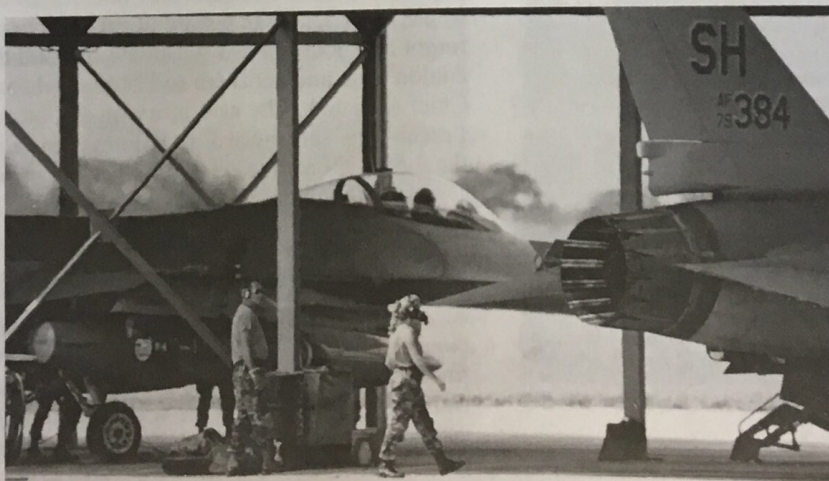
MSgt. Kenneth Coffey



Unfortunately: Into each shopping trip a little rain must fall. Showers like this were rather common.



SSgt. Penny Allen checks over the unit's war readiness spares kit.



TSgt. William Armes and **SSgt. Linda Nichols** prepare an F-16 for takeoff.

New management style integrates TQM with people

by SSgt. Larry Wilson
72nd APS Public Affairs Representative

72 APS VISION

By 1995, the 72nd Aerial Port Squadron will be fully trained and operational in Total Quality Management in support of the AFRES Vision.

- We will be a proud unit with an atmosphere of trust and confidence. Our vision will be developed through effective 2-way communication, teamwork, and fair and equal treatment.
- We will have clearly defined training and goals and sufficient resources.
- We will be fully manned with qualified people, exceeding training and operation requirements.

Lt. Col Frank Hale assumed command of the 72nd APS on August 1, 1991. He brought Lt. Col Richard Divis with him as Squadron Operations Officer. Together, they ushered in a totally new management style that is a departure from the usually rigid military structure.

Col. Hale is a career transportation officer with a degree in transportation from the University of Oregon and was commander of the 43rd APS at Kelly AFB, Texas. He was wing staff transport officer for the 433rd Military Airlift Wing, Kelly AFB when he was tapped for the job as commander of the 72nd.

Q. Col Hale, if you could choose a role model from anyone in history, who would it be and why?

A. What a tough first question. I'd say Jimmy Doolittle. General Doolittle was mission oriented and realized that people were the mechanism that actually accomplished the mission. He put people first.

Q. Your management style is somewhat different from previous commanders we've had. How would you describe it?

A. I believe that people are the most important asset in getting something done, the mission accomplished. People have the ability to work around material limitations. Because of that, I like to empower people to do their job, but I like to give them the flexibility to do the job the way they feel is best.

I do however, provide guidelines for them to work within and I definitely promote team effort. As an example, Colonel Divis and I work together as a team in our leadership principles. Another thing that is important to me is for people to enjoy or have fun doing their job.

Q. What changes would you like to see in the 72nd to enhance it's ability to perform it's mission?

A. I'd like to see a greater amount of communication, both upward and downward. It has improved a great deal since Colonel Divis and I got here. I think that by having open communication, we as leaders are able to find the best people to do the task. Sometimes the best qualified person is not the ideal person to do the job.

Q. There has been a distinct change in the way people are selected for filling promotion positions and additional duty positions. Would you comment on that?

A. We have established a unit position vacancy situation. That is, when we have a slot come open, either promotion slot or additional duty, we post it on the bulletin board. The posting outlines the basic job duties and the skill levels that the leadership feels is necessary to perform the task. After posting the job, we make a formal announcement at Commander's Exchange encouraging people to apply for the job. This system gives people the opportunity to decide if that job is something they would like to pursue. A board is then established to select who we feel is the best person to accomplish that particular mission. Usually this entails doing interviews of all the applicants. It takes more time up front to do this but you tend to find the best person the first time around.

Q. What desirable qualities do you look for when selecting the applicant?

A. The very first thing I look for is desire. If they really want to do the job, then they'll do it. The next thing I look for is the ability to work well with people. Of course, job knowledge and experience is mixed into the equation. Third, is this position going to help this person develop into a more well-rounded leader?

Q. I notice there is more interest and excitement in your Commander's Exchange. Would you tell me why?

A. First of all I decided that Commander's Calls were boring and didn't reflect the real purpose, which is to establish communication and recognize those people contributing to the good of the 72nd. Actually the squadron population was a bit tense. So I decided to do some things that would keep people in a state of expectancy. It started when I forgot my shoes one UTA. Since I live 500 miles from here, I couldn't run and get them so I borrowed some shoes from Chief Alspaugh. The next morning at Commander's Exchange I received a "shoe award" to help me remember my shoes in the future. Of course retaliation was on my mind and Colonel Divis was the recipient of the next award.

Q. What are your comments on the Total Quality Movement?

A. I've been using Total Quality Management with my civilian company for over 10 years. And to sum it up in a nutshell, the process works very well. So I've been supporting the military transition to TQM from the very beginning. In fact, we even established our unit vision before we even began formal training in military TQM."

Help observe Black History Month

Reserve to host special celebration

The 507th Fighter Group will celebrate Black Heritage Week at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Base Theater.

A program will be presented which will recognize the outstanding contributions made by African Americans to U.S. history and the history of the U.S. military.

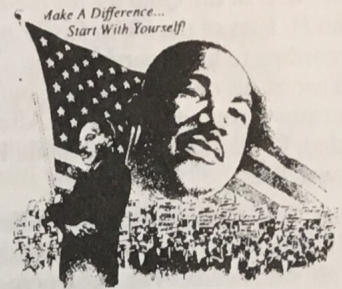
Several special guests have been invited to take part in the ceremonies. The one-hour program will feature guest speakers musical entertainment.

Heading up the program is MSgt. Alan King of the 403rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron. According to Sergeant King, the event is open to all Air Force Reserve members and

507th civilian employees. "We want to have a good turn out this year," he said. "I believe we have some interesting quests and excellent entertainment for everyone to enjoy."

Several entertainers will be on hand including pianist Linda Garcia, and an Evangelistic Baptist choir with Mattie Butler, a dramatic interpreter.

For more information, contact MSgt. Alan King at the 403rd.



Black swallow of death said all blood runs red

America's and the world's first black combat pilot never flew for the U.S.

Nor was he ever treated to a New York City parade, hometown homage or a White House visit. Yet he earned 15 military medals and decorations, including the French Legion of Honor.

Eugene Jacques Bullard wanted to fly for his country. But participation by black Americans in the new age of flight following the Wright brothers historic flight in 1903 did not come easily. Radical discrimination caused many people in the aviation community to believe blacks lacked the aptitude to fly. Bullard had to get his training abroad.

Bullard, who would be nicknamed the "Black Swallow of Death," was born in a shanty Oct. 9, 1894, in Columbus, Ga. The grandson of a slave, he as a lad picked cotton in the fields.

Bullard joined the French Foreign Legion in October 1914 after stowing away on a ship that took him from America to Scotland. He fought in the murderous battle of Artois Ridge, where 175,000 Frenchmen were killed, wounded or missing.

He also fought in the battle of Verdun, which stands in history as the longest and bloodiest battle of World War I. It was the grand assault intended to destroy the French army and end the war in the Germans' favor.

Bullard was badly injured at Verdun. While recovering from the first of four wounds, he transferred to the renowned French Flying School. He proved that blacks could fly and fly competently. He piloted a blue Spad fighter at the front and was credited with 75 flying hours over enemy territory.

Between the major wars, biographers said Bullard joined the French underground and worked as a spy with such people as the renowned Cleopatre Terrier.

At age 45, he fled Paris in search of the infantry regiment he served with during World War I. After making contact with the group, he was assigned to a machine gun company. He was later injured and issued a pass enabling him to leave for Spain where he was granted a passport to New York.

When he died in 1961, Bullard was dressed in the uniform of a French Legionnaire and buried in the French war veterans' cemetery in Flushing, N.Y.



Eugene J. Bullard.

NCO and Airman of the Quarter named

The NCO of the Quarter for the July-Sept timeframe is TSgt John H. Ries of the 507th Civil Engineering Squadron. According to his supervisors, he is a reservist who has made full use of his military training and skills as a heavy equipment operator throughout the world. After the war with Kuwait ended, he was hired by the Santa Fe Drilling Co. to fight the oil well fires.

TSgt. Ries worked with Red Adair and a team of 15-25 individuals who were credited with extinguishing and capping of 780 well heads. The classroom and field training on Explosive Ordnance he received as a military member helped keep him out of harms way for the 7 months he was there. He has competed in 4 Regional Pro Bowling Association tours and has won the Sunday night mixers league 5 times in 8 years. He coaches the Young American Bowling Association youth leagues and when possible he helps coach little league T-ball.

Some of TSgt. Ries' significant self-improvement efforts include the certificate of training for the Regional Equipment Operators Training School, certificate of training Explosive Ordnance Recognition Class, Explosive ordnance recognition and removal while in Kuwait, and he is also cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certified.

TSgt. Ries has received the Air Force Achievement Medal for construction preparations for ORE/ORI. He was presented a certificate of Achievement for his participation in Kuwait, and he also helped with the quick and efficient closing of Pit Q-51 in Bldg 3001, a National Priority site for the Environmental Protection Agency and Oklahoma State Dept. of Health for which he received a letter of appreciation.

TSgt. Ries was recruited in June of 1992 by HQ AFRES to install wells and pumps that would supply fresh water to remote villages throughout the isthmus of Panama.

He also assisted the Kuna Indians building a community clinic on the San Blas Islands.

He spent two months living with the primitive tribe sleeping in hammocks, with no electricity or local fresh water. Until 1987 this tribe did not allow non-natives to even visit their island.

TSgt. John Ries has continually demonstrated his vast skills and knowledge of the construction industry. He has recently volunteered his services to HQ AFRES for the construction of a local school in Costa Rica.

The NCO of the Quarter for October-December timeframe was TSgt. Christopher McCormick of the 403rd Combat Logistic Support Squadron. According to supervisors, he is a fully qualified 7-level Aircraft Electrician. He possesses practical hands-on experience as well as the ability to share that experience in a meaningful way to teach others. Because of his superior knowledge, TSgt. McCormick volunteered to serve as an Aircraft Battle Damage Repair assessor in a recent exercise which tested his team's capabilities. TSgt. McCormick was given superior accolades by the evaluation team, which is significant since it was his first opportunity to work with them.

TSgt. McCormick is recognized as a self-starter and he seeks ways to help the unit. He was chosen to represent the unit in the second national ABDR competition held at the Davis Monthan AFB, Arizona.

He is now actively pursuing a bachelor's degree in Aviation Management. His desire to excel was demonstrated when he completed the FAA examination for his Airframe and Powerplant license.

His supervisors praise his loyalty and integrity as a reservist, stating, he is a strong supporter of the 403rd and is truly an asset to the 403rd CLSS. He was chosen to be a C-135 Team Chief and was the assistant team chief of the ABDR competition team. He is a team player who is playing to win.

The Airman of the quarter is SrA. Britton P. Shaw of the 403rd CLSS. Airman Shaw is a five-level Jet Engine Mechanic, supervisors praise his work on aircraft as exceptional considering his limited experience. He consistently demonstrates the ability to perform his primary duties in an outstanding manner with a minimum of supervision.

Airman Shaw is a leader that was part of the planning committee for the annual dining-out. He is also an adamant volunteer for the yearly Special Olympics and a member of the local 4-h club. He continues his pursuit of excellence by working on a degree. Airman Shaw is a truly seasoned professional who continuously demonstrates impeccable military bearing, and is a valuable asset. He is an exceptional young man who has successfully balanced a civilian occupation with a short, but distinguished Air Force Reserve career. He is also extremely conscientious and performs flawlessly under any circumstances.

Promotions

Congratulations to the following individuals who were promoted recently.

Promoted to A1C are:

Maria McFarland and Theresa Brownlee. Promoted to SRA are Madalyn Antoine, James Allred, Thomas Bailey, Rhonda Caldwell, Donald Coffman, Jimmy Morgan, Richard Williams.

Promoted to SSgt are:

Kevin Gipson, Randy Gottschalk, Marc Halliburton, John Hankins, Michael Hapgood, Tony Hollis, Gregory Ives, Sheila Kaplan, Letha King, Sharon Knight, Lance Liebert, William Meyer, Jeffrey Milburn, Joel Shockley, Jack Miller, and Andrew Nichols. Also promoted to SSgt are: Tracy North, Christine Posey, Gary Ridenour, and Andrew Wascovich.

Promoted to TSgt. are:

Fonda Bradford, Shannon Buhl, Jesse Fletcher, Mary Junk, Allen Lynn, William Miller, and Donnie Ramsey.

Promoted to MSgt. are:

Marie Filbin, Amelia Jackson, Philip Paz, Benedict Lindeman, and Daniel Luttrell.

IRS tax advice, publications available

The Internal Revenue Service's "bestselling" free publication every year is Guide to Free Tax Services.

The pamphlet lists all the free IRS services, ranging from toll free telephone numbers and publications to tax counseling and overseas assistance. In addition, it lists every IRS form and publication available.

For your free copy of Publication 910 and to get a copy of Form 4868, "Application for Automatic Extension of Time to File U.S. Individual Income Tax Return", call toll free 1-800-829-3676 or write to: IRS, Forms Distribution Center, PO Box 25866, Richmond, VA 23289.

Other numbers to answer tax questions: 1-800-829-1040; to listen to recorded information on 140 different topics, call 1-800-829-4477.

Two IRS publications deal specifically with the military member and federal taxes. IRS Publication 3, Tax Information for Military Personnel and Publication 945, Tax Information for Those Affected by Operation Desert Storm, are both available by calling 1-800-829-3676.

Give tax forms a second look; avoid delays

IRS officials have seen every possible mistake made on the federal tax return, and they said a few extra minutes spent checking the tax return can save you time and money.

Mistakes slow processing and can hold up the refund checks. Common mistakes include failure to sign and date the the return, missing attachments, no Social Security number and figures on the wrong lines, said IRS officials.

To make it easier for you to check the federal tax forms before filing, IRS has put together a list of questions to ask as you go through your return.

- Have I put my name and Social Security number on each form and schedule?
- Have I listed by name and Social Security number each dependent one year old or older?
- Have I double checked my math?
- Did I claim the correct standard deduction?



INCOME TAX REMINDER

• Did I use the right tax figure from the tax table?

• Did I check to see if I qualify for earned income credit, child care or other type of credits?

• Have I properly attached all forms, schedules and wage statements?

• Did I sign and date the return?

• If I'm filing a joint tax return, did I make sure my spouse also signed and dated the return?

• Did I make sure I have a copy of all forms and attachments for my records before mailing?

• Make sure you have the proper postage since attachments can sometimes require additional stamps.

State taxes also are due

When sitting down to do federal income tax returns, remember that many state and local taxes are also due.

Don't forget to file those tax forms, even if it is just a matter of paperwork to report you owe nothing, said IRS officials. Failing to file state and local returns could cause as much trouble as forgetting to file a federal return.

Deadlines vary from state to state, and rules vary widely. Some states tax military pay while others tax only a portion and others exempt the entire amount. Some states require service members to file a return even though their pay is exempt.

Service members with second jobs, spouses who work and members with some type of nonmilitary income may have to file a return for the state they're in as well as for their home-of-record state, said officials.

Some state tax questions can be answered by local installation tax assistance offices. In addition, local libraries may be able to provide some help. For more information contact:

Oklahoma Tax Commission

Income Tax Division

2501 N. Lincoln Blvd.

Oklahoma City, OK 73194

405-521-3125

Reserve News you can use

Thanks for the blood donations

by Dave Mugg

Thanks to everyone who volunteered to give blood on November 14, 1992. We had so many people who weren't here that we feared we would be short of our goal. But we had so many new people who came out that we exceeded our goal. Last year was a great year.

We will be announcing our 1993 schedule shortly. I anticipate that we will again have four separate drives.

Some of you still seem unaware of what you get when you give blood. Before you donate, you get a mini-physical consisting of pulse, blood pressure, temperature, and iron level.

After you donate, the blood is further tested before use. You would be notified only if a problem is detected on these tests. The tests consists of the following:

1. Cholesterol- you get the results in about two weeks
2. RH factor
3. Blood Group Antibodies
4. Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C
5. ALT- a third form of hepatitis
6. HIV- AIDS
7. HTLV-1- virus associated with adult T-cell Leukemia
8. Syphilis
9. Sickle Cell Anemia- for all black donors

You get all these with donations so that you actually get a substantial gift for giving.

Oklahoma Blood Institute releases memorandum

The Department of Defense and the American Association of Blood Banks have agreed to allow donations from people who have been in the Persian Gulf effective January 1, 1993.

However, they have suggested the following questions be asked:

- 1) In the past 12 months, have you been under a doctor's care?
- 2) Have you had one or more of the following symptoms for a period of 1 month or longer since returning from Operation Desert Shield or Desert Storm:
 - * Diarrhea
 - * Significant fatigue that impairs work
 - * Night sweats
 - * Fever greater than 101 degrees fahrenheit
 - * Sore or aching joints

If yes, donor will be indefinitely deferred due to possible exposure to Leishmania.

If you have questions or comments, call Tammy Whitmarsh at 297- 5562.

Vehicle decals announcement

Any decal prior to 1993 must be changed before March 31. You can get your decal(s) changed at Security Police's Pass & ID department. It is located just off base near the entrance.

You may go there on the February 20 and 21 UTA from 8:00 a.m. until 4 p.m. You must have valid proof of insurance for each vehicle, a valid military ID, a valid driving license, and a license tag number for each vehicle. You also should know the number of your current decal.

Speed limit on Arnold Street

The speed limit on Arnold Street, which runs from the base hospital to Air Depot Blvd, is now 25 MPH. Until recently, a portion of this street from the golf course crosswalk to Air Depot Blvd was 35 MPH.

The speed limit in this short span has been reduced to 25 MPH, providing a consistent and safe speed limit for all of Arnold Street. Drivers heading west on Arnold were allowed to speed up to 35 MPH, only to be required seconds later to slow to 25 MPH before reaching the golf course crosswalk.

Base police stated many did not slow down and continued through the crosswalk and into the congested area of the base chapel at an unsafe speed. These problems were borne out by the number of accidents, near misses, and speeding tickets issued in this area, officials said.

507th in the media

The 507th FG was recently featured on local television. During the recent January attacks on Iraq, KTVY, Channel 4 in Oklahoma City came out to the unit and did a story about our pilots and the training they receive and give to others.

Also, the 507 summer deployment video to Italy has been shown recently on the Tinker AFB Local Area Network Television station around base. This is great publicity for the mission and necessity of maintaining a strong Reserve component of the military.

If you see the 507th FG mentioned on television, radio or in the newspaper, please try to get a copy of it and bring it to the public affairs office for our records. If you are aware of a story or feature ahead of time, please call us at 734-3078.

ROA scholarship winners picked

The Reserve Officer's Association Local Chapter 66 has selected the 507th Scholarship winners for the spring semester.

This is the third selection for scholarships presented by local officers of the 507th Fighter Group.

Selected to receive \$150 scholarships were, Military Member, SSgt. Jerry Sample of the 403rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron and Military Dependent, Carl Frye, son of MSgt. Valerie Frye of the 507th Communications Flight.

403rd picked as AFRES best

The 403rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron has been selected as winner of the 1992 AFRES Maintenance Effectiveness Award and AFRES nominees for the Air Force Maintenance Effectiveness Award.

This is the third year in a row the 403rd CLSS has won this AFRES award.

According to HQ AFRES, the 403rd CLSS distinguished itself in 1992 by maintaining a high degree of personnel and equipment readiness while deploying numerous personnel to support training and operational missions world-wide.

Last year, 403rd members deployed to Central America, Saudi Arabia and throughout the United States in support of the Air Force mission.