



# On- final

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### Turning the Page

As the 507th welcomes the KC-135R Stratotanker, members also bid farewell to the F-16 Fighting Falcon.



## 507th bids farewell to F-16s, greets KC-135s

It's official!

By Special Order GB-0011, 21 January 1994, the 507th Fighter Group is now the 507th Air Refueling Group.

The order also officially reassigns the unit to 4th Air Force with the 452nd Air Refueling Wing, March AFB, Calif., as the new parent wing.

Unit members and special invited guests will commemorate this event during a conversion ceremony planned to begin at 2 p.m. Saturday in the maintenance hangar, building 1030.

On Saturday, March 26, unit members, past and present, held an F-16 farewell ceremony which memorialized the previous 22 years of dedicated service to the country in jet fighters. Among the invited guests were Maj. Gen. (USAFR Ret.) Roger Scheer, past 507th commander and

former AFRES Commander, Brig. Gen. (USAFR Ret.) Jim Wade, past 507th commander, and Maj. Gen John Closner, past 507th member and AFRES commander, among others. The ceremony, similar to a wake, brought forth humorous speeches and bittersweet memories on the passing of the unit's fighter history.

While the weather prevented a planned F-16 flyover, it didn't stop several of the members there from their own special "flyover", arms outstretched, as they circled the assembled crowd.

According to Closner, "The 507th should always remain proud of its accomplishments. You met those challenges in the past and I know you will continue to meet the challenges to come."

## "Closner Sends"

By Maj. Gen. John J. Closner  
Chief of Air Force Reserve

The latest round of force structure changes is symbolic of what's been going on since the end of the Cold War.

Designed to streamline the Total Force into a more effective — and cost-effective — fighting machine, these changes those of us in uniform can step up to. But inevitably, some of the changes adversely impact people, and this concerns me.

One way of helping our Reservists is by filling unit vacancies with people "displaced" by closings and restructuring in other Reserve units.

For example, we may be able to recruit fighter weapon specialists for C-130 defensive systems. We also may be able to recruit trained personnel from the other services — for example, those serving in medical specialties at Army Reserve units shut down by force structure changes.

The structural changes we face are inevitable and ongoing. Creative recruitment and staffing, however, can lessen the impact on our people.



## On- final



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## Working with JP-8 fuel requires safety first

by MSgt. Cody Smith  
507th Safety Office

Outside of the continental United States, JET A-1 is the primary fuel used throughout the world for commercial aviation.

JP-8 is a common fuel made up of JET A-1 and additives. JP-8 has a minimum flash point (100 degrees Fahrenheit) which is much higher than that of JP-4 (-20 degrees Fahrenheit), making it a "SAFER" aviation fuel.

We need to remember that Air Force aircraft are a global force and they can be located anywhere in the world. The requirement to exercise caution is always important when performing refueling and maintenance tasks, but takes on even more importance when handling JP-8 at temperatures exceeding 100 degrees F.

All fuels, including JP-8, have the potential to cause equipment damage and personnel illness or injury. A recent mishap involved parachute riggers who became ill when cleaning aircraft drag chutes contaminated with JP-8.

When work is performed on equipment that has come in contact with JP-8, the area must be kept well ventilated. When testing atmospheres for JP-8 vapors, you should test for permissible exposure limits (PEL) of hydrocarbons and benzene and the lower explosive limit (LEL).

Most all JP-8 contains a trace amount of benzene. Inhalation of JP-8 vapors may lead to central nervous system depression with symptoms such as headache, fatigue and nausea. Skin contact with JP-8 can cause irritation and allergic reactions, and in some extreme cases, internal organ damage.

There have been instances where JP-8 leakage has become a problem in aircraft and refueling systems in that seals and gaskets do not swell as much with JP-8 as they did with JP-4.

This could create a situation where joints are no longer completely sealed, resulting in an accumulation of JP-8 around aircraft and equipment.

In summary, as with any new product, we must learn its hazards and take the appropriate precautions. Use of JP-8 requires that we continue to be vigilant for ignition sources, ensure work areas are kept well ventilated, and avoid skin contact. **BOTTOM LINE:** We shouldn't be complacent with JP-8, just because it's been labeled as a "SAFER" product.



Aircraft refueling operators, like SrA Billy Pierce, above will soon begin learning about safety and JP-8 fuel. (Digital photo by TSgt. Stan Paregjen)



## Conversion News

"Serving your informational needs"



# Facilities study shows Okie "can-do" approach to long range plan

By Capt. Rich Curry  
507th Public Affairs

The 507th's conversion to the KC-135R Stratotanker from the F-16 Falcon involves a lot more than simply trading one aircraft for another.

Hundreds of issues have arisen since last November's conversion announcement involving personnel, equipment transfers, training and budget, and are posing many challenges to the unit. Some major questions being asked are, "What should the 507th campus look like when this is done?", "How can we rearrange or relocate work sections to best meet our needs?", and "Is this the most cost effective in the short run and long run?"

In response to this concern, last December the 507th Conversion Steering Committee commissioned the Facilities Working Group and, in turn, a team from the 507th Civil Engineering Squadron to research and develop options. The result of that effort was presented this month in a 41-page report complete with diagrams, blueprints and some strong recommendations on how to get the most value from construction dollars.

Unlike the site activation task force team's report, prepared after a week-long visit to the 507th in early December, the 507th plan provides more in-depth solutions to the unit's long-range and short-term needs.

### Get operational fast but "be smart" with taxpayer dollars

The original SATAF report cited a total of nearly \$21 million dollars in needed construction projects. Likewise, the 507th proposal, which cites office relocations, self-help construction as well as short term contracted construction projects costs, comes in with about the same price tag.

"Unlike the initial report, however, we're looking to final solutions that, in the end, will be more cost effective. We won't have to go back for more construction, and taxpayer's dollars, five years from now," Mixon said.

"The SATAF's proposal did a fair job focusing on the long range and short range needs of our unit and the new mission, but they weren't here long enough to get a feel for our uniqueness," Mixon said. "In the old days, before Total Quality, the SATAF team's report would have been taken as if it were carved in stone

and we would have pressed on regardless of the final costs. We felt like they simply weren't able to spend enough time here to hone in on our future mission and customer's needs.

"As we looked at their suggestions, it became clear to us that if we worked this a little bit differently, we could do it all. We could become operational quickly, avoid a major portion of the work-arounds, and get a finished product that would serve us for years. We knew we could do it right the first time and save money in the end."

The decision was made to "hire" unit civil engineering members as "consultants" for the project.

"We placed a team of our civil engineering members on manday orders for this job," Mixon said. "It was a logical thing to do. If I was running a business, I'd want to know the best way to spend my money and not just throw it around hoping everything works out."

### Redesigning a city

The civil engineering team stepped out, taking all the SATAF recommendations, the Facility Working Group's ideas as well as some of their own. In a sense, their job could be compared to redesigning a small city, Mixon said.

"I estimate that the price we paid for their mandays came to about \$18,000, but it would have been worth three times as much compared to making million dollar mistakes.

In order to produce their report, the 507th team used the Total Quality process. They first examined existing information, including physically measuring each unit building, and drafted accurate diagrams of what the 507th looked like as an F-16 unit. Their report showed who worked where and what space they occupied.

Then the Facility Working Group outlined where the unit needed to go. The team set out again, using the Working Group inputs, SATAF ideas, regulation requirements, looking at other KC-135 units as well as their own ideas. They talked with unit customers, both within and outside the 507th, to determine all requirements and needs. The members conducted a facility study, gathering information about floor and office space needed to perform the various functions of a refueling unit.

From there, interviews were conducted at each functional work center to determine what facility requirements would best serve the unit's new mission and prepared their report.

(Continued on next page)

## Facilities Group plan shows Okie "can-do"

(Continued from previous page)

The team's report also places priorities on the various projects, identifying the show-stoppers that would greatly limit the unit's ability to function in its new refueling mission. By listening to unit member's requirements and recommendations, the quality process was strictly followed.

### Involving all customers

"We had one unit member come up telling us it didn't make sense to put his shop where it was located in the new plan," Mixon said. "After reviewing the diagram, we discovered he was right. It made more sense and cost less money to follow his suggestion than the way we planned it. The plan was changed."

**"When you work in a big bureaucracy, it's hard to make the elephant dance."**

Mixon said the plan was presented to AFRES and has been approved.

"Not only did they approve it, they mentioned possibilities of presenting 'the process' at the next Air Force Reserve commander's conference," he said.

In addition to approving the plan, AFRES is prepared to flow about \$1 million to the 507th to fund the short term or SABRE projects identified by the Facilities Working Group.

The projects, such as modifying the entry control point, modifying the east door on Hangar 1030 to accommodate the

KC-135R tail for indoor maintenance, and constructing a shoulder for the stub taxi way, are expected to begin in the near future.

"When you work in a big bureaucracy, it's hard to make the elephant dance," Mixon said. "I think we've done a little bit of that today. We've got a good product here. It's focused to our needs, helps us avoid spinning our wheels, and we believe is very cost-effective with taxpayer money."



Time for Wally-ball?

Long before the 507th conversion announcement, Tinker officials worked closely with 507th members on a new Base Gym annex that would benefit reservists and active-duty alike. Construction began last week with the cutting of parking lot asphalt at the unit. 2nd Lt Ralph Hawkins, MSgt. Jimmie Guthrie, and SSgt Gary Reagan appear a bit early for the grand opening

## Secretary Lee advocates the need for change

WASHINGTON — Deborah R. Lee, assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs, told the Air National Guard Commanders Conference, "Change makes us feel uncomfortable. Change forces us to look outside our routine and to travel an unknown path.

"Change is very hard to achieve in large organizations. It's even tough on individuals like you and me. And yet, despite the difficulties, I'm convinced that change we must. After all, the world is changing around us: Old enemies are gone; new dangers are emerging.

"America is changing, too, at home -- the way we see ourselves -- and abroad in our dealings with friends and foes around the world. Let me also point out that much of the 'change' I've been talking about involves encouraging the other services and the other reserve components to emulate the great successes of the Air

National Guard and the Air Force Reserve.

"For it's no secret in this room that the total Air Force leadership has been a true believer in partnership and compensating leverage for the reserve components for a good long time.

"It's clear that you and I have our work cut out for us, but I know that together we

will ensure that the National Guard and Reserve components of the 21st century are a well-trained, ready-to-fight force, second to none -- a force that can take on the war-fighting missions our country assign to it, a force that also protects Americans here at home." (AFRESNS from the Air Force's Policy Letter)

## Changing with the times



As the 507th becomes an Air Refueling Group, one of the most visible signs of that change are unit patches.

The 507th will preserve its lineage and history which dates back to WWII with the only visible sign of emblem change being its name, hence "ARG" for Air Refueling Group and "ARS" for Air Refueling Squadron..



## April Schedule of Events

Date/Time	Meetings, Etc	Location
<b>Fri, 08 Apr</b> 1400	Pre-UTA 1st Sgt Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
<b>Sat, 09 Apr</b> As designated by unit	Sign-in	As designated by unit
0730-0745	Sign-in for Physical Exams	Base Hospital
0730-0930	Newcomers In-processing	Bldg 1030, DW Classroom
0900-1000	3A0X1 Training	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
0900-1015	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 1030, DW Classroom
1000	Mobility Rep meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
1015	Escorts Pick up Newcomers	Bldg 1030, DW Classroom
1030	First Sergeants Meeting	Dining Hall, Sun Rm
1200-1300	PCIII Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
1300-1400	IG Complaint Period w/LtCol Shaw	Bldg 1030, CC Office
1300-1400	Immunizations	Bldg 1030, Break Rm
1400-1500	EST Manager Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
As designated by unit	Sign-Out	As designated by unit
<b>Sun, 10 Apr</b> As designated by unit	Sign-in	As designated by unit
0800-1100	Sexual Harassment Sensitivity Awareness Class	Bldg 201E
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
0900	Hazardous Communication Class	Bldg 1030, Comm Flt Trng
0900-1000	3SOX4 Training	Bldg 1043, Rm 204
0900-1500	Ancillary Training Workshop	Bldg 1043, Basement
0930-1030	Unit Career Advisor meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
1300	CDC Course Exam Testing	Bldg 460, Rm 213
1300	Sexual Harassment Sensitivity Awareness Class	Bldg 201E
1400-1500	3A0X1 Training	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
1500-1630	MPF Closed for In-House Trng	Bldg 1043, MPF
As designated by unit	Sign-out	As designated by unit

### NOTEBOOK...

#### Subject: Newcomers Ancillary Training

There will be no Newcomers Ancillary Training Phase I or II this April UTA. The next Phase I and II for Newcomers will be held on the May UTA. All Ancillary Training Monitors and OPRS are invited to attend an Ancillary Training Workshop on Sun, 10 April from 0900-1500, Bldg 1043, Basement classroom.

#### Subject: Sexual Harassment Sensitivity Awareness Classes

Sexual Harassment Sensitivity Awareness classes will be conducted on Sunday only for the April UTA. See schedule of events for times. Social Actions will conduct 2 classes on Sunday at the same time.

#### Subject: Physical Exams

The physical exam schedule is extremely tight. If you are unable to meet an appointment, call TSgt Latta, extension 4-3151 to reschedule in advance of the May UTA.

# Training Planner

## April-May '94

<b>April 94</b> 9	Conversion ceremony
9-10	SPS Ovrnght-Glenwood
16-30	72 APS AT Hickam
<b>May 94</b> 5-19	MWRS-Moody AFB
9-13	Silver Flag (CES)
14-15	Primary UTA
18-22	72 APS Cascade Trng
23-27	SPS Quality Trng
28 May-11 Jun	72 APS TCN AT
<b>June 94</b> 4-5	Primary UTA
4-5	403 CLSS ovrnght - Glenwood
5-17	MWRS-Dobbins AFB
5-19	MWRS - Moody AFB
6-10	SPS Quality Trng
19-28	SPS AT Hurlburt Fld
25 Jun-1 Jul	WCIP AT
25	CS- Cannon AFB
<b>July 94</b> 9-23	72APS AT-Anderson AFB
16-17	Primary UTA
<b>August 94</b> 5-7	CS Cannon AFB
20-21	Primary UTA
<b>September 94</b> 17-18	Primary UTA

### BAQ Recertification Deadlines

If your Social Security Number ends with either a **4** or a **9** you have until the end of the month of April to recertify your BAQ or have it terminated. The reserve payroll office will forward a listing to Unit BAQ Monitors prior to the Feb UTA. BAQ Monitors are to return the listing complete with all BAQ recertifications to the Reserve Payroll office. Please complete AF Form 987 located at your unit.

**NOTE:** If you don't have dependents you do not need to recertify your BAQ.

## May Schedule of Events

Date/Time	Meetings, Etc	Location
<b>Fri, 13 May</b> 1400	Pre-UTA 1st Sgt Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
<b>Sat, 14 May</b> As designated by unit	Sign-In	As designated by unit
0730-0745	Sign-in for Physical Exams	Base Hospital
0730-0930	Newcomers In-processing	Bldg 1030, DW Classroom
0800-0900	Enlisted Advisory Council Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
0900-1000	3A0X1 Training	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
0900-1015	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 1030, DW Classroom
1000	Mobility Rep Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
1015	Escorts Pick up Newcomers	Bldg 201, Rm 11
1030	First Sergeants Meeting	Dining Hall, Sun Rm
1200-1300	PCIII Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
1300	Sexual Harassment Sensitivity Awareness Class	Bldg 201E
1300-1400	IG Complaint Period w/Lt Col Shaw	Bldg 1030, CC Office
1300-1400	Immunizations	Bldg 1030, Break Rm
1300-1400	Ancillary Training Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
1400-1500	EST Manager Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
1500-1600	Unit Career Advisor Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
As designated by unit	Sign-Out	As designated by unit
<b>Sun, 15 May</b> As designated by unit	Sign-in	As designated by unit
0900-1030	Newcomers Ancillary Tng-Phase I	Bldg 201, Rm 11
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
0900	Additional Duty Safety Rep	Bldg 1030, Comm Flt Trng
0900-1000	3S0X4 Training	Bldg 1043, Rm 204
0930-1030	Unit Career Advisor Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
1300	Sexual Harassment Sensitivity Awareness Class	Bldg 201E
1300-1530	Newcomers Ancillary Tng-Phase II	Bldg 201, Rm 11
1300	CDC Course Exam testing	Bldg 460, Rm 213
1400-1500	3A0X1 Training	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
1500-1630	MPF Closed for In-House tng	Bldg 1043, MPF
As designated by unit	Sign-out	As designated by unit

### CDC and PME Course Exam Testing

UTA Sunday, 1300, Bldg 460, Rm 213  
Wednesday, 1300, Bldg 1043, Rm 206

Names of personnel with tests on file are published in the "CDC COURSE EXAM LISTING" distributed each month to all Unit Training Managers prior to the UTA.

Trainees enrolled in mandatory CDCs will have a Test No Later Than Date of two UTAs from receipt of exam. Voluntary exams must be taken within 90 days of receipt. Course exams not taken within the time allowed will be destroyed.

The exceptions to this rule are 6E, 8E, and Officer PME course exams.

If a you are unable to test within the allotted time frame, contact your Unit Training Manager immediately.

If extenuating circumstances prevented you from taking your exam on or before the Test No Later Than Date, notify your Unit Training Manager as soon as possible, they will contact MSMPT to prevent possible destruction of your exam.

Contact **MSMPT**, 47075, to schedule testing on Wednesdays.

## Ancillary Training Information

### Disaster Preparedness Information

All personnel who normally wear contact lenses, attending Chemical Warfare training, will not wear them during training. Bring your New Mask, and spectacles if you have them. Personnel are to be on time for all classes, or be reported as "No Shows". **Ensure all personnel bring their Go-Bags with them to all classes.**

Supervisors may schedule Chemical Warfare training thru-out the year by calling the DW office at x45249, NLT 2 weeks prior to class requested. Units must report the names of personnel requiring training when scheduling training.

In order to utilize the go-to-war MCU-2A/P protective masks for training, TQT, ORE's and deployment; notify 507 LSS at extension 45335. Let them know **Two Weeks Prior** to your need for masks, the quantity of each size your organization requires. Specify when they will be returned to Base Supply. Personnel retrieving masks will sign an AF Form 1297 (Hand Receipt) for all of the masks you receive.

An MCU-2A/P guidebook will be provided to everyone signing for masks. The guidebook will cover the fitting, donning, cleaning, sanitizing, and inspection of the masks.

### UCMJ Briefing

All first and second term enlisted personnel are required to have the UCMJ briefing. Second term enlisted personnel are due the UCMJ briefing within two UTAs of reenlistment. UCMJ briefing time is 1400-1530, Bldg 201, Sunday of UTA.

## More What, When, Where

### MPF Customer Service

#### Hours of Operation

**Primary UTA Weekends**  
Saturday 0730-1630  
Sunday 0730-1500

Closed Sunday for In-House Training from 1500-1630

**Weekdays**  
Monday-Friday  
0730-1630

Closed Thursdays for In-House Training from 0730-1230

#### Phone Numbers

MSM/MSMA/MSME/MSMD/MSMP  
MPF Management, 47494  
MSMAC...Customer Service, 47492  
MSMPU...Personnel Employment, 47493  
MSMAQ...Career Enhancement, 47494  
MSMPT...Training & Education, 47075  
MSMPR...Personnel Relocations, 47494

### TDY & Reassignment Out-Processing

Personnel Relocations (MSMPR) is standing by to help with relocation processing, but they need your help.

TDY to school or reassignment out-processing can only be initiated through MSMPR during the times listed below:

Monday thru Friday: 0730-1530  
UTA Saturday: 0800-1530

The schedule is for your convenience; times noted assure your access to agencies with processing responsibilities. Your cooperation in complying with this schedule is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please call MSMPR, x47494.

### Chapel Service Information

Devine service held Saturday at 1515, Hospital Pharmacy. Sunday service held at 0730, Disaster Preparedness, Bldg 1030, flightline side.  
Catholic Mass: Sat, 1700, Sun, 0940, 1220.

### Tips for Faster MPF Service

*ARTS, or Reservists on Mandays or annual tour* can conduct personnel business any week day and avoid contributing to UTA congestion.

*Avoid Saturday* morning unless you have an appointment. Due to In-Processing activities, the Customer Service section is short handed until about noon on Saturday. *Call ahead*, find out how long the wait may be. *Be sure* you bring any required documents with you and avoid the need for a second trip to finish your business.

**DD Form 93**  
Record of Emergency Data

This is the single most important source of information within your personnel record for dependent data and next of kin information.

If data is incomplete or incorrect, the Air Force cannot extend dependent benefits, nor can notification be made in the event you become injured, seriously ill or die while on duty.

You are the only one who can update this record. Remember there are no minor errors on a DD Form 93. Data accuracy is critical. You may be one of the lucky ones and escape injury or illness, but can you risk the alternative?

Check the form in your mobility folder, if it is wrong, come by MPF Customer Service and get it updated.

### Hours of Operation for...

#### Pass & ID

Located in Bldg 590, is open on UTA Saturday, 1200-1600, for ID cards, fingerprints, vehicle registration and base decal.

#### Individual Equipment Issue (IEU)

Located in Bldg 469, is open on UTA Saturday, 0800-1530. Enter door #36 on the south side of the building. Check with your Unit Orderly room before you attempt equipment issue or exchange.

### Medical Services Information

#### Immunization Monitors

All shot records that are mutilated and/or have no space left need to be brought to the immunization clinic located in the Hospital between 1000-1200 on Sunday of the UTA for new records to be made up and issued. Point of contact is Capt Livengood, x42487.

#### Physical Examinations

The 507th Medical Squadron is presently trying to catch up on the backlog of physicals. Therefore, the physical schedule is extremely tight. If you will be unable to meet an appointment, you must call TSgt Latta, x43151 and reschedule in advance of the UTA.

#### Random Drug Testing

Drug Testing is conducted at 0900 on UTA Saturdays. The names of those randomly selected for testing are released by Social Actions to Unit Commanders immediately after sign-in on Saturday. If selected, you should consume as much liquid as possible prior to reporting to the lab. You cannot be released until the required sample amount has been obtained. If you have questions about the Random Drug testing program contact Social Actions, x45019.

### Military Pay: Ext 45016

File for pay Receive Direct Deposit on or before: by:

10 Apr	18 Apr
12 Apr	20 Apr
17 Apr	25 Apr
19 Apr	29 Apr
24 Apr	02 May
26 Apr	04 May
01 May	09 May
03 May	13 May
08 May	16 May
10 May	18 May
15 May	23 May

#### Dining Facility

Meal times are shorter, lines are longer: Plan ahead!

Breakfast	0600-0900
Lunch	1100-1300
Dinner	1530-1800

## CLEP Sample Tests

CLEP Sample Tests provide test description information, sample test questions, and recommended study sources. The 507th Base Training and Education office now has CLEP Sample Tests for you. You may come by the Base Training and Education office located in Bldg 1043, Room 206 and pick up the one that's right for you. Listed below are the CLEP Sample Tests now available:

1. Information Systems & Computer Applications
2. College Composition
3. General Biology
4. Introductory Sociology
5. Introductory Microeconomics
6. Introductory Macroeconomics
7. Freshman English
8. Trigonometry
9. Introduction to Marketing
10. Introduction to Business Law
11. Introduction to Accounting
12. College Algebra
13. American Government
14. Introduction to Management
15. American Literature
16. Analysis & Interpretation of Literature
17. English Literature
18. General Chemistry
19. General Psychology
20. Human Growth & Development
21. French: Levels 1&2
22. German: Levels 1&2
23. Spanish: Levels 1&2

24. Calculus with Elementary Functions
25. American History to 1877
26. American History 1865 to Present
27. Western Civilization to 1648
28. Western Civilization 1648 to Present
29. Introduction to Educational Psychology
30. College Algebra-Trigonometry
31. English Composition
32. Social Sciences/History
33. Natural Sciences
34. Humanities
35. Mathematics

### Implementation of New Educational Benefits Under the Reserve Montgomery G.I. Bill

As promised the following additional guidance is provided on the new educational benefits for the reserve GI Bill, Chapter 106. Current members who signed a six-year contract before 1 Oct 90, are still serving on that contract, and had their eligibility terminated due to receipt of a Baccalaureate degree, are immediately eligible for graduate assistance without further action. A working group convened at HQ AFRES early March 94, and out of that group came some questions and answers with respect to benefits to clarify policy change:

- Q** - will the monthly benefit be increased to cover graduate school?  
**A** - monthly benefits remain the same. The maximum program limit for full time study is \$190 per month; three-qr time study is \$143; and half time study is \$95.  
**Q** - will there be any addition to the current 36 month limit?  
**A** - 36 months will remain the maximum number of months of assistance allowed under the chapter 106 program. In addition, when a member uses benefits under more than one VA education program, the total entitlement is limited to 48 months.

## Training Communicator

### Benefits cont'd

- Q** - if a member received a bachelors degree and still has remaining entitlements, would those entitlements carry over for pursuit of graduate school?  
**A** - as long as a member is eligible and has remaining entitlements, they may use these entitlements for graduate education.  
**Q** - if a member is pursuing a second bachelors degree, can they switch to a graduate degree?  
**A** - a member may pursue a graduate degree if VA approves the program of study.  
**Q** - are the amount of semester hours taken viewed the same as are undergraduate hours?  
**A** - VA determines the level of program, i.e., full-time, three-qr time, half-time, according to the school's certification.  
**Q** - can a member get a second graduate degree at the same level?  
**A** - a member can get a second graduate degree at the same level provided the VA approves the course of study. A member may likewise obtain a degree above the masters level provided the VA approves the course of study.

To find out if you are eligible for the Reserve GI Bill, contact the 507th Base Training and Education office at 734-7075.

### NCO Academy Class Dates for FY 94

Listed below are the FY 94 NCO Academy class dates. SSgts with 8 years satisfactory service, and TSgts are eligible to attend. Each squadron may submit 1 and only 1 nomination to MSMPT. Nominations must be endorsed by Unit Commanders. We have two quotas allocated to the 507th for the August-September 94 class. The selection for this class will be made on Saturday, 16 July at the First Sergeants meeting.

Class Dates NCOA	Nominations Due MSMPT
1 Aug 94-8 Sep 94	5 Jun 94
19 Sep 94-27 Oct 94	17 Jul 94

Contact MSMPT, x47075 if additional information is required.

## Assistant secretary talks about reserve roles

WASHINGTON - The Air Force Reserve will shift some of its roles as the U.S. military adjusts to a changing world, says assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs.

During an interview last year, Deborah R. Lee said the Bottom Up Review is the "macro-level blueprint" for the future with smaller active and reserve components.

"The active-duty forces will be reduced more than the reserve components," she said. "This is a direct outgrowth of a new principle we call compensating leverage."

Under that principle, the Department of Defense will not reduce the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard by the same percentage as the active force.

At the same time, DOD will look for ways to better use reserve components - either by expanding existing roles or finding new ones so reservists can take on missions and reduce some of the risks associated with the active force drawdown.

"There will be fewer fighters in the Air Force Reserve, but there will be increased reliance on it in other categories, specifically, bombers, additional strategic refueling and strategic airlift," Lee said.

Some reservists have the knowledge and skills needed to assist new democracies, and DOD wants to use those reservists to

improve foreign affairs through a military-to-military initiative, said Lee. "Its goal is to forge a close partnership between the United States and a number of countries around the world, particularly the countries of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, to encourage through our military contact the growth of democratic institutions. If the United States can foster the growth of democracy, the new countries that were part of the Soviet Union will be much less aggressive and less likely to wage war on any of their neighbors and much less likely to threaten our interest down the line."

Other possible missions include sending civil engineering and medical units to Eastern Europe in much the same way as they are deployed to Latin America.

In addition to performing most of their wartime skills, they would also aid civilian communities through construction projects, and medical and dental care. On the home front, pilot programs will target kids at risk, those likely to drop out rather than graduate from high school.

Reservists would serve as role models, giving youth some military-based training and a desire to be more productive members of society.

Another program would send medical personnel into under-served areas where

there aren't enough doctors to vaccinate children or to deliver basic medical care. Lee said reservists have earned all the benefits they have and she is looking at ways to improve benefits, including further review of expanded commissary privileges for reservists.

"Last year (1992) the Air Force Reserve provided something like 1,800 man-year equivalents to the Air Force, which is tremendously helpful in getting the work of the active Air Force done," she said. "If we didn't have this, the active Air Force would have had missions that went unaccomplished. This is very important, and I would like to see us continue to do this."

She said DOD has to be careful to maintain a balance among employers, families and the needs of the country.

"Having a certain amount of the force that's able to step forward on a voluntary basis for an extended period of time is very, very helpful. It allows us to reduce the op tempo of the active forces; it also allows us to be able to surge under certain circumstances when we need to, provided we can get people on a voluntary basis."

"For those folks who cannot work it out with their employers - because, after all, most reservists have very busy civilian jobs - it is appropriate that we not push them to the absolute limit where we become out of balance." (AFRESNS)

### Reservists can get stripes sewed on for free

A recent initiative started by the Enlisted Advisory Council has resulted in helping members learn how to get their stripes sewed on free of charge.

Step by step instruction packets have been sent to unit commanders, complete with correct authorized contacts that members need to contact.

According to CMSgt. Raymond Deutsch, 507th Senior Enlisted Advisor, "By this year, folks will need to have their velcro name tags in place." He added that unit orderly rooms stock and issue stripes.

The package includes carbon paper, an authorization form, pins, and a 4" velcro strip for the nameplate. Members will need to put stripes and velcro in the pocket. The name of individual must be written on shirt, put inside on the label with a marker. The individual needs to remove all old stripes or velcro, if necessary.

Duetsch said that if existing velcro needs to be relocated on the shirt, remove it and place the used velcro in pocket. Do not throw it away as there is a limited amount of velcro.

Deutsch said if a member does not already have their air crew style nameplate to not send shirt to have velcro put on.

Deutsch said this program is only good for the BDU shirt and jacket. Members will need to fill out the authorization worksheet in three copies and send all three to authorizing individual:

One is for shirt to go to contractor, one is for authorizing individual and one is for individual receipt. Out of town personnel will be considered first.

Contractors open on Sunday as late as 6:00 p.m. Local members, after completing their paperwork may take their uniforms to contractor at their convenience.

The authorized individuals, building number and phone extension for certifying the paperwork are:

**Capt. Jayne Jackson**, Bldg. 1043, X47000; **Linda Cooper**, Bldg 1043, X42670; **MSgt. Geneva McMahon**, Bldg 1030, X47934; **MSgt. Janice M Lyles**, Bldg 1030, X42030, and **MSgt. Debbie Shepherd**, Bldg 1030, X45335



## The Boeing KC-135 aerial refueling tanker

*Editor's Note: The following information was provided courtesy of Boeing Space and Defense Group's Product support Division, Wichita, Kansas.*

Various Boeing KC-135 modernization programs—past, present and future—will assure that the only airplane designed specifically for aerial refueling will serve its mission well for many years to come.

Modernization has been under way or several years in Wichita, where the program is currently managed by Boeing Defense & Space Group, Product Division (formerly Boeing Military Airplanes, Wichita Branch)

The first KC-135A entered the U.S. Air Force fleet in 1957; the last was delivered in 1965. About 550 of the 630 tankers built—all by Boeing at its Seattle facilities—remain in active service. (Responsibility for the KC-135 was transferred to Boeing in Wichita in 1969.)

In addition, Boeing built 88 similar aircraft for other Air Force uses, such as flying command posts, pure transports, electronic reconnaissance and photo mapping. The last of the special-purpose aircraft was delivered in late 1966.

The KC-135 is equipped with a flying boom for fuel transfer; a special drogue can be attached to the boom on the ground so it can refuel probe-equipped aircraft. An operator stationed in the rear of the airplane controls the boom. A deck above fuselage-mounted fuel tanks can hold passengers and cargo.

In the past 20 years, refueling requirements of the armed services have more than doubled, making the KC-135 an extremely valuable national resource. Modification programs at Boeing have contributed to the life and performance of the airplane. Those efforts include wing re-skinning and the KC-135R and KC-135E re-engineing programs.

### Re-skinning of lower wing surfaces

A major program to replace wing surfaces on the airplanes was completed in 1988, with a total of 746 C/KC-135s—most of them tankers—modified over a 13-year period. The work involved replacing about 1,500 square feet of aluminum on the underside

of the wings—which carry most of the wing load in flight—with an improved aluminum alloy. The original wing surface consisted of a type of aluminum more susceptible to fatigue.

Skin panels were milled, machined and contoured at Boeing. The wing then went into a rivet assembly jig where stiffeners and skins were joined. The bottom section of the old wing was cut away and replaced by the new sections. In addition to the skin panels, engine strut fittings were also replaced. Each unit required a total of 564 parts, 32,200 steel fasteners and 19,500 aluminum rivets.

### CFM56 re-engine program

Because the KC-135A's original engines are of 1950s technology, they don't meet modern standards increased fuel efficiency, reduced pollution and reduced noise levels. By installing new, CFM56 engines, performance is enhanced and fuel off-load capability is dramatically improved. In fact, the modification is so successful that two re-engine KC-135Rs can do the work of three KC-135As.

## The Boeing KC-135 aerial refueling tanker

This improvement is a result of the KC-135R's lower fuel consumption and increased performance, which allows the tanker to take off with more fuel and carry it farther. Since the airplane can carry more fuel and burn less of it during a mission, it's possible to transfer a much greater amount to receiver aircraft.

The quieter, more fuel-efficient CFM56 engines are manufactured by CFM International, a company jointly owned by SNECMA of France, and General Electric of the U.S. The engine is an advanced-technology, high-bypass turbofan, the military designation is F108-CF-100. Related system



improvements are incorporated to improve the modified airplane's ability to carry out its mission, while decreasing overall maintenance and operation costs. The modified airplane is designated the KC-135R.

Boeing also modified 11 French Air Force tankers with the new engines beginning in 1985. The final C-135FR tanker—equivalent to the KC-135R in the U.S. fleet—was delivered in 1988. In 1993, Boeing completed work to modify the airplanes with wing-mounted hose and drogue pods, giving the French even more capability.

Re-engineing the tankers with the CFM56 engines also results in significant noise reductions. Areas surrounding airports exposed to decibel noise levels are reduced from more than 240 square miles to about three square miles. This results in a reduction in the noise impacted area of more than 98 percent. Maximum take-off decibel levels drop from 126 to 99 decibels.

This meets the tough U.S. Federal Air Regulation standards—a goal for commercial aircraft operated within the U.S. In addition, smoke and other emission pollutants are reduced dramatically.

Boeing has delivered more than 350 re-engine KC-135Rs and is under contract for 411 re-engine modification kits. Each kit includes struts, nacelles, 12.2 miles of wiring, and other system modification components. Engines are purchased directly by the Air Force from CFM International

### Looking ahead: continued improvement

The U.S. Air Force has expressed interest in adding wing mounted hose and drogue refueling pods to the KC-135. Boeing, which is currently engaged in such a program for the French Air Force, intends to respond to an Air Force request for proposal for this work, which is expected in 1994.

Meanwhile, the production of hose and drogue modification kits for the French C-135FR continues at Product Support Division facilities in Wichita. The modification will allow the tanker to refuel all free world fighters and other probe equipped aircraft. Although a drogue attachment can now be attached to the flying boom, this decision must be made while the airplane is still on the ground.

With wing tip hose and drogue equipment, the tanker can support these requirements as needed. The airplane will have the capability to refuel more than

one aircraft at a time and the flexibility of using the flying boom on the same mission.

### Cockpit modernizations

A new cockpit for the KC-135, which is currently being studied, would dramatically increase avionics reliability and reduce crew workload. The U.S. Air Force has formed a cockpit vision task force to define requirements and plans for common avionics for their tanker and airlift fleets. Boeing is supporting that team.

The existing cockpit consists of electro-mechanical equipment of 1950s technology with individual control panels and instrumentation distributed throughout.

A new integrated avionics system would be easier to operate and maintain. The new digital cockpit would include an upgraded multiplex data bus and integration software, integrating global positioning, ground collision avoidance, mission management and inertial navigation systems.

Controls would include multifunctional electronic displays and centralized control panels.

This avionics modernization program would assure the KC-135 has the

## General statistics of the (KC-135R)

**Primary Function:** Aerial refueling  
**Contractor:** Boeing Military Airplanes.  
**Power Plant:** Four CFM-International F108-CF-100 turbofans.  
**Thrust:** 22,224 pounds (10,000.8 kilograms) each engine.  
**Length:** 136 feet, 3 inches (40.8 meters).  
**Height:** 38 feet, 4 inches (11.5 meters).  
**Wingspan:** 130 feet, 10 inches (39.2 meters).  
**Speed:** Maximum speed at 30,000 feet (9,100 meters) 610 mph (Mach 0.93)  
**Ceiling:** 50,000 feet (15,152 meters).

**Weight:** 119,231 pounds (53,654 kilograms) empty.  
**Maximum Takeoff Weight:** 322,500 pounds (145,125 kilograms).  
**Range:** 11,192 miles (9,732 nautical miles) with 120,000 pounds (54,000 kilograms) of transfer fuel.  
**Crew:** Four or five; up to 80 passengers.  
**Date Deployed:** August 1965.  
**Unit Cost:** KC-135R, \$53 million; KC-135E, \$30.6 million; KC-135A, \$26.1 million.  
**Inventory:** Active force, 457; ANG, 158; Reserve, 30.

# Reserve News

## First Reserve crew flies C-17

CHARLESTON AFB, S.C. -- The nation's newest airlifter, the C-17 Globemaster III, took to the air Feb. 5 manned for the first time by an all-Reserve aircrew. The crew was from the 317th Airlift Squadron (Associate), part of the Air Force Reserve's 315th Airlift Wing (Associate) at Charleston AFB. Maj. Paul J. Sykes, aircraft commander on the mission, said the C-17 performed "exceptionally well" and that his unit had been looking forward to the flight. "We have been waiting for this a long time," he said. "I think this flight will begin a major change for the Air Force Reserve in the airlift business. This flight is a real milestone for us." (AFRESNS from a 315th AW(A) news release)

## Family Readiness News

For the month of April the following activities are available:

### Family Life Skills Education:

Tinker Parent University Seminars are sponsored by the Tinker Outreach Program Management Team. The program is for adults only and will cover 21 different topics that parents can use to enhance their parenting skills. The seminars are FREE. Call Betty Ramsey-Little at 739-2747 for details about registration and possible child care arrangements.

Operation I.D. also sponsored by the Outreach Management Team is part of the Youth Center sponsored Family Fun and Safety Fair Day at the Base Picnic grounds on April 30. Operation I.D. volunteers will be available from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to take photos and fingerprints of your child for a permanent I.D.

## McIntosh chairs HRDC

WASHINGTON -- Maj. Gen. Robert A. McIntosh, 22nd Air Force commander, is the new chairman of the Air Force Reserve's Human Resources Development Council. Maj. Gen. John J. Closner, chief of Air Force Reserve, appointed McIntosh to replace Maj. Gen. Raymond Stewart who retired. The HRDC provides centralized review and oversight of equal opportunities in the Reserve. Council

members are working many issues, including pilot hiring, leadership opportunities for women and minorities, enlisted promotion opportunities, and sexual harassment. (AFRESNS)

## Members must repeat lab work

All group members who had their periodic non-flying physicals during the March 12 UTA need to re-accomplish their lab work.

According to 507th Medical Squadron officials, the retest is necessary due to an equipment malfunction.

Members may re-accomplish their lab work on Sunday of this month's drill starting at 8 a.m. Members may also come in during the week to re-accomplish their lab work. Point of contact is TSgt. Charles G. Latta at the 507th Med Sq. ext. X43151. Members are reminded they must fast prior to this procedure.

## SGLI rates increase

For the first time ever, Servicemen's Group Life Insurance premiums are going up, but only by one penny per \$1,000 of coverage.

Effective July 1, the current level of 8 cents per \$1,000 will rise to a coverage of 9 cents per \$1,000.

The monthly premium for the automatic coverage of \$100,000 will increase from \$8 to \$9. The maximum level of coverage (\$200,000) will increase from \$16 to \$18 and all other levels will similarly increase. This is the first premium rate change since premiums were reduced in 1984. The cost was 11.6 cents per \$1,000 at that time.

The Department of Veterans Affairs considers the increase to be a break-even point in order to have enough in the SGLI reserve fund for payments to beneficiaries. SGLI coverage is available to all reserve members and does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, personal life style, hobbies or vocation, officials have stated. For more information, call 734-7492.

## Reservists help AMC

Reservists are gaining more training and giving their active-duty Air Mobility Command counterparts a breather for the second year in a row through Phoenix Pace.

The AMC program gives active-duty units a two-week rest from flying off-station taskings.

Associate units usually perform the host's missions, and unit-equipped outfits generally volunteer to cover taskings from their locations.

## Reductions impact Reserve

The Air Force announced Feb. 28 proposed force structure changes affecting 22 Reserve units at 20 locations. Impact of those changes include a possible loss of 3,300 reserve positions and 750 civilian positions Reserve-wide.

## Prescription rules outlined

Military physicians cannot write prescriptions, including nicotine patches and nicotine gums, for reservists who are performing IDTs (inactive duty tours) or annual tours, according to medical officials.

Reservists are eligible for prescriptions if they are on extended active duty for more than 30 days, but they may have to shop for them if active-duty pharmacies are out of stock, officials said.

## Workplace smoking banned

Starting April 8, a Department of Defense ban took affect banning smoking anywhere inside a Department of Defense facility

507th Policy Letters have prohibited smoking in unit work places for more than a year.



Pictured is the new pose for officers' official photographs, which changed Feb.1. Not all officers have to get a new official photo in February, however. (U.S. Air Force digital photo)