

# On- final

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507th ARG

July 1994

Tinker AFB, OK

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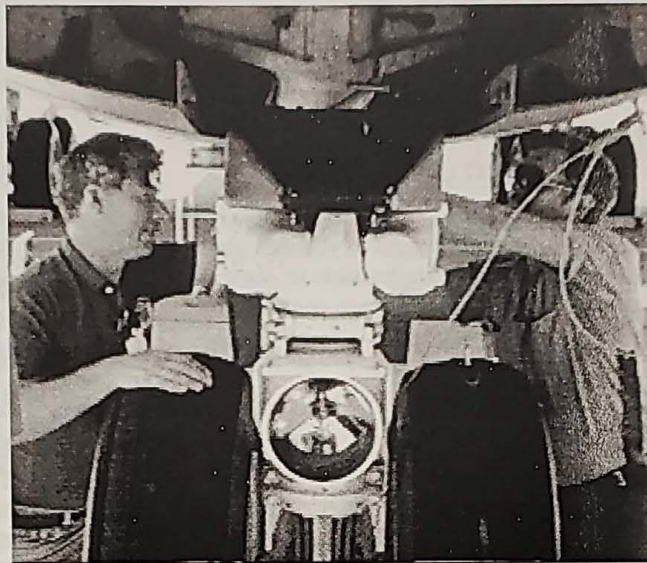
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Maintenance members work on the front landing gear of a KC-135R on the 507th ramp. (Photo by Capt. Rich Curry)

## **AFRES releases some hiring freeze positions**

ROBINS AFB, Ga. -- The Air Force Reserve has relaxed its nationwide hiring moratorium to allow some new permanent hires from outside of the command.

AFRES officials imposed the freeze April 7 so they could offer jobs to command people displaced by force structure changes and other possible reductions.

"We decided to ease the moratorium so we could fill some vacant critical positions," said Donnie Powell, personnel staffing specialist at Headquarters AFRES. "In some cases, our affected people do not qualify for openings, so there was no benefit in not allowing people outside of AFRES to fill these vacancies."

He added that the Department of Defense Priority Placement Program's stopper list will help place some AFRES employees facing possible separation because of force structure changes. In addition to exemptions announced in April, the following categories are exempt from the freeze:

- All non-air reserve technician positions except quality officer positions.
- All positions at Grissom AFB, Ind.; Tinker AFB, Okla.; and Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. These exemptions will give civilian personnel offices and the Reserve units maximum flexibility to administer reductions-in-force for a large number of excess AFRES people at those locations, said AFRES officials.
- All ART enlisted general schedule positions except production controller, GS-1152-9/11; training technician, GS-1702-7/9; management/program analyst, GS-343-7/9; and management assistant, GS-344-7.
- ART enlisted wage grade positions at grades WG-6 and below.
- Aircraft survival and flight equipment repairer, WG-4818- 7/9.
- All ART officer positions.

"We will continue to comply with mandatory DOD and Air Force hiring priorities and merit principles," Powell said.



## Commander's Comments

by Col. Robert E. Lytle  
507th ARG Commander

When the 507th was identified for conversion to KC-135s last November, I made a commitment to you. My goal was to offer every available opportunity possible to place surplus reservists into new jobs and allow them to continue their careers.

This UTA, we are hosting a job fair for all surplus reservists. The job fair will begin Saturday morning in Hangar 1030. Check with your first sergeant and supervisors for the start time.

The 507th Personnel Working Group has worked long and hard to make this happen and I'd like to give them my personal thanks. I

also want to thank everyone in the 507th for staying in there with us through this conversion. No one likes to live with uncertainty or the possibility of losing their job.

You are needed at the 507th. Thank you for your patience and support through this process. We will continue to work hard in this and the other issues facing us.



## On-final



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## 7/10th of a Second

By the 507th Safety Office staff

This is a slow-motion, split-second reconstruction of what happens when a car, traveling 55 mph, crashes into a solid immovable tree.

At 55 mph the car is moving 81 feet per second.

1/10th of a second - the front bumper and chrome "frosting" of the grill work collapse. Slivers of steel penetrate the tree to a depth of 1 1/2 inches or more.

2/10ths of a second - (heartbeat) the hood crumples as it rises, smashing into the windshield. Spinning rear wheels leave the ground. The front fenders come into contact with the tree, forcing the rear parts out over the front door. The heavy structural members of the car begin to act as a brake on the terrific forward momentum of the 2 1/2 ton car. But the driver's body continues to move forward at the vehicle's original speed, (20 times the force of gravity, his body weight is about 3,200 pounds). His legs, being held ramrod straight, snap at the knee joints.

3/10ths of a second - the driver's body is now off the seat, torso upright, broken knees pressing against the dashboard. The plastic and steel frame of the steering wheel begins to bend under his terrible death grip. His head is now near the sun visor, his chest above the steering column.

4/10ths of a second - (blink of an eye) the car's front 24 inches have been demolished, but the rear end is still traveling at an estimated speed of 35 mph. The body of the driver however is still traveling at 55 mph. The rear end of the car, like a bucking horse, rises high enough to scrape bark off of low hanging branches.

5/10ths of a second - the driver's fear-frozen hands bend the steering column into an almost vertical position. The force of gravity impales him on the steering shaft. Jagged steel punctures lung and intercostal arteries. Blood begins to spurt into his lungs.

6/10ths of a second - the driver's feet are ripped from his tightly-laced shoes. The brake pedal shears off at the floor board. The automobile chassis bends in the middle, shearing body bolts. The driver's head smashes into the windshield. The rear of the car begins its downward fall, spinning wheels digging into the ground.

7/10ths of a second - the entire writhing body of the car is forced out of shape. Hinges tear, doors spring open. In one last convulsion, the seat rams forward, pinning the driver against the cruel steel of the steering shaft. Blood leaps from his mouth, shock has frozen his heart. The driver is now DEAD!!

Elapsed time: ONLY 7/10ths of a second.

The next time you get in an automobile remember - it takes a few seconds to buckle up, but in ONLY takes 7/10ths of a second to kill yourself if you don't

Think about it. Buckle up, everyone, everytime.



## Conversion News

"Serving your informational needs"



## 28,000 civilian job cuts predicted by 2001

by TSgt. Gary Pomeroy  
Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Air Force will eliminate more than 28,000 civilian positions by fiscal 2001, announced Air Force civilian personnel officials here.

The Department of Defense determined that civilian employment levels across DOD were not being reduced commensurate with overall force reductions. Therefore, the military services have been directed to accelerate and increase civilian cuts through FY 2001, consistent with the National Performance Review and Public Law 103-226.

"The Air Force supports the (Defense Department's) effort to operate the civilian work force efficiently and

effectively," said an Air Force statement. "These cuts will force a hard look at how we do business," the statement added.

Air Force will use all the loss management and transition assistance programs available to achieve the drawdown targets. The Air Force has already reduced accessions and will continue to retrain affected employees.

Additionally, the Air Force will "aggressively" use civilian separation incentives to encourage employees to consider early retirement, regular retirement or resignation.

Expansion of incentives to segments of the work force that have not been offered incentives will be critical, the statement said.

The success of these incentives is of "paramount importance" to lessen the need for reduction-in-force separations. Air Force officials stressed that "in every case" RIF will be used only as a last resort.

"The need for a RIF at any installation will not be known until reduction numbers and incentive offers have been determined," the statement said.

Civilian personnel flights at each installation will conduct surveys to determine interest in incentives. Survey results will be made available to management officials to help identify positions that can be abolished or used to place surplus employees.

## Reserve seeks exit incentives for civilians

ROBINS AFB, Ga. -- Air Force Reserve officials have asked for commandwide authority to offer early retirement and separation incentives to civilian employees, including air Reserve technicians.

They requested Department of Defense and Air Force approval for early outs to avoid involuntary separations associated with the elimination of up to 1,400 civilian positions throughout the command. These potential reductions are the result of the Air Force force structure changes announced in February and the February 1993 executive order to reduce 100,000 federal positions.

The request for separation incentives included special salary rate occupations, such as pilots, engineers and nurses.

If approved, Headquarters AFRES officials will work with servicing civilian personnel officials to determine when and where these options will be offered. They anticipate the period of approval or "window of opportunity" will run from August 1994 to February 1995.

In anticipation of approval, the headquarters staff has asked units to:

- conduct an analysis of employees including occupational series, grade and organization who are in positions identified for reduction;
- determine employee interest in early retirement and separation programs;

- survey if necessary the entire work force, including non-AFRES employees, to identify employees who could "save" AFRES employees through incentive programs; and
- identify employees willing to relocate, at government expense, to "save" themselves or another employee targeted for separation.

AFRES officials said a commandwide request of this type is seldom used. They believe it will lessen the overall impact of basewide reduction-in-force actions resulting from manpower reductions facing the Air Force Reserve. (AFRESNS)

### That's a Fact!

## Non-lethal "Global Reach" missions are increasing

In 1989-90, the Military Airlift Command conducted five major "air movements of national influence," or AMNIs, and nine significant humanitarian operations.

For the 1991-92 period, MAC/AMC engaged in 14 AMNIs and 24 relief operations -- almost three times as many as the previous two years. (Source: 1992 Headquarters U.S. Air Force White Paper, "45 Years of Global Reach and Power.")



## New guidelines protect enlisted reservists

ROBINS AFB, Ga. -- Enlisted Air Force reservists now have the same retirement protection as their counterparts in the officer ranks.

Air Force Reserve personnel officials set forth guidelines in June for carrying out Title 10, United States Code, Section 1176(B), which established an "18-year enlisted sanctuary." The law prohibits AFRES from involuntarily separating enlisted people, except for physical disability or for cause, if they have completed at least 18 but less than 20 years satisfactory service for retirement purposes.

Reserve officers have had the same protection for "several years," according to AFRES officials.

The purpose of the law is to allow reservists in this category to reach minimum eligibility for a reserve retirement. The law states that they may not be discharged or transferred from a participating status without their consent before the earlier of the following:

- If they have 18 but less than 19 years satisfactory service, it is the date on which they are entitled to be credited with 20 years satisfactory service, or the third anniversary of the date on which they would otherwise be discharged or transferred from participating status; or

- If they have 19 but less than 20 years satisfactory service, it is the date on which they are entitled to be credited with 20 years satisfactory service, or the second anniversary of the date on which they would otherwise be discharged or transferred from a participating status.

People who have been denied reenlistment and exhausted their appeals will have their expiration term of service date computed according to the criteria above.

Commanders and military personnel flight chiefs cannot deny extensions of enlistment requested by these people nor can they cancel extensions for quality force reasons. Commanders must request an involuntary administrative discharge for cause if they do not want a person in this category to retire.

MPF chiefs are responsible for approving requests for extension of enlistment on sanctuary projected enlisted people for the years, months and days necessary for reservists to meet minimum reserve retirement eligibility.

AFRES officials said people should not confuse the enlisted reservist sanctuary with the active-duty sanctuary established by 10 USC 1163D. These are two separate and distinct sanctuary laws affecting different categories of people, the officials said. (AFRESNS)

## Some officers may qualify for early retirement

ROBINS AFB, Ga. -- Air Force Reserve officers who are involuntarily separated with 15 but less than 20 years of satisfactory military service may qualify for early retirement.

To qualify for this option, officers must be involuntarily separated due to unit inactivation, conversion or relocation, or base closure. They are also eligible for early retirement if an authority outside of their unit deletes their position.

Philip P. Upschulte, then acting assistant secretary of the Air Force for manpower, reserve affairs, installations and environment, signed a memorandum May 17 authorizing this option to officers separated after June 1. The authorization is a provision of the Reserve Transition Assistance Program which expires Sept. 30, 1999.

Under RTAP, the Reserve must first attempt to find another position for reservists identified for involuntary separation because of force reductions. If the Reserve is unable to place these reservists in another Selected Reserve position, they have the option of applying for the early qualification for retired pay at age 60.

Officers who elect to take the early retirement option will begin receiving retirement pay at age 60. Their pay will be based on the total number of points earned during their military career multiplied by the value of those points. They may not receive as much as a 20-year retirement because they may not



have earned as many points.

Reservists are ineligible for RTAP benefits if they:

- are transferred from the Selected Reserve for cause or other statutory prohibitions,
- do not meet qualifications for membership in the Selected Reserve including medical fitness standards, or
- request to leave the Selected Reserve.

Other factors making people ineligible for benefits include entering extended

active duty, joining another Selected Reserve component or not being assigned to an authorized position. Reservists need a waiver if they accept a promotion that causes them to be a surplus to requirements or if their current grade does not meet position requirements. If the waiver is not renewed by the appropriate commander or has been withdrawn by an appropriate authority, they are also ineligible for benefits.

Air reserve technician officers are ineligible for the benefits if they are immediately eligible for an unreduced annuity under the Civil Service Retirement and Disability System or the Federal Employees' Retirement System.

Officials at the Air Reserve Personnel Center in Denver estimate that "very few" traditional Reserve and ART officers will be entitled to RTAP benefits because the Reserve will try to find other positions for members identified for involuntary separation. ARPC is responsible for the personnel records of all Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members.

Military personnel flights will notify affected officers. (AFRESNS)

## Use of Quality in the Inspection Process

by 1Lt Joel R. Clay & SMS Belinda A. Journey  
Quality Officers, 507th ARG

The Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award was established in 1987 to honor those organizations, large and small, in their efforts to incorporate Quality Management principles into daily business practices.

In 1993 the Secretary of the Air Force adopted these criteria into the Quality Air Force (QAF) Criteria with minor changes. Lt. Col Meyer (HQ AIA/IGI) indicated in his article on this subject in the January-February 1994 TIG Brief about the advantages of combining the IG system with the use of "Baldrige-style quality assessment criteria." This paper deals with the idea of combining certain features of the AFRES IG system with Quality Air Force Criteria style assessment.

The QAF Criteria assessment focuses on three dimensions of the seven criteria, approach, deployment and results. Each of these seven criteria are divided into 28 examination items and 92 areas to address.

As Mark Brown indicates in his book, Baldrige Award Winning Quality, "Even though there are 92 different Areas to Address in the criteria, there are a few key themes or 'core values' that underlie many of the items and categories. These recurring themes or values are:

- Customer-Driven Quality
- Leadership
- Continuous Improvement
- Employee Participation and Development
- Fast Response
- Design Quality and Prevention
- Long-Range Outlook
- Management By Fact
- Partnership Development
- Corporate Responsibility and Citizenship"

Lt Gen Mark Anderson in his first signature article as the new Air Force Inspector General talked about where "IGs at every level" need to be focusing their efforts. He goes on to identify what he calls core functions. "Being eyes and ears of our commanders, identifying problems early, providing recommended solutions, and resolving the concerns of our people (better known as IG complaints and senior officer inquiries)."

In his second point he zeroes in on knowing the IGs customers and what their needs and desires are. The key points of connection between these two systems will be obvious to some at this point.

One, Customer Driven quality. In any inspection system the purpose of inspection (measurement) is to identify problems at the earliest possible point and then institute corrective procedures to better conform to customer requirements.

Secondly, QAF Criteria 5.0, Management of Process Quality. This category examines the systematic processes the "company" uses to pursue ever-higher quality and company operational performance. How are we progressing toward the Goals, Targets and Objectives of our Annual Plan? How are our personnel improving our processes in meeting customer requirements? How are we meeting or exceeding the regulatory requirements as a governmental agency? (While regulations are not customers, they help identify customer requirements.) This area also relates to categories 7.1, 2.1, 2.2, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4.

Since the 507th has recently become a member of 4th AF and thus an asset for Air Mobility Command we already have a baseline for our personal work in our unit. In AMC the combination of the IG with Quality is very evident. Their journey was codified when 40 members of the IG team were selected to be trained in Baldrige Assessment in October of 1992.

Their PAT integrated Baldrige and AMC QAFA with their report being accepted in December of that year. The first "new look" QAFA utilized the Unit Self Assessment as the key for the present and future improvement of the individual unit.

Today you could talk with the personnel of either the IG or the Quality Office and you will find that they have been members of both teams for some time. They have traded people between these two offices in order to make them crossfunctional in both areas (check criteria areas 1.2 and 3.2). Their use of QAF criteria "focuses the inspection on several areas...leadership commitment; examines operational results; uses fact-based decision making; focuses on long-term continuous improvements; encourages teamwork; provides an overall systematic approach to conducting the assessment." One of their conclusions after one year of this approach states,

**"The QAF Criteria has potential to be the best possible and most cost-effective measurement for commanders to determine how well their unit can perform in wartime or peace."**

With these inputs as background we hope that AFRES works toward (benchmarks) this kind of crossfunctionality within our QAFA, self-inspection and Unit Self Assessment systems.

Unit self inspections, when based on QAF criteria, will have built in metrics that identify possible problems at an early stage. They will also document the continual progress toward improvement.

As Brig. Gen. Robert Winner comes on board as the new AFRES IG, with his background and leadership in Quality, there is the possibility that we at the unit level will see how our daily activities in "inspection" and "Quality" work hand in hand with our daily operations to enhance and improve all aspects of meeting our mission requirements.

Meeting mission requirements is a core value for AFRES. Training the AFRES IG team in QAF, benchmarking from AMC, and utilizing the AF Quality Institute as consultants will provide powerful support and front loaded Quality for this effort.



# IRS excludes moving allowances for PCS moves

by TSgt. Gary Pomeroy  
Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Allowances associated with military permanent change-of-station moves don't have to be reported as part of gross income, Department of Defense officials have announced.

The allowances will continue to be excluded under the Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, a DOD statement said. The Internal Revenue Service will issue guidance clarifying the issue, the statement said.

"This means that temporary lodging allowances, temporary lodging expenses, move-in housing allowances and dislocation allowances do not have to be reported as income to the extent that they reimburse the member for expenses actually incurred," an Air Force official said.

"In other words, military members remain in the same tax status for purposes of these moving expense reimbursements as in past years.

"All taxpayers, including military members, may no longer list as itemized deductions expenses incurred in house-hunting trips and in selling or buying homes," said the official.

Officials stressed that "moving allowances paid in excess of expenses incurred in moves remain taxable."

The exclusion came about as a result of strong advocacy and involvement of senior DOD, Air Force, Treasury Department and congressional leaders, the official said.

In April, DOD officials expressed concern that Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993 -- although containing changes affecting many taxpayers -- had no clear language regarding the military and how the allowances would be affected.

Officials were concerned that the changes may have affected taxation of PCS reimbursements and allowances for military moves made on or after Jan. 1.

Officials recommend contacting base legal offices for further information.

## Travel policy changes

Falls Church, Va. (AFNS) -- Recent changes in the Federal Travel Regulation restrict the use of the first-class airline accommodations on official government travel, the Military Traffic Management Command announced. The changes also preclude using frequent flier benefits to upgrade to first-class on subsequent official travel.

An Office of Management and Budget bulletin establishing the new U.S. government policy states that "all officers and employees of the Executive Branch" who use commercial air carriers for domestic and international travel on official business shall use coach-class accommodations, with very limited exceptions.

"First class" is defined as the highest class of accommodations on a multiple-class commercial air carrier, MTMC officials said. If there are only two classes of seating available (as on most domestic flights), the higher of the two is considered first-class. In flights with three or more classes, those between the lowest and highest are considered premium class and may only be used in limited circumstances.

Rules regarding frequent flier benefits have also changed, MTMC said.

While they can still be used to reduce future travel costs, such as obtaining free tickets, they can no longer be used to upgrade to first-class on subsequent official travel. Frequent flier benefits can only be used to travel by premium-class with certain limitations. If a flight has no premium-class, they may not be used for seat upgrades at all.

On-the-spot upgrades to first-class may continue to be accepted if such upgrades are generally available to the public, all federal employees, or all military members, according to MTMC. Likewise, travelers who have special club memberships because of the frequency of their travel and who receive automatic up-grades to first-class can accept such benefits at this time.



## Use or lose excess leave before Sept. 30

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas (AFNS) -- Commanders and supervisors should encourage subordinates to use leave in excess of 60 days before Sept. 30, say personnel officials here.

Members should use leave as it is earned for rest and respite from arduous duties and for attending to personal needs, officials said.

Although members may accrue up to 60 days of leave, they lose days beyond that amount at the end of the fiscal year unless granted special leave accrual.

This is granted, for example, to people serving in a hostile fire or imminent danger pay area for at least 120 continuous days or those deployed for at least 60 days because of a national emergency, crisis, or security operation.

Base closures, permanent change of station or manning shortages caused by deployments or temporary duty are not a basis for special leave accrual.

People with special leave accrual from fiscal 1991 will see their balance reduced to 60 days if excess leave isn't used by Sept. 30, officials said.

## July Schedule of Events

Date/Time	Meetings, Etc	Location
<b>Fri, 15 July</b> 1400	Pre-UTA 1st Sgt Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
<b>Sat, 16 July</b> As designated by unit 0730-0745 0730-0930	Sign-in Sign-in for Physical Exams Newcomers In-processing	As designated by unit Base Hospital Bldg 1043, Basement Classroom
0900-1000 1000-1015	3A0X1 Training Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm Bldg 1043, Basement Classroom
1000 1015 1030 1300	Mobility Rep Meeting Escorts Pick up Newcomers First Sergeants Meeting Sexual Harassment Sensitivity Awareness Training	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm Bldg 1030, DW Classroom Dining Hall, Sun Rm Bldg 201E
1300-1400	IG Complaint Period w/LTC Despinoy	Bldg 1043, Basement OG/CC Office
1300-1400 1300-1400 As designated by unit	Ancillary Training Meeting Immunizations Sign-Out	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm Bldg 1030, Break Rm As designated by unit
<b>Sun, 17 July</b> As designated by unit 0800-0900 0900-0900 1000-1100 1300 1300	Sign-in Enlisted Advisory Council Meeting Top 3 NCO Meeting HAZCOM Unit Career Advisor meeting CDC Course Exam Testing Sexual Harassment Sensitivity Awareness Class	As designated by unit Bldg 1043, Conf Rm Bldg Prime Beef Bldg 1030, Comm Flt Tng Bldg 1043, Conf Rm Bldg 460, Rm 213 Bldg 201E
1400-1500 1500-1630 As designated by unit	3A0X1 Training MPF Closed for In-House Trng Sign-out	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm Bldg 1043, MPF As designated by unit

### Memorandum for the Record...

#### Subject: Family Readiness

We at Family Readiness want to **THANK** all the units who donated food items for the Food Pantry in support of our 507 members. However, we did not get the expected amount that could have made a dent in the shortage that we are experiencing. Please remember we need to support each other and one way is to donate food. **We accept food items at any time.** Any questions can be directed to TSgt Fuqua or TSgt Vandawalker at X4-7492.

FAMILY READINESS=1-800-753-3487 or 1-405-734-7492. When using the 1-800 number, please remember that it is only used for Family Readiness issues. Abuse can have it taken away!

#### Subject: Ancillary Training for Newcomers

The program is under revision by the Unit Ancillary training managers. Newcomers Ancillary training will begin again on the August UTA.

# T

# Training Planner

## July-August '94

<b>July 94</b> 2-16 9-23	403d Mildenhall, U.K. 72 APS - Annual Tour Anderson AFB
<b>16-17</b> 16	<b>Primary UTA</b> 403d Overnight Glenwood ABDR
17	Top 3 Meeting Change of Command Medical Squadron
<b>August 94</b> 1	403d Hickam, Hawaii Command & Control
5-7	CS Cannon AFB
19-21	WICP 3-day UTAs
20	Officer's Call
<b>20-21</b>	<b>Primary UTA</b> Blood Drive
<b>September 94</b> 17	507th Family Day
17-18	<b>Primary UTA</b> 403d Dining-Out Gen Whaley Guest Spk
<b>October 94</b> 14-16	WICP 3-day UTAs
15-16	<b>Primary UTA</b> Mobility Exercise - SPT GRP and Medical
16	Top 3 Meeting
<b>November 94</b> 5-6	<b>Primary UTA</b>

### BAQ Recertification Deadlines

If your Social Security Number ends with a **1 or 6**, you have until the **end of the month of August** 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.



## August Schedule of Events

Date/Time	Meetings, Etc	Location
<b>Fri, 19 August</b> 1400	Pre-UTA 1st Sgt Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
<b>Sat, 20 August</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 1043, Basement Classroom
0800-0900	Enlisted Advisory Council Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
0900-1000	3A0X1 Training	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
0900-1015	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 1043, Basement 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
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, 21 August</b> As designated by unit	Sign-in	As designated by unit
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
0900	Ancillary Training Phase I	Bldg 1043, Basement Classroom
0900	Additional Duty Safety Rep	Bldg 1030, Comm Flt Tng
0900-1000	3S0X4 Training	Bldg 1043, Rm 204
0930-1030	Unit Career Advisor Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
1300	Ancillary Training Phase II	Bldg 1043
1300	Sexual Harassment Sensitivity Awareness Class	Bldg 201E
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 Tng 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 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 (UTM) as soon as possible. The UTM will contact MSMPT to prevent possible destruction of your exam. Contact MSMPT, 4-7075, 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, TOT, 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 on or before: Receive Direct Deposit by:

17 July	26 July
19 July	29 July
24 July	03 August
26 July	07 August
31 July	09 August
02 August	15 August
09 August	19 August
16 August	26 August
21 August	31 August
24 August	02 September

#### Dining Facility

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

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



## SGLI Increase Reminder

Beginning July 1, \$1,000 worth of coverage will cost 9 cents instead of 8 cents. That means the monthly premium for \$100,000 of coverage will increase from \$8 to \$9, and the premium for the maximum level of coverage, which is \$200,000, will increase from \$16 to \$18 per month. For more information call 734-7492, MSMAC.

## AFR 35-10 Updates

There is no restriction on when to purchase or wear the new uniform. Members may wear it as soon as it is available for purchase. Mandatory wear date is 1 Oct 99.

When not wearing a service dress coat, you may mix and match the various new and old style tie/tab and/or new style chevrons with the old style trousers/skirt/slacks. Sergeants may wear the current 3 inch (Sergeant) or new 3 1/2 inch (Senior airman) sleeve chevrons on the light blue long/short sleeve shirt and blouse.

**Battle Dress Uniform:** Wear subdued 4-inch (Men) or 3, 3 1/2, or 4-inch (Women) sleeve chevrons halfway between shoulder seam and elbow when bent at 90-degree angle. Wear either the current or new style rank insignia. Sergeants may wear current sergeants stripes or new senior airman stripes.

## Here and Now... The Air Force Reserve and You

Service as a member of the Air Force Reserve brings many hard-to-measure benefits, a sense of pride in knowing that you are helping your country and a wealth of exciting and challenging experiences. The Reserve offers many measurable benefits as well.

To ensure that your time with the Air Force Reserve is pleasurable and profitable, take these first important steps:

1. Complete all requirements so that you and your family receive the benefits you are entitled.
2. Know who to call if you or your family needs help or has an emergency.

## Air Force and You cont'd...

3. Keep your employer informed as far in advance as possible about your training schedule.
4. Prepare yourself and your family for separations and emergencies by reading "What's Next?" given to you by your unit First Sergeant.

If for any reason you are unsure/unaware of the benefits and support services available to you and to your family as a member of the Air Force Reserve, please contact the Family Readiness office at 734-7492.

Family Readiness is a long over-due program that the Air Force Reserves is taking the opportunity to incorporate for its members. Single, married with/without children, retired, local, far away, we want you to know that we are here to find an answer through our information and referral program.

## 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
19 Sep 94-27 Oct 94	17 Jul 94

Contact MSMPT, x47075 if additional information is required.

by TSgt. David P. Masko  
Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON -- When President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the GI Bill into law on June 22, 1944, he wanted to produce military people who were competent in reading, writing, computing, reasoning and thinking, said Howard Seymour, a member of the Department of Defense's education advisory committee in the 1950s.

"No longer can we get by with personnel drilled only to shoulder a gun or fire a bazooka," Seymour said this remark was typical of the attitude held by military leaders after World War II.

"We gained the impression again and again that education is an important prerequisite for successful military operations," Seymour stated in a DOD education report.

In celebration of the hundreds of thousands of military people who benefited from the GI Bill -- and to mark its 50th anniversary -- President Clinton attended a special ceremony at the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington.

The focus of the June 22 anniversary ceremony was the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 -- the GI Bill of Rights -- that provided World War II veterans with money for education, loan guaranties, unemployment pay and job-finding assistance.

"It gave thousands of military people who didn't have the means -- or came from large families -- the opportunity to go to college," said Al Arrighi, an education specialist with the Air Force Education and Training Division.

At the time of its creation, the GI Bill of Rights said a veteran could receive training and education at government expense if he or she served honorably between Sept. 16, 1940, and July 25, 1947, and had 90 days or more of total service upon discharge.

After World War II, a veteran going to school full time was entitled to \$75 a month with no dependents, \$105 with one dependent, or \$120 with two or more dependents.

Veterans Affairs officials said the rates for educational assistance increased over the years, and changed with the creation of the Montgomery GI Bill.

Under the Montgomery GI Bill, participants contribute \$100 a month for the first 12 months of active duty. In return, members can receive between \$190 and \$400 per month -- depending on reserve or active-duty status -- for 36 months.

People with remaining entitlements under the Vietnam Era GI Bill are also eligible for Montgomery GI Bill benefits, officials said.

Last year, GI Bill rates increased to \$400 per month for full-time participants who initially serve three years or more on active duty, \$325 per month for those who serve two years of active duty and \$190 per month for full-time participants in the GI Bill- selected reserve program.

Another GI Bill benefit is the Veterans Benefits Act of 1992. This death benefit is for survivors of military people who die of a service-connected disability. The new benefit is extended to death occurring within one year of the veteran's discharge from active duty, officials said.

A tutorial assistance allowance is also authorized for members of the selected reserve participating in the GI Bill-selected reserve program.

For more information about these and other GI Bill benefits, people can contact the base education office or a VA office.

# GI Bill turns 50!





## Reserve seeks to bolster employer support

WASHINGTON — Concerned that the magnitude of current Air Force Reserve operations could impact readiness, Reserve leaders support current congressional efforts to help reservists and their employers.

Of interest is a tax credit for employers of Guard and Reserve members, and mobilization insurance to protect reservists against income loss incurred by extended military duty.

The Air Force Reserve's operations tempo, which has run high since the end of the Cold War, has raised employers' concerns about coping during frequent requests for voluntary reservist participation. Although federal law prevents employers from discriminating against reservists, some employers are skittish about hiring reservists who could be called away at a moment's notice. What might help, they say, are tax credits to offset the temporary absence of employees for military duties.

Legislation proposed by U.S. Rep. Michael Bilirakis (R-Fla.) provides employers with a tax credit of 10 percent of a reservist's salary for military leave uncompensated by the employer. It also gives employers a tax credit of 50 percent of any amount paid by the employer during the military leave of the reservist employee.

The bill, H.R. 71, sets a \$2,000 limit per employee during any taxable year. It gives employers full credit for any period of active duty during a normal workday.

While an incentive of this type won't alleviate the cost employers accrue when employees are activated, it can lessen the burden, Reserve officials said. During congressional budget hearings this spring, Maj. Gen. John J. Clossner, chief of Air Force Reserve, said the issue must be addressed soon.

"Our increasing role in peacekeeping and humanitarian relief is well-illustrated by the Reserve C-130 rotation to Europe in

support of Bosnian relief operations and our F-16s and A-10s flying Deny Flight missions," Clossner told Congress. He said such operations "underscore the magnitude of the demands placed on our people, their families and employers" and "may soon reach a point where peacetime requirements exceed our wartime taskings."

Clossner added that employers are willing to make sacrifices during major contingencies but are less able to support long-term requirements such as those in Bosnia and Somalia.

Reservists also are vulnerable to income loss, particularly during longer operations. During Operation Desert Storm, self-employed reservists, many of them health professionals, suffered major income loss. These losses imposed serious hardships, and affected recruiting and retention, officials said.

In 1992, members of Congress asked for a study to examine income trends for mobilized reservists. They found that 40 percent of reservists would lose income after 12 months; median loss can be as high as \$32,000; 10 percent may lose as much as one-third of their family income; 2 percent of officers would lose more than 50 percent of their yearly income; and 70 percent would incur additional, non-reimbursable costs.

More than two-thirds of reservists answering a survey said they would buy mobilization insurance costing \$1 per month per \$100 of coverage. Forty percent said they'd buy more than \$1,000-per-month coverage at this price.

According to a survey of Air Force doctors who did not join the Air Force Reserve after leaving active duty, 90 percent cited fear of income loss during call-up as their reason for not joining the Reserve. Medical professional retention in the Air Force Reserve dropped after the Gulf War and continues to be low, Clossner said.

"Making low-cost mobilization insurance available to reservists would undoubtedly help retention," Clossner said.

"Because we spend so much time away from home and civilian jobs, our families and employers remain two of the most important parts of the Reserve support structure," he said.

"Without them, our current level of participation would be difficult, if not impossible, to maintain." (AFRESNS)



## FINAL FLIGHT

by Mitchell B. Chandran  
507th Public Affairs Office

The last remaining remnant of the 507th's fighting days took leave to a local area museum this month.

On July 7 the units Fighting Falcon F-16 model, which was prominently on display atop the unit's marquee, was packed and shipped to the Air Space Museum at the Kirkpatrick Center Omniplex.

The model becomes a permanent reminder of the dedication of unit members, past and present, who stood in defense of their country.

According to Capt. Rich Curry, 507th Public Affairs Officer, "The 507th as served proudly at Tinker AFB for the past 20 years flying fighter aircraft. We wanted to preserve that. We're looking forward to your new mission, but we wanted to help keep our history alive."

Curry said the 507th has earned a place in military history with its flying, safety, support, and maintenance record. The F-16 model will become a featured part of a new exhibit room scheduled to open at the museum this summer. In addition to the model, the room will display other 507th F-16 memorabilia.



## A&P licenses awarded for technical training

### Preparing mechanics for the future

by MSgt. Merrie Schilter Lowe  
Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON — Air Force aircraft mechanics now have a foot in the door to the civilian job market, thanks to an agreement between the Air Force and Federal Aviation Administration.

In an effort to put "people first," the Air Force worked out a plan with the FAA to credit military aviation maintenance courses toward an airframe and powerplant license. The license is required to work on civilian aircraft.

With the license, people separating or retiring from the military can transition "more easily and rapidly to civilian careers," said Air Force Secretary Sheila E. Widnall, after signing a memorandum of understanding with FAA Administrator David Russell Hinson May 25 at Andrews AFB, Md.

"We see this as another benefit we're happy to be able to provide to our people," said Widnall, standing before a crowd of nearly 100 BDU-clad mechanics. She said signing the memorandum culminated more than two years of work by the Air Force and FAA.

An A&P license not only will help people leaving the military, but also those staying in who will gain "a broader base of knowledge than they could have obtained through Air Force courses alone," the secretary said.

To qualify for the license, a mechanic must learn every area of an aircraft, from the airframe to the powerplant systems. They also must know how to inspect,

troubleshoot and repair those systems, said Randolph Montgomery, an aviation safety inspector at FAA headquarters in Washington.

### Normally, it takes about two years of formal schooling to qualify for an A&P license.

Even then, Randolph said, a license candidate must pass three separate oral and written tests and practical examinations in each of five different areas.

Air Force does not require its mechanics to get an A&P license, but about 15 percent of the aircraft maintenance career field has or is in the process of getting a license, said Maj. J.D. Pauly, chief of base maintenance policy with the Air Staff.

### Prior to the recent agreement with the FAA, most Air Force aircraft mechanics underwent a long process to get their licenses, partly because there was no easy way to evaluate their military training.

"We've worked with the FAA to translate 343 Air Force technical training courses into FAA training requirements," Pauly said. This will make it easier for FAA "trade schools" to determine how much

training Air Force members already have and whether they qualify for advanced placement in an aviation maintenance school. Advance placement will save Air Force members time and money, Pauly said.

Although A&P certified aircraft mechanics will be more versatile and able to do more jobs, they won't "have to do more work or work longer hours," said CMSAF Gary R. Pfingston, who also attended the memorandum signing ceremony at Andrews.

"This is just a streamlined management concept where individuals are trained and authorized to do additional things," Pfingston said.

For example, he said, a crew chief won't have to pull an aircraft panel while a maintenance specialist stands waiting to repair the plane, or vice versa. Now, the same person can pull the panel and do the work. "It's a smarter way of doing business," Pfingston said.

Even with more people becoming A&P certified, Widnall said she doesn't see them leaving the military just to work in the private sector.

"I think they (the aircraft mechanics) see this as an opportunity to strengthen their career skills," she said.

Additionally, she said the Air Force "would never want to cut back training for fear of losing good people." Training and education "are a win-win situation for the Air Force and the individual," said the secretary.

## Civil Engineers commission engineers

SSgt. Shawn Sones  
507th CES P.A. Rep.

The 507th CEC recently had another enlisted member selected to be commissioned as an officer under the Deserving Officer Candidate Program (DOCP).

2nd Lt. Mark Donaldson (formerly TSgt.), a resident of Norman, was the fourth civil engineer enlisted individual in recent years to be selected under the DOCP program. Along with his change of rank comes a new career as well: In the 507 he was a Fire Protection Technician, now he's an Aeromedical Nurse in the 137th Air National Guard.

Other prior-enlisted civil engineers who are now commissioned officers include 2nd Lt. Teresa Price, in the Engineering Section; 2nd Lt. Leonard Gaines (now with Social Actions), formerly of the Fire Department; 2nd Lt. Rex Clifton from the Prime RIBS section, when it was a part of CE.

The 507th CES can not only boast about a large number of enlisted personnel receiving commission appointments, but can also claim that two-thirds of its present officer corps were prior enlisted, with one of them (2nd Lt. Price) also, having served in the CE unit as an enlisted person.



# AMC units brace for summer 'turbulence'

Air Mobility Command forces are bracing for a dramatic change during the coming summer as more than half of the command's aerial refueling aircraft transition to different bases.

The relocation stems from recent force structure announcements by the Air Force which will establish three "core" tanker bases for AMC at Fairchild AFB, Wash., McConnell AFB, Kan., and Grand Forks AFB, N.D.

The turbulence command tankers face with impending moves and continuing mission requirements extends to the AMC airlift community as well, said Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman, AMC commander, in a message to his wing commanders. The airlift community is expected to continue experiencing exceptionally high commitment levels with heavy Joint Chief of Staff exercise play and C-141 aircraft training.

"There will be substantial turbulence impacting many of our units -- aircrews, maintainers, support folks, and family members as well," Fogleman said. "The challenge for the tanker troops will be to support our worldwide customers using all air refueling assets available. Over the next several months, 63 percent of the active duty tanker force will be in the PCS (permanent change of station) mode, completing the rebasing of KC-135s and launching the same for the KC-10s. Tanker requirements this summer will include 7,500 air refuelings, more than 200 tanker airlift missions, and 48 active duty tankers deployed overseas in support of theater air refueling requirements," Fogleman said in his message.

To assist the command in meeting the needs of its customers, the Air Reserve Component will support worldwide requirements as much as possible, specifically during the July through September time period. The Air National Guard and Air Force Reserves have volunteered to support the entire tanker tasking of 10 aircraft, 14 aircrews and maintenance support required for

Operation Deny Flight over Bosnia, as well as strongly supporting missions in the continental United States.

The KC-135 will also be replaced on AMC's cargo-carrying Tanker Express West missions with the C-141 through July. The net reduction in tanker commitments will be 10 aircraft and aircrews per day. Such an initiative increases the workload for the command's C-141s, but not without substantial benefit, according to Fogleman.

"C-141 aircrews will gain additional stabilized channel opportunities to accomplish upgrade training, over water proficiency sorties, and required evaluations -- opportunities which all of our airlift wings believe have been quite insufficient," the general said.

"Our total efforts will relieve active duty units from generating roughly 40 tankers per day, or the equivalent of two air refueling squadrons' worth of capability," Fogleman said.

The airlift community also faces some stiff challenges in the immediate future. An increasing number of short-notice, high priority airlift missions, coupled with fewer available aircraft, point toward turbulence similar to that which is forecast for the tanker community.

AMC's Tanker Airlift Control Center, Scott AFB, Ill., is currently working to contract additional airlift by commercial carriers to ease the strain on the command's organic fleet. C-141-size loads will also be combined to take advantage of slightly more favorable C-5 availability. As with the tanker commitments, the ARC will also support the command in meeting its airlift requirements.

As the command shifts tanker flying activities to other AMC and ARC assets, the general said he hopes to ease the strain expected to be felt by the tanker force.

## CCAF provides valuable service to reservist

MSgt. Tommy Clapper of the 507th Civil Engineer unit was not surprised when his commander, Lt. Col. Don Ritenour, called him up before a special awards formation Saturday, June 3. Tommy Clapper was receiving his second Associate degree from the Community College of the Air Force and his sixth earned college degree.

Besides the two associate degrees from the Community College of the Air Force, MSgt. Clapper has a BA with a double major in history and political science from the Riverside campus of the University of California; a Masters degree in political science from California State University at Fullerton; a Masters in Library and Information Studies (MLIS) from the University of Oklahoma; and a PHD in political

science, also from the University of Oklahoma.

Why would someone with three graduate degrees pursue an associate degree from the Community College of the Air Force?

"If I earned it, done the work and am eligible, then I want the credit", Clapper said.

He also noted that he wanted to act as a role model for others in the unit. "This is a great program", Clapper commented about the CCAF, "and I want to encourage others to make use of their academic and military education."

CCAF takes coursework taken both at civilian universities and military training and counts it towards an associate civilian universities and military training and counts it towards an associate degree.

"In this manner, CDC courses count towards a college degree. It gives one more initiative when one realizes this," said Clapper. Clapper's CDC and other military training also count towards his Civil Air Patrol (CAP) training where he is a senior member.

"I don't believe in waste and this makes use of the work I have done," he said. "Besides", Clapper commented, "these degrees recognize I can actually do something rather than just know something. They have practical application as I can show them to an employer and prove I have certain skills as well as knowledge."

For more information on the Community College of the Air Force and how to start earning credits towards a degree, contact the 507th Training Office at ext. 47075.

# FAMILY READINESS: Ready to help your needs

by the Family Readiness Staff

It was only a few years ago the newspapers across the country were filled with articles about reserve units being mobilized and sent to the middle east. "Reservists recalled in record numbers for the Gulf War" was top stories on most evening newscasts.

Reserve units were trained and ready that is why they were successful during the war. However, in many cases, the programs designed to support their families while they were gone did not exist. Consequently the impact of the separation and deployment experiences of spouses of Reservist have been examined. The Family Readiness Program (FRP) evolved out of lessons learned during Operation Desert Shield/Storm.

"The FRP becomes the focal point for all human services needed by reserve families, i.e., information and referral, leadership consultation, and assessment counseling." "The overall mission



TSgt. Suzanne Vandawalker and TSgt. Deborah Fuqua, of the 507th Family Readiness Office are ready to help reservist needs. (Photo by Capt. Rich Curry)

of Family Readiness is to prepare families for eventual activation of their spouses" said Natalie C. Bassett, Family Readiness Program manager for Headquarters AFRES.

Here at the 507th Air Refueling Group Family Readiness office our goal is to be a proactive office working closely with the Air Force and other military and civilian agencies to ensure services are available to meet the needs of all our reservist and their families. You are probably wondering the how's, what's, where's, and when of the FRP intentions to assist my family and myself? Here are several of the programs already in the working:

A bi-monthly Family Readiness newsletter is printed and mailed to all the members and their families. This publication was designed to inform every one of benefits and services available through the FRP. Also, helping to keep you more in touch with the Reserves as a whole.

To assist reserve families toll-free number has been installed at the unit The number is 1-800-753-3487. The phone line is dedicated to Family Readiness issues and allows families to ask questions, voice concerns and receive information that relates to them personally.

A few months ago we mailed out a needs' assessment survey to the members and their families requesting information and feedback that might help us identify your needs. Your responses have been deeply appreciated, and because of these responses we are striving to develop programs that could fit your needs.

We are actively sponsoring food drives to help restock the Tinker Family Support Center food pantry. They have graciously opened their cupboards to the 507th on several occasions whenever the need has arisen.

We are actively seeking to involve the family into the 507th community on a continuous basis.

We are currently participating in the Inter-Service Committee, "Purple suitors." The unique aspect of this program is that it incorporates the Air Force, Army, Navy Coast Guard and Marines; active duty, reserve and guard currently within Oklahoma to ensure that all family issues and concerns are addressed. The beginnings of this

committee will allow us to start networking outside Oklahoma. So if there is a reservist from Missouri with a need and the closest facility is an Army base to his family, we can electronically track the family to ensure they are provided with information and save them from traveling 50, 100, 200 plus miles to Tinker AFB.

These programs are only a few of the many that will be geared to all reservists whether you have dependents, do not have dependents or are single member families as well.

Reserve families are unique, we are scattered all across the United States and do not always have the same sense of community or support that an active-duty family has when they move onto an Air Force base. The Reservists needs are clearly determined on a case by case basis.

We at the FRP are here to assist in the process of alleviating stress on you, the members' family and members' employer. We are going to be the clearing house of information. When we look at the whole aspect of readiness we look at not only is the member ready but is the family ready as well.

The Family Readiness team, is composed of one Liaison and two reservist; TSgt Deborah Fuqua and TSgt Suzanne Vandawalker. We are located in Bldg. 1043 and can be reached at 734-7492. TSgt Fuqua is available to assist you during the week and on the UTA, both herself and TSgt Vandawalker are working together to bring you a great service.





# Reserve News

## Top three meet

There will be a TOP 3 meeting on July 17 at 0900. The Top 3 meeting will occur in the Prime Beef Building. All master sergeants and above are encouraged to attend.

## All are invited

The 507th Communications Working Group holds its weekly meeting every Thursday at 9 a.m. in the commander's conference room, bldg. 1043. All unit members concerned with computer and electronic communications issues are invited to attend.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to SSgt Michael Grady for being selected for the University of Central Oklahoma's Deans Honor Roll. This is the second semester in a row, Grady has made the Dean's List.

## Sympathies

Our sympathy to SSgt. Gary Reagan of the 507th Maintenance Squadron for the loss of his son, Justin, who passed away last month.

## White House bound

A call has been placed for anyone interested in applying for the White House Fellowship Program.



On-final is printed for Air Force Reserve members of the 507th Air Refueling Group like SSgt. Norma Foster.

Each year the program selects 14 to 20 individuals to work full-time for one year as special assistants to senior executives in cabinet-level agencies or in the executive offices of the President or Vice-President. All U.S. citizens (except federally employed civilians) are eligible to apply. Military personnel are also encouraged to apply.

To request an application, write to the President's Commission on White House Fellows, 712 Jackson Place NW, Washington DC or call (202) 395-4522. The 507th Military Personnel Flight in Bldg. 1043, ext. 47491, also has more information about military criteria.

## SOS test -- shorter course, more openings

MAXWELL AFB, Ala. -- More Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard officers may be able to attend Squadron Officer School if a shorter version of the school passes the test this summer.

The seven-week course has been trimmed to four weeks by having students go to class six days a week instead of five and adding about two hours to each academic day.

Thirty-one Reserve officers are taking part in the test.

If the test is successful, about 100 Reserve and 100 Guard officers along with active-duty members will be able to attend the school each summer. Under the current schedule only about 30 from each reserve component go in residence each year. (AFRESNS)

## Check SGLI deductions

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas (AFNS) -- Service members should check their leave and earning statements to ensure the right premium is being deducted for Servicemen's Group Life Insurance, said Air Force Military Personnel Center officials here.

They explained that a recent audit by some military personnel flights showed too little money was being deducted from some people's pay -- \$8 a month instead of \$16 for \$200,000 worth of coverage.

In such cases members will have to pay back the money owed, officials said. Accounting and finance officials will deduct up to 12 months of back premiums from the first month's pay and the remainder from the following month's pay.

People who face financial hardships because of the lump-sum deduction will be handled individually, officials said.

SGLI coverage currently costs 8 cents per \$1,000 worth of coverage; however, this increases to 9 cents per \$1,000 July 1.

For more information, people can contact their local MPF customer service section.

## More may qualify for early retirement

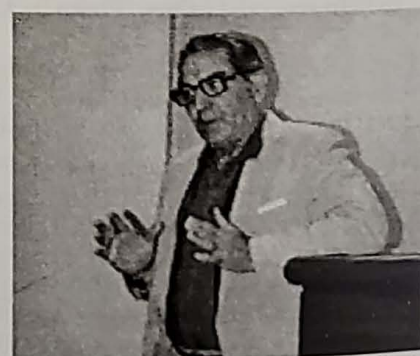
Reserve officers who are involuntarily separated with 15 but less than 20 years of satisfactory military service may qualify for early retirement. To be eligible, they must be involuntarily separated because of unit inactivation, conversion or relocation, or base closure. Military personnel flights will notify those eligible.

## Combat Challenge

Reservists from Dobbins' 94th Communications Squadron and Duke Field's 919th Special Operations Communications Flight didn't win any trophies but learned a lot at ACC's Combat Challenge May 31 to June 4 at Tinker. This was the first time AFRES has competed in Combat Challenge and both teams said the experience they gained will help them prepare for the next competition in 1996.

## Skills bank open

DOD agencies needing people with unique skills can call on ARPC's civilian skills data bank of IMAs and reinforcement designees. To access the CSDB's pool of volunteers, call ARPC's Directorate of Plans at DSN 926-6041, (303) 676-6041, or toll free, 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 246.



Brig. Gen. Jim Wade, USAFR Ret, spoke to members of the 507th Chapter of Reserve Officers Association last month. His topic was on leadership for the future.