



On- final

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507th ARW
Tinker AFB, OK

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No ceiling

Getting hard-back tent frames ready was important during last month's exercise. Bleak, rainy weather conditions turned the Glenwood area into a mushy swamp. (Video photo by TSgt. Melba Koch)

Getting there half the fun

Mobility exercise moves 507th along

By Msgt. Tommy Clapper
507th Civil Engineer Squadron

"Neither snow nor rain, nor gloom of night." That quote from Herodotus is part of the motto of the U.S. Postal Service, but it also serves as a guide for some members of the 507th Air Refueling Wing during the mobility exercises last UTA. After mobilizing, 113 Prime Beef (Base Emergency Engineering Force) members of the 507th Civil Engineering Squadron rather than returning to Building 1047, instead, boarded buses and deployed to Glenwood Acres. There they were met by a 10 person PERSCO unit who in-processed them to their new assignment. Besides the 10 person PERSCO team, the Prime Beefer's were supported by 22 "prime ribs" personnel who cooked the evening meal.

"The weather wasn't perfect, but it might not be during a mobility," according to Capt. Heidi Falk, who was in charge of the deployment. So despite the misting fog, the unit put up tents and moved on to field training.

"We adjusted the training some because of the weather to keep the exercise accident-free," said Capt. Jeff Hough, acting CES commander. "But we went ahead with the plan. You have to be flexible."

According to CMSgt. Robert Carlile, "It will take extra time and effort to wait for the tents to dry and take them down, but it's worth it to complete the mission and work under real-world conditions."

Usually the BEEF team has a bivouac once a year to meet AFRES requirements. However, the squadron leadership decided that meeting the requirements of higher headquarters wasn't enough to satisfy them that everyone was adequately trained. Therefore, as part of the Wing Mobility Exercise, the CE unit deployed to Glenwood,

(Continued on Page 6)

Now you hear it...but will you hear it later?

By Lt. Col. Leonard Knight
507th ARW Chief of Safety

Hearing loss can be so subtle that often we don't realize our loss until it is too late. Repeated exposure to too much noise can result in gradual hearing loss.

We all recognize the hazards to our hearing of working in the vicinity of an operating jet engine, a ground power unit, or a shop air compressor. We are all provided with adequate protection on the job by our employer. Those of us who work in an environment with excessive noise levels have our hearing tested annually to identify any loss and take appropriate action.

What many of us neglect is protecting our hearing off the job. Home workshops, lawn equipment, and many recreational activities expose us to hearing hazards that can be equally damaging as those on-the-job hazards. Because no one is looking over our shoulder or requiring us to use them, many of us never even think of using ear protection when we mow the lawn, use a weed eater, chain saw, table saw, etc.

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Secretary's report shows the need for change

By Capt. Rich Curry
507th Public Affairs

"I don't know why we need to change everything. I think everything was fine just the way it was."

While comments like that are becoming less common in the Air Force, occasionally, you still hear them.

So how about it? Was everything just fine the "way it was?"

To find an answer, you only need to look to the Defense Secretary's Annual Report to Congress for 1994 and it's review of the Defense Department's financial management system.

The problems in financial management go all the way back to 1947 when the Defense Department was created. From the beginning, DoD kept existing service organizations with their chain of commands and duplicate management operations.

According to the report there still exists today 270 separate DoD finance and accounting systems, many of which are unable to operate together.

How bad is this system? Again, according to the report, examples range from 1,100 Desert Storm veterans receiving paychecks nearly two years after their discharge from military service to overpaying defense contractors by \$750 million in fiscal 1993. The report also stated the military cannot exactly explain what was purchased with \$19 billion in payments last year.

While interesting to note the report went on to identify a blueprint for corrections and equally interesting to point out the report was the result of professional military members stepping forward to admit their problems rather than some "investigative reporter's" undercover efforts, it still makes a strong argument for the need to change.

Doing business the "way it was" in the military usually meant throwing more people and money at a problem until it was either fixed or went away. All one needs to do is pick up any daily newspaper to see what's happening to all the people and money. It doesn't exist anymore.

An interesting comparison recently arose in the media with state comparisons on education spending per student. The result: The states that spent the most money per student did not have the highest education averages. In fact, states that spent less money but with better managed education programs, yielded higher student averages. Money simply isn't an answer to problems.

Empowerment and personal responsibility to control expenses is the responsibility of each and every service member. Cutting out needless expenses and conserving resources are one way to cut costs and save money needed for personnel and the mission. But that can only take us so far.

(Continued on Page 3)

Reserve gets \$57 million for construction

WASHINGTON -- The fiscal 1995 military construction budget funds more than \$57 million for projects at 12 Air Force Reserve locations and other expenses. The budget provides for the following projects:

- Barksdale AFB, La. -- \$5 million for altering existing facilities for aircraft conversion.

- Dobbins ARB, Ga. -- \$1.1 million for constructing a fire training facility.

- Duke Field, Fla. -- \$2.7 million to renovate the existing airmen's dining facility.

- Gen. Mitchell IAP ARS, Wis. -- \$1.5 million to construct a fire training facility, and \$800,000 to construct permanent secondary containment facilities for storing hazardous materials.

- Grissom AFB, Ind. -- \$2.2 million to upgrade, construct and repair various

environmental items in the cantonment area.

- Homestead ARB, Fla. -- \$2.6 million to renovate an existing dormitory, \$2 million to construct an aircraft ramp with a jet fuel system to accommodate four F-16 aircraft, \$1.2 million to construct a 16,000-square foot mobility processing facility for processing personnel during exercises or deployments, and \$1.4 million to construct a fitness center for reserve personnel.

- Kinston Regional Airport, N.C. -- \$5 million to improve an existing runway and apron.

- Luke AFB, Ariz. -- \$1.9 million to construct a 13,500-square foot squadron operations training facility, and \$1.8 million to construct a 12,000-square foot composite maintenance facility.

- March AFB, Calif. -- \$3.9 million to replace an existing transformer substation to support base electrical demand.

- Tinker AFB, Okla. -- \$10.2 million to upgrade the existing aircraft ramp with pavement overlay and four refueling pits to support KC-135 aircraft.

- Westover ARB, Mass. -- \$5.1 million to replace a portion of taxiway "G" for current airfield operations, and \$1 million to replace existing underground fuel storage tanks to meet environmental requirements.

- Youngstown Warren Regional Airport ARS, Ohio -- \$500,000 to construct an industrial waste-water pretreatment facility to comply with environmental requirement.

Another \$4 million is set aside for minor construction and \$3.4 million for planning and design. (AFRESNS)

Defense bills set budget for 1995

WASHINGTON -- A 2.6 percent military pay raise, effective Jan. 1, 1995, was signed into law by President Clinton Oct. 5 as part of the fiscal 1995 Defense Authorization Act. The companion Defense Appropriations Act was signed by the president Sept. 30.

The authorization act approves an Air Force Selected Reserve end strength of 78,706 in fiscal year 1995, including 648 reservists serving on full-time active duty. The end strength represents a reduction of 2,794 positions compared to 1994's 81,500 ceiling.

The Air Force Reserve was appropriated \$2.3 billion for fiscal year 1995. The appropriation includes \$1.472 billion for operation and maintenance, \$769 million for the reserve personnel account, \$57 million for military construction and \$25 million for miscellaneous equipment.

The appropriations bill also provides \$505 million for the acquisition of aircraft to support Reserve and Guard missions.

The authorization bill also;

- Institutes the Reserve Officer Personnel Management Act.

- Changes the Reserve call-up period from 90 days plus 90 days to one 270-day period.

- Reduces funding for civilian and military personnel.

- Authorizes service secretaries to provide for early qualification for retirement pay for members of the Selected Reserve who become physically unfit for service.

- Provides reimbursement for transient housing for reservists performing training not otherwise authorized travel and transportation allowances.

- Gives credit for inactive duty performed by enlisted personnel retiring after 20 years; an entitlement already granted to officers.

- Reduces temporarily the minimum required reserve service for eligibility for retired pay from eight to six years.

- Permits any reserve component to go below the floor on medical personnel if the secretary of defense certifies that the reduction is excess to the current and projected needs of the military department, including backfill requirements.

- Expands membership of the Commission on Roles and Missions of the Armed Forces from seven to 11, and requires at least one member of the commission to have previous reserve component experience. (AFRESNS)

Report shows need ...

(Continued from Page 2)

Only through better management, by honestly looking at what we do and why we're doing it, can we discover ways to incorporate real savings and streamline operations.

Recent surveys show that the American public respects and trusts the military and its leadership above practically every other profession. Only by being honest to ourselves and to the American taxpayers, can we maintain that trust and respect.

Coleman talks about impact of RIF

WASHINGTON -- The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower, Reserve Affairs, Installations and Environment recently commented on the impact of worldwide responsibilities with a reduced force structure.

"We must take care of...not only our active-duty members and civilians...but also our Guard and Reserve people..." said Rodney A. Coleman. "... (They) are stepping up to more missions while trying to balance what is supposed to be part-time commitment against other commitments to families and employers. We must ensure our policies help, not hurt people."

According to Coleman, civilian reductions in force are "inevitable at closing bases and in major programmatic reductions where cuts exceed attrition rates and incentives are unable to generate enough voluntary losses." The Guard and Reserve will lose members where force structure has been reduced or missions changed.

"We must not underestimate the personal hardships and uncertainty resulting from the drawdown," Coleman said. "When we downsize a force as much and as rapidly as we have done, and are doing in the military, we are going to have many of the members who were not targets of these reductions think twice about their futures. Many have watched high quality people leave the Air Force with careers truncated by the changing times. That lesson is not lost on junior officers and enlisted members, and recent civilian hires.

"A major challenge that we have in the Air Force, and in fact all of the services, is attracting and retaining top notch people." (AFRESNS reprinted from Policy Letter, July/August 1994)

Technicians receive 1-year RIF protection

WASHINGTON -- Air reserve technicians will remain protected ("fenced") until Sept. 30, 1995, unless they lose their jobs because of a reduction in military force structure.

The 1995 Defense Appropriations Act "prohibits funds to be used to reduce military technicians...for the purpose of applying any administratively imposed civilian personnel ceiling, freeze or reductions." The act, signed into law Oct. 5 by the president, does not ensure job security if an ART's position is eliminated by base closing or a force structure reduction.

The protection from a reduction in force for ARTs will end Sept. 30, 1995, unless Congress includes a "fence" in future appropriations acts.

Air Force Reserve officials say the command could lose some 1,620 civilians by fiscal year 2001 because of RIFs. As many as 440 ARTs also faced possible job loss until the law protected them from RIF action. (AFRESNS)

Don't throw away that SF-171 yet

By Maj. Ted S. Covert, chief
Military Personnel Flight

Many of you may have heard or read somewhere that the SF-171, the civil service application form, is soon going to become obsolete.

When? No one knows for sure. Unofficially, I have learned from several agencies that they will continue to recommend whatever you submit in the SF-171 format. The reasons, according to classifiers, for the SF-171 format are varied.

Position classifiers locally, at the SEU and HQ AFRES, to name a few, tell me that over the years they have become accustomed to its logical presentation of personal work experience and other personal data. For example, your resume will not give you instructions for claiming veterans preference, your personal resume will not ask you what locations you are willing to accept and

so on. What will replace the SF-171? Senior personnel officials believe, at this point, some form of a resume.

Position classifiers also tell me that resumes will take longer to "grade out" because item formats will vary from person to person, and classifiers will have to sift out meaningful information. According to one classifier, "we will probably have to "171" your resume for you, and rearrange your work

experience and history with the result being... more time consuming."

So what's the bottom line? The best advice for now, expert's say, is to use the SF-171 or its exact format.

For updated information to assist you in preparing your SF-171, call the 507th Military Personnel Office at 734-7494, or visit us on the top floor of building 1043, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Can you hear....

(Continued from Page 2)

Take the time to consider how much you might miss in later years if you allow your hearing to be damaged now. A simple test to check the effects of an activity on your hearing is this: after operating your equipment, turn a radio on to as low a volume as you can understand what is being said, turn off the radio without changing the volume or unplug it if this isn't possible, then the next morning after a night's rest away from any noise turn the radio back on at the preset volume. You may be surprised at how LOUD the volume now seems.

Think ahead now to protect your hearing, if you don't, that same radio may not have enough volume available for you to hear it later on.

Sound Off!



SSgt. Candy M. Lanyi

"I just try to keep a positive attitude that things will get better. I don't think the stress level is as high as it used to be, things are getting better."

Question:

What advice would you give to relieve stress?

"Well, just keep yourself occupied and keep active. Stress is something you deal with. If you don't, it will get you if you can't recognize it. Recognizing stress is the key. Before, I didn't recognize it with the result of being stressed out."



SSgt. Kevin Peters

"I think the big stress is caused by the unknown. I personally try to alleviate stress by preparing myself for the worst, and make plans that stay a step ahead of the worst -case scenario."



MSgt. Carvel D. Davis



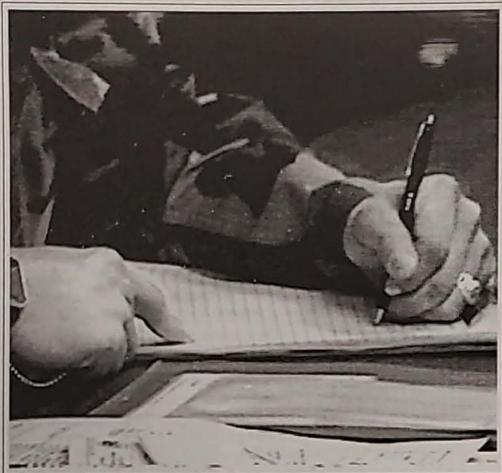
"The best advice anybody can give on stress reduction is to exercise during the workday, maybe at lunch or as soon as you can after you get off work. Even go off to someplace that's quiet."

Maj. Ted S. Covert



"My stress, I relieve by doing things away from the job with the family and getting involved with the community. Get your mind on something else".

CMSgt. Michael D. Riley



TOP LEFT: More than 276 unit members and 14 pallets of equipment were processed through the line by mobility teams for the exercise.

ABOVE: Bleak conditions were encountered by members at the Glenwood encampment area.

BOTTOM LEFT: It took a bit of doing but unit cooks managed to get the fires going.



Mobility, encampment tests unit

(Continued from Page 1)

just north of Tinker. For the first time, also to add to the realism of the situation, they were supported by a PERSCO team as well as the RIBS team that normally supports such exercises. "Civil Engineers are now the benchmark," said SMSgt. Sharlotte Epps, who led the PERSCO unit. "This is the first time we have done this and we believe it will help everyone in the future," said Epps.

The PERSCO personnel shared meals with the BEEFers and stayed over Saturday night, sleeping in tents. "The food was great and so was the company," Epps said, before her team returned on Sunday to their regular office in Building 1048, where there was neither snow nor rain nor gloom of night.



Video photos by TSgts Stan Paregien,
Melba Koch and Ty Yoshida.



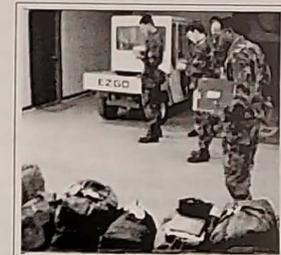
ABOVE: Mobility processing team members worked throughout the day at their center in Building 224.

TOP RIGHT: Checking through personal baggage.

RIGHT: Laying out pallet nets in a 507th hangar.

BELOW: Making sure there's enough fire to cook for the troops.

BELOW RIGHT: Members grab their cots off a pallet to make up their home for the night.



Where have all the young men gone?

By Capt. Rich Curry
507th Public Affairs



A recently released Youth Attitude Tracking Study shows that young people's interest in pursuing military careers is on the decline.

The survey, conducted annually by the Defense Department polled 10,000 young men and women nationwide to measure their views on military service.

The 1993 survey results showed that 25 percent of men between 16 and 21, the primary age group from which the military draws the most recruits, said they either "definitely" or "probably" would join one of the four active duty services. This represents a two percent drop from 1992 and seven points from a high of 32 percent in 1989 and 1990.

All the services are decreasing in popularity among young people. Enlistment indications in the Army among 16 to 21 year olds is down 10 percent from 16 percent in 1990. For the Navy and Marines, it's down from 10 percent to 8 percent and 11 percent to 9 percent, respectively. Indications to enlist in the Air Force declined from 15 percent in 1990 to 11 percent in 1993.

Survey shows drop in those wanting to join military

The study also shows a sharp decline of interest in minorities towards military careers. In 1990, 44 percent of African-Americans were inclined toward active-duty careers, while 32 percent said they would likely serve today. Among Hispanics, indications to enlist dropped from 44 percent in 1990 to 38 percent in 1993.

"This survey represents one of the best tools we have about young people's desire for a military career, even though it's talking about active duty and not the reserve components," said MSgt. Tom Pitzer, Air Force Reserve Senior Recruiter for 507th Air Refueling Wing.

Pitzer said he didn't think the survey reflects a decline in patriotism or willingness to enter the military as a profession.

"I don't think that's the case here. When you watch television or read the papers, all you see are items about downsizing and cutbacks. The public doesn't know we're still hiring and will always need new recruits," he said. "When in fact, we currently have at least 50 positions to fill and will have much more later this year."

Pitzer said he believes a main reason the public isn't aware of military openings stems from recent budget cutbacks which reduced recruiting advertising funds. "Overall the DoD recruiting budget has been cut 55 percent since 1989. The money simply isn't there anymore to advertise," he said. This hurts, Pitzer said, because many excellent careers go unfilled.

"Our recruiters encourage young people to seriously consider military service as a great way to serve their country," he said. In addition to satisfying personal commitments, Pitzer said military service offers a diverse potential for young men and women to stairstep up to a career both professionally and financially. We recognize that the military service isn't for everyone. But where else can a high school graduate receive a salary while attending a vocational training school that sets him up for a future civilian career and also receive money for college tuition?" he said.

For Pitzer, the days of high-pressure recruiters have long past. "I like to compare our team more closely to financial and career advisors instead of simply recruiters. When someone comes in and asks, 'What have you got for me?' We ask him to stop and think about what they've said. Just like any civilian employer, we want to recruit and keep the best people. You wouldn't approach a civilian job interview or a potential employer that way. The question isn't 'What have you got for me?' as much as 'I want to join your team and here's what I can do for you,'" he said.

Pitzer said helping young people create careers and goals for themselves is the best part of the job. "We sit down with recruits to find out what they want to do with their lives. What do they want to be? What kind of salary do they want to earn? We show them how their Reserve paycheck can help reach that goal as well as how their military training can help them step into good paying civilian jobs. We talk about the Montgomery GI Bill and how they can use it to get a college degree and move into better paying civilian jobs. We're not talking about overnight get-rich-quick schemes. We help them understand how they can become goal-oriented, building up one-step-at-a-time and show them how they can reach the life they want," he said.

Typically, a member of the Reserve works one weekend a month and has an annual two-week active duty commitment. A newly enlisted member could expect to earn slightly more than \$2,000 a year.

"Travel and the other benefits are nice, but education is where it's at. If you want to compete as well as the next person in today's job market, you have to have an education and marketable skills. We provide that as well as opportunities to mature and develop leadership abilities, the type of things today's employers expect," he said.

For more information on a career in the Air Force Reserve call (405) 734-5331.

AMC, 507th support Haiti operation

Air Mobility Command people and units, including the 507th are playing a major role in the airlift of troops and equipment to Haiti.

As of Sept. 20, AMC active duty, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard aircraft have flown 239 missions, airlifted 4,470 passengers and transported 3,510 tons of cargo. AMC tankers have delivered 150,881 gallons of fuel during aerial refueling missions.

A KC-135 aircraft and a team of unit members deployed to Homestead AFB, Fla. for several days where they flew refueling missions in support of the operation.

At the Tanker Airlift Control Center based at Scott AFB, Ill., planning teams are working around the clock to plan and schedule airlift and tanker support for the complex operation. A 300-member Tanker Airlift Control Element from Dover AFB, Del., arrived in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Sept. 19 on three AMC C-5 Galaxies. The TALCE will assist with the on-load and off-load of troops and equipment at Port-au-Prince.

The Dover TALCE will provide continuing on-site management of AMC airfield operations, including command

and control, communications, aerial port services, maintenance, security, weather and intelligence.

Currently, AMC has more than 735 people deployed at eight locations in support of Operation Maintain Democracy. In addition to Port-au-Prince, TALCEs are located at Griffiss AFB, N.Y. (62nd Airlift Wing, McChord AFB, Wash.); Homestead AFB and Opa Locka, Fla. (60th AW, Travis AFB, Calif.); MacDill AFB and Cecil Field, Fla. (437th AW, Charleston AFB, S.C.); Roosevelt Roads and Borinquen, Puerto Rico (438th AW, McGuire AFB, N.J.) (AMC News Service)



ROA Chapter activities increase POW guest speaker

Lt. Col. Tim Ayers will speak at the 507th Reserve Officer Association meeting from 4:45 to 5:45 p.m. Saturday in the Prime BEEF building 1115 about his experiences as a prisoner of war in Viet Nam.

Ayers was interred as a POW in North Vietnam for 11 months between 1972 and 1973 while serving a second tour of duty in South East Asia as an F-4 pilot.

After serving on active duty for 11 years, Ayers joined the Air Force Reserve. He served with Col. Robert E. Lytle, 507th Commander, as a reservist, at Bergstrom AFB, Tex., Currently he is a category H Air Force Academy liaison officer and a pilot for South West Airlines.

All officers are invited to attend the meeting.

Employer Support Stressed

During the October meeting of the Reserve Officer Association, Mr. Oscar Heuser, Charman of the Oklahoma Chapter of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, spoke on issues affecting Reserve and Guard units nationwide. With increased demands on reservists to support national defense, Heuser stressed the need for members and commanders to work closely with civilian employers.

T-shirts on sale

The ROA is taking orders for 507th T-shirts, featuring a full-color OKIE patch on the front and "SH" on the back. The T-shirts cost \$12 and come in all sizes. According to ROA officials, the chapter intends to bring in more 507th items for sale. The Chapter intends for sale proceeds to be used to benefit unit members and activities.

General Fogleman praises AMC

Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman, former AMC Commander and new Air Force Chief of Staff, in one of his last functions as AMC commander, sent a letter of praise to all AMC personnel for their outstanding contributions in what the general proclaims as a "banner year."

"Fiscal year '94 was a banner year for safety in AMC. The command had no class A or class B flight or explosive mishaps and experienced only 10 class A ground mishaps. Of the 10 ground mishaps, seven were off-duty fatalities, one was on-duty, and a C-141 was destroyed by fire. Our records for ground safety go back to 1964 and this is the lowest number of class A ground mishaps in the history of the command.

"These accomplishments didn't happen because of luck. They are the result of a professional approach to accomplishing our mission and of responsible behavior by each of you, both on and off-duty. You have fostered a growing safety culture that is an integral part of our work and play. I congratulate you and thank you for a job well done," Fogleman said in his letter.

Fogleman, who visited our unit in August, said during a unit town meeting on how proud he was of the way unit members have approached the conversion to KC-135R Stratotankers.

Fogleman, upon senate confirmation, succeeds Gen. Merrill A. McPeak, Air Force Chief of Staff, who retired during a ceremony to be held Oct. 25, at Andrews AFB.

Refuelers, airlifters support Iraq situation

By Jim Miller
Headquarters Air Force Reserve

ROBINS AFB, Ga. -- Within days of Iraq's saber-rattling on the Kuwaiti border, Air Force Reserve aircrews began airlifting cargo and in-flight refueling of aircraft as part of the U.S. response to the situation.

At the same time, reservists in aeromedical, aerial port and other support functions went on standby.

Two KC-135 Stratotanker air refueling wings -- the 434th ARW, Grissom AFB, Ind., and 507th ARW, Tinker AFB, Okla. -- were asked to support refueling activities for various aircraft. Because of Iraq's withdrawal, 507th members did not deploy.

Although not given specific missions, other AFRES air refueling units and all strategic, long-range airlift units revised their regular schedules to support active-duty units participating in this operation.

Westover ARB, Mass., requested an additional 150 volunteers to support increased airfield operations. That build-up was canceled in mid-October when the crisis appeared to subside. During the Persian Gulf War, the base served as a hub for troop deployments.

In addition, aeromedical evacuation units from Maxwell AFB, Ala.; Minneapolis-St. Paul IAP ARS, Minn.; O'Hare IAP ARS, Ill.; and Pittsburgh IAP ARS, Pa., were ready to provide medical

care if needed during the recent confrontation.

On Oct. 13 Secretary of Defense William Perry said the United States would deploy at least 30,000 ground troops to the Middle East, a move that will require some Reserve support. Earlier in the month, Perry had said the Guard and Reserve would take a more active role in contingencies to relieve overworked active-duty units.

Further participation by AFRES units in the Mideast will likely depend on the frequency and intensity of Saddam Hussein's cat-and-mouse games. Before his latest stunt, Reserve fighters were already on tap to fly Provide Comfort peacekeeping missions over northern Iraq early next year. (AFRESNS)

Booklet offers hints for wellness

ROBINS AFB, Ga. -- Air Force reservists who have been putting off getting into shape will soon have one less excuse.

The directorate of services at Headquarters Air Force Reserve has produced a 68-page guide titled, "Working on Wellness." Copies were sent to AFRES units in late September on a one-to-one copy ratio for every reservist.

This booklet includes information about warming up and cooling down, aerobic workouts, strength building with and without equipment, and nutrition.

According to officials, this booklet is designed to help "prepare" reservists for their fitness test. Still, say officials, reservists should consult with their medical physicians before starting any kind of physical fitness program.



Blood donor plan lists benefits

When you donate blood with the Oklahoma Blood Institute at least once a year, you and your tax dependents, (i.e. your spouse and dependent children), are covered by OBI's Donor Benefit Plan for one year after your donation. This means that if you or one of your tax dependents uses a blood product, OBI will reimburse you for the blood processing fee after your insurance company has paid their part. The procedure for this is as follows:

- 1) You are hospitalized and use blood products.
- 2) You are billed by the hospital for the blood processing fees.
- 3) You file your claim with your insurance company.
- 4) Your insurance company settles your claim.
- 5) You call OBI and ask for a claim form (405-297-7606).

6) You fill out the claim form and return it to OBI along with copies of your hospital bill and insurance statement.

7) OBI will reimburse you for the part of the processing fees which your insurance did not pay.

This same coverage can be extended to all members of a group and their tax dependents if an annual goal is met. This goal is 25 percent of the group's total population.

See benefit plan pamphlet for more details.

***The processing fee is the cost of testing and processing blood and blood products. Reimbursement is limited to 100 units of blood per covered individual per year. The additional special services fees for donating one's own blood or preselecting one's own donors are not covered by the donor benefit plan. Also, reimbursement is limited on blood products derived through apheresis procedures. Brochures are available at all OBI centers with further details about benefit plans.**

Catagory Y flights eliminated

Beginning Oct. 1, the Air Mobility Command changed its regularly scheduled commercial airline service, known as Category Y.

Instead of Category Y, the military traveler will be offered an expanded AMC Category B, full-airplane charter service, or regularly scheduled airline service using the General Services Administration's enhanced international City Pair program.

According to Lt. Col. Ted A. Brewer, chief of the Headquarters AMC Passenger Reservation Management Branch, Scott AFB, Ill., cancellation of Category Y will have little effect on the average military traveler. About the only change they need to be aware of will be the limited amount of assistance the Passenger Reservation Center can provide to certain types of travel requests, he said.

Beginning Oct. 1, time-constrained, overseas-returning temporary duty and emergency-leave travelers calling the PRC will still be offered Category B service out of a commercial airport location.

"However, if we are unable to accommodate them with Cat B service, we will direct them to call their nearest military transportation office for assistance in obtaining travel by

C-141 crews test airlift defensive system

By Capt. Jerry Lobb
Air Force Development Test Center

EGLIN AFB, Fla. -- Air Force reservists from Maryland and Ohio tested the C-141 Airlift Defensive System at Eglin AFB in August.

Aircrews from the 459th Airlift Wing, Andrews AFB, Md., and the 907th Airlift Group, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, practiced using the ADS and other defensive flying tactics in preparation to fly relief missions into hostile areas.

Airlift defensive systems are not new technology, according to Maj. Tim Sullivan, Air Mobility Command test and evaluation project director.

Fighter and bomber aircraft have been equipped for years with missile warning detectors and flare dispensers to protect the aircraft against heat-seeking missiles.

AMC began installing ADS on cargo planes in 1987 to counter the increasing threat posed by shoulder-fired missiles, such as the Russian-built SA-7.

GSA-arranged/contracted airlift (City Pairs)," Brewer said. Current GSA City Pairs cover nearly 70 percent of existing Category Y channels and can be used until the new City Pairs contract takes effect.

The new GSA contract, expected on line around December, will offer customers greatly expanded service, with over five times as many international routes than those previously.

Since these new GSA routes will also be flown by Civil Reserve Air Fleet carriers, the program will serve to strengthen the long-standing partnership between the DOD and U.S. civil air carriers. The CRAF, which was activated during Operations Desert Shield/Storm, is vital to our ability to mobilize, deploy, and sustain our forces, Brewer said.

According to Brewer, the first choice of international airlift will be AMC-arranged Category B flights, and the reservation process will remain the same.

AMC will continue to offer Category B to the Atlantic and Pacific theaters with new expanded service in FY95 between Dallas/Fort Worth-St. Louis-Rhein-Main, Atlanta-Philadelphia-Rhein-Main, Charleston, S.C.-Washington, D.C. (Dulles) International-Rhein-main, and Charleston-Atlanta-Howard AFB, Panama-Soto-Cano.

"In terms of customer service on Cat B, uniforms are no longer mandatory, we improved arrival times back to the U.S., offer free in-flight movies and headsets, and now fly nonstop between most international leg segments," Brewer said. (AMC News Service)

The 459th AW already had training flights scheduled to prepare for possible missions to Bosnia when AMC requested the wing's participation in the ADS test, said Capt. Jack Gillham of the 459th AW Safety Office.

"We incorporated their (AMC) tests into our training flights," he explained. "ADS is meant to be our primary protection against an increasingly wide-spread threat. We needed the training to ensure we could set up and use the system properly."

"We learned a lot about the ADS," said TSgt. Michael Jackson of the wing's communications and navigation systems section. "This is the first time since we were certified a year ago that we actually got to load and use live flares."

The aircrews also trained in recognizing surface-to-air missile launches. MSgt. Steve Gardinier, a 711st Special Operations Squadron reservist from nearby Duke Field, launched "Smoky Sams" as the aircraft flew over Eglin Range C-52. The crews practiced SAM launch identification and crew

coordination procedures. Smoky Sams are a training device which resemble SAMs when fired.

Reserve C-141 unit installs flares to avoid heat-seeking missiles.

Two other major training objectives for the reservists were to fly under conditions similar to missions into Sarajevo, and to practice the ADS, combat entry descent and approach checklists in a compressed amount of time.

The aircraft and crews flew "heavy." The crews wore flak jackets, survival vests and helmets, and the aircraft carried training pallets weighing about 60,000 pounds to practice tactical approaches with a heavier than normal gross weight. (AFRESNS from an Air Force Development Test Center news release)

Reserve News

Occupational badges

Service members in all career fields may now wear an occupational badge. Based on rules outlined in the new Air Force Instruction 36-2923, Aeronautical, Duty and Occupational badges, members can wear either a basic, senior or master badge.

The occupational badge is worn centered, one-half inch above ribbons, or pocket if not wearing ribbons. Members may only wear the occupational badge for their current job. They may wear their old badges during the transition period which ends in October 1998, according to officials.

Cycle ergometry

Refinements in the cycle ergometry program will allow the Air Force to resume testing for its members starting next year.

Changes in the cycle's computer will allow the monitor to make the cycle's workload adjustments more consistent with the rider and alleviate the guesswork by the monitor.

All tests will be given at Health and Wellness Centers by medical and service people. The Air Force will also reduce the number of scoring categories from six to four and emphasis a person's actual aerobic capacity and how their score compares with others the same age. Additionally, the Air Force will revise the training program for unit monitors.

The cycle ergometry testing will include a warm-up period and fewer, more-accurate fitness categories.

Flu shots begin

Flu shots will be given Saturday starting at 8 a.m. in building 1030. This is a mandatory immunization for all Air Force personnel. The only exception will be pregnant women.

If you state you are allergic to the flu shots, you need documentation from your private physician documenting an allergy to eggs and egg products. If you are allergic to eggs you will need an AFRES

waiver. This allergy is potentially disqualifying for the Air Force.

Hospital officials state the vaccine changes each year so if you had a bad experience last year, this year will be different.

The shot does not give members the flu. Officials state it takes a month after receiving the shot before total protection from the flu is achieved. Officials state it is better to be immunized early.

Immunization shots

This is a reminder for all 507th immunization monitors on current vaccination requirements.

Yellow Fever; Every 10 years

Tetanus and Diphtheria; 3 basic injections, 2nd given 1-2 months after the first. The third given 1 year after the second. Booster every 10 years.

Typhoid; Two basic injections, 4 weeks apart. Booster every 3 years.

Flu; Every year.

Plague; Given only if deploying to an area where active.

Cholera; Given only if deploying to an area where active.

If you have any questions, you can contact Tsgt. Shirley R. Thompson, Immunization NCOIC, at 734-2487.

Donations needed

By TSgt. Debra Fuqua

507th Family Readiness

In this time of daily world-wide changes, we may be in greater need of supporting our own as we head into the holiday season. TDYs, deployments, loss of jobs etc., are common place of late.

"Operation Christmas Spirit '95" can be a way to fill this need, however, we need each and everyone's help in supporting this program.

One way you can support is by a donation of food or you can contact Family Services at Ext. 7491, for any other type of donation that you would like to extend. Food donation boxes are being placed in each of the unit's orderly room or sign-in, sign-out locations today.

Family Readiness and the Chapel office would like to challenge all of you in trying to make this season a wonderful experience by filling each box to over-flowing.

Enlisted promotions

Six members of the 507th will be sporting new stripes that are effective as of Oct. 1.

This newly promoted group includes: Tsgt. Larry E. Wilson, 72APS/CC; Tsgt. Darryl Wingo, 72 APS/CC;

Tsgt. Earl M. Robison Jr., 403 CLSS; Tsgt. Terri N. Lindsay, 507 ARG/SPS; Msgr. Ingrid D. Weeks, 507 CES;

Msgr. Richard H. Hammonds, 507 MSS/CC.

Refer a friend!

There are still dozens of positions available within the 507th. Help out unit recruiters by providing them a name.

Drop this form off at 507th Recruiting in Bldg 1043 or mail to: 507ARG/RS, 7450 Reserve Rd., Tinker AFB, OK 73145-8726 (405) 734-5331.

Name _____ Age _____ Sex: M F

Address _____

Work Phone() _____ Best time to call _____

Home Phone _____ Best time to call _____

Prior service: Yes / No What Branch(es) _____

Date of Birth: _____ AFSC/MOS _____ Rank _____

Referred by: _____ Phone#() _____