

On-final



Our Mission:
*Recruit, train, equip
and retain personnel
for deployment and
support of DOD
peacetime and
wartime taskings.*

Vol 16 No 10, October 1996

507th Wing

Tinker AFB, OK



507th members in jail? You bet! It was not uncommon to see law-abiding citizens in "jail" at Family Day '96. MSgt. Mac Bostic and SSgt. Don Cantrell, 507th

Security Police Squadron members, stand guard as MSgt. Sampson Djonorh, Capt. Brian Runyon and MSgt. Cindy Bischoff "Do time".

Family Day '96 is a big success

*By TSgt. Mitchell B. Chandran
507th Wing Public Affairs*

A little rain couldn't dampen the spirits of the approximately 2,000 people attending this year's Family Day during September's Unit Training Assembly.

The 507th Wing sponsors Family Day one day a year to give spouses and children an opportunity to see the roles their family members have in the reserve and at the same time have fun and meet new people.

Music from a local band, DaZsaVoo, provided entertainment throughout the day with classic rock songs from the '70s and '80s. Children enjoyed eating hamburgers, hotdogs, snowcones and cotton candy in between playing on the moonwalk, skating in the skate arena and watching movies. Not only the children but parents made new friends that day.

"Each year, Family Day gets better and better," said TSgt. Debbie Kidd. "This year's Family Day was no exception."

"This is the first year the squadrons handled their own cooking and it worked out just great," said MSgt. Denise Weeks, management assistant for the 507th Civil Engineer Squadron

(CES) and chairperson for the Family Day Planning Committee. "Preparing for it was very time consuming and took a lot of hard work. The most rewarding part of this is that everyone enjoyed themselves Saturday."

"While walking around during the day, I heard more than two dozen people say this was the best Family Day in at least five years," said Capt. Joel Clay, Quality Officer for the 507th.

Community involvement played a role in making this year's activities successful. People and organizations from outside the 507th assisted with donating time and resources. Bleachers were donated from the City of Oklahoma City. Volunteers brought them in, set them up, then came back and picked them up at no charge. Community involvement ranged from a local church supplying a bus and driver for the day to the base lending the use of their Snowcone machine.

"I liked the block party idea because I've experienced it before and it seems more festive with more camaraderie," Weeks said. "Just being in an area where everyone is together and having the squadrons locate their grills toward the center of the activities helped prevent individual squadron parties ... and get out and about."

(Continued on Page 10)

"Readiness Is Our Number One Priority"

Commander's Comments

How do we get there from here?

By Col. Martin Mazick
507th Wing Commander

Last month I described to you a new way to look at things. I told you we get our FOCUS from our mission statement: **Recruit, train, equip and retain personnel for deployment and support of DOD peacetime and wartime taskings.**

Our GOAL to attain this comes from our wing vision statement: **A unified team of choice, unique, dreaming beyond ourselves. Boldly leading to a quality future and the perfect environment for our people. Forever ready, always there.**

This time, I want to let you know how we get there. Our method of choice is to PLAN. The weekend of September 21 - 22 saw our wing leadership get together for an offsite planning session in which we achieved something great for the organization.

For the first time wing senior leaders, all squadron commanders and key headquarters staff came together to develop the roadmap which will take us through December 1997 enroute to attaining our mission and coming closer to achieving our goal.

This plan, which will be published next month, will have direct linkage to every squadron because you were represented by your commander. The inputs received from the unit commanders and headquarters staff proved invaluable in the development of our wing plan.

Operating under the realization that there just happens to be a lot going on, we started with a set of priorities for the wing. The time comes when we just flat out have too many things to do. I owe it to you to identify our priorities, so at that point, you have the guidance to get the most important task accomplished.

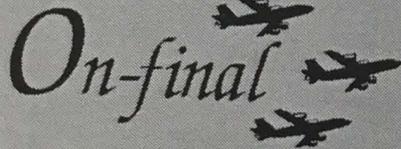
The priorities I have set for the 507th are drawn from the priorities given to all wing commanders by the Chief of the Air Force Reserve, Maj. Gen. Robert McIntosh.

Simply stated his priorities are: **Readiness, Support of the Air Force Mission, Risk Management Analysis, Human Resource Development, Compliance and Accountability, Community/Congressional Relationships, Continuous Improvement.**

Based on an understanding of General McIntosh's priorities, our mission, our vision and you, the members of this outstanding organization, I have set the following **PRIORITIES** for our wing:

- TANKER READINESS (ORI)
- AWACS BUILDUP
- RECRUITING
- ONE STANDARD - GET THE WORD OUT
- INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT
- QUALITY OF LIFE IMPROVEMENT

The development of our annual plan was guided by these priorities and they serve as your guide in the performance of the many tasks you are asked to perform when you put on your uniform. **THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO!**



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This is your newspaper. Take it with you to share with family, friends and employers. The PA phone number is 734-3078.

Promote!

Congratulations to the following personnel on their Sept. 13 promotions:

Robert Stremlow (507 SPS)
Robert Hannabass (507 CF)
Jennifer A. Taff (507 SPS)

To Airman

Eric D. Exum (507 SPS)

To Tech Sergeant:

Salind Holmes (507 MEDS)
Annette Serviss (507 MS)
Donald L. Williams (507 CES)
Tina M. Hutts (970 AACs)
Bruce Johnson (970 AACs)

To Airman First Class:

Brian E. Wilson (507 OSF)

To Senior Airman:

Shawn W. Simpson (507 MEDS)
Jody S. Hyde (507 CLSS)
Brent A. Lefler (507 CLSS)

To Master Sergeant:

David V. Haggard (507 CES)
Robin D. Lawson (507 CES)
Bertram J. Merle (507 SPS)
Cathy Robinson (507 WG)

To Staff Sergeant:

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Donald R. Cantrell (507 SPS)
Joseph Tugman (507 CLSS)
Samuel D. Reid (507 SPS)
Todd W. Abshire (507 MS)

To Senior Master Sergeant:

Billy D. Singleton (507 CES)
James Hackworth (507 OG)

To Chief Master Sergeant:

Teresa D. Pruitt (507 CES)

Safety Spotlight

*By Lt. Col. Len Kight
507th Safety Office*

We are now past the "101 Critical Days" and into the other 264 critical days (except leap year).

Every day is critical where your safety is concerned. Injuries are no fun. From the slightest paper cut to a major injury, it still hurts and it can, in most cases be prevented.

The best defenses against injury are education/training, application of that training, and attention to detail. There are several Classes of injuries in the reporting system. Briefly, Class A is fatality, or permanent total disability; Class B is permanent partial disability, Class C is injury resulting in a lost workday case involving 8 hours or more away from work, Class D (not including aircraft) is a \$2,000 to \$10,000 property damage or injury not meeting Class C definition and Class X is not reportable under the above but for which workers comp is filed. These definitions are by no means complete but they do give an idea of each class.

During FY96 the 507th Wing has experienced a total of 23 injuries. Of these, two were class C, eight class D, and thirteen class X. While not statistically "BAD" for the wing, each one of those injuries cost time, money, and that intangible cost of pain and each one could have been prevented by more alertness,

more adequate personal protective equipment, proper lifting techniques, etc.

The 507th has a plateful for the rest of this year as well as events which reach far into the foreseeable future. That's "GOOD." Let's all be vigilant and keep those fingers and toes right where they belong and in the proper configuration.

Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week is October 6-12 this year. The theme is "Let's hear it for fire safety: Test your detector."

"What detector?" You say!! Well shame on you. A smoke detector should be a minimum safety item for all. And if you have a fire place or flame type heat (gas or furnace) you should also have a carbon monoxide detector.

As a simple rule-of-thumb guide, try this: Whenever you change your clocks to or from daylight savings, change the battery in your detector. Some detectors will put out an annoying "beep" when the battery is low, but why depend on that? Change it and avoid the rush. Check your home, garage, and storage buildings for fire hazards. Don't store gas cans or any volatile, flammable material near heat or spark sources (example: gas cans near gas hot water heaters). Have a fire extinguisher and make sure everyone in your household knows how to use it, how to get help and how to get out of the house. The main emphasis here is on the "GETTING OUT." Be conscious, BE SAFE.

P.S. Let's welcome TSgt. Wayne Smith, the 507th Wing Ground Safety Manager.

Chaplain's Corner

*By 1st Lt. Dwight Magnus
507th Chaplain*

Are you ready for the Readiness Assistance Visit (RAV)? My response to that question is much like the response I gave in college to the question, "Are you ready for the test?" No, but then again it's not the day of the test either! Well, ready or not, it is here for our unit. I'm looking forward to deploying this time out (yes, I missed the fun in Mississippi, but am ready for this adventure). It is good to test our abilities as a unit, and get more practice in for the "Final Exam" in March.

This month, I challenge you to take a "faith RAV test." "How does your faith in God measure up? That is a crucial question, for Scripture tells us that "without faith it is impossible to please God." Apply these three tests to your faith.

Rugged - Someone once said that faith is not faith unless it is tested. True faith in God gets you through the storms of life, and gives you more confidence in God and your ability to trust Him. Don't wimp out and run from God or blame God when tough times come.

Authentic - That is, your faith is not a label to wear, or a bumper-sticker religion, but a real, genuine, and visible faith. None of us are perfect, but a person of genuine faith will own up to their mistakes and move on. Our world has enough hypocrites. As the TV commercial says, "Get Real!"

Vibrant - Is your faith in God growing? Are you closer to God now than ever before? Is it growing in its depth and its breadth? Too many of us get wrapped up in other things and neglect the faith of our youth, or the faith that once meant so much to us.

May God be with you as you take the faith RAV test.

McIntosh sends for October 1996

*By Maj. Gen. Robert McIntosh
Air Force Reserve Commander*

I am always pleased when I get feedback on how well you are doing your jobs in the Air Force Reserve and how well you continue to perform in stressful situations. Whether responding to an operational readiness inspection, contingency operation or a special request from your community, Air Force reservists generally stand out as excellent examples for us all.



When the feedback indicates we have not met Air Force standards, values or ethics, I always am disappointed. I imagine your reactions are similar.

We have a responsibility to our nation and the Air Force to ensure that we have the highest standards, and we adhere to those standards at all times. I think it is a good sign that we spend so much more time being pleased than disappointed.

Countdown continues towards Operational Readiness Inspection

*By Lt. Col. Rich Jones
Air Force Advisor*

I planned to fill this article with answers to all the units questions about the RAV. I also planned to score 100 points in my third year with the Boston Bruins. Sadly, neither plan worked out. Our Readiness Assistant Visit (RAV) dates are approaching with many of our questions unanswered.

Fourth Air Force does a more realistic simulation of a real world deployment. Based on my knowledge of recent Air Mobility Command Inspector General Operational Readiness Inspections (AMC IG ORI), the exercise 4th AF runs will closely resemble our Operational Readiness Exercise (ORE) at Gulfport, Miss.... it just won't be as easy. So, how do we prepare? The same way we prepare for the real thing. Read on for keys to success.

First, are you and your people ready on paper? Are your shots up to date, weapons and chem training complete, equipment available and in good shape? It doesn't matter how well you can do your job if we can't get you off the base. None of us can depend on the unit mobility officers ... we are each responsible for our own readiness. You don't depend on someone else to ensure you are paid, so give mobility training at least a portion of your attention each UTA.

Second (because I couldn't have two firsts), show up with and maintain the proper attitude. We should never hear anyone spout, "That's not my job" or "I don't know." If a task isn't normally your job either direct it to the proper area or do it anyway if you are a capable first choice). "I don't know" is never a proper response. If you don't know, offer to find the solution or direct the problem to where it will likely to result in a solution. Performing additional tasks while complaining is bad form. Remember that some tasks don't fall neatly into any one functional area, especially for a tenant wing. Look upon extra duties as opportunities to excel. We do what we must to get the wing deployed, employed with distinction, and to return with trinkets, smiles, and all the people and equipment we left with. During the Hot Wash, we highlight problems and between deployments, develop and implement fixes.

Third, study. There is an ORI-QAFA directory on the U: drive of our LAN. It contains, among a lot of other things, the most current AMC IG ORI reports. They are in Word and can be downloaded whole or in part and printed as necessary. A complete report can be read in less than an hour and will give you an excellent idea of what the scenario will be and how the IG grades. Consider this stuff to be Intel of the highest order. Know your enemy. The newest report is from the 108th ARW (New Jersey Air National Guard). You can learn a lot from this report. Make time this UTA to get together with folks from your functional area and see what you can glean from this knowledge.

In closing, Col. Mazick has set readiness as our highest priority. The ORI will be AMC's way of testing our readiness. We all have a lot on our plates ... priorities are hard to set and keep. This one has been handed to us. As always, I will do my best to assist every area with information and advice (free, and worth every penny). We will be the first ORI out of the box next year and word is it will be a little bit different from what transpired this year. Watch this space for more updates and visit WWW.RAFSOB on the U: drive.

Fall / Winter Exercise Schedule

1996

October

Mobility (non-ORI)
Review WOC/CMC
RAV (28 Oct-3 Nov.)

November

Global Guardian (Battle Staff Exercise [BSX])

December

Process Review
USA Validation (12-17 Dec.)

1997

January

Mobility Exercise (MOBEX)
Equipment Check

February

Aircrew Single Integrated Operations Plan (SIOP) Testing
Equipment Check

March

ORI

April

Hot Wash
Equipment Check



Can you say "Sprechen Sie Englisch?"

By TSgt. Robert A. Peetz

507th Aircraft Generation Squadron

"Sprechen Sie Englisch?" was a term used frequently by many unit personnel during a recent deployment to a NATO air base in western Germany. Thirteen aircrew members from the 465th Air Refueling Squadron (ARS) and 23 maintainers from the 507th Aircraft Generation Squadron (AGS) traveled to Geilenkirchen, Germany for two weeks in support of the NATO Airborne Early Warning Force E-3A Component.

The E-3A Component is one of two operational elements of the NATO Early Warning Force. Their primary mission is to provide air surveillance and command and control for all NATO commands. It is unique in military history as it is the alliance's first multinational flying unit and is the largest commonly funded program undertaken by the alliance. It has operated eighteen E-3A aircraft and three trainer/cargo aircraft since it reached full operational status in late 1988. The E-3D Component is the second element and is the United Kingdom's contribution to the force. Royal Air Force personnel man and operate six E-3D aircraft out of Waddington, United Kingdom.

Funding from Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Turkey, and the United States, support the thirty multinational E-3A Component aircrews made up from personnel from all of these countries except Luxembourg. Besides the Components home and primary training base at Geilenkirchen, Germany the unit members from eleven of NATO's 16 countries also fly operations out of Preveza, Greece; Trapani, Italy; Konya, Turkey; and Oerland, Norway. Each of these sites has approximately 30 NATO Component personnel assigned to them. However, all are from the respective host nation.

The 507th successfully deployed with all personnel and equipment in two unit aircraft. While in Germany, the unit flew numerous aerial refueling sorties in support of the Component's E-3A Surveillance and Control aircraft and their trainer/cargo aircraft.



With the Rhine River winding below, a NATO trainer/cargo aircraft practices in-flight refueling with a KC-135R tanker from the 507th Wing in the skies over Germany. The TCA aircraft are unique in that they have a receptacle to practice connecting to a tanker, but there is no internal plumbing to allow for the actual transfer of fuel from the tanker to the TCA. (Photo by TSgt. Robert Peetz)

With a strong tie to the AWACS units here at Tinker, space available passenger requests were abnormally high for this deployment. However, the 507th was able to accommodate 25 passengers going over to Germany, and were able to bring 40 passengers back on the return trip.

(See "Family reunited" on Page 6)

507th provides quick response to Iraqi threat

By Capt. Rich Curry
507th Wing Public Affairs

Sixteen 507th Wing reservists and two KC-135R Stratotanker aircraft from the 507th Wing returned Sept. 16 after a short-notice tasking supporting troop and equipment shipments to the Mid East.

According to Col. Martin Mazick, 507th Wing commander, the unit received notice at 2:30 p.m. Sept. 11, requesting the wing's air refueling services. By 7 p.m., the aircraft and reservists were airborne, headed for a 5-day deployment.

The unit's task force was based at Bangor, Maine, where they provided aerial refueling services over the Atlantic for a variety of Air Force aircraft. During the deployment, the Reserve aircraft off-loaded 298,000 pounds (44,478 gallons) of fuel.

"We were very pleased with our response time," Mazick said.

The wing's primary mission is to provide air refueling capability for Air Force, Department of Defense and NATO aircraft. The unit does not currently maintain aircraft and crews on a 24-hour alert. The quick response, which involved not only preparing the aircraft for the trip, selecting reserve volunteers and processing orders demonstrates the Reserve unit's ability to respond quickly and decisively in response to national defense, Mazick said.

Germany deployment fulfills a dream

By TSgt. Mitchell B. Chandran
507th Wing Public Affairs

A life's dream was fulfilled for one reserve member of the 507th Wing while performing his annual tour at Gilenkirchen NATO Base, Germany.

TSgt. Jay Baker, aircraft crew chief for the 507th, waited more than 18 years since joining the Air Force Reserve to go on his dream trip to Germany and have an opportunity to search for his biological mother and visit the town he was born in.

Born in Gedom, Germany, he was given up for adoption at two months of age.

Like many people who are adopted, Baker had always wanted to know the real story of what happened with his biological mother and the real reason why he was given up for adoption.

Baker's desire to obtain answers grew stronger over the years. He took the first step in finding the answers in November of 1977 when he decided to join the Air Force Reserve.

Baker joined the reserve for two reasons. First, to add a little financial security to his income, giving him an additional paycheck each month. Second, was the hope that someday he would have the opportunity to go to Germany. "I knew the only way I would ever get over there was to join the reserve," he said.

For Baker, being adopted by Ernie and Mary Jane Baker has been a blessing to him. But they didn't have many answers about his biological family or heritage: Questions like what his mother and father are like? Did he have any siblings? Is anyone in his family alive? And most importantly, what his family's medical history was?

Baker said when he first joined the reserve in the late seventies, he mysteriously collapsed on the flightline while launching an F-105 fighter aircraft. He was taken to the base hospital. "When I was in the hospital, they ran some tests and asked me if I ever had seizures or was an epileptic? I didn't know. What they were asking me was hereditary," he said. "I didn't know anything about my past. That's another reason I wanted to know and that's an answer I got while on this (Germany) trip.

Since he was nine years of age, Baker has known he was adopted. "One day I found some paperwork in my house, my passport and adoption papers," Baker said. "When I asked my mom what these were, she just came right out and told me I was

adopted. The way I understood it, my birth family couldn't afford to have any more children at the time," he said. Baker's efforts to locate his family roots over the years only resulted in dead ends and frustration.

While deployed to Gilenkirchen, Baker's opportunity to visit the town of Gedern finally came during a day off. Close to being eligible for a reserve retirement, Baker knew this would probably be his one and only chance.

"I thought if nothing else during my day off," Baker said. "I'll drive to Gedern. I'll go to town hall and give them my ten marks [approximately \$6.50] to get the process started. I could see the town I was born in and take pictures, if nothing else."

Accompanied by fellow reservist SSgt. Michael Tompkins, aircraft crew chief for the 507th, the two rented a car and drove nearly four-and-a-half hours from Gilenkirchen to Gedern to start the search. Their first stop was the town hall.

"This woman knows my mom."

"I met a lady behind the counter inside that could speak a little English," said Baker. "I showed her my birth certificate and told her I was trying to locate my parents."

The women took Baker downstairs to the repository where another lady was working. Both women examined the birth certificate. As the two ladies were talking, an elderly woman came forward from the back part of the office. "She came up and joined in on this conversation. Then the English-speaking woman turned to me and said, 'This woman knows your mom,'" he said.

Baker's initial thought was that this "couldn't be happening."

"Everything was falling into place," he said. "After all I'd been through trying to locate them, now all of a sudden, this woman knows my mother," he said.

The three ladies did a little more research and told Baker his sister resided about 5 kilometers and his mother about 10 kilometers away from the town hall.

"This was great! Then I knew I had a sister," he said. Baker said he didn't know how to take it.

Baker explained that, being adopted, he don't know the whole story as far as why he was put up for adoption. "You don't know if it's something that happened to the family or if it was you, as an individual, ... that they didn't want

anything to do with you so they just put you out," he said. Upon hearing the news, Baker wasn't sure if he had good feelings or bad feelings, or if he would get a good or bad reception.

"I've got two addresses"

"He came out of the town hall and said 'I've got these two addresses'," Tompkins said. "He didn't know if they were still living there or not. From there, we drove to the town hospital where he was born. It seemed like he was getting so close and things were starting to move fast."

"As we were driving from the hospital, Jay made the decision to see his sister first," Tompkins said. "We didn't know the age, health or how he would be received by his mother or if she was even alive."

As Baker and Tompkins searched for his sister's home, they stopped at a corner and showed a man the address on the paper hoping for directions. Not speaking English, the man pointed down the street.

The man's directions placed Baker and Tompkins in the driveway of a typical German house.

With Tompkins waiting in the car, Baker went to the door. However, while waiting for an answer, a construction truck pulled in the driveway behind their car. A short, gray-haired old man got out of the truck and started speaking to Tompkins in German. Baker joined the two and showed the old man the address on the paper. Pointing to the address, Baker told the old man "sister, sister." The old man looked over his wire glasses and, in German, told them "no". The elderly man then waved at Baker and Tompkins to follow him.

Baker and Tompkins followed the construction truck to the business area in town where they stopped in front of a semi-shop (shop with living quarters on top). As the three of them walked in, they met a young man managing the counter.

The old man showed him the piece of paper with the address on it. The young man threw up his hands and repeated something in German two or three times to Baker and Tompkins. As it turned out, the house belonged to him. "Do you know where my sister lives?," Baker asked the young man. The young man shook his head left to right and replied no in English. The young man told them that his sister and mother do not live in this town. The young man explained that he

knew almost everyone in this small town and no one by those names lived in Gedern.

Baker recalled thinking this was probably a wild goose chase when, again, another elderly woman came down from the upstairs living quarters and went behind the counter. Speaking in German to the young man, it appeared that this lady was explaining something to him. "The next thing I knew was this woman knew both my mother and sister," Baker said. "We were off again following the old man in his truckthis time stopping at the house next door to the first one we had visited," he said.

"What happened was the last names of his mother and sister had changed," said Thompkins. "Jay's mother had remarried many years ago and his sister picked up her husband's name. That's why the young man at the counter didn't recognize their names," he said.



Mother Hedwig Hock, TSgt. Jay Baker, and his sister, Hannelore are reunited after 41 years. (Photo by SSgt. Michael Tompkins)

"She couldn't believe she was my sister."

A tall, dark-haired man answered the door at this next house. "I took out my birth certificate again and handed it to him," Baker said. The man looked at the paper and called his wife to the door. As she read the names listed on the paper, she stood there motionless for a few seconds before she realized that she was Baker's sister.

"Hannelore couldn't believe that I was her brother," he said. "Her eyes lit up. She always knew she had another brother out there," Baker said. "She knew about me being the youngest in the family. But I never knew they existed."

After his sister's initial shock, Baker and Thompkins were invited in. The first thing his sister did was call his mother and tell her the news. As best she could, Hannelore told Baker his mother would soon be over.

"We had two German-English translation books with us. We all sat there for a while picking out words to try to communicate," he said.

Baker still had trouble communicating with his newly discovered sister and brother-in-law. Without an interpreter, it was difficult for the reunited siblings to talk to each other.

"But it was great," Baker said. "We had a lot of making up to do ... we were there probably about three hours before Joe, the neighbor, came over. He became our interpreter."

Baker said he and Hannelore had a lot of things figured out before his mother showed up. They talked about each other's families, how long they were

married, and children. As they started to know more about each other they started to develop a bond.

During the three hour visit prior to his mother's arrival, Baker's mind was preoccupied with talking with his sister. One thought, however, still lingering in his mind was whether his mother accept him.

"My sister was two years old when I was put up for adoption. She knew about me...but she didn't remember me," Baker said.

Hannelore left her door open anticipating their mother's arrival. With the sound of a car pulling up in the driveway, she got up and greeted her mother at the door. "As my mother entered the house and turned the corner to come down the hall to the kitchen, I met her halfway down the hallway," Baker said.

Mother-son are mirror images

"We hugged and embraced and felt an immediate bond," he said. "I couldn't believe this was happening. The resemblance between myself and my mother was startling," he said.

"I was amazed," Thompkins said. "When Baker's mother walked in, they were almost mirror images. There was no doubt in my mind that she was his mother," he said.

After Baker and his mother settled down in the kitchen and some of the anxiety had passed, she immediately spoke to Joe who in turn asked Baker,

"She wants to know how you have been treated through all these years."

"You could see the relief in her face as I answered her question. This was a question that had been troubling her for 41 years," Baker said.

Baker's question of why he was put up for adoption was finally answered.

Forty-one years ago, with two children and newly divorced, Mother Hedwig was pressured by her mother to give up the son they simply could not afford.

There were not a lot of words spoken for a long time. Mother Hedwig was teary-eyed and repeatedly asked Baker if he had been taken care of well.

Mother Hedwig, Hannelore and Baker spent the day until late evening talking while Joe translated everything for the family. Baker said he will always keep in touch with his mother and sister and has plans to take his wife, Susan, back to visit his family in Germany.

"If you want to call it a life fulfillment or a dream, it finally happened," Baker said.

Baker said he also learned his medical history. "There were no medical problems in my family. Whatever had happened before must have been a freak, one-time event," he said.

"Being with Jay that day gave me the feeling of what it is like to be adopted and some understanding of the void of not knowing who your parents are," Thompkins said. "Witnessing the moment of a person meeting his biological mother after 41 years was... well, it's indescribable."

507th Wing builds towards tomorrow

*By Capt. Rich Curry
507th Wing Public Affairs*

Building towards the future means more than just rapid-fire hiring for the Air Force Reserve's newest AWACS associate unit, the 513th Air Control Group.

Aside from hiring nearly 50 people towards its eventual 450 total manning, one of the organization's newest members graduated from Officer's Commissioning School September 19.

Newly commissioned 2nd Lt. David Jones, who is joining the 513th's 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron, received honors during the ceremony as a Distinguished Graduate of the Academy of Military Science (AMS), McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base, Tenn.

This honor is awarded to those officer candidates who exemplify the total person concept, demonstrating superior skills in the areas of leadership, military professionalism, and communication. Additionally, Lieutenant Jones received the AMS Physical Fitness Award for demonstrating outstanding performance during the AMS fitness program.

Program plants the seeds for the future

According to 513th ACG Commander, Lt. Col. Ken Suggs, "By hiring these exceptional enlisted members and encouraging them toward their commission, we are planting the seeds for our future. This is a superior accomplishment from one of our shining stars."

Jones is the third individual commissioned by the 513th since its activation seven months ago. Last July, 2nd Lt. Trina Ruth and 2nd Lt. Louis Fournier received their commissions at AMS.

Also commissioned during the ceremony was 2nd Lt. Martinus McConnell, another Air Force Reservist with the 72nd Aerial Port Squadron. McConnell was one of four individuals in his class selected for the Citizen-Soldier Award.

McConnell was selected by his classmates for this award which honors an officer candidate's dedication and devotion to duty, honor, and country. He was selected by the members of "D" (Delta) Squadron as their squadron's officer candidate who best exemplified the military core values.

"It's a prestigious honor for one of the 507th's best," Suggs said.

Reserve officials state that the 507th Wing, host Reserve unit for both the 513th ACG and 72nd APS, has an excellent track record in this advancement program, commissioning 20 enlisted reservists during the past five years.

"Commissioning is a great goal any reservist can strive for," said MSgt. Lane Jones of 507th Wing's Military Personnel Flight. Jones has handled the commissioning package program for the past five years. "Our leaders strongly support this program. And while the available officer positions are few, we work hard to recognize those who have shown superior performance." 507th members can receive more information about the commissioning program by contacting MSgt. Kathy Buchanan, new monitor for the program, at ext. 47491.

First Sergeants wanted

CMSgt. Robert Kellington, 507th Senior Enlisted Advisor, is accepting applications for two squadron first sergeant positions, one within the 507th Aircraft Generation Squadron and the other in the 507th Civil Engineer Squadron.

The listings below are the minimum qualifications and requirements for application per AFI 36-2113, AFMAN 36-8001, and 507th SEA criteria:

1. Must be a volunteer for the first sergeant position.
 2. A letter of recommendation from present supervisor endorsed by your commander or first sergeant if commander not available.
 3. Resume citing education (military and civilian), community involvement, self-improvement, leadership, and managerial skills.
 4. Be a MSgt. (E-7) or be eligible for promotion to MSgt.
 5. Possess an AFSC at the 7-skill level.
 6. Be a high school graduate or GED equivalent.
 7. Have completed the NCO Academy (residence or correspondence).
 8. Possess a minimum aptitude score of 45 ADMIN or 58 GENERAL.
 9. Ability to speak distinctly.
 10. Be financially stable.
 11. Meet minimum weight and body fat standards. Overall image should exceed minimum standards.
 12. Selectee must attend AFRES First Sergeant Academy at earliest possible date, but no later than one year from date of assignment.
 13. Meet a first sergeant review/interview board made up of selecting unit commander, Senior Enlisted Advisor, one unit first sergeant, and one senior NCO. Board members should not be assigned to the same unit as the applicant.
 14. Applications must be turned into the 507th Military Personnel Flight prior to 3 p.m. Oct. 6, 1996.
- For more information, call CMSgt. Robert Kellington at ext. 45101.

Combat camera needs you

The Air Force Reserve is looking for nearly 200 new recruits as it stands up the first Reserve combat camera unit at March Air Reserve Base, Calif.

The unit needs 24 officers and 166 enlisted members, preferably people with prior service in combat camera or who have attended the military schools, according to Maj. Ted Liedle, individual mobilization augmentee to the commander of the 1st Combat Camera Squadron, Charleston AFB, S.C.

A number of still photo and videographer positions are flying slots, as operational support man-day fliers, Liedle said. "Still and video combat camera fliers perform aerial photographer duties and log hours in virtually everything that flies that has a spare seat, to include all the heavies, helicopters, and fast burners with two seats."

Prior-service cross trainees will need to attend tech school to be awarded the Air Force Specialty Code, Liedle said, and will need to pursue upgrade training aggressively. Civilian employment in the visual information career areas of photojournalism and electronic journalism for the enlisted, and producer/director for the officers, is greatly preferred.

Recruits without prior service can expect to attend basic training, technical school, then a tour of up to six months for initial upgrade training, followed by frequent man-day tours for deployments and exercises if they are available to do so.

Anyone interested in applying for a job may call the March ARB recruiters at (909) 655-2117 or DSN 947-2117. (AFRES News Service)

Training Planner

October Schedule of Events

Date/Time	Meetings, Etc.	Location
Fri, 4 Oct		
1300	Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg	Bldg 1043 ConfRm
1430	Qtrly Training Review	Bldg 1043 ConfRm
1430	Pre-UTA First Sgt Mtg	Bldg 1043 TNET Rm
Sat, 5 Oct		
As Designated by Unit	Sign In	As Designated by Unit
0730-0930	Newcomers In-Processing	Bldg 1043, Rm 201C
0800-1600	Ed&Tng Open/Walk-in Service	Bldg 1043, Rm 206
0900-1000	3AOX1 Training	Bldg 1030, Classroom 3
1000-1100	Senior 3AOX1 Meeting	Bldg 1030, Classroom 3
1000-1100	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 1030, Classroom 1
1000	Mobility Rep Meeting	Bldg 1043, ConfRm
1030	First Sgts Meeting	Dining Hall, Sun Room
1300-1600	Hazcom Training	Bldg 1030, TBA
1300-1400	IG period w/LtCol Despinoy	Bldg 1067, OG/CC office
1400-1500	Training Improvement Council	Bldg 1043, TNET Rm
As designated by Unit	Sign Out	As designated by Unit
Sun, 6 Oct		
As Designated by Unit	Sign In	As Designated by Unit
0730-0800	Protestant Chapel Service	Bldg 1030, Classroom 3
0730-0800	Catholic Chapel Service	Bldg 1043, TNET Room
0730-0930	Ed&Tng Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043, Rm 206
0730-0930	MPF Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043, Rm 201
0800-1100	Newcomer's Ancil Trng Ph I	Bldg 1030, Classroom 1
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, ConfRm
0930-1630	Ed&Tng Open by Appt x47075	Bldg 1043, Rm 206
1200-1600	Newcomer's Ancil Trng Ph II	Bldg 1030, Classroom 1
TBA	CDC/PME Course Exams	Bldg 460, Rm 213
1300	SORTS Mass Briefing	Bldg 1043, ConfRm
1400-1500	3AOX1 Training	Bldg 1030, Classroom 3
As designated by Unit	Sign Out	As Designated by Unit

..... Long Range Schedule

Oct	
5-6	Primary UTA
5	Blood Drive
5	72 APS Change of Cmd
6	Security Prog Insp - Comm & CLSS
9	Budget Call FY 98/99/00
15-18	Quality Air Force Symposium
28-	Operational Readiness
5 Nov	Exercise & 4th AF Readiness Assist Visit
Nov	
1-5	RAV Continued
2-3	Primary UTA
15-16	Global Guardian-465 ARS
30 -	Nellis Deployment - 465
14 Dec	465 ARS
Dec	
1-14	Nellis Deployment Cont
14-15	Primary UTA
12-17	IG Site Visit for Unit Self Assessment Validation
Jan	
11-12	Primary UTA
12	Mobility Exercise-Deployment Pkg
12	Wing Self Inspection Report Due
Feb	
8-9	Primary UTA
8-9	Aircrew SIOP Testing for ORI
Mar	
5	Mini-Budget Call FY 98
15-16	Primary UTA
TBA	AMC Operational Readiness Insp
Apr	
2-6	NCO LDP 97A Phase I
12-13	Primary UTA
28 -	NCO LDP 97A Phase II
May 2	

HOT TOPICS

- ✓ **Mobility Exercise this UTA** for Med Sq, CLSS, and 72 APS
- ✓ **MPF will be OPEN now on UTA Sundays 0930-1630** and closed from 0730-0930 for In-House Training
- ✓ **Times a'changin' for Safety Trainin'**
Hazcom, Supervisors Safety Tng, and the Add'l Duty Safety Rep meeting will be held (on a quarterly rotating schedule) UTA Saturdays, 1300-1600, in Bldg 1030, Clsm 1.
- ✓ **Training Improvement Council Seeks Creative Thinkers**
A "no-obligation" overview of what it's about and what's involved will be hosted Sat, 1400, in the TNET Room, Bldg 1043. For more info, call CMSgt Judy McKisson at x47075. **Everyone invited!**

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November Schedule of Events

Date/Time	Meetings, Etc.	Location
Fri, 1 Nov		
1300	Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg	Bldg 1043 ConfRm
1430	Pre-UTA First Sgt Mtg	Bldg 1043 TNET Rm
Sat, 2 Nov		
As Designated by Unit	Sign In	As Designated by Unit
0730-0930	Newcomers In-Processing	Bldg 1043, Rm 201C
0800-1600	Ed&Tng Open/Walk-in Service	Bldg 1043, Rm 206
0900-1000	3AOX1 Training	Bldg 1030, Classroom 3
1000-1100	Senior 3AOX1 Meeting	Bldg 1030, Classroom 3
1000-1100	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 1030, Classroom 1
1000	Mobility Rep Meeting	Bldg 1043, ConfRm
1030	First Sgts Meeting	Dining Hall, Sun Room
1300-1400	IG period w/LtCol Despinoy	Bldg 1067, OG/CC office
1400-1500	Training Improvement Council	Bldg 1043, TNET Rm
As designated by Unit	Sign Out	As designated by Unit
Sun, 3 Nov		
As Designated by Unit	Sign In	As Designated by Unit
0730-0800	Protestant Chapel Service	Bldg 1030, Classroom 3
0730-0800	Catholic Chapel Service	Bldg 1043, TNET Room
0730-0930	Ed&Tng Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043, Rm 206
0730-0930	MPF Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043, Rm 201
0800-1100	Newcomer's Ancil Trng Ph I	Bldg 1030, Classroom 1
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, ConfRm
0830-1200	Add'l Duty Safety Rep Mtg	Bldg 1030, TBA
0930-1630	Ed&Tng Open by Appt x47075	Bldg 1043, Rm 206
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TBA	CDC/PME Course Exams	Bldg 460, Rm 213
1300	SORTS Mass Briefing	Bldg 1043, ConfRm
1400-1500	3AOX1 Training	Bldg 1030, Classroom 3
As designated by Unit	Sign Out	As Designated by Unit

Ancillary Training

Newcomers Ancillary Training

Newcomers Ancillary Training Phases I and II are conducted **monthly** on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1030, Classroom 1 (Room 217). Unit training managers are responsible for ensuring their new personnel are scheduled to attend within 90 days of their first UTA. If you have any questions, please contact SSgt Scarlett McCloud, 507th Education & Training Flight at x47075.

Time	Subject	OPR
0800-1000	EO 2000/Drug & Alcohol	SL
1000-1030	Base Populace	CEX
1030-1100	Counter Intel & Local Threats	SP
1100-1200	Lunch Break	
1200-1300	Laws of Armed Conflict	JA
1300-1400	UCMJ/Ethics	JA
1400-1430	Local Conditions-Traffic	SE
1430-1500	Security Awareness (SATE)	507 CF

Disaster Preparedness

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 they will be reported as "no-shows." Ensure all personnel bring their Go-Bags with them to all classes.

Supervisors may schedule Chem War training throughout the year by calling DW office at 45249, NLT one UTA prior to class requested. Units must report names of personnel requiring training when scheduling.

UCMJ Briefing

All enlisted personnel are required to have the UCMJ briefing within two UTAs of reenlistment. This briefing is held during Phase II of the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training, at 1315 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1030.

Ethics Briefing

All reserve personnel are required to have the DOD Ethics Briefing within 90 days of reporting for duty. This briefing is held during Phase II of the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 1230 on Sunday of the UTA.

In-Resident NCO Academy 6 Jan-13 Feb 97

If you want to attend the in-residence NCO Academy, see your Unit Training Manager to **APPLY NOW** for classes starting 6 Jan 97. Nomination packages for these quotas **MUST** be submitted through your Unit training manager, and received by the Education & Training Flight **NLT 4 Nov 96**. For more details, contact the Education & Training Flight at x47075.

Military Pay

File for Receive Direct
payby: Deposit by:

08 Oct	15 Oct	
15 Oct		23 Oct
21 Oct		31 Oct
24 Oct		01 Nov
31 Oct		06 Nov
05 Nov		13 Nov

Enlisted Promotions

Unit Vacancy

Elig Cutoff	Promotion Effective
30 Nov	1 Jan
31 Jan	1 Mar
31 Mar	1 May
31 May	1 Jul
31 Jul	1 Sep
30 Sep	1 Nov

Promotion Enhancement Program (PEP)

Packages Due	Promotions Effective
Jan UTA	1 Apr
Jul UTA	1 Oct

...and speaking of promotions, how does your *education level and PME completion* compare with your peers'? The Education & Training Flight can help you get to that next higher level. Come see us!

Training Staff Assistance Visit Schedule

05-06 Oct 96	LG Units
02-03 Nov 96	LG Units incl 507 CLSS
07-08 Dec 96	Follow Up SAVs as req'd

Unit Commanders: Please contact CMSgt Judy McKisson (x47075) if you have a need to reschedule your unit's Training SAV.

FY 97 NCO LDP Dates

Class 97A

phase I: W-Su 2-6 Apr 97
phase II: M-F 28 Apr-2 May 97

Class 97B

phase I: M-F 7-11 Jul 97
phase II: M-F 28 Jul-1 Aug 97

See your unit training manager to sign up!

BAQ Recertification Deadlines

If your SSAN ends with a 2 or 7, you have until 31 Oct 96 to recertify your BAQ or have it terminated. Please see your Unit BAQ monitor to complete the AF Form 987. 507th Military Pay sends the list to Unit BAQ Monitors who must return the list complete with all recertifications to the Military Pay. NOTE: If you don't have dependents, you don't need to recertify.

This publication is brought to you by your friendly Education and Training Flight staff. If you need assistance or have suggestions for how we can improve our service to you, please call us at (405) 734-7075, or stop by our office in Bldg 1043, Room 206.

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TSgt Jason Yocum, Education and Training Advisor
SSgt Scarlet McCloud, Education and Training Advisor
Mr. John Baker, Education and Testing Services Advisor

Checklist for Administering Mandatory Career Development Courses

- Unit Training Manager issues CDC material to supervisor and trainee, and briefs them on CDC policies and procedures.
- Supervisor and trainee inventory CDC package.
- Trainee instructed to post all changes. Supervisor briefed to verify corrections were accomplished.
- Supervisor determines schedule and sequence of volume completion and issues first volume.
- Trainee is expected to complete one volume and Volume Review Exercise per UTA unless supervisor specifically establishes a different completion schedule. If a trainee misses a UTA, he/she should be prepared to submit two Volume Review Exercises the next UTA. Supervisor will notify Unit Training Manager of any adjustments to completion schedule.
- Trainee informed that he/she should be prepared to take the final Course Examination within two UTAs after final VRE is turned in unless supervisor specifically establishes a different final test schedule. Supervisor will notify Unit Training Manager of any adjustments to final test schedule.
- Supervisor and trainee will coordinate with the Unit Training Manager each month to score completed VRE. Supervisor will conduct review training on areas missed and complete the bottom of ECI Form 34 (VRE Answer Sheet) to certify completion of review training.
- Supervisor will annotate AF Form 623a as necessary and file ECI Forms 34 in the trainee's training record until course completion.
- If trainee exceeds established volume completion time limits, the supervisor will determine the reason for slow progress, conduct counseling and document on AF Form 623a. Counseling must cover strengths, areas needing improvement, attitude, and ways to improve. If necessary, supervisor will place the trainee in supervised study.
- Supervisor will notify Unit Training Manager to request ordering of Course Examination, and if necessary, CDC enrollment extensions.
- Supervisor will review the entire CDC with trainee to prepare for course examination.
- Course examination results (ECI Form 9) will be filed in the training record until the trainee completes upgrade training.
- Passing score is 65%. If a trainee fails the course examination on the first attempt, a Commanders Evaluation will be conducted to determine the cause and necessary action. One retake is permitted. A second failure may result in withdrawal from training and possible separation.
- The trainee is responsible for actively participating in the learning process and budgeting time to complete assigned training tasks including CDC and self-training requirements.

Top enlisted performers recognized

*By Capt. Rich Curry
507th Wing Public Affairs*

The 507th Mission Support Squadron's Services section garnered two of the three quarterly awards during the wing's last Senior NCO, NCO and Airman of the Quarter award program.

The awards cover the period during the second quarter, or April through June, and are presented to recognize outstanding unit members.

Selected by the 507th Wing's Enlisted Advisory Council are MSgt. Terry N. Tunender, 507th MSS Services Superintendent as Senior NCO of the Quarter; SSgt. Donald L. Williams, 507th Civil Engineering Squadron Utilities Systems Apprentice as NCO of the Quarter and SrA Kevin R. Hurley, 507th MSS Service Specialist as the Airman of the Quarter.

Senior Airman

According to his supervisors, SrA Kevin Hurley has repeatedly demonstrated a thorough knowledge of all facets of the Services career field.

Hurley's job involves both field and warehouse operations within Services with secondary duties within the section working as a member of the Hazardous Cargo team, Pallet Buildup team, Alternate Equipment Manager and Explosive Vehicle driver.

Hurley recently completed his 5 level course and is enrolled in the Community College of the Air Force seeking an Associate's Degree in Fitness, Recreation and Services Management, completing 21 hours to date.

An active member of the Lindsay, Okla., Parent Teacher Association, Hurley is also a member of the Erin Springs Baptist Church and is active in their Sunday School program as an assistant teacher and worker in their Vacation Bible School during the summer.

Hurley coaches three different baseball/softball teams as well as being a regular participant in the 507th Wing's quarterly Blood Drive.

Hurley has an Air Force Achievement Medal and recently received two Letters of Appreciation from the Officer in Charge of the 314th Services Squadron at Cannon AFB, N.M., for his superior job performance during a readiness exercise at that base and a letter of appreciation from the 394th Services Squadron at Sheppard AFB, Tex., for his performance during Medical Readiness Training Development Exercise.

"He is a valuable asset to the Services Section and is greatly respected within the 507th for his honesty, loyalty and integrity," said Maj. Mony Goodman, Services OIC. "He projects a professional military image in his community and instills a strong sense of confidence in the mission of the 507th Wing. His reputation as a quality member of the Air Force team is widely known and respected."

NCO of the Quarter

During the award period, SSgt. Williams graduated as a Distinguished Graduate from his 3-level course on Utilities System Apprentice. Additionally, Williams served the Civil Engineer Squadron through his efforts to revitalize the unit's Quarterly Awards Program and served as the squadron representative on the 507th Enlisted Advisory Council.

He graduated with honors from Wayland Baptist University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Occupational Education. He received an Occupational Instructor Certification from the

State of Texas and is currently enrolled in Midwestern State University's Computer Sciences Graduate studies.

His work within his community involves serving as a youth hockey coach for which he was selected as Coach of the Season by the Wichita Falls Parks and Recreation Youth Hockey Program. He serves as a volunteer at the Wichita Falls Youth Opportunities Center to teach young adults the skills to survive in today's business environment and as a mentor for several Wichita Falls junior high students.

Williams' most recent military decoration is the Joint Service Commendation Medal, received for participating in the Inter-Service Training Review Organization. Additionally, Williams has been awarded four Air Force Commendation Medals and four Air Force Achievement Medals, among others.

"Sergeant Williams strives to influence subordinates on the positive aspects of Air Force Reserve service," said Maj. Renee Lane, 507th Civil Engineer Squadron Commander. "He demonstrates to young adults, through his actions, that the Air Force is a viable career solution and motivates peers to improve the wing and the Air Force team concept."

Senior NCO of the Quarter

As the Superintendent of the Services Section, MSgt. Terry Tunender was largely responsible for the food, billeting and mortuary support provided to the wing during its recent deployment to Gulfport Air National Guard Base, Miss.

Tunender also monitors the section's SORTS (war readiness) to ensure the unit is prepared to perform its war tasking.

"Tunender is a highly motivated leader whose gregarious nature projects a positive "can do" attitude that motivates other unit members," said Maj. Goodman. "He delegates authority well and monitors those tasks to ensure completeness without micromanaging."

During the award period, Tunender was enrolled in the Community College of the Air Force seeking an Associate's Degree in Fitness, Recreation and Services Management. He is also enrolled in Senior NCO Academy Course 8.

A firm believer of the Continuous Improvement Process, Tunender formulated the unit's Annual Plan which has been lauded by his commander. His expertise was tested when he set about acquiring a Mobile Kitchen Trailer (MKT) for the unit. After much research, he located an MKT at a property disposal center in Utah and arranged for it to be shipped to the 507th via Air Force transport. He saved not only the cost of shipping, but saved the 507th approximately \$11,000 by acquiring a used, but cheaply repairable, MKT instead of ordering a new one.

He has two Air Force Commendation Medals and two Air Force Achievement Medals as well as having received numerous Letters of Appreciation for his outstanding job performance. He was selected as the SNCO of the Quarter for the 507th Services Section for the second quarter of 1996. He was selected as AFRES Outstanding Prime RIBS Enlisted Manager of the Year for 1994 and was largely responsible for the unit being selected as the Outstanding Prime RIBS Unit in AFRES for 1995.

He is active in his community, coaching a Little League baseball team, and is an active participant in 507th Blood Drives.

"Tunender has demonstrated his ability as a positive spokesperson for the Air Force Reserve and is widely known in the 507th as an example of what a well-trained, motivated military member should be like," Goodman said.

Family Day '96

*Photos by
TSgt. Mitch Chandran*



This year, each squadron pitched in with the kitchen duties which did away with long lines.



A local band, DaZsaVoo, provided music for all to enjoy throughout the day.

(Continued from Page 1)

"I believe the block party type of gathering lent itself to more mingling of families," said CMSgt. Robert Kellington, Senior Enlisted Advisor for the 507th. "Please pass on my thanks to all the folks who helped make family day a great success."

"It was definitely a team effort to get everything ready this year," Weeks said. "Without the devotion exhibited by all the members on the planning committee and volunteers who helped, I don't think it would have been as good as it was."



Richay Jobe-Perkins gets her face painted by SMSgt. Hiroko Yates, 507th Medical Squadron.



MSgt. John Jolly, 72nd Aerial Port Squadron, makes an animal balloon for Daniel Paregien.

Family Day '96



No matter what the event, there is always time to promote educational literature. Mr. John Baker, 507th training office, explains what is available at the education booth.



The result of SMSgt. Yate's artwork is sported by Richay.



Plenty of activities were set up for everyone to enjoy.



Lt. Col. Ken Suggs, 513th Air Control Group commander, takes his turn "at the helm" of the infamous Dunk Tank



Lt. Col. Ken Suggs shows he's a "natural" for a job with the Navy SEALs, during his stint at the Dunk Tank.

Dining-Out carries on tradition

By MSgt. Marie D. Filbin
507th Combat Logistics
Support Squadron

The 507th Combat Logistics Support Squadron's Dining-Out tradition carried on for the seventh consecutive year last month.

More than 170 people attended the September 14th event held at the Enlisted Club on base.

The featured guest speaker for this year's Dining-Out was CMSgt. Carol Smits, Senior Enlisted Advisor for the Air Force Reserve.

Smits' speech was in line with the Dining Out theme, "Desert Storm: 5 Years Later." She talked about how important the Air Force Reserve is to the Total Force. Smits said, "Guard and Reserve forces pitched in to give our Air Force the punch it needed to bring the



CMSgt. Carol Smits

war to a close rather quickly...that was the result of regular and reserve components being fully integrated in wartime planning and peacetime operations. So, the first lesson we learned was that Total Force worked extremely well."

Smits quoted parts of a speech that Maj. Gen. Robert McIntosh, chief of the Air Force Reserve used when he addressed a joint session of Congress. In it he stated, "Although we are involved more now in the daily mission of the Air Force, the focus of the Reserve continues to be readiness. We train so that we will be ready to prosecute our wartime missions when we are needed."



Left to Right: SrA Michael Maule and guest, Mrs. and SSgt. Michael Songer and SSgt. Kyle Howell are among the many attendees at the Dining Out.

Chief Smits concluded, "The Air Force Reserve has earned its position as a full partner in our nation's defense. We know our mission and we're ready to go. Our readiness has never been higher than it is today."

Other highlights of the evening, included an Arabian theme, a mannequin dressed in Desert BDUs, and a board naming and saluting those members who served during Desert Shield and Storm. There were over 40 CLSS members who served during that contingency.

On a more somber note, a memorial board listed and honored those service members who lost their lives in the Dhahran bombing last year was spotlighted and included during a POW/MIA ceremony.

Among the guests was Maj. Gen. (Ret.) S.T. Ayers and his wife, Col. Sally Eaves, Mobilization Assistant to the Commander, Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center, Col. and Mrs. Martin Mazick Mazick. Chaplain (1st Lt.) and Mrs. Dwight Magnus, with the Chaplain giving the evening's Invocation and Benediction.

Also present were Col. Tobie Titsworth, Lt. Col. Kenneth Settle and Lt. Col. Lee Casey, all former unit CLSS commanders. Other guests were CMSgt. Bert Nyberg, Mr. Jim Nunn and Ms. Lu Ann Ryan, from Air Force Mobility Command Headquarters. In attendance from 4th Air Force were Maj. Nancy Gray and MSgt. Doug Graybill.

SMSgt. Stan Walker, 507th CLSS, was recognized as outstanding contributor within the squadron. TSgt. Arnold Schones, 507th Logistics Support Squadron was recognized as the outstanding contributor outside the CLSS.

The newest addition to the tradition, thanks to the talents of squadron member SSgt. Jim McDonald, was a trilogy of audiovisual tapes. The first video set the mood of the night's theme. The second video, *507th CLSS at Work and Play* focused on the people, places and changes with in the unit during the past 5 years. The third video, *Okie Patriotism Pride* rounded out the program.



MSgt. Marie Filbin puts the finishing touches on a mannequin which accented the theme for the Dining Out.

Defense bill redesignates AFRES, adds benefits

WASHINGTON -- The Fiscal Year 1997 National Defense Authorization Act, signed by President Clinton Sept. 23, contains several provisions affecting Air Force reservists.

Key items in the bill provide authority to redesignate the Air Force Reserve as a major command, grant a 3 percent military pay raise and a 4.6 percent hike in basic allowance for quarters effective Jan. 1, and exempt air reserve technicians from reductions in the civilian work force.

Under the 1997 defense authorization act, the Air Force's Selected Reserve will shrink slightly from 73,969 to 73,311. The number of reservists on statutory tours will increase from 625 to an end strength of 655, and the air reserve technician force will not dip lower than last year's 9,802 end strength.

In addition, ARTs will be authorized and accounted for as a separate category of dual-status civilian employees, exempt from Department of Defense adjustments of civilian personnel. In recent years, Congress has annually introduced legislation to protect technicians from reductions in force. However, ARTs will continue to be subject to job displacement because of base closures or realignments.

AFRES officially a major command

The 1997 authorization act establishes in law each reserve component as a major command within its respective service. Over the years, the Air Force has treated the Air Force Reserve as a major command because it takes on most missions performed by active-duty troops. In addition, the size of the Air Force Reserve in people and aircraft compares favorably to some other major commands.

On the money side, the act OKs \$52.8 million for Reserve military construction and nearly \$1.5 billion for operations and maintenance expenses. Reserve equipment money will drop from \$360 million last year to \$303.2 million this year, which includes \$209.2 million for four WC-130J weather reconnaissance aircraft, \$30 million for C-20G aircraft, \$26 million to re-engine KC-135s, \$14 million for avionics upgrades, \$5 million for night vision devices and \$19 million for miscellaneous equipment.

The bill also clarifies or expands on entitlements authorized by previous bills. Some of the provisions of the 1997 bill:

- Increase the annual limit on days of inactive duty training creditable towards reserve retirement from 60 to 75.

- Permit a reserve enlisted member who qualifies for an active duty retirement and who is reduced in grade for reasons other than misconduct to retire in the highest enlisted grade held.

- Clarify eligibility of reservists for disability retirement. Reservists are eligible for a disability retirement if the disability is the result of or incurred in line of duty while performing active duty or inactive duty training; occurred while traveling directly to or from the place of duty; or happened between successive periods of inactive duty training if the site is outside reasonable commuting distance of the member's residence.

- Clarify eligibility for enrollment in the Ready Reserve Mobilization Income Insurance Program. Members of the Inactive Ready Reserve who become members of the Selected Reserve are also eligible for this program, unless they previously declined participation.

- Expand eligibility for education benefits to include certain Reserve Officers' Training Corps participants.

- Extend certain reenlistment bonuses, certain bonuses and special pay for nurses, and authority to pay other bonuses and special pays through Sept. 30, 1998.

- Provide special incentives to recruit and retain dental officers.
- Delay the implementation of the Selected Reserve Dental Insurance Plan until no later than by Oct. 1, 1997.

- Require dental insurance plan for military retirees, gray area reservists and their eligible family members, including surviving spouses who do not remarry and eligible dependent children of deceased members. The program will take effect by Oct. 1, 1997, and provide benefits for basic dental care and treatment, including diagnostic, preventative, basic restorative, surgical and emergency services.

- Increase the cap on each operation and maintenance minor construction project from \$300,000 to \$500,000 and raise the reserve component minor military construction limit per project from \$400,000 to \$1.5 million.

In addition, the 1997 authorization act requires DOD to submit several status reports to Congress on initiatives from previous bills. For example, Congress wants a report on proposed legislation for tax incentives for employers of mobilized reservists. Congress also wants feedback on the income insurance program for activated reservists. (AFRES News Service)

Contingency service qualifies for medal, device

Reservists who volunteer or are called to active duty for designated contingency operations on or after Aug. 1, 1990, may wear the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with an "M" device.

In the past, reservists had to have 10 or more years service to qualify for the basic medal. Now, they can earn the medal not only for service longevity but also service in a contingency, such as the Persian Gulf War. Other contingencies that qualify reservists to wear the medal with the "M" device include Operations Restore Hope (Somalia), Uphold Democracy (Haiti) and Joint Endeavor (Bosnia).

President Clinton signed an executive order Aug. 6, which accommodates service in more than one contingency with an Arabic numeral and service longevity with an hourglass device. If no "M" device is authorized, that is service in a contingency, the appropriate hourglass -- bronze for 10 years service, silver for 20 and gold for 30 -- goes in the center of the ribbon. If no hourglass is authorized, the "M" device is centered on the ribbon, followed by the numeric device when authorized. If all three are awarded, the hourglass will be positioned on the ribbon at the wearer's right, the "M" device in the middle and the numeric device on the wearer's left.

The new devices are not available at this time, according to Air Force Reserve officials. Awards and decorations people will have more details later. (AFRES News Service)



State AFA Chapter recognizes Roehl, Chandran

*By Capt. Rich Curry
507th Wing Public Affairs*

The Oklahoma State Chapter of the Air Force Association recently recognized two members of the 507th Wing as this year's Reserve Officer and NCO of the Year.

The State AFA Chapter annually chooses individuals from various services across the state whom it feels best exemplify military professionalism and leadership. Selected for the awards were Capt. Mary Roehl, 507th Security Police Squadron commander and TSgt. Mitch Chandran of the 507th Public Affairs Office.

Reserve Officer of the Year

As Security Police Squadron commander, Captain Roehl supervises more than 40 security personnel. She serves as the 507th Wing Security Manager, attending Base Security Manager meetings, ensuring personnel maintain security clearances appropriate to their jobs and conducted a mass reissue of more than 400 restricted area badges to unit members after a base area redesignation. She helped the Navy's STRATCOM Wing One Security Manager develop entry authorization listings for 507th Wing members who must use that area during the unit's facilities reconstruction.

She served as the Support Group Commander during last year's deployment to France and additionally serves as the Support Group Executive Officer, standing in during the Support Group Commander's absence.

Roehl successfully completed the Air Force Security Police Academy at Lackland AFB, Tex., serving as class leader, and was selected by Academy staff to counsel active duty lieutenants. She successfully completed Ground Combat Skills Level IV course at Camp Bullis, Tex., and the Dynamics of International Terrorism Course at the Air Force Special Operations School.

Roehl also wrote and published threat conditions books for each building, providing building custodians ready access to threat condition information and specific actions to take for each building.

She serves as an active participant on the Base Advisory Council, Officers' Club Advisory Council and as a leading member of the Base Integrated Process Team for computer theft prevention.

Reserve NCO of the Year

Sergeant Chandran works as a Public Affairs Specialist with the 507th Wing, preparing articles for internal and external release as well as coordinating community relations efforts.

During the 1995 rating period, Chandran was recognized for his strong community relations efforts in relation to the Oklahoma City bombing.

Working directly with the Joint Information Bureau and FBI at the site of the bombing, Chandran engaged with local media helping ensure maximum coverage of the rescue efforts. His written articles appeared nationally in both newspapers and magazines. Video documentation taken by Chandran was later used to produce a half-hour special documentary on a local television station. Chandran appeared on the program as a commentator during the broadcast where he presented a strong message on military support of the rescue and recovery efforts.

For his efforts during the bombing, Chandran received the Civil Service Exemplary Service Award and has been publicly recognized by Headquarters AFRES Public Affairs.

By invitation, Chandran visited college student journalists, public relations professionals and emergency management officials during a series of speaking engagements held in Wichita, Kans., and Dallas, Tex.,

He was instrumental in the production of the 507th Wing's 1995 Year in Review videotape which has been used in the unit's Speakers Bureau program and shown to local chambers of commerce, as well as elected officials.

Reserve clamping down on travel card delinquencies



WASHINGTON - Starting Oct. 1 Air Force Reserve travelers who let their American Express travel cards become 60 days delinquent will automatically have their accounts suspended until they pay the balance.

If they let their accounts go 60 days delinquent twice in 12 months, their accounts will be canceled. If this occurs, commanders have the option of allowing travelers to reapply for cards; however, American Express will review personal credit histories and has the authority to deny re-issuance of cards.

These are among the actions Reserve senior leaders agreed upon during their last conference in July.

On Sept. 4, Maj. Gen. Robert A. McIntosh, chief of Air Force Reserve, sent a letter to Reserve unit commanders emphasizing the importance of correcting delinquencies.

"Delinquencies have averaged more than \$15 million per month for the Department of Defense, with the Air Force responsible for just under 50 percent of these late payments," said the general. "The Air Force Reserve has consistently had the highest delinquency percentage within the Air Force. This reflects poorly on us all, and we need to take aggressive action now."

In the past, agency program coordinators who oversee Reserve credit card accounts would review accounts that became 60 days delinquent. This administrative waiting period gave people more time to pay their balance, but slowed the process of identifying delinquencies.

Other changes call for coordinators to receive more training from American Express and for unit commanders to begin publicizing within their units garnishment and disciplinary actions taken against offenders.

"The American Express card is an effective tool for our members when used responsibly," McIntosh said. "However, it requires making sure our members are properly trained on the use of the card and on their responsibility to pay their bills in a timely manner." (AFRES News Service)

Immunization requirements for reservists changing

Don't flinch. The Air Force Reserve is changing some of its immunizations and their frequency, which should leave some reservists sitting easier -- a lot easier.

Replacing the old hip-hurting immune serum globulin, Hepatitis A is a relatively new vaccine, which requires an initial dosage followed by a booster dose six to 12 months later. This immunization offers protection for at least four years or more, compared to the gamma-G which had to be given every 90 days.

A sticky point about the new Hepatitis A vaccine is the price -- \$33 for each dosage. Therefore, Reserve officials are reluctant to have the 60,000-plus unit reservists force roll up their sleeves all at once.

Another vaccine, meningococcal, is getting more use lately because U.S. troops are deploying overseas more in recent years. Unless country health concerns dictate otherwise, deploying troops must have had this vaccine within the past five years.

To balance deployment requirements with funding constraints, the Reserve has prioritized who will receive the Hep A and meningococcal vaccines. Reservists sent outside the United States must have or be current in both vaccines. Next in line for these vaccines are people on flying status, followed by medical personnel and then all other reservists. (AFRES News Service)

Income insurance program starts Oct. 1

By Courtney E. Hurtt
Headquarters Air Force Reserve

Ready reservists can enroll in the Ready Reserve Mobilization Income Insurance Program starting Oct. 1.

This optional program is set up to supplement income of members called involuntarily to active duty for more than 30 days and is intended to narrow the potential gap between civilian and military pay.

To receive payments, reservists must be ordered to duty in support of war, national emergency or to augment active forces for an operational mission. Benefits are not paid to those who volunteer or are called to duty for training purposes. Those currently on active duty are not eligible for the program until they are released from active duty.

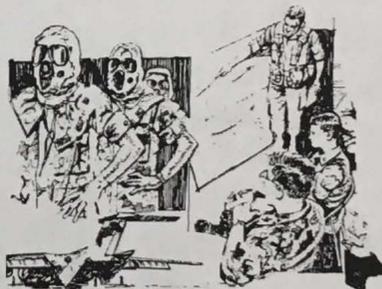
Basic coverage begins at \$1,000 per month with \$500 increments up to a maximum of \$5,000 per month. Benefits can be received for up to one year or a maximum of 12 months during any 18-month period.

The premium rate will be \$12.20 a month per \$1,000 in coverage. For Air Force reservists in a "pay status," the preferred payment of premiums is by automatic deduction from the same bank account authorized to receive direct deposit of monthly drill pay.

Eligibility for benefits begins at the end of the first payroll month with the first payment occurring at the end of the second payroll month of covered service. Payments are subject to tax withholding.

Reservists will receive written notification of the program and have 60 days to decide on the amount of coverage or to decline coverage. If the enrollment process is not completed within 60 days, the insurance is considered declined.

Effective Oct. 1, new members of the Ready Reserve will automatically be insured for \$1,000 per month. Within 60 days



they have to choose from three options: increase desired coverage, decrease it to \$500 a month or turn it down.

This program resulted from a survey of reserve component members which revealed about two-thirds of the nearly 250,000 reservists activated during the Persian Gulf War suffered economic losses because of reduced income. About 1/10th of those activated were members of the Air Force Reserve. (AFRES News Service)

Exceptions provided to new law

Under current legislation, reservists have only this one opportunity to enroll in the program. Exceptions include personnel who:

- Change military services,
- Separate from the Ready Reserve and affiliate at a subsequent enlistment or appointment,
- Separate from active duty and reenter the Ready Reserve, or
- Enter the Individual Ready Reserve, subsequently transferring to the Selected Reserve. The last two exceptions are provided that the member did not previously decline coverage.

Reserve News

Recruit the recruiter

The Air Force Reserve Recruiting Squadron is looking for some HIGHLY motivated individuals for full-time active duty positions. For more information contact any Air Force Reserve Recruiter by calling 1800-257-1212.

In-residence Squadron Officer School available

Air Force Reserve officers who want to boost their military careers can sign up for next year's Squadron Officer School Total Force Class at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

More than 300 students will attend the July 14 to Aug. 9 SOS class, which is also open to Air National Guard and active-duty officers.

The Reserve will get about one third of the class quotas. Eligible candidates should contact their unit commanders for referrals. Individual mobilization augmentees should contact Headquarters Air Reserve Personnel Center at DSN 926-7232 or 1-800-333-7005, Ext. 300.

Refer a friend for a career future!

There are still positions available within the 507th. Help out unit recruiters by providing them a name or contact one of the following recruiters:

Tinker & Vance AFBs, OK.
MSgt. Al Garza
405-734-5331

Midwest City, OK.
TSgt Jackie Stanley
TSgt Erick Glick
405-733-9403

Sheppard, Altus AFBs & Lawton, OK.
MSgt Bob Wright
Sheppard AFB, (Mon/Tues)
817-676-3382
Altus AFB, (Wed/Thur) 405-481-5123
Lawton, OK. (Friday's) 405-357-2784

McConnell AFB, Kans..
MSgt. Terry Gosh, 316-652-4350
MSgt. Lester Shaw, ISR, 316-652-3766

Billeting...who pays?

507th members who require off-base contract billeting are reminded that they should not have to pay if they are in UTA status (to include the Friday night prior to drill). Members only pay for billeting during manday or any other active duty status. This is reimbursable on your travel voucher. You are responsible to pay additional charges such as movie rentals.

If you are asked to pay for your room during a UTA, contact the billeting office at 734-2822 for assistance.

Air Force News by phone

The Air Force News Service has established a toll-free phone line to report the latest news events.

Call 1-800-264-2066 for a five minute Air Force News update every weekday. AFNS virtually garrantees an open line.

Guest speakers needed

The 507th Public Affairs office needs volunteers who would like to participate in traveling around the local area to talk about the Air Force Reserve (non-speaking roles are available too).

According to TSgt. Mitch Chandran, 507th Public Affairs Office, "Public Affairs and Recruiting are looking for people to help us take a more proactive stance by getting out into their communities and speaking on different topics about the reserve."

"This is a fun job," Chandran said. "We are looking for members from all career

fields to help tell the Reserve story." Some of the areas the program is involved in include radio, TV, high schools, colleges, chambers of commerce and local businesses. Resources are available in the Public Affairs office. Call ext. 43078 for more information.

Out-processing is required

All military members attending formal military schools away from home station are required to out-process through the Military Personnel Flight before departing and in-process upon their return. The length of school does not matter. This does include those members who attend in civilian status. Members have their height and weight checked during out-processing.

For TDYs other than school, members must out-process and in-process if the length of the TDY is 30 days or more. For more information, contact TSgt. Randy Unger, 507th Mission Support Squadron, building 1043, room 201a, at ext. 4-7493.

TDYs for contingencies and exercises are a different issue and for those members should contact MSgt. Pam Brandt or MSgt. Cindy Bischoff at ext. 47494.

Officers Promoted

Congratulations to the following officers upon their promotion announcements:
Maj. James J. Jackson, effective Sept. 25, 1996; Maj. Rodney Lane, effective Oct. 1, 1996 Sept.; Maj. Michael Moreno, effective 2 June, 1997.

Unit members help out at Olympics



Mr. Dave Mugg, 507th Executive Officer and his wife, MSgt. Eileen Mugg, 465th Air Refueling Squadron, take time out from their Olympic volunteer work schedule to look around during the Summer Olympics in Atlanta. Both took civilian leave to work behind the scenes, helping make sure the activities went smoothly. (Photo courtesy of Dave Mugg)