

ON-FINAL



507th Mission: *Recruit, train, equip and retain personnel for deployment and support of DOD peacetime and wartime taskings.*

Vol 17 No 1, January 1997

507th Wing

Tinker AFB, OK



The first 507th Wing aircrew to begin alert duty last month are, left to right, Lt. Col. Ted White, Capt. Mike

Cahill, Maj. Bill Tabor, SMSgt. Jim Hackworth, and TSgt. Rick Abbott. (Photo by TSgt. Mitch Chandran)

507th Wing gains new mission

Unit aircrew begins 24-hour alert

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

The 507th Operations Group Commander was working in his office, Dec. 2, when his phone rang. The call involved only a brief conversation, but for the 507th Wing, it meant a major mission expansion.

Lt. Col. Dean Despinoy, Commander of the 507th Operations Group, took the anticipated phone call with the caller confirming the wing's new tanker alert mission "is now official and in affect as of 10 a.m."

The tanker alert mission is the latest tasking the 507th Wing will perform, just three years after the wing's conversion from F-16 fighters to KC-135R refueling aircraft.

The tanker alert mission is new to the 507th, but not new to the men and women directly involved. Many reservists performing alert status have backgrounds stemming back to the Strategic Air

Command (SAC) days (now Strategic Command), when tanker alert crews were required to rotate in seven day increments. This alert mission is not as rigid as the former SAC alert program, but it's just as effective in today's environment.

Under the old SAC program, aerial refueling forces were kept on alert solely to support the nation's nuclear deterrent response. In light of recent world changes, that mission was determined to be an inefficient use of resources. However, a need still existed for aerial refueling support during quick response contingency operations. Officials determined that this mission proved ideally suited for the Air Reserve Component forces (Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard).

According to Col. Martin M. Mazick, Commander of the 507th Wing, "This is just one more example of the Air Force Reserve being included as a Total Force partner in 'real world', day-to-day, operational commitments."

(Continued on Page 5)

"Readiness Is Our Number One Priority"

USA question response shows Okie mindset

By Col. Martin M. Mazick
507th Wing Commander

Happy New Year to all! I trust the holidays gave you an opportunity to relax and catch your breath. I hope the time with your loved ones was pleasant and memorable. It's a new year, but the same requirement still awaits us.

The Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI) will be 12 through 16 March and our chance to strut our stuff. We will do a get-out-of-town walk-through this UTA weekend one last time to insure we are taking the right stuff and ready from a personal mobility standpoint. We will also be getting together with the Kelly Support Group folks, since there is a good possibility that we may ORI together.

The Unit Self Assessment validation visit went very well, and I am pleased with the results. You were open and honest with the team and their assessment is that we are on the right track. They validated things we had already suspected would need improving. During this year, we will establish what those gaps are and begin work to close them, continuously improving what we do.

One thing that impressed me tremendously was your response to the teams questions of: (1) In the 507th it is NOT O.K. to... and (2) In the 507th it is O.K. to... Your answers were a direct reflection of our core and supporting values of loyalty,

professionalism, integrity, teamwork, family, accountability, dependability, courtesy and truthfulness. This made me very proud of you.

Hey, some news of note: we will very soon have our own homepage on the Internet. Our "pagemaster," SSgt. Mark Vardero, has been working hard to gather all the data. We will let you know the address soon.

I wish you all the success you can stand in 1997!!!!



ORI: The clock is ticking

McIntosh Sends

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

Operational Risk Management is a way of determining if the results are worth the risk. It's very easy to compromise safety in the rush to get the job done. That little voice you hear

whispering, "Something's not right here!," is the voice of experience and is worth listening to. Ask yourself the question, "Are we pressing too hard here?," or say, "Wait a minute!," if something doesn't seem right.

Intelligently managing risks is a quality process. We need to cultivate this approach in everything we do, both on and off duty. When something doesn't seem right, ALWAYS ask the question, then take the time to act appropriately. Incorporating risk management into everything we do can preclude embarrassment, save money, and most importantly, prevent injury or loss of life.



On-final

507th Wing Editorial Staff

Commander, 507th Wing	Col. Martin M. Mazick
Public Affairs Officer	Maj. Don Klanko
Public Affairs Officer	Capt. Richard Curry
On-final Editor	TSgt. Stan Parejzen
Staff writer	TSgt. Melba Koch
Staff writer	TSgt. Mitch Chandran

Unit Public Affairs Representatives

507 CES	SSgt. Shawn Sones
507 Med Sq.	Capt. Richard Davidson
465th ARS	1st Lt. Dan Williams
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507th MSS	TSgt. Darryl Sullivan
465 AGS	MSgt. Ken Coffey
507th Civ. employees	Marilyn Llanusa
507th MS	Not yet selected
507th LSS	SSgt. Robin Weiler

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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.

Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain (1st Lt.) Dwight Magnus

As the calendar turns to 1997, I would imagine by the time you read this you:

- a) have made your New Year's resolutions;
- b) broken your New Year's resolutions;
- c) stopped making New Year's resolutions; or
- d) are asking, "What's a New Year's resolution?"

I would like to encourage you to make a resolution to read the Bible through in the next year.

It certainly does not take a lot of time each day, 10-15 minutes would be all you need. There are plenty of resources out there that guide you. Some Bibles are already divided that way. They give you a passage from the Old Testament, the New Testament, Psalms and Proverbs - what I like to call a balanced spiritual diet.

The benefits of this daily exercise are substantial. Psalm 1 tells us, "**Blessed is the man whose delight is in the law of the Lord... He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in season, whose leaf does not wither, and whatever he does shall prosper.**"

These days, we are inundated with information. From the TV news, the newspaper and the internet to our next door neighbor. I think it is vital that we also include the divine perspective in dealing with our daily life. If you are not reading the Bible, then you are missing a key ingredient.

Some of you may have never read the Bible. Some think it a waste of time; a book that is outdated. I simply ask you, do you know what the main message of the Bible is? How can you reject a message you don't even understand?

I'd challenge you to give the Bible a try. Some of you have not read the Bible in a long time. Stop putting it off, and start today. You'll be glad you did. Those of you who already make a habit to read the Bible, WAY TO GO!! Keep it up!

Reading the Bible is one New Year's resolution that you will not regret. God bless you, and have a great, prosperous and God-filled New Year!

Sexual harassment is not tolerated

By Col. Mark Pillar
507th Wing Inspector General

If you've listened to the news during the past few months, then you know of the latest problems facing U.S. military forces concerning sexual harassment. In the case of those military basic training drill instructors and their actions, it's easy to see where the misdeeds of a few creates public scrutiny on us all.

When this sort of thing happens, the spotlight isn't just focused on a few individuals. It becomes focused on the entire military way of life. We need to ask ourselves what is being perceived by the public when this type of issue surfaces. Across America, are parents now asking each other the question, "Do we really want our child to join a military where this occurs?" Probably not, and perhaps rightly so.

What parent would want their child to belong to any organization that permits sexual harassment to occur during indoctrination training? As a parent, I certainly wouldn't. So now, as investigations continue, we in the military, must start over again to earn public trust and confidence in our ability to conduct ourselves as professionals. In part, this will be

Breaking through the "Glass Ceiling"

By the 507th Wing Social Actions Staff

In today's society, we hear a lot of discussion concerning breaking through the "glass ceiling." The glass ceiling represents any roadblock which prevents individuals from rising to the top within their organization or corporate structure. Sometimes that ceiling is there because, quite frankly, there's only so much room at the top. However, there are other times the ceiling is there because of prejudice or bias.

Call it what you will: the "good old boy" system, clique groups, peer pressure...the glass ceiling, for some, becomes the hardest substance in the world to break.

Last month, the 507th Wing took a punch at that glass ceiling by conducting a review board for "hiring" new first sergeants for both the Civil Engineer and Aircraft Generation Squadrons. First, the wing advertised the first sergeant job openings throughout the entire organization. Then, the review board, which included other squadron first sergeants and the squadron's commanders, reviewed the backgrounds of those applying for the positions and conducted personal interviews.

What a change from what used to be a process of simply "hiring from within!" While there are still improvements to make, the 507th Wing has taken a step in the right direction.

It's important for everyone in the organization to recognize that we, as a team, are working to provide everyone with the same opportunities for career success. It may not be perfect, but a journey can not begin without taking that first step.

accomplished by the public seeing the military working hard to prosecute and remove those involved from the service. But each of us must also do our part.

Our goal is to create an environment in which all members have the opportunity to achieve their maximum potential. I firmly believe that every person, regardless of sex, race, color, age, religion or national origin must be afforded equal opportunity. Effective human relations and elimination of discrimination, including sexual harassment, by act or inference, must be achieved. Sexual harassment is not only unprofessional, it's a crime. We need to understand what sexual harassment is and how to stop it. This success depends upon our personal commitment. Awareness is insufficient. Action is necessary. The 507th's policy is zero tolerance. If you feel that you have received discriminatory treatment, I encourage your timely use of the chain of command through your supervisor and commander. If this does not resolve the problem, our Social Actions office and Equal Opportunity staff as well as my office as 507th Wing Inspector General is available to assist you.

Dehydration: The unseen enemy

By Maj. Donald Klisko
507th Wing Public Affairs

As we found during the recent Operational Readiness Exercise at Grissom ARB, dehydration can lay any of us low for a while. It may actually be more likely to become a problem in cool climates, as we experienced in Indiana, than in the heat and humidity of Mississippi.

Dehydration is simply the result of your losing more body fluids than you've taken in until your body's fluid level is significantly depleted. By far the most important component of those body fluids is water, but you're also losing electrolytes, principally potassium, and a lesser amount of sodium. We all continually lose body fluids in two ways. Sensible fluid loss occurs through means you're aware of such as urination and—especially in hot, humid conditions—perspiration. Insensible loss happens in ways you're probably aware of, but not particularly conscious of, such as breathing and unnoticed perspiration in cold climates. Remember that inhaled air has to be nearly 100% humidified before it can do any good in your lungs, and your body has to make up the difference between that and the ambient air humidity. When you exhale, you lose much of that moisture, particularly when you're working hard and breathing through your mouth. Cold air contains relatively little moisture, and therefore pulls more moisture out of you to humidify it.

The earliest symptom of dehydration is a worsening thirst. Although it certainly shouldn't be, thirst may be initially ignored because of the distraction and demands of the mission. Infrequent urination and darkened urine are signs of worsening dehydration. Ignored long enough, fatigue, impaired judgement, digestive upset, loss of motor control, unconsciousness, and death will follow in about that order. In the latter stages of acute dehydration, the victim cannot ingest and retain fluids normally, even if he or she is conscious, and intravenous fluid replacement is the only alternative. That's a job for the medics.

The most obvious preventive is to drink plenty of water, although water in itself does nothing to replace essential electrolytes. Fruit juices are a good, safe source of potassium. Most health food and mountaineering equipment outlets sell electrolyte replacement compounds that readily mix with water. Coffee, tea, and hot chocolate aren't satisfactory as fluid

replacements because they contain caffeine and similar substances which act as diuretics and actually increase fluid losses. Some exposed to extreme stress, such as expedition mountaineers, long-distance runners, and military special operations personnel, advocate taking daily dosages of potassium in tablet form. While this last alternative works well for experienced people in particularly high-stress situations, it's potentially dangerous because potassium can build to lethal proportions rather quickly, especially in those having impaired kidney function or heart disease.

Of possible interest is that dehydration accelerates as altitude increases, because

on snowshoes and carrying a heavy pack in broken terrain is usually quite comfortable wearing only lightweight insulated underwear, a wind-breaking outer shell, mittens and a wool cap, even in sub-zero temperatures. Stopping for more than a few seconds quickly produces a need for a down or synthetic pile parka liner.

Unfortunately, when we're wearing our chemical ensembles, we can't adjust clothing layers so easily as we quickly change from near complete inactivity to very strenuous exertion. Excessive perspiration is the result, and wear of our protective masks and gloves only compounds the problem. Very rapid



you're breathing more rapidly in the thinner air, and it's colder air at that. As medical science learns more about the mysterious group of maladies collectively called "altitude sickness" that plague, and often kill, members of mountaineering expeditions, many researchers feel that the drastic mood swings, spatial disorientation, and hallucinations previously blamed on hypoxia are at least as much the fault of dehydration.

Experienced practitioners of strenuous cold weather outdoor activities such as winter mountaineering, ice-climbing, or hunting consciously try to minimize insensible perspiration by removing as much of their heavy insulative clothing as they possibly can while exercising, reserving their warmest layers for periods of low activity. For example, one traveling

dehydration can be the result. In a 'real world' situation, the alternative of exposure to chemical or biological agents is unacceptable. All we can do is be aware of the problem, try to minimize unnecessary exertion, and maintain adequate fluid intake. In training, the solution is, as always, to watch your buddy. Make sure he or she is drinking enough water. As a rough guide, an average-sized male should drink about a quart of water per hour when performing strenuous work. If signs of acute dehydration become evident, get the victim to cover, remove his or her mask and gloves, and have the victim drink water, initially in small amounts. If the victim can't keep water down, get medical attention as quickly as possible.

JANUARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Date/Time	Meetings, Etc.	Location
Fri, 11 Jan		
1300	Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
1330	Pre-UTA First Sgt Mtg	Bldg 1043, TNET Rm
1430	Qtrly Training Review	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm

Sat, 12 Jan

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	3A0X1 Training	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
1000-1100	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 1030, Classroom 1
1000	Mobility Rep Meeting	Bldg 1043, TNET Rm
1030	First Sgts Meeting	Dining Hall, Sun Rm
1300-1400	IG period w/Col Pillar	Bldg 1043, Rm B6, Basement
1400-1500	Mandatory EST Managers Tng	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
As designated by Unit	Sign Out	As designated by Unit

Sun, 13 Jan

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 Rm
0730-0930	Ed&Tng Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043, Rm 206
0800-1100	Newcomer's Ancil Trng Ph I	Bldg 1030, Classroom 1
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
0900-1000	Hazcom Training	Bldg 1030, LG Conf Rm
0900-1000	3A0X1 Training	Bldg 1030, CLSS Conf Rm
0930-1330	Ed&Tng Open by Appt x47075	Bldg 1043, Rm 206
1000-1100	Senior 3A0X1 Training	Bldg 1030, CLSS Conf Rm
1200-1600	Newcomer's Ancil Trng Ph II	Bldg 1030, Classroom 1
1300	SORTS Mass Briefing	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
1300	CDC/PME Course Exams	Bldg 460, Rm 213
1400-1500	3A0X1 Training	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm
As designated by Unit	Sign Out	As Designated by Unit

HOT TOPICS

✓ **WHAT? 25TH SILVER ANNIVERSARY MEETING!**
WHEN? SUNDAY, 13 JAN 97 FROM 1300 TO 1400!
WHERE? BLDG 1043, TNET ROOM!

**SEPTEMBER 1997 UTA CHANGED FROM 6-7 SEP 97
13-14 SEPTEMBER 1997**

**SELF AID AND BUDDY CARE INSTRUCTOR TRAINING,
SUNDAY, 12 JAN 97, FROM 1200-1600 IN THE 507
MEDICAL SQUADRON TRAINING ROOM, BASE
HOSPITAL**

Training Planner

Long Range Schedule

Jan	Mobility Exercise
Feb	Aircrew SIOP Testing
Mar 9-16	Operational Readiness Inspection (Tentative)

BAQ Recertification Deadlines

If your SSAN ends with a 4 or 9 you have until 30 April 1997 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 Section. NOTE: If you don't have dependents, you do not need to recertify.

WISHING EVERYONE A HAPPY NEWYEAR!

FY 97 UTA Schedule	
05-06 Oct 96	12-13 Apr 97
02-03 Nov 96	03-04 May 97
14-15 Dec 96	07-08 Jun 97
11-12 Jan 97	12-13 July 97
08-09 Feb 97	02-03 Aug 97
15-16 Mar 97	13-14 Sep 97
as of: 6 Dec 96	

February Schedule of Events

Date/Time	Meetings, Etc.	Location
Fri, 07 Feb		
1300	Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg	Bldg 1043 Conf Rm
1415	Pre-UTA First Sgt Mtg	Bldg 1043 TNET Rm

Sat, 08 Feb

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 3A0X1 Meeting	Bldg 1030, Classroom 3
1000-1100	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 1030, Classroom 1
1000	Mobility Rep Meeting	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
1030	First Sgts Meeting	Dining Hall, Sun Room
1300-1400	IG period w/Lt Col Despinoy	Bldg 1067, O/G/CC office
1400-1500	Mandatory EST Managers Tng	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
As Designated by Unit	Sign Out	As Designated by Unit

Sun, 09 Feb

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
0800-1100	Newcomer's Ancil Trng Ph I	Bldg 1030, Classroom 1
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, Conf Rm
0900-1000	Supervisor's Safety Trng	Bldg 1030, LG Conf Rm
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, Conf Rm
1400-1500	3A0X1 Training	Bldg 1030, Classroom 3
1500-1630	MPF Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043
As Designated by Unit	Sign Out	As Designated by Unit

Ancillary Training

Newcomers Ancillary Training

Newcomers Ancillary Training Phase I are conducted monthly 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, contact the Education and Training Flight at x47075.

	Time	Subject	OPR
Saturday	1500-1600	Human Relations	SA
Saturday	1600-1630	Local Conditions-Traffic	SE
Sunday	0730-0800	Base Populace	CEX
Sunday	0800-0900	Drug and Alcohol	SG
Sunday	0900-1030	UCMJ/Ethics	JA
Sunday	1030-1130	Counter Intel/Protection from Terrorism	SP
Sunday	1130-1200	Security Awareness (C4 SATE)	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 1200 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 1300 on Sunday of the UTA.

Going to a Military Formal School?

All members attending formal military schools away from home station must outprocess through through the MPF before departing; and must inprocess upon return. This includes ARTs attending in-resident PME in civilian status. If you have any questions, please contact TSgt Unger, Chief, Relocations, at x47493. Remember, all members must meet weight standards prior to departure.

MPF Phone Numbers

MPF Management	DPM/DPMP	47494
Customer Service	DPMPS	47492
Employment	DPMAE	47493
Relocations	DPMAE	47493
Career Enhancement	DPMPPE	47491
Systems & Readiness	DPMD	47494
Family Readiness	1-800-753-3487	

Education and Training DPMAT 47075

Promotion Enhancement Program (PEP)

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

... 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!

Physical Exams

Physicals are mandatory appointments, however, re-scheduling may be permitted due to special circumstances. If you are on flying status, your physical must be accomplished NLT the last day of your birth month. If you are unable to meet an appointment, call TSgt Latta, x43151 prior to the UTA to reschedule.

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!

NCO Academy In-Residence

Listed below are the FY 97 NCO Academy REVISED class dates. SSgt with 8 years satisfactory service, and TSgts are eligible to attend. Please contact your Unit Training Manager for an application. Note: This is a revised schedule.

Class	Dates
97-3	970318-970424
97-4	970512-970619
97-5	970722-970828
97-6	970915-971023

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.

Editor: CMSgt Judy A. McKisson, Chief, ETF (ART)
 Assistant Editor: TSgt Daryl R. Sullivan, NCOIC, Adult Education Opportunities
 Contributing Editors:

MSgt Dennis Cain, Deputy Chief, ETF (ART)
 TSgt Sharon Godfrey, NCOIC, Schools and OJT (ART)
 TSgt Jason Yocum, Education and Training Advisor
 SSGt Scarlet McCloud, Education and Training Advisor
 Mr. John Baker, Education and Testing Services Advisor

Military Pay

File for Receive Direct pay by: Deposit by:

16 Jan	24 Jan
21 Jan	29 Jan
23 Jan	31 Jan
28 Jan	05 Feb
04 Feb	12 Feb
11 Feb	19 Feb

DD Form 93 Record of Emergency Data

This is the single most important source of information within your personnel record for dependent data and notification of next-of-kin in an emergency. If data is incomplete or incorrect, the Air Force cannot extend dependent benefits, not can proper and timely notification be made in the event you become injured, seriously ill or die while on duty. You are the only one who can update this record. Remember there are no minor errors on a DD Form 93. Check the form in your mobility folder. If any information is in error or out of date, come by MPF Customer Service to update the information. Data accuracy is critical. You may be one of the lucky ones who escape injury or illness, but can you afford to risk the alternative?



UNIT GET - ONE - PROGRAM

The 507 Wing offers you the opportunity to become a member of the Air Force Reserve and learn a valuable skill. Work on one of the most technical aircraft in the world, learn construction, improve your administrative skills or train in other exciting skills. Whether you are prior service or new to the military, you may find a rewarding career with our organization. Find out now - its your future.

FOR MORE INFORMATION FILL OUT COUPON

MAIL TO : OL DY AFRES RECRUITING SQUADRON
7435 RESERVE RD STE 108
TINKER AFB OK 73145-8726

CALL: (405) 733-9403
OR 1-800-257-1212

NAME _____ AGE _____ SEX M F

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

WORK PHONE () _____ BEST TIME TO CALL _____

HOME PHONE () _____ BEST TIME TO CALL _____

PRIOR SERVICE: YES _____ NO _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

IF PRIOR SERVICE: WHAT BRANCH(ES) _____

AFSC/MOS _____ RANK _____

REFERRED BY: _____ PHONE #: _____



Unit aircrew begins 24-hour alert



TSgt. Rick Abbott, left, and SMSgt. Jim Hackworth relax in their alert facility quarters. (Photo by TSgt. Mitch Chandran)

(Continued from Page 1)

"There was still need for a certain amount of alert for a quick response," Despinoy said. "The tanker base in AFRES is increasing, so it makes sense, especially for us, since we are located in the Midwest to provide and compliment the tanker alert line mission."

A tanker alert crew consists of a pilot, co-pilot, navigator, boom operator and one aircraft crew chief. Outfitted with pagers and cellular telephones while on alert, the crew must be in constant communication with each other and command post. "The pilot, as the aircraft commander, has the responsibility of assuring that the aircraft and crew are prepared to perform a mission in a moment's notice," said Lt. Col. Ted White, 507th Chief of Plans and first crew commander to pull alert duty for the 507th.

Alert shifts provide flexibility

The local alert schedule is designed with 24-hour rotating shifts, giving flexibility to accommodate a citizen-airman lifestyle while maintaining continuity and readiness. While assigned to alert duty, crew members are required to generate the alert aircraft in a short time from an initial alert notification.

Crew members on alert duty do not have total flexibility on how they spend their time during duty hours. "The crew has some freedom, depending on what condition we are under, to go around the local areas such as the commissary, base exchange, local shopping, etc.," Despinoy said. "But they have to sleep on base in the alert facility. They also have daily alert chores to perform, including preflight and any last minute maintenance to the alert aircraft. As it works out now, reservists involved in the tanker alert mission

will pull their rotations of alert duty about twice a month." "If notified by higher headquarters," White said, "then we have a short period of time to generate the alert aircraft to a hard alert, which means the crew is prepared to launch immediately. From there the crew is ready for immediate response. Once the aircraft is designated as being on hard alert, the crew studies all given materials for that particular mission and places them on board the aircraft."

"Our reservists are on a modified alert mission program," he said. "Each alert team has the responsibility of ensuring the aircraft is 'cocked' or preflighted, to the point that, if need be, the crew can go to their aircraft, push a few buttons, start all four engines and begin taxiing to the runway."

The alert aircraft is parked in a guarded area. If the call comes in to generate the alert aircraft, the tight security gets even tighter. From the time any classified materials are placed aboard the aircraft, the aircraft remains under armed guard making it virtually impregnable to anyone other than the aircraft crew itself.

The 507th's Midwest location makes the unit best suited for the job

Once the aircraft is loaded and ready, the crew leaves the aircraft and stands by for the execution message. At this point, the crew is restricted from any travel outside of the alert facility.

"I think this mission is important because it is clearly defined and is another way for the 507th to contribute to the security of the United States," said TSgt. Rick Abbott, the first 507th crew chief to stand tanker alert. "The alert facilities are excellent. They are well maintained, self contained and have all the amenities of home. Their location also keeps the alert crew in the same location as the aircraft."

"This tanker alert mission is good for the 507th," Despinoy said, "because it is a 'real world' daily mission. Our location here in the Midwest (giving unit aircraft equally rapid response in any direction) makes us best suited to handle this mission."

The KC-135R aircraft is capable of refueling other US or NATO aircraft, carrying cargo or passengers, or any combination of the three.



The 507th aircrew reports in at the alert facility CQ desk to check their room assignments. (Photo by TSgt. Mitch Chandran)

Top enlisted performers selected

SrA Kimberly M. Belcher, SSgt. Michael S. Hapgood and MSgt. Marie D. Filbin were recently recognized as the 507th Airman, NCO and Senior NCO of the Quarter for the July through September 1996 period.

The awards cover this year's third quarter and are presented to recognize outstanding unit members.

Senior Airman of the Quarter

SrA Kimberly M. Belcher, a services specialist, continues to demonstrate a thorough knowledge of all facets of the services career field. She is keenly proficient in lodging, field operations and working the M-2 burners and the M-67 Immersion Heaters. She performs secondary duties within the section working as the vehicle control monitor and weapons guard. Leading by example, she devotes herself to self-improvement. She has completed her 5 level course and is preparing for her end of course exam. She is enrolled in the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) seeking an Associate of Arts degree in Fitness, Recreation and Services Management and has been awarded 30 hours thus far in that discipline. She also attends Rose State College and the University of Oklahoma where she is majoring in accounting. She has completed 63 hours toward a Bachelor of Arts degree. Belcher also completed the Air Force Reserve Quality Awareness Training held at the 507th in July 1996.

She is an active supporter of the Reserve Officer's Association, contributing to their youth and drug awareness programs. She also supports the United Way program.

Belcher was selected as the 507th Service's Airman of the Quarter for the third quarter of 1996. Her work effort resulted in her receiving a letter of appreciation from the commander of the 344th Services Training Flight at Lackland AFB, Texas, while in technical school for culinary achievement. She is active in the 507th Wing's quarterly Blood Drive.

"SrA Belcher is a valuable asset to the Services' section. She projects a professional military image in her community and instills a strong sense of confidence in the mission of the 507th Wing. She has a reputation in the squadron as a valued member of the Air Force team with a positive future within

the organization," said Maj. Mony Goodman, Services Commander.

NCO of the Quarter

SSgt. Michael Hapgood, an air transportation craftsman with the 72nd Aerial Port Squadron, has performed as a crew chief for four and a half years and is the noncommissioned officer in charge of awards and decorations programs. He served as the mission support team commander for Operation Patriot Express and has been recognized for his exceptional knowledge of the career field. He works extensively with the squadron's newcomer orientation program as well as serving as Sergeant at Arms for the 507th Wing Enlisted Advisory Council.

He attends the University of Oklahoma while majoring in aviation and liberal arts. In addition, he is a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, serving as an Alumni Coordinator, and is a member of the Civil Air Patrol. He also holds an aviation advanced ground instructor certificate and an instrument rating.

Hapgood has received recognition for his outstanding military service. His military decorations include the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with 1 device, the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award, Air Force Reserve Meritorious Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal and Humanitarian Service Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award and the Air Force Training Ribbon.

Hapgood readily volunteers for additional training. He is currently enrolled in the NCO Academy's course six.

"Sergeant Hapgood is one of the best troops in terms of volunteering. He helped us by working in the Oklahoma State Fair Recruiting booth for two years. He volunteered his service to work at the Air Show recruiting booth and he works hand-in-hand with the 507th Wing Recruiters," his supervisor said.

Senior NCO of the Quarter

MSgt. Marie Filbin, an aircraft supervisor with the 507th Combat Logistics Support Squadron (CLSS), has been making a difference for many years in the Air Force Reserve. She assists the team chief in all functions of maintaining a 15 member aircraft battle damage repair (ABDR) team.

As a training monitor, Filbin ensures all team members remain current on required ancillary training. She coordinated

deployment of 15 members of the B-52 team to Barksdale AFB, La., last summer.

Filbin was a cadre member for Exercise Readiness Safeguard at Volk Field ANGB, Wis., last June and received a letter of appreciation for her assistance to 117th ARW, Birmingham, Ala., during the exercise. She earned an Associate of Arts degree from Rose State College in August of 1995 and an Associate's degree in Aircraft Systems Maintenance Technology from CCAF in January of 1996. She coordinated the 507th CLSS participation in the Lake Hefner Streak (raising money for Muscular Dystrophy) for the past three years.

Filbin was selected as the squadron's career counselor and re-energized the career counselor position, creating programs now used as benchmarks throughout the Wing. She developed an in-house survey to assess the squadron climate and developed a comprehensive squadron newcomers book to be given to each person affiliating with the unit. She personally contacts each newcomer and conducts a follow-up to ensure a smooth transition to the CLSS. She was pivotal in planning the 507th CLSS's seventh Dining-Out.

Filbin is NCOIC of 507th CLSS team assisting the 654th CLSS in the Air Force wide conversion of 1093 ABDR trailers. She assisted with the input of a new training software program for the 507th Wing and serves as her squadron's Public Affairs Representative.

Some of the articles she has written for the *On-final* include an article about the ABDR trailer conversion, one about the B-52 Team's annual tour to Barksdale, and a story about the 507th CLSS dining out.

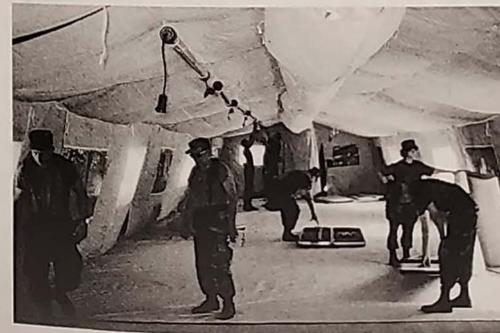
She has been awarded the Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal with two devices, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award with two devices, National Defense Service Medal and the Air Force Training Ribbon. Filbin was also selected as a 507th CLSS "Top Performer" for 1996.

"Sergeant Filbin develops mutual support among members and is a positive role model among peers. She promotes harmony and creates a challenging working environment among team members. She projects an outstanding professional image and was recognized on many occasions for her contributions during deployments," said Lt. Col. Barry Roberts, CLSS Commander.

Medics build Air Transportable Hospital



Photos by Capt. Richard Davidson



507th medics build portable hospital

During their deployment to Sheppard AFB, Texas, last August, 507th medics had the opportunity to construct an Air Transportable Hospital (ATH). Once built, an ATH may become a full service hospital for use in field conditions.

ABOVE: Everyone gets involved in setting up the ATH.

LEFT: An ATH is capable of housing and supplying all medical needs.

BOTTOM LEFT: Once erected, the ATH gets a cleaning prior to moving in equipment.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Capt. Larry Curtis, left, 507th nurse, and Col. (Dr.) Alberto Angles simulate medical operations.

Reserve News

Positions available

The 72nd APS, Winners of AFRES "Aerial Port of the Year" has positions available in the Air Transportation field. If you are interested in being an Air Transportation Specialist (2T2X1), contact MSgt. Sammie Ware at ext.92081.

Happy anniversary

A belated anniversary wish goes to the Air Force Reserve's three numbered air forces. 1996 marks the 20th anniversary of the return of numbered air forces to the Air Force Reserve program. On Oct. 8, 1976, the Air Force Reserve activated Headquarters 14th Air Force at Dobbins Air Force Base, Ga.; Headquarters 10th Air Force at Bergstrom AFB, Texas; and Headquarters 4th Air Force at McClellan AFB, Calif. On the same date, the regional program ceased with the inactivation of Headquarters Eastern, Central, and Western Air Force Reserve Regions.

Watch AF news video

The showing of Air Force Television News and Citizen Airman Magazine Video are highly encouraged. Each 28-minute TV News video portrays the "big picture." A

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

15-minute capsule version, which may be more suitable for commander's call, appears at the end of each VHS copy of TV News. The 10 to 15-minute "Citizen Airman Video" features comments by Maj. Gen. Robert A. McIntosh, AFRES commander, and news clips from around the command.

Safest year reported

The "101 Critical Days" of the summer of 1996 were the "safest ever" for the Air Force. Deaths from ground mishaps dropped 33 percent compared to those during last year's safety-awareness campaign.

Twenty-two Air Force members were killed in ground mishaps between the start of Memorial Day weekend and the end of Labor Day weekend. Ground mishaps this fiscal year claimed 66 lives, the lowest total in five years. General Ronald R.

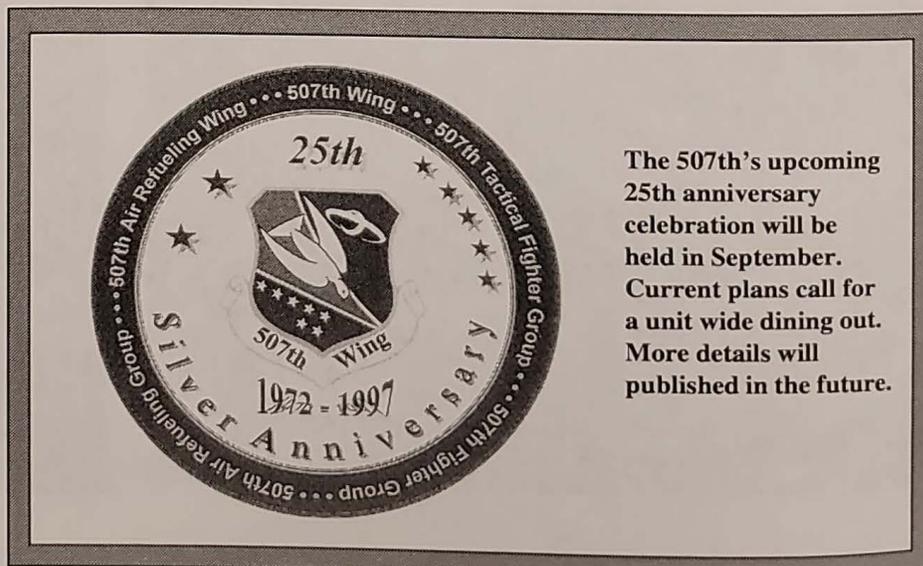
Fogleman, Air Force Chief of Staff, applauded the "critical days" achievement. "The whole point of the 101 days campaign," he said, "is safety awareness on the part of our people and safety leadership on the part of our commanders and first line supervisors."

He cautioned, "It's hard to say 'congratulations' in a message that reports Air Force losses since we can ill afford to lose anyone. And in FY 1996, we lost more than 60 irreplaceable people. While that's almost two dozen fewer than a year ago, there's still plenty of room for improvement in FY '97." The Air Force cut deaths from privately owned motor vehicle mishaps- the main killer- in half compared to FY '95. These accidents indicated that seat belt use was up and alcohol use as a contributing factor was down.

Phaseout/implementation dates given

Headquarters Air Force Reserve recently announced a reminder that the below items are scheduled for "phaseout" or "implementation" on the dates indicated:

Item	Phaseout date	Mandatory wear date
Service dress coats: shade 1598, polyester double-knit, shade 1608, polyester wool tropical	Sept. 30, 1999	
Solid green field jacket	Jan. 1, 1997	
Long and short-sleeved blouses with fly-front closure with rounded collar	Jan. 1, 1997	
Embroidered badges and specialty insignia worn on dress uniform combinations	Oct. 1, 1997	
Aircrew style name patch	Oct. 1, 1997	
Satin and oxidized finish belt tip, buckle, badges, specialty insignia	Oct. 1, 1998	
Miniature highly-polished and chrome finish badges and specialty insignia (excludes wings and missile badges)	Oct. 1, 1998	
New enlisted chevrons (Note: SrA and SSgts. wear the new SrA chevron)	Oct. 1, 1997	
New service dress uniform	Oct. 1, 1999	
USAF and name tapes on BDUs	Oct. 1, 1999	



The 507th's upcoming 25th anniversary celebration will be held in September. Current plans call for a unit wide dining out. More details will be published in the future.