

On-*final*

June 1999

507th Air Refueling Wing - 513th Air Control Group

MAGAZINE

F5-Tornado

in OUR community



Supporting our neighbors

“Readiness Is OUR Number One Priority”

A memorial

507th ARW remembers...

Glynda Stanfield: Dedicated and "always there"

By 2nd Lt. Stan Paregien, 507th ARW/PA

On May 3, 1999, the nation lost a dedicated military member. MSgt. Glynda Stanfield, 507th Air Refueling Wing, perished in the brutal tornado that ripped through the Oklahoma City metropolitan area. She was a hard worker and one that made a good impression on all those around her. She was also my first supervisor when I was fresh out of basic training. She truly cared about those around her. She was known for helping out wherever she was needed. From supply and transportation, to augmenting the pay office during heavy workload crunches, MSgt. Stanfield worked where she was needed most at the time. Devotion to duty was her calling.

TSgt. Jessie Mars of the 707th Communications Flight and 507th Air Refueling Wing chaplain's assistant TSgt. Chuck Dixon worked out the logistics of getting a new uniform and appropriate ribbons ready for the funeral. Dixon made it a point to help get the uniform for the family. He knew it would mean the world to them. At the funeral, 507th Logistics Squadron commander, Col. David Beavin presented a flag to the

family. Dixon, Marris and others attended in uniform.

"The military presence was very warming to the families at the memorial service," said Dixon. "They invited us over afterwards to visit and they appreciated talking to us after the funeral. You know you've done something right when the family keeps saying 'thank you' over and over again."

SSgt. Kent Allsebrook, a 507th computer maintenance technician, was the little brother Stanfield never had. "Well, we met in 1990 when I came to work in the transportation shop and we became friends when I discovered she had as bizarre a sense of humor as I do," Allsebrooke recalled laughingly.

"As a supervisor, she didn't have to know everything; she knew her people's strengths and weaknesses and she would help them train until they were ready for the next step. Glynda was always working towards getting recognition for all the work vehicle operations did that no one noticed. She also spent a lot of time trying to get awards and decorations up to date for all of her people," Allsebrooke added.

Stanfield's cousin, Terri Moore in Oklahoma City, had fond memories of their early days growing up. "Her dad and my dad were both Air Force fathers and so we grew up around

CONTINUED...

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Volume 19, No. 6 June 1999

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507th Maintenance Sq.- Need a volunteer here!

513th Air Control Gp. - 2Lt. Mechille Braden

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The editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the 507th Air Refueling Wing's Public Affairs Office, 7435 Reserve Road, Suite 7, Tinker AFB, OK., 73145-8726



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On the cover...



Photo by 2nd Lt. Stan Paregien

--Hitting home-- The 72nd Aerial Port Squadron's SSgt. Dave Haider takes a break from helping his family while cleaning up their house which was severely damaged from the F-5 killer tornado on Monday, May 3.

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Tinker Team rushes to assists tornado victims

**By Capt. Rich Curry
Public Affairs Office**

a makeshift hotel for hundreds of people left with literally nothing more than the clothes on their backs.

Immediately after the storm had passed, 507th members took a unit KC-135 out of their hangar. Dozens of trucks rolled up to the hangar doors bringing with them the basics of sur-

“We’ve tried to do everything we can to support the disaster relief efforts,” said Col. Mark Pillar, 507th Air Refueling Wing Vice Commander.

All across Tinker Air Force Base military members rushed to help throughout the evening hours. Search and rescue teams formed to search the

An F5 tornado ripped through central Oklahoma Monday night, May 3, along a miles-long path of destruction that stretched 35 miles from Norman, Oklahoma past



Photo by TSgt. Mitch Chandran

In the middle of chaos, the Air Force Reserve stood tall and provided leadership to Oklahomans.

north Oklahoma City. The twister flattened hundreds of homes and killed 44 people. It also left thousands of people homeless. For those in its path it meant total devastation.

Within minutes after the tornado had passed, Tinker Air Force Base and the 507th Air Refueling Wing threw open its doors, with military members both active and reserve alike arriving to hurriedly put together **June 1999**

vival to those inside. Inside the hangar, volunteers began to set up food lines and more than 300 cots as bus after bus rolled up to the hangar doors bringing even more survivors of what will most likely become known as the worst tornado disaster in history. Their stunned faces were met with open arms and warm kindness.

ruhle. Medical technicians reported to both the base hospital, the base gym and to the 507th hangar to provide care for those injured. At the 507th hangar, one

**See “Tinker Team”
on page 21...**

“Readiness Is OUR Number One Priority”



Commander's Column

By Col. Mark A. Pillar
507th ARW Vice Commander

HEROIC. I chose to use this word to describe the efforts put forth by this unit during the night of Monday, May 3rd through Wednesday May 5.

I'm sure as I present my recollections that I will omit some people and events. For that I apologize. But I believe that the events of those times need to be told.

Shortly after the tornado knocked out power to the base, unit members began to filter into our command post. Some came in uniform. Some were in civilian clothes. No matter. They came to help. Col. (Sel.) Jack Ramsaur, called to let us know that he had several people, some snack bar food and room for homeless people over at the 513th ACG.

We determined that we had power in the new 513th building, the 507th Operations Group building and our two hangars. We discussed a few things and decided that we had room for hundreds of homeless people.

At that point, we contacted the active duty command post to offer our help, our people and our facilities. All the while, more volunteers were calling in and coming in.

We began planning how and where we would process the homeless. Laptop computers, printers, sign-in forms, tables, chairs, cots, sleeping bags, blankets, food, water and medical supplies began appearing in the hangar.

Snack bars were emptied. Computers were borrowed. Printers were pilfered. Water was brought in. The coffee was perkin'. Medical supplies came from desk drawers and glove boxes. Everyone jumped in to help. No one asked to be reimbursed. They just did it. Maintenance said they could move our aircraft from the hangar. It happened.

They called to see how many homeless we could take. We estimated up to 500. They said that we were the only ones with electricity. We would be the primary shelter.

It didn't take long. First, people started coming in cars. Then buses. Young, old, families, singles, almost all dirty, tired, confused, shaken, hungry and thirsty. Our job was to keep frustration out of the equation.

Getting cots and sleeping bags became difficult. Either we couldn't contact the custodians with the keys to access the supplies or their normal 15-minute drive to the base took 2 hours. Eventually, slowly, we got them in

and a bevy of volunteers set the cots up and numbered them. Sleeping bags were distributed. Sandwiches, chips, snacks, sodas, water, baby food, more medical supplies and medical technicians came. Active duty help showed up. More registration tables were set up. Our lists were faxed to the other shelters off base. A lot of people were looking for relatives. The Navy came to help. More 507th ARW and 513th ACG people showed up. TSgt. Debbie Kidd's Civil Air Patrol squadron, the Thomas P. Stafford Composite Squadron, drove one and a half hours from Weatherford to help.



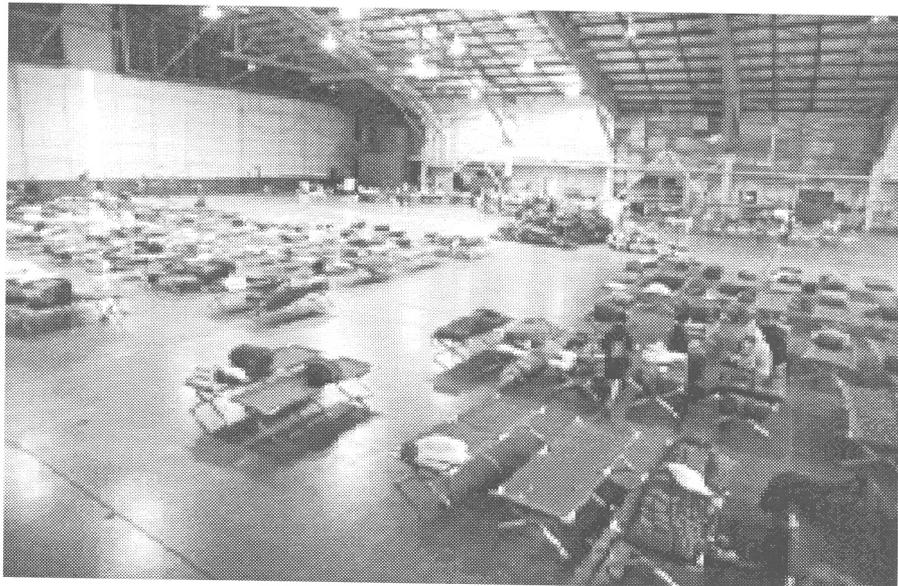
TSgt. Debbie Kidd prepares to help as the storm passes.

All this time the command post was answering hundreds of phone calls: Reporting to AMC, ACC, USSTRATCOM, AFRC and 4th Air Force which required great patience with reduced communication capability. Sometimes there was a phone in each ear. The word "hectic" comes to mind.

Talk about total force! Active duty, Navy, CAP, 507th ARW and 513th

ACG, Air Force Reserve, and civilians all under the direction of an Active Duty Deputy Group Commander and a Reserve Vice Wing Commander. And it worked! And we all worked through the night and into the morning.

And it went on. We met the needs of the people, as they



The 507th hangar became a place of shelter for displaced residents.

became apparent. We had drivers go to drug-stores to pick up prescriptions. Folks got rides back to their homes as the authorities opened up areas. An inventory was taken of the shower capabilities on our campus while billeting brought towels and personal hygiene supplies from their stores. The Officer's Club became the primary feeding facility but their help couldn't get in. One of our pilots, a boom operator and several other volunteers went over to cook, bus tables and prepare food. They did such a good job that the club manager offered them full time employment! We did everything we could think of to take care of them...and then we did more.

Is this what we train for? Not even close. What we are trained to do though is solve problems, cooperate, recognize tasks, pitch in and get the job done. To work as a team. To work as a family. It looked like the welcome home setup for an ORI. Processing lines and feeding areas were set up away from the sleeping/quiet area, TV's were set up with chairs around them, there was a medical treatment area — at least this part was something we were familiar with. One slight twist was what to do with and how to control the various sizes and difficult dispositions of dogs and cats. Don't know where to get that training.

Not once did I hear "That's not my job." Not once did I

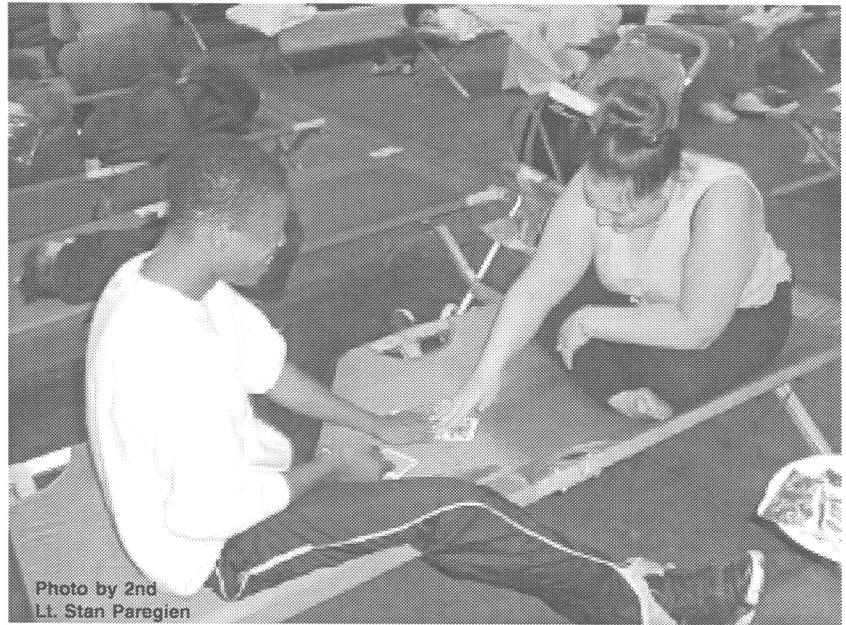


Photo by 2nd Lt. Stan Paregien

Storm survivors played games overnight in the 507th hangar.

hear "Why do I have to do that?" Not once did I hear "Are we getting paid for this?" All I heard was "How can I help?", "What can I do?", and "Where do you need me next?" Amid the chaos of the aftermath of an F5 tornado with more than 350 mph winds recorded at times was the calm of a hangar full of volunteers from varied military backgrounds who came

together to help and give refuge to the unfortunate victims.

I know that there were others outside the gates that performed heroically. I don't know their stories. I can only relate ours.

Ours is one of caring, giving, feeling, helping, cooperating, working and loving. All of the finest qualities of humans. I was extremely proud to work along side each and every one of these people. Their response was awesome! And it will go down in the history of this installation and this unit as a truly shining moment.

May God help the victims of this horrible tragedy and may God bless the members of the 513th ACG and 507th ARW "Okies" who were once a g a i n - F O R E V E R R E A D Y...ALWAYS THERE.



A Del City homeowner explains to 2nd Lt. Stan Paregien how he survived the tornado's 318 m.p.h. winds in his bathtub.

Photo by TSgt. Mitch Chandran

Tornado reinforces Air Force Reserve readiness lessons

By 2nd LT. Stan Paregien
507 ARW/PA

DEL CITY, OK, May 4—One block west of Tinker Air Force Base...it takes my breath away. Houses are leveled like discarded cardboard and trees are cut down like lawn clippings. As I stare at blocks and blocks of debris scattered across Tinker Air Force Base...mud splattered all over buildings and cars dented by flying projectiles such as tires and trees, boards and roofs of homes nearby...I'm speechless.

Just across the street from the base is **ground zero** of an Oklahoma tornado that has already claimed 35 lives. An estimated 10,000 homes were destroyed in the course of thirty minutes by what local weather forecasters estimated to be an F5 tornado with winds clocked over 300 miles an hour. Several important lessons would be learned this night.

I was watching the forecast on this Monday evening when a tornado dipped down and made contact just south of Oklahoma City and started moving toward Tinker. It was on a direct line to hit the base. I immediately called my supervisor and made a quick operational plan for what we would do if it



Photo by 2nd Lt. Stan Paregien

507th services flight commander Maj. Monty Goodman checks on "guests".

damaged the base or our units, the 507th Air Refueling Wing and the 513th Air Control Wing. Our caution and fears became reality when 15 minutes later, the tornado screamed through the city and tore up the western edge of the base near the hospital gate and ripped out the base perimeter fencing. But it was far worse for our civilian friends just across the Sooner Road that separates the base from a working class neighborhood.

As television helicopters flew in ever-widening circles around the base, I could see debris scattered for miles...it was time to go into action. I threw on my uniform, grabbed a gym bag and loaded it up with flashlights, batteries, leather gloves, water bottles, a change of clothes and food snacks. As I stepped outside my house, over 20 miles away from the base, I could smell the gas lines that had broken. The helicopter pilot reported he was going to have to land because the massive amount of fumes in the air was choking him. I knew from experiences at the Oklahoma City bomb site that it was going to be bad.

Lesson one: Be prepared for anything. My supervisor and I had to travel miles out of our way to get on to the base from an alternate route because emergency vehicles were blocking all entrances to the west. We went immediately to the base disaster command post and from there to our own



Photo by 2nd Lt. Stan Paregien

MSgt. Sheila Russell gets the hangar organized.

unit command post where medical, supply, administrative, civil engineers and services people were also gathering. The 507th Air Refueling Wing opened up the main KC-135 hangar and volunteers from both the 513th ACG and 507th ARW started putting sleeping cots out on the floor. Coordination with the active duty on base brought more cots and sleeping bags. Food and drinks arrived. Several of the injured were brought in and placed in a special area where they were treated.

Lesson two: Take all disaster drills seriously. We had a tornado drill weeks before this and it was now paying off.

Capt. Ralph Hawkins, 507th executive officer, watched the tornado from the unit steps. "It came down and was headed straight for Tinker, just about a mile from us, and then it made a turn to the left and started tearing up houses left and right. It was pure horror because that's a big residential area, and I just knew it was going to take out my apartment complex," said Hawkins. He was spared with light damage.



Photo by
2nd Lt. Stan
Paregien

National media from places like Florida came out to interview survivors like 507th ARW air reserve technician Mitch Chandran.

Lesson three: There is confusion in a disaster. As the homeless and injured folks were coming in to our hangar, some were crying, some were dazed and dirty

from being showered by debris, and some were lost, like a young girl looking for her mom. In the middle of it all, a lightning bolt struck near the unit with a huge thunderclap, and knocked out a transformer. Screams were heard from these families who had just lived through one of the biggest tornadoes in Oklahoma history.

Health services manager, SrA Veronica Garrett of the 507th Medical Squadron, grabbed the young lost girl and held her close in the dark, while other reservists started whipping out some of the handy keychain flashlights they'd previously been given by recruiters. One elderly woman came up to me and insisted she be taken back to her house immediately. Her house, or what little was left, is now in the middle of a disaster zone. I took her and sat her down and just held her hand like I would my grandmother. Anguish on the faces of your fellow Americans is hard to simulate in a practice drill. This is a time to be strong



Photo by 2nd Lt. Stan Paregien

An Oklahoma firefighter found a kitten while working on the search team.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Stan Paregien

A young boy eats lunch provided by 507th volunteers next to the remains of his home during the cleanup effort.

for them, but share emotion by listening and talking and trying to understand their losses. These situations are personally hard to handle, but your prior practice and Reserve drills pay off as you take one minute at a time.

The 513th ACG AWACS and 507th ARW people came together that night. All elements of military readiness proved timely. The Air Force Reserve at Tinker showed Oklahoma and the nation that "citizen airmen" are some of the best-trained assets around. Next time we practice for a disaster, we will remember the lessons we learned on May 3. Whether we are preparing for missions overseas or in our own backyard, our training will pay off, sometimes when we least expect it.



Photo by TSgt. Mitch Chandran

A dryer landed in a tree near the west gate at Tinker.

Special F-5 tornado coverage continues. See page 19...

NCO Academy In-Residence

Listed below are the FY 99 NCO Academy In-Residence class dates: A letter of recommendation from your unit commander must be forwarded to 507 MSS/DPMT not later than 60 days prior to class start date:

Class	Quotas	Dates	Location
99-6	1	990802-990909	Tyndall AFB, FL

NOTE: These are the only quotas allocated for the Wing for the rest of the Fiscal Year. If we have alternates, they may attend at a different location.
Bottom Line: If you want to go, put in your request ASAP.

TUITION ASSISTANCE FOR DISTANCE LEARNING

Reserve members are eligible to apply for Tuition Assistance (TA) for Distance Learning to further their education up to a Bachelor's Degree (members who have a Bachelor's Degree are eligible to pursue a second degree). **The basic enrollment requirements are that, you must:**

- Pay for the course up-front and after satisfactory completion, be reimbursed 75% (tuition only) per course, not to exceed \$1500 per FY.
- Enroll in only 1 course at a time, using the institutions listed in one of the three DANTES catalogs.
- Be a participating member in good standing (no UIF, Article 15, etc.).
- Complete enrollment form and have unit commander's approval.

For more information contact SMSgt. Epps in the MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.

FREE COLLEGE TESTING

Air Force Reserve members, spouses and civilian employees may take DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSSTs) or the College-Level Examinations Program (CLEP) tests FREE! The DSST and CLEP programs consist of a series of examinations that test college-level knowledge you may have gained through your job, reading, travel, or hobbies. Combined, the programs offer you more than 85 ways to get college credit. You must test at your Reserve DANTES approved test center. Testing at another DANTES test center will be on a case-by-case basis. The third Tuesday of each month at 0800 has been set aside for testing. You must call us four weeks prior to test date to ensure we will have your test by test date. Some tests are stocked while others must be ordered. **For more information contact SMSgt. Epps in the MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.**

BE A CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL

Air Force Reserve members may receive job certification through DANTES or Air Force Reserve Command funded programs. DANTES has agreements with more than 30 nationally recognized certification associations who allow their certification examinations to be administered at your Reserve test center. Examinations are available in many skill areas. Certification provides recognition of skills learned while in the military and demonstrates a high level of professional competence for the civilian job market. Certification tests must be AFSC related. HQ AFRC must approve requests to test outside of your AFSC. HQ AFRC funded tests will be paid in advance by the member and reimbursement will be for test cost only. **For information on type tests, eligibility, application procedures, fees and test dates, contact SMSgt. Epps at 734-7075.**

HOT TOPICS :

✓ **CDC Testing is accomplished at 0800 on Sundays of the (main) UTA. You do not have to schedule it, just show up at 0800 at Bldg 460 (the active duty HQ), Room 213. You need to enter through the South East corner door. If you cannot make it, our Education office also tests on Wednesdays. You DO need to schedule this one 24 hours in advance Important note: If you are retaking a test, make sure you bring the Commander's evaluation/ authorization letter with you or you will not be able to test.**

✓ EDUCATION REMINDER:

This is just to remind everyone who wishes to update their Education Records, officer and enlisted, that we need OFFICIAL Transcripts to send or accomplish any updates. This means that it CANNOT say "ISSUED TO STUDENT." You may have the college/university send it, we can request it, or you may bring it in as long as it is in a sealed envelope with a SEAL on the flap AND it does not say "ISSUED TO STUDENT."

✓ **IEU OPEN FROM 1200-1500 ON SATURDAY OF THE MAIN UTA**

✓ **Customer Service closed until 0930 every Saturday due to newcomers inprocessing. Please take care of business after that time.**

✓ **SHOTS !!!!**
Time: 0830-1100 on Saturday morning
Place: Internal Medicine Clinic

FY1999/2000 UTA Schedule

10-11 Jul 99	08-09 Jan 00
07-08 Aug 99	05-06 Feb 00
11-12 Sep 99	04-05 Mar 00
02-03 Oct 99	01-02 Apr 00
06-07 Nov 99	06-07 May 00
04-05 Dec 99	03-04 Jun 00

as of 20 May 99

EDUCATION

Air Force Reserve members wishing to take the ACT, SAT I, RCEP, GRE, GMAT, PRAXIS, or LSAT contact **SMSgt. Epps** in the MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.

OFFICER PME, JOLDS OR ANY SPECIAL OFFICER COURSES

Contact **MSgt. Dennis Cain** at 734-7075

Newcomers Ancillary Training

Newcomers Ancillary Training Phase I & II 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 MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.

Phase I

	Time	Subject	OPR
Saturday	1330-1400	Security Awareness (C4 SATE)	CF
Saturday	1400-1500	Drug and Alcohol	SG
Saturday	1500-1530	Local Conditions-Traffic	SE
Saturday	1530-1630	Human Relations	SA

Phase II

Sunday	0730-0800	Base Populace	CEX
Sunday	0800-0930	UCMJ/Ethics	JA
Sunday	0930-0945	IG Briefing	IG
Sunday	0945-1045	Counter Intel/Protection from Terrorism	SP

AFRC NCOLDP

The next AFRC Leadership Development course will be held from 12-16 July 99, and return 2-6 Aug 99. We have provided a roster with a list of eligibles to each unit training manager. **This course was developed in response for the need to provide mid-level enlisted personnel with in-depth leadership and management training.**

BAQ Recertification Deadlines

If your SSAN ends with a 5 or 0 you have until 30 Jun 1999 to recertify your BAQ or have it terminated. Please see your Unit BAQ monitor to complete the AF Form 987. 507th 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.**

Military Pay

File for pay by:	Receive Direct Deposit by:
10 Jun	18 Jun
15 Jun	23 Jun
17 Jun	25 Jun
24 Jun	02 Jul
29 Jun	07 Jul
01 Jul	09 Jul
06 Jul	14 Jul
13 Jul	21 Jul
15 Jul	23 Jul
20 Jul	28 Jul
27 Jul	04 Aug
29 Jul	06 Aug

UCMJ Briefing:

All enlisted personnel are required to have the UCMJ briefing within two UTAs of their first reenlistment. This briefing is held during Phase II of the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 0800 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1030, Classroom 1.

Disaster Preparedness:

Unit Training Managers must schedule Chemical Warfare Training, by name, at least one UTA prior to the requested dates by calling CEX at 734-4460. All personnel must bring a complete training ground crew ensemble (GCE) including the mask and its hood to all classes. Those attending Initial must be prepared to process through a tear agent chamber. Wear of contacts is prohibited in all classes. Anyone arriving late, without a complete GCE with mask, or wearing contacts, will be released back to their unit and reported as a no-show.

Ethics Briefing:

All reserve personnel are required to have the DOD Ethics Briefing within 90 days of reporting for duty. This briefing is held in conjunction with the UCMJ briefing during Phase II of the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 0800 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1030, Classroom 1.

Drug Testing: You must report within two hours of notification.

This publication is brought to you by your friendly MPF Education and Training staff. If you need assistance or have suggestions on 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. Scarlet McCloud, Education and Training Advisor
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**A hearty welcome to our new training staff members: SSgt Melanie Cherry
SSgt Ronnie Harwood**

July 1999

NOTE: TINKER TEAM CIVIC LEADER TOUR FLIGHT 2 DAYS THIS MONTH TBD LAST TWO WEEKS OF JULY - PA

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	<p>\$\$\$\$</p> <p>Must have 80% of funds Obligated by 31 July</p>			<p>1</p> <p>CMSgt Kellington's last UTA - retirement effective 1 July 1999</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Blood Drive</p>	<p>3</p>	
<p>4</p> <p></p> <p>Independence Day</p>	<p>5</p> <p>HOLIDAY</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Data/Information due to CCX 7 Jul for Pre UTA</p>	<p>8</p> <p>SNCOA Class 99-E 8 JUL - 18 AUG 98</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Pre UTA Performance Review Top 3 Council</p>	<p>10</p> <p>UTA 72 APS STATIC ACFT FOR LOAD TRNG C-5, C-17, C-141 10-11 JUL</p>	
<p>11</p> <p>UTA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MPF In-House Trng 0800-0930 HAZCOM Training 	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>CES FIREFIGHTER OFF-UTA</p>	
				<p>AFRCNCO LDP Class 99-B Phase I 12 - 16 JULY</p>			
				<p>307 RHS/CES Electric Distribution Project 11 - 24 Jul 99</p>			
<p>18</p> <p>CES F.F. OFF-UTA</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>MPF IN-HOUSE TRNG 0730-0900 \$\$\$\$ Implement year end close-out Enlisted ART Orientation T-Net 1000-1400 procedures</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Quality Awareness Training</p>	
				<p>307 RHS/CES Electric Distribution Project 11 - 24 Jul 99</p>			
<p>25</p> <p>Quality Awareness Training</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>\$\$\$\$ Last call AF Form 9 Submitted to PMK</p>	
				<p>307 RHS/CES Electric Distribution Project 25 Jul 7 Aug 99</p>			

July 1999

1st ASF deploys

- Crew focused on NATO flying safety

A three-member crew from the 507TH Air Refueling Wing's 1st Aviations Standards Flight deployed April 16 to western Europe in support of Operation Allied Force, the NATO airstrike campaign over the former Republic of Yugoslavia. Flying the Federal Aviation Administration's British Aerospace BAE 125/800 Hawker aircraft (already in place overseas), the reservists operated in the theater of operations performing flight inspections of navigational-aid radars and instrument procedures at military airfields. The reservists shared the workload equally with active-duty



counterparts already in Europe. The crew returned back to Oklahoma April 29. According to 1st ASF Flight Commander Maj. Randy Peterson, "More reservists may deploy to the theater in the future on a rotation."

The flight is part of Tinker's 507th Air Refueling Wing and a new mission for Air Force Reserve Command. The 1st ASF was activated at the FAA's Mike Monroney Center, Will Rogers World Airport, Oklahoma City, in June 1998. Its 23 members augment the Air Force Flight Standards Agency Detachment 1, the on-site, active-duty unit at the airport. In peacetime, the unit performs radar inspections for military and civilian airports in the United States and overseas.

The mission performed by the 1st ASF is extremely important to overall NATO aircraft flying operations, Major Peterson said. "Basically the crew flies landing approach missions on military airfields to make sure the radar systems are working properly," he explained. "They use the calibration instruments on board the Hawker aircraft to make sure that if the ground radar systems shows they are at a specific altitude, that they are actually at that altitude. They also check the air traffic controller procedures."

AFRC News Summary

This summary is intended to give the reader a brief look at some Air Force Reserve events which recently occurred.

IMAs mobilized to support Allied Force

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. - Thirteen Air Force reservists have been mobilized to work full time in the Tanker Airlift Control Center here in support of Operation Allied Force.

As the central execution agency for all U.S. airlift and tanker operations, the center has been operating around the clock to meet the demands of the NATO operation in Kosovo.

The 13 individual mobilization augmentees are part of the Presidential Reserve Selected Call-up and will plan and schedule contingency and humanitarian missions, including the airlift of munitions to re-supply combat forces in Europe.

8 nab Air Force security forces awards

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - Six reservists and two Air Force Reserve Command civilian employees captured Air Force-level security forces awards. Air Force officials in Washington announced the winners of active-duty and air reserve component awards April 20.

AFRC representatives apprehended five of the six awards given to air reserve component individuals.

VFW offers free '10-minute' phone card

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - Reservists deployed overseas or those on active duty for 30 days or more may apply for a pre-paid phone card through the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization.

They can apply for the card through "Operation Uplink" on the VFW's Web site's main page. The address is: <http://www.vfw.org>

Reemployment law spells out responsibilities

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - Whether on active duty in the United States or deployed overseas to support operations in the Balkans, reservists have the law on their side that they will still have a job when they return home.

Their rights and the rights of their employers are spelled out in the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, a byproduct of the Gulf War. After that conflict, Congress identified several shortcomings of the previous 58-year-old Veterans' Reemployment Rights Law.

These and other provisions of the law are available for viewing on Air Force Reserve Command's homepage Web site. Under the News and Information icon, computer users can call up "NCESGR" - National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve - to review the law and frequently asked questions. Reservists and employers can also get help by calling NSCEGR toll free at 1-800-336-4590.

507th supports Operation Allied Force

by Capt. Rich Curry
and 2nd Lt. Stan
Paregien, 507th
Public Affairs

During the past month and a half, three KC-135R "Stratotanker" refueling aircraft and approximately 40 volunteer reservists from the 507th Air Refueling Wing, departed from Tinker Air Force Base in support of Operation Allied Force, the NATO airstrike campaign over the former Republic of Yugoslavia.

Deploying in two-week rotational tours, the reservists and aircraft were operationally deployed overseas in Western Europe.

More than 2,000 Reservists and Guardsmen were identified by Air Mobility Command to deploy to Europe as part of a Presidential Selective Reserve Call-up announced April 27 to support increased NATO operations in Yugoslavia.

President Clinton approved Secretary of Defense William Cohen's request to call to active duty up to 33,102 members of selected Reserve and Guard units for Operation Allied Force.

Sixty-four reservists from the 931st Air Refueling Wing, McConnell AFB, Kansas, which falls under the 507th Air Refueling Wing were activated and deployed in support of the NATO Operation.

The 507th Air Refueling Wing was not one of the Air Force Reserve units specified by Defense Secretary William Cohen for activation. However, the unit tanker deployments were essential to support the increased operational needs until the activated units were fully established overseas.

"We have been able to support a fairly aggressive deployment cycle in support of Allied Force through reserve volun-



teers," said Brig. Gen. Jon S. Gingerich, 507th ARW Commander.

The first reserve deployed aircrew, which returned to Oklahoma April 16, reported flying more than 100 hours during



Photo by Capt. Rich Curry

Col. David Beavin and Col. John Fobian await arrival.



Photos by Capt. Rich Curry

their tour and off-loading several million pounds of fuel to NATO aircraft. By comparison, it normally takes two to three months of routine refueling operations back home to put that many flying hours on an aircraft. As an air refueling unit, the mission of the 507th team involves providing mid air refueling to both transport airlift and fighter aircraft deployments.

The Air Force has a total of 547 KC-135s (254 are active duty). Reserve and Guard units provide about 55 percent of the Air Force's total air refueling capability. Working hand-in-hand with active duty, Reserve and Guard crews and aircraft demonstrate America's presence on the ground in more than 40 nations each day. The 1.4 million men and women who serve in the seven Reserve components make up one half of the United States' armed forces.



Photos by Capt. Rich Curry

Maintenance crews bring down the tail stand to park the KC-135 aircraft on the Oklahoma ramp.

First Reserve AWACS members deploy overseas

by 2nd Lt. Stan Paregien
Public Affairs Office

TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, OK – History was made here. Roughly 70 maintenance and aircrew members from the 513th Air Control Group, Air Force Reserve, departed in May to backfill active duty counterparts overseas.

More than 200 members from the 513th Air Control Group were activated May 8 under the Presidential Selected Reserve Call up. According to 513th ACG commander, Col. Kenneth Suggs, the unit will be supporting Joint Chief of Staff taskings outside of the continental United States. The May 8 departure will be the first 513th ACG reservists to depart.

The members traveled to the East Coast where they rode on military transport aircraft to their final destination. No additional information was available prior to the On-final deadline concerning when or if additional troop departures would occur.

The 200 activated reservists received the call to report to their unit Monday, May 10, after

receiving activation orders from the Department of Defense.

The 513th ACG is an Air Force Reserve Associate unit established here over two years ago. Its mission is to provide support for U.S. Air Force stateside and overseas deployment for Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) commitments. As an associate unit, the 513th ACG Reservists are

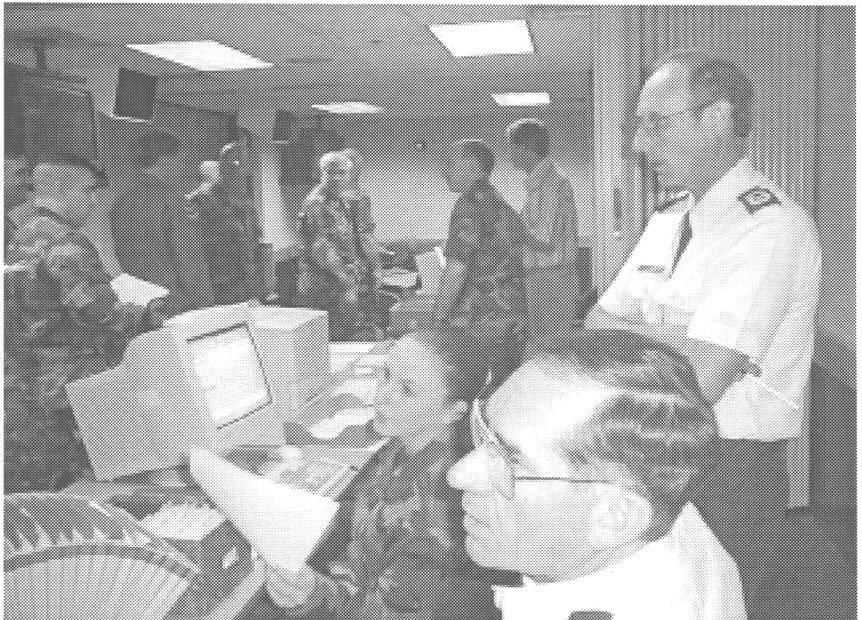


Photo by 2nd Lt. Stan Paregien

Members of the 513th ACG deploy. MSgt. Bert Rickner, center, and Chief MSgt. Michael Whitebread, right, answer questions.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Stan Paregien

Col. Kenneth Suggs, 513th ACG commander, visits with an MSNBC control booth operator before a live interview.

assigned to help their active duty AWACS partners fly and maintain the E-3 Sentry “AWACS” aircraft.

The 513th Air Control Group was activated here March 15, 1996 and now are full partners with their active duty counterparts, the 552nd Air Control Wing, in providing theater and Air Force commanders with trained aircrews and maintenance personnel and systems for airborne surveillance, warning and control.

When deployed, the reservists will work side-by-side with their active-duty counterparts as part of the total force.

“Our unit had just completed our two-year build-up process to become operationally ready. When we received the Air Force request to mobilize this weekend, our members were trained and ready to respond,” Suggs said. Unit members received a phone call to report in for duty.

“Our unit has been working very hard during our two-year build-up to be prepared for this.



We are ready to support national defense operations for as long as they are needed,” said Col. Kenneth Suggs, 513th ACG commander. “We really aren’t sure exactly how long the unit will remain activated but our reservists are ready to support our mission even though it may mean they may be away from their families, friends, and jobs for an unknown period of time.”

The Presidential Selected Reserve Call-up announced last month, authorized Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen to call 33,102 members of the Selected Reserve to active duty.

“Ongoing operations require more support from the Reserve forces. They form an integral part of our nation’s military,” said Cohen

The 513th Air Control Group is the nation’s only Air Force Reserve AWACS unit.



Head them up and move them out! Reservists from the 513th Air Control Group process out.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Stan Paregien

Capt. Tammy Herzog and Senior Airman Scott Branscom went “live” on MSNBC to talk about the tornado and their upcoming military deployment. Capt. Herzog lost her house, but her family and pets survived.

Up close

The following question was asked of members of the 507th Air Refueling Wing and 513th Air Control Group:
"Our nation's involvement in Operation Allied Force now includes the selective callup of Air Force reservists. What's been the reaction of the people you know?"

Photos by TSgt. Tyrone Yoshida

BUILDING GLOBAL POWER FOR AMERICA
THROUGH THE EYES OF THE EAGLE
(AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT!)



SSgt. Ted Phillips

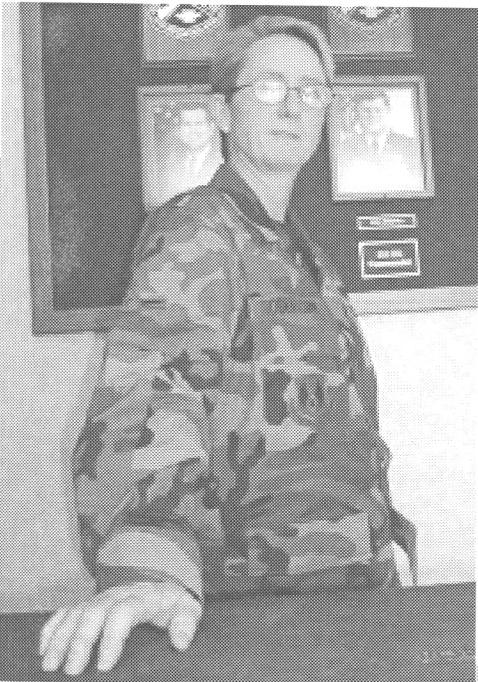
507th Combat Logistics Support Squadron

"Most people who've I've talked about it don't seem too happy about the decisions have have been made."

Capt. David Parnell

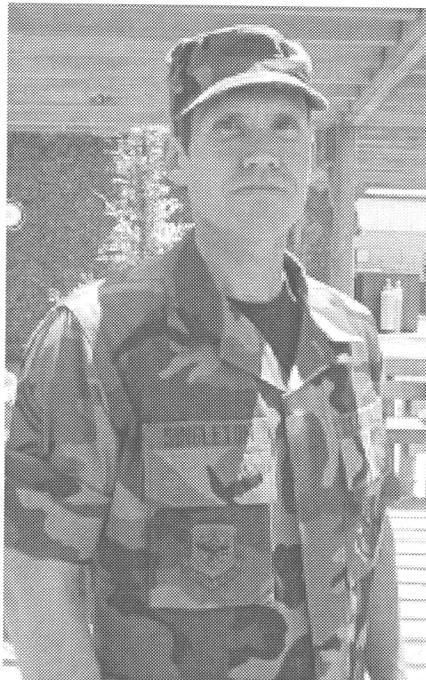
465th Air Refueling Squadron

"I've been once (two-week deployment to Istres, France). when the callup happened, I received alot of inquires - Are you going to have to go back." Alot of people don't know why this is happening.



Amn. Kathryn Robertson, 507th Combat Logistic Support Squadron

"My co-workers are asking me what are my chances of going. They're saying they don't want ground troops."



SMSgt. Billy D. Singleton, 507th Civil Engineer Squadron

"My co-workers have voiced the opinion that our involvement is more political than humanitarian."



SSgt. Rick Bizzell, 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron

"My fellow members are supportive of the mission. I'm committed to the mission and ready to go if called."

“Gulliver’s Travels”...an animal lover’s story

**By Col. John and Kim Fobian
507th OPS Group commander**

The tornado passed by us less than 1/2 of a mile from our home in southwest OKC, and when it did, it was at its F5 strength. Afterwards my wife and I took off for the base to check on our 4-yr old appaloosa named Gulliver.

It took us three hours to drive a normally 20 minute trip to the base dodging downed power lines, broken gas mains and devastation everywhere. It wasn’t until we were just outside the east gate that the radio station made an announcement asking that veterinarians come to the base stables to assist the injured animals. We were expecting the worst, but our mental picture of what we might find was a Hallmark greeting card compared to the devastation that was waiting for us. The corner of the base where the stables used to be was in the direct path of the storm. There was nothing left of the stables. The surrounding Del City neighborhood just outside the base is where the loss of lives was the worst.

Most of the horseowners were out there in the dark searching through the rubble for their animals, giving each other comfort and support. All of them were alive, some

severally injured, but alive. A good samaritan was trying to get to his home in the devastated area and couldn’t, instead stopping to assist in the rescue of four horses that were trapped under the fallen roof of the barn where Gulliver had been stalled. We were told our horse was found across 29th street in the middle of a field near an office complex. The base stables used to consist of three barns set up in a U shape...the largest was the hay barn made of aluminum siding and wood. The four horses that were in that barn were the ones with the worst injuries. Broken bones, internal injuries, puncture wounds, chunks of flesh ripped off, eye wounds...with too many injuries to list....all of the horses were in a state of shock and needed medical care.

Several strangers and some people whom we knew helped us with the horses throughout that long night. It was very difficult for medical help to reach us because of the human loss and devastation that surrounded us.

It took a few hours for a vet to get there, but in the meantime others showed up with their horse trailers, halters, lead ropes, medical supplies, and hope. They were absolutely wonderful and Gulliver is now recovering from his wounds.



Special to the On-Final, photo by Margo Wright

Col. John Fobian, 507th Operations Group commander checks his horse “Gulliver” for injuries following the F5 tornado. Still in shock, the horse was found north of the base, across 29th street, Midwest City.

Acts of courage

by Capt. Rich Curry
507th Public Affairs Office

There were many stories of courage to tell following the massive twister that left a 35-mile path of destruction across the state. Here are just a few...

Branscum's story

"I live in Moore, Oklahoma, and I saw the twister go past my home. It was only 150 yards away. The noise sounded like a jet engine revving up only it just kept getting louder and louder," said SrA. Scott Branscum, a reserve aeromedical technician from the 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron. I watched the tornado go past. My home really didn't suffer any damage but some of the houses in my neighborhood just aren't there now."

Immediately after the tornado had passed, Branscum grabbed his medical bag he keeps in his home and got in his car to drive to the base. It was a trip that would take him four hours. "I stopped by an elderly housing complex to help. It was a terrible sight. Totally destroyed," Branscum said he pulled eight bodies from the debris.

"I heard a woman screaming. She was buried under five feet of rubble." Working frantically, Branscum and several other strangers dug their way down to her. "A wall had fallen on top of her," he said. But by some miracle her walker, which had fallen on top of her, saved the woman. "It formed a brace and kept ev-

erything from crushing her. She had a dislocated shoulder and cuts, but she was alright," he said.

SrA Scott Branscum,
513th Aeromedical Technician

Patton's story

I volunteered to work in the hangar helping those who stayed with us. We made arrangements to bus the people back into their housing area to try to save some of their belongings. What was amazing to me was to see the trees with all the leaves and bark gone...there was nothing left on them. It was like someone was whittling.

SSgt. Evelyn Patton,
1st Sgt., Logistics Support Squadron

Nelson's story

I was working the night shift at the fire department when the tornado struck. Immediately after it passed, we responded directly to the scene. The glare of the military light-

alls made everything look eerie. There, coming out of the darkness towards the base, were hundreds of people. It was like they knew help was waiting for them here on base. We assisted getting them to medical



TSgt. Brent Nelson

Reserve here in the city. We are competing to see which of us bring out the most reservists. The winning group's commander gets to throw out the first pitch," said Chaplain (1st Lt) Dwight Magnus.

The special discount rate for tickets is \$5. The Chaplain staff will be selling tickets during this UTA weekend. Family members are welcome. For more information or to purchase tickets call the Chaplain's office at ext. 45632.

The Oklahoma Redhawks, in cooperation with the Air Force Reserve, is hosting a Reserve Night at the Bricktown Ballpark at 7 p.m., Saturday, July 10. The evening event was coordinated by the 507th's Chaplains Office. "This is actually going to be a contest between the Air Force Reserve and the Navy



Capt. Rich Curry and volunteers went 30 hours with no sleep.

help and then helped with the search for others. I'll never forget that night. TSgt. Brent Nelson,
507th Civil Engineer Squadron.

Sylvester's story

One of our members was TDY and his family lived in damage area. I was trying to locate the family to make sure they were okay. It was difficult getting past the guards posted to stop traffic, even after I explained what I had to do. I ended up getting into the area. A note on their door said all was ok.

TSgt. Frank Sylvester,
507th Avionics Shop Chief

Recruiting Hotline Numbers

Help the recruiters by giving them a name or call them directly at these locations:

Lawton, OK TSgt. Nathan Bickle (405) 357-2784	Tinker AFB, OK MSgt. Larry Wheatley TSgt. Rhonda Nolan (405) 734-5331
Tulsa, OK TSgt. Bill Thompson (918) 665-2300	Tinker AFB, OK MSgt Vic Bradford (In-Service Recruiter) (405) 739-2980
Vance AFB, OK MSgt. Terry Gosh (316) 652-3766	Altus AFB, OK TSgt. Ronald J. Salafia (In-Service Recruiter) (580) 481-5123
Midwest City, OK MSgt. Linda Smith (405) 733-9403	Sheppard AFB, TX MSgt. Larry Giles (940) 676-3382
McConnell AFB, KS MSgt. Terry Gosh (In-Service Recruiter) (316) 652-3766 TSgt. David McCormick (316) 652-4350	

R-NEWS

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of two set up on the base, a makeshift processing line was formed to register people’s names so others could know their loved ones were still alive

Standing at the perimeter of what once was Del City, only 100 feet away from the base, twisted homes could be seen in the glare of military light-alls. There, across the road where a thriving residential community once stood was nothing but splinters and rubble. The tornado, which had earlier been headed directly for Tinker, swerved at the last minute, plowing its deadly way through the heavily populated area. The tornado skirted the perimeter of the base then thrust on northward through Midwest City, immediately north of the base, again destroying everything in its path. The fence that once stood, separating the base from the community lay flattened on the ground, from the tornado’s blow.

The survivors’ stories were heart wrenching. “I lost everything.” “Thank God, my wife and children are alive.” Others commented: “I was never so scared in my life.”

By 3 a.m. most of the survivors had bedded down in their cots to fitful sleep and the dread of what awaits them in morning’s light.

Two hundred and 20 victims affected by the tornado were housed in a hangar Monday night. By Tuesday night, however only 38 people remained. Several more were able to find alternate housing during Wednesday. By Wednesday evening less than 10 people were left.

On Wednesday, May 6, the victims displaced by the tornado were relocated from hangar to an alternate relief shelter at Jordan Jr. High School, Midwest City, located at 5 McArthur Drive.

“Most of the people who had stayed with us were able to make other arrangements with their family or friends.

“We helped those remaining with us on Tuesday to get back into the housing area to try to salvage some personal belongings,” said Col. John Fobian, acting commander of the 507th Air Refueling Wing.



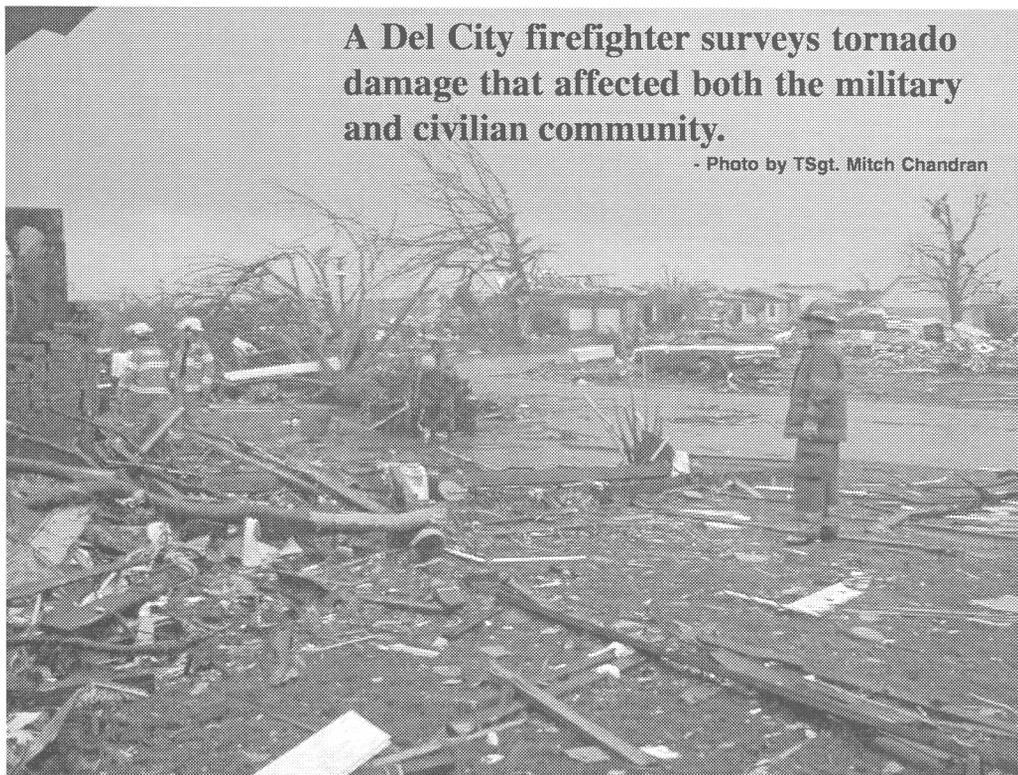
Photo by 2nd Lt. Stan Paregien

Active and Reserve medical staff worked together in the tornado relief. Reservists showed up in the 507th hangar and took care of first aid.

“We made arrangements to get those who remained with us Tuesday night in touch with local relief agencies,” Fobian said. Fobian said that because the numbers remaining were not large enough to overtax the Jordan shelter and because that shelter would provide more rapid access to relief officials, the decision was made to reestablish them there. Coordination was seen throughout the event.

A Del City firefighter surveys tornado damage that affected both the military and civilian community.

- Photo by TSgt. Mitch Chandran



Reserve Hands Help the Heartland



A girl and her mother, whose house was destroyed, receive cool drinks from the Air Force Reserve.

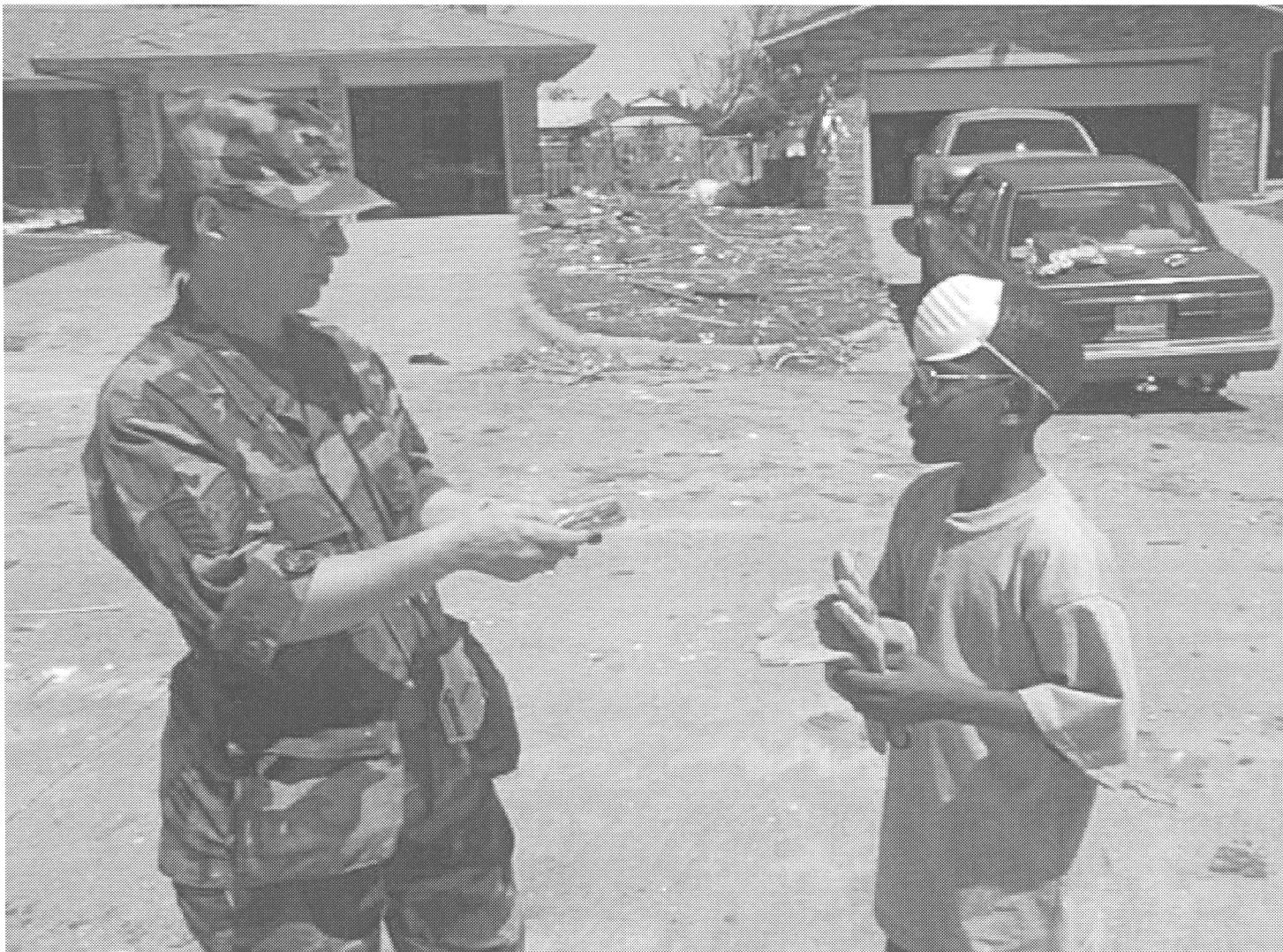


Photo by TSgt. Mitch Chandran

507th ARW TSgt. Melba Koch, a Tulsa reservist, gives a sandwich to a survivor during recovery efforts.



Photo by TSgt. Mitch Chandran

A local homeowner is given supplies by TSgt. Melba Koch, Stacy Coleman, an unidentified Red Cross worker and 2nd Lt. Stan Paregien of the United States Air Force Reserve. Hundreds of loads of supplies were delivered throughout the neighborhoods bordering Tinker Air Force Base during tornado recovery work.



Photo by TSgt. Mitch Chandran



Photo by 2Lt. Stan Paregien

Oklahoma humor was found among the ruins. Sunshine in the days following the disaster raised spirits.

Security police take care of a lost dog until the owner can be found. Animal shelters were swamped for days.

Traffic jams clogged roads around Tinker Air Force Base for over a week.



Photo by Capt. Rich Curry

507th Air Force Reservists helped direct heavy traffic flow in the area next to Tinker Air Force Base.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Stan Paregien

Air Reserve Technician Mitch Chandran, center, peers into a cellar that saved a Del City family.

A final farewell...and a salute to MSgt. Glynda Stanfield and the people who knew her best.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Stan Paregien

MSgt. Glynda Stanfield, far right, was killed by the tornado. She took pride in her troops and spent the time needed to ensure they were ready for the challenges. She is shown here in an archive photo from 1994.

“Glynda” continued from page 2.

each other, said Moore. “She was always so funny and had such a sharp wit. She could be comfortable anywhere. She was an avid animal lover and was always taking in stray animals that would follow us home.”

One memory stands out. “The biggest thing that crosses my mind is a little-bitty portable battery-powered record player that we would play Roger Miller’s greatest funny hits on. We’d sing and dance. She was a lot of fun,” Moore added.

Stanfield worked over 18 years for the Air Force Reserve. She was 43 and is survived by her husband Delbert.