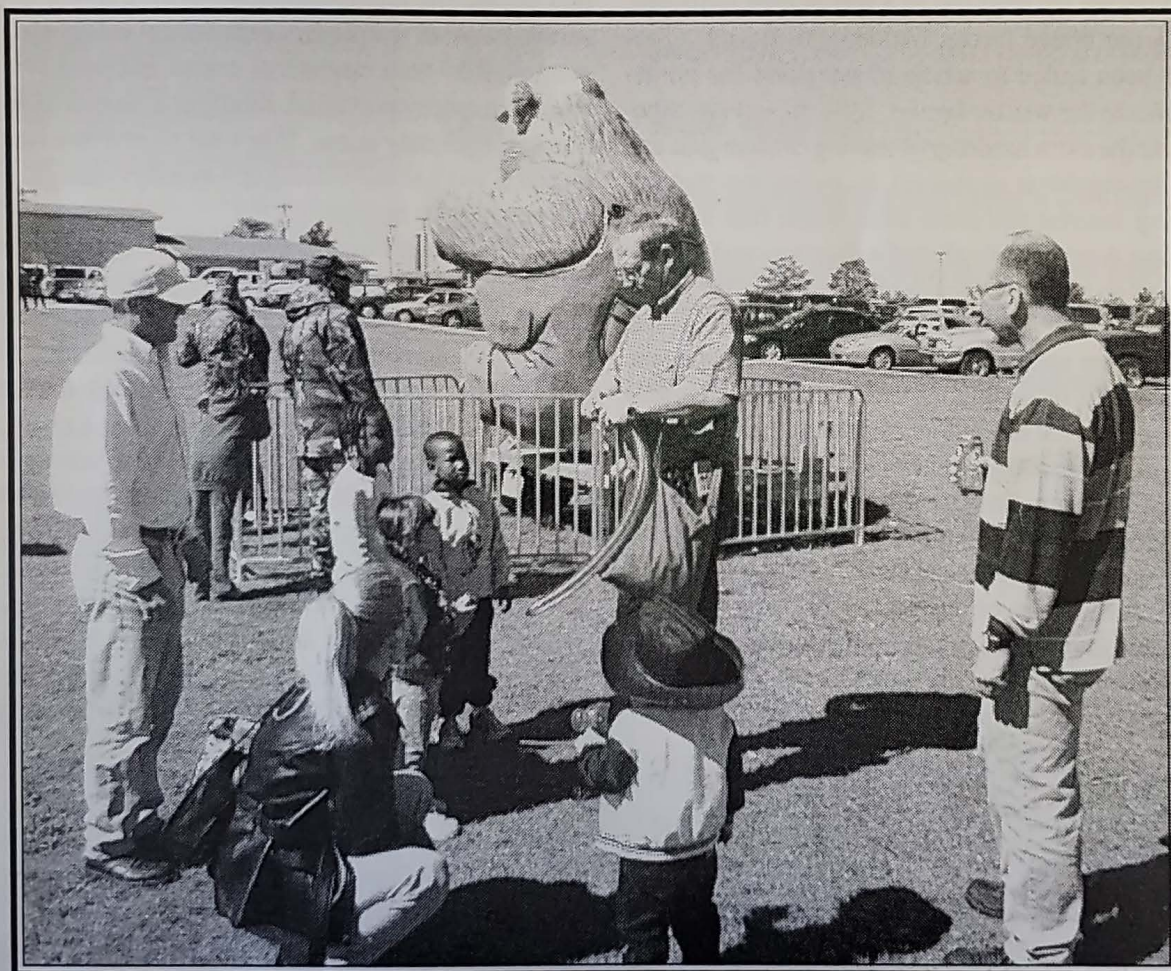




Our families' support....



a vital key to our mission!



507th ARW Commander's Column

By Col. Mario Goico
507th ARW Vice Commander

Defending Freedom

On Veterans' Day we honor the countless patriots who sacrificed their lives to gain and defend our freedoms. America is synonymous, throughout the world, with democracy, personal rights, and freedom. Terrorists took advantage of that freedom and openness, using it to mastermind the Sept. 11, attacks. We witnessed firemen and policemen rush into the World Trade Center, disregarding their own safety, in order to save others. Now we are engaged in a war against terrorism.

Once again our armed forces, including thousands of reservists, have been called to action to safeguard the homeland and prosecute the war on foreign soils. Reservists especially must bear the extra hardship of leaving civilian jobs and families. As the president explained, an evil group that opposes our every interest and hates every value that we hold dear is attacking America. We all feel a deep national mourning at the loss of so many thousands of innocent civilians and have a firm determination to bring their murderers to justice.

We must prepare and expect our enemies to strike again. We must be vigilant of suspicious activities that potentially could be pre-operational surveillance of our military and government facilities. For many years we thought any attack on the U.S. would not occur because of our hospitable environment for any group to express their ideas. Ironically, they have attacked the country whose freedoms they have exploited.

The flame and promise of universal well-being and prosperity, which lies at the heart of the American spirit, will not be extinguished by these terrorist attacks.



From the Chief

By CMSgt. Bob Kellington
507th ARW
Command Chief Master Sergeant

Here we are almost 2 months after the attack on our soil. We now know what it is like to be a victim of terrorism. We as a nation have heeded the words of our president. "We will not tire, we will not falter, we will not fail."

These tragic events have brought us together as one nation again. I look back and I see us, the United States, as a family. We normally get together at weddings or funerals and always promise to get together in the future, which in most instances never happens.

It is up to each of us to ensure we stay together as a family and support those who are tasked to fight terrorism, we must fight terrorism, we must cherish the memories of those who have lost their lives and those who will be put in harms way. Always remember that we could get the call - Cherish special moments with your loved ones - hug them - tell them that you love them and they should know that you have chosen to do your part in the fight against terrorism by serving our nation in whatever capacity.

As always, I know that I have the greatest job - and that is working for you all. You continue to make me proud of our unit and I feel you will continue to carry on the legacy that has been handed down to you and make your family, friends, neighbors and nation know that the OKIES are "FOREVER READY - ALWAYS THERE."

God Bless You All & God Bless America.

513th ACG Commander's Column

By Col. James Kerr

"The Warrior Spirit!"

I wish to express my deep appreciation to all of you, "The Warriors of the 513th." We have been operating at a high tempo ever since our activation over a month ago, and everyone is performing in an outstanding manner. As would be expected, there were numerous stressors and challenging situations at the start, such as, family situation juggles, nightmarish aircrew and maintenance scheduling, pulling alert (not to mention in a facility marginally fit for living), flying 15-hour plus sorties, 12-hour maintenance shifts, and setting up and implementing a 24-hour operations center. But your professionalism and maturity prevailed, resulting in an expeditious transition to active-duty status. You went right into a wartime posture as if you had been doing this as a full-time job. You were and are still my heroes!

Another point I wish to convey is my appreciation for your wonderful display of camaraderie. I truly believe that the core of our successful mobilization was your ability to work in harmony and communicate well with one another; i.e., the synergy you fostered. Folks, it all starts with good relationships, which is what camaraderie is all about! Think about it. Camaraderie is the greatest single contributor to unit cohesion and good morale, the qualities that really win wars. So when faced with arduous challenges, let's continue working together, communicating with one another, and when it's time to party, then let's party together! Do what it takes to keep our relationships steadfast and strong. May God bless you all and may God bless America!

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NOVEMBER 2001

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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

Copy deadline is NOON on UTA Sunday for the next month's edition.

This is your news source. Take it home with you to share with family, friends, and employers.

On The Cover



Photo by Maj. Rich Curry

As important as family support is for the reserve mission, Family Day went on as scheduled Oct. 13. A good time was had by all.



507 ARW



513 ACG

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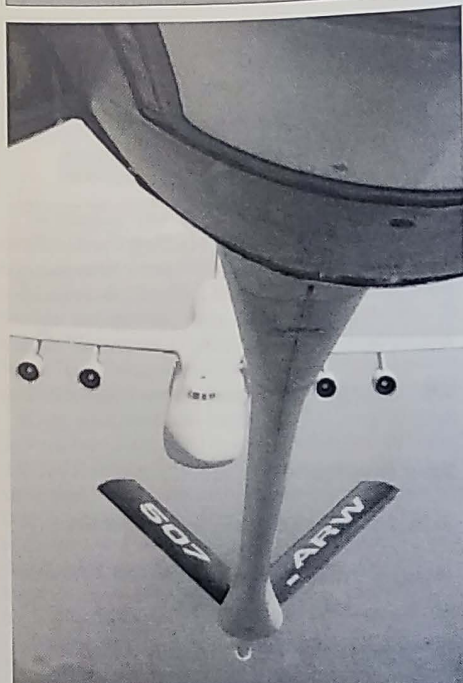
NEWS/ INFORMATION/ FAMILY READINESS/ MORE!

507th AIR REFUELING WING
and
513th AIR CONTROL GROUP

TINKER AFB OKLAHOMA



www.afrc.af.mil/507arw



(USAF Photo by SSgt. Scott Seyer)

Reservists active in war on terrorism

TINKER AIR FORCE Base, Oklahoma — One month after the initial Presidential Selected Reserve Call Up, the Air Force Reserve currently has recalled 5,587 reservists nationwide to active duty status.

Those figures represent 40 Air Force Reserve units from 24 states. Additionally, another 1,388 individual mobilization augmentees were also recalled to active duty as part of the partial mobilization authorized by President George W. Bush.

The Department of Defense announced the totals in a news release here Oct. 23.

Also announced in the DOD release were 11 additional activations of reservists from the 507th Air Refueling Wing. The DOD release reported that nine AFRC units had more than 100 unit members called up Oct. 23.

Other units previously affected to date include the 434th Air Refueling Wing, Grissom Air Reserve Base, Ind.; 513th Air Control Group, Tinker Air Force Base, Okla.; and 916th ARW, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C., which were notified of the call-ups Sept. 20. Other units with hundreds of members called up since the initial call up include the 315th AW, Charleston AFB, S.C.; 349th Air Mobility Wing, Travis AFB, Calif.; 433rd Airlift Wing, Lackland AFB, Texas; 439th AW, Westover AFB, Mass.; 512th AW, Dover AFB, Del.; and 919th Special Operations Wing, Duke Field, Fla.

Currently Air Force reservists account for more than 21 percent of Reserve component members called to active duty to fight America's war on terrorism. In addition to official presidential activations, the 507th ARW continues to support operational mission refueling support in the Pacific Theater of Operations on a voluntary basis.

Port mortuary reservists from Travis' 349th Memorial Affairs Squadron were among the first reservists to volunteer to help America recover from the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11. They worked with more than 100 other reservists from around the country identifying and processing the remains of military members killed in the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the Pentagon.

During the first week after the attacks, more than 7,200 Air Force reservists volunteered to serve, flying humanitarian airlift missions to New York and Washington, as well as providing medical care and other assistance.

Under a partial mobilization authority, the country can mobilize as many as 1 million members of the Ready Reserve for up to 24 months. About 1.3 million men and women serve in DOD's seven reserve components. (AFRC News Service from DOD news releases)

AEF continues

With America's attention focused on Afghanistan and anthrax, reservists from the 419th Fighter Wing and other Reserve F-16 units set their sights on the Operation Southern Watch commitment in the Middle East.

The Hill Air Force Base, Utah, unit took on the Reserve's lead-wing responsibility in mid-October and will pass the job to the 301st Fighter Wing from Fort Worth, Texas, in mid-November.

Air Force leaders have said enforcing the no-fly zones over northern and southern Iraq remains a priority, and Aerospace Expeditionary Force missions will continue as scheduled.

Chronology of events since Sept. 11

Sept. 11: Two jets airliners crash into the World Trade Center Buildings in New York City. A third jet airliner crashes into the Pentagon, and a fourth jet crashes near Pittsburgh. In an address to the nation, President Bush states "these acts of mass murder were intended to frighten our nation into chaos and retreat, but they have failed; our country is strong."

Sept. 14: President Bush authorizes the call-up of up to 50,000 National Guardsmen and reservists to active duty to support national security efforts in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington. The president issues his request in conjunction with a declaration of national emergency.

Sept. 20: The first actual call-up of reservists occur involving four Air Force Reserve Command flying units. The units, locations and number of reservists authorized to report for active-duty military service were the 434th ARW, Grissom AFB, Ind., 644; 917th Wing, Barksdale AFB, La., 373; 916th ARW, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C., 337; and 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron, Tinker AFB, 231. On a volunteer basis, 507th ARW members continue support of operational refueling missions while deployed in Pacific Theater.

Sept. 20: In an address to a joint session of Congress, President Bush states, "On Sept. 11, enemies of freedom committed an act of war against our country," and that "the

course of this conflict is not known, but its outcome is certain. Freedom and fear, justice and cruelty, have always been at war, and we know that God is not neutral between them."

Sept. 22: Thirty-nine members of the 507th Security Forces Squadron are called-up in support of Operation Noble Eagle.

Oct. 5: A photo editor of the "Sun" tabloid, diagnosed with inhaled anthrax, dies.

Oct. 7: The U.S., and allies launch attacks on Al Qaeda training camps and military installations of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan.

Oct. 8: Air Force C-17 cargo planes airdrop tons of food over Afghanistan. Air Force reservists from the 315th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, S.C., along with active-duty crews, make the long haul from Ramstein AB, to the drop zones.

Oct. 9: The aircraft and a detachment of more than 180 people from Geilenkirchen, Germany, begin deploying to Tinker to assist the 552nd Air Control Wing with Operation Noble Eagle. Never before in the 52-year history of NATO has the alliance been used to defend the United States.

Oct. 23: Nine AFRC units have more than 100 unit members called to active duty, including 11 from the 507th Air Refueling Wing.

Oct. 26: President Bush signs an anti-terrorism bill giving police unprecedented ability to search, seize, detain or eavesdrop in their pursuit of possible terrorists.

Hate crimes will not be tolerated in Air Force

By SSgt. Amy Parr, Air Force Print News

Hate crimes are reportedly on the rise across America in the wake of terrorist attacks in New York and Washington on Sept. 11. But, even as they assist in cleanup and recovery operations at the Pentagon, Air Force officials are quick to remind bluesuiters everywhere of Air Force policy regarding such conduct.

"It will not be tolerated in the Air Force," said Bob Cook, Air Force Equal Opportunity Policy chief at the Pentagon. "Commanders have been urged at all levels to remain vigilant and take prompt, appropriate action with members of their commands that fail to meet Air Force standards. Discriminatory treatment in any form, including against individuals of Arab-American, Middle Eastern or Muslim descent, simply will not be tolerated."

People who violate this policy are subject to action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. To date, Cook said only one Air Force incident has been reported.

Individuals should immediately report all incidents relating to hate crimes, discrimination or harassment to local military equal opportunity offices, Cook said.

Air Force leaders have expressed a personal concern and determination that Air Force people will not be subjected to inappropriate treatment because of their national origin, religious beliefs or physical appearance. Arab-Americans and members of Islamic faith groups are part of our American society and the Air Force, and they should not be unfairly targeted for attacks on America, Cook said.

"Unfortunately, the suffering, loss of life, grief and anger that we are experiencing as a result of last week's tragic acts of terrorism may cause some of our people to react negatively and forget this basic tenet," Cook said. "For that reason, people must be even more vigilant and proactive to prevent these acts and, when necessary, respond to acts of harassment or discrimination."

ANTHRAX FACTS

By Dr. (Maj.) E. Mark Shusterman, Flight Surgeon
507th Medical Squadron

We all recall the hotly debated anthrax vaccination issue, which only a year or two ago caused a tremendous upheaval of opinion. Who among us would have predicted that the matter of this relatively obscure disease would again so suddenly come to the forefront, the very stuff of our daily lives? Who would have thought that the very halls of Congress would so suddenly become grim, ghostly realizations of our fictional fears? Now, as not long ago, beneath the frenzy of misinformed speculation, rest the facts.

Please, do not fall prey to half-truths and innuendo. Here is a summary of all things anthrax, gathered from the Centers for Disease Control, United States Army Research Institute of Infectious Disease, among others.

- Anthrax is caused by a bacterium, *Bacillus anthracis*, which forms resilient spores, and can survive in the environment for many years. The germ is relatively easy to culture and store in large quantities. Many countries have turned it into a weapon, including the former Soviet Union, Iraq, North Korea, and others.

- Anthrax is a naturally occurring disease of herbivores such as cattle, sheep, goats, and horses. *B. anthracis* spores are found in the soil of many continents. Occasionally, humans who work with farm animals will contract it.
- Human anthrax manifests in three forms, depending upon mode of transmission: cutaneous, gastrointestinal, inhaled.
- **Cutaneous anthrax** appears as a blister at the point where spore contamination took place. The blister eventually becomes a black scab; hence, the term *anthrax*, which originates from the Greek word for the color black, and shares its root with *anthracite*, a type of coal. Cutaneous anthrax is rarely fatal even if untreated, and can be cured easily with antibiotics in virtually all cases. This is the most common form of anthrax in humans.
- **Gastrointestinal anthrax** can result from ingestion of undercooked contaminated meat. It is very uncommon, but will usually be fatal if untreated. Symptoms include fever, malaise, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and others, and could progress to systemic infection, ending in shock, organ failure, and death. Excellent response to antibiotics, if detected early.
- Intentional contamination of meat supplies is possible, but highly unlikely due to the logistical difficulties that such a task would present if carried out on any significant scale.

Tips from the Center for Disease Control

HOW TO IDENTIFY SUSPICIOUS PACKAGES AND LETTERS

Some characteristics of suspicious packages and letters include the following:

- Excessive postage
- Handwritten or poorly typed addresses
- Incorrect titles
- Title, but no name
- Misspellings of common words
- Oily stains, discolorations or odor
- No return address
- Excessive weight
- Lopsided or uneven envelope
- Protruding wires or aluminum foil
- Excessive security material — masking tape, string, etc.
- Visual distractions
- Ticking sound
- Marked with restrictive endorsements — "Personal" or "Confidential"
- Shows a city or state in the postmark that does not match the return address

For more information, visit: www.cdc.gov

SUSPICIOUS UNOPENED LETTER OR PACKAGE

1. Do not shake or empty the contents of any suspicious envelope or package.
2. PLACE the envelope or package in a plastic bag or some other type of container to prevent leakage of contents.
3. If you do not have any container, then COVER the envelope or package with anything (e.g., clothing, paper, trash can, etc.) and do not remove this cover.
4. Then LEAVE the room and CLOSE the door, or section off the area to prevent others from entering (i.e., keep others away).
5. WASH your hands with **soap and water** to prevent spreading any powder to your face.
6. If you are at **HOME**, then report the incident to local police.
 - If you are at **WORK**, then report the incident to local police, and notify your building security official or an available supervisor.
7. LIST all people who were in the room or area when this suspicious letter or package was recognized. Give this list to both the local public health authorities and law enforcement officials for follow-up investigations and advice.

Typical cooking of most meat would further make such an effort very unproductive.

- **Inhalational anthrax**, or Woolsorter's Disease, is caused by the introduction of *B. anthracis* spores into the airway and the lungs. Although very uncommon in nature, it presents the greatest weapon potential due to its lethality. The incubation period (i.e. the time from exposure to onset of symptoms) is one to six days, though far longer intervals have been reported. Antibiotic treatment is effective only in the early stage, which manifests as a flu-like illness. The disease progresses rapidly if untreated, and no therapy is significant at 24 to 36 hours beyond the appearance of severe symptoms.
- The **anthrax vaccine** has been used for many decades worldwide, and is among the safest vaccines known. It does not contain the anthrax germ, or anything else that can be harmful. It is essentially 100% effective following the series of six immunizations, and offers tremendous protection even after two shots. The immunity conferred by the vaccine can be overwhelmed by extreme exposure (i.e. millions of spores) or possibly thwarted by genetically engineered *B. anthracis* strains.
- Unfortunately, the only current U.S. manufacturer of the vaccine is undergoing a FDA mandated plant upgrade, resulting in a significant shortage of the product.
- Anthrax is treated primarily by one of three antibiotics: **ciprofloxacin**, **doxycycline**, and **penicillin**. The course of therapy can last several months. Those who may have been exposed to *B. anthracis* usually receive ciprofloxacin for prevention of the disease. All antibiotics can cause serious health problems for the individual and the community, and should not be taken without a clear medical indication. There is absolutely no reason to stockpile antibiotics in the home, or to take them at the first sneeze.

Town meeting scheduled for families of activated reservists

Information will be provided on benefits and privileges for family members of activated and deployed reservists at a town meeting to be held at the First Southern Baptist Church on Thursday evening, Nov. 8, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

The First Southern Baptist Church is located at 6400 S. Sooner Road, Oklahoma City. The church is located just north of Interstate 240 on Sooner Road. Attendees are asked to park in the Est parking lot and enter through the East door.

For more information, call TSgt. Mary Randolph or SSgt. Gamble at 405-734-6869.

The good news

- **Anthrax cannot be transmitted among individuals**, barring very unusual circumstances, such as autopsies of recently deceased victims, ingestion of heavily contaminated blood, et cetera.
- Anthrax is extremely difficult to disseminate on a large scale, as it is not contagious, and requires highly sophisticated bioweapons delivery technologies to infect entire communities. The Soviets built *B. anthracis* warheads for their missiles. Envelopes containing *B. anthracis* can frighten many, but can hurt only few, and kill even fewer. There is no reason to worry — just be informed, and be prudent.

Although the events of the recent weeks have been very painful and unsettling for us all, please keep things in perspective! As individuals, we stand an enormously greater chance of being harmed by our daily modes of transportation than by any terrorist act, particularly that involving anthrax or another biochemical weapon. So, leave the gas masks at the base, the antibiotics on the pharmacy shelves, and the panicked expressions in the tabloids!

Websites for additional information

Additional reliable, accurate information regarding anthrax, bioterrorism, and many other related topics can be found on the following websites:

www.nbc-med.org

US Army Surgeon General's site on nuclear, biological, chemical defense.

www.usamriid.army.mil

USAMRIID website

www.hopkins-biodefense.org

Johns Hopkins University Center for Civilian Biodefense

www.bt.cdc.gov

CDC's bioterrorism preparedness and response website

DEERS update required of military-to-military couples

The Defense Finance Accounting Service (DFAS) is now requiring all military-to-military couples to update their spousal information in DEERS to help track the newly established Family SGLI program. Failure to update the DEERS system could have adverse affects with military pay account records.

507th ARW Customer Support requests that affected 507th ARW personnel report to Customer Service at the Military Personnel Flight (MPF) as soon as possible to ensure their DEERS records are updated.

For more information please contact Customer Service at DSN 9-7646 or e-mail the 72nd MSS/DPMP Customer Service on the global.

35th Combat Communication Squadron becomes newest unit in wing

507th ARW Public Affairs Office

On Oct. 1, the 35th Combat Communications Squadron (CBCS) was activated, making it the newest unit to the 507th Air Refueling Wing family. Maj. Pete Peterson will be the first commander of the squadron.

On the same date, the 707th Communications Flight (CF) was inactivated.

During peacetime, the 35th CBCS reports to the 507th Support Group (SPTG). When activated, the squadron will report to Air Combat Command to deploy and perform their mission wherever needed.

The differences between the 707th CF and the 35th CBCS are significant.

According to MSgt. Robert Greenlee, communications technician for the 35th CBCS, the 707th CF had a wartime mission to report to Cannon AFB, N.M., and backfill the base's communications squadron as they deployed to forward bases. During peacetime, 707th CF members reported to the 507th SPTG and trained at Cannon AFB to use their equipment and help keep the base running when activated.

With the activation of the 35th CBCS, squadron members will be given their own equipment to train on and deploy with when activated. When needed, 35th CBCS members can be sent anywhere in the world to set up, from scratch, a Theatre Air Base to include satellite communications, telephone switching bands, base computer networks, and more.

Another difference between the 707th CF and the 35th CBCS is that members will now be required to attend basic combat skills schools to learn survival skills such as escape and evasion, rules of engagement, and more. These are requirements the 707th CF were not required to do since its mission did not include worldwide mobility.

The 35th CBCS's lineage dates back to June 16, 1948, when it was constituted as the 35th Communications Squad-

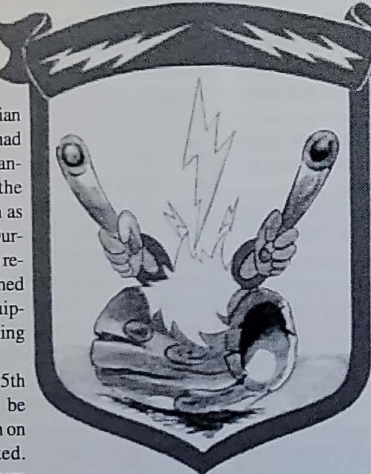
ron Command, and reported to Fourth Air Force. It was initially activated on July 16, 1948, at Hamilton AFB, Calif. Later it was redesignated the 35th Communications Squadron, Air Force, on Nov. 8, 1954. On Sep. 1, 1960, the squadron was discontinued and inactivated then disbanded on June 5, 1983. Later, it was reconstituted and redesignated as the 35th Combat Communications Squadron (CBCS) on Aug. 27, 2001, then activated into the Air Force Reserve Oct. 1, 2001.

The mission of the 35th CBCS provides mobile, deployable communications and computer systems anywhere in the world in support of Air Force, Department of Defense and other U.S. commitments. With 65 members, the squadron is trained to deploy a variety of mission systems to provide initial and sustained service to Air Force wing customers and other units in locations where these capabilities don't exist, and are prepared to do so under hostile conditions. Some of the systems the unit employs are:

- Tactical voice and data switches;
- Long-haul, multichannel capacity satellite communications;
- Microwave radio terminals;
- Command and control satellite systems;
- Messaging terminal system;
- Communications management package.

The 35th CBCS is authorized 65 Air Force Reserve officer and enlisted, civilian and Reserve personnel. Of this number, two positions are officer and eight are Air Reserve Technicians, full-time personnel who are civil service employees during the week and reservists on the week-

ends. Unit-owned equipment includes satellite, wideband, and radio systems, data-and-voice-switching equipment, and electronic-messaging systems. All personnel are required to attend a two-week Combat Readiness Skills Course taught by one of the active-duty Combat Communications Groups. This course is designed to sustain proficiency in critical training tasks. The course concludes with a field training exercise using opposing forces and electronic engagement equipment.



Shown above is the original emblem of the 35th Communications Squadron which was initially activated July 16, 1948 at Hamilton AFB, Calif.

FREE COLLEGE TESTING

Air Force Reserve members, spouses and civilian employees may take DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSSTs) or College-Level Examinations Program (CLEP) or Excelsior College Examinations (ECE) FREE! These examinations test college-level knowledge you may have gained through your job, reading, travel, or hobbies. 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. For more information contact CMSgt. Epps in the MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

Become a certified professional in a field related to your military training. DANTES and AFRC funded certification examinations are available for certain career fields. Go to <http://www.voled.doded.mil/dantes/cert/index.htm> and click on USAF Matrix which identifies the eligible AFSCs, certification exams available and internet addresses for more info. If you desire to take an exam, contact CMSgt. Epps in the MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.

TUITION ASSISTANCE

Reserve members are eligible to apply for Tuition Assistance (TA) for Distance Learning and In-Residence courses to further their education up to a Bachelor's Degree. (Master's degree effective 1 Oct 2001)

The basic enrollment requirements are that, you must:

- Be a participating member in good standing (no UIF, Article 15, etc.).
- Must have two years retainability at time of application.
- Enroll and pay for the course up front.

Complete TA forms in our office PRIOR to class start date.

Bring receipts for tuition and books.

After satisfactory completion of class, you will be reimbursed 75% (tuition only) per course, not to exceed \$2500 per FY. (\$3500 effective 1 Oct 2001)

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

NCO Academy In-Residence

Listed below are the FY 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
2002-2	1	07 Jan - 14 Feb 02	Tyndall AFB, FL
2002-3	1	26 Feb - 04 Apr 02	Tyndall AFB, FL
2002-4	1	16 Apr - 23 May 02	Tyndall AFB, FL
2002-4	1	17 Jun - 24 Jul 02	McGhee Tyson, TN
2002-6	1	05 Aug - 12 Sep 02	Tyndall AFB, FL
2002-7	1	23 Sep - 31 Oct 02	Tyndall AFB, FL

TUITION ASSISTANCE CHANGE

Effective 1 October 2001

Tuition Assistance will pay 75% of tuition for courses leading up to a Master's degree and the maximum amount of aid will increase to \$3500 per FY.

HOT TOPICS :

CDC Testing is accomplished at 0750 on Sundays of the (main) UTA. You do not have to schedule it, just be there NLT 0750 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 at 0800 and 1300. 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 allowed to test.

If you are testing for Course 5A, call DPMT at x47075 at least two days prior to the UTA. Course 5 tests are also given Tues at 0730, Wed at 0800 & 1300, and Thurs at 1530. Call for appointment.

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."

Pass and ID Hours of Operation: 1200-1600 on Saturdays of the UTA.

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

Nomination packages for AMN, NCO, or SNCO of the quarter are submitted quarterly. Packages are due by COB, on Saturday of the UTA after the end of the quarter. (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct)

FY2001/2002 UTA SCHEDULE

01-02 Dec 01	04-05 May 02
05-06 Jan 02	01-02 Jun 02
02-03 Feb 02	13-14 Jul 02
02-03 Mar 02	03-04 Aug 02
06-07 Apr 02	07-08 Sep 02

As of 19 October 2001

Fri, 02 Nov 2001

1300	Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1430	Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg	Bldg 1043, TNET Room
1600	Top 3 Council	Bldg 1048

Sat, 03 Nov 2001

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
0730-0930	Newcomers In-Processing	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
0730-0900	Wing Training Office Closed	Bldg 1043, Room 206
0815-0930	Unit Career Advisors Mtg	To Be Determined
0900-1000	6 Month Contact Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1000-1130	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 201, Base Education Bldg
1000-1100	Mobility Rep Meeting	To Be Determined
1030-1130	First Sgts Meeting	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1200-1600	3A0X1 Info Mgmt Tng	Bldg 201, Base Education Bldg
1330-1630	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I	Bldg 201, Base Education Bldg
1300-1400	Adverse Actions Mtg	Bldg 1043, Wing CC's Office
1400-1500	Training Managers Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1400-1500	IG period w/Lt. Col. Collins	Bldg 1043, Room B-1
1600-1630	Protestant Chapel Service	513th ACG Conf Room
Unit Designated	Sign Out	Unit Designated

Sun, 04 Nov 2001

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
0730-0800	Protestant Chapel Service	513th ACG Conf Room
0730-0800	Catholic Chapel Service	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
0730-0930	MPF Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043
0750-1115	CDC/PME Course Exams	Bldg 460, Room 213
0800-1115	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II	Bldg 201, Base Education Bldg
0830-1030	Unit Safety Rep	Bldg 201, Base Education Bldg
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1115	Escorts pick-up Newcomers	Bldg 201, Base Education Bldg
1100-1300	"CGOLD"	To Be Determined
1200-1600	3A0X1 Info Mgmt Tng	Bldg 201, Base Education Bldg
1300	SORTS/Post UTA Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1500	Fly Safety Mtg	OPS Briefing Room
Unit Designated	Sign Out	Unit Designated

Fri, 30 Nov 2001

1300	Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1430	Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg	Bldg 1043, TNET Room
1600	Top 3 Council	Bldg 1048

Sat, 01 Dec 2001

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
0730-0930	Newcomers In-Processing	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
0730-0900	Wing Training Office Closed	Bldg 1043, Room 206
0815-0930	Unit Career Advisors Mtg	To Be Determined
0900-1000	6 Month Contact Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1000-1130	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 201, Base Education Bldg
1000-1100	Mobility Rep Meeting	To Be Determined
1030-1130	First Sgts Meeting	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1200-1600	3A0X1 Info Mgmt Tng	Bldg 201, Base Education Bldg
1330-1630	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I	Bldg 201, Base Education Bldg
1300-1400	Adverse Actions Mtg	Bldg 1043, Wing CC's Office
1400-1500	Training Managers Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1400-1500	IG period w/Lt. Col. Collins	Bldg 1043, Room B-1
1600-1630	Protestant Chapel Service	513th ACG Conf Room
Unit Designated	Sign Out	Unit Designated

Sun, 02 Dec 2001

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
0730-0800	Protestant Chapel Service	513th ACG Conf Room
0730-0800	Catholic Chapel Service	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
0730-0930	MPF Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043
0750-1115	CDC/PME Course Exams	Bldg 460, Room 213
0800-1115	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II	Bldg 201, Base Education Bldg
0830-1030	Supervisor Safety Training	Bldg 201, Base Education Bldg
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1115	Escorts pick-up Newcomers	Bldg 201, Base Education Bldg
1100-1300	"CGOLD"	To Be Determined
1200-1600	3A0X1 Info Mgmt Tng	Bldg 201, Base Education Bldg
1300	SORTS/Post UTA Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1500	Fly Safety Mtg	OPS Briefing Room
Unit Designated	Sign Out	Unit Designated

SERVICEMEN'S GROUP LIFE INSURANCE (SGLI)

The President signed a bill that allows SGLI coverage for family members. The new benefit/option will be effective in November. As we understand it, this SGLI coverage will be available up to \$100,000 for spouses and \$10,000 for dependent children. This cost will be based on the spouses age. Similar to other "child riders," there will be no cost for dependent children. You must make sure your DEERS information is updated. For more details see the following web site. <http://insurance.va.gov/sglivgli/sglifam.htm>

Newcomers Ancillary Training

Newcomers Ancillary Training Phase I & II are conducted monthly in Bldg 201, Base Education Building. 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.

Day	Time	Subject	OPR
Saturday	1330-1400	Security Awareness (C4 SATE)	CF
Saturday	1400-1500	Drug and Alcohol, Suicide/ Workplace Violence Prevention	SG
Saturday	1500-1530	Local Conditions-Traffic Phase II	SE
Sunday	0800-0830	Base Populace	CEX
Sunday	0830-0845	IG Briefing	IG
Sunday	0845-1015	UCMJ/Ethics	JA
Sunday	1015-1115	Human Relations	ME

*****NOTE: Please notice change in schedule. Security Forces will not be giving briefings until further notice.**

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 0845 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 201, Base Education Building.

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 0845 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 201, Base Education Building.

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.

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

Military Pay

File for pay by:	Receive Direct Deposit by:
05 Nov	14 Nov
13 Nov	20 Nov
15 Nov	23 Nov
19 Nov	28 Nov
26 Nov	03 Dec
29 Nov	07 Dec
04 Dec	12 Dec
10 Dec	17 Dec
13 Dec	31 Dec
17 Dec	26 Dec

BAQ Recertification Deadlines

If Last Digit of SSAN is:	Then Forward Listing to Unit Commander in:	Recertification due in by end of month in:
---------------------------	--	--

1	November	January
2	December	February
3	January	March
4	February	April
5	March	May
6	April	June
7	May	July
8	June	August
9	July	September
0	August	October

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. Melanie E. Cherry, Education and Training Advisor
	Mr. John Baker, Education and Testing Services Advisor

December 2001

December 2001

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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30	31					

January 2002

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TRAINING PLANNER

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
December 3	4	5	6	7	8
		9:00am Wing Staff meeting			
					9
10	11	12	13	14	15
		9:00am Wing Staff meeting			
					16
17	18	19	20	21	22
		9:00am Wing Staff meeting 1:00pm Annual Planning Conf			
					23
24	25	26	27	28	29
TAFB Closed	2:00am Christmas	9:00am Wing Staff meeting			
					30
31	January 1, 02	2	3	4	5
2:00am New Year's Eve	Air Force Association Aerospace A New Year's	9:00am Wing Staff meeting			507th UTA 6:00pm Hughes Award Banquet
					6
					507th UTA

Winter safety tips

507th ARW Safety Office

When cold weather approaches and temperatures start to drop, some people use supplementary heating equipment to raise the comfort level. Supplementary heating equipment such as space heaters, fireplaces and electric blankets have contributed to many fires during winter months due to equipment malfunction or improper use.

Please be aware that open flame space heaters (kerosene-fueled heaters), **electrical heaters**, and any type of heater without an automatic tip over cut-off protection are prohibited on Tinker AFB. Also, due to their inherent dangers, they should not be used at home.

Electric space heaters have several advantages. They produce no fumes, do not require the use of an open flame, and they are portable. However, even the best quality space heaters have down sides. An electric heater can draw more current than the fuses or circuit breakers can handle. Most of the electric heaters require roughly 10-12 amps to operate. If you have other appliances working off the same circuit, you may trip the circuit breakers. Continuous overloading will eventually cause an electrical fire.

Here are a few tips for the safe use of such equipment:

- Always keep space heater at least three feet away from all combustible surfaces and furnishings;
- Never leave an electric heater unattended;
- Never use gasoline or other flammable liquids to start fires in a fireplace;
- Follow the manufacture's recommendations when using man-made fire logs;
- Don't use the fireplace as an incinerator. Burning paper or other trash in a fireplace send dangerous flames and sparks up the chimney that could start a chimney fire or a roof fire;
- Always keep a screen in front of the fireplace;
- Never leave a fire unattended. Make sure it is out when you leave the house or go to bed;
- Be sure and inspect the power cord and setting switch on electric blankets;
- An electric blanket is designed to not overheat when it is spread out. If it is left on when rolled or folded up, heat may accumulate and get the blanket hot enough to ignite;
- Always review manufactures' recommendations, cautions and safety tips before using equipment.

Space heaters and electric blankets should be approved by the Underwriter's Laboratory. Remember, fire safety practices are paramount when using these devices. Hazard awareness, preventive maintenance and using common sense will help protect you at work and at home.

Physical examination introduces the new RCPHA physical exam

By MSgt Doug Coleman
507th Medical Squadron

The Reserve Component Periodic Health assessment (RCPHA) implements a vastly improved method of assessing the health of our Reserve forces. It puts prevention into practice.

The RCPHA consolidates non-flying physical examinations, occupational health physical examinations, periodic flying and special operational duty physical examinations, pre-fitness test screening, and military-unique medical requirements under one program. This is accomplished by focusing on the individual's risk factors to include age, gender, health-risk factors, medical history, and military occupation to determine the scope of the assessment.

The RCPHA will be scheduled by the medical squadron and the member's unit Health Care Monitor, using the member's birth month. The initial step of the RCPHA is an electronic self-assessment accomplished by the member up to six months before the birth month. The electronic assessment along with other data is reviewed by the military health provider to determine if any additional tests or examinations are necessary.

This program better enables members of the Air Force Medical Service to assess the health of the Reserve Component force and will result in an increased ability to provide line commanders with worldwide deployable personnel.

The RCPHA will not replace pre-placement occupational health examinations; initial flying, enlistment/commissioning physical examinations while minimizing the lost training time due to annual medical requirements.

Members may complete their RCPHA up to 6 months prior to the end of their birth month. The member will be able to access the RCPHA questionnaire at the RCPHA web site:

https://192.88.87.23/help/rcpha_frontpage.htm.

This questionnaire will replace the AFF 895 Annual Medical Certificate that reservists are required to complete annually.

This program is being implemented this month in our wing with focused training being provided to each squadron Health Care Monitor. Watch for more information.

Know your Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act

LOAN AND INTEREST RATES

LEASES

CIVIL LAWSUITS

HEALTH INSURANCE

STATE INCOME TAXES

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

Air Force Legal Services Agency
Legal Assistance Division

The Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 (Act) was passed by Congress to provide protection for individuals entering or called to active duty in the military service. It is intended to postpone or suspend certain civil obligations to enable service members to devote full attention to duty.

At a Department of Defense news briefing on Sept. 24, 2001, Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Mel Martinez discussed generally some of the Act's protections afforded to service members.

The news briefing and subsequent joint press release was a tremendous success in making service members aware that they may be entitled to or eligible for some of the Act's various protections. In fact, Major Melinda Davis-Perritano, Deputy Chief of the Legal Assistance Division, Air Force Legal Services Agency, reports that they are inundated with requests for additional information on the protections offered by the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act by service members, financial organizations, and government agencies. Major Davis-Perritano reports: "Their efforts in support of the Act certainly made my Division's job much easier in spreading the word to our military service members that there is a law in existence to help them avoid personal legal problems which arise because of their service."

Major Davis-Perritano cautioned that, while many of the Act's provisions provide protection for all active duty service members, some provisions apply only to service members who meet specific qualifications for the protections. Some protections apply both to obligations incurred before and after entry

onto active duty, while others apply only to obligations incurred before entry onto active duty. Also, most of the provisions are not automatic and are triggered only after the service member takes some affirmative action, such as notifying their financial lender or the court. "Members, both active and reserve," the major said, "should do a little research and find out whether they are covered by a specific protection and what they need to do to ensure the protection takes effect."

A case in point is one of the Act's most touted and highly publicized protections — the ability to have interest rates lowered to a fixed rate of six percent on certain pre-service loans and financial obligations. This provision has a number of special requirements that should be highlighted. First, the financial obligation must have been incurred prior to active duty. Also, the member's ability to pay the financial obligation must be "materially affected" by the member's active duty military service. While the Act applies equally to active duty and reservists called to active duty, this particular section is most widely used by recently activated reservists whose military income is less than their pre-service income. Active component members seldom qualify for this provision because of the requirements that the obligation must predate the active duty service and the active duty service must materially affect the ability to pay the obligation.

What is the Soldier's and Sailor's Civil Relief Act and who does it protect?

The Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act (SSCRA) is a federal law that gives all service persons some important rights as they enter active duty. This information paper outlines some of those rights and benefits. The information in this paper is for personnel in the Reserve Components (all branches of the Reserves, the National Guard and the Air National Guard) who are activated to serve on active duty [and Active Component personnel deployed away from home station].

"Educating service members about the Act's protections in general terms continues to be a high priority for the Judge Advocate General's Department," said Major General William A. Moorman, The Judge Advocate General, United States Air Force. He further stated that "Legal assistance attorneys have been distributing an excellent quick reference guide on the Act to service members. Every service member should review the guide to become aware of the Act's general provisions so they'll know when they are involved in a situation and may be eligible for protection. It is important to remember that the Act's many provisions contain separate requirements necessary to trigger protection, so service members are encouraged to visit their local legal office in order to determine whether or not the Act is applicable to their respective situation and to learn what action, if any, is required to invoke its protections."

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Air Force Aid Society ready for activated reservists

When reservists are activated, there are many avenues and agencies they and their families can turn to for information and help. The Air Force Aid Society is one agency we all know of, but maybe never think of, when the going gets rough.

The Air Force Aid Society (AFAS) is the official charity of the United States Air Force. Incorporated in 1942 as a non-profit organization, its mission is to help relieve financial distress of Air Force members and their families and to assist them in financing their higher education goals.

The AFAS is a private non-profit organization, however, since the Society exists ONLY to help Air Force people, there are close ties to the official Air Force. The Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel acts as the Society's liaison with the Air Force, publishing and disseminating guidance for AFAS activities at the base level.

Active duty and retired Air Force members and their dependents are eligible for AFAS assistance, as are the dependents of deceased Air Force personnel who died on active duty or in retired status. Reservists are eligible when serving on extended active duty 15 days or more under Title 10, U.S. Code. Title 32 AGR are eligible for emergency travel due to the serious illness or death of an immediate family member and AFAS will consider other unique requests on a case by case basis.

"As the Air Force fights the war on terrorism for our great country, I want all of you to know that the Air Force Aid Society (AFAS) is ready to do whatever it takes to support our troops and their families," said Lt. Gen. Michael McGinty, USAF (Ret), Executive Director of the AFAS.

"From past experience," he said, "we know that combat operations cause new and different problems for our people. We render support to the called-up members of the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve with reduced family income because of the loss of second jobs; family separation and child-care problems; increased need for emergency loans and grants; and this list goes on and on."

The AFAS has established the "September 11th Attack on America Fund" in response to the recent terrorist attacks on the United States. This fund provides an opportunity to help interested individuals, clubs, companies and organizations. All (100%) of the contributions will go to assist Air Force members and their families that have been affected by these attacks, such as our recent help to Air Force families stranded by the grounding of the airlines. Additionally, these funds will be used to provide assistance as the Air Force prepares for and engages in combat operations. From our past experience,

we know that there will be new and unique problems for our Air Force people where assistance from AFAS will be required.

Credit card or allotment donations may be made by calling 703-607-3073 or 800-769-8951. Contributions can also be mailed to: The Air Force Aid Society, Inc., Suite 202, 1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA, 22202.

According to McGinty, examples of recent assistance include:

- We helped an Air National Guard sergeant, activated for 11 months due to the attack on America. He would not receive any pay until Oct. 1, so we helped with money to purchase gasoline for his car and food for the trip to his new duty station;
- We provided an additional 6,573 prepaid phone cards to 15 different bases in response to the activation of reserve/guard members and unexpected deployments for active duty members. We distributed another 179 phone cards to family members at the Family Assistance Crisis Center;
- We authorized the child care centers at nine bases to offer additional sessions of our Give Parents a Break child care program in response to increased demand following the attack on America;
- A junior airman assigned in the Southwest lost her father in the World Trade Center attack. She sent all the money she had home to her mother and four siblings following the attack, leaving herself without money for even basic needs. We provided funds to see her through to the next payday;
- An airman and his spouse were in New York on 9/11 and unable to return to duty station in California due to the situation in the city. They spent all their money on food, lodging, and train tickets to Alabama where they had relatives. We assisted them with food, lodging and airfare back to California;
- The spouse and three children of an airman were stranded in Chicago due to the groundings while en route to return the children to their custodial parent in Europe. We assisted with food and lodging expenses for the family;
- We assisted an airman who was being deployed in support of Operation Noble Eagle to purchase clothing and other personal items that she needed for deployment;
- A sergeant en route from Ohio to a base in Texas was stranded in Chicago due to the grounding of aircraft. We assisted with food, lodging, and transportation to get him to his duty station. And the list goes on.



Billy Hughes Awards Banquet planned

The Tinker Air Force Base Reserve Top Three Association will sponsor this year's Billy Hughes Awards Banquet in January. The banquet highlight will be an awards presentation to a unit reservist who exemplifies the Air Force Core Values of Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence In All We Do. The banquet was created four years ago and named in honor of TSgt. Billy Hughes, a unit member, who died of a heart attack while on duty.

The banquet will be held on Saturday of the January 2002 UTA at the NCO Club, starting at 7 p.m.

There will be no-host cocktails starting at 6 p.m. The cost for the banquet is \$25 for E-9 and officers, \$20 for E7-E8, \$15 for E-6, and \$10 for E1-E5. Tickets may be purchased from your unit first sergeant or Top Three representative. The dress required is mess dress for military personnel and semi-formal for civilians. For males, mess dress is the blue jacket with a white shirt. The white shirt must be one without a button-down collar. The wearing of medals is optional. A contact person for information about the banquet is SMSgt. Marie Johnson at 9-5375.

To nominate a unit member for this award, contact CMSgt. Bob Kellington for guidelines. The nomination packages are due by November 4. The recipient of the award receives the Hughes trophy.

Tables may be reserved for groups of up to eight people. Pictures will be available. For more information, contact: CSMgt. Bob Kellington at 734-5286; MSgt. Kathy Lowman at 734-3017; MSgt. Sheila Russell at 734-3269/(316) 208-3141; CMSGt. Lawrence Deal at 734-2279, or SMSgt. Dave Liszeski at 670-3337.

Reserve Positions

Three first sergeant openings available

CMSGt. Robert Kellington, 507th Command Chief Master Sergeant, is accepting applications for three first sergeant positions:

- 513th Maintenance Squadron
- 513th Operations Support Flight
- 35th Combat Communications Squadron

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

1. Must be a volunteer for the first sergeant position.
2. A letter of recommendation from current supervisor endorsed by your commander or first sergeant, if commander not available.
3. Resume citing education (military and civilian), community involvement, self-improvement, leadership and managerial skills.
4. Be a MSgt. (E-7) or be eligible for promotion to MSgt.
5. Possess an AFSC at the 7-skill level.
6. Be a high school graduate or GED equivalent.
7. Have completed the NCO Academy (residence or correspondence).
8. Possess a minimum aptitude score of 45 ADMIN or 58 GENERAL.
9. Ability to speak distinctly.
10. Be financially stable.
11. Meet minimum weight and body fat standards. Overall image should exceed minimum standards.
12. Selectee must attend AFRES First Sergeant Academy at earliest possible date, but no later than one year from date of assignment.
13. Meet a first sergeants review/interview board made up of selecting unit commander, Command Chief Master Sergeant, one unit first sergeant, and one senior NCO. Board members should not be assigned to the same unit as the applicant.
14. Applications must be turned into the 507th Military Personnel Flight prior to 0900, Dec. 2, Sunday UTA.

For more information, call CMSGt. Robert Kellington at Ext. 4-6379.

Complete stories at: www.afrc.af.mil

Stop-Loss implemented

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – Air Force Reserve Command implemented a freeze Oct. 2 to keep members of the Ready Reserve for a minimum of 30 days.

The Stop-Loss affects voluntary military discharges, military resignations, releases from extended active duty and certain military reassignments and retirements. At the end of the "freeze" period, AFRC officials will reevaluate the Stop-Loss and may extend it.

The AFRC Stop-Loss temporarily blocks changes in status that would allow reservists to leave units or programs at risk for call-up. The Stop-Loss affects the following:

- Expiration term of service;
- Reassignment to a lower category of availability;
- Assignment to the Retired Reserve, awaiting pay at age 60;
- All voluntary separations before expiration term of service; and
- Officer resignations.

The freeze may also affect the civilian portion of an air reserve technician's position. Employees whose only civilian retirement eligibility is the result of an involuntary separation from the Reserve will not be eligible to retire. If eligible, ARTs may retire under a civilian optional retirement but usually must stay in the Reserve military portion (Part B) of their ART position.

Air Force Reserve exceeds this year's recruiting goal

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – A new recruiting strategy, additional manpower and resources, and a different approach to training combined to deliver a record number of recruits for Air Force Reserve Command this year.

The good news about fiscal year 2001, which concluded Sept. 30, is that it not only ended a five-year recruiting challenge but laid a foundation for 21st century recruiting.

"The changes we made were significant and the success of our program was not by accident," said Col. Francis M. Mungavin, director of recruiting at Headquarters AFRC here. "Like our slogan 'Above and Beyond,' our recruiters did an extraordinary job this year. We exceeded our goal of 10,037 by signing up more than 10,500 recruits (almost 105 percent) and more importantly, surpassing our end-strength requirement by reaching 100.69 percent."

General returns to Robins as Reserve vice commander

WASHINGTON – A former staff director is returning to Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command at Robins Air Force Base, Ga., to serve as AFRC vice commander.

Maj. Gen. John J. Batbie Jr., director of mobilization and reserve component affairs for U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany, will start overseeing the day-to-day operation of the command Jan. 1, 2002. He will serve in active-duty status and will replace Maj. Gen. David R. Smith, who will retire effective Dec. 31.

"Major General Batbie brings a tremendous wealth of experience with his assignment as our vice commander," said Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III, chief of Air Force Reserve and AFRC commander. "His record of excellence speaks for itself. His leadership and in-depth understanding of how our forces can best serve to support Air Force and joint commander requirements will be key to our future successes."

"Major General Smith has served this command in an outstanding fashion in every assignment he has held. His dedication to service and deep caring for his assigned personnel are superb attributes that everyone should aspire to achieve."

Batbie has been advising and assisting the commander in chief of EUCOM since May 2000 in the employment of reserve component forces in joint operations throughout the unified command. He was director of plans and programs at Headquarters AFRC from June 1994 until September 1998, when he became commander of 22nd Air Force at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga.

The next vice commander of AFRC joined the U.S. Army in 1966 as an armor officer and then served as a helicopter pilot before joining the Air Force Reserve in 1972. Batbie's other assignments include command of the 434th Air Refueling Wing, Grissom AFB, Ind., from July 1991 to June 1994, and the 916th Air Refueling Group, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C., from April 1988 to July 1991. (AFRC News Service)

Software developers sought

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – It's not Silicon Valley, but Air Force Reserve Command has two assignment locations for reservists who like to tinker with computer software programs.

AFRC is offering more than 50 traditional reservist positions at Headquarters AFRC and at an operating location at Maxwell AFB – Gunter Annex, Ala.

People interested in applying for the software development mission can contact the nearest Reserve recruiter or Headquarters AFRC/SC's readiness and combat support division (SCF) through the restricted AFRC Web site.

Uprose

by TSgt. Ty Yoshida

The following question was asked of the "spouses" of reservists attending the 507th Air Refueling Wing "Family Day" during the October UTA:

"What is it like being the spouse of a reservist?"



Gary and TSgt. Cynthia Edwards
507th Operations Support Flight

"There's a lot of logistics involved. We live out of town, she is a stay-at-home mom, and I work a 2nd shift. It's a little difficult now because I don't if that phone call will come."



MSgt. Clifton Howard and fiancée Anita Ciggs
72nd Aerial Port Squadron
"I'm feeling a little bit of anxiety."



SrA Scott and Theresa Richardson
507th Maintenance Squadron

"It's rewarding for me because I understand what's going on. I love this unit as much as he does because I used to serve in the unit."



Sherri and TSgt. Michael McWaters
507th Combat Logistics Support Squadron

"Sometimes it's a little scary, but it makes me proud that he's serving his country and that he has the desire to do it not just for his family."

Unit hosts annual Family Day picnic



Command Chief Master Sergeant Robert Kellington tries "taunting" to ensure a bad throw at the dunk tank....it didn't work.

The 507th Family Day last month became a welcome break from the intense activity pressing unit members during the previous weeks.

More than 600 people turned out to enjoy what became a warm fall day. In spite of the aggressive tempo of the past several weeks, the decision to hold the event ultimately proved to be a good one.

"We hadn't had a Family Day since 1999," stated Capt. Ralph Hawkins, 507th Executive Officer and this year's event coordinator. "So it was long overdue. It's important that we take time to recognize our families and let them know we appreciate them."

Complicating this year's event was the fact that the unit's main hangar building was under renovation, driving the decision to hold it at the Engineering Installation Group facility off Douglas Boulevard. "By not hosting it on campus, we tend to complicate the process of setting everything up," Capt. Hawkins said.

However, the event proved successful as the crowd participated in activities such as Karaoke singing, cake walk, balloon dart and bean bag toss games, softball games, and the ever-favorite dunk tank which featured various unit commanders as "victims." Capt. Hawkins gave a special thank you to TSgt. Terri-Wilson for donating a large 507th cake for a fundraiser. After closing down the food lines, TSgt. Ken Daley and his wife took the uncooked leftover food to Jesus House to further share unit togetherness.



Photo by TSgt. Ty Yoshida

Lt. Col. Robert Rossow officially became the commander of the 507th Support Group during assumption of command ceremonies Oct. 14. Col. Tim Wrighton, 507th Air Refueling Wing commander, officiated with MSgt. Harry Ginzel, 507th Support Group first sergeant assisting. The 507th Support Group provides mission essential support to the 507th Air Refueling Wing and is responsible to maintain command guidance, plans, programs, and support to commanders within the group which includes the Mission Support Squadron, Security Forces Squadron, Civil Engineer Squadron, and Communications Flight.



Each squadron helped cook food at the Engineering Installation Group picnic area, providing a cornucopia of hamburgers and hot dogs. The weather warmed up considerably during the day increasing the enjoyment of the slate of fun-filled activities.



Photo by TSgt. Beth Collins

(Left to right) MSgt. Tom Turner, workgroup manager for the 513th Air Control Group, SMSgt. Philip Eagle, first sergeant for the 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron (AACS), and SrA John King, flight manager for the 970th AACS, lend a helping hand to the 507th ARW Family Support Office delivering comfort kits, Sep. 27, for reservists deploying. The kits were compliments of the Red Cross for activated reservists. The kits contained such amenities as washcloths, razors, shampoo, and soap.

Honor Guard members sought

The Tinker AFB Honor Guard will again be holding training classes for additional members. If interested, call the Honor Guard office at 734-4226. Future class dates are scheduled for Dec. 10-14, Feb. 11-15, April 15-19, June 10-14, and Aug. 12-16.

On-final R-NEWS

Operation Holiday Spirit fund-raising dinner set

Wing members are invited to attend the 3rd Annual Operation Holiday Spirit fund-raising steak dinnertentatively scheduled for Friday night, Nov. 30th, in the PRIME BEEF Building. The dinner, \$25 per person, helps fund the Air Force Reserve campus programs that provide food and clothing to the Downtown Baptist Church, clothing and toys to the YWCA Battered Womens Shelter, and food, clothing, toys and money to needy Reserve campus families.

Angel Tree seeks givers

The Reserve Officer Association (ROA) has placed a Christmas tree in the main foyer of the HQ Building (1043).

Under the tree (list) and attached to the branches are cards representing patients in the Norman Veterans Hospital. Each patient has a "wish" item on the list. If you care to be an anonymous Christmas gift giver to a Veteran, visit the tree, take a look at the list, buy and wrap the gift, and attach the card that hangs on the branch to the gift.

Thanks for considering being an Angel Tree participant.

Top-3 here to help

The 507th ARW Top-3 Council recently donated \$500 to a wing member after the reservist's house burned down.

The Top-3 is here to help. If you are a master sergeant or above, you can join the Top-3. For more information, contact SMSgt. David Liszeski, 507th Civil Engineer Squadron, Ext. 4-7867.

New applications required for Visa cards

Visa is replacing all of their old applications with new ones, requiring reserve members to complete a new application when their current cards expire.

Another change within the Visa Government Credit Card Program requires individuals changing from one unit to another to complete the new credit card application. The application can be accessed on the 507th ARW bulletin board under the Finance directory.

To sum up, a new application is:

- Required for all new applicants;
- Current applicants who move from one unit to another (include "Reactivate" on the top of the form);
- Current applicants with cards that have expired (include "Reactivate" on the top of the form).

For more information, contact Randy Unger, 507 ARW/Finance Office, or call Ext. 4-7207.

507th ARW Recruiters

Tinker AFB, OK

(In-Service Recruiter)
MSgt. Larry Wheatley
(405) 739-2980



Moore, Norman, OK

TSgt. Dennis Orcutt
(405) 739-4893

Midwest City, OK

MSgt. Darrell Batchelor
MSgt. Gene Higgins
SSgt. Tabatha Irby
(405) 733-9403

Altus AFB, OK

MSgt. Ronald J. Salafia
(In-Service Recruiter)
(580) 481-5123

Lawton, OK

SrA Kamala Thigpen
(580) 357-2784

Tulsa, OK

TSgt. Candy Bradshaw
(918) 665-2300

Vance AFB, OK

MSgt. David McCormick
(316) 652-3766

McConnell AFB, KS

MSgt. David McCormick
(In-Service Recruiter)
(316) 652-3766
(316) 652-4350

Sheppard AFB, TX

MSgt. Michael Tubbs
(940) 676-3382

Blood Drive set for November 3 and 4.