

DECEMBER 2001



On-final

507th Air Refueling Wing - 513th Air Control Group M A G A Z I N E

Season's greetings



507th ARW Mission: Man, train, equip, and sustain an Expeditionary Reserve Force in support of DoD peacetime and wartime taskings.

On-final



**507th ARW
Commander's Column**

By Col. Tim Wrighton

Have a joyful Holiday Season

The holiday season is a joyful time of year, full of family gatherings and a renewal of faith. It is a time of anticipation and reflection.

This year will be no exception.

In fact, I believe the holidays this year will hold a deeper meaning and appreciation of family, friends and fellow Americans. The tragic events of September 11 threatened the freedom we had taken for granted. As a result of this threat, Americans united under a single concept - protecting our freedom.

Over the course of our nation's history much has been written about our military heroes — those who made a commitment and sometimes the ultimate sacrifice to protect the freedom we cherish. During the past months, I have personally witnessed heroes under my command as you united as one and rallied to the needs of our nation and the world. I proudly observed your courage, sacrifices, and compassion.

During this holiday season, I encourage each and every one of you to take a moment to reflect on the many selfless contributions you have all made to preserve our nation's freedom. The 507th Okies are second to none. I also ask that you remember our fellow servicemen and women who are unable to be home with their families and friends as they continue in the fight to keep America free.

I am very proud of you all -- it is an honor to be the commander of such an outstanding wing. You have proven to the nation that the 507th Okies are truly "forever ready -- always there" -- you are the American heroes of today.

I wish each and every one of you a joyous and safe Holiday season.

Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain (Maj.) Leslie Sias
507th ARW Chaplain

A New Day, but a Great God!

This will be one of the most difficult holiday seasons. The recent events that occurred in our nation and with the 'call up' of military personnel, many people are experiencing stressors and frustrations they may have never had before. I had the opportunity to go to New York City for 11 days and words could not explain what I saw and felt. Ladies and gentlemen, we are now living in a 'new day' thus, life will be different for us in the United States.

Although we are living in a 'new day' our Lord is still great and awesome. In preparation for the holiday season, remember to pray for all the families who lost loved ones and our military personnel who are deployed from their families. Our Lord is great and He will comfort our wounded nation, as well as our broken hearts. And, our Lord is awesome!! I found tremendous peace and confidence in my faith when I read Isaiah 9:6. It says, "For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace." Hence, while we live in this 'new day' and our lives will never be the same, Our Lord remains the same - Great and Awesome!! Happy Holidays!!

"Warriors of the Total Force"

As we progress in the "war against evil," the E-3 aircraft and crews are in ever greater demand. As with any weapon system of our Total Force, it is vital that these assets be employed in the most efficient and effective manner. It has now become more challenging than ever for our Air Staff strategists to prioritize allocation of our nation's air power, especially its AWACS component.

The 513th Air Control Group's current activation was initially intended to support Homeland Defense. As the present operations developed, however, we have come to believe there is a better way to employ our activated members, and that is dedicating one of our Aerospace Expeditionary Force packages as a lead squadron of a major operation. First and foremost, it's the best use of America's military resources in our effort to rid the world of the scourge of transnational terrorism. It's also a boost to our command to see their members, whether mobilized or not, assuming critical leadership roles. Our experienced men and women can do much more than "fly and fix" airplanes. Maintaining and operating weapon systems is extremely important, but we have the talent to do much more. You have been chosen to lead an AEF package because you have been recognized as leaders. And it doesn't matter whether you serve as an aircraft commander, a maintenance crew chief, or in some other capacity. The Air Force has recognized you for the leader you are, and has entrusted you accordingly as a member of a lead unit. Once again, you have risen to the challenge. Air Force Reserve Command is proud to call you "Warriors of the Total Force!" May God bless you in your endeavors, and may God bless America.

**513th ACG
Commander's Column**

By Col. James Kerr



Volume 21, No. 12 DECEMBER 2001

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707th Comm. Flight - TSgt. Bryon Carlson

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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 TSgt. Melba Koch

Family Support team members display gifts to be presented to veterans at the Norman Veterans Center later this month. The gifts support Operation Angel Tree, a Reserve Officers Association project. Pictured are MSgt. Terry Smith, TSgt. Windell Spain, Kim Hinkston, TSgt. Mary Randolph, MSgt. Treva Ragland and SMSgt. D. Hernandez. For more, see Page 12.

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NEWS/INFORMATION/FAMILY READINESS/MORE!

**507th AIR REFUELING WING
and
513th AIR CONTROL GROUP**

TINKER AFB OKLAHOMA

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Activated reservists face hardships

"We cannot know every turn this battle will take, yet we know our cause is just and our ultimate victory is assured. We will no doubt face new challenges, but we have our marching orders. My fellow Americans, let's roll."

President George W. Bush



Col. Tim Wright, 507th ARW commander, addresses deployed members of the 507th Security Forces Squadron who have been on active duty in support of Operation Noble Eagle since Sept. 22.



SSgt. T. deploys to join fellow 507th security forces members called-up to active duty. During the flight, an aerial refueling of three B-1B bombers was conducted.

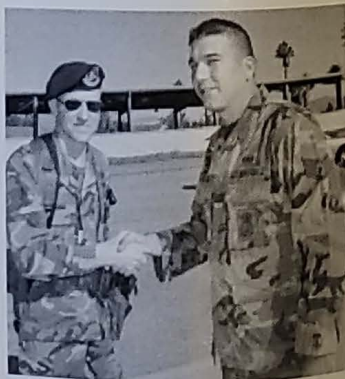
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New guy joins, gets activated pronto

SSgt. T. joined the Air Force Reserve and the 507th Security Forces Squadron on a Saturday, was called-up to active duty the next day, and deployed that Tuesday. Such rapidity left little time to adjust.

Since leaving active duty in May as a dog trainer at Lackland AFB, Texas, Sergeant T. wanted to join the reserve. He was settling down in his civilian job as an insurance claims adjuster when he became a member of the 507th. When the call came to deploy, staying in touch with his wife and seven year old son became a priority.

"One of the first things I did was buy a cell phone with unlimited minutes for myself," said Sergeant T. "I also took the laptop computer so my wife is planning to buy another."



SSgt. T. receives a warm welcome from TSgt. F. at his new "home."

www.afrc.af.mil/507arw
"Readiness Is OUR Number One Priority"

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stated this issue had previously been identified and is being worked to provide relief as quickly as possible.

Ideas were explored to ease the hardship of family separation. One idea from the commander was to have the reservists encourage their family members to contact the unit Family Support Office as well as to form networks to support each other.

Also on the mind of the security forces members - how long? Their orders state that they're called-up for one year, but it could be shorter, or it could be an additional year should the command authority decide to extend the call-up after the first year.

When discussing with the reservists what feedback they've received from their civilian employers, all agreed that

their employers are pretty understanding.

According to SSgt. G, a member of the 507th SFS, "Things are going pretty good here, however, we're not maximizing our training in force protection somewhere overseas at a 'hot' airbase, instead of here at this CONUS (Continental United States) base."

Their mission at this location may not be as tough as at a "hot" base, but still present are the other inherent hardships of activation and deployment. The members of the 507th Security Forces Squadron are meeting the challenge.

507th SFS members share the contents of care packages delivered to their deployed location.



Town meeting stresses "Family Ties"

The 507th Air Refueling Wing's Family Support Office hosted a Town Meeting November 13, for family members of activated 513th Air Control Group and 507th ARW members.

The event, held off-base at the First Southern Baptist Church in Del City, was attended by more than 60 people. From the very start of the meeting, a common theme evolved: We are a Family.

Throughout the evening, attendees listened to remarks from local Reserve leadership and guest organizations, thanking them and informing them of services available to support their needs.

During his address, 507th ARW commander Col. Tim Wright thanked the family members for attending and stated, "Who would have thought on September 10th that we'd be here, doing this?"

"We all realize now how all this has changed the face of our nation and our military. We know we will be doing this mission for quite some time. I want to guarantee all of you that we will do anything and everything in our power to support you."

Following Colonel Wright, the 513th commander Col. James Kerr took the podium.

"It makes me proud to see our Reservists put on their uniform and come here, ready to serve. It's also our job as commanders to do what it takes to keep our reservists wanting to come back. Their families, you, are as important to us



Photo by Maj. Rich Curry

Family and military members gathered last month during a Town Hall meeting. A variety of briefings were provided during the evening.

as that reserve member. Our nation is built upon families. It's so important for our reservists who are leaving for active duty to know that things back home are being taken care of."

During the evening, attendees also received briefings regarding medical, legal, and financial assistance issues as well as services available to them, as active duty spouses, at Tinker Air Force Base.

According to MSgt. Dave Hernandez, 507th Family Support Director, "We had a good turn out for this event and we plan on having additional meetings in the future."

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507th 'Enduring Freedom' team returns

KC-135 Stratotanker aircrews from here and McConnell AFB, Kan., returned home in late October after spending more than five weeks supporting America's air bridge across the Pacific Ocean.

That bridge stretches from America's West Coast to the Middle East with points in between. Without aerial refueling, aircraft would not be able to reach their destinations, in some cases half way around the world in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"Our volunteer deployment was an initial response to a national defense requirement to get refueling aircraft and people deployed as quickly as possible," said Col. Tim Wrighton, 507th Air Refueling Wing commander.

Within 24 hours of receiving an initial call for support, the unit lined-up aircraft and volunteers and dispatched them to their deployed destination. The volunteers, who were not part of the partial mobilization of reservists, included a Reserve KC-135 crew from McConnell's 931st Air Refueling Group.

"Our response was fantastic," Wrighton said. "Our team arrived several hours before their deadline. Their ability to respond this quickly is due in no small part to the fantastic support of our reservists' employers. We received a very short notification and we were still able to get where we needed to be because of their understanding and encouragement."

One of the missions took place Oct. 26, and involved the 931st ARG crew transferring some 120,000 pounds of fuel to a C-5 Galaxy transport aircraft.

"It absolutely feels good to be here in support of Operation Enduring Freedom," said Maj. Matt Archer, a 21-year veteran pilot with more than 3,500 flying

hours. "At times I might feel a little bit of guilt by being in a tropical climate while others are flying in a much more threatening environment, but I am doing



(USAF Photo by MSgt. Val Gempis)

A C-5 Galaxy cargo aircraft approaches a KC-135 Stratotanker to receive fuel over the Pacific Ocean during Operation Enduring Freedom Oct. 26.

what I've been asked to do."

Maj. John Stansfield, Archer's copilot on the mission, said he spent the day after the Sept. 11, terrorist attacks flying missions over the East Coast.

"It felt really good to be able to be there at a time when everyone was looking for ways to help," the 14-year veteran and former Navy helicopter pilot said. Since transferring to the Air Force, Stansfield has logged more than 200 flying hours in KC-135s.

Although both pilots are Desert Storm

veterans and have supported operations throughout Southwest Asia, they said Operation Enduring Freedom missions have a very different feel about them.

"Everybody was shocked by the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11," Archer said. "Flying these missions in support of this operation is much more rewarding than what I've ever done in the past."

Less than 30 minutes into the Oct. 26, flight, A1C Chris Norris, the 20-year-old boom operator with the 931st ARG, slid down flat on his belly into position and waited for the C-5 to appear in his window at the back of the KC-135R. Minutes later the aircraft came into view until the nose of the C-5 was little more than 30 feet away from the tail of the KC-135. The C-5 pilot and Norris looked eye-to-eye as the young airman guided the boom to the C-5's fuel receptacle.

Thirty-two minutes and 120,000 pounds of fuel later Norris guided the boom away as the C-5 backed off and continued on its mission.

"Our aircraft and reservists were not part of the call-up," Wrighton said. "We asked for, and got, volunteers so we could support the refueling mission while allowing other units the time to activate and assume this vital mission."

The 507th ARW had 50 reservists mobilized by the end of October. Thirty-nine members of the unit's security forces squadron were activated Sept. 22, and deployed a few days later. Ten firefighters of the 507th Civil Engineer Squadron were mobilized Oct. 23, and subsequently deployed.

An operations officer was also mobilized. The 931st ARG, a subordinate unit of the 507th ARW, had no one mobilized by the end of October. (AFRC News Service from 507th ARW and Pacific Air Forces news releases)

CLSS members win quarterly awards

Three members from the 507th Combat Logistics Support Squadron have earned top honors as Senior NCO, NCO, and Airman of the Quarter winners.

The winners are MSgt. Eric Currier, Senior NCO; TSgt. Roland Brock, NCO; and SrA Bryan Vance, Airman of the Quarter.



MSgt. Eric Currier

MSgt. Eric Currier serves his squadron as an aircraft structural maintenance technician, specializing in the B-52 aircraft. Sergeant Currier also provides other talents by virtue of his civilian job as an airframe mechanic with the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center.

This combined experience and skill allowed him to skillfully support several deployments. He traveled to the 301st Fighter Wing in Dallas, Texas, to support the acceptance inspection of an F-16 aircraft.

He also deployed to Andersen AFB, Guam, to assist in the refurbishment of a B-52D static display that was badly corroded, and donated an additional two weeks of his time beyond his rotation.

He proved instrumental during a deployment to Offutt AFB, Neb., where

he repaired an engine strut on an E-4B Airborne Command Post, allowing it to return to flying duty in minimum time. While there, he also trained two individuals on how to perform these repairs, saving the Air Force \$11,000.

Focused on continuous improvement, he completed NCO Academy, earned 37 credit hours towards his associate's degree and attends professional training courses.

In civilian life, he participates in the international exchange student program with his family, supporting a student from Saint Petersburg, Russia.

TSgt. Roland Brock

As a fully qualified aircraft sheet metal mechanic, Sergeant Brock brings a wealth of knowledge to the squadron. He routinely sacrifices two weekends a month performing pre-UTA planning and training coordination. He has received recognition from other units for his outstanding contributions during annual tours.

He is also fully qualified as an Aircraft Battle Damage and Repair technician and assessor, maintains his team's mobility folders, and was a significant contributor to the squadron receiving a Command-level award.

Brock also aggressively pursues personal and professional development for himself. He completed the NCO leadership course and is enrolled in the Senior NCO course through his civilian job.

He enrolled in community college to enhance his education, pursuing a degree in Aerospace Management. He is also enrolled in the Community College of the Air Force, pursuing a degree in aircraft maintenance. He was a volunteer to support recruiting efforts at the State Fair and is a member of the Air Force Sergeants Association.



SrA Bryan Vance

Airman Vance is a transportation specialist and was a major participant during his squadron's move from the main hangar to temporary facilities across base. He participated in building storage crates as well as packaging, moving and storing squadron furniture and equipment.

His supervisors praise him for maintaining excellent lines of communication with personnel in aspects of teamwork. He is a self-starter, regardless of whether work assignments are local or at deployed locations.

He completed his Hazardous Goods certification training with an outstanding achievement score of 100 percent on all tests. In his civilian job he is a team member for his company's quality assurance program.

He is a coach for youth soccer teams, a member of the Air Force Sergeant's Association, and a company coordinator for Special Olympics, his second year doing so. He also served as a Red Cross fundraiser for the September 11th relief efforts.

507th bids farewell to an "Icon"

By TSgt. George A. Proctor
507th Civil Engineer Squadron

The October UTA was the last with the 507th Air Refueling Wing for MSgt. Vincent A. Molzahn of the 507th Civil Engineer Squadron's Disaster Preparedness Section.

Sergeant Molzahn or "Vinny" as he was known by the many friends he had, could take many military subjects and add his personal insights and understanding to captivate listeners at all levels. His knowledge, caring and enthusiasm always came through and infected those around him. Last month many fond testimonials were spoken of him and the "warm image of Vinny" will always be with those who knew him.

Vinny had been with the 507th for 14 years and was an icon for those seeking disaster preparedness knowledge. He is an expert in his field and was often sought after to provide staff assistance, inspection and exercise evaluation. He was an accomplished writer and co-authored several HQ AFRC AFI/AFM supplements and developed handbooks, guides, various plans/checklists, and articles for the wing paper. Vinny constantly pursued opportunities to further his knowledge and experience in all areas: successfully completing over 28 courses during 12 years in his most recent position and continuously applying his knowledge. He managed the readiness training requirements of over 1500 reserve personnel. He bolstered Tinker AFB's response to the local community during devastating incidents. Within minutes of notification, he provided the Disaster Control Group with critical information and guidance in response to the bombing of the Murrah Federal Building. He also helped provide equipment and guidance to shelter over 170 people after the Oklahoma City tornado in May 1999.

He received much recognition and many awards, culminating recently with the presentation of the meritorious service award. No single article can capture his impact upon the unit or the Air Force Reserve.



Photo by TSgt. George Proctor

MSgt Vincent Molzahn, 507th Civil Engineer Squadron, receives a final award from his commander, Maj. Renee Lane.

Sergeant Molzahn has moved with his family to the Washington D. C. area and plans to reside in Fredericksburg, VA. He accepted a position in which he will use his expertise in bio-chem warfare defense as a biological-chemical warfare analyst for a private company at the Pentagon. Vinny will continue his military career in an IMA position working out of Langley AFB, VA.

When Sergeant Molzahn left, he said he would forward contact information to SMSgt. Housley of the 507th CES. Those who would like to contact him can check with Sergeant Housley.

Wing names Sr. NCO, NCO and Airman of the Year

Congratulations go out to the Sr. NCO, NCO, and Airman of the Year. The top enlisted award winners were selected last month.

Chosen for this year's top enlisted award was **MSgt. Eric Currier**, of the 507th Combat Logistics Support Squadron as Senior NCO.

Selected as NCO of the Year was **TSgt. Timothy Parker** of the 507th CLSS.

Selected as this year's Airman of the Year was **SrA Trina Schooly** of the 507th Mission Support Squadron.

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! (Military Only for Excelsior examinations). 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.volcd.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 Master's Degree.

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. Bring receipts for tuition.

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

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

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
2002-3	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

TRICARE/DEERS

It is imperative for anyone who is on active duty orders for 30 days or more and plans on using TRICARE benefits must get themselves and their dependents an active duty ID card as soon as possible. Not doing so may create problems in receiving benefits. Questions should be directed to the Customer Service Section at extension 47492.

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)

FY2002 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 16 November 2001

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
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
1130-1630	MPF CLOSED	
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, 04 Jan 2002

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, 05 Jan 2002

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
1600-1630	Protestant Chapel Service	513th ACG Conf Room
Unit Designated	Sign Out	Unit Designated

Sun, 06 Jan 2002

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	HAZCOM (Non-Supervisor)	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 GROUPLIFE INSURANCE (SGLI)

The President signed a bill that allows SGLI coverage for family members. The new benefit/option became 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>

Military Pay

File for pay by:	Receive Direct Deposit by:
04 Dec	12 Dec
10 Dec	17 Dec
13 Dec	31 Dec
17 Dec	26 Dec

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
Phase I			
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	SE
Phase II			
Sunday	0800-0830	Base Populace	CEX
Sunday	0830-0845	IG Briefing	IG
Sunday	0845-1015	UCMJ/Ethics	JA
Sunday	1015-1115	Human Relations	ME

TRAVEL VOUCHERS

Taxes must be listed separately from Hotel Bill - Or Accounting will not pay taxes. Also block 16 must be marked or mileage will not be paid.

BAQ Recertification Deadlines

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

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.

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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January 2002

January 2002

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TRAINING PLANNER

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
	January 1, 02 Air Force Association Aerospace A New Year's	2	3	4 1:00pm Pre-UTA	5 507th UTA 6:00pm Hughes Award Banquet
7	8	9	10	11	12 507th UTA
14	15 Institute of Navigation Awards	16	17	18	19
21	22	23	24 6:00pm Tinker AFB Honor Guard Banquet (E-Club)	25	26 (20 Jan 02 SUSP) Outstanding Civ
28	29	30 ASEV	31		27

American diversity... should we celebrate it?

By Capt. L. Charles Gaines,
Chief, 507th ARW Military Equal Opportunity

The tragedy of September 11, caused an awakening of patriotism across our county and highlighted the diversity of the American culture and its people. January 1986, started the opportunity to celebrate the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by remembering his dynamic "I have a Dream" speech.

February is African-American/Black History month, which was the brainchild of Carter G. Woodson, noted author and scholar back in 1926. March is Women's History month established in 1981, patterned after the California's Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women.



April/May present the "Days of Remembrance" of Victims of the Holocaust, started in 1980. May is also

Asian Pacific-American Heritage month, which was started in 1998.

August 26th is Women's Equality Day. On this day in 1920, the 19th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution granted women the right to vote.

September/October is Hispanic Heritage month established in 1998, calls all people of the U.S., especially the educational community, to observe the month with appropriate ceremonies and activities. In October 1998, the National Disability Employment Awareness month was established. The purpose of which was to enlist public support for, and interest in the employment of qualified workers with disabilities. The month of November presents Native-American Heritage month; it took more than 80 years for the nation to establish this month.

Public Law established these days, weeks, and months for the American people to celebrate, explore, and gain an understanding of what makes America great. As reservists we have sworn to "uphold and defend the Constitution" which belongs to all Americans.

Don't you agree we should learn and understand the people we are defending? We should take opportunities to step outside ourselves and learn about someone else.

Go ahead take the challenge; try it you might make a new friend. "Should we celebrate diversity?" YES!

Keep that beautiful smile... wear a mouthguard

By Maj. Eric Kean
507th Medical Squadron

(Portions reprinted with permission of the Academy of General Dentistry)

Did you know that over 200,000 people each year receive facial injuries while participating in sports and fitness activities? Many of these painful injuries could have been avoided or at least minimized by the use of mouthguards.

What is a Mouthguard?

A mouthguard is a device, usually made of soft plastic, that is worn over the upper teeth. A mouthguard can even prevent serious injuries such as concussions, cerebral hemorrhages, incidents of unconsciousness, jaw fractures and neck injuries by helping to avoid situations where the lower jaw gets jammed into the upper jaw.

Mouthguards are effective in moving soft tissue in the oral cavity away from the teeth, preventing laceration and bruising of the lips and cheeks, especially for those who wear orthodontic appliances. Anytime there is a strong chance for contact with other participants or hard surfaces, it is advisable to wear a mouthguard.

Is there really any difference between the cheaper and more expensive mouthguards?

Studies have shown that the better adapted a mouthguard is to the teeth, the better protection it provides. "One size fits all" mouthguards provide the least protection. Next up the ladder are the "Boil and bite" kind. (Not recommended for people wearing braces!) They provide somewhat better protection but are very bulky.

Custom-made mouthguards are the most expensive but are also the most effective and most comfortable. They are made in a dental laboratory from molds made of your teeth in a dental office.

Regardless of your activity, a mouthguard is a great way to Keep that Beautiful Smile!

Banquet reservations sought

The Billy Hughes Annual Banquet reservation forms are now available through your unit first sergeant or MSgt. Steve Wright at ext. 4-6380. The seating is limited so sign up now! Members who wish to be seated together must submit their forms and money at the same time.

Your health coverage: Plan for a call to active duty or deployment

When you are activated and/or deployed for more than 30 consecutive days, your family's health and dental care needs will be covered in your absence. The military's health and dental plans are designed to meet their needs, as well as your own. Since a call to deploy can come at any time, make sure you and your family are ready. Prepare *now*.

Access to care

The first and most important step is to enroll yourself and all eligible family members in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). There are three ways to enroll in DEERS or update your family's information. Call the DEERS Telephone Center toll free Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time at 1-800-538-9552 (in California, call 1-800-334-4162), **OR** for the nearest DEERS/RAPIDS location, visit the DEERS Web site at www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl, where you can search by city, state, or ZIP code, **OR** visit www.tricare.osd.mil/deersaddress.

Always keep your DEERS information up-to-date. Report any major changes. **DEERS is key to all benefits.**

Upon receiving deployment orders

Confirm that your family's DEERS information is current. Ensure that eligible family members have current ID cards. Give your family copies of your orders. Contact unit commander or reserve center for information on TRICARE. Contact your civilian employer to continue or discontinue your employer health and/or dental coverage. Contact your military legal assistance office to appoint your power of attorney and update your will. Contact your command or unit family readiness representative for help in updating your family care plan. Contact the finance office to set up an allotment, if applicable. Make other financial arrangements as required. Review life insurance for spouse and yourself.

Health coverage while deployed

Reserve Component Members - Upon being called to active duty for more than 30 consecutive days, Guard and Reserve members are enrolled in TRICARE Prime (see "TRICARE Options" in the shaded panel for a description). Being enrolled in TRICARE Prime means that as of the effective date of your orders, you are eligible for medical and dental care at any Military Treatment Facility (MTF).

Find complete information at:
<http://www.tricare.osd.mil>

Family Members - Your family should decide *now* about health coverage options if and when you are deployed. You will need to compare the features and costs of each TRICARE

TRICARE Standard

You choose your authorized TRICARE provider. You may be able to keep your current provider. The medical provider does not need to be a part of the TRICARE civilian or a military network but must be a TRICARE authorized provider. You pay an annual deductible* and 20 percent cost shares. Enrollment is not required to participate.

TRICARE Extra

You choose your medical provider from the list of TRICARE civilian providers who are part of the TRICARE network. You will be responsible for an annual deductible* and 15 percent cost shares. The cost shares in TRICARE Extra are less than TRICARE Standard.

There are no claim forms to file. You just pay your reduced cost share after satisfying the deductible. You may use a combination of the TRICARE Extra and TRICARE Standard programs at any time, depending on whether you choose providers inside or outside the network. Enrollment is not required to participate.

*The annual TRICARE Standard/Extra deductible, depending upon your status, is \$50 - \$300. If you are called in support of certain contingency operations, your family's deductible may be waived. For more information call your local TRICARE Service Center.

TRICARE Prime

This option is available to family members whose sponsor was recalled to active duty for 179 consecutive days or more. Requires enrollment and grants exclusive access to the MTF.

Under this plan, you will be assigned a Primary Care Manager (PCM) to provide or arrange for your family's healthcare needs. You will also have access to additional wellness and preventive care services. (Family members living with their sponsor outside an MTF catchment area may be eligible for TRICARE Prime Remote Benefits.)

option (outlined in the shaded panel to the right), as well as your civilian employer-sponsored health plan.

Family members are eligible to seek healthcare under either TRICARE Standard or TRICARE Extra (see descriptions in the shaded panel to the right) when you are called to active duty for more than 30 days. The benefit is automatic. However, to ensure no delay in treatment or claims processing, make sure your family's DEERS records are up-to-date. If your orders direct a recall for 179 consecutive days or more, your family members have the option to enroll in TRICARE Prime.

For more information

TRICARE is there for your family's needs - in a variety of situations, including when traveling away from home or away at college. For more information about eligibility and benefits, or to enroll in TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Prime Remote, call your local TRICARE Service Center (see chart for contact information), or visit the TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil.

About TRICARE in your region

The Department of Defense has contracted with commercial companies to help administer the TRICARE health plan by region. For more information about TRICARE, call the toll-free number that corresponds to your region.

Region Number

TRICARE Northwest	1-800-404-2042
TRICARE Mid-Atlantic	1-800-931-9501
TRICARE Northeast	1-888-999-5195
TRICARE Heartland	1-800-941-5401
TRICARE Central	1-888-874-9378
TRICARE Southeast	1-800-444-5445
TRICARE Southwest	1-800-406-2832
TRICARE Gulf South	1-800-444-5445
TRICARE Golden Gate / Southern California / Hawaii/Alaska	1-800-242-6788
TRICARE Pacific / Puerto Rico / Latin America / Canada / Europe	1-888-777-8343

Air Force Aid expands to cover annual tours

Air Force Aid Society now offers emergency financial aid to reservists on annual tour and provides assistance at more Air Force Reserve Command locations.

In the past, reservists had access to Air Force Aid if they were called to active duty for 30 days or more, but now assistance is available for those on orders for 15 days or more. The expanded eligibility is particularly helpful for those deployed overseas in support of Aerospace Expeditionary Force and other mission requirements.

"The change is recognition of Air Force Reserve Command's increased participation in real-world missions," said Linda Rosso, chief of AFRC's family matters.

"Establishing a relationship with the Air Force Aid Society to communicate the Air Force Reserve mission and what our reservists and families need has been the focus for the past year," she said. "Air Force Aid Society has been extremely supportive of the Air Force Reserve."

In addition to expanded eligibility, Family Support Offices now offer Air Force Aid Society assistance at 15 more AFRC locations, as well as Lackland AFB, Texas. The Air Force Aid Society has been on active-duty Air Force bases since Gen. Hap Arnold founded it in 1942.

Reservists and their families can still go to a local Red Cross office for emergency assistance if they are not near a base. If a member is deployed, the family must have a

power of attorney to receive assistance.

Examples of aid include money for basic living needs, emergency travel, car repairs and funeral expenses. Other situations the AFAS programs help with are family separation, childcare problems and emergency assistance loans and grants. "Air Force Aid Society looks at a person's situation on a case-by-case basis," Rosso said. "People who have extreme hardships should seek assistance, regardless of their duty status."

Rosso said the changes in the AFAS program are new and permanent additions to the Family Support program. They will not go away when called-up reservists return home.

Family Support Offices now offer AFAS assistance at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga.; Grissom ARB, Ind.; Homestead ARB, Fla.; March ARB, Calif.; and Westover ARB, Mass. Air reserve stations providing aid are Gen. Mitchell International Airport, Wis.; Minneapolis-St. Paul IAP, Minn.; Niagara Falls IAP, N.Y.; Pittsburgh IAP, Pa.; and Willow Grove, Pa.

The other new locations are Lackland AFB, Texas; Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base, Texas; NAS New Orleans, La.; Portland IAP, Ore.; and Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich. Family Support Offices have more information about AFAS assistance. (AFRC News Service)

Angel Tree ornaments still seeks gift givers

The Angel Tree Program still has "ornaments" available. The unit Angel Tree is located in the 507th ARW Headquarters building 1043. Each angel has a description of gift suggestions for a veteran at the Veterans' Home in Norman.

You can sponsor a veteran this holiday by selecting an ornament, purchasing that suggested gift item and placing in that gift-wrapped item under the tree for delivery. Remember to sign the roster with the name of the recipient that you've selected. The unit is working this project in conjunction with the 95th Division (Army Reserve) and the Navy Reserve. Gifts will be delivered to the veterans in early December.

Christmas tree safety

Consider an artificial tree (they are much safer and cleaner).

- A real tree should not lose green needles when you tap it on the ground.
- Cut one inch off the trunk to help absorb water.
- Leave the tree outside until ready to decorate.
- The stand should hold at least 1 gallon of water.
- A six-foot tree will use one gallon of water every two days.
- Mix a commercial preservative with the water.
- Check the water level every day.
- Keep tree away from floor heaters, fire places, or other heat sources.
- Use only UL-approved lights, and no more than three strands linked together.
- Use miniature lights—which have cool-burning bulbs.
- Turn off the Christmas lights when you sleep, or if you leave your home for very long.
- Never use candles, even on artificial trees.
- Dispose of the tree properly. **NEVER BURN A REAL TREE IN THE FIREPLACE.**

Nov. blood drive successful

Last month's blood drive yielded a total of 54 units donated to the Oklahoma Blood Institute.

The all-time best donating weekend drills include 84 units donated in June 1999 (after the May tornado); 71 units donated during February 1998; 69 units in June 2001; and 67 units donated in November 2000. The 507th ARW commander has issued a challenge to all members to achieve 100 units donated during a weekend drill.

Show your spirit

Holiday Spirit donation cans are located in Buildings 1067, 1043, 1056 and 1048. Reservists are asked to show their holiday spirit by donating money at one of these locations.

On October 30, the first batch of 200 Salvation Army Christmas Stockings for the holidays were delivered. The unit has cards for boy(s) or girl(s) and a cheat sheet on what items to buy and not to buy. Underprivileged children in the local area will greatly appreciate finding something under their tree Christmas morning.

The goal for the Reserve campus is 400 stockings. The record was 345 stockings and was set in 1999.

Home safety tips

- Install a smoke detector or new batteries in the one(s) you have and TEST it.
- Use only outdoor lights outside your home.
- Examine light strings each year, discard worn ones.
- Fasten the bulbs securely and point the sockets down to avoid moisture build up.
- Connect no more than three strands together.
- Never use indoor extension cords outside.
- Avoid overloading wall outlets and extension cords.
- Keep outdoor electrical connectors above ground and out of puddles and snow.
- Unplug light string before replacing a bulb. Review the original package to verify proper wattage and voltage.
- When connecting light strands, wrap a plastic bag around connections and tie ends with teflon tape.
- Never use electric lights on a metallic tree, use colored spot lights.
- Make sure trees hung with Christmas lights are not touching power lines.
- When using candles, place them a safe distance from combustibles.
- Place candles in sturdy containers. Remember, hot wax burns kids.
- Extinguish candles prior to going to bed.
- Dispose of fireplace ashes into a metal container until cold.
- After parties, check around and under sofa and chair cushions for smoldering cigarettes (Provide lots of ash trays).
- Install at least one carbon monoxide detector in your home.
- **Have an operable fire extinguisher readily available.**

Holiday greetings to Air Force Reserve Command

By Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III,

commander of Air Force Reserve Command

One positive outcome of this year's tragic events is the way you have stepped forward to serve your country in its time of need. Whether as a volunteer or one of thousands called up to defend American soil or take the war to the terrorists, you have demonstrated great courage and resolve during these grave times.

Your ability to serve is possible only because of the support and sacrifices made by your families and employers. They too are helping America and Air Force Reserve Command fight terrorism and protect our way of life.

As we celebrate the holidays and look forward to a new year and the hopes that it brings, let us remember the words our commander-in-chief spoke Oct. 17 to troops and families at Travis AFB, Calif. "We are determined," said President George W. Bush. "We are patient. We are steadfast. We are resolved. We will not tire, and we will not fail. The cause is just. And we will win."

Marsha and I wish each of you, wherever you might be in the world, the best of the holiday season. May peace and joy find your families as well while you safeguard the freedoms and blessings of the United States. God bless each of you and God bless America. (AFRC News Service)

Marriage counseling available

The Air Force Material Command, Year of the Family (YOFAM) Committee, and the Tinker Care Network, are providing free marriage counseling on base to active duty members and their spouses.

The contractor selected to provide the service is Gwendolyn Gibson, licensed marriage and family counselor, and a licensed clinical social worker. Ms. Gibson provides the counseling appointments in the evenings and weekends to better accommodate the schedules of working spouses. Her office is located in the Religious Education building, just behind the base chapel.

The appointments are confidential and conducted in a private office. Entries are not made in military records, such as medical records.

Couples may receive short-term counseling, one to six sessions. Marriage counseling is available to all active duty members, regardless of their branch of service. There is a limit of 100 appointments each month. Those interested in scheduling an appointment should phone 734-6890 and leave a message for Ms. Gibson.

Beware of financial "predators"

Just as nature's predators prey on unsuspecting victims, financial predators prey on unsuspecting people. They may offer help, but many times people end up with more trouble than when they started. These predators lurk outside the gates of almost every military installation and are a threat to the financial well-being of naive military members.

Check-cashing outlets, pawnshops and quick loan stores

form a class of fringe financial organizations referred to as payday lenders. These merchants provide convenient but expensive short-term loans, usually until the next payday.

Fees charged by lenders start at \$15 per \$100 borrowed with only a postdated check or personal property required as security. Although some states have laws restricting the amount of interest they can charge, many lenders use banks in states without limits.

Relief possible for some debt incurred before active-duty call-up

Reservists called to active duty may qualify for reduced interest rates under a law passed 61 years ago. The Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act provides a variety of civil law relief to all servicemembers.

Qualification criteria under the act are:

- The loan must have been taken out during a time when the member was not on any form of active duty in any branch of the military
- The account's interest rate is currently above 6 percent per year
- Active-duty service must materially affect the person's ability to pay the loan at the regular, pre-service interest rate. Generally, this requirement means the person made more money as a civilian than on active duty
- The person notified the lender and provided a copy of active-duty orders to the lender.



Update

by TSgt. Ty Yoshida

The following question was asked of 507th Air Refueling Wing members: "How are you dealing with the increased possibility of being called-up to active duty?"



SrA Melissa Garner

507th Military Personnel Flight

"I'm a little nervous, but yet excited to be able to help my country."



SSgt. Kent Allsebrooke

35th Combat Communication Sq.

"The possibility was there when we signed up. I'm ready to do my best."



SSgt. Matthew Madison

507th Logistics Support Sq.

"I'm anxious. I hope we get called up. That's what we get paid to do."



SrA J. O. Griffin

507th Logistics Support Sq.

"I'm ready and willing to support in any possible way."



SSgt. Vivian Bailey

507th Logistics Support Squadron

"I don't dwell on it alot. Sometimes I feel I want to go to help."



MSGt. Terry Smith

507th Civil Engineer Squadron

"It's been something I've long awaited and want to do. I'm ready."

Airlines, GIs join to carry flag across America

By Maj. Linda Haseloff
482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs



Photo by Maj. Rich Curry

HOMESTEAD AIR RESERVE BASE, Fla. – After seeing the Flag Across America Web site, Maj. Darryl Smith knew he could help the fund raiser for victims of Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

An American Airlines pilot and a traditional reservist with the 93rd Fighter Squadron here, Smith was deployed to South-west Asia when he suggested the transcontinental run include a flag flown by an Air Force Reserve Command F-16 pilot over southern Iraq's no-fly zone.

He asked, "What better place to start the flag than where horrendous terrorist thoughts actually started?"

The flag began its journey across America, hand-carried by runners who left Boston, Mass., Oct. 11 en route to Los Angeles, Calif., as a demonstration of American resolve and in support of the victims. The cities represent the origin and destination of American Flight 11 and United Flight 175.

To achieve their goal, hundreds of volunteer runners from American Airlines, United Airlines, the U.S. military and other federal agencies carried the flag in a month-long, round-the-clock, Americans United Flag Run. Organizers planned for the last relay runners to arrive in Los Angeles Nov. 11, Veterans Day.

American Airlines First Officer Mike Burr was the key organizer for the event.

"As I read about Jim Ogonowski's eulogy for his brother John, who was the captain of AA Flight 11, I was struck by his comment that 'by hitting American and United, the terrorists really created an America United,'" Burr said. "I thought about that, and decided that there was no better way to show the unity, resolve and determination that characterize our nation than to get the country on the road to recovery by getting out on the road, literally waving the flag from sea to shining sea."

Burr said the framework of the Flag Across America organization encompasses primarily airline and military members but emphasized that the effort was open to all Americans, from all walks of life.

When Smith contacted Burr with his idea, Smith thought



Photo by TSgt. Ty Yoshida

Col. Mario Goico, 507th ARW vice commander, assisted by SMSgt. Kevin Smith, presents the 35th Combat Communications Squadron's guidon to the unit's commander, Maj. Roy Peterson during ceremonies last month activating the 35th CCS.



Photo by TSgt. Ty Yoshida

Cadre team members of the 35th Combat Communications Squadron pose after the unit's activation last month. The new Reserve unit will team with members of the 3rd Combat Communications Group.

On-final R-NEWS

PEP nominations needed

The 507th ARW Promotion Enhancement Program (PEP) Board 02-1 will meet on Feb. 3, 2002. Individual nomination packages for this board must be received by Jan. 11. All nomination packages must be prepared in the new format, available on the unit LAN bulletin board. Military Personnel Flight officials are asking for three chief master sergeants and one colonel to serve on the unit PEP Board. Fourth Air Force has also requested two chief master sergeants and a colonel nominee for the 4AF PEP Board.

Security alertness asked

Base Security Forces officials are reminding everyone that the base decal vehicle sticker is government property and needs to be turned in when it is no

longer needed. The decals are a controlled item and the numbers are accounted for in their computer system. Officials ask members to scrape these decals off your windshield before you sell or junk your car. Once you've scraped off the decals, bring the remnants into Pass & I.D. so security personnel can clear the numbers out of their system.

Flag pins authorized

The Oklahoma City Air Logistic Center commander has authorized the wear of U.S. flag pins on military uniforms. The rules for proper wear state the pins:

- Can only be worn on BDUs or Flight Suits.
- For BDUs: Wear the pin centered on your left pocket flap (under the "US Air Force" Tape).
- For Flights Suits: Only if not wearing the US Flag Shoulder Patch. When worn, it should be on the nametag.
- Flag pins are only authorized on/around Tinker AFB (not TDY).

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