

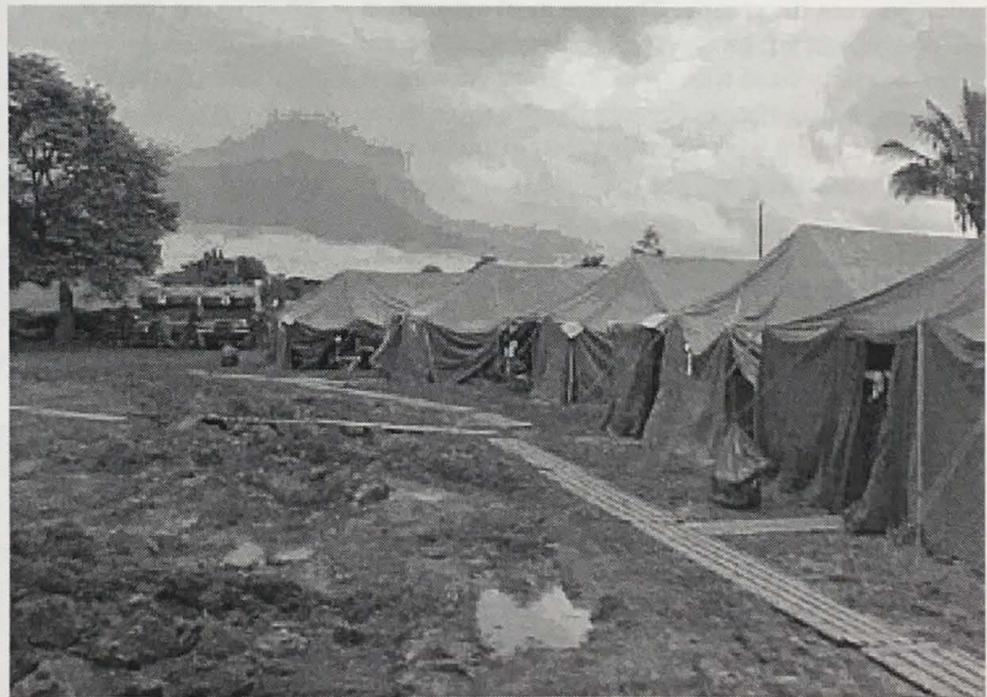
MAY 2002



On-final

507th Air Refueling Wing - 513th Air Control Group
Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma

Civil Engineer deployment...



becomes a tale of survival

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



507th ARW Commander's Column

By Col. Dean Despinoy

"Let's Look Forward"

At the end of last UTA, I received the Unit Compliance Inspection out brief. Overall, I was very pleased. I was especially pleased with the large number of individuals and groups that were recognized by the Inspector General. Many of these people received a certificate during the out brief, but I will be recognizing all of these folks during my Commander's Call on this (May) UTA.

Now that the UCI is over, it is time to take care of the write-ups and give the wing a facelift. Everyone has been working hard, but I am not sure that everyone has been working smart. Some of the write-ups stem from a lack of standardization between the groups. This was most apparent in the time and attendance area. The problems that we are finding can be easily fixed with directives from the wing. I will be meeting with the Group Commanders to review areas of concern and create a wing operating instruction to make sure that everyone understands the rules and the proper procedures.

There also seems to be a tendency for some folks at the unit level to call a friend or "expert" at headquarters to get an answer to a question. In many cases, the answer is not totally correct sometimes, because the question was not asked in the right way or the caller only heard what they wanted to hear.

Even if perfect information is received, the information stays with the unit that asked the question rather than being disseminated throughout the wing. By calling direct, it also means that our wing functionals are left out of the loop, which could cause them to be putting out different information. I request that everyone ask his or her question through the chain of command, so we can notify everyone of the correct answer.

I am looking forward to this Spring, as it is hoped that many of the displaced organizations will soon (relative term) be back in the hangar. That never ending remodeling should be done by late Spring or early Fall. In looking around the rest of the wing, I notice that some of the other work areas are in need of attention. I ask that people identify areas that could use some sprucing up. I have already dedicated some funds to the flying squadron's briefing room. I think that we will have the ability to channel more money into self help projects later in the year. Pass your ideas through your chain of command up to your group commanders for budgeting of suggested projects.

We have some new construction on the books and are keeping our fingers crossed waiting for a possible congressional insert that will fund the new Squadron Operations building. Even with these plans, we can't neglect what we have. The 507th hosts several visitors each year, and it is very important that we send the right message. Always using the 513th facilities for events is not sending the right message about the 507th. With your help, I plan to do everything possible to give the wing a facelift and regain the luster that represents the professionalism and pride of the "Okies". These actions will go a long way in making sure that the wing is secure well into the future.

Chaplain's corner

By Chaplain (Capt.) Dwight Magnus
507th ARW Chaplain

"Don't Give Up"

Charles Swindoll tells the story of a spectacular failure. It seems in the early days of WWII, the Russians experimented with dog-carrying mines.

They trained certain dogs to recognize the smell of tanks, so they would get under them and eliminate a tank. The problem was, they responded only to Russian tanks.

The program was eliminated after one day.

One of the things I like about the Bible is it presents its heroes with warts and all. Abraham's lies. Moses' act of murder. David's act of adultery. Peter's denial of Christ.

Yet even after these failures, each of these men were used of God in a great way.

Are you having trouble getting over a personal failure? Don't give up, don't ignore it. Deal with it. *"If we confess our sin, He (God) is faithful and just to forgive our sin, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* 1 John 1:9.

What a great promise!

Don't wallow in the pits of failure. There are great victories ahead for you!



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MAY 2002

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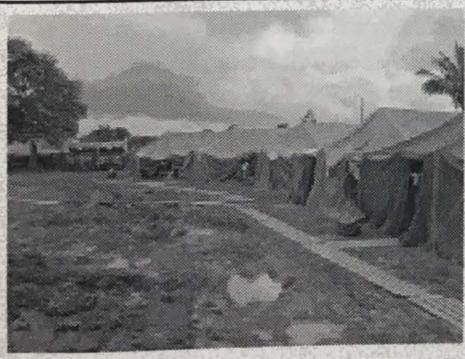
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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. **Copy deadline is NOON on UTA Sunday for the next month's edition.**

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

On The Cover



A tale of survival...

During the first week of their deployment to Nicaragua, 507th Civil Engineer put their bare base building skills to the test. Until they were able to build hard-back tent shelters with plywood floors, mud and sanitation were constant problems.



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

AF releases more specialities from Stop-Loss

by Master Sgt. Dorothy Goepel
Air Force Print News Service

WASHINGTON -- Air Force officials announced April 9 the release of several Air Force Specialty Codes from Stop-Loss, a Defense Department program designed to retain members of the armed forces beyond established dates of separation or retirement.

The announcement comes as a result of an Air Force 60-day review and applies across-the-board to the active duty, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard forces, according to Lt. Col. Jan Middleton, chief of promotion, evaluation and separation policy at the Pentagon. This brings the total release to 61 officer and 99 enlisted AFSCs.

"Our exit plan calls for a gradual drawdown from Stop-Loss, which means we want to continue to release AFSCs with each review as long as we are able to maintain sufficient forces to meet mission requirements," she said.

The effective date for lifting stop-loss restrictions in the Air Force Reserve is May 15. The active force's effective date is May 1.

The officer career fields released from stop-loss restrictions are: 32E, 33S, 35P, 42F, 42G, 42N, 42P, 42S, 42T, 43P, 43Y, 44B, 44F, 44G, 44J, 44K, 44N, 44P, 44R, 44S, 44T, 44U, 45E, 45G, 45N, 45U, 47E, 47G, 47H, 47K, 47P, 47S, 51J, 61S, 62E, 63A and 64P.

The enlisted career fields released from stop-loss restrictions are: 1T0X0, 2A1X0, 2A390, 2S0X2, 3C1X1, 3C1X2, 3E1X1, 3E3X1, 3E6X1, 3S1X0, 3S1X1, 3S2X0, 3S2X1, 3V000, 3V090, 3V0X1, 3V0X2, 3V0X3, 4A0X0, 4A0X1, 4B0XX, 4C0X0, 4C0X1, 4D0X0, 4D0X1, 4M0X0, 4M0X1, 4N1X1, 4P0X0, 4P0X1, 4R0X1, 4T0X0, 4T0X1, 4T0X2, 4T0X3, 4U0X0, 4U0X1, 4V0X0, 4V0X1, 4Y0X0, 4Y0X1, 4Y0X2, 5J0X0, 5J0X1, 6C0X0, 6C0X1, 8A100, 8C000, 8E000, 8G000, 8J000, 8P000, 8P100, 8R000, 8T000, 9A200, 9A300, 9C000 and 9G000.

During each cyclical review, Middleton explained, officials at the major commands, at the Air Staff and Secretariat, and at the Air Force Personnel Center review all AFSCs for possible release.

"We review current manning and authorizations, the number of people deployed for operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, the number of Air Reserve Center personnel mobilized, and overall health of the career fields," Middleton said. "We will conduct subsequent reviews every 60 days."

Members who are deployed in support of operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, or related operations, and Reserve and Guard components who are voluntarily or involuntarily on active duty in support of these operations or related

operations, will not be released until they return from deployment or are demobilized, officials said.

Officials emphasized that Stop-Loss is devised to meet all operational requirements in addition to Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Enduring Freedom. For instance, they point out, the Armed Forces will continue to conduct operations in Southwest Asia.

Some military members have the misperception that Stop-Loss is being used as a manning tool, Middleton said.

"Though it's easy to make that assumption," Middleton said, "it is absolutely not true. Manning is certainly one of the factors taken into consideration, but it is looked at in terms of what is needed to meet current mission requirements."

Stop-Loss does not mean that service members are prohibited from retiring, separating or being discharged. A waiver of stop-loss status may be granted based on specific circumstances, officials said.

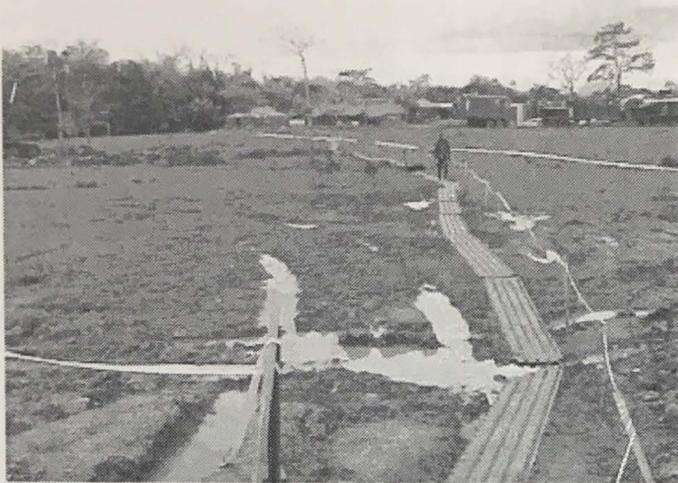
"We really want to do right by our service members," Middleton said. "Many families had to put their plans on hold when Stop-Loss was implemented. We are trying to balance their needs with our commitment to operational requirements."

Consolidated release list

The following list consolidates all AFSCs currently and previously released from Stop-Loss:

Officer AFSCs: 13S, 21A, 21M, 21S, 32E, 33S, 35B, 35P, 36P, 38M, 42B, 42E, 42F, 42G, 42N, 42P, 42S, 42T, 43A, 43D, 43M, 43P, 43Y, 44B, 44D, 44F, 44G, 44H, 44J, 44K, 44N, 44P, 44R, 44S, 44T, 44U, 44Z, 45E, 45G, 45N, 45U, 46G, 47B, 47D, 47E, 47G, 47H, 47K, 47P, 47S, 48E, 51J, 61S, 62E, 63A, 64P, 65A, 65F, 65W and 84H.

Enlisted AFSCs: 1C6XX, 1S0XX, 1T0X0, 1T0X1, 2A000, 2A0X1, 2A1X0, 2A1X1, 2A1X2, 2A1X3, 2A300, 2A390, 2A3X1, 2A3X2, 2A3X3, 2A4X1, 2A4X2, 2A5X3, 2A6X3, 2A7X4, 2M0XX, 2P0XX, 2R0XX, 2R1XX, 2S0X2, 2T3X5, 2T3X7, 2W0XX, 2W1XX, 2W2XX, 3A0XX, 3C0X2, 3C1X1, 3C1X2, 3C3X1, 3E1X1, 3E3X1, 3E6X1, 3H0XX, 3N0XX, 3N1XX, 3N2XX, 3S1X0, 3S1X1, 3S2X0, 3S2X1, 3U0XX, 3V000, 3V090, 3V0X1, 3V0X2, 3V0X3, 4A0X0, 4A0X1, 4B0XX, 4C0X0, 4C0X1, 4D0X0, 4D0X1, 4J0XX, 4M0X0, 4M0X1, 4N1X1, 4P0X0, 4P0X1, 4R0X1, 4T0X0, 4T0X1, 4T0X2, 4T0X3, 4U0X0, 4U0X1, 4V0X0, 4V0X1, 4Y0X0, 4Y0X1, 4Y0X2, 5J0X0, 5J0X1, 6C0X0, 6C0X1, 6FXXX, 8A100, 8C000, 8E000, 8FXXX, 8G000, 8J000, 8M0XX, 8P000, 8P100, 8R000, 8T000, 9A200, 9A300, 9C000, 9DXXX, 9E000 and 9G000.



Mud, big time, on the trail to the showers.



Pigs ran free through the tents.

Annual tour to Nicaragua a tale of survival

By Maj. Rich Curry
507th ARW Public Affairs

The campfire flickered, throwing hot ashes upward in a determined attempt to push away the darkness. The old sergeant leaned forward into the light, a grim look on his face. His crinkled face was like a roadmap - every line leading to a different destination, an untold destiny.

"You've told me your scary tales," he began speaking softly as the young airmen sitting next to him moved forward, straining to hear his voice. "Let me tell you mine. It started in February of 2002. About 40 of us Civil Engineer folks headed down to Nicaragua for what was supposed to be a simple construction project...."

What could have turned into just another horror story became a tale of struggle and success against the odds for the members of the 507th Civil Engineer Squadron during a two-week deployment to the Central American country.

According to Capt. Michael Ling, deployed troop commander for the 507th team, "Our objective was to assist Army Engineers and construct hardback tent facilities for a base camp which would be used for future humanitarian building projects."

What the civil engineers didn't know before their departure would involve a series of commercial airline flight over bookings, staggered arrival and departure times, and freak, unpredictable weather that would turn their simple project into a challenge against Nature itself.

Approximately 30 members of the team departed Oklahoma City on Feb. 2, arriving at Nicaragua's capitol city of Managua. The team cleared customs and received an in-country briefings. The team departed at 5 a.m. the next morning for the base camp, a 7-½ hour, 140-mile trip by bus. The balance of the CES force arrived at Managua on Feb. 3, with little time to collect their luggage, endure customs and briefings, and wolf down an MRE before boarding their bus for the long trip.

According to 507th CES commander, Lt. Col. Renee Lane, "Typically, this should have been the dry season for that part of Nicaragua." But that's not what awaited the 507th reservists. "There were torrential rains the week prior to our arrival," Ling said. "What we found when we arrived was a cow pasture, thick mud up to mid-calf, and floating

animal waste everywhere. Our challenge was to turn this muddy, bare field into a sanitary, livable base camp."

Because of the previous rains, the civil engineers had additional challenges. "The rains left the previous rotation about one week behind schedule due to late equipment and material arrival. When the 507th engineers arrived for the second rotation, the Army command staff projected that we would only accomplish 50 percent of what was needed."

Then again, the Army didn't count on the determination of dedicated Air Force reservists.

"There literally wasn't anything built when we arrived," said CMSgt. Gary Bourisaw, Operations NCO for the deployment. "We were housed in tents staked out over the mud with some limited decking laid out for walkways. Because we couldn't anticipate the freak weather, no one had the type of wet weather gear we needed. Mud was everywhere and septic infection and foot fungus was a major medical concern for our people. Even a simple cut could have proven very dangerous."

The team quickly came to anticipate the daily afternoon showers. "Just when

you thought things were going to dry out, the rains came,” said TSgt. Jodie Zollo, a member of the deployed crew. “We’d get back out there to work and our feet kept churning up the mud like a big mixing bowl.”

However, Bourisaw added, “Bare base construction is what we’re trained to do and we set out to get the job done.” During the deployment, Bourisaw said virtually every piece of heavy equipment got stuck in the mud at least once, including the bulldozer.

During the next 12 days, the civil engineers would complete the construction of the hospital, mess and dining facilities, construct and plumb three latrines, changing room and shower facilities, and 22 medium tent pads for billeting, allowing all personnel to move out of the mud onto hard deck floors.

“After hardback billeting tents were finished, the living conditions improved significantly,” Ling said.

“The hardback tents with their plywood floors were really appreciated by everyone,” Zollo said. “We were able to finally have someplace to get out of the mud and it helped keep the pigs out of our tents.”



Mud was everywhere and septic infection and foot fungus was a major medical concern for the team. Even a simple cut could have proven very dangerous.

The team constructed tents for the commander’s operations center, set up 30 poles and 49 lights and laid approximately 10,000 feet of electrical cable. The team also instructed the Army personnel on how to set up the hardback

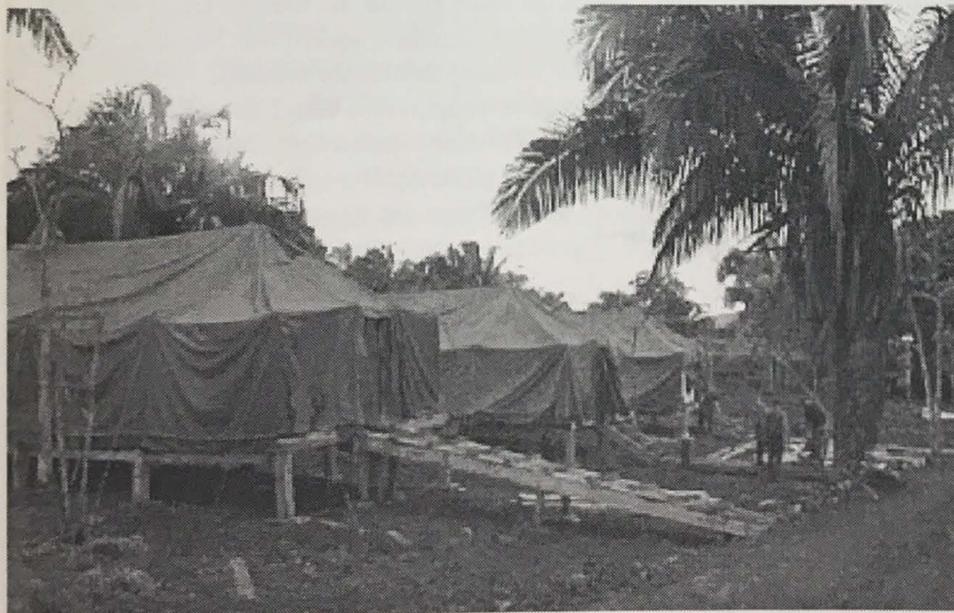
tent covers.

Because the rains made the roads virtually impassable, helicopters arrived daily delivering more construction materials for the crew.

During the final few days on site, the team also laid 2,500 feet of water and wastewater distribution pipe, installed plumbing to the hospital and mess facilities, set septic tanks and installed the aeration systems. Highlighting their deployment was an opening ceremony of the new facility attended by the President of Nicaragua.

In all, this team of engineers exceeded the expectation of the command staff and completed all of the tasks assigned to them, including roughly 70 percent of the total vertical construction.

Only the glowing embers remained as the sergeant finally leaned back. A hushed, almost reverent silence hung in the air. “So,” he drawled finally, “any of you pups want to tell me about YOUR annual tour?”



Tents were finally erected with hardwood floors above the mud.



513th ACG Commander's Column

By Col. James Kerr

"Reflections on a Tragedy"

As most of you already know, one of our 513th ACG members, SSgt. Bryan Weedn, was critically injured in an off duty mishap recently. Words can't describe the emotions one feels witnessing this 23-year young man lying in an intensive care ward hooked up to life support no more than four hours into his injury. His mother and sister were there, leaning over the bed, both in acute emotional pain. What does one say to console them? Instead, we simply prayed together.

As a parent while watching him there, my thoughts kept returning to the idea that this could be one of my very own children. Their ages are close to Bryan's. And, as a commander, I realize that Bryan is one of my children. The thought pierced my heart!

I want you to know how proud I am of the way you have pulled together to provide marvelous support to Bryan and his immediate family. Let's continue to do everything we can to support them. Remember Bryan and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

I know each of you are as troubled as I am by what has happened. It's sobering to be reminded that, as we fight against

evil in other parts of the world, evil exists everywhere. Some of your thoughts may be, "If I was Bryan, what could I have done and what would I have done to preclude this from happening to me?" This is natural.

Each and every one of us must be prepared to do whatever we can to prevent this from happening again. I ask you please... no!.... I demand each of you to stop and evaluate what you are doing to protect your own personal safety both on and off duty.

In a recent letter from Lt Gen Sherrard, AFRC/CC, he wrote, "Each member of our force is an irreplaceable resource in the continuing war against our nation's enemies. Our nation needs each of you to step forward to meet our daunting challenges."

I want you to think about the potential hazards you face daily, evaluate the risks, and making decisions to minimize those risks. I expect you to do that in everything! Ninety-five percent of the daily hazards we face are evaluated and processed in our heads within a few microseconds! I ask each of you to Stop, Take a step back, and Consider what you are doing or about to do.

Ultimately, there may have been nothing anyone could have done to foresee and prevent this tragedy. But I want you to continue to ask yourself if you are making the right decision to minimize your risks. Each of you are important to me. You know how to make right decisions. The choice is yours.

513th ACG presents flag to area school

The 513th Air Control Group has presented Orvis Risner Elementary School in Edmond with a piece of history.

On March 6, the reservists flying an E-3 Sentry aircraft conducted a Homeland Defense Airborne Warning and Control mission over the nation's capitol. Unique to this mission was the fact this was the 100th mission flown by the reservists since their unit was activated here at Tinker AFB on Sept. 21 last year.

Since Sept. 11, both the active duty 552nd Air Control Wing, the parent wing for the E-3 mission here on base, and the 513th ACG have been flying homeland defense surveillance missions throughout the United States and above our nation's capitol. To commemorate this unprecedented time, the 552nd ACW initiated a program last month to flying area Oklahoma school's American flags over Washington D.C. onboard the AWACS aircraft. "This program is designed to increase awareness of Oklahoma's role in the war on terrorism and enhance a growing sense of patriotism in America's youth," stated Brig. Gen. Ben Robinson, 552nd ACW commander. School district officials have collected

nearly 200 flags from around the metro. Once the flags are flown, AWACS members and/or Air Force recruiters will personally present them to the schools.

"We wanted to support this effort as well," said Col. James Kerr, 513th ACG commander. "And we thought it would be a special gift to fly Orvis Risner School's American flag on our 100th mission in support of Homeland Defense." The flag was presented during the school's open house on April 23.

"Recently our reservists completed our 1,000th hour of flying for Homeland Defense missions. Our reservists have also stepped to deploy in support of Operation Northern Watch, another critical mission," Kerr said.

Kerr added that 513th reservists brought a wealth of experience and talent to the active duty here on base. "The vast majority of our folks at one time or another were actually on active duty serving with the 552nd. The great point about our Reserve unit is that we maintain that experience and are able to roll back into the mission whenever we're needed, like now."

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.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 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.

VA BENEFITS

The procedures of paying benefits to members who are called to **active duty and are veterans**. This applies to **VETERANS only**: If a member is called to duty under Title 32-Homeland Security, and they previously qualified for chapter 30 benefits before activation, then the VA will pay the member full veteran benefits while on active duty. If a member is called to duty under Title 10, and they previously qualified for chapter 30 benefits before activation, then the VA has to pay that member active duty pay, which is based off their tuition and fees. Normally, Title 10 veterans will get a much lesser amount of money if they attend school while on active duty, and this may not be beneficial for the member. **Questions should be directed to The Veterans Administration (VA) at 1-888-442-4551. Beginning 1 June 2002, members receiving chapter 1606 benefits (Reserve), will be required to call in each month to certify their hours. On June 1st, members need to call 1-877-823-2378 to certify their hours to receive pay for the month of May. If you fail to call in your check will not be released. Remember, it is your responsibility to do this. If you receive a letter of denial letter from the VA, please call DPMT at 734-7075, and provide us a copy.**

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 734-7075 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)

FY2002/2003 UTA SCHEDULE

01-02 Jun 02	11-12 Jan 03
13-14 Jul 02	01-02 Feb 03
03-04 Aug 02	01-02 Mar 03
07-08 Sep 02	05-06 Apr 03
05-06 Oct 02	03-04 May 03
16-17 Nov 02	07-08 Jun 03
07-08 Dec 02	12-13 Jul 03
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Fri, 03 May 2002

1300	Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg	513th ACG Conf Room
1430	Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg	Bldg 1043, ATN Room
1600	Top 3 Executive Board Mtg	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room

Sat, 04 May 2002

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
0730-0930	Newcomers In-Processing	Bldg 1043, Room 201C
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
0900-1000	3A0X1 Info Mgmt Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
0915-1115	Computer Based Testing	Bldg 1043, ATN Room
1000-1130	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 1014, Buford Hall
1000-1100	Mobility Rep Meeting	To Be Determined
1030-1130	First Sgts Meeting	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1300-1530	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I	Bldg 1014, Buford Hall
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, 05 May 2002

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
0730-0800	Protestant Chapel Service	513th ACG 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 1014, Buford Hall
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
0830-1030	Unit Safety Rep	Bldg 201, Base Education Bldg
0900-1000	3A0X1 Info Mgmt Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
0930	Catholic Chapel Service	Base Chapel
1115	Escorts pick-up Newcomers	Bldg 1014, Buford Hall
1300	SORTS/Post UTA Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1400-1500	IG period w/Lt. Vardaro	Bldg 1043, Room B-1
1500	Fly Safety Mtg	Bldg 1048, OPS Briefing Room
Unit Designated	Sign Out	Unit Designated

Fri, 31 May 2002

1300	Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg	513th ACG Conf Room
1430	Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg	Bldg 1043, ATN Room
1600	Top 3 Executive Board Mtg	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room

Sat, 01 Jun 2002

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
0730-0930	Newcomers In-Processing	Bldg 1043, Room 201C
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
0900-1000	3A0X1 Info Mgmt Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
0915-1115	Computer Based Testing	Bldg 1043, ATN Room
1000-1130	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 1014, Buford Hall
1000-1100	Mobility Rep Meeting	To Be Determined
1030-1130	First Sgts Meeting	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1300-1530	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I	Bldg 1014, Buford Hall
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 Jun 2002

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
0730-0800	Protestant Chapel Service	513th ACG 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 1014, Buford Hall
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
0830-1030	Supervisor Safety Training	Bldg 201, Base Education Bldg
0900-1000	3A0X1 Info Mgmt Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
0930	Catholic Chapel Service	Base Chapel
1115	Escorts pick-up Newcomers	Bldg 1014, Buford Hall
1300	SORTS/Post UTA Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1400-1500	IG period w/Lt. Vardaro	Bldg 1043, Room B-1
1500	Fly Safety Mtg	Bldg 1048, OPS Briefing Room
Unit Designated	Sign Out	Unit Designated

SERVICEMEN'S GROUP LIFE INSURANCE (SGLI)

A reservist who is called to active duty upon mobilization will automatically receive SGLI coverage at the maximum coverage amount (\$250,000) effective on the date of mobilization. The reservist may decline or elect coverage in any lesser amount evenly divisible by \$10,000 increments by completing and submitting the Form SGLV 8286, SGLI ELECTION AND CERTIFICATE. The reduction or cancellation is effective the first day of the next month following receipt of the election. If the member desires maximum coverage, no action is required. Premiums will be deducted from the member's pay during coverage periods.

Newcomers Ancillary Training

Newcomers Ancillary Training Phase I & II are conducted monthly in Bldg 1014, Buford Hall (3rd Mobile Comm. Area). 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	1300-1400	Information Assurance	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	1015-1045	Counter Intel /Awareness	SFS
Sunday	1045-1115	Human Relations	ME

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 1014, Buford Hall.

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 1014, Buford Hall.

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:
07 May	15 May
09 May	17 May
14 May	22 May
16 May	24 May
20 May	29 May
22 May	31 May
28 May	03 Jun
30 May	07 Jun
04 Jun	12 Jun
06 Jun	14 Jun
10 Jun	17 Jun
13 Jun	21 Jun

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

(Units will no longer receive notification for recertification from pay).

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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June 2002

June 2002

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July 2002

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TRAINING PLANNER

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
					June 1 CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Aviano 507th UTA
					2 CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Aviano 507th UTA
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CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Aviano AB, IT					
					9 CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Aviano
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CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Aviano AB, IT					
					CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Aviano More Items...
					16 CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Aviano CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Charl More Items...
17	18	19	20	21	22
CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Aviano AB CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Charleston AFB CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Dover AFB CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Hickam AFB					
					23 CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Langley AFB CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Little Rock AFB More Items...
24	25	26	27	28	29
CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Aviano AB CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Charleston AFB CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Dover AFB CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Hickam AFB					
					30 25th AWACS SILVER ANNIVERSARY CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Langley AFB CLSS- Deploy and Exercise- Little Rock AFB More Items...

C-141 era ends at McChord AFB

By MSgt. Bud McKay

446th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office

MCCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. – For five decades, 446th Airlift Wing C-141 aircrew members logged more than 160 million miles in the air – enough to circle the globe more than 20,000 times.

The C-141 odometer stops turning for the Air Force Reserve Command unit April 9 when McChord's last Starlifter mission is flown to the Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Center at Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz. – better known as the Bone Yard.

"It's obviously a mission I'll have mixed emotions about," said Col. Tom Gisler, 446th AW commander, who is scheduled to be on the flight. "It's like saying goodbye to an old friend, a friend I won't get to see again. I've flown it for three decades myself. It's been a home away from home at times."

Since 1966, the C-141 Starlifter has been McChord's bread and butter. From Antarctica to Zaire, McChord aircrews have carried troops, supplies, vehicles, weapons, refugees, prisoners, patients, humanitarian cargo, and food. You name it, and the C-141 has hauled it.

The renowned Starlifter, once the mainstay of military airlift, has seen duty in operational areas from Vietnam to Operation Enduring Freedom.

"Since it was built in the 1960s, the C-141 has been in every major contingency we've had since coming into being," Gisler said, a C-141 pilot with more than 4,000 flying hours. "When the Vietnam POWs were repatriated from North Vietnam in 1974, it was our C-141s that flew them out. What was the cargo plane of choice for (Operations) Desert Shield and Desert Storm? The C-141. Just choose a contingency since the '60s, and the cargo plane of choice was the C-141."

In 1975, CMSgt. Jerry Roper-Witt came to McChord to join the 446th AW and the C-141 program. Roper-Witt, is now the chief flight engineer for the 313th Airlift Squadron.

"It was quite a plane back then and it still is," Roper-Witt said. "The plane could fly forever. Sure, it has its bugs and quirks, but it amazes me that its 1960s technology still keeps this plane a viable resource for the Air Force."

Roper-Witt along with 13 other unit reservists flew the 446th AW's last C-141 mission overseas. The aircraft left McChord March 11 for a round trip to the Middle East with stops at Elmendorf AB Alaska; Kadena Air Base, Japan; Singapore; and other locations.

For the better part of four years, Roper-Witt has helped find Air Force Reserve Command jobs for 180 flight engineers since the C-17 doesn't have that specialty. He needed to come up with 181 jobs.

"I really don't know what I'm going to be doing yet," said Roper-Witt, who has spent 39 years in the Air Force. "I have options – fly somewhere else, take another position here or retire. If I do retire, I'll miss the family I have here."

The 452nd Air Mobility Wing at March, as well as the 445th AW at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, and the 459th AW at Andrews AFB, Md., still flies the C-141. The Air Force took the best C-141B models and converted them to the C-141C model, adding an upgraded avionics package. These units, along with a couple of Air National Guard units, will continue to fly the C-141C's until 2006.

But the end has come. The McChord flightline once was full of C-141s all along the ramp; soon there will be none.

Although the Starlifter's days are numbered here, the legacy of the C-141 and the men and women who flew it through the years will remain. (AFRC News Service)



WING WALKING: MSgts. Gary Davis, right, and Rudy Diaz, middle, both from the 446th Aircraft Generation Squadron, McChord Air Force Base Wash., troubleshoot a fuel leak with an aircraft maintainer at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska. (Air Force Photo by MSgt. Bud McKay)

AGAIN

507th Command Post named AFRC's best

By Maj. Rich Curry
507th ARW Public Affairs

For the second time in three years, the 507th ARW Command Post has been recognized the best of the best in the Air Force Reserve Command.

According to TSgt. Michael Taliaferro, Command Post ART NCO, "We officially received notice our shop was chosen last month. We're all still pretty excited about this recognition."

The 507th Command Post was previously recognized as the AFRC Command Post of the Year in 1999.

According to the award nomination package submitted by former 507th ARW commander, Col. Tim Wrighton, the command post exhibited an unsurpassed zeal within the command in their pursuit of excellence. Wrighton wrote, "The command post has gained the admiration and respect of units throughout the Air Force. (They) can be counted on to go above and beyond, repeatedly answering the call to accomplish additional taskings from higher-headquarters and requests for assistance from fellow Reserve units.

"The image of professionalism and

CP membership

Members of the 507th Air Refueling Wing Command Post include the following: SMSgt. Shannon C. Fipps; MSgt. Richard H. Hammonds; MSgt. Barry W. George; TSgt. Michael L. Taliaferro; TSgt. Crystal L. Stiltner; TSgt. Robert J. Cameron; TSgt. James C. Rock; SSgt. Anthony W. Lee; SSgt. John T. Hammons; SrA Barbara G. Gatlin and Amn Amanda M. Wielgus.

work ethic of the 507th ARW command post is unrivaled within the command," he said.

The 507th Air Refueling Wing command post distinguished itself during the period Oct. 1, 2000 to Sept. 30, 2001, through innovation, dedication, and determination in accomplishing their mission. During that time, unit personnel consistently volunteered for contingencies and exercises, filling five AFRC shortfalls.

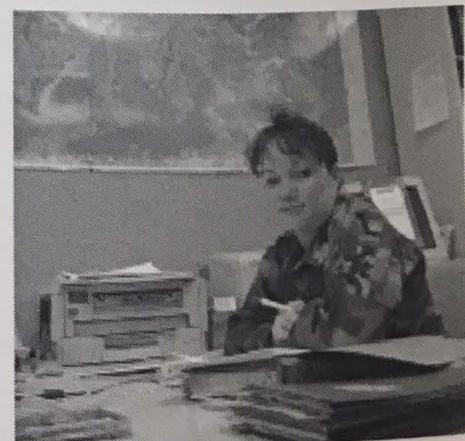
Their expertise was confirmed by their selection to validate several Unified Command and JCS, command and control systems. The 507th Command Post became the first AFRC unit to obtain certification from Space Command to operate the single channel anti-jam man-portable terminal (SCAMP mobile satellite Milstar System).

Throughout the previous year, through numerous national defense commitments, a wide range of unit deployments as well as inspections from higher headquarters, the command post team has earned a reputation of being the finest. During previous joint defense exercises, their team identified problems with a defense contractor's computer systems, which are currently being fixed and upgraded. HQ AMC requested the 507th Command Post by name to participate



Members of the 507th ARW Command Post, standing left to right, Sgt. Mike Taliaferro, SSgt. Trevor Hammons, TSgt. Crystal Stiltner, Amn Amanda Wielgus, MSgt. Barry George; sitting, SMSgt. Shannon Fipps.

in a Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS) directed exercise. The 507th Command Post was the only command post in AFRC with the expertise and proper documentation to operate the specified communications systems to be tested during this Department of Defense

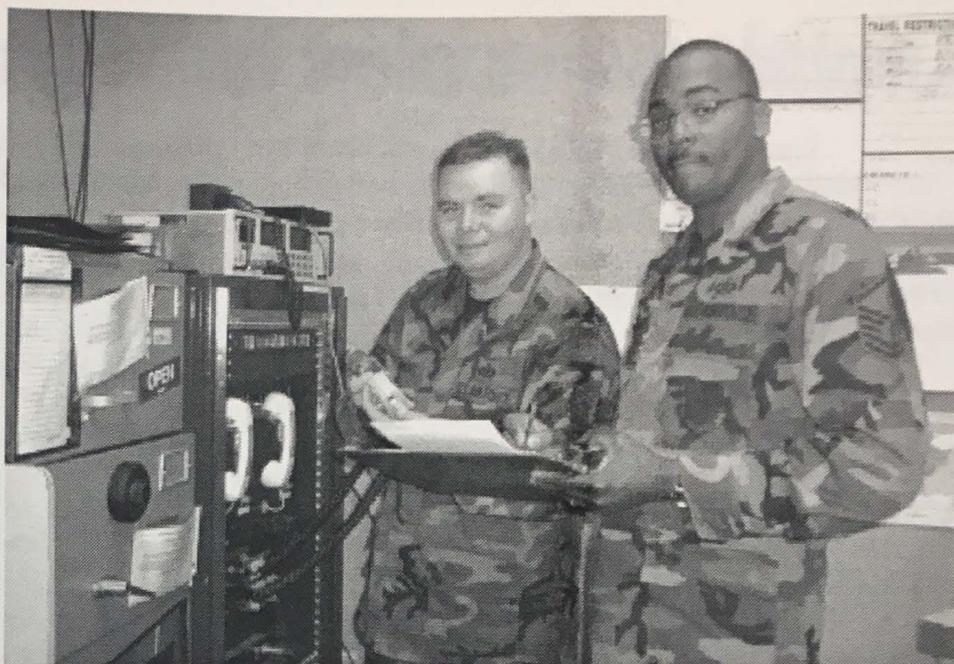


TSgt. Crystal Stiltner catching up on her testing.

global exercise.

The command post members have repeatedly stepped up to the plate to participate in multiple deployments and AEFs, and assistance visits to other Reserve Command Posts. During a recent 4th Air Force Staff Assistance Visit, their SORTS managers program was benchmarked as one of the best in the command. The Command Post was directly responsible for immediately standing up the Unit Battle Staff and recalling essential unit personnel in response to the aftermath of the 9-11 attacks with its members volunteering their time to support the additional workload for their already existing 24-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week rotational schedule.

The command post's personnel are also active participants in community events and programs such as the unit's Operation Holiday Spirit program. Their members are active participants in local church, community and youth group activities with some individuals also serving as social counselors to area clinics.



SSgt. Trevor Hammons (left) and MSgt. Barry George conduct a check of their TAAN radio.

Eight of the 11 controllers hold either a bachelor or higher college degree. As a team, they successfully recruited two highly motivated high school graduates under the AFRC Get One Program.

Both as individuals and as a team, the high caliber performance of the 507th Air Refueling Wing command post personnel was directly responsible for their receiving this award.

Commanders' coins presented

TSgt. Shevelle Madison, 507th Logistics Support Squadron

Sergeant Madison exemplifies the true spirit of the traditional reservist — a combination of concern for her fellow Americans, volunteerism and a commitment to training. She volunteered for a short notice TDY to attend Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection Level I course in order to qualify as a squadron asset to provide required Level II training to our unit. She also recently attended SA/BC refresher training as our ancillary trainer in that area. Additional duties include monitoring of 623 OJT records, including emphasizing the CDC and PME programs. A positive role model, Madison has been chosen to mentor two newly accessed non-prior reservists assigned to the Transportation Management Section. - Capt. Sandra Brooks, 507th LSS/CC

SSgt. Amal Rachid, 72nd Aerial Port Squadron

Sergeant Rachid was given the commanders coin for excellence for all of his sustained, outstanding support to the unit. There is no job too big or small for Rachid to tackle.

Due to EORI commitments, the unit's fitness monitor was unavailable. He stepped up to the challenge and single-handedly managed the unit's fitness walk for four months. He volunteered to assist the squadron's Award and Decoration program process, prepare, plan and present nearly 50 award packages. In addition to helping out in any way possible, he constantly strives for self-improvement. He completed his 7-level CDC in record time and attended the Load Planners Affiliate Course and received an outstanding score of 100%. He is a true professional. Rachid is a key player in the aerial port. - Lt. Col. William Taylor, 72nd APS/CC

CMSgt. Debra Shepherd-Moore, 507th Logistics Support Squadron

Chief Shepherd-Moore is the keystone of the Logistic Support Squadron—she holds it all together! Her efforts in preparation for the Unit Compliance Inspection were Herculean. With background in nearly every section of the squadron, she has been an invaluable asset in accomplishing the myriad tasks associated with our mission readiness. - Capt. Sandra Brooks, 507th LSS/CC

Airplanes, not crew, are lightning-proofed

From 507th ARW Safety Office

A 25-year-old female baggage handler was hit by lightning at Denver International Airport recently, as she was loading a 747. The lightning, hitting either the loading equipment or the airplane, knocked her to the ground. She was taken the umpteenth miles to the hospital, and remained conscious.

Three minutes before she was struck, United had ordered the field cleared due to the approaching storm. United's operations were halted for an additional hour after the strike.

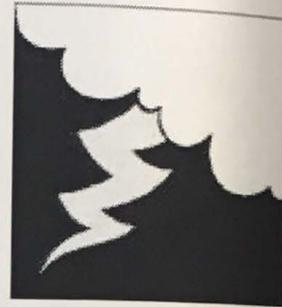
According to the National Lightning Safety Institute, the number of people in the United States who are struck by lightning each year ranges between 750 and 2,000 and as many as 300 Americans are killed by lightning each year.

Personal lightning safety tips

1. Plan in advance your evacuation and safety measures. When you first see lightning or hear thunder, activate your emergency plan. Now is the time to go to a building or a vehicle. Lightning often precedes rain, so don't wait for the rain to begin before suspending activities.
2. If outdoors...avoid water. Avoid the high ground. Avoid open spaces. Avoid all metal objects including electric wires, fences, machinery, motors, power tools, etc. Unsafe places include underneath canopies, small picnic or rain shelters,

or near trees. Where possible, find shelter in a substantial building or in a fully enclosed metal vehicle such as a car, truck, or a van with the windows completely shut. If lightning is striking nearby when you are outside, you should:

- A. Crouch down. Put your feet together. Place hands over ears to minimize hearing damage from thunder.
 - B. Avoid proximity (minimum of 15 ft.) to other people.
3. If indoors... avoid water. Stay away from doors and windows. Do not use the telephone. Take off headsets. Turn off, unplug, and stay away from appliances, computers, power tools, and TV sets. Lightning may strike exterior electric and phone lines, inducing shocks to inside equipment.
 4. Suspend activities for 30 minutes after the last observed lightning or thunder.
 5. Injured persons do not carry an electrical charge and can be handled safely. Apply first aid procedures to a lightning victim if you are qualified to do so. Call 911 or send for help immediately.



Reserve Scholarship program established

The Reserve Officer Association Chapter 66 has created a scholarship program for dependents of members of the 507th Air Refueling Wing and 513th Air Control Group.

According to Maj. Mark Dodds, 507th Aircraft Generation Squadron Commander and Scholarship coordinator, "We are excited to offer this opportunity on behalf of the ROA."

To be eligible, Dodds said applicants must be a dependants of a reservists, either traditional or air reserve technicians (ART), or a full-time civilian employees of the 507 ARW and 513 ACG. Applicants must be a high school senior and must enroll in as a full-time student in a two- or four-year college or university within 12 months of award. Minimum Grade Point Average must be at least a 2.5 on 4.0 scale.

Dodds stated that an application form has been posted on the 507th ARW Local Area Network bulletin board but is also available from any ROA member. Forms are also



available at the 507th ARW Public Affairs Office. Applicants are encouraged to fill out the form, and include additional attachments on school activities and awards or honors as needed. In addition to the application form, applicants must also submit a typed, 500-900 word original essay entitled: "What is a Citizen Airman."

Dodds stated that the primary selection criterion will be the original essay. Other criteria such as school and community involvement and GPA will also be taken into consideration. Up to two letters of recommendation may be submitted, but are not required.

The deadline for this year's applications is May 30, 2002. Applications should be submitted to the 507th Public Affairs Office, ATTN: ROA Scholarship, 7435 Reserve Road, Suite 7, Tinker AFB, OK, 73145-8726. Applications should be mailed by May 23, 2002, in ensure timely delivery through the base postal delivery system, or hand delivered prior to the deadline.

Those selected to receive scholarships will be required to submit high school transcripts upon graduation and prove college enrollment prior to receiving scholarship funds.

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507th presents award to local employer

Col. Dean Despinoy, 507th Air Refueling Wing Commander, presented three certificates of appreciation to the Oklahoma City Public Schools (OCPS) for their support of the Air Force Reserve.

During a school board meeting on Monday, April 1st, Col. Despinoy presented the awards to the OCPS district Superintendent Dr. William Weitzel, on behalf of the Oklahoma City Public Schools, Executive Administrator of GEAR UP, Mr. Alan Ingram, and Assistant Executive Administrator of GEAR UP, Mrs. Ramona Coats. These awards were given in recognition of their efforts to support the Air Force Reserve and 507th ARW reservist, 1st

Lt. Bill Pierce of the Public Affairs Office.

"I'm very thankful that I work for an organization that completely supports my efforts as a reservist," Pierce said. Pierce, who returned to the 507th in October of 2001, had just started a new position with OCPS and wanted a way to show his appreciation toward his employers. "I took the time to nominate my supervisors and my civilian company through a program established by the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve," he said.

ESGR is an agency within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs. It was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve component members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment.

"Immediately following 9-11, Public Affairs was encouraging all reservists to submit their employer for a certificate of appreciation," Pierce said. "We had received 60 nomination forms from unit members and my task was to enter the nomination information on-line to request certificates for our people. I got to thinking, 'Why not submit my own employer names as well?' It just took a few minutes to accomplish, but it was worth the effort," Pierce said.

Pierce said that following the awards presentation, his supervisor sent him a note thanking him for taking time to recognize her. "She said it was an exciting honor and something

she would never forget," Pierce said.

To date, Public Affairs has submitted more than 60 nominations to ESGR on behalf of unit reservists. By turning in their forms to PA, the office was also able to create 60 personal letters of appreciation signed by the Wing commander. "We encourage people to submit their employers on line, but by asking if we could do this for our people, we were able to create a database to use for sending out personal letters," Pierce said.

Once the information is submitted on-line, a certificate will be mailed directly to the reservist's home address and should be received within six

weeks. After receiving the certificate, reservists are encouraged to contact their unit commander to arrange for a formal presentation.

For more information on how you can nominate your employer and or supervisor, please visit the ESGR website at <https://www.esgr.org/formMBIAP.html> or contact the Public Affairs office at 734-3078.



Col. Dean Despinoy, right, 507th ARW commander, presents a certificate of employer appreciation to Ms. Ramona Coats, of the Oklahoma City public schools. 1st Lt. Bill Pierce, left, nominated his supervisor for this recognition.

Submit those ideas

Members who feel they have an idea that could improve job performance, and save government money, are encouraged to submit it through the Air Force Suggestion Program. The criteria for successful recommendations can suggest improvements on almost everything including uniforms.

The big three items to consider is time saved, manpower saved, and money saved.

Submissions are easily done through electronic formats. There is no limit on the number of submissions. Monetary rewards may be received for ideas adopted. The maximum reward for one idea is \$10,000.

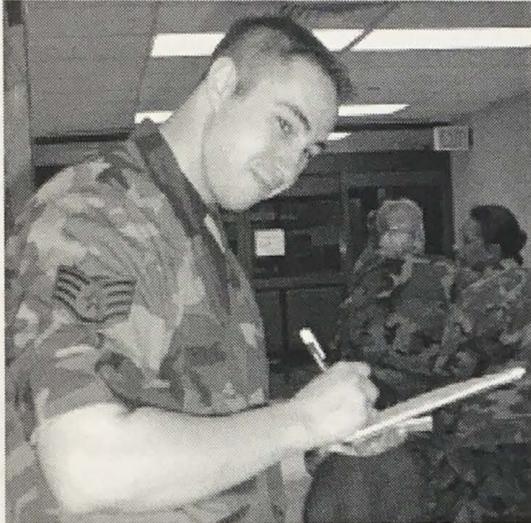
For more information go to the AFMIA Website at <https://www.afmia.randolph.af.mil/mip/mipp/idea/idea.htm>.

Uppclose

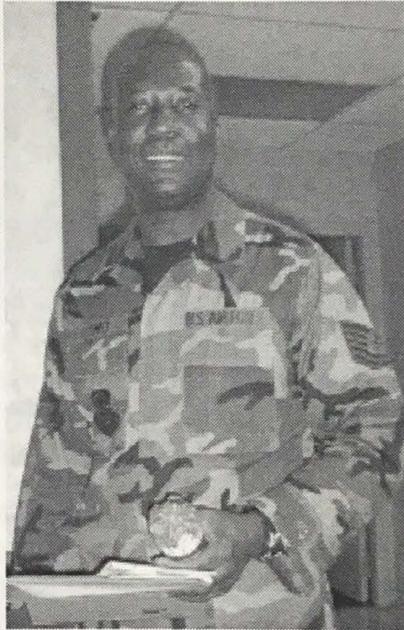
by TSgt. Ty Yoshida

The following was asked of members of the 507th Air Refueling Wing and 513th Air Control Group: **“What is an interesting fact that few people know about you?”**

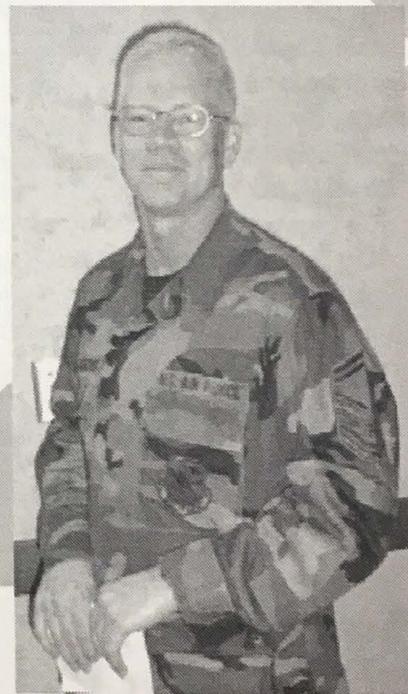
A1C Natasha Raigoza
507th Logistics Support Squadron
 “That I actually enjoy being in the military, because it gives me a sense of pride.”



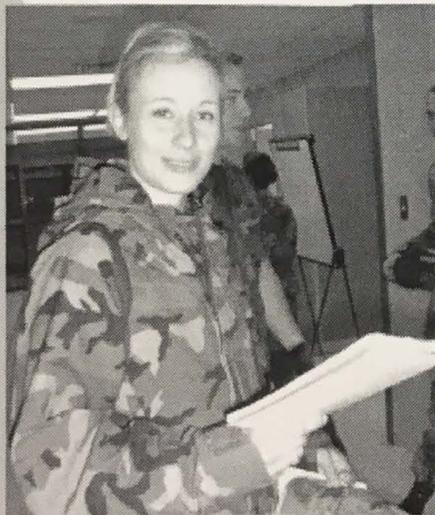
SSgt. Jay Smith
507th Communications Flight
 “I talk non-stop, so not very much. But most people don’t know that I am DJ Dvayne on 90.9 FM in Oklahoma City.”



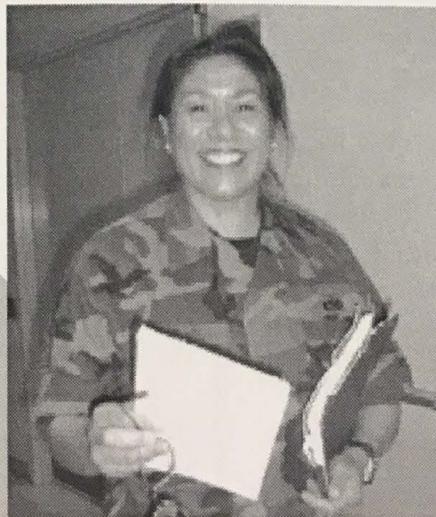
TSgt. Joseph Lomo
72nd Aerial Port Squadron
 “Being a registered nurse in my civilian job and process passengers and cargo with the military.”



SMSgt. Richard Sanders
507th Civil Engineer Sq.
 “I was planning to retire until stop loss came along. I’ll stay if needed.”



SrA. Barbara Majerek
507th Logistics Support Sq.
 “That I am a Special Purpose Vehicle mechanic, because I guess I don’t “look” like a mechanic.”



TSgt. Sandy Apodaca
970th Airborne Air Control Sq.
 “That I have a brilliant personality. I’ve been here at the 507th and 970th 15 years, so there is not too much most people don’t know about me.”



Show your coins

Nine members of the 507th Combat Logistics Support Squadron are pictured after receiving Wing Commander's coins for their efforts in supporting a 654th CLSS Operational Readiness Inspection. In all, 14 members of the 507th CLSS will be receiving Wing Commander's Coins for their outstanding efforts.



Supporting schools

Dr. Joe Pierce, principal of Orvis Risner elementary school, accepts a U.S. Flag from Col. James Kerr, commander of the 513th Air Control Group. Kerr arranged for the 513th ACG to fly the flag on an E-3 Sentry aircraft over Washington D.C. during a recent Homeland Defense mission.



New IG ready to serve

1st Lt. Mark Vardaro is the new 507th Inspector General. Normal IG open hours are from 2 to 3 p.m. on Sundays during drill weekends. If you have an issue to discuss, you may contact Vardaro at 734-6910 or via e-mail by writing Mark.Vardaro@tinker.af.mil.

A day at the 507th



The 507th ARW supported more than 60 area high school students recently during a tour of unit facilities. The day ended with a final stop at the Dining Hall.



Cole retires from Air Force Reserve

TSgt. Ricky "Peetie" J. Cole retired from the United States Air Force Reserve, April 6, 2002, after 26 years of service. He received a Certificate of Retirement and the American Flag flown over the United States Capitol in his honor. Cole was also awarded the prestigious Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding service to the United States while assigned as an avionics technician with the 507th Aircraft Generation Squadron, from Aug. 24, 1993 to Apr. 6, 2002.

In attendance were, Col. (Ret) Clifford A. Cole, father; Mrs. Patricia A. Copeland, mother; Marilyn Trask, sister; Ms. Cynda Novak, fiancée; and a host of friends and co-workers.

"Tech Sergeant Cole will be missed by his friends and co-workers in the 507 Air Refueling Wing," stated Col. David Beavin, 507th Logistics Group commander.

TSgt. Ricky Cole holds the American Flag presented to him at his retirement by Maj. Mark Dodds, 507th Aircraft Generation Squadron commander.

On-final R-NEWS

Fitness Center open on UTA weekends

Fitness Center West will remain open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. during UTA weekends to encourage members of the 507th Air Refueling Wing and the 513th Air Control Group to work toward their health and fitness goals.

All supervisors are encouraged to allow their personnel time to take advantage of this service during UTA weekends. May has been designated as "Fitness" month Air Force wide.

When you go to Fitness Center West starting in May, the Services technician can enter your profile into the FitLinxx database. This process takes about 45 minutes, but once initiated, it tracks all physical activity, from the amount of weight lifted and repetitions, to the total number of calories burned during your workout.

You can accumulate up to 500 points

per day for fitness activities which can be applied toward prizes such as T-shirts, hats, water bottles, etc. For more information, contact SMSgt. Terry N. Tunender, 507th Services, 734-5847.

Special Olympics seeks assistance

TSgt. John Beech with the 507th Civil Engineer Squadron, a promoter of the Special Olympics, is raising funds by selling T-shirts. Anyone interested in sponsoring the Special Olympics can contact TSgt. Beech at 677-2443. Please leave a message.

Day care offered

Fee-wavered daycare is available to reservists through the June UTA. Contact Ms. Shelly, 72nd Support Group at 734-7980 to make arrangements.

Volunteers sought for Honor Guard

Anyone interested in joining the Honor Guard please contact TSgt Kidd at 734-4226.

507th ARW Recruiters

Tinker AFB, OK

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



Moore, Norman, OK

MSgt. Dennis Orcutt
(405) 217-8311

Midwest City, OK

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