

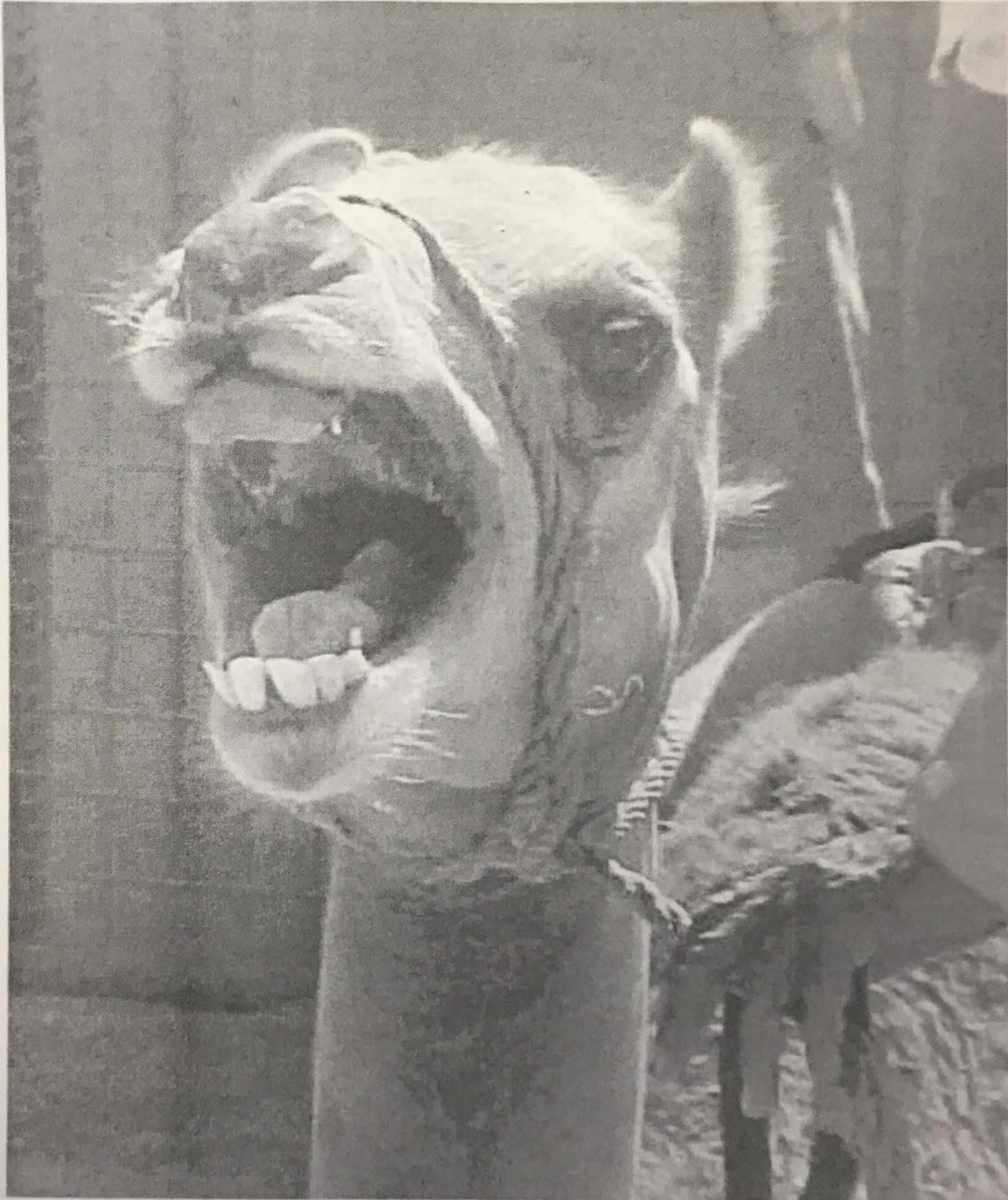
On-final



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

June 2003
Vol. 23, No. 6

Ahhhh.....



.... major military operations are over.

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

Don't get caught in rumor mill

The 507th is getting heavily involved in the transition period between the end of IRAQI FREEDOM and the start of the Expeditionary Air Force (EAF) rotation cycle. Forces must be brought back home so they can reconstitute and prepare to enter a "normal" EAF cycle to take care of the many missions that still exist overseas. Some forces will be required to stay in place or even move to a new location to be responsible for the missions overseas while other forces return home to enter this EAF cycle. The EAF cycles are normally numbered 1 through 10. However a Blue and Silver cycle will cover the transition period. People assigned to the Blue and Silver cycle will be a "stop gap" until cycle 1 and 2 can be deployed. It appears that some 507th personnel will be part of the Blue and Silver cycle.

A good portion of the 507th Operations Group and Maintenance Group has been deployed for IRAQI FREEDOM and it is our hope to bring as many of those people home as soon as we can. We have activated members here at home who have been performing the many state-side missions who will be swapped with these currently deployed members at the earliest opportunity. Unfortunately, we do not have enough people at home to make a one-for-one swap with all of our deployed members. This means that depending on the force required to perform the missions overseas, some of our deployed 507th members may have to stay deployed for a while longer.

Leadership here at home is not the one who creates the plan. In most cases we can only react to the deployed leadership and what has been approved by the senior leadership in the Area of Responsibility (AOR). The post-war requirements and overseas bases must be determined. Then the required

missions and number of personnel will be decided. Once this has taken place, a transition plan will be set in place. I know it is frustrating not to have your comrades and loved ones instantly home as soon as the news media stops covering the war. However, we all must realize the tremendous job it is to build and execute this transition plan. The task is even further complicated by post war military and political considerations.

In this day of almost instant communication, rumors can travel faster than the speed of light. There also seems to be an insatiable thrust for rumor and a natural desire to pass the information on to others. Many times these rumors were true or partially true but situations rapidly change making them false. With emotions high and the desire for us all to get back with our families, we latch on to what we hear, especially if it is what we want to hear. When what we expect does not come about, we are disappointed or in some cases feel betrayed.

Once the 507th leadership is officially notified of a firm plan from the AOR, we will inform you at the earliest opportunity. We all want the same thing; our people back home at the earliest time consistent with the needs of the Air Force and the overall needs of our Nation. In the mean time, hang in there and don't get caught up in the rumor mill.

SENIOR LEADERS ARE SAYING

• **Our tankers are the key enablers for combat ops** across the theater. They provide the required global reach and they make strategic attack, counter air, strike, CAS, interdiction, surveillance and reconnaissance possible. (CFACC, Apr 03)

• Since OIF began, we've had at least 200 strike aircraft airborne at all times conducting combat ops against the Iraqi regime. **All that we've accomplished wouldn't have been possible without great tanker support.** (CAOC Dir, Apr 03)

Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain (Capt.) Dwight Magnus
507th Chaplain's Office

The designer of the famous yellow smiley face received a mere \$45 for his work. Harvey Ball, a Massachusetts commercial artist, created the simple yellow face in 1963 as a morale-boosting campaign for two firms that had recently merged into the State Mutual Life Assurance Companies of America.

Because Ball never copyrighted his design, he received no proceeds when the cheery icon appeared countless times worldwide. In 1971 alone, 50 million buttons were sold. After Ball's death in April 2001, his son, Charles, said in an obituary that his father was never bitter about the small amount of money he earned from the smiley face and never regretted foregoing a copyright. He considered his greatest achievement not his famous logo but the bronze star he received for his heroism during the Battle of Okinawa.

Thanks for your heroic service.

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507th Air Refueling Wing Editorial Staff

507th ARW Commander- Col. Dean Despinoy
Chief of Public Affairs- Maj. Rich Curry
Deputy Chief of Public Affairs- 1st Lt. Bill Pierce
Public Affairs NCOIC- TSgt. Melba Koch
On-final Editor- TSgt. Tyrone Yoshida

Unit Public Affairs Representatives

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507th Combat Logistics Spt. Sq.- Capt. Rick Gale
507th Logistics Support Sq. - MSgt. Paul Victorian
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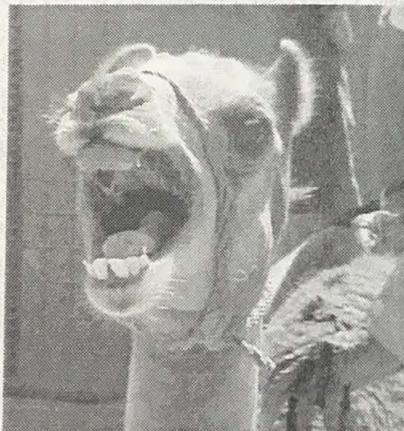
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On The Cover



Relief with major military operations in support of Operation Iraq Freedom declared over, members of the 507th ARW deployed at Moon Base Alpha have time to enjoy camel rides offered at the base.

USAF Photo



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

AMC vice gives high grades to Reserve, Guard support

"If I were to grade the performance of our Reserve and Guard forces, I'd give them a grade between an A-plus and an A-double plus."

**- Lt. Gen. John R. Baker
Air Mobility Command Vice Commander**

**By Maj. Rich Curry
507th ARW Public Affairs**

507th ARWAs the mission in Iraq continues, Lt. Gen. John R. Baker, AMC vice commander, took a few moments recently to praise the efforts of reserve component and aeromedical support during OPERATION Iraqi Freedom.

"If I were to grade the performance of our Reserve and Guard forces, I'd give them a grade between an A-plus and an A-double plus," the General said during a recent visit to the 507th Air Refueling Wing, Air Force Reserve, at Tinker AFB, Okla.

General Baker ironically noted that because superior reserve component performance has become routine, especially within Air Mobility Command, Reserve and Guard efforts has been greatly underappreciated outside the Air Force.

That is, the general stated, until their latest involvement in OPERATION Iraqi Freedom. "As a result of the reserve component's spectacular performance," he said, "everybody in Washington, D.C., is on the band wagon about the Air Force's Total Force operation, particularly with AMC. They now understand why we say we are 'Total Force' — because our guard and reserve forces can be mobilized and deployed within days rather than weeks or months like other services."

"We demand our guard and reserve forces to be ready all the time," General Baker said. "And because of the nature of our business, that's not hard to do. We have to fly to be proficient and to fly you have to fix the aircraft. That requires a large body of people to be good at their job and perform their job on a regular basis."

General Baker stated that this is not the case within the other services. "We have a luxury of being organized in the guard and reserve as whole units....squadrons and wings. In the other services, they may be scattered all over the place in small units. If you want to activate a brigade, you

may have to bring in people from five or six different locations who very rarely ever train together.

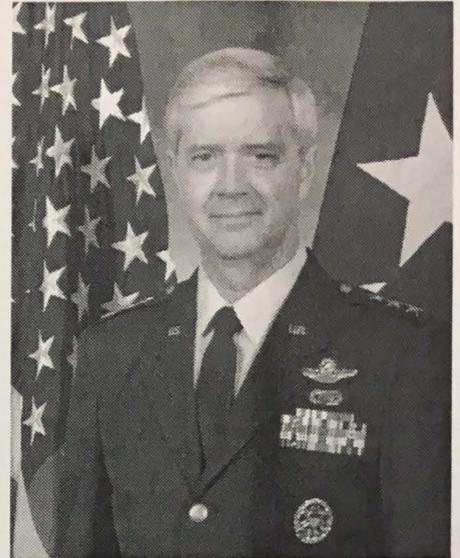
That's not the case with our team."

General Baker said another tremendous success story for Air Mobility Command came from the Aeromedical Evacuation, or AE, missions during OPERATION Iraqi Freedom.

"Because of the expertise in our global communications and command and control capability at the Tactical Airlift Control Center, when we received a phone call that a patient needed to be moved from position x to position y, we had no problems coordinating for immediate airlift," Baker said. "We know where all our aircraft are 24 hours a day. It is a piece of cake to pick an aircraft that's in that AOR, divert them to that location, put the patient on it and take them where they need to go. We've proven that over and over again and we have great confidence that this system works."

In addition to the positive control of all airlift assets and expert medical evacuation professionals, AMC also leveraged recent advances in patient transport capabilities as a result of purchases of universal Patient Support Pallets or PSP.

The PSPs are designed to go on any AMC aircraft. Those aircraft include all the "heavies," C-17, C-5, C-130, KC-10 and KC 135. "The primary purpose for air evacuation overseas is going to be like it was in Iraq," General Baker said. He stated that AMC is committed to buy several dozen more PSPs this year and next year. They will be propositioned primarily overseas to support our overseas operations. We're really pushing to make Air Mobility really tactical, rather than strategic, in the way it thinks about itself," he said.



Lt. Gen. John R. Baker

Reservists perform diverse missions in support of war

By Staff Sgt. Jeff Schoen

Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - Since the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom, more than three-fourths of Air Force Reserve Command's 14,000 mobilized reservists, as well as hundreds of volunteers, are performing critical roles supporting the liberation of the Iraqi people.

"(Air Force) reservists are doing a tremendous job throughout the area of responsibility," said Lt. Col. John Metz, chief of the war and mobilizations plans branch at Headquarters

AFRC.

"From aeromedical evacuations teams, close air support crews, civil engineers, security forces, long-range bombers, air refueling, air transport - you name it - chances are pretty good that we're involved," Metz said.

Secretary of the Air Force James G. Roche understands how much the Reserve has been contributing to the war effort.

"With the volunteer work of our (Air National) Guard and Reserve units, Air Mobility Command was able to have

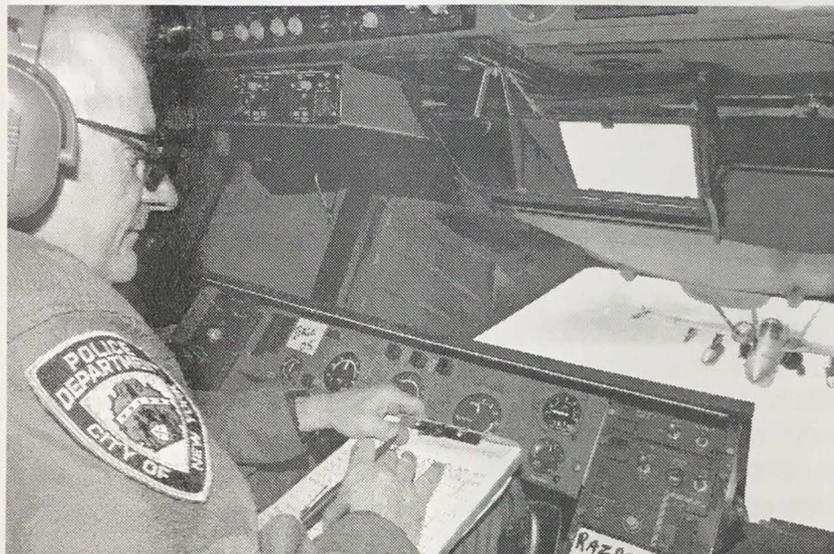
the people and supplies in place, so the president could act when he wanted to without going through a mobilization effort," Roche said April 4 during a visit with active-duty, Guard and Reserve commanders at Scott AFB, Ill.

Roche said the work from airlift and air refueling aircraft, as well as contributions from the aeromedical evacuation community, have been nothing short of history-making. He said these people should be proud of their efforts.

For example, AFRC C-17 transport aircrews from the 728th Airlift Squadron, McChord Air Force Base, Wash., participated in the airdrop of 1,000 Army paratroopers in northern Iraq during the initial weeks of the war. The nighttime airdrop was the largest combat airdrop since the invasion of Panama in December 1989 and a first for the C-17. The 728th AS continues to participate in airdrop and airland missions throughout Iraq.

Reserve C-5 transport aircrews operating out of Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass., and C-17 crews launching from Charleston AFB, S.C.,

(Continued on Page 6)



SMSgt. Anthony Bartolomeo, a KC-10 boom operator, delivers fuel to an F-18 Hornet flying missions in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Bartolomeo of the 78th Air Refueling Squadron and other reservists from Air Force Reserve Command's 514th Air Mobility Wing, McGuire AFB, N.J., are deployed to Burgas Airport and nearby Camp Sarafovo, Bulgaria, to support tanker operations. (U.S. Air Force Photo by MSgt. Dave Ahlschwede)

Chronology of events

May 1: President George W. Bush makes carrier jet landing aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln and declares, "Major combat operations in Iraq have ended. The battle of Iraq is one victory in a war on terror."

May 8: A series of tornadoes strike the Oklahoma City metro area at the height of the evening rush-hours, cutting a path of destruction about 35 miles long. The southern portion of Tinker AFB sustains some damage.

May 9: Metro area neighborhoods are wrecked by a second successive night of violent tornadoes.

May 8-9: 507th Family Support Center contacts spouses of deployed members to check on impact of tornadoes (property damage, injuries). Information is forwarded to deployed members.

May 12: Terror teams strike three residential compounds in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, killing 34, including 8 Americans and themselves.

May 16: Terrorists explode four bombs in coordinated suicide attacks at Spanish, Belgian and Jewish targets in Casablanca, Morocco.

May 18: Four suspects with apparent ties to al-Qaida are arrested in connection with the suicide attacks in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

May 22: The U.N. Security Council gives the United States and Britain a mandate to govern Iraq and use its oil riches to rebuild the country.

Reservists perform diverse missions (continued from page 5)

are involved in transporting needed food and medical supplies into the region. Since the fall of Baghdad and as hostilities subside, these supplies are reaching those Iraqis most in need.

Based in the AOR, C-130 crews from the 914th Airlift Wing, Niagara Falls International Airport Air Reserve Station, N.Y., are also involved in transporting needed food and medical supplies into the region.

According to Metz, AFRC transport aircraft played a major role in transporting troops, equipment and supplies to the AOR before the war began. They will probably be heavily involved in post-war activities, returning troops and equipment to the United States and delivering humanitarian supplies to the region.

Another unit that has shifted from a combat role to a humanitarian mission is the 433rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron from Lackland AFB, Texas. Members of the 433rd AES, who deployed with the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, began treating Iraqis injured during the war and transporting them to coalition medical facilities in the rear.



MSgt. Eric Draper scans the desert for threats as his HC-130 flies into a U.S.-controlled airfield in southern Iraq April 3. Draper is a loadmaster with Air Force Reserve Command's 39th Rescue Squadron, Patrick AFB, Fla., and is deployed to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. (U.S. Air Force Photo by MSgt. Stefan Alford)



TSgt. Ken Williams of Barksdale Air Force Base, La., and TSgt. Noel Peters, Luke AFB, Ariz., clean the lenses on a Litening II targeting pod mounted on a B-52 Stratofortress. The pod, which enables laser-guided bomb delivery with a laser spot marker, was used in combat on the B-52 for the first time April 11 in Iraq. (U.S. Air Force Photo by A1C Stacia M. Willis)

A C-141 Starlifter and aircrew from the 445th AW, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, transported 48 wounded U.S. servicemembers, including seven held as prisoners of war in Iraq, to Ramstein Air Base, Germany, April 16. The wounded were taken to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center for further treatment. Of the seven former

POWs, five were from the Army's 507th Maintenance Company that was ambushed along with Pfc. Jessica Lynch.

This was the second 445th AW mission involving POWs from Operation Iraqi Freedom. Five members of the 445th AES, along with a reservist from Charleston and McChord, cared for Lynch and 45 other wounded people during their C-17 flight to Andrews AFB, Md., April 12.

Reservists from the 920th Rescue Wing, Patrick AFB, Fla., and the 304th Rescue Squadron, Portland IAP, Ore., helped reduce the number of American POWs. They conducted search-and-rescue missions throughout Iraq looking for downed pilots and distressed ground forces and evacuating the wounded.

During a mission March 23, pararescue specialists aboard HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopters flew deep into Iraq to save seven U.S. Marines trapped behind enemy lines. On April 7, a rescue team braved severe weather to fly five miles south of Baghdad to care for two se-

verely injured soldiers and transfer them to a hospital in Kuwait. The next day a team flew behind enemy lines to extract an A-10 fighter pilot, who ejected from his airplane after it was hit while flying a close-air-support mission over western Iraq. The team flew the uninjured pilot to a coalition base.

Several A-10 Thunderbolts and aircrews from the 442nd Fighter Wing, Whiteman AFB, Mo., augmented by reservists from the 926th FW, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base New Orleans, La., are flying close-air support missions over Iraq. According to Metz, the 442nd FW is the only AFRC A-10 unit mobilized in support of OIF.

Approximately 130 reservists from the 419th FW, Hill AFB, Utah, went to the Middle East Jan. 9 for a 30-day deployment to

FACTOID

Some stats from Operation Iraqi Freedom: 423,998 U.S. military personnel were deployed; other Coalition forces sent an additional 42,987 troops. The war lasted 720 hours. The allies flew more than 41,400 sorties. The Coalition flew 1,801 aircraft - all but 138 were American.; lost 20 aircraft, but only 7 as a result of enemy fire.



Lt. Col. Shannon Wiley makes history as the first A-10 pilot to land at a forward location in Iraq April 30 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He is a reservist with Air Force Reserve Command's 303rd Fighter Squadron, Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. (Air Force Photo by SrA. JoAnn S. Makinano)

enforce the no-fly zone over Iraq. They were extended in place Jan. 28 by the Air Force chief of staff, and their F-16 pilots flew combat missions after the war began March 17. Litening II targeting pods, which provide real-time images in a continually changing battlefield environment, as well as software modifications, enabled unit pilots to deliver laser- and GPS-guided bombs that destroyed several key Iraq military targets.

"Once it became apparent that war with Iraq was inevitable, we wanted to get it over with as soon as possible," said Maj. Kevin Jens, a 419th FW pilot. "Most of us knew that the only way we were going to get to come home was to take care of business. That's exactly what we did."

Jens and eight other 419th FW reservists returned to Salt Lake International Airport April 17 and received a jubilant welcome from family members who proudly displayed flowers, flags and smiles. No timetable was given for when the other deployed members will return home.

"I was just standing there, eating my first American meal at McDonald's, and people were coming up to me in the airport and saying thank you," Jens said. "It was completely out of the blue but really nice to hear they were behind us."

Another returning pilot, Maj. Mark Lantz, recalled a different celebration on the other side of the world.

"Seeing the Iraqi people clapping and waving at the American soldiers ... that was probably the most rewarding (aspect) of being a part of that history to help the people gain their freedom," Lantz said.

For the first time in combat history, a B-52 Stratofortress with an AFRC crew from the 93rd Bomb Squadron,

Barksdale AFB, La., used a Litening II targeting pod to strike targets at an airfield in northern Iraq on April 11. The pod allowed the B-52 radar-navigator to designate the targets and direct laser-guided weapons without having to rely on another aircraft or person on the ground to "paint" the target with a separate laser designator.

As conditions in Iraq shift and the military transitions from a combat role to a humanitarian mission, mobilized reservists in certain career fields and units are looking forward to returning home and resuming their lives.

"Since 9/11, we mobilized more than 2,500 (security forces) reservists," said Master Sgt. Jeff Swartwood, security forces superintendent of contingency operations at Headquarters AFRC. "They came from every unit in AFRC. We still have more than 1,400 reservists in support of OIF, OEF (Operation Enduring Freedom), and stateside in support of Homeland Defense."

According to Metz, security forces is one of those critical Air Force specialties where reservists are on their second year of activation. "Normally reservists are activated for a year, but the secretary of defense has the option to extend these orders an additional year," Metz said.

In addition to security forces, members of some AFRC flying units are seeing their second year of activation in support of the global war on terrorism. They include E-3 airborne warning and control system aircrews from the 513th Air Control Group, Tinker AFB, Okla.; MC-130 crews from the 919th Special Operations Wing, Eglin AFB Field 3, Fla.; and HC-130 and HH-60 crews from the 920th RQW, Patrick AFB. (AFRC News Service)



Members of the Army's 86th Combat Support Hospital from Fort Campbell, Ky., and an Air Force C-130 medical evacuation flight crew load injured U.S. soldiers onto a C-130 aircraft for medical evacuation April 4. (Air Force Photo by SSgt. Quinton T. Burris)



513th ACG Commander's Column

By Col. James Kerr

The call to serve

On May 8, a series of tornadoes impacted on the Oklahoma City area and you responded. Some of you came out to the base to volunteer for recovery. Others directly responded to the needs of your neighbors. I consider myself blessed to have such a wonderful assemblage of selfless heroes in our ranks. Your response in a time of need is something to be proud of.

You were activated for two years to fight a war overseas against terrorists and despots only to be called upon again to "defend" your communities and homes from a natural disaster. That speaks volumes of your capacity to give to your country. You answered the call to serve again, but this time the need was on your doorstep and not a distant land. That night was the capstone for an amazing 20-month activation.

Since Sept. 20, 2001, members of the 513th ACG have flown more than 3,600 hours in support of Operations NOBLE EAGLE, ENDURING FREEDOM, and IRAQI FREEDOM. There are flying wings out there today who haven't seen those sorts of numbers for a comparable airframe since World War II. Those numbers are a part of the legacy you will leave to future generations. For them, that success is a standard to uphold and an expectation to live up to.

But the larger part of the legacy we leave will be in what we tell our children about the battles we fought, the disasters we faced, the triumphs of our will and losses felt in our hearts.

Will you tell your children proudly that what you did was

right because you want them to follow your example? Will you tell them in frustration that someone had to do something because you want to inspire them with a sense of purpose? Will you tell them in mock bravado that there was nothing else to do because you don't want them to see you cry? Will you tell them that you did it because you love them and that you would do anything to make the world a better place for them?

The important thing is that you tell them. With all the strength and conviction you can muster. They will listen. When the truth is uttered unadorned and simply, your words will fascinate children more than any Hollywood extravaganza. If you made a mistake, tell them why you made a bad choice and the consequences you dealt with. If you won trophies or medals, tell them of your friends who helped make those little victories possible. The pride you feel in your uniform is justified and your response to the May 8 tornado reflects that. Do not be like the 80-year-old veteran whose accomplishments are noticed only after the funeral when grandchildren rummage through the attic and find a dusty uniform with moth-eaten medals and a few faded photographs.

Some of you reading this today have expressed a desire to leave the service at the earliest opportunity. This is a personal choice and your commanders wish you God speed if you are determined to leave us, but this message applies to you as much as it does those who choose to stay: You made a decision to serve your country and the world is a better place because of that choice. Make sure your children are aware of the things you did for your country. Whether it was in search of an enduring freedom or in response to natural disasters, tell your children of what you did when you were called to serve.

So be thankful for your rich service life! Share it with you loved ones. And may God continue to bless you all.

Command sets policy for making up missed training

WASHINGTON – Air Force reservists who have been mobilized or demobilized or who served on voluntary military personnel appropriation tours in support of a contingency since Oct. 1 do not need to perform an annual tour between now and Sept. 30.

Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III, AFRC commander, approved a policy May 16 that exempts their annual tours and does not permit making up missed IDTs because of activation.

Unit reservists and individual mobilization augmentees, who return to reserve status and did not perform their annual tour, have until June 30 to request

an annual tour be scheduled if they want to perform it. Unit reservists make the request through their commander; IMAs go to their support organization. These reservists will receive "constructive credit" for missed inactive duty for training days.

Unit reservists on active-duty MPA or reserve personnel appropriation orders in support of contingency operations are considered constructively present and therefore ineligible to reschedule missed IDTs.

The situation varies for IMAs after demobilization. IMAs are allowed to begin performing four-hour IDTs again on a prorated basis. The number of IDTs they will be able to perform depends on when they

are demobilized and the number of IDTs they normally perform during a year. For example, if an IMA usually does 24 IDTs during a year and is demobilized June 15, he or she would perform six IDTs between July and September. Although June 15 makes a partial month, it is considered a full month of service for the purpose of prorating.

Command officials in Washington, D.C., said the participation policy for the fiscal year of Oct. 1, 2002, to Sept. 30, 2003, is designed to use available funds efficiently and to ensure people receive credit for time they served on active duty. (AFRC News Service)

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. Sharlotte 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. Sharlotte Epps in the MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.**

Tuition Assistance

Reserve members are eligible to apply for TA for Distance Learning and In-Residence courses to further their education up to a Master's Degree. **The basic enrollment requirements are as follows:**

- Be a participating member in good standing (no UIF, Article 15, etc.);
- Must have two years retainability at time of application;
- Enrollment form must show course number/title, credit hours and cost of tuition.

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

HQAFRC will approve/disapprove based on funding.

Payment occurs after satisfactory course completion. TA reimbursement amounts are set at 75 percent (\$3500) per FY (Masters) or 100 percent (\$4500) per FY (Bachelors). **For more information contact CMSgt. Epps in the MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.**

Attention

Tinker was scheduled for mass implementation Vred DD93's April 14-20. Of course this date has already passed and we have only received updates from 37% of our members. This is Air Force wide and everyone who has not updated their DD Form 93 on the Virtual MPF needs to do so ASAP. It can be accomplished from any computer with internet access by going to www.afpc.ranolph.af.mil. You will need to know your date of rank, pay date, and command (ex: AFRC) in order to sign on. Then click on the VMPF icon and follow instructions. Questions should be directed to Customer Service at 734-7492.

Senior NCO Academy Board Announcement

The next Senior NCO Academy board has been scheduled for Aug. 22, 2003, for FY 2004 classes (2004B) Jan. 21 - Mar 3, 2004, and (2004C) March 18 - April 28, 2004. Please submit all application packages to 507 MSS/DPTM NLT Aug. 5, 2003, for review and submission to the appropriate NAF. Application procedures were posted to the bulletin board on Mar. 13, 2003. Applications submitted after Aug. 5, 2003, will not be forwarded. Questions should be directed to MSgt. Dennis Cain at 734-7075.

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 215. You need to enter through the MPF main door (in the back near the ramps), turn right and take the stairs. 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 computer-based tests, call DPMT at 734-7075 at least two days prior to the UTA. Computer-based tests are also given Tuesday at 0730, Wednesday at 0800 & 1300, and Thursday at 1530. Call for an 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

Pass and ID hours of operation are from 1200-1600 on Saturdays of the UTA.

IEU Hours

Individual equipment issue is open from 1200-1500 on Saturday of the main UTA.

Nomination packages

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)

FY2003-04 UTA SCHEDULE

07-08 Jun 03	06-07 Dec 03
12-13 Jul 03	10-11 Jan 04
09-10 Aug 03	07-08 Feb 04
06-07 Sep 03	06-07 Mar 04
04-05 Oct 03	03-04 Apr 04
01-02 Nov 03	01-02 May 04

(As of Mar. 13, 2003)

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. Charlotte 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. Charlotte Epps in the MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.**

Tuition Assistance

Reserve members are eligible to apply for TA for Distance Learning and In-Residence courses to further their education up to a Master's Degree. **The basic enrollment requirements are as follows:**

- Be a participating member in good standing (no UIF, Article 15, etc.);
- Must have two years retainability at time of application;
- Enrollment form must show course number/title, credit hours and cost of tuition.

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

HQAFRC will approve/disapprove based on funding.

Payment occurs after satisfactory course completion. TA reimbursement amounts are set at 75 percent (\$3500) per FY (Masters) or 100 percent (\$4500) per FY (Bachelors). **For more information contact CMSgt. Epps in the MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.**

Attention

Tinker was scheduled for mass implementation Vred DD93's April 14-20. Of course this date has already passed and we have only received updates from 37% of our members. This is Air Force wide and everyone who has not updated their DD Form 93 on the Virtual MPF needs to do so ASAP. It can be accomplished from any computer with internet access by going to www.afpc.ranolph.af.mil. You will need to know your date of rank, pay date, and command (ex: AFRC) in order to sign on. Then click on the VMPF icon and follow instructions. Questions should be directed to Customer Service at 734-7492.

Senior NCO Academy Board Announcement

The next Senior NCO Academy board has been scheduled for Aug. 22, 2003, for FY 2004 classes (2004B) Jan. 21 - Mar 3, 2004, and (2004C) March 18 - April 28, 2004. Please submit all application packages to 507 MSS/DPTM NLT Aug. 5, 2003, for review and submission to the appropriate NAF. Application procedures were posted to the bulletin board on Mar. 13, 2003. Applications submitted after Aug. 5, 2003, will not be forwarded. Questions should be directed to MSgt. Dennis Cain at 734-7075.

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 215. You need to enter through the MPF main door (in the back near the ramps), turn right and take the stairs. 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 computer-based tests, call DPMT at 734-7075 at least two days prior to the UTA. Computer-based tests are also given Tuesday at 0730, Wednesday at 0800 & 1300, and Thursday at 1530. Call for an 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

Pass and ID hours of operation are from 1200-1600 on Saturdays of the UTA.

IEU Hours

Individual equipment issue is open from 1200-1500 on Saturday of the main UTA.

Nomination packages

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)

FY2003-04 UTA SCHEDULE

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12-13 Jul 03	10-11 Jan 04
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06-07 Sep 03	06-07 Mar 04
04-05 Oct 03	03-04 Apr 04
01-02 Nov 03	01-02 May 04

(As of Mar. 13, 2003)

Fri, 06 Jun 2003

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

Sat, 07 Jun 2003**Unit Designated Sign In**

0730-0930	Newcomers In-Processing	Bldg 1043, Room 201C
0730-0900	Wing Training Office Closed	Bldg 1043, Room 206
0830-0930	Unit Career Advisors Mtg	513th ACG Conf Room
0900-1000	6 Month Contact Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1, Rm 222 (Enter Door D)

0915-1115 Computer Based Testing**Bldg 1043, ATN Room**

1000-1130	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 1030, Room 214
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 1030, Room 214
1300-1400	Adverse Actions Mtg	Bldg 1043, Wing CC's Office
1400-1500	Training Managers Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room

1500 Wing Commander's Call**Bldg 1030, Hangar****1600-1630 Protestant Chapel Service****513th ACG Conf Room****Unit Designated Sign Out****Sun, 08 Jun 2003****Unit Designated Sign In****0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Conf Room**

0730-0930	MPF Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043
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0750-1115 CDC/PME Course Exams Bldg 460, Room 215

0800-1115	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II	Bldg 1030, Room 214
0830-1030	Supervisor Safety Tng	Bldg 1030, Rom 104
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1, Rm 222 (Enter Door D)

0930 Catholic Chapel Service**Base Chapel**

1115	Escorts pick-up Newcomers	Bldg 1030, Room 214
1300	SORTS/Post UTA Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1300-1600	First Duty Station	Bldg 1030, Room 214
1400-1500	IG period w/Capt. Vardaro	Bldg 1043, Room B-1
1500	Fly Safety Mtg	Bldg 1048, OPS Briefing Room

Unit Designated Sign Out**Fri, 11 Jul 2003**

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

Sat, 12 Jul 2003**Unit Designated Sign In**

0730-0930	Newcomers In-Processing	Bldg 1043, Room 201C
0730-0900	Wing Training Office Closed	Bldg 1043, Room 206
0830-0930	Unit Career Advisors Mtg	513th ACG Conf Room
0900-1000	6 Month Contact Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1, Rm 222 (Enter Door D)

0915-1115 Computer Based Testing**Bldg 1043, ATN Room**

1000-1130	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 1030, Room 214
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 1030, Room 214
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****Sun, 13 Jul 2003****Unit Designated Sign In****0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Conf Room**

0730-0930	MPF Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043
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0750-1115 CDC/PME Course Exams Bldg 460, Room 215

0800-1115	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II	Bldg 1030, Room 214
0830-1030	HazCom Training	Bldg 1030, Room 104
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1, Rm 222 (Enter Door D)

0930 Catholic Chapel Service**Base Chapel**

1115	Escorts pick-up Newcomers	Bldg 1030, Room 214
1300	SORTS/Post UTA Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1300-1600	First Duty Station	Bldg 1030, Room 214
1400-1500	IG period w/Capt. Vardaro	Bldg 1043, Room B-1
1500	Fly Safety Mtg	Bldg 1048, OPS Briefing Room

Unit Designated Sign Out

Attention

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Military Pay

File for pay by:	Receive Direct Deposit by:
05 Jun 03	14 Jun 03
10 Jun 03	18 Jun 03
12 Jun 03	21 Jun 03
17 Jun 03	25 Jun 03
19 Jun 03	27 Jun 03
23 Jun 03	01 Jul 03
26 Jun 03	03 Jul 03
01 Jul 03	09 Jul 03
03 Jul 03	11 Jul 03
07 Jul 03	15 Jul 03
10 Jul 03	18 Jul 03
Military Pay (405) 734-5016	

Newcomers Ancillary Training

Newcomers Ancillary Training Phase I & II are conducted **monthly** in **Bldg 1030, Room 214**. **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

BAQ Recertification Deadlines

If Last Digit of SSAN is:	Then Forward Listing to Commander in:	Recerti- fication 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	Sept.
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 1030, Room 214.

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 8:45 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1030, Room 214.

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.

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.

Editor:	CMSgt. Charlotte A. Epps, Chief, Education & Training (ART)
Assistant Editor:	MSgt. Dennis O. Cain, Asst. Chief, Education & Training (ART)
Contributing Editors:	TSgt. Sharon Lochman, NCOIC, Schools and OJT (ART)
	TSgt. Melanie E. Cherry, Education and Training Advisor
	Mr. John Baker, Education and Testing Services Advisor

Air Force launches massive campaign to thank parents of airmen

Secretary of the Air Force James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper launched a service-wide campaign May 5 to thank the parents of America's airmen for their support of their children's service.

The Air Force Parent Pin – or “P” pin – program encourages airmen to register on a secure Air Force web site, www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com, where they can provide the names and addresses of up to two parents (or parental figures). Shortly thereafter, the airmen's parents receive personalized letters from Secretary Roche and General Jumper containing high-quality lapel pins displaying the letter “P” cradled in the Air Force symbol. All airmen – active, Guard, and Reserve – are strongly encouraged by their chain of command to register on the web site and have pins sent to up to two recipients.

The pins are a contemporary adaptation of the World War II “E” flags that were used to recognize companies for contributions to the war effort, and they are presented on display cards that explain their lineage. The letters address recipients and airmen by name. They are intended to communicate to parents the importance of their children's service to the ongoing war on terrorism, to express sincere gratitude for parents' continued support, and to convey a sense of partnership between the Air Force and the parents of America's airmen.

This massive effort comes on heels of the Air Force's highly-



successful “E” pin program, which represented the first direct-mail outreach effort from the leaders of any of the armed services to employers across America. Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Command airmen voluntarily submitted contact information for more than 61,000 employers, each of whom received an “E” pin and a personalized letter from the Secretary of the Air Force and the Air Force Chief of Staff acknowledging them as partners in the war effort. Air Force leaders have received hundreds of supportive letters and e-mails from employers and airmen because of this program, and today, tens of thousands of employers are wearing Air Force “E” pins as pledges of support for the military service of their airmen.

Both the “P” pin and “E” pin campaigns are elements of the Air Force's Your Guardians of Freedom program. As families, employers, and communities across the nation share the burdens of military service, it is critical that commanders at every level reach out to cultivate the relationships that form the foundation of public support for their airmen.

Through a secure web site at www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com, the Your Guardians of Freedom program offers a flexible, user-friendly set of web-based tools that allow commanders and their staffs to quickly and efficiently reach out to key audiences on their bases, in their communities, and beyond.

Fraud on the Line: Avoiding “Do Not Call” Scams

Have you received a call from a company inviting you to preregister for the national “Do Not Call” list or a call asking to confirm your registration on a “Do Not Call” registry? If so, you may be the target of a scam, according to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the federal agency that is creating the national “Do Not Call” registry.

The FTC does not allow private companies or other third parties to “pre-register” consumers for the registry. Web sites or phone solicitors that claim they can or will register a consumer's name or phone number on a national list – especially those who charge a fee – are a scam. Registration on the new national “Do Not Call” registry will be free. The FTC says that once a consumer signs up with a “Do Not Call” registry, there is no need to confirm personal information. And the government will not call anyone to put them on a “Do Not Call” registry.

According to the FTC, consumers will be able to register directly with the FTC, or through some state governments, but never through private companies. The agency is gearing up to accept registrations beginning in July 2003 from con-

sumers who want to register online and who have an email account. For consumers who want to register by phone, a toll-free telephone number will be available. Phone registration dates will be scheduled by state during July and August. The FTC says summertime registrants should notice a downturn in telemarketing calls starting in October.

The FTC's Bureau of Consumer Protection says consumers can avoid these scams. Here's how:

Keep information about your bank accounts and credit cards to yourself – including the numbers – unless you know who you're dealing with.

Never share your Social Security number with a person you don't know.

Don't share your personal information if someone calls you claiming to represent a “Do Not Call” registry, an organization to stop fraud or even the FTC itself.

If you get such a call, either hang up immediately or write down the caller's organization and phone number and report it to the FTC at www.ftc.gov or 1-877-FTC-HELP, or to your state attorney general.

Brothers in arms**Unlikely deployment reunites family during war****By Capt. Shane Balken****401st Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs**

They weren't supposed to be here. Brothers thrown together as if a game of jacks was being played with aircraft and aircrew; each one being snatched up and dropped randomly at a Royal Air Force base in the eastern Mediterranean.

But before anyone could swipe them back up, two brothers turned a chance deployment into a family reunion while fighting the global war on terrorism.

Col. Tony Mauer, 100th Operations Group commander at RAF Mildenhall, England, and Maj. John Mauer, 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron, Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., are deployed to the 401st Air Expeditionary Wing in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Larger and more famous brothers have fought together in wars such as the five Bixby brothers during the Civil War when President Lincoln's now famous condolence letter to their mother was read in the film *Saving Private Ryan*. Additionally, five Sullivan brothers also made military history when they lost their lives serving together in WWII on the Navy cruiser USS Juneau before a Japanese submarine torpedoed their ship. But fortunately, this story has a happy ending.

As the number of aerial missions over Iraq came to a close, on a clear blue day in the eastern Mediterranean, the Mauer brothers accomplished something not many family members can say they've done - their third air-to-air refueling flight in three different aircraft.

Oregon natives, Col. Tony Mauer is a KC-135 Stratotanker pilot and Maj. John Mauer is a navigator with the E-3 Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS). Although only one year separates the two, their career paths couldn't have been farther apart. Raised in a military family, the Mauer's father was in the Air Force for 20 years and planted the seeds of military service in his sons.

"John and I have spent more time together on this deployment than we have in the last 10 years," said Colonel Mauer,

401st AEW vice commander. "I truly enjoy the Air Force. After 20 years, I still love what I'm doing," said Tony. After graduating from the Air Force Academy, he started flying EC-135s and KC-135Es, then switched to KC-10 tankers, and finally back to the KC-135R Stratotankers. In his career he has commanded at the squadron and group level and is set to

take over command of the air refueling wing at Fairchild AFB, Wash., later this summer.

"I've had many opportunities to leave throughout my career and fly with the airlines, but I love being an Air Force pilot. I have always been proud of being a tanker pilot and I take every opportunity to stress the importance of air refueling to my people and how important our mission is to the Air



Col. Tony Mauer, left, and Maj. John Mauer, stand in front of their respective aircraft.

Force," said Tony.

While Tony was in the academy, John enlisted in the Air Force and after a few years on active duty, decided he wanted to fly. "I went to the AF Academy prep school, but after the first year I decided the 5-year plan wasn't the way I wanted to earn my commission. I reverted back to being "Sergeant" Mauer and headed straight for the education office at Luke AFB," said John. Determined to fly, he finished his degree in the evenings, went to Officer Training School and earned his commission a year ahead of his classmates at the academy.

"I spent my career in the active duty as a back-seater (Weapon Systems Officer) in the F-4 and F-15E. Tony and I have always had a brotherly rivalry. I flew fighters and Tony never passed up an opportunity to let me know 'no one kicks ass without tanker gas'," said John. "I've never been stationed anywhere near Tony, so serving under him on this deployment has been a unique experience. For now I can't tell him 'you're not the boss of me'. Actually, I'm very proud of him. He pinned me on to Major when he was a Major, and look at him now."

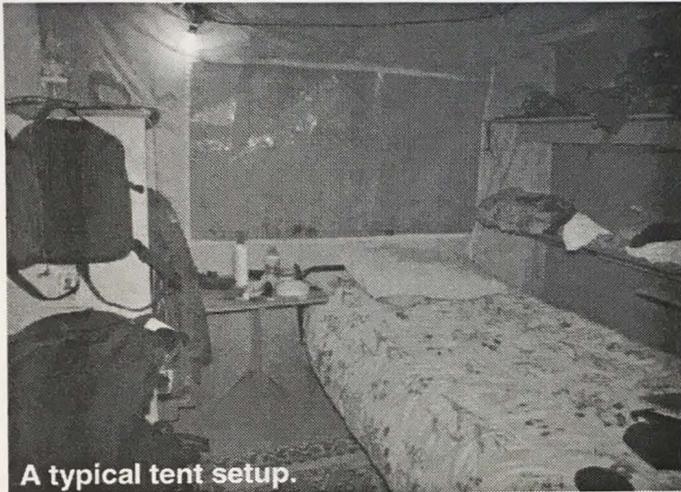
John retired from active duty in 1999 and after 3 years as a defense contractor, he heard of a new program that let active duty retirees join the Air Force Reserve. He was one of

Continued on page 12

A day in the life of a desert Okie....

By MSgt. Mahlon

...or shall I say the night in the life of a desert Okie. It really doesn't matter. Half of us work night shift while the others work days. Many of the routines are similar. Tent life is really something that just has to be experienced. Eight people are assigned to each tent. Each person has his/her own personal space, roughly 8 feet by 10 feet or so. Many of us have cordoned off our area with an extra sheet or blanket to give us that small amount of privacy. It's not much, but it's something. The bed is not exactly my Serta, but it's adequate. I mean it could be a GI-issue cot! Thanks to CE and extra wood, some of us even have a night stand. I actually have a few shelves and a locker. Dorm life it's not but livable. I feel that I adjusted right away due to the fact of my past deployments. One aspect that must be experienced is being inside the tent on



A typical tent setup.

a windy day. Someone has described it as if they could be in a lung; this is what it would be like. It expands and contracts wildly and you hope the tent stakes were driven very deep into the ground. The tents are air conditioned and can be very comfortable on a hot day. CE has proved invaluable to us and when one has broken down; it was repaired or replaced usually within eight hours.

The latrine facilities are about 30 feet or so away from the tent which dictates one getting dressed to utilize. They actually are trailers that contain our toilet and shower facilities. They aren't that bad. It pays to rise early so you don't have to stand in line to wait for a shower, although there are plenty of the trailers scattered about the camp and tent area. On hot days I have found that after a shower and the walk back to the tent I am again dripping wet, this time with sweat. The temperature

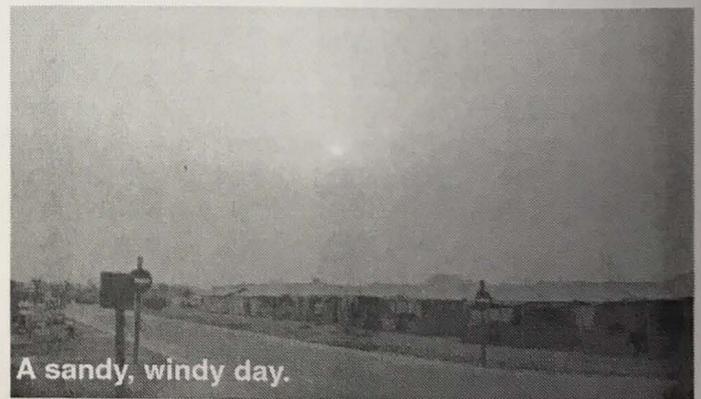
PAGE 10



Miniature golf course.

during the day can reach over 100 degrees easily. Some of us have found that a cool shower can be very comforting.

Our meals are provided by TCNs which stands for Third Country Nationals. Our particular group is from India and is extremely friendly. We are provided with four meals a day which caters to our work shifts. There's the occasional theme night in which a meal from a particular country is featured. So far only India night has been our least favorite. Needless to say it has not been repeated. Thursdays here means steak and lobster tails. And no it's not Red Lobster, but who can complain here. A word of caution to the spouses back home; hold off on the chicken and rice for a few months! We have had chicken and rice every way it can be had and then some. All in



A sandy, windy day.

all I feel the food is very good.

The working conditions have been pretty good since our deployment. Combined with our brethren from March AFB,

Continued on page 12

JUNE 2003

Air Force eases Stop-Loss restrictions

WASHINGTON - Air Force personnel officials announced May 14 the release of more than half of the Air Force specialty codes restricted from retirement or separation under the Stop-Loss program.

After a review of operational requirements, 31 officer and 20 enlisted career fields were identified for release from Stop-Loss, the officials said. Stop-Loss went in to effect May 2 and affected 43 officer and 56 enlisted AFSCs. (See list below of AFSCs released from Stop-Loss.)

The Air Force announced March 13 that it would implement Stop-Loss, a Defense Department program designed to retain members of the armed forces beyond their established dates of separation or retirement. The program also affected deployed airmen, regardless of AFSC, for the duration of their deployment. These moves were aimed at ensuring personnel levels were adequate to meet upcoming contingencies.

"It was not an action that we took lightly," said Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche. "It was designed to preserve Air Force skills essential to supporting the global war on terrorism and operations in Iraq."

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper said service officials have always said that they will use Stop-Loss only as long as necessary to accomplish the mission.

"We've reevaluated our requirements and are releasing these AFSCs because Stop-Loss is inconsistent with the fundamental principles of voluntary service," Jumper said.

Maj. Teresa Forest, chief of Air Force retirements and

separation policy in the Pentagon, said this announcement is the result of an in-depth review.

"A number of different factors went into the review process," Forest said. "We had to consider the balance between the active duty and the Air Reserve Components, as well as the need to remain responsive to changing events worldwide."

Deployed active-duty, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Command airmen whose AFSCs are released from Stop-Loss will not be allowed to retire or separate until their deployment is completed, Forest said. Reserve component airmen who are mobilized, but not deployed, will be demobilized according to ARC policy.

The actual "termination" of Stop-Loss has yet to be determined because the Air Force and the combatant commanders still need certain skills to directly support the war in Iraq, Forest said. More career fields will likely be released in the future, she said, based on input from different levels around the Air Force. However, if airmen experience a severe hardship caused by Stop-Loss, they can apply for a waiver through their chain of command.

"Many families have had to put their plans on hold because of Stop-Loss," Forest said. "We will make every effort to balance their needs with our commitment to operational requirements."

Additional information regarding the release of certain AFSCs is available at installation military personnel flights. (AFRC News Service from Air Force Print News)

Air Force specialty codes released from Stop-Loss May 14, 2003

The following officer primary Air Force specialty codes have been released from Stop-Loss, regardless of prefix or suffix except where indicated:

11BX bomber pilot
11EX test pilot
11FX fighter pilot
11HX helicopter pilot
11KX trainer pilot
12BX bomber navigator
12EX test navigator
12FX fighter navigator
12KX trainer navigator
12RX reconnaissance, surveillance, electronic warfare navigator
12TX tanker navigator
13BX air battle manager
13DXA combat rescue
13DXB special tactics
32EX civil engineer

43EX bioenvironmental engineer
43HX public health
43TX biomedical laboratory
44EX emergency services physician
44MX internist
45AX anesthesiologist
45BX orthopedic surgeon
45SX surgeon
46FX flight nurse
46MX nurse anesthetist
46NXE critical care nurse
46SX operating room nurse
46SA aerospace medicine specialist
48GX general medical Officer
48rx Residency trained flight surgeon
51JX judge advocate

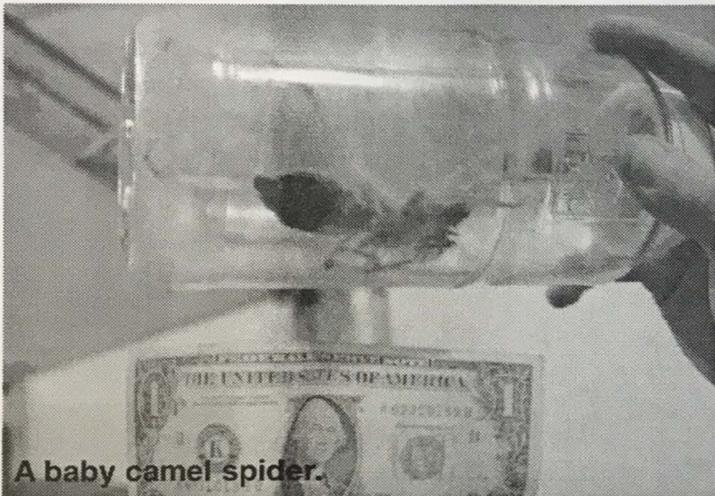
The following enlisted controlled Air Force specialty codes have been released from Stop-Loss, regardless of prefix or suffix except where indicated:

1C2XX combat control
1C4XX tactical air command and control
1S0XX safety
1T1XX aircrew life support
3E000 electrical (chief enlisted manager)
3E0X2 electrical power production
3E4X1 utilities systems
3E4X2 liquid fuels systems maintenance
3E5X1 engineering
3E7X1 fire protection
3E8X1 explosive ordnance disposal
3E9X1 readiness
3H0X1 historian
3N0XX public affairs
4A1XX medical material
4A2XX biomedical equipment
4B0XX bioenvironmental engineering
4E0XX public health
4H0XX cardiopulmonary laboratory
5J0X1 paralegal

A day in the life... (continued from page 10)

from the outset we have bonded very well. Many of us have worked together before so it was just like old times. One problem for us has been the fine sand here. It gets into everything. It has become a daily challenge to keep it out of critical components. What seems like haze on a windy day is actually a lot of the dust in the air. So much so at times it obscures the sun. It is not as bad as the chocking sand storms, but it can be an irritant. On the clear days, sun glasses are a must as well as sun block. We night shifters are lucky to avoid a lot high temperatures. One of our biggest threats was the humongous creature that ventured out only at night. Better known as the camel spider. These spiders are capable of speeds up to 10 miles per hour and can be as big as six inches by four inches. (These are the young ones).

Our off-duty time can be filled with plenty of activities.



The gym here is excellent. There is the cardio room where I spend 30 minutes every other day on a bike, and the weight

room which has some very good equipment. Late seems to be the best time to go as it is not as crowded. I enjoy an additional 30 minutes in the work room after the bike. A lot of people are taking advantage of the facilities and many are proud of their weight loss. The rest are walking around flexing their new-found muscles! If one desires they can enter one of the 5k or 10k runs or even the weekly bench-press competition. If the gym doesn't suit you, the recreation center has an abundance of activities. It's called the Oasis and has a court yard for people to just gather and unwind after a hard day or night. It also contains our morale trailer which houses the computers for e-mail and the phones. It has room used for movies that occasionally features just-released hits, and you can check out a DVD if you wish. There is always a spade, pool or dart tournament going on. We even have a miniature golf course and it has its own competition. I rather enjoy the basketball court especially late at night when it's cool. We even have had our own Saturday Night Live Show here. Groups competed for a gift certificate with the best skit modeled after the famous show. Two of our own won first prize. Imagine that, we actually have some talent in the unit! Oh did I mention that we have access to a beach here! It's really not that bad and I have enjoyed it immensely on the hottest days. One drawback though, it's not always open. All-in-all, the services personnel have done a tremendous job in trying to keep morale up. One of the biggest morale boosters has been the letters from home, especially the ones from the school students. My best moments have been to read the letters from the kids back home. Everybody has shared their letters at one time or another at roll call and breaks. These I think were the best care packages we received. They all came from the heart.

I feel I speak for everyone when I say we are proud to have been a part of this accomplishment. We were called on to do our jobs and everyone gave 150 percent.

Brothers in arms (continued from page 9)

the first officers to be approved by President Bush for the new program. "I still had some fight left in me, and luckily the 970th gave me another chance to serve," said John. In mid January 2003, he completed AWACS flight training and was deployed to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, six days later.

"I spent 60 days flying Operation Northern Watch missions, and I fully expected to fight the war from Turkey, but that wasn't what the Turkish parliament had in mind. They forbid us from conducting combat operations from their bases, so we had to move our whole operation on short notice. I knew Tony had also been deployed, but I didn't know where to, so it was awesome to have him meet me when I arrived," said John.

Just as their careers have taken different roads, intersecting only for brief moments in the air to pass some fuel, it was appropriate that they ended their time together here the same way.

"The first time I refueled John he was flying an F-4 in 1986 and we thought this could be a fairly common event for us over the course of our careers," said Tony. "However, it took ten years for it to happen again and this time in an F-15E. With John retiring soon after that, we thought it was our last opportunity. Now that John has returned to flying AWACS and we've done our third refueling, I don't want to say it won't happen again. With me going to Fairchild and continuing to fly KC-135s, who knows, stranger things have happened."

KC-135 to add communications relay

By Maj. Rich Curry
507th ARW Public Affairs

While predominantly known as a "flying gas station," the KC-135 aircraft has served in many mission roles throughout its 45-plus years of service.

The aircraft has been flown as a flying command post, an observation platform in compliance with the Open Skies Treaty, a zero-gravity simulator, and even more recently as a flying hospital.

Would you believe that this flying work horse will soon become a satellite? As fantastic as that sounds, with the installation of ROBE or Roll-on Beyond Line of Sight Enhancement equipment, the Stratotanker will be equipped with the capability to facilitate point-to-point data streaming of information just like any other communications satellite orbiting the earth.

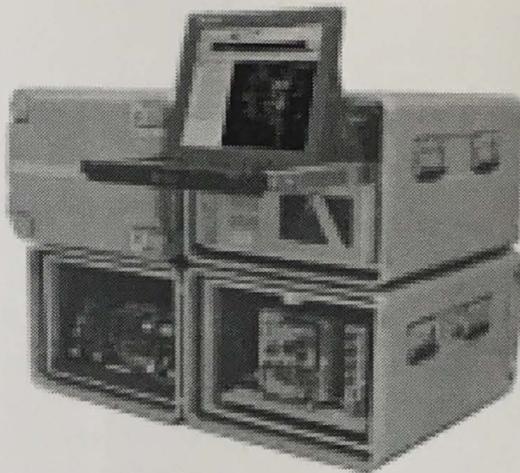
Lt. Gen. John Baker, Air Mobility Command vice commander, recently discussed the future of AMC as a long-hauler of communications traffic, "For years we were going to depend on commercial satellites to do our long-haul communications traffic. But we took a second look at the communications industry and guess what industry discovered? Satellites are expensive, fiber is cheap."

"I've received briefings from private leading communications companies where they said that satellites are too expensive and that their company was going to move to more land connection fiber," General Baker said.

Baker explained that in light of this information, a new question was formed. "The question we had to ask ourselves was, 'If civilian industry is going more in the direction of land-based fiber connections, and as a result we find we no longer have enough satellites to support the Air Force's long-haul, over the hori-

zon communications, what are we going to do?'"

Immediately after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the Air Force recognized a need to move faster toward network-centric warfare. One of the goals



for Air Force transformation is the integration of military assets in support of informational warfare. The "smart tanker" provides an added value during the execution of air-refueling missions by simultaneously using the aircraft as airborne "nodes" of a warfighting communications network.

According to General Baker, "One of the goals for Air Force transformation is the integration of military assets. The "smart tanker concept", which expands the air-refueling mission by including an additional role as a communications platform, is a perfect fit. We directed this transformation effort to increase the use and effectiveness of our tankers because they are always there, close to danger zones or flying intercontinental routes as part of Air Mobility Command's airbridge."

The ROBE system is roughly the size of the small 2-by-4-foot galley already in the tanker and is strapped to the floor of the aircraft similar to any other pallet.

ROBE is the first in a family of Scalable, Modular, Airborne Relay Terminals that will be used aboard tankers. The SMART system could also be used on other platforms, such as unmanned and ground- or sea-based vehicles, said Air Force officials.

Initially ROBE will be a data relay that will allow line-of-sight/beyond-line-of-sight communication among network members. Officials said the objective is to connect battle directors in an air and space operations center with those en route to or in a theater of operations.

As seen in OPERATION Iraqi Freedom, information superiority is just as important as air superiority. Making rapid, accurate battle decisions requires up to the second information. "If you're doing any combat operations, guess whose always going to be there? Our tankers," General Baker said. "If we put a ROBE system on our tankers, knowing they will always be there, it will provide that over-the-horizon capability we need. The ROBE system will boost a signal to and from every friendly force in the theater, whether it's a Joint Star, AWACS, F-16, F-22 or even aircraft carriers, without using a satellite."

But make no doubt about it, General Baker said, "A tanker will always be a refueler. It will only be tasked to do refueling. All the discussion regarding ROBE is that it will have zero impact on our refueling missions. The ROBE is just something to be placed on the aircraft that will be transparent to the crew. Our refueling aircraft are too valuable to park out there (in orbit) and only use it as a relay platform. We're really pushing to make Air Mobility really tactical, rather than strategic, in the way it thinks about itself."

Uppclose

by TSgt. Ty Yoshida

The following was asked of unit members during the May UTA:
“During off-work hours, do you spend time on a computer? What do you do?”



MSgt. Cindy Bischoff
507th Mission Support Flight

“As a parent of an 8th grader, I’m on the web helping with her homework.”

1st. Lt. Roslyn Rayford
507th ARW / ME

“As an 8th grade teacher, I connect with the parents with assignments, grades, and have conferences to discuss concerns.”

SSgt. James Wilson
507th Aircraft Generation Squadron
(Photo not available)

“Most of the time at home I’m repairing them. Not often, but some times I do get to play games.”

SrA. Charles Hightower
507th Logistics
Readiness Squadron

“I spend most of my computer time e-mailing - my dad overseas, friends overseas, church friends, and family.”

SSgt. Shirley Roberts
507th Mission Personnel Flight
(Photo not available)

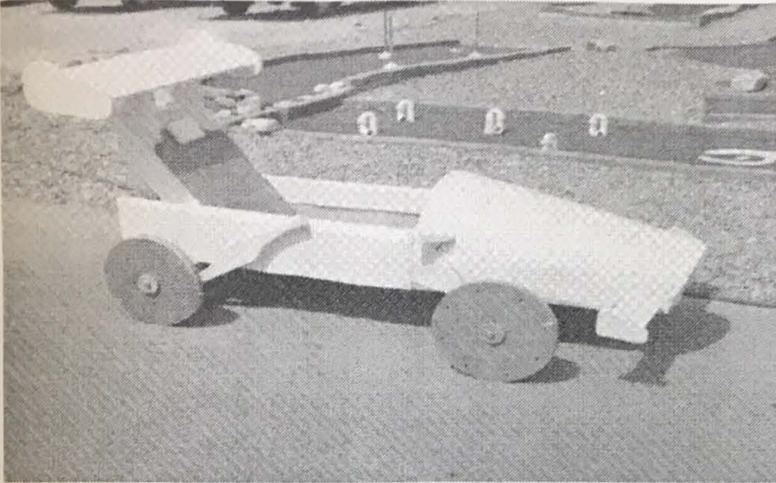
“I usually check e-mail, answer e-mail, update my palm pilot, and play games.”



SrA Adrian Alcorn
507th Logistics Readiness Squadron

“I am in college so I use the computer often to do research or to chat with friends.”





Go speed racer

This is one of 10 entries submitted by teams for the Soapbox Derby taking place at a deployed location. Pictured is Maj. Rick's Formula-1 racer, the prototype, when it was about 80 percent complete.

Beware of gel candles

There's been a lot of e-mails circulating around about the dangers of gel candles. The Consumer Product Safety Commission also warns of their hazards and even has some recalls, but really no more than wax candles. However, there is one fact that may contribute to these "explosions" that keep being reported. Gel candles do burn hotter than wax candles. That could contribute to their containers failing. One case was substantiated where a gel candle burned a woman. The candle was in the bathroom and "exploded" all over her hand. Three weeks after the accident, she still suffered from loss of feeling in the hand, as well as severe burns that may require skin grafts and plastic surgery.



A refueling milestone

Crewmembers on board a unit KC-135 when the unit passed the 15 million pound refueling mission were, front row, from left: TSgt. Steve (crew chief), TSgt. Jack (crew chief), and TSgt. Bryan (specialist); and back row, from left: Capt. Trey (co-pilot), TSgt. Frank (boomer), and Capt. Jon (pilot).

Parting shots



These American flags, hanging inside refueling jet 63-8039, were purchased by unit deployed members, flown during refueling missions throughout the theater, then mailed back to family members in the U.S. TSgt. Ami (last name withheld) hung the flags on her jet for the flight.

On-final R-NEWS

Mandatory to update Emergency Data card on vRED

As many of you are aware vRED (Virtual Record of Emergency Data) took the place of the DD Form 93. The 507th ARW & 513 ACG implementation date was April 14 through April 20, 2003 and many individuals have not accessed vMPF and completed their Emergency Data card. It is mandatory that all active duty and reserve personnel complete this form. You will need to access the AFPC secure website and go into the virtual MPF (right side), click on the military option and continue to follow the steps. **You will need to know your date of rank, payday and command** (Air Mobility Command, Air Combat Command, Air Force Material Command). This can also be completed from your home computer at your convenience, it is not "MIL" restricted.

Feel free to call Customer Service at 734-7492 if you need any assistance. <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil>

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Requirements posted for obtaining base decals

Pass & ID/3001 Badging Office are having numerous problems with personnel obtaining decals.

The following is required to obtain decals: **NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**

NEW CAR REGISTRATION: Valid drivers license, proof of insurance, proof of ownership, and ID Card

YEAR UPDATE: Valid drivers license, proof of insurance, and ID card

VEHICLE DECAL NOT READABLE: Scrape decal off and put scraps in envelope and bring to Pass & ID or 3001 Badging Office. **Do not throw the scrapes away they are necessary so we can delete the original decal out of the system.** You will need: Drivers license and proof of insurance

Correct use of credit on account

If a government credit cardholder has a credit on the account, that person needs to call BOA, (800) 472-1424, and request a check. The bank will then send a check for the amount. Using the card to recover a credit when not on military orders is not a good option.

507th ARW Recruiters

Tinker AFB, OK

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



Moore, Norman, OK

TSgt. Gene Higgins
(405) 217-8311

Midwest City, OK

TSgt. James Vaughan
SSgt. Marvin Greene
(405) 733-9403

Altus AFB, OK

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

Lawton, OK

SSgt. Kamela Thigpen
(580) 357-2784

Tulsa, OK

MSgt. Pam Peterson
(918) 665-2300

Vance AFB, OK

MSgt. David McCormick
(316) 652-3766

McConnell AFB, KS

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