

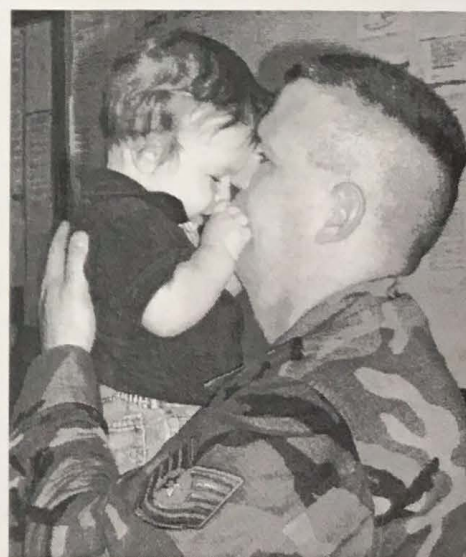
On-final

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



July 2003
Vol. 23, No. 7

Members return. . .



. . . while others depart

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

513th ACG Mission: Citizen-airmen extending America's Global Power operating the world's best airborne battle management, warning and control platform.



Commander's Column

By Col. Stayce Harris,
507th Air Refueling Wing
vice commander

Let's keep a "Family Focus"

Summertime generates thoughts of reunions, vacations, barbecues and fun times with family and friends. As a reservist you not only have your family at home, you also have your "Okie" family at the wing. We know that you have been spread thin between your families at home, your Okie family, friends, work and possibly school. We do not take your service for granted. You are volunteers and everyday we are thankful that you are proud and willing to serve your nation.

When I arrived a year ago, I witnessed the sense of family in the 507th ARW. I often tell people there is nothing like the Okie spirit. It's welcoming, caring and sincere. I immediately felt at home here and have enjoyed getting to meet so many of you. You are resilient, powerful and full of compassion for others and determined to get the job done. You set the example for others to follow.

As in most families though, there is always room for conflict or "drama", but the key is to find the common ground, agree on a solution and press on. There will always be differences of opinions and personality conflicts just like in any family. But you get through them with maturity, reasoning and understanding.

We've had many challenges in this past year alone with our support of Operations NOBLE EAGLE, ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM. In addition, many organizations like our Civil Engineers have been performing humanitarian relief projects in Central America and here in the states. Then, in addition to our military taskings, we have to face Mother Nature and endure another tornado. But through it all our Okie family continues to endure, overcome

and bounce back like a champion.

You know what you've accomplished as a wing and it is phenomenal. Every group, squadron, flight and individual has served the 507th, the Air Force and the nation with dignity and honor. Every individual in the wing has a role in helping the 507th accomplish its numerous and varied missions and each contribution is very important. We're all like pieces in a jigsaw puzzle and the puzzle is not complete unless every piece is in place. So take a moment to pat yourself on the back for a job greatly done and know that you personally have contributed greatly our nation's freedom.

We're also fortunate to have the overwhelming support of your families and friends as witnessed during Family Day and the send-offs and homecomings for our deployed troops. Our Family Support Team and their volunteers, many of which are your family members, have done a remarkable job. They've kept family members informed and have organized the most wonderful activities for the youth. Your families know they've got an extended family here at the 507th. It's tough to leave home and deploy but we hope we're making your homecomings sweet and comforting your families while you are deployed.

During this summer season when families spend more time together, I encourage you to enjoy and treasure these moments. You may be planning to "summer" with your 507th family on a deployment to Moron AB with maintenance and operations, Cyprus with the CLSS, New Mexico with Civil Engineering or Hawaii with the Aerial Port, just to name a few.

Wherever you are, Stay Safe! Cherish the memories and good times. We as a nation have fought hard for the freedoms we have and should enjoy them. You've worked together through campaigns and have contributed greatly to the mission. Take some time to relax and recharge. We thank you for your devotion to duty and your nation.

You are all America's heroes.

Chief of staff thanks Reserve

EDITOR'S NOTE: Gen. John P. Jumper, Air Force chief of staff, sent the following letter to Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III, commander of Air Force Reserve Command.

Dear General Sherrard

The men and women of Air Force Reserve Command performed superbly during Operation Iraqi Freedom. The world witnessed joint warfighting at its best and the critical role played by well-trained and well-led airmen.

Airmen from the Reserve were pivotal to the coalition's successes in the war. Our nation's military was able to achieve rapid victory because of the dedicated service of these great citizen airmen. The loyalty and courage displayed to their nation is a model for all airmen to follow.

Please relay my sincere appreciation to all the members of your command. May God bless our great Air Force and our great nation!

Gen. John P. Jumper

Air Force chief of staff

Volume 23, No. 7

JULY 2003

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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

June proved to be a busy month with multiple returns and departures for reserve members. Just a few of those scenes are depicted above.

U.S. Air Force photos



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

Oklahoma reservists return from SW Asia



A welcoming committee of family members enthusiastically greet Wing reservists upon their return to Tinker AFB, Okla.

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

More than 100 reservists from the 507th Air Refueling Wing returned to Oklahoma last month after nearly serving four months forward deployed in support of OPERATION Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Family and friends were on hand during last month's returns to greet their loved ones back home during several arrival dates.

But even as the unit's mission at "Moon Base Alpha" ends, the 507th ARW steps up to support an Aerospace Expeditionary Force mission in Europe, said Col. Dean Despinoy, wing commander.

"We still have a mission to perform overseas," Despinoy said. He explained that with the presidential declaration of the end of major hostilities, the Oklahoma reservists will now take up a new challenge.

"Our unit was already scheduled to spend a rotation overseas during this time to support ongoing defense operations. We are simply stepping away from one mission and up to another," Despinoy said. But since the unit's new mission in Europe does not require as many aircraft and personnel, some members are getting a chance to come home.

Initially, 230 reservists from the 507th ARW were activated last February with more than half forward deployed

overseas to Southwest Asia.

"The reservists who were activated on February 27 are still on active duty," Despinoy said. "At our new location, we will be teamed up with other reserve refueling units and won't have to have as many people or aircraft deployed. We are hoping to set up shorter, regular rotation schedules for our people to allow them to return home to spend time with their family before going back overseas."

The deployed reservists represent an operational flying package consisting of aircrew, maintenance and assorted support positions. With additional taskings added since February, today nearly 250 of the unit's reservists are activated.

Under this partial mobilization, 507th ARW reservists are called to active duty for one year with the possibility of extension to no more than two years. The two-year upper limit includes time for mobilization, demobilization, and accrued leave. The deployed reservists will remain in place unless called to deploy to another location.

"We are working intensely to support our activated forces. At the same time, we will continue supporting vital refueling requirements for Homeland Defense," Despinoy said.

Volunteers from the 507th have already played a large role in each phase of the Global War on Terrorism, refueling aircraft during air bridge operations overseas and stateside in support of national security efforts since Sept. 11, 2001.

Some hardships permit reservists to stay mobilized

By 2nd Lt. Lance Patterson
Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - When warranted, mobilized reservists may request to remain on or get off active duty because of personal or financial hardship caused by mobilization, early deactivation or demobilization.

"Waivers are for those airmen who qualify for a hardship," said Col. Mike Cleveland, director of personnel at Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command. "We look at each situation, whether it's a request to remain mobilized or a request to demobilize early. Our goal is to return airmen back to the same position of civilian life they had before being mobilized."

For example, a captain was mobilized in December 2001 and discovered she was pregnant in February 2002. A C-130 aircraft commander, she was grounded from flying due to her condition and would continue in that status until after her delivery date.

The captain wanted to be demobilized yet remain a reservist assigned to her current unit. Her boss, the operations group commander, stated she could serve effectively in non-flying status in her unit as a traditional reservist. Her wing commander and numbered air force commander concurred that she would better serve the Air Force Reserve as a demobilized traditional reservist.

Her request for demobilization was staffed through Headquarters AFRC and was approved by the AFRC vice commander. Her request was then forwarded to Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, Ill., and the Air Force Reserve headquarters received approval to demobilize her shortly thereafter.

The outcome of this action satisfied the needs of a "very valuable member of the AFRC team" and at the same time satisfied the requirements of her unit, Cleveland said. In addition, the Air Force kept a fully trained C-130 pilot and saved more than \$1 million by not having to train another person to take her place.

Circumstances that may prevent an individual from returning to civilian status also are considered in hardship requests.

"Reservists with approved cases may be retained for a period up to but not exceeding the original activation period," said Paul Clement, chief of the Personnel Readiness Operations Branch at Headquarters AFRC.

For example, a staff sergeant was mobilized in November 2001 for 12 months but was identified for early demobilization, which would cause a major financial hardship for his

family. His wife had a life-threatening health problem, and because of its severity she was unable to obtain health insurance coverage.

After being activated, his family was covered by TRICARE Prime, which would pay for a medical procedure to correct his wife's condition. They scheduled the surgery for September 2002, based on the premise that his spouse's surgery and follow-up visits would be completed within the transitional health coverage period following the end of his original 12-month activation order. Deactivating him before November 2002 meant there would not be enough medical-eligibility time remaining to cover his wife's follow-up visits, which would cause a huge financial hardship for the family.

The staff sergeant submitted a fully documented request, supported by his unit, wing and NAF commanders. His request was approved by the AFRC vice commander, so he remained mobilized for the entire 12 months and his wife was able to have her medical problems corrected.

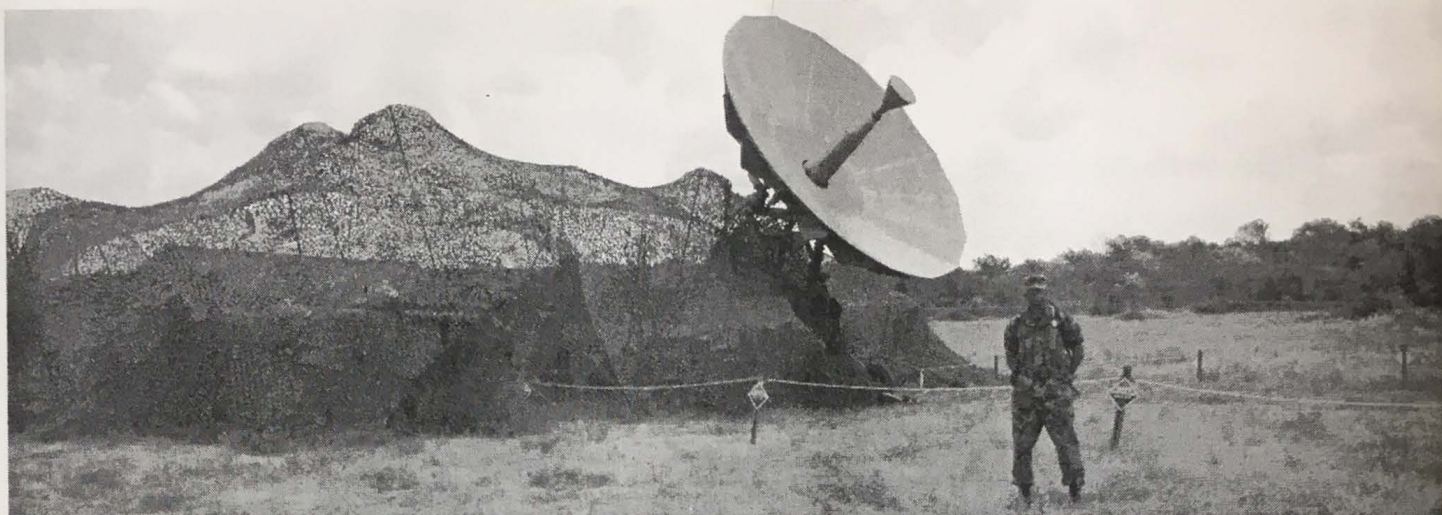
In another case, a mobilized airman was being demobilized early, which would conflict with when he was to resume full-time college classes.

When he was mobilized in April 2003, he withdrew from college because he expected to be mobilized for a year. After being mobilized for 55 days, he was told he was being demobilized, which would cause a problem because he could not get back into school until the fall of 2003. He submitted a hardship request to remain mobilized until August 2003, and it was approved.

The hardship application process starts by individuals applying at their unit military personnel flight. Applicants must conduct an initial interview with the MPF within two duty days after they entered the initial 30-day reconstitution period. The MPF will inform members of necessary documentation and explain the hardship process, which includes a statement that the application package must be submitted to the MPF at least 10 duty days after the initial interview. The unit MPF reviews the package for completeness and forwards the request to its numbered air force.

Reservists should provide a detailed explanation of the hardship, said Clement. Supporting documentation may include, but not be limited to, leave and earning statements, and applicable statements by employers, doctors, judge advocates, chaplains and creditors, as well as financial institutions, universities, schools or the Employer Support for Guard and Reserve.

For more information contact the 507th Military Personnel Flight at 734-7491.



35th Combat Comm Squadron test their gear during annual tour

Story and Photos by SSgt. Lenard Brakebill
507th ARW Public Affairs

When summertime comes upon us, we think of camping, lake trips and long, hot days. Maj. Pete Peterson, 35th Combat Communications Squadron commander, took his squadron camping last month, but they didn't do any fishing at the lake nor cook smores by the campfire. Instead their annual tour exercise at Glenwood meant setting up various tri-tactical (TRI-TAC) service equipment which is new to the unit and lunches of MREs.

"This was the first time since our unit's activation that we've had all the communications equipment together at the same time. Our objective during this exercise was to help everyone familiarize themselves with the equipment and learn how everyone works together to create mobile communications capability," Peterson said.

The most visible piece of gear deployed at Glenwood was the unit's 20-foot satellite dish. According to unit members, the satellite package was set up in seven hours, beating a required set-up time of eight hours. With the 20-foot satellite set up, the unit was able to simulate worldwide communications and track satellites.

Unit members also set up their TTC-39 van and went live. "It's a mobile switch board," said A1C Aaron Smith. The TTC-39 is used in the field to connect all phones at a base.

The unit also has high volume air conditioners and the power professionals to power them. MSgt. Feaster Williamson, a HVAC technician, was a very popular individual during the annual tour. His first priority was to make sure the unit's electronic equipment had sufficient air conditioning to keep them working properly. His second priority was to keep places cool for squadron members.

Also receiving vital training in Glenwood was the unit's small management element responsible for keeping activities operating smoothly and everyone working together.



MSgt. Feaster Williamson makes the final connections to the air conditioner during the 35th Combat Communications Squadron exercise at the Glenwood training area.

SrA Richard January, 35th Combat Communications Squadron, helps deploy camouflage netting around the squadrons 'go-to-war' assets during the unit's annual exercise. His unit spent three nights at the Glenwood training area.



Various family members get a first-hand look at the mission of the 35th Combat Communications Squadron during a Family Day held last month.



SSgt. Gary Graham erects a 20-foot satellite dish as part of 35th CBCS training. The final step will be to cover the unit with camouflage netting.

A1C Aaron Smith replaces a telephone switch card during his system testing of the TTC-39 van, a mobile switch board, used in the field.



513th ACG Commander's Column

By Col. James Kerr

Honor, Pride and Duty

Someone once said that William Shakespeare captured every nuance of the human condition in his writings. Love. Envy. Sacrifice. Madness. Honor. Pride. And even though he died close to 400 years ago, he captured the essence of today's 513th within his works as well. Let me set the stage for you...

The year is 1415 and the English forces led by Henry V are preparing for the ultimate battle at Agincourt. For close to two years, English soldiers have been uprooted from their lives to foil French expansionism and crept slowly across North-western France, seizing Calais and other cities in an attempt to win back what had once been English possessions. The French forces, however, are aware that Henry's troops have been weakened by the distance from England and the years of toil and warfare and have lured the English troops into what seems a certain victory for the French. The French have sufficient numbers to crush the English.

Morale on the English lines drops as heavily-armored, highly skilled French knights engage in hit-and-run attacks. Two years of fighting and for what, the soldiers ask?

For honor.

This is where you come in, the men and women of the 513 ACG. Though the lines in Shakespeare's writings are set on a battlefield, they apply to you and the future of this organization. Henry's soliloquy, the famous "Band of Brothers" speech is arguably the finest dramatic interpretation of what leadership meant to the warriors in the Middle Ages and evokes the spirit of a king who ruled through the strength of his convictions and by force of his personality.

Those among you who plan on leaving this unit upon deactivation, we will not stop you. Your orders will be cut, we will give you that last paycheck you have more than earned, and wish you well. But those of you who choose to stay and remain with this august organization can stand proud as we face the missions ahead of us tomorrow. September 20 will be an anniversary for you and the date will rouse you with honor and steely determination. Even in your old age, the date will always carry over its special meaning known only to members the days of our fathers.

***You have served your country
honorably in ways and to
degrees that few others have.
Such a calling speaks well of
the quality of person you are
and you've accomplished so
much.***

Old men will forget the events of their lives, just as the world forgets yesterday when it prepares for tomorrow, but you'll remember what feats you did during those two years. The names of your commanders and coworkers will be as familiar to you as household words and be freshly remembered. Some of you will teach your children of your sacrifices in somber reflection and you'll see the spark ignite in their eyes as your words rouse them to dream of such a calling.

The world will forget, but we in it will always remember each other. We are a band of brothers and sisters, bound together by our desire to defend a nation. Whether you are friends or rivals with the person in the office next door, that desire makes us all equals and we can reasonably deduce their motivations as easily as we know our own. Within the ranks of this organization, you will find the nuances Shakespeare described so eloquently. You may even find something he missed. The mission may be coming to an end, but the road goes ever on for the 513 ACG. I pray God grants us the wisdom to travel it proudly and the wit to weather any misfortune together.

Those who decide to stay after Sept. 20 will build upon the legacy you have created and their reputations will swell with honor and purpose. And those who leave may someday regret

their departure while others speak about those who stayed and went on to even greater deeds.

Even though I am not a king, I have always been proud and honored to lead all of you—and equally proud of the trust and faith you have shown in me. I hope you consider my words with that same measured respect.

Life for this unit after Sept. 20 is as uncertain as that day at Agincourt. But like Henry V and

the English forces who stood by him, we too shall triumph over the day. Henry V successfully rallied the troops and carried them to victory, ultimately creating a peace between two warring nations. In today's era of diplomacy and cutting-edge technology, the definition of "victory" has blurred, but remains just as important. The war we face now isn't one of slings and arrows, but of maintaining morale and pride.

This July UTA will be the last for some of you. Some of you will return to the civilian world and restore your life to what it was before September 11. I just ask you to think about everything you've done and all the memories you've gained. You have served your country honorably in ways and to degrees that few others have. Such a calling speaks well of the quality of person you are and you've accomplished so much. Take pride in your achievements and let that passion feed the

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 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.).

Retainability: Officers - two years; Enlisted - ETS after course completion.

Enrollment form must show course number/title, credit hours and cost of tuition.

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

HQ AFRC 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.**

PRIOR SERVICE BONUS INCREASE

Prior Service enlistment bonus (ONLY) has increased from \$5000 to \$8000 effective 1 June 2003. Questions should be directed to MSgt. Mark Stewart in the Wing Career Advisor's office at 734-7491.

SENIOR NCO ACADEMY BOARD ANNOUNCEMENT

The next Senior NCO Academy board has been scheduled for 22 August 2003 - for FY 2004 classes (2004B) 21 January - 03 March 2004, and (2004C) 18 March 28 April 2004. Please submit all application packages to 507 MSS/DPMT NLT 05 August 2003 for review and submission to the appropriate NAF. Application procedures were posted to the bulletin board on 13 March 2003. Applications submitted after 05 August 2003 will not be forwarded. Questions should be directed to MSgt. Cain at 734-7075.

ATTENTION

Tinker was scheduled for mass implementation Vred DD93's 14 Apr 2003 through 20 Apr 2003. Of course this date has already passed and we have only received updates from 57% 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.randolph.afmil. 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.

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 taking computer-based tests, call DPMT at 734-7075 at least two days prior to the UTA. Computer-based 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)

FY2003/2004 UTA SCHEDULE

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
06-07 Dec 03	05-06 Jun 04
As of 12 Jun 2003	

ATTENTION

Tinker was scheduled for mass implementation Vred DD93's 14 Apr 2003 through 20 Apr 2003. Of course this date has already passed and we have only received updates from 57% 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.randolph.afmil. 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.

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

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 0845 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.

Military Pay

File for
pay by:

15 Jul 03
17 Jul 03
21 Jul 03
23 Jul 03
29 Jul 03
31 Jul 03
05 Aug 03
07 Aug 03
11 Aug 03
14 Aug 03
18 Aug 03
Military Pay (405) 734-5016

Receive Direct
Deposit by:

23 Jul 03
25 Jul 03
30 Jul 03
01 Aug 03
06 Aug 03
08 Aug 03
13 Aug 03
15 Aug 03
18 Aug 03
22 Aug 03
27 Aug 03

BAQ Recertification Deadlines

If Last Digit of SSAN is:	Then Forward Listing to Unit Commander in:	Recertifica- tion 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

If you need assistance or have suggestions on how we can improve our service to you, please call us at (405) 734-7075, or stop by our office in Bldg. 1043, Room 206.

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TSgt. Melanie E. Cherry, Education and Training Advisor

Mr. John Baker, Education and Testing Services Advisor

Maintenance squadron seeks first sergeant applicants

Applications are being sought for the 507th Maintenance Squadron first sergeant position.

Submit all applications to MSgt. Robert Enriquez or TSgt. Caroline Rutledge, 507 Mission Support Flight Employment office, third floor of building 1043, by Aug. 6, 2003. An applicant review board will be held during the August drill to make a decision.

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

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

For additional information, call MSgt. Enriquez at 734-7493.

Paralegal opening available in 507th ARW Legal Office

The 507th Legal Office has an opening for a Paralegal, E-6, AFSC 5J051. Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

*Prior active military, reserve, or guard any AFSC (minimum 5 skill level in AFSC required, unless no 5 skill level is awarded for that AFSC)

*Minimum General AFQE score: 50

*Minimum typing speed: 25 wpm (must provide written proof of testing)

*No previous convictions by courts-martial, punishment under the provision of Article 15 of the UCMJ, or convictions by a civilian court except for minor traffic violations and similar infractions.

A formal interview will be conducted by the Law Office Manager and the Staff Judge Advocate prior to selection.

Members should be prepared to submit the following:

Biography and/or resume, letters of recommendation, all available APRs/EPRs, college transcripts

If selected, members will also need to submit an AF Form 1288, Application for Ready Reserve Assignment.

All completed retraining packages are forwarded to AFRC/JAE for final review and approval/disapproval.

****If selected for retraining, member must attend six-week paralegal technical school (3-level school) at Maxwell AFB, AL within one year of assignment.

For more information, call TSgt. Paula Pate at 734-3823.

Wing Hq seeks individual to fill Historian position

An opening exists for the position of Wing Historian; an E-6, traditional reservist slot. The historian performs and manages historical activities, programs, and functions. He provides historical research and reference services. Performs research, interviews personnel, and prepares analytical historical publications. Assembles and maintains historical document repositories for reference and research.

Other requirements: Training – For award of AFSC 3H031, completion of a unit historian development course is mandatory.

Experience: Prior qualification in any AFSC at the 5-skill level or higher (3-skill level if no 5-skill level exists). Overall rating of 4 or 5 on last five enlisted performance reports. Outstanding military bearing and conduct. No record of an Article 15 or conviction by court-mar-

tial. No record of conviction by a civilian court, except for minor traffic violations or similar infractions. Ability to type 20 words per minute.

For award and retention of AFSCs 3H031/51/71/91/00, eligibility for a Top Secret security clearance according to AFL 31-501, Personnel Security Program Management.

For more information, contact Maj. Don Satterlee at 734-5543.

Family Support hosts kids swimming party

507th ARW Family Support office sponsored a swimming party for the children of activated members. During the day the participants ate lunch at McDonalds and enjoyed themselves at the Iszard Pool on base. "The pool party was a huge success with both the parents and the kids. I was very impressed with the Iszard pool facilities. Kids un-

der six had fun in the kiddie pool, while kids seven and up took advantage of the tube slides, diving board, and pavillion (which we took over). Both kids and parents were able to enjoy the pool as every hour on the hour adults were afforded sole occupancy of the pool even though it was only for 10 minutes. The kids and families had so much fun that we have already talked to the Iszard pool about reserving it for an up coming party for 507th friends and family members," said

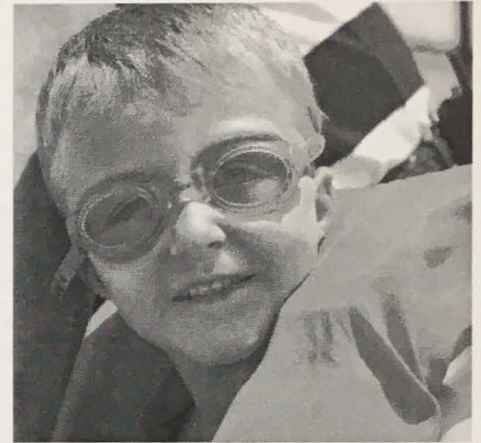
Capt. Mark Vardaro, Family Support director. "The pool life guards and staff were extremely supportive. This is one of many facilities that are available to our reservists to enjoy."



Carol Wingo, daughter of MSgt. Darryl Wingo. Photo by SSgt. Lenard Brakebill



Logan, son of SrA. Ronald Delay. Photo by 1st. Lt. Bill Pierce



Andrew, son of TSgt. Phil Wilburn.
Photo by SSgt. Lenard Brakebill



John Thomas, son of MSgt. Michael Plante. Photo by 1st. Lt. Bill Pierce



MSgt. Darryl Wingo, 507th ARW Family Support Cell, shares family support information with the 513th ACG during a demobilization briefing. Wingo and MSgt. Tina Proulx distributed over 180 packets containing resources to assist in the transition back to civilian life for the reservists.

Financial Peace University comes to Tinker AFB

Would you invest \$80 today to improve your financial position by \$8,000 thirteen weeks from now? Does a 100:1 return sound too good to be true?

According to Maj. Meredith Andersen, 507th Exercise Training Team Chief and Financial Peace University facilitator, that's exactly what people can expect after attending this financial management course on base.

"Unlike those get-rich-quick schemes, individuals and families that attend this 13-week course offered by FPU typically reduce their debt by \$5,300 and increase their savings by \$2,700 by the end of the course," Andersen said.

According to Andersen, FPU is an entertaining and educational video series developed by best-selling author and nationally syndicated radio personality, Dave Ramsey. It's designed to teach **singles, couples, and single parents** effective, time-proven principles to better manage all aspects of their finances.

The 13-week structured program, covers how to:

- * Put together a spending plan that **Really Works**
- * **Get out of debt** and stay out of debt
- * Build **security** with an emergency fund
- * **Confidently Invest** for the future

* **Eliminate Stress** caused by financial problems

* Improve your relationships

* Make **Wise Insurance Decisions**

* **Take Back Control** from creditors

* **Negotiate** big bargains

* **Buy and sell a home** and come out on top

* **IRAs, 401k and other Retirement Plans** work

The class costs \$80 with the tuition providing a lifetime membership and all course materials (course workbook, audio lesson tapes, computer financial programs and forms, and the best-selling hardback book, Financial Peace). As the base sponsor, the Chapel doesn't want anyone to miss out and will provide scholarships to those with a need.

The course starts Thursday, July 17th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Chapel Room 1. A free course orientation will be offered on Thursday, July 10th at 6 p.m. in Chapel Room 1. To register for the course, contact Maj. Andersen at 760-8601 or 734-2266, or Chaplain Jeff Taylor at 734-3948.

For more information about the program, log onto www.daveramsey.com and click on "Financial Peace University."

Air Force to survey reservists about workplace

By 2nd Lt. Lance Patterson
AFRC Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – This year, for the first time, the Air Force Climate Survey will include all Air Force reservists.

Feedback from last year's study, formerly the Air Force Chief of Staff Survey, prompted the Air Force to involve a larger audience in the survey, which will seek factors affecting the day-to-day mission, leadership and availability of resources. Results of the online survey will serve as the baseline for the Total Force.

This year's survey, which will run from Oct. 1 to Nov. 23, has been expanded to include members of the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard, as well as non-appropriated fund civilians and students.

"Sustaining the world's preeminent air and space force requires continued ex-

cellence in the work environment," said Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III, commander of AFRC, in a May 27 letter to reservists. "This survey will provide valuable information to all reservists and Air Force leaders. By taking a few brief moments to fill out this survey, you can help your leaders understand your concerns and ultimately better serve you and our nation's interests."

The Air Force Climate Survey 2003 will be easily accessible and user-friendly. Comments will not be edited or filtered and will provide valuable feedback, including new ideas from members.

The survey will seek input on issues from every major level of the Air Force. It will serve as a tool to measure the climate of an organization, asking participants to evaluate factors having the greatest influence on their service – general satisfaction, unit performance out-

comes, recognition, teamwork, supervision, training, career development, job enhancement, resources, participation and unit flexibility.

The survey will also provide anonymity with software masking techniques that do not attach the respondent's user ID and password to survey responses. Respondents will be asked not to write self-revealing details in the comments portion of the survey.

Survey organizers said the Air Force Climate Survey 2003 will not be a quality of life survey because it will not solicit information or feedback about base facilities and functions, pay or benefits.

The results of the survey will be released in February 2004 to unit leaders. More information about the survey can be found at <https://afclimatesurvey.af.mil>. (AFRC News Service)

New joint installations reflect multi-service use

By 2nd Lt. Lance Patterson

Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

This summer nine Air Force Reserve Command installations will be re-designated joint bases or stations to reflect the multi-service use of the facilities.

Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III, AFRC commander, initiated the change. At his suggestion, the civil engineer at Headquarters AFRC completed a survey of the installations where the command is the host and determined nine locations qualify for joint status. The locations and their future designations are: Dobbins Joint Air Reserve Base, Ga.; Grissom JARB, Ind.; Homestead JARB, Fla.; March JARB, Calif.; Minneapolis-St. Paul Joint Air Reserve Station, Minn.; Niagara Falls JARS, N.Y.; Pittsburgh JARS, Pa.; Westover JARB, Mass.; and Youngstown JARS, Ohio.

"The primary change is simply to insert 'joint' in the installation title," said Thomas Hovey, chief of civil engineer operations at Headquarters AFRC. "No other relationships will change.

"We are compiling data from the installations and plan to submit one package to the Air Staff," he said. "Our goal is to publish special orders and complete the process by July 31."

Homestead is a special case, since action is on going to convert it from an air station to an air reserve base with the signing of a supplemental record of decision. This action officially transfers the airfield to the Reserve, according to Hovey.

"This will take effect after completing the property documentation transfer from Air Combat Command and publishing Air Staff special orders," he said. "We anticipate this action to be completed by June 30."

One AFRC installation that's not changing its designation is Gen. Mitchell International Airport ARS in Milwaukee. The Reserve's 440th Airlift Wing is the host, and there are no major tenants assigned as part of the installation. Although, the Air National Guard's 128th Air Refueling Wing shares the same airfield, it is on a separate installation. (AFRC News Service)

Being a reservist requires 'juggling act'

by MSgt. Scott Elliott
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Recognizing that Air Force reservists must balance military obligations with family and civilian-employment requirements, the service's senior reservist pledged to reduce unnecessary pressures.

"I want to say 'thank you' to families and employers — they make great sacrifices in order for Reserve members to participate with us and do the things we ask of them," said Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III, chief of Air Force Reserve and commander of Air Force Reserve Command.

"It's a real juggling act for the reservist, who must do the things we ask, their employers and, most importantly, their families," he said. "The sacrifices each of them (makes) in support of that Reserve member are very much appreciated."

Although it is still too early to tell if the increased operational tempo caused by operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom will ad-

versely effect retention, Sherrard said the Air Force Reserve is working on ways to ensure its airmen want to remain in uniform.

"What we need to do is work with each member to maximize their training opportunities in the time they have available so we don't put undue pressure and excess requirements on them," he said.

"It's important for us to make sure we do that," he said. "It helps the member in terms of achieving their training requirements, and it helps the Air Force in doing our missions daily,"

That goal may require the Air Force Reserve to do business in new ways, the general said.

"(We need to) make sure we have as efficient an operation as we can so that we maximize the time a member is with us and not put undue stress on them by having them come back for additional training due to some oversight or lack of planning on our part," he said.

Sherrard said he is also working with senior Air Force leaders to review reservists' entitlements and ensure mobilization

predictability within the air and space expeditionary force construct.

"We have just over 14,000 members still activated," he said. "We're working with the combatant commanders and Air Staff to bring them home."

Besides being concerned with reconstituting the readiness of his forces, Sherrard said he is committed to protecting Reserve airmen and their families from degraded benefits.

"We need to make certain we don't do anything that puts them in a circumstance not befitting their service," he said. "More importantly, we need to protect their families so we don't have someone who loses medical coverage or has a real financial hardship ... as they transition back into their civilian jobs."

"What we never want to lose sight of is that our members are volunteers," he said. "We need to do everything humanly possible to provide the requisite benefits and protections for their families as they do the things that are asked of them."

Golf tournament raises funds for Family Support

The first ever Moon Base Alpha Best Ball Scramble was held on June 3, 2003 to help raise funds for the 507th Air Refueling Wing Family Support office.

The day started off cloudy and rainy, but like every rainbow there was a pot of gold at the end. As a result of the scramble, \$780.51 was presented to the Family Support Office.

Capt. Karen Baskin, Engineering Section Officer in Charge, Civil Engineer Squadron, single handedly organized the event to raise money for the Family Support Office and provide an activity that aided in keeping morale high. "Back in mid April I had the thought of putting a golf scramble together for the Operations Group and in speaking with Col. Dean Despinoy he suggested that we include other squadrons. In the end this became an entire wing event, not only providing a morale booster for the troops left behind, but a fund raiser as well, ben-



Capt. Karen Baskin, golf tourney organizer, presents a check for \$708.51 to Capt. Mark Vardaro, Family Support director. Col. Stayce Harris, 507th ARW vice commander and Command Chief Master Sgt. Robert Kellington assist.

Photo by 1st. Lt. Bill Pierce

efiting the families of those deployed. This couldn't have been pulled off without the participation of the 507th Recruiters and the donation of those awesome goodie bags, Capt. Monty Buchanan's continuous feedback, Family Support's

input on the trophies, Major Sandy Chasteen and the Services team for assisting with the check in table, and a special thanks to everyone for their volunteer spirit including MSgt. Natasha Nelson-Palmer," said Baskin.

According to Capt. Mark Vardaro, director, Family Support, "the tournament was an awesome event and I really don't think it could have gone over any better than it did. Capt. Baskin did a wonderful job coordinating and managing the tournament. In fact, she did such a great job, everyone I've talked to wants this

to become an annual Wing event. Her efforts will have a lasting impact on the Wing and our Family Support program. The funds will be used to award volunteers' for their support of our office."



Lt. Col. Mike "Baby Tuck" Tucker swings during an Okies versus Renegades softball game for the first time this season. The Okies won by a score of 14-13. The 507th and 513th were able to field three teams and one coed team. Check the bulletin boards for upcoming games and go out and support the wing.

Photo by SSgt. Andy Stephens

HRDC strives to improve opportunities

Last month, Col. Stayce Harris, 507th ARW Vice Commander, introduced the new Reserve Human Resource Development Council co-chairpersons for upcoming year.

Selected to steer the HRDC were Capt. Adrian Mahone and MSgt. Cynthia Bischoff.

The Reserve HRDC is an open committee with representatives from units within both the 507th ARW and the 513th Air Control Group.

The focus of the Council is to advise and make recommendations to the leadership of both units on matters pertaining to human resources. Its areas of interest include, but are not limited to, work force development, career development, assignments and promotion opportunities. The overall goal of the HRDC is to create and maintain a fully developed, skilled and diversified work force. The committee promotes the concept that all Reservists and civilian members should be afforded the training opportunities that will enable them to maximize their potential, in accordance with the needs of the command.

After reviewing and finalizing the council charter, the committee formed three initial focus teams to address topics relating to recruiting, retention and professional development.

"I'm very excited to see the HRDC begin moving forward on these critical issues," said Colonel Harris. "We've known for a long time the dedication, skill and talent our personnel here apply to their jobs. We're taking that same talent and skill to make sure that we create the best working environment possible and that we create programs to help everyone achieve their maximum career and professional potential. I'm looking

forward to seeing great successes come out of this council."

During the meeting, the council members discussed a wide range of challenges to be addressed. Some of the issues that will become the focus of the group range from exploring and offering suggestions to lower Career Development Course failure rates, by looking at ways to promote better study techniques and supervisory skills, to the creation of a team to help ensure individuals are aware of promotion opportunities, processes and eligibility requirements in order to create personalized reserve career plans. The group will look into ways to help supervisors improve their effectiveness in preparing Promotion Enhancement Packages as well as ways to ensure fairness across the entire local promotion process.

While the basic HRDC representation has been established, Colonel Harris stressed that opportunities to participate still exist. "We envision the Council creating groups or work teams to address a specific issue. The team will research and report their findings and recommendations back to the commander. We will need extra volunteers to help us with this and we will be advertising for support once these teams get underway."

Contact Inspector General by e-mail

The 507th ARW Inspector General's office now has its own e-mail box. This is a fast and secure way to access the Inspector General's office. If you have an issue that needs to be brought to the attention of the Inspector General's office, you can send an e-mail to (507arw.ig@tinker.af.mil) and someone will get back with you within 24 hours.

Today's Message

Everyone should be involved in suicide prevention

Many believe people who talk about **suicide** won't actually do it. However, AF medical experts say every suicide threat should be taken seriously.

In the AF, factors often associated with suicide include:

- Problems with intimate relationships
- Substance abuse
- Financial or legal problems
- Prolonged stress
- Depression

• Feelings of worthlessness
A key sign of distress is obsessively talking about death, dying or violence. The key to suicide prevention is early detection and treatment.

- AF people can help by:
- Talking directly with the person about suicide
 - Asking about how they feel
 - Offering to get help, calling 911 or taking the person to the nearest hospital emergency room

Senior Leaders Are Saying.....

• **'People at all levels should be involved in suicide prevention.** As an Air Force family, we need to look out for each other. There are many tools we can use to identify people having problems and to help them through tough times.' (ACC/SG, Jan 03)

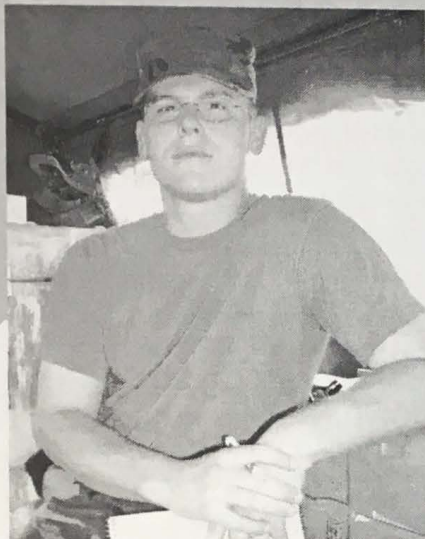
Ideas That Work:

• Learn more about the **Air Force Suicide Prevention Program** at <https://www.afms.mil/afspp>.

Uptclose

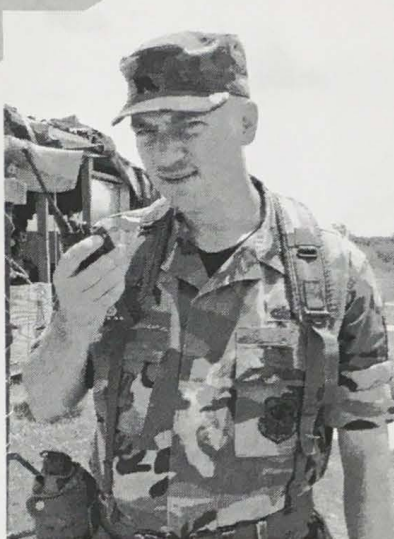
by TSgt. Ty Yoshida

The following was asked of members of the 35th Combat Communications Squadron: **"What's the most challenging aspect of your Reserve job?"**



SSgt. Michael Meck

"Balancing reserve duty with your civilian job. Keeping the balance between duty to your country and to your family."



SMSgt. Bryon Carlson

"Finding enough time to have two careers."



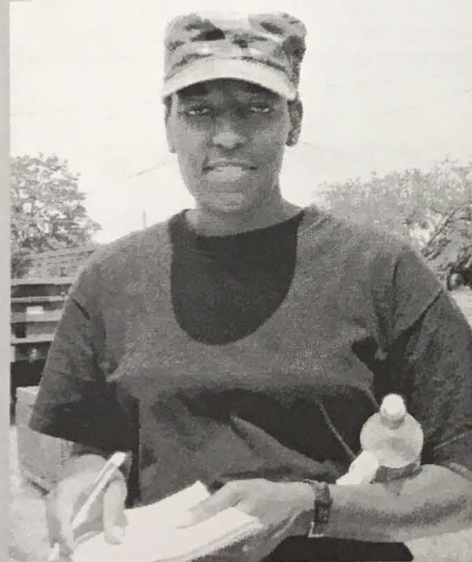
SrA. Richard January

"Having just come off active duty, I find having limited equipment and time on equipment a challenge to keep knowledgeable and experience levels optimal."



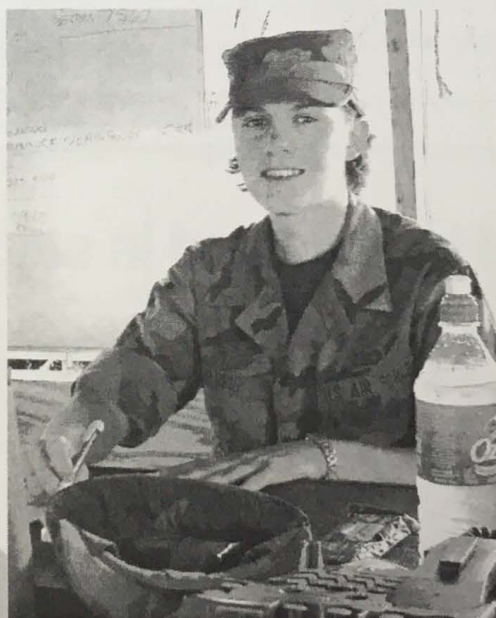
MSgt. Terri Lindsay-Wilson

"I'm adjusting to the combat communication's mission and it's quite a challenge being in a unit with a mission unique in AFRC."



SrA. Bernice Ray

"Learning all aspects of my job."

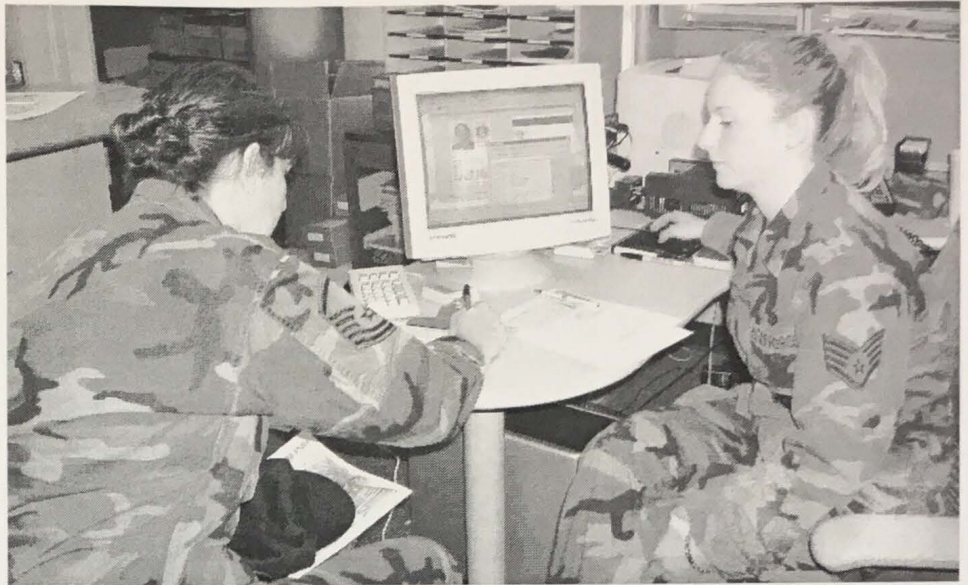


A1C Analisa Harris

"I'm having trouble finding enough time to do my CDC's."

SSgt. Michelle Paperini, Chief, Customer Service, works with MSgt. Lisa Lusignolo, 507th CLSS, to obtain the new Common Access Card (CAC). It will be mandatory for everyone to have the new ID cards by Oct. 1. You must be in uniform and you will need a 6-8 digit pin number to utilize the card. Family members and retirees will continue to receive the old-style ID cards.

Photo by TSgt. Melba Koch



SSgt. Lynette Luginu, 507th Services Flight, helps a young lady prepare to feed goats at Tinker's Summer Bash, held during last month's UTA. The Reserve Services personnel helped man many of the booths and events to support base services, since many of them were deployed. Luginu was recently selected as the 2003 Air Force Reserve Command Airman of the Year for Services.

Photo by TSgt. Melba Koch

With various Guard and Reserve representatives surrounding him, Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry signs an Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Statement of Support on behalf of the state of Oklahoma. The Statement means that State employment will be conducted to support the careers of those also members of the Guard and Reserve. Also present at the event was Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, Mr. Tom Hall. According to Hall, "It is always an honor for me as a "native son" to be in Oklahoma. My thanks go out to all of you who worked to make this happen."



Parting shots



Members of the Newcomers Training Flight planning team are, from left, 1st. Lt. Robert Atkins and Capt. Karen Baskin (co-OICs), MSgt. Dennis Orcutt, NCOIC, and SMSgt. Shelia

Russell, First Sergeant. Missing team member is MSgt. Deborah Kidd, NCOIC. The first reservist to participate in the Split Training Option (STO) will arrive this month.

Photo by Maj. Richard Curry

On-final R-News

Honor Guard plans class

The Tinker AFB Honor Guard will be conducting their next initial member training class from Aug. 18-22. The class will be held in Bldg. 244 starting at 7:30 a.m. on the 18th and the uniform of the day will be BDUs. If interested, contact the Honor Guard office for more information at 734-4226.

7 Habits class planned

The next class of 7 Habits of Highly Effective People will be held from July 28-31 in the Gen. Hill Conference Center near the back Air Depot gate. If interested, contact Maj. Don Satterlee by email at Donald.Satterlee@tinker.af.mil or call 734-5543 to reserve a seat by July 15.

Former participants of Billy Hughes Banquet needed

This year, the 72 APS is sponsoring the Billy Hughes Banquet. This is the

first time a squadron has been the sole sponsor. To ensure the banquet's success, the 72nd is asking for assistance and input from any former banquet participants. To volunteer or for more information, please contact MSgt John Prokup at 739-2081 or john.prokup@tinker.af.mil.

Family Day nears

The 2003 Reserve Family Day is planned for Sept. 6 (Saturday of UTA) from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Similar to last year, the event will be held at the Reserve campus with several added attractions.

Unit members are highly encouraged to buy tickets in advance so enough food can be bought and prepared (24% of personnel waited until one hour before lunch to buy tickets last year). Advance tickets are available through first sergeants. E-1 to E-4 = \$2 each, \$6 for family; E-5 to E-8 = \$3 each, \$9 for family; and E-9 to O-6 = \$6 each, \$11 for family.

If you have ideas or would like to help out, contact the Family Support Office, this year's POC for Family Day, at 734-6869.

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