

# On-final



August 2003  
Vol. 23, No. 8

507<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing - 513<sup>th</sup> Air Control Group  
Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma

## Family Support



**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.





## 507th ARW Commander's Column

By Col. Dean Despinoy

### Putting the Wing back together

We are all waiting for the decision concerning Moron AB, Spain, and when our folks will return. Additionally, the current mission has a lot to do with when we actually de-activate our personnel. It is quite possible that the decision will have been made and the word put out on the de-activation date by the time you read this article. Whether it has or not, now is the time to talk about the next challenge the 507<sup>th</sup> faces - putting the wing back together.

We are very used to having members of the wing in different statuses. That is how a reserve wing functions. We are also used to having some people deploy and some stay back home. However, after personally going through several activations, starting with Operation Desert Storm, I know that being activated and deployed during a war is a very different thing. Like it or not, there is a tendency to form new relationships with some members of the wing and not with others. Often the relationships with the people you shared the deployed experience with is stronger than relationships with people who stayed back home. Similarly, those who stayed back home have worked hard and are used to having the deployed member gone. In some cases workarounds were established to get the job done in the deployed members' absence.

There is also the issue of medals and awards. The vast majority of the wing members who deployed will receive specific medals or ribbons for their action. It is very unlikely that wing members who stayed home will receive such honors. To some, this does not seem fair. In many cases, wing members who stayed home had extra duties and worked long hours due to the fact that the deployed members were gone. However, a point to keep in mind is that most, if not all, of the members who stayed at home did not have separation from their family and did not leave without a firm date of return. Additionally, members back home were not put in harm's way, save a terrorist attack.

Very soon the primary business of the wing will be to come together again as one organization. Few if any wing members had the absolute say as to whether they were activated or deployed. Everyone was willing to do their duty. Some AFSCs were needed in the AOR and others were not. The bottom line is, everyone was prepared to go if called and everyone worked hard and did their duty. I am very proud of what the wing has accomplished both here and abroad. I am also very proud that the wing was a major part of this war.

The wing is already aware of some future taskings. Our next major deployment will be as the lead unit for the April '04 AEF. Current destination is Istres, France, although this location may change. In the mean time we have our alert and local missions on which to concentrate our attention. I look forward to a smooth reconstitution and reuniting of the "Okie" family. As new missions and opportunities are tasked, the 507<sup>th</sup> will continue to perform as our motto states; "forever ready, always there."



### From the Chief

by 507th ARW  
Command Chief Master Sgt. Bob  
Kellington

### Our motto:

## Forever Ready – Always There

You, the SH OKIES, have lived up to our motto. You answered the call: "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." You volunteered to serve at home and overseas. Many hardships were endured in each situation – you came together as a TEAM, Total Force and most of all as a FAMILY. Supporting each other at every

turn, this is the way of life you have chosen. Your families are proud, your friends are proud and, most of all, our country is proud of what the SH OKIES have done.

Granted, the war on terrorism is far from over and many of you will be asked to be in harm's way again. But rest assured, all will be taken care of at home. You have been trained to do the job at hand in any environment and do it right the first time. You are part of the best and most powerful Air Force in the history of the world. There is only one reason we are the best, it is because of you and your patriotism, pride and desire to keep our way of life. You have left a legacy for others to emulate.

You are the SH OKIES – be proud and hold your head up high for a job well done. Continue to be FOREVER READY - ALWAYS THERE.



Volume 23, No. 8

AUGUST 2003

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The editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the 507th Air Refueling Wing's Public Affairs Office, 7435 Reserve Road, Suite 7, Tinker AFB, OK., 73145-8726

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**

**Capt. Adrian Mahone, Family Support financial coordinator, assists Capt. Mark Vardaro's son, Jeffrey, and TSgt. Ronald Huggins' daughter, Nichole, during the Family Support Fishing Tournament on July 18.**

Photo by 1st Lt. Bill Pierce



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](http://www.afrc.af.mil/507arw)**



# Moron, Spain – In their own words

*Although the president has declared an end to major hostilities in Operation Iraqi Freedom, the 507<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing is continuing to support missions all over the world.*

*Over 200 unit members are currently on active duty and about 60 are deployed to Moron Air Base, Spain in support of an Aerospace Expeditionary Force. The 507<sup>th</sup> ARW members have been activated since February 2003.*

*The On-final recently e-mailed questions to the Okies deployed to Moron.*

**The On-final: What are the working conditions like?**

**Maj. Sandra K. Brooks:** We have had great group-level command support. Our initial commander was Col. William Flanigan from Grissom Air Reserve Base, IN. Our commander now is our own Col. Stayce Harris, 507<sup>th</sup> ARW vice commander. Both of them have been very supportive and empowering - in other words, they provide the necessary horsepower to get us what is needed to get the job done.

**CMSgt. Debra Shepherd-Moore:** The working conditions are like most other TDYs that our units have been on. We are working out of a hangar much like the one that we worked out of when we were in France.

**The On-final: What is the weather like?**

**Maj. Brooks:** The weather has been absolutely beautiful. We have had a couple of days of 100-plus temperature and one day of mist/drizzle. Other than that, it has been sunny and hot (80s and 90s) every day. It gets light around 7:30 a.m. and stays light until about 10 p.m.

**CMSgt. Shepherd-Moore:** The weather here is similar to Oklahoma. Our hottest day so far has been 105 degrees. The normal temperature here ranges from the 80s to 90s right now, but we are being told that it is going to heat up - just as Oklahoma does.

**The On-final: What are the facilities like?**

**Maj. Sandra K. Brooks:** For work, we share a hangar with the C-5 maintenance

team. Directly behind the hangar are several portable buildings; two for us and two for the C-5s. Both have window air conditioner units installed, which keeps it cold enough to give them the nickname "the meat lockers." Billeting is broken down into three different buildings - the Hotel Frontera and buildings 114 and 119. The Frontera is near the club, while buildings 114 and 119 are close to the dining facility. The Chief and I share a room and a bath with our next door neighbor. When we first arrived we spent a couple of nights in building 119 - a newly renovated "contingency dorm." It was set up with 3 beds, 4 wall lockers, and a private bath. However, we had to clean our own bathroom, and the lockers were small (way too small for two women and all our stuff). Building 114 is where the majority of our team is lodged. When we arrived, the TDY/transient population was so large we were assigned four to a room. However, we have since been able to spread out a bit. Good thing too, the bunk beds were challenging for some. The entire base is compact enough to walk anywhere you need to go.

**CMSgt. Shepherd-Moore:** We are in what is known as Meat Lockers. They are much like a trailer that has been gutted. The furniture we are using has been found in various locations on the base. We have two work areas: Supervision/Staff which consists of the Commander, Superintendent, Pro Super/Expediter, Supply, Mobility, and QA. The other trailer is where the crew chiefs and specialists hang out in between flights and during their shift. We have a TV, VCR, and DVD that they can watch when the shift is slow.

**The On-final: What is the chow hall and food like?**

**Maj. Brooks:** The "Commodore" (dining facility) is open 22½ hours a day. They are closed between 8 and 9:30 p.m. Chicken is the most common item on the menu. I've lost count of how many ways I've had it cooked, but they've all been good. The tortillas are excellent too, but they're not what you think. Here, tortilla means omelet.

**CMSgt. Sheperd-Moore:** The food is chow hall food. Cheesecake is the best dessert and chicken is normally served at least once if not twice a day. There is a salad bar and a quick line which has burgers, BLTs or grilled cheese sandwiches, or you can have what is in the daily menu; which changes everyday (even the chicken that is served is different everyday).

**The On-final: How long is the work day?**

**Maj. Brooks:** We are working four days on (12-hour shifts) and two days off. We rotate between days and nights.

**CMSgt. Shepherd-Moore:** Our work schedule is 12 hours a day; working 4 days on and 2 days off rotating from days to nights.

**The On-final: What off-duty activities are there to keep you busy (please describe)?**

**Maj. Brooks:** We have most of the same activities as a stateside active-duty base and almost everything is free. Some people are taking advantage of the Spanish lessons offered here. Others have been traveling to Sevilla, Rota NAS, and Ronda. Shopping covers a range from pearls to swords and ceramics to leather.

Cadiz is a beach town (and one of the filming locations for the James Bond movie, "Die Another Day." I also hear that Marbella is a beautiful beach resort of the rich. I have plans of visiting there so I can dip my toes in the Mediterranean Sea.

**CMSgt. Shepherd-Moore:** The Rec Center has a Subway and a Baskin Robbins. There are several things to do to keep yourself busy. We have a pool, bowling alley, gym, tennis courts, club, movie theatre, library (where you can check out movies for free), Nex Mart (which is like our Shoppette), barber shop, gift shop, and money machines which you can get either type of currency. You can go to town (most of the troops are going together to rent a car). There are a lot of places to see. Most of the troops are getting out and enjoying the sights.



# Civil Engineers build a better life for others

By Maj. Rich Curry  
507<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs

It's a tremendous feeling to know that you have helped improve someone's life.

That sentiment is shared by members of the 507<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron who deployed to Gallup, N.M. this summer to build homes for needy Native Americans.

More than 67 unit reservists took part in back-to-back, two-week annual tour rotations to Gallup to provide construction support to the Southwest Indian Foundation (SWIF). The main focus of the deployment was to build modular homes.

From March 28 to May 16, 507<sup>th</sup> CES teams completed construction for three modular houses and started work on two other houses. The reservists also made a 3200 square foot concrete staging area outside the SWIF warehouse.

According to Capt. Douglas Benton, deployment officer for the third rotation, "This was an excellent experience for our troops. Morale was very positive since our troops knew their efforts were providing needed housing to the families in the Gallup area."

Building homes for Native Americans has been a staple of Air Force Reserve Command's Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) program since 1995. In previous years under the IRT program, reservists from the Air Force Reserve and other reserve components have constructed low-income housing, built and repaired roads, and distributed excess medical supplies.

Located off of I-40, Gallup, N.M., lies along Historic Route 66, 139 miles west of Albuquerque and 25 miles east of the Arizona border. SWIF serves Navajo, Hopi, Zuni, Laguna, Acoma, White Mountain Apache, and Jicarilla Apache Tribes of the Southwest.

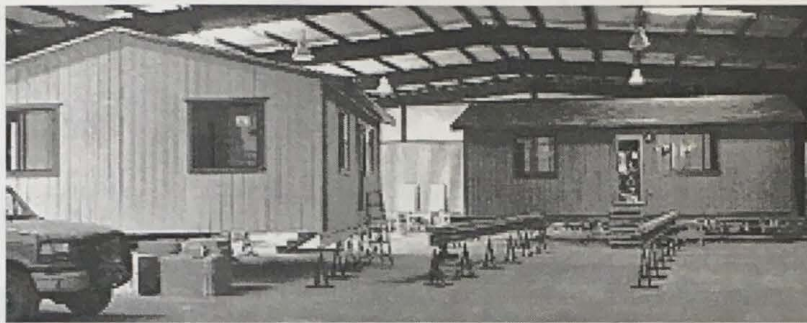
Headquartered in Gallup, SWIF is a non-profit, charitable organization that relies solely on private donations. SWIF services include a variety of support programs to needy Native Americans in addition to the housing program.

According to SWIF officials, "President Kelsey Begay of the Navajo Nation has stated that the Navajo Reservation

is 20,000 housing units short of actual capacity. Our challenge at SWIF is to help provide safe and decent housing to those who would have no way of obtaining a home without outside assistance. SWIF is concentrating on the direst cases — essentially the "poorest of the poor."

All building materials and construction tools for the project were provided by SWIF. Working off a standard blueprint, the reservists built the homes from the ground up. Each house was

approximately 768 SF of living space with two bedrooms, one bath, a living room, and a kitchen. The interior finish was standard textured Sheetrock with vinyl tile flooring throughout the entire house. SWIF officials stated the total cost of building a home is approximately \$40,000 to include materials, supplies, transportation, and some labor costs.



**At the Manufacturing Facility (left) Completed Home, (right back) Home Under Construction (right front) Bottom Support for next new home.**

According to the civil engineers, an added bonus was the working conditions afforded to them. "We worked in a large warehouse that could hold three homes at a time," said Staff Sgt. Trevor Senechal, a member of the squadron's structural section. Working inside a warehouse meant the crew was not delayed by weather conditions, he said.

"It did snow while we were there, but that really didn't affect us," said Master Sgt. Malada Mouse, a project manager for the first rotation team. Mouse, herself a Native American from Tulsa, first brought this project to the attention of her squadron after she had participated two-years earlier as a volunteer.

Ultimately, the civil engineers all agreed the sense of fulfillment and knowing they met a critical need topped their list. Capt. Michael Ling, deployment officer for the second rotation agreed. "One of the most fulfilling experiences I encountered during this trip was an opportunity to go see one of the houses built in a prior deployment. A little old lady came out of a shack she was living in. She was absolutely beaming because next week she was getting one of the new houses we were building.

"I was talking to her and she was smiling and a few minutes later her daughter came out and told me her mother didn't speak English. But that didn't matter to her. She was getting a new home," Ling said.



# Recruiter still amazed after 16 years

By 1st Lt. Bill Pierce  
507th Public Affairs

After 16 years in recruiting, Chief Master Sgt. Alfonso Garza Jr. can still be amazed. "Every time I look across a group of uniformed service members I think to myself: Recruiting was a part of that."

During quiet moments of reflection, the 507th Air Refueling Wing senior recruiter says he's awe struck at how his team has changed the lives of so many people. "The whole team gets excited when we bring someone new on board because we can't wait to see what we will learn next," said Garza.

The 507th Air Refueling Wing Recruiting Office is looking to experienced reservists to fill numerous recruiting positions throughout the United States.

Applicants must meet the following requirements to be considered for employment: minimum one-year participation in the Air Force Reserve, must hold the rank of A1C or higher, must hold a three skill level in any AFSC, cannot have over 16 years of total active Federal Military Service, and must be willing to relocate.

According to Garza, "the application process is designed to introduce an individual to recruiting. Applicants complete an application and then their records are reviewed to ensure the individual meets the qualifications for recruiting duty. Following the records review, applicants sit through an interview with myself. Recommended applicants will then attend a three-day evaluation and selection course at Robins AFB in Georgia.

Finally, board selections are made and school dates are established.

Once applicants are selected they are scheduled for a six-

week Recruiting school at Lackland AFB in Texas. Upon completion of the school, recruiters enter into a nine to 12 month on-the-job training plan, which leads to certification as a fully qualified recruiter. In addition to the initial training recruiters attend periodic workshops and seminars throughout the year. "We continually strive to sharpen our skills. One way we do this is by quarterly training meetings. Our training continues all the way through the rank of chief master sergeant. The workshops we go through assist us on a personal and professional level. It is a tool for us to pull from and aids each one of us greatly throughout the work week," said Garza.

A typical work week for a recruiter consists of visiting high schools, universities, and television and radio stations within assigned zones. By doing this recruiters can constantly be out in the community creating awareness and as a result, generating and managing leads (prospects). "This is not an eight-to-five job, but at the same time it is. At a minimum, we work 40 hours per week. We all are responsible for our schedules and workload. Each recruiter's weekly workload is determined by their overall production and their abilities to manage their time. Our team is exceptional when it comes to managing their time effectively, plus our work environment is set up to promote efficiency."

"Each recruiter is afforded their own office and government car to utilize within their recruiting zones. The command takes great pride in creating a specific environment which promotes self-initiative," said Garza.

"Our team is made up of enthusiastic hard-working self starters. Our hunter approach has proven effective in placing people into the reserves. As recruiters we have to be proactive in prospecting for future reservists, which translates into good quality leads. By doing this we produce results. Individually, we each bring something beneficial to the table, but collectively we approach our job with a strong passion and desire to change someone's world for the better.

For more information on how you could become an Air Force Reserve recruiter, contact Chief Master Sgt. Alfonso Garza at either (405) 734-5331 or DSN 884-5331.

(See more information on Recruiting on page 14.)



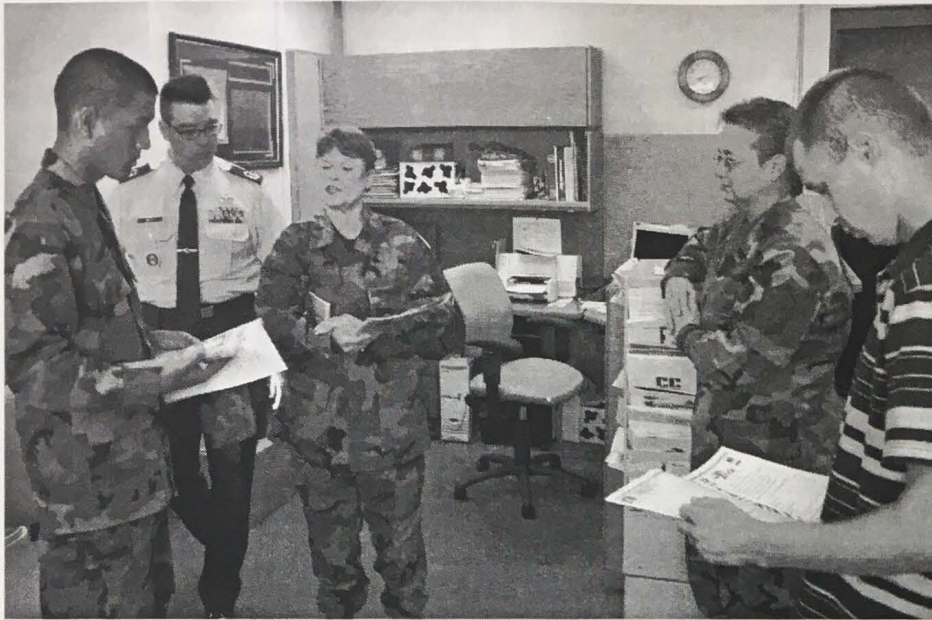
**Chief Master Sgt. Alfonso Garza**



**Tech. Sgt. Marvin Greene goes over paperwork with a new recruit.**



# First two members join Newcomer Training Flight



**New troops Airman 1st Class Vince Naputi and Airman 1st Class Rusty Harden talk with the Newcomer Training Flight NCOICs Master Sgt. Dennis Orcutt (second from left), Master Sgt. Deborah Kidd (second from right) and First Sergeant Senior Master Sgt. Shelia Russell (center).**

**By Tech. Sgt. Melba Koch  
507th Public Affairs**

Vince Naputi began working in the Air Force Reserve last month, three months before scheduled to attend the aerospace propulsion tech school, thanks to a new program at the 507<sup>th</sup> ARW. Naputi completed basic training July 4th, but his 13-week technical school at Sheppard AFB, Texas is unavailable until Oct. 9th.

"The Split Training Option is designed for newcomers to keep up their military skills and physical fitness while waiting for tech school," said Capt. Karen Baskin, co-Officer In Charge for the Newcomer Training Flight. "Instead of discouragement in the past when new recruits had to wait months between basic training and tech school, they now can drill with their unit and feel needed while receiving some ancillary training and other mandatory requirements."

Naputi, who has several family members in the military now and in the past, felt a sense of serving his country and he needed extra funds for

school. "My dad was a Marine and he wanted me to join the Air Force," said Naputi.

The NTF will be staffed by Capt. Baskin and 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert Atkins (co-OIC), Master Sgt. Dennis Orcutt and Master Sgt. Deborah Kidd, co-NCOIC, and Senior Master Sgt. Shelia Russell, First Sergeant. All have volunteered for these additional duties.

"There is a great partnering opportunity for the 513<sup>th</sup>, 507<sup>th</sup>, and IMA world here," said Baskin. "It's an incredible opportunity for the wing to build a strong foundation in these young troops, leaders for the future 507<sup>th</sup>. After these young troops return from tech school, let them shine as leaders by teaching some of the courses for other newcomers and serve as mentors."

"It felt pretty good getting to know what's going on and what to expect when I get back from tech school," said Naputi. "It made me feel welcome and have a sense of worth with everyone pitching in."



**Col. Dean Despinoy, 507th ARW commander, meets with the new troops and gives them a brief overview of the Wing.**





## 513th ACG Commander's Column

By Col. James Kerr

# Stay the course

The pollsters and talking heads decry an absence of evidence of weapons of mass destruction as evidence for their "theory" of the day. Conspiracy theories are everywhere. Reports of faulty intelligence and prejudiced testimony seem to attack our credibility and national will. Did we do the right thing by overthrowing the rule of a tyrant? Yes.

What we did as a nation was right. The office of the president is the embodiment of our collective will as a nation. As such, there will always be those critical of that leadership. The issue of missing weapons of mass destruction is an obvious concern for our nation and rightfully so. But the verdict is still out and we must not rush to judgment.

One way or another, American citizens of all opinions will keep talking and we will keep listening. It's within our basic nature to be curious and, because someone gets to be on television, we sometimes assume that they are more important than ourselves. In our push-button, double-latte, automatic redial world, our hunger for knowledge will grow and the television giants and self-nominated talking heads will pander to us. It seems like television and internet media giants vie for

the ratings to justify ever-rising commercial fees from their endorsers, feeding a spirit of sensationalism unseen since the days of William Randolph Hearst and the Spanish-American War.

Samuel Clemens once wrote that we should believe none of what we hear and only half of what we see. No one of us has eyes big enough to see the big picture—because that picture is bigger than any one of us. This ideal is at the heart of American politics and was a motto for our fledgling nation more than 200 years ago: E pluribus unum. One from many.

We have sworn to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States as well as to obey the orders of the President because he represents the will of the people. And because we have undertaken this sacred trust, we must stay the course. This is not the same as blindly following orders, but a matter of trust and faith in our leadership and the American way of life. In our country, a majority can raise its voice in concert and choose a leader. Your vote is your voice and you all know well how much you've sacrificed to guarantee yourself that voice. Now we've guaranteed that people in Afghanistan and Iraq can do the same. It took us a long time to realize that we must do more than lead by example. Four airliners falling from the sky on a September morning shocked us out of our isolationism and, as a nation undivided, motivated us to reach for the banner of freedom. Did we do the right thing by overthrowing the rule of a tyrant? Yes, because governments of the people, by the people and for the people remain the truest course to creating an enduring freedom and lasting peace.

Everything else is just talking heads and static.

## Chaplain's Corner

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

In 1997, Reeve Lindbergh, daughter of aviator Charles Lindbergh, was invited to give the annual Lindbergh Address at the Smithsonian Institution's Air and Space Museum to commemorate the 70th anniversary of her father's historic solo flight across the Atlantic. On the day of the speech, museum officials invited her to come early, before the facility opened, so that she could have a closeup look at The Spirit of St. Louis, the little plane suspended from the museum ceiling that her father had piloted from New York to Paris in 1927.

That morning in the museum, Reeve and her young son, Ben, eagerly climbed into the bucket of a cherry-picker, a

long-armed crane that carried them upward until the plane was at eye level and within their reach. Seeing the machine that her father had so bravely flown across the sea was an unforgettable experience for Reeve. She had never touched the plane before, and that morning, 20 feet above the floor of the museum, she tenderly reached out to run her fingers along the door handle, which she knew her father must have grasped many times with his own hand.

Tears welled up in her eyes at the thought of what she was doing. "Oh, Ben," she whispered, her voice trembling, "isn't this amazing?"

"Yeaaaaaah," Ben replied, equally impressed. "I've never been in a cherry-picker before!"

How is your perspective? Can you distinguish between the temporal and the eternal?



## 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.**

**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.**

## 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.

## COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF THE AIR FORCE (CCAF)

Effective 1 July 2003, there is a new way to order your CCAF transcripts. Students can order transcripts at <https://afvec.langley.af.mil/afcec>. If you do not have computer access, stop by the Education and Training Office in bldg 1043, room 206 for assistance. CCAF will now only accept civilian transcripts directly from civilian institutions. Students can order CCAF transcripts, view their progress report, and check receipt of their civilian transcript. Questions should be directed to the Education and Training Office 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](http://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 VMPPF 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 1400, on Saturday of the UTA after the end of the quarter. (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct)

## FY2003/2004 UTA SCHEDULE

09-10 Aug 03	07-08 Feb 04
06-07 Sep 03	06-07 Mar 04
25-26 Oct 03	03-04 Apr 04
15-16 Nov 03	01-02 May 04
06-07 Dec 03	05-06 Jun 04
10-11 Jan 04	10-11 Jul 04

As of 15 Jul 2003

✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕



**Fri, 08 Aug 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, 09 Aug 2003****Unit Designated Sign In**

0730-0930 Newcomers In-Processing  
 0730-0900 Wing Training Office Closed  
 0830-0930 Unit Career Advisors Mtg  
 0900-1000 6 Month Contact Mtg  
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng  
**0915-1115 Computer Based Testing**  
 1000-1130 Newcomers Orientation  
 1000-1100 Mobility Rep Meeting  
 1030-1130 First Sgts Meeting  
 1300-1530 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I  
 1300-1400 Adverse Actions Mtg  
 1400-1500 Training Managers Mtg  
**1600-1630 Protestant Chapel Service**  
**Unit Designated Sign Out**

**Unit Designated**

Bldg 1043, Room 201C  
 Bldg 1043, Room 206  
 513th ACG Conf Room  
 Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room  
 Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room  
**Bldg 1043, ATN Room**  
 Bldg 1030, Room 214  
 To Be Determined  
 Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room  
 Bldg 1030, Room 214  
 Bldg 1043, Wing CC's Office  
 Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room  
**513th ACG Conf Room**  
**Unit Designated**

**Sun, 10 Aug 2003****Unit Designated Sign In**

**0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service**  
 0730-0930 MPF Closed for In-House Tng  
**0750-1115 CDC/PME Course Exams**  
 0800-1115 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II  
 0830-1030 Unit Safety Rep Tng  
 0830-0930 Enlisted Advisory Council  
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng  
**0930 Catholic Chapel Service**  
 1115 Escorts pick-up Newcomers  
 1300 SORTS/Post UTA Mtg  
 1400-1500 IG period w/Capt. Vardaro  
 1500 Fly Safety Mtg  
**Unit Designated Sign Out**

**Unit Designated**

**513th ACG Conf Room**  
 Bldg 1043  
**Bldg 460, Room 215**  
 Bldg 1030, Room 214  
 Bldg 1030, Room 104  
 Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room  
 Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room  
**Base Chapel**  
 Bldg 1030, Room 214  
 Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room  
 Bldg 1043, Room B-1  
 Bldg 1048, OPS Briefing Room  
**Unit Designated**

**Fri, 05 Sep 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, 06 Sep 2003****Unit Designated Sign In**

0730-0930 Newcomers In-Processing  
 0730-0900 Wing Training Office Closed  
 0815 -0930 Unit Career Advisors Mtg To Be Determined  
 0900 -1000 6 Month Contact Mtg  
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng  
**1030-1630 MILITARY PERSONNEL FLIGHT WILL BE CLOSED**  
**1030-1530 FAMILY DAY**  
**Unit Designated Sign Out**

**Unit Designated**

Bldg 1043, Room 201C  
 Bldg 1043, Room 206  
 Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room  
 Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room  
**Bldg 1030, Hangar Area**  
**Unit Designated**

**Sun, 07 Sep 2002****Unit Designated Sign In**

**0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service**  
 0730-0930 MPF Closed for In-House Tng  
**0750-1115 CDC/PME Course Exams**  
**0800-1530 Newcomers Ancillary Tng**  
**Phase I and II**  
 0830-0930 Enlisted Advisory Council  
 0830-1030 Supervisor Safety Tng  
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng  
**0930 Catholic Chapel Service**  
 1300 SORTS/Post UTA Mtg  
 1400-1500 IG period w/Capt. Vardaro  
 1500 Fly Safety Mtg  
**Unit Designated Sign Out**

**Unit Designated**

**513th ACG Conf Room**  
 Bldg 1043  
**Bldg 460, Room 213**  
**Bldg 1030, Room 214**  
 Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room  
 Bldg 1030, Room 104  
 Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room  
**Base Chapel**  
 Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room  
 Bldg 1043, Room B-1  
 Bldg 1048, OPS Briefing Rm.  
**Unit Designated**

**\*\* NOTE\*\* Change in UTA Dates for Oct and Nov**  
**October - Changed from 04-05 Oct to 25-26**  
**November - Changed from 01-02 Nov to 15-16**



## 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](http://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
		<b>Phase I</b>	
Saturday	1300-1400	Information Assurance	CF
Saturday	1400-1500	Drug and Alcohol, Suicide/ Workplace Violence Prevention	SG
Saturday	1500-1530	Local Conditions-Traffic	SE
		<b>Phase II</b>	
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:	Receive Direct Deposit by:
07 Aug 03	15 Aug 03
11 Aug 03	18 Aug 03
14 Aug 03	22 Aug 03
18 Aug 03	27 Aug 03
20 Aug 03	29 Aug 03
26 Aug 03	03 Sep 03
28 Aug 03	05 Sep 03
02 Sep 03	10 Sep 03
04 Sep 03	12 Sep 03
08 Sep 03	15 Sep 03
11 Sep 03	19 Sep 03
Military Pay (405) 734-5016	

## 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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 Mr. John Baker, Education and Testing Services Advisor



# Reserve faces reductions in numbers

**ROBINS AFB, Ga.** - Air Force Reserve Command units lose a net 1,156 drill and 75 civilian positions as a result of personnel and aircraft realignment, according to an Air Force force structure announcement July 23.

The announcement addresses the fiscal year 2004 President's Budget force structure, realignment and management actions required to achieve efficiencies, modernize or make organizational changes, said Air Force officials. The force structure announcement calls for reducing 1,249 and increasing 93 drill authorizations, losing 141 and gaining 66 civilian positions, and adding 12 full-time Active Guard and Reserve positions.

These and other changes affect Reserve units at 28 locations but do not change this year's projected end strength of 75,600 reservists for the command. The proposal for FY2004 calls for an additional 200 reservists in the Reserve. As in years past, force structure reductions in authorizations at some locations will be partially offset by replacement aircraft and mission changes.

The following actions at AFRC locations, in alphabetical order according to installation, appear in the announcement:

**Andrews AFB, Md.** - The 459th Airlift Wing converts from eight C-141C transport aircraft to eight KC-135R refueling aircraft resulting in a decrease of two civilian and 132 drill.

**Beale AFB, Calif.** - The 940th Air Refueling Wing increases the crew ratio for its authorized KC-135s, resulting in an increase of six civilian and three drill positions. The 940th Combat Logistics Support Squadron loses four civilian and 117 drill authorizations to match wartime requirements.

**Dover AFB, Del.** - The 512th AW, a Reserve associate unit with the active force's 436th AW, loses 131 drill positions as a result of the host unit eliminating four C-5 aircraft.

**Gen. Mitchell IAP ARS, Wis.** - The 440th AW reduces one C-130H2 aircraft, resulting in a reduction of nine civilian and 35 drill authorizations.

**Grissom Air Reserve Base, Ind.** - The 434th ARW loses four KC-135R aircraft while increasing the crew ratio for the remaining authorized KC-135 aircraft, resulting in a reduction of 13 civilian and 48 drill positions.

**Hill AFB, Utah** - The 419th CLSS loses 26 drill authorizations to match wartime requirements.

**Keesler AFB, Miss.** - The 403rd Wing gains seven civilian and seven drill authorizations as a result of a crew ratio increase for authorized aircraft.

**Lackland AFB, Texas** - The 433rd CLSS loses 90 drill authorizations to match wartime requirements.

**March ARB, Calif.** - The 452nd Air Mobility Wing loses two KC-135R aircraft, reducing the wing's authorized aircraft to eight, while also increasing the crew ratio for the remaining authorized aircraft, resulting in a reduction of four civilian and 24 drill positions. The 452nd AMW retires eight C-141 aircraft in FY 2004.

**Maxwell AFB, Ala.** - The 908th AW gains seven civilian and 11 drill authorizations because of a C-130H crew ratio increase.

**McChord AFB, Wash.** - The Air Force does not indicate a change to the 446th AW as a result of the active force's 62nd AW gaining five C-17 aircraft.

**McConnell AFB, Kan.** - The active force's 22nd ARW loses 12 KC-135 aircraft and more than 200 military authorizations, but the Air Force does not indicate a change in the 931st Air Refueling Group, a Reserve associate unit.

**McGuire AFB, N.J.** - The Air Force does not indicate any changes to the 514th AMW, a Reserve associate unit, as result of the active force's 305th AMW gaining three C-17 aircraft and losing four C-141 aircraft.

**Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Air Reserve Station, Minn.** - The 934th AW retires two C-130E aircraft and replaces them with two C-130H2 aircraft, while increasing the crew ratio which results increase of seven civilian and 11 drill positions.

**Niagara Falls IAP ARS, N.Y.** - The 914th AW gains seven civilian and 11 drill authorizations as a result of a crew ratio increase.

**Peterson AFB, Colo.** - AFRC activates a new associate unit in support of the AF Space Command Network Operations and Security Center, resulting in an increase of five full-time AGR and 15 drill authorizations. The 302nd AW reduces one C-130H aircraft, resulting in reduction of seven civilian and 25 drill authorizations.

**Pittsburgh IAPARS, Pa.** - The 911th AW increases C-130 crew ratio, resulting in added seven civilian and 11 drill authorizations.

**Portland IAP, Ore.** - The 939th ARW increases the crew ratio for authorized KC-135 aircraft, resulting in eight more civilian and three more drill positions.

**Robins AFB, Ga.** - The 622nd Combat Logistics Support Sq. loses 56 drill authorizations to match wartime requirements.

**Schriever AFB, Colo.** - AFRC activates a new associate unit in support of the space aggressor squadron, resulting in a seven more AGR and 15 more drill authorizations.

**Scott AFB, Ill.** - The 932nd AW, a Reserve associate unit, loses 81 civilians and 239 drill positions as a result of the retirement of 10 C-9A aircraft in the active force's 375th AW.

**Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich.** - The 927th ARW gains six civilian positions and three drill positions as a result of an increase in the crew ratio. However, the wing loses one civilian and eight drill authorizations as a result of conversion from eight KC-135E aircraft to eight KC-135R aircraft.

**Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.** - The 916th ARW loses two KC-135R, resulting in reduction of four civilian and 24 drill positions.

**Tinker AFB, Okla.** - The 507th ARW increases crew ratio for authorized KC-135, resulting in 11 more civilian and three more drill positions. The 507th CLSS loses 42 drill authorizations to match wartime requirements.

**Travis AFB, Calif.** - The 349th AMW loses 131 drill positions as a result of the active force's 60th AMW losing four C-5 aircraft.

**Willow Grove ARS, Pa.** - The 913th AW reduces one C-130E aircraft and increases crew ratio for remaining authorized C-130E, resulting in reduction of nine civilian and 35 drill authorizations.

**Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio** - The 445th AW retires eight C-141 aircraft, while the 445th CLSS loses 61 drill authorizations to match wartime requirements.

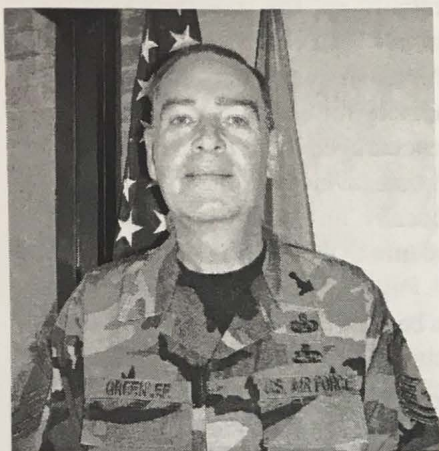
**Youngstown ARS, Ohio** - The 910th AW reduces one C-130H aircraft, resulting in a loss of seven civilian and 25 drill authorizations. (AFRC News Service)



# Third Quarter winners announced

Quarterly winners for the third quarter of 2003 are Senior Master Sgt. Robert H. Greenlee, Senior NCO of the Quarter; Staff Sgt. Patrick Mitchell, NCO of the Quarter, and Senior Airman Marcelle A. Laday, Airman of the Quarter.

## Senior Master Sgt. Robert



**Robert H. Greenlee**

**Greenlee** is Chief of the Communications-Computer Systems for the 35<sup>th</sup> Combat Communications Squadron. He led the unit in preparations for the first local deployment at Glenwood. He developed the deployment scheme and communications plan for the field exercise involving 33 personnel and over 100

communication circuits. Greenlee “broke the code” on making things happen by designing an exportable training package for the Core Automated Maintenance System (CAMS) users to assist with the professional development of approximately 30 new troops. The program was later adopted by HQ AFRC for command-wide use.

He spearheaded an effort in coordination with AFRC and ACC to transition TRI-TAC equipment worth over \$10 million from active duty, AFRC, and Air National Guard units to support the Air Force’s newest combat communications squadron ... the 35<sup>th</sup> CBCS.

**Staff Sgt. Patrick Mitchell** is a supervisor in the Electronic Computer Switching and Crypto section of the 507<sup>th</sup> Communications Flight. He volunteered for mobilization to support Operation Enduring Freedom and was activated at home station and built a superior record of accomplishments that made substantial contributions. He wrote internal procedures for access, maintenance, and disposition of classified equipment and he initiated training opportunities for junior airmen in the squadron that expedited skill-level upgrades.

Mitchell is a high-caliber, superior performer who leads by example, inspires motivation and achieves results. He is scheduled to complete his Bachelor of Science degree in December 2003 from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Aviation Management.

**Senior Airman Marcelle Laday** is an aircraft electrical systems specialist with the 507<sup>th</sup> Combat Logistics Support Squadron.

Laday was handpicked for the position of crew leader/trainer at his civilian job. He trained 10 people to fully qualified status. While deployed, Laday took the lead on a nose gear swap, saving over 50 man-hours due to his expertise.

Laday is currently enrolled at Rose State College and has earned over 60 credits toward an Electronic Engineering Degree. He has earned high remarks on his knowledge, integrity, and appearance when working with others outside and within the squadron. He provides moral and ethical leadership to local children, serving as a positive role model for youth who live in broken homes. He acts as a mentor to his younger brother, regularly tutoring him through college courses.

## ‘Red’ retires after 38 years

He spent his adult life fulfilling his childhood dream of working on airplanes. Now, after 38 years maintaining Air Force aircraft, Senior Master Sgt. Edward ‘Red’ Nelson retired last month.

“Growing up I always said I wanted to work on airplanes,” said Nelson while packing up things from his office his last day on the job with the 507<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

“I came from a family of mechanics,” said Nelson. “My father was a mechanic as well as my two older brothers.”

One year out of high school, Nelson joined the Air Force in 1965. Nelson’s mechanical aptitude showed, because after completing aircraft technical school at Chanute AFB, Ill., the Air

Force transferred him to Amarillo AFB, Texas to be an aircraft technical school instructor.

With his active duty stint over in 1969, Nelson joined the Air Force Reserve as an Air Reserve Technician aircraft mechanic at Norton AFB, Calif. In 1972 Nelson joined the 507<sup>th</sup> Tactical Fighter Group, and participated in the unit’s transition from F-105s to F-4s, F-16s and KC-135s.

“My dad taught me early on to ‘get it done right,’” Nelson said, “and that’s what I’ve always tried to teach the young airmen below me, to do your job, and to do it right the first time. Because you never want to ever have to wonder if the loss of an aircraft or aircrew member might have been because of you.”





# Split disbursement mandatory for military travelers

by Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker  
*Air Force Print News*

All military travelers must now select the split disbursement option on their travel voucher claims to directly pay their government travel card expenses, according to finance officials.

Split disbursement requires travelers to tally up their GTC expenses and authorize enough funds to be sent automatically to Bank of America to pay off their charges, said Michael G. Weber, Air Force travel card program manager at the Pentagon. Any remaining travel settlement will still be sent to the traveler's personal account.

"Although this change was mandated by the 2003 National Defense Authorization Act to reduce the number of delinquent travel card accounts, split disbursement really is a win-win for everyone," Weber said. "It simplifies the payment process for travelers, gets the bank their money more quickly and reduces the number of delinquent accounts."

Nearly half of all Air Force travelers already use split disbursement on a regular basis when filing their vouchers because it simplifies the process for them, Weber said.

"Airmen no longer have to wait for their travel money to be credited to their personal accounts before they can mail a check to the bank," he said. "It saves them the cost of a stamp or a trip to a bank branch and gets the money to the bank within two or three days."

By having all travelers pay off their travel card bills automatically, the Air Force should see a decrease in the number of delinquent accounts, he said. This is especially true if a traveler returns from a TDY as a billing cycle is about to turn over, because they can pay off the card before their account becomes 30 days past due.

If a traveler charges more to their GTC than they were authorized, they still must select split disbursement and also reimburse the bank any additional charges, he added.

"Selecting split disbursement on a travel voucher, whether done manually or on an automated travel system, is easy and requires only a few clicks of the mouse or one block to be checked on a form," Weber said.

Supervisors and approving officials are required to verify travelers selected

split disbursement before signing off on any voucher, he said.

"If split disbursement is not selected on a voucher, it will be returned to the traveler to be redone," he said. "This may delay the processing of the claim and potentially put the traveler's GTC account into a past-due status."

Although split disbursement is not yet mandatory for civilian employees, Weber encouraged them to take advantage of its timesaving benefit.

Locally, unit policy requires reservists to turn in their travel vouchers in the 507<sup>th</sup> Pay Office versus turn in at the main base pay office. According to unit officials the pay personnel review travel vouchers for errors before taking them across base. In many cases 507<sup>th</sup> Pay personnel will fix minor problems themselves, such as making sure sufficient copies of documents are included. The 507<sup>th</sup> Pay Office takes vouchers to the main travel pay office on a daily basis. Rather than waiting days for rejected paperwork to return, identifying and fixing problems in advance streamlines payment to the individual, officials said. For more information, contact the 507<sup>th</sup> Finance Office at 734-5016.

## AFRC announces several senior officer moves

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - Air Force Reserve Command officials announced several senior officer moves in July.

Assignments and effective dates include the following:

Maj. Gen. James P. Czekanski from commander of 4th Air Force, March Air Reserve Base, Calif., to mobilization assistant to the deputy commander of U.S. Transportation Command, Scott AFB, Ill., effective Sept. 7.

Maj. Gen. Charles E. Stenner Jr. from director of operations to director of plans and programs at Headquarters AFRC, Robins AFB, effective Sept. 7.

Brig. Gen. Robert E. Duignan from director of plans and programs, Headquarters AFRC, Robins AFB, to commander of 4th Air Force, March ARB, effective Sept. 7.

Brig. Gen. Martin M. Mazick from commander of the 439th Airlift Wing, Westover ARB, Mass., to special assistant to the vice commander, Headquarters AFRC, Robins AFB, effective Aug. 10.

Brig. Gen. Thomas A. Dyches from special assistant to the commander of AFRC, Pentagon, Washington, D.C., to director of transformation, J-7, and commander of Standing Joint Forces Headquarters, U.S. Southern Command, Miami, Fla., effective Aug. 1.

Col. Wallace W. Farris Jr. from commander of the 914th AW, Niagara Falls International Airport Air Reserve Station, N.Y., to commander of the 439th AW, Westover ARB, effective Aug. 10. As of July 21, Headquarters AFRC had not announced his replacement. (AFRC News Service)



# Motorcycle deaths rise this summer

By Senior Master Sgt. Gary Bristol  
507th ARW Safety Office

According to Air Force Safety Center officials at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., motorcycle riders have accounted for more than half of the Air Force's safety-related deaths during this year's 101 Critical Days of Summer safety campaign.

There is an alarming trend in motorcycle accidents involving airmen, which have accounted for six of the 10 Air Force deaths so far during this year's safety campaign.

Most were single-vehicle mishaps with speed and failure to maintain control of the motorcycle as the key factors.

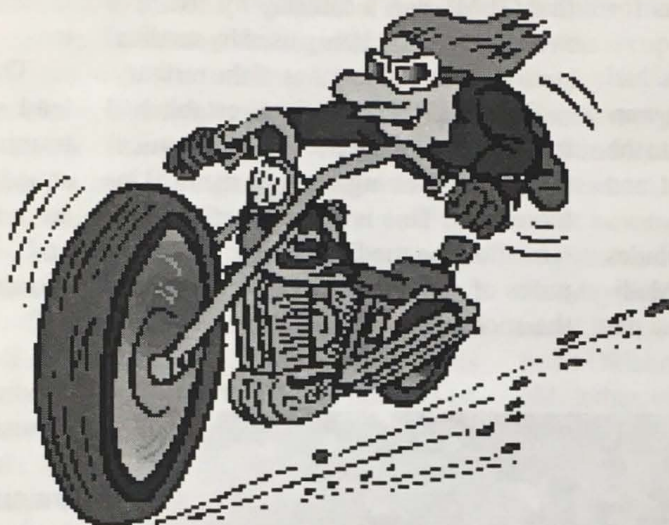
Statistically, people returning from deployment may be at higher risk. The last time we experienced a 101 critical days period directly following combat operations was in 1991. That summer the Air Force lost 42 personnel in needless mishaps, twice the average of summer mishaps for the preceding five years!

We want our people to enjoy their well-deserved recreational activities this summer. But we don't want them to take unnec-

essary risks. We have smart people and we want them to make smart decisions.

There are things people can do to avoid becoming accident victims during the remaining safety campaign. Remember to assess the risk in all your summer time activities! If you have

uneasiness in performing a task or being a participant in an activity, evaluate it. There are risks associated with everything we do; positive results are achieved when we look at all risk factors and make smart decisions. This includes taking the Air Force mandatory motorcycle safety-training course. The Motorcycle safety training is conducted during the months of April through November and can be scheduled through the Base Traffic Safety Office at 739-3263. More information about the TAFB motorcycle training class can be found



at: <https://www.mil.tinker.af.mil/safety/traffic/motorcycleclass.html>

Safety is an attitude that must be considered 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Being responsible for our actions by making sound decisions is key to mishap prevention.

## Annual requirement no soap opera

# As the dental exams turn . . . .

*Marsha held her head high, despite the tears that were flowing down her cheeks. Speaking carefully, barely able to contain herself, she asked the question that was burning in her mind: "I know I'm late, but how am I supposed to get a dental examination if the dental clinic is swamped every UTA?"*

We hope her reaction is the exception but many people have asked the same question as Marsha. The answer is: During the years that you are not required to see a military dentist, use your Form DD2813 and go to your private dentist.

The DD2813, or Record of Civilian Dental Examination form, is used to document a dental examination done on a military member by a civilian dentist. Just have your dentist fill it out and either bring, mail or fax it to us. We, in turn, will enter it into the computer system and you will receive credit for your dental examination.

The DD2813 is available online at the AF Pubs website, through your Unit Health Monitor or First Sergeant, or at the base dental clinic. If you have any questions about the DD2813 or the annual dental examination requirement, please call DSN: 884-2487 or COMM: 405-737-2487. You may also email your questions to Lt. Col. Eric Kean or SrA Lyriisa Parham on the Tinker Exchange Server.

Don't be like Marsha and wait until you're late! Turn in your DD2813 no later than the beginning of your birth month each year and avoid the tears!



# Medical personnel attend EMS course at Sheppard AFB

**By Tech. Sgt. Lonnie G. Royal  
507th Medical Squadron UPAR**

During June, 26 members of the 507<sup>th</sup> Medical Squadron attended the EMEDS (Expeditionary Medical Support) course at beautiful Sheppard AFB, Texas for their annual tour.

During this time, unit members had the opportunity to learn the latest wartime medical skills and be exposed to the most current technology, equipment, and strategies.

Some of the latest changes includes the GEMS (Global Expeditionary Medical System), which is an electronic pa-

tient record and tracking system, a completely digital X-ray, and a totally modular dental suite.

Col. Steven Gentling, commander of the 507<sup>th</sup> Medical Squadron, commented that GEMS was a remarkably effective system currently being used by medical personnel in all branches of the military.

The GEMS system was established to enrich and expedite the communication process during wartime medical intervention. This is a computerized system allowing medical staff to report injuries of combatants to all areas within the mobile hospital. Pharmaceuticals,

medical supplies, and medical support are immediately available thanks to the GEMS. Previously, runners and radios were used to communicate vital information, but that is now outmoded thanks to the intervention of this computerized system.

The 507<sup>th</sup> Medical Squadron was the lead squadron attending the EMEDS training with a contingent of four other squadrons joining the 507 MDS to create a single team. They were the 701<sup>st</sup> and 301<sup>st</sup> Medical Squadrons from Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base, Texas; the 452nd Medical Squadron from March Air Reserve Base, Calif.; and the 926<sup>th</sup> Medical Squadron from New Orleans, Louisiana.

The weather during the EMEDS training was moderate and saw only highs in the mid-90s. Although rain threatened often, no one's spirits were dampened. The overall training and team-building experience was great according to acting first sergeant, MSgt. Richard Curtess.

The EMEDS experience was beneficial and definitely an asset for all participants. This annual tour served as an excellent preparation for wartime providing the training necessary to go into a war setting with all the tools required to elicit proficiency in the field.

The EMEDS experience provided an opportunity to learn and use the latest in technology for medical personnel in order to assure readiness during any wartime event. Colonel Gentling lauded the staff on the enthusiasm of both instructors and attendees during this annual tour.

This opportunity to learn the latest information is tantamount to the success of our troops during wartime. Being prepared comes with exemplary training, and EMEDS has helped by giving us what is needed to excel. Congratulations to all those graduating from the EMEDS course.



**Senior Airman Tayauna Knight and Staff Sgt. Lori Maddy enhance their wartime skills on the compass course during field training at Sheppard AFB, Texas**

Photo by Tech. Sgt.

Lonnie G. Royal  
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"Readiness Is OUR Number One Priority"

**AUGUST 2003**



# Family Day: Food and fun for everyone



**Master Sgt. James Miller practices burger-flipping techniques at last year's Family Day.**

Are you ready to have fun next month during Family Day, Sept. 6th? Your involvement will make the event a success for everyone. Volunteer to help cook, man a booth, set up or clean up and **plan to buy your tickets early**. Almost 20 percent of the unit's members waited until the day of Family Day last year to buy their tickets. That can cause problems, like not having enough food for everyone. This year, the prices will increase after the end of August; \$1 more for each individual and family ticket. See your first sergeant this UTA to save yourself some money.

Do you have or know someone who has a sharp-looking car or motorcycle to display during Family Day? "We need 45 entries in order to hold this event ... 44 or less, the event will be scrubbed," said Maj. Ralph Hawkins.

"This promises to be a bigger and better event than in the past," said Capt. Mark Vardaro, Family Support Director and chairman of this year's Family Day activities. "Many organizations on and off base as well as clubs interested in the military will have booths set up. Several aircraft will be on static display as well as miniature horses, Great Danes, and games for the kids."

Fun for adults will include ballroom dancing lessons, a dunk tank, volleyball tournament, beverage booths, and an opportunity to buy discounted Holiday Spirit tickets. The Holiday Spirit booth will start collecting donated items in order to help out needy people in the Oklahoma City area (canned food, toys, old clothes, etc.). The Enlisted Advisory Council will give away two turkey fryers and the Reserve Officers Association will give away a DELL computer.

## Wing welcomes new chaplain

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) James Bradfield joins the 507th Air Refueling Wing from the Air National Guard. He is quick to say that he is actually coming home because his career began as a Category B reservist and then he became a Category A when he joined the 906th Fighter Group at Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio. Later he transferred to the 445th which means that he spent the first 12 years of his career at that Ohio base and had already been a senior chaplain twice.

This led to his next opportunity to become the HQ Chaplain for the 22nd NAF at Dobbins AFB in Atlanta. While there he served nine bases and 14 geographically separated units. After this tour, he transferred to the Ohio ANG in the 178th FW at Springfield, Ohio. He has served there since and was activated after 9/11 to Washington, D.C. and later home station for almost a year.

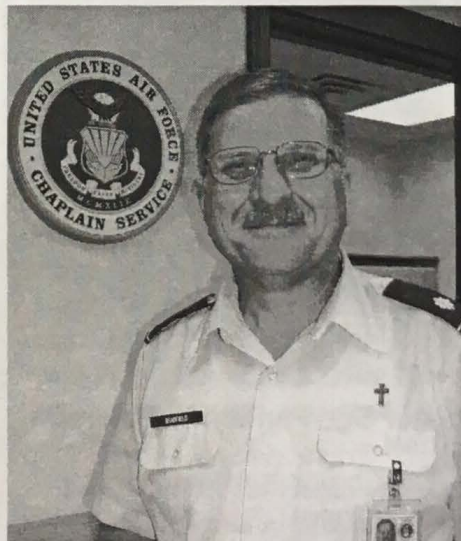
As a civilian, Chaplain Bradfield owns Christos Counseling Service which provides mental health, family, and pas-

toral care to all ages and needs. In addition to being an ordained Southern Baptist minister that has pastured churches in Ohio, Iowa, and Mississippi, he has had his own radio and television programs and has become a published writer with articles soon to appear in the next

two issues of *Deacon Magazine*.

Chaplain Bradfield says that he hopes to further the good work and efforts that his staff has already achieved and create greater opportunities to be of support to each unit member and their families. He says his desire is to assure that each person has whatever is needed to serve and worship God. He wants to be as available as possible for individual and family counseling. He also has expressed a goal to interact with other support agencies on and off base, especially those who effect and serve those during deployments.

Even though the new 507th Wing Chaplain will continue living in Ohio, he wants to be as available as possible to unit members and their families by way of on-base support, e-mails, and phone conversations. Feel free to contact Chaplain Bradfield on base at 734-5632. His home phone is (937) 296-1492 and his cell phone is (937) 620-2614. His e-mail address is [bradfieldjr@juno.com](mailto:bradfieldjr@juno.com).



**Chaplain James Bradfield**

"Readiness Is OUR Number One Priority"



# Parting shot



A new tradition began during the July UTA which will involve members of the Newcomers Training Flight. Retreat and reveille will be conducted at the headquarters building Saturday afternoon and Sunday mornings of UTAs. All unit members are encouraged to participate.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Melba Koch

## 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 18<sup>th</sup> and the uniform of the day will be BDUs. If interested, contact the Honor Guard office for more information at 734-4226.

### State Fair volunteers sought to man booth

The 507th ARW Recruiting office, in concert with the Tinker Air Force Reserve Campus, will once again occupy a Reserve booth at the Oklahoma State Fair. Tech. Sgt. Gene Higgins, the point of contact, is soliciting volunteers to help run the booth and be available to answer questions folks have about the Reserves.

Dates needed: Sept. 12 (Fri.) to Sept. 28 (Mon.)

Times needed: noon to 8 p.m.

Number of folks needed: 2 per eight-hour shift

Rank: E-6 and below (must be from local area)

Training will be provided prior to the event.

The 507th ARW Command Section will pay for the RPA (man) days. This will not be a unit-funded tour. For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Higgins at (405) 217-8311 or e-mail him at gene.higgins@afrc.af.mil.

Volunteers must be identified as soon as possible so that orders can be prepared in a timely manner.

### Former banquet participants needed

This year, the 72nd APS is sponsoring the Billy Hughes Banquet, to be held Nov. 1. 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 Master Sgt. John Prokup at 739-2081 or john.prokup@tinker.af.mil.

## 507th ARW Recruiters

### Tinker AFB, OK

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



### Moore, Norman, OK

Tech. Sgt. Gene Higgins  
(405) 217-8311

### Midwest City, OK

Tech. Sgt. James Vaughan  
Tech. Sgt. Marvin Greene  
(405) 733-9403

### Altus AFB, OK

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

### Lawton, OK

Staff Sgt. Kamela Thigpen  
(580) 357-2784

### Tulsa, OK

Master Sgt. Pam Peterson  
(918) 665-2300

### Vance AFB, OK

Master Sgt. David McCormick  
(316) 652-3766

### McConnell AFB, KS

Master Sgt. David McCormick  
(In-Service Recruiter)  
(316) 652-3766  
Tech. Sgt. Arthur Powell  
(316) 652-4350