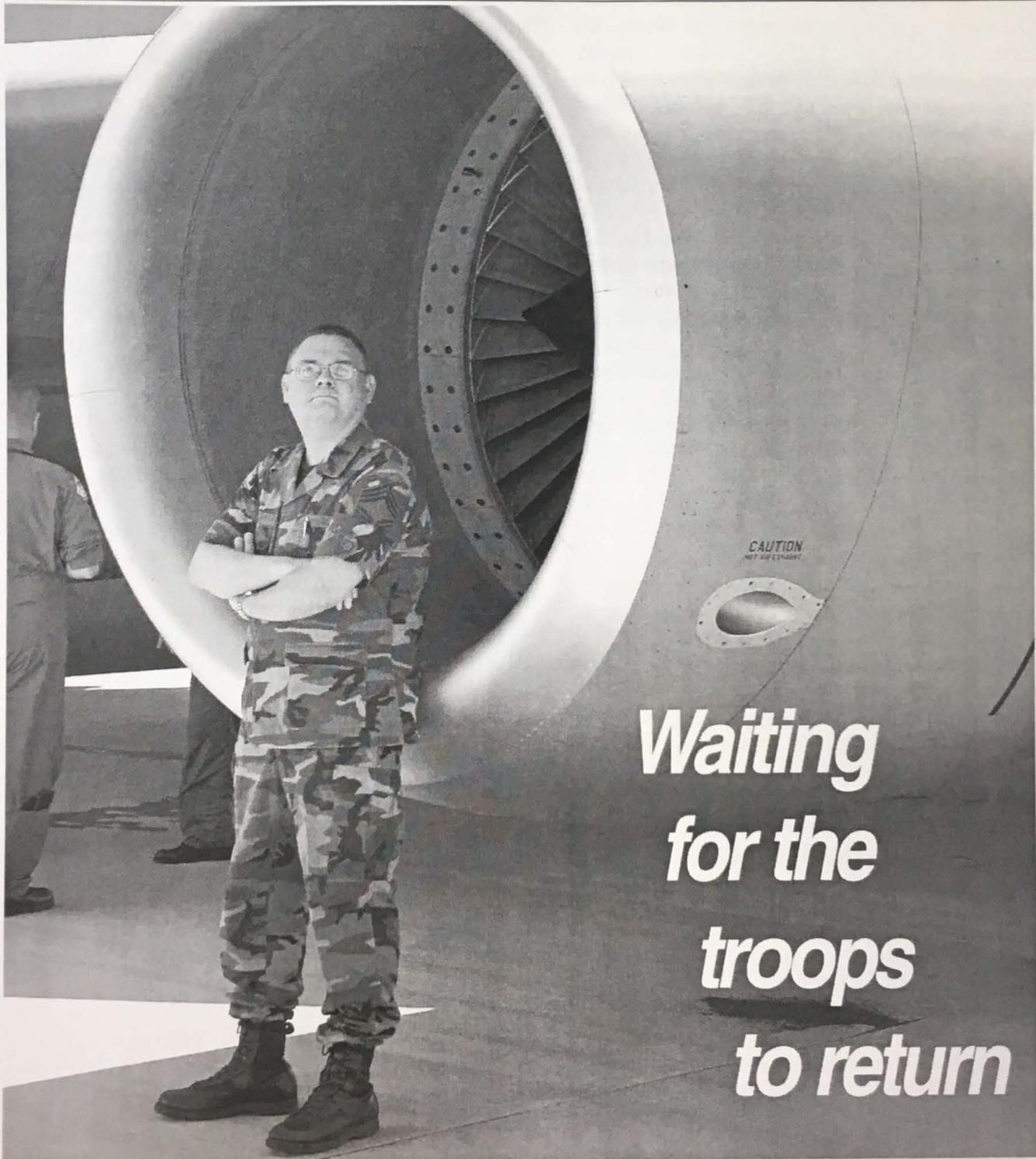


On-final



September 2003
Vol. 23, No. 9

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



*Waiting
for the
troops
to return*

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.

Rumsfeld addresses Town Hall

Remarks as delivered by Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld, San Antonio, TX, Monday, August 25, 2003.

Last month, we celebrated the 30th anniversary of the all-volunteer force. And what a force it is; men and women who voluntarily step forward to put their lives at risk to protect and defend freedom — our freedom here at home, but also the freedom of folks across the globe. During these past 22 months, in the global war on terror, America's armed forces have been tested again and again. And as our commander in chief, President George W. Bush, has said, "In every case, in every mission they have brought credit to the uniform, to the flag and to our country. Whenever and wherever we have needed you, you have never let us down." So, we thank you for that.

And I must say, I thank your families, also, for they, too, sacrifice, let there be no doubt; they sacrifice so that each of you can do your job for our nation and for the world.

Our world is a different place than it was two years ago. September 11th ushered in a new age, an age of — some are calling, of asymmetric warfare. In this age, the threats we have faced have not been so much large armies, large navies and large air forces locked in great battle, but suicide bombers, cyber-terrorists, low-intensity warfare, and the spreading contagion of weapons of mass destruction.

These unconventional dangers threaten the safety and the security of our people at home, and peace and freedom abroad. The war on terror is not a war that our country asked for, but it is a war we have to fight and we have to win because there is no safe, easy middle ground. Either we take the war to the terrorists and fight them where they are — at this moment, to be sure, in Iraq and Afghanistan or elsewhere — or at some point we will have to fight them here at home.

This war is real, it is difficult, it is dangerous, and it's far from over, but we're making good progress. Think of it. Two terrorist regimes have been removed and two peoples have been freed from years of fear and years of oppression. We're

working to lay the foundations of freedom and helping to build the pillars upon which liberty and representative government will rest.

The 100-plus days that have passed since Iraq's liberation have been days of both difficulty, to be sure, but also progress. The Iraqi Governing Council has been formed. A national army is being created in Iraq. Dozens of city councils have been established. An independent central bank has been established. Oil exports have resumed. The Iraqi people are emerging from the shadows into the light of liberty. And all that in some 100-plus days.

There will continue to be some setbacks, I regret to say,

Like the greatest generation that saved the world from the tyranny of their time, your generation has been called to greatness, as well. Our freedom, our future, depends on the courage and the determination of our forces and what they bring to this task.

but there will be more successes. And the outcome is not in doubt. Enlistments are up. Recruiting is up. And the success of military operations in Iraq is an indication of the dedication and the motivation of our forces. They are doing important work. Each of you is doing important work.

As for how long our country will have to stay in Iraq, the truth is that it's not knowable today. I wish it were. But it really depends on when the Iraqi people are able to get themselves on a path towards a sovereign and representative government. This much is certain: The president has said we will stay as long as it takes to finish the job and not a day longer. Our task is to lift the threat of terrorist violence from our people and our future.

As President Bush has said the advance of human freedom depends on you.

Like the greatest generation that saved the world from the tyranny of their time, your generation has been called to greatness, as well. Our freedom, our future, depends on the courage and the determination of our forces and what they bring to this task. All over the world, all across this globe, everywhere you go, people long for what we have, for what each of you has volunteered to defend: liberty, democracy, tolerance and a future without fear; the ability to get up in the morning, walk out your door and not have to look in every direction to make sure that someone won't shoot you. That's why we will prevail. It is a momentous mission, and your role is critically important.

On behalf of the president and the American people, I thank you for your service.

Quotable quote

"While we have achieved much in Afghanistan and Iraq, the road to the future is paved with uncertainty, and our nation must be prepared to meet the challenges which will emerge. Yet, the brave airmen who stand before us today — and those they represent throughout this command — give us confidence that America will prevail in the fight against terrorism and those who oppose our cherished freedoms."

— Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche, during remarks to the Air Force Special Operations Command Awards Ceremony, Hurlburt Field, Fla., July 3, 2003

Volume 23, No. 9 SEPTEMBER 2003

507th Air Refueling Wing Editorial Staff

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

513th Air Control Group Editorial Staff

513th Air Control Gp. - Staff Sgt. Andy Stephens

Unit Public Affairs Representatives

507th Civil Engineer Sq.- Tech. Sgt. George Proctor
 507th Combat Logistics Spt. Sq.- Capt. Rick Gale
 507th Logistics Support Sq. - Master Sgt. Paul Victorian
 72nd Aerial Port Sq.- Tech. Sgt. Robert Shahan
 507th Services Flt. - Staff Sgt. Trina Burks
 507th Aircraft Generation Sq.- Tech. Sgt. Ben Walker
 507th ARW Civilian Employees- Marilyn Trask
 507th Medical Sq.- Tech. Sgt. Lonnie Royal
 507th Security Forces Sq.- Amn 1st Class Kimberly Long
 465th Air Refueling Sq.- Master Sgt. Scott Wilson
 507th Maintenance Sq.- Master Sgt. Jeff Tyler
 513th Aircraft Generation Sq. - Tech. Sgt. James Stratton
 513th Operations Support Flt. - Capt. Terry Brennan
 970th AACS - Capt. Scott Wilson
 1st Aviation Standards Flt. - Senior Master Sgt. Rob Uzzle
 35th Combat Comm Sq.- Tech. Sgt. Bryon Carlson

This funded Air Force Reserve Command magazine is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of *On-final* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force.

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



On Aug. 6, Chief Master Sgt. David Hobbs, 507th Operations Group Flight Management, waits patiently for the troops to deplane after their customs briefing. The troops were returning from an overseas deployment.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Melba Koch



507 ARW



513 ACG

CONTENTS

Rumsfeld addresses Town Hall 2
 Type of hardship determines 4
 Okie 'SH' stickers spotted in Iraq 5
 Lost 11 take mystery trip 6
 The personal story of a Tuskegee Airman 9
 Harris is Woman of the Year. 10
 Phillips assumes command of Ops Group 13
 Invite civilian boss to fly with us. 15

DEPARTMENTS

Training Planner. A1-A3
 513th news. 8
 Upclose. 14
 R-News. 16

NEWS / INFORMATION / FAMILY READINESS / MORE!

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

TINKER AFB OKLAHOMA



www.afrc.af.mil/507arw

Type of hardship determines if reservists 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

(Continued on page 10)

It's official - Okie 'SH' stickers spotted in Iraq

By Maj. Rich Curry

507th Public Affairs Office

Air Force Reservists from Oklahoma are still deployed overseas in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. *On-final* recently "caught up" with one of our own from the 507th Air Refueling Wing, Master Sgt. Ken (last name withheld), from

the unit's transportation section.

From an e-mail message to Capt. Jimmy Wolfe, 507th Logistics Readiness Squadron commander, Sergeant Kenny wrote:

"I made it official. There are now 'Okie SH' stickers in Iraq. They've been placed at the front gate of an Iraqi air

base we now control! I went into the country from where I'm stationed on a Red Tail convoy (See related story) as the mechanic. I was also a driver when two guys got hurt. Iraq is a mess. There are lots of bombed out bunkers. Everywhere we go it seems there are kids along the side of the road begging for food. It's pretty sad.

"Back at base, we are still restricted to the compound so that pretty much reeks. The sand fleas up there are like chiggers on steroids. The tent was so hot that I went out and slept on the back of a 40' trailer.

"My shift is from ten p.m. to eight a.m. I am running the shift and have a good crew. The temperature gets high — 120 or so during the day. The nights run somewhat cooler — around 95-105. The old saying [don't drink the water] is true here. There are pallets of bottled water everywhere. The food is not too bad.

"And as for the scenery, it's very flat, desolate, and very sandy. The terrain in Iraq was the same, even more desolate. My biggest concern is coming home to my wife and daughter which I hope will be soon. The biggest surprise here is the heat. Even living in Oklahoma City in the summer will not prepare you for this.

"One of the biggest problems here besides not being allowed off base is getting a line out to phone home. I can still e-mail home so that's good. I am thankful that I have not had to use the ATSO (ability to survive and operate) guide so far. We had to take our chemical gear with us north of the border.

"I've taken some pictures of Iraq and of us working here in the transportation shop I hope they turn out. Well that is all for now." -- Ken



Master Sgt. Kenny operates a forklift during a unit exercise last September.

What's a 'Red Tail'?

(Adapted from an AFPN release)

Convoys have been a life blood for operations in all major wars and Iraq is no exception. Ever since coalition forces took control of former Iraqi military bases at the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom, convoys have been needed to support logistics. A "Red Tail" convoy is the process of moving assets from other locations into Iraq. Convoy teams are also responsible for the food being shipped to troops eager for a change of diet after months of eating "meals ready to eat" and "unitized group rations."

It's the job of units like the 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron to ensure that the convoys get through. Since March, the defenders

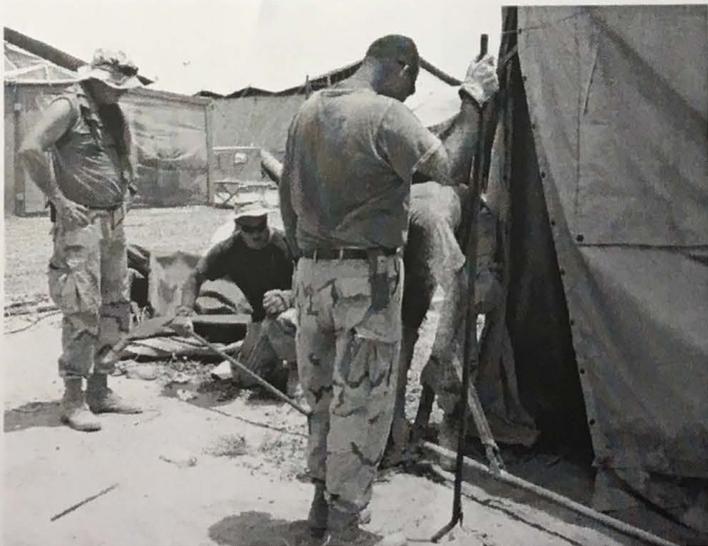
of the 407th ESFS have safely guided more than 70 convoys, carrying the equivalent of 800 C-130 Hercules loads, to Iraq.

"Any Air Force asset or contracted asset that arrives at or leaves from (Iraq), we're going to attach a security element to it, be it civilian or military," said Master Sgt. Lawrence Rettele, 407th ESFS operations superintendent.

Military security forces accompany every convoy and every potential threat is taken seriously. But for those receiving supplies, it can be a welcome relief. "We'd all be eating MREs and UGRs forever if it weren't for the convoys," said an airman stationed in Iraq.



Senior Airman Paul performs maintenance on a refrigeration unit that is used to store produce for the dining facility.



Tech. Sgt. Darren instructs on the proper techniques for tearing down a Harvest Falcon Temper Tent while Master Sgt. Ken looks on.

Lost 11 take mystery trip

By Tech. Sgt. George (last name withheld)

Departing from Tinker, we started an adventure that had us believing it was too good to be true. Our stay was to be at a five-star hotel with a swimming pool, and per diem that made it that much more "sweeter." Upon arriving in the AOR, the fog of war set in and the first words out of the ATOC attendant's mouth was "Who is with the group traveling with Senior Master Sgt. David from Tinker? Raise your hands." (We did.) "You are not going where you thought you were going, destination unknown."

Well, the five-star hotel turned into a lovely desert-colored tent and the per diem dropped to a gracious \$3.50 a day; what more could an airman ask for? We were put in a billet for a day-and-a-half and had a meeting with the installation's CE manager.

After getting the "low down" on how it was going to be and how we were to be mistreated, the meeting was interrupted informing us that we were to load up on a C-130 and travel to a classified location. We arrived at the air terminal and were again in waiting status with a group of Navy Seals and a few other sailors who were going to a forward operating location as well. Yes, we all did the DEED! Once we were in the air, the flight only took a quick 45 minutes and then it was touch down.

As the aircraft eased to its final parking location for the evening, the cargo doors were opened and the heat seemed to suck the oxygen out of the air. The crew chief asked where we were from and he was given a reply by the 11 individuals sitting in the cargo seats. Then with a big smile he stated, "Welcome to HELL, this is the hottest (temperature) place in the AOR," and when you leave here you will have BEEN HAD!"

Calls were made to the command element notifying them of our arrival and of course nobody knew we were coming. Everyone in camp was excited to see new faces walking about because it had been awhile since new faces were brought into this base camp. They dubbed the Civil Engineer part of base "Earlville" and anybody you didn't know personally you just called them Earl.

Slowly a week or two later, other members started



Tech. Sgt. Darren preps one of the many Temper Tents sited for striking by removing a wood floor.

showing up to relieve those individuals who had been mobilized to this area from the onset of the Operations. Then the day came when the new CE manager, Senior Master Sgt. David (Chief) stated "It's our town now." Yes and it's our job to do the day-to-day functions of sustaining the base for the mission to continue. As the departing American flag came down, a new posting of our Nations Colors was made by Master Sgt. David, Tech. Sgt. Darren, Senior Airman Paul and myself and the positive attitude to go along with it can be felt all over camp.

The base was constructed in the middle of March 2003, and at one time there was a population of over 1,200 troops; however the sustainment mode is ending and we are responsible for the teardown of this base. There is evidence of Tinker being here by an "OKIE" sticker in the transient quarters. Master Sgt. David (Duckman) made the statement that "Mission first and Nobody Hurt" be posted, as a reminder to take care of each other as well as the people we are here to support, in the safest and most efficient manner feasibly possible in regard to the climate and conditions we are living in.

One of the many "Kudos" that can be highlighted in such a short period of time is the nominations for the monthly awards. Four members of the 11-person team deployed were nominated for airman, NCO, and Senior NCO of the month for the squadron. Three of those nominated won: Master Sgt. Ken - Senior NCO of the Month, Tech. Sgt. George - NCO of the Month and Senior Airman Paul - AMN of the Month. The

team members would like special thanks to be given to the members who were left at home station and to their families and friends whom have given full support.

The workdays are long, the temperature at times can be very extreme, but the mission does go on and the members of the 507th Air Refueling Wing Civil Engineer Squadron are a direct part of the mission in direct support of the contingency operations on a little stretch of sand out in the middle of nowhere. To all God Bless and Peace be with you.

The 507th Civil Engineer Squadron crew gathers for a group picture while at an undisclosed location.





513th ACG Commander's Column

By Col. James Kerr

The greatest tools

A few weeks ago more than 50,000,000 people were left without electricity through a bizarre chain of events. But only in America can such adversity make a people stronger.

Let me paint a picture of a mighty metropolis frozen in the still of night. The only lights on the street are candles, cigarette lighters, and the odd hand-held flashlight. Without electricity, telephones become paperweights and light bulbs become simple decorations. What's moving in that shadow? Is someone at the door? Do I hear breathing? In the night, imagined fear threatens to grab us by the throat or squeeze on our chest like some heavy hand. So why were there no riots, no reports of panic or mass looting a few weeks ago? Because we were in it together and we knew that we had to be strong for each other. America 1, Technology 0.

Almost daily, computer viruses attack our information systems with a tenacity unseen since the days of the Great Plague. The computer viruses that shut down our computers, freezing information in a virtual limbo of utter frustration, brought the idle chatter of e-mails to an abrupt halt. People found themselves talking on the telephone again or face-to-face to get the

job done. It may not be more efficient to do work the "old-fashioned" way, but the work still got done. Praise for a job well done wasn't written in black electrons on a white cathode screen, it was given with a pat on the back and a smile. Sometimes we lose sight of the personal touch that voice or a handshake can yield when technology that promises instant messaging fails. America 2, Technology 0.

The world seems to spin faster on its axis as our collective blood pressure climbs. A World Wide Web isn't needed, nor a cellular phone—just a loving and compassionate heart. America 3, Technology 0. Game, set and match to America.

Friends, I am not a techno-hater. I use my Blackberry and laptop as often as you sit down at a computer. But Americans, as a people, are stronger than we think and wiser than we know. Technology gives us tools, but nothing can compete with our innate creativity and adaptability. Without those tools, we are still the same people and we need to remain confident that we can overcome any adversity. The mission will continue. Our families will be defended. Tools are nothing without us to guide them, but they do not define us either. We've proven this time and again in these last few weeks.

The greatest gifts you've been given are your faith, your hands, and genuine sweat and perseverance: they require no electricity or economy. From 1776 to 2001, it has always been true and will remain so that for our nation to survive, we need only ourselves to survive. Technology is only a tool and sometimes breaks. But the American spirit will never be broken.

Chaplain's Corner

Let 'normal' be cancelled

By Chaplain Lt. Col. James R. Bradfield
507th Chaplain's Office

After the attack on America, I was activated to provide crisis counseling in Washington, D.C. Once on location, I was struck by a sign in front of the base chapel. It read, "Normal Worship Cancelled." Of course, it meant that due to circumstances the routine schedule of worship services was not being observed. But those words can be taken another way which may have even more significance.

As I met with people who lost friends or loved ones in the Pentagon, a constant theme appeared. They did not like the uneasy feeling that accompanies unpredictability, lack of safety, and not being able to enjoy life as it had always been. A sense of security and well-being is vital to any healthy person. And that was ripped from us in this assault against the very core of what we are as a people.

However, the "normal" that we previously experienced as individuals and, as a nation, does need to be gone in favor

of a better appreciation of our freedoms, families and God. Maybe routine examination of our priorities would be a good practice to keep us focused. Hopefully we can be more consistent with our claims that we are that nation under God and blessed by God.

As we continue to regain our emotional and social stability, let us turn from our old normal lives. Let us embed within ourselves a new attitude, a new value system, a new course of goals, and a new dedication to God. And when we observe this anniversary of 9-11 followed by Thanksgiving Day, Christmas and/or Hanukkah, let us do it in sincerity for the purpose and meaning that they represent. Let those days be spiritual experiences instead of commercialized days off from work. Let us cancel that which has held us back. Let normal be cancelled. Let us go forth as a new people of faith toward victory!

Sermon title for the September UTA Sunday 7:30 a.m. service: "What's This About, Anyway?"

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 Chief Master Sgt. 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 Chief Master Sgt. 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 Chief Master Sgt. Epps in the MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.**

NCO Academy In-residence

Listed below are the FY 2004 NCO Academy In-Residence class dates: A letter of recommendation from your unit commander must be forwarded to 507 MSS/DPMT not later than 60 days prior to class start date:

Class	Quotas	Dates	Location
2004-1	1	06 Oct - 12 Nov 03	McGhee Tyson, TN
2004-2	1	19 Jan - 25 Feb 04	McGhee Tyson, TN
2004-1	1	06 Nov - 18 Dec 04	Tyndall AFB, FL
2004-2	1	05 Jan - 12 Feb 04	Tyndall AFB, FL
2004-3	1	24 Feb - 01 Apr 04	Tyndall AFB, FL
2004-4	1	13 Apr - 20 May 04	Tyndall AFB, FL
2004-5	1	26 May - 01 Jul 04	Tyndall AFB, FL
2004-6	1	02 Aug - 09 Sep 04	Tyndall AFB, FL
2004-7	1	20 Sep - 28 Oct 04	Tyndall AFB, FL

COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF THE AIR FORCE (CCAF)

Effective July 1, 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. 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.

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

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
07-08 Feb 04	07-08 Aug 04

As of 10 Aug 2003

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	Unit Designated
0730-0930	Newcomers In-Processing	Bldg 1043, Room 201C
0730-0900	Wing Training Office Closed	Bldg 1043, Room 206
0815-0930	Unit Career Advisors Mtg	To Be Determined
0900-1000	6 Month Contact Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
1030-1630	MILITARY PERSONNEL FLIGHT WILL BE CLOSED	
1030-1530	FAMILY DAY	Bldg 1030, Hangar Area
Unit Designated	Sign Out	Unit Designated

Sun, 07 Sep 2003

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
0730-0800	Protestant Chapel Service	513th ACG Conf Room
0730-0930	MPF Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043
0750-1115	CDC/PME Course Exams	Bldg 460, Room 213
0800-1530	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Phase I and II	Bldg 1030, Room 214
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
0830-1030	Supervisor Safety Tng	Bldg 1030, Room 104
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
0930	Catholic Chapel Service	Base Chapel
1000	507 OG Change of Command	Bldg 1030
1300	SORTS/Post UTA Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1400-1500	IG period w/Capt. Vardaro	Bldg 1043, Room B-1
1500	Fly Safety Mtg	Bldg 1048, OPS Briefing Room
Unit Designated	Sign Out	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

Fri, 24 Oct 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, 25 Oct 2003

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
0730-0930	Newcomers In-Processing	Bldg 1043, Room 201C
0730-0900	Wing Training Office Closed	Bldg 1043, Room 206
0830--0930	Unit Career Advisors Mtg	513th ACG Conf Room
0900-1000	6 Month Contact Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
0915-1115	Computer Based Testing	Bldg 1043, ATN Room
1000-1130	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 1030, Room 214
1000-1100	Mobility Rep Meeting	To Be Determined
1030-1130	First Sgts Meeting	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1300-1530	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I	Bldg 1030, Room 214
1300-1400	Adverse Actions Mtg	Bldg 1043, Wing CC's Office
1400-1500	Training Managers Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1600-1630	Protestant Chapel Service	513th ACG Conf Room
Unit Designated	Sign Out	Unit Designated

Sun, 26 Oct 2003

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
0730-0800	Protestant Chapel Service	513th ACG Conf Room
0730-0930	MPF Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043
0750-1115	CDC/PME Course Exams	Bldg 460, Room 215
0800-1115	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II	Bldg 1030, Room 214
0830-1030	HazCom Tng	Bldg 1030, Room 104
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
0930	Catholic Chapel Service	Base Chapel
1115	Escorts pick-up Newcomers	Bldg 1030, Room 214
1300	SORTS/Post UTA Mtg	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1400-1500	IG period w/Capt. Vardaro	Bldg 1043, Room B-1
1500	Fly Safety Mtg	Bldg 1048, OPS Briefing Rm
Unit Designated	Sign Out	Unit Designated

ENLISTMENT/REENLISTMENT BONUS PROGRAM

Prior Service enlistment bonus (ONLY) has increased from \$5,000 to \$8,000 effective June 1, 2003. Additional information on the bonus program should be directed to Master Sgt. Mark Stewart in the Wing Career Advisor's office at 734-7491.

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 and II			
Sunday	0800-0830	Base Populace	CEX
Sunday	0830-0845	IG Briefing	IG
Sunday	0845-0900	Wing Commander/Command	Chief
Sunday	0900-1015	UCMJ/Ethics	JA
Sunday	1015-1045	Counter Intel /Awareness	SFS
Sunday	1045-1115	Human Relations	ME
Sunday	1300-1400	Information Assurance	CF
Sunday	1400-1500	Drug and Alcohol, Suicide/ Workplace Violence Prevention	SG
Sunday	1500-1530	Local Conditions-Traffic	SE

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:
08 Sep 03	15 Sep 03
11 Sep 03	19 Sep 03
16 Sep 03	24 Sep 03
18 Sep 03	26 Sep 03
22 Sep 03	01 Oct 03
25 Sep 03	03 Oct 03
30 Sep 03	08 Oct 03
02 Oct 03	10 Oct 03
07 Oct 03	15 Oct 03
09 Oct 03	17 Oct 03
14 Oct 03	22 Oct 03

Military Pay (405) 734-5016

BAQ Recertification Deadlines

If Last Digit of SSAN is: Then Forward Listing to Commander in: Recertification due in: by end of month in:

1	November	January
2	December	February
3	January	March
4	February	April
5	March	May
6	April	June
7	May	July
8	June	August
9	July	September

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

Editor:

Chief Master Sgt. Charlotte A. Epps, Chief, Education & Training (ART)

Assistant Editor:

Master Sgt. Dennis O. Cain, Asst. Chief, Education & Training (ART)

Contributing Editors:

Tech Sgt. Sharon Lochman, NCOIC, Schools and OJT (ART)

Tech Sgt. Melanie E. Cherry, Education and Training Advisor

Mr. John Baker, Education and Testing Services Advisor

Poll provides insight to *On-final* readers

Last month, the *On-final* provided all 507th ARW and 513th ACG reservists with an Adobe Acrobat version of the *On-final* via unit e-mail.

A follow up e-mail poll was also conducted to sample readership acceptance. Out of 167 responses, 112 people or 67 percent favored receiving the electronic versus paper version.

"We believe this information is important," said Maj. Rich Curry. "We may not stop printing the paper entirely right away, but it does give us an idea of how well an electronic version would be accepted." Curry said the electronic version may be read on any unit computer and represents a large savings of unit funds. "We are also looking at ways to start delivering the *On-final* back into the homes via personal e-mail," Curry said. He stated the Public Af-

fairs Office has commissioned the creation of a computer program that will allow unit members to register personal e-mail addresses for home delivery. An announcement will be made as soon as that service becomes available.

The previous two years of *On-final* may be viewed on-line on the unit LAN's shared drive at J:/Professional Development Reading Library/*On-final*. Copies of earlier issues will become available to readers as soon as they have been converted into a readable format. "We are excited about being able to offer the *On-final* and unit photographs to everyone on the J: drive," Curry said. "Now, it's possible for someone to maintain their own personal memento archive of photos and articles from their career here at the unit."

Target Invites Applications for All-Around Scholarship Program

Each year, the Target Corporation awards more than 600 All-Around Scholarships — including one \$25,000 national scholarship — to high school seniors and college students age 24 or younger. The scholarships recognize volunteer work as well as academic achievement.

High school seniors and graduates, and current undergraduate college students (age 24 and under) who are legal U.S. residents are eligible to apply. Applicants must enroll in a full-time undergraduate course of study at an accredited two- or four-year college, university, or vo-tech school in the U.S. no later than the fall term of the 2004-2005.

The Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of America will select recipients based on number of community volunteer service hours; volunteer leadership awards and honors; appraisal form completed by volunteer supervisor or leader; essay on volunteer service; and grade point average of 2.0 or higher (C average).

The deadline for this year's application is Nov. 1.

For complete eligibility information, visit the Target Web site at target.com. Under search, type scholarships and look for the All-Around Scholarships link. A printable application form is available to download from the web site.

Humanitarian projects continue overseas

By 2nd Lt. Lance Patterson

Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - Civil engineers from nine Air Force Reserve Command units will travel to Concordia, Suriname, next spring to train with the South American country's military and help the local community.

The joint combined training exercise is part of New Horizons, a humanitarian, nation-building program. The training exercise will begin March 7 and run to June 21.

Participating AFRC civil engineer squadrons are coming from the following units:

- 302nd Airlift Wing, Peterson AFB, Colo.;
- 439th AW, Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass.;
- 445th AW, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio;
- **507th Air Refueling Wing, Tinker AFB, Okla.;**
- 512th AW, Dover AFB, Del.;
- 931st Air Refueling Group, McConnell AFB, Kan.;
- 932nd AW, Scott AFB, Ill.; and
- 939th ARW, Portland International Airport, Ore.

These units are also sending medical people to conduct readiness training and to provide medical support, as well as security forces personnel for force protection and services people for services support. (AFRC News Service)

The personal story of a Tuskegee Airman

By Master Sgt. Darryl Wingo
Human Resource Development Council
member

On behalf of the Human Resources Development Council I had the privilege of attending the 32nd National Tuskegee Airmen Convention held in Denver, CO. during the first part of August.

During the four days I was there I met several of the Tuskegee Airmen. The very men that in their own way helped shape the very Air Force you and I serve in today.

Even today their stories are still impacting lives. As for me I took away more than just some souvenir pictures of several military icons. I took away a message worthy of sharing in hopes you too will be inspired from the story of one Tuskegee Airman.

Friday afternoon I sat down for lunch. Seating was open, so I just found a seat in the large ballroom. There had to be at least 500 people inside that ballroom. I just happened to find a seat next to a Tuskegee Airman. Well, actually in my mind I was hoping to sit close to one.

We introduced ourselves, one to another. The room was buzzing with conversation, so we began to talk. I believe the Airman began to ask about myself. He wanted to know from where I lived, how long I had been in the Air Force, family make-up, etc. I began to talk and tell him all that he asked. We smiled one to another as I replied to his questions. We seemed to be connecting. I certainly was connecting. I knew this man had a story to tell. I felt honored to be sitting next to him and having this conversation. I certainly was not well learned of the Tuskegee Airmen. In fact, the movie is probably where most of my knowledge hailed from. But now, I am here, live with a real life Tuskegee Airman.

I began to ask him questions. I did not truly know where to start. I concentrated on asking open-ended question. I wanted more than yes and no answers. So I said, tell me about yourself. He began to tell me of going into the military. He told me that he went to school and earned his wings. He told me that when he finished school, Army Air Corp had nowhere to send him.

So they sent him back to school. He went back to school where he earned his second set of wings. Feeling really good about his accomplishments, he was ready to go to work. However, once again he was told he had nowhere to work.

Of course the young Lieutenant was becoming frustrated at best. He earned two sets of wings and yet had no place in which



Master Sgt. Darryl Wingo visits with an original Tuskegee Airman.

to work.

Well, as fate would have it, the Lieutenant was sent back to school. There, he earned his third set of wings. So you would think three times is a charm – right? Wrong, the Lieutenant still had no place to work.

At this time, 3½ years have passed. The Lieutenant had a decision to make. He decided that the military was just not ready for him and went ahead and separated from the military.

Now, where would he go from there? Determined not to let someone else decide where his future lie and not to be deterred, he enrolled in and completed medical school. Now, I was only looking for a

Tuskegee Airman to sit next to. I could not have chosen one who had such an intriguing story as this Lieutenant had to share.

As I reflect on this invaluable experience and unique opportunity, I have to share some personal observations and lessons learned. How would I have handled the setbacks and disappointments experienced by this Lieutenant, would I just quit, would I complain how unfair life is, would I become bitter and angry with the people who were holding me back, or would I have looked at and pursued other options? Of course, I cannot say what I would have done. I can only say what I hoped I would have done.

I would want to have followed the example of this Lieutenant. It would have been easy for him to place blame on someone else, give up on life, and just say forget it. No, I would like to think I would have done as the Lieutenant did. I want to believe I would have not thrown my gifts away because somebody said I cannot do what I was trained to do. I want to believe I would have pursued my dreams regardless of who said no.

Remember, one can never give up. Regardless of who you are, when someone tells you no, and there is no legitimate reason, remember the story of this Lieutenant. When someone tells you that you just don't add up and cannot tell you what you need - to measure up, remember the story of this Lieutenant.

Don't let someone limit or draw boundaries around what you can do or can't do and remember the story of this Lieutenant. All things are possible!

Colonel Harris proclaimed Woman of the Year

An Embry-Riddle alumna was honored recently by the MUSES of the California Science Center Foundation, a volunteer organization that supports the California Science Center. Members of the MUSES foster goodwill toward the Science Center and raise funds for its educational programs, including the California State Science Fair, Curator Kinds Club and Hands-On Science Camp.

Colonel Stacey D. Harris '87 was named the organization's 37th Annual Woman of the Year. Born in Los Angeles, Calif., Harris received her Bachelor of Science in Industry and Systems Engineering from the University of Southern California and her Masters in Aviation Management from Embry-Riddle.

Also, Harris received a commission in the Air Force through the ROTC program.

She left active duty in 1990 to fly with United Airlines as a First Officer on the Boeing 747-400 aircraft. As a reserve officer, Harris serves as Vice Commander of the 507th Air Refueling Wing at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla.

Harris' current involvements include Tuskegee Airman, Inc., Rotary Club Scholarship Committee, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and the Links, Inc.

In addition, Harris has received many military and civic honors, including a Kilgore Award from the USC Black Alumni Association in 1999, and a Silver Achievement Award from the YWCA of Greater Los Angeles in 2000.

Reprinted with permission from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's Alumni Network Newsletter, Summer/Fall 2003 Issue.



Col. Stacey Harris

Hardship...

(Continued from page 4)

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.

Reasons for requesting a hardship to stay on active duty include:

- Individuals nullify a civilian employment contract to come on active duty for 12 months and are scheduled for deactivation after 60 to 90 days with no prospect for a new employment contract until six months after release from active duty.
- Physicians sell their medical practice believing they would be on active duty for at least 12 months.
- Individuals are laid off by an employer while activated.
- Owners sign their private business over to another individual for the 12 months they were activated.
- Full-time students withdraw from college when mobilized for 12 months but are notified to demobilize early.

Other circumstances may exist that could also be considered.

However, hardship requests cannot be based on problems that existed before activation, such as the individual being unemployed before activation. Reservists also cannot request a hardship because they can make more money on active duty than in a civilian job or ask to stay on active duty to gain eligibility for entitlements.

Wing commanders can approve or recommend disapproval of requests to remain mobilized for 30 days or less. NAF commanders are the approval authority for 31 to 45 days. The AFRC vice commander approves requests for more than 45 days. If he recommends disapproval, the case goes to the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph AFB, Texas, for final determination. The results are then processed through channels to the reservist's MPF.

Reservists and their commanders, first sergeants and supervisors can get more details about hardship waivers from their servicing MPF.

"Preplanning and anticipation of a potential hardship ahead of the demobilization date will ensure the member submits the request, has it processed and knows the results in a timely manner," Clement said. (AFRC News Service)

Officials release fitness-test details

by Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

Beginning next year, Air Force officials will implement a new fitness test completely different than what airmen today are familiar with.

The more functional test will include a 1.5-mile timed run, a muscular-fitness test of push-ups and crunches and a body composition test. It is designed to measure the general health of airmen, said Maj. Lisa Schmidt, chief of health promotions operations at the Air Force surgeon general's office.

"The goal is to have a healthy, fit force that can deploy at any time," Schmidt said. "Our goal is to prevent the onset of diseases such as heart attacks, stroke, high-blood pressure and high cholesterol. Basically, it is about keeping members healthy so they will perform optimally, in-garrison and deployed. Healthy members are more heat-, stress- and fatigue-tolerant, and less prone to illness and injury."

To measure airmen's overall fitness, Schmidt's office and a panel of health and fitness experts developed a three-component measurement system that looks at aerobic fitness, body composition and muscular fitness, she said.

An airman's performance in each of the three component areas will earn points. They can earn a maximum of 50 points on the aerobic portion of the test, 30 points on the body composition portion and 20 on the muscular fitness portion.

The total number of points earned on the fitness test will put the airman into one of four categories: 90 or greater is excellent, 75 to 89.9 is good, 70 to 74.9 is marginal, and less than 70 is poor, Schmidt said.

"Scores based on health provide an opportunity for earlier intervention," Schmidt said. "If somebody scores in the marginal or poor category, we know they are at higher risk for disease. Therefore, we intervene with education and more frequent testing to monitor their progress."

People scoring marginal on the test will attend a two-hour healthy-living workshop that focuses on lifestyle behavior, time management and fitness education, Schmidt said.

Intervention for people scoring in the poor category involves the healthy-living workshop, an individualized exercise program and a weight-loss program for those who exceed body fat standards. It also involves mandatory exercise five days a week, she said.

The test for body composition is still being finalized, but it will measure how much body fat a person has, Schmidt said.

Tests for other components of the fitness standard have already been determined. A 1.5-mile run will determine aerobic fitness. Airmen who are not medically cleared to run will take the cycle-ergometry test. Muscular fitness will be determined by both push-ups and crunches, which will be similar



to those done in conjunction with the cycle-ergometry test.

Airmen's scores on the new fitness test will also determine how often they need to retest. People scoring "good" or "excellent" will retest after a year, while those scoring "marginal" will retest after six-months. Airmen scoring "poor" will retest after 90 days.

Just how many push-ups and crunches airmen will have to do, or how fast they will have to run, has yet to be finalized. Schmidt's office has developed draft charts for the composite score. The fitness standards on the draft charts are tailored to both age and gender.

While the charts are not available yet, airmen who are not already involved in some sort of exercise program should begin now, Schmidt said.

"If you are not doing anything now and have concerns, see your doctor first," she said. "Begin slowly with an aerobic-exercise program such as running, jogging, swimming or biking, working up to at least 30 minutes on most days of the week. Muscular fitness and flexibility also need to be part of a balanced fitness program. If you have questions about starting a fitness program, you can contact your local (health and wellness center). They can help develop a program that's right for you."

Reserve compiles list of service obligations for training courses

ROBINS AFB, Ga. - Reservists and those planning to join the Air Force Reserve will incur a service obligation for certain kinds of training, education and promotions starting Oct. 1.

The following are the events affected by Air Force Reserve Command's Reserve Service Commitment Policy and the corresponding lengths of service required:

- Undergraduate pilot training - 10 years.
- Undergraduate navigator training - six years.
- Air battle manager undergraduate training - six years.
- Non-prior service enlistment - six years or term of enlistment.
- In-residence doctoral medical/dental education or technical training for 20 weeks or longer - five years concurrent with other service commitments.
- Line, chaplain and judge advocate officer commissioning from the Academy of Military Science, McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base, Tenn., and Officer Training School, Maxwell AFB, Ala. - four years.
- Military Physician Assistant Training - four years.
- In-residence advanced flying training

- three years.

This includes initial qualification and re-qualification training for test pilot school students, navigators and enlisted flight engineers on fixed or rotary-wing aircraft. The applicable advanced flying training courses will be listed on the Air Education and Training Command Web site. AETC pilot instructor training pilots who transfer without a break in flying to another AETC non-military weapons system aircraft, after completing initial training, do not incur an additional commitment.

- In-residence Air Force weapons instructor course - three years for all Air Force specialty codes.
- In-residence education or technical school training for 20 weeks or more - three years.
- In-residence non-doctoral medical/dental education or technical training for 20 weeks or longer - three years concurrent with other service commitments.
- Officer in-residence professional military education at intermediate or senior service school - three years.
- Direct accession of health profession officer - three years minimum term of service.
- Promotions to E-7, E-8 and E-9 - two

years or date of high year of tenure, whichever is less. Commissioned officer promotions are not affected per the Reserve Officer Personnel Management Act.

- Officer tuition assistance - two years per Air Force Instruction 36-2306, *Education Services Program*.
 - In-residence instructor qualification courses - two years.
 - Enlisted in-residence professional military education - two years.
 - Ready Reserve Health Professions Stipend Program - a minimum two-year service obligation at a rate of two years for each year of assistance.
 - Graduate medical/dental education and deferred/re-deferred residency training through the Health Professions Scholarship Program and Financial Assistance Program - one year for every year of training with a minimum service obligation of two years.
 - Squadron Officer School, and Air and Space Basic Course, Maxwell AFB, Ala. - one year.
- Two or more Reserve Service Commitments will be served concurrently, not consecutively. When two or more RSC events overlap, the event with the lengthiest obligation will take precedence. (AFRC News Service)

DoD focuses on joint training

Over the next several years, the US military, under the management of Unites States Joint Forces Command, will implement the Joint National Training Capability (JNTC). The capability will trans-form the way the US military trains for war.

JNTC efforts will center on these pillars

- A globally networked training environment, seamlessly linking ranges and simulation centers
- The ability to stand up an opposing force and joint task force functional headquarters supporting live, virtual and constructive components
- The ability to continuously assess interoperability
- Seamless accommodation of both interagency and coalition requirements

Every level of training will be orchestrated within a joint context. The result will be a common, joint environment that will support both training and experimentation.

Barring real-world impediments, JNTC expects to achieve initial operating capability by FY '04 and final operating capability by FY '09.

Senior Leaders Are Saying...

· If we're going to depend on one another in wartime, then we must forge the bonds of trust in peacetime. That means our training has to become increasingly joint as well. With these thoughts in mind, we are developing a **Joint National Training Capability**. We want to 'train like we fight' — as a coherently integrated team. (DEPSECDEF, Jun 03)

Learn more about the **Joint National Training Capability** at www.jwfc.jfcom.mil/about/fact_jntc.htm.

Phillips assumes command of Ops Group

Col. Gregory A. Phillips will become the newest commander of the 507th Operations Group on Sept. 7.

Colonel Phillips will replace Col. John Hurdle who becomes the commander for the 931st Air Refueling Group at McConnell AFB, Kansas.

Colonel Phillips was commissioned through the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) at Texas Tech University, Lubbock Texas, in 1974. He entered active duty following ROTC training, beginning Undergraduate Pilot Training at Williams AFB, Arizona in 1975. Following tours of duty as a combat-ready pilot flying in the F-4 and F-15 at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, Japan, he was assigned as an Instructor Pilot and Wing Chief of Flight Safety in the T-38 at Reese AFB, Lubbock, Texas.

His final active duty assignment was as a mission-ready pilot flying F-15s at Bitburg Air Base, Germany. He remained on active duty until 1986, when he joined the South Dakota Air National Guard flying A-7 Corsairs. In 1989, Colonel Phillips became an Air Reserve Technician (ART) with the 507th Tactical Fighter Group, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma, as the Chief of Group Safety. Since 1989, Colonel Phillips has held positions as the Chief of Scheduling, Chief of Standardization/Evaluation, Operational Support Flight Operations Officer, and Chief of Wing Plans.

In 1996 Colonel Phillips was selected as the first Operations and Training Officer (O&T) for the 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron, 513th Air Control Group, under the 507th Wing. The 513th was the first Reserve Associate Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) unit in Air Combat Command. In early 1997 Colonel Phillips was selected as the

first commander of the 5th Flying Training Flight located at Vance AFB, Oklahoma. The 5th Flying Training Flight was redesignated the 5th Flying Training Squadron in April 1998. The squadron, a new joint AFRC/AETC initiative, is a Chief of Staff for the Air Force directed mission and a first for the Air Force.

In 1999 Colonel Phillips was selected as the Deputy Commander, 944th Operations Group, 944th Fighter Wing, Luke Air Force Base, Arizona. The wing is the first and only unit equipped F-16 Formal Training Unit (FTU) in the Air Force Reserve Command. In addition to training new F-16 pilots, the wing also maintains a separate combat mission. Colonel Phillips returned to the 507th Air Refueling Wing in August of 2001 and has held several positions to date. He is a command pilot with more than 3,900 flying hours and has flown the T-37B, T-38A, F-4D/E, F-15A/B/C/D, A-7D/K, F-16A/B, KC-135R aircraft.

He is the recipient for the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Combat Ready Medal with two oak leaf clusters and the National Defense Service Medal.



Col. Gregory Phillips



Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard, III, left, Air Force Reserve commander; Maj. Gen. James Czekanski, center, former 4th Air Force commander; and Brig. Gen. Robert Duignan, 4th Air Force commander, stand during the change of command ceremony held Aug. 23 at March Air Reserve Base, Calif. Duignan comes to March Air Reserve Base following an assignment as the Air Force Reserve Command plans director. Czekanski retired from civil service after 35 years as an air reserve technician and is now the mobilization assistant to the United States Transportation Command, Scott AFB, Ill.

*Photo by Senior Airman Carolyn Erfe
4th Combat Camera Squadron*

Uppclose

by Tech Sgt. Tyrone Yoshida

The following was asked of 507th Air Refueling Wing members:
 "How do you keep a positive morale and healthy outlook?"



Master Sgt. Latina DeV Vaughn
 507th CLSS

"By taking one day at a time and believing that God will take care of all things."



Staff Sgt. Tom Lord
 507th MOF

"It is important to be thankful and keep a good sense of humor!"



Senior Airman Dean Johnson
 507th CES

"By being a team player and giving 110 percent on duty and off; helping in any way I can."



Senior Master Sgt. Shelia Russell, 465th ARS

"Being positive produces a healthy positive outlook. Enjoy life, live each day to the fullest. I also smile a lot."



Tech. Sgt. Lashunda Joseph
 507th MPF

"Serving my country is a very serious commitment. I try to take things as they come no matter how difficult they are to accept. It's also helpful to consider the "big picture."

Invite your civilian boss to...

Come fly with us

All 507th Air Refueling Wing (ARW) and 513th Air Control Group reservists are invited to nominate their employers for an upcoming Employer Support Orientation Flight, scheduled for Friday, Nov. 14.

Employer support flights are sponsored to help better acquaint business leaders who employ reservists with the mission of the Air Force Reserve.

According to Maj. Richard Curry, 507th ARW Public Affairs Officer and unit representative for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) activities, "The November orientation flight will involve at least one of the 507th ARW's KC-135R 'Stratotanker' aircraft. We are looking to fly employers on a 2-3 hour mission."

Reservists may nominate their employers by filling out the nomination form appearing on this page and presenting it to their commander. Because of space limitations, reservists may also provide additional information to their commander to tell

them why their boss should be selected for this flight. Public Affairs is requesting that reservists do not nominate employers for repeat flights.

"In the past, this activity has been a regular event for our units," Curry said. "So if we are unable to fly your employer on this mission, watch for future announcements and please try again."

All nominations should be given to an individual's commander before October 8, so final selections can be made and employers contacted with flight information.



Employer Orientation Flight Nomination form

Company Name _____

Employer's Name _____

Employer's Phone _____

Employer Address _____

Reservist's Name/Rank _____

Reservist's Business Phone _____

Reservist's Home Phone _____

Reservist's Unit _____

Parting shot



ESGR award presentation -- Max Stoll (second from right), president of Central Oklahoma Federal Credit Union, Davenport, OK, receives an ESGR certificate from Lt. Col. Renee Lane, 507th CE Squadron commander, while Capt. Karen Baskin, left, and Master Sgt. Ray Wade look on. Wade is a loan officer at the credit union and a heavy equipment shop supervisor with the 507th CES.

On-final R-News

Air Force e-learning

Air Force Communications Agency has an agreement with SkillSoft, an e-learning courseware provider, to provide over 1200 information technology courses, covering such areas as software development, operating systems, desktop computer skills and database systems. Additionally, there are a number of courses available on business, budgeting, project management, leadership and supervision. The majority of courses include online mentoring that connects students with vendor-certified experts who can assist them with any questions or concerns. These courses are accessible online at <https://usaf.smartforce.com>.

Reservists are encouraged to take the time to review and use this outstanding training opportunity!

Tobacco use prohibited

All reservists are reminded that Air Force Instruction 40-102 prohibits the use of smoking and smokeless tobacco products in all Air Force facilities, except specifically designated areas.

The Air Force prohibits tobacco use in Air Force vehicles. Spit/loose tobacco products are expressly prohibited in the workplace to protect the health of all workers.

To report violations of this policy, contact your first sergeant or commander.

Former banquet participants needed

This year, the 72nd 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 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