

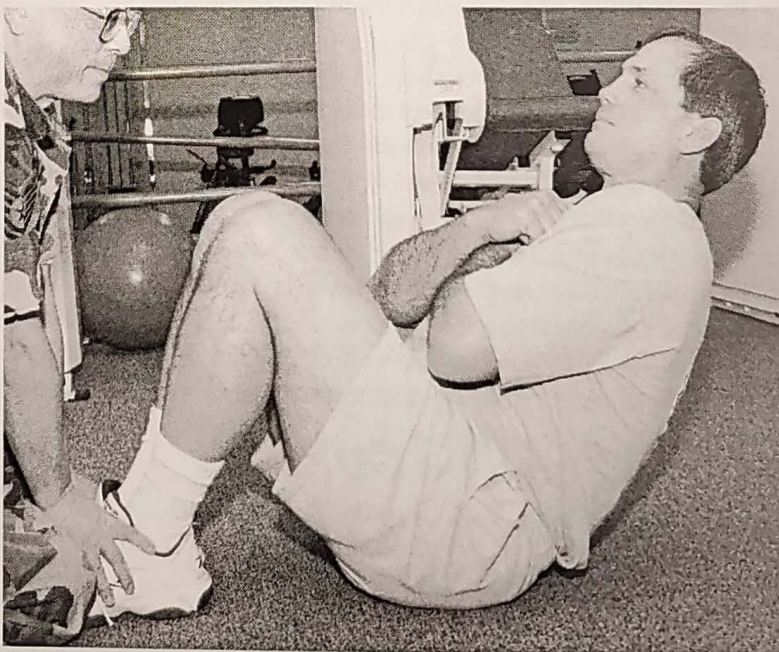
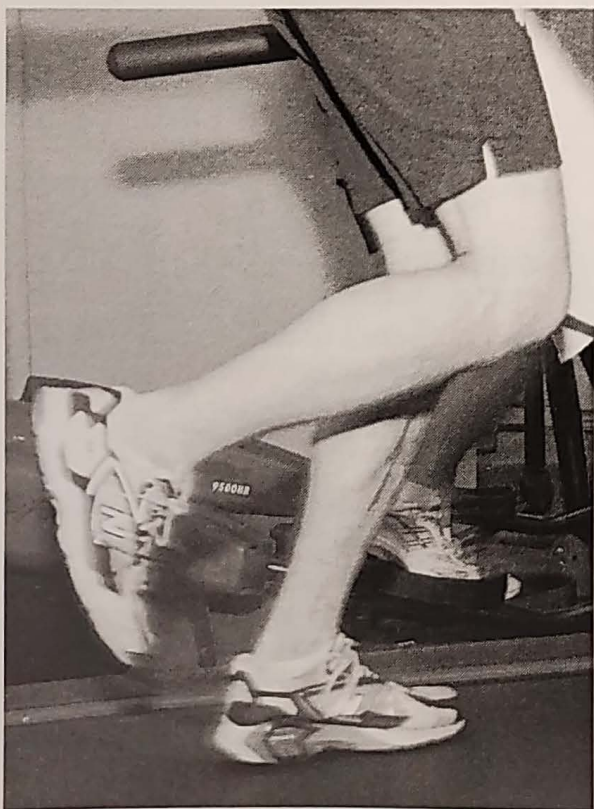
# On-final



March 2004  
Vol. 24, No. 3

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

## *Time to get*



## *fit to fight*

**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

### Injured? Let us know!

It is very important for all members of the 507<sup>th</sup> to understand their responsibilities if you are injured or if you are a supervisor of the injured person.

Don't assume your injury is minor or doesn't matter. For your protection, please report all injuries.

After immediate care is given to the injured party and the person is transported to medical help, as appropriate, the next step is to call the Command Post.

The Command Post will call the senior commanders so we are all aware of the situation. Then, once the injured person has been treated and released, that person must contact the Military Personnel Flight. The MPF has a check list that will help the injured party answer needed questions to ensure proper coverage of any medical expenses. In most cases, a Line of Duty (LOD) will be started. It will either be an administrative LOD or an informal LOD, depending on the situation. If the person's injuries are such that they are required to stay in the hospital, the supervisor should go to the MPF to start this process.

It is very important to start a Line of Duty within hours of the injury. The MPF checklist will make the process as easy as possible. This checklist will ensure that the proper forms are filled out and that you are kept in the proper status, depending on the situation. We have had some cases in the past where a person is injured and doesn't even tell their supervisor. They come to the wing weeks or months later, after they have gone to their doctor back home and are looking for payment of the doctor bills. It makes it very difficult to help the

person when this situation occurs.

People are also covered for injury when they are traveling to duty or returning home after duty. Again, the wing can't help you if we are not told you were hurt. In this case, seek the required help and then at the first opportunity contact the MPF. If it is after normal duty hours, contact the 507<sup>th</sup> 24-hour Command Post at 734-7641.

If you are injured while performing duty at another base, please let the wing know as soon as possible. This is important even if you are seen by an active duty doctor at your duty location. An LOD needs to be done so if you have any problems after you return to the 507<sup>th</sup> or require follow on medical care, you are covered.

Since bases no longer have an Air Force Clinic that can treat an emergency, in almost all cases, you will be taken to a hospital off base. (This is not because you are a reservist, the active duty is taken to an off base hospital as well). This means that TRICARE will be involved from the beginning. If you notify the MPF right away, they will work through our medical personnel to help process the TRICARE bills. By quickly processing the bills you should not get in the situation of the off base hospital coming to you personally for payment of the hospital expenses.

Finally, if you are injured to a point where you are unable to perform your civilian job, then the LOD is used to get you the benefits you deserve until you can return to work.

So in review, if you are injured on or off base, coming to or from duty, or while TDY:

1. Call the 507th Command Post (Supervisors perform this step if the member can not)
2. Contact MPF at the first opportunity. (Supervisors perform this step if the member can not)
3. Come to MPF to receive an LOD checklist
4. Follow all the steps on the checklist
5. Get better
6. Receive the money and benefits you deserve

circumstances like that of a POW. He eventually paid the ultimate price. He was willing to sacrifice all to do the right thing. Today the Christian Church calls him Saint Paul.

There are members of our unit who have suffered financially and some have even lost their families. All of this was because they were willing to wear the uniform of our nation. They swore an oath, not knowing at that time how high the cost would be or to what extreme places they might deploy.

While we all put our lives back together to what ever degree we can, let us recall the words of Paul. He said, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith." My fellow unit members, you have done the right thing. Thank you. God bless you!

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) James R. Bradfield

### The Good Fight

There was a man who found it necessary to take a stand for his convictions. It cost him dearly. History tells us that, because he was unwilling to surrender to social pressure, he either was unable to marry and have a family or lost them as a result of his dedication. He had many talents, was well educated, and very successful in his career. But that did not make a difference. His blood was spilled more than once. He was imprisoned under

Volume 24, No. 3

MARCH 2004

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

### On The Cover



The four components of the new physical fitness test are illustrated by Lt. Col. Mark Rowland and Capt. Dave Neville, 507th OSF - push-ups, the abdominal circumference measurement, crunches and the 1.5-mile timed run.

(Photos by Staff Sgt. L. Brakebill)

MARCH 2004



## CONTENTS

Patriot Express missions diverted .....	4
Tankers continue to evolve their AE duties .....	5
Wing names outstanding annual winners .....	6-7
Chart a course to physical fitness .....	9
Recruiters seek recruiting applicants .....	10
Doors open for active duty to join AF Reserve .....	11
Judge Advocate reports on adverse actions .....	12

## DEPARTMENTS

Training Planner .....	A1-A3
513th news .....	8
Upclose .....	14
Scrapbook photos .....	15
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](http://www.afrc.af.mil/507arw)



## Patriot Express missions diverted to support SWA redeployments

by Cynthia Bauer  
Air Mobility Command  
Public Affairs

**SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AFPN)**—Air Mobility Command officials have temporarily cancelled several Patriot Express missions between the United States and Europe to use those aircraft to fill requirements for the massive Southwest Asia rotation of forces. AMC is supporting the movement of 250,000 troops in 60 days, a feat military leaders have called "historic."

Patriot Express is the commercial charter air service for servicemembers and their families traveling on official orders to or from overseas locations. With the approval of the AMC commander, seven missions and return flights have been cancelled between Feb. 8 and 24 that were scheduled to depart Atlanta and Baltimore-Washington International Airports for Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany; Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England; and Aviano AB, Italy.

March will bring the cancellation of an additional five Patriot Express missions March 1 through March 14 from Atlanta and BWI to Rhein-Main, Mildenhall and Aviano, and return, said Col. Jeffrey Ackerson, AMC's deputy director of logistics. The new cancellations affect 642 passengers and 57 pets.

"We understand the impact of these cancellations on our Patriot Express customers, and AMC and the Tanker Airlift

Control Center are doing everything possible to notify them of the changes," Colonel Ackerson said.

Passengers are being informed through their local transportation management offices, he said. TACC officials have asked the military services transportation representatives, commanders and transportation officers to contact passengers who may be on leave en route. In addition, TACC officials have followed up with each of the transportation offices with passengers booked on the affected flights to make sure they were aware of the cancellations and were rebooking the travelers.

AMC aerial port squadron commanders at the Atlanta and BWI gateways and at the passenger terminals at Rhein-Main, Mildenhall and Aviano are leaning forward and are prepared to help any passenger who needs assistance in booking flights.

"We're rebooking passengers on other military air service, if available, or on commercial air using the General Services Administration City Pair Program," Colonel Ackerson said.

Colonel Ackerson advises those who have tickets for Patriot Express flights to and from Europe to check with the transportation agency who originally booked the ticket to find out if the flight has been cancelled.

"We are moving America's warriors, and they deserve every consideration," Colonel Ackerson said. "We will continue to press hard to do everything we can to catch passengers early and reduce some of the inconvenience these cancellations will cause." (Courtesy of AMC News Service)

## Deployed airmen getting ATM access

by Capt. Kelley Thibodeau  
379th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

**SOUTHWEST ASIA**—An officer deployed to a forward location here has developed a template for an automated teller machine agreement that will place ATMs at selected locations in the region. The first two ATMs are due to be installed in mid-February.

"Major [Scott] Lettney created the first operating agreement for the U.S. Air Force for this type of initiative," said Maj. Steve Minkin, 379th Expeditionary Comptroller Squadron commander.

The operating agreement will be used as the template for future initiatives of this nature, Major Minkin said.

Currently, most people deployed to Southwest Asia cash checks for U.S. dollars or a host nation's currency. If someone deploys without checks, he or she may have to use a

pay advance to get cash. Pay advances are restricted to \$100 and may affect a person's base pay for several months after the advance.

Major Minkin and the 379th ECPTS cashiers said they expect a significant drop in check-cashing needs once the ATM machines are installed and running.

"The initiative gives us an opportunity to look at the manning of the cashiers in the comptroller squadron and see if some positions can be reduced, allowing more people to be at home station," Major Minkin said.

The ATM agreement was approved for implementation by the Central Command Air Forces comptroller and judge advocate, Central Command comptroller, Air Combat Command comptroller, representatives of the U.S. State Department and the secretary of the Air Force's comptroller banking liaison office. (AFPN)

## Tankers continue to evolve their AE duties

By Staff Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol  
319th Air Refueling Wing  
Public Affairs

**GRAND FORKS AFB, S.D.**—When the KC-135 was designed for its role as an air refueling aircraft in the 1950s, designers probably did not take into consideration the plane would someday become an aeromedical evacuation platform.

The decision to retire the C-9 Nightingale, the Air Force's aeromedical evacuation plane of choice for many years, forced yet another decision. What will replace the C-9 for those missions? The answer came in many forms, to include the KC-135 taking on a portion of those missions.

"When the C-9, as an airframe and a program, went away, the need for air evac didn't," said Maj. Eric Brumskill, 912th Air Refueling Squadron director of operations. "So what ended up happening is downrange in the areas where troops are deployed, instead of a C-9, they were using strategic airlift such as a C-17, C-5, C-141, and the C-130 to move people forward out of the area. They mainly used C-130s intratheater to pick them up out of the hot spots."

Major Brumskill, a KC-135R pilot who is also a former C-9 pilot, said where the tanker comes in, particularly downrange, is that it's the fastest of all the large aircraft.

"We obviously have the most range because we carry gas ourselves so they figured, let's use tankers when they are not doing air refueling missions," Major Brumskill said.

The major said much of the same thinking applies to tanker use for aeromedical evacuation missions stateside.

"Because the C-9 is gone, C-141s, C-130s and tankers do their generic C-9 runs now," Major Brumskill said. "As this whole thing has evolved, we had to come up with procedures, specific sys-

tems, palletizing the litters and many other things to make the tanker capable of supporting this mission."

Major Brumskill said his first aeromedical evacuation mission with a tanker had two patients on board who were hit with a rocket-propelled grenade in Iraq.

"They had severe burns," he said. "There were also others with various injuries who were being moved. Most of the folks we were picking up were from down range in the AOR from places like Afghanistan and Iraq."

"When you see people like that and know you are doing a mission that is going to help them, it's a great feeling," he said. "It's great because we are helping someone who needs our help."

By last summer, air mobility experts and engineers had figured out a configuration and had interim guidance established.

In the Air Mobility Command guidance, it says the KC-135 is not an optimal platform for aeromedical operations. However, with current operations tempo, the KC-135 is one of few platforms available for use.

"Crew resource management between aeromedical evacuation crews and front-end crews is paramount to the success of this challenging mission," the AMC guidance states. "Crew resource management is critical as many of the tanker crews have never conducted an aeromedical evacuation mission before and aeromedical evacuation crew managers are new to tanker operations."

Major Brumskill said even though the tanker is not ideal for aeromedical evacuation missions, the people in the tanker world have made it happen.

"In this case we have adapted and overcome," Major Brumskill said. "Almost all of the tanker units in the Air Force are now tapped to fly specific aeromedical evacuation flights."

The major, who has flown on two

aeromedical evacuation missions, said the missions for the 319th Air Refueling Wing are now standard.

"When we do a mission, we preposition to Andrews with a crew and a KC-135R Stratotanker and that's where it all starts," Major Brumskill said. "From Andrews we upload what's called a PSP, or patient support pallet. What they are is two pallets that we put on a roller system to configure the jet for aeromedical evacuation. In other words the pallets are configured to support several patients in litters along both sides of the aircraft. It's a pretty unique set-up."

From Andrews, Major Brumskill said the tanker goes on its run, boarding and moving patients at various locations.

"The patients are always stabilized and they quite often are coming out of the area of responsibility such as Iraq or Afghanistan," the major said. "What you see on these missions is amazing and makes you glad you are a part of helping someone."

Capt. Cheri Gavan, a KC-135R copilot from the 906th Air Refueling Squadron, did her first aeromedical evacuation mission in September 2003. She said it was quite a learning experience.

"It was a pretty hard mission," Captain Gavan said. "Since these types of tanker missions were still in the early stages, we were still working out a lot of things. Overall though, it was great to do these missions and go to all those different airfields we normally don't go to."

Gavan said because these are humanitarian missions instead of refueling missions, they provide aircrew members with a whole new perspective.

"On these missions, the results of what you have to do are more apparent and hit home a bit more," the captain said. "It can put everything into perspective when you bring someone home to their family or to someplace that is going to help them to get better." (AMCNS)



## Wing names outstanding annual winners

Yearly winners for the 507<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing are Capt. Karen M. Baskin, Company Grade Officer; Senior Master Sgt. Karen Perkins, First Sergeant; Master Sgt. David C. Henke, Senior NCO; Tech. Sgt. Patrick Mitchell, NCO; and Senior Airman Justin Hunter, Airman.



**Capt. Karen Baskin**

**Capt. Karen Baskin** is Chief, Engineering Section, for the 507<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron.

Baskin was activated March 2003 in support of Operations ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM and assigned primarily to serve as executive officer to the 507<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing Operations Group.

Baskin championed the 507<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron enlisted training, reducing time required for proficiency. She was handpicked by the Wing commander to develop the first-ever Newcomers Flight for new airmen, and was charged with maintaining a rigorous pace for basic training graduates awaiting technical school.

Based on her proven track record

as a solid and proven officer, she was selected among eligible 507<sup>th</sup> ARW company grade officers to attend Squadron Officer School in residence.

Baskin represented the Air Force Reserve Command on the Air Force Association Company Grade Officer Council, is active in the Reserve Of-



**Senior Master Sgt. Karen Perkins**

ficers Association, serves as treasurer and is on the board of directors for the Oklahoma Pilots Association. She is actively involved in the Oklahoma City Animal Shelter's Foster Care Program for abandoned animals.

**Senior Master Sgt. Karen Perkins** is first sergeant for the 507<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Operation Flight.

"It's an honor just to be nominated for this award," says Perkins. "It's hard to fathom being recognized for doing a job I love. The best part of my job is writing award and recognition packages for others. I'm blessed by being surrounded with great people who make my job easier."

Perkins volunteered to deploy in

support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM, serving as first sergeant for 220 active duty/Reserve members assigned. She reported directly to the Group commander while supporting four subordinate squadrons as first sergeant. She worked closely with five different assigned commanders to ensure equitable discipline and recognition of all personnel assigned.

During the deployment, Perkins organized and maintained accountability to fly American flags downrange, with plans to use them to reward deserving members there by increasing morale and patriotism in the unit.

Perkins is constantly working on self-improvement and continuing education. She has a bachelor's and associate's degree from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and two CCAF degrees, and now adding master's degree credits in Administrative Leadership at Oklahoma University. She is an assistant coach for the Tinker AFB Women's Softball Team and sponsor and manager of an adult co-ed softball team. It was formed to support local youth baseball and girls' softball associations with money raised to buy new uniforms and allow participation for the underprivileged.

In her spare time, Perkins enjoys golfing and spending time with her husband, two dogs, a cat and a horse.

**Master Sgt. David Henke** is an aircraft maintenance specialist assigned to the 507<sup>th</sup> Combat Logistics Support Squadron.

"Sergeant Henke is an absolute top performer in every respect of his job as the B-1 Team Chief," says Maj. Donald E. Harlan, 507<sup>th</sup> CLSS commander. He supervises a 14-person team consisting of five different skill qualifications with knowledge of the



**Master Sgt. David C. Henke**

B-1 Bomber Weapons Systems and additional knowledge of Aircraft Battle Damage Repair.

Henke performs at least two additional mandays each month to prepare for UTA training and annual tour training for his team members. He frequently performs advance party and site surveys for his team to ensure cohesion and interaction with either active duty, Reserve or Air National Guard forces, when his team goes on annual tours.

Henke is a highly skilled technician who holds two AFSCs; he is fully qualified as a 7-level aircraft maintenance specialist and a fighter crew chief with four years active duty and 20 years as a reservist in the Air Force and two years civilian in fuels.

Henke is enrolled in the Community College of the Air Force, working toward an Associate's Degree in Applied Science in Aircraft Maintenance Technology.

"I think it's very cool I was selected; I don't feel I'm the best by any means," said Henke. "I treat my subordinates like my friends and they seem to treat me the same. I work each day as it comes. If I go home mad, tired, or just emotionally ex-

MARCH 2004



**Tech. Sgt. Patrick Mitchell**

hausted, I find something that makes me happy and return the next UTA with an open mind (a lot can change in a month)."

Henke is active in the Wing and Squadron Top 3 programs and the Air Force Sergeant's Association. He also is heavily involved in community activities and local school programs. "I spend most of my spare time with my boys and their youth organizations. I've been married for almost 25 years now and still love it," concluded Henke.

**Tech. Sgt. Patrick Mitchell**, supervisor for electronic computer switching and crypto, is assigned to the 507<sup>th</sup> Communications Flight.

"Sergeant Mitchell volunteered for mobilization to support Operation Enduring Freedom and was activated at the home station," said Capt. Monte Buchanan, 507<sup>th</sup> CF commander. "He built a superior record of accomplishments that made substantial contributions."

"I was surprised that I won," said Mitchell. "I'm especially happy that the award brings much deserved recognition for the 507<sup>th</sup> Communications Flight."

Mitchell established an outstanding working relationship with peers at the base communications squadron and

administered a highly effective and successful flight ancillary training program. He initiated training opportunities for junior airmen in the squadron that expedited skill-level upgrade.

Graduating *Cum Laude* in a few months with a degree in Aviation Management from Southeastern Oklahoma State University is a priority for Mitchell. "My hobbies over the past couple of years have been college and more college," said Mitchell. "I've been hitting way too few golf balls and catching way too few fish. Hopefully I can remedy this unfortunate condition once spring hits."

A high caliber superior performer who leads by example, inspires motivation, and achieves results, is how Captain Buchanan describes Mitchell. "The only way to motivate anyone, in my opinion, is to practice what you preach," said Mitchell. "If you consistently attempt to perform your best, others around you tend to follow suit. Fill out the 1206 and nominate your people. There are probably six dozen NCOs in the wing who deserve this a lot more than me. It's a time-consuming process, but it's worth it." He was awarded the 507<sup>th</sup> CF "GQ Award" in April for outstanding dress and appearance. Mitchell implemented a physical conditioning program in May to improve quality of life and readiness. He was commended by his first sergeant for promoting health and fitness and increasing active participation.

Mitchell completed 4.5 years active duty and has been an active reservist with the 507<sup>th</sup> for 2.5 years. He has had a busy and rewarding year. Mitchell graduated from seven-level school in July and was promoted in September.

In his spare time, Mitchell is active in church activities and sponsoring or coaching youth involvement programs.

**Senior Airman Justin Hunter**, a fire team member with the 507<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron, is the 507<sup>th</sup> Airman of the Year.

"Readiness Is OUR Number One Priority"

PAGE 7





## 513th ACG Commander's Column

By Col. James Kerr

# U Serve A Family

It has been six months since we all demobilized and returned to our civilian lives. I've hoped that the transition back has been easy for all of you, but I know that some things are never easy. I keep my fingers crossed that all of you will remain with the United States Air Force, but I know that you serve a family as well. For those of you who feel like a difficult choice lays ahead, take heart—the military will stand by you, just as you have stood by it.

The principles of today's military are centered on the ideals our society is based upon. To maintain integrity when interacting with others. To be the best—to excel—at whatever we choose to accomplish in life. To be willing to care so much about others that our individual ambitions fade away. The military, in turn, understands that the experiences you have in the military will be the bedrock of your family's future. If you have no family now, you will someday and the children whose smiles you've never felt can take pride in the strength of your character. That is the ideal we are all bound to and is a worthy dream.

But reality is less kind sometimes. Our lives as reservists are like railroad tracks, with one rail for the military and the other for our civilian lives. They have to remain equidistant and parallel at all times or our train of thought derails. During our two years of mobilization, you added many miles to the military side but, for some, the civilian side fell behind. After two years away from home and missing those precious mo-

ments and that career you were excelling in, some of you feel like you've been robbed. Yes, something has been missing, but any carpenter can tell you that a house that burns in fire can be rebuilt.

For those who feel like they've lost the center around which their life turns, the military has a Family Advocacy Office that can help you rebuild your home. Their marriage counseling program is a modern approach to breaking down the walls of unfamiliarity and pathos, but they also offer other outreach activities, covering a broad scope from a new parent support program to co-parenting through divorce to how to give your baby a massage. The point is that you don't have to go it alone and you don't have to feel like the military cuts the cord with you when you're demobilized.

A man named Robert Frost once wrote:

*"I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a yellow wood, and I—  
I took the road less traveled by  
And that has made all the difference."*

The United States Air Force is there to bridge that difference. It is a terrible thing to lose those precious moments, but it is far worse to lose your sense of self. And without a level head and a cohesive heart, your mission in life will suffer. The military is not your life, but it is where you live today. But as much as the United States Air Force needs you, we understand that U Serve A Family as well. If you need help with relational problems, grief and loss or have questions on child development and discipline, I encourage you to contact the Family Advocacy Office at 734-4390. Their hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Signs are posted throughout the base clinic to guide members to their office, located near the dental clinic.

## Camera phones pose risk to security

by Master Sgt. Darrell Lewis  
Oklahoma City Air Logistics  
Center Public Affairs

**TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. (AFPN)** — Carrying the latest "have-to-have" electronic gadget may mean big trouble for the person who brings it into unauthorized locations.

Officials from the National Security Agency said in an advisory that new cellular phones with integral digital cameras pose an unacceptable security risk to homeland security. This type of phone is not authorized for use or possession within

any Air Force facility processing classified information.

"It takes just a little common sense to realize that if you have a cell phone with a camera, you should leave it home if you work in a classified area," said Tech. Sgt. Shon Kloepping, 72nd Security Forces Squadron noncommissioned officer in charge of physical security.

If someone in a restricted area has one of the phones with a camera capability and a security forces troop discovers it, he or she would be forced to confiscate the camera for review of unlawful images, Sergeant Kloepping said.

Additionally, civilian employees could face federal charges and military members could face federal charges and Uniform Code of Military Justice actions.

But it is not just a good idea to limit their use in "secure rooms" where classified information is being processed, said Peter Bryant, Air Force Materiel Command security forces directorate information security chief.

"You shouldn't have these phones anywhere when you're dealing with sensitive or proprietary information," he said. (Courtesy of AFMC News Service)

## FREE COLLEGE TESTING

Air Force Reserve members, spouses and civilian employees may take DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSSTs) or College-Level Examinations Program (CLEP) or Excelsior College Examinations (ECE) FREE! (Military Only for Excelsior examinations). These examinations test college-level knowledge you may have gained through your job, reading, travel, or hobbies. You must test at your Reserve DANTES approved test center. Testing at another DANTES test center will be on a case-by-case basis. The third Tuesday of each month at 0800 has been set aside for testing. You must call us four weeks prior to test date to ensure we will have your test. **For more information contact CMSgt. 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.dantes.doded.mil> and click on certification programs, MOS matching and USAF Matrix which identifies the eligible AFSCs, certification exams available and internet addresses for more info. If you desire to take an exam, contact CMSgt. Epps in the MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.

## TUITION ASSISTANCE

Reserve members are eligible to apply for TA for Distance Learning and In-Residence courses to further their education up to a Master's Degree.

**The basic enrollment requirements are that, you must:**

Be a participating member in good standing (no UIF, Article 15, etc.).

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

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

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

**HQ AFRC will approve/disapprove based on funding.**

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

## COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF THE AIR FORCE

You may go online and register for your own Air Force Virtual Education Center account and get access to services like online CCAF Transcript Request or a Degree Progress Report. The address is <https://afvec.langleys.af.mil/afvec>. Click on sign me up to register. Once registered, you can request an official CCAF Transcript to be sent to any college or employer. You can also view the status of your CCAF degree progression. The "Web PR" shows a detailed "Progress Report" on your current enrollment.

## FAMILY CARE

If you need to be on Family Care Plan, notify your First Sergeant ASAP - IAW AFI 36-2908, Single parents and dual military couples with children must have a Family Care Plan completed within 90 days of in-processing or family status change.

## VIRTUAL MPF

- 1. Address Changes** - You no longer have to go to 4 different screens/areas to update your address!!!
- 2. Point Summary's** - Point Summary's can also be viewed and printed.
- 3. Record Review RIPS** - You will now be notified via e-mail, on your birthday, to logon to vMPF to review your RIP.
- 4. Awards and decorations** - You can also get a picture display of your awards and decorations.

## 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

07-08 Feb 04	05-06 Jun 04
06-07 Mar 04	10-11 Jul 04
03-04 Apr 04	07-08 Aug 04
01-02 May 04	11-12 Sep 04

As of 20 Dec 2003



### Fri, 05 March 2004

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

### Sat, 06 March 2004

#### Unit Designated Sign In

0730-0930	Newcomers In-Processing	Bldg 1043, Room 201C
<b>0730-0930</b>	<b>Customer Service Section</b>	<b>Open to Newcomers ONLY</b>
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
<b>0730-0930</b>	<b>Computer Based Testing</b>	<b>Bldg 1030, Room 214</b>
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
<b>1130-1200</b>	<b>Lunch-Time Chapel Discussion</b>	<b>Vanwey Dining Facility</b>
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
Unit Designated Sign Out		Unit Designated

### Sun, 07 March 2004

#### Unit Designated Sign In

<b>0730-0800</b>	<b>Protestant Chapel Service</b>	<b>513th ACG Auditorium</b>
<b>0730-0800</b>	<b>Catholic Mass</b>	<b>513th ACG Conf Room</b>
0730-0930	MPF Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043
<b>0750-1115</b>	<b>CDC/PME Course Exams</b>	<b>Bldg 460, Room 215</b>
0800-1115	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II	Bldg 1030, Room 214
0830-1030	Supervisor Safety Training	Bldg 1030, Room 104
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
1000-1100	HRDC Meeting	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
1245-1545	First Duty Station	Bldg 1030, Room 214
<b>1300</b>	<b>SORTS/Post UTA Mtg</b>	<b>CAT</b>
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

### Fri, 02 April 2004

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

### Sat, 03 April 2004

#### Unit Designated Sign In

0730-0930	Newcomers In-Processing	Bldg 1043, Room 201C
<b>0730-0930</b>	<b>Customer Service Section</b>	<b>Open to Newcomers ONLY</b>
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
<b>0730-0930</b>	<b>Computer Based Testing</b>	<b>Bldg 1030, Room 214</b>
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
<b>1130-1200</b>	<b>Lunch-Time Chapel Discussion</b>	<b>Vanwey Dining Facility</b>
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
Unit Designated Sign Out		Unit Designated

### Sun, 04 April 2004

#### Unit Designated Sign In

<b>0730-0800</b>	<b>Protestant Chapel Service</b>	<b>513th ACG Auditorium</b>
<b>0730-0800</b>	<b>Catholic Mass</b>	<b>513th ACG Conf Room</b>
0730-0930	MPF Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043
<b>0750-1115</b>	<b>CDC/PME Course Exams</b>	<b>Bldg 460, Room 215</b>
0800-1115	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II	Bldg 1030, Room 214
0830-1030	Hazardous Communication	Bldg 1030, Room 104
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
1245-1545	First Duty Station	Bldg 1030, Room 214
<b>1300</b>	<b>SORTS/Post UTA Mtg</b>	<b>CAT</b>
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



## ATTENTION

Tinker was scheduled for mass implementation Vred DD93's Apr. 14, 2003 through Apr. 20, 2003. Of course this date has already passed and we have received updates from 83% 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 VMFP 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	1300-1315	Air Force Fitness	SVF
Saturday	1315-1400	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
Sunday	1245-1545	First Duty Station	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:

**Military Pay (405) 734-5016**

02 Mar	10 Mar
04 Mar	12 Mar
08 Mar	15 Mar
11 Mar	19 Mar
16 Mar	24 Mar
18 Mar	26 Mar
22 Mar	30 Mar
24 Mar	01 Apr
30 Mar	07 Apr
01 Apr	09 Apr

## 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 temporary office in Trailer B, South of Building 1043.**

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Future Reserve leaders gathered last month for a special 20-hour workshop hosted by the Human Resource Development Council.

## HRDC Workshop trains future leaders today

By Maj. Rich Curry  
507th ARW Public Affairs

Reservists from the 507th ARW and 513th ACG participated in a special two-hour workshop last month hosted by the unit Human Resource Development Council.

The workshop, prepared by Master Sgt. Steve Rhodes and Tech. Sgt. LaShunda Joseph, was a blend of lecture and team-building exercises focusing on developing leadership and mentoring supervisory skills.

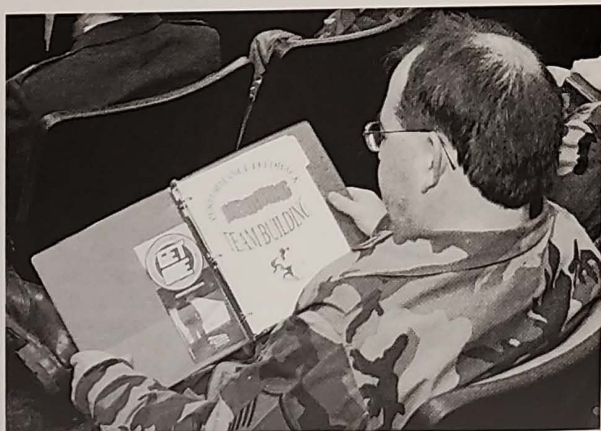
According to Capt. Adrian Mahone, HRDC Chairman, the session was the first of an anticipated series of special program offerings to help develop and refine the skills of future organization leaders. "We had such a great turnout and response last month that we intend to offer this course again in the future," Mahone said. "We're also looking at other training topics for additional offerings."

"The HRDC did a fantastic job with this event," said Col. Stayce Harris, 507th ARW Vice Commander. "We

believe this training workshop and others like them will provide vital training for those who we hope become our future leaders."

The purpose of the HRDC is to advise and make recommendations to the commander on issues regarding work force diversity, career development, as-

signment, and promotion opportunities for all unit reservists and civilian work force employees. "Our charter calls for us to develop proactive processes to help improve career opportunities for everyone. This workshop was a great way to help prepare future unit leaders," Mahone said.



Leadership and mentoring handout guides were part of the workshop in addition to team participation exercises.

## Chart your course to physical fitness

By Tech. Sgt. Ty Yoshida  
507th ARW Public Affairs

The gauntlet has been thrown. The challenge is before you. You know the benefits of physical fitness. And with the proper mindset, you know the Air Force fitness program testing is a challenge at which you can succeed.

You know your mission. It is now time to chart your course.

First you need the facts. That means you need to have a copy of the new fitness criteria which can be found at [http://www.af.mil/new/USAF\\_Fitness\\_Charts.pdf](http://www.af.mil/new/USAF_Fitness_Charts.pdf).

Study them. What are the points for the time ranges in the 1.5-mile run that apply to your age and sex? How about the number of push-ups and crunches? What about your abdominal circumference!

Make a realistic self assessment. Measure your waist. Do push-ups. Find a spotter to help you do crunches. And perhaps time yourself in a six

lap run (walk?) around a 1/4-mile track. Don't push yourself too much.

What did you score?

Prepare a plan of attack. Determine your target goals. Are they realistic? Set an incremental goal that you think you can achieve in the near future. Ask yourself what life style changes are needed to obtain them.

Now the hard part. Prepare mentally. Make the commitment. Fill your head with all the reasons why this lifetime undertaking is important - that keeping fit improves your quality of living; that it improves your mental alertness; that it adds years to your life; that it's a demand of our warrior culture.

Now execute. Just do it.

Attack that waistline if you must. Eat sensibly. Learn more on nutrition. Diet?

Work to increase the number of push-ups you can do in



Fitness specialist Staff Sgt. Abb Woomack helps reserve member Chief Master Sgt. Gary Bourisaw 'customize' a personal fitness plan. With the promise of spring, Wing members should act now to get 'fit to fight,' and be ready for the Air Force fitness program testing.

one minute. Strengthen your upper body with weight training. A more convenient means is to just do push-ups often. It only takes a moment to give yourself 20 a few times a day.

Work on improving your 1.5-mile run time. Take it slow at first. Get physical at every chance. Do aerobic exercises often. Squeeze in a workout

at every opportunity - you only need 20-30 minutes. Do a variety of exercises.

Start an aerobic chart and chart your exercise activities. Record the date, type of exercise, and duration. With the recording you'll get the satisfaction of seeing improvements. And once in a while time yourself doing six laps.

### Common sense facts about the Air Force fitness tests

#### Abdominal circumference measurement

- An abdominal measurement with a tape measure, independent of height or age;
- Scores from 0 to 30 points;
- Requires the most work to show improvement;
- Diet and exercise together work best for weight reduction
- Self-discipline is necessary for a healthy lifestyle

#### 1.5-mile timed run

- Best single indicator for overall fitness
- Scores from 0 to 50 points;
- The best aerobic exercise include jogging, swimming, cross-country skiing and singles tennis;
- Flight Surgeon Kenneth H. Cooper coined the term "aerobics" in the late 1960s
- Stop smoking

#### Push-ups

- Proper push-up includes a straight body and breaking the plane of the elbows;
- Scores 0 to 10 points

#### Crunches

- Scores 0 to 10 points



# Recruiters seek recruiting applicants

By Capt. Bill Pierce  
507th ARW Public Affairs

The Air Force Reserve Command is currently looking for top performers to become recruiters.

As one of the 507th Air Refueling Wing's top recruiters, Tech. Sgt. Marvin Greene choruses that call to unit members.

"I would recommend recruiting to anyone as a career. I really love my job and I think it's the best job around," Sergeant Green said.

"When I got into the Air Force Reserve I knew I wanted to be a recruiter," he said. Recruiting duty offers not only active duty benefits but recruiters get to work with an excellent team he said. "We get paid to talk to people throughout the community about the Air Force Reserve. We have such an excellent working environment in which anyone can excel if they apply themselves."

The unit's recruiting office is looking for experienced reservists to fill the numerous recruiting positions throughout the United States.

Applicants must meet the following requirements, to be considered for employment: a minimum of 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 Greene, "My initial experience in recruiting was with the U.S. Marines from 1987 to 1990. The hiring process was a little different for them. When I became an Air Force recruiter I had to complete an application, my records were reviewed to ensure my qualifications were compatible for recruiting duty. Following the records review, I was interviewed by the senior recruiter. Following the interview, I was referred to attend a three-day evaluation and selection course at Robins AFB. From there I was selected to attend the recruiting school."

Once applicants are selected they are scheduled for a six-week recruiting school at Lackland AFB, Texas. Upon completion, 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.

"Our training is a continual process. Professionals can never know it all," Green said with a smile. Locally, 507th ARW/RS recruiters attend quarterly

training meetings and are required to attend annual ancillary training to include the new physical fitness standards.

According to Chief Master Sgt.



Tech. Sgt. Marvin Greene

Alfonso Garza, 507th Air Refueling Wing Recruiting Services senior recruiter, "Sergeant Greene is no stranger to success. Over the past two years he has excelled. His professionalism and commitment to the team has earned him several awards including the Century Club badge, Air Force Reserve Command Top Rookie for Above Average zone, Top Rookie within the 604th Recruiting Flight, Top Non-Prior Service Recruiter 604th Recruiting Flight (second quarter FY03), and a speech award he earned during Recruiting School."

"I have over five years in the recruiting career field and over 15 years active duty time," said Sergeant Greene. "To this day I still enjoy putting on my uniform and sharing the Air Force Reserve with anyone. We work in a very positive and fun environment, something that reflects directly on our leadership."

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

# Doors open for active duty to join AF Reserve

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — The Air Force is opening doors and modifying programs to give people leaving active duty an opportunity to continue their military careers in the Air Force Reserve.

As the active force tries to reduce manning by about 16,600, the Air Force Reserve is seeking to hire many of those experienced airmen and give them a more flexible way to have a career in the military.

"This is an excellent opportunity for prior-service people on active duty to join our Reserve programs," said Col. Francis Mungavin, director of Recruiting Service at Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command at Robins AFB. "Our people are making every effort to ensure that all potential candidates are aware of their release options."

Current Air Force manning numbers are beyond the authorized end-strength of 359,300 airmen on active duty. The new Force Shaping Program has scheduled active-duty numbers to drop by 3,900 officers and 12,700 enlisted airmen by Sept. 15.

"The Force Shaping Program initiative that will have the greatest impact on us will be the expanded application of the Palace Chase program," said Lt. Col. Dirk Palmer at AFRC Recruiting Service. "We expect that airmen in all Air Force specialty codes will be eligible to apply for Palace Chase with a minimum of two years in service."

Palace Chase is a program for airmen to transition off of active duty by trading their active-duty service commitments for Air Force Reserve service commitments.

"Palace Chase is not a new program," said Chief Master Sgt. Susan Allick, chief of the Palace Chase Program at the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph AFB, Texas. "The program has just

eased requirements for the Force Shaping Program."

To qualify for this program, applicants must have a reenlistment code approved for continued military service and meet all the Palace Chase eligibility criteria under the Force Shaping rules.

Applications under these new rules are being accepted from Feb. 4 through March 12. To be approved, applicants must separate from active duty between May 15 and Sept. 15. Though the normal application process is from seven to eight weeks, under the new rules, officials at AFPC expect to be able to notify applicants of their results within four to six weeks.

"We'll be working on a first-come, first-served basis," said Chief Allick. "With the restrictions loosened up on active-duty service commitments, we expect to process a lot of applications."

Though people in all AFSCs are eligible to apply for the Palace Chase transfers to the Air Force Reserve, airmen must have graduated from their initial training, qualified as 3-levels and not be scheduled to be retrained. Some Air Force Academy graduates may be approved for the program and Air Force ROTC cadets may apply to be commissioned directly into Air Force Reserve jobs for six-year commitments, instead of the typical four-year tour of active duty.

"With individual mobilization augmentee end-strength sitting at 94.8 percent, this is a great opportunity to fill some of our current vacancies," said Lt. Col. Nancy C. Robinson, director of assignments at Headquarters Air Reserve Personnel Center in Denver. "We're trying to pull out the stops and make the transition from the active duty to the Reserve as smooth as possible."

Individual mobilization augmentees are reservists assigned part time to active-duty units, backfilling or deploying

when required. Being an IMA is a flexible way to be in the Air Force, serving a minimum of 12 days throughout the year and two weeks of annual tour each year. Just like traditional unit reservists, IMAs may be mobilized by the president during wartime or contingency operations. However, IMAs are assigned directly to active-duty units instead of Reserve squadrons.

"We're trying to be proactive and take the Air Force's overages," said Colonel Palmer. "If we have a qualified person, we'll do everything we can to sign them up in the Air Force Reserve."

Anyone interested in finding out more about the program should contact the in-service recruiters located at their military personnel flight. Air Force Reserve in-service recruiters are located at 65 bases worldwide. During out-processing from active duty, meeting with the in-service recruiter is a required stop. According to Colonel Palmer, the purpose of the appointment is to find out if joining the Air Force Reserve is a viable option for the separating airmen, NCO or officer.

"We have found that when our recruiters help an applicant get exactly what he or she wants, things work out best for both the applicant and the Air Force Reserve," said Colonel Palmer.

"It's a win-win situation for us and the individuals leaving active duty," said Colonel Mungavin. "They'll get a more flexible way to serve their country, and we'll retain their skills and experience to accomplish our Air Force mission."

Find more information about getting into the Air Force Reserve, check it out on the Worldwide Web at: [www.afreserve.com](http://www.afreserve.com). Also, by dialing 1-800-257-1212, callers can be connected to a recruiter in their area between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. (AFRC News Service)

## Recruiters request testimonials

The 507th Recruiting Office is currently soliciting military testimonials from unit reservists.

According to recruiter Tech. Sgt. Gene Higgins, "We rely heavily on testimonials to show a potential recruit real people discussing real careers and the benefits received from the Reserve."

Higgins says a typical testimonial consists of one to three paragraphs in which a reservist provides personal experiences on an aspect of military life.

"A testimonial can discuss your feelings about your working environment, your fellow team mates, or your career and personal aspirations and how the military helps you meet your goals," said Sergeant Higgins.

"E-mail messages are fine," Sergeant Higgins said. "We can copy the messages received and work with them to make our presentation kits."

Interested individuals should send messages to [gene.higgins@afrc.af.mil](mailto:gene.higgins@afrc.af.mil).



# Judge Advocate reports on adverse actions

by Lt. Col. Michael J. Farr  
Deputy Staff Judge Advocate  
507th Air Refueling Wing

While 2003 saw large numbers of both 507th ARW and 513th ACG reserve members either activated or deployed, and then numerous personnel coming off of lengthy activations and returning home to their families and civilian occupations,

2003 was also a very busy year for adverse actions. This article discusses adverse actions completed in 2003 and early 2004, with the hope Tinker reservists will avoid becoming the subjects of such adverse actions themselves.

## Article 15's

Three Article 15 nonjudicial punishment actions were completed against Tinker reservists in 2003. For dereliction of duty consisting of abuse of the Government travel card, a senior airman received a suspended reduction to the grade of airman first class, plus forfeiture of one-half of his pay per month for two months.

Under a suspended reduction in grade, the member does not lose his or her stripe immediately. Rather, if the member stays out of trouble for the next six months, the reduction goes away. However, if the member gets into any further trouble during that six months, the reduction is enforced and the date of rank for the reduced grade is the date the Article 15 punishment was imposed.

Unfortunately, this senior airman did get into trouble later in the year when he committed the offense of failure to go and his reduction to airman first class was enforced. An action to enforce a suspended punishment under an Article 15 is also called a "vacation of the suspension."

For driving under the influence of alcohol (DUI), a staff sergeant received an Article 15 punishment of a suspended

reduction to the grade of senior airman, forfeiture of \$100 pay per month for two months, and 30 days extra duty. Finally, a master sergeant received a reduction to the grade of technical sergeant and a reprimand under an Article 15 action for disrespect to a superior commissioned officer and sexual harassment.

## Administrative Discharge Actions

Six administrative discharge actions were completed against Tinker reservists in 2003.

An airman first class received a general (under honorable conditions) discharge for unsatisfactory performance and misconduct.

Another airman first class received a general discharge for failure to attain job skill proficiency.

A senior airman received a general discharge for unsatisfactory participation. Another senior airman received an honorable discharge based on physical disqualification.

The discharge board voted to retain a staff sergeant whose commander had recommended him for an under other than honorable conditions discharge (UOTHC) based on misconduct and Government travel card abuse and delinquency. This individual, however, was then involuntarily reassigned to the individual ready reserve (IRR), in a non-participating status.

Another staff sergeant who had received a civilian conviction for burglary and making a false declaration of ownership to a pawnbroker and for indecent exposure was recommended for a UOTHC discharge, but the expiration of his term of service (ETS) prevented his discharge. His separation, however, was coded in such a manner as to prevent his reenlistment.

A UOTHC discharge is the worst possible type of administrative discharge and deprives the reservist of virtually all

veteran's benefits. It is the administrative equivalent of a bad conduct discharge (BCD) or dishonorable discharge (DD) given by a court-martial.

Five other administrative discharge actions were either pending or completed in early 2004.

A senior airman, who had initially been recommended for a UOTHC discharge based on wrongful use of marijuana, received a general discharge in early 2004 after waiving his entitlement to a discharge board hearing at HQ AFRC. (For unit reservists, such as those assigned to 507th ARW and 513th ACG, HQ AFRC is the discharge authority).

An airman first class is awaiting final discharge action by HQ AFRC for wrongful use of marijuana, with a recommended UOTHC discharge. This airman had provided a urine specimen during random urine testing conducted during the September 2003 UTA. His specimen tested positive for marijuana.

Another airman first class, who tested positive for marijuana on a urine specimen submitted at the January 2004 UTA is also awaiting discharge action with a recommended UOTHC discharge.

As these cases clearly demonstrate, wrongful use of illegal drugs will not be tolerated in the Air Force reserves. Members who get caught using illegal drugs will almost certainly face administrative discharge, usually with a recommended UOTHC characterization.

Other discharge cases pending final action include an airman first class for unsatisfactory participation (general discharge recommendation), a senior airman for minor disciplinary infractions and Government travel card delinquency (UOTHC recommendation), and an airman first class for a pattern of misconduct (UOTHC recommendation).

In addition to the foregoing actions, eight Tinker reservists (three senior air-

# New temporary health benefits announced

The Department of Defense announced recently that it will implement the "2004 Temporary Reserve Health Benefit Program" for certain eligible Reserve Component sponsors and their family members.

The Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act and the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for fiscal 2004 authorized new health benefits, some permanent and some temporary. The 2004 Temporary Reserve Health Benefit Program includes three temporary Tricare benefit provisions; some are effective as of Nov. 6, 2003, and all expire Dec. 31, 2004. Total expenditures for these new provisions may not exceed the \$400 million limit established by Congress for fiscal 2004. Tricare Management Activity will implement the new

provisions in phases starting in the spring.

"These new temporary provisions were designed by Congress to improve readiness and enhance access to care for Reserve servicemembers and their families," said Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs. "We are implementing these new provisions as soon as possible," he said.

One provision temporarily authorizes Tricare medical and dental coverage for Reserve component sponsors activated for more than 30 days and their family members. Eligibility begins either on the day the sponsor receives delayed-effective date active duty orders or 90 days prior to the date the active duty period begins, whichever is later.

A second provision temporarily extends eligibility for Tricare benefits to

180 days under the Transitional Assistance Management Program for Reserve component sponsors who separate from active duty status during the period Nov. 6, 2003 through Dec. 31, 2004, and their eligible family members.

The third provision temporarily extends Tricare medical benefits to Reserve component sponsors and family members who are either unemployed or employed but not eligible for employer-provided health coverage.

These temporary provisions end on Dec. 31, 2004.

"We encourage Reserve component sponsors and family members to save health care receipts, claims and explanation of benefits for dates of service from Nov. 6, 2003, through Dec. 31, 2004. This is necessary in the event the sponsor is determined to be eligible and the care qualifies for retroactive Tricare reimbursement once the 2004 Temporary Reserve Health Benefit Program begins," said Winkenwerder.

The three permanent health benefit provisions of the NDAA include: benefit counselors for the Reserve component in each Tricare region; authorization for medical and dental screening and care for members alerted for mobilization; and Tricare eligibility for reserve officers pending orders to active duty following commissioning.

Additional information for Reserve component families, who have questions regarding the Tricare benefit or need assistance processing Tricare claims, are available on the Tricare Web site at <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/> and the Reserve Affairs Web site at <http://www.defenselink.mil/ra>. Each Tricare region will soon have a designated beneficiary counseling and assistance coordinator available to assist members and families with understanding and using their enhanced Tricare benefits.

## Adverse actions (cont'd)

men, three airmen first class, and two airmen) were involuntarily reassigned to the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) (non-participating status) in 2003. Four of these cases were for unsatisfactory participation, three were for unsatisfactory progress on the weight management program, and one was for a two-time CDC failure.

Unsatisfactory participation is defined as missing nine or more periods of Inactive Duty Training (IDT) on an unexcused basis in a 12-month period. It also includes failure to complete a scheduled annual tour in a fiscal year unless substituted or excused.

Since each Unit Training Assembly (UTA) weekend has four training periods, it only takes missing a little more than two UTA weekends to accrue nine unexcused absences and then become subject to being involuntarily reassigned to the IRR.

Tinker reservists who value their ca-

reers should take heed of this and immediately discuss the situation with their supervisor or commander as soon as they realize there might be a problem with being able to attend UTAs or annual tour.

Another potential consequence of unsatisfactory participation is administrative demotion.

In 2003, a staff sergeant and two senior airmen were demoted to the next lower grade because of unsatisfactory participation. Two other reservists, an airman first class and a staff sergeant, were also pending demotion actions as of early 2004 because of unsatisfactory participation. In another demotion case, a master sergeant was demoted to technical sergeant for failure to fulfill NCO responsibilities in the form of Government travel card abuse.

Personnel with questions about the various adverse actions may contact the 507th ARW Legal Office at 734-3823.



# Uprose

Photos by  
Tech. Sgt. Ty Yoshida

The following question was asked of attendees of a 507th ARW Leadership Workshop held during the February UTA:  
"What 'nuggets' did you find in the training?"



**Staff Sgt. Sharon Anderson**  
970th AACs

"The importance of mentoring and leading by example."



**Tech. Sgt. Demetrious Sumlin**  
72nd APS

"The course served as a recap and refresher for the responsibilities of the supervisor and trainee in the mentoring process."



**Tech. Sgt. John June, 507th MXS**

"The course was very helpful in mentoring and counseling people."



**Staff Sgt. Michelle Price**  
507th SFS

"The importance of being objective and a good listener."



**Senior Airman Thomas Collins**  
507th SFS

"It was helpful for me to see what attitudes are useful to have during different parts of performance feedback."



**Master Sgt. Joel Fast**  
507th MXS

"The examples were great, I believe this course should be mandated for all supervisors and managers."

"Readiness Is OUR Number One Priority"

MARCH 2004



A special gospel celebration was held last month in honor of Black History Month. Chaplain (Capt.) Ronnelle Armstrong, (upper right) from the Base Chapel, delivered the message for the day, while above left, unit members sing praises under direction of Staff Sgt. Cornelious Barnett (not pictured), and, left, St. Johns Baptist Church music department members Leroy Harris and Rick Adams (pictured), Kenneth Kilgore, Terry Spigner, and Stephen King provided the music. (Photos by Staff Sgt. L. Brakebill)



## Help build Jungle Gym for OKC zoo

The funding is there. Now 5,000 volunteers are needed to help build "Jungle Gym - the ultimate playground" at the Oklahoma City Zoo.

Private and non-profit organizations and foundations are providing initial funding. People-power from the 507th/513th can help area children and the Oklahoma Zoological Society make the Jungle Gym real. Volunteers are needed anytime from March 22 - April 4.

Ann Cameron, wife of local news anchor Alex Cameron (News 9), is the Wing's volunteer point of contact.

To volunteer, members should take the following steps:

1. Go to the following website: [www.zoofriends.com](http://www.zoofriends.com) <[http://](http://www.zoofriends.com)

[www.zoofriends.com](http://www.zoofriends.com)>. Click on the 'Help Build It' link then 'Online Volunteer Application' or just click on the 'Volunteer Online' link on the first page. *Either way will work.*

2. On the online volunteer application form, put a check mark in "Group Volunteer." Under Group Name, put the following: "Tinker - Michael Hammond." This is the only way to effectively track how many volunteers the Wing gets from this effort, so please follow this step exactly.
3. Volunteer for whatever day, shift, type of work desired. The unit doesn't have to work as a group.
4. If childcare is needed while you work, it will be provided for free (for chil-

dren ages 3-10). Children over 10 are encouraged to help as volunteers. Food will also be provided.

5. The top needs of the project are people who have building/construction experience (skilled labor) and people who can work a shift on weekdays. There are a variety of volunteer jobs and time slots - so anyone who can help (regardless of experience) is encouraged to sign up. If there are any questions, please contact the POC directly - Ann Cameron, at [alexanne@cox.net](mailto:alexanne@cox.net) <<mailto:alexanne@cox.net>> or by phone at 330-6603. Please do not contact Staff Sgt. Hammond. He has outlined all his knowledge on this subject and cannot be of any further assistance.

"Readiness Is OUR Number One Priority"

MARCH 2004



# Parting shot

Senior Airman Ashley Janzen, a medical administrative Specialist with the 507th Medical Squadron, shows how easy it is to participate in the unit Blood Drive. Last month, 67 unit reservists participated in the drive with the 72nd Aerial Port Squadron leading the way with the most squadron participants.



## On-final R-News

### Air Force One Source

Air Force One Source is a service provided by the Air Force to help with information on a plethora of subjects. This is an additional service available through family support centers. It is a 24 hours a day, seven days a week resource for members and their families. This is available at no cost to you and all calls are answered live at (800) 707-5784.

You can also access this resource online at [www.airforceonesource.com](http://www.airforceonesource.com). User ID is *airforce* and password is *ready*. Magnets, wallet cards, and postcards are available at the Family Support Office, Building 1043, Room 110 and through your squadron first sergeants beginning March UTA.

### Government equipment

1. "It is not permissible to move computer equipment without the PRIOR approval of the equipment custodian."

2. "Password protected screen sav-

### UTA Worship Services

Saturday Lunchtime Topic:  
Communication Skills  
in Relationships  
Sunday Service (7:30 a.m.)  
Worship Sermon:  
Advice From a Good Man  
During the April UTA  
Worship Service:  
Celebrating the Communion  
for Easter.

ers are mandatory for all computer equipment that is connected to the base network."

3. AFI 33-119 "ELECTRONIC MAIL MANAGEMENT AND USE" outlines the danger to our systems.

"Failure to observe the prohibitions and mandatory provisions of paragraphs 3.1 and 3.3 and its subparagraphs by military personnel is a violation of Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). Violations by civilian employees may result in administrative disciplinary action without regard to otherwise applicable criminal or civil sanctions for violations of related laws."

### 507th ARW Recruiters



#### Tinker AFB, OK

(In-Service Recruiter)  
Master Sgt. Nathan Bickle  
(405) 739-2980

#### Moore, Norman, OK

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

#### Midwest City, OK

Tech. Sgt. Marvin Greene (SE)  
Staff Sgt. Sharon McQuitty (NW)  
(405) 733-9403

#### Tulsa, OK

Master Sgt. Pam Peterson (NW)  
Tech. Sgt. Richard D. Kozik (NE)  
(918) 665-2300

#### Lawton, OK

Staff Sgt. Kamela Thigpen  
(580) 357-2784

#### McConnell AFB, KS

Master Sgt. David McCormick  
(In-Service Recruiter)  
(316) 652-3766

#### Vance AFB, OK

Master Sgt. David McCormick  
(316) 652-3766