

# On-final



November - December  
2004

Vol. 24, No. 11

U.S. AIR FORCE

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



**Trick-or-treating was an exhausting activity.**

**See more pictures on page 15.**

**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.

## Air Force leaders send Thanksgiving message

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The following is a Thanksgiving message from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper:

“Each year, Americans set aside the special day of ‘Thanksgiving’ to



**Dr. James G. Roche**

gather with family and friends to count their blessings. At the first Thanksgiving festivals in the Virginia and Massachusetts colonies, the original settlers made praise and prayer for a bountiful harvest and hope for a promising future the centerpiece of their celebrations.

“This Thanksgiving, we are reminded of the blessings we have as Americans because our nation still holds the promise of bountiful lands and the right of freedom. We enjoy peace and prosperity like no other nation. The rest of the world admires our way of life because America’s values are bedrock.

“For Airmen, we count an extra blessing around the Thanksgiving table this year: the privilege of serving in the greatest air and space force in the world. By your professionalism, dedication and willingness to answer our country’s call at a time of war, you stand as the shining example of strength, courage, and patriotism for us all. Indeed, as Americans give thanks for their many blessings this Thanksgiving Day, they’ll offer their gratitude to you for safeguarding our great nation.

“This Thanksgiving Day finds many of our Airmen deployed throughout the world in defense of America and to help give others a



**Gen. John P. Jumper**

chance for freedom. Please remember them in your prayers and make sure their families are taken care of on this special holiday.

“We’re very proud of you and your families for what you do to protect our cherished freedoms. Happy Thanksgiving!”

## General Bradley sends holiday season greetings

*By Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley*

*Commander, Air Force Reserve Command*

WASHINGTON - As we celebrate the holiday season and prepare for the challenges of 2005, I want to thank the men and women of Air Force Reserve Command for their dedication and service to our nation.

You have done everything our nation has called upon you to do. You guard the door, so we can enjoy the freedoms our country has to offer.

Many of you have been mobilized and separated from your families, friends and place of work. Others have volunteered to do your part in fighting the Global War on Terrorism.

Several hundred of you remain overseas, away from family and friends during this holiday season. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your loved ones at this time.

I commend all of you for putting service above self, for letting integrity and honor guide your actions and for striving to do the best in all you do. Your selfless

acts of courage are an inspiration to us all.

When Jan and I count our blessings this year, the men and women of Air Force Reserve Command will top our list. You are the best.

Happy holidays and have a safe and joyous New Year from the Bradley family. (AFRC News Service)



**Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley**

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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. **Copy deadline is NOON on UTA Sunday for the next month's edition.**

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

**On The Cover**



**A child from the base child care center displays exhaustion from walking throughout the wing during trick-or-treating activities on Oct. 28.**



507 ARW



513 ACG



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

TINKER AFB OKLAHOMA



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

## New Command Chief announced

By 1st Lt. Lance Patterson  
Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – Chief Master Sgt. Jackson A. Winsett will become Air Force Reserve Command's command chief master sergeant later this year, said AFRC officials Sept. 28.

Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, chief of Air Force Reserve and AFRC commander, selected Chief Winsett from among 20 nominees for the position. Air Force reservists from all categories – traditional reservists, individual mobilization augmentees, air reserve technicians and Active Guard Reserve members – applied for the command's top enlisted position.

Chief Winsett has been the command chief for 10th Air Force at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas, since May 2000. He will be the fourth command chief that AFRC has had since its inception as a major command in 1997 and the 12th person to hold the job in the Air Force Reserve since March 1973.

The position of AFRC command chief master sergeant is a 3-year controlled tour at Robins AFB. The duties involve communicating with the commander on problems, concerns, morale and attitudes of the enlisted force and, in turn, ensuring the commander's policies are known and understood by the enlisted force.

"My concern is for the enlisted force and the utilization of the force," said Chief Winsett. "I anticipate working hard for the next 36 months ensuring the needs of the enlisted corps are met."

Chief Winsett will succeed Chief Master Sgt. Cheryl D. Adams, who has served as the AFRC command chief master sergeant since February 2001. She was the first African-American woman to hold the title of command chief on active duty for a major command. Chief Adams is being con-

sidered for a position within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs. If selected she will report for duty in the Pentagon as early as Dec. 1.

Chief Winsett entered the Air Force Reserve in 1981 after serving initially on active duty in the U.S. Army from 1966 to 1969 with tours in Berlin, Germany, and in the Republic of Vietnam.

His duties in the Air Force Reserve included assignments as an administrative specialist, military personnel flight specialist, group career advisor, first-sergeant and command chief master sergeant. He served as the senior enlisted advisor for the 442nd Fighter Wing at Whiteman AFB, Mo., before becoming the command chief for 10th Air Force.

In his civilian career, Chief Winsett worked for the Federal Deposit Insurance Co. and owned a consulting firm. He retired from both occupations, devoting the last three years to full-time service in the Air Force Reserve.

Chief Winsett has lived in Lexana, Kan., since 1989 where he has been a traditional reservist. He is married and the father of one daughter and two sons.

Chief Winsett holds a bachelor of arts degree in psychology and business and a master of arts degree in business and counseling.  
(AFRC News Service)



**Chief Master Sgt.  
Jackson A. Winsett**

## 507th ARW Commissioning Board to be held during January UTA

The 507th ARW will convene a commissioning board Jan. 9, during the January 2005 UTA to fill any existing and future vacancies.

Commissioning applications must be submitted to the Military Personnel Flight by the end of the December UTA.

Applications may be picked up from the MPF. Physicals are not required to meet the board.

15 minute interviews will be conducted.

Applicants will report in to the board in service dress uniform.

Location: 507th MSG Conference Room, Hangar 1030, by the 507th Services offices. Applicants will be contacted with appointment times.

POC: Capt. Mechille Braden, work: 869-6418 (civilian); email address: Mechille.Braden@tinker.af.mil.

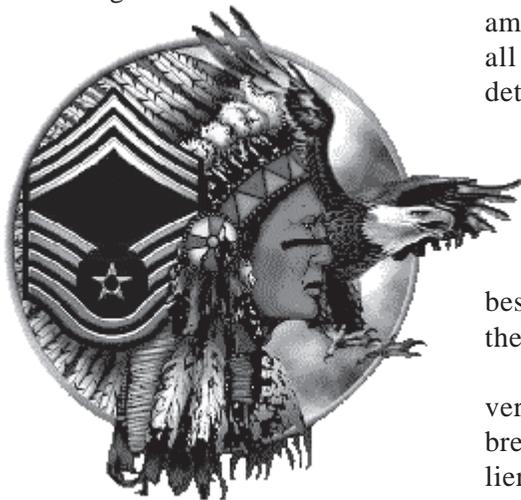
*Enlisted Perspective*

# A special thanks to World-Class Airmen

By CMSAF Gerald R. Murray

It is hard to believe it has been more than two years now since General Jumper awarded me the privilege of representing the greatest Airmen in the world as the 14<sup>th</sup> Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force.

This time has brought Sherry and me even more excitement and pride in our service. We are especially proud as we watch you perform so magnificently during this time of war and increased sacrifice. Like you, we have experienced some very sad days, mourning the loss of our



fellow Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Coastguardsmen, as the evils of war will always bring. Yet the pride and honor of service to our nation is one aspect that never waivers.

You are America's Air Force - Airmen serving our nation with dedication and determination. I've had the pleasure of shaking hands and talking face-to-face with many of you. Your candid feedback has been a tremendous asset in making decisions that will carry our Air Force into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Over the course of these two years, I've visited more than 120 installations and each time the hospitality and professionalism of people, military and civilian alike, have shone through. I recognize any visit by a senior leader creates a great deal of work for a base, some visible and much more behind the scenes. I want everyone to understand how much I appreciate your efforts.

The commanders, command chiefs, protocol staff, honor guard and transportation specialists are a few of the folks who go out of their way to accommodate schedule changes and ambitious agendas. Please know that all the extra hours and attention to detail don't go unnoticed.

There certainly are a number of others involved in making my visits successful. From the thoroughly prepared briefers to baggage details, you always put your best foot forward. So many people go the extra mile...

On a recent trip my agenda was very tight and didn't allow time for breakfast before the return flight. Earlier in the trip I shared a story with one of the commanders about a great little restaurant I'd discovered. A young technical sergeant, assigned to help out with our visit, overheard this conversation. Completely unexpected, he showed up the next morning with breakfast from this very restaurant. To my surprise and appreciation, he had left home early and made an extensive detour to ensure we had breakfast on the plane.

Please note, I do not expect anyone to feel they need to go out of their way, but it is just one example of the treatment you've given me since I've



**Chief Master Sgt.  
Gerald R. Murray**

been in this position.

Unfortunately, it is very easy for my schedule to overtake my good intentions of writing personal thank you notes. Please accept now my heartfelt thanks for the support you've given me, and your continued commitment to our Air Force. These two years have been the best in my career and that's because of you—the outstanding Airmen I serve with.

As I look ahead, I remain resolute and optimistic about continuing to represent your interests to our senior leaders, Congress and the American public. This is a historic time to be serving in our Air Force. We are facing many challenges, yet together we will not only meet these challenges, but we will succeed as a team — a world-class team in the world's greatest Air Force.

Thank you again for your outstanding support and service to our nation. May God bless you and yours.

# Jumper speaks on decreased Air Force manning

by Tech. Sgt. Mona Ferrell

## U.S. Air Forces in Europe Public Affairs

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFPN) — A decrease in recruiting rather than forced reductions is the right way to reduce manning, said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper on Aug. 30.

Throughout this process, ensuring America's Airmen know they are appreciated is a No. 1 priority, he said during a visit here.

"Retention and recruiting for the Air Force throughout this crisis over the last three years has remained superb," the general said. "Even after stop-loss was lifted, people feared that Airmen would be leaving the Air Force in great numbers, especially in the Guard and Reserve; it just didn't happen.

"And so we find ourselves in a position where we have 20,000 people more than we should have by law," he said. "I want to try and deal with it without any forced reductions in the force. I don't want anybody to be forced to leave (who) doesn't want to. The secretary of the Air Force (Dr. James G. Roche) and I are absolutely dedicated to making sure we don't break faith with our Airmen."

To get the manning numbers to where they should be and keep Airmen's faith, recruiting is going to be cut by about one-third for a year, General Jumper said.

"We've never tried this before, but I think it's the right thing to do" he said. "Taking that (recruiting) loss in one year (should help us) get back to the numbers we're supposed to have, and we hope that the excesses in the few previous years will help fill in those holes as far as grade opportunity. ..."

Taking care of people and the Air Force organization as a whole is all about knowing where the critical shortages are and ensuring the right people have the right skills and are doing the

right things, General Jumper said.

"We went for years during the '90s making cuts in people," he said. "We would cut 10 percent, and then 15 percent and then 20 percent — and then we finally ended up cutting a total of 40 percent of our force. ... In a lot of cases, those slots didn't go away, and people with other skills then migrated into them. You have people with essential skills (who) we need, now filling slots that should have been taken off the books and never were.

"It's a hard thing to do, and it's very traumatic, but (during) the first two years of my tenure, we got the books balanced, and we got the people out of the slots that were supposed to be emptied; we got the right people in the right slots," he said. "Only then did we really know what our critical shortages were."

But this shift in manning does not mean the Air Force is doing more with less, General Jumper said.

"We've got better budgets over the last three years than we've had in many years. ..." he said. "We've got airplane parts, and we've got mission-capable rates in our airplanes higher than what they've been for years. Why? Because we've had money to buy the parts for the first time in years and years.

"We've had pay raises and bonuses that have continued in unprecedented levels that Congress continues to vote for us," he said. "We're not doing more with less; we are doing more with the same amount of people — particularly when you talk about trying to sustain two wars."

It all comes down to proper use of Airmen and letting them know they are valued, the general said.

General Jumper said he wants Airmen to know that "we appreciate their service, and we're going to do everything we can to keep people who want to stay in the service." (Courtesy of U.S. Air Forces in Europe News Service)

## Services tidbits

### Myths about eating at the Vanwey Dining Facility

#### **The food is fattening!**

Actually, Services has a World Menu recipe system that provides nutritiously focused and diverse selection to tempt your palate. It just depends on your selection.

#### **Officers can eat at the dining facility.**

The dining facilities are geared toward the enlisted personnel only. IAW AFI 34-239, A3.3: Officers are only authorized to eat in the dining facility when no other adequate facilities are offered on base and it is deemed by the Installation Commander. Officers that are TDY must have it specifically stated on their orders if it is authorized for them to eat in the dining facility.

So as an "O", you really can't eat at Vanwey during UTAs!

#### **FYI on Flight meals and supplements!**

Flight meal supplements have changed with the World Wide Menu system — not by the Vanwey Dining Facility. Results from a survey accomplished recently determined too many food items were being wasted from the flight meals. You can still order different supplements for the meals, but you need to use the order form and choose your items.

Questions about food — call us, 507<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron at 734-5847.

## Memo improves job protection for guardsmen, reservists

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30, 2004—Attorney General John Ashcroft and Labor Secretary Elaine L. Chao signed a memorandum of understanding to protect the employment rights of men and women returning from military service.

The memorandum strengthens enforcement of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, commonly known as USERRA. Congress passed the act to safeguard the employment rights and benefits of service members returning to civilian life.

“The brave men and women protected by USERRA voluntarily set aside the comforts of civilian life and stepped in harm’s way,” Ashcroft said. “We owe it to them to make sure that their employment rights and protections are fully and vigorously protected upon their return from military service.”

Chao echoed the sentiment.

“Our military men and women have been there for us, so now it’s our turn to step up our efforts for them,” she said. “This agreement will strengthen enforcement of USERRA by ensuring faster resolution of USERRA cases and quicker enforcement action by the government when it is necessary.”

The memorandum deals exclusively with each department’s role and responsibilities in the enforcement of USERRA. The attorney general has delegated his USERRA responsibilities to the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice and the U.S. Attorneys’ offices.

The Department of Labor has delegated its USERRA responsibilities to the Veterans’ Employment and Training Service and the Office of the Solicitor.

The memorandum will streamline the enforcement process, allowing the two agen-

cies to work closely and effectively to ensure the protection of USERRA rights.

When a complaint raises an “issue of immediate and significant harm” and each agency agrees that the complaint appears legitimate, it may be referred for enforcement immediately, officials explained. This prevents two agencies from working on the same issue, wasting time and resources.

In late September, the Department of Labor issued new regulations strengthening USERRA protections.

In addition to the new regulations, Chao and the DOL’s Veterans’ Employment and Training Services have taken other steps to reduce the rate of USERRA violations, to include:

- \* Providing briefings to more than 158,000 service members and others on USERRA. (American Forces Press Service from a Department of Justice news release.)

## What I learned: Reflections on serving as an SP Augmentee

**By Senior Airman Darryl  
“Justin” Wilson  
507th Aircraft Maintenance  
Squadron**

*Editor’s Note: Senior Airman Darryl Wilson volunteered and served as a Security Forces augmentee from June 14 through Sept. 29, 2004. His experiences and reflection on his duty tour serve as an insight to a demanding career field.*

I learned that Security Forces is not just the gate guards. They do everything behind the scenes that people don’t see everyday. I learned that the Security Forces are the image of the Air Force and what I mean by that is what people see as the Air Force. A Security Forces person is the first person someone new to a base sees, a Security Forces member can influence the image of the Air Force by their actions, appearance, and personal interactions with people. The Security Forces requires a lot of time and personnel to meet their mission. There is not much room for

error, because if something goes wrong the blame comes back on them.

Dealing with the general public was probably the greatest lesson I learned, because the public doesn’t understand the complete mission of the Security Forces. The general public and military members sometimes can be hard to deal with, but most understand that everything the Security Forces does is for their safety and safety of others. I also learned how dedicated a member of the Security Forces is to their job. They have to train all the time to stay up to speed on situations that might occur.

Accomplishments: In my opinion the greatest accomplishment I had was during a base wide exercise. Maintenance personnel passed me the duress word and I caught it and prohibited a person with a fake bomb from entering a restricted aircraft parking ramp. I was applauded by the IG and the Security Forces exercise team for my paying at-

tention to detail.

Training: The training I received gave me the basic fundamentals of searching an individual, handcuffing, and the basic awareness of situations I might encounter on a day-to-day basis and in case of emergency. I was trained on how to respond to a situation in a quick and safe manner.

Appreciation: I have a great appreciation for Security Forces and the job that they do on a regular basis. They get almost no time off and they work long hours on a daily basis. The Security Forces have to work on weekends, holidays, and on all down days granted to the military and civilian members. I now have an even greater appreciation for the job that I have with 507<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Electric Shop. Anytime I have to do a job under unpleasant conditions, I just think about those Security Forces members who have to work all the time no matter what.

**513th AMXS  
Commander's Column**  
By Lt. Col. Dale Andrews

## Holidays are a time to reflect

The holidays are a time when families come together to remember their own special heritage. Our military family is unique in that we share a special heritage during this holiday period. A legacy of sacrifice and hardships associated with being in the profession of arms. Each one of our sacrifices and hardships has protected our Nation's heritage, freedom.

It was the hope of freedom that frigid Christmas night in 1776 which drove our Continental Army to cross the icy Delaware River to engage British forces. Despite being ill equipped, in a brutal environment, the American soldier endured. Against seemingly in-

surmountable odds and horrendous conditions colonial forces clashed with the entrenched British. But only a day after Christmas, Washington and his frozen men produced a stunning victory at the Battle of Trenton. In winning that battle, the citizen-soldier inspired a hope in a struggling nation for the cause of freedom.

Undiminished today, this hope of freedom is embodied in each of us. Today we stand together, like our brothers in 1776, in the enduring legacy of those who first fought for freedom. The years of sacrifices and hardships have produced a special bond within a noble family. Our extended family of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines, many gone or now retired, have preserved our Nation's special heritage, the heritage of hope, our Nation's freedom.

This holiday season may God bless each of you and your families as you reflect on your family's and our Nation's heritage. God bless our Nation and the men and women who serve in the name of Freedom.

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Father Patrick McCool  
507th ARW Auxillary Catholic Chaplain

### Thanksgiving Day is coming soon

Thanksgiving Day is coming soon. What does this holiday mean for us? In 1621 the Pilgrims and Native Americans celebrated a harvest feast in Plymouth, Massachusetts. This feast may have become the model for today's American celebration. George Washington in 1789 proclaimed: "Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor..."

We have many reasons to be thankful to God. The Pilgrims thanked God for their freedom from tyranny and their right to choose the way they believe and worship.

Today we have many reasons to thank God. Despite the many tragic events of the past few years, we thank God that He is still with us and we are truly "One Nation under God." We have been given many material things and have become a leader to the free world. With the many gifts, opportunities, and challenges that we face today, we realize that we have the responsibilities to share these with the less fortunate in our country and to other countries.

We are thankful for all the people in our lives, espe-

cially our families and friends. Too often we seem to take these persons for granted. When was the last time we thanked someone for what we received from them? As we gather around the table this Thanksgiving, let us thank Almighty God and those we share the feast with and especially all who make this possible.

### UTA Services

Sunday Protestant Service (7:30) 513th Conf Rm

*Sermon (Nov UTA):*

An Old Testament Gospel Story and  
celebrate The Lord's Supper (Communion)

*Sermon (Dec UTA):*

King Herod Tells the Christmas Story and  
old-fashioned Christmas Carol Song Fest

Sunday Catholic Mass (7:30) in Conf. Rm. #204,  
flightline side of the hangar (Bldg 1030)

Christmas Caroling during December UTA: To volunteer,  
call Master Sgt. John Terry at (405) 517-7324 or call the  
Chaplain's Office.

Christmas stockings will be distributed during November  
UTA and returned during December UTA

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

## AFRC NCO LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COURSE

The success of the Air Force Reserve NCO corps depends on their ability to apply leadership and management skills learned primarily in a civilian setting to a military environment. Not all of today's mid-level NCOs have extensive first-hand supervisory experience in a reserve environment; therefore, the instruction in this course is intended to improve the students' military supervisor capabilities and understanding of their positions as related to the USAFR. We focus on individual improvement which is ultimately the real source of organizational excellence and success. The next class is scheduled for 13-17 and 20-24 June 05.

## FAMILY CARE

If you need to be on the 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 Summaries** - Point Summaries can also be viewed and printed.
- 3. Record Review RIPS** - You will now be notified via e-mail, on your birthday, to log on 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 0800, Wed at 0800 & 1300, and Thurs at 1300. 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. (Apr, Jul, Oct, Jan)

## CAREER ENHANCEMENT OFFICE:

The next **Decoration Board** will be held during the Feb 05 UTA. All packages are due to the Career Enhancement office by Jan. 9. **PEP** packages are due by Jan. 4, 2005. For more details, call 734-7491.

## FY2004/2005 UTA SCHEDULE

20-21 Nov 04

04-05 Dec 04	08-09 Jan 05
05-06 Feb 05	05-06 Mar 05
02-03 Apr 05	14-15 May 05
04-05 Jun 05	09-10 Jul 05

As of Nov. 10, 2004

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# NOVEMBER TRAINING PLANNER

## Fri, 19 November 2004

1300 Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm  
 1430 Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg 513th ACG Auditorium  
 1600 Top 3 Executive Board Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room

## Sat, 20 November 2004

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
<b>0730-0930</b>	<b>Computer Based Testing</b>	<b>Bldg 1030, Room 214</b>
0730-0930	Newcomers In-Processing	Bldg 1043, Room 201C
<b>0730-0930</b>	<b>Customer Service Section Open to Newcomers ONLY</b>	
0730-0900	Wing Training Office Closed	Bldg 1043, Room 206
0830-0930	6 Month Contact Mtg	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
1000-1130	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 1030, Room 214
1000-1100	Mobility Rep Meeting	To Be Determined
1030-1130	First Sgts Meeting	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
1130-1200	Lunch-Time Chapel Discussion	To Be Determined
1300-1530	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I	Bldg 1030, Room 214
1300-1400	Adverse Actions Mtg	Wg Commander's office
1400-1500	Training Managers Mtg	Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
<b>Unit Designated</b>	<b>Sign Out</b>	<b>Unit Designated</b>

## Sun, 21 November 2004

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
<b>0730-0800</b>	<b>Protestant Chapel Service</b>	<b>513th ACG Auditorium</b>
<b>0730-0800</b>	<b>Catholic Mass</b>	<b>Bldg 1030 MSG Conf Rm</b>
0730-0930	MPF Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
<b>0750-1115</b>	<b>CDC/PME Course Exams</b>	<b>Bldg 460, (AD Hq) Rm 215</b>
0800-1115	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II	Bldg 1030, Room 214
0800-1030	Sfty Council Mtg/Sfty Rep Tng	Bldg 1030, Room 104
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Room
1245-1545	First Duty Station	Bldg 1030, Room 214
<b>1300</b>	<b>SORTS/Post UTA Mtg CAT</b>	
1400-1500	IG period w/Capt. Vardaro	To Be Determined
<b>Unit Designated</b>	<b>Sign Out</b>	<b>Unit Designated</b>

## Fri, 03 December 2004

1300 Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm  
 1430 Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg 513th ACG Auditorium  
 1600 Top 3 Executive Board Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room

## Sat, 04 December 2004

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
<b>0730-0930</b>	<b>Computer Based Testing</b>	<b>Bldg 1030, Room 214</b>
0730-0930	Newcomers In-Processing	Bldg 1043, Room 201C
<b>0730-0930</b>	<b>Customer Service Section Open to Newcomers ONLY</b>	
0730-0900	Wing Training Office Closed	Bldg 1043, Room 206
0830-0930	6 Month Contact Mtg	To Be Determined
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm
1000-1100	Unit Career Advisors Mtg	To Be Determined
1000-1130	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 1030, Room 214
1000-1100	Mobility Rep Meeting	To Be Determined
1030-1130	First Sgts Meeting	To Be Determined
1130-1200	Lunch-Time Chapel Discussion	To Be Determined
1300-1600	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I	Bldg 1030, Room 214
1300-1400	Adverse Actions Mtg	Wg Commander's office
1400-1500	Training Managers Mtg	To Be Determined
<b>Unit Designated</b>	<b>Sign Out</b>	<b>Unit Designated</b>

## Sun, 05 December 2004

Unit Designated	Sign In	Unit Designated
<b>0730-0800</b>	<b>Protestant Chapel Service</b>	<b>513th ACG Auditorium</b>
<b>0730-0800</b>	<b>Catholic Mass</b>	<b>Bldg. 1030 MSG Conf Rm</b>
0730-0930	MPF Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm
<b>0750-1115</b>	<b>CDC/PME Course Exams</b>	<b>Bldg 460, (AD Hq) Rm 215</b>
0800-1115	Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II	Bldg 1030, Room 214
0800-1030	Supervisor Safety Tng	Bldg 1030, Room 104
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	To Be Determined
0900-1000	Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng	Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
1245-1545	First Duty Station	Bldg 1030, Room 214
<b>1300</b>	<b>SORTS/Post UTA Mtg CAT</b>	
1400-1500	IG period w/Capt. Vardaro	To Be Determined
<b>Unit Designated</b>	<b>Sign Out</b>	<b>Unit Designated</b>

### ATTENTION

Tinker was scheduled for mass implementation Vred DD93's 14 Apr 2003 through 20 Apr 2003. Of course this date has already passed and we have received updates from 97% 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 pay date in order to sign on. Then click on the VMPF icon and follow instructions. Questions should be directed to Customer Service at 734-7492.

### Military Pay

**File for**                      **Receive Direct**  
**pay by:**                      **Deposit by:**

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

18 Nov	26 Nov
22 Nov	01 Dec
26 Nov	03 Dec
30 Nov	08 Dec
02 Dec	10 Dec
06 Dec	15 Dec
08 Dec	17 Dec
09 Dec	21 Dec
13 Dec	23 Dec
15 Dec	30 Dec

## 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
Saturday	1530-1600	Family Support Services	DPAF
<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	SF
Sunday	1045-1115	Human Relations	ME
Sunday	1245-1545	First Duty Station	ME

### BAQ Recertification Deadlines

If Last Digit of SSAN is:	Then Forward Listing to Unit 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
0	August	October

#### UCMJ Briefing:

All enlisted personnel are required to have the UCMJ briefing within two UTAs of their first reenlistment. This briefing is held during Phase II of the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 0845 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1030, Room 214.

#### Ethics Briefing:

All reserve personnel are required to have the DOD Ethics Briefing within 90 days of reporting for duty. This briefing is held in conjunction with the UCMJ briefing during Phase II of the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 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 734-5249. All personnel must bring a complete training ground crew ensemble (GCE) including the mask and its hood to all classes. Those attending Initial must be prepared to process through a tear agent chamber. Wear of contacts is prohibited in all classes. Anyone arriving late, without a complete GCE with mask, or wearing contacts, will be released back to their unit and reported as a no-show.

**Drug Testing:** You must report within two hours of notification.

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

Editor:	CMSgt. Charlotte A. Epps, Chief, Education & Training (ART)
Assistant Editor:	TSgt. Sharon Lochman, Asst. Chief, Education & Training (ART)
Contributing Editors:	TSgt. Chris Rogers, Education and Training Advisor
	TSgt. Jimmy Talley, Education and Training Advisor
	SSgt. Jeremy Hudson, Education and Training Advisor

## Spouse, Parent, Employer Pins available to Airmen

In 1977 my mom was 33 years old, had just moved to Oklahoma City, had a new house, three young children, and a husband in the Air Force. Moving was nothing new by that time. My folks had been married in Taiwan during the Vietnam War. My older sister, Teresa, had been born in Phoenix, AZ. Troy and I had been born in Frankfurt, Germany. Immediately prior to this move, Dad had spent a year in Fairbanks, Alaska while the clan stayed with Grandma Hoffmeier in Garnett, KS. Not too long after our move here, mom was alone again while Dad was telling us stories about “chop-chop square” from Ismir, Turkey. He was gone for over a year.

Sometimes while we're caught up in our day to day, we forget about the sacrifices that our spouses make simply because they happened to fall in love with a military member. Do you know stories like this? Do you *have* stories like this in your family? Probably.



*Beginning with World War I, families have hung service flags in their windows displaying a blue star for each family member serving in the Armed Forces. Today, the Air Force Spouse Pin – a blue star cradled in the Air Force symbol – is a contemporary adaptation of this wartime tradition. The pin is given to the wives and husbands of America's Airmen in appreciation of the sacrifices they make for their spouse's service.*

**America's Air Force -- Integrity, Service, Excellence**  
[www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com](http://www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com)

The Air Force doesn't have a blind-eye to the spouses that support the Airmen and civilians that make our world a safer place. Building on traditions dating from 1917, appreciative service men and women can request a “Spouse Pin” and letter of appreciation from the very top commanders in the service.



Mr. John Doe  
 123 Elm Street  
 Anytown, USA 00000-0000

Our national leaders have called upon a new generation of Americans to rise to their duty and to stand up to those who threaten us at home and around the world. Because of the service of thousands of Airmen like your spouse, we are confident that we will prevail in the Global War on Terrorism.

We could not protect America's freedom without the incredible people who are willing to carry on the Air Force tradition. As an Air Force spouse, you are part of that tradition, and your sacrifices make a real difference to our country. We understand that the vitality of this support can be an emotional balancing act, and we thank you for everything you do to support your spouse's service.

Please accept the enclosed lapel pin as a token of our appreciation. During World War II, families of military members proudly displayed a service flag to recognize their family's contribution. Today, as we defend American interests throughout the world, we have adapted this tradition as a way to recognize the vital role played by the wives and husbands of our Airmen. We hope you also will wear it proudly as a statement of our common goals.

Sincerely,



*John P. Jumper*  
 John P. Jumper  
 General, USAF  
 Chief of Staff

*James G. Roche*  
 James G. Roche  
 Secretary of the Air Force

## Family Support Office plans events for families

The Family Support Office intends to host a Kids Night Out and Shopping Trip to Crossroads Mall and Toys “R” Us on Dec. 3rd (evening before UTA) from 5 - 8 p.m. The kids will be entertained at the 513th ACG, Building 1056. Transportation for the shopping trip is provided by our transportation office.

Advanced registration is needed so we know how much assistance and snacks are necessary. Registration deadline is Dec. 1.

Please send your request with your name, contact number, # of kids, and their ages to [darryl.wingo@tinker.af.mil](mailto:darryl.wingo@tinker.af.mil) or



[mary.randolph@tinker.af.mil](mailto:mary.randolph@tinker.af.mil) or by telephone at 734-6869 (leave message if not available).

The Family Support Office also intends to sponsor a trip to view Christmas Lights in Midwest City on Saturday, Dec. 4 (UTA). Bus transportation will be provided. We will leave from the Headquarters Building 1043 at 5:45 pm.

Please register not later than Dec. 1 with the number of people in your party to [darryl.wingo@tinker.af.mil](mailto:darryl.wingo@tinker.af.mil) or [mary.randolph@tinker.af.mil](mailto:mary.randolph@tinker.af.mil). We hope these events will be something you will want to participate in.

# Unit member experiences 160 mph firsthand

By Senior Airman Bryan Axtell  
507<sup>th</sup> ARW Public Affairs

“It was the coolest thing I’ve ever done,” says Staff Sgt. Trey Middleton of his experience driving Joe Nemecke’s NASCAR racer at Texas Motor Speedway. Middleton, a small business owner and reservist with the 507<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron, describes himself as a huge NASCAR fan. Imagine his elation when his wife, Michelle, presented him with a certificate to experience 160 mph firsthand! She had gone to [www.TeamTexas.com](http://www.TeamTexas.com) and purchased a 10 lap package for his birthday.

While everybody had to stay at or under 85 mph on the first lap, Middleton said the in-car instructor signaled him up to full-speed by lap four. The use of hand signals for speed and line corrections from the instructor was necessary because it was simply “too loud” for verbal communication. It was a full race experience since racers were allowed to pass on straight-aways and coming out of turns. Driving beside other racers is harrowing because there can be as many as three vehicles in the straight-aways, but cars must enter the turns single-file for safety reasons.

When asked about how 160 mph feels, “You get tunnel vision,” Middleton said, “You’re checking your rear-view for what’s

coming up behind you.” He said there were lots of things to monitor: slower drivers, points on the track he had been instructed to drive over, as well as dials, gauges, and the instructor just to manage a car going that fast. He said the car handled brilliantly altogether noting the big, fat, sticky tires allowed the car to “turn on a dime.”

The driving school wasn’t the only activity at the Texas Motor Speedway at the time. There were approximately 1,000 people on the in-field participating and watching various events. There were even 3-5 year old children racing go-carts on a smaller track within the greater oval. POVs were parked all over pit row – even RVs.

Making the 2½ hour drive home from the bi-annual event in Fort Worth, Texas, he had to be con-

science of his speed. Once when he let his mind wander back to whipping around the oval he looked down to discover that his supercharged Mazda Millennia was approaching 100 mph! Fortunately, he was able to get back to an appropriate speed without incurring a ticket.

Middleton was very thankful that his unit excused him from the UTA weekend that happened to fall on the date the school would be in session for the Fall. He thinks the USAF Reserve is great and works well to augment his civilian business. Since his civilian work is by-the-job and seasonal, if he doesn’t have a project he can call out to the unit and have work to do since construction and remodeling projects are plentiful on base.



# Looking sharp in latest uniform changes

Gen. John P. Jumper, Air Force Chief of Staff, approved 39 decisions presented by the 96<sup>th</sup> Air Force Uniform Board, which met in the summer.

Uniform board voting members included representatives from designated Air Staff directories, each major command, Air Force Reserve, National Guard, and the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force. Non-voting members included representatives from the Army and Air Force Exchange Services, Air Force Clothing Office and Defense Supply Center Philadelphia.

Among the changes:

- \* Authorize a special events uniform for AF Recruiters
- \* Offer the A-line skirt as an optional item
- \* Redesign the maternity jumper and bring back the maternity smock/tunic with added expansion tabs
- \* Revise the maternity service uniform shirts by adding expansion tabs
- \* Authorization to wear maternity T-shirt either tucked in or left out with BDUs
- \* Establish a standardized AF physical training uniform



**New Air Force physical training uniform**

- \* Redesign the female lightweight blue jacket
- \* Authorize as an option to have the AF symbol embroidered on the lightweight blue jacket
- \* Incorporate in AFI 36-2903 minimum wear policy/requirements for wear of flight suit and other flight dress uniforms as a crew duty uniform
- \* Incorporate in AFI 26-2903 wear policy for hospital scrubs
- \* Authorize only black scarf to be worn with BDUs, delete all other colors
- \* Authorize only black scarf to be worn with all blue uni-

form combinations when wearing the lightweight blue jacket and overcoat, delete all other colors

- \* Eliminate white, gray, and olive drab scarves; black scarf only color authorized with all AF uniforms
- \* Authorize conservative ornamentation on nonprescription sunglasses and eyeglasses; frames may be black or brown material or gold/silver wire; brand name glasses may be worn with small logo on frames of lens; logo must be same color as frames or lens
- \* Authorize wear of conservative wrap-around sunglasses; frames may be black or brown material; brand name glasses may be worn with small logo on frames or lens; logo must be same color as frames or lens
- \* Authorize only one small, black, non-descriptive personal digital assistance, such as PDA, pager, or cellular phone, at a time be worn on the uniform belt
- \* Allow females to wear small black spherical earrings when in uniform
- \* Allow black web belt or black riggers belt with nondescript black buckle as a optional item with BDUs
- \* Standardize enlisted Gore-Tex jacket rank insignia
- \* Remove requirement to wear a tie or tab with short sleeve shirt or blouse while traveling on a commercial airline
- \* Authorize wear of a backpack over both shoulders
- \* Authorize only solid-color black backpack with AF blue uniform combinations and solid-color black or olive drab, or woodland camouflage backpack with BDUs
- \* Authorize survival, evasion, resistance, and escape specialists the wear of a pewter green beret
- \* Allow survival, evasion, resistance, and escape specialist to wear the SERE arch on the BDUs
- \* Redesign of the Security Forces beret
- \* Allow the wear of plain black conservative hairpins, combs, headbands, elastic bands and barrettes with all female hair colors
- \* Allow males to cleanly shave their heads or have military high and tight haircuts; females are not authorized to shave their heads or wear high and tight haircuts
- \* Authorize baseball caps to be worn not only at home station but also at CONUS TDY locations; no overseas locations
- \* Create a metal or plastic Security Forces flash for beret
- \* Redesign the combat wear team beret device
- \* Add in AFI 36-2903 on military creases; not authorized in AF uniforms; creases will only be on sleeves and pant legs
- \* Clarified in AFI 36-2903: the installation commander has overall authority for wear of uniform during sports events
- \* Check the latest version of AFI 36-2903 for more updates

(Courtesy, Air Force Print News)

# Leaders unveil updated utility uniform

by Tech. Sgt. David A. Jablonski  
Air Force News

WASHINGTON - Responding to Airmen's feedback, Air Force leaders unveiled an alternative utility uniform color scheme and pattern Nov. 2 as part of the ongoing wear-test that was announced in August 2003.

Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray are now wearing the latest test version of the utility uniform during visits to Airmen serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The most striking change in this version is the switch from a deep blue, gray and green color scheme to a more subdued mix of tan, blue and two shades of green. And the tiger-stripe pattern is now pixilated.

This test version includes design changes incorporated in September based on feedback from Airmen.

More than 700 people at 32 installations are wear-testing the first test uniform. These Airmen participated in scientific surveys and focus groups. Their feedback was instrumental in making these most recent adjustments. The original plan called for only 300 testers, but uniform board officials decided to increase the number of testers to get more exposure and collect more test data. A select group will test the newest version.

Data showed that a service-unique appearance was very important to Airmen.

"Ninety-one percent of the Airmen responded in favor of a distinctive Air Force utility uniform," Chief Murray said. "Airmen take great pride in serving in America's

Air Force. Having a distinct uniform that presents a professional appearance to the public and our sister services, when we are at home station or deployed, is important."

A unique Air Force-designed uniform has another big advantage.

"Our new utility uniform incorporates a unique fit tailored for men and women, and a variety of realistic sizes beyond just small, medium and large," the chief said. "More than 20 percent of our Airmen are women, and we continually received feedback on how the male uniforms they currently wear do not fit well. Fit and comfort are important for all Airmen to project a professional military image."

Officials said they are reaping additional benefits of this particular uniform wear-test process.

Air Force Clothing Office officials took detailed measurements of as many body types as possible and recorded them into a database for future uniform design studies. Since the last such measurement in the 1960s, officials discovered that the average Airmen now has a more athletic build.

Not only are Airmen more fit to fight; they are deployed more often and for longer periods than ever before. There is no time to fuss over finicky uniforms, officials said.

"The wash and wear uniform will be easier and cheaper to maintain," said Senior Master Sgt. Jacqueline Dean, uniform board superintendent. "The permanent-press

treatment eliminates the need for ironing, and home washing can save an Airman from \$180 to \$240 in laundry costs over the course of a year."

Sergeant Dean oversees the wear test and leads the uniform board's campaign to display the uniform as



much as possible in a variety of locations.

"The wear test allows Airmen around the world to see the uniform in work places and to give feedback on its appearance, comfort, function and maintenance," Sergeant Dean said. "The chief of staff took that feedback into consideration when making the decision to move forward with expanding the test to include the new color and pattern."

Special operations and survival, evasion, resistance and escape Airmen will field-test the new utility uniform's pattern and colors to see how they perform in extreme conditions.

In January 2005, the uniform board will standardize the pattern, material and specifications and deliver the results to the Defense Logistics Agency for production. Normal production to delivery time can take 18 to 24 months.

# DEET: Don't deploy from home without it

By 1st Lt. John Fage

## Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - Whether hiking in the woods back home or serving in the sands of the Middle East, Airmen need to shield themselves from biting insects with a repellent.

The active ingredient in most skin-applied repellents is N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide, commonly referred to as DEET. It's a must on almost every deployment checklist and for good reason. It protects troops on the ground from mosquitoes, deer ticks, biting flies, chiggers, fleas and other insects.

"Insect bites are a painful nuisance and may even be a source of disease," said Maj. Martin Alexis, bioenvironmental engineer for Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command at Robins AFB. "DEET serves as a first line of defense against biting insects and other vector-borne diseases."

Vector-borne infectious diseases continue to emerge and strengthen because of changes in public health policy, say officials at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. As these diseases evolve, they become less susceptible to insecticides and drugs.

While all Airmen should use DEET, not all do. Some people are skeptical about using it, wondering how something that repels insects can be a good thing to put on their hands, arms, faces and necks.

"Maybe it's sticky or uncomfortable," said Major Alexis. "Time for baths/showers in the (area of responsibility) can be limited." Airmen risk contracting diseases such as malaria and leishmaniasis if they don't protect themselves, he said.

"Deploying personnel are supplied with three containers of DEET," said John Depew, assistant installation deployment officer for the 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron at Robins AFB. "One comes with their A-bag, and their units supply two additional containers. They can obtain more containers once they are in theater."

Approved by the Environmental Protection Agency in 1957 as an active ingredient, DEET was developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1946. According to the EPA, about 38 percent of the American public uses DEET-based products.

DEET blocks emissions of carbon dioxide from the body. Carbon dioxide is what many insects are attracted to, it acts like a homing device, guiding pesky mosquitoes to their dinner.

According to studies reported in the July 4, 2002, issue of the New England Journal of Medicine ([www.nejm.org](http://www.nejm.org)), DEET-based repellents provide longer periods of protection from insects than non-DEET-based repellents.

The World Health Organization, the U.S. Army and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are just a few major organizations that recommend using DEET-based products.

The Consumer Specialty Products Association lists some important tips to keep in mind when using DEET:

- \* Always follow instructions

- \* Do not soak clothing or bedding with DEET-based repellents

- \* The more DEET in the product, the longer the protection lasts

- \* DEET-based repellents should be applied to exposed, unbroken skin

Additional information about DEET and protection from insects can be found at [www.deetonline.org](http://www.deetonline.org) and by calling 1-888-NO-BITES (888-662-4837). (AFRC News Service)

## 507th LRS member chosen for top honors in traffic management apprentice course

Airman First Class Mondrey Ramsey from the 507<sup>th</sup> Logistics Readiness Squadron was chosen as the Distinguished Graduate of the Traffic Management Apprentice Course last month.

In a letter to Maj. Jimmy Wolfe, 507<sup>th</sup> LRS commander, Lt. Col. Lawrence A. Eichhorn, Com-

mander of 345th Training Squadron praised Airman Ramsey's efforts.

"Airman Ramsey achieved Distinguished Graduate distinction through dedication, hard work, and attention to detail during his course of study," Colonel Eichhorn wrote. "Airman Ramsey's efforts reflect favorably upon himself and the United

States Air Force. We are confident he will be a valuable team member of your organization and contribute to the Air Force mission. Please convey my congratulations to Airman Ramsey for attaining Distinguished Graduate status and for a job well done! We wish him well in all of his professional and personal endeavors."

## Health care improves for reservists, families

WASHINGTON - Reservists and guardsmen are getting improved family health care for fighting the war on terror.

The National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal 2005 makes other reserve Tricare options permanent. Last year's defense bill temporarily authorized these benefits.

The president signed the act into law Oct. 28.

"Our reservists and guardsmen who are called to duty and their families deserve these great new benefits for their service to their country," said Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs.

Congress wanted to make it easier for military people in Air Force Reserve Command and the other reserve components to get health care.

In the past, reservists and their families could use Tricare for up to 90 days before the reservists were activated if they were scheduled to go on active duty for a contingency for more than 30 days. The new law makes this option permanent.

In addition, the Transitional Assistance Management Program became permanent. The program offers 180 days of transitional health care after reservists deactivate.

Under the Reserve Family Demonstration Project, families don't have to pay Tricare standard and extra deductibles

if reservists must be on active duty for more than 30 days. The law permits Tricare to pay nonparticipating providers up to 115 percent of its maximum allowable charge.

The project started Sept. 14, 2001, and was to end Nov. 1. Now, it ends Oct. 31, 2005.

People called up after Sept. 11, 2001, who served or will serve continuously in a contingency for 90 days or more, may buy standard healthcare coverage for themselves or the entire family after they demobilize. Coverage begins when the 180 days of transitional care ends.

To qualify, people must agree to serve for one year or more in the Selected Reserve after their active duty ends. They get one year of coverage for every year of commitment. If they got off active duty before Oct. 28 or get off within 180 days of that date, they have one year to sign up for the program.

Congress ordered the new Tricare standard enrollment program to start by April 26, 2005.

"We have already begun working on these provisions and will implement them on time," Dr. Winkenwerder said.

More information will be posted on the reserve affairs Web site at <http://www.defenselink.mil/ra>. (AFRC News Service from a Defense Department news release)

## Huge sale! Dental insurance 60 percent off

**By DDS (Lt. Col.) Eric L. Kean  
507th Medical Dental Squadron**

Okay, maybe you won't drop everything and run down to the "Dental Insurance" store and stock up. But... keep reading and you might just decide that Tricare Dental is a value your smile just can't live without!

In order to help active reserve members cope with the cost of the annual dental examination mandated by the Department of Defense (DoD) in 1997, the DoD joined with United Concordia Insurance to provide comprehensive dental insurance to military members at an affordable cost. The result was the new Tricare Dental Plan (TDP).

TDP covers all major dental procedures, even orthodontics. *DoD pays 60 percent of the premium for selected reserve members (that's us)*. The remaining cost is paid monthly by the member either by allotment or

monthly direct bill.

**Frequently asked questions:** How much does it cost?

Currently, a single member will pay is \$8.47 per month. This will increase to \$9.07 per month beginning Jan. 1, 2005. Family members are also eligible for coverage at an increased rate.

**How much will the TDP pay toward my dental care?**

For each dental procedure they receive, members will pay a percentage of the cost with TDP paying the rest. This percentage varies by procedure. For example, examinations, emergency procedures and most preventive services are covered at 100 percent, (no cost to you) for all ranks, while other procedures like crown and bridge are covered at 50 percent (you pay half). Members at rank E-4 and below pay a smaller percentage on some procedures. The maximum the

plan will pay per insured, per year is currently \$1,200. Orthodontics has a lifetime cap of \$1,500.

**Are the benefits really worth the cost of the premiums?**

Did you know that the average cost of a complete dental examination and full-mouth set of X-rays is currently right at \$120? This is more than the TDP premiums for an entire year!! If you add the additional cost of cleanings and a filling or two, having dental insurance makes excellent sense.

**How do I sign up?**

You may sign up online by going to [www.ucci.com](http://www.ucci.com), then selecting the appropriate icons. Enrollment forms are also available at the base dental clinic or your reserve dental section.

For more information, you may contact Tricare directly at (800) 406-2832 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., EST, or go online at [www.ucci.com](http://www.ucci.com).

# Uprclose

By Tech. Sgt. Ty Yoshida

The following question was asked of members of the 507th ARW:  
**“What wishes would you like to extend this holiday season?”**



**Senior Airman Tarah Howard  
 507th Medical Squadron**

“I would like to wish my fiance a very happy and joyous holiday!”



**Airman 1st Class Tim Taylor  
 507th ARW/513th ACG Split  
 Training Option**

“Happy holidays to my family and all the troops. I hope they make it home for the holidays.”



**Staff Sgt. Daryle Brzezinski  
 507th AMXS**

“My best wishes and prayers to our troops overseas.”

**Senior Airman Karen  
 Fowler  
 507th LRS**

“I would like to wish a happy holiday and peace to the soldiers overseas and the soldiers at home.”



**Senior Airman Stephen Fischer  
 507th LRS**

“I would like to extend hope and goodwill to all of the soldiers overseas and a hearty “I love you” to my wife.”

# Wing offices prepared for base trick-or-treaters on Oct. 28



# Parting Shot



Chief Master Sgt. Warren W. "Bud" Riley retired last month after 24 years service. Riley's wife Judy received a spouse certificate during the ceremony from Col. Deal Despinoy, 507th ARW commander.

## On-final R-News

### ROA to meet

Local Reserve Officer Association Chapter 66 will host a luncheon from 11 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Nov. 20 in the 513th ACG commander's conference room.

All officers, both ROA as well as non-ROA members, are welcome to come listen to Colonel Despinoy speak on current events in the Air Force, Air Force Reserve and local unit missions.

Pizza will be served at a cost of \$2.50.

### Operation Holiday Spirit

The 6th Annual Steak Supper Fundraiser will be held Friday, Dec. 3rd, at the Del City VFW Club. The fundraiser helps support needy Reserve families, the YWCA Battered Women's Shelter, and the Downtown Baptist Church Soup Kitchen.

Tickets are on sale now for \$25 until noon, Dec. 2nd. For more information or

to buy a ticket, see Maj. Ralph Hawkins (513th ACG), Master Sgt. Kathy Lowman (465th ARS), Maj. Don Satterlee (507th ARW), Senior Master Sgt. Janice Lyles (507th LRS), and Chief Master Sgt. Jerry Lyles (507th MXG).

### Flu prevention tips

DoD officials recently announced a vigorous public health campaign to prevent flu in people who don't qualify for flu shots this year.

ASECDEF (Health Affairs) is taking a forward-leaning approach to get out basic messages on how to prevent flu from spreading, including:

- Wash hands
- Cover mouth when sneezing/coughing
- Stay away from others when you are sick

DoD's campaign will include tips on the Tricare Web site, posters and newspaper, radio and TV messages.

CDC officials predict a fairly typical flu season and encourage people to pay more attention to preventive measures.

### 507th ARW Recruiters

#### Tinker AFB, OK

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



#### Moore, Norman, OK

Master Sgt. Gene Higgins  
(405) 217-8311

#### Midwest City, OK

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

#### Tulsa, OK

Tech. Sgt. Richard D. Kozik (NE)  
(918) 665-2300

#### Lawton, OK

Staff Sgt. Kamala Thigpen  
(580) 357-2784

#### McConnell AFB, KS

Master Sgt. David McCormick  
(In-Service Recruiter)  
(316) 681-2522

#### Vance AFB, OK

Master Sgt. David McCormick  
(316) 759-3766