

# On-final



July 2005  
Vol. 25, No. 7

U.S. AIR FORCE

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



Master Sgts. Gary Brown and Ken Daley

**507th Civil Engineers build  
school in El Salvador**

-- see Page 4.



Senior Master Sgt. Dave Liszeski



## 507th ARW Commander's Column

By Col. Dean Despinoy

### Understanding the Fit to Fight Program

There have been a lot of questions lately regarding the Fit to Fight program as the Reserves reaches the end of the two year phase-in program. I wish to applaud everyone's efforts in taking their initial assessment. The vast majority of the wing have assessed to a passing level. There are, unfortunately, still a couple hundred who have not obtained a passing score. I encourage those who still have a score less than 75 to continue with your conditioning program.

It is important to realize that the program requires an annual assessment. I know that the people we currently have listed in the overdue category is largely due to the bad weather we had on our last couple UTAs making the assessments impossible. I ask all those who are currently overdue; which includes those who passed but have exceeded one year since their assessment and those who had to be reassessed within six months because they obtained a score less than 75, make every effort to update their assessment this UTA.

Starting Jan. 1, 2006 (that's just six months away) the Reserves will be required to comply with all portions of the Fit to Fight program. In short, a score below 75 could negatively impact on you. This program is here to stay and already has gone a long way in changing the culture of the Air Force. The primary point to keep in mind is that the program is not a test but a way to make sure that everyone wearing the Air Force uniform incorporates fitness into their daily routine. If you do not find a way of doing this, you will continue to struggle to pass the assessment each year.

I want to take this opportunity to explain exactly what will happen on Jan. 1, 2006. We will continue to do assessments as individuals come due between now and then. On Jan. 1, all cur-

rent scores will become the individual's official score as long as that score has not expired. (Within one year for those with a score above 75, within six months for those with a score below 75). If the score has expired, the individual will be overdue and will have to assess at the earliest possible time.

If on Jan. 1, a person is not happy with their current score and it has been at least 45 days from their last assessment, they may take the assessment again. The score they receive from the new assessment will become their official score.

Of course, the significant change that will occur on Jan. 1 is the negative repercussions for individuals who do not have a current passing score. AFI 10-248 is the governing regulation for the Fit to Fight program, but more important is the AFRC Supplement 1. Commanders and individuals should become very familiar with that supplement. It clearly defines the mandatory and minimum actions a commander must take and is specific to AFRC members.

Adverse action will start with Letters of Counseling for the 1<sup>st</sup> assessment a person fails to score 75 or better and continues for subsequent failed assessments every six months with increased action including Letters of Reprimand, withhold of promotion, and denial of training as well as statements in OPR/EPRs.

Inability to progress to a passing score can eventually lead to discharge. As a commander's program there is latitude depending on each individual's particular situation. I am interested in working with individuals who are truly attempting to improve their physical fitness. I encourage commanders to employ unit-level activities promoting and encouraging improvement to everyone's score. However, those who refuse to try, will soon realize that this program does have teeth.

I decided to "tell it like it is" in this article, not to scare anyone, but to make sure that everyone has a clear understanding of the Fit to Fight program. The successes of the Okies have always been attributed to the way we pull together and care for one another as family. I am sure that the same will happen with this program and we will become the first wing in AFRC to have all members achieve a passing score.

#### Today's Message:

# 101 Critical Days of Summer

## By Air Force Safety Office

More airmen die from preventable accidents during the '101 Critical Days of Summer' — the period between Memorial Day and Labor Day — than at any other time of the year.

So that everyone returns safely from their summer activities, keep these safety tips in mind as you enjoy the

warm-weather days:

- \* Seat belts: Use them.
- \* Travel: Be sober and well rested.
- \* Swimming: Don't swim alone or in unknown waters.
- \* Athletic activities: Stretch to warm up; don't overexert yourself. Drink plenty of water; if you are thirsty, you are already dehydrated.

\* Alcohol: Don't drink and drive.

\* Wingman: Be a good wingman by intervening when your buddy has had too much to drink and about to make a bad decision.

The Air Force can replace aircraft, buildings and vehicles, but our people are our greatest asset, and they cannot be replaced. Be safe!

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Mike Jones

Have you ever made a stupid mistake and then had to apologize for it? Oh yeah, me too! Truth is it happens to everyone. I read about a parts manager for a small electronics shop who ordered a part from a factory. This specific item was Part No. 669. But when he received it he noticed that someone had sent Part No. 699 instead. Furious at the factory's incompetence, he promptly sent the item back along with a letter giving them a piece of his mind. Less than a week later, he received the same item back with a letter containing just four words: "TURN THE PART OVER."

How we handle our mistakes will tell others a lot about us and our character. Do we look for someone else to blame? Do we come up with excuses? Or do we admit our mistakes and take responsibility for them?

Look at it another way. Who do you respect more, the person who blames others and makes excuses for their mistakes, or the person who owns their mistakes? It is easy to take credit for the good things we've accomplished but it says more about us if we also take credit for the mistakes we've made. It keeps us honest and humble before both God and those around us.

## AF resumes Anthrax vaccinations through July 27

The Air Force has announced resumption of the Anthrax Vaccination Immunization Program (AVIP) under conditions of an Emergency Use Authorization through 27 July 05.

These conditions will allow units to offer anthrax vaccinations to those deploying to high-risk areas.

The resumption comes after a memorandum signed April 29 allowing military commanders to resume the vaccination program using the emergency use authorization conditions issued by the Food and Drug Administration.

This will allow active duty and reservists to provide the immunization

to its members deploying to U.S. Central Command (USCENTCOM) or Korean peninsula area for 15 or more consecutive days.

AVIP requires commanders to follow EUA conditions very carefully, providing members of the reserves both education about the program and the option to refuse the vaccination without fear of disciplinary measures, initiation of separation actions or loss of entitlements if they elect to decline vaccination. Members electing to decline the anthrax vaccination under EUA remain fully deployable. Also, ordering or forcing a member to receive the anthrax shot is a violation

of EUA conditions.

Reservist will receive education and training offered through an FDA-approved brochure that outlines the vaccines advantages and side effects before making an informed decision about the vaccination.

The emergency use authorization (EUA) expires at close of business 27 July 05 and units must halt administration of shots after this date pending release of additional guidance.

For additional information, visit [www.anthrax.mil](http://www.anthrax.mil); e-mail [vaccines@amedd.army.mil](mailto:vaccines@amedd.army.mil) or call 1-877-GET-VACC.

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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.

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.

## New Horizons '05



507th CES members, right, lay the concrete floor for the three-classroom school during Joint Task Force Para Los Ninos (for the children) exercise.



# CE rotates to El Salvador 'for the children'

Story by Tech. Sgt. Ty Yoshida  
 Photos by 507<sup>th</sup> CE Squadron members

When talking to the members of the 507<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron upon their return from St. Vincente, El Salvador, it seemed unanimous -- they will always remember the smiling, happy faces of the kids, and the community's show of gratitude.

"To say the community graciously appreciated the school is an understatement to say the least -- they overwhelmed the 507th CES members with their gratitude," said Maj. Doug Benton, 507<sup>th</sup> CES Deployment Officer in Charge. "The school construction project at La Esperanza provided meaningful training for the 507th CES troops as well as gave the members a sincere sense of pride for what they did for the people of El Salvador."



Staff Sgt. Angela Kimble utilizes her masonry skills in El Salvador.



Staff Sgt. Dennis Kasgnoc taps in a block during Rotation #2.



Maj. Douglas Benton helps with roof framing during Rotation #3.



**Senior Master Sgt. Matthew Diggs, above, rotated in the first group to La Esperanza, and thus did not see the completed project, right.**



The civil engineers were part of the annually-sponsored U.S. Southern Command New Horizons exercises. The 507<sup>th</sup> participated in this year's Joint Task Force Para Los Ninos (for the children) in El Salvador.

"This year's exercises provide excellent opportunities for U.S. and El Salvadoran personnel to refine engineering and medical skills while helping improve the quality of life for the people of El Salvador," said Major Benton. "We constructed a school consisting of three classrooms, an administrator's office and a nine-stall latrine in the community of La Esperanza near the San Vicente, El Salvador Base Camp – a community struggling in the aftermath of a recent earthquake, civil war and difficult economic conditions. The school will support about 400 students in the community."

Deployed from Feb. 11 to May 7, 54 members from the 507<sup>th</sup> CES worked in six two-week rotations to construct the three-classroom school with nine-stall latrine, including five members who remained in El Salvador until May 21, to wrap up minor details at the school and assist with breaking down the base camp at San Vicente. The squadron members also donated and shipped approximately \$250 worth of school supplies to the children at the school. And deployed members purchased

various toys for the children's playground. Also several other smaller projects were performed on the existing school across the street from the 507<sup>th</sup>'s project which included repair of a water tower and pouring several concrete slabs.

Also from the 507<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing at the San Vicente base camp were members of the 507<sup>th</sup> Services Flight.

"We had 10 personnel there from Feb. 26 to Mar. 26. They provided meals from both "A" rations (real food) and Unitized Group Rations (UGRs)," said Senior Master Sgt. Terry Tunender, 507<sup>th</sup> Services Flight (ART). "Senior Master Sgt. Clyde Hankins was the team leader who did all sorts of extra stuff to make even the UGRs palatable. He made the supply runs into town and, for example, he bought real parmesan cheese for the UGR spaghetti; that went over big with the troops."

"In spite of the language barrier, an extraordinarily rich and positive relationship was built between the La Esperanza community and the 507<sup>th</sup> CES," said Major Benton, "in addition to unprecedented good will in the San Vicente area and surrounding community."

When viewing the photos taken by the 507<sup>th</sup> members who rotated to El Salvador, it appeared unanimous - smiling faces captured to last a lifetime.



**At the end of Rotation #2, the foundation, water supply, sanitation system, and six courses of block were completed. Senior Airman Justin Tubbs and Master Sgt. Troy Siler, far right, worked on the project through all six rotations.**



# Air Force finalizes new utility uniform

By Tech. Sgt. David A. Jablonski  
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Blue and green tiger stripes are out; the digitized pattern with subdued green, tan, blue and gray is in.

After reviewing more than 150,000 bits of feedback throughout the initial seven-month wear test of the proposed utility uniform, Air Force leaders recently decided to eliminate the original color scheme and conduct a limited field test of the new pattern.

Special operations and survival, evasion, resistance and escape Airmen were scheduled to conduct a limited wear test of the new design at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., Hurlburt Field, Fla., and Fairchild AFB, Wash., last month.

“The sole purpose of the test will be to see if we can add any features to the uniform to make it a better uniform in the field and to determine if the new colors (and) pattern provide camouflage protection they need in the field,” said Senior Master Sgt. Dana Athnos, Air Force uniform board superin-



tendent.

The uniform is scheduled to be procured in mid-2005, officials said.

Airmen can expect to purchase the uniform sometime in fiscal 2007. The proposed uniform will be phased in over four or five years.

## BRAC recommendations affect 22 states

If put into law, Air Force Reserve Command will close three installations and move people from a dozen locations to two dozen sites throughout the United States. The 507th ARW will increase its number of KC-135 aircraft by gaining four KC-135s from AFRC's 939th ARW, Portland International Airport, Ore. The Air National Guard will form an associate unit with the 507th ARW.

Although command officials anticipate keeping roughly the same troop

level authorizations, AFRC will expand some existing missions such as air operations center, space, unmanned aerial vehicle and associate-unit flying.

These and other changes are among those recommended by the Department of Defense to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission. DOD announced the recommendations May 13.

The BRAC process is simple, DOD officials said. The military services and joint cross-service groups develop closure

and realignment recommendations. Military value is the primary consideration.

Also, the law mandates that department officials use a 20-year force-structure plan in forming their recommendations.

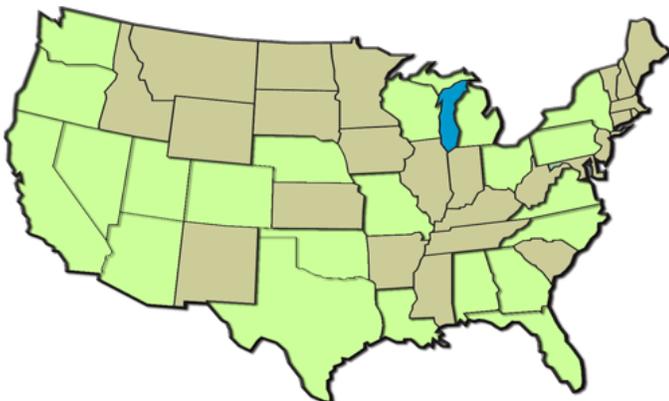
The services examine each base's "service-unique" function.

In a difference this year, cross-service groups analyze functions that cross service lines. For example, all services have warehouses. So a joint group analyzes warehouse functions for all the services.

Cross-service groups examined seven functional areas: educational and training, headquarters and support activities, industrial, intelligence, medical, supply and storage, and technical.

The commission is holding hearings and examining the recommendations, a process that runs through September. The commission sends an "all-or-nothing list" to the president, meaning the president can approve all of the closures and realignments on the list or disapprove the entire list. If he approves, the list goes to Congress.

The House and Senate have 45 "legislative days" to disapprove the list. If they do nothing, the list automatically is approved and has the "force and effect of law," officials said.



## New 507th ARW vice commander named

The 507th Air Refueling Wing commander Col. Dean Despinoy has announced the selection of Col. Randall C. "Arlo" Guthrie as the new wing vice commander.

Colonel Guthrie will arrive for his first drill weekend with the 507th ARW this month.

Prior to this assignment, Colonel Guthrie was serving as the Senior Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA) to the Director of the Global Reach Directorate, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, DC. The Global Reach Directorate is responsible for acquisition programs involving strategic airlift, tactical airlift, VIP airlift, air refueling, trainers, Special Operations Aircraft, and airlift support systems.

Colonel Guthrie graduated from

the University of Tennessee in 1979. For the next three years he worked as a secondary school teacher and coach at Forest Hill High School, West Palm Beach, Fla. He entered Officer Training School in 1982 and received his commission in March of 1983.

Entering active duty service, he attended Undergraduate Pilot Training, Fighter Lead-In, F-15 RTU, Survival Schools, and served overseas for three years at Bitburg Air Base, Germany. He returned stateside in 1987 where he served as a T-37 Instructor Pilot and Life Support Officer at Columbus AFB, Miss. He entered the Air Force Reserve in 1991 as a C-5 aircraft commander with the 512th Airlift Wing at Dover AFB, Delaware, held various leadership positions in the wing, culminating in command of the

512th Operations Support Flight.

Colonel Guthrie is a command pilot with over 3,000 military and 7,000 civilian flying hours. He has flown combat support missions to Southwest Asia and missions in support of operations in Bosnia, Somalia, Haiti, and Afghanistan.

Colonel Guthrie holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Education with honors from the



**Col. Randall C. "Arlo" Guthrie**

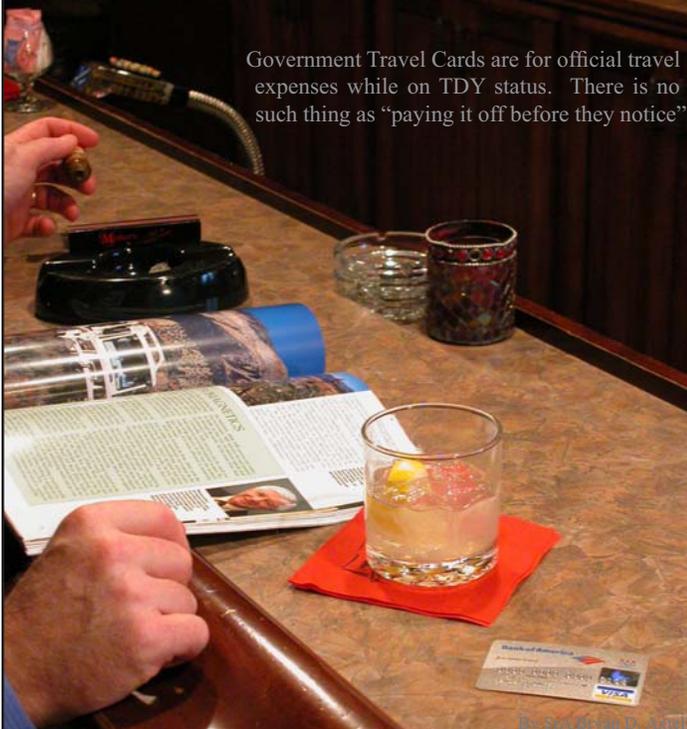
University of Tennessee and a Masters in Business Administration in Management from Mississippi State University. His military education includes completion of Squadron Officer School, Life Support Officer Course, Air Command and Staff, Squadron Commander Course and Air War College (all via correspondence).

He is a recipient of the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, Commendation Medal, Achievement Medal, Outstanding Unit Award, Combat Readiness Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, and Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwaiti government) among others. He was promoted to the rank of full colonel in May of this year.

In civilian life he works for American Airlines as a First Officer.

### FRIENDS DON'T LET FRIENDS ABUSE THEIR GOVERNMENT TRAVEL CARD.

Government Travel Cards are for official travel expenses while on TDY status. There is no such thing as "paying it off before they notice"





970th AACS  
Director of Operations  
By Lt. Col. Steve Mittuch

## Our values

Today's Air Force is bound by a great moral code, a code of which many in today's world are deprived. The Air Force's moral code is embodied in our core values and gives us guidance when we follow others, a model for how we should strive to perform and counsel when we find ourselves as leaders. Every branch of the armed forces has a moral code and a common theme weaves amongst all four branches, to establish a set of core values which act as an anchor and expression of the ethics of today's military professional. For the Air Force member our core values of integrity, excellence and service before self are crucial traits for personal and professional success.

Integrity is essential. It's the inner voice, the source of self-control, that is the basis for the trust that is imperative in today's military. It is doing the right thing when nobody is looking; honesty is still the hallmark of the military professional. Service members must know the right thing to do and must have the moral fortitude to do it.

Military service is not just another job. It's an uncommon profession that calls for people of uncommon dedication. When people forget that basic tenet, careerism and self-interest can emerge, there is no room for personal agendas at the expense of the institution.

This brings us to the third core value: excellence. In today's

### 'V' is for Valor

# 970th EAACS earns unit award

By Staff Sgt. Andy Stephens  
513th ACG Public Affairs

Members of the 970th Expeditionary Airborne Air Control Squadron who supported Operation IRAQI FREEDOM from March 19, 2003 through April 16, 2003 may be eligible for an Outstanding Unit Award with a "V" device for Valor.

The Valor device, also known as a V-device, is a military attachment to certain awards and decorations that indicate the wearer was awarded the deco-

ration as a result of direct combat with an enemy force. It may also denote accomplishment of a heroic nature or valourous acts in direct support of operations against an enemy force.

Special Order G-3586, generated by U.S. Central Air Force Command, awarded the V-device to personnel committed to ongoing operations during the early days of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM in an amendment to a pre-existing order.

The expeditionary element of the

society, some people resign themselves to just getting by. Because we've been entrusted with our nation's security and a good portion of the national treasury—because we are authorized to act on behalf of our entire society—the obligation to excel is a moral obligation for members of our professional military force.

Not everyone will share this viewpoint in your career. Some will say our core values are simply a slogan and dismiss them as mere words. Others will ridicule you for echoing such concepts. In this world of "me first" and relative ethics, you'll remind them of the path they didn't take and they will privately envy the dignity and resolve your moral code has given you.

Our core values require we take the high road; we must bypass short-term rewards and "do the right thing," knowing that long term the team will be stronger. Yes, our core values define who we are both individually and as an institution.

The men and women of the 513<sup>th</sup> have consistently demonstrated integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do. As such, our nation has called on us during perilous times and our core values directed us down the right path and kept us anchored on firm ground. The future holds challenges as we take on new endeavors to define who we are as "Thumper in reserve." I have no doubt the Air Force core values which we embrace will continue to guide our decisions and remind us of the importance of the path we've chosen, oath taken and demands placed upon us. Keep up the good work and continue to excel as the provider of America's best Command and Control warriors.

Reserve associate unit was activated shortly after Sept. 11, 2001, and remained on active duty for two years as part of the Presidential Selective Reserve Activation.

Lt. Col. John E. Trnka, 513th ACG vice commander, said the accomplishments of the group's expeditionary force were unique, attributing much of their success to teamwork between elements at Tinker, Incirlik Air Base in Turkey, and forward deployed assets that engaged regularly in combat operations.

## 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. Charlotte 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. Charlotte 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. Charlotte 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. Upcoming class dates are Oct. 24-Nov. 4, 2005 and July 24 - Aug. 04, 2006.

## 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)

## FY2005 UTA SCHEDULE

06-07 Aug 05	10-11 Sept 05
01-02 Oct 05	05-06 Nov 05
03-04 Dec 05	07-08 Jan 06
04-05 Feb 06	04-05 Mar 06
01-02 Apr 06	06-07 May 06
03-04 June 06	08-09 July 06
05-06 Aug 06	09-10 Sept 06

As of 28 June 2005

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# JULY TRAINING PLANNER

## Fri, 8 July 2005

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, 9 July 2005

**Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated**  
**by appt. Computer Based Testing Bldg 1030, Room 214**  
 0730-0930 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 203  
**0730-0930 Customer Service Section Open to Newcomers ONLY**  
 0830-0900 6 Month Contact Mtg Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm  
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm  
 1000-1100 Unit Career Advisors Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm  
 1000-1130 Newcomers Orientation Bldg 1030, Room 214  
 1000-1100 Mobility Rep Meeting To Be Determined  
 1300-1600 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I Bldg 1030, Room 214  
 1300-1400 Adverse Actions Mtg Wg Commander's office  
 1300-1400 Wg. Career Advisor Tng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm  
 1400-1500 Training Managers Mtg Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Rm  
**Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated**

## Sun, 10 July 2005

**Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated**  
**by appt. Computer Based Testing Bldg 1030, Room 214**  
**0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium**  
**0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg. 1066 OG Conf Rm**  
**0750-1115 CDC/PME Course Exams** Bldg 460, (AD Hq) Rm 215  
 0800-1115 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1030, Room 214  
 0800-1030 Haz Comm - Non-Supvr Tng Bldg 1030, Room 104  
 0800-1030 Haz Comm Tng (Non-Supr) Bldg. 1030, Room 104  
 0830-0930 Enlisted Advisory Council Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm  
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm  
 1245-1545 First Duty Station Bldg 1030, Room 214  
**1300 SORTS/Post UTA Mtg CAT**  
 1400-1500 IG period w/Capt. Vardaro To Be Determined  
 1500- Wing Commander's Call Base Theater  
 1500-1630 MPF Closed for In-House Tng Bldg 1043, Rm 203  
**Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated**

## Fri, 5 Aug 2005

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, 6 Aug 2005

**Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated**  
**by appt. Computer Based Testing Bldg 1030, Room 214**  
 0730-0930 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 203  
**0730-0930 Customer Service Section Open to Newcomers ONLY**  
 0730-0900 Wing Training Office Closed Bldg 1043, Room 213  
 0830-0900 6 Month Contact Mtg Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm  
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm  
 1000-1100 Unit Career Advisors Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm  
 1000-1130 Newcomers Orientation Bldg 1030, Room 214  
 1000-1100 Mobility Rep Meeting To Be Determined  
 1300-1600 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I Bldg 1030, Room 214  
 1300-1400 Adverse Actions Mtg Wg Commander's office  
 1300-1400 Wg. Career Advisor Tng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm  
 1400-1500 Training Managers Mtg Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Rm  
**Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated**

## Sun, 7 Aug 2005

**Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated**  
**by appt. Computer Based Testing Bldg 1030, Room 214**  
**0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium**  
**0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg. 1066 OG Conf Rm**  
**0750-1115 CDC/PME Course Exams** Bldg 460, (AD Hq) Rm 215  
 0800-1115 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1030, Room 214  
 0800-1030 Unit Safety Rep Tng Bldg. 1030, Room 104  
 0830-0930 Enlisted Advisory Council Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm  
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm  
 1245-1545 First Duty Station Bldg 1030, Room 214  
**1300 SORTS/Post UTA Mtg CAT**  
 1400-1500 IG period w/Capt. Vardaro To Be Determined  
 1500-1630 MPF Closed for In-House Tng Bldg 1043, Rm 203  
**Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated**

## OCCUPATIONAL SURVEYS

These surveys provide information essential for developing personnel programs, classifying occupations, and developing training programs. The Wing Survey Control Monitor (SCM) works with the Unit Training manager (UTM) to ensure surveys are completed. AFI 36-2623, paragraph 2.7 makes completion of these surveys mandatory for all Air Force Reserve members. It is extremely important these surveys are completed by the suspense date. If you have any questions, contact Staff Sgt. Jeremy Hudson at 734-7075 or your UTM.

## Military Pay

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

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

12 July	18 July
14 July	22 July
18 July	27 July
19 July	29 July
20 Jul	01 Aug
26 Jul	03 Aug
28 Jul	05 Aug
02 Aug	10 Aug
04 Aug	12 Aug
08 Aug	15 Aug
11 Aug	19 Aug
16 Aug	24 Aug
18 Aug	26 Aug
22 Aug	30 Aug

## 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	OPSEC Training	OG
<b>Phase II</b>			
Sunday	0800-0815	Base Populace	CEX
Sunday	0815-0830	IG Briefing	IG
Sunday	0830-1000	UCMJ/Ethics	JA
Sunday	1000-1030	Counter Intel/Awareness	SF
Sunday	1030-1100	Human Relations	ME
Sunday	1230-1545	First Duty Station	ME

## BAQ Recertification Deadlines

If Last Digit of SSAN is:      Then Forward Listing to Unit Commander in:      Recertification due in 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 0830 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 0830 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 213.**

Editor:	CMSgt. Charlotte A. Epps, Chief, Education & Training (ART)
Assistant Editor:	MSgt. 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 (ART)
	Ms. Kimberley Silkwood, Testing and Education Advisor

# Mitchell named 4th AF command chief

A former member of the 507th Maintenance Squadron has been named the new 4th Air Force Command Chief.

Command Chief Master Sgt. Kenneth A. Mitchell was a member of the 507th Fighter Wing, 507th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron here at Tinker from February - July 1984. His last assignment was as command chief master sergeant, 944th Fighter Wing, Luke AFB, Ariz. As command chief, he is the primary advisor to the commander on all matters affecting the quality, welfare, morale, management, and leadership of the enlisted personnel.

Chief Mitchell, a native of Springfield, Ohio, began his military career by entering service with the Ohio Air National Guard in July 1974. He has served



in various technical, developmental, and supervisory roles within the aircraft

maintenance career field. After a break in service from 1980 to 1982, Chief Mitchell rejoined the military, re-enlisting in the Air Force Reserve and assisted in the activation of the 906th Tactical Fighter Group, Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio. While participating in the Reserve forces, Chief Mitchell performed civilian duties as a trooper for the Ohio State Highway Patrol. He left the patrol in 1984 to become an Air Reserve Technician serving as a crew chief and various additional duties until January 1996. While serving as the reserve command chief at Luke, he was a computer systems analyst with Air Combat Command Training Support Squadron, Detachment 1, at Luke.

# Goodman becomes CES commander

Lt. Col. Ernest (Mony) Goodman became the new 507th Civil Engineer Squadron commander in June. He was the squadron's operations officer for the last two years.

Goodman enlisted in the Air Force in 1973 and served on active duty until 1978. He has served as a traditional reservist since that time except for a five-month presidential activation during Operation Desert Storm.

Goodman's last active duty assignment was in the 963rd Air Warning and Control Squadron as an Airborne Communications Technician on the E-3. He received his commission in 1983 through the Deserving Airman Commissioning Program.

Goodman works as a supervisory electronics engineer within the Maintenance Directorate at the Oklahoma City Logistics Center on base. Goodman is registered as a professional engineer with the Oklahoma State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveys in the electrical engineer discipline. He is a member of the National Society of Professional Engineers, Oklahoma Society of Professional Engineers, Tinker Management Association and life member of both the Air Force Association and Reserve Officers Association.

"I clearly recognize the privilege of this opportunity to walk in footsteps of retired Colonel Ritenour and retired Lt. Col. Lane as the commander of the best CES in AFRC that they molded and shaped into this second-to-none squadron," said Goodman.



**Lt. Col. Ernest (Mony) Goodman makes his acceptance remarks after being named the new 507th CES commander.**

# Civil Engineer commander retires

By Capt. Bill Pierce  
Deputy Chief of Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Renee Lane, 507th Civil Engineer commander, retired last month following more than 33 years of service to the United States Air Force.

Lane ties to military date back to her childhood. “My dad retired from the Army and the Army Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) and my mom retired from federal service. So I grew up as an Army brat, moving from post to post, attending Department of Defense schools, and working my first summer job with AAFES,” said Lane

Lane completed her undergraduate degree in 1970 at the University of Oklahoma in teaching. Finding that education was flooded with teachers Lane worked for AAFES at Tinker.

In 1972, following her dad’s advice she enlisted into active duty as one of the last Women in the Air Force (WAF). “I began at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas as every Airman does when

they attend basic training. My next assignment was at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas to attend the Telecommunications Center Specialist technical school,” said Lane.

Following tech school, Lane was assigned to Westover Air Force Base, Mass. as a base telephone switchboard operator during Vietnam. “It was very rewarding when I was able to place morale calls in the middle of the night for Airmen in South East Asia calling home,” smiled Lane

Soon Lane was selected to work in the Cryptographic Accounting office in the Base Communications Center.

From there Lane asked to go to Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif. and eventually was selected to work in the unit training office and worked there until retraining into the Public Affairs career field and eventually becoming the NCOIC for the Base PA office.

Lane joined the 507th in 1978. As a reservist she worked as a carpenter’s helper, public affairs NCOIC, disaster preparedness officer, social actions officer, civil engineer staff officer, and finally as a commander.

Wanting to go back to school, Lane went back to OU and finish what she started 10 years before – her architectural degree. “Eventually I received my Master of Architecture degree and that opened the door for a commission through the Deserving Airman Commissioning program,” said Lane.

As she continued to look back over her career Lane reflected on the people that influenced her. “My parents gave me a solid foundation and work ethic and their success in working for the military and civil service gave me the means and opportunity to pursue my educational goals. I liked the structure and security of being in the military family and saw the opportunity to grow and travel. I didn’t realize it at the time, but I was following in my parents’ footsteps,” said Lane.

As for advice Lane says, “have a goal and keep striving for it—persevere, be tenacious, and never give up. It may be a circuitous path you take, but eventually you’ll realize that goal. Once you’ve achieved that goal, realize that you must keep setting new ones. Challenge yourself to overcome your fears—you’ll be surprised how well you can meet those challenges. You cannot do it alone; you have to have your faith, family, friends, and colleagues all working together to achieve any success. Read—be aware of what’s going on in the world and understand the big picture. Hold your head high, keep a smile on your face, be flexible, do the very best you can, and have fun.”

Lane’s retirement plans include civil service, retirement, travel and play the amateur photographer. I also want to volunteer my time to some organizations with which I’m affiliated.



Col. Robert Colyer, 507th Mission Support Group commander, presents Lt. Col. Renee Lane her retirement certificate. Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Joe Wade

# A decade after being reactivated, the 931st celebrates Ten years of mission accomplishment

**Tech. Sgt. David Brumley**  
931st ARG Public Affairs

The 931st Air Refueling Group stood up at McConnell AFB Jan. 1, 1995. Five months later, the Group's first mission, the refueling of the "Spirit of Kansas," a B-2 bomber, was complete. Since then, the 931st has accounted for five percent of the total Air Force refueling mission. Group members have traveled all over the world and been a major force in defending the United States. In the air and on the ground, the 931st team has proven it's a small unit that offers a big value to the Air Force and the American people.

## Nov. 1995-Osan Air Base

The first deployment by the 931st's Civil Engineer Squadron planted the roots for long term success. As the new unit began to get its legs planted, the Group's engineers were already being asked to support the Air Force overseas. In November of 1995, about 60 CES members deployed to Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, in support of the 51st Fighter Wing.

"We had two two-week rotations with approximately 30 people per rota-

tion," said Senior Master Sgt. Tamera Askren, 931st CES operations superintendent. "The project was to complete phase three of a multi-phase project to remodel the passenger Air Terminal at Osan AB, Korea," she said. CES removed an old boiler, built a concrete block wall, rewired the lighting in the terminal, upgraded two latrines and repaired plumbing throughout the facility.

## March 1997-Pisa

Early missions established the unit's ability to deploy as the first associate KC-135 Stratotanker unit. The 931st provided support for Operation Decisive Endeavor, an ongoing mission at the time that provided air refueling for joint NATO fighters who were enforcing the no-fly zone over Bosnia. According to Col. (retired) Vik Malling, the 931st ARG commander at the time, there were definite questions whether or not the unit could support such a full-fledged mission. While deployed in Pisa, the unit had a 100 percent effective rate with no maintenance delays or cancellations.

## June 1999-

## Allied Force/Northern Watch

The 931st was the first Reserve unit

to be activated and deployed for Operations Allied Force and Northern Watch. One of the most significant events in the unit's history was the support the 931st provided in 1999 over Kosovo and enforcement of the no-fly zone over Iraq. While the unit was deployed in support of this mission, more than 2,300 flying hours were logged and more than 23 million pounds of fuel were off loaded. One first that took place during the deployment was the use of the new Pacer CRAG configured aircraft. The Pacer CRAG upgrade allows pilots to fly the KC-135 without a navigator. According to Col. (retired) Terry Edwards, former 931st ARG deputy commander, the 931st was the first to fly a three person crew (pilot, co-pilot, and boom operator) in a combat mission.

## Training and Inspections

Two visits to Alpena, Mich., for Inspector General Exercises let the 931st members shine. The first in May of 2000 integrated the unit with more than 500 personnel in a simulated deployment to an operating base in Saudi Arabia. The exercise simulated the rigors of a wartime environment including deployment, employment, mission support, and ability of refueling forces to survive and operate while refueling combat aircraft. The exercise was comprised of personnel from 24 AMC and AMC-gained Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve units. In July 2004, another 80 members deployed, this time the simulation was an operating base in the Republic of Korea.

In 2003, two 931st units teamed up for a three-day bivouac near the McConnell Air Force Base confidence course.

The 931st Military Personnel Flight and CES joined in a Counter-Chemical Warfare Concept of Operations. The bivouac gave the MPF and CES a chance



Just a few of the Airmen pictured above are still part of the 931st Security Forces. Many of the force's current members are scheduled to deploy this summer in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"Readiness Is

JULY 2005

## 931st celebrates . . . . .

to meet their annual training requirements and learn some new chemical avoidance techniques. Along with practicing the ability to avoid nuclear, biological and chemical weapons, the training also included checking for unexploded ordnance and self-aid and buddy care. In addition, the training was filled with lifelike combat scenarios requiring the trainees to practice utilizing techniques for searching and repel-

ling attacks from unfriendly forces.

### 2001-War on Terror begins

When the call came for the war on terrorism, the 931st was already familiar with much of the terrain. After the attack in Sept. 2001, the Air Force Reserve was needed more than ever to support Operation Enduring Freedom. When the conflict started, crews from the 931st were in the sky refueling aircraft for America's air bridge overseas.

### Iraq war-2003

The 931st was right there from the beginning of Iraqi Freedom, refueling bombers out of Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., as they went on their 36 hour bombing tours dropping up to 40,000 pounds of payload. As early as April 12, 2003, deployed members of the 18th Air Refueling Squadron had logged more than 1,865 hours and flew more than 370 sorties.

"Tanker support proved to be invaluable during this conflict. At both of our deployed locations, our men and women accomplished great things," former 931st commander Col. Jeffery Glass said.

It was for the Group's many accomplishments that the 931st was awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award four times in its 10 year history. "The outstanding folks of the 931st earned (the award) with a lot of hard work and dedication," the former 4th Air Force Commander, Maj. Gen. (retired) Wallace Whaley said. "It is organizations like the 931st that set the standard for others to emulate."



**Maj. Dolores Bubier, former 18th ARS navigator, conducts pre-flight inspections before flying in support of Operation Allied Force in 1999. (Lt. Col. Dolores Bubier is now in the Operations/Plans office of the 507th Operations Group here at Tinker.)**

## OPSEC advisory: Private Web site asking for deployed info

There is a private web site asking deployed soldiers to sign up for mail and packages. We believe the site is a serious OPSEC/Force Protection issue. While this web site seems to provide a well-intentioned, valuable service - assisting deployed military members - the site's content compromises OPSEC/Force Protection. The content was recently reviewed and the following information was found: names, description of unit duties, locations, weapons, unit troop strengths, ratio of men to women personnel, tour of duty extension dates, photographs of deployed US military personnel, etc.

We strongly urge service members to use extreme caution with this or similar web sites. Always consider OPSEC and minimize the information you provide. You may be risking other lives besides your own by participating. Adversaries can access these sites and could use the available information to plan attacks against individual service members, their families, or their military units. Terrorists already know enough about US forces and their families to send anti-US propaganda letters and flyers. NOTE: The name of the web site was not released in an attempt to prevent curiosity seekers. The Adversary Has Questions? We've Got OPSEC!

### The IG Says...

Air Force members have the right to:

- File a complaint at any level without going through their supervisory channel.
- File a complaint with an Inspector General (IG) without fear of reprisal.
- Submit complaints anonymously.
- Submit a complaint even if the member is not the wronged party or was not affected by the alleged violation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Capt. Mark Vardaro at: (405) 556-1745; Toll Free: (877) 225-5928; or email: mark.vardaro@tinker.af.mil.

# Top 3 work to rejuvenate visibility, activities

By Senior Airman Bryan D. Axtell  
Public Affairs Office

Who does all of this? Who pays for all of this? Have you ever wondered these questions? Who puts together the banquets? Who pays the quarterly award winner cash prizes? How did the airman who had the car crash on the way to UTA get by?

We don't live in a vacuum, and things just don't happen by themselves. Somebody has to care. Somebody has to help. Somebody has to put in the time and effort to make things happen.

One of the groups where "somebody" comes from is the Top 3. Top 3 is a senior enlisted association comprised of the top three enlisted ranks — hence the name. One of their more visible activities is the coordination of the Billy Hughes Award and its associated banquet. They are also involved with Airman, NCO, and Senior NCO of the Quarter awards, as well as contributions to other charitable organizations and airmen in need.

The newest Top 3 officers have laid out their goals for the year and seek to educate members and those they serve about what being a reservist Top 3 member at Tinker AFB entails.

"Our biggest goal, right now, is to get Top 3 rejuvenated," says Senior Master Sgt. Shelia Russell, the 1st Sergeant for the 465th Air Refueling Wing, and the newest president of the Tinker AFB's reserve Top 3. And she has a plan. Russell said her three goals to accomplish for this year are: 100-percent membership — to include all the reserve units on base. Then she wants to get those members more involved in the activities of the group. As a priority, she wants to inspire a sense of unity across the reserve campus here, regardless of which group or wing members are in.

Action on all three fronts has already taken place in the time since the new officers were announced in January. The bylaws were researched and the president found a way to make the 513th rep a member of the executive officers in an effort to promote unity. Membership drives are ongoing, however the officers have some messages they are sending out along with the sales pitch in an effort to get more than just the \$10 membership fee.

"I just believe that we are at a crossroad because we seem to be lacking in the full understanding and spirit of what we are about," said Senior Master Sgt. Nathan McGuire, 1st Sergeant of the 72nd Aerial Port Squadron and treasurer for Top 3.

"We are, or should be, 'ambassadors of goodwill responsible for taking care of our most valuable resources — members, families, and retirees,'" said McGuire, quoting from the Top 3 mission statement.

"I want the Top 3 to be more than 'Here's my \$10, now leave me alone,'" McGuire said.

McGuire said one of his current challenges is getting more senior NCOs to understand that the Top 3 is not about what the Top 3 can do for them, but what they can do for others.

You, as a senior NCO, should not be asking 'What can the Top 3 do for me,' said Master Sgt. Tracy L. House, 1st Sergeant for the 513th Operations Support Flight, and the 513th rep for the Reserve Top 3.

What does the Top 3 do for the military member? Not as much as the Top 3 members themselves, because it's not about that master sergeant or that senior master sergeant, said House.

It's about the individuals — the airmen and the junior NCOs that need them. They need to know that they have an outlet where they can go to in an emergency, said House. "The Reserve Top 3 is a safety net for the junior ranks," said House.

In addition to emergency aid though, members of the Top 3 are called to mentor and encourage the ranks that they themselves passed through.

"Senior NCOs paved the way for us and now it is time for us to pay them back by paving the way for others and for those who will one day take our place in the ranks," said McGuire. "The Top 3 is more than having a large budget handing out dollars," he said.

"The junior enlisted are the foundation," said McGuire. "They are our proud and rich history. They are our future. They are who we are today. Supporting them means great leadership for tomorrow's Air Force."

"One team united in mentoring, honoring traditions, improving quality of life, promotion and enforcement of Air Force Core Values: Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence In All We Do. To some that may sound sappy and corny, but ...I believe in those words with all my heart and soul," said McGuire.

So if you are a reservist in the top three enlisted ranks, you should expect to hear from the leaders of the Top 3. They will ask for your money, but they will also ask for a commodity that a lot of reservists find even more precious: Your time.

We only have 16 hours per month, House said.

Despite the time issues, Top 3 continues to strive to meet its goals. Why? McGuire put it this way: "I see the Top 3 mission as being one of the most noble and action principles to live by. It is the engine, the driving force within the SNCO rank that embraces the values that build and bring together strong family and community ties within the Air Force."

## Top 3 meeting scheduled

The Tinker Reserve Top 3 will hold a general membership meeting on Saturday, July 9, in the AWACS Auditorium at 2 p.m.

For additional information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Shelia Russell, Tinker Reserve Top 3 President, at Shelia.Russell@tinker.af.mil.

# Unit member has found alternative to running

By Senior Airman Bryan Axtell  
Public Affairs Office

“Ok, ready to go to the gym?”

These words and the half-hour following are dreaded by many. However as Airmen first, we have some responsibilities.

Fit to Fight. Everybody has to participate and make sure that they are physically ready to perform their duties as an Airman first and foremost. Regardless of rank or job title, we all need to be prepared to pick up a weapon, and fight the battle should ever the need arise. That’s an Airman’s duty first even if their day job is turning a wrench, wrestling a yoke, or driving a computer.

That doesn’t mean an Airman can’t be creative though, right? Tech. Sgt. Roxanne M. Baxter, the wing historian here, was looking for an alternative to running. “I hate running,” said the mother of seven. So one day she was feeling rather down, and spied the bicycle shop across the river. On impulse she went over and began browsing. She would end up with a bike, but not one she was satisfied with. She kept adding accessories and hardware. She also started shopping for a bike she would like better.

It was one of these excursions to mull over her final decision that she ran into a man in the bike shop wearing a bike jersey with an Air Force logo. Turns out, he had been on the Team Air Force Cycling team the previous year. They began talking.

Baxter had been interested in bike tours. It would seem that Team Air Force Cycling - 2005 had slots available in one of the biggest in the business: The Register’s Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa or RAGBRAI. The event is so popular that it has been limited to 10,000 registered participants. All 10,000 slots for the 2005 event are currently taken.

The event is known as “Mardi Gras on Wheels” said Baxter. Which would explain why many more than the registered 10,000 are expected to show up and participate as unregistered tag-alongs, said Baxter. It also makes for a recruiting opportunity, which the Air Force plans to capitalize on with Team Air Force Cycling -2005.

By wearing the jersey as she rides in the event (on her new bike) she will raise the visibility of the Air Force. That lends a hand to the recruiters that will be traveling to the various check-points along the path of the seven-day ride.

The Register’s annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa, or RAGBRAI, is a physically demanding experience and shouldn’t be attempted without the benefit of months worth of training, said Steve Storch, Offutt’s team captain.

“If you want to be in good enough shape to complete the ride, you should plan on training 200 to 400 miles a month in

both June and July,” Storch said. Ideally, a participant should be a regular bicyclist who’s logged at least 1,000 miles in the previous 12 months.

Weather conditions and terrain contribute to the difficulty of the ride. Heat indexes reached 123 degrees two years ago, and Iowa is not flat, Storch said. “No one should attempt this without putting in the road work in advance.”

Baxter is aware of the degree of difficulty this event poses. “This is going to be like a marathon for me,” said Baxter. She has been training and recently participated in the Tour d’Cure event from San Antonio, to San Marcos, Texas, during 95 degree heat as a preliminary to RAGBRAI. Her goal is to cover 150 miles per week in June and July as even more preparation.

For additional information you can visit [www.teamairforcecycling.com](http://www.teamairforcecycling.com), or [www.ragbrai.org](http://www.ragbrai.org).

(Parts of this story care of the Team Air Force Cycling - 2005 website)



**Roxanne Baxter takes a practice run on her new bike. She will participate in the RAGBRAI, a grueling ride across Iowa, later this month.**

Photo by Senior Airman Bryan Axtell

# Uprclose

By Tech. Sgt. Ty Yoshida

The following question was asked of members of the 507th Civil Engineer Squadron:

**“What will you remember most about your annual tour to El Salvador?”**



**Capt. Paul McCarty**

“I remember most how thankful the people were to have us there. I do not remember one of the children ever turning down food the whole time we were there.

The director of the school at La Esperanza was very appreciative of the school we built for them. The existing school was way undersized for the 469 students that attended.”



**Tech. Sgt. Darren Kennedy**

“The big changes we made in the lives of the children and the community by giving them a better facility to expand their education, and their faces of happiness.”



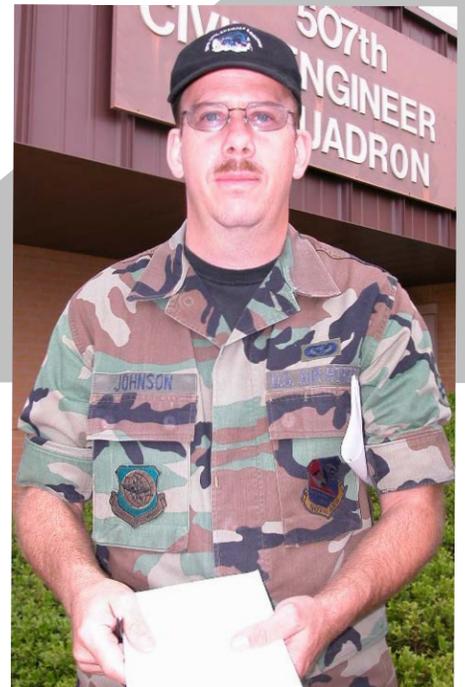
**Senior Master Sgt. Tim Smith**

“The children and how much the project meant to the entire community. I will always remember their smiling faces.”



**Staff Sgt. David Jones**

“The kids always being there watching us work, what we did for the kids, and the feeling accomplishment building something from the ground up.”



**Senior Airman Vincent Johnson**

“Seeing the excitement on the children’s faces when handing out the toys to them.”

# Enlisted Advisory Council sponsors mentoring forum

Did you know that mentoring is the best way to share knowledge, experience and expertise throughout an organization? If you had an opportunity to work with someone that could give you an inside track to career advancement, without spinning your wheels on irrelevant goals, would you take it? If so, your opportunity has arrived....

The Enlisted Advisory Council (EAC) is sponsoring the Wing's first Q&A Mentoring Forum in the 513<sup>th</sup> ACG Auditorium during the October UTA. All junior enlisted personnel (Airman through Staff Sergeant) are strongly encouraged to participate. Saturday (Oct. 1) from 11 a.m. to noon the panel will consist of four First Sergeants; Sunday (Oct. 2) from 11 a.m. to noon the panel will consist of four Chief Master Sergeants. Sign-up will be on a 1st come 1st serve basis with a limit of 30 personnel per forum, and lunch will be provided. Those interested should contact takesha.williams@tinker.af.mil and the deadline to sign-up is by the end of the September UTA.

Mentoring provides you with insight into knowledge and skills that are *RELEVANT* to your professional and personal goals. It allows you to receive critical feedback in key areas, such as communications, interpersonal relationships, technical abilities, and leadership skills. It also gives you an opportunity to gain knowledge about the organization's culture and unspoken rules that can be critical for your success. Basically, it helps to develop a sharper focus on what is needed to grow professionally within the organization. These forums are only part of our commitment to you to help shape you as successful leaders of tomorrow.

The monthly EAC meetings are held Sun-

day of each UTA at 8:30 a.m. in the 507th ARW conference room. All enlisted members are invited to attend. For additional information, contact Courtney.penn@tinker.af.mil, Neika.jones@tinker.af.mil, or jeremy.scoles@tinker.af.mil.



**EAC President Master Sgt. Takesha Williams, center, poses with several of the EAC members.**

## Reserve Night Out with the Redhawks re-scheduled for August UTA

The Reserve Night Out with the Redhawks Baseball game has been rescheduled from the June UTA to Saturday of the August UTA. Redhawks' opponent will be the Portland Beavers and the game starts at 7:05 p.m.

The adjustment was made to allow more unit members the opportunity to say goodbye to Col. Stayce Harris during her farewell event last month.

If you previously had given money to the Chaplain's Office to purchase tickets, hold on to that ticket or see Chaplain Dwight Magnus for a refund if you can't attend the August game.

The first 2,500 paying fans will receive an OG&E Wind Power Pinwheel. As of press time, the Redhawks had a 9-1 win/loss record compared to the Beavers' 7-3 record.

For more information, call the 507th ARW Chaplain's Office at 734-5632.

## Campus Sports Schedule

July 11	5 p.m.	Sand Volleyball	Sweetwater's
July 14	5:30 p.m.	Renegades Softball	Field 2
	5:30 p.m.	Thumper Softball	Champ Field
	7:30 p.m.	CoEd vs. Services	Field 3
July 18	5 p.m.	Sand Volleyball	38th EIG
July 21	5:30 p.m.	Thumpers Softball	Field 2
	5:30 p.m.	Renegades Softball	Field 1
	5:30 p.m.	Okies Softball	Champ Field
	7:30 p.m.	CoEd vs. Ingenuim	Field 3
July 25	5 p.m.	Sand Volleyball	38th EIG
July 28	5:30 p.m.	Renegades Softball	Champ Field
	5:30 p.m.	Okie-Thumper Softball	Field 2
Aug 01	5 p.m.	Sand Volleyball	38th EIG
Aug 04	5:30 p.m.	Renegades-Okies Softball	Field 2
	7:30 p.m.	CoEd vs. FM Softb	Field 3
Aug 08	TBD	Softball Playoffs begin	Tinker Fields

# On-final R-News

## Comply with testing rules

This is to make you aware of AFIADL Testing Conditions that Wing Training must comply with. This allows all examinees to have the best testing conditions possible.

Examinees are not allowed to bring these items into the testing room: Books, briefcases, or electronic devices such as watches or beepers that may emit a sound that could be distracting to the examinees. No cell phones are allowed in the testing room.

**REMINDERS:** If you are retaking

## Life insurance benefits gain increased emphasis

Air Force Reserve Command senior leaders want reservists to know about the importance of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance.

A recent tragedy involving a reservist who declined SGLI coverage prompted a call for this benefit to receive more emphasis. In addition to requiring reservists to report to their military personnel flight to decline coverage in person, command officials are looking at adding squadron-level counseling by the first sergeant or commander.

This increased concern comes on the heels of legislation to increase the maximum coverage, to ensure beneficiaries know when an individual turns down the maximum and to help service members who sustain traumatic war injuries.

The \$82 billion supplemental legislation signed into law by President Bush May 11 raises maximum SGLI coverage from \$250,000 to \$400,000 and provides payouts of up to \$100,000 for people with traumatic injuries.

In a new twist introduced through the legislation, troops with dependents must get their spouse's approval to purchase less than the full amount of SGLI coverage. In the case of people who are not married,

a mandatory CDC test, a retake letter must be on file or you must bring one with you. You get this from your Unit Training Manager. We will not test you without it.

We have more than one test on file for some members. It is your responsibility to know which course number you are testing on.

For more information, call Wing Training at 734-7075.

## 72nd has 1st Sgt. opening

The Wing will conduct a First Sergeants Board during the Aug UTA. We have one open position in the 72<sup>nd</sup> Aerial Port Squadron. An all-purpose checklist with First Sergeant Qualification/Requirements can be picked up at the Military Personnel Flight, in

the designated beneficiary will receive notice when the person purchases less than the maximum coverage.

Defense and Veteran Affairs officials are working on the details of the expanded benefits.

The increased SGLI coverage will start Sept. 1, and the so-called "traumatic SGLI" benefit will begin Dec. 1. The legislation directs that both benefits will be retroactive to Oct. 7, 2001, said Stephen Wurtz, the VA's deputy assistant director for insurance.

People enrolled in the SGLI program will notice an increase in their premiums when the increases take effect. The traumatic SGLI benefit will be rolled into the basic SGLI program and will likely cost about \$1 a month, Mr. Wurtz said.

Troops opting for maximum SGLI coverage – \$400,000 vs. the current \$250,000 – will see their monthly premiums increase from \$16.25 to \$26, Mr. Wurtz said.

Because the rates have not changed, people who retain \$250,000 or less coverage will see no increase in their premiums, Mr. Wurtz said, except for the \$1 "traumatic SGLI" premium.

(AFRC News Service from American Forces Press Service)

Building 1043. The point of contact will be Master Sgt. Deborah Kidd, the MPF First Sergeant, and she can be reached at 734-7494.

## Civilian employment info

Time is running out for about 15,000 Air Force reservists in the Selected Reserve to comply with a Department of Defense directive. Oct. 31 is the deadline for reservists to register information about their civilian place of employment. Some 60,000 of these Airmen, roughly 80 percent of the Selected Reserve, provided that information as of May.

Command officials urge reservists to register online as soon as possible by going to <http://www.afrc.af.mil/reserveInfo.htm> and clicking on Civilian Employment Info Program.

## 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

Master Sgt. Marvin Greene (SE)  
Tech. Sgt. Carla Lang (NW)  
(405) 733-9403

### Tulsa, OK

Tech. Sgt. Richard D. Kozik  
(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

NEWS / INFORMATION / FAMILY READINESS

**507th ARW  
and  
513th ACG**

TINKER AFB  
OKLAHOMA



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