

On-final



U.S. AIR FORCE

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



Sorting through bags of donated items
See Pages 10-11 for details

The State of the Force - 2005

By Acting Secretary of the Air Force Pete Geren

The following are excerpts from remarks to the Air Force Association's Air and Space Conference opening day keynote address, Washington, Sept. 12, 2005

Our greatest asset – our most powerful weapon – is our Airmen. We must develop our people to the limits of their ability. Getting them the right training and experience to grow the leaders, both officer and NCO, we will need for the future.

Training that focuses on three critical areas: Character, Knowledge, and Readiness.

- Character – to reinforce our Core Values — values that are critical to everything we do and values that tie all Airmen together in bonds of trust

and respect

- Knowledge – to provide our Airmen with both depth and breadth — depth to make them experts with their weapons systems and breadth so that they can understand the context in which they employ them. Together, depth and breadth allows for innovation – the ability to find new ways to employ existing systems to accomplish mission objectives.

- And finally Readiness – to maintain ourselves as the world's premier expeditionary force — ready to respond on a moment's notice to conduct major military operations around the globe or defend our nation's cities and towns. Ready to respond to disasters and catastrophes around the world or just down the highway. Ready to face an uncertain future...an unpredictable

foe.

For we do face an uncertain world with potential threats ranging from terrorists and insurgents and rising near-peer competitors. If the last 15 years of conflict have taught us anything, it is that our nation will need Air and Space power to overcome those threats.

We are fighting hard today, both at home and abroad. And we must ensure that we are ready to fight tomorrow's wars as well.

I am certain that these Airmen – and the Core Values they hold dear – will continue to serve us well in decades to come.

Our Airmen are doing outstanding work across the globe and deserve everything we can do to help them prepare themselves and we're far from done.

To the Airmen of the United States Air Force

Editor's Note: The following letter was delivered on Sept. 2, 2005, by Gen. T. Michael Moseley to the Airmen of the United States Air Force.

We are a Nation at war. Today marks the 1,426th day we've been fighting Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. World War II lasted 1,347 days. We've now been fighting the Global War on Terror for 2 1/2 months longer than World War II. From the day DESERT STORM kicked off, Jan. 17, 1991, the Air Force has been in continuous combat. For 14 years our enemies have shot at us and for 14 years we've returned the favor. But no matter how long the road, we must never lose our focus on winning this fight.

Today, we are engaged more than ever...from across the globe to here at home. From taking the fight to the enemy in Iraq; to rebuilding lives in the wake of hurricane Katrina; to controlling satellites on the other side of the world; to fighting forest fires in the Rockies; to patrolling the skies over America--you can be proud of the work your Air Force is doing to protect our country. I'm incredibly proud to be a member of an Air Force family that has over 106,000 Airmen assigned or deployed in 64 countries, on every continent, and in every time zone throughout the world.

We have handled each and every task brought before us with lethal efficiency, because of you. It is an honor to work and fight alongside you in service to our Republic. The 684,000 active, Reserve, Guard, and civilians of the United States Air Force are truly a total force. We stand alongside our Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine brethren ready to

answer the Nation's call. We fight together. We triumph together. Our promise to the joint team is that as Airmen we will always be the best in the world at what we do: dominating Air and Space from 1 inch above the ground to 100,000 miles above the earth.

Today, we have three major challenges facing our Air Force. First and foremost is accomplishing the combatant tasks the President and Secretary of Defense assign. The tasks will be ones we've done before and ones we've never undertaken. Second, we must preserve that which makes us the most feared air force in the world -- our people. Our culture of excellence must continue to develop Airmen... Airmen who are the most adaptable, most skilled, most professional, and most lethal the world has ever known. Third, we face the difficult task of operating the oldest inventory in the history of the United States Air Force. My senior leadership will work to break this vicious cycle. I need you, our Airmen on the line, to continue making the mission happen.

As we work towards a more secure, more peaceful tomorrow...look around. Behind us you'll see a proud, rich heritage. And in front of us is a limitless horizon. So let's push it up, go to work and make the mission happen.



General, USAF
Chief of Staff

Command seeks greater climate survey participation

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – Air Force Reserve Command leaders want everyone in the command – military and civilian – to participate in the 2005 Air Force Climate Survey.

The survey runs from Oct. 1 to Nov. 23.

“Last year was the first time AFRC participated in the survey, and the results were tremendous,” said Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, AFRC commander. “The 33-percent participation rate sent a clear message that our people are committed to improving the Air Force.

“This year our goal is 100-percent participation across the command,” he said.

The purpose of the survey is to make things better for people and their organizations. The survey measures how people feel about leadership, supervision, training, recog-

nition and other aspects of the Air Force. This year’s survey also covers enduring competencies such as effective communication, teamwork, judgment and adaptation under pressure.

“Since the survey software protects one’s identity, I encourage everyone to be honest and straightforward in their responses,” said Chief Master Sgt. Jackson A. Winsett, AFRC command chief master sergeant. “The survey data will be as good as the respondents make it. It’s our opportunity to stand up and be counted.”

The survey can be completed online at <https://afclimatesurvey.af.mil/> anytime during the survey period from either a government or personal computer.

Results of the survey will be released in February to unit leaders. (AFRC News Service)

CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

By Chaplain (Capt.) Dwight L. Magnus

Two men were out on a lake fishing on a Sunday morning. After several hours of catching nothing, one of them remarked, “I should have gone to church today!”

To which the other man replied, “Yeah, but I couldn’t go to church anyway.”

“Why not?”

“Well, my wife is sick and I wouldn’t want to leave her.”

Isn’t it interesting that we make time for what is a true priority in our lives? I know the church is not perfect, but I encourage you to take to heart the biblical admonition to “not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another.”

This UTA you can be a part of a Catholic Mass or a Protestant Service on Sunday at 7:30 a.m. Next Sunday, you can make time to attend the church where you are a member. If you do not have a place to worship, find one and go! You’ll be glad you did.

UTA Services

Sunday Protestant Service (7:30 a.m.)

Bldg. 1056, 513th Auditorium

Sunday Catholic Mass (7:30 a.m.)

Bldg. 1066, OG Conference Room

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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.

Shoplifting is a high-price crime

DALLAS – Military service members spend years building careers on values such as trust, competency and responsibility, all which can come crashing down with one shoplifting incident. The Army & Air Force Exchange Service has several avenues to prevent shoplifting, and supports legislation to recover stolen merchandise.



AAFES Loss Prevention associates focus on deterring shoplifting by identifying areas that tend to have high pilferage rates. These areas include electronics, sporting goods and cosmetics. Most AAFES exchanges have some type of surveillance, whether it is cameras, detectives or both to monitor these areas and try to prevent shoplifting before it occurs.

If a customer has passed the opportunity to pay for merchandise, loss prevention associates turn the issue to military police. In addition to action pursued by military police, the Federal Claims Collection Act allows AAFES to enact a Civil



Recovery Program, which began March 1, 2002. The flat, administrative cost, applicable to every shoplifting incidence, is \$200 and there may be further fees depending on the condition of the recovered stolen merchandise.

“The costs involved in shoplifting affects more than just the shoplifter,” said AAFES Loss Prevention Vice President David Drake. “AAFES has a mission to return dividends to Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs, so it ultimately affects everyone.”

Shoplifting in military exchanges cost service members millions of dollars annually. In fact, AAFES detained 9,076 shoplifters in 2004 alone.

Civil Recovery allows AAFES to recoup some of the cost associated with shoplifting; however, the damage to a career and reputation can be irreparable.

UCI: The clock is ticking down

On Jan. 30, Air Force Reserve Command Inspectors will arrive to begin a consolidated Unit Compliance Inspection of the 507th Air Refueling Wing and 513th Air Control Group.

UCIs are one of two major inspections that periodically face every Air Force organization, the other inspection being an Operational Readiness Inspection.

UCIs are conducted roughly every 60 months to assess mission areas mandated by law as well as areas identified by senior leadership that are deemed important to assess and assure the performance of military organizations.

“Our wing’s focus **MUST** be on our upcoming UCI,” said Col. Dean Despinoy, 507th ARW commander, during a recent meeting with other key unit officials. “We need to look back and confirm that all of our fixes have stayed in place for all of our previous UCI write-ups.”

According to inspection officials, the logic behind the inspection process is simple: Unit failure to comply with the established directives could result in significant legal liabilities, penalties, or significant mission impact.

Inspection officials state it is essential in today’s high OPSTEMPO Air Force to balance mission requirements, such as training exercises, AEF taskings, etc., with inspection requirements, which provide sufficient oversight to prevent significant degradation/non-compliance in key mis-

sion support activities.

Officials state that when preparing for a compliance inspection, there are several areas to focus on. The first is to look to the common core inspection checklist which applies across-the-board to all functional areas. Next look for any special interest inspection items that may apply to you or your section and ensure your processes are in place to address these. Use your self-inspection checklist program to determine if your specific area needs attention. To assist your efforts, check the Air Force Reserve Command’s IG web site at <https://www.mil.afrc.af.mil/HQ/IG> for additional checklists or information which may apply.

AFRC IG inspectors use these functional checklists as a guide during compliance inspections. However, officials warn, just because an item is not on the checklist does not mean it will not be inspected. You are required to comply with all by-law requirements, executive orders, DOD directives, and Air Force, MAJCOM, and local guidance. Ultimately checklist compliance is still the cornerstone for inspection success.

“The only way any unit can pass this inspection is to use their respective checklists. If you have your self inspection checklist wired –you’re golden,” said Colonel Despinoy. “I’m looking for our UCI results to be very good and I’m counting on everyone doing their part to make this a successful inspection.”

CLEP testing saves money, time, headaches

**By Senior Airman Christian Michael
1st Fighter Wing Public Affairs**

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (AFPN) — There is a way for Airmen to earn their degrees using knowledge gained from work and personal study, while at the same time saving money and shortening time spent in classes.

The College Level Examination Program and the Excelsior examination program are available to servicemembers in pursuit of a college degree.

These programs save students time, money and encompass a large variety of courses.

They are in high demand because they can eliminate general course credits. While military education does cover some general education requirements, it does not cover or is not accredited in class like English composition, mathematics, natural science, social science, history and humanities.

However, CLEP general exams cover most first-year level college work, according to Rozzie Lovett, the education services officer at the Langley Education Center here. CLEP subject exams usually cover a wide range and variety of subjects and fields which can be applied toward higher-level requirements. The examination program, along with Excelsior exams, also cover subjects that are more specific to degree programs, though they usually do not exceed second-year college level exams.

Except for specialized exams, such as speech, which requires a taped impromptu speech, most exams are uniform in nature.

“The CLEP general and subject examinations are timed and multiple choice and I usually receive them four to six weeks after the test date,” said Chief Master Sgt. Charlotte Epps, Chief, Education and Training Office at the 507th ARW, Tinker AFB.

There are so many benefits to taking CLEP exams, she said. It saves students and the government money; students don’t have to pay for school time, books, gas or living costs that can build up while attending school.

Passed exams have saved the government more than \$300,000 in the past year in class costs and other fees, Mrs. Lovett said. That does not include how much money students have saved paying for the courses.

“It doesn’t cost a dime for military members,” he said, “I can get college credit toward a degree with information I already know.”

CLEP and Excelsior exams are free for Reserve members, and the CLEP is free for Reserve spouses. On top of the low cost and convenience, there are great benefits for the CLEP

exams that keep students coming back.

“Students can take as many CLEPs as they want in any period of time,” said Mrs. Lovett. “If they fail one, however, they cannot retake the exact same test for another six months.”

Because of Sergeant Perry’s schedule, his biggest benefit is the time saved by taking test.

“It’s a great benefit for those of us in the military who have our time spent in so many other directions, because we can work toward our degree while still doing our duty,” he said.

He also pointed out the value of receiving credit for knowledge gained and practiced elsewhere.

“Why would I want to take a class in a subject I’m already well-versed in?” Sergeant Perry said. “Because of these tests, I spend less time in class. This frees me up for other classes I need.”

According to Sergeant Perry, CLEP subject study books at the base library can prepare students to take the test.

For more information on military education programs call the Wing education and training office at 734-7075.

Air War College Nonresident Program

The Air War College (AWC) has announced the revision of its Nonresident Studies course to ensure currency and relevancy.

The college will launch the new curriculum in January 2006. According to Air War College officials, the nonresident program will continue to emphasize the knowledge, skills and attributes required of all Air Force senior officers as they prepare for leadership positions with institutional responsibilities. Officials also said because of structural changes in the design of the course modules, only elective credit can be transferred from the existing program to the revised nonresident program. The core of the current program is not compatible with the revised program. Officials cautioned that unless potential students need to complete AWC before the fall 2006 promotion boards, students who have not yet enrolled in the AWC nonresident course should wait to enroll in the revised program to take advantage of its more relevant and current curriculum. The current program ends Dec. 1, 2006. To ensure sufficient time to complete the curriculum by that time, the college will not accept new enrollments in the existing program after Oct. 1, 2005. Officials will post more information as it becomes available on the AWC Nonresident Homepage at <http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awc-ns.htm>.

Maintenance squadron consolidates tool rooms

By Capt. Karen M. Baskin
507 AMXS/MOO

Chief Master Sgt. Rod Garrison, 507 AMXS superintendent, masterminded the Tool Room Consolidation and subsequent move following a recent Wing inspection. One of the findings revealed that more security and control was needed for the tools and bench stock within the 507th Maintenance Group. Chief Garrison said, "Consolidating the tool room is something we've been needing to do for a long time and the recent LCI gave us the final boost to get this done. The long-term plan is to expand the tool room to include the remaining work centers in the Group, so this will be a work in progress well into the next fiscal year."

Tech. Sgt. Ron Todish, 507th AMXS Aircraft Support Flight Chief, will manage over \$2.5 million worth of assets in combined Dash-21 aircraft equipment (rollers, passenger seats, etc.) and the new Consolidated Tool Room and bench stock merger. The Avionics, Electro-Environmental, and Maintenance Flight (MXS) tool rooms came together at a more geographically centered location in Hangar 1030, Room 122. The location is accessible to both the hangar floor area as well as the flightline. Bench stock for the Avionics and Electro-Environ-



Ron Todish has been responsible for making sure all the tools are moved and accounted for. The Tool Accountability System, in use since January 2005, has been a great help.

mental Shops as well as two APG (Airplane General) flights has been moved to this location. The tool room has some unique technology! Tools and equipment can be laser-etched with identification numbers. These numbers are assigned by Master Sgt. Gilbert Campbell of Quality Assurance. Tool accountability is greatly simplified and reliable with the use of a hi-tech Tool Accountability System (TAS) which has been in use since January. TAS can let the shop know which tools are checked out and to whom. A printout can be made at the end of the day to show where the tools are located at the end of the shift if they are not signed back in. An additional duty for his flight will be to maintain the squadron's technical order (TO) account of over 100 TOs for the APG Flights.

The master plan envisions Ron Todish supervising three traditional reservists (TR) and five full-time Air Reserve Technicians (ARTs), with two proposed options that will solve the Swing Shift Tool Room Monitor shortfall. Option one suggests three Dash-21 equipment personnel with crewchief AFSCs and two Tool Room Material Expeditors. Option two suggests five people of the same pay grade with

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Bobby Blair works to organize one of the tool bins in the new Consolidated Tool Room in Hangar 1030.

mentality. The tool room has some unique technology! Tools and equipment can be laser-etched with identification numbers. These numbers are assigned by Master Sgt. Gilbert Campbell of Quality Assurance. Tool accountability is greatly simplified and reliable with the use of a hi-

Federal Law protects unit reservist's employment

Senior Airman Dean Johnson had a serious problem.

While activated and deployed last year as a heavy equipment operator, Airman Johnson, a 507th Civil Engineer Squadron heavy equipment operator, had injured his hand in a dump truck accident, causing permanent damage to one of his fingers.

Upon returning to his civilian employment as a call center consultant, he found his injury prevented him from meeting his company's standard for the key entry of information. This resulted in his being laid off and told he could not come back until he could perform his current position.

Turning to the 507th ARW for help, he met with the wing IG, Capt. Mark Vardaro, and received information on Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, USERRA for short. This federal law exists to protect reservists from losing their civilian job or being discriminated against because of their membership as a reservist.

On the advice of the IG, Airman Johnson contacted someone from the Okla-

homa Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Committee (405 228-5811) for help. A representative was sent to his employer, only to be told that the company



Senior Airman Dean Johnson

still did not believe they had to comply with the law. At that point the state ESGR representative contacted the local representative for the Department of Labor. One of DOL's jobs is to enforce federal labor laws and consult civilian companies when those

laws are being violated.

After meeting with the DOL representative, Airman Johnson was reemployed by his company. While still physically unable to meet the standards of data key entry because of his injury, his company employed him in a new position of similar pay with equal opportunity for advancement in accordance with the law. His back wages were restored and no further actions will occur against him.

"It was a very daunting experience to think I no longer had a civilian job," Airman Johnson said. "I didn't know if the Oklahoma ESGR or DOL representative would be able to help me. But they did. The DOL helped get me reinstated and got me my back pay in addition to instructing the company to place me in another position that I could perform. I now know the process can work. Every reservist needs to be aware that there are people out there willing to help you if you ever have a problem like I had."

Maint. squadron consolidates tool rooms

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the crewchief AFSC who will rotate regularly and share Tool Room and Dash-21 responsibilities. There are promotion expectations with all the new responsibilities, and Ron anticipates that everything will be in its place by the December 2005 UTA.

Ron's greatest challenges during and after the move are personnel shortfalls and training. Currently, there are two people detailed from 507th AMXS to organize the shop: Tech. Sgt. Jimmy Thompson and Senior Airman Bobby Blair. Both are maintenance ARTs. Ron says, "They're doing a knock-out job for me!" Maintenance Flight Chief Senior Master Sgt. Ron Mitchell has selected Senior Airman T.J. Milliken from a pool of 11 ARTs to begin 30-day rotations; one person at a time as support from the 507th MXS.

Jimmy Thompson, right, works to organize the Flightline Tool Bin located in the new tool room.



970th AACS Director of Operation's Column

By Lt. Col. Michael "Babytuck" Tucker

Truth, Justice and the American Way

First, I want thank Colonel Phillips for the opportunity he has given me to be a part of this unit.

Secondly, I want everyone to know that I will do the best I can to keep the ship upright and try not to sink it.

I guess you are wondering what I am trying to get across to you. Let me start by saying in my two months here I have gotten to know everyone a lot better and this unit is no different than any other unit I have been in. Now, I know I have peeked your interest! What I am attempting to say is that everyone is ready when called upon to do their duty and show the rest of the Command that we are the **Best!** The Outstanding in the Aircrew Standardization Evaluation (ASEV) proved that! Some people think the grass is greener on the other side of base or at a entirely different base or even better on the outside. Trust me it is not. These are the days, not "those were the days," and each person should treat each day with enthusiasm and eagerness to do their best at all endeavours big or small. Too corny? Maybe! Or maybe not. Every unit I have been in I have tried to treat as my home and I would expect, no, I request that you do the same.

These next lines are Baby Tuck's view on life in the Air Force!

The title of this article sounds like something out of a Superman movie, but that is how I see things.

Truth: In order to make sense of chaos there has to be truth and honesty. I am not saying that it does not exist now in the 970th AACS, but I am guaranteeing that I will be truthful to everyone and I expect the same thing in return. That way everything you hear from me is the truth as far as I know it. I am not saying I am the smartest person in the world, far from it, but I do have experiences that I can relate to a lot of issues that have and will come up in the future. We have all seen examples of great leadership, good leadership and bad leadership. If you haven't, hang around long enough and you will see one of the above three.

Justice: Everyone will be treated as fairly as is humanly possible. So what do I really mean? Everyone gets treated fairly and vice versa. How many times have you said that's just not right or fair or used other words which I cannot put on paper? I am sure a few times or maybe all the time! I don't want that to happen here. If you have a problem or concern about something, go to your supervisor. If he can't help, come to one of the Assistant DOs or myself and we will work out any problems/concerns one way or another. **Yes,** I do have an

open-door policy! On the same breath of air, **NO,** I do not have an open-whining policy. Let me re-emphasize that if you have a problem/concern, don't just sit back and let it fester up. Talk to someone about it but don't just complain, have a solution or idea of how the problem/concern can go away. Going to the IG is not necessarily the first step one needs to do to resolve things; however, to be politically correct, it is an option.

American way: Before I get to this last point I want all of you to remember that these are Baby Tuck's views/techniques and they are not to be construed as procedures. How many times have you heard of someone suing another person or company for not having the lid on their coffee cup or not having a note on the toy about if swallowed could cause harm?

Get a grip! That may be the new American way but not mine. People need to take responsibility for their actions, deeds or faults. Quit blaming other folks for their own mistakes or buffoonery. Honesty plays a big part in my life and I am sure it does in your own. We do not tolerate liars, cheats and thieves. I am sure they are out there, but that does not make it right. There is one thing you can take to the bank: I will be honest to a fault. You may not like some of the things I say or do and I am sure some of you don't, but that's what you have inherited. Will I be here that long? Maybe not, but while I am here, when you walk in to talk to me or I come see you, rest assured you know that I am shooting it straight with you and that my friend is the AMERICAN WAY!

Mark your calendars now

The 513th ACG 10th Anniversary Celebration will be held on the September 2006 UTA.

The logo shown below is the official logo for the celebration. It will be put on T-shirts, caps, coins, mugs, patches, etc., all for sale to raise money for the event.

This patch has been approved for wear in lieu of the squadron patch for the next year.

A website is being established to handle registration as well as communicate information, so more to come.



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. See your unit training manager for more information. **NEXT CLASS: Oct. 24 - Nov. 4, 2005.**

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)

FY2006 UTA SCHEDULE

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 Sept. 22, 2005



OCTOBER TRAINING PLANNER

Fri, 30 Sept 2005

1300 Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 1400 Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg Bldg 1043, Wg Conf Room
 1430 Pre-UTA CChief & 1st Sgt Mtg Bldg. 1043, Wg Conf Room
 1600 Top 3 Executive Board Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room

Sat, 01 Oct 2005

Unit Designated **Sign In** **Unit Designated**
 by appt. **Computer Based Testing** **Bldg 1043, Room 213**
 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
 1000-1130 Newcomers Orientation Bldg 1030, Room 214
 1000-1100 Mobility Rep Meeting To Be Determined
 1300-1545 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, 02 Oct 2005

Unit Designated **Sign In** **Unit Designated**
 by appt. **Computer Based Testing** **Bldg 1043, Room 213**
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 Hazard Com 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
 1300-1600 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, 213
Unit Designated **Sign Out** **Unit Designated**

Fri, 04 Nov 2005

1300 Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 1400 Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg Bldg 1043, Wg Conf Room
 1430 Pre-UTA CChief & 1st Sgt Mtg Bldg. 1043, Wg Conf Room
 1600 Top 3 Executive Board Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room

Sat, 05 Nov 2005

Unit Designated **Sign In** **Unit Designated**
 by appt. **Computer Based Testing** **Bldg 1043, Room 213**
 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
 1000-1130 Newcomers Orientation Bldg 1030, Room 214
 1000-1100 Mobility Rep Meeting To Be Determined
 1300-1545 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, 06 Nov 2005

Unit Designated **Sign In** **Unit Designated**
 by appt. **Computer Based Testing** **Bldg 1043, Room 213**
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 Safety Council Mtg/Unit Sfty 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
 1300-1600 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, 213
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

04 Oct	12 Oct
06 Oct	14 Oct
11 Oct	17 Oct
13 Oct	21 Oct
18 Oct	26 Oct
20 Oct	28 Oct
24 Oct	01 Nov
27 Oct	04 Nov
01 Nov	08 Nov
03 Nov	10 Nov
08 Nov	15 Nov

Newcomers Ancillary Training

Newcomers Ancillary Training Phase I & II are conducted **monthly** in **Bldg 1030, Room 214**. Unit training managers are responsible for ensuring their new personnel are scheduled to attend within 90 days of their first UTA. If you have any questions, contact the MPF Education & Training Office at **734-7075**.

Day	Time	Subject	OPR
Phase I			
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
Phase II			
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	Then Forward	
Recertifica-	Digit of	Listing to Unit tion due
in	SSAN is:	Commander 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
	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

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.

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Keesler turnaround

Training starts six months ahead of schedule

By Louis A. Arana-Barradas
Air Force Print News

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. — Training in five key career fields restarts for 400 Airmen here Sept. 19, six months sooner than base officials forecasted more than a week ago.

Then, more students will start training the following week, said Col. Jessie Canaday, 81st Training Group commander. And more students will gradually enter training each week after that as this base continues to recover from the pounding it took from Hurricane Katrina.

Air Force officials determined what training would start based on the service's critical needs, said the colonel, commander of the Air Force's largest training group.

"We're taking our lead from our major command to tell us which ones are critical, that we need to get trained now," she said. "But basically, we can stand up most of the initial skills training we did here, for now."

The Air Education and Training Command base provides technical training for Airmen in almost 30 Air Forces specialties. And its instructors teach more than 500 supplemental courses such as upgrade training and professional military education.

The first technical training classes to go back on line are the electronic principles, aircrew training, air traffic control, weather and basic instructor courses, the colonel said.

Colonel Canaday said on Sept. 26 the group will stand up

the financial management, personnel, information management, computer maintenance, technical control and ground radio control courses.

The first 400 students to re-enter training are the volunteers who stayed at the base to help with the massive cleanup effort that still continues.

On Sept. 16, 350 more students will arrive — maybe part of the group evacuated from the base after the storm. Initially, these students will join the base cleanup effort and then enter training in groups of 150 each week, the colonel said.

Also, on Sept. 19, students started arriving via the normal technical training pipeline from Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

"We hope to take as many as 150 each Monday as we bring more training on line," said Colonel Canaday, who is from New Castle, Wyo.

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Five individuals from the 35th Combat Communications Squadron, including Lt. Col. Pete Peterson, the commander, were stranded at Keesler AFB when Hurricane Katrina struck. Three of them are pictured here: Tech. Sgt. Randy Western, Senior Airman Sakeenah Jones and Senior Airman Reynaldo Ramos. According to Colonel Peterson, everyone was required to shelter at Keesler and he described the hurricane passing over as sounding like a pot of boiling water. Western said it sounded like a train passing by. Ramos described the scene as they were assessing vehicles for damage. "Water was coming out of the tailpipes when people tried to start their cars; one even had a fish come out of it," he stated. All five spent nights sleeping on the floor and days without shower and no hot food.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Gary Graham



Fire department officials examine the charred rubble of the home belonging to Col. Bruce Bush, 81st Mission Support Group commander, Keesler Air Force Base, Sept. 1. The house exploded during Hurricane Katrina. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Jennifer C. Wallis)

continued ... Keesler training ahead of schedule

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Airman Basic Kirk Riley did not get to start his four-month long air traffic control course before the hurricane hit. So he volunteered to stay and help with recovery efforts because it was the right thing to do.

But after two weeks on the cleanup crew, he is ready for the classroom.

"It's really great that training is starting again," said the 18-year-old Airman from Morgantown, W.V. "I want to finish my training so I can get on with my Air Force career."

Hundreds of other Airmen might be saying the same thing. Colonel Canaday said the Air Force has not decided if the 1,100 students evacuated to Sheppard AFB, Texas, after the storm will return for training here or retrain into new career fields. Some troops have already received their Air Force specialty because they were within days of graduation.

One alternative the Air Force is considering is sending Keesler instructors to Sheppard to allow the Airmen to finish their training there. But the colonel said the students might return to Keesler to finish training.

"Right now we're still discussing all that," she said.

What officials do know is that the supplemental training done on the base is on hold for at least 90 days. These course — 60 percent which students attend while on temporary duty status — can last from one week to a month. But starting that training is not possible now.

"We just don't have the facilities to bring in TDY students at this time," the colonel said.

Billeting spaces are at a premium here. The base is housing Airmen and their families that lost their homes to the hurricane in dormitories. And hundreds of local, state and federal workers staging relief operations from

Keesler partly fill the massive dormitory where students normally live. Before the supplemental training can resume, all those people must move out.

"So our supplemental training will probably not be reconstituted for maybe up to 90 days — I'm thinking after the first of the year," Colonel Canaday said.

The group is eager to get back to business, the colonel said. But it lost three of its 18 training facilities to the storm. Of those that survived, 17 need repairs to get back on line. The colonel said most of the damage is to roofs. But because it has not rained since the hurricane, that has allowed repair crews to put temporary roofs on the damaged buildings.

The one building the hurricane did not damage, Vosler Hall, now houses the group's headquarters and that of the mission support group and training support squadron. Airmen are working to have it ready for the start of classes.

We're just trying to get back to a normal routine, said Master Sgt. Laurie Jackson, the group's information management superintendent. She said readying to train students is the top priority.

But getting back into a training mood might take more than just having students and buildings. It is just as important to get people's attitudes back into work mode, said the sergeant from Cochran, Pa.

"They're sidetracked by all the stuff going on outside," she said. From 35 to 50 percent of group workers lost their homes to the storm.

But Colonel Canaday said people at Keesler are adjusting more each day.

Many have come to terms with their losses and have filed for insurance compensation. Most have also settled into new places to live, though in some cases temporarily. Others have sent their families elsewhere until they can send for them.

The quicker-than-expected recovery



Senior Master Sgt. David Hufton, his wife, Robin, their two sons, Dawson, 2, and Iain, 5 months, and their dog, Angus, live at a hotel close to Dobbins Air Reserve Base. Hufton is a Reserve intelligence analyst with the 403rd Wing at Keesler AFB, and had only been in his house less than a month when it was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. (U.S. Air Force photo by Bo Joyner)

of areas outside the base is also bringing most of the base on line. Each day, the base quality of life continues to improve. Slowly, things are returning to normal. People are adjusting and moving on, she said.

The hurricane might have damaged Keesler, but it did not break it, the colonel said. People are willing and able to bring the base's vital mission back on line.

"We need to get back to work," she said. "It is important for the people and for the Air Force that the group to get back on line — to get people thinking of that. And then we will give people time off to go continue reconstituting their life."

Services reservists deploy to support hurricane relief



Senior Airman Stephanie Heath, shown during a deployment in 2004 to Lakenheath, England, is currently deployed to Keesler AFB, Miss., helping with cleanup activities after Hurricane Katrina.

Senior Airman Stephanie Heath, a Services technician from the 507th Air Refueling Wing, has joined with 24 other Air Force Reservists deployed to Keesler AFB, Miss.

The Services reservists started deploying there during the first week of September to provide food service and field lodging support in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

“Twenty of our people are to work in food service, and the others are to do field lodging,” said Chief Master Sgt. Von Putman, chief of services readiness at Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command.

Ten of the reservists are from Niagara Falls International Airport Air Reserve Station, N.Y., and nine are from Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich. Another four are from Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., and another member of the team from Beale AFB, Calif., is slated to arrive during the second week of September.

A Blanchard, Oklahoma native and Blanchard High School graduate, Airman Heath said she was notified she was needed on Sept. 2. In civilian life she works as a Wal-Mart portrait studio photographer in the Oklahoma City Metro area. “I don’t know exactly what they need me to do yet, but I’m excited at the opportunity to help,” she said.

“We received word that Airman Heath was helping with the cleanup activities, tearing down walls, etc.,” said Senior Master Sgt. Terry Tunender, 507th Services technician.

Tinker members help the Katrina effort

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

Various members of the military community gathered Saturday, Sept. 17, at the Sunrise Park Apartments, here in Oklahoma City. Some had brooms, mops, vacuum cleaners,

cleaning rags, while others had muscles to carry heavy appliances. All were volunteers who had answered the call from local community leaders who had asked for help to prepare apartments for displaced Katrina victims.

Lots of clothing and bedding had been donated and needed to be sorted and organized for families who needed the items.

Volunteers mowed grass, cleaned kitchen cabinets and tile floors and vacuumed carpets.

Ruth Cain, City Councilwoman for Midwest City, first sent out the call for help on Sept. 8th, a week and a half after Hurricane Katrina took its toll on the southern part of the United States.

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Takesha Williams, master sergeant and first sergeant for the 507th Operations Group, helps to sort clothing. Williams is president of the Reserve EAC.

From the front cover: Courtney Penn, staff sergeant with the 507th MXS and vice president of the Tinker Reserve Enlisted Advisory Council, sorts through donated items at the Sunrise Park Apartments.

Continued from Page 10

By this time authorities decided it was unsafe for residents to stay in the areas around the flooded cities, so the victims started heading north. More than 50 families have settled into the apartment complex, with a few more arriving daily from the Camp Gruber complex.

“Our desire is to make the families feel welcome and hope they will make the greater Oklahoma City area their new home if they are unable to return to their homes,” said Councilwoman Cain. “We in Oklahoma have wanted to help and are glad to be able to be good neighbors in this project,” continued Councilwoman Cain.

The need is still there to prepare the apartments for new residents. If you have items to donate or would like to help out in any way, contact the Sunrise Park Apartments at 672-0758 or just show up at SE Grand and two blocks south of SE 15th.



Neika Jones and Kiarrah Dixon, staff sergeants with the 970th AACCS, sort through clothes and bedding donated to Katrina victims at the Sunrise Park Apartments. Jones is secretary for the EAC.



Kimberly Thompson, captain with the 970th AACCS, scrubs a toilet as she volunteers her time on Sept. 17th.

Photos by Tech. Sgt. Melba Koch



Alyson Vanness, staff sergeant with the 970th AACCS, takes a quick break from mopping a bathroom.

News from 'the shirt'

Roles and responsibilities of a first sergeant

A few months ago, your first sergeants were asked to write an article for the *On-final* each month. And, as with all taskings, we accepted the challenge. So, for the next 12 months, a first sergeant will write an article on any topic of his/her choice. I chose to write about the role and responsibilities of a first sergeant because I did not meet a selection board nor attended the formal school to become a first sergeant. I was assigned the additional duty of first sergeant which I take very seriously.

Wanting to do a great job in serving my commander and unit, I grabbed the current instruction, AFI 36-2113, "The First Sergeant" and set out to learn my new role and responsibilities. The first sergeant is responsible for providing sound advice to the commander on a wide range of topics including the health, esprit de corps, dis-

cipline, mentoring, well being, career progression, recognition, and professional development of all assigned enlisted personnel. We exercise general supervision over assigned enlisted personnel and are the focal point within the unit for all matters concerning enlisted members. In addition to responsibilities and obligations at the unit level, first sergeants work closely with the command chief master sergeant in preparing the enlisted force in executing the wing mission. But most important, in today's rapidly deployable Air Force, the first sergeant serves as the critical link in providing the commander a mission-ready enlisted force.

WOW! Sounds like a big job! It is! But in my few months of being a first sergeant, I asked myself, "Why hadn't I tried to become a first sergeant sooner?" It has been a rewarding experience and



Master Sgt. Norma Foster
507th Communications Flight

has rekindled my own esprit de corps and belief of integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do!

I highly recommend, if in your Air Force Reserve career, you have the opportunity to become a first sergeant, **JUST DO IT!!!!**

Mars retires after 25+ years military service

Master Sgt. Kenneth Mars, transportation superintendent with the 507th Logistics Readiness Squadron, retired during the September UTA.

Mars joined the Air Force in 1979 and served six years on active duty before joining the Reserve and working in the 507th Tactical Fighter Wing in 1985.

While on active duty, Mars was stationed in Sembach, Germany as a special equipment mechanic and assigned at Tinker AFB to the 6th Weather Squadron as a special mechanic and he helped fill in making weather observations.

Mars served several times for Operation Joint Endeavor at Istris AB, France where he was tasked as NCOIC of vehicle maintenance. He also worked on the special vehicles required for the U-2 aircraft. He was activated October 2003 for Operation Iraqi Freedom and served three months in Kuwait for the 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron. While there he helped with the closure of Al Jaber Air Base, and participated in several Red Tail Convoys into Iraq.



Master Sgt. Kenny Mars is all smiles after he received the American Flag from the base Honor Guard. He was also presented a box of toothpicks.

Enthusiastically staying Fit to Fight

By Tech. Sgt. Jane Ward
513th OSF/XP

In the last decade, Oklahoma City has undergone many positive changes in the downtown area due to the MAPS Projects (Metropolitan Area Projects). Even the name of the North Canadian River has been changed to the “Oklahoma River” between Byers and Meridian Avenues. One very exciting addition, which is currently under construction on the Oklahoma River, is the \$2,000,000 Chesapeake Energy Boathouse. Coincidentally, one of the officers in the 513th Operations Support Flight, Capt. Dione Sturd, is predicted to be an enthusiastic patron of the boathouse from time to time upon its completion. Captain Sturd has found a very interesting and enjoyable way to alter the typical “Fit to Fight” exercise regimen. She is an avid rower and has been so for the past five years. Currently she is a member of the Tulsa Rowing Club. Her interest in rowing began in college when a few of her ROTC friends were crew team members (sweep rowing) at her school. The camaraderie and teamwork displayed by her friends drew her attention to the sport. There are two types of rowing. Captain Sturd has participated in both. The first type of rowing is called sculling which involves the rower using two oars. The other is sweep rowing, requiring only one oar and the rower has a team member who rows in conjunction with them. As a member of the Tulsa Rowing Club, Captain

rowing event in Edmonton Alberta Province, Canada at the World Masters Games. Rowing is only one of 27 sporting events at the Games which are held every four years. Over 1,100 rowers representing more than 55 countries took part this summer along with Captain Sturd. Participants are not rowers with just a casual interest. They are very serious rowers and must apply to be accepted to the ranks of World Masters competition. In order to participate, Captain Sturd made application to the Games almost six months earlier. Qualifications required in the application included the length of time she had been a rower, what races she had participated in and what her standing was in each race. Based on her past performance rankings and participation in rowing events, she was accepted to the Games. For the World Masters Games, rowing lane assignments and a rower’s “heat” (the appointed time to race) are determined by random drawings. A team races three heats in a day. Each heat is a 1,000 meters distance. Initially one qualifies in a Preliminary heat. The top four finalists out of eight teams went on to the Semi-Final race. Similarly, the top four from the Semi-Finals went on to the Finals. Captain Sturd rowed in the doubles competition with her rowing partner, Terry Bridges from the Tulsa Rowing Club. She and her doubles team-mate finished 5th place out of the total 32 teams in their category, “Women’s ‘B’ Double Sculls” (two oars each rower).



Capt. Dione Sturd, left, and her rowing partner Terry Bridges, are rowing enthusiasts.

Sturd has served in the position of Club Membership Coordinator for the last three years. She single handedly coordinates all logistics for the Club’s, “Tulsa Sprints – Regatta,” held each June. Over 110 rowing athletes from Oklahoma and surrounding states participate in the race event. Captain Sturd prepares the Regatta’s event schedule based on age of participants in the race, which normally spans from 15 to 55 years of age. Race events are additionally divided by type of boat: singles, doubles and quads. She is also responsible for arranging for all the food, drinks, referees, trophies, medals, and Water Rescue Squads for the Regatta.

In July 2005, Captain Sturd participated in a very special

Captain Sturd said she finds rowing a very fun and motivational sport; a full-body workout, yet low impact on joints. She enjoys going to the various venues in which the rowing competitions are held, such as her recent Canadian journey. Rowing is a sport for all ages and a great way to add diversity to keep in shape for “Fit to Fight.” For more information on rowing in the Oklahoma City area, contact the Oklahoma Association for Rowing at <http://www.oklahomarowing.org> or in the Tulsa area contact the Tulsa Rowing Club at <http://www.tulsarowingclub.org>. Rowing is the oldest intercollegiate sport. And remember a popular saying among rowers: “Rowers row- Everyone else plays games.”

Uppclose

By Tech. Sgt. Ty Yoshida

The following question was asked of members of the 507th ARW and 513th ACG:

“Have you experienced any positive changes since implementation of Fit to Fight?”



**Senior Airman Jonathon Arb
513th MXS**

“My sedentary behaviors have lessened, resulting in a feeling of well being and overall esteem improvement.”



**Tech. Sgt. Ade Martin
507th LRS**

“I have experienced a significant change in physical fitness due to Fit to Fight. It has also boosted my self-esteem and confidence in my abilities.



**Senior Airman Chatisha Tilley
507th CLSS**

“Fit to Fight has been a positive move not only for me but also for people I work with. When has it ever been bad for you to work out? NEVER!”



**Senior Airman Nick Hoover
513th MXS**

“I’m just as fit as I ever was. Maybe it will motivate our overweight troops.”



**Staff Sgt. Demetrius Nichols
507th CES**

“It has made me more motivated to work out on my own and in the future it will open opportunities for me to get promoted!”



**Senior Airman Gregory Miller
507th CES**

“The Fit to Fight Program has driven me to improve in many areas. I now have more energy than before.”

There's still time to attend the Billy Hughes Banquet

The 507th Air Refueling Wing announces the 8th Annual Billy Hughes Award Banquet, which will take place Nov. 5th at the Tinker Club.

The Billy Hughes Memorial Award for Exemplary Enlisted Service is presented annually to the enlisted member of the 507th Air Refueling Wing whose duty performance and everyday conduct have best exemplified the United States Air Force core values of "Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do."

This year's banquet is sponsored by the Tinker AFB Reserve Top 3. Refreshments are available at 6 p.m., dinner follows at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$17 for club members or \$19 otherwise, and uniform is mess dress or semi-formal dress. See your First Sergeant for seating arrangements. If you wish to sit with a specific group, submit all reservations and monies at the same time.

There are 20 individuals vying this year for the award.

the IG says

Roles of the IG in Relation to the Commander:

1. Be the "eyes and ears" of the commander.
2. Keep the commander informed of potential areas of concern.
3. Function as the ombudsman, fact-finder, and honest broker in the resolution of complaints.
4. Educate and train commanders and members of the base population on their rights and responsibilities in regard to the Air Force IG system.
5. Help commanders prevent, detect, and correct fraud, waste and abuse, and mismanagement.

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

Civilian Spotlight

Duties: Secretarial duties for the 507th OG office.

Brenda Pryor
Secretary

as I used to and hear his advice again. He was a good guy!

Length of employment with the 507th ARW:
5 years this month



Something unique about you that people may not know:

Personal Hobbies:

I love to read when I have time. I like to go to the lake to go boating or fishing, but haven't done it in a while. I enjoy all kinds of sports. I played softball as a kid and played indoor soccer as an adult. I've also done some home remodeling on my house.

being with again would be my dad. He's always been a big influence in my life. He died in 1995 and I'd love to be able to sit down and let him know all the changes since then with the kids and myself, and be able to just visit with him

I have two sons: Ben is 22 and Danny is 19. Ben is a senior at OSU; he will be graduating with a double major in spring 2006. His majors are Political Science and Philosophy. Danny left Sept. 20 for Air Force basic training. He is going active-duty and is going into Aircraft Maintenance. I'm very proud of both of my sons, they have done well. I've also gone back to school this fall; I'm taking 6 hours in computer classes.

If you could have dinner with anyone of influence, who would it be and why?

I'd have to say the one person I'd enjoy talking and

Parting Shot

Air Force Reserve assists Army reservists

The 507th Medical Squadron immunization clinic supported the 353rd Army Engineering Group from Oklahoma City on Saturday, Sept. 10, with immunizations at the Base Hospital. The reservists are preparing themselves for a deployment to the Gulf Coast region to help with the Katrina relief. According to Col. Steven Gentling, 507th Medical Squadron commander, the base medical squadron, 72 MDG, provided the medical supplies/vaccines and the reservists are providing the manpower for this project. At right, Specialist Angel Hicks, an administration specialist from Del City, Okla., with the 353rd Army Engineering Group, receives a shot from Tech Sgt. Dena Hale. Hale is a medical service technician with the 507th Medical Squadron and NCOIC of Self Aid and Buddy Care.



On-final R-News

Tinker Honor Guard looking for new members

A new option is being offered to allow those interested in joining the Tinker Air Force Base Honor Guard to join as soon as they are ready.

A regular training class will be held Oct. 3-7 in Building 244 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and a two-day individualized training session will be available for anyone unable to make the week of training.

If you are a sharp Airman, NCO, SNCO, or Officer who would like to become a part of this elite team of volunteers providing military funeral honors for our veterans, retirees and fallen active-duty personnel, as well as posting the colors and providing flag-fold ceremonies for numerous functions around the base and community, this message is for you.

Contact Senior Airman Dana Bazile at dana.bazile@tinker.af.mil or call 734-

4226, ext. 5 to get more information or sign up for the training.

The commitment is three details per month, which can be funerals, color guards, sabers or retreat, for a duration of one year. You will receive a full ceremonial uniform and and hopefully receive personal reward by providing a dignified and honorable memorial for the grieving family of one of our own.

Support our troops

With the holidays approaching, thousands of Americans are again asking what they can do to show their support for servicemembers, especially those serving overseas in this time of war.

As you can see at the link below, the DOD policy has not changed from last year on sending mail/donations to our troops. The link shows various Web sites of several organizations that are sponsoring programs for members of the Armed Forces overseas.

While it would be inappropriate for the Department to endorse any specifically, servicemembers do value and appreciate such expressions of support: http://www.defenselink.mil/releases/2002/b12122002_bt632-02.html

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. Carla Lang
(405) 733-9403

Tulsa, OK

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

Lawton, OK

Tech. Sgt. Michael Comfort
(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