

On-final



U.S. AIR FORCE

December 2005

Vol. 25, No. 12

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



And the winner is
See page 4 for more information.



507th ARW
Vice Commander's Column
By Col. Randall C. Guthrie

Let's perform like we 'practice'

Several very important higher headquarters inspections are just around the corner. As we start the final preparations for these evaluations, each of us has to put in that little extra to show the inspectors how well the Okies accomplish our mission.

Virtually every unit on base will be inspected in the January to February time frame. All of the inspections are being completed at the same time to minimize the disruption to our day-to-day mission. We have UCI, MSEP, HSI, ASEV inspection teams here starting in January and continuing into late February.

First impressions set the tone. Take a look at your uniform and make sure it looks better than any uniform you wore in initial training. Then when you think your picture should be in AFI 36-2903 (Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel), do what I do - ask one of the Chief Master Sergeants to check your appearance. They will tell you if there is anything that needs to be changed. Take the time and effort to respectfully correct those around you. That makes us all better. The inspection teams will grade us on how we comply with military customs and courtesies. Although your unit will not have an

inspection team here the whole time, other units will have teams here so beware of those around you.

Unfortunately parking will become more difficult, as all the inspection teams will have cars and reserved spots near the buildings. Allow a little more time to park and respect the reserved spaces.

Now is the time to accomplish any requirements that might be overdue or due between now and next February. Talk to your supervisor or training monitor; they will help prioritize what is most important and will help with scheduling. Being current in all your requirements reflects positively for you, your squadron, and the wing. If you are going to be formally tested, make sure you are prepared. Get in the books and study. Every person's performance counts.

Once you have taken care of yourself, ask your supervisor if there is anything you can do to help him/her get ready for the inspection. He or she may not give you the cameo role but that doesn't mean your efforts are not important. In fact, you may be asked to help with rather mundane tasks. Look for opportunities to make your work area clean and tidy as well as our campus.

Now is the time to prepare. When the inspection teams arrive we will perform like we "practice." Let's show them the Okies don't just get the job done; they get it done better than the rest.

My hopes and prayers for all of you are for a safe and enjoyable holiday season. And most of all, thank you for your service to our country.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Chaplain (Capt.) Dwight L. Magnus

Thank you for giving!

"For God so loved the world that He gave..." That is the heart of the Christmas message. Christians celebrate the wondrous event when God gave his only son Jesus, born of a virgin, many years ago. Parents love to give to their children and see their faces light up on



Christmas morning, recalling their own childhood.

Our unit has many wonderful avenues to give to those in need... Operation Holiday Spirit....

...Salvation Army Christmas Stockings.... "Give a Child a Christmas".... Angel Tree for Veterans ... and I'm sure there are others I haven't mentioned. The Active Duty Chapel and many churches around the world participate in Operation Christmas Child, and fill a shoe box for a Child in need somewhere in the world. How amazing each year to see the generosity of our unit. On behalf of the chapel staff and all who work hard administering these programs, let me say THANK YOU for giving.

I would like to challenge each of you to participate in one or more of these outlets, and GIVE! Give of your time, talents, and treasure. GIVE!! When you give, you GET more than you know!



March to democracy continues

Editor's Note: *The following article appeared in the Oct. 19, 2005, edition of This Week in Iraq, which is produced by Multi-National Force-Iraq.*

**By Gen. George W. Casey Jr.
Multi-National Force-Iraq Commanding General**

What the world witnessed Saturday in Iraq was Iraqis voting for their future. While the final outcome is not known at the time this article is being written, the important thing is that Iraqis took the next step in their push for democracy by exercising their right to vote.

Everybody did their part to ensure a successful referendum and we accomplished our objective: each Iraqi had the opportunity to vote. The Iraqi government conducted outreach to ensure citizens learned about the Constitution, the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq ran the polling stations, Iraqi Security Forces along with the Coalition forces provided outstanding security and Iraqis voted.

Despite constant insurgent threats of violence, referendum day was relatively peaceful and significantly better than the January election. Last January there were approximately 300 attacks across the country, about 90 directed against polling sites. Saturday there were less than 100 attacks across the country and less than 20 directed against polling sites. Overall, almost a 70 percent drop in attacks.

Also, there was a 90 percent drop in casualties (battle and election related). More than 10 million people voted in over 6,000 polling centers ... a million more voters than in January! The inability of the insurgency to stop Iraqis from voting was a significant failure for them and a victory for democracy.

Iraqis voted under the shadow of the recent al-Zawahiri

letter to al-Zaraqawi outlining al Qaeda's desire to form a base of operations in Iraq, establish a Caliphate and export terror throughout the region.

The successful referendum firmly establishes Iraq on the track toward democracy. As a matter of fact, the upcoming trial of former dictator Saddam Hussein is testimony to Iraqis following the rule of law and letting the system work ... even for the very person who oppressed them for more than three decades.

In 60 days Iraqis face another milestone in their march to democracy—the election of their leaders for the next four years. Irreversible momentum is building and while insurgents and terrorists still continue their attempts to derail the process, we are confident that the Iraqi people will prevail in their quest.

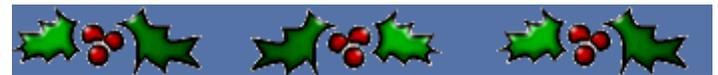


Still time to adopt a VA Angel

There are several Norman VA Hospital angels still available for adoption. This is our 4th year for this project. In 2002 the Wing turned in 90 gifts; in 2003, 99 veterans were adopted; and last year we filled requests for 179 names.

So far this year we have received 248 names and as of press time there were 40 names still available.

Stop by the 507th ARW/PA office and select a name or several for your office or shop. Please bring the gifts to the PA office by Dec. 9th. You may select a name or donate money and let us do the shopping! For more information, call 734-3078 or 734-3774.



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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.

Courtney Knight chosen as Hughes Award recipient

Amid roaring applause, Staff Sgt. Courtney Knight (formerly Penn) stepped forward earlier this month to become the eighth recipient of the 507th Air Refueling Wing's Billy Hughes Award.

The Hughes Memorial Award for Exemplary Enlisted Service is presented annually to the enlisted member of the 507th Air Refueling Wing or 513th Air Control Group whose duty performance and everyday conduct have best exemplified the Air Force core values of "Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do."

The Hughes award was established to commemorate the life of Air Force Reservist Technical Sergeant Billy Lee Hughes. Sergeant Hughes died in active service at Tinker Air Force Base on July 12, 1992, while serving as a supervisory aircraft maintenance technician of the 507th Tactical Fighter Group.

Being recognized for her hard work and effort is not unusual for Sergeant Knight, who previously has been recognized as NCO of the quarter as well as having received recognition from her fellow reservists in the 507th Maintenance Squadron.

While the award was presented, Sergeant Knight was praised for her commitment to support others in her position as information manager. From ensuring the timely coordination of squadron members training requirements and Unit Training Assembly System pay dates were met to her efforts to guarantee the timely promotion of squadron members, Sergeant Knight was lauded as a member who always put others first.

That caring commitment also extends to her personal life as seen by her involvement as a co-facilitator in the Calm Waters program, an organization which supports children and parents affected by death and divorce. She is a tutor with the Urban League of Greater Oklahoma



Courtney Knight, now a technical sergeant, accepts the Billy Hughes Award from Col. Randall Guthrie, 507th ARW vice commander (center) and Col. Greg Phillips, 513th ACG commander. Photos by Capt. Bill Pierce

City and a children church leader at the St. John Missionary Baptist Church in Oklahoma City. She is also pursuing her educational goals having completed a Bachelors and Masters Degree, two Community College of the Air Force Associate degrees and is currently working to receive her Licensed Professional Counselor credentials.

The 2005 Billy Hughes Nominees

Master Sgt. Arnold R. Schones, Jr.	507 th MOF
Master Sgt. Treva R. Bragg-Ragland	507 th CES
Tech. Sgt. Kimberly M. Belcher	507 th SFS
Master Sgt. Bryon R. Carlson	35 th CBCS
Master Sgt. John C. Prokup	72 nd APS
Master Sgt. Melanie E. Cherry	507 th MSF
Tech. Sgt. William P. Cunha	507 th AMXS
Master Sgt. Takesha S. Williams	507 th OG
Master Sgt. Michael Plante	507 th OSF
Tech. Sgt. Alvin M. Kuper	465 th ARS
Senior Master Sgt. Gary A. Bristol	507 th ARW
Tech. Sgt. William V. Bische	507 th MDS
Tech. Sgt. Christopher R. Clark	513 th AMXS
Master Sgt. John C. White	970 th AACS
Staff Sgt. Shawn M. Kilbourne	513 th OSF
Tech. Sgt. Danny L. Simon, Jr.	513 th MXS
Tech. Sgt. Michael Gunning	1 st ASF
Tech. Sgt. Ade S. Martin	507 th LRS

Chief Master Sgt. Troy McIntosh, guest speaker, is Superintendent of AGR Management, Office of Air Force Reserve, where he handles enlisted issues and entitlements. He assumed the position in April.



Air Force must stay the course with FTF, AEF

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

WASHINGTON — The Air Force must transform through Future Total Force and stay the course with the Air and Space Expeditionary Force concept, said the directors of the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard.

The Future Total Force concept is the Air Force's plan to better integrate the Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve and active duty components. While some of the changes proposed under the FTF concept have caused concern within the Air Force reserve component community, FTF must still happen, said the chief of Air Force Reserve and commander of Air Force Reserve Command, Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley.

"FTF creates turmoil for people, but it is the right thing to do," he said. "The FTF is going to help us organize our Air Force and help get the active duty, the

ANG, and Air Force Reserve in the right mixture of equipment and personnel across America. We will be a better Air Force 10-15 years from now because of the hard work we are doing today."

Under the FTF plan, some missions, including aircraft missions, may be eliminated or moved to other installations. One reason for those kind of moves is to reduce the inefficiencies that come from maintaining many small units of aircraft, said General Bradley.

"We are trying to get the right number of airplanes on our bases so we don't have small enclaves of airplanes. It is inefficient, not economical," he said. "Looking at the future, we need to have the right number of fighters, tankers, and (airlift aircraft) on our bases."

The Air Force has also worked to develop new missions for units that may lose missions. These new missions involve space, satellites, monitoring of space objects and unmanned aerial vehicles.

"We are trying hard to get them another job, because we want to keep these people," General Bradley said.

Also part of the future of the Air Force is continuation of the AEF concept. The concept has been in place now for more than a decade. Changing it now may cause trouble with recruiting and retention, said Air National Guard director, Lt. Gen. Daniel James III.

"I'm hearing a lot of talk, and it really concerns me that people are talking about changing the AEF," General James said. "We have a system that ... has worked for us for the last ten-plus years. I think it is a mistake to approach a system that works in one of the services and try to mold it into a system so that we look like the others."

General James said modifying AEF rotations too much, to coincide with sister service rotations, would have a negative impact on volunteerism in the Air National Guard.

Senate approves defense spending bill including pay raise

WASHINGTON -- The Senate on Nov. 15 approved a defense spending bill 98-0, clearing the way for House-Senate negotiations that could produce a final 2006 defense spending plan this month.

The House completed work weeks ago on its version of the bill.

Though the federal budget year began Oct. 1, the military branches are operating on a "continuing resolution" that essentially freezes spending at 2005 levels until Congress completes action on the 2006 plan.

Among the provisions in the mammoth bill:

- A 3.1 percent pay raise for all uniformed personnel, effective Jan. 1.

- Dramatic increases in benefits available to families of troops killed on duty, including a \$100,000 "death gratuity" -- up from \$12,000 -- and a \$400,000 increase of the maximum payment provided by the Servicemembers Group Life Insurance program.

- Closure of a long-standing loophole that denies a major benefit to widows and widowers of troops killed on duty and military retirees who die from service-related injuries. The change would allow thousands of surviving

spouses to combine payments made under the military's Survivor Benefit Plan, an annuity program, with those of a Department of Veterans Affairs benefit plan, called Dependency and Indemnity Compensation.

- \$9.1 billion to permit construction of four new ships, less than half the total of 10 to 12 new vessels the Navy and independent consultants say is needed to sustain today's fleet. The total includes \$336.7 million to accelerate construction of a new aircraft carrier, CVN-78, that will be built at Northrop Grumman's Newport News shipyard, as well as a new amphibious assault ship and a new destroyer.

- Authorization for the Navy to begin overhaul and nuclear refueling of the aircraft carrier Carl Vinson. The work also will be done at Northrop Grumman's yard in Newport News.

- More than \$6 billion to continue purchases of the Air Force's F/A-22 Raptor and the Navy's F/A-18 Super Hornet fighter-bombers. Langley Air Force Base in Hampton is to be a major base for the Raptor; Oceana Naval Air Station in Virginia Beach is the Navy's East Coast fighter hub.



513th Operations Support Flight
Commander's Column

By Lt. Col. Dell Robertson

Treasure your FREEDOM this holiday season

As everyone is now in full-swing "Holiday" mode, it's important to take a moment and reflect upon one of the most cherished "gifts" we have. I'm not referring to "Love" or "Happiness" nor am I referring to a gift that wraps easily or sits prominently under the tree. It is however THE gift for which many of our grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles, siblings, and dear friends made tremendous sacrifices to pass on.

It's now THE gift we protect and pass to our sons and daughters as well as THE gift many pay the ultimate price to share with those abroad.

THE gift is FREEDOM.

As Nelson Mandela said so very well, "Let freedom reign. The sun never set on so glorious a human achievement."

Treasure your freedom this holiday season; be proud of your many contributions this past year; remember the sacrifices others have made on our behalf as they endeavored to provide such a glorious gift.

Kathy and I wish you and yours safe and joyous holidays this season. Cherish your family and friends as you share your blessings and enjoy your liberty. Your sacrifices are appreciated and are at the core of THE gift we all hold by living in the greatest country on earth.

Holiday season message highlights importance of life

By Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley
Commander of Air Force Reserve Command

WASHINGTON – As the holiday season and another year approach, let us take time to consider what is really important – family and friends.

During this time of year, we tend to hold our families a little closer, realizing that what we take for granted can change in an instant. We need to remember our friends who have endured great sacrifices or those who have suffered great loss on the Gulf Coast.

It is your realization of what is important, coupled with your dedication to duty, that enables you to serve our great nation so well. You know the price of freedom and you are willing to pay it. I salute those who have deployed in harm's way and supported the Global War on Terrorism, as well as those who have worked so hard to assist with hurricane rescue and relief.

As in the past, we face new challenges in 2006 – aircraft conversions, participation in air and space expeditionary force deployments and mission changes to name a few. I am confident you will once again do our country proud.

Jan and I wish you and yours happy holidays and a safe, joyous New Year. We are proud of you and what you do for America. (AFRC News Service)



Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley

Capt. Walter Jacques, 513th AMXS, visits with Mr. Jansch at the VA Hospital. The 513th ACG planned a visit during Veterans Day, with several unit members making the visit last month.



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. **See your unit training manager for more information. NEXT CLASS: July 24 - Aug. 4, 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 :

All testing (paper and computer) must be scheduled by sending an e-mail to Kimberley.Silkwood@tinker.af.mil with the time and date that you would like to test and include the course number.

Paper testing on the UTA is only available at 0750 on Sunday of the main UTA and is in Bldg. 460 (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.

Computer-based testing on the UTA is available on Saturday and Sunday at 1300 in Bldg. 1030 (Hangar) in Room 214.

Please schedule all tests NLT 1500 on Friday before the UTA. If you are unable to keep the scheduled time please e-mail Ms. Silkwood or call 734-7075 NLT 1000 on the day you are scheduled to test.

All testing is also available on Tuesdays at 0800, Wednesdays at 0800 and 1300 and Thursdays at 1300.

NOTE: If you are retaking a test, you must bring the authorization letter with you or you will not be allowed to test.

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

03-04 Dec 05	07-08 Jan 06
04-05 Feb 06	04-05 Mar 06
01-02 Apr 06	20-21 May 06
03-04 June 06	08-09 July 06
05-06 Aug 06	09-10 Sept 06
As of Nov. 29, 2005	

DECEMBER TRAINING PLANNER

Fri, 02 Dec 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, 03 Dec 2005

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 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 1043, Wing Trng Room
 1000-1100 Mobility Rep Meeting To Be Determined
1300, by appt. Computer Based Testing Bldg 1030, Room 214
 1300-1545 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
 1300-1400 Adverse Actions Mtg Wg Commander's office
 1300-1400 Wg. Career Advisor Trng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
 1400-1500 Training Managers Mtg Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

Sun, 04 Dec 2005

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium
0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg. 1066 OG Conf Rm
0750-1115 Course Exams. PAPER only Bldg 460, (AD Hq) Rm 215
 0800-1100 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
 0800-1030 Supervisor Safety 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, by appt. Computer Based Testing Bldg 1030, Room 214
 1300-1600 First Duty Station Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
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, 06 Jan 2006

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, 07 Jan 2006

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 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 1043, Wing Trng Room
 1000-1100 Mobility Rep Meeting To Be Determined
1300, by appt. Computer Based Testing Bldg 1030, Room 214
 1300-1545 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
 1300-1400 Adverse Actions Mtg Wg Commander's office
 1300-1400 Wg. Career Advisor Trng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
 1400-1500 Training Managers Mtg Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

Sun, 08 Jan 2006

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium
0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg. 1066 OG Conf Rm
0750-1115 Course Exams. PAPER only Bldg 460, (AD Hq) Rm 215
 0800-1100 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
 0800-1030 Hazard Com. Trng (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, by appt. Computer Based Testing Bldg 1030, Room 214
 1300-1600 First Duty Station Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
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 Ms. Kim Silkwood or Staff Sgt. Jeremy Hudson at 734-7075 or your UTM.

Newcomers Ancillary Training

Newcomers Ancillary Training Phase I & II are conducted **monthly** in **Bldg 1043, Wing Training Room**. 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	1305-1315	Air Force Fitness	SVF
Saturday	1315-1345	Information Assurance	CF
Saturday	1345-1445	Drug and Alcohol, Suicide/ Workplace Violence Prevention	SG
Saturday	1445-1515	Local Conditions-Traffic	SE
Saturday	1515-1545	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	1300-1600	First Duty Station	ME

UCMJ Briefing:

All enlisted personnel are required to have the UCMJ briefing within two UTAs of their first reenlistment. This briefing is held during Phase II of the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 0830 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1043, Wing Training 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 1043, Wing Training Room.

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.

Military Pay

File for pay by:	Receive Direct Deposit by:
06 Dec	13 Dec
08 Dec	15 Dec
12 Dec	21 Dec
13 Dec	23 Dec
15 Dec	30 Dec

Military Pay (405) 734-5016

BAQ Recertification Deadlines

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

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

If you need assistance or have suggestions on how we can improve our service to you, please call us at (405) 734-7075, or stop by our office in Building 1043, Room 213.

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Force shaping board meeting in 2006

by **Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle**
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — A force shaping board will convene in 2006 and continue to meet annually to properly shape the officer corps to meet emerging Air Force needs.

Instituted by the Air Force, the board will be a regular aspect of force management and development in the future.

Authorized by the Secretary of the Air Force, the board convenes at the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base in April.

Force shaping efforts started in 2004 and evolved in an effort to meet congressionally mandated fiscal year end strength requirements and maintain a balanced force.

“The force shaping board is another aspect of our force management and development,” said Brig. Gen. Glenn F. Spears, Air Force director of force management policy. “We must have a balanced

force of officers and enlisted Airmen to meet the missions of today and tomorrow.”

The Air Force began fiscal year 2006 with a force imbalance. It was under strength by approximately 6,000 enlisted and over strength by approximately 3,000 officers.

A current excess of nearly 4,000 officers — primarily from the 2000 to 2004 commissioning years — make worse the imbalance and has a long-range impact on the effective development of the officer corps and the ability to access sustainable numbers of enlisted Airmen. Despite an aggressive voluntary force shaping campaign, the Air Force has not achieved the balance of officer to enlisted Airmen through existing voluntary means.

Congress recently gave each service secretary increased authority to proactively manage their junior officer corps through force shaping efforts.

“The Air Force values the service and sacrifice of all Airmen who volunteer to serve, and separating officers is a difficult decision

that we do not take lightly,” General Spears said. “This first force shaping process will ‘select-in’ approximately 7,800 line officers commissioned in 2002 and 2003 to continue to serve in our active Air Force.”

Eligible officers may continue to apply for voluntary separation until March 1, 2006 using the force shaping initiatives already approved.

Subsequent boards will consider officers commissioned three years earlier. For example, the 2007 board will evaluate officers commissioned in 2004.

“We value the service of all our Airmen,” General Spears said. “Voluntary force shaping initiatives, and the force shaping board, are key aspects of our force management and development.

“Our Airmen have many opportunities to serve — in the Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard, as Air Force civilians or in the Army,” the general said. “We encourage Airmen in the affected year groups to pursue those opportunities to continue service to our great nation.”

Wynne: Air Force needs more joint role

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

WASHINGTON — Air Force Secretary Michael W. Wynne said as the Air Force evolves to a new global war on terrorism era he wants it to participate in more joint operations.

The Air Force is operating “as a joint service, right now — today,” the secretary said. But he said the service needs to foster a more joint approach.

“Looking to take missions instead of ... waiting to be asked,” said the secretary, who took office Nov. 3. “This is a change we are going to go through over time. I think we need to be ready for it.”

Currently, the Air Force deploys more than 300 aircraft and 24,000 Airmen in support of the war on terror. This includes providing air mobility and refueling, indi-

rect fire, security missions and training, tactical communications, contracting, close air support, intelligence, aeromedical evacuation and convoy operations in Iraq.

But the secretary wants Airmen to do more. Instead of “waiting to be joint,” Mr. Wynne wants the Air Force to be “aggressively pursuing joint.”

“Aggressively pursuing joint is different,” he said. “We have been very patient, frankly, in (asking) should our lane be essentially the lane we have been in.”

Mr. Wynne said, now the question is whether the Air Force should encroach more on unfamiliar territory and begin to ask “can we do that job?”

“Our quest for more jointness should also be inventive,” he said.

He has two goals aimed at helping the Air Force move towards more joint op-

erations. The first is persistent situational awareness. The second is development of trained and battle-ready Airmen.

“The trained and battle-ready Airmen has to do with — are we training our Airmen to be joint, both in the noncommissioned officer ranks and within the officer ranks?” Secretary Wynne asked. “Can we train better to facilitate joint, as we think about the Air Force in the future? I think we need to take a look at that in a very different way.”

Persistent situational awareness is always being aware of what is going on both inside and outside the battle space, he said. That includes everything from keeping the lines of communication open to the warfighter, to knowing at all times the state of maintenance on weapons systems, to knowing how much money is left in the budget.

RIGHT: Capt. Roslynn Rayford, 507th Air Refueling Wing Military Equal Opportunity officer and Human Resource Development Council member helps out during last month's presentation of "Buccaneer," a team-building workshop. The course, taught by Capt. Mark Vardaro, strives to improve team planning and communications skills. Additional Buccaneer workshops are planned.



ABOVE: Lt. Col. Dell Robertson, 513th Operations Support Flight commander, and Capt. "Davie" Jones examine simulated chemical warfare samples during a chemical refresher training class held last month. Chemical refresher training classes are held monthly to build confidence in and proficiency in protective equipment.



ABOVE: Capt. Mark Vardaro receives a mask fit test last month from Senior Airman Dwayne Allen, 507th ARW medical technician. Mask Fit tests such as these help ensure personal protective equipment is working properly. Requirements for the fit test recently changed from a one-time event to retesting a mask fit every 20-40 months.

RIGHT: Maj. Doug Planer (left), 465th Air Refueling Squadron Director of Operations, helped support a recent Department of Defense-sanctioned international visitor tour on the 507th ARW flightline. Visitors from the Azerbaijan military toured a unit KC-135R aircraft. Major Planer is shown here greeting Maj. Gen. Chimgiz Mammadov, Azerbaijan Deputy Minister of Defense.



Seven Ps:**Proper prior planning prevents pitifully poor performance**

**Commentary by Staff Sgt. Thomas Brick
332nd Expeditionary Contracting Squadron**

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq (AFPN) — As a young Boy Scout sitting in a junior leadership training class, I was taught something that sticks with me to do this day. The subject was the Seven Ps: Proper prior planning prevents pitifully poor performance. This phrase ties in very well with our day-to-day mission here.

Being deployed to the desert puts us in the spotlight; we are the lead element of our Air Force. The Seven Ps should be utilized while deployed more than ever, because if we fail to properly plan here then the poor performance to follow could be the loss of life or multimillion dollar aircraft.

But the Seven Ps aren't just useful for the big things; they are useful in everyday operations and can make your job much easier. When any project comes to you, you should immediately set a plan in motion to not only get it accomplished, but to get it accomplished the right way.

We never should just slap something together and call

it good. Field-expedient fixes are fine, but as soon as we get that fix in place we need to start planning to do it right and not just put it off. This goes back to our core value of "Excellence in all we do;" it is something that sets us apart.

This also applies to procedures and plans that were in place before we arrived. If you see something you know is not working well and causes problems, don't just shrug it off and say, "That is how we do it here." Do something to change it.

As a Boy Scout, I was taught to leave a place better than I found it. That can mean simply cleaning up after yourself and what others may have left behind, or it could mean improving the place by making things work better. You can create a plan that makes your shop more efficient or solves a problem others have left behind.

Do you really want to deal with a field-expedient fix for some extended period of time? Do you want to just meet the minimum requirement of the mission without really accomplishing much?

Take advantage of your time to make your shop and your base better for you and those who will follow you by using the Seven Ps.

Personnel who bought gear can claim reimbursement

**By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6, 2005 — Some servicemembers who bought their own protective gear will get reimbursed for the purchase under a new policy approved Oct. 4.

David S. C. Chu, the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, approved the directive that allows military personnel to be reimbursed "for privately purchased protective, safety or health equipment."

The order covers the period between Sept. 10, 2001, and Aug. 1, 2004.

Pentagon officials said "relatively few" servicemembers are affected by the order.

In the early days of the war on terror, there was a shortage of intercep-

tor armor. The services issue body armor to those most in need of it. However, some servicemembers - both active and reserve component - bought their own protection.

Legislation passed by Congress earlier this year authorized the services to reimburse servicemembers for the expenditures. The legislation applies to a specified set of personal protection equipment and can be claimed "by either the member or by another person on behalf of the member for the member's personal use in anticipation of, or during, the member's deployment for operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom."

Reimbursement is limited to the actual purchase price - plus shipping - of the equipment and servicemembers must have the receipts. Under the leg-

islation, those claiming reimbursement must turn in their privately purchased gear. The services will destroy the equipment, as it may not meet government standards. Under the policy, reimbursement cannot exceed \$1,100 for any one piece of equipment.

The services can request to add items to the list. The list includes: the complete outer tactical vest or equivalent commercial ballistic vests. The components of the vest - groin protector, throat protector, yoke and collar assembly, collar protector, ballistics inserts and small arms protective inserts - are covered individually. The list also includes the Kevlar helmet, ballistic eye protection and hydration systems.

News from 'the shirt'

Life is about journey, not destination

By Master Sgt. Robert A. Dunn
507th Security Forces Squadron

Life is all about the journey—not the destination. The quality of your journey depends largely on how closely it takes us to your purpose. Your purpose is the thing when you do it; you feel the sense of accomplishment nothing else can give you. Whether or not you obtain your purpose will depend on our attitude toward what you do today, where you want to go, how you handle change and the challenges you give yourself.

Be faithful today. To be promoted you must be faithful in what you do today. If you desire is to do more than you are today, your first goal must be to be excellent at what you currently do. Too many times people say when they are promoted

they will step up and do the job. Being faithful is the first step, but you must understand where you desire to go.

Know where you want to go. To know where we want to go is a question we don't spend enough time answering. It ends up causing so many of us to lose our passion for our purpose in life and to just begin to survive doing what we have always done. Once you know where you desire to go you can make decisions based on what you desire to do. If you know where you want to go, there is a good chance it will require you to change.

Embrace change when it brings you closer to your purpose. I have personally seen people in my life talk of what they desired for years only to turn down opportunities that would bring them closer

to their goals. This happens as a result of the fear of change. Step out in faith for good opportunities, even when we are not assured of success.

Challenge yourself. This is where you can take yourself to places you never thought possible. Like an athlete training to better themselves for a sport, you should push yourself to personal growth. When you do this, what you once thought of as your ultimate dream job or purpose may turn out to be a benchmark on the road to an even greater journey.

Life is all about the journey; a journey that takes us to our purpose. We work faithfully today moving toward our purpose; embracing change and challenging ourselves; making our own journey to a successful destiny knowing we are doing exactly what we a supposed to be doing.

The IG Says...

How to File a Complaint

1. If you believe you are unable to resolve your complaint in command channels, review AFI 90-301 **Table 2.5 (Table 2.9 when the new version of 90-301 is published)** to determine if the complaint should be filed with the IG. You may file a complaint if you reasonably believe inappropriate conduct has occurred or a violation of law, policy, procedure, or regulation has been committed.

2. Complete the personnel data information on an AF Form 102 (typed or printed legibly) (the preferred format for submitting complaints) so it may easily be reproduced.

3. Briefly outline the facts and relevant background information related to the issue or complaint on the AF Form 102.

4. List the allegations of wrongdoing **BRIEFLY**, in general terms and provide supporting narrative detail and documents later when interviewed. Allegations should be written as bullets and should answer:

- Who committed the violation?
- What violation was committed?
- What law, regulation, procedure, or policy was violated?
- When did the violation occur?

5. Submit the completed AF Form 102 to any Air Force IG and set up a follow-on meeting to discuss the complaint.

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.



Putnam City Original Senior Mike Jones presents Col. Bob Colyer, commander of 507th Mission Support Group, with the first issue of the *Pirate Log* newspaper during an assembly honoring our veterans on Nov. 11, 2005. Colonel Colyer spoke to the student body during two assemblies on why we celebrate Veteran's Day. "Veteran's Day is important to me because it represents and memorializes the sacrifices of those who have gone before us to ensure our freedoms," said Colyer.

Photo by Capt. Bill Pierce

Uprclose

By Tech. Sgt. Ty Yoshida

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

“Will the price of gasoline affect your holiday plans?”



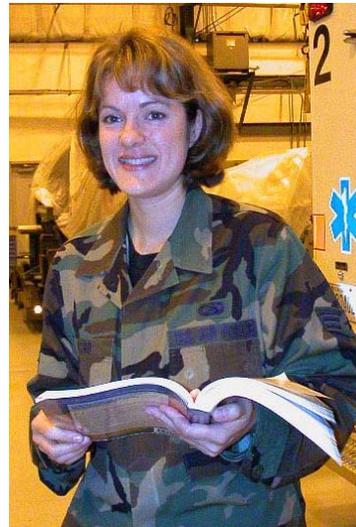
**Senior Airman David Coonce
513th AMXS**

No. Gas prices won't affect my travel plans. Thanksgiving and Christmas are times for family and that's where I will be."



**Tech. Sgt. Roland Brock
507th MXS**

"Yes. Taking my daughter to grandparents in St. Louis is 649 miles to travel. This will limit my gift-buying and tighten my budget."



**Senior Airman Nichole Ford
507th CF**

"Yes. I am a nursing student and will have to start paying back school loans shortly after graduating. I will only be traveling a short distance over the holidays."



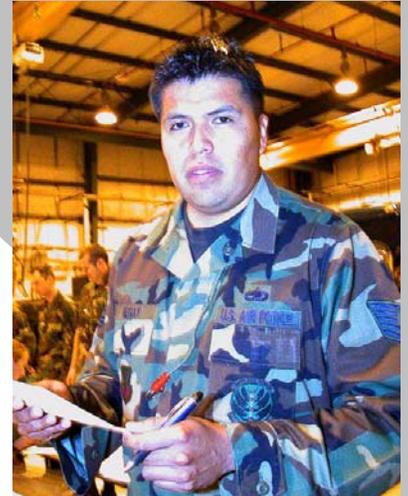
**2nd Lt. Jennifer Trevino
507th MDS**

"No. I will be staying home. My family will be coming to Oklahoma."



**Tech. Sgt. Michael Richardson
507th CES**

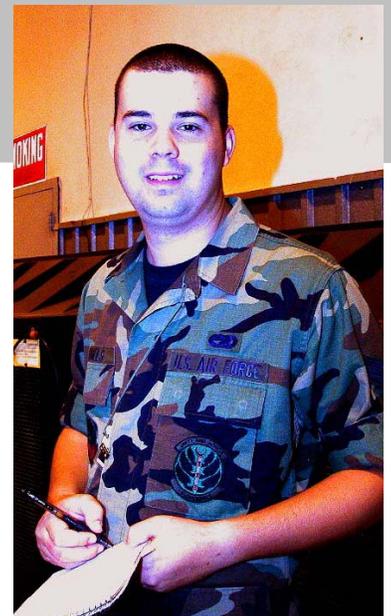
"No. I am fortunate to have my family living only 150 miles away and a job that provides enough to help absorb the price increase."



**Tech. Sgt. Bob Begay
513th AMXS**

"No. Gas prices are of little concern during a season of family and friends.

Loved ones will always find a way to be with each other regardless of rising fuel costs."



**Senior Airman Justin Daniels
513th AMXS**

"Yes. I am a college student at OU so money is in short supply. Luckily my family doesn't live too far away."

TRICARE Reserve Family Demonstration Benefit extended through Oct. 31, 2007

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (AFPN) — The TRICARE Reserve Family Demonstration Benefit that was due to end Oct. 31, has been extended through Oct. 31, 2007.

The Department of Defense extended the benefit for an additional two years to ensure continuity of care for family members of approximately 170,000 National Guard and Reserve members called to active duty for more than 30 days in support of Operation Noble Eagle/Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The demonstration waives the TRICARE annual deductible for family members who use TRICARE Extra or Standard; waives the pre-authorization requirement for non-emergency inpatient civilian care at civilian hospitals; and authorizes TRICARE to pay non-participating providers up to 115 percent of the TRICARE maximum al-

lowable charge.

“The demonstration makes it less expensive for these family members to continue seeing their usual doctors if they take TRICARE,” said Steve Lillie, deputy chief, TRICARE Operations. “The demonstration does not apply to families who enroll in TRICARE Prime since there are no deductibles or cost shares for referred care in TRICARE Prime,” Lillie said.

National Guard and Reserve members and family members with questions or in need of assistance may use the TRICARE Yellow Pages available at www.tricare.osd.mil/yellowpages to contact their TRICARE regional contractor. Up-to-date TRICARE information is also available on the TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve.

(Courtesy of Tricare Management Activity)

Civilian Spotlight

Richard Hinckley Assistant System & Network Administrator

Duties:

Provide technical assistance to unit personnel regarding hardware and operating systems and applications software. Perform duties supporting the management of unit network connectivity and infrastructure and network maintenance. Analyze network traffic patterns, system error messages, and software/hardware utilization reports to identify and correct problems. Provide Work Group Manager (WM)/customer support, help desk, assistance, training, and orientation in support of network and systems operations. Perform duties for the management of the



Information Technology (IT) security program, protecting unit IT assets against unauthorized, accidental, or deliberate modification, disclosure, and destruction of data.

Something unique about you that people may not know.

My wife and I are avid Star Trek fans; so much so that we run a local fun club. It meets every 3rd Saturday of the month. We've been doing it for about 15 years now. Our family vacations almost always involve some kind of Star Trek/Sci-Fi convention.

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

Can't think of any that I would want to spend time with. I'd rather spend the time with my family and friends.

Length of employment with the 507th ARW: 12+ years

Personal Hobbies:

I'm a car enthusiast, a techno-geek, and a bit of a sci-fi fan.

Parting Shot



Chief Master Sgt. Kenneth A. Mitchell, 4th Air Force Command Chief, visits with 507th ARW Command Chief Master Sgt. Joseph Tytanic and Chief Master Sgt. Troy McIntosh, Pentagon REMO. Chief McIntosh was guest speaker for this year's Hughes Banquet.

On-final

R-News

Tinker Gate 1 to close for construction

Tinker Gate (Gate 1, Air Depot at Interstate-40) will be closed at 9 a.m. Nov. 29 until May 31 2006 at 6 p.m. for construction.

Drivers should use Vance Gate (Gate 40, Sooner Road), Eaker Gate (Gate 2 Avenue F at I-40 and 29th Street) or Turnbull Gate (gate 3, Avenue A at 29th Street) as alternatives.

Eaker Gate will assume 24-hour operations and Turnbull Gate will be open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., weekdays during this closure.

For more information, call 734-2868.

AFRC switches to Web-based education system

Air Force reservists can now track their education progress, request transcripts, and update personal education information on the Web.

Going through the Air Force Portal,

and accessing the Virtual Education Center's Web site -- <https://afvec.langley.af.mil> -- saves reservists time and money as they will now be able to perform some tasks previously done by their military personnel flight.

Unit reservists can learn more about AFVEC from the Wing education and training office at 734-7075.

Outreach Yellow Pages

Do you have a hobby, craft, or job that you can provide for other unit members and their families?

Do you work for a company that will give a discount to the military or know of one that does?

Do you want to volunteer your services to a member's family while he/she is TDY? If so, contact the 507th/513th Family Support Office and have your information added to the Family and Community Outreach Yellow Pages. They are in the process of updating the Yellow Pages and would like to add your information.

For more information, email mary.randolph@tinker.af.mil or call 734-6869 or (800) 753-3487, or stop by the Family Support Office in Building 1043, Room 111.

507th ARW Recruiters

Tinker AFB, OK

(In-Service Recruiter)
Master Sgt. Gene Higgins
(405) 739-2980



Moore, Norman, OK

Tech. Sgt. Michael Comfort
(405) 217-8311

Midwest City, OK

Master Sgt. Monica Basye
Tech. Sgt. Carla Lang
(405) 733-9403

Tulsa, OK

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

Lawton, OK

Tech. Sgt. Ronald Gregory
(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