

On-final



January 2006

Vol. 26, No. 1

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



Congratulations!
See story on page 5.



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

ORM purpose: improve decision-making

Whether you realize it or not, risk is a part of each of our daily lives. Every decision we make (or don't make) brings about a result. Hopefully each decision brings about the result we are looking for. Risk is defined as the possibility of suffering harm or loss. What risk analysis do we do and why is it important, you ask?

Let's look at a simple example. When you get in your car to go to work every day you analyze the road conditions, the traffic, your boss' expectation for you to be at work on time, how you feel, and possibly others. The first choice you have is whether you go to work or stay home. I'm sure you will agree both have risks. Should you decide to drive to work, you look at all the possible routes and determine which gives you the best possibility to get to work safely. Variables you might look at for each route are what is the time required, road conditions, chances of slow-ups due to accidents or traffic lights. If you are fortunate, one route will maximize all of the attributes you want. If not, you might choose the shortest one, or the quickest one, or the safest one.

Normally you don't spend a lot of time analyzing this situation, nor should you. There are other more important decisions and we should put more effort into those decisions.

The Air Force has adapted a formalized risk analysis called Operational Risk Management, or ORM for short. The purpose is to improve decision making. There are six steps to the ORM process: 1. Identify the Hazards 2. Assess the Risks 3. Analyze Risk Control Measures 4. Make Control Decisions 5.

Implement Risk Controls 6. Supervise and Review. Here is the Air Force site on ORM: <http://afsafty.af.mil/orm/orm.asp>.

If we can spend an appropriate amount of effort determining how much risk there is for each possible course of action, we can determine if the result is worth the risk. If our only goal was to cut aircraft accidents, we could just stop flying airplanes. Unfortunately, there are other risks associated with not flying, and we must decide which course of action to take. Almost all the time our analysis leads us to dictate we should fly.

This UTA we are spending time looking at ways we can lower our risk. You and I are the most important part of risk management. As General Bruce Carlson, Air Force Materiel Commander said recently, people are the only resource we have that increases in value every day. Additionally, we have been entrusted with the safekeeping of all the parts of our nation's war-making tools. We must be thinking about ORM daily, starting with the decision about coming to work in the morning.



507th Maintenance members work to de-ice an aircraft preparing for take-off Dec. 19. The de-icing truck is one of two owned by the 507th.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Mike Jones

A New Beginning

I don't know about you, but I like watching the sun rise at the start of a new day. It's not that I like getting up early, it's just that I love to see the darkness of night gradually give way to the light of a new dawn. The colors of a sunrise can be spectacular, especially in Oklahoma.

The sunrise reminds me that God has given me another day to live, to love, and to serve. Whether the day before

was a good one or not, I have a new day, a new beginning. Even if I've messed up the day before, I can begin again and try to do better. Why? Because God is faithful and his love and mercy are new every day. The Jewish prophet Jeremiah once wrote these words during a particularly difficult time in his life: "Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning" (Lamentations 3:22-23). Ultimately, the sunrise reminds me that God is still the one in control.

So what does a sunrise have to do with a new year? Well I think of them in much the same way. Just as a new day offers the opportunity to start again, a new year offers an opportunity to start fresh and to have a new beginning. The start of 2006 gives us a chance to strengthen important relationships with family and friends, to take stock of our lives and change directions if we need too, and to renew our relationship with God.

So Happy New Year! It is just the beginning of a New Beginning. Why not make the most of it.

Persistent situation awareness in Resource Management

Editor's Note: *The following is a message to Airmen from the Secretary of the Air Force, The Honorable Michael W. Wynne*

It is truly an honor to serve with you as the Secretary of the Air Force. One of my goals from the first letter to you was to emphasize persistent situation awareness - that is, constant examination of our processes in order to recognize better ways of accomplishing the mission. This note is a part of that process. After 15 years of continuous engagement, our Air Force finds itself in an operating environment that requires us to examine all mission areas, from platforms to personnel, for stresses, inefficiencies, and strains that we must identify and correct through persistent situation awareness.

General Moseley laid out a clear set of priorities: winning the war, recapitalizing our Air Force, and providing our Airmen with the skills and training they need to maximize their effectiveness. Advancing these priorities will require each of us to become better resource managers in an increasingly tight fiscal environment. This long war has taken a toll on our equipment. We are attacking this from two directions; first by expanding the use of LEAN concepts beyond the depots and maintenance operations into the flightline and the office, and second by providing tools to commanders and supervisors to monitor and control resources across the Air Force, whether at a Squadron, Wing, or MAJCOM level.

In examining our personnel requirements, our findings

mirror what is also occurring in corporations all across America. Specifically, the productivity of our people and the increased capability of our systems have to be balanced against the inherent cost. For example, some career fields are stressed, while others are over-strength. We also continue to employ contract services when we actually have the same capability within our organic strengths. These are the types of inequities that we must correct. I want to ensure that all Airmen - as well as our partners in industry - are performing duties that are relevant and necessary, so that an Air Force career and the work of our industrial partners is both rewarding and challenging. We must analyze all of our operations to look for opportunities to eliminate waste in terms of time and materials, while increasing productivity and continuing to challenge ourselves. We need this focus to ensure we allocate our resources in the most efficient manner and thereby maximize the resources available for the critical task of recapitalization.

Change is never easy. These actions will challenge you over the next few years, and I need all Airmen to contribute in order to ensure success. We remain committed to the total force and will be working through the specific details of the changes to come as the budget and the Quadrennial Defense Review are completed. As these emerge, we will continue to communicate with you as you strive for persistent situation awareness. We are reminded daily of your commitment to our first priority - winning the war. I am honored to serve with you and seek your continued dedication.

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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.

Be ready for next month's inspection

During the next two months, the 507th Air Refueling Wing and the 513th Air Control Group will go under the microscope as inspectors arrive to conduct five different inspections of local activities.

On Jan. 30, approximately 60-70 AFRC inspectors will arrive to take a look at the 507th ARW and the 513th ACG.

The inspectors, actually comprising four inspection teams, will conduct a simultaneous Unit Compliance Inspection of both the 507th and 513th as well as a Health Services Inspection of the 507th Medical Services Squadron and a Maintenance Standardization Evaluation Program Inspection. Then, on Feb. 22 through March 1, another inspection team will arrive to conduct an Aircrew Standardization Evaluation Visit. An ASEV certifies the aircrew training programs and aircrew proficiency skills and must be successfully completed in

order to continue flying operations.

"We are looking at a very demanding inspection process," said Maj. Don Satterlee, 507th Performance Manager Officer. "Successfully completing each of these inspections is vital to our wing and the 513th." The inspectors will scrutinize the way our organizations conduct business," he said.

"This is our last UTA before the inspectors arrive," said Major Satterlee. "By now everyone should already be prepared." As a reminder, Major Satterlee encouraged members to double check their efforts. Members are encouraged to:

- * Ensure you review and sign your AF Form 55. This safety form/briefing describes the hazards unique to your work environment. Your supervisor or unit Ground Safety Representative should have an individual copy just for you.

- * Review self-inspection checklists.

- * If you have an additional duty, make sure that your program is up to speed.

- * Check your training records; no one cares more about your training than you should. Make sure you are signed off for all the training you have done, or get the training you need for the job you are assigned.

- * For the February UTA, show up with a good haircut and uniform—on time. Give the IG a good first impression of yourself and our unit.

- * Stay alert and look around. The IG may have some security exercises during the inspection – probably a suspicious package left in an office, or an attempt to get into a secure area – maybe a fire drill. They want to see how we react and do we know how to protect our resources and ourselves.

- * Practice safe computing.

Air Force releases new mission statement

by Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The realities of the world have changed dramatically since the creation of the Air Force in 1947 and continue to change almost daily.

With these changes in mind, Air Force leaders released a new mission statement Dec. 7 that defines the current and future direction of the Air Force.

"Today, our world is fast paced, constantly shifting and filled with a wide range of challenges," Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley wrote in a joint Letter to Airmen. "Our mission is our guiding compass, and now more than ever we need it to be clear and precise."

The mission statement defines the "where and what" the Air Force accomplishes on a daily basis:

The mission of the United States Air Force is to deliver sovereign options for the defense of the United States of America and its global interests — to fly and fight in Air, Space, and Cyberspace.

The statement includes two new concepts, "sovereign options" and "cyberspace," which the secretary and chief defined.

They said having sovereign options is the essence of being a superpower.

"Our task is to provide the president, the combatant commanders, and our nation with an array of options ... options that are not limited by the tyranny of distance, the urgency of time, or the strength of our enemy's defenses," they said. "With one hand the Air Force can deliver humanitarian assistance to the farthest reaches of the globe, while with the other hand we can destroy a target anywhere in the world."

The term cyberspace includes network security, data transmission and the sharing of information.

"We have quite a few of our Airmen dedicated to cyberspace ... from security awareness, making sure the networks can't be penetrated, as well as figuring out countermeasures," Secretary Wynne said. "The Air Force is a natural leader in the cyber world and we thought it would be best to recognize that talent."

Adversaries of the United States will use any method or venue necessary to contest America, and it is an Airman's calling to dominate air, space and cyberspace, the leaders said.

"If we can decisively and consistently control these commons, then we will deter countless conflicts," they said. "If our enemies underestimate our resolve, then we will fly, fight, and destroy them."

Using past air power pioneers as examples of understanding the mission, they said, "The Air Force's mission statement has evolved over time, but it does not change the nature of who we are or what we do."

Early morning wake-up call places another star on the map

**By Lt. Col. Rich Curry
507th ARW Public Affairs**

For deployed 507th Air Refueling Wing commander Col. Dean J. Despinoy, the news couldn't have been better.

The colonel was awoken at 3 a.m. the day prior to Thanksgiving Day and told, "Your name made the President's brigadier general nomination list."

"I am honored to have this opportunity to continue to serve my country," Despinoy said in an e-mail message back to his Oklahoma Air Force Reserve unit.

Colonel Despinoy was one of nine brigadier generals and 15 colonels in the Air Force Reserve who were nominated by the president Nov. 22 for promotion to the next higher rank. These promotions take effect upon U.S. Senate confirmation and by the direction of the chief of Air Force Reserve.

"If there are no delays in the Senate, I anticipate pin on around January 15," Colonel Despinoy said. Since the colonel will remain deployed to the Southwest Theater Area of Operations during this time, a second ceremony will be held at the 507th ARW upon his return.

"I plan to have a formal pin on ceremony back at Tinker with my family, the 507th, Team Tinker, and members of the community, shortly after I return," Colonel Despinoy said.

The colonel deployed over a month earlier in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. While deployed he is serving as the Deputy director of Mobility Forces in the Combined Air Operations Center or CAOC. The CAOC is the central hub for air and space operations dealing with operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom and in the Horn of Africa region. During the previous year the CAOC has had oversight and control over 43,600 airlift sorties while relocating 856,000 passengers and 146,000 tons of cargo in transit within their area of responsibility. This effort required the support 10,900 refueling aircraft missions to offload the 680 million pounds of fuel during flying operations. As the controlling operational center for all this airlift activity, the CAOC is truly one of the busiest places in the theater.

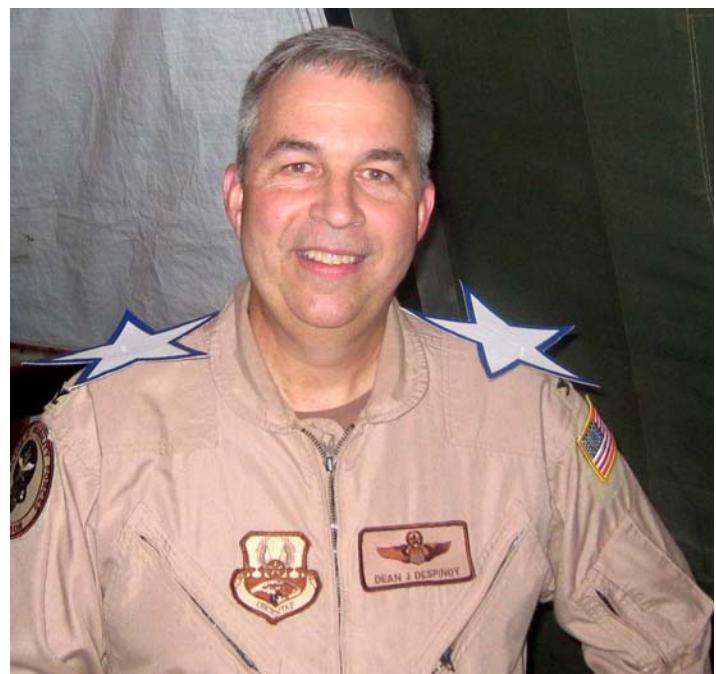
"It is a privilege to work with all the heroes from other services and the coalition," the colonel said. "Right here in the CAOC, we have Army, Navy, Marine, and Air Force members as well as coalition partners from Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Korea, Canada, Iraq, and Britain."

"In my position as the Dep DIRMOPFOR, I interface with

this diverse group daily. Everyone works long hours as a true joint and inter-service team to plan and execute the air operations throughout the CENTCOM AOR for OPERATIONS Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. It is an awesome task carried out by an incredibly professional group of experts," he added.

The colonel said his job requires him to visit various locations within the AOR to include Army, Marine, and Air Force bases in Iraq, Kuwait, and Afghanistan. "At each location I am extremely impressed by the excellent morale and the understanding of the importance of their mission," he said. "Every day I am thrilled to be part of this important period in history and be able to watch democracies develop before my very eyes. I am thankful for this opportunity and I recommend an assignment in the AOR to everyone," the colonel said.

Colonel Despinoy concluded his message home saying, "I am looking forward to my return and once again taking the helm of the 507th Air Refueling Wing. It makes it even more special to be able to do that as a one star."



Col. Dean J. Despinoy, 507th Air Refueling Wing commander, takes a moment to pose for a photo while "wearing" his future rank. The colonel, currently deployed overseas in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, recently learned he has been nominated for promotion to brigadier general. Senate confirmation is still pending.

(U.S. Air Force photo)

Air Force Reserve fighters destroy terrorist hideout

SOUTHWEST ASIA – Air Force Reserve Command F-16 pilots bombed a booby-trapped house near Al Mahmudiyah, Iraq, Nov. 23.

Anti-Iraqi forces had attacked Iraqi army soldiers with an improvised explosive device two days earlier. When coalition ground forces secured the area, they discovered the booby-trapped house, which had been used as a terrorist hideout.

After an explosive ordnance disposal team investigated the house and cleared the area of civilians, the F-16s dropped 500-pound, precision-guided bombs and destroyed the target.

The precision-guided bombs used on the F-16s are the GBU-38 Joint Direct Attack Munitions. JDAMs are designed to reduce collateral damage, limit unintended casualties and take the fight to enemy insurgents. These munitions autonomously navigate to designated target coordinates, which can be loaded into the aircraft before takeoff or manually altered by the aircrew before release.

Air Force Reserve F-16 pilots and support people are in Southwest Asia on a rotational basis until February. Reserv-

ists from the 482nd Fighter Wing, Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., deployed in September. Other F-16 crews from the 301st FW, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas, arrived in October to replace them. Citizen Airmen from the 419th FW, Hill AFB, Utah, and 944th FW, Luke AFB, Ariz., are slated to go overseas later this year and early next year.

The reservists are flying aircraft from the Reserve units in Florida, Texas and Utah. While deployed, they belong to the 332nd Expeditionary Fighter Squadron at Balad Air Base, Iraq.

Since January 2005 there have been more than 480 air strikes against insurgent staging areas, buildings where anti-Coalition forces are hiding, motor-firing sites, improvised explosive device locations and weapons caches.

More than 15,000 air strike missions have been flown in 2005 providing close-air support for Coalition ground forces involved in Operation Iraqi Freedom. (AFRC News Service from a U.S. Central Command news release)

Educating Airmen on medication misuse, abuse

While the Air Force continues to focus on suicide prevention and awareness, one specific issue Airmen should understand is proper medication use and suicide attempts.

Drug overdose and self-poisoning are two of the most common methods used in suicide attempts. Acetaminophen, commonly known as Tylenol, is now the most frequently used drug in attempted suicides.

Taking more than the prescribed dose of Tylenol is dangerous because it attacks the human liver and, if the dosage is large enough, it can and will kill a person.

Treatment for a Tylenol overdose includes observation and possibly other medication. After emergency evaluation and treatment, (which may include, “pumping your stomach”), all individuals who significantly overdose on Tylenol are placed in intensive care for observation and follow-up. Early laboratory testing will determine the amount of Tylenol in the blood. Such testing will tell if liver damage and subsequent liver failure is

likely to occur. This all depends on the severity of the overdose. If blood testing indicates a high probability of liver damage and the patient's condition confirms such probability, Doctor Christensen said there is a medication that is used to potentially reverse the overdose effects.

If an adult consumes a lethal amount of Tylenol, it generally takes three or four days for death to occur. Educating Airmen on the ‘not so obvious’ dangers of a commonly-used medication may save lives.

For more details, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123012701>.

Airmen should verify deployment credit

Airmen not issued contingency, exercise or deployment orders should verify their personnel records include credit for those deployments. In some instances, units have deployed Airmen under Defense Department Form 1610 or NATO travel orders.

However, to receive deployment credit, Air Force Instruction 36-2134, Air Force Duty Status Program, requires CED orders to update temporary duty histories in the Military Personnel Data System.

Airmen can verify their Type 1 TDY deployment history has been updated through their commander's support staff

or personnel employment section at their servicing military personnel flight. If an Airman's Type 1 TDY deployment has not been updated in their TDY history, a completed travel voucher and at least one of the following source documents are required to receive credit: certified CED orders, certified non-CED orders, approved decoration, officer or enlisted performance report, finalized letter of evaluation or a letter of justification from a squadron commander or higher.

For more information, call the personnel center's field activities office at DSN 665-2671 or commercial (210) 565-2671.

Leadership starts with the man in the mirror

**Commentary by
Maj. Gen. Scott Gray
Air Mobility Warfare Center
commander**

MCGUIRE AIR FORCE BASE, N.J. (AFPN) — As a general officer, I am frequently in front of audiences talking about leadership. One of my favorite groups to address is an Airman Leadership School class.

In my discussions with them — and every group I face — I always ask two questions: First, has anyone ever worked for a bad boss or leader? Unfortunately, 75 percent or more of the hands reach for the sky. I then ask for examples of what made these leaders bad.

The answers are normally the same: Not involved with his or her subordinates; not concerned about me or my training; is concerned only with his or her advancement, at any cost; lacks integrity; doesn't support the boss or the mission; is a tyrant

to work for — frequently screams and yells at folks; harasses people or condones it on and off duty; doesn't know the mission and doesn't trust those who do; sets low standards for himself or herself, allowing the shop to skate by.

You get my drift, and you may have met some of these leaders yourself.

The second leadership question is: Have any of you worked for great leaders, and what made them great?

Sadly, fewer than 25 percent of the hands go up, but those that do are raised with enthusiasm.

Their examples are exactly what you would expect and hope for in our Air Force leaders:

Integrity; concerned about me, my development and my family; sets the example on and off duty; lives and breathes the Air Force's core values of "integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do"; sets high standards for them-

selves and our shop; takes none of the credit for the good stuff we do, but takes all of the blame for the bad; praises in public, kicks tail in private; loves his job, his life and his family; and makes work fun.

If the Air Force is going to excel and get the most out of our people, we must reverse the negative leadership examples. Our people are our most important asset. We need to treat them as such. I'm challenging all leaders and supervisors to look in the mirror and reflect on our own strengths and weaknesses, then set out to improve ourselves, so our people can realize their full potential.

When we do that, we can take the Air Force to even greater levels.

It is the best investment we can make for our greatest asset — our Airmen and their families. Your Airmen need you to be great. As for me, I'm heading to the mirror.

513th ACG conducts second-annual chili cook-off

The 513th second-annual chili cook-off was held Dec. 15, with five unit members competing for the 24-inch trophy. This year's winner was Col. Gregory "Farb" Phillips, 513th ACG commander. "It was my dad's recipe," said Colonel Phillips. "I made it three weeks ago and froze it to bring out the flavor."

Maj. Jimmy Wolfe, who came in second place, said his chili was considered sweet-n-hot. "It's not for everyone as it has a kick to it," said Wolfe. He toned his chili down this year from six to three habanero peppers.

Some of the comments from the judges included: I taste liquor; good, but tastes like vegetable soup; it's got a warm, good flavor; that's HOT!; good, but has a picante-sauce taste; this came right out of a can; and I should have entered, I would have won. The cook-off proceeds were added to unit funds for future charities.

The 513th has challenged the 507th to a cook-off with the winner facing Colonel Phillips and his prize-winning chili. More to follow on that challenge in the near future.



Lt. Col. Michael Tucker, Derek "Big Daddy" Johnson, Master Sgt. Tommy Simmons, Chris Lindsay, and Andy Clarke sample the chili after the judging was complete. All were judges except Lindsay.

Berlin Airlift streamer serves as a compass

**By Lt. Col. Steve Seaman
970th AACCS Assistant Director
of Operations -- Mission**

The Air Force has traveled down a long road to get from yesterday to today.

When I first heard about the 513th Air Control Group receiving a Berlin Airlift streamer, I was surprised. Everything I'd known about the ACG was from the viewpoint of an E-3 air battle manager and the "eyes of the eagle" we give the commanders on the ground. I wasn't thinking of the ACG in the sense of history, of the people who came before us.

I'm probably not alone in thinking this because we're used to living in the world today and hindsight only lets us see back as far as our memory can recall. We remember our Air Force history as lessons we learn in our career and leadership development schools. How often do we put them into perspective? Do we think about how much the sacrifices of Airmen then are the same as Airmen now? The 513th Air Control Group was asked to activate for two years to support Operations Enduring Freedom, Noble Eagle and Iraqi Freedom. Our ancestral airmen were asked to support

four years away from home and faced greater threats from a better-armed enemy. What is one man's longing for home compared to a sacrifice like that? Because so many did it freely and because they were loved their country, – warts and all – I think that's why we call those veterans today the Greatest Generation. Nothing we do as individuals matches what they did as one collective Air Force. To me, that Berlin Airlift streamer is like a compass, guiding us back to the true road of our destiny, the path to service before self and sacrifice that we sometimes forget today.

Fliers back then flew in wooden and tin fighters that offered little resistance to machine gun fire. Maintainers on the ground sometimes defended their landing field perimeters against a near-overwhelming enemy to buy time for their airplanes to get airborne. Commanders fought with pistols as their positions were overrun, fighting until their last bullets were spent. There are stories of pilots who were shot down several times, only to escape and try again and again. Those are the heroes we owe our thanks to today. It is in their name that we carry

on much of what we do, but we sometimes lose sight of that truth.

Hollywood has cheapened our history with big-name stars and scripts of varying quality, but there was a Great Escape. There was a Doolittle Raid. There was a Battle of the Coral Sea. And there was a Berlin Airlift. This streamer reminds us that there was an Age of Airmen before us that gave their all too and it puts our mission today in better perspective.

We haven't been the only ones in history to make sacrifices for our service, but when faced with such a legacy, our own complaints and sorrows become insignificant and I feel good – I feel proud – that we can carry the torch for them.

And that's when I make a sobering realization that nearly stops my heart:

Fifty years from now, there will be future Airmen who will look back on the accomplishments of my generation of Airmen and look at their own sacrifices in that context. Our mission is our job, but to tomorrow's Airmen, it will be our legacy and they will honor this unit for the things they did today.

And the road goes ever on and on.



Critters, big and small, adorn the 513th ACG Christmas card on display with other Tinker AFB submissions along the road leading to the base golf course. Special thanks to Master Sgt. Angel Cervantes, 970th AACCS, for his hard work on the 8 ft. display. Tech. Sgts. Tommy Clark and Annie Waskom also assisted with the project.

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.

Payment occurs after satisfactory course completion. **You must provide a paid receipt and your grade NLT 60 days after course completion.** TA reimbursement amounts are set at 75 percent (\$4500) 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

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 Dec. 21, 2005

JANUARY TRAINING PLANNER

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

Fri, 03 Feb 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 3AOX1 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

Sat, 04 Feb 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 3AOX1 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, 05 Feb 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-Supt)	Bldg 1030, Room 104
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm
0900-1000	Mandatory 3AOX1 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	To Be Determined	IG period w/Capt. Vardaro
1500-1630	MPF Closed for In-House Tng	Bldg 1043, Rm 203, 213
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-Supt)	Bldg 1030, Room 104
0830-0930	Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm
0900-1000	Mandatory 3AOX1 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	To Be Determined	IG period w/Capt. Vardaro
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/ORM	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:
28 Dec	04 Jan 06
29 Dec	06 Jan 06
03 Jan	11 Jan
05 Jan	13 Jan
10 Jan	18 Jan
12 Jan	20 Jan
17 Jan	25 Jan
19 Jan	27 Jan
23 Jan	01 Feb
26 Jan	03 Feb
31 Jan	08 Feb
02 Feb	10 Feb
07 Feb	15 Feb
09 Feb	17 Feb
14 Feb	22 Feb
16 Feb	24 Feb
Military Pay (405) 734-5016	

BAQ Recertification Deadlines

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

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

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

Editor:

Chief Master Sgt. Charlotte A. Epps, Chief, Education & Training (ART)

Assistant Editors: Master Sgt. Sharon Lochman, Asst. Chief, Education & Training (ART)

Gloria Dippi, Office Automation Clerk

Contributing Editors:

Tech. Sgt. Chris Rogers, Education and Training Advisor

Tech. Sgt. Jimmy Talley, Education and Training Advisor

Staff Sgt. Jeremy Hudson, Education and Training Advisor (ART)

Ms. Kimberley Silkwood, Testing and Education Advisor

Discipline to train ensures success



Maj. Michael Chionopoulos provides running tips to members of the Wing. To ensure success in fit-to-fight testing, Chionopoulos strongly recommends setting up a training regimen.

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

Maj. Michael Chionopoulos, 507th ARW deputy staff judge advocate, ran in the Oklahoma City Marathon this year. He had never run in a marathon race before, but he succeeded because he set his mind to put in the training time. A similar mindset is needed for any Airman who wants to ensure success in the run portion of fit to fight.

"Running is a different sport; it takes individual effort," said Chionopoulos during a recent UTA when he shared some running tips with members of the Wing. "The only way to get in shape to run is to run, and running is all in the head."

"To train for your fit-to-fight testing you must overcome the mental aspects," said Chionopoulos. "I know it's hard to run when it's cold outside."

Chionopoulos strongly recommends setting up a training regimen.

"Establish a training plan. Set small, achievable goals," said the major. "You must set reasonable expectations or you won't follow through. Meet those goals and success begets success. You must reinforce yourself with success."

As an example Chionopoulos said if you meet a goal of one-quarter mile today, one-quarter mile plus 10 more yards tomorrow can be your achievable goal.

Chionopoulos also said you must set enough time to train.

"If you've never run before, you need to consider six months to a year to train," said Chionopoulos. "To run 1.5 miles, you need to get to the point of being able to run twice that distance -- thus 1.5 miles won't seem so difficult."

The major provided other specific pointers for a training plan.

"If you're over 40, you shouldn't train more than five days a week. Your body needs time in between training days to heal," said Chionopoulos.

"For fit-to-fight training, a goal each week would be to try to get in three miles on two days, and two miles on one day. At a certain point you need to do speed training. This not only ensures passing, but mentally makes running 1.5 miles a piece of cake."

We all want to have a passing score of 80 or above.



The most important piece of equipment for running is a pair of running shoes fitted to how your feet impacts when running. Chionopoulos runs with well cushioned shoes to handle his weight along with custom-fitted insoles.



Tech. Sgt. Christa Duker, 507th Operations Group, designed and painted the Christmas card entered into the base contest for the 507th ARW. "I came from a family of real artists and have been drawing and painting since I was a kid," said Duker.



Gifts were delivered to the Veterans' Hospital in Norman as part of the Angel Tree program. Members of the 507th ARW and 513th ACG and other Tinker employees adopted 254 veterans this year; 75 more than the previous year. VA residents and Reserve members gathered around the tree and gifts when they were delivered in December. A party was held later with reservists and family members attending to help send a little holiday cheer.



Records were set in attendees (169) and funds raised (\$10,021) for this year's OHS fundraiser. Thanks to all the donations (money as well as items donated).



The Lincolnland Brass Quintet from the Air Force Band of Mid-America, Scott AFB, Ill., visited 14 sites around the base, including the 507th, on JANUARY 2006

Dec. 12th. Lt. Col. Richard Curry was volunteered to perform as a guest member of the band. The band also visted Altus and Vance while in Oklahoma.

DOD to begin BRAC closures, realignments

by Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The Base Realignment and Closure Commission's recommendations for reshaping the Defense Department's infrastructure and force structure took effect at 12:01 a.m. on Nov. 9.

Congress allowed the commission recommendations to pass into law at the mandated Nov. 8 deadline.

The nine-member BRAC panel delivered its final report to President George Bush Sept. 8. He, in turn, sent it to Congress for legislative review Sept. 15. Congress had 45 legislative days — until Nov. 9 — to accept or reject the report in its entirety.

However, Congress was not authorized to make any changes to the final report.

By statute, the Defense Department now has until Sept. 15, 2007 — two years from the date the president sent Congress the BRAC commission's final report — to begin closing and realigning the installations as called for in the report. The process must be completed by Sept. 15, 2011, DOD officials said.

The 2005 BRAC recommendations represent the most aggressive BRAC ever proposed, affecting more than 800 installations, officials said.

The four previous BRAC rounds — in 1988, 1991, 1993 and 1995 - resulted in 97 major closures, 55 major realignments and 235 minor actions, according to DOD figures. Overall, closing and realigning these installations saved taxpayers around \$18 billion though fiscal 2001 and a further \$7 billion per year since, officials said.

BRAC 2005 is being called an important milestone in restructuring the department's domestic base structure to improve efficiency and operational capabilities. It also supports plans to move thousands of U.S. forces — currently serving overseas — to within the United States as part of DOD's new global positioning strategy, officials said.

After months of study, installation visits and public hearings around the country, the BRAC panel approved 86 percent of DOD's original recommendations — 119 with no change and another 45 with amendments, the panel said.

The panel also rejected 13 recommendations, significantly modified another 13, and made five additional closure or realignment recommendations on its own initiative.

Of DOD's 33 major closure recommendations, the panel approved 21, recommended seven bases be realigned rather than closed, and rejected five recommendations outright. In addition, the commission recommended closing rather than realigning another installation, for a total of 22 major closures.

Many of the transformational recommendations in the re-

port, particularly those to establish joint operations, will present significant challenges as they are implemented, officials acknowledged.

Detailed business plans will be developed for every BRAC recommendation, laying out what actions are required to implement them, when they will occur and what resources are needed to put them into effect, officials said.

Affected services and agencies must submit these plans by Nov. 15 to the DOD Installation Capabilities Council, which will review them and forward them to the Infrastructure Steering Group for approval.

Meanwhile, the department is poised to begin working with civilian employees and communities affected by the BRAC decisions. DOD has a long and successful history of helping its civilian workers impacted by base closings, officials noted. This includes programs that promote placement, training, re-training and transition to new positions.

Since 1989, DOD has reduced its civilian work force by 428,400 people, with less than 10 percent of those reductions through involuntary separations, officials said. The department's Priority Placement Program — which officials call the centerpiece of DOD's Civilian Assistance and Re-employment programs — gives defense employees placement priority at other DOD facilities.

The department's Office of Economic Adjustment will take the lead for the federal government in helping communities affected by base closures and realignments, working cooperatively with the President's Economic Adjustment Committee, officials said.

The IG Says...

Policy on management of IG complaints

1. Complaints that are within the purview of the IG Complaint System should be addressed at the lowest appropriate level.
2. This ensures the higher level IGs remain unbiased and are available to review any rebuttals or appeals of the lower level investigation or action.
3. IGs should resolve complaints at the lowest possible level but may elevate complaints when appropriate such as when self-investigation or the perception of self-investigation is an issue.

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.

News from 'the shirt'

Let's take care of our own

**By Master Sgt. George A. Gould
72nd Aerial Port Squadron**

"We need the people around us."

We need people around us that have been put in our path to lift us up and to give us guidance. We need people around us to re-direct us when we get off the narrow path and to give us encouragement when we are moving forward in the right direction. Who was there for you? Did you get to where you are today without a significant influence from someone that touched your life. Think back, give credit, be grateful, and share with others.

Now it is our turn to give. True gratitude is giving back to others. We are comrades in the Air Force Reserve. We had many different reasons for joining the military but on some level we each wanted to serve our country. In order to serve our country effectively, we must take care of those individuals within our unit and wing.

Listen. We must listen to our people as the first step in helping to provide for any needs they may identify. Let's determine the goals and objectives of our people. When we identify a problem, we must ask questions and listen, rather than making an attempt to solve a problem without understanding the person.

Let's be the role model for behavior we want from others. We cannot expect those around us to follow guidance on a specific task or behavior if we are not demonstrating that behavior ourselves. We can start with simple items. If we want others around us to present a professional military image, we need to report to duty looking sharp. Our hair needs to be trimmed, our uniform needs to be creased, and our shoes need to be shined. I know that some of you are arguing AFI standards with me right

now regarding what is required. However, we can help others when we role model behaviors that exceed standards rather than to just meet minimum standards. Some other simple items that we can role model are: Consistent attendance to duty, showing a good work ethic in the duty station, staying fit and passing the fit to fight program, and making ourselves ready to deploy to serve our country without complaint when called. The not so simple behavior to role model is *portraying an energetic positive attitude* that can be caught by everyone.

Set expectations. Many people shy away from being direct when communicating to others. We should be considerate of people as we are trying to care for them. However, you must communicate to others what they need to know to succeed. Watering down information or omitting information in an attempt to spare feelings will only be a disservice to the person we are trying to help. Expectations come from many different sources i.e., AFI's, T.O.'s, appearance and dress or attendance requirements for the reserves. Whatever the source of the expectation we must be clear, direct and consistent in communicating those expectations to others.

Help others meet expectations. "You must pass those CDC's when you come in next month to take the test". Have you ever heard or given this directive? We should be asking and listening as stated above. We can then help the person develop a plan to address the issue. We also need to find out how we can help. What can we offer to others based on our own strengths? If we are fit and understand a good working health and exercise program, we can offer information or even our time to exercise with them. If we have great study habits, we can offer time to tutor



Master Sgt. George A. Gould

others during the UTA weekend. If we have great hands on skills with the job, we can apply our time with an individual to old fashioned on the job training. The point is we have our own gifts that we can share with others. When we go so far as to set an expectation, we must be willing to commit our time to help them achieve the identified objective.

Who can we help? We are not limited to helping only others that we supervise. If there is an opportunity to help someone in the unit regardless of rank, we must take advantage of this opportunity.

Keep the spirit of giving alive. During this past Christmas season we witnessed an unselfish spirit of helping others. Often times we gave to others that we did not even know. Many times we would give to those individuals in need that were close and dear to our own squadrons. We need to continue this spirit of giving throughout the year. We will always have available the gift of sharing our experience, knowledge and sincere caring attitude towards others that will make us stronger in serving our country. Let's take care of our own.

CMSAF discusses future at enlisted call

by Michael Briggs
12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — It was fitting Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray wore the Air Force utility uniform of tomorrow when addressing about 700 Airmen at an enlisted call here.

Most of what the chief talked about at the base theater Dec. 6 focused on the future. That was also the purpose of his visit to the Air Force Personnel Center this week.

Chief Murray discussed Airmen assignments. He said the Air Force is getting “the right Airmen in the right place at the right time— while continuing to manage our most precious resource: you, our people.”

He also discussed how the Air Force can continue to develop Airmen to their fullest potential through the different stages of their careers, and how to tie developmental assignments to those leadership levels in the future.

“As we look to the future, we want to make sure we have an Air Force that is giving you the opportunities as individual Airmen to realize your potential and, more importantly, how you as Airmen can increase the capabilities of this force,” he said.

He said the goal for force development is to determine how to best use the talents, skills, education and experience of Airmen in their contributions to the overall mission.

Tying future assignments and force development together follows changes in Air Force Instruction 36-2618, The Enlisted Force Structure, revised about a year ago. Tactical, operational and strategic leadership and developmental levels were included in the revision.

The instruction also provides more

detail about noncommissioned officer and senior NCO responsibilities, describes special senior NCO positions and covers standardized duty titles.

Asked about enlisted force development, Chief Murray encouraged all Airmen to become familiar with the revised instruction.

“It’s the foundation of our enlisted force development,” he said. “And (it) has been since it was written in 1972 as



Chief Master Sgt. Gerald Murray

the old (regulation) 39-6.”

He said the future of force development must include every aspect of an enlisted person’s career in a continuum that follows an Airman through basic training, technical training, professional military education, on-the-job training, career development courses, promotions and assignments, while tying those things to tactical, operational and strategic levels of leadership at appropriate times.

The Air Force has taken steps in this regard by revising basic training and developing professional military education for chief master sergeants, for example. Chief Murray said other initiatives under study will follow, such as perhaps

providing more frequent PME during a person’s career.

Another aspect of the force development cycle still being looked at is how assignments will be tied to the process. The chief said career field managers have been asked to study the assignments within their specialties to determine which ones might be considered “developmental” and at what stage of a career a person should perform those duties.

Of the prototype utility uniform he wore, the chief said the Air Force is close to finishing a three-year process that determined the best pattern, material, fit and function of the uniform. It will replace the woodland battle dress uniform most Airmen wear as their home station utility uniform.

Chief Murray said the gray, slate blue, tan and brown-patterned prototype he was wearing had ousted the mainly blue prototype first wear-tested about two years ago. The audience reacted favorably to that news.

Many women in the crowd cheered loudly when he said the new uniform would be manufactured in both male and female cuts.

“It truly is permanent-press and wash-and-wear,” Chief Murray said. “It needs no ironing whatsoever.”

He said the new boots are fuel and stain-resistant and can be cleaned and maintained with a simple brushing.

“We want you to be able to spend less time on your uniform,” he said. “We want you to have a good-looking utility uniform that fits you well, is easy to maintain and costs you less money to maintain. I think that’s what you’re going to have.”

He said small utility pockets may be added to a lower leg and wrist area of a sleeve as final design adjustments based on feedback from wear tests. And he said the uniform may be manufactured for wear in late 2006 or early 2007.

Tips on how to stay warm and safe

**By Master Sgt. Gary Bristol
507th ARW Safety Office**

As cold weather approaches and temperatures start to drop, some people use supplementary heating equipment to raise the comfort level. Supplementary heating equipment such as space heaters, fireplaces and electric blankets have contributed to many fires during winter months due to equipment malfunction or improper use.

Please be aware that open flame space heaters (kerosene fueled heaters), **electrical heaters** and any type of heater without an automatic tip over cut-off protection are prohibited on Tinker AFB. Also, due to the inherent dangers of these types of equipment, these types of heaters should not be used at home.

Electric space heaters have several advantages. They produce no fumes, do not require the use of an open flame and they are portable. However, even the best quality space heaters have

downfalls. An electric heater can draw more current than the fuses or circuit breakers can handle. Most of the electric heaters require roughly 10-12 amps to operate. If you have other appliances working off the same circuit, you may trip the circuit breakers. Continuous overloading will eventually cause an electrical fire.

Here are a few tips for the safe use of such equipment:

- Always keep space heater at least three feet away from all combustible surfaces and furnishings.
- Never leave an electric heater unattended.
- Never use gasoline or other flammable liquids to start fires in a fireplace.
- Follow the manufacturer's recommendations when using manmade fire logs.
- Don't use the fireplace as an incinerator. Burning paper or other trash in a fireplace send dangerous flames and sparks up the chimney that could start a

chimney fire or a roof fire.

· Always keep a screen in front of the fireplace.

· Never leave a fire unattended. Make sure it is out when you leave the house or go to bed.

· Be sure and inspect the power cord and setting switch on electric blankets.

· An electric blanket is designed not to overheat when it is spread out. If it is left on when rolled or folded up, heat may accumulate in the blanket and get it hot enough to ignite.

· Always review manufacturers recommendations, cautions and safety tips before using equipment.

Space heaters and electric blankets should be approved by the Underwriter's Laboratory. Remember, fire safety practices are paramount when using these devices. Hazard awareness, preventive maintenance and using common sense (ORM) will help protect you at work and at home.



Candles can provide a warm and festive atmosphere to your home all year round. But they can also bring tragedy if left unattended. This photo shows a near miss, just moments away from disaster. Note the candle tags scorched and the burnt corner of the match box.

Follow these safety tips from the Home Safety Council:

* Never leave burning candles unattended. Extinguish all candles before going to sleep or leaving the room.

* Do not permit children to keep or use candles or incense in their rooms.

* Keep candles at least three feet away from anything that can burn, including other decorations.

Combat Logistics Support Squadron inactivates

**By Capt. Bill Pierce
507th ARW Public Affairs**

The 507th Combat Logistics Support Squadron was officially inactivated following the encasing of the CLSS Flag and the relinquishing of command by Maj. Chad Gericke, during the December UTA.

At the ceremony, former members and retirees came together one last time to celebrate the accomplishments of the men and women of the 507th CLSS.

"Although the CLSS mission is unique and the community relatively small, the contributions they've made to the Air Force, in both peace time and war time, have been significant," said Lt. Col. James McDonnell, commander 507th Maintenance Group. "Their expertise has been sought for a wide vari-



CLSS memorabilia, including photo albums, scrapbooks and plaques, were on display at the inactivation ceremony.



The 507th CLSS unit flag is about to be encased during inactivation ceremonies on December UTA.

ety of projects. They are a true force multiplier."

CLSS was established to provide combat logistic support forces that were flexible

and could perform mission-ready military aircraft battle damage repair. Over a span of two and a half decades, Airmen worked on the KC-135,



B-1, B-52, C-130, F-16, F-4 and F-111 aircraft in support of missions across the world.

As the last commander of the 507th CLSS for the past two years, Maj. Chad Gericke said "It would have been real easy for us to say the end is near, pull the power back and coast. We chose to be different. We chose not to do that. We chose to take the fight all the way to the end and drive on through and make things happen." Those remaining in the squadron until the end will now merge or begin new careers elsewhere in the Wing."

Gericke made it his final duty as the 507th CLSS commander to thank the squadron members past and present. "I thank you for allowing me to be the caretaker of that legacy for the last two years. For all the alumni and



Maj. Chad Gericke, the last 507th CLSS commander, addresses his troops, above, and individually, left.

family this is your legacy. Hopefully we have done our best to add to that and make you proud. The final record will always show that the 507th CLSS was on the field ready to play when the game was canceled.

"This is the hard part. To the men and women of the 507th CLSS – It's been my great honor to be your commander. Your accomplishments will stand the test of

time. You will always be proud to fit in with that legacy of those that went before you in the 403rd and 507th CLSS. Thank you for allowing me the privilege to be there when that fine machine did its thing and letting me be a small part of that.

"It's a rare opportunity to say today to the men and women of the 507th CLSS, 'stand down, mission complete.'"



Each member of the 507th CLSS with the unit until the end was presented one of the above 'Knights.'

Upclose

By Tech. Sgt. Ty Yoshida

The following questions were asked of members of the 507th CLSS after the unit's inactivation:

"How long were you with the CLSS? What was the highlight of your tour with the CLSS?"

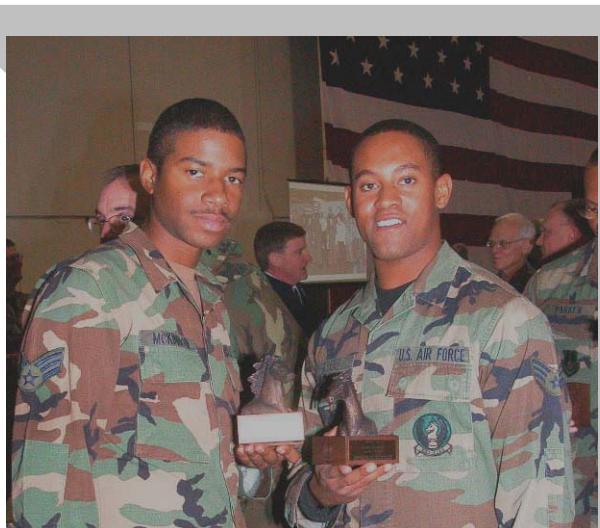


Master Sgt. Lisa Lusignolo

"Thirteen years of serving with great people, going great places and doing great things."

Senior Amn. Charles McKinnon
"I joined CLSS in June '01. Our annual

tour to Hawaii was definitely the highlight of my time with the CLSS."



Senior Amn. James Roscoe Gilbert III

"I joined the unit in March '03. My highlight was going to Hawaii."

Master Sgt. Ernie Longendelpher

"Nineteen years. There were many tours, lots of highlights. It's been an honor to serve with the best."



Parting Shot



A convoy of 12 personnel from the 35th Combat Communications Squadron deployed to NAS JRB New Orleans, LA for the Hurricane Katrina Relief Effort. Upon arrival, they immediately set up communications circuits that acted as a backup to the base circuits.

On-final R-News

CSAF reading list announced

Officials recently announced the new Chief of Staff of the Air Force reading list.

"Our Air Force has an incredible heritage ... a heritage built on courage, valor, brilliance and perseverance," said Gen. T. Michael Moseley.

The reading list focuses on history and heritage. Understanding history allows Air Force members to understand the world today and see the possibilities for the future, the general said.

"This first portion of the (list) captures the stories and visions of our founding fathers and Air Force pioneers," General Moseley said. "Through the next four years, the reading list will change, journeying from our past to our future horizons."

The CSAF reading list can be accessed at www.af.mil/library/casfreading complete with links and

book reviews. The books will also be available through Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., and Air Force libraries.

General Moseley said he had no doubt in the success of the Air Force in the challenges faced today.

"We've done it before, and we will do it again," he said. "Our history proves our success is not founded on our technology, but on our Airmen."

Cell phone guidance issued

Effective immediately, DoD has directed that the use of cellular telephones while operating a motor vehicle (POV or GOV) on DoD installations is unauthorized. This also includes operating a GOV off the installation.

"Drivers must pull to the side of the road to use a cell phone or use a hands-free device," says Master Sgt. Brian Hayden, NCOIC, Installation Law Enforcement with the 72nd Security Forces Squadron here at Tinker.

For more information, contact Hayden at 734-2870 or the 507th Security Forces Squadron at 734-5618.

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