

On-final



U.S. AIR FORCE

507th Air Refueling Wing - 513th Air Control Group

Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma

AUGUST 2007 Vol. 27, No. 8



Preparing for duo-commander mission.

Story and photos on pages 4 and 6.



507th ARW
Commander's Column
By Col. Jeffery R. Glass

Let's work together for the success of the mission

As we stand up the guard associate unit here at Tinker, we will have to inconvenience many of our units with moves or loss of some space. This closeness of quarters will continue into FY 09 until the new operations building is built and eventually we get a third hangar. I ask everyone to not think about how bad they have it, but think about what the guard members are going through. Not only do they have to learn a new mission, but have to pick up and move to a new base to learn that mission. The only way this mission will be successful is if we all work together and feel the pain as a team. We already have numerous operators here flying with us on a daily basis with the bulk

of the maintenance footprint coming late next quarter. Please make them feel welcome to be part of the great team we already have here.

Many of you have heard the term AFSO21 (Air Force Smart Ops), which basically means using our assets, both people and equipment, more efficiently. I have appointed Capt. Mark Vardaro as the wing POC since Capt. Bob Griffith is moving to Dover and will be missed. Captain Vardaro works this same kind of project in his civilian life. I want each of the wing members to take a look at how we do our daily business here at Tinker and if you have a better way of doing things please pass them on to Captain Vardaro or Maj. Bonnie Tremblett. The phrase "We've done it that way forever" will not be tolerated. Everything can be done better or more efficiently. I'm especially looking to the new members of the wing to give a fresh perspective.

Lastly we have a little over a month left on the 101 Critical Days of Summer. Please continue to look at safety and ORM in both your work environments and your off-duty time. Have a fun but safe August!

Good vs. bad guys

Explaining war to an 8-year-old

**Commentary by
Master Sgt. Melissa Phillips
436th Airlift Wing Public Affairs**

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, Del. (AFPN) — When an 8-year-old recently asked me out of the blue, "Why do you have to go to Iraq?" it stopped me in my tracks.

I remember thinking how can I possibly answer such an immense question without somehow tainting her view on this unpredictable world.

When I deployed to Southwest Asia in 2002, a fellow Airman told me he explained to his daughter why he had to deploy by telling her, "Daddy, has to go help feed the camels in the desert."

After about two months into his tour, his 4 year old told him on a telephone call, "Daddy, someone else needs to feed the camels. I want you to come home."

I thought that was such a cute, bittersweet story, but I knew the camel trick

definitely was not going to work on this informed bookworm.

I wanted to say something profound and comforting, but I was at a loss to answer her. After all, I was headed for a war zone where people don't always come back alive, and there is no easy explanation to ease the worries of family and friends.

After a few ums and ahhs, I heard myself tell her, "We have to help the good guys fight the bad guys, who are trying to hurt them." She seemed satisfied with the response, gave me a beaming smile and ran off to play. I sat there stunned.

I had been trying to avoid thinking about the reason why I was going back to Iraq for the second time in two years.

After my conversation with her, I thought to myself, is it really that simple? Do good guys still win in our universe? Can U.S. and coalition forces really help a nation of people overcome their differences to rebuild a stable country?

Who exactly are the good and bad guys?

In reality, I know there isn't a black or white answer to these questions. That's hard to accept by a nation of Americans who pride themselves on their logicity and forward thinking.

To servicemembers' advantage, we are used to operating in the grey.

While unfortunate, and although we do our best to avoid it, it's accepted there will be collateral damage in war. Lives will be lost. Families and innocent people will be hurt on both sides.

I don't like that reality. However, I firmly believe we are doing more good in Iraq and Afghanistan than harm!

I've seen it with my own eyes.

I've witnessed children, who have never held a stuffed animal or toy, receive one and seen their eyes light up. I've seen thirsty and hungry people barely surviving in blistering 130-degree heat receive life-sustaining supplies.

Continued on page 3

A time for everything

By Wing Chaplain
(Lt. Col.) Mike Jones

A very famous passage in the bible states "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain, a time to search and a

time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace." (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8)

I have been made mindful, lately, of how many of us are in one of those negative seasons of life. Whether it's grieving the death of a family member or friend, struggling with the loss of a job, coping with the devastation of divorce, or dealing with the disappointment of dashed hopes and dreams, it can be a very difficult time for us. The wise

writer of the passage above knew that all too well. But he also knew that those negative times in life are eventually balanced out with better times—times of joy and laughter and love.

If you find yourself in one of those negative seasons of life then my word of encouragement to you is to hold on. Know that better times will come again. And if you find yourself in a pleasant season of life, then let me encourage you to reach out your hand to someone else and help them along. After all, we are all in this together!

Explaining war to an 8-year-old ... continued

Continued from page 2

I know most Americans don't have the opportunity to witness the endless parade of care packages that family members send their loved ones to give to the Iraqi people consisting of shoes, clothes, wet wipes, diapers, food and more. I had the privilege to see the goodness in people on both sides, despite the harsh conditions that brought them together.

Many military members, and those who support them, are personally invested in helping the Iraqi people.

We admire Iraqis who are forging ahead to make their country a better place, even though they and their family members are targeted for accepting the responsibility to secure their future.

Insurgents don't recognize freedom of speech or value human life. They don't seek a compromise with their countrymen or neighbors for the greater good of their collective society. They are the

bad guys.

Not only is our mission to destroy the bad guys, the U.S. military spends a huge hunk of time on humanitarian missions. We patch up Iraqi and Afghanistan children when they're sick or hurt. We provide medical services that a vast majority of people could never afford on their own. We build hospitals, schools and a myriad of facilities that directly improve their lives and will continue to do so long after the U.S. and coalition presence is gone, and this war is a high school history-book page.

The success stories are rarely told in the media, but they occur every day. I knew that from my last tour here, but I was still confused about how I felt about this war. Now when anyone asks me, "Why are you in Iraq," I know what to say. I'm here to help the good guys win. It's that simple.

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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. If you need more time, please call us at 734-3078.**

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.

Wing begins a new partnership

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

Reservists attending the August drill weekend may likely see new faces and new patches being worn around the various offices in the 465th Air Refueling Squadron building.

Approximately eight Oklahoma Air National Guard aircrew members are part of an initial cadre working side-by-side with their Air Force Reserve hosts

aircraft and convert to a KC-135 associate unit partnering with the 507th Air Refueling Wing. Another dictate from that BRAC report resulted in the 507th receiving four additional KC-135 aircraft from the 939th ARW from Portland, Oregon, last year.

Under this associate operations, the 507th Air Refueling Wing is the host wing with all 12 aircraft assigned owned by the Air Force Reserve Command. The Oklahoma ANG will be maintain a separate administrative and operational control, but be associated with the 507th ARW, working together to fly and maintain all aircraft. For deployable tasking, both the 507th ARW and 137th AW will function as six primary aircraft assigned (PAA) wings. With this action, the 507th ARW becomes the first AFRC wing to have an ANG wing associated with it.

“When you think about it, starting this associate relationship is pretty exciting. We’re part of a DoD-wide Total Force Initiative reorganization. We’re going to show that our air reserve component mix will be just as viable and beneficial to national defense,” Colonel Glass said.

According to an April 2007 Site Activation Task Force report, the main body of aircrew and maintenance personnel should begin arriving before the end of the year. Once the OKANG aircrew and maintenance personnel finish transfer-

ring to Tinker AFB, they’ll begin a seasoning process of working and flying the KC-135.

Operationally, the 507th will receive 2,500 annual flying hours and the 137th will receive 1,800 flying hours. To support this allocation flying is anticipated to rise to six sorties a day, three-turn-three, by late 2007. Regarding future manpower and unit manning document positions, no changes have been made to the UMD and as of this article, no major changes are pending.

“We do expect that our wing manning will likely change as a result of this process,” said Col. Jeffery R. Glass, 507th ARW commander. “We’re waiting for the AMC Roadmap process sometime this fall to see what needs to be done.” The colonel assured wing reservists that transition groups would be created to support future manning changes. “We will work hard to take care of our members and help them through this process, whether they decide to cross-train, relocate or take a different path.”

Of immediate concern as additional personnel arrive at the wing is where to put them.

The BRAC process requires funding two facility projects — expanding the fuel hydrant systems and build a joint squadron operations and life support building — but construction has not begun on either project. In the meantime, portable buildings are slated to be located behind building 1043 to house non-maintenance sections currently located in building 1030 such as the Services and Communications Flight, and the Logistics Readiness Squadron. This will make room for ANG maintenance crews.

Some renovations have already occurred to vacate offices within the 465th building 1048 to accommodate arriving ANG aircrew. Ultimately, once the joint

Continued on page 6



Col. Jeffery R. Glass, 507th Air Refueling Wing commander, and Col. James McCormack, 137th Airlift Wing commander, pause a moment on the flight line prior to their first duo commander mission. Colonel McCormack’s Air National Guard wing is slated to stand up as a KC-135R associate wing affiliated with Colonel Glass’s Air Force Reserve Command wing in late 2007. The merger is the first time an Air National Guard wing has associated to an Air Force Reserve wing.

Photos by Lt. Col. Richard Curry

as they begin to stand up associate operations.

As a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure process, the 137th Airlift Wing located at Will Rogers World airport was identified to lose their C-130

Quarterly award winners named

The 507th Air Refueling Wing Quarterly winners for the 2nd Quarter are Capt. Jenette Jensen, Master Sgt. Kevin Richison, Tech. Sgt. James Cobb, and Senior Airman Michelle Patterson.

Capt. Jenette Jensen, a KC-135R instructor pilot with the 465th Air Refueling Squadron, was selected as the Company Grade Officer of the Quarter.

She maintains worldwide mission-ready status in the KC-135 aircraft. Captain Jensen coordinates and plans all aspects of flight and instructs squadron pilots in ground and air operations. "Capt. Jenette Jensen is an outstanding instructor pilot and natural leader," says Lt. Col. Michael Mahon, 465th ARS commander. "She sets the example for the junior officers in the squadron."

Captain Jensen's attention to detail and ability to create comprehensive programs led to AMC IG recognition. The inspection team awarded the squadron's Tactics Program an Excellent rating; the highest grade in unit history. She was the only Wing ORI participant to be honored with an AMC IG coin as outstanding performer.

Captain Jensen consistently volunteers to attend professional military courses and currently is completing squadron officers school.

She participates in the non-profit Habitat for Humanity program, seeking to build affordable housing for people in need. She also devotes free time at numerous local animal shelters and assists in locating animal adoption candidates.

Master Sgt. Kevin Richison, an air transportation craftsman with the 72nd Aerial Port Squadron, is this quarter's Senior Non-commissioned Officer winner.

For a joint exercise, Sergeant Richison was his commander's number 1 choice to lead an eight-man team for Fort Campbell fly-away in support of Global War on Terrorism.

His team successfully downloaded 33-plus tons of cargo and 88 passengers;

the performance earned AMC/IG Outstanding Team Award. As an ADVON member, he dedicated 18 additional hours to prep Alpena CRTC for the next inspection team and participants.

Sergeant Richison organized monthly exercises to train and re-certify/familiarize all air freight personnel; an awesome educator. He is a dedicated professional who guided and shaped future NCOs as a member of the Aerial Port Mentorship Program.

He is academically driven; amassed 18 hours toward a project management degree, achieved a 3.9 grade point average. He is enrolled in SNCOA and completed two tests within five weeks.

Sergeant Richison is a compassionate person who volunteered many hours to Habitat for Humanity, roofed and painted homes for needy families. He is a baseball coach and role model to 100 children, promoting physical/mental fitness to future leaders. He dedicates many hours to a growing church congregation, serving as children's church teacher. Sergeant Richison bleeds Air Force Blue as a life member of Air Force Association and Non-commissioned Officers' Association.

Tech. Sgt. James Cobb, an aerospace medical service craftsman with the 507th Medical Squadron, is Non-commissioned Officer of the Quarter.

He is an outstanding aerospace medical technician who is a significant contributor in meeting the monthly requirement to complete 150 physical examinations. He mentors and trains 35 medical technicians to maintain AFSC specific requirements at 100 percent. While deployed to Balad AFB, Iraq, he supervised 14 medical technicians, providing top-notch care to over 1,200 patients with an impressive 98-percent survival rate. As a member of the post attack reconnaissance team, he responded to over 88 searches for unexploded

ordnances, ensuring 319 medical personnel were safe to perform their duties.

Sergeant Cobb's fire fighter paramedic credentials render him an invaluable asset to the reserves and he has been a fire fighter paramedic in Denison, Texas for the past five years. He attended the NCO Academy in residence and is currently enrolled in a College Network program, pursuing a self-paced Associates Degree in Nursing.

Sergeant Cobb is active in his local church and supports school activities.

Senior Airman Michelle Patterson, a computer, network, and cryptographic journeyman with the 35th Combat Communications Squadron, is Airman of the Quarter.

Airman Patterson performed pre-deployment maintenance and inspections on 50-plus modules of equipment and nine vehicles. She worked after hours to ensure, voice, secure and nonsecure circuits were tested and activated on time.

Airman Patterson volunteered and certified in a two-day physical training leader (PTL) course. She led by example; as PTL she scored a 90 on her fit to fight evaluation, putting her in the excellent category and in top 13 percent of AFRC.

Airman Patterson supported an IGX and Operation Readiness Exercises, ensuring the wing was prepared for the AMC ORI. She volunteered 18 hours to stand as a weapons guard for the ORI. She supervised and trained two Airmen on performing preventive maintenance inspections and tire inspections.

Airman Patterson was one of the first to take advantage of Seasoning Training Program for 5-level upgrade training. She completed 71 core tasks for 5-level upgrade and three AFETS classes on TDC equipment.

Airman Patterson is a member of the Air Force Association and participates in fundraisers and books for vets program.



513th AMXS
Commander's Column
By Maj. Anthony D. Vallera

Look before you leap

As I prepared myself for transition from the active duty Air Force to a civilian career back in 1996, I never considered how different the two lifestyles would be. All I knew at the time was that I was leaving an environment that had become comfortable and routine for an exciting new opportunity in the civilian world. Now make no mistake, I enjoy my civilian job very much. It has given me many opportunities to experience a variety of wonderful and challenging work assignments that I have found very rewarding. But, not long after I got out of the Air Force, I began to realize something was missing, or at least not the same as it had been when I was in the active Air Force. Very simply, it was the camaraderie and sense of belonging to a close knit family that I felt while I was on the Air

Force team. Sure, we all make good friends at the civilian job. But at the end of the day, when the whistle blows, we politely say "good bye, see you tomorrow". When I think back on my experience in the Air Force, both active and reserve, I recall a stronger sense of bonding between my fellow Airmen than I've experienced in any other vocation. It is for this reason that I returned to the military and joined the Air Force Reserve. And the friendships I've made here in the 513th ACG are what keep me coming back month after month.

I truly believe the Air Force Reserve offers all of us Airmen the best of both worlds. The opportunity to be valuable and productive members of the civilian workforce, and community, and the opportunity to serve the United States as Air Force Airmen on a part time basis, and in time of emergency, on a full time basis. So, as you make your own career decisions, remember to factor in all the friendships you've established in the 513th and throughout the Air Force. I guarantee you'll be hard pressed to find a more caring and tight-knit group of professionals than we have right here in this unit.

Wing begins a new partnership ... continued

Continued from page 4

squadron operations building is complete—estimated to occur in Fiscal Year 09—all operations functions will move to their new building and 1048 will be renovated as the future building for all mission support group functions.

Additionally, a third maintenance hangar appears to be funded for construction beginning in FY 09. Other interim operation options also include possible swing space of facilities until all the construction is complete.

"Our reservists there will have to be flexible and work with their interim facility plans until their full-time locations become complete," Colonel Glass said.



Col. Jeffery R. Glass, 507th Air Refueling Wing commander, and Col. James McCormack, 137th Airlift Wing commander, engage in preflight mission planning prior to their first duo commander mission. Colonel McCormack's Air National Guard wing is slated to stand up as a KC-135R associate wing affiliated with Colonel Glass's Air Force Reserve Command wing in late 2007.

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.**

FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY PAY (FLPP)

Reservists may apply for FLPP by submitting a written request for FLPP testing to his/her commander. FLPP I requires you to be on a tour of duty that requires the language. FLPP II will pay based on active duty days or IDT periods performed. Spanish and Tagalog speakers are not entitled to FLPP II. If you are proficient at a foreign language and are interested in this program please contact Chief Master Sgt. Charlotte Epps or Master Sgt. Sharon Lochman in the MPF Education Office at 734-7075 for instructions on how to apply for FLPP.

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 or Ms. Kim Silkwood 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.**

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 507.msf.dpmt@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. 1030 (Hangar) Room 214.

Computer-based testing on the UTA is available on Sunday at 0800 and 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 the training office or call 734-7075 prior to scheduled testing time. All testing is also available on 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: 0800 - 1200 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)

FY 2007/2008 UTA SCHEDULE

08-09 Sept 07	
13-14 Oct 07	03-04 Nov 07
01-02 Dec 07	05-06 Jan 08
09-10 Feb 08	01-02 Mar 08
05-06 Apr 08	03-04 May 08
07-08 Jun 08	12-13 Jul 08
02-03 Aug 08	06-07 Sept 08

As of 26 July 2007

Fri, 3 August 2007

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 1056, 970th.AACS Conf Rm

Sat, 4 August 2007

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 0730-0930 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 203
0800-1530 MPF/Customer Service Section Open
 0900-0930 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
 1300-1545 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, 5 August 2007

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
0730-noon MPF Closed for In-House Tng Bldg 1043, Rm 203, 213
0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium
0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg. 1066 OG Conf Rm
0750- by appt CDC testing Bldg 1030, Rm 214
 0800-1100 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
 0800-1030 Unit Safety Rep Training Bldg 1030, Room 104
0800-1500 MPF/customer service section open
 0830-0930 Enlisted Advisory Council Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
1300. by appt. CDC Testing
 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 Wing Commander's Call Base Theater
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

Fri, 7 September 2007

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 1056, 970th.AACS Conf Rm

Sat, 8 September 2007

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 0730-0930 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 203
0800-1530 MPF/Customer Service Section Open
 0900-0930 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
 1300-1545 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, 9 September 2007

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
0730-noon MPF Closed for In-House Tng Bldg 1043, Rm 203, 213
0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium
0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg. 1066 OG Conf Rm
0750- by appt CDC testing Bldg 1030, Rm 214
 0800-1100 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
 0800-1030 Unit Safety Rep Training Bldg 1030, Room 104
0800-1500 MPF/customer service section open
 0830-0930 Enlisted Advisory Council Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
1300. by appt. CDC Testing
 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
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 in basement. Unit/Ancillary Training Managers are responsible for ensuring their new personnel are scheduled to attend** within 90 days of their first UTA. If you have questions, contact the MPF Education & Training Office at **734-7075**.

Day	Time	Subject	OPR
Phase I			
Saturday	1305-1315	Wing Lodging Program	SVF
Saturday	1315-1345	Information Assurance	CF
Saturday	1345-1445	Drug and Alcohol, Suicide/ Workplace Violence Prevention	SG
Saturday	1430-1500	Local Conditions/ORM	SE
Saturday	1500-1530	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:
07 Aug	15 Aug
09 Aug	17 Aug
14 Aug	22 Aug
16 Aug	24 Aug
20 Aug	29 Aug
22 Aug	31 Aug
28 Aug	05 Sept
30 Aug	07 Sept
04 Sept	12 Sept
06 Sept	14 Sept
10 Sept	17 Sept

Military Pay (405) 734-5016

BAQ Recertification Deadlines

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

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

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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Top 3: Ensuring success for Airmen

Senior Master Sgt. David M. Liszeski, a Utilities Superintendent with the 507th Civil Engineering Squadron, is currently serving as the President of the 507th Top 3 Association. Liszeski has served for five non-consecutive terms in an executive position within Top 3. He recently sat down with the 507th Public Affairs staff to answer some talk about Top 3, its purpose, benefits and future goals.

What exactly is the Top 3 Association?

Top 3 is an association made up of the top-three enlisted ranks. As masters, seniors and chiefs, we have a responsibility to our fellow Airmen. We're responsible for them and we have to be a good example, not just in words, but deeds as well. Essentially, that's what Top 3 is all about; Airmen helping Airmen.

Why does Top 3 take on this responsibility?

We're responsible because when it comes to the Air Force, we've been there and we've seen it. We know what each new member will be going through and can help them get to the other side of whatever that issue of concern or roadblock is. Our job is to see you through, whether that is for a career in the military or a transition to civilian life. Top 3 can work to take an Airman who considers himself a zero and make him into a hero. If I'm not doing that I'm not doing my job. That's what Top 3 is supposed to be doing. Taking people and molding them into capable Airmen. In fact, our theme for this year is "developing capable Airmen."

What can Top 3 do for a new Airman?

If an Airman comes to us for advice there is so much we can do. Basically, I can be your encyclopedia reference. I can do anything from introduce you to a career advisor to helping you write enlisted performance reviews to provide information on how to use Military OneSource. Our job is to serve as a point of reference. I know where to look and I will point you in the right direction. I will follow up. That is my promise to each and every Airman out there. I need to make sure everyone is gainfully employed and that I equip them with the tools to be successful. Top 3 can provide an example for each Airman. The trail has already been paved, so now it's not so rough. We are the ones who have helped pave that trail and it's our responsibility to help other Airman along the way.

What does it mean to be a member of Top 3?

It means I have to be current on Air Force standards. It means I have to communicate with the Command Chief to find out her biggest concern and make that my concern and share that with the group. My job is to take care of those concerns so that the command chief doesn't have to worry about it. I try to keep things from getting to that level. It's a

matter of responsibility. We provide an example in communication, leadership, management, dress and appearance. We are living all these out in front of people. As a member, you become part of a network, and you see the bigger picture. You find out why you do things as opposed to how you are going to do it. I was once told that I should be involved with things bigger than myself, and the Top 3 is bigger than me. Top 3 will definitely teach you what it takes to be a master, a senior or a chief.

How can someone become a member of Top 3?

They can contact me. I return all my calls. I'm a traditional reservist, but I try to check my military e-mail at least twice each month. Right now, the dues to become a member of Top 3 are \$10 per year. We have quarterly meetings that meet roughly an hour before each Commander's Call. Our goal is very simple; a one hour meeting to share and gain information on growing, maturing and developing capable up-and-coming Airmen. It's almost like a focus group for ensuring each Airman's individual success.

What are the membership dues used for?

One main purpose of the dues is to demonstrate the commitment of the member to help fund the expenses involved with running the organization. Those expenses are things such as quarterly awards, honor guard banquet donations, Airmen Leadership School graduates, things like that. Sometimes funds are used to help out unit members who are in severe financial distress. We also provide funding for Operation Holiday Spirit and of course, in honoring wing members in the annual Billy Hughes Awards Banquet.

How do you respond to an Airman that might come to a Top 3 member for advice?

Personally, I would be flattered. If an Airman has a question, I owe it to him to point him in the right direction. It's a mentoring opportunity and I will not blow you off. It would be a disservice to not share that wealth of information because at some point someone had to share it with me.

How should junior enlisted members take advantage of Top 3?

As an Airman, Top 3 should provide inspiration. You need an example, even at times of what not to do. The trail has already been paved, so it's not as rough of a trail. We are the ones who helped to pave that road and it is our duty to help up-and-coming Airmen to travel that road as well.

Why are you involved in Top 3?

At one time I was studying to be an officer and I was being counseled by a two-star general. One day, he asked me the question, "What are you doing for the blue two?" I

Continued on page 8

Deployed member provides inspiration for unit

By Senior Airman Zach Anderson
507th ARW Public Affairs

Each and every UTA weekend members of the 507th receive training designed to ensure readiness in time of need. Now, one wing member is proving just how valuable that training actually is.

Senior Airman Dustin Baca, a satellite communications technician with the 35th Combat Communications Squadron, is currently serving on a 120 day deployment to Kirkuk, Iraq. It's his first time to be deployed and by all accounts he's wasted no time in proving the value of the reserve role in a deployed environment.

"A deployment gives reservists an opportunity to showcase their skills in ways they can't during a typical UTA weekend," said Tech. Sgt. Richard January, a satellite communications specialist with the 35th and a veteran of three deployments himself.

"A deployment is really a learning experience," said January. "You really don't know your job until you deploy. It gives you an opportunity to truly see what your job is all about."

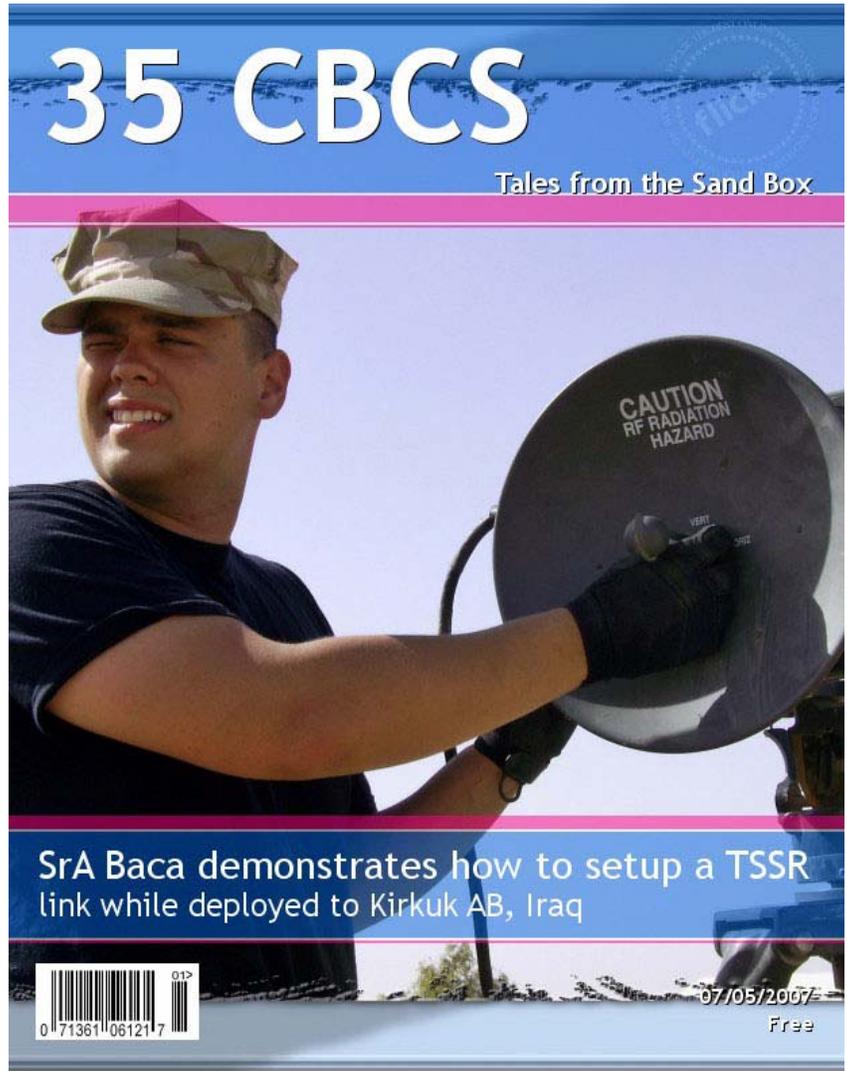
While in Iraq, Baca is tasked with establishing and maintaining Tropo Satellite Support Radio, providing full duplex FM microwave line-of-sight links to pass voice and data circuits to distant parts of a bare-bones base. The system allows wireless transmissions of essential communications such as telephone and internet capabilities.

Baca had been trained on his job duties, but January said this deployment experience will help reassure Baca of his ability to perform.

"Before he left he knew how to do his job but he didn't have the confidence behind it. Now we can see through his communication back to us that he has exceeded all expectations. That's a testament to his training and will go a long way in boosting his confidence in himself. He's going to come back a different person," said January.

In addition to his normal duties Baca has also played a major role in helping to provide Armed Forces Network programming to the entire base, helping to bring a piece of home to troops overseas and boost moral in the war-time environment.

January said his work is also providing a boost of moral here at home as well.



"We're all extremely proud," said January. "He's only the second person out of our unit that has stepped up to go to Iraq. To see him being successful confirms that we are training our people properly. It's a reflection of the hard work and training we do here at home."

Now January is hoping to use Baca's experience as an example to provide inspiration for other members of the 35th. He's planning on turning some of Baca's photos from Iraq into a series of motivational posters to be displayed around the unit as a way of showing just how important training really is.

"When you see a unit member being successful it really shows an example. It's a reward for all the time, hard work and training that we put in," said January.

Baca is schedule to return from his deployment in September. The example he has set for his unit, however, will stand long after his deployment has ended.

Saving money should be a priority now

By Master Sgt. Walter Simco
507th AMXS First Sergeant

Are you ready to take control of your future and have a secure financial life? The Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) is here to show you how. All you have to do is click on www.tsp.gov.

Saving money is not a matter of getting more of it. You will not save money when you get that next promotion, bonus money arrives, the car is paid off or the kids are grown. You will only save money when it becomes an emotional priority. All of us know we need to save for those days when the money is not coming in or our health and energy are not able to keep up with demands of our job. But most people don't save like they know they need to save for the future or life emergencies.

"I can not save now;" it isn't a high priority like the new computer or the new play station games, or what about that new game box coming out. Do we have to go out and eat and have that many drinks on that TDY? So we purchase, spend, consume all our dollars or, worse yet, go into debt to obtain luxuries. Debt means monthly payments that control our paychecks and make us pay interest on the money we used that we did not have.

Saving money is not a secret. You need to simple make it a priority. You will not even miss the money. Like using the Elective deferrals with TSP that are tax-deferred amounts that you choose to contribute as a lump sum or a percentage of your pay. Because such contributions are tax-deferred, they are not included in your taxable gross income for the year in

which they are contributed.

Defense Authorization Act was signed; it extends participation in the TSP to members of the uniformed services, including the Ready Reserve. As reservists we have the benefit for retirement savings and investment planning.

Congress established the TSP in the Federal Employees' Retirement System Act of 1986. The purpose of the TSP is to provide retirement income. The TSP offers the same type of savings and tax benefits that many private corporations offer their employees under "401(k)" plans.

You may elect to voluntary contribute to the TSP at any time; there is no waiting period. You can start, change, stop and resume TSP contributions at any time and elect to contribute any dollar amount or percentage of your basic pay. And you have choices of investment funds to pick from within the plan. Start letting you money work for you. The retirement income that you receive from your TSP account will depend on how much you have contributed to your account during your working years and the earnings on those contributions

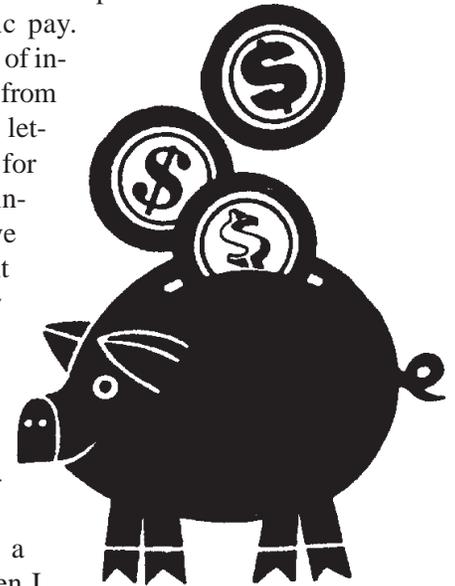
We did not have a program like this when I was a young Airman. But for the old guys over the age of 50 we can make catch-up contributions to our TSP account. You can enroll online through MYPAY. Your agency will deduct the amount you choose from your pay each pay period and will continue to do so until you submit another election to stop or change the amount.

Don't wait any longer. Just think, if you started with your first paycheck would your quality of life at retirement be different? Get online and check out TSP. A strategic financial plan coupled with self discipline can change your retirement landscape.

In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has. -Proverbs 21:20



Master Sgt. Walter Simco
507th AMXS First Shirt



Enlisted Promotions for July 2007

Promoted to:	Name:	Unit:
Senior Airman	Wegner, Elaine	507th CES
Airman 1st Class	Hayes, Mark	507th CES
Airman 1st Class	Copeland, Justin	507th CES
Airman	Mott, Mary	507th LRS
Staff Sergeant	Molloy, Chase	507th MOF
Senior Airman	Blakesley, Tony	507th MXS
Senior Airman	McNeill, Leo G. III	507th MXS
Staff Sergeant	Naputi, Vince	507th MXS
Airman 1st Class	Garza, Nimsi	507th SVF
Staff Sergeant	Bramblett, Amber	513th AMXS
Tech Sergeant	Setzer, Wendy	513th AMXS
Senior Master Sgt.	Prater, Michael	513th MXG
Airman 1st Class	Chandler, Aaron	970th AACs
Senior Airman	Nesburg, Sean	970th AACs
Master Sergeant	Cumpian, Domingo	970th AACs
Staff Sergeant	Blair, Bobby J.	507th AMXS
Staff Sergeant	Comes, Robert D. II	507th AMXS

Clearing the air on fitness responsibilities

By Maj. Kurt A. Klewin
513th ACG/Group Fitness
Monitor

Listed below is a reminder of your fitness responsibilities as an Air Force Reserve member. There has been a lot of "I didn't know I needed to do that" type of responses lately, so this should clear the air.

1.. First you need to be on your own workout/fitness schedule. If you are not, fix it. Enough said.

2.. You are responsible for keeping current on your fit testing, just as you are responsible for keeping up with your other deployment requirements. If you're coming due and you have not been scheduled, contact your supervisor or fitness monitor.

3.. How do you know when you are due? Go to the Air Force Portal (<https://www.my.af.mil/faf/FAF/>

[fafHome.jsp](#)) and log in. On the right side toward the bottom is the "Air Force Fitness Management System." Click on the link and all your testing information is available to you to review.

4.. If you tested "Excellent or Good" you are set. You simply need to test in the next 12 months.

5.. If you tested "Marginal," you must retest in the next 6 months and complete the Healthy Living Program for Reservists (HLPR). It's an online program available on the portal.

6.. If you tested "Poor," you must retest in the next 6 months and complete the HLPR. Some individuals with a large abdominal circumference will also be enrolled in the BCIP.

(Body Composition Improvement Program)

7.. Exemptions: if you think you are eligible for an exemption you must first consult with your doctor. Once you have the medical recommendations your commander will review your situation and decide if you are exempt or not. Your exemption will be for all testing events or just specific ones (run/pushups/sit-ups). If you are exempt

medically from one, your score will be weighted from the other events. If you are exempted from the run you will be required to do the cycle ergometry or the 3 mile walk. If your exemption is for more than 30 days you will be referred to the fitness monitor or ancillary provider (physical therapist) for an exercise assessment, prescription, counseling, or rehabilitation.

8.. Be careful with exemptions. From the regulation (AFI 10-248): "Members who are physically unable to participate in a fitness-exercise program for greater than 1 year due to medical conditions should be presumed to be non-deployable, non-assignable and MEB processing will be initiated NLT 1 year after the first profile for the affecting condition".

Thanks for your efforts to stay in shape. If you have any further questions please contact me at kurt.klewin@tinker.af.mil or contact your unit fitness monitor.



Uppclose

The following question was asked of unit members during the July UTA:
“How does your employer support your commitment to the Air Force Reserve?”



Senior Master Sgt. Scott Olsen
507th LRS

“I just took a new job. They have no problem with me being a reservist and support my efforts.”



Staff Sgt. Adrian Mack
507th LRS

“They are good. I’ve been deployed twice and they have always supported me well.”



Senior Airman Danisha Henry
35th CBCS

“Anytime I ask they let me off and they offer a pay differential while I am serving the Air Force.”



Staff Sgt. Shannon McNelley
35th CBCS

“They offer 36 months pay differential if I’m activated.”



Senior Airman Daniel Gardner
507th LRS

“They always give me the time off, no questions asked.”



Tech. Sgt. Rodney Jones
507th CES

“I’ve spent the last 8 months activated. They work around my schedule and know my training here helps me do better work there.”



Dr. Franklin (center) who is a Lt. Col. and flight doctor to the 465th Air Refueling Squadron, was recently recognized by the Tulsa Area Chapter of the American Red Cross as one of several heroes from the community. In the Mentor/Role Model Category, the judges chose Dr. Thomas Franklin. Dr. Franklin is a mentor to a variety of people and devotes himself selflessly to his community. He volunteers his time at the Tulsa Heath Depart. when the staff is in need of clinicians and works extra shifts at the W.W. Hastings Indian Hospital in Tahlequah. He serves as a father figure to three children. On top of that, he mentors first- and second-year medical students at the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine. (Picture are Mary C. Ogle, CEO of the Tulsa Area Chapter of the American Red Cross; Dr. Franklin; and Pat Baldwin of Oklahoma's NewsChannel 8.)



Sherri McWater, wife of Master Sgt. Shawn McWater, 507th Communications Squadron, looks over a copy of the new Tinker Reserve Enlisted Advisory Council (TREAC) cookbook. The cookbook contains recipes from several unit and family members and is available from TREAC members. They make great birthday and Christmas gifts.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Melba Koch

On-final

R-News

Scholarships for military dependents

Last month, Hire A Hero announced that it is offering 122 academic scholarships to active and transitioning military personnel, veterans, National Guard Members, Reservists and their spouses. That scholarship offering has been expanded and is now also available to dependents of military personnel and veterans.

“When announcing our Hire A Hero scholarship opportunities to the public, we received a large amount of interest from dependents of military personnel and veterans,” stated Dan Caulfield, Hire A Hero Executive Director. “Because of that inter-

est, we have decided to open up the scholarship opportunities to dependents. Like those who have served, they too have sacrificed and deserve the opportunity to gain scholarships to help pay for their higher education studies.”

All American service members, veterans and spouses are encouraged to apply for the scholarships. The application process involves registering on the Hire A Hero website for free at <http://www.hireahero.com/> and uploading a written essay or short video. All applications are due on or before August 17th and winners will be announced in late August.

Remember: Not applying for scholarships is like turning down free money.

507th ARW recruiters

<http://get1now.us>



Tinker AFB, OK

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

Moore, Norman, OK

Master Sgt. Michael Comfort
(405) 217-8311

Midwest City, OK

Tech. Sgt. Neil Lambrecht
(405) 732-6279

Tulsa, OK

Master Sgt. Monica Flowers
(918) 250-3400

Lawton, OK

Master. Sgt. Ronald Gregory
(580) 357-2784

McConnell AFB, KS

Sr. Master Sgt. David McCormick
(316) 759-3830
Master Sgt. Stephan Kimbrough
(In-Service Recruiter)
(316) 759-3766

Vance AFB, OK

Master Sgt. Stephan Kimbrough
(316) 759-3766