

On-final



U.S. AIR FORCE

507th Air Refueling Wing - 513th Air Control Group

Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma

JANUARY 2009 Vol. 29, No. 1



**Norman VA Center
Christmas party**

See Pages A4-5
for more photos.

From a question mark to today's fight

**Commentary by Gen. Arthur J. Lichte
Air Mobility Command Commander**

Air refueling operations continue to be amazing aerial feats, especially for people who witness the process for the first time.

For Air Mobility Command Airmen, we consider it simply part of what we do but, in reality, it is quite remarkable to have two aircraft meeting less than 50 feet apart at more than 20,000 feet above the ground traveling at speeds close to 400 miles per hour while a tanker replenishes another aircraft with the fuel necessary to continue the mission.

The amazement is even greater when one considers the first major air refueling operation happened 80 years ago when the Question Mark, a tri-engined Fokker C-2 aircraft with a crew of five, climbed into the southern California sky Jan. 1, 1929.

Over the next seven days, the crew kept the aircraft airborne through air refueling from two three-man crews operating Douglas C-1 single-engine transports that had been transformed into tankers with the addition of two 150-gallon tanks to off-load fuel.

Combined, those historic tankers made 43 takeoffs and landings to deliver 5,660 gallons of fuel, 245 gallons of engine oil, storage batteries, spare parts, tools, food, clothing and mail during the Question Mark's 150-hour and 40-minute operation.

Today's tanker fleet continues to play the vital role of sus-

taining operations. Tankers underwrite our nation's ability to project power. Aircraft extend our reach to deliver the clenched fist of U.S. power to our adversaries, or the open hand of assistance to people in need.

Without tankers, our combat aircraft cannot reach their targets. Without tankers, our resupply aircraft and humanitarian relief materials cannot always reach their destinations. Without tankers, we cannot move our wounded warriors non-stop from the battlefield to the U.S. for the medical care they need.

As a nation, we're overdue on building new tankers. We must make delivery of this capability a high priority for our nation. We simply must get on with it. We're working hard to ensure Air Mobility Command is ready when the next effort begins to choose the industry partner to build our next-generation tanker.

I can understand how the group of Airmen felt at the beginning of the New Year 80 years ago. Their thoughts were likely focused on how to not only successfully demonstrate the air-refueling capability, but also make people aware of its potential significant military contributions.

Today, the question isn't how critical is the tanker to our warfighters and our national security. We know the need for a tanker is critical; it's a capability our nation simply cannot do without.

Mobility Airmen provide global air mobility — the right effects at the right place at the right time. I look forward to a successful 2009.

2009 Scholarships for Military Children Program is underway

The 2009 Scholarships for Military Children Program ends Feb. 18. Scholarship applications are available in commissaries worldwide and online through a link at <https://www.commissaries.com> and at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>.

Qualified applicants should prepare to submit an essay on the following topic: "What would you place inside a time capsule to help people in the next century understand military life today?" Applications must be turned in to a commissary by close of business on Feb. 18. At least one scholarship will be awarded at every commissary location with qualified applicants.

PAGE 2

eSeminars offer civilians retirement, benefit information

The Air Force is offering eSeminars on retirement, benefits and financial literacy to civilian appropriated fund employees. These eSeminars offer civilian employees the ease of accessing information at any stage in their career or as needs arise.

The current choices offered in eSeminar format include a planning for retirement seminar that includes details on the Thrift Savings Plan, social security, insurance and flexible spending accounts. This seminar also helps with planning for employees covered under special retirement like air traffic controllers or law enforcement officers. The

next eSeminar offered is the new employee benefits orientation. This seminar will offer employees an understanding of each federal benefit program. The third eSeminar offered is about financial literacy. This seminar explains taxes, investment options, insurance, investment planning, and estate planning.

For directions on accessing the EBIS site to take you to the eSeminars, visit <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/BEST/?prods3=272>.

For additional information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123123125>.

That's what friends do

by Chaplain, Lt. Col. Mike Jones
507th ARW Chaplain Office

In June 2008, CNN Headline News reported that six-year-old Josiah Haden, who was swimming in a pool at a birthday party, saw a shadow at the bottom of the pool. He dove to the bottom and pulled his five-year-old friend to the surface, yelled for help and pulled him to the side of the pool. A doctor and nurse at the party gave the boy CPR and the boy survived. When Josiah was asked about whether he was scared to swim down into the bottom of the pool and pull his friend out he said, "We're friends and that's what friends do."

As Air Force members and leaders, we ought to display this same kind of attitude toward those we work and serve with. Our actions, as well as our words, should say, "We're Wingmen and that's what Wingmen do!"

UTA Protestant Services:

Sunday (7:30 a.m.) Bldg. 1056

UTA Catholic Services:

Sunday (7:30 a.m.) Bldg. 1066

Start the new year off on a new note and support our Chapel folks. The 30-minute service will do your heart good and start your morning with a smile and a song.

If you play an instrument and would like to be a part of the Protestant service, call the Chapel staff at 734-5632.

January Promotions

<u>Name</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Promoted to</u>
Christopher Gorman	507th AMXS	Airman
Joey Granado	507th CES	Airman
Gary L. Poindexter	507th MXS	Staff Sgt
Ryan Thrasher	507th AMXS	Tech Sgt
Kevin Weedn	507th AMXS	Airman First Class
Douglas Combs	507th AMXS	Staff Sgt
Steven Kirk	507th MDS	Tech Sgt
Angela Shelke	970th AACs	Master Sgt
Douglas Wall	513th AMXS	Staff Sgt
Robert Mussyal	507th SFS	Tech Sgt
Leo McNeil	507th MXS	Staff Sgt
William Hunter	507th CES	Tech Sgt
George Welliver	72nd APS	Senior Airman
Patricia Wright	507th MSF	Senior Airman
Peter Ramirez	507th CES	Airman
Steven A. Wright	507th MXG	Chief Master Sgt
Zachary Anderson	507th ARW	Staff Sgt

2009 Tinker Reserve Top 3 officers

President: Master Sgt. Sharon Lochman
Vice President: Senior Master Sgt. Robert Gaspar
Treasurer: Master Sgt. Veronica Garrett
Ways & Means: Senior Master Sgt. David Liszeski
Secretary: Master Sgt. Robert Loveland
Publicist: Senior Master Sgt. Virgil Hogue

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JANUARY 2009

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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. Call us at 734-3078.

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.



513th ACG
Commander
By Col. John Trnka

Happy New Year

Happy New Year! (I know, it's a lame opening, but the rest of this is great – really.)

Today's lecture is "Nobody takes care of you, like you."

When it comes to your career, nobody does take care of you, like you. What is a career? It's the service you've given, the deployments, and overseas tours, the great work you've done, the memories of shared hardship and joy with your squadron mates, the pay, the retirement, etc. ...and none of that means jack if it's not documented or you can't produce those documents that define your career: enlistment documents, DD214's, Points Summaries, LES's, Awards and Decs RIPs, your Personnel Brief, Flying Histories, OJT Records, Education Records, and others. Do you have all those? Do you know where to look? Can you get them when you need them?

We get documents from a wide variety of sources – mostly computer based: vPC-GR, vMPF, MyPay, ARMS, etc. But, nine short months from now, 1 Oct 09, almost all that will be consolidated to one new system: Defense Integrated Military Human Resources System, or DIMHRS.

What's DIMHRS? Here's the book answer: (Don't these sound like EPR/OPR bullets?)

"DIMHRS is a web-based tool that will be available 24 hours a day, and personnel records will be available to HR professionals, combatant commanders, personnel and pay managers, and other authorized users throughout the Services. The initiative will result in the largest, fully-integrated HR system in the world and deliver timely and accurate pay and benefits to all Service Members and their families."

"DIMHRS will:

Provide accurate and timely data on personnel assets.

Provide standard data for comparison across Services and Components.

Properly track Reservists for both pay and service credit.

Track all military personnel into and around the theater.

Provide integrated personnel and pay functions."

Somebody is taking care of you - it's one-stop shop-

ping for all your records. Great! Now here's the rub: As I write this: the vPC-GR servers crashed and it's been down for three days, AROWS swallowed my last set of orders for nearly three weeks, and the MSgt in my Orderly Room has an Officer Performance Report in her ARMS database. (Last I checked, MSgts don't get OPR's and oh, by the way, her name's not "Ben.") It's not that I don't trust new and improved technology; I'm just cautious. As these systems crash, lock up or produce bad data, our ability to work is compromised, though we can always move on to something else, until things get straightened out. But, imagine how cool it will be when the "One Stop Shopping – Fully Integrated" shop shuts down for a day or a week. The office work will grind to a halt, and we'll have little left to do other than listening to LtCol Dale Andrews explain what size cannon is needed to fix the problem, or sitting through LtCol Pat Rupel's head-shaving tips, or LtCol Dell Robertson's ever popular "maximizing the ART paycheck" lecture. Worse, what if DIHMRS eats, alters, or deranges your records? Here's where we get back to:

"Nobody takes care of you like you."

It's your responsibility to make sure you have the documents you need to define your career, to ensure your entitlements, your veteran's preference, get your pension and even that neat little gravestone when the time comes.

Here's what I want you to do (begging you to do): Spend some time in the next couple of months to review all of your records; then make computer back-ups and paper copies. What records? ARMS to start, OPR's, EPR's, etc. Then everything in vMPF, especially the Data Verification Brief, AWARDS and DEC's briefs, Duty History, Points Summary. (BTW – It took me 40 minutes to find Points Summary section; knowledge I am now willing to sell.) Make sure you have copies of ALL your DD214's, as well as orders, LES's, and paid travel vouchers, especially those showing overseas and contingency service. If you don't have, can't locate, or find seriously screwed up records, now is the time to start fixing the problem. NOW, not Sept or Oct, NOW. Getting things corrected takes time. Start getting your records together now. Don't wait until the DIHMRS servers crash, taking all YOUR info with them.

You've earned substantial benefits because of your service, whether you've been in 10 months or 10 years. But YOU have to be able to prove your eligibility. That starts with records, and the time to start looking for those is not when you're applying for school, a job or a loan.

Nobody takes care of YOU like YOU. That's not selfish, that's just the way it is. Oh, and by the way you are going to hear this again. Take care of yourself and have a great 2009.

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. **For more information or to schedule testing, 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. Next class is scheduled for Feb. 2-13, 2009. See unit training manager for 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. 1043, ATN Room in the basement.

Computer-based testing on the UTA is available on Sunday at 0800 and 1300 in Bldg. 1043, ATN Room in the basement.

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 09 UTA SCHEDULE

10-11 Jan 09	
07-08 Feb 09	07-08 Mar 09
04-05 Apr 09	02-03 May 09
06-07 Jun 09	11-12 July 09
01-02 Aug 09	12-13 Sep 09

As of 31 Dec 2008

Fri, 9 January 2009

1300 Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 1400 Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
 1500 Pre-UTA CChief & 1st Sgt Mtg Bldg. 1066, OG Conf Room
 1600 Top 3 Executive Board Mtg Bldg 1056, 970th Conf Rm

Sat, 10 January 2009

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 0730-0930 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 203
0800-1500 MPF-See Page A3 for specific times
 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 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 1000-1100 Mobility Rep Meeting To Be Determined
 1300-1545 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 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

Sun, 11 January 2009

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 1130-1500 MPF-See Page A3 for specific times
 0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium
 0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg. 1066 OG Conf Rm
0750- by appt CDC testing Bldg 1043, ATN Room
 0800-1100 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 0830-0930 Enlisted Advisory Council Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm
 0900-1130 HazCom Trng for Supr Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng To Be Determined
 1015-1115 Mandatory 3S0X1 Trng Bldg 1043, Rm 203
1300. by appt. CDC Testing Bldg 11043, ATN
 1300-1600 First Duty Station Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
1300 SORTS/Post UTA Mtg CAT
 1400-1500 IG period w/Capt. Vardaro Bldg 1043, Room 5
 1330-1500 Top 3 general membership mtg Base Theater
 1500 - Wing Commander's Call Base Theater
Unit Designated Sign Out

Fri, 6 February 2009

1300 Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 1400 Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
 1500 Pre-UTA CChief & 1st Sgt Mtg Bldg. 1066, OG Conf Room
 1600 Top 3 Executive Board Mtg Bldg 1056, 970th Conf Rm

Sat, 7 February 2009

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 0730-0930 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 203
0800-1500 MPF-See Page A3 for specific times
 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 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 1000-1100 Mobility Rep Meeting To Be Determined
 1300-1545 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 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

Sun, 8 February 2009

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 1130-1500 MPF-See Page A3 for specific times
 0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium
 0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg. 1066 OG Conf Rm
0750- by appt CDC testing Bldg 1043, ATN Room
 0800-1100 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 0830-0930 Enlisted Advisory Council Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm
 0900-1130 Supvr Safety Training Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng To Be Determined
 1015-1115 Mandatory 3S0X1 Trng Bldg 1043, Rm 203
1300. by appt. CDC Testing Bldg 11043, ATN
 1300-1600 First Duty Station Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
1300 SORTS/Post UTA Mtg CAT
 1400-1500 IG period w/Capt. Vardaro Bldg 1043, Room 5
 1500 - Wing Commander's Call Base Theater
Unit Designated Sign Out

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 at 734-7075 or your UTM.

Military Pay

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

06 Jan	13 Jan
08 Jan	15 Jan
13 Jan	21 Jan
15 Jan	23 Jan
20 Jan	28 Jan
21 Jan	30 Jan
27 Jan	04 Feb
29 Jan	06 Feb

Newcomers Ancillary Training

Newcomers Ancillary Training Phase I & II are conducted **monthly** in **Bldg 1030, 507th MSG Conference Room. 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**.

Military Pay (405) 734-5016

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>OPR</u>
Saturday	1315-1430	Drug and Alcohol, Suicide/ Workplace Violence Prevention	SG
Saturday	1430-1500	Local Conditions/ORM	SE
Saturday	1500-1530	OPSEC Training	OG
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

New MPF Hours

**Closed Thursday afternoon
Saturday UTA**

Open at 0800 - 1500, except for following closures:
1300-1330 - Employments/Relocations

1400-1430 - Career Enhancements
1500-1530 - Customer Service
1500-1600 - IDs only

Sunday UTA

Open at 1130 - 1600

BAQ Recertification Deadlines

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

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

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.

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. Sharlotte A. Epps, Chief, Education & Training (ART)
Assistant Editor: Master Sgt. Sharon Lochman, Asst. Chief, Education & Training (ART)

Contributing Editors:

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Staff Sgt. Elecia Shearer, Education and Training Advisor Ms. Kimberley Silkwood, Testing and Education Advisor (Civilian)



We're looking for squadrons willing to adopt an entire wing at the Norman VA Center (there are 6 total with approximately 50 residents each) and work on activities 1-2 times a year. We are currently collecting Valentines for all of the residents from local schools. Contact PA at 734-3078 if you are interested.



VA CHRISTMAS PARTY



Thanks to all unit members, and others outside the unit, who helped with the Angel Tree project this year. Thanks for buying gifts, donating money, delivering gifts, attending the Christmas party and visiting the Veterans. More than 300 handmade Christmas cards were donated from Southgate Elementary School in Moore and Eisenhower Elementary School in Norman. These gestures mean more to the residents than you'll ever know.



Employers get a look at Reserve mission

by Staff Sgt. Zach Anderson
507th ARW Public Affairs

At just after 11:20 a.m., a 507th Air Refueling Wing KC-135 Stratotanker thundered down the flightline at Tinker Air Force Base, lifting off and cruising on a northwestern course toward the skies of New Mexico. The mission: An aerial refueling of a B-52 Stratofortress. For the flight crew, it was a routine day on the job. For a group of special passengers, however, it was anything but just another day at the office.

Twenty-one civilian employers were given the opportunity to have an up-close look at the mission of the 507th ARW by riding along on an aerial refueling mission. The Dec. 11 flight was a cooperative effort by the 507th ARW and the Oklahoma Committee of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve to provide civilian employers a glimpse of the life of a reservist.

"These types of things are great," said Bill Gillespie, an Oklahoma ESGR committee member. "It goes a long way to show what the guard and reserve are doing."

Prior to the flight, the employers were given a mission briefing. Col. Jeffery Glass, commander of the 507th ARW, spoke to them about the commitment required of citizen Airmen.

"The Air Force Reserve is much more than just a one-weekend-per-month, two-weeks-per-year obligation. Each day, reservists are constantly contributing to missions worldwide," Glass said. "Yet even with time required from their military commitment, I think most of you will agree that your reservists and guardsmen are some of your best, most professional and most reliable employees in the civilian workplace."

During the flight, employers were able to interact with Airmen, walk through the aircraft, view the flight deck and watch firsthand the skill and professionalism required to perform an aerial refueling. The intent was to allow civilian employers a glimpse into the military side of the life of a reservist...and it definitely accomplished the mission.

"It was a wonderful experience and I'm glad to have had the opportunity. It gave me great insight into what our servicemembers do," said Gloria Griffin, superintendent of Millwood Public Schools.

"It was an amazing experience. Not only were the technical aspects impressive, it was equally as impressive to see the Airmen carry out their tasks so efficiently. I'm very appreciative to have been invited to attend," said Adam Johnson, Director for Recruitment and Scholarships at the University of Central Oklahoma.

The flight also served as an opportunity for reservists to provide their civilian employers with a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

"It is kind of a way to give back. My boss is flexible with my time and that allows me to fulfill my obligations as a boom operator. And, it increases his awareness of exactly what I do as well," said Tech. Sgt. Ben Brent, a boom operator with the 465th Air Refueling Squadron.

For the group of civilian employers, the flight was definitely a break from the day-to-day workplace routine. Yet, by observing a normal, everyday occurrence in the day of an Airman, these employers were able to gain a better understanding for just what being a reservist is all about.



Self Inspection back to the future

A wing-wide initiative kicked off this month to incorporate a new computer-based inspection program.

That program called the Management Internal Control Toolkit (MICT) was designed and created by an Air Force Reserve Command team after a one-week AFSO21 Rapid Improvement Event.

MICT is billed as an all-in-one inspection tracking and analysis toolset. The program is web-based, real time, and allows individual units and program managers to assess their programs and up-channel their internal inspection results. The HQ AFRC/IG deployed the tool to the wings Oct. 1st for use in their self-inspection programs. Local officials will deploy this new application throughout the wing in time for the 4th Air Force Staff Assistant Visit scheduled to occur in July.

According to wing officials, the 507th Operations Group is designated lead group to initialize local wing efforts. Their goal will be to populate the tool with responsible POC's who will conduct internal inspections. In addition, wing staff agencies are also demonstrating the MICT utility by conducting inspections and submitting their results up for wing self inspection monitor visibility.

Tools are available for all levels of leadership to manage and track programs and discrepancies. These tools are available to unit members and are permission-based dependent upon needs. Starting from the lowest level, program administrators and their assigned assistants can access applicable checklists and program requirements. Further, they can conduct their self-inspection checklists, for later viewing by unit leadership and inspection teams.

Next, functional managers can create additional checklists and assign them to members within their areas of responsibilities. As the information flows up the inspection chain, each level of authority is assigned specific roles, responsibilities, and visibility into the unit's MICT program. The roles each member in the process plays are based on permissions and visibility within MICT and ReserveNet member accounts. These permissions are set by a local administrator and can be adjusted as necessary.

According to AFRC officials, "The toolset gives commanders an automated process to report and assess unit compliance effectiveness. It enhances productivity by enabling them to identify and analyze process shortfalls and trends through a time- and cost-saving inspection analysis system."

In other words, once self-inspections results are entered and submitted, local wing, numbered Air Force and AFRC inspection monitors may see the results in a nearly virtual real time state. Commanders from the highest level on down will be able to rapidly assess inspection progress

results and areas for improvement.

The command has been field testing the toolset and made it available on the ReserveNet Web site for commandwide use last October. According to Col. Mike Mahon, Wing vice commander, "...self inspection is like all other readiness items, we need to comply to ensure wartime readiness and compliance items are hand-in-glove with our wartime mission. These are warrior skills and we need to keep them razor sharp."

For more information on the wing-wide MICT rollout, contact Lt. Col. Bonnie Tremblett at 734-5543 or Lt. Col. Donald Satterlee at 734-9001.

EET members sought

by Staff Sgt. Kay C. Terrapin
507th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Have you ever wondered what it was like on the other side of that gas mask? Well here is your opportunity! 507th LRS is looking for a few good men and women to join the EET cadre. One member from each section is needed for the evaluation team to help guide, mentor, and lead our troops.

So you ask "What does the EET do?" EET members are here for the troops. They help unit members understand reasons behind ATSO training, other events, and the imperative of survivability. EET members confirm members are able to do his/her job while in a chemical environment. And if unable to perform the job, EET members teach and guide troops on what they are supposed to do.

What do you need to be part of the EET? Members wishing to become part of the team need to have a 7-level in the section they wish to represent. As evaluators, you need to expertly understand the section you're looking at. You need a recommendation from your supervisor and commander.

What is expected from an EET Member? You need to be trained; you must complete the CBT on the ADLS website yearly after you become a member. There are planning meetings that will occur that must be attended. As a Trusted Agent, you will also be privileged to information regarding exercises the wing will be having throughout the year. You may apply to be an augmentee on other wing's IG ORE/ORI's and you can submit an application to HQ AMC/IG where you get superior training on writing reports and evaluating. But most importantly, you'll be a key piece of this unit's wartime training, our sustainability and our mission capability.

Interested members should contact me for further information at 734-0541.

Grade	Years of Service														
	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
O-8	1,206	1,246	1,272	1,279	1,312	1,366	1,380	1,431	1,446	1,491	1,555	1,615	1,654	1,654	1,654
O-7	1,003	1,048	1,070	1,087	1,118	1,149	1,184	1,220	1,255	1,366	1,461	1,461	1,461	1,461	1,468
O-6	743	817	870	870	873	911	915	915	967	1,060	1,113	1,168	1,198	1,228	1,289
O-5	619	698	746	754	785	803	835	872	910	967	994	1,021	1,051	1,051	1,051
O-4	534	618	661	669	708	748	799	840	867	883	893	893	893	893	893
O-3	470	533	575	628	657	689	711	746	764	764	764	764	764	764	764
O-2	405	462	533	550	562	562	562	562	562	562	562	562	562	562	562
O-1	352	367	443	443	443	443	443	443	443	443	443	443	443	443	443
O-3E	-	-	-	628	657	689	711	746	776	793	816	816	816	816	816
O-2E	-	-	-	550	562	580	610	634	650	650	650	650	650	650	650
O-1E	-	-	-	443	473	491	508	527	550	550	550	550	550	550	550
E-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	586	601	616	637	656	688	737	744	787
E-8	-	-	-	-	-	480	502	514	531	547	578	594	620	635	671
E-7	334	364	378	397	411	435	450	463	489	501	512	521	544	560	601
E-6	289	318	331	346	359	392	404	418	430	434	437	437	437	437	437
E-5	264	283	296	311	331	350	364	368	368	368	368	368	368	368	368
E-4	243	255	269	283	294	294	294	294	294	294	294	294	294	294	294
E-3	219	233	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247
E-2	209	209	209	209	209	209	209	209	209	209	209	209	209	209	209
E-1	186	186	186	186	186	186	186	186	186	186	186	186	186	186	186

On-final R-News

the IG says

Roles of the IG in Relation to the Commander:

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

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

On-final deadline reminder

Deadlines for the upcoming On-final newspapers are the Sunday of the UTA prior to the issue desired. For example, the February deadline is this Sunday, January 11. For more information, contact the Public Affairs Office at 734-3078.

507th ARW recruiters <http://get1now.us>



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