

On-final

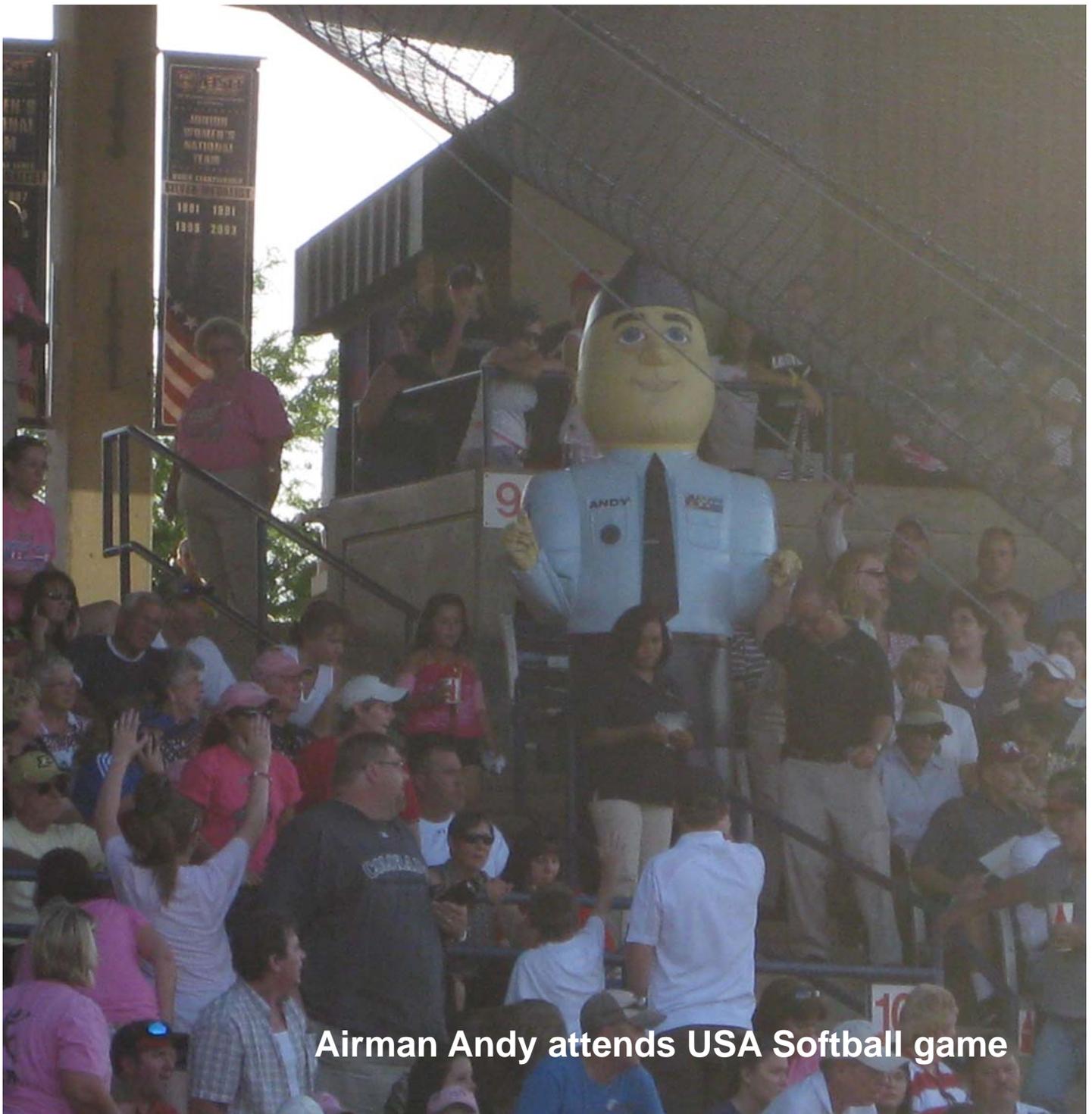


U.S. AIR FORCE

507th Air Refueling Wing - 513th Air Control Group

Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma

AUGUST 2009 Vol. 29, No. 8



Airman Andy attends USA Softball game

There is no space left in today's Air Force for renters

**Commentary by Chief Master Sgt. Tim Karsten
1st Special Operations Wing
Inspector General Office**

HURLBURT FIELD, Fla. (AFPN) — The brown root beer can laying on its side was as still as death in front of a car in the parking lot. To me it looked like a huge cancerous growth on the asphalt as I rounded the corner in search of an available spot for my car.

This was no ordinary parking lot. It was a barracks parking lot that was nearly full to capacity. This parking lot was also right next to the wing inspector general office where I work.

Luckily, I thought, the offending can lay right in the path of a young Airman I observed making his way across the parking lot to his vehicle. I imagined the Airman demonstrating his full commitment to the Air Force by taking immediate action and removing that out-of-place object left by another dastardly individual, one who is not suitable to wear a uniform. I watched my hero make his way right for the can, and then simply stepped right over the can as he continued on his way.

My hopes of seeing a remarkable act by my supposed hero were dashed to pieces in that one step, and I decided it was time to intervene. After parking my car, I walked over to the young man, who by now was in his truck. He removed himself from his vehicle to speak with me.

Well, I thought, at least, he knows how to talk with someone wearing chief stripes. The conversation went something like this:

“Young man, are you on active duty?”

“Yes sir.”

“Did you see that can you stepped over back there?”

No real feedback came from the young man standing there in the open door and his civilian clothes.

“Do you know the difference between those who own and those who rent? Those who rent walk past the trash on

the land they don't own and expect a laborer or the landlord to pick it up. Those who own the land know no one else will take the trash off their land so they stop, pick it up and take care of it personally.”

I think I saw a glimmer of understanding.

“Don't worry about it now. I'll get the can. You go on your way. I just wanted to leave you with that thought.”

With that I left him, grabbed a bag that was under the car next to his truck and then picked up the can on the road and dropped them in a dumpster. This only required a slight deviation from the normal path to my office.

Maybe I experienced what six retired chief master sergeants of the Air Force were discussing when they spoke to my class at the Senior NCO Academy. They sat side-by-side, oldest to youngest.

The oldest chief master sergeant of the Air Force said something that caught my attention. It was something like, “When I came in the service, the old guys there didn't think I was worth anything,” Then he pointed to the one next to him. “When he came in, I didn't think he was worth anything.”

He continued pointing at each retired chief master sergeant of the Air Force on the stage down the line generationally in the same manner. He reminded us all that the senior didn't think highly of the junior's generation when they joined the service.

Another chief master sergeant of the Air Force then made the point that leadership made the difference to each of the generations sitting up on the stage, and leadership is what made a difference to those sitting in the audience.

We apparently still need leaders who will make owners out of those who are part of today's Air Force — Airmen who will stop and clean up a “mess” others have made and not just walk past it.

The Air Force is smaller now than it has ever been, but we are engaged in more operations than ever. There is no space left in today's Air Force for renters.

A \$10 million KC-135 Maintenance Hangar contract was recently awarded to The Ross Group. The new 26,000 square foot facility includes additional parking. A Notice To Proceed (NTP) should be given by the end of July and construction should start soon. The contract length is 485 days. Estimated completion is Dec 2010.



Chapel Corner**Communication**

by Chaplain, Maj. Dwight Magnus
507th Wing Chaplain

A young Marine Sergeant, and his boss, a Warrant Officer who stood about 6 ft 4 inches and weighed just shy of 300 pounds of solid muscle were having a discussion. At the time, the young sergeant had just started back to college. One day he was telling the Warrant Officer about what I had been learning in my college classes. He was telling him about communication cycles, about what causes communication to break down in the workplace, different strategies to counteract the breakdown of communication and how to foster a positive atmosphere of communication. He told him that he wanted to hold some training on communication for the troops the next training day that we had scheduled.

The Warrant Officer pretended as though he was interested and said that would be a good idea... and after a while he said, "I took a class like that once... have you ever heard about the brick method?" I very seriously said that I had not and then asked, "What is the brick method?" To which he replied... "It's simple, when somebody doesn't listen to what I tell him... I hit them upside the head with a brick!"

Proverbs 18:21 says, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits." The Bible gives us many alternatives to the brick method. Whether we are at work or at home, we all can improve our communication. Over the next couple of months, I'll share some thoughts on the subject. Next month: "For the Ladies: Just what does he mean?"

**Government Travel Cards
Do's & Don'ts**

The IBA (Individually Billed Accounts) is a privilege extended to our service members and civilians for use during TDY, PCS, and PCA assignments only. If, at any time, you are questioning whether the transaction you are about to make is authorized it is always best to error on the side of caution or contact your unit Travel Charge Card APC.

When on TDY, PCS, or PCA travel orders the following charges are generally authorized:

- * Airline Tickets purchased through the contract travel office or as authorized in travel orders
- * Hotels, lodging
- * Rental Car
- * Taxi to and from the Airport/Duty Station or restaurants for meals
- * Meals for authorized PER DIEM –TDY traveler Only
- * ATM Withdrawals for AUTHORIZED PER DIEM
- * Fuel/Parking for POV or Rental Car
- * Excess Baggage Charges
- * Commissary or Grocery Stores for authorized TDY expenses only
- * Dry Cleaning/Laundry
- * Registration fees, if authorized on the TDY orders and/or included with lodging costs

When on TDY travel orders the following charges are NOT authorized:

- * Any Retail Store (GNC, JCPenney, K-Mart, Walgreen, Pharmacies, etc.) other than for authorized TDY expenses only
- * School supplies (except when required as part of curriculum)

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**507th Air Refueling Wing
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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.

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 Air Control Group
Commander

By Col. John Trnka

Nobody takes care of you like YOU

A while back I wrote on the theme of “nobody takes care of you like you” – that you have to take responsibility for YOUR career. Always true, it’s even more so now; much of the “support” in the Air Force is shrinking – many of those experts in finance, the MPF and admin we leaned on are going away, replaced by a variety of computer-based systems that sometimes don’t work so well, may be confusing or don’t help in your particular case. For routine transactions, they usually work OK, but the days of walking down the hall or across the street to ask a question about pay, OPR’s, EPR’s or a travel voucher are about gone. The days of walking up to someone’s desk for a copy of your OPR, EPR or travel voucher are over. Now? That stuff’s only available on a website.

So, why am I bringing this up again? Simple. I screwed up – BIG TIME. I’ve tried to take my own advice; made copies of all my records. Every LES, order, travel voucher, OPR I’ve written or signed, every important email, everything I thought I might need. Saved it all on my computer. Much of it only on the computer. Worked like a champ until the computer was flooded by a mean, evil, dripping air conditioner. Fortunately, I had an external hard drive. Unfortunately, that drive was disconnected months ago and I had never reconnected it. Looked at it every day – but I was always too busy to hook it back up. I’ve literally lost months of work as a result. I didn’t take care of me. My external hard drive is now hooked up. Many of you will be getting one

as well in the near future; the work you do is too valuable to be lost. We are also looking at ways of backing up data off-site. Till then, all of you have writable CD or DVD drives on your computer. Use them. I’ll make sure we have enough blank CD’s and DVD’s around the unit.

One good news story wrapped in a bad news story: Years ago I built a filing system for all Orders, LES’s, 40A’s, TP’s and Travel Vouchers – about the only things I still keep paper copies of. (Before any of you grammar freaks write me, I know I dangled a participle there – you try and re-word it.) When the travel voucher system imploded earlier this summer, and a couple of my vouchers were lost, I had the records to resubmit. Hopefully this particular voucher, first submitted on 8 April will be paid by the time you read this - in August. (Four months if you’re keeping score)

About those travel vouchers... The new, improved, travel voucher processing system is broken. It will get better, but before it does, it is going to be a problem for everyone who goes TDY. Vouchers that used to take days to pay may now take weeks, or even months. Here’s how you can take care of you – GET YOUR VOUCHER IN ON TIME; it’s one thing you can control. Another’s knowing what you owe and when it’s due – make sure you get access to CitiBank’s website so you can keep track of your account. One last thing is communicating with your leadership - if it’s been 45 days or more since you filed and Uncle Sugar hasn’t paid-up, we need to know. Unfortunately, late payments to CitiBank can result in big fees, career-damaging paperwork, and ding your credit record, all of which sucks if the government is late paying you. We can keep bad things from happening if you’re the innocent victim of Finance SNAFU, but we need to know. The sooner, the better.

We’ll get through this latest bit of progress. (That didn’t come off too sarcastic, did it?) Do your part, communicate and keep a sense of humor. Oh, and back-up the data on your computer this weekend. Thanks again for being a part of the 513th and the Air Force. Have a great UTA.

Making way for progress ... Memorial (Toad) Hall, the gazebo just west of the Headquarters parking lot, will soon be torn down to make room for an additional 63 parking spaces on the Reserve campus. The gazebo was built in 1991.



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 for authorized languages will pay based on active duty days or IDT periods performed. 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 100 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 Oct 19-31, 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.

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 09-10 UTA SCHEDULE

01-02 Aug 09	12-13 Sep 09
03-04 Oct 09	14-15 Nov 09
05-06 Dec 09	09-10 Jan 10
06-07 Feb 10	06-07 Mar 10
10-11 Apr 10	01-02 May 10
05-06 Jun 10	10-11 Jul 10
07-08 Aug 10	11-12 Sep 10

As of July 29, 2009

Fri, 31 July 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 1043, ATN Room

Sat, 01 Aug 2009

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 0730-1230 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 203
0800-1600 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
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

Sun, 02 Aug 2009

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 1200-1600 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
 0900-1000 Enlisted Advisory Council Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm
 0900-1130 HazCom Trng for Supervisors 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
 1400- TOP 3 General Meeting Base Theater
 1500 - Wing Commander's Call Base Theater
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

Fri, 11 Sept 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 1043, ATN Room

Sat, 12 Sept 2009

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 0730-1230 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 203
0800-1600 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
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

Sun, 13 Sept 2009

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 1200-1600 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
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 1400-1500 IG period w/Capt. Vardaro Bldg 1043, Room 5
 1400- TOP 3 General Meeting Base Theater
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 at 734-7075 or your UTM.

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**.

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>OPR</u>
Saturday	1330-1415	Drug and Alcohol	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	EO
Sunday	1300-1600	First Duty Station (Aug 2/ Nov 8)	EO

UCMJ Briefing:

Article 137 of the UCMJ requires "articles (of the code) shall be explained again ... at the time when the membr reenlists." In an effort to ensure compliance with this requirement of the UCMJ, members who are selected for reenlistment must obtain their Article 137 briefing prior to their reenlistment. This briefing is presently being given at 0830 on Sunday of the UTA at Bldg. 1030, MSG conference room. Members who need the training must bring their reenlistment checklist so it can be annotated.

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 the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 0830 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1030, MSG Conference Room.

Emergency Management:

Unit Training Managers must schedule Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and incendiary Explosive devices (CBRNE) Survival Skills, by name, through ACES PR. All personnel must bring protective mask (inspected and sized) with C2 canister, protective glove inserts, overboots, mask spectacle inserts, canteen (1 quart) with M1 canteen cap, web belt, helmet, Airman's Manual AFMAN 10-100, CBRNE Awareness CBT certification. Wear of contacts is prohibited in all classes. Anyone arriving late, without all required equipment, or wearing contacts, will be released back to their unit and reported as a no-show. Classes will always be on Sunday at 0800 and noon. Students should make every effort to show up 15 minutes prior to the start of class. Walk-ins are not welcome. Any questions can be directed to your CBRNE Unit Scheduler.

Drug Testing: You must report within two hours of notification.

Military Pay

File for pay by:	Receive Direct Deposit by:
04 Aug	12 Aug
06 Aug	14 Aug
10 Aug	17 Aug
13 Aug	21 Aug
18 Aug	26 Aug
20 Aug	28 Aug
24 Aug	01 Sep
27 Aug	04 Sep
01 Sep	09 Sep

Military Pay (405) 734-5016

****New MPF Hours****
Closed Thursday noon - 1600

Saturday UTA

Open 0800 - 1600

Newcomers have priority until noon DEERS/CAC/DEP IDs/F(SGLI) will be processed at Bldg. 460 for newcomers until noon. Other services will be filtered in between newcomers. NOTE: Your wait could be long during newcomer processing.

Sunday UTA

Open noon - 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

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:

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

Are you ready? Do advance planning

by Master Sgt. Paula Pate
970th AACCS First Sergeant

As most of you are aware, there is an Air Force Instruction (AFI) which requires military members that are single parents or married to another military member with children to have a written family care plan. However, every military member should have a family care plan—even if it isn't required by AFI. As reservists, we can be activated and deployed at any time, leaving our family members behind. Have you discussed this possibility with your spouse, and have you made the necessary arrangements so that your family can maintain their current living situation in your absence?

Married members may assume their spouse will be able to hold down the fort if they get deployed, so they may not feel it necessary to make any additional arrangements. But what would happen if your spouse got sick or injured while you were away? Who would take care of your children? Does anyone have a power-of-attorney to get medical care for your children if needed? Is anyone besides your spouse authorized to pick

your children up from daycare or school? These are issues that should be discussed prior to being tasked to deploy.

It's often believed that it's easier for single military members with no dependents to go TDY than it is for married members because single members don't have to make arrangements for the care of their families. In actuality, it is often more difficult for a single person to go TDY because they may have to make arrangements to have someone check their mail, pay their bills, and maintain their vehicles and homes during their absence. Advance planning is extremely important to ensure all financial obligations are being taken care of during an absence.

I always find it ironic how many military members wait until just before their departure for deployment to make a last-minute visit to the legal office to get a will. While it's true that you may be in a more dangerous environment while deployed, you have no guarantee that you will make it home safely from work today. If you're worried about how your assets would be divided if you were killed during a deployment, shouldn't you

be just as worried about it now? You don't have to wait until you're tasked to deploy to get a will—do it now—you'll have one less thing to worry about if you do deploy.

Even if you're not required to have a written family care plan, as a military member, you should have a thorough plan in place in case you're required to deploy on short-notice. You should sit down with your family members to discuss options and make decisions so that everyone knows what to expect when you get the call. Obtain a will and any needed powers-of-attorney ahead of time, so that you don't have to do it at the last minute. Your last few days before deployment should be quality time spent with your family members rather than standing in a legal office preparing a will or getting a power-of-attorney. Planning for deployment is a stressful time, but it could be made a little easier if you take care of these important details in advance.

For more information or to inquire about a will or power of attorney, call the Wing Legal Office at 734-4281 or 734-3823.

Government Travel Cards DO's & Don'ts

Continued from page 3

- * Uniforms, clothes, shoes
- * Electronics
- * AAFES-PX/BX other than for authorized TDY expenses
 - * Drinking establishments, night clubs, casinos other than authorized lodging and meals
 - * Car repairs, parts, oil changes, car wash even if POV authorized (exceptions may apply)
 - * Non-military related phone calls
 - * Self moving or storage companies unless authorized on PCS orders
 - * Any online service: internet providers or memberships with a monthly fee, etc.

- * Any personal expense
- * Postal service –use excess baggage if necessary
- * Any home station use (except when on local travel)

The IBA cannot be used if not on official travel orders. For those using their cards, split disbursement is mandatory. All charges to the IBA should be paid using the split disbursement option when filing your travel voucher. Failure to pay any balance on your monthly bill will result in the loss of your charging privileges. If your card is cancelled due to non-payment, your delinquency may be reported to credit bureaus or may lead to collection actions. Accumulating debt on the travel cards can jeopardize your credit ratings and careers.

For more details, contact FM at 734-7207 or 734-6453.

Reservists are not meeting annual mandate

By Lt. Col. Rich Curry
507 ARW Public Affairs

All reservists must annually register information about their civilian employer and job skills on the Department of Defense-run Civilian Employer Information website.

The Department of Defense has established a mandatory 95 percent compliance rate for all services and a deadline of September 30 to meet that suspense.

By Federal Law, DOD is required to: give consideration to civilian employment necessary to maintain national health, safety and interest when considering members for recall; ensure that members with critical civilian skills are not retained in numbers beyond those needed for those skills, and inform employers of reservists of their rights and responsibilities under the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act.

According to DoD information on the program, the collection of civilian employer information (CEI) helps facilitate open communications between the Department of Defense and the civilian employers of Guard and Reserve service members to inform service members and employers of their rights, benefits, and obligations. Officials state the immediate goal is to increase the effectiveness of the Department of Defense's employer outreach programs by identifying employers directly affected by DoD policies and mobilizations. The Department will then be better able to assess actual employer needs and identify possible incentives to encourage employer support for Reserve participation.

Statistics released June 8 by Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command indicate that reservists assigned to the 507th Air Refueling Wing and 513th Air Control Group are currently standing at 63 percent compliant. While better than the command-wide average, it is still short of the mandated 95 percent goal.

"I had our Public Affairs office send out an e-mail message reminder to all 507th and 513th reservists during the June UTA," said Col. Jeffery R. Glass, 507th ARW commander. "That message produced a 4 percent jump in registration for the 507th and a 3 percent registration jump for the 513th. Still, the statistics released by AFRC June 8 reveal the 507th ARW has 373 members and the 513th has 136 members who have not updated their information."

stated that soon each wing's military personnel flight will receive listings to show who is and is not compliant. "This way, for those who are, unit commanders can project and remind their personnel to complete this annual review/recertification in advance," he said, adding that with this listing,

"I hope we will be able to reduce noncompliant rate significantly in the future."

Other options being considered by wing officials to ensure compliance may include adding CEI registration to all TDY, AEF or TDY outprocessing checklists or withholding UTA paychecks until members are in compliance with the requirement.

"CEI registration was established to meet a critical DoD requirement," said

Colonel Glass. "As a management tool, it helps our nation better meet all defense taskings. It helps us avoid blind spots we may encounter and not overburden certain critical civilian occupational fields and at the same time permit greater flexibility throughout DoD when

AFRC officials said that AGRs do not have to register and are not reflected in these totals.

According to Mr. Didier S.D. Opotowsky, Chief, Field Activities Branch, Plans and Integration Division, HQ AFRC Directorate of Manpower, Personnel and Services, As of June 22, the Command is at 34 percent compliance...and we need to get to 95 percent compliance by September 30."

Mr. Opotowsky, who oversees AFRC participation in the CEI program,

considering future taskings and responses."

Even if you have no change in employer, it is still an annual requirement to update your information. Even if you are an ART, you must register your information annually. Registration takes two minutes. Go to the following link (<https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/esgr/>). Select the Logon tab as you must log in before you can access and update your personal record.

Practice ORM at home as well as at work

by Lt Col. Richard Curry
507th ARW Public Affairs

A severe thunderstorm roared through central Oklahoma County Thursday, July 16th.

At 5:05 p.m. straight winds gusting up to approximately 74 mph and hail struck Tinker AFB.

According to Lt. Col. Mike Cahill, 507th ARW Safety office, the high winds moved several of the wing's KC-135R Stratotanker aircraft parked on the ramp. Typically a parked, fueled KC-135 weighs between 175,00 to 180,000 pounds. "One aircraft was moved 6 feet

while another slid 12 feet across the ramp. There were several aircraft that only moved a few inches but still need to be repositioned to help reduce torsional stress on the struts (where landing gear-wheels are not aligned properly). We were fortunate that our aircraft were not damaged by the winds or hail," Cahill said.

After the storm passed, 507th maintenance crews repositioned the aircraft to their original parking locations and thoroughly inspected each jet. Oklahoma weather can become very severe, Cahill warned. He pointed out that just like storms can affect wing aircraft, storms

may also take their toll on reservist's homes and property. "Take a walk around your home and look at it from an Operational Risk Management perspective," he said. Cahill suggested members check to see if patio furnishings can be secured to minimize damage. "What about the trees on your property? Do you have dead limbs that should be removed before they are blown into your roof or limbs that are too close to power lines? By using ORM you can minimize or eliminate potential hazards. But remember, the proper time to use ORM is BEFORE hazards actually happens," he said.



Torsional stress or load can be seen on this main KC-135R landing gear. The aircraft was moved by high winds that struck Tinker AFB July 16. Immediately after the storm wing maintenance workers repositioned and thoroughly inspected all affected aircraft. Wing safety officials point out that high winds can affect reservists at work and home and encourage ORM to identify potential home hazards.



High winds struck Tinker AFB July 16 and moved several 507th ARW KC-135R aircraft parked on the ramp. This nose gear slide several feet to the side of the yellow center line during the storm's estimated 74 mph winds.

Uppclose

The following question was asked of unit members during the July UTA:
“How have you changed your fitness regimen during the hot summer months?”



Maj. Dawn Moore
507th Medical Readiness
Officer

“Work out indoors.”



Senior Airman Fumiko Bowen
507th MPF assistant chief,
Career Enhancement

“Work out bright and early in the morning.”

Master Sgt. Rosalind Holmes
507th Medical Squadron
“The main thing is to make sure we stay hydrated and stretch properly so we don’t over-exert ourselves.”



Supplements: Make informed choices

by Staff Sgt. Mike Andriacco
380th Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

At different bases throughout the Air Force, Airmen are turning to dietary supplements in an effort to maintain a fit force and high personal fitness levels, while causing possible risk to their health.

“Dietary supplements are not regulated by the Food and Drug Administration,” said Maj. (Dr.) Stephen Titus, the 380th Expeditionary Medical Group’s chief of the medical staff. “This places the responsibility to understand the ingredients’ side effects on the shoulders of the consumer. Without oversight of the FDA, there is no third party to drive manufacturers to ensure that their product is both safe and efficacious.”

The Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994 exempts supplements from regulation as long as they don’t claim to cure or prevent any disease. Manufacturers may state that ingredients “may” or “have been shown in studies” to promote a particular health benefit but there is no requirement for the studies cited to be current or reproducible.

Because the companies are not required to ensure the safety or consistency of the product they sell, it is entirely up to Airmen to know what they are putting into their bodies and how that can impact their mission performance. This includes reading the ingredients list and researching potential results.

More information can be found at the Food and Drug Administration’s Web site <http://www.fda.gov> in the nutrition and supplement sections.

The 35th Combat Communications Squadron added a permanent reminder of their presence on base July 10 during a dedication of their new building sign. The sign, a self-help construction project, cost roughly \$4,600 and took two months to build. Shown from center, left to right, Lt. Col. Pete Peterson, 35th CBCS Commander; Col. Jeffery R. Glass, 507th ARW commander; and Col. Rodney Bryan, 507th Mission Support Group commander; during the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Photo by Lt. Col. Richard Curry



On-final R-News

Officials prepare to launch morale, welfare, recreation survey

Defense Department officials are preparing to launch the first military-wide survey to assess morale, welfare and recreation programs. The survey is being conducted with the help of CFI Group, a customer-satisfaction consulting firm with headquarters in Ann Arbor, Mich. It will be e-mailed July 27 to about 600,000 randomly selected service members and will appear as being from CFI Group "on behalf of DOD." Those receiving surveys will have about three weeks to participate.

New Post-9/11 GI Bill starts August 1

The Defense Department is accepting registrations to transfer servicemembers' Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to their spouses or children. To get started, Airmen must get counseling from their education center, said Lt. Gen. Charles E. Stenner Jr., commander of Air Force Reserve Command, in a letter to commanders. Next, they must have at least four years retainability, unless retirement-eligible, before they can transfer the benefits. Servicing military personnel flights can assist. Then, Airmen must verify family member information in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment System is accurate before attempting to apply to transfer the benefits.

Once all of this is complete, Airmen can apply online at www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB. The site is accessible using a common access card, Defense Department self-service user identification or a Defense Finance and Accounting Service personal identification number. The most current information on the new benefit is available at www.gibill.va.gov or by calling 1-888-GIBILL-1.

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

Tinker AFB, OK

(In-Service Recruiter)
Tech. Sgt. Melissa Melichar
(405) 739-2980



Tinker AFB, OK

(Senior Recruiter)
Senior Master Sgt.
Michael Seals
(405) 734-5331



Moore, Norman, OK

Tech. Sgt.
Jackie Harris-Sanchez
(405) 217-8311



Midwest City, OK

Tech Sgt. Adam Thomas
(405) 733-7639
Master Sgt. Marcel Jacques
(405) 733-9403



Altus, OK

Master. Sgt.
Ronald Gregory
(580) 481-5123



Vance AFB, OK

Master Sgt. Stephan
Kimbrough
(316) 759-3766



Tulsa, OK

Tech Sgt. Bill
Joseph
(918) 250-3400



McConnell AFB, KS

Master Sgt. Stephan Kimbrough
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(316) 759-3766
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