

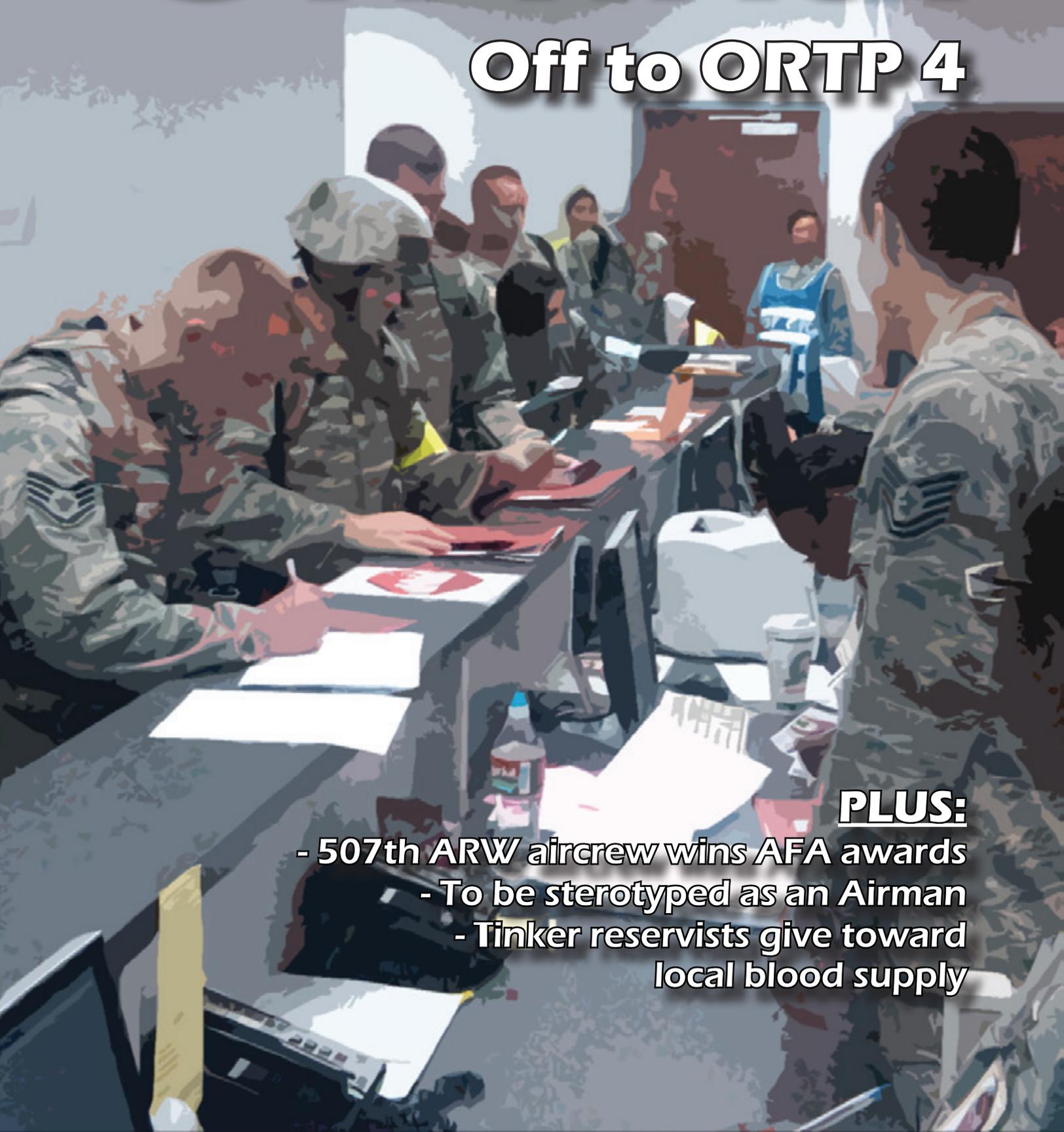
The official publication of the 507th Air Refueling Wing and the 513th Air Control Group

Aug 2011

Vol. 31, No. 8

On-final

Off to ORTP 4



PLUS:

- 507th ARW aircrew wins AFA awards
- To be stereotyped as an Airman
- Tinker reservists give toward local blood supply

“Keeping cool...” by Col. Jeffery R. Glass Commander, 507th Air Refueling Wing

Our big push for the ORI started this week. Sure we have had numerous smaller exercises to get us ready for this deployment. But we have not tried to get almost 600 people and equipment out of town to a deployed location and set up operations.

This operation in conjunction with the 137th requires support from the entire wing. I truly appreciate all of the superior attitudes of the deployers and all of the wing members that helped to get our people out of town.

Working in temperatures that exceeded 100 degrees all week was brutal. When mission changes pushed us into a corner and mission accomplishment looked like it would not happen in the required time, our warriors came to the rescue. I saw the flight line fill with people to help reconfigure jets and load

baggage on to the jets to allow those sorties and personnel to make it to the deployed location on-time SAFELY.

Thank you all for the incredible hard work; it was a total wing effort. The wing will have at least one more major deployment before our ORI next June with numerous other smaller local exercises. Keep up the great attitudes and remember it takes the entire wing to make this happen.

Summer is definitely here with temperatures at or exceeding 100 degrees. Every night on the news I hear about



someone who dies from heat stroke. Whether you are at your job, working in your yard or even out at a lake, heat can take its toll, always drink plenty of fluids and try to find some shade. Use ORM, when you are out at the base we have work rest cycles based on higher temperatures. Use these when you're away from the base. Review the signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke and be good wingmen and always watch out for you buddy or family member. Please enjoy the rest of the summer safely!

Senate confirms Panetta as defense secretary

Biography courtesy of the Department of Defense

Leon Edward Panetta was sworn in as the 23rd Secretary of Defense on July 1, 2011.

Before joining the Department of Defense, Mr. Panetta served as the director of the Central Intelligence Agency from February 2009 to June 2011. Mr. Panetta led the agency and managed human intelligence and open source collection programs on behalf of the intelligence community.

Secretary Panetta has dedicated much of his life to public service. Before joining CIA, he spent 10 years co-directing with his wife, Sylvia, the Leon & Sylvia Panetta Institute for Public Policy, based at California State University, Monterey Bay. The Institute is a nonpartisan, not-for-profit center that seeks to instill in young men and women the virtues and values of public service. In March 2006, he was chosen as a member of the Iraq Study Group, a bipartisan committee established at the urging of Congress to conduct an independent assessment of the war in Iraq.

From July 1994 to January 1997, Mr. Panetta served as chief of staff to President Bill Clinton. Prior to that, he was director of the Office of Management and Budget, a position that built on his years of work on the House Budget Committee. Mr. Panetta represented California's 16th (now 17th) Congressional District from 1977 to 1993, rising to House Budget Committee chairman during his final four years in Congress.

Early in his career, Mr. Panetta served as a legislative assistant to Sen. Thomas H. Kuchel of California; special assistant to the Secretary of

Health, Education and Welfare; director of the U.S. Office for Civil Rights; and executive assistant to Mayor John Lindsay of New York. He also spent five years in private law practice.

He served as an Army intelligence officer from 1964 to 1966 and received the Army Commendation Medal.

Mr. Panetta holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and a law degree, both from Santa Clara University. He was born on June 28, 1938 in Monterey, where his Italian immigrant parents operated a restaurant. Later, they purchased a farm in Carmel Valley, a place Secretary and Mrs. Panetta continue to call home.



Leon Edward Panetta, 23rd Secretary of Defense.

“To Be Stereotyped As An Airman” by Lt. Col. Chris Callaghan 71st Operations Support Squadron Commander Vance Air Force Base, Okla.

When we hear the word *stereotype*, we tend to attach negative connotations to it. After a conversation I had a few months ago, that word changed for me.



In late March, my wife Kelly and I attended a course at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, as part of our preparation for squadron command. The course was a week long, and on the last day, we attended a Basic Military Training graduation at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

Following the graduation, we had lunch with trainees who were just one week from graduation themselves.

We ate with a female trainee from southern California. She didn't have her assignment yet, but wanted to be in either air traffic control or acquisitions. I, of course, encouraged her to become an air traffic controller and join us here

at Vance Air Force Base.

We talked about why she joined the Air Force. She didn't run through a variety of great reasons many of us have for joining: service, patriotism, opportunities, education or experience. Instead, she told us that she joined the Air Force because she wanted to be “stereotyped as an Airman.”

She explained that in her hometown of Compton, Calif., there are stereotypes and expectations that seem to go along with your sex, your national origin, and what part of town you are from.

As she learned about the Air Force, it became apparent to her that, as an Airman, none of that “stuff” mat-

tered. What does matter is our mission, our commitment, our professionalism, the core values by which we live and the freedoms and ideals we defend.

This explanation by an 18-year-old Airman about to join our ranks absolutely floored my wife and me, and has had us talking about it ever since. There is a lot we can take away from what this Airman said.

First, it reinforces that our reputation as the world's most dominant and most respected air, space and cyberspace force reaches far and wide.

Second, it tells us that our reputation is based on our people who serve something greater than themselves.

Third, it should convey to all of us that the impression we make on others translates into a calling for many to serve our country.

Her words reflect the trust and confidence that the American people have in us, and how important that trust is in defining us as Airmen and what we stand for.

By joining the Air Force, that young woman from California earned the label of “Airman” in the hopes of being stereotyped with us, her fellow Airmen, for the integrity, service and excellence for which we are known. When she goes home to Compton, wearing her uniform, she will return mostly as the girl they all knew, but she will also be the Airman she has become.

She won't fit the stereotype someone else had for her: she will have changed in their eyes. By deciding to serve and put on the uniform of her country, that Airman has become something far greater than the superficial expectation someone used to have for her.

When I think of the American dream, I think of Airmen like her who are living it.

To me, being considered by others as a stereotypical Airman is a tremendous honor. That's a label we should strive to attain every day.

On-final

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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

AF releases updated dress, appearance instructions

by Eric M. Grill
AF Personnel, Services and Manpower Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) – The Air Force’s instruction on dress and personal appearance recently received an appearance upgrade with the release of the updated instruction July 18.

Air Force Instruction 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel*, received the facelift after several years of interim updates as uniform items were introduced and phased out.

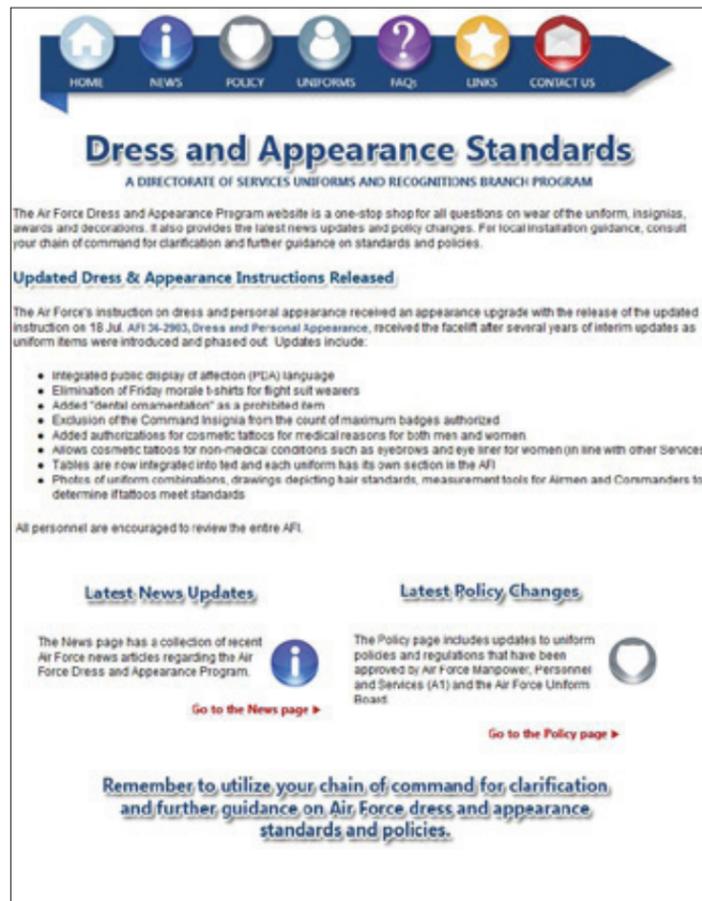
The last revision to the AFI was in 2006, prior to the release of the Airman Battle Uniform, which replaces the Battle Dress Uniform and Desert Camouflage Uniform Nov. 1, 2011.

Most of the changes to the AFI are more about mechanics and clarification than new policy, said Ruth Ewalt, the Air Force Uniform Programs and Policies chief at the Air Staff. They are intended to make the AFI more user-friendly.

“The changes are a result of Airmen in the field requesting clarification, leadership approving more specific policy, and the need to integrate information from the 98th virtual uniform board and other wear policy approved since 2006,” Ewalt said.

“We added the ABU, green fleece and physical fitness uniform information not in the previous AFI and corrected instances of conflicting information.”

For clarity and ease of reading, the chapters were rearranged and sections were made inclusive to eliminate turning back and forth to configure a single uniform, she said. The difference in the old and new AFI is that the tables



The U.S. Air Force released an updated version of its instruction on dress and appearance standards July 18, 2011. The image above is a screenshot from the Air Force Personnel Center’s Web page. Click on the image to visit the page.

are now integrated into the text. Each uniform has its own section, starting with the most formal through the utility, PT, and distinctive uniforms.

One thing Airmen might notice is the amount of pictures incorporated into the revised AFI.

“Individuals learn and retain information differently,” Ewalt said. “For some, a photo is a better tool than volumes of text or audio.

We wanted to make this AFI as ‘user-friendly’ as possible. It covers every Airman – from the first-day recruit in Basic Military Training to the 30-plus-year career Airman.”

Sections are also inclusive, listing all items that may

and must be worn with each particular uniform with the exception of outer garments which are covered in their own section.

The first three chapters cover the basic philosophy, roles and responsibilities, grooming and appearance standards, appropriate circumstances to wear uniform items, how and where to purchase them.

Chapters four and five cover wear of the dress and utility uniforms. Chapter six explains outer garments, headgear, rank insignia and accessories, and chapter seven covers the physical training uniform.

The remaining chapters “customize” the uniforms of unique populations and discuss

badges, awards and decorations unique to individual Airmen.

The final chapter contains instructions for recommending changes to dress and personal appearance policy or uniform designs.

The revised AFI also added a tattoo measurement tool to standardize the process for Airmen and commanders to determine if a tattoo meets standards.

“There is also a form to document tattoos that are borderline excessive or require a commander-approved waiver,” Ewalt said. “The policy regarding what constitutes an excessive tattoo has not changed. The standard is still not more than 25 percent of the exposed body part.”

The revision involved input from individuals of all ranks and components of the Air Force, including Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members.

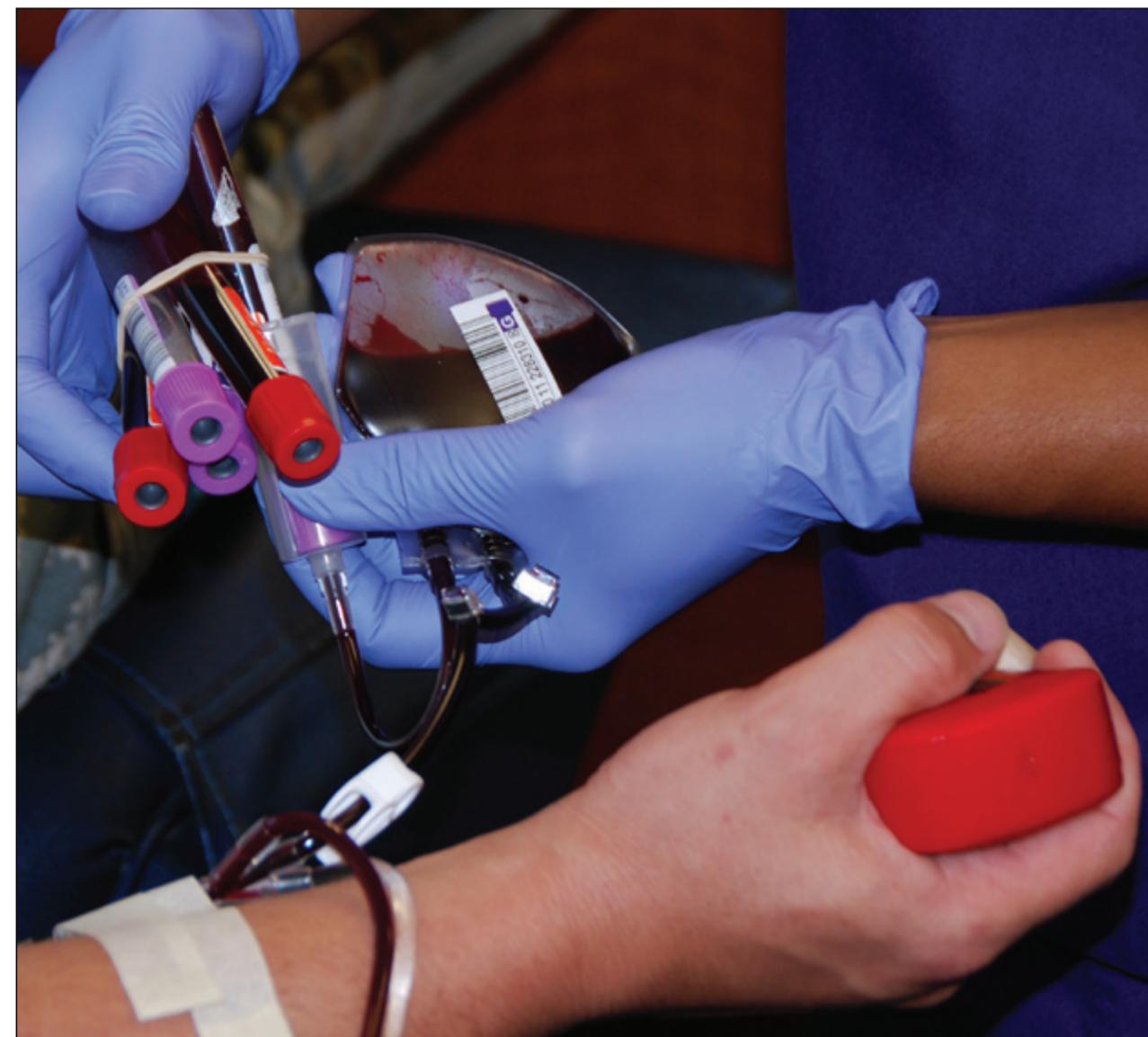
“This three-year effort included Airmen from all walks of Air Force life, ... (including military) training instructors, recruits, recruiters, first sergeants and Air Force leadership from all levels, professional military education instructors, functional communities, and support organizations to name a few,” Ewalt said. “This Air Force instruction was influenced by a huge population of Air Force service members because it impacts the total force.”

For online dress and appearance information, go to the dress and appearance webpage on the Air Force Personnel Center’s website at <http://www.afpc.af.mil/dress/index.asp>.

For more information about personnel issues, visit the Air Force personnel services website at <https://gum-crm.csd.disa.mil>.

BLOODMOBILE

Tinker reservists give toward local supply
Story and photos by Tech. Sgt. Zach Jacobs



One could say that phlebotomists – medical personnel who specialize in taking blood samples – give the most unusual compliments to people they meet.

“You have very nice veins.”

“Your plasma has a nice tint to it!”

But “thank you” was possibly the most important thing that workers of the Oklahoma Blood Institute said to those Airmen they met at a mobile blood drive here July 20.

Out of the HEAT and into the



Airmen and civilians from the 507th Air Refueling Wing and the 513th Air Control Group braved the Oklahoma heat to donate their blood.

And four phlebotomists, equipped with computers, saline bags, specialized equipment, snacks, drinks, and of course, needles, drew 14 units of blood or red blood cells to help replenish the local blood supply.

Inside the OBI's Bloodmobile, donors enjoyed air conditioning, cold drinks, snacks, movies, shelter from the stifling outside heat, and the feeling of being able to help save a life.

Staff Sgt. Bruce Hammond of the 507th Medical Squadron was not only a donor that day, but also had served on the board of directors for OBI's Ardmore, Okla., chapter for more than five years.

Hammond added that through the information he gets from his wife, who works in marketing and communications for their local hospital in Ardmore, he knows how important blood levels are to the hospital and the community.

About a blood transfusion, Hammond said, "You never know when you're going to need it until it's too late."

Senior Airman Brandon Williams of the 507th Civil Engineer Squadron sat in the donor's chair that afternoon for what he said was more than the twelfth time to donate in his life.

Williams said he thought the needle was the worst part of the whole donation process, but had a way to get past the discomfort of getting blood drawn.

"I just think about my kids," Williams said, "especially my daughter. She gets stuck with needles and it doesn't even faze her."

"So I've got to 'man up' a little bit, you know," he added with a smile and a chuckle. "If my daughter's got to take it, I can take it."



TOP LEFT: Barbara Felan sets up a computer for pre-donation screenings. Donors to the Oklahoma Blood Institute complete a thorough questionnaire prior to donation.

CENTER: Crystal Hogg adjusts the IV tube on Senior Airman Brandon Williams' arm while he donates. The blood goes to an apheresis machine, which separates red blood cells from his blood, then returns the plasma and platelets back to his body.

RIGHT: Vanessa Palmer prepares supplies for blood donation before the donors enter the bloodmobile.

FAR RIGHT: Snacks and T-shirts have long been items given to donors by the Oklahoma Blood Institute. The current T-shirt design is of the head and trunk of an elephant, promoting the Oklahoma City and Tulsa, Okla., zoos.

And Williams "manned up" that day, sitting in the chair to undergo a special type of blood donation.

While most people might think of blood donation as giving a pint of "whole" blood – red blood cells, platelets and plasma at the same time – that is just one way to donate.

According to OBI's website, donors can also donate plasma, platelets, or a double amount of red blood cells.

Williams opted to give double red blood cells for the first time. As his blood was drawn, it traveled to an apheresis machine, which separates blood into its three main components. As the blood was separated, the red blood cells were stored, and the remaining plasma and platelets were returned back to Williams, along with saline.

The process took about twice as long as the normal whole blood donation process, but the end result was double the lifesaving blood to those in need.

The OBI website says the double red blood cell donation is the way to help most with one blood donation.

What are the upsides?

Williams said he likes the feeling of being able to help people.

And Hammond said "I don't see any negative to it at all.

"You get a free T-shirt, you get snacks, you get to hang out with cool people, so it's a lot of fun," said Hammond.

And the compliments about the tint of one's plasma or the visibility of one's veins, while out of the ordinary are nice, too.

For more information on how to donate, contact the Oklahoma Blood Institute toll-free at 877-340-8777, or visit their Web site at www.obl.org.



Air Force Reserve hosts American Idol base visit



by Lt. Col. Rich Curry
Chief, 507th ARW Public Affairs

TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. — Eleven members of the 2011 *American Idol* tour visited here July 19 thanks to the Air Force Reserve Recruiting Service's "Get One Now" program. More than 2,000 military members and their families from throughout the base attended the event held from 11:30 to 12:45 at the Base Exchange.

The event was sponsored by Air Force Reserve Recruiting as part of their "Get One Now" recruiting campaign and the Tinker Exchange. The entertainers were met by 507th Air Refueling Wing (AFRC) Vice Commander Col. Michael Mahon and 72nd Air Base Wing Commander Col. Robert LaBrutta before being ushered to a special stage and outpour of welcome from the thrilled crowd. The entertainers handed out signed photographs and posed for pictures with those attending.

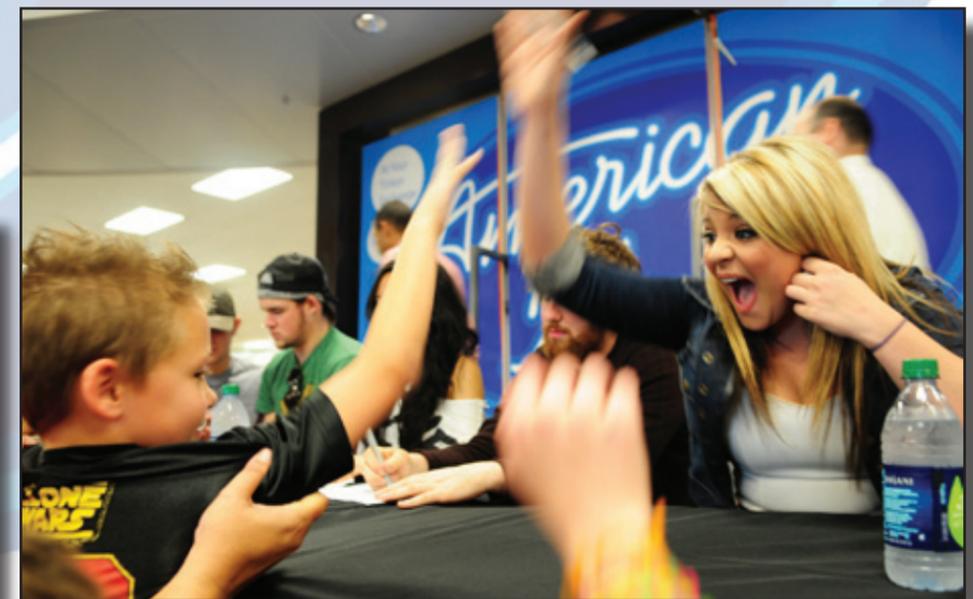
The U.S. Air Force Reserve's promotional sponsorship of these types of events



TOP LEFT, BOTTOM LEFT, TOP CENTER: Thousands of fans of the hit television show *American Idol* line up at the Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., base exchange to meet the top 11 finalists for the 2011 *American Idol* season.
BOTTOM RIGHT: Lauren Alaina, the runner-up for the 2011 season, high-fives a young fan.
TOP RIGHT: Finalists Paul McDonald (left) and Haley Reinhart (center) and season winner Scotty McCreery (right) meet and sign autographs for fans.

gives military personnel a chance to meet entertainers as well as win valuable prizes in return for nominating individuals for careers in the Air Force Reserve. In addition to the open meeting with the entertainers, wing reservists who nominated someone also received tickets to attend the Idols' concert held that evening at the COX Convention Center.

The following day, the Idols went on to a similar event at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth. The Idols participated in filming a Public Service Announcement during their Texas visit to show their support for the service members keeping our country strong and free.



507th ARW aircrew wins AFA awards

by Lt. Col. Rich Curry
507th ARW PA Chief

TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. -- Three aircrew members from the 507th Air Refueling Wing's 465th Air Refueling Squadron have been chosen to receive two awards from the Air Force Association for their outstanding airmanship.

Being recognized are Lt. Col. Michael J. Remualdo, Maj. Benjamin R. Evans and Staff Sgt. Ronald W. Davis for their outstanding airmanship displayed during a Feb. 17, 2010 mission supporting combat operations in Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.

The team received the Aircrew Excellence Award for 2010 from the Fourth Air Force Bob Hope Chapter located at March Air Reserve Base, Calif., and the national Air Force Association's 2011 President's Award for Air Force Reserve Command. The national award is given to recognize the Air Force Reserve unit which displays outstanding flying achievement and continued superior performance.

On Feb. 17, 2010, Remualdo, Evans and Davis, while supporting the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing, Southwest Asia, departed on a vital coalition combat mission to refuel numerous United States and coalition fighter and reconnaissance aircraft directly supporting combat in Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.

On that particular evening, the KC-135R (Stratotanker) crew was refueling their receiver when they flew through an area of precipitation with an F-16 (Falcon) hooked up to the tanker. The F-16 was dangerously low on fuel.

While they were connected, the boom pod lost total electrical power. Davis, the boom operator, quickly called for a breakaway but neither the tanker nor the receiver could disconnect. Davis immediately began scanning the circuit breakers "by feel" in the darkness. He found one open and reset it, restoring electrical power and disconnected from the receiver.

A quick systems analysis revealed



Lieutenant Colonel Michael J. Remualdo, Staff Sergeant Ronald W. Davis, Major Benjamin R. Evans, 507th Air Refueling Wing, and Staff Sgt. Christopher Howard, 137th Air Refueling Wing, pose in front of a KC-135R Stratotanker.

nothing wrong. The F-16, which had been loitering, needed to reconnect such that it could successfully continue a vital ground attack mission. After the F-16 took on approximately 4,000 pounds, the tanker aircrew was awaiting their final set of American fighters when they got word those fighters would not be refueling that night.

They were then informed by military controllers that their home base was not useable for landing due to extremely thick fog. They were directed to divert to a base in Saudi Arabia and began heading to that destination.

Soon afterward, they discovered a

fuel valve in the aft body tank in their aircraft was malfunctioning, leading to a critical aft center of gravity situation and a fuel emergency. The crew no longer had the ability to transfer unused fuel from the back fuel cell to forward cells.

As mission commander, Remualdo needed to make a decision before they ran out of usable fuel or before entering into an aft center of gravity situation that could potentially lead to loss of control of the aircraft. At the same time, communications problems with both military and air traffic controllers plagued the emergency aircraft.

Remualdo consulted his crew and requested permission from air traffic controllers to turn to land at Joint Base Balad, Iraq. Remualdo managed to inform military controllers of the dire situation and was able to get a direct flight path to Balad, all while desperately attempting to regain control of the malfunctioning fuel valve causing the critical fuel emergency.

Since the aircraft flight manual does not address this failure, Remualdo and Evans used their unique systems expertise to isolate the malfunction as a possible electrical or mechanical failure of the valve and not a sequencing failure of the valve. Since this valve can override other fuel valves, those conditions were eliminated as a cause.

As there is no way to manually control this critical fuel valve, all of their experience told them to reset electrical power to the valve and reset its functional ability. It took two resets before they were able to see fuel beginning to feed out of the aft fuel

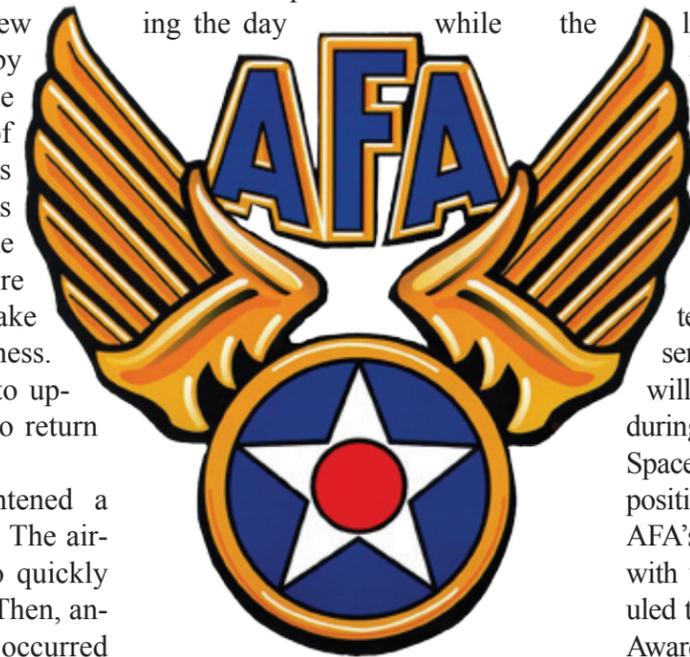
tank. Problems continued to plague them after a safe landing.

Due to enemy activity close to the base, limited flight line personnel were available. The crew began to refuel the aircraft by themselves. Normally, due to the immediate threat of hostile ground fire, KC-135s only perform night landings at Balad. Aircraft, such as the flying gas station they were flying, need to land and take off under the cover of darkness. They literally had minutes to up-load fuel and get airborne to return to their alternate base.

Transient alert crew tightened a loose wire to the fuel valve. The aircrew started the preflight to quickly get airborne before sunrise. Then, another electrical malfunction occurred that would have prevented a main landing gear door from rising up into the closed position. After trouble-

shooting that malfunction, it was too late to takeoff before sunrise.

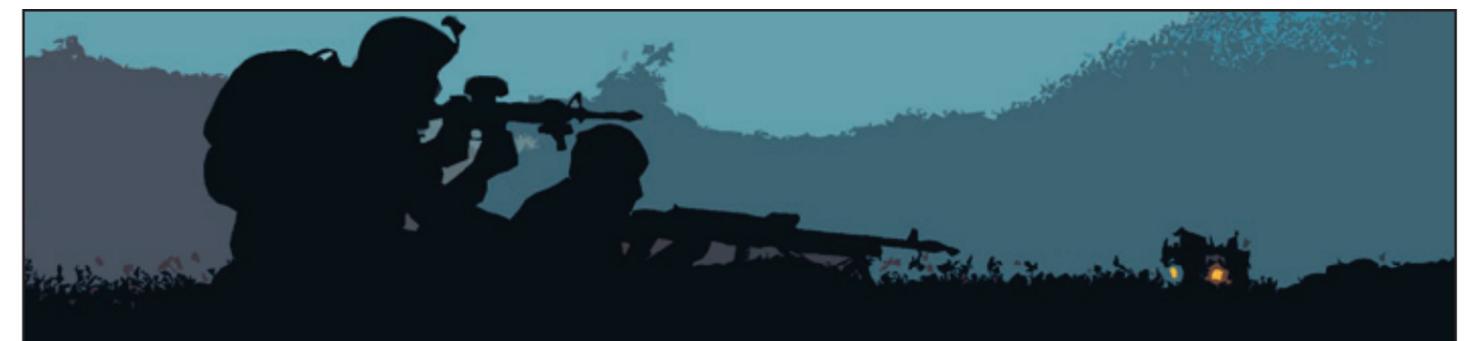
The crew would have to wait until the next period of darkness. During the day while the



crew was resting, no less than five mortars landed inside the compound. This made for

intense moments as one mortar came within 100 feet of aircrew lodging. Additionally, the base was under heavy machine gun fire; fortunately, that gun fire impacted only the perimeter walls. Shortly after midnight, the tired crew departed Balad and safely recovered at their home base.

Presentation of the 4th Air Force Award will be made July 21 at Riverside Convention Center in Riverside, Calif., and presentation of the national AFA award will be made September 19, 2011 during the opening of the 2011 Air & Space Conference and Technology Exposition at National Harbor, Md. The AFA's Chairman of the Board, along with various co-presenters, are scheduled to present the National Aerospace Awards at the conference. Traditionally included as co-presenters are the AF Chief of Staff, the Secretary of the AF and major command commanders.



PROFESSIONALISM LEAVE A LASTING IMPRESSION



DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?
Actions – Manner – Speaking – Conduct – Goals
Standards – Character – Focus – Enthusiasm – Quality

Summer season requires extra safety vigilance

by Army Sgt. 1st Class Tyrone C. Marshall Jr.
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Safety is an individual responsibility of all Defense Department personnel, especially during summer, when accidents historically increase, a senior Pentagon safety official said here July 20.

Joseph J. Angello, the director of operational readiness and safety for the Defense Department since 1995, said the period from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend has come to be known as "the Critical Days of Summer."

"Think of it as your summer months -- when you were kids, you had your summer vacations," he said. "It's the summer months when you're out, active and you're enjoying yourself."

No factor has affected people across all branches of service, as well as federal employees, more than alcohol, Mr. Angello said.

"Alcohol impairs your judgment. When you're under the influence of

alcohol, ... you often make the wrong decisions," he said. "You take risks that you normally wouldn't take. That's why you can't drink and drive, drink and boat, (or) drink and ATV. Alcohol has effects on your judgment. Alcohol is the risk factor we (worry) the most about."

Mr. Angello cited reduced reaction time and impaired judgment and abilities as negative side effects of alcohol. He also said it leads to other negative activities.

"As always, with alcohol, what tends to come next?" he asked. "You go a little too fast. You're taking risks you wouldn't normally take."

He also pointed out what he said is a simple, yet effective, method for vehicle safety -- wearing seat belts.

"Buckle Up For Safety' was a 1960s campaign," Mr. Angello said. "In today's age, you must wear your seat belt. The life you save may be your own."

Mr. Angello said that tragically, a majority of the accidents people have

both military and civilian personnel, Mr. Angello said.

"You can operate military equipment very safely on duty. We designed them that way," he said. "But then, all of a sudden, the rules seem to go out of the window when [people] are on their personal time. And they have to realize they're just as much at risk. We lose a number of people, about 70, in the summer months.

We shouldn't be losing any."

Motorcycles have been a serious safety issue, Mr. Angello said, but the trend is improving.

"We've instituted motorcycle training programs -- ride with buddies, clubs (and) mentoring," he said. "But I think the majority of it is we focused attention on it. Motorcycles are inherently dangerous, but they're fun. Ride them safely."

Avoiding fatigue, refraining from texting or using cell phones and generally exercising self-discipline are among key components for safe driving, Mr. Angello said.

He encouraged supervisors to impress the importance of off-duty safety on the people who work for them.

"The DOD is a challenging (workplace), and we thank everyone for their service," he said. "It is hard, so make sure you have fun. But have fun safely, ... and plan ahead."

The safety director also encouraged people to do the right thing and apply common sense to their situations.

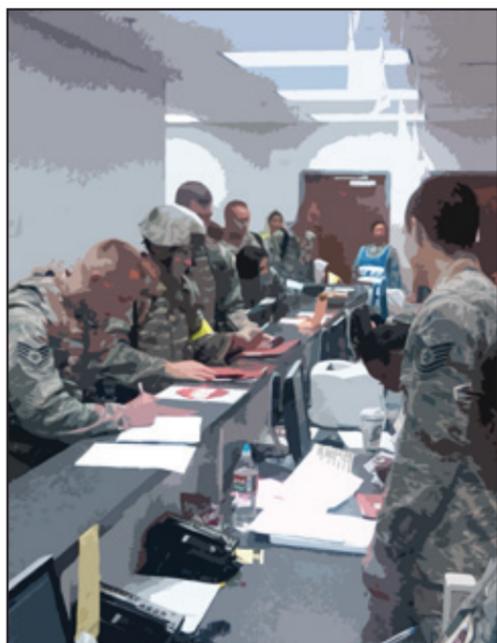
"We've got some phenomenal people who serve our country -- our federal civilians, and (people) in uniform. It's incumbent on us to preserve them," he said.

"Keep in mind that safety is your business," he added. "Safety is everyone's mission."

On the cover...

Members of the 507th Air Refueling Wing process through a deployment line during ORTP 4 Wednesday Aug, 2011. The members were headed to Volk Field, Wis.

(U.S. Air Force Illustration by Tech Sgt. Grady Epperly)



507 ARW RECRUITERS

Senior Master Sgt. Marvin Greene (senior recruiter) Tinker AFB, OK 405.734.5331



Master Sgt. Melissa Melichar (in-service recruiter) Tinker AFB, OK 405.739.2980



Master Sgt. Ronald Gregory Altus, OK 580.481.5123



Master Sgt. Marcel Jacques (Midwest City, OK 405.733.9403



Master Sgt. Tony Anderson (Midwest City, OK 405.733.7639



Tech. Sgt. Jackie Harris-Sanchez (Moore/Norman, OK 405.217.8311



Staff Sgt. Seneca Collins (Tulsa, OK 918.250.3400



UTA Schedule

FY 2011
September 10-11

FY 2012
October 1-2
November 5-6
December 3-4
January 7-8
February 4-5
March 3-4
April 14-15
May 5-6
June 2-3
July 14-15
August 4-5
September 8-9

*UTA dates subject to change

AF Personnel Command launches new Total Force information website

by Senior Master Sgt. Tom Kimball IMA to the Director of Public Affairs HEADQUARTERS AIR RESERVE PERSONNEL CENTER, Denver -- The future state of Air Force human resource management is now available to the Total Force through a new website called Air Force Personnel Services or AFPERS.

With more than 4,000 articles of relevant human resource information

available 24-7, AFPERS is designed to be the one place for all Airmen--Active Duty, Guard, and Reserve--as well as civilians and retirees, to take care of their individual personnel needs.

The AFPERS website has been designed to help focus your search so that only the top, relevant articles will percolate to the top of your query, rather than hundreds of unrelated items.

"In other words," said Col. Patricia Blassie, Commander, HQ Air Reserve Personnel Center, "All personnel knowledge pertinent to your Air Force career has been retooled and reorganized so you can get what you need when you need it."

By streamlining personnel services and making

them more efficient When a member logs on-- either with a Username and Password or a Common Access Card--they will be empowered to better manage their select between one of five careers without taking up pull-down menus: Active



their precious duty time or tying up valuable personnel resources." In particular, the ARPC Commander said, "Airmen who hold full time civilian positions while serving in uniform part time will find the nuances of their particular service needs on AFPERS to be "relevant to you, right now."

Under direction from the Secretary of the Air Force, personnel professionals have been tasked by senior leadership to provide services to everyone working for the Total Force on one website. AFPERS is the culmination of years of coordination, development, and knowledge consolidation between the personnel centers for the Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard.

Duty AF, Air Reserve, Air National Guard, Retiree, and Civilian. Sub-categories narrow the criteria further: officer, enlisted, HR specialist, or employee.

So how do you get your account? If you already have an account on the Virtual Personnel Center- Guard and Reserve, your account will automatically launch when you attempt to log on.

vPC-GR will remain unchanged once you click on the vPC-GR link at AFPERS.

Otherwise, just visit the AFPERS website at <https://gum-crm.csd.disa.mil> and create an account at your earliest opportunity...from any computer, anytime, anywhere in the world.



THE AIRMAN'S CREED

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN.
I AM A WARRIOR.
I HAVE ANSWERED MY NATION'S CALL.

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN.
MY MISSION IS TO FLY, FIGHT, AND WIN.
I AM FAITHFUL TO A PROUD HERITAGE,
A TRADITION OF HONOR,
AND A LEGACY OF VALOR.

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN,
GUARDIAN OF FREEDOM AND JUSTICE,
MY NATION'S SWORD AND SHIELD,
ITS SENTRY AND AVENGER.
I DEFEND MY COUNTRY WITH MY LIFE.

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN:
WINGMAN, LEADER, WARRIOR.
I WILL NEVER LEAVE AN AIRMAN BEHIND,
I WILL NEVER FALTER,
AND I WILL NOT FAIL.