

# RABBIT TALES



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE 513TH AIR CONTROL GROUP



## The 513th's New Leader



Plus:  
Christmas Party  
Message from the Commander  
Airman Spotlight  
Russian AWACS Upgrade

# RABBIT TALES



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*All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.*

## Operation Holiday Spirit

Operation Holiday Spirit's 13th annual Steak Supper fund raiser is happening on Friday, Dec. 2.

The fundraiser has provided more than \$115,000 in food, gas, gifts, and other necessities though gift cards to struggling Airmen and their families during the holiday season.

Tickets for the steak supper are \$25 per plate, and an auction will be held after the meal. Come out and help support our fellow Airmen!

## Veteran's Day Discounts

Many local business and restaurants are offering discounts for veterans on and around Veteran's Day, Sept. 12. Some offers vary by location, so be sure to check with the website before making the trip.

- Applebee's
- Hooters
- Texas Roadhouse
- Home Depot
- Lowe's
- Cabela's Outdoor Store
- Sport Clips Haircuts

These are just a few of the many businesses in the area offering discounts.

## This UTA in History

Nov 7, 1944 — Democrat Franklin D. Roosevelt is reelected president of the United States for a record third time, handily defeating his Republican challenger, Thomas Dewey, the governor of New York, and becoming the first and only president in history to win a fourth term in office.

Nov 8, 1951 — Yankees catcher Yogi Berra is voted the American League's most valuable player for the first time in his career. St. Louis Browns' ace pitcher and slugger Ned Garver almost won the award--in fact, a representative from the Baseball Writers Association of America phoned him and told him that he had won it--but after a recount it turned out that Berra had edged Garver out by a nose. "It's great to be classed with fellows like DiMaggio and Rizzuto who have won the award," Berra told reporters that night. "I sure hope I can win it a couple of more times, like Joe did." He went on to be the league MVP twice more, in 1954 and 1955.

## Christmas Party

Get your 513 ACG Christmas party tickets this UTA weekend! The party starts at 1800 on Dec. 3 at the Sheraton Reed Conference Center. Tickets are \$45.

Raffle tickets for a drawing to be held at the party are also on sale. The winner will receive seven dinners for two at some of the finest restaurants in the OKC area.

Child care will be provided.

Contact your unit representative for tickets or additional information.

- 970 AACs— MSgt Angel Cervantes  
SSgt Misty Ackiss  
MSgt Jay Harris
- 513 AMXS/MXS— TSgt Curtis Clowdus

## 513 MXS Says Goodbye

MSgt Brian Seaborn retired last UTA in a ceremony at the reserve ready room in building 230. MSgt Seaborn has served in the 513 ACG since the unit was formed in August, 1996. Since retirement, he has transitioned to a civilian job here at Tinker AFB, Okla.



*MSgt Brian Seaborn and Maj. Justin Franklin pose after MSgt Seaborn's retirement in the reserve ready room in building 230 on Oct. 1.*

## Promotions

Don't forget to congratulate our newest promotees!

- SSgt Aaron Chandler – 513 MXS
- SSgt Daniel Ter Haar – 513 MXS

## Col. McGalliard Assumes 513 ACG Lead

by Senior Airman Caleb Wanzer  
Public Affairs Specialist

TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. – Col. Jeffrey J. McGalliard assumed command of the 513th Air Control Group in an Oct. 1 ceremony at the Tinker Club's main ballroom at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. The 10th Air Force commander, Maj. Gen. Frank J. Padilla, served as the presiding officer for the assumption of command. The 513 ACG's former leader, Deputy Commander Col. Stephen L. Seaman, moved to a position at AFRC headquarters at Robins AFB, Ga.

Col. McGalliard was previously assigned to AFRC headquarters at Robins AFB, Ga., where he served as the Chief of Nuclear Operations and Operations Plans and Readiness divisions. He has lived at Robins AFB, Ga., since 2006.



Reserve Associate unit, the 513 ACG's mission is to train aircrews and maintenance personnel for the Air Force's inventory of E-3 "Sentry" Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) aircraft. These crews are ready for deployment worldwide to provide theater commanders airborne surveillance, warning, and tactical control of US and allied military fighters, bombers, tankers and airlift aircraft. Reserve aircrew members fly as members of an all-reserve crew or with active duty crews. Reserve aircrew and maintenance personnel perform the same missions and maintain the same professional standards as their active duty counterparts.

Approximately 400 reservists are assigned to the 513 ACG, mostly traditional reservists who serve on a part-time basis. About 25 percent are Air Reserve Technicians who serve full-time. The 513 ACG's subordinate units include the 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron, the 513th Operations Support Flight, the 513th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, and the 513th Maintenance Squadron.



After receiving his commission through the reserve officer training corps at San Diego State University, Calif., Col. McGalliard began his career as a B-52H navigator in 1985, and transitioned to pilot training in 1989. He has logged more than 6,000 flight hours in four different aircraft, including the KC-135R and B-52H.

The 513th Air Control Group (ACG) is one of 37 flying units in Air Force Reserve Command and has flown missions in support of Operations NORTHERN WATCH, SOUTHERN WATCH, IRAQI FREEDOM, ENDURING FREEDOM and NOBLE EAGLE in the unit's 15 years as reserve unit.

Activated at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, in March 1996 as an Air Force



## From the Desk of the Commander

by Col. Jeffrey McGalliard  
Commander, 513 ACG

First off, I'd like to thank all of the members of the 507th ARW and 513th ACG for the absolutely warm and generous welcome I've received since arriving last month. I'm thoroughly impressed with the professionalism and dedication of both units and look forward to our partnership. I spent a few years on the AFRC staff, leading Current Ops and then as the command's A3N (Nuclear Ops), and am thrilled to be back in a front-line operational unit. My wife is a DoD civilian employee, running junior officer development programs at HQ AFRC—Col. Jim Kerr is her boss, for those of you that remember him—and she cannot wait to catch up with me next spring. She's about 150% personality so she'll fit right in here with the rest of us!

One of the first things that impressed me about the 513th is that the unit leadership immediately began pushing me to get us in the fight, indicative of their commitment to the mission and to our TFI partners, who are spread out supporting 3 overseas contingency operations, approaching a 1:1 dwell-to-deploy. We may just get the opportunity to help them out. In mid-October, Lt. Gen. Stenner brought together all of his unit commanders for a one-day conference at HQ AFRC. He reminded us that the Air Force as a whole has traditionally experienced budget sine waves of approximately 20-year durations, and that after 10 years of generous spending to prosecute two wars, we're now on the downhill side of that wave. At a time when the federal government is forced to cut costs, DoD represents the largest part of the budget.

Gen. Stenner echoed the words of another famous leader, who only hours from signing the documents of surrender at a courthouse in Appomattox, Virginia in 1865, asked his staff, "what is our opportunity?" Both generals wanted to remind their officers to think strategically. The Air Force will be smaller but not hollow. As citizen airmen, we owe the taxpayers complete transparency and dedication



to bring the most bang for the buck; part of the way we do this is by being able to articulate to the Congress that we produce Tier 1-ready combat capable warriors and deliver them within hours of the call, representing a tremendous portion of the Air Force's total capability for only 5-10 percent of its budget. The nation gets a huge return on investment for every dollar spent on you as a Reservist.

As I write this column, the latest budget news is that AFRC's request for an \$83 million supplemental has cleared OSD and is enroute to OMB. This will allow us to continue to prioritize training in a way that preserves that combat capability for immediate use. In return, AFRC continues to seek access to a variety of Theater Support missions (whether OCO or not) in ways that will keep us sharpened, critical to the nation's defense, and in the fight. To do any less would initiate a slow, steady decline into irrelevance. You are held in the highest esteem by the public that we defend, and I urge you to guard that blessing jealously. For our part, I salute you for all that you do for our Air Force Reserve, thank you for your quiet dedication, and look forward to meeting and working with all of you in our time ahead. "Sentry in Reserve."

**You are held in the highest esteem by the public that we defend, and I urge you to guard that blessing jealously.**

## Where Are They Now?

Major Jim Matthey  
Time in the 513th: 1997 – 2004

*In what positions were you assigned with the 513th?*

I joined the 513th as a Senior Airman CDMT, then received a commission in 2000. I came back as an Air Weapons Officer through 2004.



*What is your current position?*

Deputy Director, Battlefield Integration A2Q: ISR Innovations Pentagon.

*What was one of the biggest challenges you faced while assigned to the 513 ACG?*

The 9/11 activation. More specifically, the transition from flying ONW out of Incirlik AB, Turkey, to our forward deployed

location in Cyprus and standing up a new tactics/ops center out of basically a small storage area and doing it while flying combat sorties. Getting phones, STE, NIPR, and SIPR connections in a timely fashion is difficult under normal conditions. Try doing it with minimal manning, flying, and vying with other MDS's such as JSTARS and tankers. On a lighter side, dealing with 10 of your closest friends in those condemned quarters we were assigned to tested our ability to survive and operate with bio hazards and indigenous mosquito threats. But, that mile walk to the O club contributed to our fit to fight mission.

*What is your favorite memory of the 513th?*

Air Battle Manager graduation, when David Jones got me in a full “embrace,” and the return home after our first OIF deployment in April 2003.

*Do you have any advice for current members?*

Enjoy the flying and your family; respect the

folks you work with and remember why we're in this business in the first place.

*Where do you live now?*  
Washington, D.C.

## Russian AWACS Upgrade

Story courtesy of TV-Novosti

The Russian Air Force has deployed the upgraded version of the Beriev A-50 flying radar.

Designers of the new Airborne Warning And Control System (AWACS) aircraft have overhauled most of its computing hardware and software and combat stations, reported military spokesman Colonel Vladimir Drik.

“The aircraft underwent a deep modernization which took into account reports from the units where such vehicles are used. The result is a great improvement in a number of specifications of the A-50U AWACS,” he said.

Thanks to the upgrade the flying radar now has a greater range, improved target identification and better satellite communication capability. It can better track cruise missiles and supersonic aircraft and is more reliable overall, the Air Forces officer added.

The media earlier reported that the replacement hardware for the A-50U project allows it to track more targets and direct more friend-fighters. It also weighs less than the old equipment, which allows the aircraft to remain in the air longer before refueling.

The A-50 AWACS are based on the Ilyushin Il-76 transport which first entered service in 1984. Russia had produced some 40 such aircraft over the decades. It is also jointly developing flying radar based on the A-50, designed together with India.



RIA Novosti/Denisov Anton.

## In The Spotlight



Senior Airman Dustin Tompkins

**Unit:** 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron

**Job title:** Airborne Mission Systems Specialist

**Hometown:** Edmond, Okla.

**Place I'd like to visit:** Australia

**Favorite part of my job:** The people

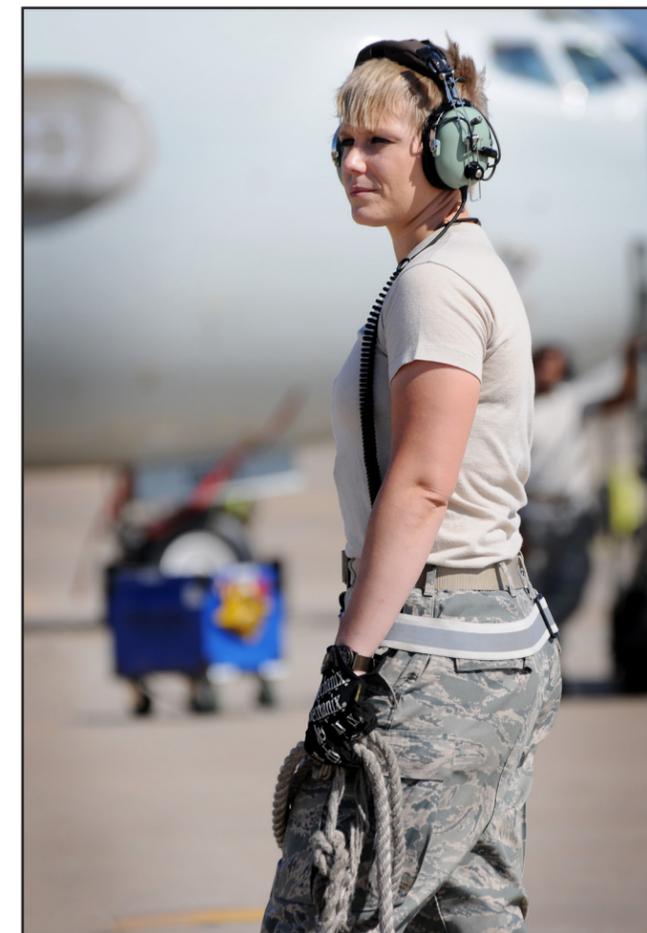
**Biggest pet peeve:** Lazy people

**Little known fact about me:** I played guitar professionally for a few years.

**Favorite memory from your time in the 513th:** Every TDY makes an incredible memory.

**If I had a superhero ability, it would be:** Flying

*To suggest someone to be featured in the next issue, email 513acg.publicaffairs@tinker.af.mil.*



Senior Airman Danielle Blankenship

**Unit:** 513th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

**Job title:** Aerospace Maintenance Journeyman (a.k.a. Crew Chief). HHUUAHH!

**Hometown:** Caney, Okla. One of the few places in the U.S. that does not contain a stop light.

**Place I'd like to visit:** A bunch! My top three would probably be Ireland, Greece and Germany.

**Little known fact about me:** Even though I'm not a huge country music fan, my “go to” karaoke song is “Fancy.”

**Favorite memory from your time in the 513th:** I haven't been here very long but so far it would probably be the opportunity to meet the awesome crew here.

**If I had a superhero ability, it would be:** I would either like to be able to teleport or read people's minds. I would be unstoppable!

# AFI 36-2903 Update

The latest update to AFI 36-2903 took effect Tuesday, phasing out the long-worn Battle Dress Uniform. Other uniform items were also retired, including the Desert Camouflage Uniform, the wear of tan and desert combat boots at home-station, and black boots.

The latest and greatest regs, as well as photos showing every uniform, are available 24/7 at <http://www.afpc.af.mil/dress>. As always, consult with your first sergeant if you have any questions about the changes.

## Additional Changes

- Sleeve cuffs will remain visible at all times.
  - All pockets will be secured and items stowed in pockets will not be visible except pens stowed in the pen pocket.
  - ABU cap may not be pushed, rolled, folded or tucked in (e.g. ranger fold).
- Cell phone use-

Current: AFI 36-2903 dated 18 July 2011 superseded this message. Now it is not allowed.

Exception: Use of a personal cell phone for official notifications is allowed.

Previous: 98th Uniform Board message dated 12 June 2009 allowed use of personal cell phones while walking in uniform.

## What Not to Wear



Battle dress uniform (BDU), in any combination



Black t-shirt



Desert combat uniform



Desert/Tan combat boots at home-station



Black combat boots

