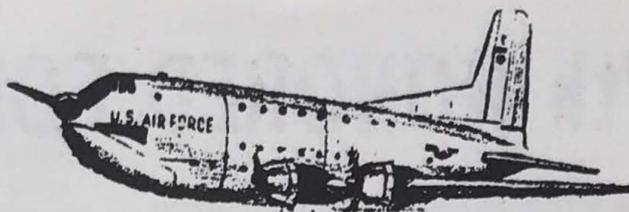


# 937th **SOONER NEWS**

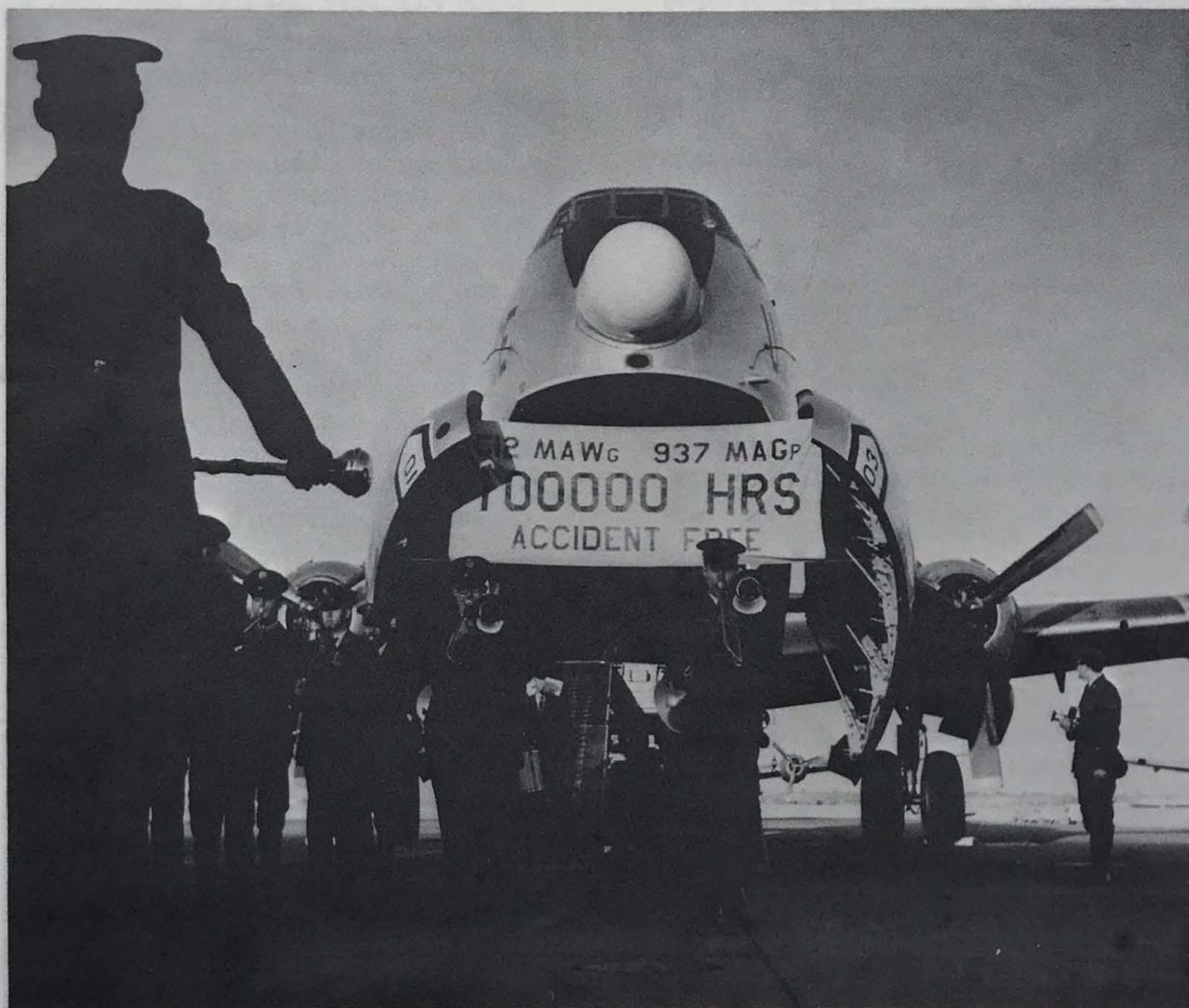


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937th Military Airlift Group Res. Tinker AFB, Okla.

January 1969

AIR FORCE RESERVES



MUSICAL ARRIVAL--The 2nd Air Force Band marches out of the aircraft that brought them to Tinker. After trooping the line, the band played its regular role in parade and review ceremonies being held by the 937th MAGp. The unit was honored for its flying safety achievements.

Air Force OC, 3 Jan 69-1M

# 937th HONORED FOR FLYING SAFETY

The 937th Military Airlift Group was honored Dec. 14 for making a significant contribution to the flying safety program of the United States Air Force, the Air Force Reserve and the 512th Military Airlift Wing.

In ceremonies conducted on the 937th MAGp flight line the unit was cited by Headquarters, Military Airlift Command (MAC) and Headquarters, Air Force Reserve (AFRes), along with its parent Wing, the 512th Military Airlift Wing, and two sister Groups, as the first Air Force Reserve organization to fly 100,000 hours in the C-124 aircraft, without an aircraft accident.

Spanning a period of almost eight years the history making goal was attained during the return flight of a C-124 Globemaster, piloted by the Wing Commander, Brigadier General John W. Hoff, from Tachikawa Air Base, Japan.

The 937th MAGp accepted citations and congratulations from MAC: AFRes; General Johnson, OCAMA Commander; the Reserve Officers Association of the United States and the Air Force Association.

The 937th MAGp is one of 14 Air Force Reserve Groups equipped with the C-124 Globemaster that are presently assigned with their five wing headquarters to Headquarters Air Force Reserve, Robins AFB, Ga.

The unit flying safety record began with the delivery of the first C-124 aircraft in Dec, 1960 to the then designated 305th Troop Carrier Squadron, which was the nucleus of the 937th Military Airlift Group and is now the 305th Military Airlift Squadron, the aircrew portion of the 937th MAGp.

According to unofficial records, this was the first C-124 delivered to an Air Force Reserve unit anywhere in the United States.

In compiling the 100,000 hour record, the Wing which is comprised of three Military Airlift Groups has flown missions to Asia, Europe, Alaska, South America, Africa and other far flung areas of the world.

Although the citation recognized only C-124 accident-free flying, the Wing has flown in excess of 100,000 hours without an accident in all types of assigned aircraft.

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The SOONER NEWS is a unit newsheet published jointly by the Information Section and the Administrative Section of the 937th MAG for personnel of the Sooner Group.

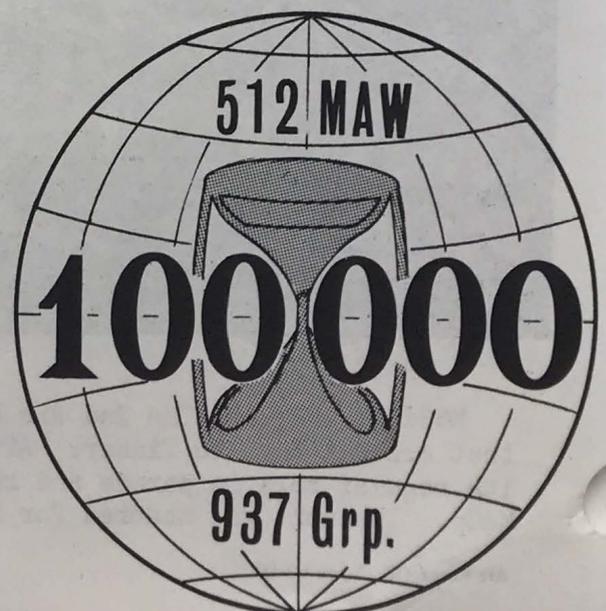
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The SOONER NEWS is a monthly publication and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the United States Air Force Reserves.



(Con't from Page 2)

This record includes flying time in the C-46 "Commando" and the C-119 "Flying Boxcar", both twin engine, Air Force aircraft designed primarily for the Tactical Airlift and drop of paratroopers.

Among the more significant missions accomplished this year by the 937th was the assistance rendered to the United States Marine Corps in February when 3,000 Marines and their equipment were airlifted to Southeast Asia.

And, in early 1968, the unit again responded to national needs when volunteer reserve aircrews transported U.S. Army riot control troops to riot-torn cities in this country.

In February 1968 in answer to a request for volunteer airlift the 937th MAGp put seven of their eight assigned aircraft into the MAC system to augment its worldwide airlift. Six of these went to Southeast Asia and one served in the Carribbean. The eighth aircraft remained at Tinker as a back up for a coast airlift then in progress.

In addition to a perfect flying safety record with the C-124 aircraft, the 937th MAGp and its two sister Groups, the 916th at Carswell and the 917th at Barksdale possess the Air Force's highest combat readiness capability rating, C-1.



## LIVING TIME VALUABLE POSSESSION IN NEW YEAR

by Chaplain, Major Edward L. Lane

During the new year of 1969, the most prized gift that will be given to each of us is the time to live.

Certain men have more wealth, talent or education than others. Have you ever thought of the fact that we are all equal in regard to the amount of time allotted to each of us during the year?

Time will offer to some of us the opportunity to improve ourselves through attending college; to some the opportunity to improve our personalities whereby we may have a better relationship with others; we all may improve our nation through a greater loyalty to its leaders.

Wayland Hoyt tells how he was rummaging along the shore gathering select specimens from the sea when suddenly he saw a very desirable shell, more beautiful than any he had yet discovered. Searching in a listless way, he supposed that he could pick it up at his leisure. As he hesitated, a higher wave swept away the pearl. So too are the challenges life presents to us. When the waves of another year have flowed back off the shore of time, many shells of opportunity and noble purposes, now easy to grasp, will be swept into the irretrievable past, unless we act now.

Paul, the apostle, said,  
"Redeeming the time, because the days are fleeting away."

Ephesians 5:16



**SMILING APPROVAL**--Lt. Col. William E. Stealey, right, smiles his approval as he looks over the citation presented him by Brig. Gen. John W. Hoff, 512th MAW commander. Lt. Col. Stealey's smile was much warmer than the weather on that day.



**UNIT HONOR**--Brig. Gen. John W. Hoff, right, attaches the Unit Citation Ribbon to the unit's standard in ceremonies during the December UTA. The unit has flown more than 33,000 hours of accident free missions.