



507 TFGp, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma
October 1975

File 8

THE THUNDERCHIEF



COMMANDERS ALL:

Lt Colonel
Roger P Scheer



I hope you've noticed the special Bicentennial emblem that was designed exclusively for the Air Force Reserve, the only such service component to my knowledge to claim such a distinction.

If you haven't, take a quick look at the cover of this issue of THE THUNDERCHIEF, in the upper left-hand corner.

The emblem is attractive, isn't it? And as they say about pictures, it's worth a thousand words.

The continental soldier depicted by the figure in the cocked-hat was typically a farmer, or a man who earned his living plying a civilian trade, who took up arms because his country needed him.

He wasn't especially well trained in military matters, because 200 years ago a musket was about the most sophisticated piece of equipment a fighting man required.

The second figure shows a helmeted aircrewman - but he could be any member of the Air Force Reserve.

Today, he may be even more vital to the nation than was his counterpart of two centuries ago, because the nature of modern warfare is such that when emergencies arise, things happen too fast and weapon systems are too complex to allow the luxury of ad-lib preparation by untrained civilians.

That's why we can be proud of the long tradition of the citizen-soldier in the history of this great nation.

And along those lines, it is entirely fitting and proper that all segments of our society call attention to the occasion of our country's second century of independence.

So you'll be seeing more of our reserve emblem and other marks of the upcoming Bicentennial.

If you have any ideas on how we as reservists can do anything more to boost this celebration, let us hear from you.

Free Thanksgiving turkey for the best adopted idea.....food for thought.



GARAGE SALE

Sunday, October 19, 1500, FAM Camp
and Lake Area

The THUNDERCHIEF is a Class II newspaper published monthly on UTA's for personnel of Det 507, 301 TFWg, Tinker AFB, Okla 73145. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the US Air Force. All photographs appearing herein are official US Air Force Photographs unless otherwise stated.

Lt Col R P Scheer.....Commander
Capt P D Fletcher.....IO
Sgt R A Caram.....Editor
Barbara A Vessels.....Add't Duty IO
SSgt R K Brown.....Artwork

"All Good Things To Come," Colwell Says

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Reserve, CMSgt Olin B. Colwell, made an informal visit to the 507th during September.

He spoke at length on new recommendations and proposed changes in the Air Force and Air Force Reserve. The controversial 30-day-old safety edict of "no wigs on the flight-line" was his first subject. "This is prejudice to maintenance men," he said, "and, they are trying to work out a solution or do away with wigs completely."

He explained new proposals in military rank and change of address for NCOs. Technical Sergeants will be addressed "Technical Sergeant". A1C will be addressed as "Senior Airman" and Buck Sergeant as "Technician". The word "sergeant" would be completely thrown out of the Air Force vocabulary.

"All members of the enlisted ranks would be addressed by their full rank. This will eliminate the mystery of rank over the telephone," Colwell advised.

He also mentioned that uniform changes are also under consideration. Recommendations are to do away with stripes on the top three grades, E-7-E-9, and go to rank Pins on the collar.

E-6 and below would have rank insignia stripes on the cuff of the blouse. He encouraged Air Reserve Technicians (ART) NCOs to wear their uniform daily and applauded our senior NCOs for setting an example.

He briefed that statistics now show that NCOs are getting more educated. "AFRES NCO strength reveals about one third have degrees," he commented. "I foresee NCOs replacing some of the officer positions," he said, "and if the NCO is a manager doing the work, he will be able to sign his own correspondence."

In the area of promotions, he said, "your top-three grades will have to take more tests in the future to hold their rank. In the ART area, recommendations are to promote to E-7 on retirement," Colwell said.

He also stressed involvement in the

Air Force Association (AFA) and the NCO Association (NCOA). He commented, "these organizations are not just for active duty, they welcome reserve membership and are very instrumental in getting things done for their members and special interest groups."

He asked senior NCOs to take advantage of the top-three NCO Academy's academic and management training. "It is one of the best in the Air Force," he explained, "and hoped that more top-three NCOs would volunteer for this exceptional opportunity." Other proposals for senior NCOs are to make them available for the "265" 4-year active duty program.

He commented on the massive revitalization of the Air Force Reserve's Mobilization Augmentee (MA) program. "New life is being breathed into this program and MA reservists will be more utilized in critical skill areas to augment personnel shortfalls on the active-duty side," he noted.

He talked about the rumor that the A-10 may come straight to the reserves instead of the active duty. "Air Force Reserves are getting more people, more money and better equipment," he concluded.

In his southern drawl, he mused, "the only reason I got this job was because I was from Brooklyn, New York."

"Items of wear such as wigs, metal plastic or leather hair fasteners, etc., will not be worn by personnel engaged in aircraft flight line maintenance."

This June 13, 1975 change to AFR 127-101 will be briefed at future safety meetings says Capt. Jerry A. Wrucha, group safety officer.

All supervisors and personnel should insure compliance in their respective areas.



Controller "CAM Man Of The Month"

Maintenance Man of the Month is TSgt. Clark W. Paxton, an aircraft production controller in Maintenance Control, who directs the swing shift maintenance of the 507th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

The swing shift is a critical time period in maintenance and Sergeant Paxton, in a nucleus-role, insures the next day's flying schedule is solidified and deviations are kept to a minimum.

This is not an easy task as sometimes fifty per cent of the aircraft that are to fly the next day are in the air when Sergeant Paxton begins his duty day.

As a production controller, he also coordinates the debriefing of aircrews, determines the priorities for the swing shift, controls the maintenance performed and set-ups the specialist dispatch for the following day.

Capt. Louis Ferraro, maintenance control officer, notes that Sergeant Paxton has extensive knowledge of F-105 aircraft.

"He is able to motivate and coordinate with other swing shift personnel in a corporate effort to provide operational ready aircraft in an outstanding manner," said the captain.



Engineer Chosen Outstanding Airman

Staff Sergeant Earl R. McKinney, Civil Engineering Flight, was named Airman of the Quarter for the summer quarter 1975.

SSgt. McKinney is a college graduate and holds a B.S. in electrical engineering.

During World War II, he was a bomber pilot and held the rank of Major.

He is assigned to the 507th Civil Engineering Flight as a heating systems engineer. During UTAs, Sergeant McKinney's extra duties include orienting new personnel to unit programs, mobility exercises, dog-tag issues, shot records and ID card issues.

"SSgt. McKinney is an outstanding airman who deserves recognition," observed Maj. Billy Medley, commander, civil engineering flight. "It is my belief that his selection as Airman of the Quarter demonstrates that hard work and outstanding effort are recognized and rewarded," said Maj. Medley.

Mobility Exercise

0700 - Sunday Oct UTA



Somewhere a bugle softly sounds
The message of renown,
And men inside their buildings wait
Until the flag comes down.

And others run to get their cars
Quite harrowed or dismayed
Afraid they will not reach the gate
Before retreat is played.
Not thinking of the flag or men
Who fought to keep it flying.

How many would be glad to stand,
Whose bodies now are mute,
Or have no hand that they might raise
And stand in proud salute.

So accept it not as duty
But a privilege even more
And receive it as an honor
Instead of just a chore.

Gonshor Takes New Post

It won't be quite the same assignment it was 14 years ago, but for Capt. Bobby L. Gonshor, Chief, 507th Consolidated Base Personnel Office (CBPO), Richards-Gebaur AFB, Mo., will soon be "home" again.

Capt. Gonshor, an Air Reserve Technician (ART) who came to Tinker AFB in 1971, was stationed at the Missouri base in 1961 and 1962 while on active duty in the Air Force.

During that time, he served as an administrative specialist - this time he will be director of the wing CBPO for the 442 TAWg, a C-130 unit.

"I regret leaving the fine people I've worked with here at Tinker," said Capt. Gonshor, "but this has been an interesting assignment, and especially because of the mission conversion three years ago - a challenge all the time."

"But we've met or exceeded all our timetables and I'm looking forward to my new job at Richards-Gebaur."

Capt. Gonshor and his wife, Barbara, have two children, and claim San Antonio, Tex., as their hometown.



Capt. Bobby L. Gonshor

New Generation TACAN Coming

AFNS - Ninety per cent of the tactical air navigation sets (TACAN) currently in the Air Force inventory will be replaced with a new generation TACAN system.

TACAN is used by a pilot in obtaining distance and bearing readings to a fixed ground station.

The Air Force Electronic Systems Division of the Air Force Systems Command has announced that it will purchase 1,000 TACAN sets.

After successful field reliability testing, options exist for procuring an additional 7,000 sets.

The new solid-state system is smaller, lighter, and less costly to operate.

It will have higher reliability, lower maintenance costs, and a built-in growth potential for meeting future Air Force mission needs.

The full digital readout of distances and bearing will be available to a pilot from within a fraction of a second to three seconds, eight times faster than before.

This is especially meaningful in the approach and landings of high-performance aircraft.

The new TACAN has an operational range of 390 nautical miles air-to-ground and 200 nautical miles air-to-air.

The system offers better resolution and higher accuracy and is far superior to existing analog sets, officials say.

The planned Air Force standardization of airborne TACAN equipment will achieve high reliability at comparatively low cost.

The new TACAN set will be used in the retrofit of current aircraft, as well as in new aircraft installations.

LIVE & LEARN

by Chaplain
Robert Helmich

Material Possessions Are Not All There Is To Life

I read this recently and consider it too good and too timely to keep to myself alone. I share it with you.

The following dispatch--honest, I am not fooling...was sent out over the Associated Press, with the date line, Denver, Colorado, November 1952:

"Pal a 16 year old dog of indefinite breed went to the grave yesterday with a funeral his master estimated cost \$1,000.

"Fred Schmitt rated Pal above all the other pets on his 10 acre farm north of Denver. And there are lots of pets--50 dogs, 75 cats, 4 horses and many pigeons.

"Mourners and friends all passed by the mahogany casket to look at Pal for the last time.

A minister spoke. The casket made by Schmitt was banked with flowers. Schmitt said, "That dog was my whole life."

That was really going to the dogs! But it was no worse than many other things, not so sensational.

Whenever a person says about anything material, "That was my whole life", he proclaims himself an idol worshipper, he proclaims that he lives in a world too small for a son of God.

A man's pets, or his business, even his home and family are not big enough for him to say of them, "That was my whole life."

Only one thing is big enough. Paul said it:

"For me to live is Christ." He had a true measure of life when he said "I must see Rome." To me Christ is the Master of

life and to give ourselves to his purpose is to find the life which is life indeed.



Little League Adopts "Thunderchiefs"

A local little league football team has adopted the team name of "Thunderchiefs" because, in the words of their head coach, Russ Burns, ".....like the F-105s, they are small, fast and can inflict a great damage to the enemy."

The miniature "Thunderchiefs" are students of Willowbrook and Cleveland Baily Elementary Schools in the Del City Junior Sports Association League.

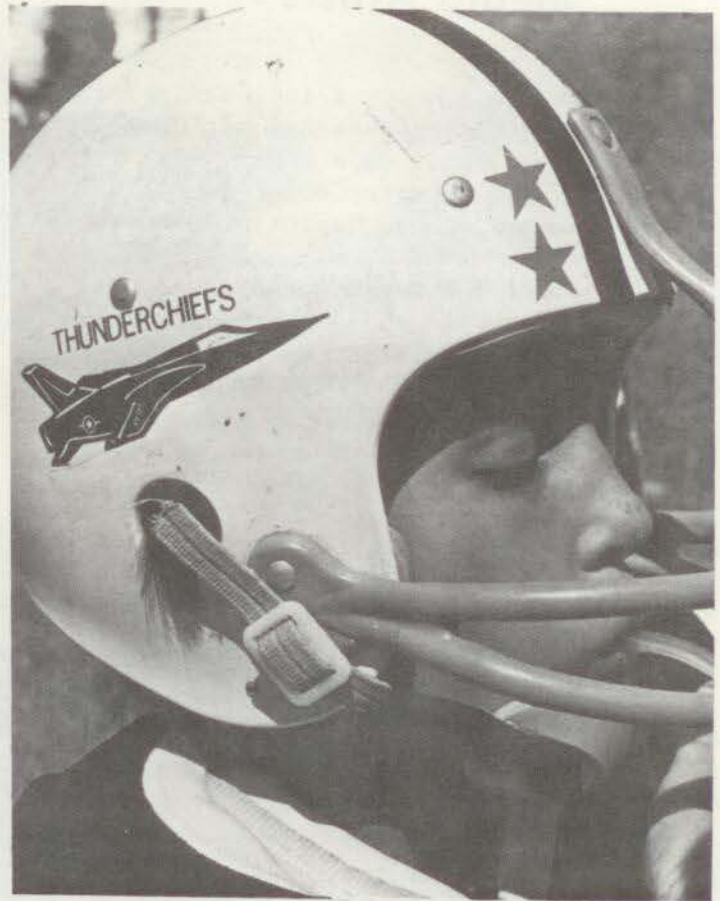
One hundred boys, ages 5-11, have turned-out to compete for positions on the teams and will compete against teams of similar ages from the Midwest City-Del City area.

During the fall, these boys will play 12 league football games. The first place team in each age level will travel to Grand Prairie, Tex., where they will play in a tournament, made-up of other winners in the two state area.

Win, lose or draw, these boys are learning to work and play together and each will receive a participation trophy for their efforts.

Russ Burns, Chuck Stamp and Tom Burns, the coaches, will try to help these kids develop their skills, and hopefully the Thunderchiefs will live up to their name and be a winner.

Most of all the kids are enjoying the learning, training and playing.



Reserves Search For Professional Media Artists

The Air Force Reserve is looking for Reservists with professional art background or who paint as a hobby.

Quality art in water colors, oils or other media is needed depicting Reserve missions.

If you are interested or know of a talented Reservist who might be interested, contact the Information Office, Ext 2935 or contact AFREL, Dept of the Air Force, Washington, D.C. 20330.

Senate Bill Would Enable President To Call Reserves

WASHINGTON (AFNS) - The Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Manpower and Personnel has started hearings on a bill to enable the President to authorize the involuntary order to active duty of reservists.

The bill would authorize 50,000 select ed reservists to be called-up for 90 days. A declaration of war or national emergency would not be a factor.

The chairman of the subcommittee indicated that continued hearings would be held after the August recess.

Witnesses from the reserves and other interested parties will be heard at that time.

The SPIRIT of 1776 AMERICA 1976

When is the Bicentennial?
Where will it take place?

The Bicentennial is now springing up across our entire Nation—it is a spirit of participation and achievement. In sharp contrast to our Centennial in 1876 which was celebrated in a single city—Philadelphia—the activities commemorating our Bicenten-

nial will take place in communities within each of our 50 states, the three territories, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. Where is the Bicentennial? It is in your community! As of one year before our 200th birthday, there are over 5,000 communities flying the Bicentennial flag.

When is the Bicentennial? It is already well underway for over several thousand events have been held and there are over 15,000 programs and events currently being planned across the Nation. However, the focal point is "Liberty Day"—July 4, 1976.

Liberty Day 1976 is a Sunday. It should be a day for each community to come together in their own way to celebrate the Bicentennial in a manner best suited to their own location, means and de-



sires. As the bells peel across the Nation on that day, there will be an abundance of fireworks, parades and rhetoric in the finest traditions of our 4th of July. However, most communities are also laying plans to insure that July 4th will also be an occasion to lay the cornerstone for the third century.

