



507 Tactical Fighter Group, Tinker AFB, OK  
April 1976

# THE THUNDERCHIEF





## Crews Ready For 30-Day Spar

# 507th Fighter Reputation Nets Red Flag Bid

Seventy-five members of the 507th and ten F-105 Thunderchiefs will receive a taste of combat during peacetime in April.

The unit will deploy the cadre for 30 days to participate in Exercise "Red Flag" one of the Air Force's most ambitious continuation training program staged at Nellis AFB, Nev.

Six C-130 transport planes will depart Tinker AFB Saturday, April 3, with baggage, support equipment, supplies and personnel enroute to the tactical range territory, which surrounds Nellis AFB.

Deployment of the F-105s is scheduled for Saturday, also.

Only one-sixth of the War Readiness Spares Kit (WRSK) will be moved and maintained during the deployment.

The WRSK is all of the spare parts, from soup to nuts, that keep the F-105s airborne.

The complete kit is monitored, inventoried and managed by eight full-time Tinker AFB depot supply personnel.

Profile of events during the Red Flag Exercise will be ten sorties per day dropping 500 lb. bombs on the imaginatively deployed tactical ranges Nellis is famous for.

Major John J. Closner, III, squadron commander of the 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron, said, "This exercise will provide our pilots and support personnel with the most realistic training that any tactical forces in America have ever trained by - it is that big."

"Nothing to date equals this kind of realism - short of combat. All areas of combat regime will be brought together: Reconnaissance, refueling, interceptor, search and rescue."

Instructors from Air Force survival schools will be evaluating the training received by simulated crashed aircrews attempting to survive in hostile environments.

Not all personnel will remain the complete 30-day period. Rotation of personnel for one and two week shifts will be cost beneficial to the Air Force.

The 507th is the first fighter unit in the reserves to participate in an exercise of this combat caliber.

## ON THE COVER



The new emblem of the 507th Tactical Fighter Group shows a white falcon diving between a panel of old glory red and ultramarine blue. The stars across the bottom are arranged in the shape of the great dipper while two planets are shown in the top half.

The entire emblem is cut in the shape of a shield. The 507th Tactical Fighter Group is lettered in black inside a scroll edged with gold.

The motto of the 507th is 'we defend even to the stars'.

The THUNDERCHIEF is a Class II newspaper published monthly on UTA's for personnel of 507 TFGp, Tinker AFB, Okla. 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  
Barbara A. Vessels.....Civilian IO  
SSgt. Skip Dobie...Information Tech  
Sgt. Richard A. Caram.....Editor  
SSgt. R. K. Brown.....Illustrator



## Woman Tire Inspector Named Outstanding Airman Of The Quarter

Airman Debbie S. Harrison, an inventory management specialist for the 507th Tactical Fighter Group Mobility Support Squadron, has been named Airman of the Quarter.

Airman Harrison joined the reserves to see if she would like it "and I found it a challenge and enjoy it", she said.

The Yukon resident is an inspector for the Dayton Tire and Rubber Company as a civilian. She graduated from Arkansas Tech, Russellville, Ark., with a BS in physical education.

Airman Harrison was also named Outstanding Basic Trainee during her basic training at Lackland AFB, Tex.



### Airman Debbie S. Harrison

## Recruiter Seeks " Believe It Or Not " Comments

By MSgt. Loyd Sturm  
Senior Recruiter

As a recruiter, it has always been of great concern to me to know why, or why not, people join the reserves.

In the years since I started "selling" for the Air Force, I have many times thought I had the answer only to have the next call destroy my carefully, developed reasons on why people join the reserves, or why people get out.

This whole point comes down to one request: Would you, each and every one of you, do me a favor. Either call me

on the telephone, ext 2935/7035 this UTA, or drop a note, either signed or unsigned to my office.

Tell me what you like or dislike about the Air Force Reserve.

Most of all, tell me what would make you like it more. We really want to know.

If you would like to have your pay raised to \$500 per day, forget it!

If you want more time to finish your ECI course, maybe we can help.

Only, I repeat, only by having your view, requests and comments, can we make this outfit, yours and mine, the place we wish it to be.



## CBPO Chief In The Business Of Keeping Folks Happy

Thirty miles south of Tinker AFB, a former University of Indiana basketball coach is making his living trying to keep a few thousand people happy after attending Oklahoma Sooner roundball games.

Maj. Norman E. Ress, a former University of Indiana basketball player and close personal friend of OU coach Dave Bliss, is also trying to keep a lot of people happy in his job as Chief of the 507th Tactical Fighter Group's Consolidated Base Personnel Office (CBPO).

"The CBPO is a service organization," said Major Ress, emphasizing the word "service."

"You have to keep alot of folks happy - from members of the unit all the way up to higher headquarters. That's what 'personnel' is all about."

The major came to the 507th TFGp

last October from Grissom AFB, Indiana, where he served as commander of the 931st Combat Support Squadron. Previous assignments, on active duty status, included five years as a KC-135 navigator.

What does he think of the 507th TFGp?

"I believe this is a fine unit, and I am very pleased with the performance of the members of the CBPO."

Major Ress and the 20 members of the CBPO whose work he supervises are responsible for the personnel records of more than 1,300 reservists.

For the native of Tell City, Ind., who went through the Indiana University ROTC program while playing guard for the Hoosier basketball squad, the move to Oklahoma was a move from home. But with OU basketball on the way up under his friend Dave Bliss, maybe Major Norman E. Ress will soon feel at home.

## 12AF Documents ORI/MEI Inspection As "A-OK"

That long expected, actually almost overdue ORI/MEI, began its test of unit preparedness and performance last UTA through March 9.

Results were most gratifying as 12AF left with a documented overall Satisfactory and a few excellents in important managerial areas.

Lt. Col. Roger P. Scheer, group commander, said, "Once again, team work and hustle paid off."

"I'm very proud to have such fine people as we have in the 507th - and people are what make the difference. Congratulations one and all - let's keep it going."

The unit's new mobility plan, only simulated twice before the ORI, received a satisfactory rating.

Bombing and gunnery results, aircraft generation and in-commission rates were truly noteworthy.

Perhaps the "most improved" awards should go to unit Administration and the 507WSSF. Gains shown by these two units were exemplary.

### Maj. Norman E Ress







TSgt. Louis C. Baker, Chief of Material Control, candidly states his views on reserve management, his pride in the 507th and how important the family is to the future of the reserves.

## NCO And Wife Cater To "Shake And Bake" Appetites

Find a busy man to get the work done! In the 507th, the busiest man around may well be TSgt. Louis C. Baker.

If you follow Sergeant Baker around for a little while, you will find that during the week, he is an Air Reserve Technician (ART) as a Material Control Supervisor in Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (CAM).

After he finishes his duties, then the work really starts.

Since 1960, Louis and his wife of 26 years, Alberta, run a catering business.

They cater to mostly smaller parties and weddings.

If you add 12 hours of study in Business Administration to his schedule, it really makes for flying low.

In two years of attendance in night school at Oscar Rose Junior College in Midwest City, Okla., he has never missed a class and carried a "B" average.

If this wasn't enough, Sergeant and Mrs. Baker have taken time out to have nine children, the oldest now married and a missionary for the Methodist Church.

Sergeant Baker lists his hobbies as trying to learn about life. When asked about the 507th, he is very outspoken.

He feels that the biggest source of new recruits comes from satisfied members.

He would like to encourage the ARTs to be more involved with training and leadership with the reserves.

Some suggestions he has for improving the Reserves are to encourage more family affairs.

"If you have the wives and children interested in the Reserves, the men will want to stay in", said this outstanding Technical Sergeant.

"Also", he continues, "base facilities such as the movies, golf course, BX, bowling centers and the hobby shops make the family feel like they belong."

When asked what the top officials of the Reserve could do, Sergeant Baker feels that they should pay more informal visits to all areas.

Given an opportunity to recommend improvements, Sergeant Baker said, "Reservists are left alone too much. They need more personal involvement with ARTs to make them feel they belong."

"Belonging is important. The reserves are almost a family, or they should be, and the family is important."

Spoken well by a father of five girls and four boys.





PICTURES can be downright deceiving, can't they. The IO office decided to tease you with a "What do you think this is?". We laughed through our humorous inputs, and now we think YOU should let us know your perceptions .

Stop in the IO office with your answer or call Ext 5101. All descriptions will be printed and we're anxious to see how many come up with the right answer. Keep thinking....giant clothes pin...??

## The SPIRIT of 1776 AMERICA 1976

Super birthdays call for super cakes, so San Francisco will have a whopper for its Twin Bicentennial festivities.

At 35,000 pounds, a



30-foot tall, 200-foot wide cake planned in honor of the 200th year of the city and

the nation will be the largest cake ever built, according to Stanley R. Larsen, acting chairman of the San Francisco Twin Bicentennial, who quotes the Guinness Book of World Records.

Larsen reports the cake will be on display in the rotunda of The Emporium, a San Francisco Department store, from October through the end of 1975. The Emporium is sponsoring the \$100,000 project.

The cake will be decorated with royal icing sculpture depicting episodes, events and people of San Francisco's past.

The Emporium plans to give away three to five thousand pounds of the cake. It is estimated this will allow

20,000 to 25,000 people to enjoy a free piece. Gifts of the cake will be distributed



through local hospitals and social agencies. The remainder will be sold in two-pound packages.



## Pilot Killed In Crash Buried With Honors

Funeral services for Capt. Larry L. Kline of the 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron, who was killed, March 12 when his F-105 crashed on a training mission in the Kiamichi Mountain area near Clayton, Okla., were held March 16 at St. John's Episcopal Church in Norman, Okla.

Father Don Owens of St. John's Episcopal conducted the services.

Graveside services were held at Resthaven Cemetary, where a four-aircraft formation of F-105s flew in tribute over the grave site.

Piloting the aircraft were Capt. Jerry A. Wrucha, group safety officer, Capt. Thomas L. King, Capt. Roger L. Coakley and 2Lt George H. Hector, Jr., all of the 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron.

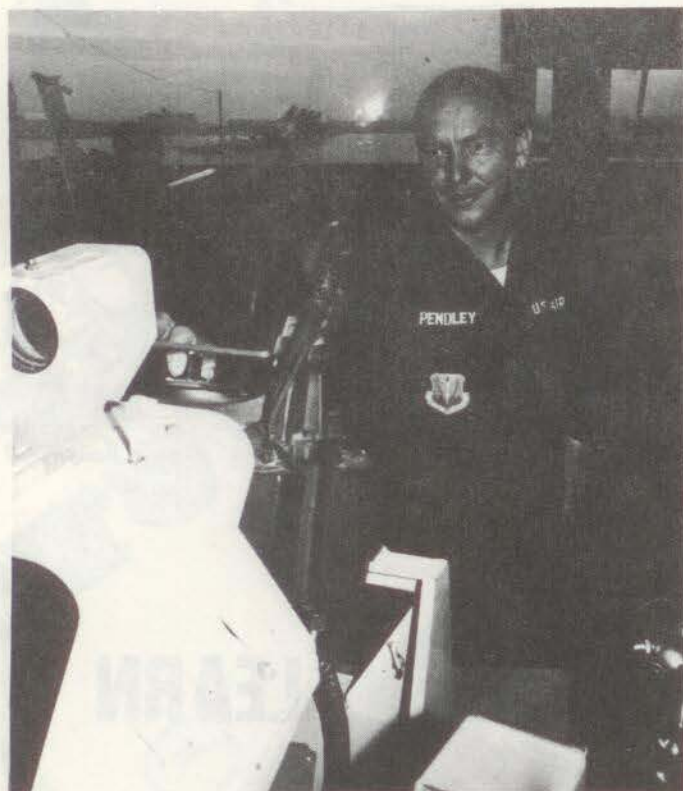
Capt. Kline, 28, was on a routine training mission when the mishap occurred.

A board of officers will investigate the cause of the accident.

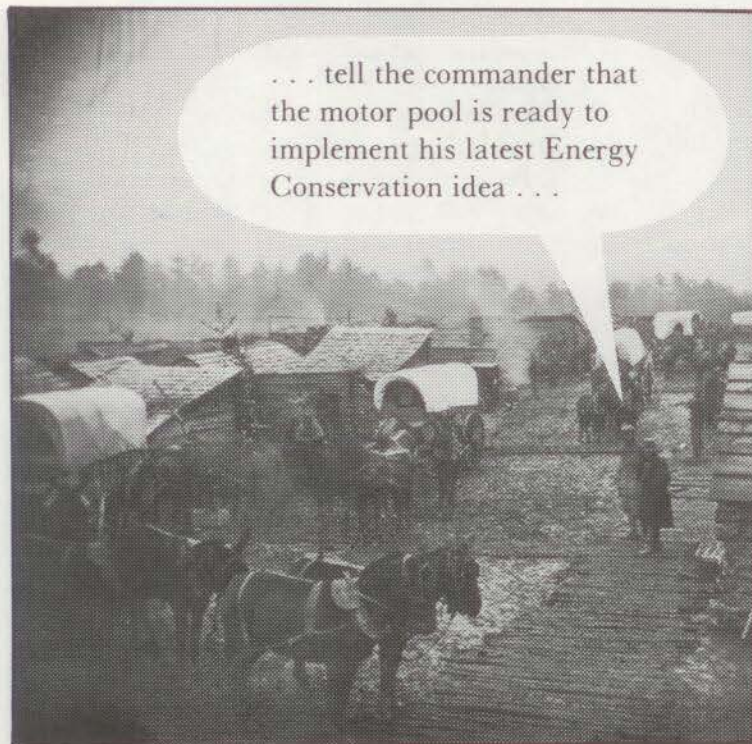
Capt. Kline had nearly completed his master's degree in aeronautical engineering at the University of Oklahoma and taught undergraduate classes there.

He was assigned to the unit in July 1974 from Bergstrom AFB, Tex., through the Palace Chase program.

He is survived by his widow, Susan, of Norman, Okla., who is a stewardess for PanAm Airlines.



MSgt. Clarence W. Pendley was named Maintenance Man of the Month. He is assigned to the Fire Control Section, Avionics Branch, CAM Sq. Sergeant Pendley was chosen by his supervisors for this honor.



### Tire Wear

One of the secondary benefits of the fifty-five-mile-per-hour speed limit was expected to be greater tire mileage, but it hasn't worked out that way, according to the Firestone people.

The reason is that motorists haven't slowed down on corners and are zooming away from traffic lights and jamming on their brakes just like they always have.

Jackrabbit starts and other poor driving habits cause enough rapid or uneven tread wear to offset potential savings resulting from slower highway driving.

To gain better tire mileage as well as fuel economy, slow down on corners and on rough pavement and try to make smooth starts and stops.



# PROMOTIONS



TO MSGT

James B. Washington

TO TSGT

Clifford Marzett  
Lloyd M. Riegel  
Julia A. Schuman  
John B. Schnittyer

TO SSGT

Charles H. Allcock  
Donald W. Brown  
Charles M. Brown  
Paul D. Kroeker  
Tommy E. Mooney  
Gary K. Sorrells

TO SGT

William W. Carr  
James O. Gates  
Bruce L. Pierce  
Michael W. Reeder  
Larry F. Worthy

TO AIC

Debbie S. Harrison

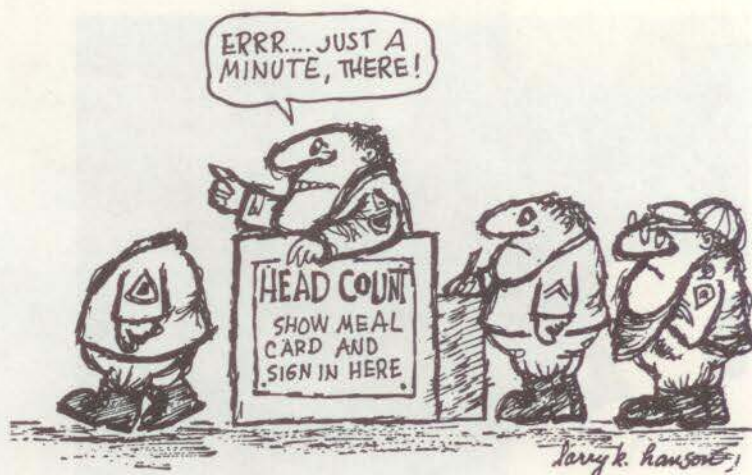


**Danger of drinking and driving**—Much has been written about the use of internationally understood symbols in traffic control signs.

However, the one shown here is a little different.

According to *Driver*, such signs are erected at the Zaragoza U.S. Air Base, Spain.

According to the Air Force publication, the signs are just one aspect of the base's drug-alcohol abuse deterrent program.



## LIVE & LEARN

I heard it first back in 1966 from Judge Demopolis while addressing our Lions Club. It was brought again to my attention a few months ago by Ann Landers and it is even more 'scarey' now.

The average life of civilization has been 200 years during which each has gone through nine stages.

1. from bondage to spiritual faith
2. from spiritual faith to great courage
3. from courage to liberty
4. from liberty to abundance
5. from abundance to selfishness
6. from selfishness to complacency
7. from complacency to apathy
8. from apathy to dependency
9. from dependency to bondage

With our bicentennial emphasis it seems fitting that each of us ask the question where on the cycle are we? History does repeat itself and we--in our 20th century enlightenment--ought to profit by the lessons of history. The study Hosea quotes God as saying to Isreal after an avalanche of rebellion and backsliding, 'How shall I give you up?' He does not want to but he will give men and nations up to a reprobate mind if they refuse to turn around (about face) and return to God in faith.