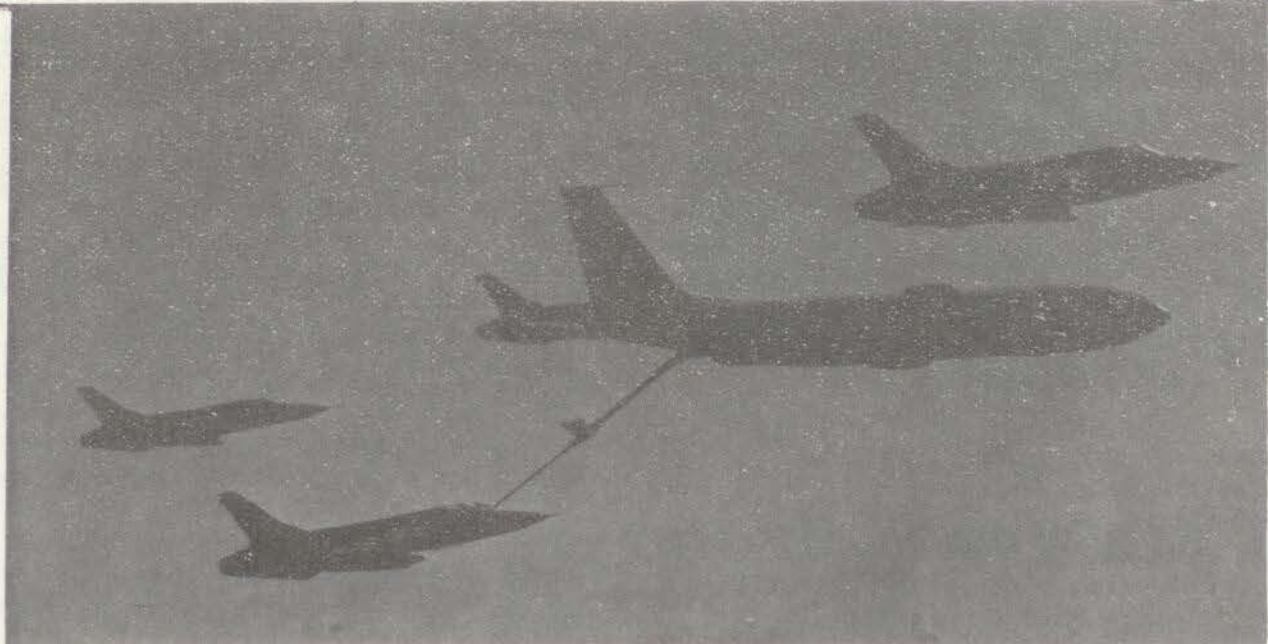




# THE THUNDERCHIEF

507th TFGp December 1976  
Tinker AFB, Okla. Vol. 3 No. 10



KC-135 refuels F-105s in first reserve-to-reserve refueling mission.

## Boomers and Sooners make AFR history

The newest Air Force Reserve mission became part of Oklahoma aviation history recently as KC-135s refueled F-105s in the first reserve-to-reserve aerial refueling endeavor.

Thirsty, reserve F-105s from the 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron were refueled by tankers assigned to the 452d Air Refueling Wing, March AFB, Calif. The wing is the first Air Force Reserve unit to be assigned a KC-135 aerial refueling mission in direct support of the Strategic Air Command (SAC). F-105 Thunderchiefs were selected for the first mission to provide the boomers training in the technique of refueling fighter aircraft with the drogue.

The unit began its new mission Oct 1. Preplanning, in cooperation with SAC, permitted the 336th Air Refueling Squadron

of the 452d to have six aircrews qualified in KC-135s by the transfer date.

This figure represents 50 per cent of the squadron's aircrews ready to conduct air refueling missions, and puts the wing about a year ahead of the normal readiness schedule of a converting unit, officials say.

The wing is commanded by Brig. Gen. James L. Wade, a native Oklahoman and former commander of the 507th Tactical Fighter Group.

The 336th ARSq is collocated with the wing at March AFB and the 940th Air Refueling Group, another unit of the 452d will be stationed at Mather AFB, Calif., and will also receive eight KC-135s. Conversion date for the 940th is scheduled for Jan. 1, 1977.

See REFUELING Page 2



## Five new units up group strength by 400

A population explosion hit the 507th last month when the group assumed command responsibility for five additional reserve units at Tinker AFB and Stillwater, Okla.

These units had all previously been serviced by the group CBPO.

An Air Force wide reorganization of AFRES command channels brings the 3d ALC, 71st and 72d MAPS, 10th MS and 10th SupS, within the ranks of the 507th TFGp.

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### refueling

A total of 16 aircraft will be assigned to the 452d.

465th TFSq Commander, Lt. Col. John J. Clossner, III, said, "with the reserves having a refueling mission now, this will give us a little more flexibility in responding to combat exercises and the short term commitments that the Air Force levies on us. We especially look forward to working with this new Group

Pilots of the 465th participating in the event were Maj. F. S. Winebarger, Capt. Bruce W. Hayward, Maj. Arthur H. Hansen, Jr., Maj. Roger L. Coakley, Capt. Jerry A. Wrucha, Maj. William L. Duvall, Capt. Roy L. Hartman, Capt. Randy Freeman and Lt. Col. George B. Wallace.

The 465th is assigned to the 507th Tactical Fighter Group, commanded by Lt. Col. Roger P. Scheer.

Crew members of the KC-135 were General Wade, Maj. Warren D. Snyder and Capt. Russell I. Olson; pilots; Maj. Curtis R. Roe, navigator; MSgt. Kenneth R. McDaniel, TSgt. James D. Webb, TSgt. Reginold D. Nolte and Sgt. Prue E. Compton, boomers; and Sgt. Harvey L. Price, Combat Crew Training School Instructor from Castle AFB, Calif.

Combat photographer for the special mission was Sgt. James R. Wrye, assigned to Det 15, 1365th Audio Visual Squadron.

As a result of the reorganization, the group's strength has increased some 40 per cent to approximately 1300 reservists officials say.

"In the event of a recall to active duty, the units would still be assigned to the commands with which they were previously affiliated," said Lt. Col. Roger P. Scheer, group commander.

Commanders of the units involved and their respective gaining commands are Maj. James J. McGraw, 71st MAPS, (MAC); Maj. Stanley Alexander, 72d MAPS, (MAC); Lt. Col. Maurice C. Anders, 10th MS, (AFLC); Capt. Carl C. McRorie, II, 10th SupS, (AFLC); and Col. Donald L. Jackson, 3d ALC, (AFLC).

Gaining command for the 507th is Tactical Air Command (TAC).

#### TRADING POST

1974 Mercury 4-hp outboard motor for sale. Contact Capt. Wrucha/5101.

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## Wrucha addresses Civilian Aviators

Capt. Jerry A. Wrucha, group safety officer, was a keynote speaker during the base's first Civilian Aviation Safety Fly-In, Sunday of the November UTA.

Over 2000 aviation 'buffs' and 263 light aircraft participated in the event.

Assisting in the parking of the aircraft near the Flight Test facility were reservists from the 10th Maintenance Squadron.

The fly-in was held to develop a closer relationship between civilian and military aviators and to promote aviation safety awareness.

Capt. Wrucha spoke on mid-air collision potentials and their avoidance.

He stressed that all reactions to possible mid-air take time. "It's not the aircraft you see that will get you, but the one you don't," he said.

He addressed some ways for civilian aviators to help alleviate problems of mid-air.

"Learn to improve your scanning techniques. Know your cockpit design; pre-flight; wash the wind shields.

"While in the plane, don't keep your eyes constantly fixed on the horizon, exercise eye muscles by looking around. This helps from getting "altitude myopia".

"Wear sunglasses. Paint aircraft in dull colors to cut-down on the glare.

"Move your head around for variety. Turn on all lights in less favorable weather conditions.

"Radar contact does not alleviate you of the responsibility of looking around. Use a transponder. ATC can better identify your position. Transponders will help others see you.

Capt. Wrucha further explained the low-level routes of the 507th as a two-hour period, twice a day, Tuesday thru Saturday. He emphasized that aviators use flight service and know the restrictions of these routes before you fly.

"Make a right decision deliberately instead of a wrong decision instantly," he concluded.



Capt. Jerry A. Wrucha, briefing during civilian fly-in.

## How ready are we?

In a talk to a meeting of the Order of Daedalians at Bolling AFB, D.C., Lt. Gen. John W. Pauly, then deputy chief of staff, plans and operations, said:

"How ready are we..to commit forces to help turn back a Soviet attack on our European allies? Or how about the Middle East? Or what would be the outcome if war broke out in Korea--how well could we protect our national interests in these vital areas.

"We are now looking at such fundamental issues as:

- How can we inject more realism into our operational readiness inspections?

- How can we improve our training so that it more closely resembles combat tasks?

- What yardsticks should we be using to give us an accurate indication of our war munitions requirements, and how can we more accurately measure our logistics capability to sustain our combat forces in the scenarios I mentioned earlier?

"We have also asked the commands to tell us what they consider to be the most important factors determining their readiness."





New 465th TFSq "C" Flight Commander is Maj. Roger Coakley replacing Maj. Hayden Peck, American Airlines pilot, who is giving up the "Thud" to spend more time with his family in Dallas.

Pilot of the Month is Maj. Roy Jolly. Farewell, also to Roy, who has been recalled to a flying position with TWA airlines.

Moving up as Chief of Administration is SSgt. Virginia Wagner, new ART woman supervisor in the 507th. Her predecessor Lonnie Mitchell, is the new logistics technician expert in Resource Plans.

Walter Yoder, PSM of the CBPO, accepted a job with growth potential as an item manager for the ALC.

SMSgt John Bowles, ART Training Technician is recovering from surgery.

SSgt. David Holt, 465th is also recovering from surgery.

Joann Renshaw, TAC Clinic, is back from extended sick leave.

Farewell to Capt. Perry Fletcher, IO, who will take a category "B" reserve position with the ALC JAG office. Replacing him is Capt. Gail Anderson, who comes to us from ADCOM in Colorado Springs.

Capt. Hopper officially leaves his chief of maintenance job Dec. 13 to travel to Moody AFB, Ga., for 2-years active duty as the F-4 chief of maintenance for the new reserve program called TACRATE.

The new program is a test to evaluate the ability of Reserve personnel to augment active tactical fighter/attack units and enhance force effectiveness during wartime. The new program is specifically called Tactical Air Command Reserve Augmentation Test and Evaluation.

MSgt. Wyman Straughn, first sergeant for COSSq, will enter Norman hospital after Thanksgiving for more chemotherapy.

Lt. Col. Roger P. Scheer, commander recently presented sustained superior awards to Donald J. Brandenburg, Jeffrey W. Currens, Joan Ringwald, Hubert H. Rogers, Rodney D. Osborne, Harvey G. Rooks, Billy M. Gray, Nathan G. Ebright, Rufus J. Cleveland, Ronnie C. Evans, Gene Steffens, Raymond Issac, John S. Spaulding, Michael T. Keener, all of CAM Sq; Cathy D. Lau; Resource Plans, Maxine Westover, (now base CE), Larry D. Skelly, CBPO, and Barbara Ann Vessels/IO.

Receiving service pins were Jack Ross, 30 years; Joe Bagby, 20 years; Rufus J. Cleveland, Gary S. Harwell and Billy G. Spencer, 10 years.

## Promotions

### TO ALC

Ricky Coles  
Jacquelyn Hale  
John Martina  
Leana Taylor  
Tommy Childers  
Stephen Jackson

### TO TSGT

Virginia Wagner  
Jeffrey Currens  
Thomas Dubose  
Charles Riley

### TO SRA

Rick Nichols  
Randy Bennett  
Debbie Harrison  
Earl Martin  
Rhonda Drwiega  
Brenda Halford  
Annette Landt  
Rhonda Mantooth

### TO SSGT

Gary Boyles  
Lamont Woody  
William Crain