

## Achtung! First AFRES fighter unit deploys overseas

By Barbara Ann Vessels

The 507th Tactical Fighter Group (TFG) is one of Tactical Air Command (TAC) units deploying now through September to bases in Europe and Alaska under TAC's continuing short-term tactical deployment program.

The 507th is part of the first Reserve fighter wing to participate in overseas training since its flying mission began in 1972.

Four F-105s, both D and F models, assigned to the 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron (TFS) here joined forces with 14 other F-105s from the 301st Tactical

Fighter Wing (TFW) located at Carswell AFB, Tex., and flew non-stop to Norvenich AB, Germany, for a two-week exercise, Aug 13-27.

The Air Force Reserve wing participated in the overseas deployment to familiarize pilots and support personnel with the European flying environment.

### FIRST U.S. UNIT AT NORVENICH

According to officials of our host U.S. unit, the 52nd TFW, at Spangdahlem AB, the 301st is the first American unit to deploy to Norvenich Air Base.

According to Lt. Col.

Roger P. Scheer, 507th commander, approximately 300 maintenance and support personnel with equipment from Carswell and Tinker AFBs were airlifted by Military Airlift Command C-141 "Starlifters."

The short-term tactical deployment program began in August 1975 to familiarize U.S. based aircrews and support personnel with flying operations outside the continental United States," he said, "and to practice reinforcing U.S. and allied forces.

### EIGHT HOURS NON-STOP

Actual flying time to Germany was eight hours and 33 minutes as three cells of six F-105 aircraft departed Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C., with 30 minute separation between take-offs for ease in aerial refueling.

Three Strategic Air Command KC-135 "Stratotankers" accompanied each cell of F-105s enroute to

Germany in line with TAC's requirement that each aircraft have one hour's fuel remaining upon arrival at their overseas destination or diverted location.

### FIVE PALLETS TAKEN

Only five, selected item pallets of spare parts, weighing 20,000 lbs., were used during the Germany deployment.

Nearly 200 flying missions were flown during the stay as pilots and ground crews participated in an operational exercise with the United Kingdom, Federal Republic of Germany and ground and naval forces from Denmark.

Only four days of flying were accomplished the last week. A stand-down or no-fly day was declared the last Friday allowing for crew conditioning and maintenance of the aircraft before the return home.

### Five wrap-up tours

## Units complete training

By Capt. Gail D. Anderson

Four of the non-flying units and one 507th unit performed annual training duties recently.

Completing their two weeks at the same time as the 507th Tactical Fighter Group (TFG) was the 72nd Mobile Aerial Port Squadron (MAPS). They were at Tinker from June 13-26.

The 71st MAPS came to Tinker the next month for their yearly time, Jul. 23 to Aug. 5.

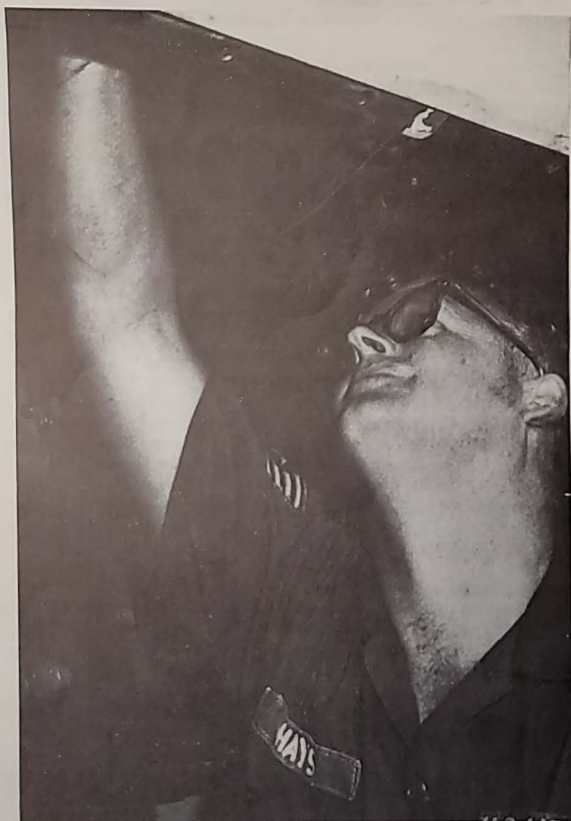
Traveling to Nellis AFB, Las Vegas, Nev., was the 10th Mobile Supply Squadron (MSS). Their training time began on Aug. 13 and lasted through Aug. 27.

In the 3d Air Logistics

Augmentation Squadron (ALAS) half the unit completed their annual training one week at Tinker and the other at Stillwater, Jan. 2-16. Then from Aug. 7-21, the other half of the unit worked the same split schedule.

Another "vagabound" unit was the 507th Weapons Systems Security Flight (WSSF). They were at Bergstrom AFB, Tex., from Jul. 30 to Aug. 13.

On the Saturday of the August Unit Training Assembly (UTA), the WSSF helped with more than 40,000 people attending the annual open house known as the "Aero Fest", which included the USAF Air Demonstration Squadron, the Thunderbirds.



### Germany here we come!

Crew Chief, SSgt. Ronald Hays, pre-flights an F-105 before the eight hour non-stop flight to Norvenich AB. (USAF Photo by Sgt. B.J. Berry)



## Eight receive silver leaves

By Barbara Ann Vessels

Seven reserve majors and one Air Reserve Technician (ART) were notified recently that they were brand new lieutenant colonels.

Congratulations go to: Maj. Donna M. Forstrom, TAC Clinic; Maj. Ronald K. Williams; 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron (TFS).

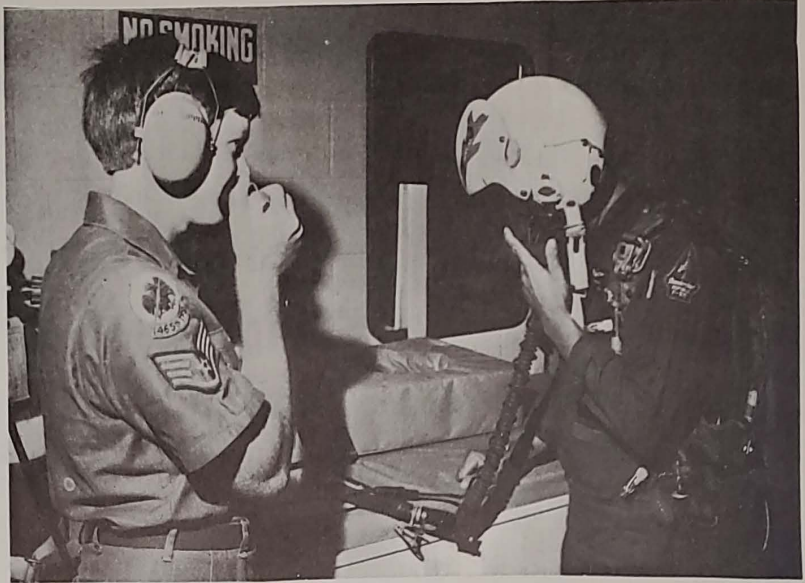
Also, Maj. John D. Ellington, 507th Mobility Support Flight; Maj. James J. McGraw, 71st Mobile Aerial Port Squadron (MAPS).

And, Maj. James W. Parker, 465th TFS; Maj. Herbert H. Acheson, 507th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (CAMS).

Also, Maj. Paul J. Winden, 3d Air Logistics Augmentation Squadron (ALAS); and Maj. John J. Miller, 10th Mobile Maintenance Squadron (MMS).

Even though the announcement of promotions can be released, some of the new lieutenant colonels will not put on their silver leaves until as late as July 1978.

Majors Forstrom, Parker, Winden, Williams, and McGraw promotion dates are effective before the end of 1977.



### Are you receiving oxygen?

SSgt. Chet Iker, life support specialist, checks oxygen and communications of Capt. Ronald Hammons, 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron (TFS). (USAF Photo by R. Goff)

## CAM chief retires with sound advice

By Capt. Gail D. Anderson

Maintenance just won't be the same without the familiar face of Lt. Col. William J. Howse, Jr., around the hangar area. The 507th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (CAMS) commander retired Aug. 21 with 33 years in the Air Force Reserve.

He began his career with intentions of becoming a pilot, he ended up in the field that keeps the planes flying for other crew members.

Col. Howse started out in the aviation cadet program in 1944 with the goal of earning wings and a commission.

But the flying requirement, dropped off as World War II was winding down.

So his entire class was diverted into other jobs, and the colonel went into an enlisted maintenance slot.

#### MISSISSIPPI STATE GRAD

During his five years in that job, he earned a bachelor of science degree in engineering at Mississippi State.

Also, in 1948, he received his long awaited commission through the Reserve Officer's Training Corps. (ROTC) program.

Col. Howse is one of the 'old timers' in the unit. He was first assigned to the 937th Military Airlift Wing (MAW) at Tinker as an Avionics Officer.

#### ACTIVATED COMM. FLT.

In 1966, the colonel activated the 937th Communications Flight (CF). This unit was converted to the present 507th Communications Flight (CF) when the entire 937th switched from C-124s to 507th F-105 aircraft in 1972.

Looking back on his career, he commented, "at one time, it was difficult

to find a place to participate in the reserve program and get your 50 points each year. You often had to travel two hours to get one point and that was with no pay.

"In fact", he added, "I was constantly debating if I should get out. One time, I even threw my papers in the waste basket when I decided not to extend my reserve commitment.

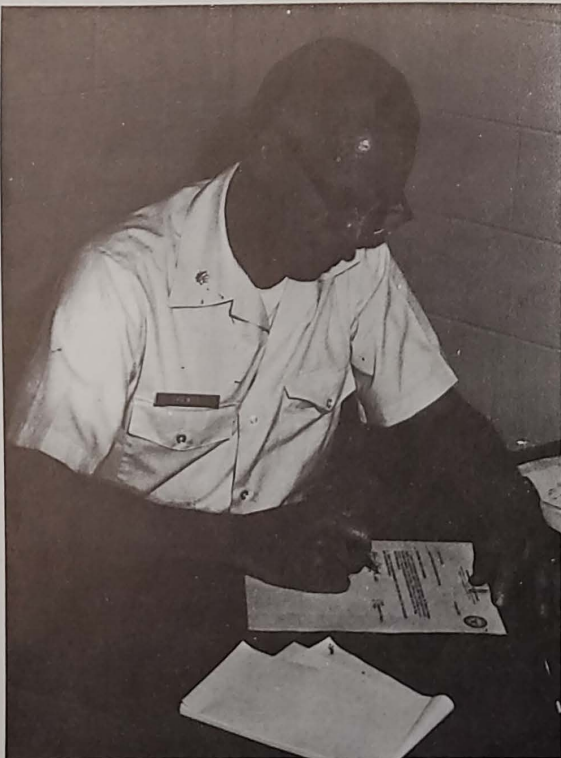
Col. Howse then explained that the Air Force changed the program by investing more money, emphasis and interest in it.

#### 'THINK IT OVER'

As a result, the program became more 'alive'. So everyone should do some good sound thinking when it comes time to extend. Once you get out, you might not have the chance to change your mind."

Col. Howse has spent two weekends a month at the 507th supervising the maintenance support for the unit's week-end flying since he became CAMS commander.

"But I'll keep an eye on you," he said, "as the low level route the F-105s fly pass right over my house in Wanette, Okla."



Lt. Col. William J. Howse, Jr.



## Conversations: Key speaker of positive outlooks negative

By Capt. Gail D. Anderson

Do any of the following conversations sound like someone you know?

First person: "Oh no, another mobility exercise planned for this UTA which means we won't get much else done."

Second person: "Well, the exercises do take time, but I've found they help me get to know the people and our unit better."

First person: "That sergeant has it in for me. He's constantly telling me I need a haircut."

Second person: "I know what you mean. I've had that sergeant jump on me too. But I read 35-10 recently to be sure I was within the limits in the future."

First person: "Women don't have the mechanical ability to work in maintenance. They should all be assigned to admin type jobs."

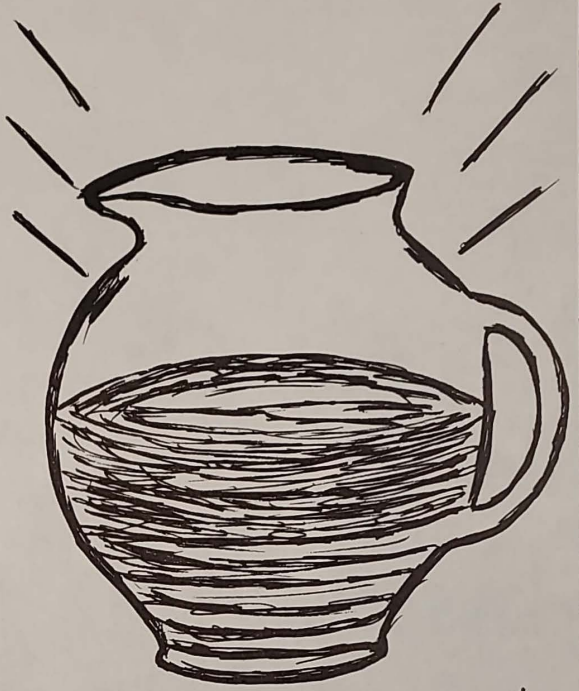
Second person: "But aren't there some men who don't have the knack or interest for maintenance? Why not assign jobs for each person based on their abilities and interests?"

Have you already designated one or more people in the first person and second person roles? And how about you? Are you honest enough with yourself (it's your secret) to admit that you may be the first person most of the time?

True, we're all the first or second person at different times during our conversations, whether off or on UTA weekends. But maybe we ought to reevaluate those conversations.

When someone asks a question, what kind of an answer do you give? Is it pessimistic ("it can't be done" or "I think you'll have problems with that")? Or is it optimistic ("let's check into that" or "our regs say no way, but maybe we can work out something else")?

There's a quick way to judge optimism and pessimism--and you may have heard of it. Show someone a drawing of a pitcher with liquid in it. Ask that person to describe it. An optimist will tell you the pitcher is half full, while a pessimist will say it's half empty.



RMX

### First Oklahoma winner

## Knight recipient of national scholarship award

By Capt. Gail D. Anderson

A Technical Sergeant in the 507th Civil Engineering Flight (CEF) is the first Oklahoman to receive a \$1,200 national scholarship from the Soil Conservation Society (SCS) of America.

The annual award was established seven years ago.

The state SCS office in Stillwater submitted Billy G. Knight for the award last February.

He was notified in mid-June that he was a 1977 Donald A. Williams Scholarship winner.

Sgt. Knight received the financial assistance so that he could improve his technical skill "in a conservation-related field through formal course work."

He began using the scholarship the fall semester of 1977 at Oklahoma State University (OSU).

Sgt. Knight is a soil conservationist technician with SCS in his civilian job.

The society has arranged a program where he can take 14 credit hours a semester and still work full-time for them.

For his convenience, they transferred him to the state office in Stillwater.

A site developer for CEF, Sgt. Knight has already earned 70 college credits. He plans to get a bachelor of science degree in Agronomy from OSU.

However, there is no requirement that the scholarship recipient complete a college degree.

Sgt. Knight traveled to Richmond, Va., early in August, to receive the award.

Presenting the check was Donald Williams for whom the scholarship is named.

He is a former head of SCS in Washington, D.C.

SCS of America is a non profit, scientific, educational association

There is only one recipient annually for the national scholarship.

## Chevron date moved back to early '78

Air Force enlisted men and women can wait until Jan. 1, 1978, to start wearing metal chevrons on their raincoats.

The mandatory wear date was moved back from July 1, 1977, to afford clothing sales stores sufficient time to acquire a stock of metal chevrons.

Mandatory wear date for the metal collar chevrons on topcoats and lightweight blue jackets remains July 1, 1980.

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Lt. Col. R. P. Scheer, Cmdr  
Capt. Gail D. Anderson, IO  
Barbara A. Vessels, Ed/IO  
Sgt. Mike Brown, InfoTec

Officer Dining Out

Oct. 29th

OOM

White Mess Dress

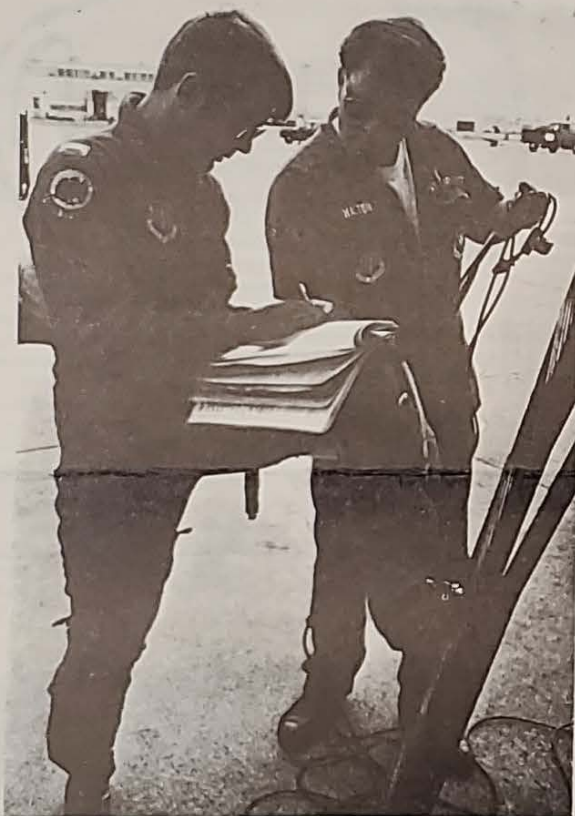


# Distinguished themselves....

By Barbara Ann Vessels

Lt. Col. Ralph E. Durnbaugh, (right), new Air Force advisor, was recently awarded the Meritorious Service Award for outstanding performance, deputy chief of staff, operations, standardization evaluation, 9th Air Force, Shaw AFB, S.C. During this assignment, he flew the F-105 and A-37 from 1973 to 1977.

1Lt. William D. Seitz, (below-left), 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron (TFS), received the Air Force Commendation Medal for outstanding service while assigned to the Disaster Preparedness Office from 1974 to 1977. Noteworthy, were his self-produced video tapes covering training requirements for the 697 reservists with mobility positions. Sgt. Walton, (right), assists with the checklist. (USAF Photo by Ellis Young)



## Gamble chosen top airman

By Capt. Gail D. Anderson

Airman of the Quarter for the April-June cycle is SSgt. Norman E. Gamble, who's assigned to the 507th Combat Support Squadron (CSS) as a legal service specialist.

Sgt. Gamble commented, "I feel honored to have been selected Airman of the Quarter."

But I'm honestly nervous about the F-105 ride. I just hope I don't lose my cookies."

He has been with the Reserve program for four and a half years. However, he spent the first half of that time as an administrative specialist in the training office of the 507th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (CAMS)

In his leisure time, he likes to read, water ski, play bridge, or go camping.

He was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, but grew up in Bethel, Alaska.

This Airman of the Quarter selection was the closest to date.

Runner-ups were SrA. Carl D. Mayabb, Civil Engineering Flight (CEF); Sgt. Philip D. Bowen, 465th Intelligence; and SSgt. Kenneth W. Marshall, 507th Communications Flight (CF).

Difference between Gamble and Mayabb was .15 points; between all four candidates, 1.75 points.

All candidates met an interview panel.

He completed basic training at Lackland AFB, Tex., and administration school at Keesler AFB, Miss.

Recently, he attended a three-day seminar on military justice, held in Austin, Tex., the seminar was sponsored by the Bergstrom AFB legal office.

Besides a special parking space, the Airman of the Quarter gets other privileges.

## STEP-UPS

To AMN

Mary E. Jones; Jack A. Whiteside; Cynthia R. Pitre;

To ALC

Ronnie Amous; Debra A. Terronez; Carlton K. Jackson.

To SrA

Dale L. Dekinder; Jerry D. Smith; Thomas R. Irwin; Ronnie B. Riley; Michael J. Franks; Bobby G. Bogges; Thomas E. Boyle; Mark E. Casebolt; Curtis H. Morgan; Wilbur J. Stevenson; Michael D. Upton; Robert P. Morris

To SSGT

Joseph M. Bussell; Samuel J. McPherson; James R. Surber; Thomas M. Looney; Michael W. Reeder; James E. Glazebrook, Jr.; Larry E. Hudson; Stanley R. Jackson; Nicky C. Stewart

To TSQT

Robert G. Thompson  
James L. Anderson, III

To MSGT

Donald J. Brandenburg