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**National POW/MIA
Recognition Day
September 15, 2006**

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Cover designed by Gloria Vasquez
The Air Intelligence Agency hosted a National POW/MIA ceremony Sept. 15. This year, ten local former POWs were honored during the ceremony. See page 8 for story and photos.

Eventually, they will all come home

Commentary by Capt. Ken Hall
47th Flying Training Wing

LAUGHLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFP) -- Each year on the third Friday in September, we recognize and honor those servicemembers who suffered as prisoners of war, and those still missing. We do it for them. More important, we do it for their families, and we do it so every man and woman in uniform today can truly believe in their heart should they fall in battle, we will bring them home.

Those missing have become a distant memory to some in America, but resolution and closure remains the focus for those families whose loved ones still lie on distant battlefields. Giving them resolution and closure remains the primary mission for many people in units like the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command in Hawaii and the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office in Washington, D.C. These units' members are responsible for bringing home the missing.

What most of them will tell you is they have the most gratifying job in the U.S. military. What most of them won't tell you is they risk their own lives daily while deployed around the world in austere locations to make sure their fallen comrades are returned to their families and to a final resting place on American soil.

I can tell you what it was like serving in the unit charged with bringing home the missing -- it was the most rewarding assignment I have ever had.

It was certainly the one where I most felt I was doing something that mattered, and that's considering my deployments to Operation Desert Storm, Bosnia and New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. During my tour with Joint Task Force-Full Accounting and the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, we brought home more than 225 missing American heroes and laid them to rest with the honor they so long deserved.

The distant memory of those missing may just be a number or statistic to some,

but the 88,000 missing heroes represent 88,000 real-life stories of loss and pain to 88,000 wives or husbands who will never grow old together, whose children will never know their parent, or whose parents outlived their child. During my deployments to Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam, I saw firsthand where we believed more than a dozen of these heroes lay lost, and I learned their stories, too.

My first deployment to Laos took me to the thickly jungled Ho Chi Minh Trail in Salavan Province. From the air, the landscape looked like moonscape from the innumerable bomb craters still evident 30-plus years later. There, I learned the story of not one missing hero, but five. Jolly Green-23's HH-3E crew was searching for a downed Marine pilot who had just been shot down while providing close-air support to troops in the Ashau Valley.

The enemy had captured the downed, injured pilot and used him as bait to attract and then attempt to shoot down would-be rescuers. This was the fate that found the crew of Jolly Green-23. Among them were Capt. Richard Yeend, co-pilot; Staff Sgt. Elmer Holden, flight engineer; Sgt. James Locker, pararescueman; and Coast Guardsman Lt. Jack Rittichier, an exchange pilot. During my tour, we saw them all laid to rest on American soil.

In the mist-shrouded mountains of what was once North Vietnam, on what had once been an escape route for Navy pilots returning to their carriers after dropping their bombs on Hanoi and Haiphong Harbor, lay the crash site of Lt. j.g. Roderick Lester and his bombardier/navigator Lt. Harry Mossman. They had just completed a bombing run in August 1972 and were returning to the USS Kitty Hawk when their A-6 Intruder crashed into the side of a mountain.

In Lieutenant Mossman's son's eulogy, he recalled: "My dad wrote, '...I have made government service in the Navy my career. I hope I can help the people of this nation in some small way by trying to make the part of the armed forces in which

I serve use its vast power as wisely as possible in the preservation of this nation.'"

In addition to taking media to cover our teams at recovery sites, the single most-rewarding part of my duties included meeting and briefing the families of those servicemembers we recovered and identified.

During their visits, the families' emotions ran the gamut, from nervous happiness at finally knowing what had happened and their loved one had indeed perished, to silent sobbing because it was finally "over." Afterward, we would always adjourn to the identification laboratory where the family would be given some time alone with the remains of their loved one, and the remains would then be prepared for their final journey home.

I don't have room for all of them in this writing, but I will always remember the stories of those whose recoveries I had visited.

Their names are: Navy Cmdr. Lynn Doyle, whose F-8 was shot down in Vietnam in 1965; Marine 2nd Lt. Donald Matocha, who in 1968 was lost in ground combat on Dong Ha Mountain near Khe Sanh in Vietnam and who has been laid to rest; Army Warrant Officer Walter Wroblewski, lost in a UH-1 helicopter crash in Ashau Valley in Vietnam; Air Force Col. Dale Eaton and Capt. Paul Getchell, who went down in their B-57 Canberra in 1969 along the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Laos on a night mission; Navy Lt. John Golz, lost when his A-4 went down in Salavan Province in Laos in 1970; Army Special Forces Sgt. Norman Payne, lost in a night attack in 1968 in Savannakhet Province, Laos.

Yes, I will always remember the recoveries I deployed to and the stories of these heroes. These POWs and missing servicemembers prove to all humanity just how good our nation can be at its best.

Remember them and thank them for their contributions, and remember those still missing. They showed us, through their example, freedom is not free, but it can be maintained.

Road rage ranks as top highway safety issue

By Jim Trapp
70th IW Safety

Summer's clear skies and warm temperatures will hypnotically draw many people to the highways and by-ways for road trips to destinations near and far. The result will be heavier traffic congestion practically everywhere, and an increased potential to encounter drivers operating under the influence of road rage. "Road Rage" is defined as "An incident in which an angry or impatient motorist or passenger intentionally injures or kills another motorist, passenger, or pedestrian, in response to a traffic dispute, altercation, or grievance." Road Rage or aggressive driving is taking a deadly toll on streets and highways. It has become such a problem that federal and local government agencies have campaigns against aggressive driving; ranking it with drunken driving and seat belt use as top highway safety issues.

In their campaign to curb aggressive driving, Department of Transportation officials prioritized the most serious acts and ranked drivers who speed through intersections as the number one hazard on their hit list.

On average, more than 2,600 people are killed annually in car crashes at intersections where a driver ran a red light. Another 6,000 are killed running stop signs and speeding through intersections. Many more people are killed or injured as a result of other forms of highway violence such as car-jackings, drunk driving, thrill shootings, highway armed robberies, hit-and-runs, and objects thrown from overpasses.

Unfortunately, there is no set profile to help you identify aggressive drivers. They cut across gender, racial and economic lines. They can be young, inexperienced drivers or drivers with many years of driving experience. The only common thing about aggressive drivers is that they are life threatening hazards to themselves and other drivers who share the roads with them.

How do you protect yourself? Traffic safety experts offer the following suggestions. If someone cuts you off, tailgates you, or is otherwise rude, your best response is to stay focused on your own driving and ignore the other person's antics. If they continue to follow or harass you, drive to a police station or look for a police officer and try to get his or her attention. If you can't do either of these things, drive to an area where there are lots of

other people so you can get help. Under no circumstance should you pull off the road hoping they'll just go by. It's much safer to stay mobile. Don't let another driver's stupidity or recklessness draw you into a deadly confrontation.

Other drivers may intentionally or unintentionally do things that upset you and leave you wanting revenge for the perceived wrong deed. It may take all of your will power, but don't try to retaliate! You never know who or what you are dealing with and an escalating traffic dual could leave you, your family and/or others dead or seriously injured. These confrontations usually turn out bad and it just isn't worth the risk. Here are some other things to consider when driving.

- **Be careful and alert at all intersections.** Be prepared to stop at any intersection and always make sure the way is clear before proceeding. Don't gamble by speeding through amber or red lights because oncoming traffic may be concealed from your view until it is too late to avoid a collision.

- **Don't block the passing lane.** Stay out of the far left lane unless you are passing slower moving vehicles and yield to the right for any vehicle that wants to overtake you. If someone demands to pass, let them pass.

- **Don't tailgate.** Maintain a safe distance from the vehicle

in front of you.

- **Don't make rude gestures.** You're playing Russian roulette if you raise a middle finger to another driver. Obscene gestures have gotten people shot, stabbed and beaten in every state in the nation.

- **Don't blow your horn in anger.** Don't blow your horn at the driver in front of you the second the light turns green - that can set off a stressed out driver. If you must get someone's attention in a non-emergency situation, tap your horn lightly.

- **Use your head lights properly.** If an oncoming driver has his or her high beams on, don't retaliate by turning your high beams on so you can "teach them a lesson."

- **Don't block traffic.** If you're pulling a trailer or driving a cumbersome vehicle that impedes traffic behind you, pull over when you can do so safely so motorists behind you can pass.

- **Avoid a stare-down.** If a hostile driver tries to pick a fight with you, don't make eye contact. This can be seen as a challenging gesture and may incite the other driver to violence.

(Editor's note: Information compiled from Road & Rec Magazine.)



Road rage is taking a deadly toll on America's highways. Rude gestures have gotten people shot, stabbed and beaten in every state in the nation.

Courtesy photo

Courtesy of Comstock Images and ARA Content

Officer promotion board changes take effect Jan. 1

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFPN) -- The secretary of the Air Force has approved changes to the format of the selection brief presented to officer promotion boards to begin Jan. 1.

Air Force officials will implement three changes to officer selection briefs, or OSBs; two changes deal with presentation of data related to developmental education while a third change deals with deployment history.

The OSB is a single sheet of paper that summarizes an officer's career. It is an important document in an officer selection record, or OSR. The OSR is presented to a selection board when an officer is being reviewed for promotion.

The OSR contains, in addition to the OSB, such items as performance reports, training reports, decorations and a promotion recommendation form. The OSB is intended to be an overview of what is inside the OSR, said Col. Philip Odom, the chief of Air Force Military Force Shaping Policy.

"It is essentially a summary of an officer's career -- some would call it a snapshot -- in a format that is quickly reviewed by a board member," Colonel Odom said. "A board member can look at the OSB and get an idea of where an officer's career is by looking at their job titles and duty descriptions, and whether or not they have completed developmental education."

Beginning in January, OSBs will no longer list the name of a school an officer attended as part of their developmental education. Instead, under the education heading, the brief will indicate only the level of education attained along with its completion date.

In the civilian world, colleges and universities often make a determination about the caliber of an applicant before accepting them as a student. Applicants who are accepted to the most prestigious schools, and who later graduate, are often looked upon more favorably than those who graduated from lesser known schools.

In the Air Force, however, officers selected for developmental education have little input into the school they attend. Often their schools and the coursework they will participate in are chosen for them.

By eliminating school names from the developmental education portion of the OSB, the Air Force hopes to change a culture that in the past has put too much emphasis on the school attended rather than the fact the officer completed the appropriate level of professional military education.

"This gets into the issue of getting away from the pedigree of the school attended," Colonel Odom said. "Historical experiences are that officers that go into residence to a better known school -- such as the National Defense University or the Naval Post Graduate School -- that those schools represent a quality cut of the officer. This is an attempt to move away from that mind set. If an officer is selected for senior developmental education, wherever they go, that is significant. You have to change the established mind set of the force."

A second change to the OSB, also related to developmental education, is the addition of the "declined with prejudice" statement. That statement will display on an OSB if an officer has declined to attend developmental education in their last year of eligibility.

"When you are identified and designated to go to developmental education, the Air Force is saying we need you to go do that education, because in the future we need the skill sets you are going to acquire," Colonel Odom said. "By declining to attend, you are telling the Air Force you don't want to participate anymore, that you are not really a team player any longer. It is important for a selection board to know an individual has elected not to play."

In April, the Air Force began asking officers to sign a letter when they declined an opportunity to attend developmental education. Since that time, the letter of declination has been included in an officer's OSR. But the OSB has not reflected the declination. Instead, the OSB continued to say the officer had been selected for developmental education. Changes to the OSB will rectify the disparity.

Colonel Odom said officers who cannot attend developmental education due to operational reasons will not see "declined with prejudice" on their OSBs. Rather, their OSB will identify them as being "operationally deferred."

The final change to the OSB involves an officer's deployment history. Under the deployment history heading, the OSB will now reflect the location of an officer's Contingency and Exercise Deployments. In the past, only the date and level of command during a CED deployment was displayed.

The OSB will now indicate if the deployment was overseas or in the United States. Location will be indicated with either an "OS" or a "US" designator to protect against revealing the location of classified deployment locations.

Changes to the OSB will not necessarily affect promotion numbers, because selection board members will continue to closely review records as they have in the past to make promotion decisions.

On the prowl

Tiger team, 39th IOS lay foundation for NWO course

By 1st Lt. Heather Alden
39th Information Operations
Squadron

The Air Force cyberspace tiger team, which was established by the Air Force cyberspace task force, and the 39th Information Operations Squadron have set the groundwork for the Air Force's first network warfare operations curriculum.

The cyberspace task force was established by the air staff to help define cyberspace and the Air Force's role after the chief of staff updated the service's mission statement to include cyberspace in December.

Col. Gregory Rattray has led this effort based on his extensive experience with national and Department of

Defense cyber security activities and his position as the commander of the 318th Information Operations Group, which is often referred to as the operational arm of the AFIWC. Colonel Rattray established the cyberspace tiger team to push forward with several cyberspace initiatives.

One of the Air Force's major initiatives is to establish and administer a basic, initial qualification NWO course by June 2007.

"The goal of the course will be to develop the best of the best into network warfare experts for network operations," said Maj. Kiley Weigle, leader of the NWO school effort. "Currently, the Air Force does a great job of producing operators who can install and maintain our networks," the major said. "Howev-

er, there is no formal training program out there to teach our Airmen how to actively defend or attack a network."

The Air Force Information Warfare Center hosted a conference in June with 32 subject matter experts representing various network warfare-related communities and from across the globe to develop the task training list and set the foundation for a progression of NWO courses.

The basic, initial qualification course is predicted to be eight to ten weeks long and will accommodate 25 students per class.

It will be taught at the Air Force's information operations schoolhouse, the 39th IOS at Hurlburt Field, Fla.

See NWO Page 17

Annual Combined Federal Campaign begins

By Staff Sgt. Kristine Dreyer
Air Intelligence Agency Public Affairs

The Security Hill and Medina Community kicked off the Annual Combined Federal Campaign Fund Sept 14 in a balloon-filled celebration held at the Air Intelligence Agency.

"This annual drive is used to provide federal employees around the world with a safe and reliable avenue to donate to thousands of local, national and international charities and organizations," said Maj. Margie Gabriel, Air Intelligence Agency, Commander's Action Group. "When money is given, each contributor will know their donations will go to its rightful place."

To help meet this year's goal of \$350,000 for the Security Hill and Medina Community, three fundraising events have been planned. All proceeds from the golf tournament, burrito and donut sale will go to the Lackland Fisher House, Lackland Youth Center and St. Peter-Joseph's, a local children's home and counseling center here in San Antonio.

"By focusing on these three charities, members of Security Hill and Medina have an opportunity to directly give back to the families in the Lackland and San Antonio community,"

said Maj. Gabriel.

With so many charities and organizations to choose from, many may feel overwhelmed, but Brig. Gen. Jan-Marc Jouas, Air Intelligence Agency, vice commander, offers some advice.

"Find a charity or organization that speaks to you," said the general. "In the past, you or a family member may have been affected in a positive way by one of the organizations represented in the CFC campaign, so now is your opportunity to give back."

A record-setting total of \$268 million was contributed to the CFC last year. To contribute to the CFC through cash, check or payroll deduction, contact your unit CFC representative and fill out a pledge card. By filling out the pledge card, contributors may select which organizations will receive their donations.

On average, one in four federal employees or their dependents will benefit from the CFC charities this year, according to CFC officials. The theme of the 2006 campaign is "CFC...changing lives, one gift at a time."

(Information for this article was taken from an Air Force Print News Release).

7th IWF brings information integration to Ulchi Focus Lens

By 1st Lt. Heather Alden
7th Information Warfare Flight exercise augmentee

Information and the rate at which it can travel around the globe can be a powerful weapon or a potential weakness in today's military operations.

Information warriors assigned to the 7th Information Warfare Flight at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, manage and synchronize information for 7th Air Force and Republic of Korea air force warfighters. By shaping the information environment, flight members work to affect the adversary's decision making capability while working to preserve friendly information conduits and capabilities.

Information operations can affect the information environment through network warfare operations, electronic warfare operations and influence operations. Influence operations, according to Air Force doctrine, include military deception, psychological operations, operations security, counterintelligence, counterpropaganda and public affairs. The 7th IWF integrated its IO capabilities with U.S. and ROK air and space operations during the Ulchi Focus Lens exercise Aug. 21 to Sept. 1.

"It's all about integration," said Lt. Col. Jeffrey Davidson, 7th IWF commander. "Every element of the IWF exists on its own at some level in the greater Air Force. The benefit of having IO-trained representatives from all of these entities in one flight is that it ensures we don't commit 'information fratricide' among the various capabilities and that friendly information is properly protected."

The EW professionals in the 7th IWF's Electronic Warfare Coordination Cell deconflicted EW information throughout the area of operations to give friendly assets the most accurate EW signatures. This year was the first time since the inception of the EWCC that the UFL exercise was conducted at the same time as a ROKAF field training exercise, which gave the ROKAF a chance to practice EW reprogramming on its assets.

Electronic warfare reprogramming, which is coordinated by the EWCC, entails recognizing new and emerging EW threats and making appropriate changes to EW assets

to protect them against the new threat. During this year's UFL, the ROKAF was able to practice this in coordination with the EWCC.

"We really have to give kudos to the ROK air force," said Maj. Don Copsey, EWCC chief. "The ROKAF personnel demonstrated their capability and proficiency at reprogramming all of their EW assets, well within the timeline required. It was a great success."

Just as the EWCC protects EW assets, the network warfare and influence operations sections of the 7th IWF protect the information and systems used to carry out operations.

While the communications squadrons and network operations security centers are designed to establish, operate, maintain and secure our networks, the IWF network warfare professionals have the tools and knowledge to do more detailed analysis on specific network anomalies.

During UFL, they found a potential vulnerability on the network and reported it to the local communications squadron to coordinate the fix action.

As an example of information integration, when network anomalies are found, the counterintelligence personnel in the IWF coordinate with their reachback channels to help isolate and respond to network problems.

The operations security specialists put out notices of disclosures and help teach people how to use these systems without divulging critical information.

Finally, the counterpropaganda planner liaison with the wing's public affairs shop to release accurate, truthful and timely information regarding operations security and network security measures to internal and external audiences.

"Integrating information operations with air and space operations creates a force multiplier for the 7th AF commander," said Maj. David O'Neil, 7th IWF director of operations.

"Having the right information, in the right place, at the right time and understanding the effects of that information can sometimes be more powerful than kinetic strikes," said Lt. Col. Ed Lewis, UFL controller for EW and IO. "Information operations capabilities, if integrated and used properly and in a timely manner, can save lives and money."

"Having the right information, in the right place, at the right time and understanding the effects of that information can sometimes be more powerful than kinetic strikes."

- Lt. Col. Ed Lewis,
Ulchi Focus Lens controller for Electronic
Warfare and Influence Operations

Honor their service

HQ AIA hosts POW/MIA ceremony

By Staff Sgt. Kristine Dreyer
Air Intelligence Agency Public
Affairs

In honor of National Prisoner of War/Missing In Action Recognition Day, a ceremony was held Sept 15 at the Air Intelligence Agency.

"This is the day our nation has set aside to honor the heroism of a special breed of warriors... Americans held captive in time of war and those whose fate remains unknown," said Brig. Gen. Jan-Marc Jouas, HQ AIA vice commander. "The lives they've lived, both during the captivity and after repatriation, are a testament to the strength of the human spirit and the power of their character."

This year, 10 ex-POWs attended the event; Tech. Sgt. Joseph Alexander, Army Cpl. Jimmy Chavez,

Army Tech. Sgt. Oscar Cortez, Army Spc. Wilbert "Shorty" Estabrook, Army 1st Lt. Charles Kimmel, Tech. Sgt. Joseph Lajzer, Chief Warrant Officer Scott Milam, Army Pfc. Harry Nixon, Army Cpl. Jose Rodriguez, Army Pfc. Alex Tovar.

The ceremony included Reveille; the singing of the National Anthem by Bridgette Grace, Air Force Information Warfare Center; a wreath-laying tribute to fallen comrades from each of the four services; a 21-gun salute; the playing of "TAPS" and a joint service medley.

In closing, the honored guests were each presented a memento from General Jouas on behalf of AIA.

"It makes me feel proud that after 50 years they still remember," said Army Cpl. Jose A. Rodriguez, former Korean War POW.



Photos by William Belcher
Flag bearers from each of the branches stand during the POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony held at the Air Intelligence Agency Sept. 15.



Army Staff Sgt. Etta A. Bell carries the Army's wreath during a tribute to fallen comrades.



Former POWs salute during the singing of the National Anthem at the POW/MIA ceremony Sept. 15.

Happy Birthday Air Force!

Chaplain (Col.) Wayne R. Knutson, Air Intelligence Agency senior agency staff chaplain, and Airman Lupe White, Air Force Information Warfare Center, cut the Air Force birthday cake during a ceremony held Sept. 18 at the B.A. Langer Auditorium at AIA. They were the oldest and youngest Airmen present at the ceremony. The celebration marked the 59th birthday of the Air Force. (Photo by Ted Koniare)



Combat Dining-In brings 29th IS together

Senior Airman Lisa Zollner
29th Intelligence Squadron

FORT MEADE, Md. – Members of the 29th Intelligence Squadron held a Combat Dining In at Burba Lake at Fort George G. Meade, Md., recently.

The event, aimed to foster camaraderie and esprit de corps, featured creative activities for attendees.

"We wanted to get everyone out to celebrate camaraderie," said Staff Sgt. Ashley Stevens, 29th IS, and event coordinator.

Squadron members kicked the afternoon off by going through a good humored deployment processing line where troops were issued water guns and "immunized" with non-alcoholic gelatin shots.

"We made sure everyone was ready by having them bring some of the items they would normally need to deploy," said Sergeant Stevens.

Lt. Col. Douglas Kiely, the event's president, and Sergeant Stevens, madam vice, opened the mess with a hearty meal of fried chicken, mashed potatoes and vegetables.

The gala continued with entertainment by Master Sgt. Brent Jameson whose Bob Hope impersonation was "undeniably convincing," said one attendee.

The windy weather didn't hamper an earnest rendition of Diana Ross and the Supremes' hit retro tune "Stop in the Name of Love" and other classics performed by Technical Sgt. Cozette Teasley and Senior Airmen Donna Desrosiers and LaTasha Richardson. "We pulled out all the stops, wigs and all," Airman Richardson said.

Attendees later engaged in perhaps one of the oldest

CDI traditions – sampling the grog bowl for violations of the mess.

This particular event made getting to the grog bowl (traditionally filled with the most unpleasant mixture of liquids) as difficult as drinking from it.

"We set up an obstacle course that led to two grog bowls—leaded or unleaded," said Sergeant Stevens.

Mess "offenders" had to low-crawl through sand, cross a body of water and sink a basketball shot while under accurate and continuous water gunfire.

Both grog bowls contained anything from juice to teriyaki oil to hot sauce.

Latecomers Capts Elgin Manigo and Steven Coffee were the first to drink from the bowls and penalties for their tardiness included a left-handed salute to the grog bowl, one fell swig of the entire cup and another salute. Any missteps would require a repeat of the process.

Many troops through out the evening found their way to the grog bowl including Col. Chip McCoy, 70th Operations Group commander.

Col. McCoy decided to bring "shop-talk" to the mess when longtime colleague and friend Lt. Col. Steve Timmons felt obliged to report this violation to the president; Colonel McCoy respectfully declined the opportunity to defend himself and accepted his inevitable fate.

After the main ceremonies had ended, the entire area was declared weapons free, and the range was hot. Immediately, several dozen troops armed with water guns opened fire in random directions. With the official events complete, the organized mess evolved into an organized chaos—soaking uniforms and leaving everyone drenched.

Continuous learning

New Language Learning Center enhances Air Force linguists skills

By 2nd Lt. Malinda Singleton
Air Intelligence Agency Public Affairs

As Air Force operations continue around the globe, the need for linguists dedicated to Air Force and joint missions has never been greater or more important. Air Force linguists operating on the ground and in the air make up a critical component of our nation's intelligence mission.

The success of Air Force operations can hinge on their ability to determine not merely what they said, but what they meant. That kind of language ability only comes from training and practice – and had been missing from the linguist tool kit until the creation of the Language Learning Center at Offutt AFB, Neb., the first dedicated Air Force Language Learning Center.

Before the Language Learning Center at Offutt Air Force Base opened in January 2005, airborne linguists did not have a centralized training area for language classes or the multimedia resources necessary to maintain their skill-level. The Offutt LLC brings all that and more to help them maintain

and enhance their skills.

"This facility is great because we, as airborne linguists under the new Career Field Education and Training Plan, have a lot more requirements for language training that tie into advancements and skill levels, which means promotions," said Master Sgt. Mark Hoskins, Air Intelligence Agency Command Language Office at Lackland AFB, Texas. "For a lot of folks, they need to be able to maintain their skill level in order to remain in this career field, and even the Air Force."

The center is currently holding classes in 10 different languages; Chinese Mandarin, Korean, Arabic, Persian Farsi, Russian, Spanish, Hebrew, Serbo-Croatian, Pashto, and Dari. The classes are four weeks long and are taught by Defense Language Institute Mobile Training Team instructors from Monterey, CA.

The LLC houses a resource center with hardcopy and multimedia learning materials in 57 languages, along with a variety of self-paced learning programs. The library also has 22 computer workstations that students can use to access foreign language web sites, SCOLA and conduct interactive



Courtesy photos

Dr. Abdaliabbar, Defense Language Institute professor, teaches Iraqi dialect to a class of ground and airborne language analysts.



Courtesy photo

Students from the Language Learning Center utilize the multi-media center. The LLC houses multimedia learning materials in 57 languages.

on-line classes.

Master Sgt. Hoskins noted that, "with current missions and operations at such a high tempo, many linguists were finding it hard to stay up to date with their training. As soon as they returned from a deployment, they were sent TDY to the Defense Language Institute for refresher courses in their language specialty. With the creation of this center, they are able to remain at home with their families."

Another advantage to the new center is the instructors' ability to provide tailored language training to focus on the individual Airman's needs. Since it opened its doors, the LLC has trained more than 200 airborne and ground linguists, along with linguists from other services and civilians. With five classrooms already operational and more planned, the opportunities for them to enhance their proficiency and mission readiness will continue to improve.

Other units with airborne linguists at Kadena AB, Japan, and RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom, are able to tap into the resources the LLC offers. Instead of sending several linguists to Offutt for a class, a single instructor from the LLC can be sent to each location to teach a class on site.

Language labs, which have similar equipment to the LLC, are currently being installed at Kadena and Mildenhall to give them the tools to maintain and improve their language skills. The labs can also be used to host classes when enough linguists are available for training. With these two labs operational, eight other language labs are slated to be built in locations that need this capability.

AIA and the 55th Wing at Offutt worked together to build the LLC and share responsibility for LLC funding and operations.

"Linguists' language skills are their weapon system and like all weapon systems, maintenance and improvement are key components of combat mission readiness," asserts Mr.

Chip von Heiland, HQ AIA Senior Language Authority. "It is so important, in fact, that a linguist who does not complete required weekly language maintenance is not considered combat mission ready and can't fly a mission. We ask these young troops to make life and death decisions every day, either for force protection or offensive operations. Countless troops on the ground have been saved from ambush by the work of these young warriors and we owe them the best training available."

Recently, the LLC had a visit from the House Intelligence Committee. Reps. Lee Terry (R-Neb.) and Pete Hoekstra (R-Mich.) received a tour of the facilities. They liked what they saw.

"I think they're hearing the message that Congress is sending – that we need more, better, faster when it comes to language skills," Rep. Hoekstra said. Rep. Terry saw the progress, but also the need for further growth, "They've gone from a couple of years ago – when Congress first said 'make this a priority' – from 300 trainees to about 500 now. It's a mission that still requires a great deal of expansion." Offutt is responding quickly to that call.

In the coming year, a DLI Language Training Detachment will be established at Offutt. This detachment will consist of eight DLI native-speaking civilian language instructors, four DLI-trained military instructors and a DLI scheduler. An additional two classrooms, language testing area and a staff room are also being built.

Mr. von Heiland, who has been the driving force for language and culture training at AIA, is excited about what the LLC represents, "The Offutt LLC has a bright and busy future. Linguists are a critical combat capability in the long war and GWOT. The 55th Wing and AIA commanders are committed to providing the best training available to these mission essential troops."

Deployment shorts

Senior Airmen Isaac Reed
93rd Information Squadron

I deployed to the 763rd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron, Al Udeid AB, Qatar, from November 2005 to March 2006. There, I did mission planning and crew briefings for the RC-135 Rivet Joint operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. I was even able to fly and contribute on a couple of sorties. In fact, on my last flight I briefed the RJ crews based on George C. Scott's rendition of "Patton," full battle dress, Kevlar, face-paint, the works. Our squadron commander was flying with us that day, so my five minutes of fame was a bit risky, but apparently, he was a fan of the movie and recognized me by giving me a coin.

The mission was a success and upon returning to base I was given the traditional "first operational sortie" shower as my fellow Airmen dumped the ice chest on me. I didn't realize I could get so cold in the desert.

Senior Airman Chris Littlebury
93rd Information Squadron

From June to September 2005, I was deployed with the 763rd ERS, Al Udeid AB, Qatar. I had the opportunity to participate in mission planning, crew briefings and actual combat operations. These individual duties resulted in real-time, purposeful and tactical results that ensured the safety of aircrews. The fast pace ops tempo left me feeling fulfilled in knowing I was contributing to the mission.

My time spent in Doha was another opportunity to interact directly in a non-military environment with a large, diverse and completely foreign local population. While it was at first intimidating, I found both the third country nationals and our joint partners to be very receptive to us and thoroughly enjoyed my time there.

Senior Airman Karina Navila
93rd Information Squadron

I was in Balad AB, Iraq, for six months, with an Army unit and performed target packages on known or suspected terrorists that were then passed to special forces teams who were charged to capture or kill these targets.

I had very little time to interact with the locals, but I did witness Iraqi Army trainees marching around our compound providing security.

I did fly a couple of chopper missions around the country and saw the destruction and poverty from the air. I also stopped over in Irbil and observed the Korean Contingent there.

I worked in a joint environment with all four branches and several civilians, but most of the unit was Army. The Army's "rules" were quite different and took some getting used to, but in time, it became almost second nature.

Staff Sgt. Stephanie M. Stewart
22nd Information Squadron

I had a lot of interesting experiences while deployed to Afghanistan this year—some good, some bad. Out of all the good and bad, two things really stand out in my mind. My office raised money for the Ashiana orphanage in Kabul by selling T-shirts to deployed members and collected clothes donations from family members of deployed personnel. Once a month when we arrived at the orphanage to hand out the items, the children would run to start a receiving line. Almost all the children were in desperate need of shoes and would often be barefoot or wearing the wrong size shoes.

After we gave all the clothes away, the children would start playing a game of volleyball or start twirling plates on a stick. The most interesting part for me was that all the girls would gather



around me and start asking me questions. They were not used to seeing a woman wearing a gun much less in a position that seemed equal to that of a man. I just hope the children who live in an area where the images of Americans aren't always positive remember the Americans who visited them in a positive light and possibly pass down their experiences to their children.

Staff Sgt. Alan Robinson
HQ Air Intelligence Agency

As an information manager, I have opportunities to experience working in many different units. My deployment to the medical center at Balad, AB, Iraq, from January to May 2006 was no different. In addition to my usual 3A0 duties, I helped the hospital prepare for mass casualties and coordinated support between the clinics located on the base.

While deployed, my wife gave birth to our son at Wilford Hall Medical Center, Texas. Although I wasn't able to witness the birth in person, I did hear his first cry over the phone, and I was able to see my son during a video teleconference the next day.

I also stood up a medical group flag detail. We conducted 230 flag details and created certificates on request. This gave everyone an opportunity to receive a flag flown over their deployed station. We had more than 20 requests per week.

This was an experience I will never forget. During this deployment, I had the opportunity to grow as an Airman. Although I did witness results of war that were hard to see first-hand, I did see many success stories and am proud to be a part of them. I will never forget working at the best military hospital in the world.

Officials announce OTS selections

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) – Sixty-two men and women from across America have been selected for Officer Training School, officials here announced Sept. 19.

Air Force Recruiting Service officials considered 296 applications as part of Officer Training School Selection Board 06OT04, which selected 62 people for a 21-percent selection rate. Of those, 27 enlisted members earned the chance to attend OTS and trade their stripes for gold bars as second lieutenants.

The requirements for fiscal 2006 and 2007 are expected to be approximately 500 selectees each year, according to AFRS officials.

As part of the selection process, board members review both objective and subjective factors. Objectively, the board considers each applicant's academic discipline, grade point average and Air Force Officer Qualifying Test scores.

Subjectively, board members evaluate work experience, accomplishments, adaptability, character, leadership ability, potential for future growth and other recommendations. For active duty enlisted members, performance reports and commander's recommendations are also evaluated.

Five Air Force colonels review every application. The selection process is similar to an Air Force officer promotion board. No single factor leads to an individual's selection or non-selection, according to OTS selection officials.

People selected can expect class assignment information approximately eight weeks after their commissioning physical is certified.

For more information concerning OTS and the application process, active duty members should contact their local education office; civilians should contact the nearest Air Force recruiter.

For a complete list of applicants selected, visit www.rs.af.mil/news/news20.asp.



Courtesy photo

Trade stripes for bars

The following are the deadlines and cutoff dates for the line officer commissioning programs:

Air Force Academy: Nomination deadline is Jan. 31 of each year. For more information about the program, go to <http://www.usafa.af.mil>.

Air Force Academy Prep School: Nominations are due Jan. 31 of each year. For more information about this program, go to <http://academyadmissions.com/admissions/prepschool/>.

Air Force ROTC: For more information about ROTC programs, go to <http://www.afoats.af.mil/AFROTC/EnlistedComm/EnlistedCommissioning.asp>.

The different ROTC programs include:

- **Airman Education and Commissioning Program** offers active duty Air Force enlisted personnel the opportunity to earn a commission while completing their bachelor's degree while attending an ROTC detachment.

AECF is open to students in the fields of:

- meteorology
- foreign language
- foreign area studies
- mathematics
- physics
- computer science
- engineering

The application deadline is March 1, 2007.

- **AF Academy Soaring Program** allows enlisted personnel to separate from active duty and receive a scholarship worth up to \$15,000 per year while pursuing their commission through Air Force ROTC. Students may not pay the difference to attend higher cost schools.

The deadline is Oct. 15 of each year.

- **Airmen Scholarship and Commissioning Program** allows enlisted personnel to separate from active duty and receive a scholarship worth up to \$15,000 per year while pursuing their commission through Air Force ROTC. The deadline for this program is Oct. 15 of each year.

Officer Training School: For more information on this program go to <http://www.rs.af.mil/rsoc>. The fiscal year 2007 schedule is available on the site. Before beginning the application process, visit the education center for more details.

For more information on any commissioning program visit the base education center. Due to possible changes, contact the base education center to verify deadlines.

70th IW comptroller tackles semi-pro women's football

By Tech. Sgt. Martin Jackson
70th IW Public Affairs

The powerful offensive line intently focuses on its coach's direction as he prepares them to play for the championship. Like any other football team, they know they are the foundation to their team's offense; however, there is one thing that makes this team different...these five gridiron warriors are women.

Their team, the D.C. Divas, is one of 37 that compete in the National Women's Football Association. To many, like their offensive line coach, Timothy Smart, comptroller for the 70th Intelligence Wing, they are not seen as different, but only as talented athletes competing in a very physical sport.

"When I tell people that I coach a semi-professional women's football team, they usually think I am joking and that such a league doesn't exist," the coach said. "The majority of our players were top high school/college athletes in other sports who have always had a desire to play football; there just wasn't a league for them to play."

Coach Smart, a recently retired Air Force lieutenant colonel, has accumulated 20 years of experience coaching football at multiple levels with the last six in women's leagues. Over the years, he has developed a wealth of knowledge and experience and was recently recognized when he was named Offensive Coach of the Year for the NWFA.

"He is a fabulous coach and a rock to the league and the players," said Catherine Masters, NWFA founder and CEO. "I wish all of our coaches had his talents and love for the game."



Timothy Smart, 70th Intelligence Wing, gives his team, the D.C. Divas, a pep talk during a game.



Courtesy photos
Timothy Smart, 70th Intelligence Wing, reviews the plays with his team. Mr. Smart has been coaching the D.C. Divas for six years.

As for Coach Smart, he credits this coach-of-the-year accolade to the dedication and talents of his players.

"To be recognized as a coach typically hinges on the successes of your players," said Coach Smart. "We had a very productive offense, and in football, you don't get that without a solid offensive line."

Within this semi-professional sport, nearly everyone is working as a volunteer. With 3-4 practices a week and a game each weekend, it takes up a majority of the team's free time.

It takes a strong love of this sport to be dedicated enough to work full time through the week and be willing to give this much time every week throughout the season, said the coach.

As the daughter of a retired Air Force master sergeant, Ms. Masters can relate to the already busy life of military members and appreciates their dedication to the sport and the league.

"We have many military members like Tim Smart who play a large part in the success of the NWFA," she said. "Their dedication to serving their country is mirrored in their commitment to the league...every team needs a Coach Smart."

Although still fairly unknown to the public, the NWFA is flourishing after its sixth season. For more information about the D.C. Divas, go to www.dcdivas.com.

Korea: A Cold War Focal Point

By Dr. Dennis Casey
Air Intelligence Agency Historian

Like so many areas of the modern world, Korea has suffered through political, economic, and social stability through much of its turbulent history. This has been particularly evident in the 20th century and in the first few years of the 21st. To a significant extent this reputation had been encouraged by the Koreans themselves as they shunned foreign relationships, having earned the name of "Hermit Kingdom." Prior to 1910, Korea loomed large on the horizon as a region that needed to be controlled if regional dominance was to be attained. Russia, China, and Japan had disagreed over Korea with regularity, the question nearly always being who would control the peninsula. Finally in 1910 Japan defeated its two opponents and annexed Korea.

For the better part of 35 years, Korea endured Japanese rule which was often arbitrary and harsh. Subjugation of the Korean people to the ambitious plans for Japanese expansion in the Pacific and in Asia became a fundamental premise. In official plans to dominate the Pacific, the emperor of Japan planned on Korea, the Philippines, and other Pacific locations, both large and small, to become economically and politically subordinate to them. This became particularly true during World War II when the Korean population and its resources were cruelly exploited. The course of the war would end Japanese plans and usher in a new period.

In April 1945, allied representatives meeting at Yalta agreed to establish a four-power trusteeship for Korea. The unexpected surrender of Japan allowed the Americans to take the surrender of Japanese forces in the southern half of Korea. Soviet forces accepted the surrender in the northern sector. The reasoning at the time stated that after an undefined period of time, maybe four years, the Koreans would be ready for self-rule and at that time the country would be divided in half



Photo courtesy of The NARA
An artillery officer directs UN troops as they drop white phosphorous on a Communist-held post in February 1951.

along the 38th parallel. In 1948 two governments were inaugurated for Korea. The Republic of Korea (South Korea) assumed control south of the 38th parallel and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea took over North Korea.

Shortly after the formal division of the country, North Korean guerrillas, well supplied with arms and war materiel from the Soviet Union, began insurgency operations in the south. Their aim was to install a communist government across the entire Korean peninsula. To accomplish this, estimates at the time were that 40,000 North Koreans had been trained as soldiers in China with some participating in the civil war in China.

Initial American responses to South Korea focused on a moderate level of assistance but shied away from any overt effort to build up a South Korean military. The United States left behind a Military Advisory Group consisting of 500 men. By late 1949, North Korea appeared to be making significant strides toward building a large and viable military organization. In contrast, South Korea was bogged down in

troubles. First, a rebellion on Cheju Island, where tons of thousands of lives were lost, depleted the meager resources of the South Korean government headed by Syngman Rhee. Mutinies and defections also threatened to depopulate South Korea's military and paramilitary organizations.

A communist-led revolt of military troops in October 1948, the Yosun-Sunch'on revolt, further exhausted the south's resources. Syngman Rhee's answer was a harsh and dictatorial regime generally intolerant of opposition. Communism was declared to be against the law and members of the South Korean Workers Party, thought to be a communist organization, were barred from political participation.

The political instability in South Korea acted as a catalyst to encourage guerrilla operations from the north. The North Korean military by early 1949 was on a war footing. All men and women between the ages of 17 and 40 were given compulsory military training in the army. Full scale maneuvers were held with some frequency to test the ability of the army units to break through the 38th parallel.

The winter of 1949 brought little rest for the South Koreans. Infiltrators from the north had exceeded 5,000. The South Korean army, much smaller than that of North Korea, was thus required to carry out what were then termed sweep and destroy missions to rid the south of North Korean guerrillas. The south's counter insurgency operations were successful, but by early 1950, the South Korean army desperately needed a respite for purposes of retraining and an overall reorganization. The time they would have to do this was not enough.

Meanwhile, the Truman Administration in the U.S. downplayed events on the Korean peninsula and felt an invasion from the north was not in the cards. American intelligence experts felt that the next war would be another one on the

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■ Korea

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order of World War II and very likely would include in its early stages the use of nuclear weapons.

The rift that had developed between the Soviet Union and the United States in these early years of the Cold War supported this analysis. On Jan. 12, 1950, Secretary of State Dean Acheson in a speech at the National Press Club in Washington D.C. affirmed that the United States did not intend to interfere with China. The U.S. Pacific defense perimeter connected Alaska, the Japanese archipelago, Okinawa, and the Philippines. Korea was not mentioned, which would have consequences.

Dean Acheson's speech to Kim Il-Sung, North Korea's leader, meant the United States had dropped South Korea from the American defense line in the Pacific. He, therefore, made the decision to invade South Korea. Some 3,000 Soviet military advisors were withdrawn as a ruse to cover up involvement by either the Soviet Union or China. In fact, before it was concluded, some 26,000 men from Soviet air defense and fighter units would participate in the Korean War and of course substantial support would come from China.

Early in the morning of June 25, 1950, North Korean forces swarmed across the 38th parallel in an all out attack. American strategists and policy makers were left surprised and unprepared for the type of war that would ensue. Korea became America's first limited war. For several months the Truman administration faced considerable difficulties in matching policy objectives with strategy. Their thinking was focused on a possible nuclear exchange between the two superpowers. June 28, 1950, President Truman ordered the use of American land and naval forces in combating the North Koreans. Two days later, the first American ground troops shipped out for Korea. At this same juncture President Truman asked that the United Nations Security Council get involved. That council ordered U.N. troops to Korea as well. In late August troops from the British Commonwealth arrived in South Korea and were soon followed by troops from Australia, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand and Turkey. Denmark, India, Norway and Sweden provided medical units. Italy provided a hospital and the Union of South Africa contributed air force units. What resulted was a police action to use the term of the day that lasted the better part of three years.

The Korean War included four phases. The first saw the retreat of the South Korean and American forces to Seoul, then to Osan and finally to the southeastern corner of the peninsula around Pusan. The so-called "Pusan perimeter" by journalists represented a stopping point for the North Korean forces. They simply could not penetrate it in force. In the second phase, the U.N. landings at Inchon in 1950 took the war behind the battle lines. Concurrently, U.N. forces broke out of Pusan and began driving



Courtesy photo

Soldiers in the Korean War.

enemy troops northward all the way through North Korea and to the border with China. China then intervened in phase three and pushed U.N. troops back to the 38th parallel. What followed for the last phase was a stalemate where neither side would risk casualties. This stalemate continued until July 1953 despite the fact that truce talks had commenced two years earlier.

The role USAF Security Services played in the Korean War began early in the conflict in November 1950 when Detachment C of the 1st Radio Squadron Mobile set up for business in Pyongyang, Korea to support Air Force organizations already engaged in the conflict.

This support paid handsome dividends in November 1951 when a small USAFSS detachment provided 5th Air Force with tactical support concerning North Korean aircraft movements. On Nov. 29 1951, the support contributed directly to the largest U.S. aerial victory of the war up to that point.

In a single air-to-air engagement, the F-86s from the fighter wing at Inchon shot down eleven North Korean aircraft and damaged four more. The U.S. in this so-called "turkey shoot" sustained only one slightly damaged aircraft. USAFSS also provided intelligence support to Vice Admiral C. Turner Joy for the two years the truce negotiations continued at Kaesong, Korea.

Despite the 36,946 Americans killed in the conflict and substantially higher numbers of North Koreans and Chinese killed, very little of everlasting character resulted from the war in Korea. North Korea would continue to rattle its sabers for many years to come and remain convinced that it should take over the south.

The 38th parallel and the DMZ or demilitarized zone continued to represent a catalyst from which aggressive responses and counter-responses would continue for years. Pyongyang continued to send agents into South Korea and engage in sabotage and clandestine activities to make the south into a region devoted to communism. Kim IL Sung particularly escalated activities between 1966 and 1969 while the United States was heavily engaged

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■ Korea

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in Vietnam. During this period some 319 American and South Korean or ROK soldiers were killed in action. Later excursions across the border by North Korean agents resulted in damaged trains, assassinated local officials and other acts of violence designed to disrupt its southern neighbor.

The seizure of the USS "Pueblo" in 1968 and an attempt to assassinate South Korean President Sang Park in August of 1974 only functioned as forerunners for much more recent activities disruptive of peaceful relations.

Despite the end of the Cold War, the situation in North Korea remains that of a state of war to outward appearances.

Only an armistice for a while seemed to discourage renewed violence. Disastrous rural economic conditions, massive rural starva-

tion, an uncaring state seemingly blind to the plight of the average North Korean and Kim Jong IL, who has ruled North Korea since the death of his father in 1994 and is determined to be a player on the international scene.

Backed by a nuclear capability, Kim Jong IL has challenged those who seek peace.

Difficulties on the Korean peninsula that were unresolved by World War II, were exacerbated by the Korean War, and not adequately addressed by the United Nations since, have left the twenty-first century with a strong measure of instability in this part of the world that seemingly defies solution. Kim Jong IL knows how to continue the aims of his father and at the same time manipulate the superpowers into gaining what he needs.

Most in the international community remain concerned that nuclear adventurism may become central to North Korea's future approach to the world.



Have a story to tell?

Contact your unit Public Affairs representative with your story idea.

■ NWO

Continued from Page 6

The proposed framework for developing a comprehensive NWO operator and planner divides the training into six topic areas: introduction to policy, doctrine and guidance; NWO organizations and missions; NWO fundamental concepts; NWO networks; NWO Employment; and NWO strategic planning and integration.

Tasks outlined for each topic area were further divided into three levels of learning: prerequisite knowledge, initial qualification training, and an advanced planner's course. Potential students will be required to pass an entry exam to begin their IQT in the basic NWO course.

The planner's portion will be a separate, follow-on course.

The target audience for the basic IQT course includes Airmen in communications, engineering, and intelligence career fields.

The candidates should already possess a good understanding of concepts like policy, doctrine and guidance, as well as basic network operations organizations and concepts.

If candidates are weak in any of the required prerequisite knowledge areas, they can prepare with targeted distance learning courses.

There are prerequisites and a screening process because the course is to be very demanding, and the Air Force needs the best of the best to be successful in the cyber-environment, said Maj. Weigle.

This course is the first step toward formal development of what have been called "digital green berets."

"We must develop a force of trained, proficient operators to ensure the Air Force can dominate cyberspace," said Colonel Rattray. "The new NWO basic course will be a cornerstone of our force development efforts."

For more information on courses offered by the 39th IOS, visit <https://www.hurlburt.af.mil/milonly/tenantunits/39ios> from a .mil domain.



Staff Sgt. Alana P. White
301st Intelligence Squadron
Communications liaison

Hometown:Oxford, Ala.
Time in Service: 3 years

Personal and Career Goals: I just received my CCAF and will soon complete my bachelor's degree. I also want to continue to grow as an NCO, leader, wife, mom and mentor.

How does your job contribute to the overall success of the Air Force mission?

My current job promotes morale by increasing communication in all directions. I submit deserving Airmen for awards, and I created the Tiger outreach program to support our deployed troops and their families.

What accomplishment during your career are you most proud of?

I will never forget one of many opportunities I had while on the honor guard team. I was able to present an American flag to the widow of a WWII hero. I am also proud to have contributed in establishing a squadron identity by choosing the tiger as our mascot, designing our squadron coin and creating a squadron chant.

"Alana is a huge asset to the 301st Intelligence Squadron team. She is a hard-working self-starter who understands exactly from the outset what communications is all about. I have watched her blossom into her new position like a pro. She is resourceful, creative and solution-oriented and comes up with new and innovated approaches to any project she is working on."

- Senior Master Sgt. Tina L. Heggins
301st IS superintendent



Staff Sgt. Blake S. Edwards
70th Operations Support Squadron
Unit training manager

Hometown:Orlando, Fla.
Time in Service: 4 years

Personal and Career Goals: To spend the next 16 years of my life dedicating myself to the Air Force mission. I also plan to finish my bachelor's degree, and after 10 years of being enlisted, I plan to become an officer.

How does your job contribute to the overall success of the Air Force mission?

My job consists of training Air Force warriors who deploy to the Combined Air Operations Center. The Air Force plays a key role in the overall success and the quality of information flow to our troops on the ground, sea and air.

What accomplishment during your career are you most proud of?

I'm most proud of the hard work I provided at the National Security Agency/Central Security Service Hawaii. There were people on the other end that heavily relied on my analytical work to keep them safe.

"In addition to providing systems training and area of responsibility specific training to deploying Airmen, he was also appointed as the unit morale NCO due to his high level of motivation. He has revamped the unit awards and recognition program and started a unit softball team. Due to his diligent work as unit training manager, the 70th OSS is now 100 percent in compliance with AF training regulations."

Tech. Sgt. Frederick Richmond
NCOIC, AF-NTI



Staff Sgt. Regino B. Vilano
566th Information Operations Squadron
NCOIC, Information Management

Hometown:Pensacola, Fla.
Time in Service: 9 years

Personal and Career Goals: My personal goal is to finish my bachelor's degree, and my long-term goal is to make technical sergeant.

How does your job contribute to the overall success of the Air Force mission?

I contribute to the mission by providing client support to our personnel which enables them to accomplish their administrative needs. As a client support administrator, I manage, support and monitor client software and hardware tasks and functions to ensure information operations mission is accomplished with minimal disruption.

What accomplishment during your career are you most proud of?

A week after 9-11, I deployed to a forward location in support of OPERATION Enduring Freedom. I established a U-2 forward operating location without the benefit of advance team support. I was responsible for setting up LAN connectivity and troubleshooting information warfare systems. As a result, I won the annual wing level comm and information management award for the NCO category.

"SSgt Vilano is my number 1 staff sergeant. He can accomplish every task given to him, not only ahead of schedule, but without error. In a field that works behind the scenes, he outshines all and is the type of NCO every Airman should strive to be."

- Tech. Sgt. James G. Switzer
566th IOS, flight chief



Congratulations to AIA's newest colonel selects

HQ Air Intelligence Agency

Robert J. Culhane

Randall T. Kersey

Air Force Information Operations Center

Mark E. Hess

70th Information Wing

William K. Nugent

Paul L. Smith

AFTAC*

Scott G. Wierschke

67th Network Warfare Wing

Darrin Medlin

55th Operations Group

John Rauch

Laura Koch

** Editor's note: AFTAC is administratively supported by AIA.*



Joint Service Achievement Medal

301st IOS

A1C Jenna Perfetti

SrA Keena Aldrich

SrA Gary Famoso

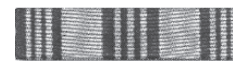
SrA Ryan Miller



Air Force Commendation Medal

301st IOS

SSgt Antonio Morales



Air Force Achievement Medal

301st IOS

SSgt Katie McDonald

Quarterly Awards

Lackland Senior

Level Civilian

Category of the quarter

Yvonne Rodriguez

NASIC

Amn: SrA Kevin Clark

NCO: SSgt Eric Reynolds

SNCO: MSgt Aaron Jones

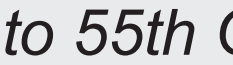
Jr. TOQ: A1C Jared Smith

Sr. TOQ: SSgt Michael

Peters

CGO Cat I & overall:

Capt. John Zingarelli



CGO Cat II: 1Lt. Scott Wallace

IMA FGO: Lt. Col. Dean Peters

IMA CGO: Capt. Karim

Abdulkhalik

IMA Enlisted: SSgt

Hannah Hall

Civ. Cat. I: Amanda

Wehrmeister

Civ. Cat. II: John Sparks

Civ. Cat. III: Robert Hisey

Promotions:

To senior airman (below the zone)

352nd IOS

Patrick Campbell

To senior airman

301st IS

Gary Famoso

Jason Brushaber

Nicholas Sample

Danelio Segovia-Sphear

352nd IOS

Matthew Carey

To staff sergeant

301st IS

Kristoffer Smith

To technical sergeant:

To staff sergeant

SNCOA graduates

301st IS

TSgt Maribeth Williams

ALS Graduations

301st IS

Distinguished Graduate

and Academic

Achievement Award
SrA Eric Garretson

ACC Outstanding AD Information Operations Awards

Company Grade Officer (Level I)

Capt. Jamie Velotta-NASIC

Field Grade Officer (Level II)

Maj. Michael G. Marsh-67th IOW

MSgt. Daryl Crissman-318 IOG

NCO (Level I)

TSgt Aaron Armstrong-AIA

NCO (Level II)

TSgt. James Szeredy-29th IOS

Airman (Level II)

SrA William Stauffer-23rd IOS

ACC Outstanding ARC Information Operations Award

NCO (Level II)

TSgt Michael Barnes-23rd IOS

ACC Outstanding Officer Information Operations Contributor

Capt. Matthew Imperial-NASIC

Congratulations to 55th OG's newest staff selects

390th IS

Adam Orear

Steven Bartels

Bianca Bouchard

Katherine Braun

James Dressler

Matthew Gleason

Matthew Hamill

Joshua Hoscheid

Joseph Leonard

Frances Rhyne

Mark Barry Romero

Jeremy Stricklin

Karen Yeh

488th IS

Javier Alonso

Luis Bernal

Laure Bonner

Sergio Carpio

James Carter

Angela Doublin

Benjamin Dowd

Miguel Figueroa

Steven Haxton

Robert Hunter

Noah L Mullins III

Michael Osoteo

Kimberly Radack

Keola A. Rogers

Brandon Waithe

97th IS

Jeffery T. Alderman

Christine Baptiste

Jenna Lynn Bird

Steven Boles

David Michael Buhl

Nicholas Cicirello

Joshua Conlin

Kori Davenport

Erin Elersic

Joshua P. Erhard

Dianna Marie Frey

Jamie Garris

Paul Lanier III

Jonathan Loy

Marie August Lynah

Hollis Martin

Rebecca McMahan

Rachel Molthen

George Nikolakakos

Jennifer Ochipinti

Rafael Pacheco

Kirk Pedersen

Amanda Reagle

Joel Roberts

Robert Schloendorn

Ryan Schutt

Nikhil Seetharaman

Jennifer Short

Colin Smith

Christopher Truscott

Zachary Weeks

Cara Wilcox

Charles Woodin

Joseph Wright



Prisoners of war and those missing in action are remembered Sept. 15 on national POW/MIA Recognition Day. At the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington D.C., people leave behind patriotic and sentimental symbols of a nation's gratitude for veterans' sacrifices. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Jim Varhegyi)

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