

On-final



U.S. AIR FORCE

507th Air Refueling Wing - 513th Air Control Group
Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma

March 2006

Vol. 26, No. 3

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Nurturing the future, grooming Airmen for success

**Commentary by Chief Master Sgt. James B. Erwin
407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron**

ALI BASE, Iraq (AFP) — What does taking care of your troops mean to you? Does it mean giving in to every want, concern or need?

To me, it means to give the troop everything he or she needs to be successful. After all, they are the Airmen who will replace today's leaders, and we owe it to them to make sure they are prepared. Troops need education, discipline, opportunities and role models.

Education is important to our young and upcoming Airmen. In some ways, they are already smarter than us. Don't believe me? Grab a young Airman and a VCR, IPOD and computer and find out who gets at least two out of three working first.

Our Airmen need mentors to be competent and confident in their duties and the lifestyle of the Air Force. The philosophy I have been brought up with is to get qualified and/or certified on your duties first and then knock out your career development courses. These simple actions make new Airmen a valuable member of the team — a member who can be relied on to complete any task or assignment they are given.

Challenge Airmen with the opportunity of off-duty education after they are duty-qualified and have proven themselves competent. This will not only benefit the Air Force but will make the Airmen more productive because they are doing something for themselves. With formal education, their thinking becomes clearer and their ability to communicate is enhanced, often times reducing the workload of the supervisor. I don't mean do the supervisor's work. Even if they make a career out of the Air Force, at some point they will need to close that chapter in their life and walk into the civilian world. What a great feeling it is to know you've helped them along the way.

Troops also need discipline. When most people hear the word discipline they immediately think of the old sergeant chewing out a troop or Airman Smith standing in front of the commander's desk receiving some form of ad-

ministrative action. Unfortunately, there are times when these things are necessary and these actions aren't taken lightly. These actions can often be avoided if supervisors are actively engaged with their troops and encourage conduct that warrants rewards instead of punishment.

The side of discipline that goes unnoticed is the reinforcement or reward side. It doesn't take a lot of time to give a deserving Airman a pat on the back, type a quick thank you note or letter of appreciation, or say thanks for a job well done in front of their peers and supervisors. Little things, such as these are money in the bank for the leader who recognizes the individual's efforts and sets a marvelous example for the Air Force.

As Airmen grow they need opportunities to enhance their skills. They need to be allowed to stumble, but not fall. Some experiences are best learned from failure and serve as a test of character. This is a fine line that supervisors need to monitor. Supervisors do not necessarily have to be right over the shoulder, but close enough to step in if things start to go off course or situations move too fast for the troop.

Experience is the best teacher; troops learn what to do and what not to do. Give them the opportunity to succeed. Even if they fail, they should have learned something that makes them a little smarter and little more prepared for the next time. No leader or supervisor has gotten where they are by being perfect.

Education, discipline and opportunities

are all important, but to make sure Airmen understand the path, they need a map. They need role models. Often the role model is the immediate supervisor or trainer, but this is only the tip of the iceberg. Granted, supervisors may spend more time with the individual, but anyone who has more rank or time in the service automatically becomes a role model, and that's not always the best thing.

Positive role models are vital not only for the Air Force to complete its mission but to set the tone of what is expected from troops as they grow into the Air Force family. Supervisors and leaders need to set a positive example because the higher we move up the chain of command the more we are looked at.

United States Air Forces Europe Command Chief Master Sgt. Gary Coleman told a group of new chief master sergeant selects: "Welcome to the top 1 percent. You are now living in a fish bowl. People will be watching you just to see what you do. They don't mean to but they do. Because of the stripes you wear, you are the 'know all' of everything in the Air Force, and what you say and do will be considered gospel to some."

In a nutshell, there are good role models and bad ones; both can be positive learning experiences for the new Airman. They learn what not to do from the bad role models, and from the good ones they learn to do what is right.

So, what does taking care of your troops mean to you?



You are invited

**Maj. Gen. (Ret) John J. Batbie, Jr.
former Vice Commander, Air Force Reserve Command
requests the pleasure of your company**

**at the Promotion Ceremony
in honor of**

**Col. Dean J. Despinoy
on the occasion of his promotion to Brigadier General
on Saturday, March 4th, at 10 a.m.,
507th Maintenance Hangar, Building 1030.**

**Military~ Uniform of Day
Civilian~ Business Casual**

Can you keep a secret?**Privileged communication and the chaplain****By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Mike Jones**

Question: Who can you go to and talk about ANYTHING you want and they can't ever tell anyone about it, unless you give them permission? The answer: a chaplain.

Chaplains are the only professionals in the Air Force where a member can go and know that whatever they say will be kept absolutely secret. The Chaplain Service takes this so seriously that it is written into our Air Force Instructions. AFI 52-101, para 4.1, clearly states that: "The privilege of total confidentiality in communications with a chaplain is an essential component of the chaplain's ministry. Privileged communication is protected communication. It is any communication given to a chaplain in trust by an individual, to include Enemy Prisoners of War (EPW), if such communication is made either as a formal act of religion or as a matter of conscience."

So what does that mean? It means that if you come in to talk to a chaplain in a counseling setting or confess something as a matter of practicing your faith, the contents of that conversation will be kept confidential by the chaplain. So much so that they cannot be made to reveal that information even by a direct order from a commander, or during a police investigation, or in a military court of law. Now that's confidential!

The AFI also states that only the individual counselee can release the chaplain from that confidentiality and then,

only by written permission. It even goes so far as to indicate that if the counselee passes away without giving permission, the chaplain can never reveal the content of the conversation!

Why does the Air Force leadership allow this? Because they realize that Airmen need to have someone they can talk to about ANYTHING and know that it won't go any further than the chaplain's office. Why is this important to you? Well, maybe you need to talk to someone about something but you're afraid it will get back to your Commander, supervisor, or first shirt. Maybe you're having a problem that, if it got out, would possibly ruin your career or even land you in jail. Or maybe you're just struggling with something very personal and you want to be absolutely certain no one else will find out about it. By assuring you Privileged Communication, the chaplain becomes your resource and safety valve, and it gives the chaplain an opportunity to help you.

One word of warning though. If you come up to a chaplain in the hallway and begin talking to him or her, that conversation is NOT covered as Privileged Communication because it is in a public area and could be overheard by anyone passing by. Nor are private conversations with the enlisted chaplain assistants considered Privileged Communication—only with chaplains. So the next time you need to talk and you want it to stay private, talk to a chaplain. We're here to listen...and help.

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Volume 26, No. 3 MARCH 2006

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The editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the 507th Air Refueling Wing's Public Affairs Office, 7435 Reserve Road, Suite 7, Tinker AFB, OK., 73145-8726

All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. **Copy deadline is NOON on UTA Sunday for the next month's edition.**

This is your news source. Take it home with you to share with family, friends, and employers.

507th ARW Mission: Man, train, equip, and sustain an Expeditionary Reserve Force in support of DoD peacetime and wartime taskings.

513th ACG Mission: Citizen-airmen extending America's Global Power operating the world's best airborne battle management, warning and control platform.

Units receive 'thumbs up' from UCI team

After months of anticipation, reservists from both the 507th Air Refueling Wing and 513th Air Control Group finally received a "thumbs up" during a joint Unit Compliance Inspection held last month.

A team of more than 60 inspectors arrived to assess local conditions during a week-long examination of organizational processes and practices.

For the 507th portion of the inspection, the wing received ratings of "comply or comply with comments." No activity was rated as being in non-compliance and no critical findings were identified. Two superior teams were identified and 19 superior performers were lauded.

During the inspection teams out brief to the wing, Inspector General Team Chief Col. Ian O'Connell praised the wing leadership and members for its outstanding attitude and support.

"This wing has been doing an excellent job and I'm really proud to report the results of this inspection to General Bradley," Colonel O'Connell said.

The IG team identified two superior performance teams: one from the Civil Engineer Squadron's Fire Department and the 465th Life Support Shop. Regarding the Life Support Shop, the colonel stated this was the first time in his 2 1/2 years inspecting where there were no findings in Life Support, adding the shop "sets the standard for the command, if not the Air Force."

Col. Randall Guthrie, 507th Vice Commander, took the stage after the IG remarks to thank all the wing members for their hard work in making the inspection a success. "You've all done a tremendous job. You should be very proud of your work. This is the best welcome home we can give Colonel Despinoy, who is scheduled to arrive back in the United States Feb. 7th. The teams gave us a good snapshot of where we stand; moving to the next level is now

up to us. I know we can do it," he said.

Held in conjunction with the UCI, the members of the 507th Maintenance Group underwent a Maintenance Standardization Evaluation Program (MSEP) inspection, passing overall. With 110 individual evaluations performed, inspectors congratulated the maintenance team during their outbrief stating the 507th maintenance members were in the top half of the command tanker organizations. "It was easy to be here," one inspector stated while praising the maintenance members for their professional attitudes.

Addressing the maintenance members, Lt. Col. James McDonnell, 507th Maintenance Group Commander, praised the hard work exerted toward the successful inspection and stated, "This doesn't just happen overnight. One of the inspectors told me that if he 'had to go to war, he would want to go with our unit'. You've all done a great job."

The 513th Air Control Group successfully completed their UCI with all items inspected in compliance or in compliance with comments. No areas were rated as not in compliance and no critical findings were identified.

According to the 513th ACG commander, Col. Gregory Phillips, "I wish to thank each and every member of the unit for all the hard work that has been given over the last several months to making this UCI a success.

"I expected our group to receive rave reviews before the inspectors arrived and that's what we received. I am proud of the team effort that you have all put forward. The efforts, although more than normal, are nothing more than what this outstanding unit always does. You have an excellent reputation for always doing your business and defending your country in an outstanding manner."

Individuals and Teams specifically

identified by the inspectors for the 507th ARW include:

507th ARW Superior Teams

465th Life Support Shop

Senior Master Sgt. Ricky Skelton; Master Sergeants Leslie Dewitt and Burke Pauley; Staff Sergeants Eric Bigelow, Juan Escobar, Nathan Jones and John Spohn; and Senior Airmen Dustin Nottengel and Brandon Ramirez.

507th CES Fire Department

Senior Master Sgt. Donald Meadows; Master Sergeants Brian Farris and Linda Thompson; Tech Sergeant Adrian Smith; and Senior Airmen Jeffrey Briley and Scott Lair.

507th ARW Superior Performers

Maj. Doug Benton, 507th CES; **Senior Master Sgts. Terry Tunender**, 507th Services Flight (SVF); **Terri Wilson**, 35th CBCS; **Steven Wright**, 507th Maintenance Squadron; **Jodie Zollo**, 507th CES; **Master Sergeants Norma Foster**, 507th Communications Flight; **Steven Gonsalves**, 507th Maintenance Operations Flight (MOF); **Jonathan Hall**, 507th CES; **Treva Ragland**, 507th CES; **Tech Sergeants Beth Collins**, 507th Operations Support Flight; **Benjamin Hulsey**, 507th ARW Command Post; **Matthew Madison**, 507th MOF; **Harold McGee**, 35th Combat Communications Squadron; **Staff Sergeants John Mullin**, 507th Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Colleen Rehm**, 465th ARS; **Tessa Stevens**, 507th SVF; **Mr. Gary Paulden**, 507th MOF; **Mr. Randy Unger**, 507th Financial Management Office; and **Ms. Brenda Pryor**, 507th Operations Group; **Master Sgt. Dave Brunsmann** and **Tech. Sgt. Jerry Coldbaugh**, 513th Maintenance Squadron.

Continued on Page 11.

Tornado season starts this month

What is a tornado?

A tornado is a violent windstorm characterized by a twisting, funnel-shaped cloud. It is spawned by a thunderstorm and produced when cool air overrides a layer of warm air, forcing the warm air to rise rapidly. Tornado season is generally March through August, although tornadoes can occur at any time of the year. They tend to occur in the afternoons and evenings: over 80 percent of all tornadoes strike between noon and midnight.

When a tornado threatens, individuals need to have a safe place to go and time to get there. Even with advances in meteorology, warning times may be short or sometimes not possible. Lives are saved when individuals receive and understand the warning, know what to do, and know the safest place to go.

A **tornado watch** is issued by the National Weather Service when tornadoes are possible in your area. Remain alert for approaching storms. This is time to remind family members where the safest place within your home are located, and listen to the radio or television for further developments.

A **tornado warning** is issued when a tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar.

What should I do?

Before a tornado: How to plan

Conduct tornado drills each tornado season.

Designate an area in the home as a shelter, and practice having everyone in the family go there in response to a tornado threat.

Have disaster supplies on hand: Flashlight and extra batteries; portable, battery-operated radio and extra batteries; first aid kit; emergency food and water; nonelectric can opener; essential medicines; cash and credit cards; sturdy shoes

What to do during a tornado:

If at work:

Go to the area designated in your tornado plan.

Avoid places with wide-span roofs such as auditoriums, cafeterias, large hallways, or shopping malls.

Get under a piece of sturdy furniture such as a workbench or heavy table or desk and hold on to it.

Use arms to protect head and neck.

If outdoors:

If possible, get inside a building. If shelter is not avail-

able or there is no time to get indoors, lie in a ditch or low-lying area or crouch near a strong building. Be aware of the potential for flooding.

Use arms to protect head and neck.

If in a car:

Never try to out-drive a tornado.

Get out of the car and take shelter.

If at home:

If you have a tornado safe room or shelter, go there immediately.

Go at once to a windowless, interior room; storm cellar; basement; or lowest level of the building.

Get under a piece of sturdy furniture such as a workbench or heavy table or desk and hold on to it.

If in a mobile home, get out and find shelter elsewhere.

What to do after a tornado.

When a tornado is coming, you have only a short amount of time to make life-or-death decisions. Advance planning and quick response are the keys to surviving a tornado.

* Help injured or trapped persons.

* Give first aid when appropriate.

* Stay out of damaged buildings. Return home only when authorities say it is safe.

* If you smell gas, do not turn on any appliances or switches. This includes using phones, flashlights or a cell phone.

* Take pictures of the damage -- both to the house and its contents -- for insurance purposes.

(Derived from FEMA emergency information)



The May 8, 2003 tornado is shown as it passes just east and south of 507th ARW area of the base.

Photo by Capt. Bill Pierce

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(Derived from FEMA emergency information)

Accomplishing goals, one pound at a time

**By Capt. Bill Pierce
507th Public Affairs**

People gathered at the finish line to cheer Senior Airman Christina Lindstrom on as she emotionally completed her latest goal.

Marathon runner, Lindstrom has run her way into a healthy lifestyle and right back into the military.

A member of the 507th Medical Squadron, Lindstrom spent four years on active duty before separating in 1986. "My four years were up two months after I gave birth to our first son Joseph. I wanted to stay home and raise my child," said Lindstrom.

Almost 20 years later, Lindstrom watched the same son she left the military for stand before her, raise his hand and take his oath of enlistment. "I watched my son get sworn into the Air Force himself. I was overjoyed that he decided to join the 'family business.'"

As a mother, Lindstrom's concern for her son joining the military and possibly having to deploy were very real. "I realize that this is not the best time to be in the military...there are things happening in the world that may put him in harm's way," said Lindstrom.



Now ...

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flame that drove her to want to get back into uniform. "What better way to show my son how proud I was of him, and to stand behind my own convictions, than to be in the military myself," said Lindstrom.

Fearing her age and weight would prevent her from reenlisting, Lindstrom decided to call a recruiter anyway. At only 42, Lindstrom was possibly eligible the recruiter said. "So, one obstacle out of the way. Now, I worried about my weight," said Lindstrom.

Battling her own fit-to-fight test for the past 20 years she was determined to pass. "I had been constantly hounded by the 'Miss Piggy Program' when I was in before, so weight was definitely an issue," said Lindstrom.

At almost 200 pounds, Lindstrom had been dieting since the beginning of summer 2004 and making a lot of progress. Unfortunately at seven pounds over her maximum allowable weight, she forged ahead toward her aspiration of putting back on the uniform.

Taking control of her mind she started running about a month into her diet. "It began with a walk around the neighborhood after dinner. I bought a pedometer and noticed that the walks started getting longer. So, to cut the time but not the distance, I started jogging, and then running.

"Running, in a way, represents conquering what seems to be impossible. I've learned that if you want something bad enough, and you train as best you can, and give it your best, even if you fail, you have beat those demons. You can push yourself harder than you ever thought you could...and in the end...you appreciate it.

"Since re-enlisting was something that I really wanted to do, I was, more than ever, determined to make it. I once read that a goal is but a dream with a deadline. You can accomplish anything

once you mentally determine that you want it. It doesn't matter if it's about drinking, smoking, losing weight, or exercising ... you have to be ready to do it and I was," said Lindstrom.



Before ...

The 2005 Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon was her first marathon she competed in. "I found myself weeping at least three times during the 26.2 mile course. I was just so amazed with what I was attempting to do and this huge goal that I'd set for myself and how physically demanding it really was...but I did it," smiled Lindstrom.

Now more than two years later, 50 pounds lighter and a veteran marathon runner, Airman Lindstrom has continued running two to three times a week. Just like the military becomes a way of life for some, so has running for Lindstrom. She has completed three marathons and plans on running the big race in every state.

Explaining what running meant to her, Lindstrom stated that losing weight does not solve all problems. It doesn't make your job any easier and it doesn't make the bills go away. However for this Airman it has helped her understand she was capable of achieving something great.

She didn't quit. She crossed the finish line.

"Readiness Is OUR Number One Priority"

MARCH 2006

CMSAF announces retirement

WASHINGTON (AFPN)—The 14th chief master sergeant of the Air Force, Gerald R. Murray, announced plans to retire this summer after serving more than 28 years. Chief Murray has served as the chief master sergeant of the Air Force since July 1, 2002.

“I’ve grown up as an Airman,” Chief Murray said. “The Air Force has been a way of life for me for so long, I know it will be bittersweet to say farewell.

“I’ve been tremendously blessed in my personal and professional life and I owe a great deal to those Air Force leaders, mentors and peers who helped me throughout my career,” he said. “I have found that the Air Force has given back to my fam-

ily and me 10 times what I have given to it, and I am truly grateful.”

Chief Murray enlisted in October 1977 from his Boiling Springs, N.C., hometown, but he feels the Air Force will always be something he calls home.

“I’m also grateful to have represented the best enlisted force in the world to our senior leaders, to Congress and to the American public,” Chief Murray said. “It’s truly been an honor to serve with such outstanding Airmen and great Americans. While my retirement will take me away from active duty status, I will always be an Airman.”

Chief Murray’s official retirement date is Oct. 1, but a formal ceremony and ap-

pointment for the 15th chief master sergeant of the Air Force is planned for June 30. The Air Force chief of staff selects the individual to fill the position of chief master sergeant of the Air Force. Each major command and direct reporting unit commander and deputy chiefs of staff can nominate potential successors from within their respective commands.



CMSAF Gerald R.

March is Women’s History Month

**By Staff Sgt. Tametra L. Davis
507th ARW Military Equal Opportunity Office**

The public celebration of women’s history in the U.S. began in 1978 as “Women’s History Week” in Sonoma County, California, later the week beginning March 8 was selected as International Women’s Day. In 1981, Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) and Rep. Barbara Mikulski (D-Md.) co-sponsored a joint Congressional resolution proclaiming a national Women’s History Week. In 1987, Congress expanded the celebration to an entire month therefore March became Women’s History Month.

In its various incarnations, ranging from a communist holiday to a U.N.-sponsored event, International Women’s Day (IWD) has been celebrated for almost 90 years.

The commemoration of IWD in the United States occurred during the 1910s and 1920s, but then dwindled. The revival of IWD occurred during the women’s movement in the 1960s, but without its socialist associations. In 1975, the U.N. began sponsoring International Women’s Day.

In the Air force, women have served in a multitude of career fields throughout military history. Although women could not participate in battle, they did serve in so-called “non-combat” missions. These missions often proved to be extremely dangerous.

Additionally, in September 1942, the Army Air Force (AAF) created the Women’s Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS) and appointed Nancy H. Love as commander. Love recruited highly skilled and experienced female pilots to fly non-combat missions ferrying planes between factories and AAF installations. During

the organization of WAFS, the Army Air Force appointed Jacqueline Cochran as Director of Women’s Flying Training. Cochran’s school, which eventually moved to Avenger Field in Sweetwater, TX, trained 232 women before it ceased operations. Eventually, over 1000 women completed flight training. As the ranks of women pilots serving the AAF swelled, the value of their contribution began to be recognized, and the Air Force took steps to militarize them. As a first step the Air Force renamed their unit from WAFS to Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASP). Pilots like Betty Bachman, Ann Criswell, and Betty Jo Streff were considered Civil Service employees of the AAF WAFS/WASP.

Barbara Erickson became the first WASP to receive the Air Medal for Meritorious Achievement as a pilot. Erickson received her medal for completing four 2,000 mile deliveries of three different types of aircraft in slightly more than 5 days of actual flying.

Although not allowed to fly combat missions, WAFS/WASP pilots served grueling, often dangerous, tours of duty. Ferrying and towing were risky activities, and some WAFS/WASP pilots suffered injuries and died in the course of duty. The WASP finally achieved military active duty status for their service in 1977 after much lobbying of Congress. This is only one of the many examples women have contributed to our military history.





970th AACS
Commander's Column
By Lt. Col. Matthew Van Winkle

UCI is over, let's look forward

Once again the 513th ACW prevailed, this time by kicking a little UCI butt. You have to know we are doing something right when being awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (AFOUA) becomes boring. By the way, it gives me great pleasure to announce that the 513th ACW has just been awarded the AFOUA for 2005.

I could use this article to reflect on all of our outstanding accomplishments since our deactivation two-and-a-half years ago, but I won't. Now is the perfect time to look forward. Speaking for the 970th AACS, we will be hard at work solidifying and perfecting those programs that were dusted off in preparation for the UCI. For example, I have coordinated with Curtis Williams (our resident file plans guru) to perform quarterly file plan reviews for all sections for at least one year. Overkill? Maybe, but I want to focus all section super-

visors' attention to the fact that these file plans (or other processes or programs) are not going away because the UCI team is out of town. Just as we review OPR and EPR close-out data, we will continue to monitor mentoring and performance feedback accomplishment. Not only are these required actions, but we also owe it to our people and AFRC by preparing them for increased responsibility, career broadening and professional growth. I am only mentioning two examples here but you can expect this philosophy to encompass every aspect of the squadron and on how we conduct our daily business.

Also in our future is our AEF realignment to PACAF. This realignment will shorten the time between AEF cycles this year to 12 months. The next cycle will begin Jan. 1, 2007, supporting the 961st AACS based at Kadena AB, Japan. To prepare for our new AEF tasking we are deploying to Hickam AFB, Hawaii on March 8, 2006 for two weeks of intense training with the Hang. This is in addition to the Red Flag AEF spin-up scheduled this August.

Yes, we have been busy these last two-and-a-half years and as you can see, things are not going to let up in the near future. I am confident that we will meet the challenges ahead just as we have in the past...superbly.



The following unit members were inducted into the Tinker Chief's Group during the annual Chief Master Sergeant Induction Ceremony held in February. From left, Chief Master Sgt. Mike Reed, 507th Civil Engineer Squadron; Chief Master Sgt.

John Jolly, 72nd Aerial Port Squadron; Senior Master Sgt. Mark Scherber, 35th Combat Communications Squadron; and Chief Master Sgt. Gene Steffens, 513th Maintenance Squadron.

Photo by Master Sgt. Christine Reed

FREE COLLEGE TESTING

Air Force Reserve members, spouses and civilian employees may take DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSSTs) or College-Level Examinations Program (CLEP) or Excelsior College Examinations (ECE) FREE! (Military Only for Excelsior examinations). These examinations test college-level knowledge you may have gained through your job, reading, travel, or hobbies. You must test at your Reserve DANTES approved test center. Testing at another DANTES test center will be on a case-by-case basis. The third Tuesday of each month at 0800 has been set aside for testing. You must call us four weeks prior to test date to ensure we will have your test. **For more information contact Chief Master Sgt. Charlotte Epps in the MPF Education and Training Office at 734-7075.**

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

Become a certified professional in a field related to your military training. DANTES and AFRC funded certification examinations are available for certain career fields. Go to <http://www.dantes.doded.mil> and click on certification programs, MOS matching and USAF Matrix which identifies the eligible AFSCs, certification exams available and internet addresses for more info. If you desire to take an exam, **contact Chief Master Sgt. Charlotte Epps in the MPF Education and Training Office at 734-7075.**

TUITION ASSISTANCE

Reserve members are eligible to apply for TA for Distance Learning and In-Residence courses to further their education up to a Master's Degree.

The basic enrollment requirements are that you must:

Be a participating member in good standing (no UIF, Article 15, etc.).

Retainability: Officers - two years; Enlisted - ETS after course completion.

Enrollment form must show course number/title, credit hours and cost of tuition.

Complete TA forms in our office PRIOR to class start date.

Payment occurs after satisfactory course completion. **You must provide a paid receipt and your grade NLT 60 days after course completion.** TA reimbursement amounts are set at 75 percent (\$4500) per FY (Masters) or 100 percent (\$4500) per FY (Bachelors). **For more information contact Chief Master Sgt. Charlotte Epps or Ms. Kim Silkwood in the MPF Education and Training Office at 734-7075.**

AFRC NCO LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COURSE

The success of the Air Force Reserve NCO corps depends on their ability to apply leadership and management skills learned primarily in a civilian setting to a military environment. Not all of today's mid-level NCOs have extensive first-hand supervisory experience in a reserve environment; therefore, the instruction in this course is intended to improve the students' military supervisor capabilities and understanding of their positions as related to the USAFR. We focus on individual improvement which is ultimately the real source of organizational excellence and success. **See your unit training manager for more information. NEXT CLASS: July 24 - Aug. 4, 2006.**

FAMILY CARE

If you need to be on the Family Care Plan, notify your first sergeant ASAP - IAW AFI 36-2908. Single parents and dual military couples with children must have a Family Care Plan completed within 90 days of in-processing or family status change.

VIRTUAL MPF

- 1. Address Changes** - You no longer have to go to 4 different screens/areas to update your address!!!
- 2. Point Summaries** - Point Summaries can also be viewed and printed.
- 3. Record Review RIPS** - You will now be notified via e-mail, on your birthday, to log on to vMPF to review your RIP.
- 4. Awards and decorations** - You can also get a picture display of your awards and decorations.

HOT TOPICS :

All testing (paper and computer) must be scheduled by sending an e-mail to Kimberley.Silkwood@tinker.af.mil with the time and date that you would like to test and include the course number.

Paper testing on the UTA is only available at 0750 on Sunday of the main UTA and is in Bldg. 1030 (Hangar) Room 214.

Computer-based testing on the UTA is available on Saturday and Sunday at 0800 and 1300 in Bldg. 1030 (Hangar) in Room 214.

Please schedule all tests NLT 1500 on Friday before the UTA. If you are unable to keep the scheduled time please e-mail Ms. Silkwood or call 734-7075 prior to scheduled testing time.

All testing is also available on Tuesdays at 0800, Wednesdays at 0800 and 1300 and Thursdays at 1300.

NOTE: If you are retaking a test, you must bring the authorization letter with you or you will not be allowed to test.

EDUCATION REMINDER:

This is just to remind everyone who wishes to update their Education Records, officer and enlisted, that we need OFFICIAL transcripts to send or accomplish any updates. This means that it CANNOT say "ISSUED TO STUDENT." You may have the college/university send it, we can request it, or you may bring it in as long as it is in a sealed envelope with a SEAL on the flap AND it does not say "ISSUED TO STUDENT."

Pass and ID Hours of Operation: 0800 - 1200 on Saturdays of the UTA.

IEU open from 1200-1500 on Saturday of the main UTA.

Nomination packages for AMN, NCO, or SNCO of the quarter are submitted quarterly. Packages are due by 1400, on Saturday of the UTA after the end of the quarter. (Apr, Jul, Oct, Jan)

FY2006 UTA SCHEDULE

04-05 Mar 06

01-02 Apr 06 20-21 May 06

03-04 June 06 08-09 July 06

05-06 Aug 06 09-10 Sept 06

As of Feb. 23, 2006

MARCH TRAINING PLANNER

Fri, 03 Mar 2006

1300 Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 1400 Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg Bldg 1043, Wg Conf Room
 1430 Pre-UTA CChief & 1st Sgt Mtg Bldg. 1043, Wg Conf Room
 1600 Top 3 Executive Board Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room

Sat, 04 Mar 2006

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 0730-0930 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 203
0800-1530 MPF/Customer Service Section Open
 0830-0900 6 Month Contact Mtg Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm
 1000-1130 Newcomers Orientation Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
 1000-1100 Mobility Rep Meeting To Be Determined
1300, by appt. Computer Based Testing Bldg 1030, Room 214
 1300-1545 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
 1300-1400 Adverse Actions Mtg Wg Commander's office
 1300-1400 Wg. Career Advisor Trng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
 1400-1500 Training Managers Mtg Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

Sun, 05 Mar 2006

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium
 0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg. 1066 OG Conf Rm
0750-1115 Course Exams, PAPER only Bldg 460, (AD Hq) Rm 215
 0800-1100 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
 0800-1030 Supervisor's Safety Trng Bldg 1030, Room 104
0800-1500 MPF/customer service section open
 0830-0930 Enlisted Advisory Council Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
1300, by appt. Computer Based Testing Bldg 1030, Room 214
 1300-1600 First Duty Station Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
1300 SORTS/Post UTA Mtg CAT
 1400-1500 IG period w/Capt. Vardaro To Be Determined
1500 Wing Commander's Call Base Theater
1500-1630 MPF Closed for In-House Tng Bldg 1043, Rm 203, 213
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

Fri, 31 Mar 2006

1300 Pre-UTA Cmdr Staff Mtg Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
 1400 Pre-UTA First Sgts Mtg Bldg 1043, Wg Conf Room
 1430 Pre-UTA CChief & 1st Sgt Mtg Bldg. 1043, Wg Conf Room
 1600 Top 3 Executive Board Mtg Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room

Sat, 01 April 2006

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 0730-0930 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 203
0800-1530 MPF/Customer Service Section Open
 0830-0900 6 Month Contact Mtg Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Rm
 1000-1130 Newcomers Orientation Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
 1000-1100 Mobility Rep Meeting To Be Determined
1300, by appt. Computer Based Testing Bldg 1030, Room 214
 1300-1545 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph I Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
 1300-1400 Adverse Actions Mtg Wg Commander's office
 1300-1400 Wg. Career Advisor Trng Bldg 1066, OG Conf Room
 1400-1500 Training Managers Mtg Bldg 1043, CC Conf Room
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

Sun, 02 April 2006

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium
 0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg. 1066 OG Conf Rm
0750-1115 Course Exams, PAPER only Bldg 460, (AD Hq) Rm 215
 0800-1100 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
 0800-1030 Haz Com Trng (non-supr) Bldg 1030, Room 104
0800-1500 MPF/customer service section open
 0830-0930 Enlisted Advisory Council Bldg 1043, CC Conf Rm
 0900-1000 Mandatory 3A0X1 Tng Bldg 1030, MSG Conf Rm
1300, by appt. Computer Based Testing Bldg 1030, Room 214
 1300-1600 First Duty Station Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
1300 SORTS/Post UTA Mtg CAT
 1400-1500 IG period w/Capt. Vardaro To Be Determined
1500-1630 MPF Closed for In-House Tng Bldg 1043, Rm 203, 213
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

OCCUPATIONAL SURVEYS

These surveys provide information essential for developing personnel programs, classifying occupations, and developing training programs. The Wing Survey Control Monitor (SCM) works with the Unit Training Manager (UTM) to ensure surveys are completed. AFI 36-2623, paragraph 2.7 makes completion of these surveys mandatory for all Air Force Reserve members. It is extremely important these surveys are completed by the suspense date. If you have any questions, contact Ms. Kim Silkwood or Staff Sgt. Jeremy Hudson at 734-7075 or your UTM.

Newcomers Ancillary Training

Newcomers Ancillary Training Phase I & II are conducted monthly in Bldg 1043, Wing Training Room in basement. Unit/ancillary training managers are responsible for ensuring their new personnel are scheduled to attend within 90 days of their first UTA. If you have questions, contact the MPF Education & Training Office at 734-7075.

Day	Time	Subject	OPR
		Phase I	
Saturday	1305-1315	Wing Lodging Program	SVF
Saturday	1315-1345	Information Assurance	CF
Saturday	1345-1445	Drug and Alcohol, Suicide/ Workplace Violence Prevention	SG
Saturday	1445-1515	Local Conditions/ORM	SE
Saturday	1515-1545	OPSEC Training	OG
		Phase II	
Sunday	0800-0815	Base Populace	CEX
Sunday	0815-0830	IG Briefing	IG
Sunday	0830-1000	UCMJ/Ethics	JA
Sunday	1000-1030	Counter Intel/Awareness	SF
Sunday	1030-1100	Human Relations	ME
Sunday	1300-1600	First Duty Station	ME

UCMJ Briefing:

All enlisted personnel are required to have the UCMJ briefing within two UTAs of their first reenlistment. This briefing is held during Phase II of the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 0830 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1043, Wing Training Room.

Ethics Briefing:

All reserve personnel are required to have the DOD Ethics Briefing within 90 days of reporting for duty. This briefing is held in conjunction with the UCMJ briefing during Phase II of the monthly Newcomers Ancillary Training at 0830 on Sunday of the UTA in Bldg 1043, Wing Training Room.

Disaster Preparedness:

Unit Training Managers must schedule Chemical Warfare Training, by name, at least one UTA prior to the requested dates by calling CEX at 734-5249. All personnel must bring a complete training ground crew ensemble (GCE) including the mask and its hood to all classes. Those attending Initial must be prepared to process through a tear agent chamber. Wear of contacts is prohibited in all classes. Anyone arriving late, without a complete GCE with mask, or wearing contacts, will be released back to their unit and reported as a no-show.

Drug Testing: You must report within two hours of notification.

Military Pay

File for pay by:	Receive Direct Deposit by:
07 Mar	15 Mar
09 Mar	17 Mar
14 Mar	22 Mar
16 Mar	24 Mar
20 Mar	29 Mar
22 Mar	31 Mar
28 Mar	05 Apr
30 Mar	07 Apr
04 Apr	12 Apr
06 Apr	14 Apr
11 Apr	17 Apr

Military Pay (405) 734-5016

BAQ Recertification Deadlines

If Last Digit of SSAN is: Then Forward Listing to Commander in: Recertification due by end of month in:

1	November	January
2	December	February
3	January	March
4	February	April
5	March	May
6	April	June
7	May	July
8	June	August
9	July	September
0	August	October

If you need assistance or have suggestions on how we can improve our service to you, please call us at (405) 734-7075, or stop by our office in Building 1043, Room 213.

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 Ms. Kimberley Silkwood, Testing and Education Advisor

ROBE upgrade sets KC-135 on forefront of battle communications

by Staff Sgt. Nathan Gallahan
92nd Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

FAIRCHILD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. (AFPN) — A KC-135 Stratotanker here was fitted with upgraded communications equipment recently which will revolutionize battle space and the way the United States and its allies fight wars.

After 18 months on the drawing board, the Roll-On Beyond Line-of-Sight Enhancement Spiral 2 program, ROBE, has been fitted to the first KC-135 and will undergo testing at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

This system will allow allied forces in the battle zones near-real-time communications with any headquarters across the globe.

This will give commanders a better picture of the battlespace and could potentially lead to more timely decisions and more effective operations.

The system was originally envisioned by Gen. John P. Jumper, former chief of staff of the Air Force, who felt that tankers orbiting and refueling over hot zones could be used for other purposes, said Catherine Meyn, ROBE program manager. The research resulted in ROBE.

“The equipment will allow information to reach forward to units on the front lines while they will also be able to reach information back to the decision makers at headquarters,” Ms. Meyn said.

Although ROBE has been fitted on KC-135s since October 2002, Spiral 2, the most recent generation of ROBE, incorporates the latest technologies allied military services will use to streamline battle space communications.

The Spiral 2 upgrade includes enhancements in data forwarding and satellite communications technology, among other things.

“The basis of this new system is that satellite communication technologies are cheaper and more available than ever and the use of satellites has increased,” said Tech. Sgt. Greg Meuser, of the 92nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. “We’re starting to see the limits of the amount of data transfer satellites are able to handle all at one time.”

To combat this and keep communications flowing in near-real-time, ROBE Spiral 2 is able to take information from many different sources, combine them into one stream and upload to the satellites eliminating line-of-sight limitations.

“Line-of-sight communications are good up to 300 nautical miles, depending on terrain,” said Tech. Sgt. Alecia Judd, NCO in charge of tactics with the 92nd Operations Support Squadron. “Because of that, every 300 nautical miles, we’ve had to have either an AWACS or ground station to forward the data

onto the next one, until it reached its final destination.”

ROBE Spiral 2 will take the military out of that era and plant them in a new one where a KC-135 can forward all of that information onto satellites and minimize the need for the other units.

“Since tankers are usually in an orbit pattern over hot zones, they are a perfect aircraft to carry the equipment,” Sergeant Judd said.

Units on the ground can use the orbiting tankers to pass on important information to aircraft in the air.

“The system is like our nation’s highways. Before ROBE, communications ran on many different state highways — what we’ve come up with is an interstate for communications,” Sergeant Meuser said.

ROBE provides a similar “roadmap” function by providing the best route information can travel on. It does this by being connected into a network of nodes; a node could be an aircraft, satellite or a headquarters. Each node knows where it is in the network, and can send information and data to the next one more quickly than if the information had to be forwarded from one relay station to the next. All of this happens while minimally affecting the aircrew.

ROBE is a box of equipment Airmen hand-carry onto the aircraft. Once loaded, the kit can be hooked up to equipment preinstalled on the aircraft. This allows the Air Force to enhance aircraft with the technology, but only install the critical components when needed.

Sergeant Meuser said that once the boom operator loads the software, the system is pretty much self sufficient. Even if it needs restarting operators on the ground can control it.

“The whole purpose of the system is to interfere as little as possible with the aircrew so that the mission can continue. At the same time you want to focus the capabilities of ROBE to enhance communications as much as possible in-theatre,” Ms. Meyn said.

With previous versions of ROBE, because of the limitations of the satellite antenna, whenever the aircraft would bank through a turn it would lose connection to the satellite, Sergeant Judd said. With Spiral 2, they are installing more antennas which should drastically improve the aircraft’s ability to stay connected.

According to the Northrop Grumman Web site, 40 Air Force KC-135 aircraft have been enhanced to carry the ROBE equipment, and there are 20 ROBE kits available for use. The Fairchild tanker is the first and only aircraft at this point to have ROBE Spiral 2 installed.

Security forces transformation to affect total force

By Senior Airman J.G.
Buzanowski
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — As the Air Force continues to adapt for the future, changes to the security forces career field will affect the total force.

Brig. Gen. Robert Holmes, director of security forces and force protection, calls these transformations a “refocus” on how his people train and fight.

“We’re not in the Cold War anymore; we have to alter our mentality and our practices for today’s reality,” the general said. “Because of the nature of the threat, our Airmen are fighting the global war on terror on the front lines, and we owe it to them to provide training, equipment and resources to be effective.”

Essentially, security forces will focus on preparing for their warfighting mission at forward locations, as well as security at a fixed installation, General Holmes said.

As an example, he cited an Air Force task force that operated around Balad Air Base, Iraq, for two months last year. The unit patrolled the local towns and found weapons caches as well as individuals who posed a threat to the base.

“Our Airmen are going ‘outside the wire’ to conduct missions and are proving successful in keeping people safe,” General Holmes said. “Not only for the folks stationed at the base, but people who live and work in the local area as well. This is very important in the present war on terror.”

Security forces must learn counterinsurgency techniques to operate more effectively in joint operations, said Maj. Gen. Norman Seip, assistant deputy chief of staff for air and space operations.

“We need to be prepared for a full spectrum of threats against an air field,” General Seip said. “That means taking more responsibility for defense of our mission, so our sister services can concentrate on their own tasks. We need to understand how they operate, so we’re working closely with the Army to identify additional ways to train our Airmen.”

While security forces will focus more on their warfighting competencies, Air Force leaders are reviewing several options for installation protection duties, such as entry control, at home stations. Plans call for more DOD civilians, greater affiliation with Guard and Reserve and better use of technologies, General Holmes said.

The changes to the security forces career field will present the opportunity for other Airmen to participate in installation security. While that doesn’t necessarily mean everyone will have a rotation checking identification cards at a gate, it does mean more comprehensive training, awareness and capability to respond and participate, he said.

“Will every Airman be a cop? No. But every Airman will be a warrior,” General Holmes said. “Every Airman needs to be trained in basic force protection skills and must be prepared to defend an air base and themselves in the event of an attack. This means more than just qualifying with a weapon. We want Airmen to be comfortable with their duty weapon and to develop their shooting

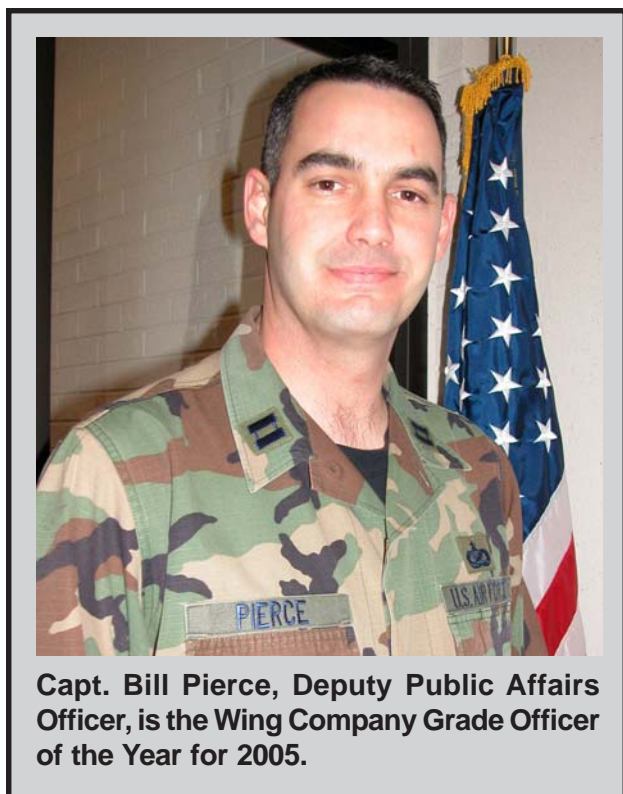
skills.”

While definitive plans have not been finalized, General Holmes also said one of the transformation goals is bringing security forces back in step with standard Air Force 120-day deployments.

“Right now our folks are going out for 179-day rotations,” he said. “Our Airmen need time to reconstitute and train. So it’s important to get them in line with the rest of the Air Force. We aim to do just that.”

Overall, General Holmes said the changes would make security forces more effective and relevant to Air Force needs in the face of the current changing nature of warfare.

“We want to make our Airmen more proficient, and to do that, we need to adapt,” General Holmes said. “We’re going to change our training, our tactics and our procedures and the Air Force will be better for it.”



Capt. Bill Pierce, Deputy Public Affairs Officer, is the Wing Company Grade Officer of the Year for 2005.

Klinko completes 33+ year Air Force career

By Capt. Jeffrey White
507th ARW Public Affairs Officer

March 29, 2006 was far in the distant future when Lt. Col. Don Klinko, then Second Lieutenant Klinko, first swore his oath and entered into uniformed service on May 27, 1972. That day, though, is now coming upon us. Colonel Klinko will officially retire on March 29th, but he will continue to work until the very last hour, providing younger officers experienced insight on the makings of a great officer and warrior. And on that date, when the last chime of the midnight bell rings welcoming in a new day, he will bid farewell to one challenge and pursue another.

“Never quit! You can always keep going! Take care of each other. Someone is always watching you. There may not always be immediate results, but...your decisions are serving as an example to others.”

These are just a few words of advice from a soldier who lived them. He’s had to.

The early part of the ‘70s was a time of uncertainty for those in the military. Many were drafted and some volunteered for service. Colonel Klinko was of the latter mindset. “Someone had to do it,” he simply believed. While he may not have gone overseas to Vietnam, he made sure to always be ready to defend his nation. His approach? SPEC: Security Police Elements for Contingencies. That training gave him the opportunity he needed to be a part of an Interservice Exchange with the Marines and work for Company “B”, 4th Recon Battalion in Billings, Mt. Vietnam may have received a lot of attention, but there was still the Cold War. With over 12,000 square miles and 10 operating locations, he and his troops secured silos, which housed nuclear missiles. While many Americans watched sports, worked and watched their kids grow up, he and his troops trained and were evaluated on their skills at patrolling techniques, winter survival, mobile and fixed radio communica-

tions and emergency medical treatment. From 1973 to 1977, our missiles, which were critical to national security, were entrusted to his ability to safeguard them.

And when the war was over, he quietly pursued other challenges: Like earning his Masters of Arts in 1977 and reaching the pinnacle of his formal education by earning his Doctorate of Philosophy in 1986. During those years, he quietly served as an instructor in the Washington State University English Department and was a Visiting Assistant Professor at Idaho State University. He donned the blues again when he joined the Air Force Reserve in 1982 as an Individual Mobilization Augmentee, and proceeded to various assignments such as Headquarters Strategic Air Command, Offutt AFB, NE and Headquarters, 3rd Air Division, Hickam AFB, HI. He was given a Special Duty Assignment, where he served as an instructor at Detachment 905, Air Force Re-



serve Officer Training Corps.

History has a way of being repeated if not learned from the first time and it has been said that those in power are the ones who write the history. As Colonel Klinko, who served as civil service Historian and Wing Executive Officer, points out, “the Air Force is bigger than you are.” Sept. 11, 2001 shook Americans in a new way: We were attacked on our own soil in a

manner at least rivaling that of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Realizing that his country needed his expertise more than ever, Colonel Klinko stepped up to bat as the Force Protection/Antiterrorist Advisor and re-entered Extended Active Duty against the War on Terror. Using his military-honed skills in observation and critical analysis against terrorist methods, he identified and rectified numerous facility and procedural vulnerabilities state-side. In December 2001, he was appointed to travel to Incirlik AB Turkey and evaluate FP/AT measures taken to protect group personnel deployed there.

Recently, he was awarded his fourth Meritorious Service Medal in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. Numerous herculean challenges were faced and overcome, like finding and delivering ½ million gallons of aviation fuel to prevent mission cancellations. Somewhere out there are at least 25 people who are alive due to the direct leadership of Colonel Klinko.

Looking back, he served during Vietnam, the Cold War, Desert Shield/Storm and the War on Terror. From harsh mountain warfare training exercises to securing our troops in the heat of the desert, he has faced many challenges, one by one, and prevailed.

“All great things are simple, and many can be expressed in single words: freedom, justice, honor, duty, mercy, hope.”

-- Winston Churchill

“Never quit! You can always keep going!” Words from Colonel Klinko.

A warrior fought until the end, believing his purpose for his nation. In his absence, let us not forget the ones who served before us and beside us. Join us as we rightfully show our respect at his retirement ceremony Saturday, March 4, at 2 p.m. in the 513th ACG auditorium.

When all the accolades have been pronounced and all the handshakes given, again, quietly, Colonel Klinko will push forward, ready to face any challenges that come his way.

News from 'the shirt'

Take pride in wearing our uniform

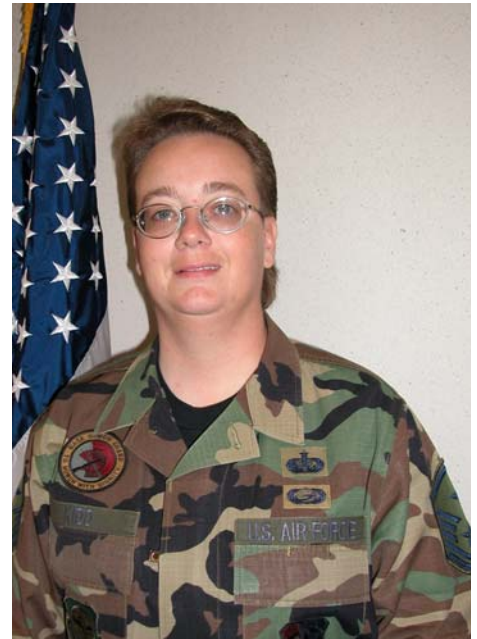
**By Master Sgt. Deborah Kidd
507th Mission Support Group**

Each of us who wear the uniform of the United States Armed Forces represents America, and more specifically, the freedom that defines us as a nation. As members of the Air Force we represent our brethren who are standing tall for freedom on battlefields all over the world and who are willing to lay down their lives if necessary. Each time we put on our uniform we pay homage to the thousands of brave men and women who have answered our country's call to arms. Wearing our uniform properly and proudly is just one of the many ways we can honor those men and women.

Recently I have witnessed mem-

bers that are in need of a haircut and sunglasses being worn around the neck or on top of the head. According to AFI 36-2903, The Dress and Personal Appearance Instruction, both men and women's hair are to be clean, well-groomed and neat. Hairstyles should not prevent the proper wear of headgear. Sunglasses are not to be worn in buildings, around the neck or on top of the head. It is important that each of us be the model example of dress and appearance. One way to ensure we are meeting the standards is to correct those who don't, and make sure you do as well. For more information on the proper wear of our uniform, please refer to AFI 36-2903.

Take pride in wearing our uniform. If we all discipline ourselves, no one else will have to.



Master Sgt. Deborah Kidd

Units receive 'thumbs up' from UCI team

Continued from Page 4.

Superior Performers selected by group and unit commanders:

513th ACG

Maj. Ralph Hawkins
Tech. Sgt. Derek Johnson

513 OSF

Master Sgt. Jeff Athey
Capt. Ameer Howard
Master Sgt. Donna Shoemaker
Tech. Sgt. Dave VanNostrand

513 MXS

Master Sgt. Dave Brunsmann
Tech. Sgt. Jerry Colbaugh
Master Sgt. Sean Kelly
Master Sgt. Dave Lemke
Master Sgt. Brian Seaborn

970 AACS

Tech. Sgt. Buck Best
Capt. Terry Brennan
Capt. Jennifer Cress
Staff Sgt. Kiarrah Dixon
Staff Sgt. Neika Jones
Tech. Sgt. Chris Lindsay
Capt. Kim Thompson
Master Sgt. John White

513 AMXS

Master Sgt. Jeremy Allen
Tech. Sgt. Chris Clark
Staff Sgt. David Jones
Master Sgt. Mark Leahy
Master Sgt. Mike Nesbitt
Tech. Sgt. Travis Smith
Master Sgt. Colin Tatham

Time & Attendance Team

Master Sgt. Beck Bower
Lt. Col. Doug Lomheim
Senior Master Sgt. Randy Long
Maj. Mike Toney

LRS

Capt. Terry Brennan
Capt. Trina Hood
Tech. Sgt. Jason Strayer
Senior Master Sgt. Lamond Tate

Maintenance Commanders Support Staff

Master Sgt. Carvel Davis
Airman First Class Brandy Durant
Senior Airman Michele Garris
Senior Airman Karilyn Holman
Tech. Sgt. Michelle MacFarlane
Master Sgt. Gary Reagan
Master Sgt. Lynda Witt

Moseley discusses uniform changes

ORLANDO, Fla. (AFPN) — The top Air Force general is enthusiastic about the upcoming utility uniform and its head-to-toe changes, he said at the Air Force Association Air Warfare Symposium here Feb. 2.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley said during a discussion at the symposium that officials have finalized the new uniform, and one of the

major topics of discussion was the women's boot.

For years, women have had to do with a smaller version of a men's boot, but "that's not right, and that's not the way I want to do business," he said.

"When you have a female Airman pulling security duty at Balad [Air Base in Iraq] or on the rugged terrain at Bagram [AB, Afghanistan], and she's standing on her feet all day, doing business to serve this country, she deserves better

than a small men's boot," he said.

"There are physical differences between men's feet and women's, and these new boots are going to accommodate that."

General Moseley said he's garnered insight about the uniform by actually going out into the field and speaking with Airmen.

"I told them, 'Tell me what you want to change,'" he said, "and they pointed out they wanted a pocket on the arm, pocket on the legs, more pockets on the blouse, because when you're over there, wearing the body armor, you have to have those things in places you can reach."

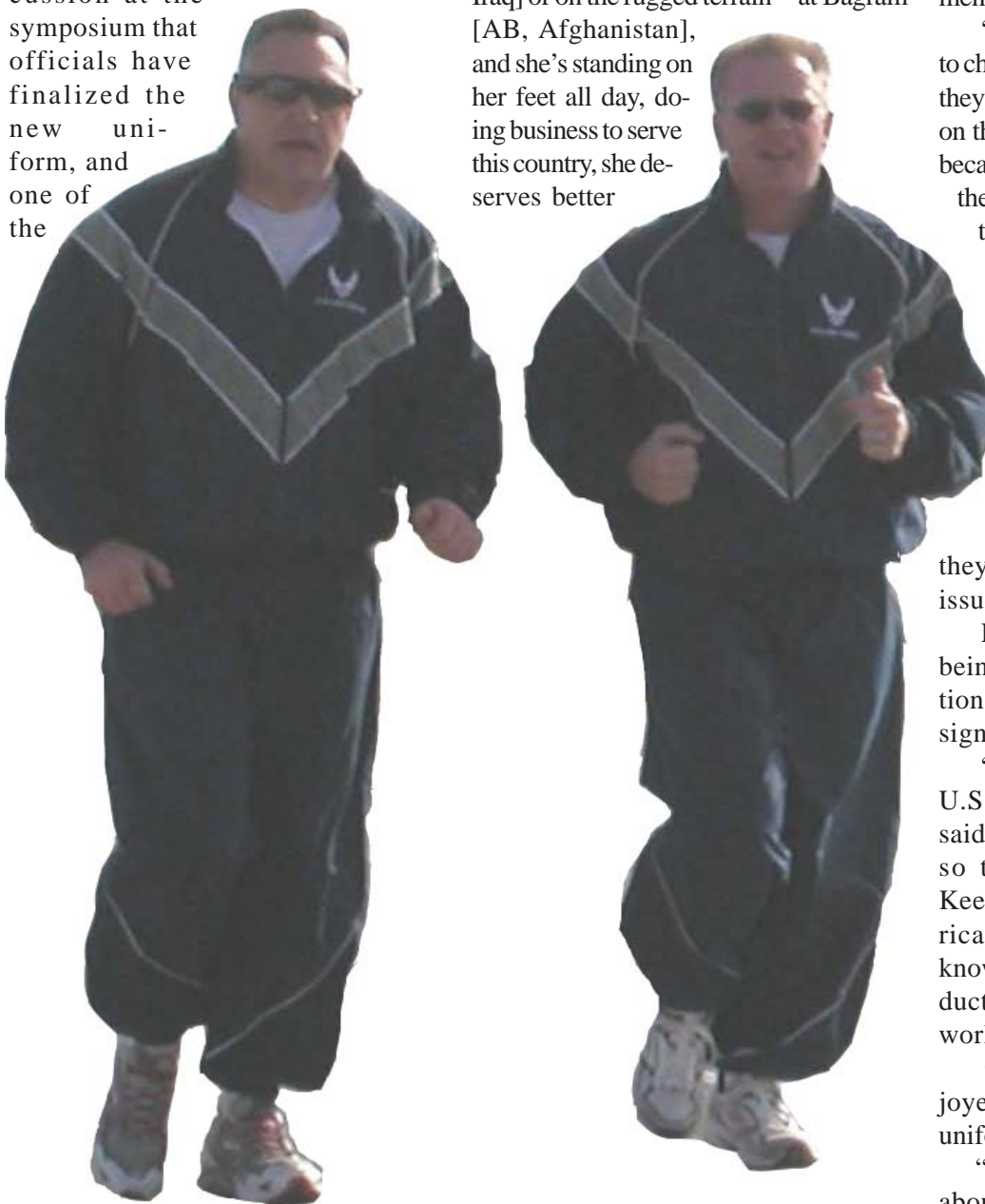
General Moseley said a women's version of the utility uniform will also be available, "because for a long time, women have had to pick sizes that were based on the men's uniform, that were kind of close to her size, so they had to get them altered or modified or just do with what they've got. That's not going to be an issue anymore."

He said two uniform issues are still being worked — the final configuration of the regular duty hat and the design of the T-shirt.

"We are also looking at how to put U.S. AIR FORCE on the shirt," he said. "We want something on the shirt so that when a young Airman at Keesler who is responding to the hurricane takes off his blouse, people know that is an Air Force member conducting that operation and getting the work done."

General Moseley said he has enjoyed talking with Airmen about the uniform.

"There are a thousand good ideas about the uniforms put out there every day," he said. "Our goal is to get it done, get it out there and get it right."



Maj. Mike Chinnopolas and Tech. Sgt. Ivan Esau of the 507th Legal Office are shown wearing the new Fitness Uniform approved by the uniform board. Mandatory wear date is set for Oct. 1, 2006.

97th Air Force Uniform Board releases results

The CSAF has approved the following recommendations of the 97th AF uniform board that met on Oct. 20, 2005. Members included representatives from designated Air Staff directorates, each major command, AF Reserve, National Guard and the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force. Advisors included representatives from AFPC, The Army and AF Exchange Services (AAFES), and the AF Clothing Office (AFCO).

Approved items below are effective immediately:

- * Prohibit wear of scrunchy as hair accessory for women
- * Hair pins and bands will match hair color (reverses 96th AFUB) long hair will be secured with no loose ends
- * Hair color/highlights/frosting will not be faddish and will be natural looking for human beings (blonde/brunette/natural red/black/gray)
- * No shaved head or flat top hairstyles for women
- * Braids, micro-braids and cornrows are authorized for women
- * If due to a temporary medical condition (i.e. radiation, chemotherapy) resulting in baldness, commanders will authorize the approved American Cancer Society cap (black or tan), wigs or baldness uniform
- * Females will not wear shades of nail polish that distinctly contrast with their complexion, that detract from the uniform, or that are extreme. Some examples of extreme colors include, but are not limited to, purple, gold, blue, black, bright (fire engine) red, and fluorescent colors. Nail polish will be limited to one color. (French manicures are allowed). Nail length will not exceed ¼ inch from finger tip.
- * Reduce bracelet size to ½ inch. Bracelets that support a cause, philosophy, individual or group are not authorized. Traditional POW/MIA metal

bracelets are still authorized. Gemstone/tennis bracelets are only authorized when wearing mess dress uniform

* Rings will be worn at the base of the finger and will not be worn on the thumb. Wedding sets count as one ring.

* Eyeglasses will not be worn around the neck; on top or back of the head; or exposed/hanging on uniform.

* Earrings for women will be small spherical, conservative diamond, gold, white pearl, or silver with any uniform combination and worn as a set. If member has multiple holes, only one set of earrings will be worn in the lower earlobe. (Conform to earring wear when performing duty in civilian clothes).

* Optional wear of male flight cap for women

* Authorize optional epoxy blue name tag, worn on the blue shirt

* Authorize the wear of the fire fighter duty badge while an individual is assigned to a 3E7X1 DAFSC position, including periods of PME attendance and staff tours above the group level.

* Authorize the wear of the security forces duty badge and beret while an individual is assigned to 3PXXX DAFSC position and possesses a 3PXXX PAFSC, including PME attendance and staff tours above the group level.

* Discontinue award of the Air Force Good Conduct Medal, which has been in existence since June 1, 1963. May continue to wear those previously earned as a matter of record.

* PT uniform-mandatory wear date set as Oct. 1, 2006 and Oct. 1, 2005 in the AOR. Specific wear instructions released on Nov. 17, 2005.

* Cell phones, pagers and personal digital assistant must be solid or covered in black, silver, dark blue or gray and must be conservative. May be clipped to the left side of the waist band or purse or carried in left hand. Only one may be worn on the uniform

belt. Members will not walk in uniform while using cell phones, radios, hands-free headsets unless required in the performance of official duties using a government issued device. May only use hands-free headsets or earplugs in the performance of official duties using a government-issued device.

Approved items – mandatory date and availability of items to be announced at a later date:

* modify women's service dress coat (reduce lapel width to accommodate ribbon visibility)

* eliminate maternity jumper and design maternity service coat (reverses 96th AFUB)

* authorized use of the new Air Force utility uniform pattern for flight dress uniform

* authorized development of A-line shirt as primary mess dress skirt

* replace women's optional service dress hat (bucket) with men's service dress hat (wheel)

* authorize women to wear oxford, pumps, and slip-on shoes with blue slacks and/or skirt

Disapprovals:

* design women's mess dress pants

* free alterations for female shirts

* replacing the circles around the "US" for enlisted insignia

* authorize black only soft-sole shoes for personnel on profile

* authorize blue socks with female service uniform

* authorize permanent wear of foreign military badges on the service/mess dress uniform (current AFI guidance still applies)

* authorize PT uniform unisex shirt to fit women better

Additional guidance on all approvals will be forthcoming in the next update of AFI 36-2903, which should be released this month.

Up close

By Tech. Sgt. Ty Yoshida

The following question was asked of persons inside the Oklahoma Blood Institute Mobile during the February UTA:
“What are you doing?”



Joe Curtis, Oklahoma Blood Institute
“Checking blood flow.”



Jonell Herrod, Oklahoma Blood Institute
“Heat sealing a donation and preparing it to get ready for the lab.”



Rena Kemerling, Oklahoma Blood Institute
“Screening donors.”



Tenoya Roberts, Oklahoma Blood Institute
“Saving people’s lives each day.”



Vickie Franks, Oklahoma Blood Institute
“Double checking donor data.”



Senior Airman Bryan Webb, 507th CES
“I just donated blood so I’m taking in fluids and filling out this contest entry form.”

Tech. Sgt. Deric Nixon, 507th CES
“I just donated blood, so now I’m getting a vampire pass so I can give it to one of my deserving troops.”

Dealing with identity theft

By Capt. Wendy Whitt Rader
507th ARW/JA

Identity theft occurs whenever an unauthorized individual uses your personal information (name, social security number, credit card or bank numbers) to open new accounts or charge merchandise in your name without your permission. For those individuals who are unfortunate enough to be a victim, it could ruin their credit ratings and their sanity. If you think you've been a victim of identity theft or fraud, act quickly to minimize the damage. Here are some steps you need to follow:

1. **Credit Bureaus.** Immediately call the three major credit reporting companies (Experian, Equifax, and Trans Union) and ask that your account be flagged. The Fair Credit Reporting Act allows you to add a 100-word statement to your report and mandates that the credit reporting bureaus review and in-

vestigate your allegations of error and return the findings within 30 days. The following are websites for each of the three major credit-reporting bureaus:

<http://www.transunion.com>

<http://www.experian.com>

<http://www.equifax.com>

2. **Creditors.** Contact all creditors with whom your name has been used fraudulently by phone and in writing. Cancel each credit card and get new cards with new account numbers. Ask that your accounts be processed as "account closed at consumer's request." Carefully monitor your mail and credit card bills for evidence of new fraudulent activity.

3. **Banks.** Report the loss of bank account information, including account numbers, ATM cards, or checks, to your bank. Cancel ATM cards and lost checks, and request a new PIN.

4. **Law Enforcement.** Report the crime to all police and sheriff's departments with jurisdiction in your case. Give

them as much documented evidence as possible, and get a copy of your police report. Credit card companies and banks may require you to show the report in order to verify the crime.

5. **Social Security Number Misuse.** Contact the Social Security Administration to report fraudulent use of your Social Security number. You can file an electronic fraud report at www.ssa.gov.

Do not pay any bill or portion of a bill that is the result of identity theft. Do not cover any checks that were written and/or cashed fraudulently. Your credit rating should not be permanently affected, and no legal action should be taken against you. Remember, your legal office is always here to help. If you have any questions or want to schedule an appointment with an attorney, give us a call at 884-3823.

Next month's article will explain preventative steps you can take to minimize your risk of becoming a victim of identity theft.

New contract begins for Tricare dental program

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (AFPN) — Tricare Management Activity began its new Tricare Dental Program, or TDP, contract with United Concordia Companies Inc. on Feb. 1.

United Concordia will continue to furnish worldwide, comprehensive dental coverage to include preventive, diagnostic, restorative and maintenance services to all eligible uniformed services active duty family members and to National Guard and Reserve members and their eligible family members.

Under the new contract, Tricare has added benefits to the dental program. They include dental implants and related prosthetics, and extended restorative services to teeth affected by attrition, erosion, abrasion, and congenital or developmental defects. The program will continue to offer comprehensive dental benefits.

"We will work closely with United Concordia to maintain beneficiary and provider satisfaction while ensuring that quality and access standards continue to be met," said Col. Gary Martin, director of the dental care division, Tricare Management Activity. "It is a cost-effective benefit that eligible beneficiaries cannot afford to do without to maintain their dental health."

It is designed to be an affordable and portable program so maintaining good dental health is easier. Eligible beneficiaries may enroll in single member plans or family plans. The program encourages diagnostic and preventive care for children ages one to four.

Cost shares will continue to be reduced for active-duty servicemembers in pay grades E-1 to E-4 for some dental services under the new contract.

All currently enrolled members will receive a new personalized identification card and benefit booklet before the new contract takes effect. Enrollees and providers will be sent regular updates on benefits and coverage. United Concordia accepts and enrolls new members by phone or on their Web site.

More information on enrollment is available online at www.TRICAREdentalprogram.com, or by calling toll-free (800) 866-8499, 24 hours a day. Members residing outside the continental U.S. can dial their country code followed by (888) 418-0466 toll-free. Beneficiaries may also access the Tricare Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil and the TDP fact sheet.

(Courtesy of Tricare Management Activity)

Parting Shot



Col. Dean J. Despinoy was met by his wife Judy at McConnell AFB upon his return from an overseas deployment last month. He was deployed to Southwest Asia in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom for four months, serving as the Deputy Director of Mobility Forces in the Combined Air Operations Center.

On-final R-News

Change in Legal Assistance Policy/Hours

To make more effective use of legal office personnel and resources and to better serve our commanders and clients, starting with this UTA the legal office will only be conducting legal assistance (wills, powers of attorney, and other personal legal matters) on Saturdays from 1 - 3 p.m. and on Sundays from 9 - 11 a.m., on a walk-in basis. The legal office will be closed on Sundays from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. for in-house training. For true emergencies, alternate arrangements can be made. For more information, call 734-3823 during the UTAs.

Wing mail room hours

Hours of operation for the 507th ARW Mail Room are 9 - 11 a.m. Monday through Friday or through arrangement with the 507th Com Flight. For more information, call 734-3669 or 417-7368.

Upcoming blood drives

The next campus blood drive will be held Sunday of the April UTA from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Blood drives will be held in June and August.

Blood drives for the rest of the year will be scheduled at a later date.

NEWS / INFORMATION / FAMILY READINESS

**507th ARW
and
513th ACG**

TINKER AFB
OKLAHOMA



www.507arw.afrc.af.mil

507th ARW Recruiters <http://get1now.us>

Tinker AFB, OK

(In-Service Recruiter)
Master Sgt. Gene Higgins
(405) 739-2980



Moore, Norman, OK

Tech. Sgt. Michael Comfort
(405) 217-8311

Midwest City, OK

Master Sgt. Monica Basye
Tech. Sgt. Carla Lang
(405) 733-9403

Tulsa, OK

Tech. Sgt. Richard D. Kozik
(918) 665-2300

Lawton, OK

Tech. Sgt. Ronald Gregory
(580) 357-2784

McConnell AFB, KS

Master Sgt. David McCormick
(In-Service Recruiter)
(316) 681-2522

Vance AFB, OK

Master Sgt. David McCormick
(316) 759-3766