

On-final



U.S. AIR FORCE

507th Air Refueling Wing - 513th Air Control Group

Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma

DECEMBER 2007 Vol. 27, No. 12



Training keeps us prepared



507th ARW
Commander's Column
By Col. Jeffery R. Glass

Wingman needed during holidays

I want to thank all of the commanders and senior enlisted members who have taken the extra time to work awards and decoration packages. I'm seeing more and more decorations each day and our award packages are getting better. There is still work to be done, but we are on the right track. Keep up the good work!

Our security forces are mobilized and will be deploying in the near future. They are working hard to complete all of their required pre-deployment training; my thanks to all of the wing members that have been instrumental in the preparation for their upcoming deployment. For the security forces and other wing members that are deploying in the near future please let your families know the wing is here to support them while you are deployed. Our family

support will work hard to fill all of their needs. If they can not get you the needed help give myself or my wife a call and we will try to get you what they need.

The holiday season is upon us and with it comes a lot of joy and much needed time off. But for many this time of year is also the most stressful. We all need to be good wingmen and watch out for our coworkers and our family members, we will be the first to see that someone needs help.

With winter approaching and the ice and snow that we all know is coming, SAFETY should be everyone's buzz word. If you see something unsafe fix it. If it's bad weather take that additional time for travel. Last year most of the wing's injuries occurred during icy weather, everyone needs to be even more vigilant during icy conditions. With the Holiday Season also comes the time for parties and good cheer. If you are at a party and want to drink make sure you have a designated driver. If you are hosting a party, make sure that you are watching out for your guests. Lastly, Kim and I wish you all a very happy and safe holiday season. We want everyone back safe and sound for the new year.

Air Force Reserve commander shares Holiday wishes

By Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley
Commander of Air Force
Reserve Command

WASHINGTON—This Holiday is special for me as it will be my last as your commander. For over 40 years, I've had the privilege to serve with the finest men and women in the Air Force Reserve.

The sacrifices you make in serving your Nation are nothing short of extraordinary. You should be immensely proud of yourselves, your fellow Airmen and your families.

In this Holiday season, I ask you to remember that some of our Airmen are serving in harms way so others may someday live in peace and tranquility. To those of you, separated from your families and away from home during the Holidays, I want you to know I am especially

touched by your personal sacrifices. The entire Air Force Reserve family has you in our hearts and looks forward to your safe return.

Please also remember the Holidays can be a powerfully emotional period for many Airmen. Our Air Force Reserve Vision of being an Unrivaled Wingman is not just an operational mantra. It is a way of living; a way of watching out for each other. Please find a friend, a family member, or a fellow Airman and be their Wingman for the Holidays.

Finally, be safe. Remember—your family needs you; your country needs you; and your leaders need you and all you bring to the Air Force Reserve.

Jan and I wish each you and your family a very happy Holiday and best wishes for 2008. (Air Force Reserve Command News Service)



Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley

Chapel Corner Celebrating Advent

**By Wing Chaplain
(Maj.) Dwight Magnus**

The celebration of Advent could make this your most memorable Christmas season and be the beginning of a treasured family tradition.

Advent refers to the “coming” or “arrival” of Jesus Christ. Within the Church, the term refers to the Advent of the Lord in the flesh at Christmas and the final Advent when our Lord will return bodily in glory. Each meaning stirs the joyful anticipation of what God has accomplished, is doing, and will yet bring to completion.

The observance of Advent is something of a late addition to history, as is the celebration of Christmas itself. When the Church began to observe Christmas in the fourth century, a period of preparation was added. The length of time varied widely from three to seven weeks. Not until the 10th century was an agreement reached in the western world that Advent should consist of four Sundays.

The first Sunday of Advent occurs near or upon November 30. While always including four Sundays, the season may vary in length from 22 to 28 days, concluding on Christmas Eve.

A custom many find meaningful is the preparation of an Advent Wreath containing 5 candles. During each Sunday observance of Advent, an additional candle is lit. Then on Christmas Eve, all candles, including the 5th in the center of the wreath are lit. The light burns brightly, providing a fitting climax to the weeks of preparation and symbolically

demonstrating the Light of the World that flashed forth centuries ago with the first cry of the Christ child.

A daily devotional can be accessed by following this link: (Col Curry’s here). There will be some hard copies in the chaplain’s office. The purpose of this devotional is to help busy families find special moments during the Christmas season to ponder and celebrate Christ’s Advent.

Enjoy and celebrate Advent this year! By observing the tradition, the true significance of Christmas will not be missed in your home. May the Light of the World shine brightly in your family this Advent season.

We will have a special Advent service at 0730 on Sunday, Dec 2. Please make a special effort to attend!

A Christmas Prayer By Robert Louis Stevenson

Loving Father, help us to remember the birth of Jesus,
That we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world.

Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.

Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be Thy children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus’ sake.

Amen!

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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. **Copy deadline is NOON on UTA Sunday for the next month’s edition. If you need more time, please call us at 734-3078.**

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.

Unit member wins first base quarterly award

As news spread throughout the command of our truly exceptional Airman, who garnered the award of Airman of the Quarter for Tinker, comments were delivered from all levels.

“Congratulations Senior Airman Baca,” said 507th ARW Command Chief Master Sgt. Tina Long. “The 507th ARW is a very dynamic wing with extraordinary people who do fabulous things. I was elated that we are finally being recognized at the base level. I want to express my sincere appreciation to all the supervisors, commanders and leaders who continue to strive for the best and assist in recognizing our Airmen! Keep up the good work.”

“Senior Airman Baca, congratulations on your award. You are truly one of our valued assets in the Air Force Reserve and Air Force. I look forward to meeting you and wish you well,” said Command Chief Master Sgt. Troy McIntosh, AFRC Command Chief.

“We at 4th Air Force are extremely proud of you for winning Tinker AFB Airman of the Quarter, a Team Tinker first for a reservist! What an achievement and so well-deserved. This will only

lift you up further for continued success. We are certainly blessed to have you serve with us, and I personally look forward to meeting you in the very near future when I will be visiting your wing. Again, congratulations on a job well done,” said Command Chief Master Sgt. Patricia Thornton, 4th Air Force Command Chief.

Airman Baca is a satellite communications journeyman with the 35th CBCS. He provided joint forces support in Iraq, aided in the setup of 20-plus temper tents which housed 200 Army warfighters. Airman Baca activated emergency radio link in OPERATION Iraqi Freedom, regaining control of 39K miles of airspace. He maintained vital radio link to the AWACS Squadron which provided N. Iraqi air picture of combat sortie command and control.

Baca coordinated the repair of the main Air Force Network (AFN) antenna, which restored base AFN services in 20 minutes. He completed 101 AFN repairs/installs, secured 24/7 news and events which boosted base morale and force protection.

He managed 21 trucks as squadron vehicle control officer; ensuring rapid response for emergency repair of CF4 infrastructure faults.

While deployed he installed a critical pager warning system for emergency medical staff, ensuring 100 percent real-time recall capability.

Baca broadened his experience with an AEF deployment to Kirkuk Air



**Senior Airman Dustin Baca
507th ARW and Tinker AFB
Airman of the Quarter**

Base, Iraq. He cross-trained on LMR radios/PA system. He also took the initiative to start the Airman Leadership Course; completing two of three volumes during a deployment to Iraq. He is pursuing an Associates Degree in Electronic Systems Technology.

Baca participated in base projects to pick up trash and mow grass. He protected 7,000 personnel as he volunteered during time off for 15 real-world post attack reconnaissance sweeps.

“I felt the realization of a ‘dream come true’ not only for the 35th but for the entire 507th family,” said Lt. Col. Pete Peterson, 35th CBCS commander. “I felt a reaffirmation of the enormous amount of talent, pride, and professionalism we (507th) have in our wing, and Senior Airman Baca’s selection as Tinker Airman of the Quarter confirms just that. A stigma has been lifted and a precedence set for the rest of the wing since its inception over 18 years ago. I feel honored and humbled as commander of the 35th to have been a part of this event,” concluded Lt. Col. Peterson.



Senior Airman Baca was also a nominee for the annual Billy Hughes award. Also pictured, Maj. Gen. Martin Mazick, Col. Jeffery Glass, and Command Chief Master Sgt. Tina Long.

Banquet honors Hughes nominees

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Billy Hughes Banquet and a change in recognition of Wing members. In the past one person was selected as the overall winner. This year three people were selected from their respective categories.

Winners included Master Sgt. Kevin Richison, Senior NCO; Tech. Sgt. Deric Nixon, NCO; and Senior Airman Timothy C. Williams, Airman.

Master Sgt. Kevin Richison, Air



Master Sgt. Kevin Richison

Transportation Craftsman with the 72nd Aerial Port Squadron, is the "tip of the spear." He was lauded by the AMC/IG for an Outstanding Team Award as they successfully downloaded over 33 tons of cargo and 88 passengers. He was a key member in three Wing exercises, ensuring accurate/timely information/communication between the ramp and UCC.

Richison is academically driven. He amassed 18 hours toward a project management degree, achieving a 3.9 GPA. He also completed 144 hours of Autocad software training levels 1-4.

Richison is a team player; community leader; children's church teacher and

bleeds Air Force Blue with life memberships in the Air Force Association and the Noncommissioned Officers Association.

Tech. Sgt. Deric Nixon, an electrical systems craftsman with the 507th



Tech. Sgt. Deric Nixon

Civil Engineer Squadron, was selected as the winner in the NCO category.

Sergeant Nixon deployed to Kirkuk Regional Air Base in support of OIF. He was a superior technician who personally remodeled nine buildings enabling that critical first step for Iraq Air Force to resume mission.

Sergeant Nixon is an untiring NCO. He led a team in the installation of lights/outlets to support Tops in Blue; a morale booster for 4,000-plus troops.

"A gifted technician who installed 2,250 feet of electrical lines to fire station while deployed, saving \$1.6K in contractor and material costs," said Lt. Col. Ernest Goodman, 507th CES commander.

Nixon is a full-time college student, majoring in Operations Management Analysis. He is carrying 18 hours this

semester and maintains a 3.25 GPA.

Nixon is very involved in the local community. He is vice president of his children's PTA, spiritual leader in the home and community and wingman/mentor to squadron Airmen struggling with Fit to Fight training. He is a member of AFSA and the Tinker Club.

Senior Airman Timothy Williams, a pavements and equipment journeyman with the 507th Civil Engineer Squadron, won the Airman-level award.

Williams is a battlefield Airman, deployed to Kirkuk Regional Air Base. He extraordinarily managed roads, grounds and runways/taxiways, supporting more than 4,350 warrior Soldiers/Airmen. While deployed he was a key heavy equipment operator who built up dirt berm around the south perimeter provid-



Senior Airman Timothy Williams

ing needed force protection.

Williams is a full-time student, maintaining a 3.25 GPA. He has completed 60 credit hours toward a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. He is active in the student government association and a member of the parks and recreation association.

Airman Williams is a supporter of Bikers Against Child Abuse and coaches squadron Airmen on Fit to Fight training.

970th AACS
Commander's Column
By Lt. Col. Russell Reimer

Reading is good for the soul

Do you want the big picture? If you do, I suggest you continue to read.

Oh, I'm sorry if you misunderstood me. I didn't mean reading this article would give you the big picture. I meant that you should read the books listed on the Chief of Staff's Professional Reading Program at www.af.mil/library/csafreading. Why? Well, keep on reading.

Virtually all of America's great generals appreciated the value of reading. In fact, General George Washington had a personal library of over 900 books. Added to this, General Douglas MacArthur dedicated much of his professional and personal time to reading. As Superintendent of West Point, he was so passionate about books that he expanded the cadet curriculum to include courses on international affairs and military history. One of my favorite leaders, General George S. Patton, was an avid reader of the military biography. He felt that the lessons of leadership were timeless.

Of course, reading books made sense before the internet and the History Channel. But, does our contemporary Air Force leadership really care about books? You'll have to

read ahead.

In 1996, former Chief of Staff General Ronald Fogleman created the CSAF Professional Reading Program to develop a common frame of reference among Air Force members to help each of us become more effective advocates of air and space power. Our current Chief of Staff, General T. Michael Moseley, periodically updates the list to emphasize our common heritage and help us understand the dynamic nature of the Global War on Terror. Among the books added to the list in 2007 include many that focus on political, economic, social, and cultural development in the Middle East.

So, are you convinced? Perhaps your answer is no. Still, just read a little more.

Why not create your own personal military reading list? Ask your friends for ideas. I did. Start to explore the historical lessons of the Civil War through the book *Killer Angels*, by Michael Shaara. If you like World War II, let me suggest reading the dramatic rescue story, *Ghost Soldiers* by Hampton Sides. Of course, *Band of Brothers*, by Stephen E. Ambrose, is also a wonderful lead into the character and courage of the greatest generation. Just recently, my commander recommended *Inside the Jihad*, by Omar Nasiri.

It doesn't matter if you choose a book from the CSAF reading list. It doesn't matter if you try out a military history book on the suggestion of a friend.

It only matters that you continue to read. Now that is the big picture.

A tribute to a Great Wingman

Lt. Col. Pat Rupel's passion for mentoring has become an inspiration to others.

Colonel Rupel, the 970th Airborne Air Control Squadron's Chief Pilot, has quietly donated the past five years of his time and energy to supporting the lives of hundreds of students attending Mt. Saint Mary's High School.

When he's not running the pilot shop or flying the E-3, Colonel Rupel spends his spare time volunteering as a Track and Cross Country Coach for the school.

According to an October 3 letter written to base officials by Mt. Saint Mary's Head Coach John Keilty, (also known as Capt John Keilty, former Commodore of the Navy's Stratcom Wing One here at Tinker), "...Quite honestly I don't know

how he does it but he does. He somehow finds time during his off duty on weekends, nights and early mornings to coach our kids and we are so fortunate. It is amazing to watch the big difference he plays in the lives of our kids. He shows up in the late afternoon in his flight suit and quick changes to his gym stuff and then he leads his girls and boys teams -The St Mary River Runners-down to the River for a 6 mile run. He has been coaching our kids for 5 years. He started the girls cross country team. Two of his runners are now running at OSU. Colonel Rupel trains and motivates his kids to greatness on the track and in life. He takes his teams to compete in Texas as well as all over Oklahoma."

And while Colonel Rupel has built an outstanding track and cross country program at Mount St Mary High School, it is his mentoring side that shines bright-

est. "'Coach Rupe' as we call him is an outstanding role model of faith, courage, commitment and patriotism," the coach said. "During his time here I know he has deployed in support of this War on Terror. Coach Rupe exudes confidence and he holds steadfast to his Christian values and principles. His practices always point to lessons, improvement and making the right life choices. He clearly gives the kids tools that will enable them to go get their big dreams in life."

Keilty's letter concludes stating, "When you talk about your Wingman Program, I will tell you that for 20 young high school runners here today and the hundreds before, Coach Rupel is their Wingman. He made these kids better kids, better runners and better prepared for life. Coach Rupe is an amazing man. A man of uncompromising personal integrity, a Patriot who loves his country and a faithful servant of God."

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.**

FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY PAY (FLPP)

Reservists may apply for FLPP by submitting a written request for FLPP testing to his/her commander. FLPP I requires you to be on a tour of duty that requires the language. FLPP II will pay based on active duty days or IDT periods performed. Spanish and Tagalog speakers are not entitled to FLPP II. If you are proficient at a foreign language and are interested in this program please contact Chief Master Sgt. Charlotte Epps or Master Sgt. Sharon Lochman in the MPF Education Office at 734-7075 for instructions on how to apply for FLPP.

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 and next class dates.**

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

- Address Changes** - You no longer have to go to 4 different screens/areas to update your address!!!
- Point Summaries** - Point Summaries can also be viewed and printed.
- Record Review RIPS** - You will now be notified via e-mail, on your birthday, to log on to vMPF to review your RIP.
- 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 507.msf.dpmt@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 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 the training office or call 734-7075 prior to scheduled testing time. All testing is also available on 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)

FY 2008 UTA SCHEDULE

01-02 Dec 07	05-06 Jan 08
09-10 Feb 08	01-02 Mar 08
05-06 Apr 08	03-04 May 08
07-08 Jun 08	12-13 Jul 08
02-03 Aug 08	06-07 Sept 08

As of 26 November 2007

Fri, 30 November 2007

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 1056, 970th AACCS ConfRm

Sat, 1 December 2007

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 0730-0930 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 203
0730-1600 MPF-See Page A3 for specific times
 0900-0930 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
 1300-1545 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, 2 December 2007

Unit Designated Sign In Unit Designated
 0930-1600 MPF-See Page A3 for specific times
 0730-0800 Protestant Chapel Service 513th ACG Auditorium
 0730-0800 Catholic Mass Bldg. 1066 OG Conf Rm
0750- by appt CDC testing Bldg 1030, Rm 214
 0800-1100 Newcomers Ancillary Tng Ph II Bldg 1043, Wing Trng Room
 0800-1030 Haz Comm - SuprTraining 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. CDC Testing
 1300-1600 First Duty Station
1300 SORTS/Post UTA Mtg CAT
 1400-1500 IG period w/Capt. Vardaro To Be Determined
Unit Designated Sign Out Unit Designated

Fri, 4 January 2008

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 1056, 970th AACCS ConfRm

Sat, 5 January 2008

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 0730-0930 Newcomers In-Processing Bldg 1043, Room 203
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1300, by appt. CDC Testing
 1300-1600 First Duty Station
1300 SORTS/Post UTA Mtg CAT
 1400-1500 IG period w/Capt. Vardaro To Be Determined
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 Tech 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
Saturday	1315-1430	Drug and Alcohol, Suicide/ Workplace Violence Prevention	SG
Saturday	1430-1500	Local Conditions/ORM	SE
Saturday	1500-1530	OPSEC Training	OG

Day	Time	Subject	OPR
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

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:
04 Dec	12 Dec
06 Dec	14 Dec
10 Dec	17 Dec
11 Dec	21 Dec
12 Dec	24 Dec
13 Dec	28 Dec
17 Dec	31 Dec

Military Pay (405) 734-5016

New MPF Hours

Saturday UTA

Open at 0730 - 1600, except for following closures:

1300-1330 - Employments/Relocations

1400-1430 - Career Enhancements

1500-1530 - Customer Service

Sunday UTA

Open at 0930 - 1500

1500-1600 - only providing ID card assistance

BAQ Recertification Deadlines

If Last Digit of SSAN is:	Then Forward Listing to Unit Commander in:	Recertification due in 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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Banquet is time to celebrate member accomplishments

by Lt. Col. Richard Curry
507th ARW Public Affairs

More than 220 people attended the 10th Annual Billy Hughes Banquet held Nov. 2 on base.

Guest speaker and former 507th Air Refueling Wing Commander, Maj. Gen. Martin Mazick, spoke to the guests attending the event.

The general reflected on what inspired him to establish the Billy Hughes Awards Ceremony and passed on some words of wisdom regarding a few of the fundamentals that all Airmen should consider as they continue on their journey as Air Force members.

"There are people placed in your life to keep you grounded," Mazick said, indicating the need to keep focused on the here and now of our daily lives while remembering those who matter. He encouraged everyone to continue to stay united as a family and continue to take pride in the wing, even if only taking a simple act of picking up a piece of trash when walking about campus.

After the speaker, each of the 28 nominees, grouped according to their grade and rank, came to the stage to shake hands, receive their plaque and have their picture taken.

According to this year's banquet coordinator, Senior Master Sgt. David Liszeski, "We wanted each nominee to feel special and receive their honors with pride."

After all the nominees were presented to the audience, Mr. Gary Hughes, the son of former Billy Hughes, opened the envelopes and read aloud the winners of each respective category. See page 5 of this issue for a write-up on this year's winners. Each winner was given a large Billy Hughes trophy along with monetary gifts from the USAA, AFSA Chapter 985, Tinker Reserve EAC and the Tinker Reserve Top Three. A lot of noise making took place all during the recognition phase of the program as each squadron/flight cheered for their folks. The evening came to an end with the singing of the Air Force song and our time of celebrating came to a close.

According to 507th ARW Commander Col. Jeffery R. Glass, "This is one of the best-run military events I've ever been to. It was a great time for everyone there."

There and Back: Planning the Hughes Banquet

Most people attending a special ceremony or function typically don't consider the planning and attention to detail necessary to create a memorial event.

Each year a different squadron is chosen to take a turn at being the host for the Billy Hughes Banquet. The Tinker Reserve Top Three primarily finances and oversees the event. The organization responsible for hosting the banquet ensures teams are established for setting up and taking down, clean up duties and the like. This year the Civil Engineer Squadron was in charge of hosting and they were supported by the first sergeants' group.

"I was originally overwhelmed with the idea of planning the event," said Senior Master Sgt. David Liszeski. "I regained my focus by asking myself the question of why I was doing it and realizing that I was doing it for our people. Our people are our most important asset. When people feel that they are truly appreciated they can move mountains."

Liszeski said the event could not have been so successful without the autonomy given his team from wing leadership. "Colonel Glass, Command Chief Long and First Sergeant Kidd were all instrumental in supporting us and giving us the help we needed to be successful," he said.

A few changes were made to enhance the banquet this year. One of which was the addition of a commemorative coin to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the event. Another significant change was the addition of two winner categories. By doing this, all enlisted ranks were allowed in the running for the award instead of only one.

Liszeski stated he realized his goal was to recognize as many Airmen as possible and improve the banquet planning process. Through time and a handful of mandays and RMP's those goals were accomplished. "Basically I am grateful for having a strong team that was able to pull it all together to create an

event worth attending," he said.

He said Staff Sgt. Kimberly Goshorn was a key player in the gathering and organizing of all past and current information and capturing it for posterity. "Her duty days were full and she put her heart into the project."

"Senior Master Sgt. Treva Ragland and Tech Sgt. Paul LaFluer put their personalities into the program and any worries I may have had, disappeared. They were both professional and gave life to the program. Tech Sgt. Derek Wilson's job was key to the success of the visual and audio presentation part of the banquet," he said.

As is in any major planning situation there comes a time when you just have to sit back and see what happens. "What gave me the most peace of mind was the amount of planning that was accomplished, the people responsible and my crossed fingers. I liked seeing the smiles across the audience as they were cheer-

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Wing members return from overseas deployment

by Lt. Col. Richard Curry
507th ARW Public Affairs

Personnel from the 507th ARW deployed for 19 days last month to Curacao, Dutch Antilles, supporting United States Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) in their Counter-Narco Terrorism mission.

The deployment consisted of two rotations with one aircraft, two aircrews, maintenance, maintenance supervisor, combat crew communications and a DETCO for a total of 21 deployed troops.

According to a fact sheet posted on the USSOUTHCOM website, the United States has a vested interest in efforts to thwart narcoterrorism in the region.

“USSOUTHCOM leads these efforts to halt the flow of illegal drugs into the United States and to support host nation efforts to combat the narco-terrorism, threats to legitimate governments, dangers to their citizens associated with the production and sale of those drugs. The impact of drug trafficking is a destabilizing factor to countries of the region, a threat to public security, and a threat to national security,” the fact sheet states.

It continues, pointing out that 90 percent of the cocaine and 47 percent of the heroin that reaches the U.S. emanates or passes through Colombia. Illicit drugs kill more than 21,000 American citizens each year and result in the loss of more than \$160 billion in revenue.

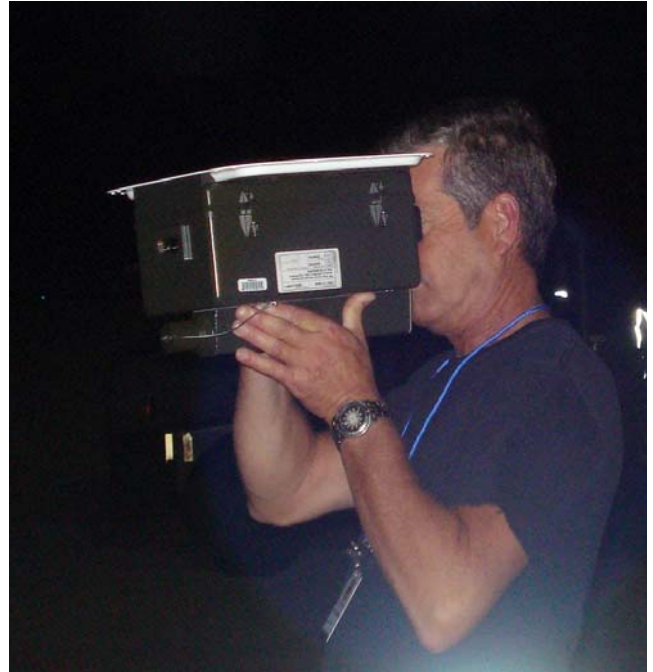
USSOUTHCOM assists these governments and public security forces of the region face these threats through training, counterdrug exercises, technological and resource assistance, and by fostering cooperation and sharing of information among partners.

USSOUTHCOM is partnered with countries of the region in interdiction efforts, helping to strengthen their public security forces, and sharing lessons learned. The U.S. role is a supporting role, primarily focused on training, legis-

tical support and planning assistance.

According to Lt. Col. Tom Hudnall, 507th OSF commander and Detachment Commander for the second rotation. “Our mission objective was to establish operations out of a Forward Operating Location (FOL) and conduct air-refueling as tasked by the Joint Air Operations Center (JAOC). A permanent cadre, the 429 EOS, provided support functions for the deployed group in Curacao.”

Colonel Hudnall stated deployed operations consisted of refueling allied aircraft in varied regions according to the operational requirements. The 465th ARS aircraft flew 16 sorties and offloaded over 495,000 pounds of fuel. “The deployed crews and maintenance personnel displayed flexibility and their positive attitude in adjusting to numerous mission changes,” Hudnall stated. “These changes required earlier than



Master Sgt. Johnnie Baker performs a MODE 4 check to make sure the IFF is working.

Photo by Master Sgt. Kenneth Stiers

planned show times, fuel load increases, refueling track and mission duration changes. All missions were handled in the most professional manner and resulted in 100 percent mission accomplishment. Our coalition partner praised our operation by saying, “this is the best support we’ve ever had — your people do great work.” Hudnall stated.

There and Back continued

Continued from Page 4A

ing for their respective nominees,” Lizeski said.

“Following the end of the ceremony, Mrs. Hughes-Brever came over to where I was standing, threw her arms around my neck and gave me a big hug and thanked me for making this evening a wonderful time for her and her family. I considered that moment payment in full for all that had to take place for this event to happen. Another proud moment was when,

during our hot wash in the wing conference room, Colonel Glass stuck his head in and said that this was the best military function he and his wife had ever attended. Wow! I did not expect an accolade such as that and was glad to be a part of the Billy Hughes Action Team,” he said.

“But it was only when the last group left, and the cardboard boxes were all loaded in the car, I was then able to exhale,” Lizeski smiled.

DoD continues efforts to enroll marrow donors

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (AFP) — Every 15 minutes someone in the United States is diagnosed with a medical condition that requires treatment with bone marrow or a blood stem cell transplant. Every day more than 6,000 men, women and children around the world search the National Donor Program Registry for a life-saving donor. Thousands of lives are lost because a match is never found.

“Each year more than 35,000 people in the United States are diagnosed with leukemia, lymphoma, aplastic anemia (marrow failure), and other life-threatening blood disorders. Seventy-five percent of patients in need of a marrow transplant cannot find a match within their own family,” said Army Maj. Gen. Elder Granger, the deputy director of the Tricare Management Activity.

November is National Marrow Awareness Month, and officials with the C.W. Bill Young/Department of Defense Marrow Donor Program, named for Congressman C.W. Bill Young who initiated and supported its development, are working hard to provide hope and help

to patients waiting to find a marrow donor. The C.W. Young donor program is only for military donors.

The C.W. Young program works in conjunction with the National Marrow Donor Program which brings donors together, within the U.S. and from across the world, in a confidential and secure data search system.

“Humanitarian support is a part of our commitment and uniformed service members can help save lives by enrolling in the National Donor Program Registry,” said General Granger.

In addition to the NMDP in the U.S., there are numerous organizations around the world that share this database, working together to find matches for any individual requiring a transplant. Since the creation of the NMDP in 1986, more than six million Americans, including more than 400,000 servicemembers, have registered as marrow donors.

Hundreds of marrow donor drives are conducted on military installations and ships each year. In addition, The C.W. Bill Young/DOD Marrow Donor Program, in cooperation with participating commands, has established “walk-in”

registration programs for eligible personnel who wish to join the DOD Marrow Donor Program Registry.

Joining the registry is almost effortless and completely painless. Participants fill out a short two-page DOD consent form and a swab is taken from inside their mouth. Potential donors receive an official card signifying they have registered as a bone marrow donor. They are added to the NMDP national registry through the DOD Marrow Donor Program.

To be eligible to join the registry through the DOD program you must be:

- Age 18 to 60 and in good health
- Active duty military, Coast Guard, National Guard, Reserve or DOD civilian employee, or an immediate family member of an active duty servicemember

For more information on the C.W. Young donor program, as well as a list of walk-in locations or to establish a walk-in registration program go to www.dodmarrow.org.

Family Support offers stress relief for families

All DoD personnel are eligible for the resources below, free of charge and at any time, not just during activation for deployments. Family Support is available to help you minimize the amount of stress you put upon yourself and family members. Many people need assistance but are afraid to ask, thinking it is a sign of weakness. Courage is asking for assistance when it is needed.

Military Home Front offers many of the resources available included are Turbo Tap Making the Connection: Online booklet for transitioning members of the National Guard and Reserve to provide direction and assistance to help meet transition needs unique to those Service members, How to write résumés, and converting military position to civilian equivalent title. They even offer information about the Exceptional Family Member Program or Elderly care. And how to get the word out about the Hero to Home

program, designed to welcome home Service Members who, because of injuries sustained, can no longer serve in the military. Military Home Front-www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil

Military One Source offers not only free TurboTax assistance, but Smooth Move for when you need to relocate due to work, separation from service or retirement in a new city, state or country, with a moving planning calendar and information about the location, schools, cost of living in that area and more. Counselors are available 24 hrs 7 days a week free of charge, will also assist with getting them in touch with a local counselor for a face to face talk, total confidential unless it deals with life, abuse, or medical issues. Military One Source – www.militaryonesource.com

For additional information, call Master Sgt. Anne Ferreira at the Family Support Office at 734-6869.

No Name? No Address? No Problem. 'Gifts from the Homefront' routes support to 'Any Servicemember'

DALLAS – When issuing suggested holiday mailing deadlines for military care packages, the United States Postal Service made sure to highlight that “all packages and mail must be addressed to individual service members, as required by U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) regulations.” <<http://hqdainet.army.mil/mpsa/XMAS07.swf>>

Since the DoD suspended mail addressed to “any servicemember” nearly six years ago, individuals and organizations back home, as well as troops deployed to the contingency theater, have devised a variety of cumbersome, and sometimes potentially dangerous, methods to circumvent security and transportation concerns that originally led to the cancellation of the program.

Noting the great lengths being taken, including posting the full name and rotation dates of Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and Sailors to the Internet or sending enough feminine and oral hygiene products to meet the needs of an entire battalion to the at-

tention of one person, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) began working to create a program that would allow any American to safely send support to “any servicemember.”

The resulting “Gifts from the Homefront” program today makes it possible for anyone to leverage services and products already “on the ground” and available at military exchanges throughout Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom through lightweight gift certificates that can be routed to “any servicemember” without compromising safety or creating additional demands on the military postal system.

Some four years after the launch of “Gifts from the Homefront” in March 2003, the American public has sent 92,240 “BX/PX” gift certificates totaling nearly \$2 million.

“The outpouring of support has been very encouraging,” said AAFES’ Senior Enlisted Advisor Chief Master Sgt. Bryan Eaton. “It’s understandable as the

effort is a win/win for all involved; the sender saves money on postage and doesn’t need a direct point of contact while the recipients can go into an exchange and redeem the gift certificate for exactly what they need.”

“Gifts from the Homefront” can be sent to deployed troops by logging on to www.aafes.org <<http://www.aafes.org>> or calling 877-770-4438. From there, the gift certificates are sent to individual service members (designated by the purchaser) or distributed to “any service member” through the Air Force Aid Society, American Red Cross, Coalition to Salute America’s Heroes, Fisher House, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, Operation Homefront, Operation Interdependence® or USO. “Gifts from the Homefront” gift certificates can be redeemed at exchange facilities worldwide.

Recent reports indicate troops shopping their contingency exchanges are reaching for movies, snacks, Military Exchange Global prepaid phone cards and more.

Air Force Reserve to operate with fewer reservists

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Air Force Reserve Command will operate with a smaller force in 2008.

The fiscal 2008 Defense Appropriations Act signed by President George W. Bush Nov. 13 funds an end-strength of 67,500 reservists. Last year the projected end strength was 74,900.

The new legislation also approves 9,999 full-time air reserve technicians and 2,721 full-time Active Guard and Reserve reservists.

The defense bill provides DOD with nearly \$460 billion in discretionary funding and funds a 3.5-percent, across-the-board military pay raise for active and reserve forces.

From this act, AFRC receives about \$1.36 billion for its reserve personnel appropriation and about \$2.82 billion in operation and maintenance funds to run the command.

The amount for military construction funding will be finalized when the Military Construction/Veterans Affairs bill is passed.

**Free
tuition
at
Harvard
for those
who qualify**

Harvard University announced that from now on undergraduate students from low income families will pay no tuition. In making the announcement, Harvard’s President Lawrence H. Summers said, “When only 10 percent of the students in elite higher education come from families in the lower half of the income distribution, we are not doing enough. We are not doing enough in bringing elite higher education to the lower half of the income distribution.”

If you know of a family earning less than \$60,000 a year with an honor student graduating from high school soon, Harvard University wants to pay their tuition . . .you can’t beat ‘no tuition and no student loans’!

To find out more about Harvard offering free tuition for families making less than \$60,000 a year, visit Harvard’s financial aid website at: <http://www.fao.fas.harvard.edu/> or call the school’s financial aid office at (617) 495-1581.

Election 2008 - Guidelines set limits on political activities

With 2008 presidential primaries starting as early as January, people in Air Force Reserve Command might want to brush up on the rules governing involvement in political activities.

While the same rules that apply to Airmen in the Regular Air Force do not always affect reservists and Department of Defense civilians, it is important to know when and where these rules do apply.

Airmen on active duty for 30 days or more have the greatest number of restrictions on participating in political activities.

“The Air Force restricts its members in their political participation in order to help promote a more politically neutral Air Force, a long-standing tradition in the United States,” said Phil Donohoe, chief of administrative law at Headquarters AFRC.

For military members on extended active duty and reservists on active duty for 30 days or more, the rules limiting participation in political activities follow two basic principles.

First, they cannot participate in partisan political activities in their official military capacities. Partisan politics means any candidacy for any national or state office or a candidacy or issue associated with a political party - Republican, Democrat, Libertarian, etc.

No political activities are ever permitted when in military uniform or in any federal government facility or building, or when using government resources, such as government e-mail.

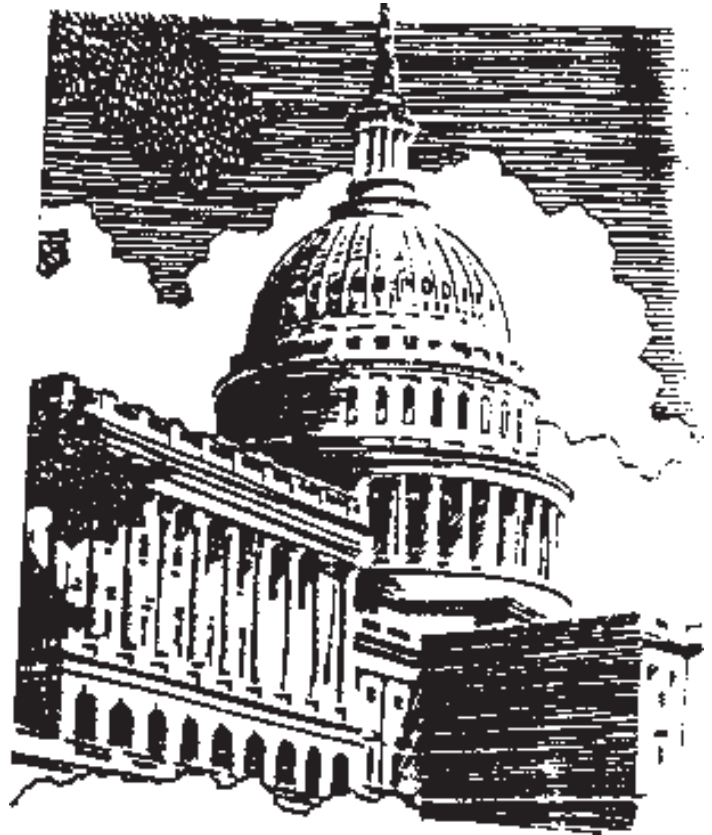
Second, they cannot openly or privately make speeches, write articles, or engage in electioneering or campaign activity associated with partisan politics.

For example, the Air Force allows its people in active-duty status to attend partisan political rallies while not in uniform as long as they remain a spectator and do not actively participate or make speeches during the rally, even in an unofficial capacity.

People on active duty may write letters to the editor of newspaper expressing personal, nonpartisan views on current political issues in an unofficial capacity. They can also make monetary contributions to a political organization favoring a particular candidate. They cannot give money directly to any partisan candidate.

The rules are less restrictive for DOD civilians. While the main principle of not acting in an official capacity still applies, DOD allows its civilians more freedom to engage in partisan politics in their private lives.

If they are not members of the Senior Executive Service



and are acting solely in a private capacity, DOD civilians can manage a political campaign, endorse or oppose a candidate in a political advertisement and speak at a political rally on behalf of a candidate. All of these actions are forbidden for people on active duty for 30 days or more.

Finally, no one can engage in any political activities “inside the fenceline” of any military installation or in any federal building.

“It’s important that military members carefully follow political activity guidelines,” says Mr. Donohoe. “Failure to follow those rules could result in punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, Article 92, Failure to Obey a Lawful Regulation.” Federal civilian employees are restricted by the federal law called “the Hatch Act” which, at its extreme, can result in removal from federal employment for violations.

For more guidance, military people can go to Air Force Instruction 51-902, Political Activities by Members of the U.S. Air Force. For more information on the Hatch Act’s rules, civilian employees can refer to the U.S. Office of Special Counsel website at http://www.osc.gov/ha_fed.htm (Air Force Reserve Command News Service)

Update

The following question was asked of unit members during the November UTA:
“What is your favorite holiday tradition?”



Chief Master Sgt. Mike Sulenke
513th MXS Superintendent
“Getting together with my family and enjoying the holidays.”



Senior Airman Eric Walke
507th MSF Evaluations
Journeyman
“My favorite holiday tradition is during Christmastime. My entire family gets together and eats and has a good time.”



Senior Master Sgt. Melanie Cherry
507th MSF Superintendent
“My favorite tradition is the board game challenges with family members after Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s dinners. We are goofy and get to know each other a little better.”



Senior Airman Paris Triplet II
507th CES Electrical Systems
“Thanksgiving because I like to eat, talk with family and watch sports. But I can’t forget about eating all the food that I can!”

Senior Airmen Sarah Norris and Claudia Borquaye
507th LRS Supply and Transportation Technicians
“Food, presents and football!”





Senior Airman Zach Anderson, left, and Capt. Bill Pierce, Public Affairs Office, hold up one of the posters presented to the Norman Veterans Center for Veterans Day. Captain Pierce, an assistant principal at Western Oaks Elementary School, gathered more than 600 cards and three posters made by students in the Putnam City Schools.

On-final

R-News

Retiree Group sets breakfast meeting

Come join the members of the Silver Squadron at 0730 on Dec. 8, 2007 at the Golden Corral in Midwest City.

HRDC seeks officer chairman

The Human Resource Development Council is seeing an officer for their co-chairman position. A focus of HRDC is to support commander and wing special challenges in promoting wing efficiency and diversity. This challenging position is a 2 year commitment. If interested please submit a one paragraph personal background brief through your chain of command no later than Dec. 1, 2007.

Safety Note for wing members

If you see something unsafe, speak out!

507th ARW recruiters

<http://get1now.us>



Tinker AFB, OK

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

Moore, Norman, OK

Master Sgt. Michael Comfort
(405) 217-8311

Midwest City, OK

Tech. Sgt. Neil Lambrecht (405)
732-6279

Tulsa, OK

Master Sgt. Monica Flowers
(918) 250-3400

Lawton, OK

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

McConnell AFB, KS

Sr. Master Sgt. David McCormick
(316) 759-3830
Master Sgt. Stephan Kimbrough
(In-Service Recruiter)
(316) 759-3766

Vance AFB, OK

Master Sgt. Stephan Kimbrough
(316) 759-3766