

INNER *view*

Senior Master Sgt. Kathleen Petridis

Hometown: Wichita Falls, Texas

Years in service: 16

Job title: Superintendent of Financial Management

Civilian occupation: Budget Analyst at the Centers for Disease Control

Favorite movie? "You're asking a woman with two jobs and three kids. I can't remember the last time I saw a movie. But, I guess it would be *Shall We Dance*."

Any pets? "Yeah, I have an 11-year-old retired drug dog named Keno. I keep him around for (sniffing out) my kids' friends."

What's your biggest fear? "I used to be really worried about providing for my children financially. But, I would be really scared if I couldn't just be there for them."

Have you gotten away with anything lately? "Not working out enough, but my clothes tell me it's time."

How has being a reservist in the Air Force changed your life? "It has given me the opportunity to do several new things that I enjoy and see the big picture of an organization. But, mostly I like looking out for my troops."

What is life's greatest joy? "My three children Angela, Cassandra and Christopher."



THUNDERBIRDS POSTER

FPCON HIGHLIGHTS

AT THE ORE

A publication of the 94th Airlift Wing

Minuteman

MONTHLY

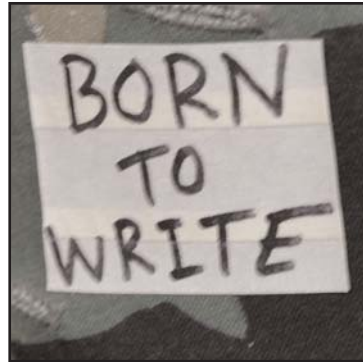
March 2008

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READY

OR NOT?





By Staff Sgt. Micah Garbarino
Public Affairs

I came equipped for the March ORE. I had my laptop. I had my camera. I was ready to be a "PA warrior," or as we call ourselves somewhat sarcastically, a "DINFOS trained killer." But, I found out rather quickly that while the pen is mightier than the sword, Nuclear, Biological and Chemical weapons trump them both and an Airman's best friend is his manual and a good attitude.

7 a.m: We met at the wing conference room, were motivated by leadership and shuffled about, waiting for the bus and anxious about the day ahead.

8 a.m: We made it out to the "play area" on the base's dead runway and were assigned to tents. There were two tents to a sector, with a total of four sectors.

9 a.m: We were all situated in our tent. The tent commander had assigned a Post Attack Recon team, a door guard, a roster and other necessities. We were all expecting to get attacked. I was on a PAR team. Here's a side note to anyone responsible for putting protective covers on vehicles and equipment....plastic wrap is *not* as simple as it looks. GAS! GAS! GAS!

12:30 p.m: After a few more "Alarm Red's" it was time for lunch, MREs. Here is a note to meat eaters... pretend you're a vegan. The goodies in the vegetarian MREs are waaaay better. Also, unless you're Dr. Bruce Banner, bring a knife. Opening MREs can be infuriating.

3 p.m: We all got ready to get on the bus. It was a good day. Things I learned: I'm glad I had my Airman's manual tabbed for the important sections. There wasn't a dull moment and I learned a lot through hands-on experience. We had saved a life through Self Aid Buddy Care, saved our own lives through proper wear of equipment and deconned our vehicles and equipment. But, I didn't get to put that laptop to use... until now.



During the early morning hours in "Bravo Sector" our tent was protected by the steady hand of Staff Sgt. Rod Washington, a chaplains assistant with the 94th Airlift wing. (Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Micah Garbarino)



Two members of tent Bravo Two mark an unexploded ordnance while performing a Post Attack Recon during the March UTA. (Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Micah Garbarino)

Remember the silenced

April is National Holocaust Remembrance month. Almost 60 years after the Holocaust, we must still remember all the deaths and destroyed families, the fear and the brutality. Each year's Days of Remembrance or "Yom Hashoah" call the nation to remember. Our national leaders recognized the need for this remembrance and designated a month be dedicated every year. The purpose of the Days of Remembrance observance is to reflect upon, to learn about, and never forget what happened to the millions silenced during the Holocaust.

The Days of Remembrance commemoration was established to combat the forgetfulness that time brings. Our nation commemorates the days annually so that each year anyone who does not know will learn, and so that people who have learned will never forget. It is important to remember this event and apply its lessons to our lives today. The victims of the Holocaust deserve this respect and remembrance. There may come a day when our Armed Forces will once again have to combat an enemy attempting to repeat the Holocaust. Hopefully that day will never come. Nevertheless, it is pertinent that each member of the military be educated and sensitive to the memorials dedicated to the 11 million who lost their lives. If you are interested in learning more about the Holocaust, visit the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute Website at: www.patrick.af.mil/deomi/deomi.htm. You can also contact Military Equal Opportunity at building 838, room 2402, or call 678-655-3675.



Fun run

The Fitness Center is sponsoring a Fun Run, Saturday, April 5. This free event will start at 11 a.m. The distance is approximately 2.1 miles. Water will be provided. Participants will receive a free T-shirt and other fun prizes. For more information, contact the Fitness Center at 678-655-4872.

New arrivals, new ranks

Promotions

Master Sgt. Bryan S. Wilson	Jason L. Wade	Anthony Paolucci
Tech. Sgt. Mark E. Brazier	Rebecca J. Burns	Graham A. Roberts
Amanda L. Howard	Allen M. Colley	Derek R. Sanchez
Tony C. Smith	Jennifer R. Dawley	Senior Airman Sean E. Henderson
Robert L. Sparks	Johnny W. Horton	Thomas H. Pough
Rachel M. Vaden	DeAngelo G. King	Airman Maria D. Motley
	Stephen O. Nehls	

Newcomers

Maj. Timothy H. Mart	Staff Sgt. Kim D. Fuller
Master Sgt. Darven M. Mobley	Staff Sgt. John D. Jackson Jr.
Tech. Sgt. Patrick G. Bankston	Staff Sgt. Jorge Martinez
Tech. Sgt. Kenneth R. Battle	Staff Sgt. Curtis L. Wilson III
Tech. Sgt. Ricky E. Calhoon	Senior Airman Lionell M. Brown
Tech. Sgt. Michael A. Glenn	Senior Airman Brandon N. Elam
Tech. Sgt. Laura L. Pack	Senior Airman Anthony A. Freeman
Tech. Sgt. Thomas J. Vidamour	Senior Airman Jonathan Garland
Staff Sgt. Bobby M. Asakah	Senior Airman Rene Hernandez
Staff Sgt. Phillip E. Corry	Senior Airman John K. Rose
Staff Sgt. Nathaniel R. Edenfield	

Sexual assault awareness

Designated as Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), April brings an annual opportunity to focus awareness on sexual violence and its prevention. This year's theme "Prevent Sexual Assault: Ask, Act and Intervene!" The teal colored ribbon is used to signify support for SAAM. To obtain more information about SAAM, contact Dobbins' Sexual Assault Response Coordinator Janine Bemis at 678-655-4031.



Air Force launches 'Above All'

The Air Force has a new advertising campaign to recruit the next generation of Airmen as well as better inform people about the Air Force mission: "Above All."

"The new slogan is admittedly a bold one," said Col. Michael Caldwell, deputy director of Air Force public affairs, "but so are Airmen." This campaign accurately portrays Airmen and how they're executing the Air Force mission to ensure the security and safety of America now and in the future.

"Above All" is about what we do and how we do it," Colonel Caldwell said. "The job of the Air Force is to defend America and we do that by dominating air, space and cyberspace. The new campaign and slogan captures our roots, but also illustrates where we're going as a service as the Air Force prepares to contend with future threats."

The purpose of the campaign is to create a dialogue with potential recruits, their parents and those most likely to influence young people to join the military about the critical role the Air Force plays in defending America's future, said Colonel Caldwell. The "Above All" campaign kicks off this month and will be prominent on television, in print and, of course, in cyberspace. In addition to being shown at several sporting events, "Above All" ads will be seen in magazines and during commercial breaks on many top-rated commercial and television news and entertainment programs, Colonel Caldwell said.

Services link on the web at www.dobbins.afrc.af.mil

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Deputy Chief/Editor

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Senior Airman Quadoah Ford

Photographer

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DOBBINS ARB

AIR SHOW

OCTOBER 18-19, 2008



Featuring the World Famous

Thunderbirds

FPCONS

The best defense is... the best defense.

By Tech. Sgt. James Branch
Public Affairs

During training exercises in preparation for the upcoming Unit Compliance Inspection and Operational Readiness Inspection, participants may be notified of a change in Force Protection Conditions (FPCONS).

FPCONS are security measures that have been implemented by the Department of Defense to standardize the military's methods of identifying and responding to threats, to personnel and facilities.

There are 5 FPCON levels, Normal, Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Delta.

FPCONS are initially set by Higher Headquarters for your area. The area/installation commander can increase the FPCONS as situations direct. He or she can not decrease it lower than what was set by HHQ without approval.

The first level, Normal, applies when a general threat of possible terrorist activity exists and warrants routine security. Normal movement is allowed on the installation and in facilities.

If there is an increased general threat of possible terrorist activity against personnel or facilities, the FPCON level is raised to Alpha. This would be a good time to set things up and inform personnel on what they should do in the event of an attack. Put out your M9 tape and M8 paper, assign door guards and brief your PAR teams. Everyone should be wearing their field gear, have their weapon with them and have their "C" bag where they can easily get to it.

An increased or more predictable threat of terrorist activity raises the FPCON level to Bravo. Check M9 tape and M8 paper to make sure everything has been properly applied. Put plastic covering over all equipment. Have your PAR team members check the tape/paper on a rotating

basis and change them often. Door guards should challenge anyone requesting entrance into tents and facilities. Buildings, tents and/or bunkers should be hardened. Everyone should be wearing field gear, have their weapon with them and carrying their "C" bag if they are not already wearing chem suits.

FPCON Charlie applies when an incident occurs or intelligence is received indicating some form of terrorist action is likely. Now is the time to make sure everyone knows the protocol if attacked. Your tent should be secure, door zipped up, and windows covered and door guards posted and checking everyone. PAR teams should be standing by with chem. kits. Everyone will be on alert.

When an incident occurs in the immediate area, or intelligence has been received that terrorist action against a specific location or person is imminent, the FPCON is raised to its highest level, Delta. No one should leave their tent. If caught outside, find shelter in the nearest bunker. Security forces and augmentees will repel the attack if it's on the ground. No one goes outside until the condition is lowered to CHARLIE/BLACK. At that time, the PAR team will check paper and tape for chemicals and sweep the area for unexploded ordinances (UXOs). Tent commanders should then report their status of personnel and sector status to the Command section, using the SALUTE report. Again, stay inside until the situation has been handled and notification given that the FPCON and ALARM conditions have been lowered.

The FPCON system is placed in effect to protect, not inconvenience Airmen. Regardless of the level, everyone should remain vigilant at all times. Report anything that looks suspicious SALUTE report.



The war on paper

By Master Sgt. P.N. Brown
Public Affairs

Sometimes in the military, units compete for the starring role, believing their own mission is more important than the next...occasionally causing a sort of sibling rivalry. Each unit sometimes thinks that theirs is such an important mission that no one would be here without them. To tell the truth, none of us would be here without the other.

Each unit is interdependent on the other. All of what we do depends on another unit forming a cooperative effort with the other. Sometimes in that world of jockeying for star position we look at the units we like to refer to as paper pushers and don't realize their value. They just don't seem glamorous.

But take a moment to think...the "paper pusher units" are just as important as any other. Like all of the units around the military they are an integral piece of the picture. Imagine your career without a pay section, military personnel, ID cards or benefits. It would be chaos.

One of the paper mover and shaker units

here at Dobbins, that helps us keep it all together, is the 94th Mission Support Squadron who's diversity of services include; Military Personnel Flight, Wing Training, Casualty Notification and Family Support to name a few.

Anything you need to know about your career can be found under their umbrella. With approximately 1,800 reservists, one geographically separated unit, family members, civilians and retirees their job is vast and varied said Capt. Phillip Hathcock, 94th Mission Support Squadron commander. With 33 people assigned, they have 14 offices that cover 60 to 70 different jobs and programs.

It's the details, details, details that can make or break the quality of work produced and a dramatic effect on an individual's career. The little mistakes can cost an Airman a promotion, a pay increase or cause them to lose vital information to their career.

Theirs is a mission that doesn't really vary much no matter where they are stationed. According to Captain Hathcock, the intensity is one of the few things that will vary and that can depend

on the size of the wing and whether or not your wing is the tenant or the host. Here at Dobbins being the host and one of the larger wings the intensity can be high.

Their role in the upcoming Operational Readiness Exercises and Inspection will be vital to the wing. Their support will get Airmen processed through the line and on the way to wherever the deployment sends the wing, whether in an exercise or in real world scenarios. Most of the jobs in the paper world of missions can be tough, something that may not be realized.

"One of the little known jobs we perform is casualty notification for this region. It can be a really tough job; we're dealing with very sensitive issues during a family's time of grief and mourning. But it is also a responsibility that I am both humbled and honored to have," he added.

So next time a doubt comes through about the value of the 'paper pushers' mission, remember what gets done on that paper and what would happen without it.

FPCON QUIZ

1. True or False: Alarm conditions and FPCONS are the same thing.

2. What is the SALUTE report?

- a. Size, Accuracy, Largeness, Uniform, Time, Experience
- b. Size, Activity, Location, Unit, Time, Equipment
- c. Safety, Attitude, Likability, Underwater, Tactics, Engagement
- d. Size, Altitude, Location, Unit, Time, Equipment

3. True or False: Anyone involved in the training exercise can increase the FPCON level when they deem necessary.