

Falcon Flyer



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE 94TH AIRLIFT WING

DECEMBER 2010 VOL. 1 NO. 5



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FROM THE TOP

Reflections on an Air Force Career...

Col. Susan Northrup, Retired

Commander, 94th Airlift Wing ASTS

As I reflect on the past 24 years, I have seen the Air Force change from a Cold War model to the Global War on Terrorism. I've seen it shrink and missions change. The USAF of today is leaner, more efficient, and has migrated to an Aerospace Force to be reckoned with. The opportunities to positively affect change and people are vast. In my experience, the USAF is what you make of it. Learn the intricacies of your assigned duties, know the mission and your part of it, stay out of trouble, step up when called, and you will reap the professional and personal rewards. Take care of yourself and your buddy. Know when your reports and potential awards are due – draft them if necessary.



US Air Force photo / Shaun Shenk

As a parting shot, I would charge each of you to make the Core Values something other than a card in your pocket.

As a parting shot, I would charge each of you to make the Core Values something other than a card in your pocket. I recently read **Courage, The Backbone of Leadership**, by Gus Lee. He defined Integrity as acting for what is right. In order to do that, we need to be able to discern right from wrong, act for what is right regardless of risk to self, and then teach others from that act of integrity. To do that, we need to assess our own prejudices and personal needs as they affect our decisions and life choices. Service before self implies we have to think and act outside of ourselves for the greater good. Integrity, coupled with courage, will make sure we chose worthy service and stand for what is right, even when that is

unpopular. Excellence in all we do. As my grandmother says, "anything worth doing is worth doing well". USAF personnel are the best of the best. Don't accept anything less from yourselves.

Be proud as a USAF Airman! Set the example for others to follow. Honor **all** persons. Treat others and yourselves with respect. Don't forget your families. Someday, you too will retire. Make sure you know them, and equally important, they know you.

I am grateful for the opportunities the Air Force has given me and humbled by the trust I have been granted. It has been a great run! Best of luck to each of you.

"Be proud as a USAF Airman! Set the example for others to follow. Honor **all persons. Treat others and yourselves with respect. "**

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Submission deadline for Jan. 2011 issue is Dec 22. Articles should be submitted electronically.

Wing commander's hotline

provides wing members with a direct link to the wing commander to relay kudos, concerns or suggestions on wing matters. (678) 655-9422

IG/Fraud, Waste and Abuse hotline

sustains a credible Air Force IG system by ensuring the existence of responsive complaint investigations, and FWA programs characterized by objectivity, integrity and impartiality.

94 AW FWA Hotline

(678) 655-3952

AFRC FWA Hotline

(800) 223-1784 extension 7-1513

SAF/IGQ FWA Hotline

(800) 538-8429

DoD FWA Hotline

(800) 424-9098

HEADLINES

Combined Federal Campaign extended to Dec. 15

The campaign kicked off Sept. 15 and has been extended Dec. 15. The CFC represents over 2,200 different charities. You can donate to just one or as many as you like. The minimum donation is \$1.00 cash or \$1.00 per pay period per charity. Payroll deduction makes it convenient for you to give by letting you spread your contribution across the entire year. As always, CFC donations are tax deductible.

There really is power in numbers. By pooling your money with that of other federal employees, these charities can really stretch



your dollars. Did you know that a bi-weekly donation of only \$4.00 buys healthy after school snacks for 10 children? About \$6.00 per pay period

will provide 21 meals a year to elderly people who cannot leave their homes. \$8.00 per pay period supports Little Brothers/Little Sisters home visits for 48 children, and \$10.00 per pay period means 20 days of shelter to a homeless child.

If you have any questions about CFC, please contact a Key Worker. This year's Key Workers are:

22nd AF SMSgt. Gerald Milbourne, x4560
94th AW Capt. Quincy Hudson, x4796
94th ASTS SSgt. Myisha Millsap, x4829 or

LtCol. James Crowe, x2370
94th OG Ms. Lena Bell, x5110
94th OSS SSgt. Demetrius Brown, x4586
700th AS TSgt. Michelle Strickland, x4104
94th AES SMSgt. Stephanie Gillis, x3545 or
Ms. Amanda Williams
94th MSG Ms. Sue Smith, x4873
94th MXG TSgt. Alicia Norman, 5739
OSI Ms. Victoria Peters, x5541
If you just want to learn more, feel free to visit CFC Atlanta's home page at <http://www.cfcatlanta.org>

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM GENERAL STENNER

As we celebrate this holiday season and prepare for the challenges of 2011, I want to thank you for serving our nation as Citizen Airmen.

service made it possible for us to support our nation's Total Force missions throughout the world.

Thank you for all you do.



You have stepped up to meet every tasking given to you. You airlifted much needed aid to disaster victims, deployed to Afghanistan, helped usher in a new era in Iraq or supported other contingency operations overseas. Some of you didn't leave home this year but your

We know and appreciate the sacrifices your families and employers make to allow you to serve. Much has been asked of you and much will be asked of you in the future as we move forward as a fully operational command.

Dee and I wish all of you



"...your service made it possible for us to support our nation's Total Force missions throughout the world."

the happiest of holidays. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families as we welcome a joyous New Year.

THE ORGANIZATION



More history on Dobbins: Capt. Charles Dobbins

Courtesy Story

94th Airlift Wing Historians

Marietta Air Force Base was renamed Dobbins Air Force Base in honor of Capt. Charles Dobbins.

Captain Dobbins was killed on July 11, 1943. He was a co-pilot of a C-47 of the 316th Troop Carrier Group, carrying paratroopers of the 376th Parachute Field Artillery Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division.

The operation was called Husky II. D-Day for operation Husky was July 10, 1943 and it all took place in southern Sicily. During the night of July 9, 226 C-47s took off with paratroopers of the 505th Regimental Combat Team reinforced by the 3rd Battalion 504th Parachute Infantry, more than 3,400 paratroopers in total.

The paratroopers were dropped behind the beaches. Due to several reasons, the paratroopers landed over entire southern Sicily.

I have no knowledge if Captain Dobbins participated in this mission, but I assume he did. In the early hours of July 10, the U.S. infantry stormed the beaches.

In the southeastern part of the island British troops landed. In the evening of July 10 they were supposed to drop reinforcements, but the mission was postponed by 24 hours.

Then on the evening of July 11 the planes took off. This time there were 144 planes, including Captain Dobbins's plane.

The pilot was Major Dekker; besides the paratroopers of the 376th Parachute Field Artillery, there were two observers, non paratroopers.

One of them was Brig. Gen. Charles L. Keerans Jr, Deputy Commanding Officer of the 82nd Airborne Division.

The other observer was Tracy Jackson. He had his captain bars, but was - unknown to him - promoted to major. He was the Glider Officer for the 52nd Troop Carrier Wing.

When the 144 planes flew to Sicily, they had to fly over the invasion fleet off the coast of Sicily. They were under constant



Captain Charles M. Dobbins, from whom Dobbins Air Reserve Base takes its name, was a pilot assigned to an air force paratroopers division during World War II. He was reported missing in action on July 11, 1943, when his plane failed to return to its North African base from a raid on Sicily, Italy. Dobbins was never seen again.

attack from the German Luftwaffe.

The gunners were trigger happy and fired on the planes. Then the troop carriers came over.

Some gunner opened up, and more and more gunners joined him. A total of 23 planes transport planes were shot down.

Young American lives were lost due to friendly fire from American warships, American merchant ships, and infantry units on the coast of Sicily.

Captain Dobbins plane blew up, and no trace was found of the crew and the two observers.



Firefighters Beau Albert and Pat Cone, along with Capt. Rob Burgard and John Meehling, lower Joe Bushman into the simulated underground space to retrieve an “injured” worker Nov 10. Members of the Dobbins Air Reserve Base Fire Department engaged in an exercise scenario created by the Confined Space Program Team in order to test their readiness and ability to find and extract an incapacitated worker from a confined space. (U.S. Air Force photo / Brad Fallin)

COMMENTARY

Did you know?

Ed Saleem

Courtesy Story

When you read this, I am sure you’ll be like me, wondering why you ate so much, how did our nieces and nephews grow so fast, and why does Uncle John think that toupee looks good?

There will be some of us who have different thoughts, like how much longer will it be until our loved one gets home, or how do we go about explaining to the kids why Dad or Mom won’t be home for the holidays?

I remember my first Thanksgiving away from home. I was floating around a river delta in flack gear realizing

how incredibly different that Thanksgiving was compared to my previous 18 and wishing that I was spending it anywhere other than where I was. I was lonely and wanted to be home with my family, but I was doing the job I had been called to do. To make things worse, I had to deal with the dwindling support being offered by the

very people I had been sent over to protect.

Maybe you have loved ones overseas, maybe you don’t. Either way, we must give thanks for the incredible sacrifice our troops make every day to help keep us free. Let them know we support, love and respect them for their sacrifice. I firmly believe that by letting them know

we support them and believe in them is every bit as important as the armament, training or supplies that they have received.

Do everything you can to let them know how you feel and be thankful, of what we have and what our military is doing to protect those things.

“...why you ate so much, how did our nieces and nephews grow so fast, and why does Uncle John think that toupee looks good?”

AROUND THE AIR FORCE

Fight against holiday depression

Technical Sgt. Stacy Fowler
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

The holiday season is viewed by many celebrants as a time of “peace on earth” and a sudden influx of packages through the post office.

But for some servicemembers deployed during the holidays, peace and packages might be hard to find, or replaced entirely by depression or even thoughts of suicide.

For those who are having problems at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, there is a support system readily available: the Balad Chaplaincy Corps; the 332nd Expeditionary Medical Group Mental Health Clinic; and friends, supervisors and base organizations who encourage deployed members to stay connected with family and friends during this time of year.

Mental health professionals advise servicemembers not to hide from the holidays.

“We know you can’t be home with your family, so celebrate the holidays here with your friends,” said Dr. (Maj.) Dennis Tansley, an Air Force certified psychologist. “Make the most of it, and do as much as you can of what you would do at home, whether it’s decorating a tree or playing holiday tunes at work.”

Many might view going to a chaplain or to a mental health professional as too “official,” but there are just as many “unofficial” sources of support at JB Balad that can make a holiday season bearable. The first lines of defense are front-line supervisors.

“Front-line supervisors are our best bet for taking care of our Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and civilian employees,” said Chief Master Sgt. Harold Hutchison, the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing command chief.

“Supervisors should have a vast scope on the lives of their troops, including if



they have a spouse, boyfriend, girlfriend, and if they have children. They should be vigilant of potential personal issues, especially if it begins to affect them at work to that point the issue must be addressed. Supervisors shouldn’t be in their troops’ chili, but they should know what’s in it.”

One of many benefits available at JB Balad is the overabundance of choices to stay connected with friends and family at home, Chief Hutchison said. Between the USO, the Red Cross, and the 332nd Force Support Squadron there are countless wired and wireless connection capabilities available.

“With all the available services, we have a bundle of ways to say ‘happy holidays’ to our folks back home,” Chief Hutchison said.

However, if after a video chat or a phone call, you start to feel any of the following, it’s probably a good idea to speak with someone:

- Feelings of sadness or unhappiness
- Irritability or frustration, even over small matters
- Loss of interest or pleasure in normal activities
- Insomnia or excessive sleeping
- Changes in appetite, including decreased appetite and weight loss or increased cravings for food and weight gain
- Agitation or restlessness, including pacing, hand-wringing or an inability to

sit still

- Slowed thinking, speaking or body movements
- Indecisiveness, distractibility and decreased concentration
- Fatigue, tiredness and loss of energy -- even small tasks may seem to require a lot of effort
- Feelings of worthlessness or guilt, such as fixating on past failures or blaming yourself when things aren’t going right
- Trouble thinking, concentrating, making decisions and remembering things
- Frequent thoughts of death, dying or suicide
- Crying spells for no apparent reason
- Unexplained physical problems, such as back pain or headaches

But don’t think that you have to start with a supervisor if you’re having issues. There are first sergeants, friends at work and people around JB Balad who are more than willing to help.

“There may be times when you might not feel comfortable speaking with a supervisor, so find someone you trust or consider a friend,” Chief Hutchison said. “As long as you confide in someone and get those issues out into the open, you’re taking the first steps to making things better. We have a great support system here: chaplains, first sergeants, front-line supervisors. Use them, and they will help get you through.”

FEATURE

Master Sgt. Stan Coleman

94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Hard work, long hours, inspections, deployments and more hard work is the theme of operations for 94th Airlift Wing reservists, Active Guard and Reserve Airmen, contractors and civilians who perform their duties each workday. As a reward and recognition for jobs well done throughout the year, 94th Airlift Wing leadership sponsored a Team Day event at Dobbins Air Reserve Base Nov. 17.

The event gave Team Dobbins members the chance to fellowship, break bread together and have fun competing in a variety of events that included basketball, card games and a tug-of-war competition.

From 10 a.m. till 4 p.m., buses transported members to the Lakeside area where food, games and festivities awaited Team Dobbins' guests of honors. Competitive games which included horseshoes, softball and tennis provided the fit to fight spirit for "Team Dobbins members" to work off the pulled-pork sandwiches, hot dogs and other goodies provided by the 94th Services.

"This event allowed everyone to just enjoy themselves and come together as a team for one day," said Elisha Bowers, 94th Mission Support Group Customer Service assistant chief. "It was a good idea to have this event. I'm looking forward to another team day event at Dobbins."

Col. Timothy Tarchick, 94th Airlift Wing commander, extends his appreciation to all who contributed to the success of Team Day.

"I want to take a moment and tell you that the 2010 Team Day was a huge success," he said. "The weather was perfect; the food was great and the attitudes were joyful."

"I want to thank Dick Ames, Chief of Services and his entire Services team that made Team Day possible," said Colonel Tarchick. "A big thank you to all the group, airlift wing and aeromedical staging squadron Team Day captains and points of contact that organized the event along with the Services team."



TOUCH AND GO'S

SEASON'S GREETINGS

Each year thousands suffer injury, burns and death due to holiday decorations and carelessness. Trees, lights, and ornaments produce extra hazards in our homes and workplaces at a time when the hectic season may distract us from fire safety. To safely enjoy the holiday season the Dobbins Fire Department offers the following guidelines for a happy holiday. If you buy a natural cut tree, check for freshness. Shedding needles are a sign of a dry tree and a serious hazard. Fresh needles won't break when bent. Keep the tree outside until you can decorate it. Cut off the base, one to two inches and place it in a stable holder. Keep the holder filled with water and keep the tree away from direct heat sources. Decorations



should not obstruct corridors, exits, means of egress or be hung from fire detection devices (smoke detectors/sprinkler), or exit lights and signs. Check all lighting for an Underwriters Laboratory (UL) approved label, frayed or broken areas where wires are exposed, or cracked plug ends. Damaged lights should be discarded. No more than three sets of lights should be on a single extension cord. Overloading cords can start a fire; we recommend using a UL

listed power strip with circuit breaker to handle your power needs. Keep connections away from the water base and always use UL listed cords of the correct size and type (interior cords should never be used outdoors). Unplug all lights before leaving the house or workplace. Do not use real candles; electric candles that are UL approved are a safer option. Keep all ornaments, and cords away from children and pets. Remember, dry trees can burn like a torch and

spread a fire. Please take the time to review this video from the NFPA on YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RNjO3wZDVIA>). The demonstration really highlights the danger of dry natural trees. The Dobbins Fire Department wishes everyone a happy and fire safe holiday.

"The Dobbins Fire Department wishes everyone a happy and fire safe holiday."



CC Access Line

A direct link to Col. Timothy E. Tarchick has been created to express points of view and to give input. Col. Tarchick wants your input after coordinating properly through your chain of command.

Access this line at (678) 655-94CC or email 94aw.cc.accessline@us.af.mil



UTA Child Care

Military childcare is available for those service members who fall into such a category that there is a hardship to providing quality childcare during UTA. The program is sponsored through the Air Force Reserve Command and implemented via the local Family Readiness Center. To be clear, this program is only for those who lack regular childcare arrangements for their children.

Call Angela Pederson for more details at (678) 655-5004

Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga – The best way to keep the 94th Airlift Wing and Air Force Reserve strong is to recruit good people- people like you. You can help by talking about the benefits of joining the Air Force Reserve with family and friends, then submitting their names to Get1Now. The people you care about will benefit, and so will you.