



# FLIGHT LINES

SERVING HOMESTEAD AIR RESERVE BASE AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY

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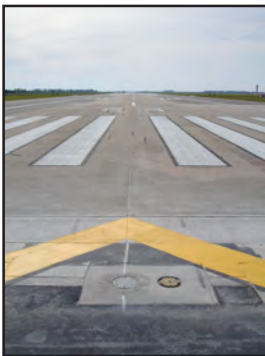
482d Fighter Wing, Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla.

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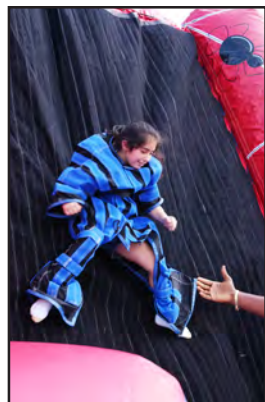
January 2006



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## Home for the holidays



*Photo by Jake Shaw*

Staff Sgt. Ted Yoder of the 482nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron links up with 2 year old son, Dalton, after spending 3 months deployed to Balad Air Base, Iraq. Sgt. Yoder and a group of fellow maintainers returned Dec. 12 after supporting the Air Expeditionary Forces in Iraq. In total, over 300 members of the 482nd Fighter Wing have deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and the Global War on Terror.

# Great work; Now look ahead

By Col. Randall G. Falcon  
482nd Fighter Wing Commander

Welcome back! Paula and I hope that each of you enjoyed a terrific holiday season with family and friends. It was certainly a pleasure to spend quality time with the people who mean the most in this world.

In the preceding year, we've deployed across the world, conducting humanitarian missions and supporting the War on Terror and Operation Iraqi Freedom. While in El Salvador, our Civil Engineer Squadron commanded JTF Para Los Niños, employing a total of 650 reservists from 32 organizations for a 120 day humanitarian rotation. By the completion of the rotation, our troops built three schools, two clinics and repaired several other earthquake damaged schools and clinics as well. Their efforts, leadership and professionalism exceeded all expectations.

During the unprecedented 2005 hurricane season, reservists and civilians from HARB threw themselves into the task of supporting post-hurricane recovery. Directly through their efforts, over three million residents of Dade, Broward and Monroe Counties received emergency supplies of food, water and ice. HARB also coordinated an air bridge, supporting 13 heavy aircraft delivering over a million pounds of relief supplies in three days. Additionally Air Force Reservists from our security forces, medical and services squadrons deployed to Gulf States recovering from Hurricane Katrina's devastation.

Our crowning achievement this year was our AEF deployment to Iraq supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. Over three hundred Air Force Reservists, along with F-16s, deployed overseas without incident. While there, our reservists supported the War

on Terror with unfailing professionalism and dedication. Our pilots supported the ground operation while our maintainers and other support troops kept the planes flying. A truly heroic effort by a band of Air Force Reserve professionals.

Looking forward, 2006 appears just as challenging and rewarding. Right over the horizon, the 93d Fighter Squadron hosts CHUMEX and our CE squadron is set to deploy once again. And of course, an ORI and ORE are scheduled for this year too. We'll be talking.

I couldn't be more proud. Commanding the 482d Fighter Wing is absolutely the most rewarding and challenging position in the Air Force Reserve. You should be proud too; proud of these accomplishments and proud of serving in the best fighter wing in the US Air Force.

## Leadership changes in AFRC, 10th Air Force

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – Senior leaders in Air Force Reserve Command and one of its numbered air forces change jobs in late December and early January.

In a ceremony Dec. 20, Maj. Gen. Allan R. Poulin relinquished command of 10th Air Force to Maj. Gen. Richard C. Collins at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas, to become AFRC vice commander at Robins AFB.

General Poulin will replace Maj. Gen. David E. Tanzi, who will retire in a ceremony at Robins AFB Jan. 11.

As AFRC vice commander,

General Poulin will serve fulltime and oversee the day-to-day operation of the command and its headquarters. AFRC has about 75,000 reservists who train and deploy regularly. The command is composed of three numbered air forces divided into 36 wings, three flying groups, one space group and more than 600 subordinate units.

In civilian life, General Poulin was an airline pilot flying international routes for a major U.S. carrier.

General Collins was mobilization assistant to the commander of Air Education and Training Command at Randolph AFB, Texas, before

becoming the 10th Air Force commander.

As commander, the general will continue to serve as a traditional reservist, overseeing the operation of all AFRC fighter, bomber, rescue, airborne warning and control, special operations, flying training, combat air operations battle staff and space units. Col. Jimmie Mills, 10th Air Force director of staff, will run the day-to-day operation of the numbered air force when General Collins is not on duty.

In his civilian occupation, General Collins is an airline captain flying for a major U. S. carrier.

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# Air Force releases new mission statement

By Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle  
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The realities of the world have changed dramatically since the creation of the Air Force in 1947 and continue to change almost daily.

With these changes in mind, Air Force leaders released a new mission statement Dec. 7 that defines the current and future direction of the Air Force.

“Today, our world is fast paced, constantly shifting and filled with a wide range of challenges,” Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley wrote in a joint Letter to Airmen. “Our mission is our guiding compass, and it must be clearer than ever before.”

The mission statement defines the “where and what” the Air Force accomplishes on a daily basis. The

statement includes two new concepts, “sovereign options” and “cyberspace,” which the secretary and chief defined.

They said having sovereign options is the essence of being a superpower.

“Our task is to provide the National Command Authority and the combatant commanders with an array of options ... options that are not limited by the tyranny of distance, the urgency of time, or the strength of our enemy’s defenses,” they said. “With one hand the Air Force can deliver humanitarian assistance to the farthest reaches of the globe, while with the other hand we can destroy a target anywhere in the world.”

The term cyberspace includes network security, data transmission and the sharing of information.

“We have quite a few of our Airmen dedicated to cyberspace ... from security awareness, making sure the networks can’t be penetrated, as

well as figuring out countermeasures,” Secretary Wynne said. “The Air Force is a natural leader in the cyber world and we thought it would be best to recognize that talent.”

Adversaries of the United States will use any method or venue necessary to contest America, and it is an Airman’s calling to dominate air, space and cyberspace, the leaders said.

“If we can decisively and consistently dominate our assigned commons, then we will deter countless conflicts,” they said. “If our enemies are foolish and underestimate our resolve, then we will fly, fight, and destroy them.”

Using past air power pioneers as examples of understanding the mission, they said, “Our new mission statement has evolved over time, but it does not change the nature of who we are or what we do.”



U.S. Air Force Photo by Master Sgt. Ken Wright

**LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — Airman Herbert Hall prepares to participate in a basic military training graduation parade. The parade of 15 squadrons marked the end of the six-week training period for about 750 of the Air Force’s newest Airmen.**

***The mission of the United States Air Force is to deliver sovereign options for the defense of the United States of America and its global interests — to fly and fight in Air, Space, and Cyberspace.***

# F-22A Raptor goes operational

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (AFPN) — The F-22A Raptor — Air Force's most advanced weapon system — is ready for combat, Air Force officials announced Dec. 15th.

In reaching initial operational capability, the Raptor is certified ready for operational use.

The first combat-ready Raptors are flying with the 27th Fighter Squadron of the 1st Fighter Wing here. The squadron's deployment capability is a 12-ship package designed to execute air-to-air and air-to-ground missions.

"If we go to war tomorrow, the Raptor will go with us," said Gen. Ronald E. Keys, commander of Air Combat Command.

Declaring the transformational stealth fighter "IOC" means the Raptor's proven capabilities are available for combat and supported by a properly trained and equipped force.

It also means the aircraft is qualified to fly homeland defense missions.

"F-22A IOC means our warfighters now have an unprecedented lethal mix of air-to-air and air-to-ground capabilities at their disposal," General Keys said. "The Raptor's cutting edge technology brings us continued joint air dominance despite advancing enemy threats."

Reaching the IOC milestone culminates a collaborative 25-year effort between various Air Force organizations and industry partners. The road to the IOC included was a step-by-step process. The F-22A System Program Office first turned Air Force requirements into a successful acquisition program. Then there was developmental flight test and evaluation, simulation and ground testing at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., and Eglin AFB, Fla. There was engine testing at Arnold AFB, Tenn., and

missile testing at Holloman AFB, N.M., and over the Pacific Test Range. Also, there was tactics development at Nellis AFB, Nev., pilot and maintenance training at Tyndall AFB, Fla., and deployability here.

"The F-22A fulfills a long quest to bring fifth-generation capabilities of stealth, supercruise and precision to the warfighter today and 30 years from today," General Keys said. "Now that we have met our first promised milestone of a fully capable, multi-mission platform ready for combat, we are already focused on furthering our integrated tactics development, refining our deployability, growing and training our force."

The general said, "To add to what we learned on our successful first

**See F-22 Operational on pg. 5**

## Air Force leaders foresee personnel cuts

*By Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle  
Air Force Print News*

WASHINGTON — Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne said a proposal aimed at reducing the number of Air Force total-force personnel has been discussed.

During a press conference Dec. 13, Secretary Wynne said the reduction would take affect across the total force — active duty, Reserve, Guard and civilian positions. About 40,000 people would be trimmed starting in fiscal 2006 through 2011, he said.

Drawing down personnel is nothing new for the Air Force as it has reduced active-duty manpower through force shaping initiatives in the past two years to meet congressionally mandated end strength.

However, before any reductions take place, initiatives focused on

balancing and reshaping the force would be the first step, said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley.

"Thirteen percent of the officer career fields are stressed ... 20 percent of the enlisted career fields are stressed," he said. "We have opportunities to move people into those stressed career fields and balance those across that entire spectrum."

Once the force is balanced then there will be opportunities to move to the Reserve component, the Guard, and Air Force civilian positions, General Moseley said.

"Our overall goal remains to have an effective and efficient Air Force on behalf of the taxpayer," Secretary Wynne said.

"As the Air Force looks at these personnel changes, it needs to determine the optimum size of organizations

and number of Airmen needed across the broad spectrum of the force," said Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray.

"Congress mandates the number of generals, colonels, chief and senior master sergeants based on the size of the force. For example, chief master sergeants make up 1 percent and senior master sergeants make up 2 percent of the force; if the reduction of the active-duty enlisted force was 30,000, the results would be 300 less chief master sergeants to lead our organizations and Air Force specialties," Chief Murray said.

"We're not just going to cut out the workers of the force," Chief Murray said. "We will shape the force throughout all the ranks, by organizations and (specialties) in order to maintain a strong force."

# New rules reinforce re-employment protections

By Donna Miles  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve is lauding the Labor Department announcement issuing rules clarifying re-employment rights for citizen-soldiers.

They said the Dec. 16 announcement is a major step forward for guardsmen, reservists and their civilian employers.

Labor Secretary Elaine Chao announced final rules interpreting the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Act that helps ensure job security for reserve-component members returning to civilian life from military duty. The rules have been published in the Federal Register.

Speaking at the National Press Club here, Ms. Chao said this is the first time since the law's passage in 1994 that regulations have been developed to enforce it.

The rules are particularly critical now, she said, when the United States has the largest group of mobilized guardsmen and reservists since World War II. Since 9-11, almost 530,000 reserve-component people have been mobilized, many for more than a year of duty.

The new rules, drafted in an

easy-to-read question-and-answer format, explain how the USERRA law protects against discrimination and retaliation because of military service and prevents servicemembers from job setbacks from performing their military obligations. The law also ensures that guardsmen and reservists have ample time to report back to their civilian jobs after completing their military duty.

"Our citizen-soldiers put themselves in harm's way to defend our freedoms, and now it's our turn to be there for them," Ms. Chao said. "These regulations will ensure that the seniority, promotion, health care, pensions and other benefits of our citizen-soldiers are protected when they return home to the jobs they left to serve our country."

Putting teeth behind the USERRA law benefits citizen soldiers as well as their employers, said Maj. Rob Palmer, a public affairs officer with the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

"Anything that makes it easier for Guard and Reserve members to work with their employers and understand their rights and responsibilities under the law is a benefit to everyone," he said.

With more than 50 percent of the military's manpower in the reserve components, employer support is critical to U. S. national security, Major Palmer said.

But making the relationship work "is not a one-way street," he said. Guards-

men and reservists also have responsibilities under USERRA.

Among those responsibilities is keeping their employers informed about their military commitments.

"We encourage Guard and Reserve members to communicate early and often with their employers about upcoming military obligations," Major Palmer said.

Work-related complaints from returning guardsmen and reservist are down 30 percent since their last major deployment in the early 1990s. Officials said this is largely due to the efforts of the Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, and solid support from employers.

During Operation Desert Storm, one in 54 demobilized troops filed work-related complaints with the Labor Department, officials said. During the war on terrorism, the rate has dropped to one in 81.

Officials hope this trend will continue and see the new USERRA rules as a big step toward that end.

Other Labor Department initiatives also are expected to help. These include providing briefings to more than 270,000 servicemembers and others about the law, responding to more than 36,000 requests for technical assistance and publishing information about the final notice on the department's Web site.

## F-22 Operational, continued from pg. 4

operational deployment to the Utah Test and Training Range to drop JDAMs (joint direct attack munition), fly against double-digit SAMs (surface-to-air missiles) at Nellis and work (close air support) with F-16 FAC-As, we will conduct our first routine peacetime exercise deployment by taking 12 Raptors to Alaska in June for Northern Edge."

Designed to ensure America's air dominance for years to come, the F-22A will ensure U.S. joint forces' freedom from attack and freedom to attack, even as adversaries continue to advance their weapons and technologies, officials said.

"As I told (Air Force Chief of Staff) Gen. (T. Michael) Moseley, he and I have spent our lifetime executing, instructing and providing air dominance for the joint force. Lamentably, we have never been privileged to hold a weapon

like this in our hands.

"After reviewing our test results — seeing our operational deployment performance and talking to the pilots that will go to war with it — I am confident the F-22A joins the combat force at a far more mature and capable level than any of our previous great aircraft, and will take its rightful place in a long line of U.S. Air Force legends of the air," General Keys said.

# Runway repair project nears completion

Story and photos by Dan Galindo  
482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The Army Corps of Engineers is nearing completion of a major \$16 million repair project of the Homestead Air Reserve Base flight line, scheduled to wrap up in mid-February.

“90 percent of the work is done,” said corps project engineer Zachary Kluckowski. “The remaining work is

‘punch work’ – items here and there that need to be finished,” he said.

The flight line had a significant amount of deteriorating asphalt and concrete, according to Airfield Operations Manager Bill Comber. The project resolves that issue and brings the runway up-to-date with Air Force and FAA standards, making the flight line safer for pilots and their

aircraft.

“When the pavement begins to break up we now have a problem with foreign object debris and sharp edges of pavement may cut aircraft tires,” said Comber. “FOD to jet engines can be very expensive and hazardous to the health of the pilots,” he said.

The HARB runway was due for large-scale overhaul, especially after weathering major hurricanes over the years. Prior to the project, only limited patchwork was needed to keep the airfield operational.

“Major runway repairs should be done about every ten years,” said Kluckowski. “It had been 20 years since the last major repair on the asphalt, and some taxiways hadn’t been repaired in nearly 40 years. Now all taxiways are open,” he said.

The airfield remained open throughout most of the construction work, with few exceptions, thanks to a rather unique feature of the HARB runway.

“Because [we] have 300 foot-wide runways, we can shut down half, and planes can still take off and land,” said Mr. Kluckowski. “That’s not typical of most Air Force flight lines. We wouldn’t have been able to do what we did without such a wide runway,” he said.

(Continued on pg. 7)



**Runway light and sweeper: New runway lights at Homestead Air Reserve Base were installed to comply with new FAA and Air Force standards. The lights will make it safer for pilots to perform night landings.**

This also allowed the base to support incoming aircraft to deliver over a million pounds of emergency supplies after Hurricane Wilma.

The Corps of Engineers and the 482nd Civil Engineers teamed up with a contractor, Sunmount Corp., for the project, which was worked on in three phases, beginning in March.

The first two phases focused on repairing about 3,000 feet of concrete and asphalt on each end of the flight line. By working at each end first, the 93rd Fighter Squadron, Det. 1, 125th Fighter Wing, Florida Air National Guard, and U.S. Customs aircraft had easy access to the runway.

During phase three, crews concentrated on the center portion of the runway. FANG and Customs aircraft had to temporarily deploy during that phase, but 93rd FS F-16s still had access. As of Dec. 5, all Customs aircraft returned, and FANG F-15s came back on the 9th to a fully restored airfield.

At completion, crews replaced airfield pavement, added a new lighting system with lighted signs, removed rubber deposits and repainted symbols and lines on the pavement.



**Runway asphalt repair: Construction crews from Sunmount Corporation repair deteriorating asphalt on the runway at Homestead Air Reserve Base. The multi-million dollar project also includes a new runway and taxiway lighting system as well as new signs on the flight line. The project is scheduled to be completed in mid-February.**

**“Because [we] have 300 foot-wide runways, we can shut down half, and planes can still take off and land. That’s not typical of most Air Force flight lines.”**

**- Zachary Kluckowski, ACE project engineer**



**Looking straight down the runway, pilots have new pavement, fresh paint, and new lights and signs to help guide the way.**

# Base Christmas tradition continues

## Base personnel spread holiday spirit through toy drive

*Story and photo by Lisa M. Macias  
482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs*

Even though the journey from the North Pole is a far one, Santa Claus and the elves from Homestead Air Reserve Base made a special visit to the migrant children of Homestead this year.

On Dec. 22, volunteers from HARB visited the South Dade Christian Migrant Association and the Redland Daycare Center to hand out presents, give hugs, and spread the holiday spirit. With Santa Claus accompanying them, they made sure no child at the centers went without receiving a toy this Christmas.

The Christmas toy drive at HARB has been a tradition for more than

seven years. It involves various organizations from the base who join together to collect toys for children whose ages range from infant to ten years old.

This year's toy drive was particularly significant. Even with the disruptions from hurricanes and deployments, there were enough toys for every child.

Meei Hill, the toy drive coordinator, recalls how upon returning from her recent deployment from Iraq, she noticed all the empty toy boxes and asked herself, "How am I going to fill all these boxes?" Yet, the spirit of giving was not lost, and people from all over the base offered toys ranging from a doodle pad to an Elmo doll.

Mike Guerrero, duty desk supervisor for the 93d Fighter Squadron sponsored a classroom of children, giving ten toys. "I just give them something they can be happy with," he said. Mildred Cintron, one of the elves who works in the 482nd Fighter Wing Operations Group obtained toys in other ways, "We beg", she joked casually.

However the means, getting a toy meant a great deal to these children, whom otherwise, might not have had anything for Christmas. In total, over 332 children received a toy.

The toy drive ended on Christmas Day, when any leftover toys were donated to the Community Partnership for the Homeless.

**"The real essence of the holiday season is the joy of giving. The reward for your kindness will be seen in the eyes of each child as they open their gift."**

**— Huey Meei Hill**

### Contributing agencies

- Supply
- Fuels
- Maintenance
- Avionics
- Security Forces
- Operations
- Civil Engineers
- Medical



**Volunteers from Homestead Air Reserve Base collect toys for the annual Christmas toy drive. Volunteers wrapped and delivered the gifts to children from the Redland Christian Migrant Association. Over 332 children received a toy from Santa Claus and his elves this Christmas**



# Members win big at Falcon's Nest Club

By Jeff Carney

482nd Services Marketing Manager

The Falcon's Nest Club drew for the grand prize Dec. 4, and Earl Pringle was the winner of the 42" plasma television. Three other winners also benefited from local club membership, with a prize given each month of the three month membership drive.

The local prizes began with a 27" television, won by Timothy Crump. The following month saw Maurice Jackson win an RCA Entertainment System, and the winner of the digital camera was Paul Dreyer.

"We're always looking at ways to promote membership as well as take care of our current members," said Mr. Scott Ibarra, Falcon's Nest club manager. "We know many of our

members have been loyal for many years, and this is one way of saying thank you. Even when a member didn't win a prize, the food was free with free entertainment at each of our member's nights."

Each year, the Air Force hosts a membership drive with prizes available at the Air Force level. While the prizes are quite valuable, the odds of winning are relatively low, considering the number of Air Force club members. The Falcon's Nest Club enhanced this drive by giving away four prizes that would be drawn for at the membership nights, guaranteeing that local members benefited.

"We value our local club members. They are the people that we have relationships with, and they are the ones

that we serve," said Mr. Jess Holcomb, 482nd Services Chief. "By providing local prizes, the chances of winning became extremely high, and everyone involved could get excited".

Another club benefit coming in January is the breakfast buffet. It will be an all you can eat buffet. Cost to club members will be \$5.95 and \$6.95 for non-members. The buffet will run from 5:30 a.m. till 8 a.m. Monday through Friday.

"Having a place to come for a quality, sit-down breakfast buffet is a great option for our customers," said Ibarra. "In order to best serve a varied population of preferences and needs, the buffet will have a variety of foods and be all you can eat."



Photo by Lisa Macias

**Winners of the Homestead ARB 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Awards from left to right: Tech. Sgt. Ryan Kaono, NCO of the Quarter, Larry Carrier, Civilian of the Quarter, Senior Master Sgt. Larry Washington, Senior NCO of the Quarter, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Rusty Bradshaw, Junior Officer of the Quarter, Petty Officer Bryan Bane, Coast Guard Service Member of the Quarter, and Senior Airman Nghia Nguyen, Airman of the Quarter.**

## To Airman

Kristy Ayalarosado, 482nd SFS

## To Senior Airman

Candi McConnell, 70th APS  
Benjamin Ortiz, 482nd SFS  
Camilo Canoa, 482nd MXS  
Theodore Bennett, 482nd AMXS  
Mark Prohaska, 482nd MDS  
Gregory McMahel, 482nd LRS  
James Todd, 482nd AMXS  
Theodore Padgett, 482nd AMXS

## Promotions

### To Staff Sgt.

Jason Haglund, 482nd MXS  
Gregory Freeman, 482nd CES  
Ivanosky Robleto, 482nd LRS  
Shaun Stevens, 70th APS  
Ryan Simpson, 482nd MXS  
Dominick Jamison, 482nd LRS  
Crystal Madison, 482nd MDS  
Arturo Santiagovazquez, 70th APS

### To Tech. Sgt.

Patricia Troncoso, 482nd CES  
Frederick Corcoran, 482nd CES  
Robert Meade, 482nd AMXS  
Donald Waller, 482nd SVS  
Mario Daronco, 482nd MXS  
Jorge Alvarez, 482nd FW

### To Master Sgt.

Lester Hardy, 70th APS  
Guy Turpen, 482nd AMXS



*Photo by Senior Airman Sandra Bueno*  
 Above: Lt. Col. Guy B. Lindholm took command of the 70th Aerial Port Squadron on Dec. 3. The 187 members of the 70th APS are responsible for loading cargo and passengers on aircraft here at Homestead ARB.



*Photo by Senior Airman Sandra Bueno*  
 Above: Lt. Col. Jose R. Montegudo assumed command of the 93rd Fighter Squadron on Dec. 3. The 93rd FS is scheduled to increase from 17 to 26 F-16 'Mako' fighter jets in the future.



*Photo by Lisa Macias*  
 Above: Base employees mobilized on Dec. 16 at building 178 for the largest potluck luncheon in town, known on base as the annual Unity Feast. Anthony Rubio of the 482nd FW Command Section drew numbers in a lottery style method to determine which lucky employees were allowed to eat first.



*Photo by Lisa Macias*  
 Right: Lt. Col. Tracy Hunt, 482nd Operations Group Deputy Commander, escorts Homestead City Councilwoman Lynda Bell to her seat in an F-16 'Mako.' Bell received an incentive ride for her constant support of Homestead ARB over the years.



Above: During the family day festivities on Dec. 4, children were treated to weapons displays from the 482nd Security Forces Squadron. The children also got a visit from Santa, played in the 'bounce house' and had their faces painted by a few clown volunteers from the base.

## Family Day 2005

*Photos by Senior Airman Sandra Bueno*

Right: Dave Cavada of the Base Fire Department was one of several members on base who gave a special tour for the children and families attending family day on Dec. 4. Children and families were taken to the 93rd Fighter Squadron, the Base Fire Department and the aircraft hangers on base.



Left: Families participated in games throughout the day, such as an 'egg toss' and sack races. There was also a softball tournament and plenty of food for everyone who showed up.

# Air Force Reserve fighters destroy terrorist hideout

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFRC) – Air Force Reserve Command F-16 pilots bombed a booby-trapped house near Al Mahmudiyah, Iraq, Nov. 23.

Anti-Iraqi forces had attacked Iraqi army soldiers with an improvised explosive device two days earlier. When coalition ground forces secured the area, they discovered the booby-trapped house, which had been used as a terrorist hideout.

After an explosive ordnance disposal team investigated the house and cleared the area of civilians, the F-16s dropped 500-pound, precision-guided bombs and destroyed the target.

The precision-guided bombs used on the F-16s are the GBU-38 Joint Direct Attack Munitions. JDAMs are designed to reduce collateral damage, limit unintended casualties and take the fight to enemy insurgents. These munitions autonomously navigate to designated target coordinates, which

can be loaded into the aircraft before takeoff or manually altered by the aircrew before release.

Air Force Reserve F-16 pilots and support people are in Southwest Asia on a rotational basis until February. Reservists from the 482nd Fighter Wing, Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., deployed in September. Other F-16 crews from the 301st FW, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas, arrived in October to replace them. Citizen Airmen from the 419th FW, Hill AFB, Utah, and 944th FW, Luke AFB, Ariz., are slated to go overseas later this year and early next year.

The reservists are flying aircraft from the Reserve units in Florida, Texas and Utah. While deployed, they belong to the 332nd Expeditionary Fighter Squadron at Balad Air Base, Iraq.

Since January 2005 there have been more than 480 air strikes against insurgent staging areas, buildings where anti-Coalition forces are hiding, motor-firing sites, improvised explosive device locations and weapons caches. More than 15,000 air strike missions have been flown in 2005 providing close-air support for Coalition ground forces involved in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

## Leadership seminar

The 482nd FW will be conducting a leadership seminar on February 3, at 12:30 p.m., in building 360, room 131. This training is for NCO's that have or will have leadership positions in the future. All interested Master Sgts, Tech Sgts and Staff Sgts, including current or prospective supervisors from any squadron may participate. Contact your First Sgt with your intent to participate and with your Commander's approval, you will be on your way to improving your leadership abilities. The class will fill up quickly with accommodations for only 24 members.

## Memorial golf tournament

The 6<sup>th</sup> annual Gumby/Dago Memorial golf tournament is scheduled to take place Jan. 27 at Key's Gate Golf Course in Homestead. The tournament honors the memories of Maj. Thomas 'Gumby' Carr and Maj. Samuel 'Dago' D' Angelo, both who died in service to their country. Proceeds from the event are used to provide college scholarships and donations to local charities. For more information contact Maj. Dave Chaney at (305) 439-2915, or email [david.chaney@bellsouth.net](mailto:david.chaney@bellsouth.net)



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. John E. Lasky

**BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq (AFPN) — F-16 Fighting Falcons taxi toward the end of runway inspection area here. The aircraft are currently supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. The F-16 Fighting Falcon is a compact, multi-role fighter aircraft. It is highly maneuverable and has proven itself in air-to-air combat and air-to-surface attack. It provides a relatively low-cost, high-performance weapon system for the United States and allied nations.**