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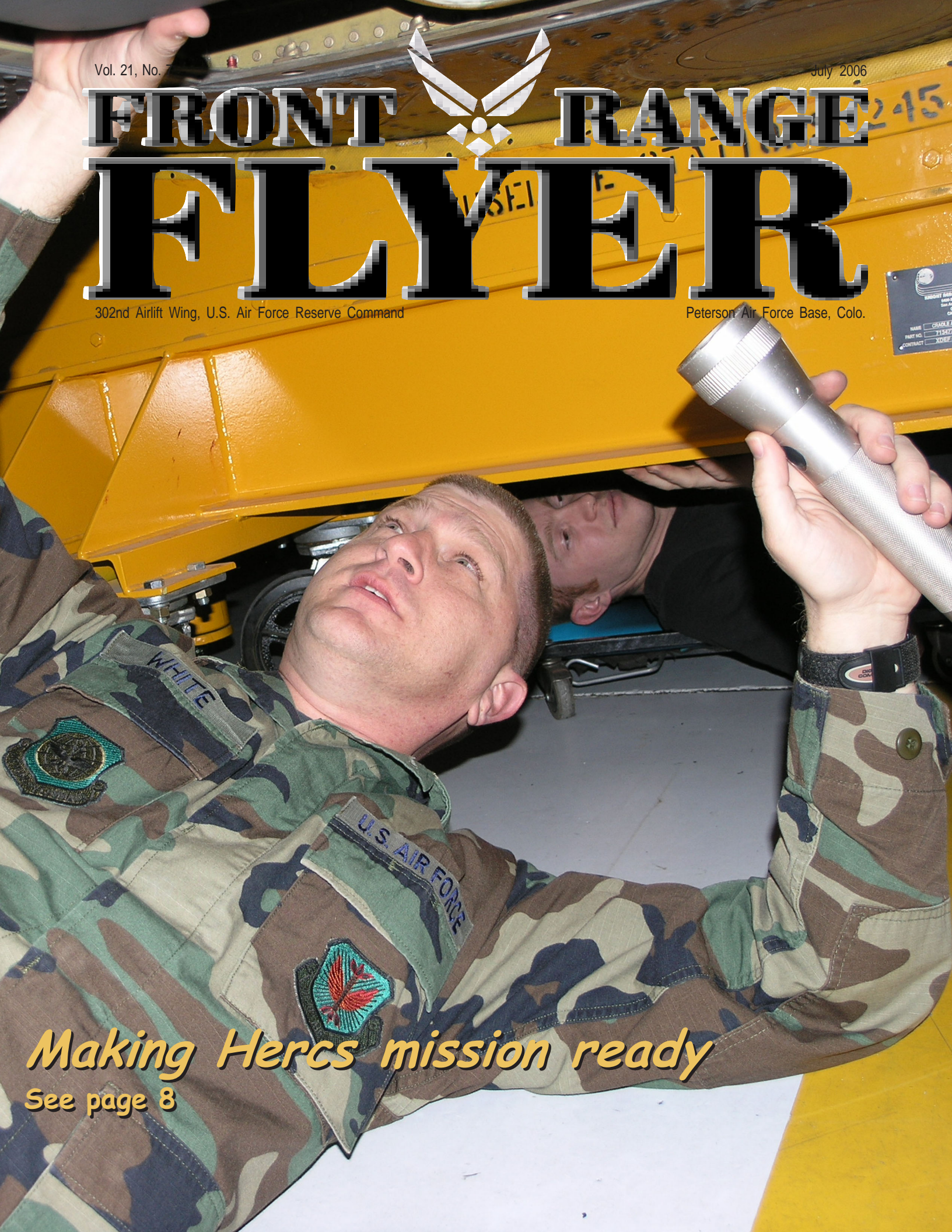
July 2006

FRONT  RANGE

NUMBER

302nd Airlift Wing, U.S. Air Force Reserve Command

Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.



Making Hercs mission ready

See page 8



Front Range Flyer
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Internal

<https://wwwmil.afrc.af.mil/302aw/welcome.htm>

External

<http://www.afrc.af.mil/302AW>

Displaying pride through performance

By **Col. Andrew McMahon**
302nd AW vice commander

I was recently given the opportunity to visit our 302nd Airlift Wing airmen deployed to U.S. Central Command in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. I've always known what great people we have in our wing. However, after witnessing firsthand what our men and women are accomplishing while deployed, I can truly say that I am honored to be associated with such a fine group of professionals.

Deployed units of the 302nd AW continue to set records for mission reliability and on-time takeoff rates. We are consistently exceeding previous records for number of sorties flown, number of passengers transported, and tons of cargo carried. Most importantly though, is that every passenger who rides on one of our C-130s is another individual who isn't risking his or her life traveling in a land-based convoy. Our efforts are saving lives!

Our deployed members are performing phenomenally in spite of adverse weather (it was already reaching temperatures of 110 degrees in May), long and sometimes frustrating work days, and extended separations from family and loved ones. 731st Airlift Squadron aircrews are flying daily combat missions, using the latest tactics to avoid threats from ground-based weapons. Intel-

ligence, tactics, and life support personnel ensure they have the most current information and tools to accomplish their missions. 302nd Maintenance Group personnel are keeping our Hercs in top shape, working long hours on the ramp, where the temperatures can be even 10 to 15 degrees warmer. Continuous blowing sand makes their job even more difficult. I was pleased to see everyone from the 302nd AW working together as a team to accomplish an important, life-saving mission.

Our accomplishments haven't gone unnoticed by the senior active duty officers that we work with in the desert. They expressed to me their confidence in our abilities and their thanks for our participation in the



Col. Andrew McMahon

Total Force. They know that the experience and maturity of our reservists is a given. We have become a definite asset to the deployed expeditionary air wings.

Our wing's performance and record-breaking accomplishments can be traced directly to the professionalism, enthusiasm, and dedication of our airmen. In short, our deployed members are exemplifying to the highest degree the Air Force's core values: Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence In All We Do.

To the deployed men and women of the 302nd AW – thank you again for your service and sacrifice. I am honored to be a part of your wing!

On the cover

Mission ready



Master Sgt. Tracey White, 302nd and Technical Sgt. Matthew Youkey, Maintenance Squadron integrated avionics system technicians, inspect the underbelly of a C-130 during its annual isochronal inspection. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton)

UTA Schedule

Next UTA: July 8-9

Aug. 5-6
Sept. 9-10

The next UTA schedule is printed in more detail on page 14. The *Front Range Flyer* is mailed each month to all 302nd Airlift Wing members on file with Personnel Systems. If you are not receiving your magazine, check with your orderly room or administration section to ensure your address is correct.

Being a reservist recharges my battery



By Senior Airman Jessica E. Andrews
302nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron
unit public affairs representative

I've never left after a unit training assembly without learning something. Those two days a month that I spend at Peterson Air Force Base may seem insignificant to some on the outside, but I know they aren't.

As reservists, most of us work for most of the month leading up to our drill weekend. If we handle extra duties there's definitely planning and preparation prior to and then residual details to handle after the weekend is over. Not to mention, since we are only there for two days, it's as if a month's work is compressed into that little weekend.

I know we work hard and we spend a lot of time preparing to be deployable. We spend a lot of that weekend getting mission ready, and that's not easy to do in such a short amount of time.

Sometimes the extra demands of this life, in addition to my civilian job, can get overwhelming, but by the time I leave my week-

end and head back to Denver, I feel as if I've recharged my battery.

I always come home with a renewed sense of spirit. Whether I learned something new through my training, mentoring from an officer, or observing a fellow airman, I become a better civilian. When I hear stories on the news about politics and military affairs, I now have a vested interest. I am the "go-to" person with my friends when they have a question about the war. I may not be an expert, but I have a perspective now that I didn't have before joining the Air Force.

I know that I am a part of something special. My father grew up in communist Bulgaria and tells me stories about getting thrown in jail just for speaking his opinion. He longed to come to America and give his family the freedoms he didn't have growing up. The United States of America is an incredible country; there is no denying that!

As I drive off base every month after my UTA, I know that I play a small role in defending our country – and that is the greatest feeling in the world.

Senior Airman Jessica Andrews, 302nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron diet therapy technician, is also on the Junior Enlisted Advisory Council and a unit public affairs representative. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Derrick M. Gildner)

Seamless integration key to pride in uniform wear

By Command Chief Master Sgt. Kirby D. Schueler
302nd AW Command Chief
Master Sergeant

Over the last two years this wing continues an unprecedented history of recurring successes. The individual and corporate pride that we all share during our nation's time of war is something we'll all remember forever. These are the things that bring us closer together and separate us from the rest of the pack. I couldn't be more proud of the men and women of this wing and their accomplishments, and I know Colonel James J. Muscatell Jr., 302nd Airlift Wing commander, feels very much the same way.

However, we have this one small dark cloud over our heads and I would like to see a concerted effort on all our parts to

correct it. When the public affairs office comes to me and says; "Chief, we literally have hundreds of photos of our men and women in action, but we can't use them because of uniform infractions," I take notice. Most of you take great pride in your appearance in uniform and that contributes to the seamless integration with our fellow active duty and reserve component units; for that I am very thankful.

I am always a little mystified when the greatest problems that we seem to face in uniform are the simplest infractions. How tough is it to find a plain black or brown T-shirt to wear with your uniform? And if you chose to wear a black T-shirt of your favorite rock band or MAFFS season, how hard is it to understand that you can't remove your blouse, not even in your

immediate work place? Is it that hard to keep your sunglasses off the top of your head, or not have them hanging around your neck?

I think Lance Armstrong is an exceptional athlete and his fight for cancer is laudable, but how tough is it to understand that you can't wear the cute little rubber bracelet in uniform – his or any other?

How you maintain your uniform is a direct reflection of the person. If you don't pay attention to simple Air Force guidance concerning the wear of the uniform, do you also cut corners at work? Does it compromise safety?

You and I all took the same oath – support and defend, obey the orders of the officers appointed over me, etc. We belong to a military organization made up of rules that help us govern one another and promote good

order and discipline. You do not have the right to choose the rules you will obey and those you won't and I don't have any choice but to enforce them.

If you are a supervisor and you are not enforcing these standards, you are not only robbing your personnel of opportunities to be recognized, you make it that much harder for the rest of us to enforce. You must remember that you are shaping our future – that's a huge responsibility.

I have asked the Junior Enlisted Advisory Council to police themselves and get involved in the appearance of their own. There's nothing like peer pressure! They enthusiastically agreed.

I think it's time that our successes in the air and on the ground are reflected in the pride we also take in our uniform.



Balad Air Base, Iraq, is home to first forward-based squadron of C-130 cargo aircraft in a combat zone. To reduce traffic on the most dangerous roads in Iraq, The 777th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron has moved more than 13,000 truckloads of cargo by air since January reducing the number of troops exposed to roadside bombs and attacks. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Drew Oquendo)

Busiest in DOD, Balad Air Base sets new record

By Lt. Col.
Bob Thompson

*332d Air Expeditionary
Wing Public Affairs*

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq – The busiest single runway in DOD broke its own record with a traffic count of more than 1,300 cargo aircraft for the month of May.

Second in the world only to London's Heathrow Airport, Balad AB beat its previous cargo aircraft record by more than 100 for the number of aircraft that fly in and out of a single-runway airport.

"There is no more strategic location in Iraq than here," said Brig. Gen. Frank

Gorenc, 332d Air Expeditionary Wing commander. "This wing and Balad Air Base are not only helping Iraq transition to democracy, but are also keeping thousands of Soldiers off the roads every month."

Since October 2004, the base has served as a central hub for airlift missions and has the busiest aerial port in Iraq. From this hub, the cargo is flown out like spokes from the center of a wheel.

The 332d AEW is the first Air Force wing to ever forward-base a squadron of C-130 cargo aircraft in a combat zone.

"Every time one of our aircraft flies, that is a truck that doesn't have to drive on the streets of Iraq," said Lt. Col. Dan Dagher, 777th Expeditionary Airlift

Squadron commander. "We've helped the Army reduce traffic on the most dangerous routes in Iraq."

The use of C-130s flying more in-theater airlift missions has reduced the number of ground convoys needed in the Sunni triangle – the previous home of Saddam Hussein's powerbase and much of today's insurgent activity. By reducing the convoys driving in the area inside Tikrit, Ar Ramadi and just south of Baghdad, C-130 cargo missions have reduced the number of troops exposed to possible roadside bombs and attacks.

"There is a lot less threat to aircraft than to trucks along the roads," Colonel Dagher said. "Our unit moves the equivalent of about 30 truckloads of cargo

per day. That's 30 trucks that don't have to go into harm's way."

Since January, the unit has moved more than 13,000 truckloads of people, equipment and cargo. In addition to reducing Army convoy operations, the airlift squadron flies aeromedical evacuations and moves detainees to prisons.

"Airlift is critical to the success of coalition efforts," General Gorenc said. "We have the busiest aerial port in Iraq. Despite manning levels well below normal aerial ports and the harsh expeditionary conditions, we are able to move as much as most permanent bases because of a tremendous mission focus. I am very proud of this operation."

302nd AW Family Day 2006 set for Aug. 5

By Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton
Front Range Flyer

The 302nd Airlift Wing Family Day is in the final planning stages, and will be held Aug. 5 with festivities set to get underway at 11 a. m. This year's family day will include more activities, and allow wing reservists and family members the ability to display their athletic prowess.

The 302nd Services Flight will be sponsoring double-elimination 6-person volleyball and 10-person softball tournaments.

"We wanted to do something new to family day," said Master Sgt. Audra Maryland, 302nd SVF NCO in charge of fitness and recreation. "We want the softball and volleyball tournaments to be similar to the annual bowling tournament, and pit individual squadrons against each other with idea of focusing on friendly competition."

Friendly competition should also be the theme of the day for this year's golf tournament which has been one of the regularly scheduled events during past family days.

"I'm not sure yet what the format for this year's golf tournament will be," said Master Sgt. Billye Adams, 302nd Logistics Readiness Squadron logistics plans manager. "It will be for people to meet, and have a great time. Family day by its very nature is for families, but we need to ensure those



As always, the annual 302nd Airlift Wing Family Day will provide plenty of attractions for kids of all ages. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Derrick M. Gildner)

who will not have families present for one reason or another are also able to participate."

Other events scheduled will include a jumping castle and bungee-run for kids, and information booths, free food and musical entertainment provided by the U.S. Air Force

Academy Band for all wing reservists and family members.

Most events taking place throughout the afternoon will be held in hangar 210, Bay 1. The 302nd AW Chief's Group will grill hamburgers and hotdogs, while the 302nd AW First Sergeant's Council will conduct a dart-throwing contest, and provide prizes for those participating. A photograph booth will be available for children to have their pictures taken.

Family members will also get a first-hand look at military weaponry and vehicles courtesy of the 302nd Security Forces Squadron.

"Weapons will include the M-4 rifle, M-9 Baretta hand-gun, and M-240 and M-249 machine guns," said Tech. Sgt. Elroy "Yak" Cormier, 302nd SFS assistant NCO in charge of training. "Vehicles on display near our weapons tent will be all-terrain vehicles and Humvees." Motorcycle patrolmen from the Colorado Springs Police Department will also be available to answer questions.

"It's an aggressive family day schedule," said Command Chief Master Sgt. Kirby Schueler, 302nd AW command chief. "We've

**Family Day continued
on page 14**

Colorado Springs Sky Sox honoring military on Sundays

The Colorado Springs Sky Sox, Triple-A affiliate of the Colorado Rockies, is holding Military Salute Sundays at all Sunday home games.

Active duty, retired, activated reservists and guardsmen, Department of Defense members and families will enjoy reserved seating discounted to \$2.50 per

ticket for groups of 20 or more booking in advance. Book your group with the Peterson Air Force Base ITR/ITT Office or Sky Sox stadium box office at 591-SOXX (7699). Half-price will be offered on all tickets purchased at the Security Service Field box office with ID.

Ceremonial first pitches can be

made by unit commanders or representatives for groups of 75 or more. Groups of 20 or more will be recognized at each game over the public address system and scoreboard. Hails and farewells, reenlistments, etc. can be



arranged in advance. Remaining scheduled dates are July 16, 1:05 p.m., vs. Fresno; Aug. 6, 6:05 p.m., vs. Albuquerque; Aug. 13, 1:05 p.m., vs. Salt Lake; and Sept. 3, 1:05 p.m. vs. Sacramento. Gates open one hour prior to game time.

Wing schedules Operational Readiness Exercise events

Monday, July 10

8-12:00 a.m., Base auditorium, all chalks report for in-brief, Airman's Manual training. Due to limited parking, carpooling is recommended. Do not use the primary Base Exchange and Commissary parking lots. Please park along Vincent and Otis streets and the main auditorium lot.

12:00 a.m.-1 p.m., Lunch

1-4:30 p.m., Resume Airman's Manual training

Tuesday, July 11

7 a.m., All chalks report to unit assembly points

7:30 a.m., Half of chalks transported to Pete East for station training

7:30 a.m., Other half of chalks perform unit assembly activities and deployment processing

Pete East Chalks

8-11:30 a.m., Station training

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Lunch (cost is \$3.55 cash for anyone on RPA, MPA or AT orders)

12:30-4 p.m., Station training

5 p.m., Return to unit assembly points

Unit Assembly/Deployment Processing Chalks

8-12:45 a.m., Bag drag, Personnel Readiness Folder check, check/update vRED, etc.

1-4:30 p.m., Deployment processing

5 p.m., Return to unit assembly points

Wednesday, July 12

Same as Tuesday, except chalks perform opposite activity from that of previous day

Thursday, July 13

7 a.m., All chalks report to unit assembly points

7:30 a.m., Cargo teams report for cargo training (location to be determined)

7:30 a.m., All remaining personnel transported to Pete East for Contamination Control and Avoidance training

Cargo Training

To be determined, lunch break in accordance with instructors' wishes

CCA Training

8-11:30 a.m., CCA training

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Lunch (cost is \$3.55 cash if you are on RPA, MPA or AT orders)

12:30-4 p.m., CCA training

5 p.m., Return to unit assembly points

Friday, July 14

8-9 a.m., Base auditorium, out-brief for all chalks

9 a.m., Troops released to units

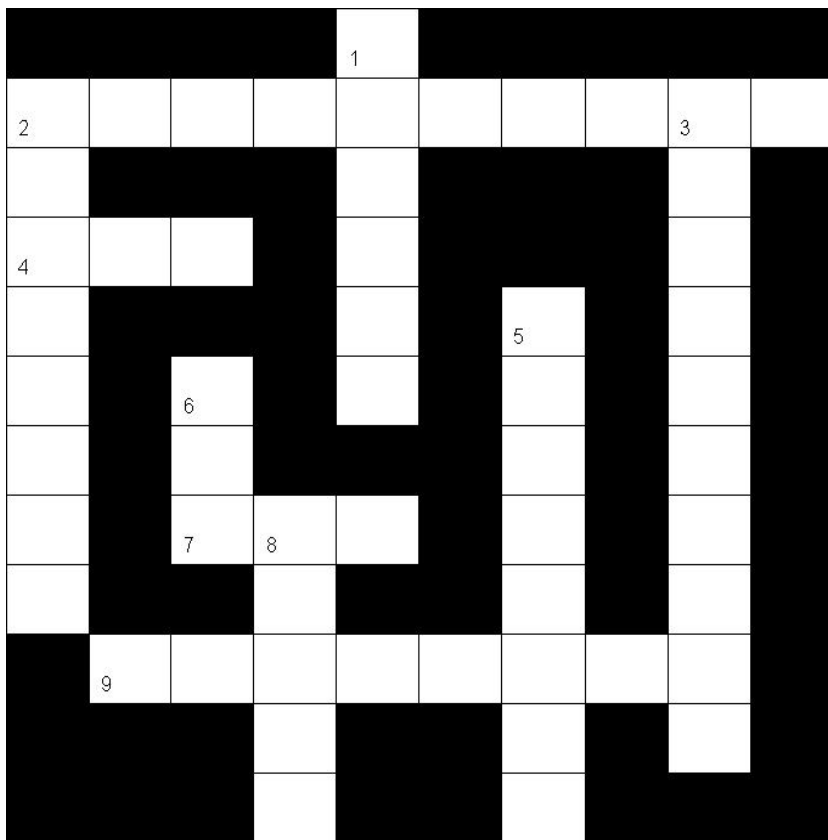
Note – Times are subject to change for weather and transportation problems. See your UDM for all schedule changes.

Operational Readiness Inspection Crossword

The Operational Readiness Inspection is around the corner and every Air Force member should be familiar with Air

Force Manual 10-100, Airman's Manual.

This month's puzzle is from Section 2 "DEPLOY."



ACROSS

2. Pretreat uniform with _____.
4. Protect Facilities—close all facility windows, turn _____ ventilation systems
8. Acronym _____—focal points for unit command and control functions.
9. The key components to self-maintenance are basic: get sufficient sleep, eat a healthy and balanced diet, and participate in a regular _____ program.

DOWN

1. _____ fire safety, alarms, alarm locations, reporting, evacuation.
2. Alarm Yellow—attack _____ in less than 30 minutes.
3. The _____ Explosive Device (IED) Threat.
5. Arrival actions include in-processing, status briefings, and palletized _____ bag retrieval.
6. Passive defense are measures _____ take to lessen damage from enemy attack.
7. A _____ mess kit helps prevent food borne illnesses.

Answers on page 14

FLASH 25 in-flight emergency

By Staff Sgt.
Derrick M. Gildner
Front Range Flyer

Master Sgt. Erik Harris had no idea his civilian job would be the most important skill he would be bringing with him during a flight transporting a congressional delegation on Jan. 23.

Sergeant Harris, 731st Airlift Squadron loadmaster, took his seat alongside the door in the rear of the C-130 and began the process of visual threat recognition to ensure the aircraft's safety from surface-to-air threats. Thirty minutes into the flight he heard chatter over the headset that there was a medical emergency in progress.

Sergeant Harris, a 35 year-old paramedic at Denver Health Medical Center since 1999 in Parker, Colo., reacted as if he was on an ambulance call. With the C-130 filled to passenger capacity, Sergeant Harris had to be somewhat creative with his limited space and lack of medical equipment.

"A passenger ended up on the floor after having what appeared to be a seizure," said Maj. Robert Weimer, aircraft commander for Flash 25.

A civilian on the flight had become unresponsive, requiring immediate medical attention.

"Sergeant Harris used part of a flight helmet and portable oxygen tanks to maintain a flow of oxygen to the unconscious passenger," said Maj. Robert Weimer.

"Actually everybody was helping me," said Sergeant Harris. "The passengers would pass empty oxygen bottles to the rear of the aircraft to be refilled by the other loadmaster in the rear of the aircraft."

"Sergeant Harris was a great asset for the situation that was happening, he got the passenger started on CPR and oxygen, while the rest of the flight crew started coming up with a plan to get the passenger to ground medical forces," said Chief Richard Kite, 731st Airlift Squadron flight engineer.

"The crew worked great together and Sergeant Harris even received some assistance with the fallen passenger from the congressmen and their staff on board," said Chief Kite.

"We were extremely fortunate to have Sergeant Harris expertise as a crew resource," said Maj. Weimer.

"The mission was challenging enough without the medical emergency; having high caliber crewmembers like Sergeant Harris makes the situation seem routine," said Maj. Weimer.



Master Sgt. Erik Harris, 731st Airlift Squadron loadmaster, is currently deployed in the Middle East in support of ongoing operations with C-130s. In January, Sergeant Harris and fellow crewmembers helped save the life of a passenger during a high priority mission with US congressional delegates en route to Afghanistan. (Air Force Courtesy Photo)

Annual tour brings international attention to 302nd ASTS

By Senior Airman
Jessica E. Andrews
302nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron unit public affairs representative

RAMSTEIN AIR FORCE BASE, Germany (AFRC) – Everything started off status quo on the morning of May 30. Several members of the 302nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron

were performing annual tour at Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany. They were assigned to the Contingency Aeromedical Staging Facility. It was their first day on the job - they processed paperwork, stocked and loaded the vehicles, and prepared to transport patients that arrive into Germany to the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center or hold them at the CASF. Little did they

know, just doing their daily job would land them on CNN.

Suddenly, they were caught up in an unexpected media frenzy. CBS News correspondent Kimberly Dozier was critically wounded in Iraq by a bomb that killed cameraman Paul Douglas and soundman James Brolan. She was brought in for treatment at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, where

the 302nd members transported the wounded journalist to the hospital. At the time her condition was critical, and she was treated for multiple injuries with wounds to her head and legs.

The three journalists, who were embedded with the 4th

**ASTS Continued
on page 12**

Security forces members carry Flame of Hope

By Capt. Dave Lehrman
302nd Security Forces
Squadron commander

On May 25, more than 100 local law enforcement officers, including three 302nd

Security Forces Squadron members, carried the Special Olympics Colorado torch, the Flame of Hope, through the streets of El Paso and Teller counties. It's all part of the Law Enforcement Torch Run, an international event, which law enforcement personnel

raise awareness and funds for Special Olympics athletes.

Air Force security forces were well represented this year throughout the run with security forces members from Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station, Schriever Air Force Base, U.S. Air Force Academy and Peterson AFB (both active duty and Reserve) participating in various legs.

The 302nd members, Capt. Dave Lehrman, 302nd SFS commander, Master Sgt. Rob Wilson, 302nd SFS senior air reserve technician, and Tech. Sgt. Elroy "Yak" Cormier, 302nd SFS combat arms NCO, ran the 5.5 mile leg from the Colorado Springs Police Operations Center to Goose Gossage Park, along with officers from CSPD and local FBI field office agents.

"It was a hot day, but we ran a good pace and it was done before I even knew it," said Sergeant Cormier.

Sergeant Wilson also enjoyed the run and the opportunity to talk, albeit with short breath, with other members of the local law enforcement community as he ran.

"We plan on doing this again next year with more people. It's a great cause and was a great experience."



Master Sgt. Rob Wilson (right), 302nd Security Forces Squadron senior air reserve technician, leads the pack during the annual Special Olympics Torch Run through Colorado Springs on May 25. Sergeant Wilson was joined by fellow SFS teammates Capt. Dave Lehrman, 302nd SFS commander, and Technical Sgt. Elroy Cormier, 302nd SFS combat arms NCO. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Derrick M. Gildner)

Air Force physical training uniform is only PT gear authorized

The only approved physical training uniform wear for Air Force members deploying to or traveling in the U.S. Central Command Area of Responsibility will be the official Air Force PT uniform, according to Steve Mann, Air Force Reserve Command director of personnel.

The wear of civilian PT gear will no longer be allowed at CENTCOM locations. This requirement will apply to any Air Force member transiting the AOR to include transient aircrew.

The change was made effective June 10.

Prior to deploying to the CENTCOMAOR, enlisted members should be issued the PT uniform by their assigned units (officers are not authorized issue of the PT uniform).

The PT uniform is available in AAFES stores worldwide. To find the nearest AAFES outlet,

go to www.aafes.com, click on store locator, log in, and select the desired region.

In the event enlisted personnel proceed to the AOR without the PT uniform, they will be required to purchase the uniform through AAFES and will not be allowed reimbursement.



Happy Birthday United States of America

230 years young

July 4, 2006



ISO dock helps increase mission capable rates

By Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton
Front Range Flyer

Mission capability and aircraft take-off rates for the 302nd Airlift Wing C-130s during recent overseas deployments have far exceeded expectations.

"We continue to surpass and establish flying records while operating in the most austere environments," said Col. Andrew T. McMahon, 302nd Airlift Wing vice commander, during a recent 302nd Maintenance Group change-of-command ceremony. "Maintenance and repair of our aircraft continues to be superb, even when we consider the high number of flying hours our aircraft are putting in."

Maintenance members activated in August 2005 have been supporting flying operations in support of U.S. Central Command contingency operations for Iraqi Freedom and Enduring

Freedom.

According to 302nd MXG records, the maintainers have helped the wing achieve an overall 94.9 percent mission capability rate during an average of 800 monthly flying hours through the current activation period.

None of this, however, could be possible without preventative maintenance. That's where the 302nd Maintenance Flight isochronical maintenance section members and other support personnel come in. Each of the wing's 15 aircraft goes through a rigorous comprehensive and de-



Tech. Sgts. Howard Ertle (left) and Jason Wiley, 302nd Maintenance Squadron aircraft maintenance journeymen, inspect the instrument panel of a C-130 aircraft during an annual isochronical inspection. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton)

**ISO dock
continued on
page 10**

Life goes on in Southwest Asia for 'nation at war'

By Master Sgt. Heldwin Brito
*302nd Maintenance Squadron
unit public affairs representative*

We are a nation at war. Brig. Gen. Ted Kresge, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing commander, reminded everyone of this fact and was straight forward when he briefed a group of new arrivals in Southwest Asia. He reassured everyone that our efforts were the main driving force in keeping air supremacy and pressuring the enemy to be on the defense. He also encouraged everyone to make this place better, meet new people and learn something new.

"Go home a changed person, a better person," he said.

One can find subtle reminders all over the base of why we are here. They come in the form of pictures, sculptures and military discipline. You can find sculptures in the chow



Tech. Sgt. Clay Keller, 302nd Maintenance Squadron aerospace propulsion craftsman, hits the fitness center while deployed. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Heldwin Brito)

hall of the twin towers as well as a picture of the fireman draping a huge American flag over a wounded Pentagon. We are reminded of some powerful images of our air su-

premacy that are synchronized to the national anthem before a movie starts at the theatre, reminders of what are we fighting for and that the war is not yet over.

At the newcomer's squadron briefing we saw the images of 9-11 and other terrorist acts. Maj. Bruce Winhold, 379th EMXS section commander, drove the point home saying that these are bad dudes who are ruthless and don't play by the rules.

"We play a key role in sustaining the Air Force mission by delivering the air power necessary to take the war to the enemy," said the major.

The 302nd Airlift Wing is part of the coalition sustaining that Air Force mission. The 302nd continues to excel in maintaining airlift support here in Southwest Asia. The base provides 60 percent of air support for the Area of Responsibility, which includes parts of Africa.

"We have met all of our missions," said

Life continued on page 10

ISO dock continued from page 9

tailed inspection at least once a calendar year depending on flying hours.

“We take an in-depth look at all our aircraft,” said Senior Master Sgt. Bob Wagstaff, 302nd

Maintenance Flight chief. “A lot of cleaning and cosmetic work is done during an isochronal inspection. It sets the tone for the whole year. Our mission capable rate has been phenomenal in the desert, and it comes right back to the processes performed by our ISO dock section and the

supporting specialty shops. It’s a total team effort within the maintenance squadron.”

The ISO dock team is comprised of 51 people including air reserve technicians and traditional reservists. By the very nature of their work, it’s not hard for every section member to be knowledgeable about the wing’s aircraft.

“Discrepancies are discovered which are normally not found during the year,” said Sergeant Wagstaff. “We take hundreds of panels off the aircraft. Corrosion, stress cracks and other problem areas are identified.”

“Here in the dock, our goal is to de-panel, inspect, fix, re-panel and fly,” said Tech. Sgt. Joe Prebish, ISO dock maintenance supervisor. “We’ve had 16 Alpha one, or maintenance-free flights, out of the dock in the last year which helps our guys who are deployed.” Less time fixing, means more time flying. The reason we do what we do is

to ensure the aircraft will fly virtually maintenance-free for a year. We manage 10 different specialty shops to be able to get on the aircraft and work their specific areas of concern.”

Newly arriving personnel are indoctrinated immediately into how things are accomplished within the ISO dock section.

“We just got two new guys in from tech school,” said Sergeant Wagstaff. “This is a great place for them to learn the aircraft inside and out. All the work being done is in a pleasant work environment. We have a nice facility and our people know what they’re here for. That’s important for our wing mission.”

Supporting the mission does not always mean just performing regular maintenance on aircraft.

“We’re constantly inspecting aircraft,” said Sergeant Wagstaff, “but our guys will also augment the wing’s flight line personnel for deployments. Middle East, stateside, they’re qualified for flight line duty; and can augment contingencies anywhere in the world.”



Master Sgt. Richard Cross, 302nd Maintenance Squadron aircraft maintenance journeyman inspector, inspects the hydraulic lines on one of a C-130 aircraft during an annual isochronal inspection. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton)

Life continued from page 9

Chief Master Sergeant Joe Hanley, 379th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron NCO in charge. “Everyone works together to get the job done. It makes me feel good that I know when there is pallet full of supplies delivered to the theatre there is one less truck on the road in harm’s way.”

Working together is crucial in a wartime environment and this is our time to shine.

“We step out of our job description to help any way we can to complete the mission and to get things done,” said Tech. Sgt. Cody Ingemansen, 379th EAMXS propulsion technician.

By flying Combined Task Force/Horn of Africa missions, we support humanitarian efforts and fighting the war on terror.

“It is a place like no other,” said Tech. Sgt. Mike Redmond, 379th EAMXS crew

chief. The land is hot and full of wildlife.

“It is like National Geographic out there,” said Sergeant Redmond. He added that the hospital will supply you with a packet of malaria pills necessary for the trip. “We provide food, equipment and personnel not only for our troops, but for the African people of Kenya, Djibouti, Ethiopia, and Somalia just to name a few. Our missions are providing stability and peacekeeping in Africa.”

This Southwest Asian base is a mixture of active duty, reservists, guardsman and others, such as the Australians and British, forming the coalition force.

Most facilities are open 24/7 to accommodate round-the-clock work schedules. Chow halls are constantly feeding hungry crowds at all hours. The desserts are a favorite item among the troops.

To work off those unwanted pounds gained by overindulgences the fitness centers are also manned 24/7. They offer all

types of physical training classes and sports competitions. A personal trainer can help you develop a training routine. They even have a salsa instructor if you want to break a sweat to the Latin rhythm.

Within a short walking distance of our dorms are bathroom facilities known as “Cadillacs.” This is an upgrade from the old “Pontiacs” that were a bit more primitive and not very popular with the troops. Showers are limited to three minutes in an effort to conserve water; a precious commodity in this environment.

Still, life goes on for a nation at war. The base exchange carries many items from electronics to clothing and personal hygiene products. There are a few local vendors selling jewelry and paintings and you can even have a tailor-made suit for a reasonable price. Several “fast food” establishments are here to satisfy that special “back home” craving.

Wear of AFRC patch becomes mandatory Oct. 1

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – Air Force Reserve Command is in the process of making the wear of the AFRC patch mandatory on battle dress uniforms and flight suits for unit reservists and headquarters staffers.

These people, who include those assigned to the AFRC headquarters and the Air Reserve Personnel Center, can start wearing the patch now. Oct. 1 is the mandatory wear date.

The new patch policy does not apply to mobilization assistants, individual mobilization augmentees and full-time members of the Active Guard and Reserve assigned outside the command.

“Our Air Force reservists are proud to be Airmen in our Air Force today. As we try

our best to be an ‘Unrivaled Wingman,’ we are proud of our heritage as Citizen Airmen. Our people want to be recognized as reservists,” said Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, AFRC commander.

“As an Air Force major command, we wear our command patch so people know who we are,” the general said. “We have been a major command for over nine years. Our folks deserve to be recognized for the great work they do for our Air Force and our nation. We are ‘One Air Force, Same Fight...an Unrivaled Wingman.’”

The AFRC patch will go on the right

breast pocket. Unit commanders may approve the wear of one sewn-on, subdued patch on the left breast pocket, either a numbered air force, wing or squadron organizational patch. That patch will be centered between the left and right edges and the bottom of the flap and the bottom of the pocket.

People assigned to the area of responsibility will follow the guidance prescribed by that combatant command.

AFRC officials approved the purchase of the patches last year, and most units have already received funding to buy them. (AFRC News Service)



Protect your credit against dangers of identity theft

The recent theft of a computer disk containing personal information of approximately 26 million veterans could potentially make you susceptible to identity theft and be damaging to your credit.

To help prevent identity theft you can request credit bureaus place a fraud alert on your credit report. The Federal

Trade Commission recommends contacting the fraud department of one of the three major credit bureaus:

- Equifax: 1-800-525-6285; www.equifax.com; P.O. Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374-0241
- Experian: 1-888-EXPERIAN (397-3742); www.experian.com; P.O. Box 9532, Allen, TX 75013
- TransUnion: 1-800-680-

7289; www.transunion.com; Fraud Victim Assistance Division, P.O. Box 6790, Fullerton, CA 92834-6790

If you suspect identity theft, close any accounts that have been tampered with or opened fraudulently.

File a police report with your local police or the police in the community where the identity

theft took place.

File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission by contacting the FTC’s Identity Theft Hotline at 1-877-438-4338, online at www.consumer.gov/idtheft, or by mail at Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20580.

302nd Airlift Wing starting Reserve Company Grade Officer’s chapter

By 2nd Lt. F. Schnell
302nd Logistics Readiness Squadron

The 302nd Airlift Wing is starting an Air Force Reserve chapter of the Rocky Mountain Company Grade Officer Council, which serves all lieutenants and captains assigned to Peterson Air Force Base.

A CGOC is an organization that promotes professional development, encourages base and local community service, and establishes an environment to enhance social camaraderie among company grade officers.



The CGOC’s three main objectives are: to provide mentoring and guidance, to offer professional development opportunities, and to organize social events for networking and fun are for new and experienced officers alike. The CGOC is a place to meet people who are in similar situations and to learn about the area in which they serve.

The Reserve chapter meets the Saturday of every unit training assembly, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the 19th Hole grill located at Peterson’s Silver Spruce Golf Course. Reserve CGOC

members are also encouraged to attend the bi-monthly weekday meetings, currently being held every other Friday at 3:30 p.m. in the Officer’s Club.

Additional information about the Rocky Mountain CGOC can be found at <https://afkm.wpafb.af.mil/ASPs/users/AdminCoP.asp?Filter=OO-OT-SP-08>.

The CGOC has also purchased 50 tickets for the Colorado Springs Sky Sox Triple-A baseball game against the Fresno Grizzlies on July 16. Tickets are free to company grade officers and their families.

First Lt. Fred Brooks, 302nd Civil Engineer Squadron, and I will serve as liaisons between the Reserve chapter and RMCOC officers. For more information, contact me at 556-6234 or Lieutenant Brooks at 556-6190.



Ready to go

A ribbon-cutting ceremony to commemorate the grand opening of the Consolidated 39th Aerial Port Squadron/302nd Airlift Control Flight facility will be held Saturday, July 8, at 2 p.m. at Bldg. 203. A reception will follow the ceremony. Dress for the event is duty uniform for military and business casual for civilians. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton)



ASTS continued from page 7

Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, were doing a Memorial Day story about what life is like for the troops in Baghdad when an explosive-packed car nearby blew up.

Ms. Dozier, Mr. Douglas and Mr. Brolan had been riding in an armored Humvee. They were wearing helmets, flak jackets, and protective glasses when the bomb went off.

Before being treated in Germany, doctors in Iraq were able to remove shrapnel from

Ms. Dozier's head, but her more serious injuries are to her lower body.

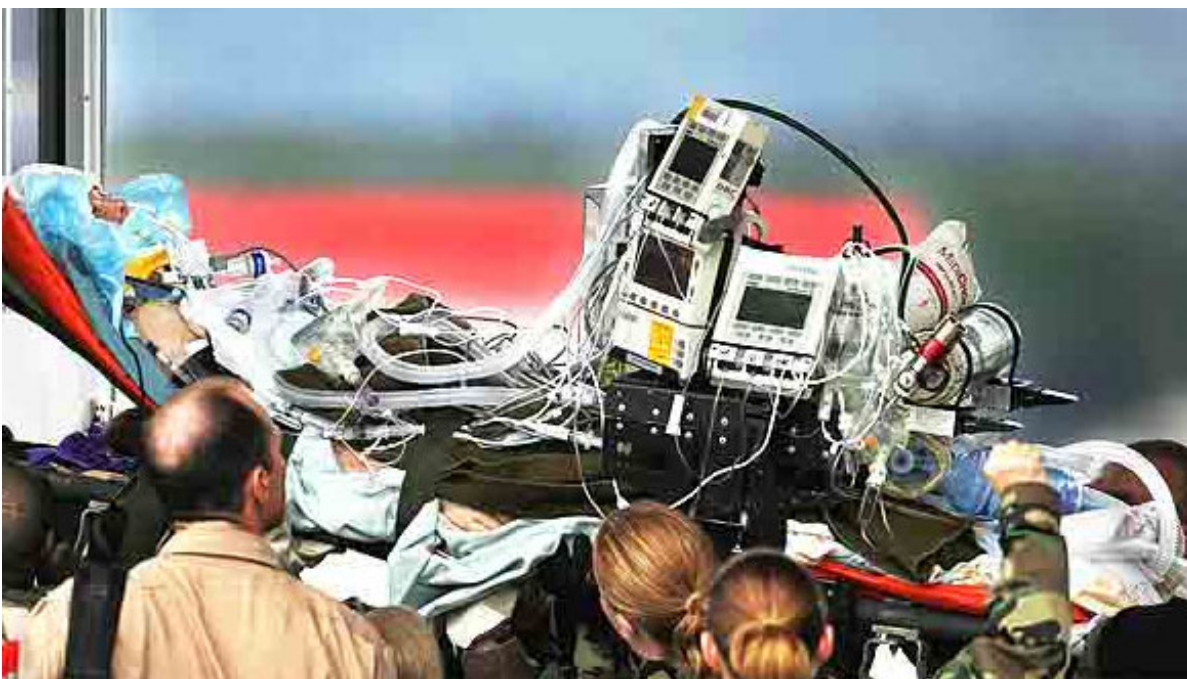
The ASTS members were so focused on the mission that some didn't even notice the cameras along the flight line. It didn't hit them until family and friends told them they recognized them on every news station screen.

An average of six news teams a day go out on patrol with the 4th Infantry Division in Baghdad. So far this year, insurgents have planted more than 3,000 roadside bombs in Baghdad alone. Nearly half of them are

discovered before they go off, but they remain the number one killer of American soldiers.

Master Sgt. Thomas Izzett, 302ND ASTS first sergeant, was proud of his troops, saying, "Germany is only a small glimpse of the potential we have and the willingness to serve those in need."

It was a tough experience for the team all that day. They were with GIs who were also injured in the same IED blast, some more severely injured, and had extensive contact with them – unlike the journalist.



Technical Sergeants Conrad, Priscilla Johnson, Staff Sgt. Jerri Tubbs, Senior Airman Melinda Osbourne assist Aircrew members and medical personnel in Germany with the transporting of wounded CBS reporter Kimberly Dozier (Photo courtesy of CBS News)

Lieutenant Col. Joli Garcia, 302nd ASTS chief nurse, said this of the nurses, medical technicians and administrative technicians completing their annual tour at Ramstein. "Our mission is to give the best patient care possible and they do just that! They are professional, knowledgeable, and most of all compassionate. I know Ms. Dozier was receiving the best care from them and all the other members of the Aerovac system."

Reserve component magazine increasing to six issues

Starting in February 2007, AmeriForce Publishing, Inc. will increase publishing and distribution of *the Reserve & National Guard* magazine from quarterly to six issues per year.

Each issue offers Reserve and National Guard units across the U.S. 175,000 copies for the benefit of their members, families, and decision-making leadership, both at the state and federal level.

Editorial focus will continue to encompass the whole Reserve or Guard member's life, including information on: military pay and benefits, missions, both domestically and abroad, current and emerging technologies and acquisitions, unit and member accomplishments, personal finance, career development and education, deployments/mobilizations, family support services, and more.

Units ordering these free magazines may e-mail requests to copies@ameriforce.net, or call (949) 733-1035.

Air Force launches civilians self-service system

The Air Force has launched

two self-service modules that will allow civilians to access their personnel information.

My Biz will provide civilian employees access and the ability to update information about themselves.

My Workplace will provide military and civilian managers access to information about their staff.

For more information about My Biz and My Workplace contact the 21st Space Wing Civilian Personnel Flight at 556-7150 or visit <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil> and click on the Civilian Employees site map.

INFOCONs change from alpha to numeric

Information Operations Conditions have changed from alpha to numeric. The old INFOCON NORMAL is now INFOCON 5. INFOCON ALPHA is INFOCON 4, INFOCON BRAVO is INFOCON 3, INFOCON CHARLIE is INFOCON 2 and INFOCON DELTA is INFOCON 1

The new INFOCON system, though not related to Defense Conditions, follows the same level of increase, where 5 is the lowest and 1 is the highest.

If you have any questions, call the 302nd Communications Flight at 556-8192.

Wing legal office changes Saturday hours

The 302nd Airlift Wing Legal Office will open for all business at 9 a.m. during Saturdays of unit training assemblies.

If there is an emergency that needs to be addressed, call the office at 556-8140 and the staff will adjust accordingly.

The office will be open as usual throughout the rest of the UTA for walk in legal assistance or appointments as necessary.

Recognizing children of deployed Guard, Reserve

Our Military Kids is a new nonprofit organization whose mission is to ensure the children of deployed and severely injured Guard and Reserve personnel can afford to participate in activities such as youth sports, fine arts and tutoring programs.

When submitting an application, proof is required that the child's parent is either activated Guard or Reserve. Documentation also must be provided validating the amount of the grant request.

For an application and program details, visit their website at www.ourmilitarykids.org.

TRUE BLUE program showing promise

Last year, the Air Force Reserve Command's Drug Demand Reduction Program launched its TRUE BLUE substance abuse education and prevention initiative. Data so far on the program shows great promise in reducing the number of positive drug test results and providing AFRC members with information about substance abuse.

The initiative is a Web-based site with links to national, state, and local substance abuse-related Web sites, in-house developed and downloadable pamphlets and posters, and video streams with an emphasis on healthy living without substance abuse.

The TRUE BLUE initiative is built on four themes: health, career, family, and leadership/workforce.

In addition to providing this information, a link on the site encourages visitors to evaluate the site's contents. You can view the site at <https://wwwmil.afrc.af.mil/trueblue>.

Dehydration – plan for summer activities

What is it? Dehydration is a condition that will happen when a person loses more fluids than are being taking in. When this happens, the body is incapable of producing the necessary blood circulation that is essential for life.

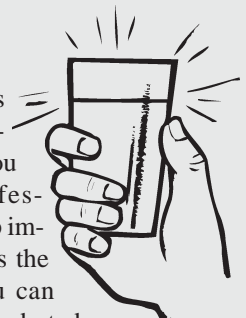
What causes it? It may be caused by a number of activities or events when a person isn't taking in as much fluid as is being lost – vomiting and diarrhea, warm weather, vigorous activities.

What are some signs of dehydration? In the stages of dehydration, the earliest is the hardest to detect. You may feel light-

headed, dizzy and nauseated. Your urine may be a brighter color than normal and may occur less than normal. With severe dehydration, you might experience rapid heart beat, cold hands and feet, lethargy and maybe even a coma. While thirst is a good indicator, by the time you are thirsty, you may already be dehydrated.

How can we prevent and treat dehydration? Prevention is key in the avoidance of dehydration; just remember to drink lots of fluids. Fluid intake is usually the best way to prevent or treat the early signs. Should you suspect mild to extreme dehydration or

can't keep fluids down due to vomiting or diarrhea, you should seek professional medical help immediately. Water is the best beverage you can consume to stay hydrated, but there are also other types of sports drinks that can help. Try to stay away from caffeinated drinks such as soda, coffee and tea as they are diuretic and cause you to urinate more than you need to. (Courtesy of 302nd Airlift Wing Ground Safety)



Change of Address: 450 W. Hamilton Ave. STE 171, Peterson AFB, CO 80914-2313

Unit Training Assembly Schedule

July 8-9

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>POC</u>
S A T U R D A Y	0530 – 0800	Breakfast	Aragon Dining Facility	SVMFA/6-4180
	0730 – 1600	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg. 893, Conference Room	DPMSC/6-8185
	0730 – 0900	No Meeting Period	All Locations	CV/6-7087
	0730 – 1630	Physical Exams	Clinic	ASTS/6-1132
	0745 – 1600	MPF Hours (closed 1115-1215)	Bldg. 895, First Floor	DPMSC/6-8185
	1000 – 1600	Military Clothing Sales	Bldg. 1466	LSM/6- 3227
	1100 – 1300	Lunch	Aragon Dining Facility	SVMFA/6-4180
	1100 – 1300	Lunch & a Lift	Aragon Colorado Room	HC/6-7428
	1130 – 1230	Company Grade Officer's Council	Silver Spruce Golf Course	XP/6-6234/6190
	1215 – 1530	CDC/PME Testing	Bldg. 625	DPMT/6-7573/
	1215– 1600	Customer Service Hours	Bldg. 895, Room 121	DPMSC/6-8185
	1300 – 1600	Chaplain Available	Bldg. 893, Room 143	HC/6-7428
	1400 – 1430	APS/ALCF Ribbon Cutting	Bldg. 203	CSS/6-7974
1600 – 1800	Dinner	Aragon Dining Facility	SVMFA/6-4180	
2000 – 2300	Late Night Carry-out	Aragon Dining Facility	SVMFA/6-4180	
S U N D A Y	0530 – 0800	Breakfast	Aragon Dining Facility	SVMFA/6-4180
	0730 – 0830	Chiefs' Group Meeting	Silver Spruce Golf Course	CCC/6-8132
	0730 – 1200	MPF Hours	Bldg. 895, Room First Floor	DPMSC/6-8185
	0900 – 1000	First Sergeants Meeting	Silver Spruce Golf Course	CCF/6-8307
	1000 – 1100	Homosexual Policy Training	Bldg. 890, 2nd Floor Briefing Room	JA/6-8140
	1100 – 1200	Human resources development Council	Bldg. 216 Conference Room	PA/6-4005
	1100 – 1300	Lunch	Aragon Dining Facility	SVMFA/6-4180
	1200 – 1300	Junior Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg. 350	CEO/6-7550
	1600 – 1800	Dinner	Aragon Dining Facility	SVMFA/6-4180

✓ **Can't make the UTA but you made lodging reservations? Contact Master Sgt. Terry Brassard at (719) 556-4001 or 1-800-446-9624 to cancel.**

✓ **Want an event on next month's schedule? Contact the 302nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs office at (719) 556-4117 or e-mail 302aw.pa@302.peterson.af.mil.**

Peterson Information, Tickets and Travel offers discount tickets

The Peterson Air Force Base Information, Tickets and Travel office provides discounts for a variety of attractions both in and out of Colorado.

Locally, Reserve families can save money on tickets to Royal

Gorge, Mr. Biggs Family Fun House, Six Flags/Elitch Gardens, Waterworld and the Renaissance Festival.

Families can also take advantage of savings on places like Disneyland, Knotts Berry farm

and Six Flags in California; Disneyworld, Universal Studios and Sea World in Florida; and Six Flags Fiesta and Sea World in Texas.

Peterson AFB ITT is located in the Community Activities

Center, Bldg. 640. The office is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and closed on Sundays and holidays. For more information, call 556-1760/1733 or stop by the ITT office.

Family Day continued from page 5

incorporated intramural sports this year along with the other events so people will be participating in something all over the base."

Reservists and family members wishing to sign up for softball and volleyball can contact Master Sgt. Audra Maryland, Senior Airman Hope Clark-Vasquez, and Senior Airman Elisha Olivas during the UTA at 556-4001, or contact Master Sgt. Terry Brassard at 556-4001 during the week.

They can also be reached by e-mail at terry.brassard@peterson.af.mil, audra.maryland@peterson.af.mil, hope.clarkvasquez@peterson.af.mil, or elisha.olivas@peterson.af.mil.

As with each year's family day, volunteers play a significant role in ensuring everyone has a good time. Volunteers can contact Tech. Sgt. Waihini Gaditano, 302nd Military Personnel Flight family support director, at 556-7678.

The JEAC will host and monitor the jumping castle and bungee run during this year's Family Day.

ORI Crossword puzzle

- ACROSS**
 2. Permethrin
 4. Off
 7. UCC
 9. Exercise
DOWN
 1. Review
 2. Probable
 3. Improvised
 5. Mobility
 6. You
 8. Clean

**A
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W
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R
S**



Sharp Troop of the Month

Name: Jennifer Tucker
Rank: Technical Sergeant
Section: 302nd Airlift Wing Recruiting Service
Job: Air Force Reserve recruiter
Date assigned: March 2004

Hometown: Fayetteville, N.C.

Hobbies: Reading, kayaking, shopping

Favorite thing about your job: "Being able to help people achieve their goals by offering them the many opportunities that the Air Force Reserve can provide."

Supervisors - Nominate a Sharp Troop. Contact the editor of the Front Range Flyer at 302aw.pa@302.peterson.af.mil, or call (719) 556-4117, or toll free (800) 446-9624.



Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Tucker goes over paperwork with new 302nd Airlift Wing recruit Lindsey Grace.



Rodeo royalty

Amanda Yopp (left), Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Girl of the West, and her aide, Amy Amack, were treated to a tour of a 302nd Airlift Wing C-130, conducted by Senior Airman Chris Linquist, 731st Airlift Squadron loadmaster, June 1. Ms. Yopp and Ms. Amack were visiting Peterson Air Force Base to promote the rodeo which will be held July 12-16 at Norris-Penrose Event center in Colorado Springs. All proceeds from the rodeo are donated to the Colorado Springs military communities. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Tim Taylor)

Newcomers

39th Aerial Port Squadron

Senior Airman Christopher J. Barr
 Senior Airman Brent D. Bertrand
 Senior Airman Christopher J. Reynolds
 Airman Gary L. Starita

302nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Staff Sgt. David Brown
 Maj. Albert Man-Bik Lee
 Capt. Lisa M. Lees

Senior Airman Debbie Torres

302nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Vyron W. Pino

302nd Airlift Wing

Staff Sgt. Jenni L. Deylius

302nd Civil Engineer Squadron

Senior Airman Gerald P. Corrigan

302nd Maintenance Squadron

Senior Airman Michael C. Danielson

Staff Sgt. Romeo R. Farinacci

Senior Airman Timothy R. Knight

Staff Sgt. Charles R. Myers II

Airman 1st Class David M. Negrón

Senior Airman Stephen E. Varnadoc

302nd Mission Support Flight

Senior Airman Amy R. Keene

Senior Airman Kathy Sigley

302nd Security Forces Squadron

Senior Airman Eric S. Pollmann

302nd Services Flight

Tech. Sgt. Steven C. Olson

310th Communications Flight

Staff Sgt. Ronald K. Sweeten Jr.

310th Security Forces Squadron

Master Sgt. Scott D. Frost

Senior Airman Brian M. Hafner

310th Space Group

Capt. Matthew M. Wingert

731st Airlift Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Jason M. Burger

Capt. Richelle M. Heflin

8th Space Warning Squadron

Senior Airman Alexandra McCracken

Airman Basic Sean M. Milafsky

19th Space Operations Squadron

Second Lt. Christopher M. Stone

26th Space Aggressor Squadron

Capt. Jonathan R. Davis

70th Flying Training Squadron

Maj. Noel F. Williams

National Security Space Institute

Maj. Daniel J. Logar

Retirees

Lt. Col. Kenneth A. Stone, 302nd ASTS

Lt. Col. Eric Wigand, 302nd OSF

Master Sgt. Daniel M. Cuvier, 9th SOPS

Master Sgt. Earlee Nelson, 302nd MOF

Tech. Sgt. Timothy P. Gudridge, 302nd AMXS

Is there something you would like to see published in the Front Range Flyer? Call Public Affairs at 556-4117 or send an e-mail to 302aw.pa@peterson.af.mil or timothy.taylor@peterson.af.mil.

One degree of separation

By Staff Sgt.
Derrick M. Gildner
Front Range Flyer

Commanders steer their troops through seas of policy changes, deployments, new challenges, all the while navigating through one daily crisis after another. These decisions affect flights, squadrons and the wing of troops they are entrusted with.

Once in awhile an opportunity comes along for commanders to make a decision that can have lasting career changes in an airman's life.

For Col. James J. Muscatell Jr., 302nd Airlift Wing commander, that opportunity came full circle recently when he took a glider ride at the 70th Flight Training Squadron with U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet Nathan Nordby.

During Colonel Muscatell's last command assignment at the 934th Airlift Wing in Minneapolis-St. Paul he helped develop a recommendation package for Senior Airman Nathan Nordby to gain admission to the USAFA.

"Nate and I were talking about the Academy and he had told me he had applied three times, but had no luck, said Colonel Muscatell. He would be giving up three years of education at Bethel College in Minn. if he got accepted so I told him he needed to convince me why he wanted to do this."

The decision for Colonel Muscatell was easy based on Nordby's top notch work as an airman. "I was always impressed with his work and attitude, which made it easy to convince me it was the right path for Nathan," said Muscatell.

The 24 year old Wyoming, Minn. native was finally able to fulfill his 8th grade dream of joining the USAFA.

"My dream has always been to become a pilot and a commander in the Air Force,"



Col. James J. Muscatell Jr. (left), 302nd Airlift Wing commander, and U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet Nathan Nordby. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Derrick M. Gildner)

said Nordby.

"The hardest lesson one learns at the Academy is failure, how to fail at one thing while you still keep juggling the rest of your priorities," said Nordby. "If you can learn to fail successfully and dust yourself off you can get back in the saddle and learn the lesson."

On a clear May morning Cadet Nordby was able to take his former commander on an orientation glider ride. It was an opportunity for the cadet to share a flight with the person who helped him get to the pilot's seat.

"I couldn't believe how good of a pilot Nate had become and he was teaching me," said Colonel Muscatell. "Especially how much rudder is needed in a glider! It was awesome."

"Nate is a wonderful il-

lustration of what you can do if you put your mind to it. We should always follow our dreams and not let anyone keep up from reaching for the stars," said Colonel Muscatell.

Once in awhile all it takes to kick start a dream is one degree of separation and the chance for a commander and their troop to get to know each other.

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