

Vol. 21, No. 11

November 2006

FRONT RANGE FLYER



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

Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.



Avondale honors vets

See page 6



Front Range Flyer
Vol. 21, No. 11
November 2006

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302nd Airlift Wing Web sites
Internal

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

External

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

Command chief, 1st shirts focus on key issues

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

on your behalf and seeking the tools to become even better advocates of those they serve.

I had the pleasure of being in Woodland Park for the first snow of the season in September. I also had the privilege of attending an off-site with the first sergeants within the wing along with Colonel Muscatell at the Farish Recreational Area.

While there, I received an opportunity to learn more about the first sergeants and them about me in a less formal environment. I am humbled by the excellence of the first sergeants in this wing. Their passion for service is second only to their dedication to the men and women they serve.

I am pleased to report that your first sergeants are expending a great deal of energy



While I was at the off-site, one of the taskers I had to the group was to discuss with them the things that are important to me at this juncture. I will take a few moments and share those for all.

First of all is the demobilization of the wing. Getting everyone home, rested, back to their families and civilian jobs is job one. Then we can return to some normalcy in the wing as we prepare for new challenges that face us all.

Second is communication. Up and down communication is critical to any organization and I believe more vital to

Key issues continued on page 3

Triumph over near-tragedy makes brother role model

By Tech. Sgt. Tim Taylor
Front Range Flyer

I'm fortunate to have a younger brother I can call my role model. I had forgotten that recently, until I received an e-mail from my father. He was boasting how my nephew, Patton, had scored two touchdowns in a junior high football game while playing two different offensive positions. He scored the first at his regular position, fullback, then moved to tight end and caught a TD pass.

Normally, a kid excelling in sports is not headline news, but Patton nearly missed that opportunity. Almost eight years ago, my younger brother, Scot, nearly lost his oldest son in a serious automobile accident. Patton,

five at the time, had the car's rear view mirror embedded in his skull. The doctor said he cheated death by a fraction of an inch.

That near-tragedy made Scot a better husband and father. His family comes first.

His career has excelled as well. His "job" as an educator has become a "passionate career" and he has gained praise and respect from his students and his peers.

As my brother prepares to welcome the birth of his seventh child in a few weeks, he has never forgotten the day he almost lost his oldest son. Every day, he takes time to be thankful for what he has received.

As the holiday season nears, I too am thankful—to have been blessed with a brother I can truly call my role model.

On the cover



Honoring vets
 Several members of the 302nd Airlift Wing participated in the 4th annual Avondale Veterans Parade Oct. 7. For more photos of the parade, see page 6. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Tim Taylor)

UTA Schedule

Next UTA: Nov. 4-5

Dec. 2-3

Jan. 6-7

Feb. 10-11

The next UTA schedule is printed in more detail on page 10. 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.

Holiday season – time to reach out and Care and Share

By Maj. Tim Wilson
302nd AW Chaplain

November is the month we traditionally start our “Care and Share” program.

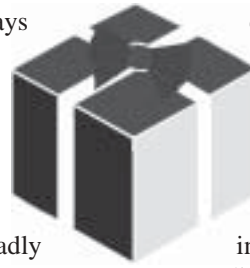
The Thanksgiving season is not only a time to reflect upon the blessings of the last year but also a time to share our good fortune with others who may be experiencing difficulty. We have

been blessed to in turn be a blessing to others.

This November unit training assembly, you have a special opportunity to share a gift that can last the whole year long. Collection buckets for monetary donations are at unit orderly rooms.

Or, if you wish, come by the 302nd Airlift Wing Chaplain office in Bldg. 893 to donate. A vol-

untary donation of \$1 by every wing member would go a long ways to help with the Care and Share effort. Of course, donations larger than a dollar will gladly be accepted.



All contributions go directly

to wing members experiencing extenuating needs. To apply for consideration for Care and Share funds or if you are aware of someone with a special need please contact your first sergeant.

Thank you so much for your generosity. Your willingness to share makes a big difference! Have a wonderful and blessed holiday season.

Key issues continued from page 2

a military one. We must talk to one another about the issues that bother us while at the same time making sure information is passed down to the lowest possible level. This minimizes rumors and innuendo – things that can cripple any organization.

Thirdly is recognition. We must continue to simplify the process for package submissions that recognize our very best. Encourage supervisors to find the time to write packages and provide them all the tools necessary to do that. Very soon I will be releasing a new OI that will greatly simplify our quarterly awards process. We also need to take a harder look at mid-tour decorations. We must continue to recog-

nize and groom the next generation of leaders within the wing.

Fourth is professional military education. We can never stop improving the skills that make us more effective leaders and encourage others to do the same. The competition for promotion is intensifying and education is the divining rod.

Fifth is the standards. There can be no compromise to the standards of conduct that promote good order and discipline, customs and courtesies and pride in appearance. It defines who you really are in the military context.

Sixth is team building. We must do whatever is necessary to foster a positive environment and break down the barriers that inhibit the team. We don't always like one another, but we must respect one another

anything else is a distraction that takes our focus off the mission. We must provide an outlet for dissolution and act upon it when received. All of us should seek a mentor with a greater wisdom than our own.

As I complete my first year as the command chief I am amazed at the caliber of the men and women in this wing. The pride in your accomplishments is something I carry to every meeting I attend all over this great country. I will do my very best to champion the things that are important to us all. I will reaffirm the promise I made to you one year ago, I will work tirelessly on your behalf and never stop the fight until I am relieved or retire. I am always available to any one of you – any time, any place.



302nd AW Demobilization Celebration

Saturday, Dec. 2

Bldg. 210, Bay 1



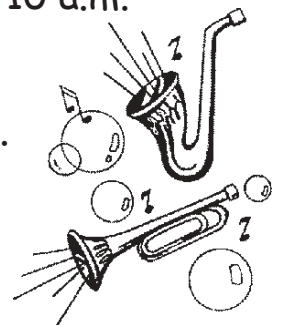
Honorary Commanders Group Induction - 10 a.m.

Wing Commander's Call - 11 a.m.

Demobilization Celebration - 11:45 a.m.

Members dismissed to unit activities - 2:30 p.m.

All wing members and their families are invited to attend



Space force sibling continues growth

By Staff Sgt. Derrick M. Gildner
Front Range Flyer

Growing teenagers are often accused of eating their parents out of house and home as they attack the refrigerator and clear out the cupboards.

Things are no different with the 302nd Airlift Wing's space force sibling at the 310th Space Group at Schriever Air Force Base.

The 310th's growth spurt re-

cently resulted in a new facility, several additional personnel and an increase in mission responsibilities. All are indicators that they are getting ever closer to transforming into a formidable wing and a prized piece on the Department of Defense's chessboard.

The October UTA marked

the first steps toward the beginning of new 45th Space Wing Reserve Associate Unit under the 310th.

"We see the mission at Buckley AFB in Aurora, Colo. as a force multiplier by allowing the 310th SG to begin taking care of its own needs for medical and mission personnel flight support and thereby al-

lowing the 302nd Airlift Wing to focus back onto its own needs," said Col. Jeffery J. Ansted, 310th SG commander. "The 310th SG has received great support from the 302nd over the years, however as the group has grown from three units to 10, we have overstayed our welcome."

"Currently we are looking at a one-year delay for the offi-

Space continued on page 11



302nd AW announces UTA snow call policy

In the event of inclement weather during unit training assemblies, Col. James J. Muscatell Jr., 302nd Airlift Wing commander, will determine if a UTA will be canceled or if delayed sign-in or early sign-out is warranted.

The commander will notify the 302nd AW Command Post of any delay or cancellation during a UTA by 5 a.m. that day. The command post will notify the 21st Space Wing operations center of the commander's instructions. The WOC will ensure the 21st

SW Public Affairs office is notified so it can update the snow call line and notify appropriate news agencies of the delay or closure.



Delays and cancellations will be broadcast on the following Colorado Springs TV stations: KOAA 5/30 (NBC), KKTU 11 (CBS) and KRDO 13 (ABC). They will also air on the following Colorado Springs radio stations: KRDO

(FM, 95.1), KRDO (AM, 1240), KSKX (FM, 105.5), KVOR (AM, 740), KKMJ (FM, 98.9) and KKFM (FM, 98.1).

Wing members can also call 556-SNOW (7669) for cancellations and delays and 310th Space Group members can call 567-SNOW.

In the event of an early release, the commander will initiate notification to the wing through the command post.

During the week the 302nd AW will follow the snow call policy established by the 21st Space Wing.

Members' health records property of U.S. Government

Did you know your health records are property of the government?

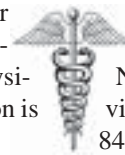
According to Air Force Instruction 41-210, 4.1.1, health records are the property of the United States Government, not the individual. This designated record set consists of outpatient

records, inpatient records, extended ambulatory records, fetal monitoring strips, mental health records, and dental records.

If you have your record(s) in your possession, it is your responsibility to ensure it is relinquished to the 302nd Aeromedical

Staging Squadron for proper storage and safeguarding. Failure to relinquish your record will result in re-accomplishment of your physical exam. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Direct any questions regarding this subject to Staff Sgt.



Sheila Figueroa, 302nd ASTS Administration, at (719) 556-1126 or Senior Master Sgt. Tammy Gettman, 302nd ASTS, NCO in charge of Health Services Administration, at DSN 847-6137 or commercial (720) 847-6137. (Courtesy of 302nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron)

302nd Airlift Wing First Sergeant Council holds retreat

Recently, members of the 302nd Airlift Wing First Sergeant Council attended a two-day workshop at Farish Recreation Area in Woodland Park.

The workshop consisted of team building, leadership development, and sharing first sergeant experiences.

First sergeants who attended included Chief Master Sgt. Joe Westerlund, 302nd

Maintenance Squadron; Senior Master Sgt. Robert Pacheco, 302nd Maintenance Group; Master Sgt. Lisa Armendarez, 302nd Mission Support Flight; Master Sgt. Sylvia Budinich, 39th Aerial Port Squadron; Master Sgt. Helena Dunlap, 302nd Service Flight; MSgt. Thomas Izzett, 302nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron; Master Sgt. Rick Kind, 302nd Logistics Readiness Squadron;

Master Sgt. Mike Orawiec, 302nd Security Forces Squadron; Master Sgt. Michael Ribich, 302nd Maintenance Operations Flight; and Master Sgt. Jeff Robertson, 302nd Civil Engineer Squadron.

Col. James J. Muscatell Jr., 302nd AW commander, and Command Chief Master Sgt. Kirby Schueler, 302nd AW command chief also attended.



Maj. Stephen Stelly, 731st Airlift Squadron flight commander, proudly displays the American flag as a 302nd Airlift Wing C-130 taxis past Pikes Peak during one of the wing's recent homecomings. The last of the wing's members and aircraft returned from Southwest Asia Oct. 4. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Mark Clark, 302nd Maintenance Squadron)

302nd Airlift Wing demobilization draws near

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

With an impending demobilization celebration scheduled for December, time has come for reflection on the 302nd Airlift Wing's many achievements and accomplishments during the past 14 months.

Many reservists from the unit deployed overseas to serve and support ongoing U.S. Central Command operations in Southwest Asia.

A wave of deployments actually began last August when nearly 120 members of the 302nd Maintenance Group and 302nd Operations Group left for the Middle East to conduct and support flying operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Horn of Africa.

"On an average we had six to seven aircrews flying every other day," said Master Sgt. Miltiadis Drakopoulos, 731st Airlift Squadron loadmaster. "We were transport-

ing mostly cargo and personnel. I also heard we had transported nearly 35 million pounds of cargo while we were there during the year."

The number of aircrews would eventually grow to 14 with eight of the wing's aircraft flying in and out of the theater of operations.

"We were flying side by side with the active-duty," said Chief Master Sgt. Rick Kite, 731st AS chief flight engineer. "We were in and out of Iraq and Afghanistan flying intra-theater operations. Our numbers spoke for themselves. We proved we're a legitimate part of the total force. This had to be the highlight of my career."

The nearly 18 million pounds of cargo transported by the 731st AS translated from 8,976 tons of cargo transported on 4,682 pallets. The 731st AS combined with the 913th AW, Willow Grove Naval Air Station Pa., and the 914th AW, Niagara Falls Inter-

national Airport, N.Y., to move 73,972 passengers, 17,864 tons of cargo on 9,500 pallets. The complete allotment accounted an accumulated 35 million pounds of cargo transported by the three wings.

"Typically, if you look at it, there is estimated to be 21 vehicles to a convoy with 100 personnel each including security, drivers and escorts," said Col. Karl A. Schmitkons, 302nd OG commander. "As a group, we could have potentially saved up to 113 convoys. Individually our wing might have saved as many as 56 convoys from prevalent threat. That's a total estimate of 2,363 tractor-trailers. Of course, we had our own risks due to small-arms fire and surface to air missiles while traveling from point to point."

The threat was minimized by having air-

***Demobilization continued
on page 9***

Avondale honors veterans



Transformer

At left, Flightline Freddie thrilled onlookers at the 4th annual Avondale Veterans Parade Oct. 7 as "he" rode on the 302nd Airlift Wing float. Little did they know Flightline Freddie was actually a girl (at least this time). Above, Alane Smith begins the transformation to Flightline Freddie as her husband, Master Sgt. Bob Smith (left), 302nd AW ground safety NCO; Tech. Sgt. Martin McCalman, 302nd AW recruiter; and Chief Master Sgt. Joe Vigil, 302nd Maintenance Squadron maintenance superintendent, lend helping hands. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Tim Taylor)

Leading the way

Tech. Sgt. Carlos Mendoza (left), 302nd Maintenance Squadron aerospace maintainer, and Master Sgt. Victor Sena, 302nd MXS aircraft hydraulic system maintainer, lead the veterans along the parade route. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Tim Taylor)



Veterans Day – Saturday, Nov. 11



The 302nd Airlift Wing will participate in Veterans Day parades in Colorado Springs and Pueblo on Nov. 11.

If you are interested in participating in either parade, contact Chief Master Sgt. Joe Vigil at 556-1964 or e-mail him at jose.vigil@peterson.af.mil.

302nd AW assists in Operation Mountain Fury

By Maj. Ann P. Knabe

379th Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFRC)
- Far above the rugged mountainous terrain of eastern Afghanistan, the 746th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron C-130 aircrew flies into the night sky. Just hundreds of feet below firefights and mortar fire dot the landscape.

ammo. They were almost out and they were fighting the Taliban hard.”

The 746th EAS is one of several 379th Air Expeditionary Wing units involved in a surge of operations supporting Operation Mountain Fury.

The operation is part of a coordinated effort to put continuous pressure on Taliban extremists across multiple regions of Afghanistan. Its goal is to pro-

vide security to the population, extend the government to the people and facilitate reconstruction of the war-torn country. Mountain Fury has been going on for several weeks in “shaping operations” designed to separate Taliban extremists from a population they would otherwise manipulate through coercion and intimidation.

ammunition, food and supplies to Army Special Forces units on the ground at forward operating bases Salerno and Farah. Air Force Reserve Command’s 302nd Airlift Wing from Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colo., performed combat offloads in Farah. It was a first for 302nd AW aircrews.

“When we landed at Farah LZ (landing zone) the forklift axel

in minutes.

The third and fourth pallets contained meals-ready-to-eat, potable water and other essential staples. They flew off the back through inertia once the pilot applied take-off power and released the brakes.

“We cranked up the power to 5,000-inch-pounds of torque, and then released the brakes and the two pallets slid off the back,” said aircraft commander Lt. Col. Kevin White. “Simultaneously, the loadmasters released the pallet locks.”

When the C-130 crew returned to Farah LZ the next day, the crews recognized the impact their contributions were making in the war against terror.

“The Special Forces were still running really low on ammo, even with what we had just delivered the day before,” said Sergeant Day. “They thanked us over and over again.”

Operation Enduring Freedom offers a variety of challenges tailor-made for the C-130 mission.

“The C-130 is designed for this kind of flying,” said Colonel White. “The mountainous terrain is challenging, especially at night. The threat level is high, and landings can be dangerous.”

Despite the challenges, the all-Reserve aircrew clearly felt connected to the Mountain Fury mission.

“We do channel missions all the time to Bagram and Kandahar,” said Col. Tom Henderson, 746th AS commander. “But the aircrew’s work on the Pakistani border put us into the heart of the mission where they could witness the action up close and make a direct impact.”

**Mountain Fury continued
on page 8**



Lt. Col. Kevin White commands a C-130 aircraft as the crew travels through Afghanistan during Operation Mountain Fury. (U.S. Air Force photo)

“The supplies we delivered helped these guys survive and fight the enemy,” said Master Sgt. John Eichenberg, a loadmaster with more than 27 years in the military. “You could tell it when we dropped off the

vide security to the population, extend the government to the people and facilitate reconstruction of the war-torn country. Mountain Fury has been going on for several weeks in “shaping operations” designed to separate Taliban extremists from a population they would otherwise manipulate through coercion and intimidation.

The 746th EAS got directly involved when tasked to deliver

was broken, so we formed a human chain to off-load the cargo,” said Master Sgt. Ken Day, a C-130 flight engineer.

The entire crew formed a line and handed the precious cargo box-by-box to the next person. At the end of the line, a Soldier placed the boxes into a waiting truck. Together, the two teams off-loaded dozens of boxes weighing 20 to 30 pounds each, emptying two pallets of boxes

AFRC to operate with more reservists

WASHINGTON—Air Force Reserve Command will have a slightly larger force in 2007.

The fiscal 2007 Defense Appropriations Act signed by President George W. Bush Sept. 29 funds an end-strength of 74,900 reservists. That's 900 additional reservists compared to the fiscal year 2006 end-strength of 74,000.

The new legislation also approves 10,214

full-time air reserve technicians and 2,707 full-time Active Guard and Reserve.

The defense bill funds a 2.2 percent across-the-board military pay raise for active and reserve forces as requested in the President's Budget earlier this year.

From this act, AFRC receives about \$1.26 billion for its reserve personnel appropriation and approximately \$2.56 billion in op-

eration and maintenance funds to run the command.

The amounts for military construction funding, RPA funds for basic allowance for housing, and O&M funds for facilities sustainment, restoration and modernization will be finalized at a later date when the Military Quality of Life/Veterans Affairs bill is passed. (AFRC News Service)

Air Force leaders to discuss new 'Cyber Command'

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFP)—Air Force leaders are gathering in early November to discuss plans for creation of a new command, one chartered with flying and fighting in cyber space.

Cyberspace became an official Air Force domain, like air and space, on Dec. 7, 2005, when Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. T. Michael Moseley introduced a new mission statement.

In a letter to Airmen, they said the new mission was 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."

Now, Air Force leaders are planning to stand up a new "cyber command," to be re-

sponsible for fighting in that domain, said General Moseley.

"To deliver the full spectrum of effects we will evolve a coherent enterprise, with warfighting ethos, ready to execute any mission in peace, crisis and war," the general said. "We will foster a force of 21st century

warriors, capable of delivering the full spectrum of kinetic and non-kinetic, lethal and non-lethal effects across all three domains. This

is why we are standing up an operational command for cyberspace, capable of functioning as a supported or supporting component of the joint force."

Air Force leaders begin planning for the new cyber command Nov. 16 at the Cyber

Summit. During the summit, Air Force leaders will chart a way ahead for the Air Force's role in cyberspace, also called the cyber domain, said Dr. Lani Kass, director of the Air Force Cyberspace Task Force.

"The chief of staff of the Air Force is going to gather his senior officers and talk about the new domain, in which, according to our mission, we are going to fly and fight," she said. "Our objective is to come out with a course, a vector, that will set us up for transforming our Air Force, to get us ready for the fight of the 21st century."

According to Dr. Kass, cyberspace is neither a mission nor an operation. Instead, cyberspace is a strategic, operational and tactical warfighting domain – a place in which the Air Force or other services can fight.

"The domain is defined by the electromagnetic spectrum," Dr. Kass said. "It's a domain just like air, space, land and sea. It is a domain in and through which we deliver effects – fly and fight, attack and defend – and conduct operations to obtain our national interests."



Mountain Fury continued from page 7

Throughout their four-day mission, the crew flew multiple sorties into combat areas, ranging from Jalalabad on the Pakistani border to smaller outlying bases like FOBs Salerno and Farah. The former features a 3,900 foot runway made of clay, dirt and gravel, while the latter is host to a 5,000 foot run-

way of broken-up concrete.

"We were definitely in 'bad guy country,'" said Colonel White, commenting on the terrorist threat and fighting on the ground in remote locations around Afghanistan. "When you combine this with the austere field operations and confined, unimproved landing strips, flying becomes a real challenge."

While the combat offloads added one more level of com-

plexity to the flying mission, the crew didn't mind. In fact, they welcomed it.

"The Operation Mountain Fury mission was meaningful and timely; we made a difference to our guys fighting on the ground," said co-pilot Maj. Chris Kornmesser. "And that left us all with an awesome feeling."

In addition to the 746th AS, several other Southwest Asia units support Operation Mountain Fury Air Force missions, in-

cluding specially-trained "Ravens" from the 379th Security Forces Squadron. The Ravens protect the plane and maintenance crew chiefs from the 746th Aircraft Maintenance Unit who not only maintain the planes but fly with the crew. The 340th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron and 379th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron are also key contributors to Operation Mountain Fury. (AFRC News Service)



Contest winner

Staff Sgt. Matthew A. Harding, 39th Aerial Port Squadron personnel journeyman, was recently named the winner of the 302nd Airlift Wing Junior Enlisted Advisory Council logo contest. His drawing will be turned into an official logo. The logo will be published in the Front Range Flyer once it's complete. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Tim Taylor)



First duty station training planned

The 302nd Airlift Wing Military Equal Opportunity office will hold First Duty Station Training on Sunday, Nov. 5, 8 a.m. to noon, in the wing conference room in Bldg. 893.

For more information, contact Staff Sgt. Richard Normandie, 302nd AW equal opportunity technician, at 556-5208.

Counseling center offers low-cost help

The Switzer Counseling Center, an agency of the Colorado School of Professional Psychology, provides low-cost psychotherapy to individuals, couples, and families who have no third party insurance or have only a limited ability to pay.

Located in Central Colorado Springs, the clinic serves the region's low income and homeless who are referred by shelters and agencies.

For more information about the counseling center, visit the website at www.cospp.edu.

Contain smoking materials properly

When extinguishing smoking materials around government facilities, ensure they are properly disposed of.

Air Force Occupational Safety and Health standard 91-501, paragraph 6.2.9.2.3, states, "The disposal of smoking material in any container, other than approved containers (listed by UL, CSA, or other recognized testing laboratory) specifically designed for smoking material, is strictly prohibited. Stencil these containers or cans "SMOKING MATERIAL ONLY."

If you have any questions, contact 302nd Airlift Wing Ground Safety at 556-8163.

November holidays
Veterans Day
Saturday, Nov. 11
Thanksgiving
Thursday, Nov. 23

Demobilization continued from page 5

craft perform up to and above the standard operating procedures. That could not have been accomplished without the support of the wing's maintenance personnel.

"A lot of the successes we had were directly attributed to daily communication and team playership between aircrews and maintenance personal," said Chief Master Sgt. Ron Bebow, 302nd Maintenance Squadron superintendent. "Our mission capable rate was up to as much as 92 or 93 percent. The Air Force standard is 75 percent."

The 90-percent mission capable rate was maintained up until the last rotation of 302nd maintenance personnel left the theater of operations.

"Our scorecard is we were able to perform roll-up operations, load all our cargo we had over 14 months and still maintain the flying tempo at 90.7 percent," said Chief

Master Sgt. Michael Sands, 302nd Maintenance Squadron superintendent of operations for the last rotation overseas. "That accomplishment is directly attributed to the maintenance crews of all three wings."

However, setting a high mission capable rate was not the only thing accomplished while in the theater of operations.

Chief Bebow indicated he had some concerns on the way traveling overseas, but those quickly dissipated.

"Getting over there and back we had few if any problems. We put as many flying hours on our aircraft in one year as we normally do in three or four years. That's an awesome accomplishment to complete in 60 to 90 days. Our planes have been treated well and taken care of since 1993. We feel they're practically brand new. That can only be attributed to our young troops. They never waiver from the maintenance standards they've been taught from day one.

"I went over there not knowing the capability of our young troops. They set the

standard and excelled everyday. They matured a million-fold," said the chief. "We would have never been able to do that if we stayed at home. I haven't had a feeling like this about this group of people since I returned from Vietnam in 1973."

The 302nd AW will celebrate the demobilization Dec. 2, in Bldg. 210, Bay 1.

Before the celebration the first 302nd AW Honorary Commanders Group will be inducted, at 10 a.m., followed by a brief wing commander's call at 11 a.m. – and then the celebration. Members will be dismissed at 2:30 p.m. to attend unit activities.

"It took a total team effort from every member of this wing to accomplish what we have during the past 14 months," said Col. James J. Muscatell Jr., 302nd AW commander. "This celebration is being held to honor the efforts and sacrifices made by the entire wing during that time."

Reservists are encouraged to bring their families.

Unit Training Assembly Schedule

Nov. 4-5

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>POC</u>
S A T U R D A Y	0630 – 0800	Breakfast/Brunch	Aragon Dining Facility	SVMFA/6-4180
	0730 – 1600	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg. 895, 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 – 1600	Customer Service Hours	Bldg. 895, Room 121	DPMSC/6-8185
	1215 – 1530	CDC/PME Testing	Bldg. 625	DPMT/6-7573/7250/7950
	1300 – 1600	Chaplain Available	Bldg. 893, Room 143	HC/6-7428
	1630 – 1900	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	0630 – 0800	Breakfast/Brunch	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 219A	DPMSC/6-8185
	0800 – 1200	First Duty Station	Bldg. 893, Conference Room	MEO/6-5208
	0900 – 1000	First Sergeant Council meeting	Silver Spruce Golf Course	CCF/6-8307
	1000 – 1100	Homosexual Policy Training	Bldg. 890, 2nd Floor Briefing Room	JA/6-8140
	1030 – 1130	Human Resources Development Council	Bldg. 216, Conference Room	PA/6-4117
	1200 – 1300	Junior Enlisted Advisory Council	Bldg. 350	CEO/6-7550
	1100 – 1300	Lunch	Aragon Dining Facility	SVMFA/6-4180
	1630 – 1900	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 Public Affairs office at (719) 556-4117 or e-mail 302aw.pa@peterson.af.mil.**

Air Force Reserve changes officer promotion system

WASHINGTON – Air Force Reserve Command is changing its officer promotion system to meet future total force requirements. The command will implement the changes starting with the Oct. 16 Air Force Reserve Line and Non-line Colonel Promotion selection board.

In one change, the command will combine Selected Reserve (Categories A and B) and Participating Individual Ready Reserve (Category E) officers into a single promotion group.

"All participating members should have the same opportunity and compete with each other for promotion," said Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, chief of Air Force Reserve and AFRC commander. "This change is especially prudent in light of our strategic shift to an operational Reserve, increased Total Force Integration, and challenges posed by the Base Realignment and Closure commission and Program Budget Decision 720."

In addition, in recent years the Air Force

Reserve promoted more lieutenant colonels to colonel than it had available colonel positions. This prompted the command to adjust the promotion opportunity for its line officers competing for colonel from 45 percent to 40 percent.

The decision to form one competitive promotion category was not done in a "vacuum," according to General Bradley.

"I chartered a general officer-led promotions working group in July 2006 with cross-functional representation to weigh all the different options of changing the competitive categories and taking better care of our people," he said. "This was the best recommendation the group proposed and the right thing to do for our Citizen Airmen."

Under force shaping actions, the Air Force Reserve will shift some of its personnel authorizations from paid positions in the Selected Reserve to non-paid status in the Participating Individual Ready Reserve.

"This change confirms the command's

commitment to a robust and viable PIRR," said Col. Becky Lewis, director of personnel in the Office of Air Force Reserve. "It considers all participating members together, allowing us to follow personnel management policies that enable and identify the force most suited to meet mission requirements."

Changing promotion opportunities for lieutenant colonels and eliminating boards to keep them beyond their mandatory separation dates were necessary, according to Col. Shaun Kelleher, chief of the directorate of personnel's force management policy division in the Office of Air Force Reserve.

"These changes will help manage our colonel production more efficiently and enable a reasonable expectation for colonel-selects to pin-on in a timely manner," he said. "Simply stated, we have too many people making colonel and not enough positions for them. This has made it increasingly harder for colonel-selects to find Reserve jobs in a timely manner and pin on their new rank." (AFRC News Service)



Code talker

Members of the 302nd Airlift Wing met retired Marine Sgt. Allen Dale June, one of the original World War II Navajo Code Talkers, at the 4th annual Avondale Veterans Parade Oct. 7. Left to right, front row, Tech. Sgt. Anthony Sanchez, Master Sgt. Victor Sena, Sergeant June; middle row, Master Sgt. Bob Smith, Master Sgt. Vincent Spacone, Chief Master Sgt. Joe Vigil, Ms. Rebecca June, Senior Master Sgt. Robert Pacheco; back row, Tech. Sgt. Steven Cisneros, Staff Sgt. Rodolfo Ramirez, Tech. Sgt. Carlos Mendoza. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Space continued from page 4

cial standup of the 45th Space Warning Launch Operations Unit,” said Col. Gregory Ratterree, 310th SG deputy commander. “We are looking at a green light for the initial hiring of 160 traditional reservists and air reserve technician positions in the meantime over the next year.”

“These units at Buckley AFB will also be available to meet some of the Air Expeditionary Force demands for Air Force Space Command. It is truly a win-win for everyone involved,” said Colonel Ansted.

As the 310th grows into a new wing and continues to size up, they have their older brother, the 302nd, watching their back right down the street.

First sergeants needed

If you’re ready to hold a highly visible, distinctive, and sometimes notable position within the 302nd Airlift Wing, first sergeant duty may be your calling.

Individuals interested in applying for first sergeant positions must submit a package to Master Sgt. Rick. Kind, 302nd AW First Sergeant Council president or Command Chief Master Sgt Kirby Schueler, 302nd AW command chief, by 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4.

- The package should contain:
- Letter of interest from the member
- Letter of recommendation from the member’s commander
- Letter certifying physical training scores from the member’s commander
- Current records review from 302nd Military Personnel Flight customer service
- Resume with an emphasis on military achievements

Questions can be directed to Sergeant Kind at 556-0222 or Chief Schueler at 556-8132.

Sharp Troop of the Month

Name: Aaron D. Thomas
Rank: Technical Sergeant
Section: 302nd Security Forces Squadron
Job: Fire team leader
Date assigned: October 2005
Hometown: Hyde Park, Vt.

Hobbies: Hunting, fishing, hiking and camping

Favorite thing about your job: “The thing I enjoy the most about my job is being able to influence younger troops. Showing the young troops how important they are to the success of the USAF Reserve and then seeing the troops realize the positive impact they can have on the mission is probably one of the most rewarding aspects of my position.”

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



Newcomers

- 39th Aerial Port Squadron**
Staff Sgt. Mark J. Leahy
Staff Sgt. Adam M. Newman
Airman 1st Class Eric C. Pettibone
Airman 1st Class Ashley R. Spencer
- 302nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron**
Airman 1st Class Shawna R. Hoffman
Master Sgt. Brian S. Vandam
Maj. Kevin J. Watson
- 302nd Civil Engineer Squadron**
Tech. Sgt. Billy J. Gipson

- Staff Sgt. Edwin Loockhart
- 302nd Mission Support Flight**
Staff Sgt. Milisa L. Peachey
Master Sgt. Lisa Armendarez
- 302nd Maintenance Squadron**
Airman 1st Class Joshua C. May
- 302nd Security Forces Squadron**
Staff Sgt. Frederick E. Little Jr.
Staff Sgt. Felice M. Sotelo
- 310th Security Forces Squadron**
Capt. David F. Keithan

- Senior Airman Richard C. Tripp
- 302nd Logistics Readiness Squadron**
Staff Sgt. Paulo G. Perez
- 302nd Services Flight**
Tech. Sgt. Michael J. Gangl
- 731st Airlift Squadron**
Capt. Nathan Day
- 6th Space Operations Squadron**
Capt. Timothy S. Gasmire
- National Security Space Institute**
Maj. Gary L. Bain

Answering the call

Tech. Sgt. Andrew Fulbright, a member of the 302nd Logistics readiness Squadron and High Frontier Honor Guard, is shown performing a flag folding ceremony at the 10th anniversary of the Summit 38 crash in May 2005.

Last month, he was asked to prepare the Harrison High School Air Force Junior ROTC Color Guard to perform a flag folding ceremony during a memorial ceremony for Fermin Vialpondo, a Harrison football player who collapsed and died during a recent game.

According to the JROTC instructors, due to Sergeant Fulbright's instruction, the color guard performed flawlessly. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Heldwin Brito, 302nd Maintenance Squadron unit public affairs representative)



President, military leaders dedicate Air Force Memorial

By Staff Sgt. Julie Weckerlein
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFP)—On behalf of a grateful nation, the president of the United States accepted the Air Force Memorial in a dedication ceremony here attended by military leaders of the past and present, political and business representatives and thousands of ordinary citizens and Airmen alike.

“A Soldier can walk the battlefields where he once fought,” said President George W. Bush. “A Marine can walk the beaches he once stormed, but an Airman can never visit the patch of sky he raced across to defend freedom. And so it is fitting that from this day forward, the men and women of the Air Force will have this memorial.”

The ceremony was the highlight of a daylong open house event that attracted thousands of people from around the country to the Pentagon.

Included were H. Ross Perot, his son, H. Ross Perot Jr., chairman of the Air Force Memorial Foundation, and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. Also in attendance were former chiefs of staff of the Air Force, secretaries of the Air Force, chief master sergeants of the Air Force, Air Force Medal of Honor recipients and their families.

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney

J. McKinley spoke and reflected on the Airmen who serve today and their connection to the Airmen who served in the past.

“We have the most powerful air, space and cyberspace force in the world,” he said. “This is a long overdue tribute to all those who are a part of this ongoing cycle of dedicated and talented Americans who service in the Air Force.”

Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. T. Michael Moseley spoke of several Airmen who made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom. He read an excerpt from a letter sent by Senior Airman Jason Cunningham, an Air Force parajumper with the Special Forces to his wife, Theresa, before he was killed in combat in Afghanistan in 2002.

“As if aware of his impending death, he wrote, ‘I’ll die a happy man doing the job I love’,” read General Moseley. “Those are the words of a true PJ, and it speaks volumes of his commitment and dedication. We honor him with this memorial, as well as the countless others who are like him.”

Several aircraft, ranging from World War I bi-planes

to today’s stealth bombers and fighters, flew over the crowd and memorial in chronological order, providing visual evidence of the evolution of military flight.

The ceremony ended with a demonstration from the Thunderbirds, who buzzed the crowd before doing the bomb-burst formation, which inspired the design of the three-spires of the memorial.

“We commemorate today the courage of the men and women who wear the Air Force blue,” said President Bush. “We remember those who gave their lives for their fellow Americans. We mourn their loss, we pray for their families and we consecrate their legacy here today.”

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