

VIKING FLYER

934th Airlift Wing (AFRC)

Minneapolis-St. Paul IAP Air Reserve Station, Minn.

September 2009 Vol. 31, No. 9

August alive with activities



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Wing announces new vision and mission statements

“Provide mission ready Airmen and tactical airlift--Anywhere, Anywhere.”



Lean, mean fighting machine

By Col. Tim Tarchick
934th Airlift Wing commander

I know you've heard a lot about AFSO21 (Air Force Smart Ops for the 21st Century) in the past few months and know it is a great initiative for our Air Force but let me answer the proverbial "what's in it for me" question you may be thinking. AFSO21, a Chief of Staff of the Air Force initiative to eliminate waste, will give power to all Airmen. It gives you and I the power to improve our work places by eliminating waste from all of our work processes to make our work environment the absolute best it can be. It is not just lip service or an opportunity to cut corners.

AFSO21 is vital to the Air Force and the 934th Airlift Wing's future. So vital in fact that at the end of July, myself, the group commanders and a few other leaders in the wing formed an AFSO21 executive council where we held a three-day strategic planning conference to evaluate our wing mission and our vision for the future. During this time, the executive council found that our current mission and vision statements were not effective anymore so we established new ones. Just for fun, the new mission and vision statements are hidden in this issue somewhere. See if you can find them!

It was during the three-day strategic planning conference that we also evaluated our main priorities to ensure this unit was in alignment with AFRC and we set goals to guide us in the right direction to accomplish our priorities. We identified three top priorities: 1) provide an operational combat ready force; 2) modernize and maintain equipment, aircraft, facilities and contracts; and 3) facilitate a balance between family, reserve and civilian career.

So, how do we propose to accomplish these three priorities? Well, we set 15 goals and identified five of them as Rapid Improvement Events which means they are the first five processes we feel are the most important for us to improve upon as a wing. In the

next 12-18 months, five separate teams will focus on the following:

- * **Improve the physical exam process**
- * **Expedite the uniform supply issue**
- * **Consolidate the personnel deployment process**
- * **Streamline the medical waiver determination**
- * **Establish and educate on the unfunded requirements process**

Just think about it, there will be a team of your peers (maybe even you), led by an O-6, who will take three to five days to evaluate each step of the processes that make up the RIEs listed. We will periodically give you updates on how these five RIEs teams are doing and each O-6 team champion will report to the wing via the *Viking Flyer* and wing commander's calls, when the RIE is over so we can show you results!

The great part is that this is not new. The 934th Maintenance Group has been "lean" for a while now. They evaluated their isochronal inspection process and reduced the number of days required to complete all ISOs from 60 days to 16 days. Imagine the time and money that are being saved by this!

Let's all follow the 934th MXG's lead and really look at our processes in our workplace, not just in those five RIEs listed above. Let's see if the 934th AW can be the leanest, meanest wing in AFRC. I have told you many times before, this is the best wing I have ever been in and AFSO21 will make us even better!

See ya around the pattern!



Aeromedical evacuation exercise hits bullseye

By Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Williams
934th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The quarterly Dissimilar Aircraft Readiness Training exercise for Air Force Reserve Command aeromedical evacuation squadrons wrapped up Aug. 9 as 22nd Air Force staff proclaimed success of the 934th Airlift Wing hosted event.

Approximately 120 people and four aircraft from 11 bases throughout two commands arrived Aug. 7 to join members of the 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron for the two-day training.

"I think this is the best DART I've ever participated in or coordinated," said Senior Master Sgt. Ron Nowasell, 22nd AF chief of aeromedical evacuation training. "The host was phenomenal. They read the lessons learned from prior exercises and did not duplicate the errors from other hosts. They set the bar high."

Eight aircrews from five bases throughout the commands participated in the exercise, designed to give hands-on training to flight nurses and aeromedical technicians on aircraft that they don't have at their home bases. Two KC-135 aerial refueling aircraft were flown in from Grissom Air Reserve Base, Ind., and Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C., to assist with the training, along with a C-17 from Dover AFB, Del., and a C-130 from Peterson AFB, Colo.

"We don't get to see C-17 aircraft every day and it was great getting acquainted with people who work on that airframe all the time," he concluded.

The exercise began Saturday morning as each participant was trained on configuring each of the available airframes through static training, and flew training missions in the afternoon with moulaged patients to simulate combat wounded personnel. It concluded on Sunday morning with two and a half hour training flights on different airframes.

"It was nice working with crews from across the country," said Senior Airman Tito Carrillo, 433rd AES aeromedical technician from Lackland AFB, Texas. "It was a good training environment and it was nice coming together with people that I've met from tech schools and other places. We learned a lot from each other."

Aeromedical evacuation crew members from Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; Peterson AFB, Colo.; Lackland AFB, Texas; and March Air Reserve Base, Calif., joined their hosts from Minneapolis during the quarterly exercise.

Staff Sgt. Rachel Snook, 934th AES aviation resource manager, was incredibly pleased with her team's performance.

"We processed flight orders, ran the mission board and troubleshoot problems like when an aircraft broke and we had to switch crews and patients around," she said. "There were so many crews and so many people that it became mass confusion when we had to make crew changes and swap aircraft ... usually things like this are a disaster, but this was awesome. Everybody knew what their jobs were and worked well with everyone else. It couldn't have gone better."

A lot of the planning was coordinated by Capt. Jennifer Aasland and Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Cassidy, both of the 934th AES. Sergeant Cassidy had a death

VIKING FLYER

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Inspector General Fraud, Waste and Abuse

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934th AW FW Hotline
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On the cover

Activities were everywhere during the August UTA. Clockwise from top left: The Maj. Daniel L. Anderson memorial building sign is unveiled by Anderson's wife Denise Hesselroth; employer Mark Reins takes in the view from a C-130 during Employers Day; Arielle Edwards practices her home improvement skills at Family Day; and Col. Nina Gilberg gets soaked after her fini flight marking her retirement from the 934th Airlift Wing. (Air Force Photos/Tech. Sgt. Bob Sommer)

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Home away from home at MSP

By Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Williams
934th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The staff of the Armed Forces Serviceman's Center at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport expects to hit an important milestone around Labor Day when the 750,000th military member walks through their doors.



Ralph "Scott" Purdum

Since the center's opening in 1970 through Aug. 1, 2009, 748,609 military personnel have utilized the facility, which has never been closed despite snowstorms, strikes, airport evacuations, aircraft groundings and the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Now located on the Mezzanine level before the security checkpoints, it is one of only eight airport service centers in the United States that is always open day and night.

"We have never, ever closed our doors in our entire history," said Debra Cain, the center's executive director. "We had 16 Marines that were stranded here for five days when the airport closed following the Sept. 11 attacks. We even maintained our operations during the move to our present location back in 2002. We have never been closed."

The center was the brainchild of a young sailor from Minneapolis, ATN3 Ralph "Scott" Purdum. He stopped at

the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport service center run by the Travelers Aid Society in 1969, and thought it would be fitting to have a similar center at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. Due to his active duty commitment, he enlisted the help of his mother to get the project moving.

He never lived long enough to see his dream come true.

At 11:25 a.m. on March 16, 1970, ATN3 Purdum was a crewmember aboard a Lockheed EC-121M "Warning Star," tail number 145927, on an emergency approach into Da Nang Air Base, Vietnam, due to a malfunctioning No. 4 engine. The aircraft was waved off when another plane arrived onto the runway, but it was too late.

The No. 3 engine quit, the aircraft banked, and then crashed into a revetment before striking a hanger 300 yards east of the runway on the Air Force side of the base. The Warning Star disintegrated, leaving only the tail section intact. Twenty-three crew members, including ATN3 Ralph "Scott" Purdum, lost their lives in the accident. It was his first flight.

In a letter written two months after ATN3 Purdum's death, his mother, Marjery, wrote, "We were told that he was one of the eleven that was taken from the plane alive, but he did not make it to the hospital. He died of a head injury and he was not burned."

Keeping the promise she made to her son, Marjery increased her efforts in making the Armed Forces Service Center



Joan Coy, Armed Forces Service Center volunteer, prepares food for military travelers. (Air Force Photo/Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Williams)

a reality. "I wanted to finish the center even more then because one of his last letters said, 'Mom, don't give up on the room, it's so needed,'" she said at the time.

We are always in need of volunteers, especially from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. Just go to the website at www.mnafsc.org and download an application," said Cain.

Forty years and three-quarters of a million people later, ATN3 Purdum's legacy is still alive.

Editor's note: Due to space limitations, a longer version of this article is available at www.minneapolis.afrc.af.mil.

AES building dedicated to Flying Viking

By Staff Sgt. Michelle O'Dean
934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

The AES dedicated building 718 to the memory of Major Daniel L. Anderson (see front page photo). Major Anderson was the AES Senior ART until September 2001, he also held the position of president of the Reserve Officer Association Department of Minnesota.

Major Anderson was instrumental in developing the AE Unit Type Code building block idea, and had also developed a ground operations checklist which is still in use in the Aerovac system today.

Sadly, in November of 2001 Major Anderson passed away

from stomach cancer, just two months after his last day of duty on Sept. 11, 2001.

Over 200 people attended the dedication including Mrs. Denise Hesselroth, wife of Major Anderson; their daughters, Emily and Maggie Anderson; and close friends. Honored guest included Congressman Erik Paulsen from Minnesota's 3rd District, Col. Timothy Tarchick, group and squadron commanders (including the 934th AES commander Lt. Col. Sherry Hemby). Representatives from the offices of Senator Amy Klobuchar and Congresswoman Michele Bachmann also attended.

Wing hosts Reservists' employers

By Staff Sgt. Josh Moshier
934th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Approximately 30 Reservist employers attended the 934th Airlift Wing's annual Employers Day activities Aug. 1, giving them the chance to experience the Air Force Reserve and shadow their employees in a different vein.



Master Sgt. Matt Welage, 96th Airlift Squadron flight engineer, talks about his Reserve job to his civilian employer, Mark Rutkiewicz, AGA Medical Quality Assurance director. (Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Bob Sommer)

The day included tours of the 27th Aerial Port Squadron, the fuselage used for training by APS and the 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, briefings from wing leadership, a flight in a C-130, and ended with employers shadowing their civilian employees at their duty stations.

"My employer has always been supportive of my Reserve commitments. Employers' Day helped solidify this support and create a much better understanding of our mission as well as my job as a Reservist. The work center tours and the orientation flight provided an excellent up-close look at our work as Air Force reservists," said 1st Lt. Michael Loney, 934th Maintenance Squadron.

The event opened some eyes, confirmed the views of others, and even included a first occasion.

Mike Pastien, Lieutenant Loney's supervisor at Medtronic, said the mission of the 934th AW is an impressive one.

"Seeing all the train-

ing and exercises [Lt. Loney] is doing makes it all the more important for us to make him available," Pastien said. "It's an important thing you guys do."

Others appreciate the openness of the wing through the event.

"It's really nice to feel more connected to what is done here," said Shannon Scanlon, Master Sgt. Melissa Cogar's supervisor at Target. "I knew you guys were here, but I didn't know what you did."

Technical Sgt. Douglas Schaller's boss at Cosco Industries, Andrew Loraff, not only gained an increased respect for the men and women in uniform, but he took his first airplane flight – courtesy of the 934th AW.

"It was an awesome view seeing Minneapolis from up above," Loraff said. "I've always had a lot of respect for the military, and it's been my pleasure to work with Doug. It's nice to see what he does when he's here, and I'm very impressed with the professionalism and efficiency of the base."

Next year's Employers Day is tentatively scheduled for the August Unit Training Assignment weekend. Airmen who would like their employers to participate should contact the 934th AW Public Affairs office several UTAs in advance to ensure a spot for their boss.

Family Day fun

A car show, clowns, music, education booths and more were available for Reservists and their families during this year's Family Day. Right, Holly Tarchick, daughter of Col. Tim Tarchick, tries to send dad in for a cool dip in the dunk tank ... She was successful.

(Air Force Photos/Tech. Sgt. Bob Sommer)



Civil Engineers

Congrats to Senior Airman Jonathan Davidson, who was promoted to staff sergeant, and Airman 1st Class Barrett Brandt, who was promoted to senior airman.

Farewell to Master Sgt. Jeffrey Jacobs and Tech. Sgt. James Enders who retired after 22 and 21 years of service respectively.

Way to go Senior Master Sgt. Douglas Johnson for receiving the Air Force Commendation Medal, first oak leaf cluster, and Staff Sgt. Gregory Mace, for receiving the Air Force Achievement Medal.

Maintenance

Provided by Master Sgt. Eric Johnson and Staff Sgt. Jose Garza

Congratulations to Master Sgt. Dana Money of the Quality Assurance section and his wife Kelli Money, who welcomed their 10 pound, one ounce son Devon Noble Money, June 15.

Services

Provided by Senior Airman Yakini Branch-Ibura

The 934th Services Squadron welcomes Tech. Sgt. Angela Fahey back to the unit after her six month deployment to Iraq.

Congrats to Staff Sgt. John Barrett who scored 95 on his CDCs.

Senior Master Sgt. Mike McGuire and Master Sgt. Timothy Taormina reenlisted.

Welcome Capt. Brian Eichers, who is from active duty, and Airman 1st Class Michelle Coward, who has just completed technical training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

Wing Vision: "To be the world's best tactical air-lift wing, today and tomorrow...as unrivaled wingmen."

Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

Provided by Staff Sgt. Michelle O'Dean

Congratulations to Tech. Sgt. Jesse Toombs on achieving 96 percent on his 4NOA CDCs, Sergeant Toombs received the Excellence in Academic Achievement award.

Welcome new members Capt. Stephanie Cicero and Senior Airman Tonya Jashinsky.

DART

Continued from page 3

in the family that occurred shortly before the exercise and wasn't able to attend.

"It was noticeable that there was a lot of preparation from people behind the scenes who made it successful, especially Senior Master Sgt. Cassidy. It is regretful that he was unable to make it to this," said Col. Ron Wilt, 934th Operations Group commander. "However, I think it was a success. It didn't go perfect, but no training exercise ever goes perfect, otherwise we wouldn't have them. We've received a lot of good comments on the feedback surveys including 'Best DART ever'."

Colonel Wilt was one of the 36 volunteer "patients" who agreed to be strapped to a litter, painted with fake blood and don an IV bag to help this DART be as realistic as possible.

"I'm interested in the aeromedical evacuation mission and it was a fun experience participating," he said.

Lt. Col. Sherry Hemby, 934th AES commander, was very pleased with the comments her squadron received for their efforts in planning and executing the exercise.

"We read the after action reports from previous DARTs and addressed each of those issues" she said. "There is always the unknown and communication is the key to resolving those issues. One crew member from a visiting base said, 'We should have all of our DARTs up here,' so I think we did an awesome job. The compliments just thrill me."

Promotions to:

Master Sgt. Bruce Butturff	CES
Master Sgt. Kraig Crandall	CES
Tech. Sgt. David Barrett	MXS
Tech. Sgt. Derek Fore	96 AS
Tech. Sgt. Theodore Knudtson	MOF
Staff Sgt. Lauren Dordal	MXS
Staff Sgt. Nicole Silverthorne	96 AS
Staff Sgt. Jeffray Smith	LRS
Senior Airman Sammy Muriuki	CF

In Memory

Senior Airman Miles Kuykendoll, a member of the 934th Logistics Readiness Squadron, passed away Aug. 16, at the age of 23. His life will live on through his children Messiah and Leyla, his wife Ashton, the Kuykendoll family and with the 934th AW family.

Miles knew the opportunities that the U.S. Military could provide him and felt the need to give back to his community. Prior to joining the 934th LRS in August 2007 he was a member of the U.S. Army. He was attending college with a goal of becoming a police officer. Working nights, being a

dad and a husband, Miles found the time to be a member of the 934th AW.

He will be missed by his family and his community, which has suffered a great loss. Services were held Aug. 21 at West Point Baptist Church in Chicago, Ill. The family has asked that cards and memorials be sent to his mother, Nadra Kuykendoll.

The 934th AW will be having a memorial service for Airman Kuykendoll Sept. 13, at 8 a.m. in building 862

Information courtesy of Master Sgt. David Hanson-Best
934th Logistics Readiness Squadron





Gilberg retires

Col. Nina Gilberg, director of aerospace medicine for the 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, receives her retirement plaque from Col. Tim Tarchick Aug. 2. (Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Robert Sommer)



Multitasker

Capt. Jennifer Aasland, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, reads an e-mail message while donating blood at the wing Blood Drive Aug. 11. A record 45 units of blood were donated setting a new goal for the next drive Feb. 9. (Air Force Photo/Master Sgt. Paul Zadach)



Final salute

Members of the 934th Airlift Wing render a final salute to Capt. Thomas J. Gramith during a dignified transfer ceremony by the wing honor guard July 31. Gramith lost his life in an F-15 crash July 17 while on duty in Afghanistan. He was a resident of Eagan, Minn. (Air Force Photo/Master Sgt. Paul Zadach)



Citizen Airmen

Senior Airman Sammy Muriuki, 934th Communications Flight, (left) and Airman 1st Class Sanel Velic, 133rd Airlift Wing, Minnesota Air National Guard, are presented their certificates of U.S. Citizenship after being naturalized at a ceremony in Arden Hills, Minn., Aug. 19. (Air Force Photo/Master Sgt. Paul Zadach)

Sergeants Upp&Adam

By Senior Master Sgt. Doug Johnson



UTA Dates

<u>Month</u>	<u>934th</u>	<u>133rd</u>	<u>Army</u>	<u>Navy, Marines</u>
Sept.	12-13	19-20	12-13	12-13/19-20
Oct.	3-4	10-11	TBA	3-4/17-18
Nov.	7-8	21-22	TBA	7-8/21/22
Dec.	5-6	12-13	TBA	5-6/12-13
Jan.	9-10	23-24	TBA	9-10/23-24
Feb.	6-7	20-21	TBA	6-7/20-21
Mar.	6-1	20-21	TBA	13-14/27-28
Apr.	10-11	17-18	TBA	10-11/24-25
May.	1-2	22-23	TBA	1-2/22-23
Jun.	5-6	12-13	TBA	12-13
July	10-11	17-18	TBA	10-11/24-25
Aug.	7-8	21-22	TBA	14-15/28-29

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To the family of:**



Congressman Erik Paulsen (third District, MN), flies on a training mission Aug. 27 with Chief Master Sgt. Mark Hartnett (left), 96th Airlift Squadron flight engineer, and Capt. Ethan Bryant (right), 96th AS pilot. The freshman congressman received briefings and toured the base to gain first-hand knowledge about the people and mission of the 934th Airlift Wing and the Minneapolis-St. Paul IAP Air Reserve Station. (Air Force Photo/Master Sgt. Paul Zadach)