

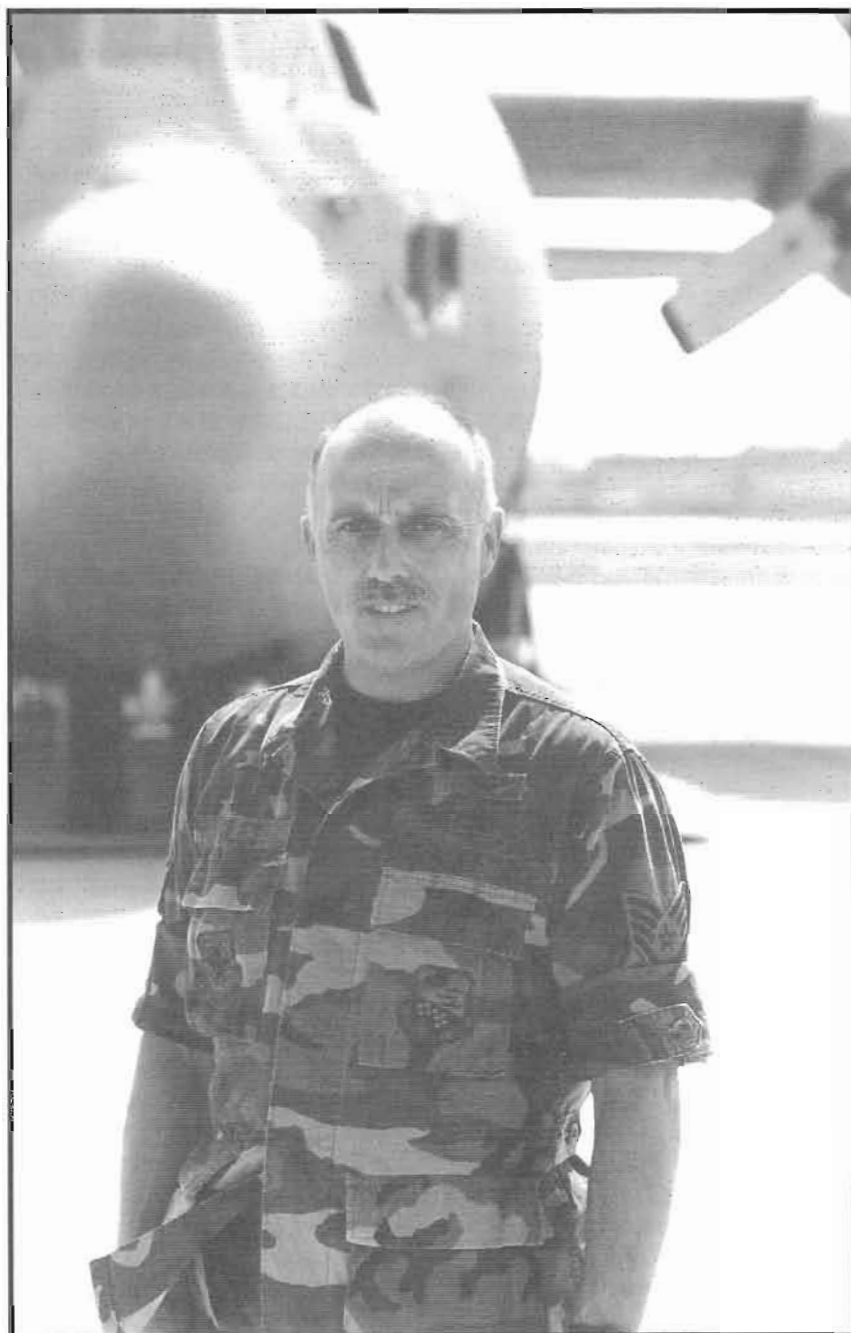


1948-1998

Vol. 20, No. 9/September 1998

VIKING FLYER

934th Airlift Wing, Air Force Reserve Command, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Air Reserve Station, Minn.



Mark Davidson

Focus on crew chiefs

► See Page 11

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On the cover

Staff Sgt.
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934th

Maintenance
Squadron, serves
as one of the
wing's crew
chiefs — often
unsung heroes.
For more on the
crew chief's
importance to the
mission, see
Page 9.



Mark Davidson

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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. **The deadline for unsolicited submissions is Friday, one week prior to UTA.** For editor, call (612) 713-1213 or e-mail: cherie.huntington@msp.afres.af.mil

UTA schedule

Oct. 3-4
Nov. 7-8
Dec. 5-6

▶ UTA entrees:
Saturday, **pork
chops and
baked chicken.**
Sunday,

▶ UTA pay date:
Sept. 23. **brats and sub
sandwiches.**

934th Airlift Wing on the Internet:
[http://w3.afrc.af.mil/units/934aw/
default.htm](http://w3.afrc.af.mil/units/934aw/default.htm)

Commentary

Inspection success

Wing capabilities validated, special celebrations underway

Col. Richard Moss
Commander

Congratulations to everyone who worked so hard to prepare for our Unit Compliance Inspection.

Overall, the wing did very well in all major areas, and 34 people were selected as "Superior Performers." Especially significant, we had three "Best Practices" — processes considered by the Inspector General team to be the best they have seen to date and should be considered by all other units for adaptation.

The inspection team also was impressed with the attitude and work ethic of the entire unit. Thank you for your hard work.

Safety concerns

We did have some problems in one area — safety. Part of the problem seemed to be an attitude in some functions that safety is someone else's job. This is an attitude and a process we must change.

Safety begins with clear and definitive guidance and direction from the wing safety office. We check the process by conducting comprehensive evaluations of the safety program, to include required work place safety training, in each function and unit. Commanders and supervisors must ensure the work place meets all safety standards, hazards are promptly identified and corrected, and individuals are properly trained in all applicable aspects of their job.

However, the wing still does not have a viable program until everyone who is a member of the 934th Airlift Wing realizes safety is his or her personal responsibility. With the quality of people in the wing, I am confident this can be readily corrected.

Special anniversaries

This unit training assembly is especially important for two reasons. First, on Saturday evening of the UTA,



Moss

we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Air Force Reserve and the 35th Anniversary of the 934th Airlift Wing with our annual military ball. We have come a long way from the days when reservists were called "weekend warriors" to the role we fulfill today — a fully integrated and critical part of the Total Force.

As we all know, the Air Force Reserve is relied upon to augment the active forces on a daily basis around the world. We may have a short history compared to the other reserve components, but it is indeed something we can be extremely proud of and is definitely reason to celebrate.

The 934th Logistics Group has done a fantastic job organizing this event. It promises to be a tremendous evening and a great "birthday party." I hope all members of the 934th family — to include retired and civilian members — come out and enjoy the fun.

Family Day

However, the Reserve and this wing would not have such a great history to celebrate without talented and dedicated reservists — members who willingly and frequently give up time with their families to perform so admirably. On Sunday of the UTA, we get the opportunity to thank our family members who have provided support to us throughout the years.

The 934th Services Squadron and 934th Services Division have planned a fun-filled Family Day with numerous activities and static aircraft displays. I personally would like to express my appreciation to every family member for the sacrifices they have made to enable us to perform our mission.

Enjoy the weekend and keep up the outstanding work. □

Top news

Life insurance premiums drop

The Department of Veterans Affairs has lowered the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Program premium, according to personnel center officials at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

The new rates, effective on July 1, changed from 85 cents to 80 cents per \$10,000 of coverage. Service members now pay \$16 per month for \$200,000 of coverage, compared to the previous \$17 premium.

In July 1997, premiums were lowered from \$18 a month to \$17. Officials said reductions result from program management efficiencies and low fatality rates. *(Air Force News Service)*

Federal support of reservists urged

Secretary of Defense **William Cohen** and Secretary of Labor **Alexis Herman** are urging cabinet members to become model employers to government employees serving in the National Guard and Reserve.

They challenged all federal agencies to support their employees beyond the requirements established in the 1994 landmark legislation — Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, or USERRA.

"Federal employers and supervisors should set the example for the private sector to emulate in flexibility, communication and support to their employees who serve in the Guard and Reserve," Cohen said. *(AFNS)*

Air Force

'Must run' notices issued

Air Force News Service issued "must run" designations on the following items:

▶ **"Base guide on the Web":** Information on military bases and surrounding communities is available through Family Network Crossroads on the World Wide Web. It contains information on bases, housing, relocation, employment, medical services, schools, child care, veterans assistance and a wide variety of

government subjects. The site address is:

<http://www.famnet.com>

▶ **Emergency data currency:** All military members are urged to keep their emergency data current. The Department of Defense Form 93, Record of Emergency Data, provides information on next-of-kin and other persons to notify in case of death, injury or emergency.

Common items needing updates include changes to spouse/children's/parents' addresses, change in marital status, birth of a child and death of any person listed on the form. Visit the customer service desk of the 934th Military Personnel Flight, Bldg. 760, to check on emergency data.

Air Force 'brief briefs' ...

▶ **Montgomery GI Bill payments boosted:** Reservists and active-duty members enrolled in the Montgomery GI Bill program will see a 20-percent increase in monthly education

payments beginning Oct. 1 thanks to recent legislation. Reservists will get a monthly increase to \$251, up to a maximum total of \$9,036. *(AFNS)*

▶ **Candidate rejected:** The Senate Armed Services Committee rejected the president's nomination of **Daryl Jones**, a state senator from Florida and member of the Air Force Reserve Command, as the next secretary of the Air Force. During Senate hearings, some senators and a few members of his squadron at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., questioned Jones' flying record. *(AFNS)*

▶ **Desert project:** Air Force civil engineers are hard at work at Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia, working around the clock to finish a road providing access to new housing for assigned forces. *(AFNS)*

▶ **High-tech tag:** The latest stage of testing on a "digital dog tag" started this summer at the Army Electronic Proving Ground, Fort Huachuca, Ariz., after nearly a decade of work. The vendor bidding process should start in October, with field testing slated for fiscal year 1999, involving 30,000 military members across the services. *(AFNS)*

▶ **New commanders:** Following the retirement of **Gen. Walter Kross**, **Gen. Charles "Tony" Robertson Jr.** became the new commander in chief of U.S. Transportation Command and commander of Air Mobility Command Aug. 3 *(see story, Page 5)*. **Lt. Gen. Walter Hogle Jr.** became the new AMC vice commander July 20. *(Air Mobility Command News Service)*

Reserve

▶ **Reservist honored:** **Tech. Sgt. Gil Morales**, a traditional reservist assigned to the 514th Airlift Wing, McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., is one of the Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year for 1998. The aircraft engine craftsman competed against 47 other people representing major commands and agencies throughout the Air Force. *(Air Force Reserve Command News Service)*

▶ **Space Command first:** **Brig. Gen. Kathy Thomas**, mobilization assistant to the commander of 14th Air Force, became the first female general officer in Air Force Space Command this month. *(AFNS)*

▶ **New fire facility:** A first-of-a-kind, full-scale aircraft fire training facility opened this summer at Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Ohio. The aircraft mock-up gives firefighters realistic aircraft fire training. *(AFRNS)*

▶ **Added program:** The Reserve's new Air Force Office of Special Investigations Region 3 Operating Location B, Robins Air Force Base, Ga., will provide criminal, fraud and counterintelligence investigative services to Reserve units worldwide. *(AFRNS)*

(Continued on next page) ▶

Briefs in blue ...

(Continued from previous page)

Retirees

▶ **Survivor Benefit Plan:**

A new law allows current SBP participants retired two or more years to drop the program by May 16, 2000, something not previously allowed. New participants will have a one-year window to quit. To quit, the participant must send a DD Form 2656-2, SBP Termination Request, to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service's Cleveland center. Details will be included in December 1998 retiree account notices. For more information, contact the 934th Casualty Affairs Office, Ext. 1164, or see one of these Web sites:

<http://www.afpc.af.mil/hrdfacts.stm> or

<http://www.dfas.mil/money/retired/survbnft.htm>

▶ **Dental coverage:** Families of retirees enrolled in the TRICARE retiree dental plan may also be eligible for coverage. That includes families of retired reservists entitled to retired pay but under age 60.

Full details of the retiree dental plan are available by writing: Customer Service, P.O. Box 537007, Sacramento, CA 95835-7007, or at the Web site:

<http://www.ddpdelta.org>

▶ **Annual meeting:** Retired Lt. Col. Richard Pavlasek heads the 96th Airlift Squadron's "Associate Squadron," composed of retirees, honorary members and current members of the 96th. The group's first meeting is set for Friday, Sept. 11, in the main ballroom of the Officers Club, starting at 5 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m.

Pavlasek maintains a listing of past and present squadron members to notify them of activities and meetings. □

Senior Master Sgt. Jim Katzaman

Air Force News Service

In a transition from the Cold War to the 21st century era of contingency operations, Air Force leaders are moving the service toward a more expeditionary aerospace force within the next 18 months.

The EAF, according to F. Whitten Peters, acting secretary of the Air Force, should reduce today's extremely busy deployment tempo for Air Force people. It will also provide a more rapid, robust and flexible response capability.

The EAF will be responsive, according to Peters, "yet it will allow our people to spend more time at home and, through a strong schedule of unit rotations, all of our people — active-duty, Guard and Reserve — can plan for deployments as much as a year in advance.

Evolutionary change

"The expeditionary aerospace force is an evolutionary change for the Air Force," Peters said. "It will affect the way we think and how we organize, train, equip and sustain aerospace forces. It will also allow us to meet the requirements of the national military strategy and the challenges of a changing global security environment."

Changing the face of today's fighting force

Gen. Michael E. Ryan, Air Force chief of staff, explained that the EAF will be a "significant transition in the way we do business." Since the end of the Cold War, he said, the Air Force has not been structured to efficiently meet the demands of the many hot spots around the world calling for U.S. help.

"Our forces have been overextended for several years because of a one-third reduction in manpower as contingency deployments increased fourfold," he said, adding that the EAF will address the problems.

"By January 2000," he said, "we'll have the mindset, procedures, doctrine and organization to allow the most effective use of people and resources to meet the national security requirements of the next century."

Three key goals

The EAF concept provides three key things for the Air Force, the war-fighting commanders and the nation, according to Ryan:

▶ **Known, rapid response capability** tailored to support a wide range of contingencies,

▶ **Predictability and stability** across the force improving morale and retention, and

▶ **Further integration** of the active, Guard, Reserve and civilian forces.

Lt. Gen. Lawrence Farrell, Air Force deputy chief of staff for plans and programs, emphasized that EAF does not move any units from their current locations: "This is not a restructuring of the base line Air Force."

Instead, the EAF organizationally links forces in geographically-separated units into standing air expeditionary

Expeditionary aerospace force packages offer a lethal, quick, flexible mix, set to change the Air Force as we know it — and reserve forces remain a critical ingredient

forces, or AEFs. These units would launch from Air Force installations and be ready to fight or deliver humanitarian supplies on very short notice.

In full operation, the AEFs would at once bring predictability to deployments and at the same time bring stability to a multi-tasked force, Farrell said. This added predictability in scheduling would also help the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve better support contingency taskings.

'Tailor made' force packages

AEFs are already proven, according to Farrell, the Air Force having launched five of them since Operation Desert Storm. However, these previous AEFs were "tailor made" individual groupings, pulled together for only one deployment.

However, the chief of staff explained that the new expeditionary concept requires a force that is "light, lean and lethal."

► Light means a reduced airlift requirement,

► Being lean means using agile combat support to operate out of austere locations with minimal resupply, and

► To be lethal, the EAF will create decisive effects and accomplish the mission effectively with minimum resources.

By January 2000, according to the acting secretary, the service will be organized with AEFs that will take turns being on call. The revamped structure, Peters said, will allow a more effective

use of people and resources to meet the national security requirements of the next century.

Under the new plan, a typical AEF can be a package of fighters, bombers, tankers, tactical airlift, radar and electronic-warfare aircraft, along with space, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance assets, with the appropriate complement of support people ready to deploy on short notice. The force could also be organized with elements capable of responding to humanitarian and disaster-relief emergencies.

Worldwide links

The overall plan calls for the individual elements of each AEF to be organizationally linked with units from stateside and overseas. Today's widely dispersed Guard and Reserve forces would also be counted into the AEFs, getting guardsmen and reservists engaged on a regularly-scheduled basis with active units for training and deployments. This increased predictability would allow more effective planning for contingencies such as Southern Watch.

"The Air Force has always had an expeditionary mission," Ryan said, "but we need better organization to manage and train to a wide range of capabilities. Using AEFs, we can rapidly respond to contingencies requiring different types of assets without upsetting base line Air Force organizations.

"It's an effort to organize in a manner that lets us operate with a truly expeditionary mindset," he continued. "At the same time, it would make the most efficient use of our people and resources.

"Our Air Force men and women are meeting every challenge they face with consummate commitment, and this gives them the backing to carry out that mission." (*Air Force News Service, "must run"*) □

'Motherhood and apple pie'

New commander sees people as key element in mobility's role in military operations

Air Mobility Command's new commander is placing people at the top of his priority list.

"Mobility today is like motherhood and apple pie as far as the Defense Department is concerned," said Gen. Tony Robertson. "The country can't do what it needs to do without a lot of very good, hard-working people on the line making the mission happen every day."

Robertson sees air mobility as the linchpin to most successful military operations in recent years and doesn't expect the coming years to change that connection.

"The air mobility story is written in every headline you read," he said. "The success of U.S. military operations around the world for the last several years has been an almost direct by-product of the excellence of the people of AMC active duty, Guard and Reserve, officer, enlisted and civilian, along with our commercial partners."

Robertson plans to focus on people issues first, such as adequate pay, retirement, medical care and operations tempo. He said he is confident these issues are understood and being worked aggressively by senior leaders at Air Force and Department of Defense levels.

"We will get through this period of challenges," Robertson said. "Until we do, my role in this is to serve as our people's No. 1 spokesman and the command's No. 1 action officer in our efforts to eliminate these distractions to our people's performance.

(MOBILITY, continued on Page 15) ▶

News bytes

Family Day set for Sunday

Family Day activities start at 10 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 13, rather than at 11 a.m. as previously published.

Lunch begins at 11 a.m., with hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, beans, potato salad and coleslaw for \$1.50, with free pop. Incoming static display aircraft include a C-141, EC-135 and T-38.

Other activities include unit displays and information tables, children's games, rummage and craft sale, book fair and a special-interest vehicle show.

A-76 actions draw near for base

Cherie Huntington

Public Affairs

Holding fast to the goal of protecting base civilians, officials here are bracing for critical milestones approaching rapidly in the A-76 process.

The 934th, along with 12 other Air Force Reserve Command locations, were selected in 1996 for an A-76 study to determine if specified base functions should be contracted out. Under the current time line, the wing should know if targeted functions will be contracted out as early as late March 1999. That information triggers an immediate reduction in force, or RIF.

"Whether we go in-house or contract out, we're still going to lose some jobs," said **Col. Richard Moss**, wing commander, at commander's call Aug. 20.

At that meeting, information was presented by base officials, including **Ann Cordes**, Civilian Personnel Office chief; **Chuck Frans**, chairman of the 934th Cost Comparison Management Steering Group for A-76 and management analyst with 934th Financial Management; and **Jerry LaLonde**, Local 1997 of the American Federation of Government Employees president and Base Civil Engineering electrician.

Cordes explained wing strategies — such as stockpiling vacancies via management reassignments and details — to help save base jobs in preparation for the RIF, which could affect a significant number of civilian positions here.

"If we lose the contract, we don't have [enough] vacant jobs to make job offers," she said. "We don't have enough turnover to create many vacancies ... Seven months — that's all we've got to try to stockpile as many jobs as possible."

Other key dates were outlined by Frans in an ever-changing time line, with events constantly being moved to earlier or later dates:

▶ **Sept. 17, 1998:** At press time, date set for briefings and a tour for contractors interested in bidding for the base contract

▶ **Oct. 23, 1998:** Last date for contractor bids

▶ **March 26, 1999:** Cost comparisons determine whether work stays in-house or goes contract; RIF actions begin

▶ **July 1, 1999:** Contractor familiarization period of 120 days begins, if contracted out

▶ **Sept. 26, 1999:** Implementation of "Most Efficient Organization" reduced staffing if base wins bid

▶ **Oct. 31, 1999:** RIF actions completed

▶ **Nov. 1, 1999:** Contract start date, if contracted out

Cordes' office is hard at work on several initiatives to assist base civilians, including briefings on the RIF process and buyouts, assistance visits for the federal priority placement program and the Minnesota Job Service Dislocated Workers Service, and career counseling.

"The A-76 is going to impact you, and it's going to impact your family," said LaLonde. "You may be thinking it won't affect you, but ... one RIF action could conceivably affect seven people on this base. That's what the stats show. So you're not safe."

Areas under study here include airfield operations, base civil engineering, communications, information management, supply and transportation.

▶ Anyone with questions should e-mail or call Frans, Ext. 1403.

October readiness exercise grows

Nearly 400 people will deploy in the wing readiness exercise, or REDEX, set for Oct. 1-4 at Camp Ripley, Minn.

"Overall, our goal is to ensure our reservists have the basic war-fighting skills that form the foundation of readiness," said **Lt. Col. Robert Spence**, deputy commander for operations and project officer for the REDEX.

He said he observed last year's bivouac performed by civil engineers and aerial port members, thinking it would be a good foundation for an exercise with little increase in cost. "I thought we could get the whole wing involved and get some good training in a deployed location," Spence said.

According to **Capt. Linda Boyda**, wing plans officer, each unit has designed its own training plan. Saturday will feature aeromedical events, flying activities and chemical warfare exercises. Of the members remaining at home station, Boyda estimates 300 people will process through the mobility line. Spence said those at home base also will be donning and doffing chemical warfare equipment.

Departing members most likely will meet in the hangar to be "chalked," or assigned a specific flight, and manifested, said Boyda. "It will be a downsized version of the air passenger terminal outprocessing," she said. Units with equipment to send should transport it to Bldg. 710, 27th Aerial Port Squadron, no later than 8 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 30. The advance team leaves Thursday, Oct. 1, with the main body deploying on Friday, via four airplanes flying double sorties.

Meals for deploying members will be Meals, Ready to Eat for lunches and Friday's breakfast, and hot meals from the

(Continued on next page) ▶

(Continued from previous page)

mobile kitchen trailer for other breakfasts and dinner. At home station, including everyone on unit training assembly status at breakfast on Thursday, members will sign for meals at the NCO Club. Units will arrange with the services squadron for members to sign for meals at the club on days served in UTA status. The dining hall will be closed.

Each unit has determined if Thursday and Friday duty will be performed in active or inactive duty status, possibly rescheduling a future UTA. Most wing units will participate in the REDEX, with only the aerial port and civil engineer squadron planning a bivouac. Other members will be housed in open-bay barracks.

Dirt flies for base fitness center

The joint use base fitness center has started to "bulk up," as a new facility under construction will boost current square footage from around 1,200 square feet to 7,600.

The present facility, located upstairs in Bldg. 801 over the fire station, will be replaced by the new center, located between the tennis courts and basketball court near the Base Exchange.

The ground breaking was set for Sept. 2 for the nearly \$1.5 million project, and project manager "Dodd" Sadeghi of Base Civil Engineering estimates the center should be finished in February or March.

"The design was completed in 1995," he said, "but we just received the funding to start construction."

Sadeghi said the facility features half-court basketball

usable for full-court volleyball, a racquetball court usable for nonregulation volleyball, extensive room for weights and aerobic machines, lockers, showers and office space for recreation services.

David Lilja, chief of services, said his division will be consolidating equipment now in use and buying around \$32,000 in new equipment. "We're really excited and looking forward to serving the military community," said Lilja. "All fitness center services are free, so the major problem will be for us to establish hours workable to everyone."

Lodging facility enters design phase

The biggest construction project ever for the 934th Airlift Wing started in August as initial funding was granted for a \$14 million, 307 room lodging facility.

"There will be at least two or three phases, and we've received funding for the design and maybe the first phase of construction," said "Dodd" Sadeghi, project manager with Base Civil Engineering.

Sadeghi said the design is due by June 1999. "Soon after that, construction will start," he said.

He said the project will be the biggest the \$4 million civil engineer facility, the largest in recent years.

By the end of September, the base should receive additional funding for several new projects, including storage buildings and both renovation and an addition for the medical facility.

Tactical exercise hosted in Ohio

The skies over northeast Ohio and western Pennsylvania were busier than normal Aug. 7-9 as the 910th Airlift Wing, Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Ohio, hosted a large-scale tactical deployment and operations exercise. The 934th participated with one aircraft and crew.

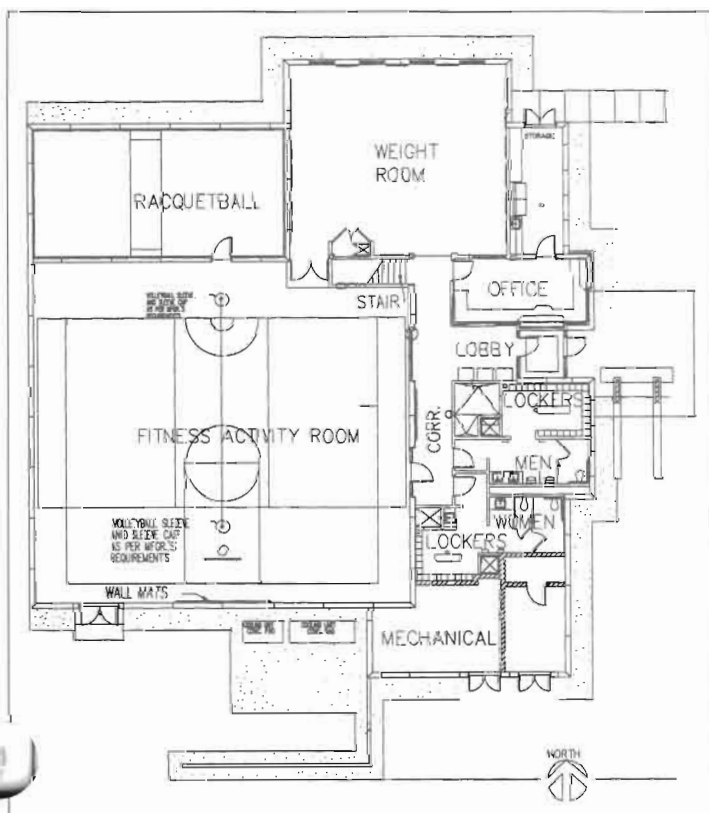
Called Super TAC 98-1, the exercise involved C-130 aircraft and crews from seven Reserve wings, as well as Army National Guard special forces units. In addition, British and Canadian military forces participated in the training opportunity.

"The whole three days was nonstop and challenged every area of airlift operations, from marshalling cargo to generating aircraft to recovering loads," said Capt. John Keytack, chief of public affairs for the 910th.

Other Air Force Reserve Command units in the exercise were the 94th AW, Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga.; 302nd AW, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.; 908th AW, Maxwell AFB, Ala.; 911th AW, Pittsburgh International Airport ARS, Pa.; and 913th AW, Willow Grove ARS, Pa.

Participants from the 934th included: Capt. Mark Vijums, aircraft commander; 1st Lt. David Bloomquist, copilot; Maj. Les Snyder, navigator; Staff Sgt. Rob Mattern, flight engineer; Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Foss and Staff Sgt. Thomas Kim, loadmasters; and Tech. Sgt. Gary Athey, crew chief. (Air Force Reserve Command News Service, courtesy 910th AW)

(NEWS: BYTES, continued on Page 10) V



Fitness center floor plan

Superior Performers

The following are Superior Performers selected by the Unit Compliance Inspection team, July 31-Aug. 3:

27th Aerial Port Squadron

Staff Sgt. John Krebsbach
Senior Airman Scott Lindell
Tech. Sgt. Mark Quinlan
Capt. Erik Sutcliffe
Master Sgt. Adan Sylva

934th Aeromedical Evacuation Flight

Capt. Benedicto Bobadilla
Capt. Leslie Kirkpatrick
1st Lt. Gordon Sigl

96th Airlift Squadron

Capt. David Tank

934th Civil Engineer Squadron

Master Sgt. Eugene Kirk
Tech. Sgt. Wayne Stierlen

934th Communications Squadron

Staff Sgt. Michael Allen
Staff Sgt. Paul Gulenchyn
Staff Sgt. Eric Ortiz

934th Logistics Support Squadron

Master Sgt. Sterling Meyer
Cynthia Murry

(Continued on next page) ▶

Biding her time

Years of experience in timecard management finally pay off

Irene Linc, budget assistant with the 934th Operations Group, didn't think anything special about her work as key timekeeper, but the Unit Compliance Inspection team thought otherwise.

"I was just doing my job!" said Linc. But the inspectors praised her timecard management as a "Best Practice."

"They liked the fact that I kept everything together with each person's time sheet," she said. Linc handles around 38 time sheets.

"It really takes up a lot of time," she said, "and you really have to watch status changes." She explained that aircrew members usually have a lot of status changes among civilian, military and Additional Flying Training Periods categories. And since she also handles orders, she said her timekeeper duties "work better that way."

She also credits her nearly 17 years as a timekeeper as a great help. "I have so much practice running into certain things, they often send out a beacon [when something is wrong]," she said. "There are so many different things that come up, it's unreal."

Even with all her experience, however, she has found herself going to higher headquarters for clarification on many issues in the past year. "It's not getting any easier," said Linc.

"They have a good system of checks and balances on the procedures," said **Chuck Frans**, management analyst with 934th Financial Management, who handles timecard audits on a recurring basis.

"It's a well-organized system, and communications is the key thing," he said. "Irene works closely with **Debbie Smith** for the AFTPs, **Rick Glodek** for the 40As [inactive duty pay forms] and the supervisors. It's a coordinated effort. They've set up a system that's almost foolproof." □



Linc

Unit Compliance Inspection



The wing successfully completed its first UCI, July 31-Aug. 3, given by the Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command Inspector General team.

Unlike similar inspections in the past, no grades are given — only "satisfactory" or "unsatisfactory"

Wing member designs

Tech. Sgt. Troy Puckett, life support technician with the 96th Airlift Squadron, had one thought in mind when he came up with his "Best Practice" computer program: avoid the hassle.



Puckett

The program tracks squadron credit card purchases, and the hassle prompting it arose from several users on the same account.

"Every time I needed to buy something, nobody knew the balance," Puckett said. "It was frustrating." Each query resulted in a fact-finding mission to determine who bought what and when and how much was spent.

Puckett, a self-professed "computer hack," said he designed a user-friendly spreadsheet program to track each purchase and show the balance of funds. It contains formulas to automatically figure cost for multiple items, and it produces detailed reports at the push of a button.

"It's a neat little program, but I never thought it would help everyone," he said.

He should have realized he was onto something big, however, when other base organizations, such as lodging and maintenance, adopted the program. According to **Connie Herberg**, program coordinator for the International Merchant Purchase

Top performers, practices

overall and in each inspected area.

The team awarded numerous honors, some of which are noted in these pages. Two wing members were selected for the Ed Jones Memorial Award: **Irene Linc**, 934th Operations Group; and **Tech. Sgt. Troy Puckett**, 96th Airlift Squadron.

The award recognizes individuals who stand above the rest in terms of professional skill, knowledge, leadership and devotion to duty.

Both Linc and Puckett also earned "Best Practice" awards for special programs they manage. □

Program to track budget

'Wallet watcher'

Authorization Card, the spreadsheet "is a great tool for multiple card holders under the same fund site."

Herberg liked the program so well, in fact, that she posted it to the shared G-drive for the base.

"By having this form set up on a shared drive of the card holders," she said, "they prevent any overspending on the account. It updates the account balance each time a buy is input by the card holder."

Herberg recommended use of the program by all organizations using the IMPAC. As for Puckett, he's still not content.

"I'm continually updating it," he said. "Right now, I'm working on the fiscal year 1999 program with a little different format." Also, units can tailor the program to suit their needs, he said, such as the aeromedical Squadron adopting it to track supply accounts.

The program is on the G-drive at **Logistics/Lgc/Impac Information/Activity Log**. □

Ready 'n waiting

Notable program keeps low profile for four years

Master Sgt. **Larry Schyma**, plans technician with the 934th Airlift Wing plans shop, waited four years to receive his "Best Practice" honors.

Prior to the 1994 Quality Air Force Assessment, the wing commander asked Schyma to put the final polish on his mobility "ready chart" program, as he thought it deserved notice. Yet it got none from inspectors until last month's Unit Compliance Inspection.

"It provides an unclassified snapshot of a unit's readiness from month to month," Schyma said. "It allows unit deployment managers to see where possible problem areas might be." Units update their ready charts each month, providing copies to their commanders and the plans office. The forms provide for a simple, composite document tracking status of "all things mobility," including pallets, nets, mobility bags, weapons, equipment and people.

"It really helps us when we do staff assistance visits," Schyma said, adding that each unit receives a plans SAV annually.

Regarding the attention the chart received in the inspection, Schyma remained modest. "It was a plans team effort," he said. "We didn't think it was anything special."

The ready chart is located on the shared G-drive at **Plans/Contbook/Readycht.xls**. □

Superior Performer Teams

Two units earned "Superior Performer Team" honors, consisting of all-traditional members.

Winners were the 934th Aero-medical Evacuation Squadron's enlisted training program

team and the 934th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighters' egress exercise team.

As the inspection report was not finalized until Aug. 28, these accomplishments will be covered in a future *Viking Flyer*. □



Schyma

Superior performers ...

(Continued from previous page)

934th Maintenance Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Rory Ernst
Tech. Sgt. Juan Hernandez
Tech. Sgt. Dale Ingersoll
Patricia Sahr
Master Sgt. Roy Schwegel

934th Operations Group

Mary Schoenleber
Master Sgt. Debra Smith

934th Operations Support Flight

Capt. Mark Vijums

934th Mission Support Flight

Geraldine Theisen

934th Security Police Squadron

Staff Sgt. Susette Holmgren
Staff Sgt. Leo Moreno

934th Services Squadron

Master Sgt. Brian Lloyd

Recruiting

Dianne Greeman

Department of Defense Security Forces

Michelle Ingrahm
Capt. David Stai

Wing Headquarters

Master Sgt. David Hammer
Maj. Douglas Kveene
Tech. Sgt. Vicky Kuntz □

News bytes

(Continued from Page 7)

Reservist finds pipe bomb

Staff Sgt. Larry Dean
Public Affairs

Volunteer firefighter and 934th Maintenance Squadron member **Tech. Sgt. Jesse White** recently received a refresher course in vigilance when it comes to the dangers of a violent world.

Around dusk on June 14, White was alerted to a fire approximately two miles from his Ham Lake, Minn., home and began driving to the fire station to respond. A caller told the fire department dispatcher that they saw someone throw something from their pickup truck and there was a fire in the ditch.

On his way, White drove near the fire and stopped his car. "I saw that it was just smoking," he said. "I thought it was probably something from a car fire in the ditch and, since it was only smoking, I could simply stomp it out myself. Those type of fires are usually pretty easy to handle.

"It had started getting dark outside," he continued, "and I was stomping out the smoking grass. I kept stepping on something rounded and then looked closer to discover a pipe-shaped object. That's when I realized that the fire could be from a pipe bomb."

White used his car phone to alert people of the potential pipe bomb. The Minneapolis Bomb Squad responded, blew the ends off and confirmed that it was a low-grade pipe bomb with black powder and nails inside.

"Fortunately, nobody was hurt, just a little grass was burned in about a one-foot diameter circle in the ditch," he said. "I was lucky that it didn't detonate while I was stomping the area of the fire. It's a pretty frightening reminder that nowadays all of us need to be as vigilant in our personal lives as we would if we were on a military deployment."

Wing junior officer attends international seminar in Sweden

Cherie Huntington
Public Affairs

From intense classroom discussions of reserve forces around the world to early morning, icy swims in a tributary of the Baltic Sea, **Capt. Chris Kiraly-Thomas** reflected on her recent training in Stockholm, Sweden, with both pride and enthusiasm.

She represented the 934th Airlift Wing at the International Junior Officer Leadership Development Seminar, June 29-July 3. "It was the highlight of my military career," she said. "I've been around the world I don't know how many times as a flight engineer and had many great experiences with a lot of different units, but this was phenomenal ... It was an honor to go."

The international course, held each summer for about five years now, has been held in locations such as Germany and

the Netherlands. Each Air Force Reserve Command will select a junior officer to attend, with about 30 Americans and 30 attendees from 10 other countries' military services participating. Kiraly-Thomas, the first wing attendee, had been selected to attend last year, but budget restraints following the Operational Readiness Inspection prevented the trip.

She said the busy agenda included extensive team-building exercises and lectures, country reports on each representative's respective reserve forces, a formal military dinner and various formal and informal social events.

"You gain a better appreciation for U.S. reserve forces," she said. "Some countries' forces aren't even paid, and one country pays their reservists \$3 a day."

Information on the international seminar usually comes out in January, with wing selection in March. Attendees must go in annual tour status.

Kiraly-Thomas, who transferred to the 439th AW, Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass., as of Aug. 15, has been involved in the JOLDS process for four years at a national level. A dozen or so programs are held around the United States at military bases throughout the year.

"JOLDS has always been a 'value added' program," she said. "It has never been a square filler or something necessary for promotion. And it continues to evolve."

The wing now seeks a new project officer for JOLDS matters. Anyone interested should contact **Maj. Chris Martin**, 934th Mission Support Flight commander, Ext. 1513. For more on the international program, check the Web site:

<http://goober.net/ijolds98>

Team completes paint-a-thon

A 934th Airlift Wing team played "dueling paint brushes" for the ninth year in the Metro Paint-A-Thon, a community project matching volunteers with local elderly or disabled people needing home improvement assistance.

This year, the team worked on a house near the base for nearly five hours on Aug. 6, scraping and painting the exterior. Volunteers included:

934th Maintenance Squadron: **Senior Master Sgt. Dave Cormier**, co-chairman, and mother, **Darlene**, brother, **Bob**, and nephew, **Derrick**; **Master Sgts. Dan Pekel, Darryl Radford, Gerald Schuster and Ron Welp**; **Tech. Sgts. Dave Bugni, Rory Ernst, Steve Lerbakken, Don MacElroy, Al McCann, Gordy Stransky and John Tverberg**; **Staff Sgt. Laura Taylor** and children, **Jacob and Joab**; **Staff Sgt. Dan Roth**; and **Doug Wold**.

934th Logistics Support Squadron: **Tech. Sgts. John Bruns and Betsy Johnston**; **Tech. Sgt. Tom Stratton** and son, **Jeremy**; and **KD Steward**.

934th Logistics Group: **Maj. Cam LeBlanc**; and **Master Sgt. Craig Molm** and father, **Gay**.

934th Airlift Wing: **Master Sgt. Darrell Habisch**; and **Master Sgt. David Hammer**, co-chairman.

934th Recruiting: **Staff Sgt. Candy Sommers**.

Since 1983, volunteers from hundreds of local companies and organizations have participated in the painting project, administered by the Minneapolis Council of Churches. □

Jack-of-all-trades, master of ~~none~~

many

Lt. Col. Larry Snider
Navigation Officer, 96th Airlift Squadron

Looking next to the crew entrance door on one of our eight C-130s, you won't find the name of the wing commander, squadron commander or aircraft commander, but rather the name of the crew chiefs for that specific C-130. That should provide a clue as to the level of pride associated with this job specialty.

At home or on the road, the crew chief prepares the plane for launch by making sure configuration inside the aircraft is correct, proper fuel load is aboard for the mission and all maintenance problems have been corrected. If he or she has done a good job and no problems occur in flight, the aircraft will return with a status of Alpha One — mechanically sound and ready to go again following routine servicing.

'Sick' Herk

A "sick" aircraft is designated Alpha Two, meaning minor discrepancies exist, but the aircraft is airworthy and should be considered good for subsequent missions.

But the dreaded Alpha Three designation means that a problem exists which is serious enough to keep the aircraft on the ground until repairs are made. Thanks to the airworthiness of the C-130 Hercules and the efforts of the maintenance people here, Alpha Three is rarely placed in the forms, even though the planes are 36 years old. Typically, the aircraft returns Alpha One — or sometimes Two — and the crew chief meets the plane, performs whatever servicing is necessary and

Crew chief expertise often represents key to mission success

"buttons up" the bird for the night.

If we happen to be deployed from home, this is a time when the crew chief and flight crew work very closely together. The pilot and navigator, along with the flight engineer, coordinate the necessary fuel load for the next day's mission. The engineer, with his mechanical background and experience, assumes the role of relaying write-ups to the crew chief.

At the same time, loadmasters frequently assist the crew chief with postflight duties. This is very much a two-way street. Even though he is not listed as "aircrew," the crew chief assists the loadmasters in numerous ways, and vice versa.

Sometimes, though, the length of the mission dictates that the loadmaster is out of crew duty day or may have to immediately enter crew rest for the

next day's mission. In this case, the crew chief takes care of bedding down the airplane, much as he does here at home station.

Crew chief to the rescue

Any way you look at it, the crew chief is usually the first one on the flightline and the last one off at the end of the day. In between, while the aircraft is on its mission, there may be little to do. This is especially true on the road, when the crew chief can't pitch in to help another crew chief ready a plane for flight as he

would routinely do at home station.

But turbines do fail, warning lights do illuminate and oil leaks do occur. These and other problems which may occur create a reversal of fortunes between the aircrew and the crew chief. The aircrew either goes back into crew rest or awaits the necessary repairs. Now the crew chief, along with any other maintenance specialists deployed, springs into action.

A paradigm shift occurs, and that day's activity, as well as the next day's mission, are reevaluated. Priorities are reestablished, and missions possibly altered, all based on the answer to the questions: "What's the problem, crew chief, and when can we be ready to fly?"

Suddenly, the crew chief has become the most important person on the team. The remainder of the deployment may depend on what he can pull out of his bag of "jack-of-all-trades" tricks. If he is lucky, the crew chief has a specialist with him — from areas such as hydraulics or avionics — to solve the specific problem which has arisen. If not, he becomes the specialist, pulling out his technical manuals to work the problem.

Glue between two teams

Here at the 934th Airlift Wing, the Flying Vikings have long recognized the value of our skilled, highly motivated maintenance people. But providing the glue between the maintenance specialists and the aircrew is the crew chief. And we have arguably the best staff of crew chiefs in the C-130 world.

These men and women want to ensure that if a mission does not come off as planned, it's not because of their airplane. Not surprisingly, they almost always succeed in that endeavor.

After all, wherever in the world that bird lands, it's their name, and theirs alone, painted on the skin for all to see. □



Staff Sgt. Robert Walz

Staff Sgt. Matthew Welage, crew chief

Wing roundup

27th Aerial Port Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Mark Pierson
The air drop upload and drop zone recovery team for the August drill were **Tech. Sgt. Jerry Worshek**; **Staff Sgts. Crealo Alverio, Carl Dewaard and Dan Wetsch**; and **Senior Airman Jessie Alioto**. Three aircraft dropped three heavy equipment platforms and three training bundles.

934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

Senior Airman Shana Strozewski
The squadron has a new requirement for all physicians, dentists, nurses, physician assistants and public health officers. They must complete a medical management of biological casualties course by February 1999. The course will be broadcasted via satellite in September and October. The Unit Compliance Inspection went extremely well and kept the unit very busy in July and August. Also, a "how to" manual on enlisted training for supervisors was completed, a big step in our training processes.

934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Staff Sgt. Michael Sanford
Eleven members completed a two-day course to become certified cardiopulmonary resuscitation instructors.

96th Airlift Squadron

Airman Jess Lind
Many members received certificates of appreciation for serving in Southwest Asia

in June and July. On Aug. 2-7, squadron members traveled to North Island, San Diego, Calif., for jump training with the U.S. Navy Seals. Then on Aug. 7-9, the unit supported "Super TAC 98-1" a Joint Airborne Air Transportability Training tactical exercise at Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Ohio. Along with six other units — five Reserve units and one Air Guard — a total of 10 aircraft flew in formation, dropping Army troops. (See story, Page 7.)

934th Civil Engineer Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Randy Matthews
The new combat arms training facility dedication was held Aug. 2. The drill was busy with the Unit Compliance Inspection, 11 people achieving M-16 qualification, 15 people undergoing security training, 15 at rapid runway repair training, eight people in cardiopulmonary resuscitation training and 30 completing the annual fitness walk.

934th Communications Flight

Tech. Sgt. Becky Bean
With the Unit Compliance Inspection finished, the unit is preparing for a March 1999 deployment to Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. This will be the flight's first two-week deployed annual tour since 1994.

934th Logistics Support Squadron

Sgt. Martina Delp
The command staff is

diligently planning for the upcoming readiness exercise, to be held at Camp Ripley, Minn., with 10 squadron members set to deploy. Congratulations to **Tech. Sgt. Christopher Sayre** on his award of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

934th Maintenance Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Timothy Mutch
The squadron recognized 55 people with certificates of appreciation for their service in Southwest Asia for 15-30 days each. Planning is underway for Coronet Oak deployments to Panama during November, December, February and March plus support of Operation Joint Guard — now called Joint Forge — next fiscal year. A modification team for an aircraft avionics upgrade is scheduled to be on station in October and November.

934th Operations Support Flight

Tech. Sgt. Cara Utecht
The flight is preparing for October's readiness exercise set for Camp Ripley, Minn.

934th Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sgt. Niklas Hammarberg
During August drill, members attended classroom and practical training on security forces form preparation, law enforcement patrolling and vehicle stop procedures, the military working dog program and suicide awareness.

934th Services Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Pamela Peck
August was a routine drill,

with five meals served and numerous ancillary training items completed. Most of the squadron will deploy to Camp Ripley, Minn., next month for the readiness exercise, so home station meals will be handled by the NCO Club for members on inactive duty status. (See exercise story, Page 6.)

Wing Headquarters/ 934th Mission Support Flight

Staff Sgt. Linda Jimenez
Welcome to MSF's new commander, **Maj. Chris Martin**. □

Wing around the world: September

- 27th APS: Texas
- 934th AES: Illinois, Texas, Wisconsin
- 934th ASTS: Texas
- 96th AS: California, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, Texas, Wisconsin
- 934th AW HQ/MSF: Germany, North Dakota, Texas
- 934th CES: Georgia, Germany, Texas
- 934th CF: Georgia
- 934th LSS: No travel
- 934th MXS: Alaska, California, Colorado, Kuwait, Maryland, Ohio, Texas
- 934th OSF: Alabama
- 934th SFS: Saudi Arabia, Texas
- 934th SVS: Germany

This list shows official travel destinations for wing members, via commercial or military transportation. For space-available travel information, call the 96th Airlift Squadron at 713-1741 or the local Air National Guard wing at 713-2450.

Looking back on 50 years

Reserve units review history of new missions, response to crises

The Directorate of Historical Services, Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command, prepared the following historical chronology, which will continue throughout this anniversary year.

October

► Oct. 15, 1948:

President Truman's Executive Order 10007 directed the Air Force and the Army to devote more attention and resources to their reserve components. The Air Force established Continental Air Command to administer its Reserve programs.

► Oct. 1, 1961: Five Air Force Reserve C-124 wings and more than 4,400 Air Force reservists were mobilized for the Berlin crisis. They were released from active duty Aug. 27, 1962.

► Oct. 30, 1961: Members of five Continental Air command Air Force Reserve air rescue squadrons

volunteered for 60 days of active duty to provide rescue support during the "Stair Step" deployment of Air National Guard fighter units to Europe.

► Oct. 28, 1962: Eight Air Force Reserve troop carrier wings, equipped with C-119s and C-123s, and six aerial port squadrons were mobilized during the Cuban Missile Crisis. A total of 14,188 reservists were mobilized. They were released from

active duty Nov. 28, 1962.

► Oct. 1, 1976: The Tactical Air Command Reserve Augmentation Test and Evaluation Program, a test of a modified fighter associate program, began at Moody Air Force Base, Ga. The two-phase test ended on Sept. 30, 1978.

► Oct. 1, 1977: The Reserve and the Air National Guard began supporting the full-time airlift requirements of the U.S. Southern Command, rotating C-130s with aircrews and support

people to Howard AFB in the Canal Zone on a quarterly basis. The 442nd Tactical Airlift wing, Richards-Gebaur AFB, Mo., inaugurated the first rotation. Today, this joint Guard and Reserve mission is referred to as Coronet Oak.

► Oct. 23, 1983: Reserve units assisted in the evacuation of more than 700 American and foreign citizens from Grenada during the civil disturbance on that island. Reservists flew 20 strategic airlift missions and four tactical airlift missions as well as assisting in medical evacuation missions.

► October 1989: Reservists responded to the call for disaster relief following an earthquake in northern California.

► Oct. 1, 1993: The Reserve activated its first B-52 unit, the 93rd Bomb Squadron, assigned to the 917th Wing, Barksdale AFB, La.

► Oct. 1, 1994: All Reserve flying groups were redesignated as wings as part of Air Force-mandated force structure changes. The term "associate" was eliminated from unit designations. □



1948-1998

Wing anniversaries

Two units — one old, one new — celebrate activations in September

Master Sgt. David Hammer
Wing Historian

This month there are two 934th Airlift Wing unit anniversaries to celebrate: the 934th Maintenance Squadron and the 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.

Maintenance

The maintenance squadron was constituted as the 934th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and activated on Sept. 30, 1966. It was organized in the Reserve on Nov. 1, 1966 and redesignated to its current name on Feb. 1, 1992.

The unit has been awarded the Panama Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamer, 1989-1990, and Air Force

Outstanding Unit Awards for Oct. 1, 1988-Sept. 30, 1990 and July 1, 1994-June 30-1996. The emblem for the unit was approved on Dec. 12, 1984.

Aeromedical evacuation

The other unit for this month, the 934th AES, is the newest unit on base with only four years in existence. Before anyone picks up the telephone to tell me that the squadron has been around since 1959, that unit was the 47th AES.

On Oct. 1, 1994, the 47th was inactivated and the current squadron was activated. If the 47th had been redesignated the 934th AES, then the squadron would have continued the lineage and honors of the 47th. With the way the orders were written on Sept. 21, 1994, the 47th no longer exists and the 934th AES is a new unit.

The 934th AES was activated on Oct. 1, 1994, and it has been awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award from Oct. 1, 1994, to June 30, 1996. The emblem for the unit was approved on June 25, 1996. □

People

Medals

Meritorious Service Medal

Master Sgt. Douglas Himango, CES, retired
Senior Master Sgt. Martin Ignatowicz, CES, retired
Master Sgt. David Rau, CES, retired

Aerial Achievement Medal

Capt. Lynn Rydberg, AES, *Operation Joint Guard, Bosnia*

Air Force Commendation Medal

Master Sgt. Bradley Erickson, MXS
Tech. Sgt. Patrick Smith, CES

Air Force Achievement Medal

Tech. Sgt. Dean Andersen, CES
Tech. Sgt. Bruce Butturff, CES
Master Sgt. John Chalich, CES, first oak leaf cluster
Maj. Lizabeth Erickson, ASTS
Senior Master Sgt. Robert Hanley, SFS, first OLC
Master Sgt. David Provo, SFS, first OLC
Maj. David Rezutko, ASTS, first OLC
Master Sgt. Phillip Sells, SFS
Maj. Sharon Turovaara, ASTS
Master Sgt. Bryan Voigt, SFS, first OLC

Newcomers

(Previous base/status listed)

► Staff Sgt. Mark Cooling, CES, *Beale Air Force Base, Calif.*
► Airman 1st Class Del Deatherage, MXS, *non-prior service*
► Capt. Douglas DeMatthew, AS, *Little Rock AFB, Ark.*
► Amn. Marcus Erickson, CF, *non-prior service*
► Airman 1st Class Semika Gates, MSF, *Moody AFB, Ga.*
► Staff Sgt. Larry Graves, MXS, *General Mitchell Air Reserve Station, Wis.*
► Senior Airman Loney Gronskei, LSS, *Grand Forks AFB, N.D.*
► Airman 1st Class Jamie Heinzelman, CF, *Minot AFB, N.D.*
► Senior Airman Mitchell Hoffman, MXS, *Grand Forks*
► Senior Airman William Hogan, ASTS, *Scott AFB, Ill.*
► Senior Airman Chad Larson, MXS, *Little Rock*
► 1st Lt. Robert Levy, ASTS, *McChord*

AFB, Wash.

► Airman Basic Jeremy Meyer, ASTS, *Air Reserve Personnel Center*
► Capt. Donald Petros, AS, *Little Rock*
► Senior Airman Elaine Seibert, AES, *U.S. Army*
► Senior Airman Scott Strader, AS, *General Mitchell Air Reserve Station, Wis.*
► Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Ulmen, SFS, *Grand Forks*
Air reserve technicians
► 1st Lt. David Bloomquist, AS, *traditional in AS*

Achievements

► **Senior Airman Kelley Caudill**, AES, was selected as the squadron's "Member of the Month" for August.

► **Master Sgt. David Hammer**, AW, was noted as "one of the command's best historians" and received an outstanding rating on the wing history, Oct. 1, 1996-Sept. 30, 1997. This is the second time in a row Hammer achieved this rating, both firsts for the wing.

► **Senior Airman Nicole Swett**, OSF, received the flight's "Supporter of the Quarter" award.

► **Staff Sgt. Michael Tourney**, ASTS, has earned his bachelor's in nursing.

► The Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center congratulated the wing on its 1997 blood donations, totalling 125 units. Another year bar was placed on the blood donor plaque in the headquarters building lobby.

► The following federal employees earned service certificates:

30 years

Richard Tucker, CPO

20 years

Bradley Binion, AS

(20 years, continued)

Connie Herberg, LGC
Elizabeth Johnston, MXS

► The following federal employees earned suggestion awards:

\$200 award

David Cormier, MXS
Jeffrey Dentz, MXS, five awards
Roy Shives, MXS
Stephen Taylor, AS
F. Harris Walker Jr., MXS

\$100 award

Edwin Burke III, MXS
Keith Krause, MXS

Education

► The following members completed formal training courses, **July 16-Aug. 15**:

Staff Sgt. Donald Albee, SFS; security forces craftsman; Lackland Air Force Base, Texas; Aug. 3-14.
Tech. Sgt. David Anderson, ASTS; Reserve recruiter; Lackland; July 16-Aug. 12.

Staff Sgt. Robert Arkulary, AS; loadmaster mission qualification; Little Rock AFB, Ark.; June 23-Aug. 7.

Tech. Sgt. Tim Atchley, ASTS; aeromedical apprentice; Sheppard AFB, Texas; May 6-July 30.

Senior Airman Brian Barclay, APS; transportation proficiency; Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga.; July 6-17.

Capt. Kelly Collins, AW; equal opportunity management phase I; Patrick AFB, Fla.; July 12-24.

Staff Sgt. Martha Grimes, APS; air transportation; Lackland; July 17-30.

Staff Sgt. David Hanson-Best, APS; air transportation; Lackland; July 17-30.

Airman 1st Class Jason Hyatt, AES; medical service phase I; Sheppard; May 5-Aug. 7.

Staff Sgt. Brady Kiel, APS; air transportation; Lackland; July 17-30.

Staff Sgt. Calvin Lehna, ASTS; hearing conservation; Brooks AFB, Texas; July 21-24.

Staff Sgt. Gino Marchetti, ASTS; medical readiness planners; Sheppard; Aug. 4-7.

Sgt. Shawn Mason, CF; electronic principles; Lackland; June 1-Aug. 10.



Swett

Master Sgt. Timothy McGuire, AW; disbursing; Sheppard; July 27-Aug. 7.
Staff Sgt. Michael McNally, CES; Status of Resources and Training System data handler; Youngstown ARB, Ohio; July 29-31.

Airman 1st Class Kevin Miller, APS; transportation proficiency; Dobbins; July 6-17.

Staff Sgt. Paul Olson III, AW; air transportation; Lackland; July 2-16.

Senior Airman Ryan Pomeroy, AS; basic loadmaster; Little Rock; June 22-July 29.

Staff Sgt. David Reierson, AW; safety; Lackland; May 27-July 23.

Tech. Sgt. David Roach, AS; loadmaster mission qualification; Little Rock; June 2-July 17. Also, combat survival; Fairchild AFB, Wash.; July 27-Aug. 12.

Airman 1st Class Russell Robertson, CF; communications/computer systems; Keesler; May 8-Aug. 6.

Airman 1st Class Patrick Sommer, APS; basic training; Lackland; June 8-17.

Staff Sgt. Timothy Stansbury, MXS; propulsion; Sheppard; July 13-24.

Senior Master Sgt. Timothy Tamlyn, CES; first sergeant academy; Robins AFB, Ga.; July 13-24.

Staff Sgt. Scott Terpening, SFS; Reserve recruiter; Lackland; July 16-Aug. 12.

Airman 1st Class Robben Todd, AS; loadmaster mission qualification; Little Rock; June 11-July 29.

Senior Airman Christina Strantz, APS; transportation proficiency; Dobbins; July 6-17.

Staff Sgt. Tara Venem, CES; SORTS data handler; Youngstown; July 29-31.

Airman Basic Sara Webb, CF; radio/communications systems; Keesler; June 22-Aug. 4.

Staff Sgt. Janice Wills, AW; chaplain support; Maxwell AFB, Ala.; July 13-29.

▶ The following members graduated from the Leadership Development Program:

Tech. Sgt. Sherry Abitz, OSF
 Staff Sgt. Ruth Beecher, OG

Staff Sgt. Mike Bluntson, ASTS
 Staff Sgt. Michael Cleveland, CES
 Tech. Sgt. Robert Cluka, APS
 Staff Sgt. Chris Coates, MXS
 Staff Sgt. Dale Cody, AES
 Staff Sgt. Lyle Coney, APS
 Tech. Sgt. Tracy Elbers, AES
 Tech. Sgt. Dennis Geyen, CES
 Tech. Sgt. Jose Gonzalez-Rocha, CES
 Staff Sgt. Susette Holmgren, SFS
 Tech. Sgt. Michael Gough, MXS
 Staff Sgt. Patrick Haefner, SFS
 Staff Sgt. Todd Holden, MXS
 Staff Sgt. Barton Inks, CES
 Staff Sgt. Douglas James, LSS
 Staff Sgt. Melinda Koukol, AW
 Staff Sgt. Kent Long, APS
 Staff Sgt. David Lunde, MXS
 Staff Sgt. Robert Mattern, AS
 Senior Airman Tricia Miller, ASTS
 Staff Sgt. Cherie Penn, APS
 Staff Sgt. Mike Pierce, MXS
 Staff Sgt. Rebecca Rodriguez, AW
 Tech. Sgt. William Rudgers, AS
 Tech. Sgt. Wayne Stierlen, CES
 Staff Sgt. Mark Syvertson, APS
 Tech. Sgt. Chris Vandenberg, AES
 Staff Sgt. Clinton Wittlief, MXS

▶ The following members completed mandatory career development courses. Exceptional course scores of more than 90 are indicated by an asterisk:

Staff Sgt. Sean Gillam, AW
 *Staff Sgt. Tracy Goetz, ASTS
 Staff Sgt. Patrick McCullough, AW
 Tech. Sgt. Steven Robinson, MSF
 Senior Airman Shana Strozewski, AES

Engagements/marriages

▶ **Marcus Erickson**, CF, and **Galina Vishnevskaya** were married Aug. 8.

▶ **Thomas Hansen**, OSF, is engaged to **Jill Shorish**, with a wedding date set for Oct. 3.

▶ **Elizabeth Vandersnick**, LSS, and **John Schueler** were married May 30.

Births

▶ **Maureen Banavige**, LSS, and her husband, **Joe**, had a baby son, **Joseph Everett**, born April 16, weighing 8 pounds, 6 ounces. □

Mobility ...

(Continued from Page 5)

Robertson also wants to eliminate any other roadblocks that exist "between our folks and the efficient and effective accomplishment of our mission."

Robertson outlined three basic themes framing the command's future direction:

Readiness

"Our mission and our readiness to accomplish that mission will remain and will always be our primary focus. Our No. 1 job is to make the other war-fighting commanders in chief successful in theirs. It's what we get paid to do. It's our reason for being — and we can never forget that."

Modernization, process improvement

"You can expect a continued emphasis on force modernization and the improvement of our mobility processes, as well as on the integration and synchronization of these two efforts. If we hope to leave our mobility world better than we found it, these are the two areas that are going to pay us dividends."

Focus on people, families

"There will be no doubt that our good people and their families — what they stand for and all that impacts their happiness — will always be our No. 1 consideration in every decision we make. I can't imagine there is anyone in the military today who doesn't think that our people — active-duty, Guard and Reserve — are the bedrock of all that we are and underscore all that is possible and impossible in what we do every day. People are the essence of our readiness. People are the key to our modernization and process improvement efforts, and AMC's people will always be our No. 1 priority." (AMC News Service "Must Run") □

Viking Search:

Family readiness

Clip this for a colleague or family member and assist recruiters in their search for new reservists.

Specialty code/unit: 8C000; 934th Mission Support Flight.

Job description: Administer activities of a family support center, including family readiness military deployment issues. Act as liaison between the center and supporting military and civilian agencies. Provide assistance to service members and families.

Civilian job equivalent: Social services assessment and referral representative.

Special requirements: Must have a seven- or nine-skill level in any career field and be at least a staff sergeant. Computer skills required.

Training: One-week orientation, Robins Air Force Base, Ga. Also, one week off-site training required each year.

Recent travel locations: Florida, Oregon.

What's great about the job:

- ▶ Receiving heartfelt appreciation from assisted families, who may be in dire circumstances.
- ▶ Variety of challenges, as every client's need is different.
- ▶ As this is the nation's first joint service center, service paves the path for other joint service centers.
- ▶ Opportunities to attend out-of-



Staff Sgt. Robert Waiz

Tech. Sgt. Eric Baumer (right), family readiness superintendent

state training in personal financial planning, relocation assistance and information/referral systems.

Contact: 934th Recruiting Office, (612) 713-1456. □

Services Briefs

NCO Club briefs

▶ Saturday, Sept. 12, features **back to the '50s music** with the DC Drifters.

▶ Back by popular demand, **blueberry pancakes** return for the month of September.

▶ Wednesday, Sept. 16, a "**Mexican Fiesta**" lunch will be offered, starting at 11 a.m.

▶ "**Football Frenzy**" starts in both clubs at 7 p.m., every Monday night. There will be snacks and drawings for prizes at halftime.

☎Call Ext. 1655 for details on NCO Club activities.

Officers Club briefs

▶ **Family Night** is every Tuesday in the dining room. September features some great Mexican cuisine, and look for the all-new kids' menu. Enlisted members can enjoy weeknight dining at the Officers Club.

▶ **Holiday party room reservations** are booking up quickly, so call today to set up your event.

☎Call Ext. 3678 for Officers Club information.

Lodging

▶ The arrival of new furniture should be late September. There is a possibility there will be a **nonappropriated fund furniture sale**. Specific dates to follow!

Recreation services

▶ **In softball play**, SVS beat MSF, 22-12, and CES beat MXS, 34-31, in August. Saturday, Sept. 12, CES plays LSS in the season's last game at 5 p.m. at the Air Guard field.

▶ **Armed Forces Day at the Dome** will feature reduced-price tickets for the college football game on Saturday, Oct. 10, between the Minnesota Golden Gophers and the Penn State Nittany Lions. Seats in the lower-level corners and upper-deck sides are \$18; lower-level endzones, \$12; and upper-level end zones or corners, \$7.50. Deadline for mail sales is Sept. 30. Forms are available from recreation services.

▶ **Renaissance Festival tickets** are available for \$13.50/adults, regular \$14.95; and \$5.50/kids, regular \$5.95. **Valleyfair tickets** for adults purchased at recreation services provide a discount of \$4.20 off the regular price of \$24.95. Children's tickets remain \$6.95. **Chanhasen Dinner Theater tickets** are on sale for \$37, regular \$46.

☎Call recreation services at Ext. 1128. □