

VIKING FLYER

934th Airlift Wing (AFRC) - Minneapolis-St. Paul IAP Air Reserve Station, Minn. December 2009

Vol. 31, No. 12



SEASON'S GREETINGS!



By Col. Brett A. Newman
934th Maintenance Group commander

First things first, my name is Brett Newman and I am the Maintenance Group Commander. I want to thank you all for the warm welcome you have given my family and me. We feel a true sense of family here at the 934th Airlift Wing.

That being said, I would like to share with you a portion of my change of command comments. I talked about the three ‘P’s’ (not to be confused with ‘P3’s’ for you Navy types).

The three “P’s” are: people, planes and processes.

In a nutshell, what I am talking about is that if we take care of the people who take care of the planes, and continuously improve our processes, we all succeed! I would like to focus on the people right now.

I think it is fair to say we have had successful year here at the 934th AW. We have seen a boatload of construction completed. We passed a communications inspection with flying colors

and we blazed a trail for all others to follow at the AOR.

Congratulations to you all! However, our Air Force family has also been met with unexpected tragedy this year as well. With this being the Year of the Air Force Family and the holiday season just around the corner, I would like to ask you all to take a moment and be sure to check on one another. Especially remember to check on those families in need. In this time of an unstable economy, things can get and be difficult.

I said at the beginning, my family feels the sense of “family” here. They are involved with the Key Family Member Program (aka Key Spouse Program) to aid in taking care of our AF family. My family will do all that they can to help take care of you and your families.

So, from my family to your family, have a joyous holiday season and a happy new year!



VIKING FLYER

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PA Specialists
Master Sgt. Darrell Habisch
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Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Williams

Photographers
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More stories online at
www.minneapolis.afrc.af.mil

Inspector General **Fraud, Waste and Abuse**

Members should attempt to resolve Fraud, Waste and Abuse issues and personal complaints at the lowest possible level using command channels before addressing them to a higher level or the Investigator General. The immediate supervisory command chain can often resolve complaints more quickly and effectively than a higher level not familiar with the situation. The IG system should be used when referral to the command chain would be futile or there is fear of reprisal.

934th AW FW Hotline
(612) 713-1180
AFRC FWA Hotline
(800) 223-1784 extension 7-1513
SAF/IGQ FWA Hotline
(800) 538-8429
DoD FWA Hotline
(800) 424-9098

Biennial fitness testing starts Jan. 1

Standards change in July

By Master Sgt. Russell P. Petcoff
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON— Maintaining peak combat readiness begins and ends with healthy, motivated and well-trained Airmen.

On Nov. 19, the Air Force's deputy chief of staff for manpower and personnel announced the new Air Force fitness standards will officially begin July 1, 2010. Biannual physical fitness testing will begin Jan. 1 using current fitness standards.

Lt. Gen. Richard Y. Newton III said the services top leaders sought feedback from commanders and senior NCO leaders throughout the Air Force when deciding to execute the updated program that will test Airmen twice during calendar year 2010 -- once under the current program and once under the new program.

"Based on feedback from the field, we are implementing the July start date so Airmen have the opportunity to excel," General Newton said. "This

implementation strategy will allow for a smoother transition of the new Air Force Instruction and afford commanders adequate time to establish installation fitness assessment cells to include adequate manning for the FACs."

According to General Newton, a new AFI detailing the new fitness standards is due out within the next few weeks. This fitness AFI is the first to cover the total force of active duty, Guard and Reserve.

The general added that the July start date will provide commanders and Airmen plenty of time to be prepared and in compliance with the new AFI.

"We want to do this right," General Newton said. "It's about readiness and our continued commitment to ensure we have a Fit Force, ready to perform its global mission."

Units with FACs will use them to conduct fitness assessments. Units without FACs will continue to use their physical training leaders, or PTLs, to assess Airmen. Enlisted and officer performance reports will reflect fitness training scores based upon their reports close out dates, General Newton added.

According to the change, during

the Jan. 1 to June 30 testing phase, unit PTLs will provide two scores -- one for the current system and one for the new standard so Airmen can gauge their performance. Starting July 1, Airmen will officially test under new requirements with the new scoring. Scores will be annotated on EPRs and OPRs accordingly.

Under the new standards, the aerobic run will count for 60 percent of the test. Body composition will count for 20 percent. Under the current standard, they count for 50 and 30 percent, respectively. The sit-up and push-ups remain at 10 percent each. The new standards have differently valued waist measurements and 15 seconds, rather than 30, separating run scores.

Passing the test will require a composite score of 75 while also meeting a minimum level for each component. The new physical fitness test will place Airmen in one of five age groups: less than 30, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and 60-plus. Results will fall into one of three categories: 90 and above, excellent; 75-90, satisfactory; and under 75, unsatisfactory.

Information on the Air Force fitness program is online at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/affitnessprogram/index.asp.

Logistics Readiness unveils squadron emblem

By Lt. Col. Brian Peterson
934th LRS commander

The staff of the 934th Logistics Readiness Squadron, formed in 2003, is proud to introduce the first and only official 934 LRS squadron emblem.

Headquarters Air Force approved the emblem which is now part of a proud heritage.

Thanks to several members of the LRS family who committed a lot of time and effort to develop the emblem and to coordinate all of the required approvals. It was truly a team effort.

Special thanks to Master Sgt. Brian Iverson (recently retired) for his initial idea, design, and description of the emblem. He laid the foundation for this emblem to become a reality.

Ultramarine blue and Air Force



yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The globe repre-

sents the unit's worldwide capabilities. The helmet signifies the unit's warrior heritage. The nautical star always leads in the right direction. Nine rivets on the helmet represent the nine Air Force Specialty Codes in LRS.

Wi Fi now live at North Country Lodge

Wireless internet access is now enabled at the North Country Lodge. It is now possible to use your wireless internet devices anywhere within the lodging facility.

Maintenance

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

Senior Airman Erik Koski of the Hydraulic shop and his wife Shannon Kearney welcomed son, Noah Riley Oct 27.

Master Sgt. Bob Howell and Tech. Sgt. Greg Jacobson of the propulsion section both became recent "Grandpa's"-- new granddaughter's names are Kendall and Serenity Rose.

Senior Airman Andy Schmitz of the Electro Environmental Shop got married Oct. 17 to Edith Lotterman.

Farewell to Staff Sgt Jose Garza of the structural repair shop, who accepted an Air Reserve Technician position at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska.

Master Sgt. Eric Johnson of metals technology and Tech. Sgt. Chad Dauwalter of fuel cell spent their Veterans Day with the students of Sweeney Elementary School in Shakopee showing off the Wing's C-130 flight deck and having lunch with the children.

Communications Flight

Provided by Tech. Sgt. Christian Krug

Welcomed home Staff Sgt. Sean Stretch after a long deployment to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Members completed Defense Readiness and Reporting System training which is replacing the Status of Readiness and Training System. Members also completed Information Assurance refresher training.

Official Air Force lithographs available

Air Force lithograph sets are available at the Public Affairs office during normal duty hours and UTA weekends. As inspiring as these unframed lithographs are, they can only be displayed in government offices (e.g. unit cubicles, ROTC detachments, services facilities, etc.) and may not be displayed at home or in civilian offices.

2009 newspaper, website survey

Each year, the 934th Airlift Wing Public Affairs staff asks members of the 934th AW family (military members, retirees, Veterans, family members, civilian employees) to provide vital feedback on PA products, namely the base newspaper and the public website. Surveys can be sent through the base's distribution system, hand-delivered to the 934th AW headquarter's building or via:

- E-mail to 934aw.pa@minneapolis.af.mil
- Fax to (612) 713-1229
- Mail to 760 Military Highway, Minneapolis MN 55450

- Where do you primarily get your base/unit news?
Commander's call ___ Word of mouth ___
E-newsletter ___ From your boss ___
Viking Flyer ___ Airman & Family Readiness ___
Services Courier ___ Other ___ ()

About the Viking Flyer newspaper

- How often do you read the Viking Flyer?
Never ___ Every month ___ Sometimes ___

- Does your Viking Flyer newspaper arrive at your home ...

- Before a UTA ___ After a UTA ___

- I do not receive the VF at my home ___

- What would you like to see more of in the VF?

- Air Force/AF Reserve News ___ Unit news ___ Photos ___

- Human interest stories ___ Commentaries ___ Other ___ ()

- What would you like to see less of in the VF?

- Air Force/AF Reserve News ___ Unit news ___ Photos ___

- Human interest stories ___ Commentaries ___ Other ___ ()

- Would you rather read the VF entirely online? Yes ___ No ___ Not sure ___

- What would you change about the VF? _____

About the 934th AW public website (not intranet)

- How often do you log onto the 934th AW public website?

- Never ___ Weekly ___ Monthly ___ Occassionally ___

- Is the site easily navigated? Yes ___ No ___ I don't visit the site ___

- Is the site interesting/useful? Yes ___ No ___ I don't visit the site ___

- What would you change about the public website? _____

About the 934th AW FaceBook group page

- How often do you visit the 934th AW FaceBook group page?

- Never ___ Weekly ___ Monthly ___ Occassionally ___ I didn't know we were on FaceBook? ___

- Is the FaceBook page interesting/useful? Yes ___ No ___ I am not a member ___

- What would you change about the FaceBook page? _____

About the 934th AW commander's e-Newsletter

- How often do you receive the 934th AW commander's e-newsletter ?

- Every month ___ Sometimes ___ He has an e-newsletter? ___

- Is the e-newsletter interesting/useful? Yes ___ No ___ I do not receive it ___

- What would you change about the e-newsletter? _____

Wing selected for Jet-A testing

By Master Sgt. Kerry Bartlett
and Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Williams
934th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The Minneapolis-St. Paul IAP Air Reserve Station is one of four Air Force bases selected to begin a demonstration this month for commercial jet fuel, known as Jet A, as a replacement for JP-8, a military specification fuel.

As part of the Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century program, Air Force officials estimate a fuel savings of \$40 million per year if the program is fully implemented.

The station's primary role in the demonstration will be the delivery-truck injection system where additives are added when aircraft are being refueled.

Master Sgt. William Frederick, 934th Airlift Wing fuels superintendent, thinks it is a great idea.

"It's an initiative to help save the government money and I think it will be a great thing if it pans out right," Sergeant Frederick said. "It will be neat to be able to say that we were part of the transition when it is all complete."

He said there are a couple of additional things that the Airmen in his department need to incorporate in their daily operation like taking a daily sample from the bulk fuel storage tank and analyzing the sample for the freeze point.

Currently, the Air Force uses JP-8 fuel, which is similar to the Jet A fuel used in commercial aviation. JP-8 differs from Jet A through the addition of an icing inhibitor, corrosion inhibitor, lubricants and anti-static agents. Jet A has been approved for use in the C-130, C-5 and C-17 airframes. Aircraft manufacturers Lockheed and Boeing have both stated that there are no impediments to making Jet A the primary fuel on those airframes.

"JP-8 and Jet A are very similar, with the main difference being the fuel freezing point. We will be making sure the jet fuel is above the -40 degrees celsius standard," Sergeant Frederick said.

"Anytime these airplanes go cross-country and they stop at municipal airports, that's all they are getting is straight Jet A," David Hunter, 934th AW fuels manager, said. "The manufacturers of these engines have already approved Jet A for use and it's in the technical orders."

According to the Air Force Petroleum Agency, the Air Force is the largest consumer of jet fuel in the Department of Defense. In Fiscal Year 2008, the Air Force purchased \$7 billion of the \$9 billion in fuel purchased by the DoD, and consumed more than two billion gallons of the three billion gallons purchased that year. AFPA believes that small sav-



Master Sgt. William Frederick, 934th Airlift Wing fuels superintendent, pours an anti-icing additive into a fuel truck as part of the AFSO21 "JP-8 to Jet A fuel conversion" demonstration at the Minneapolis-St. Paul Air Reserve Station, Minn. on Nov. 17. (Air Force Photo/Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Williams)

ings per gallon add up to a large fleet-wide savings.

"The fluctuation in oil prices can mean big bills for the Air Force and Department of Defense," said Jack Lavin, recently retired AFPA deputy director. "A one-penny increase in the standard price per gallon for fuel can translate to a fuel cost increase in millions of dollars."

Master Sgt. Danny Walker, AFPA Jet A initiative program manager said that commercial Jet A is more readily available in the continental U.S., gallon-for-gallon, than JP-8. Increased competition for U.S. government fuel contracts and lower transportation costs will save money following the Jet A transition across the United States.

"Right now there are only a few refineries that deal with JP-8 and they have the market cornered. The Defense Energy Support Center, which owns all of the fuel for the DoD make the contracts with the different refineries," said Hunter. "Local refineries that already make Jet A could bid on the contracts and we wouldn't have to truck it in from other states like we do now. If they get enough local refineries to bid on it [Jet A] then we will save more money."

The Minnesota demonstration is a joint Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard effort. The 934th AW owns the fuel storage tanks, and the Air National Guard's 133rd Airlift Wing uses the facility to fill the refueling trucks.

"Since the fuel tanks belong to us, the Guard will also be a part of the demonstration," said Hunter.

Dover Air Force Base, Del.; Little Rock AFB, Ark. and McChord AFB, Wash., are the other demonstration sites. The demonstrations are slated to run for 12 months, at which point DESC officials will review the data and determine future action.

Portions of this article were taken from the AFNEWS story by Tech. Sgt. Amaani Lyle, Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs.

VIKING VOICES

What are you most thankful for this holiday season?



Chief Master Sgt. Paul Yaeger
934th Civil Engineer Squadron
"My family both at home and at the Civil Engineer Squadron"



Nicki Thomas
North Country Lodge
"My great friends and family. Most grateful for my daughter, Mia, and my son on the way!"



Maj. Sara Hormig
934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron
"My family. I am also thankful for my job and the good fortune to live in this wonderful country and serve."



Senior Airman Samantha Raymundo
934th Services Squadron
"For my family and my new baby niece."

ART recruiter on duty

Full time positions available



Master Sgt. Gary Garnto
(Air Force Photo/ Tech. Sgt. Bob Sommer)

Master Sgt. Gary Garnto is the Air Reserve Technician recruiter for the Midwest area. ART positions are full time jobs that have a Federal Civil Service and Air Force Reserve component within the position. Currently, the following ART positions are available at the 934th Airlift Wing:

- *Resource Management Assistant, GS-07
- *Human Resources Specialist (Military) / Career Advisor, GS-09
- *Human Resource Assistant (Military) GS-06/07
- *GS-1712-09 Training Specialist SERE, GS-09

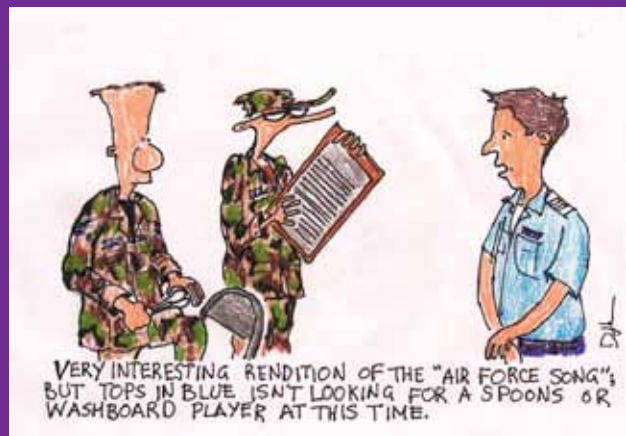
For more information, on ART career opportunities read the online story at <http://www.grissom.afrc.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-091030-004.pdf> or contact Sergeant Garnto at (618) 593-1526 or via e-mail at gary.garnto-02@scott.af.mil.

Promotions to:

Chief Master Sgt. Anthony Schmit	AMX
Staff Sgt. William Carlson	APS
Staff Sgt. Amaris Carter	CF
Senior Airman Sara Anderson	MXS
Senior Airman Emily Garmager	AS
Senior Airman James Osborne	SFS
Senior Airman Jesse Guest	AES
Airman Zachary Allen	APS
Airman Steven Birch	SFS
Airman Melissa Laxton	ASTS
Airman Tyus Williams	SVS
Airman 1st Class Benjamin Rosengarden	SFS
Airman 1st Class Sarah Meyers	ASTS

Sergeants Upp&Adam

By Senior Master Sgt. Doug Johnson





Splish splash

Lt. Col. Mike Johnson, 96th Airlift Squadron, gets a ceremonial bath after his final C-130 flight Nov. 5. Colonel Johnson retired with more than 36 years service. (Air Force Photo/Master Sgt. Paul Zadach)



Turkey time

From left, Lt. Col. Erik Sutcliffe, 934th Maintenance Squadron commander and Tim Wollmuth, 934th Operations Support Flight commander and Senior Master Sgt. Vicky Kuntz, 96th Airlift Squadron 1st sergeant serve Thanksgiving holiday meals at the dining facility Nov. 7. (Air Force Photo/Tech. Sgt. Bob Sommer).



Comm triple play

Three members of the 934th Communications Flight retired Nov. 7. From top: Senior Master Sgt. Dan Rude and Master Sgts. Eric Ortiz, and Richard Loesch receive their certificates and mementos from Lt. Col. Rick Erredge, 934th CF commander. (Air Force Photos/Tech. Sgt. Bob Sommer)

UTA Dates

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

For information on Army training dates call ext. 3127.

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**POSTMASTER: TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL, DO NOT DELAY
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A wing and a prayer



Master Sgt. Shannon Moerke (left) 96th Airlift Squadron flight engineer, talks with Pastor Jeffrey Mittelstadt during the 934th Airlift Wing's Clergy Day orientation flight Oct. 27. The annual event allows clergy members to fly aboard a C-130 to learn about the 934th Airlift Wing and the Air Force Reserve. (Air Force Photo/Master Sgt. Paul Zadach).