



### Preparing for one of our greatest challenges

#### Col. Timothy J. Thomson Commander

By the time this article is published the 910th Airlift Wing will have completed Operational Readiness Training Program (ORTP) one, two and three. We still have three major Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI) events to go. Each event is more challenging and builds on our previous experience gained during past ORTPs.

ORTP 4 is a Readiness Safeguard Ability to Survive and Operate (ATSO) and warskill exercise to be conducted with the 934th Airlift Wing from May 14 - 20 2007 at Volk Field Wisconsin. It will involve 850 people deploying from both units on C-5, C-17 and C-130 aircraft. The primary focus is ATSO and warskills but the exercise will involve events and problems that are function specific. It will be the first time the 922<sup>nd</sup> Air Expeditionary Wing (910th and 934th) comes together as a Provisional Wing in a simulated wartime deployed scenario.

Our Operational Readiness Exercise is also a combined 922<sup>nd</sup> AEW deployment with Minneapolis from November 13 – 18 2007 at Gulfport Mississippi. ATSO and warskills are major portions of this event but functional expertise in the Mission Capability Statements (MISCAP) and Mission Essential Tasks (MET) is much more in depth and significantly more important than ORTP 4. The goal is for the RAV to be our toughest scenario and test thus making the upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI) seem relatively easy. The goal is for us to be at the "top of our game" when we encounter the AMC Inspectors in March 2008.

Our Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI) is also at the Gulfport Combat Readiness Training Center (CRTC) and is from March 29th -April 06 2008. Every wing does an ORI every 5 or 6 years and carries the outcome of that ORI with them until the next ORI is completed. A skilled, experienced team of AMC Inspectors will thoroughly evaluate

our mobility, initial response, deployment, employment and redeployment processes and actions and give us an overall wing rating of Outstanding, Excellent, Satisfactory, Marginal or Unsatisfactory. We want to shoot for the top and we certainly want to avoid a Marginal or Unsatisfactory at all costs. The best way to do these things is to execute them expertly once with no retakes.

The wing will only be as strong in our ORI as the weakest unit/ squadron. That's why we front loaded our ORI Preparation requirements and started our formal preparation two years prior to the ORI. We wanted each unit/squadron level to have as much control as possible over the preparation pace. Additionally, we wanted a coordinated, sensible, progressive and challenging approach towards overall wing preparation.

The ORI event will not be exactly like the deployed experiences many of you have had during our recent mobilizations. An ORI is the best event the Air Force knows of to operationally inspect all mission capabilities of a wing in a relatively short time frame. Perhaps the greatest benefit to a wing from an ORI is all the preparation. It enables us to understand other wing functions better, work jointly with another airlift wing and see how well our planning can succeed when put to the ultimate test.

At the ORI we will not just be following checklists. We will have to have the flexibility necessary to resolve issues and crisis that we had not planned for. I believe the ORI will be an event that verifies what I already know. This wing is mission focused, highly capable and can be called on when needed to perform any assigned mission. This wing's attitude, involvement, sense of urgency and the desire to determine our own ORI destiny is a reflection of the extremely high quality of people assigned to the 910th Airlift Wing and makes me proud to have served as your commander.

#### **April UTA Pay Date:** Wednesday, April 25, 2007

# "Old chaplains never die, they just go out to pastor"

Chaplain (Col.) Paul R. Milliken Wing Chaplain

My 191/2 years as a Chaplain at the 910th have come to a close. I'll finish my Air Force career at HQ AFRC at Robins AFB, Ga., before returning to YARS for my official retirement ceremony on Saturday of the April 2007 UTA.

My memories are many. I recall a former wing commander describing my Chapel Section as a "model administration." Man, I thought, that's great! Until he added, "Unfortunately, it's not a 'working model.""

Please don't call me grumpy! It's just I'm no longer fond of Typhoid shots, Fitness Tests, SITS, OPRs, ORIs, MREs, and MOPP Level 4!

Many annual tours were unforgettable. Fort Dix, N.J. with the Security Forces, Howard AFB, Panama and Elmendorf AFB with the 757th, Combat Ministry Course at Fort Bragg,

N.C., and Combat Medical Readiness Training at Sheppard AFB, Texas, to name a few. My tours to Peru and Kuwait will long be etched in my mind.

Unit visitation, counseling sessions, playing racquetball, and just talking to folks as I moved around the base have all been positive experiences. Many were those having helped this rookie first lieutenant "become blue." Among them: Ed, Mary, Butch, Lori, Sharon, Steve, Wayne, Louis, Dave, Tom, John, Lynn, and Rich. And I've tried returning that favor through

mentoring others joining our ranks. I've found investing time in others most often pays amazing dividends. Thanks as well to my dedicated and faithful staff, Father Dan and

Staff Sgts. Klarr and Pastorius.

Old chaplains never die, they just get put out to pastor. And that's what I'll continue doing,

> hopefully, for several more years. So, if you're ever looking for a place to worship on Sunday mornings, stop by Trinity Tower Church in Penn Hills on Pittsburgh's east side around 10:10 a.m. You'll always be welcome.

May the Supreme Commander Of Us All watch over and keep you safe as you serve the greatest country and people on earth.

Blessings, my friends.

An interview with Chaplain Milliken can be found in brief on page 6 and in full on the public Web site, www.youngstown.afrc.af.mil.

Chaplain (Col.) Paul Milliken

### **PAGE 3** "Of the year" winners honored at annual luncheon



The winners in the 2006 "Of the Year" categories are: Capt. John C. Gaffney, Operations Support Squadron; Master Sgt. Korene R. Rooks, Mission Support Flight; Tech. Sgt. List A. List, Airlift Wing; Senior Airman

The 910th Airlift Wing honored some of its finest Airmen Saturday, March 3, during the 2006 Recognition Luncheon held at the Eagles Nest Club here.

The annual luncheon is hosted each year to provide a forum for recognizing the Airmen, Noncommissioned Officers and Officers chosen to participate in the quarterly and annual competitions.

Each of the quarterly winners received \$75 in gift certificates, a wing coin, and an engraved plaque. The yearly winners received \$175 in gift certificates, a coin from the chief's group, and an engraved model of the

U.S. Air Force Photo/Tech. Sgt. Ken Sloat

Courtenay N. Perkins, Security Forces Squadron; and Mrs. Suzi Lyle, standing in for her husband, Master Sgt. Richard M. Lyle, Mission Support Flight, who currently is deployed to Southwest Asia until summer.

C-130 airplane. This year's winners were Senior Airman Courtenay N. Perkins, Tech. Sgt. Lisa A. List, Master Sgt. Korene R. Rooks, and Capt. John C. Gaffney. Master Sgt. Richard M. Lyle was named the "First Sergeant of the Year."

Two members of the 910th Services Squadron were recognized for top Air Force Reserve Command honors they received. Maj. Stephanie Welhouse was previously named "AFRC Services Field Grade Officer of the Year" and Tech. Sgt. Monica L. Carter had been named the "AFRC Services NCO of the Year."

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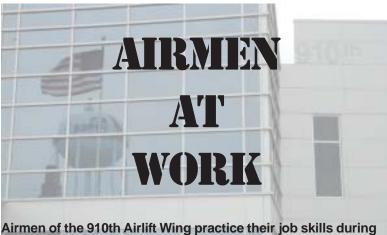
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### On the cover...

910th Chaplain (Col). Paul R. Milliken presides at a (mock) mass burial during an Operation Readiness Exercise in Savannah, Georgia in preparation for the 1995 Operation Readiness Inspection. U.S. Air Force file photo



Airmen of the 910th Airlift Wing practice their job skills during the March UTA at Youngstown Air Reserve Station. Toriano Nelson, a civilian technician (right) at the base clothing issue window examines a Battle Dress Uniform jacket as Staff Sgt. Ryan Broman, assigned to the communications flight looks on. Broman is dropping off the jacket to have name tapes sewn to it, one of the many services provided at clothing issue.



Staff Sgt. Madeline Moon, a customer service technician in the Mission Support Flight hands a finished military identification card to Capt. Ben Gallo from the Military Intelligence Shop. Staff Sgt. Fedno Trompe, customer service section chief works on at a computer terminal in the background.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Tech. Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.



U.S. A

Airman 1st Class Hilary Rentner, a med Immunizations Clinic, administers a sh Erin Gillette of the 76th Aeroport Squad technicians maintain airmen's shot reco immunizations updated as part of the s the base clinic.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Tech. Sgt. Ken Sloat

From the far left, Mr. Rich Allen, Tech. Sgt. Todd Troyer, Tech. Sgt. Mike Fleshman, Mr. Rick Palmer, and Staff Sgt. Albert Moore, inspect the undercariage of a fork lift. For the three NCOs, all Vehicle Maintenance Technicians from the 910th Mission Suport Group, this is the first time they have seen a fork lift raised high enough to see this view. Mr. Palmer is a representative from ARI-Hetra, the manufacturer of the Heavy Duty Mobile Lift.

A forklift driver assigned to the 76th **Aerial Port** Squadron prepares to retrieve a pallet delivered from a C-130 to a practice drop zone in Ravenna, **Ohio during** an March UTA exercise.



U.S. Air For



U.S. Air Force Photo/Tech. Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.



r Force Photo/Tech. Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.

ical technician at the ot to Airmen 1st Class Iron. The medical ords and keep their ervices provided by In the foreground, Staff Sgt. Dan D'Annunzio prepares to flip a hamburger patty on the grill in the a la carte line during the midday meal at the 910th Services Squadron Dining Hall. At his right, Airman 1st Class Tom Burke, Senior Airman Tony Behanna, Senior Airman Asia Triplett and two civilian contractors assist in the food preparation for more than 1,400 reservists assigned to Youngstown Air **Reserve Station.** 



U.S. Air Force Photo/Tech. Sgt. Ken Sloat

Tech. Sgt. Roberta L. Kettera, a cargo supervisor with the 76th **Aerial Port** Squadron here, backs a 60K loader into the hangar. Kettera was helping unload pallets dropped from C-130s here during a drop zone exercise.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Senior Airman Ann W. Jefferson

Maj. Rodney M. Waite, a dentist with the 910th Medical Squadron here, works on a reservist's teeth during a physical exam on Saturday of the March UTA weekend.



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Ann W. Jefferson



ce photo/Airman 1st Class Jessica M. Syverson

Staff Sgt. Marcus Weisbarth inspects the engine compartment of a van during a routine force protection random vehicle search as the driver watches him. Senior **Airman Benjamin** Bour completes a log with information about the vehicle and driver. The random vehicle searches are part of standard installation security procedures.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Tech. Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.



# On grieving the loss of a fellow wingman

Maj. Casey D. Keibler 773rd Airlift Squadron Pilot

### "When I take my final flight west into the setting sun and look back over my shoulder, I hope the people who knew me are glad they did!" —Maj Karl D. Hoerig

Never was a more fitting epitaph written for someone, let alone by someone who touched the lives of so many. It is my fear as I lay my friend to rest that I took far more away from our relationship than I ever contributed. My only real consolation in my grief is the vision of him laughing uncontrollably at something I said or did. It was a silent, almost breathless yet contagious laugh, made complete by his eyes boring through mine, daring me not to find the humor. He showed his thanks and appreciation for the friendship we shared by giving his time and imparting his vast knowledge of all things great and small.

Karl was possessed of an uncanny knack for explaining the most detailed of problems to the lowest common denominator (generally me) without ever giving the impression he was talking down to anyone. With that being said, he could explain away the most mundane detail as though he were demonstrating aerodynamics to a piker.

Karl's mind was constantly in motion, finding new and ridiculous ways to entertain himself and those around him. When he had no appropriate anecdote to share with the group, Karl went to work devising an activity that would become anecdotal evidence of his impact on our lives at a later and more appropriate time. I have that evidence now and I hope, half of Karl's ability to share it I relay it to those who were never fortunate to know him as I knew him.

Perhaps this should be more of a final tribute to a great man and an even better friend, but as I look back on the few short years I was fortunate to know Karl, I realize the most fitting honor I can give is to remember what he did best, and that was create joy and happiness in those whose lives he touched. I can picture Karl being concerned in his own humble way that those who knew him may not have been so very glad they did. I attest that I know of no one whose life he didn't leave more fulfilled, and whose eyes are not filled with sadness as they look back and remember their time with Karl.



#### Karl D. Hoerig 1963-2007

In the fullness of time we will understand why Karl was taken from us. In the interim, laughter through reminiscence are his recompense. Please keep Karl and his family in your prayers, and when you speak of him, speak well. When you think back on your favorite story, share it with someone who wasn't fortunate enough to be there. Above all pay tribute to a man who more than likely left your life a little more fulfilled because he was a part if it.

"In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps."

- Proverbs 16:9



Chaplain (Col.) Paul Milliken retires after 19 1/2 years as wing chaplain

COVER STORY

#### Senior Airman Ann Wilkins Jefferson 910th AW Public Affairs

Chaplain (Col.) Paul R. Milliken leaned forward in his chair, elbows on his knees and hands clasped together, as if he were studying something, trying to move in closer. But he wasn't looking at anything in the room, he was searching back into his past. His crystal blue eyes took on a faraway look as he recalled one of the more memorable and difficult times during his nearly 20-year career as an Air Force Reserve chaplain with the 910<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing.

"When I was in Kuwait, a Security Forces member was killed, the first female to be killed. A service was planned, where 500plus people attended. When the service was completed, each took time to pay tribute to their fallen comrade. That was a moving experience," he said, the emotion ... Milliken leaned forward in his chair, elbows on his knees and hands clasped together, as if he were studying something, trying to move in closer. But he wasn't looking at anything in the room, he was searching back into his past.

in his voice giving his statement confirmation as he stopped talking and just nodded his head up and down, eyes beginning to water.

The chaplain was speaking about his time deployed with the 386<sup>th</sup> AEW, Kuwait in 2005. A female security forces specialist was providing convoy security Sept. 28 when the vehicle in which she was riding was hit by an improvised explosive device (IED), immediately killing her. It was Chaplain Milliken who had to preside over her memorial service there and watch the Airmen who attended as they came forward to pay respects. (continued)

"That experience, to go through that – he was very somber talking about it. I think he did a great job with the memorial. (Continued)

For the continuation of this story, go to the public Web site at www.youngstown.afrc.af.mil



# Snow Blowing ... AFRC Style

Air Force Reserve Tech. Sgt. Kevin L. Bowser blows heavy snow from the wing of a C-130 on the flight line here. Tech. Sgt. Bowser is perched in the lift bucket of a military utility vehicle known as a "Huffer" which utilizes a small jet engine to feed super-heated air through hoses on the vehicle to a nozzle mounted on the lift bucket. The cold weather gear-clad ground crew members were removing the snow while preparing the aircraft for flight in below-freezing conditions due to recent harsh winter weather conditions experienced across the base and the area.

U.S. Air Force photo/ Tech. Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.





John M. Amato, 76th Aerial Port Sq.



Jason G. Bonar, 910th Security Forces Sq.



Sydney L. Day, 910th Medical Sq. Michael J. Dunn, 76th Aerial Port Sq. J. Darious Fisher, 910th Maintenance Sq. James N. Martin, 910th Airlift Wing

Marie D. Anthony, 910th Medical Sq.



Mark D. Venzeio, 910th Logistics Readiness Sq.



Christopher J. Brooks, 910th Medical Sq. Adam P. Hernandez, 910th Security Forces Sq. Arlon J. Johnson, 910th Security Forces Sq. Michael A. Minnix, 76th Aerial Port Sq. Kyle R. Rhodes, 910th Security Forces Sq. Matthew D. Shuffstall, 910th Security Forces Sq. Erin R. Stoller, 910th Security Forces Sq. Jared L. Thompson, 910th Security Forces Sq. Eric R. Turner, 910th Civil Engineer Sq.



William G. McAdoo Jr., 910th Security Forces Sq. Daniel A. Marhulik, 773th Airlift Sq.



### 910th adds to the family

2nd Lt. Alan T. Harmon, 910th Medical Sq. Tech. Sgt. Geoffrey B. Clark, 910th Maintenance Sq. Staff Sgt. Donald J.Adkins, 910th Communications Flt. Staff Sgt. Jason D. Farcas, 910th Maintenance Sq. Staff Sgt. Ivan C. Gregory, 910th Maintenance Sq. Staff Sgt. Jonathan F.McLennan, 910th Communications Flt. Staff Sgt. Brian A. Steffen, 76th Aerial Port Sq. Staff Sgt. Susan Stickle, 76th Aerial Port Sq.



Luke D. Broome, 910th Security Forces Sq. Andrew J. Seifert, 76th Aerial Port Sq.

Staff Sgt. Wesley W. Whitaker, 910th Services Sq.
Senior Airman Derek R. Kilberg, 910th Maintenance Sq.
Senior Airman Scott M. Lutensleger, 910th Civil Engineer Sq.
Senior Airman Michele R. McGovern, 910th Medical Sq.
Senior Airman David M. Stofiel, 910th Maintenance Sq.
Senior Airman Craig A. Tillinghast, 910th Logistics Readiness Sq.
Airman 1st Class Zachary M. Eberle, 773rd Airlift Sq.
Airman 1st Class Steven M. Kane, 910th Maintenance Sq.
Airman 1st Class Jessica A. Strumbly, 910th Maintenance Sq.
Airman Rachel C. Loach, 910th Maintenance Sq.
Airman Basic Ebony M. Hunt, 910th Communications Flt.

# Volleyball teams rotate forward to next round, others bumped

Games end with surprisingly close match between Medical Sqaudron and undermanned Air Wing/Mission Support Group

Senior Airman Ann Wilkins Jefferson 910th Public Affairs

It was a cold and snowy night outside the fitness center here on Saturday, March 3, yet inside was a scene from the beaches of California, minus the sun and sand but full of hot volleyball action.

The 910th's intramural volleyball tournament served up plenty of tossing,

spiking, diving and volleying in the first two games, played simultaneously in a divided gym. On one side Operations Group handily defeated 76th Aerial Port Squadron, while on the other Civil Engineer Squadron knocked Logistics Readiness Squadron out of the tourney action early. Both CES and OPS continued to advance in the next round, with CES defeating Maintenance and OPS toppling Security Forces Squadron, more aptly put as, "OPS tops Cops!" per Lamarr Johnson, who was in

the stands to cheer on his OPS team.

Next, Services Squadron won its game when Communications Flight forfeited. The "game of the night" award, though, had to go to the last one, where the mighty Medical Squadron took the court against a skeleton of a team from Air Wing/Mission Support Group. Instead of forfeiting, the four-player AW/MSG wasn't intimidated, taking to the net all fired up to play MDS, who outnumbered them 2 to 1.

Jeanne Bisesi, Alex Brown, Jennifer McKendree and Fedno Trompe found their superpowers and played like the Fantastic Four, surprising onlookers by beating the 8-player MDS team in game 1 of the match. AW/MSG hung tough in game 2 also, losing by just a couple of points. In the tie-breaker game 3, though, MDS really found its groove. Behind the solid serve of David Hardic, MDS began to put the game away, gaining a lead that the AW/MSG team just couldn't overcome.

In the end, MDS won 25-16, moving on with CES, OPS and SVS to the next wave of games scheduled for the April UTA.

David Hardic puts up a series of great serves for MDS during the tiebreaking third game of a match versus the combined AW/MSG team.

U.S. Air Force Photo/Senior Airman Ann W. Jefferson

We're looking for a few good *PENS*.

The 910th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office is interviewing now for <u>new writers</u>.

If you are interested in becoming a Public Affairs specialist, call Capt. Brent Davis at 330-609-1364 or email brent.davis@youngstown.af.mil. 910 AW/PA YOUNGSTOWN AIR RESERVE STA 3976 KING GRAVES RD UNIT 12 VIENNA OH 44473-5912 OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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