



# 309th Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Group



## 309 AMARG

*Renewing the Force...*

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## Italy returns F-16s; leased to support nation's interim air defense capability

Six F-16s, brought out of retirement in 2003 to support a lease agreement with the Italian Ministry of Defense, were returned to 309 AMARG on June 24th.

Under the "Peace Ceasar" foreign military sales program, F-16A and B-model fighters were leased by Italy to provide an interim air defense capability between the retirement of their Tornados and F-104 "Starfighters" until the Italian Air Force Service could fully achieve operations of the Eurofighter Typhoon.

Six more air frames are scheduled for a return delivery later this month.



*Above, an Italian Air Force pilot embraces "his" F-16 with a smile after turning the aircraft and all of the air frame's maintenance records over to AMARG's receiving personnel.*



*Above, Italian Air Force pilots are welcomed to 309 AMARG by Captain Francesco Iovino, an Italian foreign military liaison officer.*

*Right, Jay McGrew and Dale Bell, both assigned to AMARG's 578th Storage & Disposal Squadron, prepare to apply a temporary protective cover of soft cheese cloth-like material and shrink wrap over the entire surface of an F-16's canopy.*



## Air Force Strike Board members reconvene for June conference



*Mr. Timothy Horn (left), Director of the Naval Inventory Control Point's Field Service Office here, discusses the historical value of CH-46E, Bureau Number 154812, with Public Broadcasting Service's local television station reporter, Mr. Christopher Conover.*

*Members of the U.S. Air Force Strike Board, consisting of representatives from Secretary of the Air Force International Affairs, Air Force Materiel Command's A4, National Museum of the United States Air Force, and various weapon System Program Offices, convened here in June. Sponsored by Headquarters Air Force A8P, Colonel Robert Valin, Chief of the Air Force's Strategic Basing Division in Washington D.C., chaired this fourth annual event. Two days of discussion included future dispositions of retiring aircraft, the current inactive aircraft inventory, and updating the Air Force Migration Plan. The Strike Board concept is patterned after the highly successful process used by the U.S. Navy to manage their inactive aircraft inventory.*

*According to Mr. Horn, "812" was one of the last two aircraft to leave the U.S. Embassy in Saigon. One vehicle departed with the U.S. Ambassador on board and "812" lifted off from the grounds of the compound carrying the last of the Marine Guard.*

*The helicopter arrived here from Camp Pendleton for storage in 2006. The story is scheduled to air tonight on KUAT TV's Arizona Illustrated.*

## Advertising

## Personnel Force Innovation (PFI) augments AMARG's Security efforts

Three U.S. Army soldiers are assisting 309 AMARG with security and Job Control operations.

The soldiers are Army reservists and national guardsmen brought on tour through PFI, an Under Secretary

of Defense initiative to obtain and place reserve service members on active duty tours with Department of Defense agencies for one to three years.

Shown from left, SGT Jackie Holland, a proud Texan; SSG Luis Pereira, a gentleman from North Carolina; and SGT Wayne Richardson. His friends call him "Tennessee."



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