

Combat Airlifter

440th Airlift Wing, Pope AFB, N.C.

"Vincit qui primum gerit"

August 2007 Volume 1, No. 2



"Still putting the air in airborne"

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On the cover:
Chief Danny Formanski, 440th Maintenance Squadron, is considered a "hybrid," one of the first 440th reservists to move to Pope Air Force Base, N.C. Read more about the hybrids on page 3.

photo by Staff Sgt. Joe Stark

The legacy lives on, make every shot count

by Col. Harry Heflin
440th Airlift Wing Inspector General

This column is usually reserved for a topic that is meant to inspire, motivate or reflect upon something — a person, place or thing — that is relevant at the time. With that thought in mind, I want to use this venue to offer my thoughts on what makes the women and men of the 440th Airlift Wing so special. I have chosen to do this with a golf analogy.

In its purest form, golf is a very simple game; just get the ball in the hole, for eighteen holes. It's the journey — the obstacles encountered throughout the round — that makes it so difficult.

So what is it that sets the top golfers in the world apart from the rest of the pack?

They have the ability to focus on turning endless hours of sacrifice, training and passion into setting up winning opportunities. They understand the importance of making every shot count, but more importantly, focusing on the next shot — not the last shot. They have a vision. They trust their swing and they don't focus on the obstacles.

What then, sets the women and men of the 440th Airlift Wing apart from all the rest of the units throughout Air Force Reserve Command — and in my opinion the rest of the United States Air Force?

For me, it's not much different from the professional golfer; each member of the 440th has repeatedly demonstrated the ability to focus on the job at hand, come together as a team and get the job done safely — in spite of the obstacles encountered along the journey. Right now, wing members remain mission ready, and even in the



Col. Harry Heflin, 440th Airlift Wing inspector general

amidst of a BRAC move, the 440th is fully combat capable.

"Maintain your passion to excel and continue to serve proudly, focus on the next shot, trust your swing and don't focus on the obstacles."

Whether you are already a part of the 440th Airlift Wing at Pope AFB, joining another Air Force unit or another branch of service, or if you have or will be retiring; remember to make every shot count.

Maintain your passion to excel and continue to serve proudly, focus on the next shot, trust your swing and don't focus on the obstacles. Do these things and you can rest assured the legacy of the 440th will live on. All the best and God's speed!

The history of the Hybrids

Dedicated Airmen key to success of Det. 1 at Pope

by **Dennis Mehring**

The recommendations of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission became law in November of 2005 and once it did the future of General Mitchell Air Reserve Station, Wis., was settled. The wing was going to be moved to Pope Air Force Base, N.C., so two of the first questions that had to be answered by the members of the 440th who were staying with the wing were “How do we get this outfit moved?” and “Who is going to move first?”

The first people to move to Pope AFB arrived on August 20, 2006. They were: Col. Brett Clark, Det. 1 commander, Col. Mark Rodriguez (an individual mobilization augmentee from Oklahoma City, Okla.) Maj. Derek Poellet, Chief Master Sgt. Danny Formanski, Senior Master Sergeants Bill Westling and Lynn Klapste, Master Sergeants Terry Harper and Jennifer Drewitz, and Tech. Sergeants Dave Webster and Mark Ulmen.

The original members of Det. 1 called themselves “The Hybrids.” The best definition of a hybrid is probably “something that has two different types of components performing essentially the same function.” Having their roots and the vast majority of the wing in Wisconsin, their jobs in North Carolina would undoubtedly contribute to such a belief. The commander of the

detachment was Colonel Clark, the current 440th Operations Group commander. Colonel Clark had been the commander of the 94th Operations Group at Dobbins Air Force Base, Ga., when he was given his current assignment. He said that he had two big challenges.

“I was going to ask them (the other members of Det. 1) to sprint and not jog through this assignment. The normal pace of operations that they were used to was not going to be enough. They also had to be jacks of all trades. If someone was a specialist in maintenance, that person had to be ready to drop what they were doing and help get work done in some other unrelated area.” Colonel Clark was as good as his word.

One Hybrid provided a partial list of job responsibilities taken on from 2006 to 2007: civilian time-

keeper, orders clerk, services, government purchase card management, contracting, computer support, individual equipment custodian, and vehicle management. None of these duties are part of that specialist’s normal career field.

Major Poellet was a captain when he moved himself and his family to Pope in 2006. How did he end up as a member of Det. 1?

“I was requested by Colonel Flournoy (22nd Air Force acting Chief of Staff) and I thought I shouldn’t turn down this opportunity,” Major Poellet said.

He was asked what he thought was the biggest challenge to being one of the first 440th Reservists at Pope. It did not take long for him to narrow down the challenge to “Identifying all the responsibilities that would be necessary to become self sustaining. There are so many things a wing has to do and we still have not finished that job. For example, we had to establish financial accounts, supply accounts, figure out additional duties like unit security and flight line driving managers. The NSPS system (new personnel rating system for Federal employees) has been quite a challenge.”

The easiest question he was

“It’s been an experience I’ll keep with me for the rest of my career.”

-Maj. Derek Poellet

asked was, “Are you feeling more comfortable and confident now that more people have been hired and there are more familiar faces around you? His reply was a firmly spoken, “YES! It’s been an experience I’ll keep with me for the rest of my career. I’ve learned so much about what it takes to operate a wing.”

Master Sgt. Jennifer Drewitz had this to say about her experience as a

Hybrid. “The job to date has been extreme. The processes that we took for granted back in Milwaukee were not in place for us here. The simplest task was a chore because everything had to be done from scratch. It took weeks for us to get our local line badges. We (the original Hybrids) all had to step up and take on duties outside our normal specialties. I work in Maintenance and right now I’m processing line badges for the wing.”

Even though her Reserve duties have been a challenge, Master Sgt. Drewitz said that her biggest challenge was “finding a good school for my son and finding a good place to live.” She wanted the change to be as seamless as possible.

Starting a new project is always daunting, but try to imagine the complexities involved in creating a base of operations for hundreds of interdependent people in a new location a thousand miles away from all the supports you know and are comfortable with. As of this date hundreds of people have been hired and more than a hundred ART positions still need to be filled, but the flag has been transferred, planes are being moved to North Carolina and the wing is still working and flying. Det. 1’s operations have come to an end, but the record of what they were able to accomplish in such a short time will be evident to all 440th members for months and years to come.

Dentist named new 440th MDS commander

By Lt. Col. Ann Peru Knabe

With nearly 20 years experience serving the wing, Col. (Dr.) Richard "Bruce" Fischer assumed command of the 440th Medical Squadron last month. As he spoke to a room full of reservists during his assumption of command ceremony, the new MDS commander commented on the growth and maturity of the squadron during the last two decades.

"When I first joined the unit as a first lieutenant, we accomplished our mission, but it seemed a little disorganized," he said. "But our Airmen had outstanding qualities. Today we have the same outstanding core qualities, but have turned the unit machine into the excellence recognized by Air Force Reserve Command."

Dr. Fischer thinks the high caliber of the people will make his job easier.

"The challenge will be to lead them through our transition to Pope and a large influx of new

members," said the dentist from Tomah, Wis. Previously serving as the 440th's chief of dental services, Dr. Fischer graduated from Marquette University Dental School in Milwaukee. He joined the military in 1988, earning a direct commission, and was called to active duty for Operation Desert Storm.

A chief master dentist with more than 23 years of clinical experience, he has commanded numerous tours of duty. He has also served on medical and dental task forces for 22nd Air Force, and is a member of the Air Force Reserve Dental Advisory Board.

"Colonel Fisher has a wealth of professional experience and history with the wing," said Col. Merle D. Hart, 440th Airlift Wing commander. "I am confident his new leadership role at Pope will shine like all of his other accomplishments."

Dr. Fischer said he refers to a print on his wall when thinking about his new role as a commander.

"To paraphrase, it says leadership is not tak-



Col. Richard "Bruce" Fischer, 440th Medical Squadron Commander

ing people where they want to go, it's taking them to where they ought to be," he said.

"I plan to use this philosophy in leading the medical squadron. With the support of the wing leadership through guidance and mentoring, I see a continued tradition of success."

Knack for numbers earns 440th reservist 22nd AF's Gen. Wagner Administrative Excellence nomination

By Lt. Col. Ann Peru Knabe

Maj. Shanon Madrid's eagle eye for numbers and accuracy jumps-out at senior leaders in the wing and 22nd Air Force. Newly assigned to the 440th Medical Squadron, the medical service corps officer earned 22nd Air Force's nomination for the Brig. General Donald B. Wagner Administrative Excellence Award while serving as an Individual Mobilization Augmentee last year.

"She's engaged each assignment with energy and enthusiasm," said Lt. Col. Lynanne St. Laurent, Major Madrid's former commander. "She sharpened data integrity, resolved process problems and provided spectacular support in management of more than 250 manpower positions."

The reservist was nominated for the General Wagner award based on her "superior allocation of resources" and attention to detail in numerous military programs involving accounting and related documentation. She optimized the civilian pay program in her former unit, and identified errors in accounting, saving an additional \$75,000 for medical programs. Major Madrid was also cited for her work preparing for the unit's health services inspection.

"She's one of the best," said an HIS evaluator during the inspection, referring to the reservist's work in establishing a line of duty program with clear processes and creation of a patient checklist and how-to guide that streamlined the referral management process. The major's

work resulted in a 15 percent improvement during the first month. Major Madrid was also cited for her extensive work in the community. As the co-chair for the Garner Relay for Life walk, she helped raise more than \$650,000 for cancer research in North Carolina's largest fundraising event. The 440th reservist also volunteers as a commander for the Apex, N.C., Civil Air Patrol. She teaches young CAP cadets the history of the military and discipline, and coordinates flying with the Young Eagles program.

"Shanon is clearly an asset to the 440th Medical Squadron," said Col. Richard "Bruce" Fischer, 440th MDS commander. "Her talent with numbers, management and people will be an excellent addition to our team."

440th nurse named 22nd AF's Outstanding Medical Reserve Officer

by Lt. Col. Ann Peru Knabe

The sound of a helicopter landing signaled another critical patient arriving at the Air Force Theater Hospital at Balad Air Base, Iraq. It could have been a Soldier missing limb, a Marine badly burned or an Airman with fractured bones. It didn't matter; Lt. Col. Therese Kern was ready to triage the injured, perform CPR or simply hold a scared servicemember's hand during the night. Thousands of miles from home, the 440th Airlift Wing Reservist from Wind Lake, Wis., was doing what she loved most, bedside care.

"I love the hands-on patient care," she said, referring to her air expeditionary tour in Iraq. "It's hard to describe the feeling I get when I am helping these soldiers that come in off the battlefield. It's a feeling I will never forget."

Based on her work in the war theater and skilled management back at her home unit, Colonel Kern was named 22nd Air Force's Outstanding Reserve Officer Assigned to a Deployable Medical Unit.

When she is not deployed, Colonel Kern serves as the 440th Medical

Squadron chief of nursing.

The medical statistics under Colonel Kern speak for themselves. During the last year, on a typical UTA, she expedited medical care for more than 700 walk-ins a month.

Under her direction, the unit gave more 5674 immunizations, performed 907 dental exams and drew 4616 blood samplings.

"The patient satisfaction rate speaks volumes," said Col. Richard "Bruce" Fischer, 440th Medical Squadron commander. "Airmen rated medical squadron performance



Lt. Col. Therese Kern cares for a young boy while deployed last year to Balad Air Base, Iraq. Her efforts earned her recognition as 22nd Air Force's Outstanding Reserve Officer Assigned to a Deployable Medical Unit.

at a 98 percent satisfaction rate. We're lucky to have a dedicated professional like Lt. Colonel Kern to help us reach this level of excellence."

Other senior officers have noted Colonel Kern's leadership ability.

She was hand-picked to supervise the night shift at the busiest hospital in Iraq, where she delivered care to more than 1200 U.S.

servicemembers, Iraqi soldiers, prisoners of war and civilians. She was praised by her coworkers and Iraqi interpreters for her compassion and empathy while caring for others.

Colonel Kern will continue her service as chief of nursing with the 440th Medical Squadron at Pope Air Force Base, N.C.

440th MDS named 22nd AF's Outstanding Medical Squadron and Detachment

The 440th Medical Squadron has been named 22nd Air Force's Outstanding Medical Squadron and Detachment with Expeditionary Medical Support.

The MDS continued an aggressive deployment schedule, even after the Base Realignment and Closure commission recommended closing General Mitchell Air Reserve Station. The unit

supported multiple Air Expeditionary Flight Rotations to Puerto Rico, Alaska, Chad, Iraq and Germany. Deployed members played critical roles in helping thousands of injured servicemembers and coalition partners. One reservist saved the lives of two children while under sniper fire, and successfully defended patients during attacks.

The MDS was also lauded as one of three

Air Force Reserve units to achieve DOD's Individual Medical Readiness goal requiring more than 76 percent medical suitability of members for world-wide duty.

The squadron also demobilized members of the 95th Airlift Squadron, 440th Maintenance Squadron and 45th Airlift Wing with 100 percent satisfaction rate.



Air Force Reservist Capt. Grady “G-Man” Dieckert, 95th Airlift Squadron pilot, briefs Maj. Joni Clemens and Capt. Kathy Martin prior to flying an aeromedical training mission on July 19. Major Clemens served as the 43rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron medical crew director on one of the flights. Captain Martin is the 43rd AES element chief for aircrew training. The July 19 flight was one of the first operational missions for the 440th Airlift Wing to fly from its new location at Pope Air Force Base, N.C. The Reserve unit moved to North Carolina from Wisconsin in June.

Thinking Smart

95th Airlift Squadron partners with active duty aeromedical squadron for ‘win-win’ training

Stories and photos by
Lt. Col. Ann Peru Knabe

As the “patient” struggled to breathe, the medical technicians and flight nurses from the 43rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron gave their best efforts to save his life. He had suffered bilateral burns on the eyes, and was being flown on a C-130. But his condition worsened. Soon he was struggling to breathe, and the aeromedical team started suctioning his mouth. Then his pulse

oximeter reading fell from 87 percent to 70 percent, and the aeromedics intubated him since he could no longer breathe on his own. The exciting part of this story is not that “the patient” survived (it was a simulated exercise, after all), but the fact that it was a 440th Airlift Wing Reserve aircrew flying active duty aeromedics.

“The training partnership is a perfect match,” said Lt.Col. Stephen Chafe, 440th Airlift Wing Det. 2 operations officer, calling it a “win-win”

situation. “The active duty aeromedical unit from Pope needs training flights that last a couple hours in the air, and the 95th Airlift Squadron needs to keep its traditional reserve aircrew members qualified.”

Colonel Chafe explained the 95th Airlift Squadron, now based at Pope Air Force Base, N.C., still has more than 50 traditional reservists who live in Wisconsin and need to maintain currency. Back at Pope AFB, the 43rd AES needed



Air Force Reservist Master Sgt. Randall Labodda, a loadmaster with the 95th Airlift Squadron, confers with Maj. Joni Clemens, 43rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron medical crew director, during a training flight on July 19. The flight was one of the first operational missions for the 440th Airlift Wing to fly from its new location at Pope Air Force Base, N.C.

to train their aeromedics on real-world flights.

“We were in a meeting at Pope last May, and a couple of us were talking with the aeromedics, when suddenly the light went on – why couldn’t we provide flights for aeromed training to Milwaukee?”

“The flight to Milwaukee is a little over two hours, and we the 95th and 43rd (AES) would both benefit. The real nut to crack was how to connect the two missions.”

It didn’t take long to figure it out. The first aeromedical training from Pope to Milwaukee, and back to Pope, took place July 19. Both units felt this opportunity was an excellent use of resources. “It was an example of wonderful integration between the ‘front-end’ and AES,” said Capt. Kathy Martin, referring to the collaboration between the 95th aircrew and 43rd aeromedics.

“The 95th did everything they could do to help us have an exceptional training experience.”

As the 43rd AES element chief for aircrew training, Captain Martin looks forward to continuing the weekly training flights with the 440th.

“We had ample opportunity to practice all our scenarios,” she explained. During the two flights the aeromedics simulated treating patients with chemical burns, crush injuries, fractured bones and breathing obstructions.

The 95th aircrew supported the exercise directly responding to simulate emergencies. Warning lights lit up during the flight telling the crew about simulated rapid decompression and a fire.

“The beauty of this training stateside is that it reflects what is really going on in the war theater,” said Tech. Sgt. Stephanie Durham, who served as the mission clinical coordinator.

“The majority of time I’ve flown in the AOR, it’s been with Reserve and Guard crews. So it makes perfect sense – we need to train how we fight,” said Sergeant Durham.

Maj. Derek Poellet, 95th AS aircraft commander for the July 19 training mission, agreed.

“It’s all about the active duty and Reserve working together,” he said. “Our new organizational structure shows active duty units under our operations group. So it’s exciting to see us working together so quickly.”

In the next year, the 440th Operations Group will gain a new Reserve squadron when the 440th Aeromedical Squadron is activated. In addition, the 440th Operations Group will gain operational direction over the 43rd AES (and 2nd Airlift Squadron) when the much anticipated active association is implemented.

440th Airlift Wing comptroller office open for business at Pope

by Maj. Rick Jellison
440th Airlift Wing Comptroller

A new comptroller organization has arrived at Pope Air Force Base, N.C. The office move is a result of the base realignment and closure actions that were passed in late 2005. The 440th Financial Management Office is part of the 440th Airlift Wing, the unit that moved its flag to Pope AFB on June 10.

The 440th FM offices are co-located with the 43rd Comptroller Squadron in building 315 on Pope AFB. The FM management team is in the process of hiring the full-time and Reserve staff that will manage all financial management operations for the 440th AW. Those operations include budgeting, transaction management, military and civilian pay, and travel.

Co-locating with the 43rd CPTS will allow both Comptroller organizations to gain synergy through team work aimed at supporting all “Team Pope” members.

As the military comptroller and chief financial officer of the wing, I have two primary responsibilities. First, and foremost, I have the responsibility to maintain a “ready to deploy” staff of combat comptrollers who are capable of meeting the requirements expected of a combat ready wing.

This is the primary function of my traditional reservist staff and their training focus during reserve training weekends.

My other, and equally important function, is maintaining the day-to-day financial operations of the 440th, servicing about 250 full-time civilian



Maj. Rick Jellison, 440th Comptroller

and Air Reserve Technicians. My staff also manages the Operations and Maintenance, and Reserve Personnel Appropriations that sustain the wing on a daily basis.

Annual training requirements to be shortened to 90 minutes

by Staff Sgt. J.G. Buzanowski
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — After examining how much time Airmen spend on annual ancillary training, Air Force leaders have decided that time should be allocated more efficiently.

In effect as of Oct. 1, ancillary training requirements will be reduced to 90 minutes, as opposed to almost nine hours per Airman spread throughout the year.

“An Airman’s time is valuable, one of the most precious commodities we have,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley. “I want a lot of our ancillary training to be combined so Airmen can spend more time concentrating on their jobs.”

The goal is to cut the time spent on ancillary training to the “minimum level necessary,” General Moseley says in his latest “Chief’s Scope.”

The initiative is part of Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century, an Air Force-

wide program where organizations reexamine their own procedures and processes to find ways to save time and money.

Under the new 90-minute “block instruction” plan, Airmen will save almost an entire workday, or about 8.65 hours per person, according to Lt. Gen. Roger Brady, deputy chief of staff of Air Force manpower, personnel and services. General Brady’s team examined 16 different training courses and redesigned how Airmen will receive that information. In an hour and a half, Airmen will receive blocks of training organized into categories that will simplify the training process without greatly diminishing the value of the training itself.

“I will not let ancillary training overshadow our combat focus,” General Moseley said. “These concrete steps will tip the scales to give Airmen more time to focus on their primary mission.”

For even greater convenience, units will have several options for completing all three blocks.

Commanders will have the choice of holding the entire 90 minutes at once in a mass briefing, or split up into three segments throughout the year. The blocks also will be available as both group and individual computer presentations.

While the 90 minutes of instruction will meet annual requirements for Total Force Airmen, there will continue to be additional, specific training for select Airmen. For example, new Airmen will still need to attend initial security orientation at their first duty station and Airmen changing duty stations to go overseas will require counterintelligence training. Although courses like these will still be in addition to the annual required 90-minute training, there is a plan now that also will reduce the time it takes for these extra courses by up to 72 percent, General Brady said.

“Our approach is aggressive and will force everyone to justify how the benefits of their proposed training outweigh the burden on our Airmen,” General Brady said.

New rules require technicians to wear military uniforms fulltime

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – When people visit an Air Force Reserve Command unit during the week in the coming months, they are likely to see more people in military uniforms.

The Air Force changed three of its instructions Aug. 7 to require all air reserve technicians to wear military uniforms rather than civilian clothes while working in civilian status. ARTs are full-time civilian employees who serve in the same job as Air Force reservists. They've been wearing uniforms when in military status.

ARTs in some locations are already wearing their uniforms all of the time at work. Others haven't started wearing their uniforms everyday because they have not been required to do so.

"We want our ARTs to be in uniform because we are integrating with the Regular Air Force and Air National Guard throughout the Air Force," said Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, AFRC commander. "Total Force Integration is changing how we interact with the rest of the Air Force.

"Even before 9/11, the regular component depended on us to get the job done," he said.

"That dependency is growing because we cannot afford to do business as usual. We need to consolidate our forces and capitalize on each other's strengths."

As example of progress, General Bradley cited reservists preparing to fly F-22s with the Regular Air Force in Alaska, reservists flying their own C-17s in California and reservists standing up and managing a C-130 unit in North Carolina with an active associate unit.

"We are able to take on new and challenging missions because of the skills and experience of our air reserve technicians," said Chief Master Sgt. Troy McIntosh, AFRC command chief master sergeant. "Some technicians have told me they feel this uniform change is calling their military dedication or patriotism into question," said the chief. "That is not at all the case. Our technicians have proved themselves in the past and, I'm confident, they will continue to do so in the future."

The Air Force Reserve has about 1,335 ART officers and 8,400 ART enlisted people. (Air Force Reserve Command News Service)

Stay connected 440th Alumni Association

The 440th Alumni Association encourages 440th members and friends to join. In addition to information sharing, regular meetings give people the opportunity to stay in touch with fellow 440th members and stay current with the people and history of the 440th.

For more information, call Ed Thomas at 482-5303 or Larry Guenther at 482-5401 on base. More information is also available from Al Shutta at 414-282-9225 or James Anderson at 262-821-1841, or Ed Thomas at 414-427-8256 or Larry Guenther at 262-284-9779.

The Association meets the second Thursday of the month at Amelia's for lunch and camaraderie. Amelia's restaurant is located at 724 E. Layton Ave.

TRICARE Select Reserve insurance available to all reservists Oct. 1

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. (AFPN) — Reservists can begin signing up Aug. 11 for more affordable Tricare Select Reserve health care that starts Oct. 1.

For some, it means they will pay a third of what they are paying today.

"All drilling reservists, including individual mobilization augmentees, will have access to the health-care benefit at its lowest premium rate," said Lt. Col. Alexander Alex, Air Force Reserve Command's health benefits manager.

"Interested reservists, including those who are currently enrolled in Tricare Reserve Select, must fill out a newly developed Defense Department Form 2896-1 to take part in this restructured program."

In the 2007 National Defense Authorization Act, Congress told Defense Department officials to restructure the plan's three-tier payment system, which has been in effect since 2006. Dr. David S.C. Chu, deputy secretary of defense for personnel and readiness, signed the new policy Aug. 3.

Under the system that ends Sept. 30, only reservists on or recently returned from a contingency operation qualify for Tier 1, the lowest cost premium.

Reservists in Tier 3 pay the most each month, \$247 for the reservist alone and \$767.41 for the reservist and family. They include people who haven't been in a contingency recently, who are not self-employed, who work for an employer who of-

fers a health care plan or who do not qualify for unemployment compensation as determined by state law.

That all changes starting Oct. 1. All drilling reservists will pay the lowest premium, \$81 a month for single coverage. Monthly premiums for reservists and families will be \$253. Tricare will adjust premiums annually on Jan. 1.

"We've been working hard for years to improve health-care benefits for all reservists, and this is a big step in that process," said Maj. Gen. Allan R. Poulin, AFRC's vice commander.

The general encourages all reservists to study the program to see if it meets their needs.

"As a health-care consultant, I have looked at numerous plans,"

Colonel Alex said. "And this is a very competitive 80/20 indemnity plan where the government pays 80 percent and the member pays 20 percent of the cost share.

"One of its huge benefits is the pharmacy program," he said. "If used wisely, members can get a 90-day supply of medicine for \$3 per prescription."

Another plus to the plan is its \$1,000 catastrophic cap, among the lowest in the industry, according to Colonel Alex.

"Once a member has paid \$1,000 in a fiscal year, Tricare will pay 100 percent of the Tricare allowable cost after that," he said.

Final Notes



Lt. Col. Michael Day, a navigator with the 95th Airlift Squadron, updates the flight plan on the self-contained navigation system during a 440th Airlift Wing mission. Like all the 440th units, the 95th AS is looking for sharp, motivated people who want to serve on a winning team.

photo by Lt. Col. Ann Peru Knabe

Lodging Information

Reservists who need lodging while performing duty at Pope Air Force Base should use the Automated Lodging Reservation System (ALRS) when making arrangements to stay overnight at Pope.

Phone 910-394-1291

DSN 424-1291

- ALRS requires the last four of your SS # and dates you are staying.
- UTA reservations must be made a minimum of 10 days prior to the weekend.
- Reservists should use ALRS when they need lodging at Pope while on mandays, annual tour or Reserve weekends.

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