

# Combat Airlifter

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

*"Vincit qui primum gerit"*

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**The  
Power of**

**DIVERSITY**

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**On the cover:**

The 440th Airlift Wing celebrates the diversity of its Airmen.

*cover illustration by  
Senior Airman Jackie Pender*

# New Ops Group commander joins 440th Airlift Wing

Lt. Col. William Whittenberger assumed command of the 440th Operations Group on June 8. His previous assignment was deputy operations group commander with the 910th Operations Group based at Youngstown-Warren Joint Air Reserve Base, Ohio. Colonel Whittenberger earned his commission through the Air Force Officer Training Squadron program in 1992. He is a senior pilot, having flown more than 4,000 hours in the T-37, T-38, C-130E, and C-130H2 aircraft, with more than 250 combat hours and 140 combat sorties flown in the Balkans and Southwest Asia. The **Combat Airlifter** staff sat down with Colonel Whittenberger for a one-on-one interview in June.

**Combat Airlifter:** How would you define your role as the new 440th Operations Group commander?

**Colonel Whittenberger:** I command several Reserve units, including the 95th Airlift Squadron, 440th Operations Support Squadron and 36th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron. In addition, I provide operational direction for the 2nd Airlift Squadron and the

43rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, which are both Active duty units.

**Combat Airlifter:** How are you going to approach the association between Active Duty and Reserve units?

**Colonel Whittenberger:** The first thing I am going to do is gather the priorities from the people. If there are things that need to be fixed, we will focus on them. We'll be working together from the same checklists, pubs (publications) and regulations. I see the Active Duty and Reserve squadrons as one team, one family ... all working toward the same common goals.

**Combat Airlifter:** What is your crew position?

**Colonel Whittenberger:** I am a qualified instructor - evaluator in the C-130H model aircraft.

**Combat Airlifter:** How did you get interested in the military and flying?

~ continued on page 3



photo by Senior Airman Jackie Pender

Lt. Col. William Whittenberger assumed command of the 440th Operations Group on June 8.



~ continued from page 2

**Colonel Whittenberger:** I am an Air Force brat. My father was a missile launch commander, and I grew up on SAC (Strategic Air Command) bases as a kid. After college I worked as a carpenter for a while, but I always wanted to be a pilot. And when the right time came along, I joined the Air Force.

**Combat Airlifter:** *The new job is keeping you quite busy. What do you do in your free time?*

**Colonel Whittenberger:** My family joined me here at Pope Air Force Base, and I have four children who keep me really busy coaching their football, baseball, soccer and wrestling. Michelle and I are really proud of our kids: Luke is 10; Matt and Erica, the twins, are 9; and Jake is 7.

**Combat Airlifter:** *Do you see any similarities between your coaching and serving as a commander?*

**Colonel Whittenberger:** Absolutely, we're both teams working toward a common goal. In sports, the goal is to win. In the operations group, we focus on training and the mission. Our aircrews need to be ready to backfill other units and deploy on short notice. The taskings won't stop anytime soon. There is a continuous need for people and supplies in the area of operations, and C-130s are the best aircraft to support this. The 440th is an operational reserve, as opposed to the strategic paradigm of the past. In addition to training, the 2nd and 95th Airlift Squadrons are also fulfilling AEF (Air Expeditionary Flight) taskings. Just recently, we sent our first integrated crew and maintainers to Southwest Asia as part of an AEF cycle.

**Combat Airlifter:** *How did it go?*

**Colonel Whittenberger:** The AEF crews left my first day on the job, and I saw great synergy on the team. The aircrew was comprised of 2nd Airlift Squadron flyers and one 95th loadmaster, and we also sent two 440th maintainers with the 43rd maintainers. It's never been a better time for us to start "pulling the plow" together.

# Active Duty, Reserve Airmen fly together in 440th Airlift Wing

by Staff Sgt. John LaDue  
43rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs

May 27 represents a milestone in the 440th's journey toward association. Maj. Gen. James A. Hawkins, commander of 18th Air Force, and Maj. Gen. Martin M. Mazick, commander of 22nd Air Force, signed a historical document on May 27.

"This agreement opened the door for the 440th to use its active duty component as 440th members," said Lt. Col. John Gorse, 95th Airlift Squadron deputy of operations. "This 'reverse' association helps us both in the operations arena and maintenance arena. Two days later, we were flying our first missions as a reverse associate."

The same week the agreement was signed, 55 members of the 440th Airlift Wing's 95th Airlift Squadron and 95th Maintenance Squadron, and nine members of the 2nd Airlift Squadron left for Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

The two chinks each flew out on 440th C-130H aircraft. It's the first time Airmen from the 2nd AS deployed with Airmen from the 440th AW to the European and possibly African theaters.

"When we were tasked to do this mission, we thought it would be a good idea to go ahead and ask the 2nd AS if they wanted to participate because we realized that the 2nd AS has been flying mostly local missions, or they go to the desert and that's it," said Lt. Col. Keith Wesley, 440th Operations Group mission commander and chief of standardization evaluations.

"It gives our aircrews experience flying in another theater. It's a mission we've done in the past, but we haven't done it in some time,"

said Col. Michael Thornton, 43rd Operations Group Commander.

The active duty and Reserve combined team will be supporting already deployed forces in whatever way they can; whether it be transferring cargo or humanitarian missions.

Colonel Thornton said 2nd AS and 95th AS aircrews have been specifically training and flying together for the last six months and there are no worries about the mission getting accomplished.

"There are no concerns about (their interfly) and how they interact together because they've actually been training together, in detail, in formation flights and even on the same airplane."

The Reservists have more currency of flying in Germany, but the fact that the 2nd AS aircrews going to Ramstein will get seasoned in the European theater is a good thing, Colonel Thornton added.

"I think it helps a lot. It finally gives everybody the experience we normally don't get," said 1st Lt. Michelle Morse, 2nd AS and mission co-pilot.

Lieutenant Morse said she thinks the C-130H is a nicer aircraft than the C-130E. Looking back she said the training has gone great and now that's she's fully qualified on the newer model she is glad to be a part of this mission.

"We hardly ever get to do this type of stuff, so for us this is huge. It's a big deal," said Lieutenant Morse, "This is the first time we've deployed together. So that's showing the unity of us having to work and do things together."

# 440th celebrates D-Day with

By Lt. Col. Ann Peru Knabe

It was something Lt. Col. Tom Moffatt never expected to see in his lifetime – French citizens celebrating the sacrifices of U.S. servicemembers.

The 440<sup>th</sup> Operations Group deputy commander served as the mission commander for Operation Airdrop Warrior the first week of June. The mission took place in the Normandy region of France, commemorating the 64<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day, culminating with an airdrop of 200 paratroopers.

“The airdrop had special meaning,” said Colonel Moffatt. “The paratroopers include U.S. Army Reservists from the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne and 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division. We also had German, Italian, British, Canadian and French soldiers jump out of our C-130.”

International soldiers earn jump wings from other countries when they work with a jumpmaster from different countries.

The 440<sup>th</sup> sent one aircraft supported by 14 aircrew and maintenance Reservists. Additional aircraft support was supplied by the 94<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, the 37<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron and 352<sup>nd</sup> Special Operations Squadron.

The D-Day airdrops held special significance to 440<sup>th</sup> Airmen. It was the same drop zone that was used by the 440<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group on D-Day in 1944. The 440<sup>th</sup> AW traces its roots directly to the 440<sup>th</sup> TCG.

Throughout the week the aircrew flew missions and appeared at public events in several historical locations, including Cherbourg, Marpetus, Saint Mere Eglise and Picaucville.

The aircrew toured a memorial dedicated to “the brave 440<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group,” commemorating the heroic efforts of aircrew from four C-47s that crashed there on June 6, 1944. The French citizens from Picaucville made the 440th a special plaque with a dagger, D-rings and two parachute clips that were found in a field where a soldier died 64 years ago.

“Personally, this mission gave me an opportunity to get our crews and maintainers to understand history and the consequences of what can happen with bad training,” said Colonel Moffatt. “They also had the opportunity to meet French citizens who are grateful for Americans.”

The Reservists met a woman who was 6 when the Germans took over France, and 10 when the country was liberated. Now 72, she remembers “loving the Americans.”



# Operation Airdrop Warrior

“Most of the people from the small villages were like this,” said Colonel Moffatt. “They ‘adopted’ our crews for the night, and every Reservist was taken into a French home for dinner.”

The Reservists also participated in events at the American Cemetery at Omaha Beach where courageous soldiers lost their lives in 1944.

“I met a man who was shot in the face on D-Day,” said Maj. Todd Moore, 95<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron pilot, recalling a U.S. veteran he met in France.

“And the next day he was shot in the foot and face again. He wasn’t treated (medically) until five days later. Major Moore said the veteran had waded ashore 400 yards off the beach in water up to his neck as everyone around him

was dying.

“He had an amazing story to share,” said Major Moore. “When we complain about spending time in the heat when we are deployed today, stories like his put everything into perspective.”

Tech. Sgt. Ron Edwardson, a 95<sup>th</sup> AS loadmaster, said the experience was humbling.

“I had read about D-Day before in history books,” he said. “But when you meet the veterans who served, and the grateful French people, and hear their stories first-hand, you have a deeper appreciation of what they went through.”

Major Anthony Smith, a 95<sup>th</sup> AS pilot, said the mission served a greater purpose.

“It was almost a public diplomacy mission,” he said. “In some ways our World War II veterans were treated better in these small French vil-

lages than they are back home in the U.S. There was so much enthusiasm for what the Americans had done to help the French six decades ago. To be honest, this experience shattered my stereotypes of the French.”

Lt. Col. John Smigla, 95<sup>th</sup> AS aircraft commander, said he will always remember standing at the cemetery overlooking Omaha Beach.

“There are more than 9,400 crosses in that cemetery,” he said. “And they all symbolize the heroic efforts and overwhelming sacrifices of these servicemembers that died. This will stay with me forever.”

The 440th Airlift Wing plans to support Operation Airdrop Warrior again in June 2009.





# Operation Airdrop Warrior



U.S. Paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne and 10th Mountain Division wait in the back of a 440th C-130 with international jumpers from Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom, Canada and France. Operation Airdrop Warrior had special meaning to the 440th Airlift Wing Reservists because the unit's original flying unit, the 440th Troop Carrier Wing, flew missions to France on D-Day. The heroic efforts of the 440th TCG and other Americans are still celebrated 64 years later.





Above: 95th Airlift Squadron crews and 440th maintainers supported Operation Airdrop Warrior in France the first week of June. Paratroopers from several different countries joined U.S. Army jumpers in the D-Day celebration.

Below: 95th Airlift Squadron aircrew greet children in a small town in France. The deployed Reservists found the French extremely grateful for the American efforts on D-Day during World War II.



# Total Force Integration

## Active Duty, Reserve command posts combine with seamless integration for team unity

By Capt. Jim Ivie & Lt. Col. Ann Peru Knabe

The command post at Pope Air Force Base, N.C., boasts more than 200 years experience in the field between its Active Duty and Reserve Airmen, civilians and one Army soldier. But it's the sharing of resources, programs, training and checklists that make the team stand out from its counterparts.

"We are saving time, money and resources when we train together and follow the same procedures," said Maj. Dan George, 440th Command Post officer in charge. "And we have complete integration of our emergency operations center, incident command structure, and command and control. We're one of the first command posts in the Air Force to fully integrate."

As part the Air Force's continuing initiative to operate more efficiently, the 440th Airlift Wing command post recently merged with the 43rd Airlift Wing command post. Since April 1 both Reserve and Active Duty controllers have been operating from the same schedule and sharing the same mission.

"All of our controllers are 'dual-MAJCOM' certified," said Master Sgt. Jeff Bello, explaining that Reserve controllers are trained in Air Mobility Command requirements, and Active Duty controllers are trained in Air Force Reserve Command requirements. "This means we can quickly respond to incidents affecting the Active Duty and Reserve wings."

Unlike other combined command posts, Pope AFB uses one training plan, one security program, one duty schedule and one pool of controllers. "If one of our controllers needs some flexibility, another one steps in, regardless of whether it's an Active Duty or Reserve Airman," said Bello. "That's just how we work together – fully integrated."

Maj. Glenn Rineheart, chief of the command post, said the team tries to see beyond the MAJCOMS, and is ahead of other units.

"We are almost identical in structure, and this allows members to swap out with other shift controllers," he said. "We run 24/7 with a high ops tempo, so it's critical we have seamless integration."

The Airmen are supported by five civilians and a ground liaison officer from the Army. Staff Sergeant Anthony Sadowski, 82nd Airborne, works as one of the Army Liaison Control Element members.

"It helps being right here in the command post," he explained. "It's easier to coordinate joint operations with aircrews, brief them on any plan, and ensure airborne operations run smoothly."

The Command Post Operations Manager, Mr. Earl "Ray" Russ, contends Pope's progressive technology has leveraged the command post's robust operations.

"We have one of the best flight line video systems in the Air Force," he said. "Our multiple cameras cover the entire airfield, which is more than four square miles."

The Pope command post also recently added infrared technology for night time security. The system relies on a fiber optic "backbone" that even allows soldiers to monitor deploying troops at Pope AFB from nearby Fort Bragg.

Inside the command post, controllers view high definition satellite TV on five plasma displays. At any given time, they have two controllers monitoring activities around the base, making sure information flows systemically to critical parties.

"We have more connectivity with our sister service," said Mr. Russ. "And we're a test base for the Guardian program, a security program designed specifically for the modern terrorist environment."

To keep it all the technology working, the command post employs a full-time information technology manager.

A total of five civilians work in the command post, and all are prior service, and two served as command post superintendents.

"That's a lot of knowledge to leverage," said Mr. Russ. "We've got years of talent and corporate knowledge to glean from." He said this talent helps because the Pope command post is one of the highest readiness and wartime reporting agencies in AMC.

The Pope Maintenance Operations Center is also located in the command post, allowing a real-time view of aircraft generation on both the Active Duty and Reserve sides. When combined with the command post assets, the MOC becomes a more powerful tool to leadership.

"The key to our total force integration success story is attitude," said Major Rineheart. "The Pope command post is one unified team, and we're in it to win it. Our Active Duty Airmen have put in long hours and our Reservists have stepped up in order to make our mission successful. By concentrating on our similarities and common guideposts, we've been able to focus on the meat of the mission, and achieve success together, forging the road to the future."

*Top right:* The command post monitors base activities 24/7.

*Bottom right:* Army Staff Sgt. Anthony Sadowski confers with Maj. Glenn Rineheart and Master Sgt. Jeff Bello during command post planning.





Air Force photo by Joe Oliva



photo by Senior Airman Jackie Pender



# RECRUITING IN

Team 440<sup>th</sup> recruited in the fast lane the last week of May in the greater Charlotte area. Reservists and recruiters distributed Air Force Reserve promotional literature, conducted media interviews and worked at recruiting booths.

Radio personalities John Boy and Billy of “The Big Show” featured 440<sup>th</sup> Airmen and the unit mission. The nationally-syndicated show reached hundreds of thousands of listeners across the country.





# THE FAST LANE

Displays included a C-130 nose cone representing a C-130 flight deck, complete with aircraft controls, and two Air Force Reserve recruiting booths at the Sam Bass Gallery. The high-traffic area at Lowe's Motor Speedway allowed recruiters to reach out to thousands of race fans. Reservists also recruited at Concord Mills shopping area and Speed Street, a race-themed festival in Charlotte.

"By all accounts, the 440<sup>th</sup>'s first major recruiting push in North Carolina was a tremendous success," said project officer Maj. Justin Trumbo. "Our volunteers represented the Air Force Reserve extremely well, and generated significant positive publicity for the wing and the command."





# SEASONING

## THE FAST TRACK TO UPGRADE TRAINING



*photo by Senior Airman Susan Parent*

Senior Airman Brian Fuller grinds sharp edges from a piece of metal which will be assembled into shelves and used for storage of technical orders on a C-130H2. Fuller is a Reservist participating in Seasoning Training, a chance for Reservists to consistently build upon the skills learned at technical school.



*photo by Senior Airman Susan Parent*

Senior Airman Dustin Brown inspects the refueling receptacle on a C-130H2 on Pope Air Force Base. Routine inspections are mandatory to keep aircraft up in the air.

The 440<sup>th</sup> has discovered the command's secret weapon for getting new Airmen trained: seasoning. Air Force Reserve Command's Seasoning Training Program is designed to build a ready force by allowing recent 3-skill level and Initial/Mission Qualification aircrew formal school graduates to voluntarily remain on Active Duty for training orders. "Seasoning basically gives Airmen a jumpstart on their 5-skill level," said Tech. Sgt. Kim Beecher, 440<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing training officer. Air Force Reserve Command pays for seasoning, but it takes place at the unit level.





*photo by Senior Airman Susan Parent*

Above: Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Kay Lyons-Mitchell accomplishes an inventory of all vehicles in the lot at the Logistics Readiness Squadron on Pope Air Force Base, N.C. An accurate account of vehicles and materials is necessary at all times. Airman Lyons-Mitchell is a 440th Reservist participating in seasoning training



Left: Senior Airman Brandon Richmond shows an Airman how to correctly perform a tricep kickback. Airman Richmond is a Reservist performing seasoning training with the 440th Services Squadron. He is currently working at the gym.

*photo by Senior Airman Jackie Pender*



# Wing's 36th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron looking for sharp recruits

by Lt. Col. Tony Trezza  
36th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron  
Commander

Just as the wing is getting settled into its new surroundings, an old family member is moving home.

The 36<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (AES) officially joined the unit April 1, 2008. The 36<sup>th</sup> AES was formerly part of the 440<sup>th</sup> Tactical Air-lift Wing until 1985, when it relocated to Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base, Mo. The unit was inactivated in October 1993.

The aeromedical evacuation mission uses fixed wing aircraft such as the C-130, C-17 and KC-135 to move patients in need of life-saving care. Its primary mission is to move battle casualties from war zones. But AES Airmen don't need a war to use their skills. In the days following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in fall of 2005, AES Air-

men transported thousands of patients of hospitals throughout the Southeast. An aeromedical evacuation mission generally consists of two flight nurses and three aeromedical evacuation technicians. The payload may just be one person or as many as 50 patients.

Being part of an aeromedical evacuation squadron can be a challenging, yet rewarding Air Force career. It blends the medical career field and clinical skills requirements with the operations side of the Air Force by flying in the back of an aircraft providing medical care service members.

Once the squadron fills up its manning, it will look to join the AEF rotations and look to support OIF/OEF missions. Currently there are aeromedical evacuation operations out of bases in Southwest Asia, Horn of Africa, Iraq, Afghanistan, Germany, Andrews AFB, Va., Scott AFB, Ill., and Travis AFB, Calif. The 36<sup>th</sup> AES is au-

thorized 124 positions, with Flight Nurses, aeromedical evacuation technicians, medical service corps officers, communications and medical administration, medical logistics, aviation resource managers, aerospace ground equipment, ground communications, along with a first sergeant and a unit training manager.

The first AES traditional reservists drilled with the squadron during the June UTA. Those Airmen include Capt. Lawanda Washington, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Tammy Bieschke, Master Sergeants Vanessa Jefferson, Angela Poole and Stacy Beckner, Senior Airmen Courtney Williams and Lakeethia Reed.

Over the next few months the squadron should continue to grow with the arrival of an ART staff. If interested in joining the 36<sup>th</sup> AES, contact Lt. Col. Tony Trezza at (910) 394-4345 or (910) 584-6775.

## Medics on the fly

Aeromedical Evacuation Technicians Master Sergeants Vanessa Jefferson and Angie Poole, 36th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, prepare Staff Sgt. Joseph Morgan for airlift during a training exercise at Pope Air Force Base.

The 36th AES is looking for aeromedical technicians, medical service corps officers, communications and medical administration specialists, medical logisticians, aviation resource managers, aerospace ground equipment managers and other Airmen interested in being part of a team that flies lifesaving missions around the world.

*photos by Senior Airman Jackie Pender*







# TOTAL FORCE INTEGRATION



## Reserve and Active Duty crews from 440th Airlift Wing deploy together on first AEF mission

June 9 marked a milestone in the 440th's new associate wing. Active Duty and Reserve Airmen deployed together to Southwest Asia in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, and Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa. The air expeditionary flight rotational deployment to Southwest Asia represents the first time the 440th's Active Duty and Reserve Airmen have supported Global War on Terror missions together in the war theater.

*photos by Senior Airman Jackie Pender*





440th Airlift Wing C-130s line up on the flight line at Pope Air Force Base, N.C., on June 9. Crews flew two aircraft to Southwest Asia in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. The C-130s, which belong to the 440th Airlift Wing, will be flown by the 2nd and 95th Airlift Squadrons, and maintained by 440th and 43rd Airlift Wing maintainers. The deployment is the first major integrated mission under the 440th's new Reserve and Active Duty association.



Tech. Sgt. Mark Hample, 440th Maintenance Squadron, checks fuel gauges prior to the wing's first AEF mission that includes Active Duty and Reserve Airmen.







*Far left* : An Airman with the 2nd Airlift Squadron checks his gear one last time before boarding a C-130 at Pope Air Force Base, N.C.

Meanwhile, 2nd Airlift Squadron members discuss the crew's mission prior to takeoff.

*Left*: Airmen board a C-130 headed to Southwest Asia.

*Below*: The C-130 destined for Southwest Asia taxis off the ramp at Pope Air Force Base, N.C.

*Deployment photos by Senior Airman Jackie Pender*



# Up close and personal Wing multimedia pro has eye for graphics

by Lt. Col. Ann Peru Knabe

**Notice a new look to the Combat Airlifter? That's the look of Senior Airman Jackie Pender. Airman Pender joined the 440th public affairs team earlier this year as a multimedia specialist. Trained as a graphics artist, Airman Pender recently finished technical school for still photography. She took a few minutes to talk with the public affairs team about her background in multimedia.**

*Combat Airlifter: How did you get interested in the graphics field?*

**Airman Pender:** Originally I wanted to go into the Air Force as medical specialist because before I joined that's what I was going to school for. But there were no medical openings, so my second choice was graphics because art has always been a hobby of mine. The recruiter told me I wouldn't get it because it was full but that I could go in open general and keep my fingers crossed. So I went in open general, and at the end of basic training when they were handing jobs out, my entire flight got security forces, but not me... I got graphics! And I absolutely loved being in graphics, but I ended up getting out of Active Duty four years later when my career field went away. When I joined the 440th, I had to be retrained as a photographer, which I also love.

*Combat Airlifter: How would you describe your work?*

**Airman Pender:** I put my heart and soul into everything I do, but I also know that in this field it's important not to fall in love with your work until it's been approved. Graphics and photography are so subjective. Military art can sometimes be a little rigid so I try to be as creative as I can while still keeping it within standards. As far as my photography goes, I'm still learning. Photography is a lot different from graphics because with photography the image is already painted, it just has to be captured. Whereas I'm used to painting the image myself.

*Combat Airlifter: What's the favorite graphics piece you developed?*

**Airman Pender:** My favorite graphics piece was a logo I developed for a past Mission Support Group commander at Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri. The logo was used on everything from slideshows to awards and it was also made into a pretty amazing coin. I spent hours and hours on it, but all the hard work paid off when I saw how much the design meant to the customer, that's the rewarding part of this career field.

*Combat Airlifter: How do you hope to utilize your graphics skills on the 440th team?*



*photo by Senior Airman Susan Parent*  
Senior Airman Jackie Pender takes a shot.

**Airman Pender:** Well, I know that the 440th has some huge projects and I'm extremely excited to have been given the opportunity to help in bringing them to life. I look forward to working on the Combat Airlifter. Hopefully through my images and graphics I will be able to make a valuable contribution. I love coin and logo design, so if anyone is looking for a new squadron coin, I'm up for the challenge!

*Combat Airlifter: What do you do in your free time?*

**Airman Pender:** For the first time in years I live close to my family so my daughter and I spend a lot of time with them. They like to cook out, and I like to eat so it works out well!



# Nominate YOUR boss for 440th Employer Day & ESGR's My Boss is a Patriot Award

The 440th Airlift Wing is hosting its annual Employer Day on Saturday of the September UTA. The educational day allows your boss, CEO, president or human resources manager to see what happens in the Air Force Reserve at Pope Air Force Base. The day includes a welcome from the commander, base tour, informational briefings, lunch and a C-130 orientation flight (subject to operational considerations). Nominated employers will receive a written invitation and reporting instructions for this exciting day. Employers will also receive Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve's My Boss is a Patriot Award.

To nominate your boss, fill out this form and return no later than July 13, 2008, to Dennis Mehring, 440 AW/PA, 374 Maynard St. Suite 301 Pope AFB, NC 28308-2409. Nominations may also be emailed to Mr. Mehring at [Dennis.Mehring@pope.af.mil](mailto:Dennis.Mehring@pope.af.mil)

Reservist's Name and Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Reservist's Unit Name \_\_\_\_\_

Reservist's civilian email \_\_\_\_\_

## EMPLOYER INFORMATION

Company (or organization) name \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's Name (Supervisor, etc). \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Work Email \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Work Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Work Address (Company) \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Check the following as appropriate. My employer:

- is highly supportive of my Reserve duty on short notice.
- continues my salary when I am on active duty.
- hires someone to fill in for me when I am away on annual training.
- keeps in touch with my family when I am on active duty more than 30 days.
- should be considered for a higher award (INCLUDE additional paragraph for higher award consideration).

Total employees at company \_\_\_\_\_ Total Reservists at company \_\_\_\_\_

\* 440th Airlift Wing Employer Day flights are limited to Reservists' civilian employers. Family members are not allowed to participate in the flight. The flight is subject to cancellation. Employers are responsible for transportation to Pope AFB. The event is FREE for qualified employers. For more information, contact [Dennis.Mehring@pope.af.mil](mailto:Dennis.Mehring@pope.af.mil)

### Promotions

The following people have been promoted to the rank shown:

Maj. Montgomery Kirk  
CMSgt. Stacy L. Beckner, AES  
MSgt. William S. Desarden, MDS  
MSgt. William G. A. Garrison, SVF  
MSgt. Mark A. Honn, SFS  
TSgt. Karl M. Brown Jr., LRS  
TSgt. Christopher W. Kerr, MXS  
TSgt. Sandra M. Lambert, LRS  
TSgt. Elizabeth A. Lavnick, SFS  
TSgt. Kasey R. Mehail, MSF  
TSgt. Daniel L. Middleton, LRS  
TSgt. Gregory A. Monette, LRS  
TSgt. Franco S. Russo, MXS  
TSgt. April N. Siler, LRS  
TSgt. Sarah G. Williams, LRS  
TSgt. Shantisha A. Williams, SFS  
SSgt. Ravenel C. Bright, MDS  
SSgt. Kyle C. Kohnke, LRS  
SSgt. John M. Love, MXS  
SSgt. Kayla C. Miller, MDS  
SSgt. Christopher E. Wingo, MOF  
SrA Tiffani M. A. Caldwell, MDS  
SrA Alicia C. Farrow, AW  
SrA Allen W. Reid, MDS  
AIC Dustin P. Absher, CF  
AIC Kristal J. Brown, MDS  
AIC Rajvir S. Dhaliwal, MDS  
AMN Danielle C. Zimmerman, MDS

### Donley in as acting Air Force secretary

Michael B. Donley is the new acting secretary of the Air Force. He was previously the administration and management director for the Secretary of Defense, a position sometimes referred to as "mayor" of the Pentagon. Read more at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123103873>

### Airman's Roll Call

Airman's Roll call is now available for subscription through Air Force Link at <http://www.af.mil/subscribe/>.

### Win Today's Fight: New video focuses on cyberspace

The Air Force Institute of Technology's Center for Cyberspace Research has produced a new video that delves into the importance of cyberspace, the third domain of the Air Force in addition to air and space. The video, New Domain - New Warrior, can be viewed on the CCR Web site, <http://www.afit.edu/ccr/NewDomainNewWarrior/>.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123102210>.

### Air War College to launch revised distance learning program

The Air War College will make significant changes to its distance learning program this summer and discontinue the previous 16th edition. A key change is that students will apply critical analysis and creative thinking to answer essay questions. Students will tackle real-world historic or current situations which require the application of strategic leadership skills. Core courses of the newest edition include: Foundations of strategy, national security and decision making, global security, joint military operations and joint strategic leadership. The revised distance learning program continues a self-study approach without restricting students to a particular place or time for class meetings. Students will be allowed 36 months to complete the program.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123103105>.

### Travel card services provider to change

Citibank will succeed Bank of America Nov. 30 as provider of Air Force government travel card services. Air Force members and civilian employees don't need to take any action other than ensuring their mailing address with Bank of America is correct. Citibank will use that information for its card distribution, which starts in August.

### Entries sought for essay contest

The Military Officers Association of America is seeking entries for its inaugural Military Professional Essay Contest. Essays may address any topic that has relevance to the association's stated mission of preserving a strong national defense. Writers must be at least 18 years old and the essay must be the writer's own work. Multiple entries are permitted. Entries are due by July 31. Prizes include \$1,000 for first place, \$500 for second place and \$250 for third place.

Complete rules can be found on the MOAA Essay Contest Web site at <http://www.moaa.org/essaycontest>.

### Citizenship path for Airmen now total-force reality

U.S. citizenship application forms, checklists and other supporting documents recently became available to Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members through the virtual Personnel Center-Guard Reserve link on the Air Reserve Personnel Center Web site. For more information on citizenship procedures, see the local military personnel element or call the Air Force Contact Center at 800-616-3775. On-line information can be found on the secure sites of the Air Force Personnel Center and Air Reserve Personnel Center. For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123102914>.

### AF officials comment on GAO tanker bid decision

Government Accountability Office officials announced their findings and sustained portions of the Boeing protest of the KC-45A aerial refueling tanker competition. Air Force officials are currently reviewing the GAO decision.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123103415>.

# Calling all Superstars!

Have you done something noteworthy like graduate from tech school, join the wing, earn an award, or get promoted?

If your answer is "yes," then fill out a **hometown news release data form**.

The new system is automated and reviewed by public affairs. Your story of success will be shared

with newspapers and magazines relevant to you and your family.

It's super fast - only five minutes of your time - and your family and friends back home can all see your accomplishments in the Reserve. Visit the wing's website and enter your data now...

<https://www.440aw.afrc.af.mil/>





photo by Senior Airman Jackie Pender

Lt. Col. Leslie "Lee" Smith recently assumed command of the 2nd Airlift Squadron. As part of the 440<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing's new association, the Active Duty squadron falls under the operational direction of the 440<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing. Colonel Smith graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1992 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science. He earned his pilot wings at Reese Air Force Base, Texas and has since flown more than 3,700 hours in the C-130E/H/H2 and C-20B aircraft. He also earned Acquisitions Level II certification during his staff tour at Air Mobility Command as the C-130 AMP/C-130J Program Manager.

## Service before Self: Featured Citizen Airman



Airman Jessica Lynn is enjoying her first experience in the military with the 440<sup>th</sup> Communications Flight.

*Feature Citizen photo and story by Senior Airman Susan Parent*

The Combat Airlifter took a few minutes to chat with Airman Jessica Lynn, an information manager with the 440<sup>th</sup> Communications Flight.

**Civilian job:** Airman Lynn has been a sales associate with Wal-Mart for the past two years in Hope Mills, N.C.

**Career with the 440<sup>th</sup>:** After completing Basic Military Training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, and information management technical school at Keesler AFB, Miss., Airman Lynn joined the unit in November 2007. As a non-prior servicemember, she is a fresh face to both the 440<sup>th</sup> and military as a whole.

**What is your goal with the 440<sup>th</sup>?** "To understand my job more and improve myself while serving."

**Family:** Airman Lynn has a fiancé. Her parents, a sister, a brother and fiancé all live in the Fayetteville, N.C., area.

## 440th makes "YouTube"

### Wing's North Carolina images reach masses over hot Internet site

by Lt. Col. Ann Peru Knabe

440<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing images are now available for millions of people to view across the world on YouTube.

Tech. Sgt. Steve Staedler, 440<sup>th</sup> public affairs NCOIC, developed the wing's first photo video for public images. The 1:32 minute video features the wing's C-130 aircraft flying over different locations in North Carolina.

"It was actually somewhat easy to do," said Sergeant Staedler, who is a public relations account executive in his civilian job. "The hard part is finding music that isn't copyrighted."

After attending an Air Force Public Information Management System training class, Sergeant Staedler started experimenting with the free demo software.

He took advantage of the images photographer Joe Oliva shot in May, and mixed them to music. The public affairs team was impressed enough to put the video on YouTube.

"People seem to appreciate showing the wing off to their family and friends," said Sergeant Staedler. "The 440<sup>th</sup> Alumni Association is forwarding it to retirees who want to know what the wing is up to. In just two weeks, we have more than 300 hits."

Sergeant Staedler said the YouTube site is free, and could come in handy for recruiting young adults who are the biggest consumers of YouTube.

View the 440<sup>th</sup>'s YouTube video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HVDIuLVGZ1Q> or simply type "440<sup>th</sup> over North Carolina" in the search line at [www.YouTube.com](http://www.YouTube.com)

But beware, you need to be on a civilian computer. Most ".mil" computers block the YouTube site because of bandwidth restrictions. The video is also available on the wing's homepage at <http://www.440aw.afrc.af.mil/>



*photo by Senior Airman Susan Parent*

Col. Michael Thornton, 43rd Operations Group commander, taxis under a spray of hoses during his "fini-flight." The symbolic flight took place in the last of the 43rd Airlift Wing's C-130E model aircraft. The E-models were replaced with the 440th's C-130H2 models. The 2nd Airlift Squadron, an Active Duty unit, now falls under the 440th Airlift Wing for operational direction.

## Inside this issue...

This month's insert features a 440th Airlift Wing C-130H2 banking into a turn during a recent training flight off the North Carolina coast.

The C-130 in this picture was flown by an Active Duty crew from the 2nd Airlift Squadron.

The photo was taken from another 440th C-130 flown by an Air Force Reserve crew from the 95th Airlift Squadron.

*(Insert photo by Joe Oliva)*

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*To the family of:*