

Heartland

Warrior

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Serving the men and women of the 434th Air Refueling Wing, Grissom ARB, Ind.

Family, friends reunited after deployment

By Tech. Sgt. Doug Hays
Public Affairs staff

Four members of the 434th Security Forces Squadron returned to Grissom Jan. 13 following a six-month deployment to Kirkuk AB, Iraq to throngs of friends, family members and coworkers.

Tech. Sgt. Robert DeLee, Staff Sgt. Danny Perez, and Senior Airmen Luke Whitman and Christopher Kowalski were activated and deployed in June and assigned to the 506th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron at Kirkuk.

The team provided air base ground defense for coalition forces assigned to the base.

"We worked a lot of long days," said Sergeant DeLee, the ranking member of the group.

The team patrolled the base, manned observation towers as part of their duties and faced rocket attacks by insurgents.

To stay in touch with loved ones back in the States, they were able to use email and the internet on occasion and video conferencing.

"The video calls were especially helpful," Sergeant DeLee, a Plymouth Indiana resident said, "Especially having young children, it really helped them to be able to see me."

This group is not the first from Grissom to deploy to Kirkuk. Another group of Airmen returned to Grissom last year having served there.

The most recent returnees earned reconstitution time and leave during their deployment, and officials expect them back on duty afterwards.



Photo by SrA. Omar Delacruz

SrA. Christopher Kowalski, 434th Security Forces Squadron, is welcomed home by his sister Elizabeth Kowalski Jan. 13. Airman Kowalski and three other security members returned following a six-month deployment. The group provided air base ground defense security to forces stationed at Kirkuk, AB, in Iraq.

Integrity – doing what's right all the time

By Col. Randy Dobbins
386th EMG commander

SOUTHWEST ASIA — Integrity. It is our first core value in the Air Force, but what is it.

In Air Force Doctrine Document 1-1, Leadership and Force Development, integrity is defined as, “the willingness to do what is right even when no one is looking. It is the ‘moral compass,’ the inner voice, the voice of self-control, the basis for the trust imperative in today’s Air Force.”

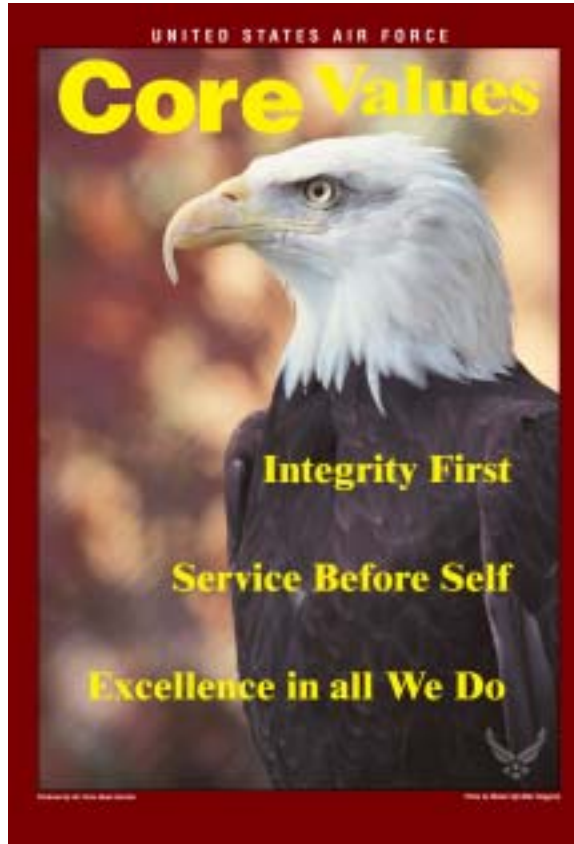
Furthermore, Gen. Charles Gabriel, the Air Force chief of staff from 1982 to 1986, said, “Integrity is the fundamental premise for military service in a free society. Without integrity, the moral pillars of our military strength, public trust and self-respect are lost.”

Let’s look at how integrity affects our lives. How many times have each of us blown off finishing a project, and instead, taken shortcuts to get it past the tasker? Do you see any problem with that? I mean, heck, the boss didn’t even notice.

What if this project entails the well-being of an aircraft crew and, what if that airplane crashed? A lack of integrity in this situation, directly or indirectly causing the loss of these lives would no-doubt come back to haunt you ... for the rest of your life.

Let’s tweak this issue to a more personal note. Envision that a nurse injected the wrong medication into your

arm, and since no one noticed, she signed the record saying that the proper medication was given. Step it up a notch and imagine that the medication was given to your loved one, who could eventually suffer grave



illness from this wrong medication. See where I’m going with this?

Mistakes are made of course. It’s the nature of our being. Integrity; however, is the strength to realize these errors, and admit to them, which sometimes risks close personal friendships.

Can integrity be a tough choice? You bet it can. But you know what? You can sleep well knowing that you did the “right thing.”

Seemingly little lapses in integrity tend to lead toward larger “lapses.” Much as cancer can spread throughout the body, loss of integrity will spread throughout your being.

Of course we’re always vulnerable to being swayed from the path of integrity. I suppose you could call this “not paying close attention to your moral compass.” You know what I mean, or you wouldn’t have read this far — yep, cheating. Cheating on a test, on your job, on all of those patriots in the continental United States who trust you to make the right decisions, or even on your “significant other.” Let’s face it. As military professionals, our integrity is held above our civilian counterparts. Once each of us raised our right hand, we agreed to be held to a higher standard.

So what do we do?

Every now and then, check your “moral compass.” If in doubt of which way the needle is swinging, talk to your wingman, your supervisor or your chaplain. One of them should be able to orient you to the right direction and get you back on track.

Remember, we’re all counting on each of you to do the right thing. With the compass in your hand, you’re on your way to a successful career and a great life. (AFPN)

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Contents of the Heartland

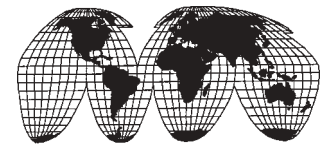
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content should be directed to the editor (765) 688-3348.

Staff

Brig. Gen. Dean Despinoy.....commander
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Reservists must dial in for reservations

By SrA. Omar Delacruz
Public Affairs staff

Grissom Lodging is switching to an automatic reservation system which is scheduled to be fully operational by March.

Angelique Griebenow, 434th Services Flight lodging manager, said the new system is a stream line solution to extended call waiting times and confusion.

"At first, I was very apprehensive about the new system," said SrA. Eileen Smith, 434th Aerospace Medicine Squadron medical administrative technician, "but after using it to make multiple reservations, I found it very user friendly."

All Reservists who are eligible for lodging should start using the system before the February unit training assembly.

Grissom Airmen are now solely responsible for making, changing and cancelling their own reservations.

Reservation deadlines are noon on Wednesdays prior to UTAs. After the deadline the member will be placed on a space-available basis and may be responsible for the costs of their own lodging.

Upon making the reservation, members will know details regarding their reservation, to include where they are staying and its contact information. With this information, the member will be able to go there and check in.

The lodging facility should be contacted if the member plans to arrive after 7 p.m. the day of the reservation.

The system will also provide information regarding check-out times.

The use of additional phone lines helps the system manage call volume. With the exception of the initial registration, phone calls can take less than two minutes.

There are also new guidelines associated with the implementation of the new system which will help reduce costs to the base associated with members reservation no-shows.

Members will now be personally

accountable for failing to show for their reservations.

"The base has to pay for all reservations made to all lodging facilities," said Mrs. Griebenow. "Members will be placed on a 30-day suspension of lodging privileges, regardless of the orders they're on, if they fail to show up to their reservation."

A lodging facility schedule will also rotate units through lodging facilities.

This rotation will help prevent the misconception of favoritism, she said. Reservation changes or special situations that arise will be addressed at the request of the individual's supervisors.

"Mistakes and special situations are expected, as we are all human," Mrs. Griebenow said. "We are always willing to work with our customers to better serve and address any problem that might arise."

To make lodging reservations prior to the next UTA, please call Ext. 4741 or (800)-635-0961 Ext. 2-4741.

For other questions regarding lodging contact Grissom lodging at Ext. 2844 or (765) 689-8865.



Photo by SrA. Omar Delacruz

Hustle play

Kelly Kruger, Air Force Reserve Command Services combat instructor, Robins AFB, Ga., tries to maintain control of the ball after colliding with Sean Miller, 434th Security Forces Squadron, during the annual 434th Services Flight basketball tournament. SVF managed to speed past the Cops ending an evenly matched game with a 34-29 win.

Ball highlights Reserve anniversary

By SrA. Omar Delacruz
Public Affairs staff

The 434th Air Refueling Wing is hosting a military ball in celebration of the Air Force Reserve's 60th anniversary.

The event, a Rising Six initiative, is scheduled for April 5, will be held at Dock 1 beginning with a mixer at 6 p.m. and followed by dinner at 7 p.m.

"The ball will celebrate our traditions, heritage and unity in ranks," said Chief Master Sgt. Peri Rogowski, 434th Air Refueling Wing command chief. "It is one of many events to come, intended to boost morale and camaraderie at Grissom."

Lt. Gen. John Bradley, chief of the Air Force Reserve and Air Force Reserve commander, will be a guest speaker for this event. Other guests



include civic leaders from the local area and throughout the state.

"I am really looking forward to this event," said Senior Master Sgt. Dan DeAngulo, 434th Military Personnel Flight superintendent. "To my recollection, this is the first time in 20 years that an AFRC commander will be speaking at Grissom. This makes it a very special event."

A special musical performance is

being planned for the gala and a photographer will also be available for portraits of the attendees.

A unique coin is being minted to commemorate this event. The coin will be distributed to all those in attendance.

The 434th Services Squadron will be providing a specially prepared meal.

Dock 1 will be transformed into a venue fit for a ball. Historical art displays will reflect the nature of this event.

Tickets are available for purchase for \$35 per person from each squadron's first sergeant or senior air reserve technician, and tickets are limited.

The ball is open to civilian guests—adults only.

Parking will be available at the ramp in front of Dock 1.

Grade	Years of Service														
	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
O-8	1,161	1,199	1,224	1,231	1,263	1,315	1,328	1,377	1,392	1,435	1,497	1,554	1,592	1,592	1,592
O-7	965	1,009	1,030	1,046	1,076	1,106	1,140	1,174	1,208	1,315	1,406	1,406	1,406	1,406	1,413
O-6	715	786	837	837	840	877	881	881	931	1,020	1,071	1,124	1,153	1,182	1,241
O-5	596	672	718	726	756	773	812	839	876	931	957	983	1,012	1,012	1,012
O-4	514	595	636	644	681	720	769	808	834	850	859	859	859	859	859
O-3	452	513	553	604	632	663	684	718	735	735	735	735	735	735	735
O-2	390	445	513	529	541	541	541	541	541	541	541	541	541	541	541
O-1	339	353	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
O-3E	-	-	-	604	632	663	684	718	747	763	785	785	785	785	785
O-2E	-	-	-	529	541	558	587	610	626	626	626	626	626	626	626
O-1E	-	-	-	426	455	473	489	507	529	529	529	529	529	529	529
E-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	564	578	593	613	631	662	709	716	757
E-8	-	-	-	-	-	462	483	495	511	526	556	572	597	611	646
E-7	321	350	364	382	396	419	433	446	471	482	493	501	524	539	578
E-6	278	306	319	333	346	377	389	402	414	418	421	421	421	421	421
E-5	254	272	285	299	319	337	350	354	354	354	354	354	354	354	354
E-4	234	245	259	272	283	283	283	283	283	283	283	283	283	283	283
E-3	211	224	238	238	238	238	238	238	238	238	238	238	238	238	238
E-2	201	201	201	201	201	201	201	201	201	201	201	201	201	201	201
E-1	179	179	179	179	179	179	179	179	179	179	179	179	179	179	179



Photo by SrA. Omar Delacruz

Capt. Jeffery O'Toole, right, 434th Seasoning Training Flight commander, and Master Sgt. Paul Tomlinson, 434 STF first sergeant review seasoning training paperwork in the flight's new office in Bldg. 596.

Flight helps Airmen jump start careers

By SrA. Omar Delacruz

Public Affairs staff

At Grissom, the newly formed 434th Seasoning Training Flight will help technical school graduates remain on orders to accelerate their progression through on-the-job training.

The seasoning training program received a boost in October when Air Force Reserve Command extended the funding to include prior service Airmen graduating from formal training.

The program will continue to be open to both officers and enlisted personnel alike.

“The ability for all Airmen to complete core tasks and achieve their next

skill level is key in creating career opportunities in the Air Force,” said Master Sgt. Paul Tomlinson, 434th STF first sergeant. “The seasoning training program provides the opportunity for new Airmen to complete these tasks within an accelerated block of time.”

Seasoning ADT time can vary from 26 to 395 days depending on Air Force Specialty Code. Only certain AFSCs are eligible for training.

“This program is designed to promote readiness, help new members understand the Air Force culture, and improve retention,” said Capt. Jeffery O'Toole, 434th STF commander.

The seasoning program has accelerated careers and provided opportunities for Airmen, said Maj. Rebecca

Fox, 434th Communications Squadron commander, whose squadron recently deployed an Airman who participated in the program.

The program also provides benefits to units and the Air Force by tracking progression and monitoring milestones in individual members' advancement toward being mission qualified. As stated in the program's guide, it will be used as a tool to recruit, train and retain members of the Air Force Reserve.

“Accurate tracking of mission-ready personnel will also benefit commanders in decision making,” said Captain O'Toole.

For more information, please contact Sergeant Tomlinson, Ext. 4610.

Command seeks new recruiter applicants

By Senior Airman Carl Berry
Public Affairs staff

The Air Force Reserve Command Recruiting Service is now seeking applicants to fill recruiting positions in locations across the globe.

"I chose to become a recruiter to have a significant impact on our youth and to assist them in changing their lives in a positive way," said Tech. Sgt. Carole Kurtzer, Grissom Air Reserve Base recruiter.

"It is rewarding for me as a recruiter seeing people before and after the Air Force has entered their life," Sergeant Kurtzer said. "There are so many people who are unaware of the opportunities the Air Force Reserve provides. Once they learn what the Reserve offers, I am able to assist them in fulfilling what for some has been a lifelong dream."

In addition to finding qualified applicants for careers in the Air Force Reserve, a recruiter interacts with the community and serves as a representative of the Reserve 24 hours a day.

"Recruiting is a demanding job and having a strong support system at home makes recruiting life much easier," the Sergeant said. "Like any job you are going to encounter many challenges, but when you overcome those obstacles, this becomes one of the most rewarding careers you will ever experience."

The application process begins with a face-to-face interview with the local senior recruiter. "If you meet the qualifications you will be asked to complete a packet, to include a current physical," said Chief Master Sgt. Dave Schoch, AFRC Recruiting Service training branch chief. "The packet will be sent to our headquarters at Robins AFB, Ga., to the recruiter selection board for evaluation."

"Training to become a recruiter is hard work, however I encourage anyone considering becoming a recruiter not to hesitate and just go for it," said Sergeant Kurtzer. "Being a recruiter is truly a rewarding experience."

If selected, applicants attend an

evaluation and selection course at the recruiting service headquarters at Robins. The course is five-days long designed to introduce prospective candidates to reserve recruiting.

During the course, candidates will undergo an open-ranks inspection, participate in physical training, give speeches, and complete memorization work. The top candidates are afforded the opportunity to attend the recruiter class at Lackland AFB, Texas, for six weeks.

An initial recruiting tour of extended active duty can last up to four years. Tour extensions are reserved for those who "meet or exceed the highest standards of conduct, demeanor, appearance, integrity, production, and acceptance of responsibility," said to Chief Schoch.

For more information, contact the local Air Force Reserve recruiter or senior recruiter in your area, or call Master Sgt. Briana Ontiveros, the training noncommissioned officer at the headquarters, at DSN 497-0630 or commercial (478)327-0630.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Patrick Kuminecz

Training for the future

Members of the ROTC Unit from Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind., unload their bags as they return to Grissom from a base orientation trip to Luke AFB, Ariz. Grissom provided airlift for the unit.



Photo by SrA. Carl Berry

Here, SrA. Joe McDonald, 434th Services Flight, fills out an activity log for training he completed during the unit training assembly. Among the units receiving the award was the 434th SVF.

Airmen train, maintain warrior factor

By Senior Airman Carl Berry
Public Affairs staff

The winners of the Project Warrior Award for the final quarter of 2007 were the 72nd Air Refueling Squadron, 74th ARS, 434th Maintenance Squadron, 434th Operations Support Squadron, 434th Maintenance Operations Flight, 434th Mission Support Flight and the 434th Services Flight.

The award is presented to the units with a "Warrior Factor" of 95 percent

on the metrics for the previous quarter.

In recognition of receiving the award, units will receive and display a 'W' on their unit signs and are allowed to sign-out one hour early on the final day of the unit training assembly at their commander's discretion.

Readiness is a group effort that begins at the command level and flows down to the individual and back up again, program officials said.

Before every UTA, Master Sgt. Cinthia Webb, 434th SVF technician,

prints out a worksheet for each team member in her unit that has all of the training that needs to be completed.

"In Services team leaders follow up and make sure that all training requirements are completed," said Master Sgt. Timothy Wood 434th SVF food supervisor.

"A lot of work is needed to be done and we only have two days to finish so everyone must stay on task," he added.

In the limelight

Medals

Joint Service Commendation Medal—Captain Michael Schaefer, 434th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

Meritorious Service Medal—Master Sgt. Kent Williams, 434th Services Flight; Tech. Sgt. Shayne Deloughary, 434th Maintenance Squadron; Master Sgt. Jeanne Butler, 434th Mission Support Group; Master Sgt. Bernard Kunard, 434th Civil Engineer Squadron; Master Sgt. Chet Nance, 434th Security Forces Squadron; and Senior Master Sgt. Billy Perryman, 434th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

Air Force Commendation Medal—Tech. Sgt. Rocio Resendiz, 434th SVF.

Air Force Achievement Medal—Staff Sgt. Cotey Jordan, 49th Aerial Port Flight; and Senior Airman Mary



Clinic staff streamlines physical exams

By SrA. Ben Mota
Public Affairs staff

The January unit training assembly marked the beginning for the 434th Aerospace Medicine Squadron structural changes designed to reduce the amount of time it takes Airman to complete their physicals.

Before the changes the average physical took four and a half hours to complete. With the changes, the amount of time it takes to complete a physical has been reduced to two hours.

Several steps have been made to

improve the flow of the process. One major task was to increase patient care while at the same time eliminating wasted time.

The Air force calculated that it can save \$70,000 for every hour that was eliminated off of the cycle time for physicals.

The 434th AMDS plans to further reduce the visit time down to one hour for most physicals.

Each month a number of improvements will be added to increase patient flow. One of the many changes that occurred this month was the restructuring of the immunization room. This

will allow a greater amount of people to pass thru the process, eliminating wasted time.

Although none of the changes are being done by adding people or machines some leadership roles and responsibilities have been shifted to better serve Airman. These include: Maj. Bill Bray designated chief of aerospace medicine, Lt. Col. Harold Bacchus designated chief of professional services, Maj. Erica Gault designated medical readiness officer, and Capt. Daniel Kennedy designated physical exam and standards officer and immunizations officer.



Photo by SrA. Omar Delacruz

Keeping current

Master Sgt. Robert Summers, left, 434th Aerospace Medicine Squadron aeromedical technician, maintains manual cervical spine stabilization on mock-patient SrA. Lisa Hendricks, 434th AMDS medical technician, while Senior Master Sgt. Larry Brady, 434th AMDS aeromedical flight superintendent, applies a cervical collar and Senior Master Sgt. Louise Dietzer-Hensley, 434th AMDS Nursing Services superintendent, prepares to help roll the patient onto a backboard during the emergency medical technician refresher course for 434th AMDS personnel in January.