

ALAMO WING

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U.S. Air Force Reserve Command

433rd Airlift Wing, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas

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3-time champ
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ready or not
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Reserve maintainers repair jet car at Airfest

By Master Sgt. Colleen McGee

Wing Public Affairs

During the recent Lackland Airfest, the Air Force Reserve sponsored jet car performed twice each day. But during an inspection after the second performance on day one, the car's designer, Scott Hammack, found two cracks in the metal bands around the exhaust canister. In order to safely perform on the second day, those cracks needed repair.

"The stainless straps give it the extra strength when we do burner pops," said driver Bill Braak. Mr. Braak, explained that when he ignites the fuel in the canister the afterburner effect causes the canister to heat up and expand.

He said the reinforcing bands do tear or crack occasionally but the team has no welding equipment.

Being a former Air Force Reserve flight engineer, Mr. Braak knew the capability to repair the car in time for the next show was available just across the runway of Kelly Field, so he called in the Reserve.

Another time-saver in utilizing the Reserve shop was the fact that they could tow the car directly to the shop without having to load it onto the specialized trailer.

The repair to the metal bands could easily be fixed with the tools, expertise and a few pieces of



Photo by Master Sergeant Colleen McGee

Tech. Sgt. Paul Zimmerschied, a welder with the 433rd Maintenance Group at Lackland AFB, welds the metal band around the canister of the Air Force Reserve jet car's exhaust. During Airfest 2006, two of the bands strengthening the canister where the afterburner is ignited, developed tears. With the help of the 433rd MXG metal shop, the jet car was able to continue to perform on the second day.

the scrap metal available in the 433rd Maintenance Group's fabrication shop.

"Nobody has a shop like this downtown," said Mr. Braak. "You can't beat a shop like this."

The two or three times a crack was discovered before this, the Reserve jet car team wasn't always lucky to have a shop available from their main sponsor.

Mr. Hammack explained they then have to find a shop in the area and take

the car to it on a trailer. But when they are in an area where there is a Reserve unit with a fabrication shop, help comes from within the Reserve team.

"Everywhere we've been the Reserve has always been willing to jump right in," said Mr. Braak.

The repairs took less than half an hour and the Reserve Jet car was on its way back across the runway ready to perform on day two of the Lackland Airfest 2006.



Alamo Wing

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Holiday Message

Brig. Gen. John C. Fobian

Wing Commander

The past year was full of important accomplishments for the 433rd Airlift Wing. Throughout rigor-



ous daily operations, Air Expeditionary Force taskings, humanitarian assistance and demanding inspections, the true spirit of our Citizen Airmen was very evident.

Next year will be just as challenging. Our focus in C-5 operations will evolve as we assume the mission as sole provider for all active-duty, Air National Guard and Reserve C-5 aircrew training. We will still support critical requirements for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. In addition, we'll continue to hone our Ability To Survive and Operate skills through exercises in preparation for the upcoming Wing Operational Readiness Inspection.

The professionalism and selfless commitment to the mission, demonstrated by every member of the Alamo Wing, are the

key factors of our success. An equally essential element is the unwavering support and sacrifices made by your families and employers, without which, your participation would be difficult, if not impossible.

Traditionally, this is a time to celebrate holidays with family and friends and to remember what is truly important to each of us. I encourage you to take some time away from work to spend with your loved ones and to revitalize yourself for the year ahead.

Remember our Reservists and their families who are separated during this holiday season. Our prayers are with them for a safe return.

I ask that whatever you do, do it safely. Have a plan for risk management. If you drink, don't drive. Be especially careful when traveling because not everyone will be as safety conscious as you.

Along with my sincere thanks and heartfelt appreciation for all you do every day, Kim and I wish each and every member of the Alamo Wing family a joyous holiday season and a very prosperous New Year. 🏠

Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain Lyle Von Seggern, 925-3556

Alamo Wing Chaplain Section

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters, He restores my soul."

- Psalm 23: 1-2

"And there were shepherds, living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night."

- Luke 2: 8

The Lord is a wonderful Shepherd and we celebrate His love and healing power. At this special time of the year, let us remember with praise and thanksgiving how God is "shepherding us" through the wilderness we call life. We also give the Lord our

gratitude for the "little shepherds" in our lives.

Rev. Henri Nouwen said it this way: "We need loving and caring little shepherds with whom we can speak from the depth of our heart. They can offer us a safe and sacred place, where we can express our deepest sorrows and joys, and they can confront us in love, challenging us to a greater spiritual maturity."

If your Chaplain Service Team can be "little shepherds" for you, please call us at 925-3556. May the Lord bless you during this Sacred Season and restore your soul with joy!

Air Force Reserve Commander sends holiday message

By Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley

Commander, Air Force Reserve Command

WASHINGTON – As we look forward to this holiday season and the New Year, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude to each of you, your families and employers for the sacrifices made for our country each and every day.

Our Airmen have answered the call to service during a critical time in our nation's history.

Many of you are preparing to deploy overseas, perhaps for the first time in your military careers, while others are deploying for another tour. This courage and willingness to defend our freedom is a beacon for all Americans.

The New Year promises challenges and changes as we continue our mission to defend our nation and the cause of freedom around the world. Please know that our contribu-



tions as “Unrivaled Wingmen” make us valued and respected members of the Total Force.

Jan and I salute you, and wish you and yours Happy Holidays and a safe and joyous New Year. We are proud of your patriotism and loyalty to our great nation. (AFRC News Service)

UTA SCHEDULE

December

A UTA December 2-3

B UTA December 9-10

January

A UTA January 6-7

B UTA January 20-21

February

A UTA February 3-4

B UTA February 10-11

Reserve rugby champ finishes on top of the game

By Staff Sgt. Carlos Treviño

Wing Public Affairs

Senior Airman Jacob Arbizu, a structural engineer with the 433rd Civil Engineering Squadron, is going out a winner. The 33-year-old San Antonio native is finishing his 10 years in the Air Force, nine of which he spent with the Air Force's Armed Forces Rugby Team. Airman Arbizu spent the last three consecutive years helping the team capture the championship, this last one during an undefeated tournament.

The graduate of San Antonio's East Central High School grad got his first taste of the sport 12 years ago after ending his collegiate football career at Southwest Texas, now Texas State University. “I knew a guy who was involved in rugby at the school,” he said. “There is nothing like rugby to match a contact sport,” Arbizu said.

There was also nothing like the opportunity to meet players from other countries' military teams. As a mem-

ber of the Air Force Rugby team, he played against military select teams from the Czech Republic, France, Germany and England.

Airman Arbizu sees rugby as a sport that doesn't divide two teams, but one that “brings them together after the game,” he said.

The fraternal aspect of the game is unique to this sport where after a game, most players look like survivors of a mixed martial arts bout. It is common the world over for the home team to provide the visiting squad food and drink post match despite the outcome or if there were any fights or “punch ups” as Arbizu, who often sported a few visible bruises after a tough match, called them. “Every week you hang out afterwards,” he said.


The camaraderie is something that he says he will miss from his days on the Air Force squad. “I will miss the competitive spirit of it (the Air Force team),” he said. “The military aspect is obvious. It (rugby) is physically and

mentally demanding. It fosters teamwork, you have to be one as a team, the sport brings groups together,” he said.

While Arbizu may be leaving his Air Force Reserve career, he believes that rugby and the Air Force Reserve taught him invaluable lessons he uses at the real estate company that bears his name.

“As a real estate agent, the job changes every day,” said Airman Arbizu. “It's like rugby, you have the ball and see what the defense does and you have 10 options during any given situation on the field of play,” he said.

Airman Arbizu will still play on the local San Antonio Rugby Association team as he pursues his next career in real estate but he does admit he will miss the level of dedication he found on the Air Force team.

To find out more about the Air Force Rugby team, log on to their web page at <http://www-p.afsv.af.mil/afsv-ports/Sports/Rugby.htm>. 

Activities, Air Force Issues, ways to ...

Get Involved

HRDC - building a stronger force one Airman at a time

By Capt. Bruce Hill

Wing Public Affairs

Hula hoops, the Rubik's Cube and the Cabbage Patch Doll did it for the toy industry. Tae Bo, the Atkins diet and meal replacement shakes did it for the diet scene and for a while, Total Quality Management did it for the Air Force.

Each of these made a big splash on their respective markets and improved things in the organization for a short time.

For the Air Force, TQM was a management tool modeled after successful corporations and it too improved things for a season. But the Air Force Reserve found a longer lasting improvement program: The Human Resources Development Council, a body formed within the Air Force Reserve Command in 1997.

HRDC is dedicated to the improvement of the total person, and unlike some self-improvement technique or entertainment fad, is going strong as Reserve members learn more about it and what it can do for individual development and the organization.

"What it meant to me, having the opportunity to see what the Wing HRDC program was designed to do and why it was established, opened my eyes up to the true intent of the program," said 1st Lieutenant Clayton Lawrence, Deputy Commander, 433rd Training Squadron. "The HRDC focuses on preparing a person, to make them better, to provide them every opportunity to succeed. The problem, however is a lack of understanding and full support by those not on the council."

Lt. Lawrence admitted he didn't know much about the council and didn't really care until he attended the HRDC conference this year. He now realizes how important it is for each commander to explain every growth opportunity available.

Every member should get the opportunity to participate in career building opportunities like the Honor Guard, wing training classes, mentorship programs or serving on the retention committee, said Lt. Lawrence. "The conference showed me the importance of being involved, not just doing my assigned job."

Lt. Lawrence said it's actually about being part of something bigger, which in turn makes you as an individual bigger and better.

According to the HRDC Charter, the overall goal is to create and maintain a fully diversified work force that meets readiness requirements and reflects the diversity of the communities in which we live and serve.


HRDC accomplishes the charter goals through working groups in the areas of outreach and marketing,

recruiting and retention, training, and mentoring. Each subcommittee has anywhere from ten to almost twenty wing members.

A common misconception about HRDC is that it is solely for recruiting new members.

"HRDC is for wing members, first and foremost," said Lt. Lawrence. "It is a program that should focus on how to make each wing member better, and every program that is developed focuses on the improvement of the total person."

Every reservist and civilian member of the wing is eligible to participate in the programs and classes offered by the HRDC. Check the schedule and with each supervisor to see if you can register for an upcoming class or meeting. Classes offer the opportunity to improve writing, communication and management skills.

"We need to take care of those around us in this wing..." said Lt Lawrence. "...If those in the squadron and group levels do not support it, we will have wasted a great opportunity for success." 

2007 HRDC Courses

Creating Successful PEP Packages
Saturdays 8:00 a.m.-noon
January - B and August - A & B UTA

Effective Feedback/Performance Report/Decorations Writing
Saturdays 8:00 a.m.-noon
February and September - A & B UTA

Understanding and Developing a good Fitness & Nutrition Program
Saturdays 8:00 a.m.-noon
March and October - A & B UTA

Lincoln on Leadership
Saturdays 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
May and November - A & B UTA

7 Habits of Highly Effective People
June - A & B UTA (Friday before UTA ,
Saturday and Sunday / 0800-1600)

Focus on Your Highest Priorities
Saturdays 8:00 a.m.-noon
July - A & B UTA

Call 671-2410 or e-mail clayton.lawrence@lackland.af.mil for information.

Still great after all these years...

14th ANNUAL BOSSES' DAY A FLYING SUCCESS

By Ms. Elsa Martinez

Wing Public Affairs

Now in its 14th year, the 2006 Bosses' Day did more than educate reservists' civilian employers about the 433rd and the Air Force Reserve. Happenstance struck more than once during this popular annual event, and made it a little more special.

Twenty-five bosses arrived at 0-dark-thirty to meet at the 433rd Operations Group auditorium. Wing commander, Brig. Gen. John Fobian, welcomed them and briefed about the wing's strategic airlift.

"We hope you take back with you what you learn today," said General Fobian. "The Air Force Reserve is a lot more than just the one weekend (a month), two weeks a year, job."

Flight nurse Maj. Frances Robertson of the 433rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron provided the aeromedical demonstration, complete with mock patients and injury scenarios.

Master Sgt. Forest Allbee, from the 433rd Maintenance Squadron, showed off the C-5 TF-39 turbofan engines and explained maintenance procedures required to keep the wing's C-5A aircraft mission-ready.

Even with all the best maintainers and operators, delays happen.

"This is the airlift world, folks," Col. Delbert Lewis, 433rd OG commander, remarked to the group when a 2-hour delay was first announced. Shortly after leaving the aircraft for a walking tour of historic static aircraft, the guests beat a hasty retreat back to the C-5 when the repair was completed faster than expected.

Aerial refueling was provided by a KC-135 tanker from the 19th Aerial Refueling Group at Robins AFB, Ga. and provided the day's first coincidence.

"The 19th ARG was having their Bosses' Day that day too," said Master Sgt. Milton Temple, current operations specialist, 433rd Operations Support Flight. "So while our bosses were gawking at them, their bosses were gawking at us!"

And then it happened again.

Mike Mack of Cardell Cabinetry and Senior Master Sgt. Mary Simon, 37th Military Personnel Flight, encountered each other in the Stillman Park parking lot where Mr. Mack asked Sergeant Simon about her Ohio license plates.

Sergeant Simon thought Mr. Mack looked familiar to her, but didn't think about it until he approached her and said he was from Ohio as well.

"It turned out that not only was she from Windham, Ohio," said Mr. Mack, "but I graduated from high school with her brother and sisters, and I also know her father!"

"Mary also went to high school with my wife, Kimberly," he continued. "And when I got home, I called

my wife's sister back in Ohio and it turns out that the sister's boyfriend is in San Antonio, visiting his parents! I mean, what were the odds?"

In addition to the coincidences, Bosses' Day did exactly what it was designed to do. The day helped employers get a closer look at what their employee's other job.

"After seeing what the 433rd does and what Dave (Senior Master Sgt. David Freeman) does in the Air Force Reserve, I think what the 433rd set out to do to educate the employers, they did—and I'd say it was mission accomplished," said Navy Cmdr. Michael Reddix, commander of the Naval Health Research Center, Brooks City Base, and civilian supervisor for Sergeant Freeman, 433rd Security Forces Squadron.


"It was an incredible experience, and thank you for the opportunity," said Mr. Mack, the civilian supervisor for Senior Master Sgt. Perry Henry of the 433rd Mission Support Squadron's education and training office. 



Photo by Staff Sgt. Carlos Trevino

Master Sgt. Forest Allbee from the engine shop got the opportunity to show the civilian employers of Alamo Wing reservists a C-5 Auxiliary Power Unit and explain some of its intricacies.

After spending time in a combat zone, returning home can be the most challenging part of the mission

Dealing with homecoming stress

Editor's note: Names of those who consented to interview about issues they are facing have been withheld to protect their right to privacy. The two Airmen who spoke about their stresses and how they are dealing with them, are referred to in this article as Airman One and Airman Two.

By Master Sergeant Collen McGee

Wing Public Affairs

Just about anyone who's ever deployed to a war zone deals with some stress in conjunction with the deployment or upon returning home. Sometimes it goes away on its own in time. Sometimes it doesn't.

"In many ways, readjustment stress can be considered a normal reaction to abnormal events," said Dr. Jennifer Wood, a licensed psychologist with the Harlington Texas Veteran's Administration Outpatient Clinic. "Given that combat exposure is not typically part of American life, it's logical that most service men and women would have some reaction to their combat experience."

Reservists may face even more stress issues because upon returning home, they are no longer surrounded by people on the job who can identify with the deployed experience.

"As a civilian predominantly, you aren't in the military constantly and not constantly in a military mindset," said Airman One, who has deployed repeatedly. "Even though you practice (train), you have no concept until you go over there."

One of the most difficult things Airman One dealt with was the rapid shift in mindset from security to absolute vulnerability.

"Within two or three days, suddenly you are dealing with the worst trauma ever," said Airman One. "(You are dealing with) a significant change

to sudden chaos in this place, the loss of the security of having wife and family around to a chaotic fragmented system."

The second Airman who spoke about this shift in mindset related it to the return from deployment.

Airman Two described having to make fast decisions while deployed, based on available information, and knowing those decisions could impact life. Now she is learning to deal again with decisions that to her should be quick, easy and not that important, but to her boyfriend, those decisions are vital parts of his daily routine.

For both Airmen, coming home after going through a high pressure deployment was like being suddenly ejected from a mental pressure cooker back into the old version of normal without letting the steam dissipate. For each, their minds were still in the battlefield mode and each reported similar issues with things that were typical in life on the home front.

Each of them talked about difficulties with crowds, confrontational personalities, sounds and smells. Both commented on the inability of friends and family to identify with the things they were going through because none of them had any similar experiences.

Airman Two admitted that the crowd at the recent Lackland Airfest was tough for her to deal with. She confessed to a desire to avoid work when it intersected with the crowd.

Withdrawing from uncomfortable situations is a normal reaction for anyone.

Fortunately, providers now have an arsenal of effective strategies and treatments to assist with readjustment concerns, according to Dr. Wood.

One technique that has proven effective in lessening the impact of the

lingering trauma is all about confronting the experiences.

"The normal thing is for people to talk to their buddies," said Dr. (Maj.) William Isler, Chief of Clinical Health Psychology at Wilford Hall. "The reminiscing part is useful - the retelling of the story."

Dr. Isler said that the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion and organizations like these served that purpose in the past by putting people with like experiences together. For today's war-zone veterans, there are more resources available and more is known about coping strategies for those suffering from Post Traumatic Stress.

"We know, in PTSD treatment, it isn't the avoidance (that helps), it's the retelling, writing it down, adding more descriptors," said Dr. Isler. "(Use) audio tape - tell your story and listen to it to lessen the effective significance that the brain places on it. Desensitizing - the actual mechanism is something everybody uses all the time."

Dr. Isler explained that by continuing to tell the story about their experiences, the experience loses the ability to cause distress.

Dr. Isler, who also served in Iraq, recommends getting help before feelings of post traumatic stress become Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. But many people fear taking the step to seek mental health assistance for fear that they will be labeled.

"There are real risks to career," said Dr. Isler. "But it (the risk of career impact) is less than five percent (of those seen by a military provider) and those are mostly the ones that wait until they are already having problems."

Dr. Isler explained that if a person seeks immediate readjustment help, before serious issues arise due to

avoidance, then normally they can get the help they need without adverse impact and, "Usually, there is no engagement with the command at all."

But Reservists, no longer on military orders, don't always seek active-duty services. But there are services available to those who need them. And getting help for readjustment issues doesn't mean you are mentally unstable. But if ignored, stress issues can become physical health issues that can cause weight loss, loss of sleep and even hypertension. Physicians are also more apt to recognize warning signs of PTSD as more is learned about it.

"It is more accepted now; you are not going to get dinged having it (PTSD)," said Dr. (Lt. Col.) William Bailey a physician with the 433rd Aerospace Medicine Squadron and a cardiologist. Although Col. Bailey does say there are medications that prohibit continued Reserve participation, there are ways to treat readjustment issues and PTSD that don't require medication.

"Within the South Texas Veterans Health Care System, several teams of

providers have been established specifically to address the needs of returning Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans," said Dr. Wood.

"There is a system available," said Dr. Bailey. "Seek it and work with and involve loved ones ASAP. Find VA (Veteran's Administration) clinics in general within the VA system for group sessions where you talk things out about feelings and changes. If it is mild, go immediately to join a group to talk not short term but long term. Then go regularly for maintenance every 3-6 months. For severe stuff immediately go to the VA with your spouse and ask for help. Make your spouse a part of your care."

Dr. Isler agrees that a spouse, significant partner or family members should be involved in the readjustment process.

"Schedule time on the couch and talk daily," recommends Dr. Isler. "Slow down enough where you specifically talk about the readjustment. (Ask) are we getting along? - have an agenda if possible."

If you don't know if you need help, Dr. Isler recommends listening openly to comments from those around you.


"Listen to your friends," said Dr. Isler. "If they are continually saying things like 'you're on edge' or 'lighten up' - maybe it is worth listening to them."

"It is always easy to slip through the cracks if you want to," said Dr. Isler who said the Air Force follows up on previously deployed members at 3-, 6- and 12 -month intervals.

The fact is, diagnosing PTSD or traumatic stress is based entirely on the honesty of the person being interviewed.

"It is, therefore, vital that individuals discuss their concerns openly and honestly with their providers," said Dr. Wood.

Both Airman One and Two actively sought help with readjustment issues and tools to assist with post traumatic stress.

Help is available. For more resources and information on PTSD or readjustment stress check out the web sites and resources listed below. 

Resources for readjustment help and PTSD issues and information

Veteran's Administration

The VA Medical Center system's specialized PTSD clinics and programs can provide to eligible veterans educational information and diagnostic evaluations concerning PTSD.

The Readjustment Counseling Service's community-based Vet Centers provide information and diagnostic evaluations concerning PTSD to any veteran who served in a war zone or in a military conflict (such as in Panama, Grenada, or Somalia). There are no co-payments or charges of any kind for Vet Center confidential services. Please call 1-800-905-4675.

PTSD and stress-related information

Military Onesource provides guides for deployment and homecoming for Airmen and family members
<http://militaryonesource.com>

Veteran's Administration National Center for PTSD provides sections on various types of stress related issues and a Frequently Asked Question section about PTSD - <http://www.ncptsd.va.gov/>

Deployment Health Clinical Center provides fact sheets and resources for clinicians and military members <http://www.pdhealth.mil/>

Air Force Crossroads provides information for Airmen and families
<http://www.afcrossroads.com/>

National Institute of Mental Health pamphlet on PTSD
<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/publicat/nimhptsd.cfm>

Note Worthy

Promotions



Reginald Daniels, 26th APS
Lionel Davila, AMDS
Suzette Elliott, AMDS
James Klein, 68th AS
Bruce Poole, AMDS
David Tavitias, CES
Lysander Watson, AMDS



Tamara Brown, OSS
Dustin Burleson, 68th AS
David Forist Jr. MXS
Diana Flores, 556th RHS
Robert Flores, AMXS
Sonia Green, OSS
Israel Perez, 556th RHS
Andrew Tocci, AMXS
Reginald Treauo, MXS
Nelda Viertel, MSS
Wayne White, MXS



Diana Abrego, AMDS
Thelma Bagley, AMDS
Ray Bell, 556th RHS
Dawn Camacho, MDS
Jeremy Harp, AMXS
Jeremiah Kelley, AMXS
Rodney Luna, AMXS
Roxanne McCabe, MXS
Gary Meinert, 26th APS
David Orregon, 68th AS
Sara Pickens, AES
David Ponce, MXS
Kimberly Rozsypal, MSS

Jitti Sechler, AES
Roger Suttles, 710th IOF
Ralph White, CES



Kurtis Albright, MXS
Calvin Alexander, OSS
Arturo Ayala, CF
Andrew Barrera, MDS
Jesse Booker II, MXS
Sandra Flores, MXS
Valerie Gonzales, CES
Shallyn Kubista, MXS
Bethany Laurel, ASTS
Joel Lefevre, MDS
Cresencio Medina, MSS
Margie Montemayor, MDS
Adan Moreno, CF
Barry Nix, OSS
Christopher Padgett, MXS
Raul Perilla, MOS
John Retzer, AMXS
Annette Reyes, MOS
Alex Seguin, MXS
Johnny Tello, MXS



Gerrale Henry, 26th APS
Mario Kendrick, MXS
Kimberly Oatley, MDS



Anthony Bartle 26th APS
Joshua George, CF
Jessica Langdon, AES
Meghan Payne, CF
Lena Ray, AMXS
Samuel Stafford, 26th APS



Nathan Eliot, ASTS

Newcomers

Master Sergeant

Norman Bailey, SFS
Thomas Salas, MXS

Technical Sergeant

David Byrd, MXS
Shanita Campbell, ASTS
Samuel Green, AMXS
James Gulley, MXS
Nathan Mallett, MXS
Heather Patterson, MXS
Daniel Strauser, MXS

Staff Sergeant

Bobby Hollis, MXS

Guillermo Lyne, 74th APS
Roxanne Mccabe, MXS
Jose Torres, 74th APS

Senior Airman

Sharon N. Gasiewski, 710th IOF
Chris Hernandez, TRS
Michael Powell, AMXS
Rafael Sancillo, MOS

Airman

Nathan Eliot, ASTS

Airman Basic

Kevin Leshner, 710th IOF

Reenlistments

Master Sergeant

Suzette Elliott, AMDS
Eddie Espinoza, RHS
Rafael Flores, CES
Judith Gutierrez, MDS
Charles Keller Jr. AMXS
Ronald Noll, AMXS
Jesse Pittman, AES
Gary Rocha, 26th APS
Rene Rodriguez, MXG
Laurence Tilghman, AMXS
Richard Yruegas, 26th APS

Technical Sergeant

Jose Berlanga, MXS
Dennis Camarillo, MOS
Lori Darling, SFS
George Garcia, AES
Joe Gonzales, MOS
Rene Guerrero, 26th APS

Abel Martinez, AMXS
Christopher Paschall, SFS
Israel Perez, RHS
Arthur Reyes Jr. 68th AS
Jorge Rosario, ASTS
Bennie Saldana III, CES
Wade Wagley, MXS
Diana Ytuarte, AW

Staff Sergeant

Irene Aguillon, AES
Ernesto Alvarez, MXS
Sophia Licona, AES
Craig Nieschwietz, 74th APS
Blanca Ortiz, SFS
Nathan Vick, AMDS
Kellie Williams, AES

Senior Airman

Eric Hooge, LRS

Combined Federal Campaign
Funds Raised for the 2006 campaign currently total
Approximately \$11,000.00
Final totals will not be available until December.

Quarterly Awards

Brig. Gen. John Fobian, 433rd Airlift Wing Commander, congratulates the following Airmen, Non-Commissioned Officer and Senior Non-Commissioned Officer award winners for the 4th Quarter, Fiscal Year 2006. The competition was keen and all personnel are to be commended for a job well done. The winners in their respective category are:

Airman Category: Senior Airman Paul McCoy, 26th APS

NCO Category: Tech. Sergeant Song Kim, AMXS

SNCO Category: Master Sergeant John Macias, LRS

GTC Delinquencies rise during holidays

By Lt. Col. Roy C. Russell

37th Comptroller Squadron Commander

With the holiday season fast approaching, base finance officials are cautioning government travel card holders not to misuse their cards. For some reason, there is always a spike in the misuse of GTCs during the holiday season.

It's up to every GTC holder to ensure cards are only used for authorized travel-related purposes. While the consequences for cardholders misusing their cards may vary, misuse and late payments do not go without penalty. Consequences are determined by the individual's commander, from letters of counseling for first-time offenses, all the way to courts martial. Cardholders who are late with payments also face late fees of up to \$29 a month.

We're making strides, but we can do better. The key to the program's success rests with the GTC users who must exercise careful control.

The GTC program itself is a great way for the Department of Defense to streamline the process of paying for government-directed travel and associated expenses and making sure people are doing the right thing.

Now units and program managers can actually see the individual purchases on a particular card (such as the store name at which they made

the purchase). In addition, the unit program managers have better control over increasing and decreasing individual card spending limits.

Commanders can determine who should and should not have a card and the default feature within the Defense Travel System allows for split disbursement which makes payment much easier.

We've made a lot of good changes and they're making a difference. But we're always looking ahead and trying to make it better. The better our GTC program gets, the more flexibility we have to institute changes to enhance the commander's mission. The Air Education and Training Command delinquency rate has consistently been among the lowest of three major commands, and in May and July this year it was the lowest of the large Air Force commands.

GTC cardholders may make electronic payments to their Bank of America (BofA) GTC account through the BofA MyEasyPayment website. Cardholders access this site using their full account number and the last three digits from the number on the back of their card. Upon entering the site, select the "Federal Government Charge Card" account type and enter the account information. Cardholders will see the following information: current balance, last payment date, last payment amount, amount past due,

minimum payment due and payment due date.

GTC cardholders may also use this site to verify payment amounts before requesting split disbursement on their travel voucher, verify that payments have been posted, or make a payment from their personal checking account.

If a payment is due, the cardholder may enter the checking account number and routing number for their bank. Bank of America will process an automatic debit to withdraw the specified payment amount on the date indicated. The BofA GTC web address is: <https://www.myeasypayment.com/Enter.aspx>

GTC holders may register online for Electronic Account Government Ledger System. EAGLS allows cardholders to view current transactions, previous statement activity and maintain account information online.

To register, visit https://www.gcsuthd.bankofamerica.com/eagls_selfregistration/selfreg.aspx. EAGLS user name and passwords will be mailed to the address associated with the GTC. Cardholders can also call the EAGLS technical help desk at (800) 472-1424.

Official Bank of America web page: <http://www.bankofamerica.com/military/>

Please email questions to the Finance Customer Service Contact Center:

37CPTS.CustomerService@Lackland.af.mil 

Remember the Alamo Wing

Dec 1, 1941

The Civil Air Patrol is created

"A good listener is not only popular everywhere, but after a while he gets to know something."

—————
*Wilson Mizner
(1876 - 1933)*

Who's Who in the...



Photo by Master Sgt. Colleen McGee

Ms. Crystal Alvarado is a student hire with the Airman and Family Readiness Flight. Ms. Alvarado can assist you with finding the A&FRF programs that match your needs.



Photo by Maj. Elena Milford

During the United Way Day of Caring event, Maj. Linda Moore, from the C-5 Formal Training Unit's Det. 1, attacks the brush at an obstacle course that provides practical teambuilding for San Antonio area at-risk youth.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Carlos Trevino

Tech. Sgt. Lisa Perales and Senior Airman Jerry Conde, both medical technicians with the 433rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, prepare a demonstration for the recent 14th Annual Bosses' Day.



News Bites...

HATE GROUPS, GANGS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO AIR FORCE

Department of Defense and Air Force policies prohibit active participation in any activity that promotes the objectives of organizations and groups that attempt to illegally discriminate or otherwise deprive individuals of their civil rights. This could include participating in public demonstrations, fund raising, recruiting, organizing, leading or training in support of such organizations.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123029333>

Air Force Reserve Changes Officer Promotion System

Air Force Reserve Command is changing its officer promotion system to meet future total force requirements. In one change, the command will combine Selected Reserve (Categories A and B) and Participating Individual Ready Reserve, or PIRR, (Category E) officers into a single promotion group. Under force shaping actions, the Air Force Reserve will shift some of its member authorizations from paid positions in the Selected Reserve to non-paid status in the PIRR.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at

<http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123028413>

AIR FORCE RESERVE TO OPERATE WITH MORE RESERVISTS

The fiscal 2007 Defense Appropriations Act funds an end-strength of 74,900 reservists, which is 900 additional reservists from last year. The new legislation also approves 10,214

full-time air reserve technicians and 2,707 full-time active Guard and Reserve members. The defense bill funds a 2.2 percent across-the-board military pay raise for active and Reserve forces as requested in the president's budget earlier this year.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123028290>

DOD TO RESUME ANTHRAX VACCINATIONS

The Department of Defense announced a resumption of the mandatory Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program for military members, emergency-essential DOD civilians and contractors, based on defined geographic areas or roles. For the most part, mandatory vaccinations are limited to military units designated for homeland bioterrorism defense and

to U.S. forces assigned to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility and Korea.

For more information on the anthrax vaccination program, visit <http://www.vaccines.mil/> or <http://www.vaccines.mil/anthrax>.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at

<http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123029249>

NEW TRICARE STANDARD HANDBOOK RELEASED

Tricare officials are making a handbook available to all beneficiaries covered under Tricare Standard. Beneficiaries now may ask for copies

of the Tricare Standard handbook or the summary of beneficiary costs flyer from their regional contractors or from a local Tricare Service Center, or view the documents on the Tricare Smart Site at <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/TRICARESmart>. Basic information on Tricare Standard is available at <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/Factsheets/viewfactsheet.cfm?id=318>.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS PHOTOS AVAILABLE ON WING WEB PAGE

Photos from family day, bosses' day and other wing events are available on the 433rd Airlift Wing public web page.

The web page is located at: <http://www.433aw.afrc.af.mil/> and is accessible from any internet capable computer.

The Alamo Wing newspaper is also available. Past and current issues are posted to the public page.

Attack Warning Signals

Disaster Warning - 3-5 minute steady tone on siren or similar warning device or voice announcement.



Attack Warning - 3-5 minute wavering tone on siren or similar warning device or voice announcement

A L L C L E A R

All Clear - Voice Announcement

Stack your deck for ...

Operational Readiness Inspection 2007

By Master Sergeant Collen McGee
Wing Public Affairs

With the Operational Readiness Inspection just 12 duty weekends away, are you ready? Do you know what to watch for? Do you know what the inspectors are watching for? Do you know the most common mistakes made during the ORI?

The staff of the Alamo Wing newsletter is going to help you stack the deck in your favor. Each month until ORI, you will find a card, like the one below, with ORI tips to help you prepare for some of the obvious and not so obvious tricks to a successful ORI experience.

This first card is the most obvious card of the deck. Knowing the warning sirens and what they mean can make a difference, not only for ORI but also for real world operations.

You can find more about other warning signals and alarms on page 20 of your Airman's Manual. Those alarms are part of the standardized

attack warning system that postures an air base before, during and after an attack.

In the middle of learning alarm signals and knowing your Mission Oriented Protective Posture level; remember the basics like, protecting classified or sensitive information and locking your computer when you step away from it.

According to inspector findings from other unit ORIs, it's the simple things that garner write-ups for a unit.

On top of inspection items, do you know the real-world travel precautions? Check out the chart below for the 3-1-1 on commercial air travel.

Keep watching the Alamo Wing for more information as ORI 2007 approaches. 

3-1-1 for Carry-ons
Prepare for Take-off →

- 3** 3 ounce or smaller containers of liquid or gel
More than 3 ounces permitted in checked baggage
Container size is a security measure 
- 1** 1 quart-size, clear plastic, zip-top bag holding 3 ounce or smaller containers
Bag limits total volume per person 
- 1** 1 bag per traveler placed in the security bin
Isolating liquids speeds screening 

Transportation Security Administration www.tsa.gov



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