

ALAMO WING

Volume 56, Number 5, May/June 2007

U.S. Air Force Reserve Command

433rd Airlift Wing, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas

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Commander, staff home from deployment

By Master Sgt. Colleen McGee

Wing Public Affairs

Brigadier General John Fobian, 433rd Airlift Wing Commander, Maj. Mike Nelson and Tech. Sgt. Raffaele Dickerson are home from their deployed location in Southwest Asia.

General Fobian and his staff members spent four months managing the air mobility forces for the U.S. Central Command Area of Responsibility.

The CENTCOM AOR consists of operations in Afghanistan, Iraq and the Horn of Africa and the surrounding nations. As director of Mobility Forces, General Fobian was instrumental in making sure the airlift assets within the theater were employed in the best possible way. Working with active-duty and Reserve components from all the services and service representatives from coalition partner nations, airlift capabilities are managed to make sure assets and supplies arrive when and where they are needed.

All three will have time to re-assimilate into a non-deployed lifestyle. For Major Nelson, that included an authentic Tex-Mex meal.

"They had Mexican food but it wasn't the real thing, nothing like here," said Major Nelson.

For sergeant Dickerson, he had just a few days to prepare for his wedding to Master Sgt. Theresa Cauley. Ser-




Photo by Master Sgt. Colleen McGee

Brigadier General John Fobian (left), 433rd Airlift Wing Commander, is welcomed home by his wife, Kim, and members of the Alamo Wing on May 2. Tech. Sgt. Raffaele Dickerson (right) and Maj. Mike Nelson, also from the 433rd AW, are also greeted by family on their arrival. General Fobian served as the Director of Mobility Forces, Major Nelson served as General Fobian's executive officer and Sergeant Dickerson as his administrative assistant during their deployment to the Combined Air Operations Center in Southwest Asia.

geant Cauley retired from the Reserve on May 5 and became a military spouse later that evening when she and Sergeant Dickerson were married.

Several retirement ceremonies, a command assumption in the Operations Group and a few documents needing his signature occupied General Fobian's first few days back but he is also scheduled for some recon-

stitution time. All three are scheduled time off until after Memorial Day to reconnect with family before they are back at the Alamo Wing full time.

Currently, about 50 Alamo Wing members are deployed outside of the Continental U.S. in support of GWOT. More than 100 are also serving on active duty supporting various missions across the country. 

Alamo Wing

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101 Critical days: days of remembrance, prevention

Col. Howard Seid

Vice Wing Commander



American Airman and Soldiers are performing heroically in combat. Many gave their lives in service to our great nation. Our gratitude and our prayers are with them and their families. I urge you to take part in the various Memorial Day events. Pause for a moment, to remember those who fell and to give thanks for the freedoms their sacrifices purchased.

Memorial Day weekend also marks the beginning of the summer driving season and increased out-door recreational activities. Vehicle accidents continue to be the number one cause of fatalities in the Air Force. According to the Air Force Safety Center, the three leading causes of vehicle accidents are speed, fatigue and driving under the influence. Leaders should engage those they supervise on an individual level and provide safety briefings on risk factors. Safety briefings should also

include safety tips for heat injury prevention, boating and swimming safety and the risks associated with those activities. Risks unique to mission and local environment should also be covered.

Safety is a leadership issue and a commander's program. The safeguarding of the personnel and equipment entrusted to our stewardship is part of our responsibility as leaders. Pro-active, engaged leadership at all levels, attention to standards and integration of risk management into all of our activities are critical elements of efficient mission accomplishment.

Every 433rd Airlift Wing team member is important to me - every Airman, NCO, Officer, Civilian, Local National, Contractor and family members. We are a great team and together we make a difference. As we kick off the 2007 summer season, pause to remember those who sacrificed so much. Also fine tune your vigilance, your attention to detail and your risk management senses. Walk proudly as we execute every mission, every day, everywhere. Each of you is important to your family, your comrades and our nation. Have a great Memorial Day Holiday and safe 101 days of summer! 🏠

Chaplain's Corner

The Spirit of God

"The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life"

Job 33:4

The Hebrew term used here is "ruach" which means breath. Sometimes my visual of God breathing energy into us is of a gentle wind-just enough

to launch a butterfly. Sometimes that visual just doesn't cut it though. I need to think of God's breath as strong-strong enough to blow Dorothy's house to Oz, strong enough to get me out of bed and moving, strong enough to get me through the really rough times. Isn't it great though, that we have a God that can do both if we only ask. May you know that the breath of God is with you today at this very moment. 🏠

Airman's Creed exemplifies warfighting ethos

WASHINGTON (AFNEWS) -- The Air Force chief of staff introduced the new "Airman's Creed" April 18 to provide Airmen a tangible statement of beliefs that they can hold most dear.

The Airman's Creed reflects pride in the role of air, space and cyberspace power and the Air Force's commitment in supporting and defending the nation. The creed is fueled by the Air Force's heritage and a warfighting ethos that exists in all Airmen, Gen. T. Michael Moseley said.

"Our new Airman's Creed reminds us all of the incredible combat heritage we have as Airmen," he said. "So it's not entirely out of coincidence that we're debuting the creed on the 65th anniversary of the Doolittle Raiders' heroic strike at the heart of Imperial Japan in 1942. Like many Airmen of the past, the Raiders exemplified our warfighting spirit, and remain an inspiration to us all."

General Moseley said having an Airman's creed is like a blinding flash of the obvious. The creed simply and concisely puts into the words the warfighting spirit that exists in Airmen past and present.

"Every single Airman, every person who walks across the parade deck at Lackland (Air Force Base, Texas), and every person who is commissioned is a combatant. That is our culture," General Moseley said. "We're a combatant Air Force; our mission is to fly, fight and win our nation's wars. We should embrace the notion that the Air Force is a combatant organization."

Since Operation Desert Shield in 1990, the Air Force has deployed and fought in the Persian Gulf region and other regions around the world by displaying its warfighting ethos. Having a warfighting ethos is part of the Air Force's soul, General Moseley said. But, that ethos goes beyond just the last 16 years.

"The contribution of every Airman brings American military might to bear

with the least possible loss of friendly lives and the maximum possible loss of hostile lives. That is an inherent good. That is the benefit of the American airpower that goes back to when Billy Mitchell said the same things in the 1920s," General Moseley said.

It's the rich heritage of airpower and the missions Airmen carry out around the world every day that give Airmen their warfighting ethos and bring about the reason to have an Airman's Creed - an Airmen first mentality.

"This (Airman's Creed) is wrapping ourselves in who we are and in our culture," General Moseley said. "It matters in everything we do from the organizational structure of a wing to our acquisition systems and from how we train to how we deploy. Everything about us is wrapped around our notion of American airpower. The warfighting ethos is a mind set."

The Airman's Creed was not created to regain a lost ideal or one never identified. It was created to focus on and identify a spirit -- a warfighting ethos -- that transcends time from the past, to the present and into the future.

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley recently returned from visiting bases in Europe where he recited the new creed to Airmen and he received positive feedback.

"The response I got from Airmen was absolutely fabulous," Chief McKinley said. "I think this will be something special to Airmen. This new creed every Airman will know and be able to recite; but more than that, it's something they can have in their hearts. We've had so many unofficial creeds for such a long time and now we will have an official Airman's Creed."

The Airman's Creed derived from a collaborative effort and feedback from Airmen throughout the Air Force. General Moseley said the Airman's

Creed is designed to resonate with Airmen past, present and future.

"This is about our people and an Air Force that is fundamentally different than any other service," he said. "This is about where we've been and where we're going as an Air Force.

"We're attempting to give credit to 700,000 Airmen -- Active, Guard, Reserve and civilians -- who fight our nation's wars and give them the sense of ownership of a combatant organization, whether it is through changes at BMT, Airman battle uniform, the new service uniform or a focus on warfighting skills," he said. "This is to recognize who we are and the contributions we have made and make and to set the course for the future with a refined, reemphasized and remilitarized Air Force."

THE AIRMAN'S CREED

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN.

I AM A WARRIOR.

I HAVE ANSWERED MY
NATION'S CALL.

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN.
MY MISSION IS TO FLY, FIGHT,
AND WIN.

I AM FAITHFUL TO A PROUD
HERITAGE,

A TRADITION OF HONOR,
AND A LEGACY OF VALOR.

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN,
GUARDIAN OF FREEDOM AND
JUSTICE,

MY NATION'S SWORD AND
SHIELD,

ITS SENTRY AND AVENGER.

I DEFEND MY COUNTRY WITH
MY LIFE.

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN:
WINGMAN, LEADER,
WARRIOR.

I WILL NEVER LEAVE AN
AIRMAN BEHIND,

I WILL NEVER FALTER,
AND I WILL NOT FAIL.

SEPARATION AGE CHANGE

If otherwise eligible, Air Force Reserve officers can now stay in the service longer before reaching their mandatory separation age.

In the past, brigadier generals and below had to retire or separate when they reached age 60. Now, they can stay until age 62. The age for major generals rose from 62 to 64.

With the approval from the Secretary of the Air Force, chaplains and officers in some health professions may remain in an active status until age 67.

Eligible officers still have the option of voluntarily separating or retiring before their mandatory age. Additionally, mandatory separation dates due to years-of-commissioned-service restrictions have not changed.

Unless otherwise continued, lieutenant colonels must separate or retire when reaching 28 years of commissioned service. The limit for colonels is 30 years.

DFAS adds myPay security step

ARLINGTON, Va. (May 9) – myPay officials announced today another new security feature has been added to protect customers’ data on the pay account system. As part of our on-going commitment to strengthen password and account security to protect our customers’ data, Defense Finance and Accounting Service has implemented the “virtual keyboard” to assist in protecting against malicious software such as spyware, trojans and keylogging.

The virtual keyboard is available beginning mid-May. Each time a user arrives at myPay to log on, the virtual keyboard will appear on the screen. The user will type in their LoginID and then the user will “press” the keys on the screen by clicking on them with their mouse to enter their Personal Identification Number (PIN) instead of typing the actual keys. The virtual keyboard is to be used only for the user’s PIN.

To enhance security, the keyboard layout changes or keys are displayed randomly every time the page is refreshed.

“This is a significant move toward adding yet another layer of security to our myPay system,” said Pat Shine, director of operations for DFAS. “We want to reassure our customers that we are proactively working to secure their pay account information.”

DFAS uses a variety of security features to protect your data on the myPay system, yet we ask that customers do everything they can to protect data from being compromised or captured on home computers. Under frequently asked question on the myPay homepage (<https://mypay.dfas.mil>) customers

can find more information on steps to secure their home computers.

To Login to myPay using the Virtual Keyboard:

1. Type LoginID under Account Access on the homepage.
2. Next, click on the numbers and letters (if using a restricted access PIN) of your PIN using the mouse and virtual keyboard on the screen. (Each number and/or letter will appear as an asterisk in the textbox above the virtual keyboard.) When finished, click the “GO” button.
3. Once in myPay users will continue to navigate as usual.

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service provides responsive, professional finance and accounting services to the men and women who defend America. DFAS pays about 5.9 million people, processes more than 12.6 million invoices from defense contractors, disburses more than \$455 billion and manages more than \$234 billion in military trust funds.

For more about DFAS visit <http://www.dfas.mil>

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UTA SCHEDULE

June

A UTA June 2-3

B UTA June 23-24

July

A UTA July 7-8

B UTA July 21-22

August

A UTA August 4-5

B UTA August 18-19

Alamo Wing Staff Sgt. promoted to Captain

By Master Sgt. Colleen McGee

Wing Public Affairs

Some people have an overwhelming compulsion built into their nature. For some, it is the desire to be successful in family matters. For others, it is career and income that drive them forward each day. For Captain Oliver George, the new officer in charge of the 433rd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight, the compulsion is one of service. That desire is so ingrained that he willingly went from commissioned officer to E-5 until he could find a commissioned position.

Captain George's need to serve started in the Army. At the time he didn't realize how strong he'd later come to feel about serving his country.

"I was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant from West Point and then I took the early out after Desert Storm to follow a previous mentor and pursue a civilian career," said Captain George. "I left active duty in 1992 as a First Lieutenant Promotable. In 1995, I received a letter stating I was selected for promotion to Captain, but at the time it didn't fit into my plans."

The years passed and soon Captain George's Individual Ready Reserve commitment reached an end.

"I signed everything and said see ya, not realizing I signed my commission away," Captain George said.

Two years later our country drastically changed and many people changed with it, including Captain George.

"I had a sister in New York and when the towers collapsed I felt helpless," said Captain George. "I wasn't in the military; I wasn't assisting in any way. I wanted to do something but I wasn't in the military. I was Joe Civilian."

But even the monumental events following 9-11 didn't make Oliver George rush out and become Airman George. Some internal discussion had

to occur before he took the next step.

"(I had some) self debate to answer the worry about being an only son and how my parents might be affected by my rejoining," said Captain George.

Once the decision to rejoin was made, the next decision was where to join.

(I spent) one year looking for a position and found out the only way to return to service at that time was to come in enlisted and find an officer billet later and apply for it," said Captain George. "Another mental debate ensued that lasted six months."

But Captain George is not one to take no action once his mind is made up.

"I couldn't live with myself," said Captain George. "I had decided to serve for at least 20 years and it didn't matter where. If I knew there was a chance and I didn't take it I'd always have that question – I said 'lets do it' – if it doesn't happen in three years (the term of his first enlistment) then

I'll go to another branch of service and try again."

Captain George already had experience with the Army and he was around the Air Force enough in his former capacity that a desire to see how the Air Force serves grew.

The unit he chose first was the 433rd Security Forces Squadron. While there, Staff Sgt. George served wholeheartedly during his first enlistment while he applied for commissioned positions within the wing.

"I don't often give personal recommendations out," said Tech. Sgt. Lori Darling, the 433rd SFS training manager, "but when Staff Sgt. George inquired about temporary active tour openings at Lackland, I informed Master Sgt. Simone Saucedo of the 37th SFS what an intelligent high-speed troop he was and that I wished I had more like him. She replied, 'Wow, you never recommended anyone before... Who is this guy?'"

(See Captain Again, 7)



Courtesy photo

Brig. General Mary Kay Hertog, Director of Security Forces, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C., administers the oath of office to Staff Sgt. Oliver George as he is promoted to the rank of Captain. Captain George, formerly the career advisor for the 433rd Security Forces Squadron is now the Officer-in-charge of the 433rd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight. Additionally, Captain George is serving on active-duty as an Action Officer in the Requirements Branch at the Headquarters Security Forces Center

New Emergency plan cuts national response delay

By Master Sgt. Colleen McGee

Wing Public Affairs

Response plans in America have changed since 9-11 and the 2005 hurricane season. Air Force Reservists, including some from the Alamo Wing, play a part in those plans.

On a national level, there are Reserve Individual Mobilization Augmentees in each state who advise Air Force base commanders, state and federal civil organizations about what capabilities the Air Force has available in each area.

For most natural disasters in the nation, the civilian response agencies have what they need to respond. Their response can even include some military units like Air National Guard units in their states. The Guard units belong to both the Governor and the Department of Defense. The Guard units fall primarily under the authority of each state's Governor but may be federalized under the authority of the president during national disasters.

Previously, before a military agency other than a Guard unit, could respond to a local or regional disaster or incident, the Governors in the affected states had to declare a state of emergency and request that the President declare their area to be in a state of emergency. Part of that procedure is mandated by the Stafford Act, which guarantees sovereignty to each state. The other part of that procedure opens up federal emergency funding.

"After a Presidential Disaster Declaration, then there is Government funding available," said Michael Studdard, the Air Force National Security Emergency Preparedness Agency Deputy Director.

But even after a PDD is declared, the military doesn't always get a call.

"FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency) has pre-existing contracts for many emergency services," said Lt. Col. Tim Plunkett, an Emergency Preparedness Liaison

Officer with the AFNSEP. "But, when FEMA can't provide the services, then the military is asked. One thing they can't contract for is airlift."

Airlift capability became essential during the major hurricanes of 2005. Alamo Wing members and other Lackland AFB units found themselves working with units from around the country.

"Terrorism is a way of life now," said Mr. Studdard. "Natural disasters are too – and they are going to occur anyway. Katrina was a watershed event for us," said Mr. Studdard.

The lessons learned from Katrina helped formulate a new National Disaster Response plan. This plan means that states don't have to wait for a PPD to ask for airlift and it allows military units to actively engage in the emergency plans of their civilian community neighbors.

Mr. Studdard explained that at all levels of the Air Force, installations are engaging with the communities outside their gates to come up with formal mutual response plans for events like fires, pandemics and hurricanes and that the aide can flow both directions. For San Antonio's Alamo Wing it means the neighborhood is the Gulf Coast.

"We're planning and we're practicing," said Chief Master Sgt. Rodney Christa, 433rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron readiness manager.

Chief Christa and other 433rd AES members began training with emergency responders in Gulf Coast area communities like Lake Charles, La., the most populated city in that region.

"They (civilian responders) are going to train with who they are going to fight with - fight against the loss of American lives," said Chief Christa.

"Emergencies are a lot alike, they become like wars," said Mr. Studdard. "It's almost like a wartime mission in that it's something that we can not fail."

And plans for war include training time to get all players working together smoothly and confident in each other's capabilities.

By planning and training together, a bridge of trust between military and civilian agencies is also built the same way it is within the Air Force.

"We're bringing that confidence that we are going to be there when they need us," said Chief Christa, who helped draft an initial version of the Gulf Coast response plan.

He explained two phases of disaster relief operations military members could be asked to assist with.

"If it is a pre-emergent request, then we'll be light lean and moving fast," said Chief Christa. The chief explained this capability was what the Alamo Wing employed before hurricane Rita reached the community of Beaumont, Texas.


"The post-emergent is heavy in response, bringing capability in and rebuilding and relieving," said Chief Christa.

For the Gulf Coast plan, the Alamo Wing is one of the first military units that civilian relief agencies might turn to if they need immediate airlift.

"The first aircraft we look at is the C-5 because of the capability and it has this huge retro capability," said Chief Christa.

According to Chief Christa, the C-5 is not normally the primary choice for a light and lean type of operation. But the performance of the 68th Airlift Squadron from Lackland AFB, during the pre-Rita evacuations showed the capability of the aging, giant airlifter.

"The C-5 proved it could be used for pre-emergent response – with 100 percent reliability – but that was a last resort situation," said Chief Christa.

Closer to home, the 433rd Medical Squadron is working on a training agreement with San Antonio's South West General Hospital scheduled to begin in May 2007. 

Total Force practice makes perfect

A group of Reserve and active-duty Security Force Squadron members practiced their skills apprehending a drunk driver in an exercise at the end of April. Airmen from the 433rd Security Forces Squadron and the 37th SFS trained together to make sure those who make the bad decision to drive under the influence get caught before they hurt themselves or others.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Carlos Trevino

Above, Tech. Sgt. Christopher Paschall from the 433rd Security Forces Squadron provides over-watch security for the arresting officer and calls in the status of the arrest being made, right, during a joint training exercise where Tech. Sgt. Gary Jasper, 37th SFS, played the part of the drunk driver and Staff Sgt. Raul Cisneros, also from the 37th SFS, searches the suspect for any dangerous items before placing him in custody.



Captain Again: *continued from page 5*

This guy turned out to be a sought after asset in the SFS.

“The challenge of being known as a sharp troop is when the word gets out, everyone fights over you,” said Sergeant Darling. “I noticed his work ethic immediately and I attempted to get Sergeant George assigned to training. Apparently, I was not the only one who noticed him and his caring demeanor deservingly got him selected as our new Unit Career Advisor.”

Career advisor is a great position, but it wasn't the goal Captain George had set for himself and it wasn't how he felt he could best serve his country. His three years was coming to an end and Captain George was already looking at his next option.

“I was at two years and four months and I was already working on my plan B,” said Captain George. “I'd already contacted my old power lifting coach in the Army and now he's the Maj. General in charge of Army Recruiting.

The next stop I was going to contact the Navy too and I'd make a choice at the end of year.”

But two things happened in one day that cemented Captain George's Air Force career.

“Tuesday, the 2nd of April, I got a call from Tino (Gonzalez, the education counselor at the 433rd Education and Training Office), my associate's degree from CCAF (Community College of the Air Force) in Criminal Justice had come through,” said Captain George. “That started off a good morning and that afternoon Chief (Ilee) Ersch (Chief of Personnel Programs) called me and said he had my oath of office there.”


Captain George may have taken the long road from first lieutenant to captain but he did show that patience and determination finally pay off.

The reason he worked so hard to find an officer position was due to his personal calling to serve.

“(I wanted an) opportunity to lead men and women, set a positive role model and just to do good things,” said Captain George. “When an Airman comes up to me and says, ‘because of you and the example set, I've done something with my life,’ that lets me know I'm doing something right; gives me a sense of accomplishment.”

Captain George describes attitude toward service as one of facilitator to other's success.

“I'm just an upright guy that wants everyone to do well,” he said. “People don't realize how much opportunity is here – what they have here, serve your country and take advantage of all your opportunities.”

Captain George's next step is to attend the Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal course at Eglin AFB, Fla. starting in June. The course is six months long and is rated as one of the most challenging. 

Note Worthy

Promotions



Rudy Durand Jr., CES
Cori Dockery, MOS
Philip Kekahu, ALCF



David Delgado, ALCF
David Scott, AMDS
Cynthia Uriegas, 710th IOF



Alan Brinkerhoff, AMXS
David Cameron, MXS*
Allan Folsom, MDS
Guillermo Jalomo, 68th AS
Jeffrey Madison, 68th AS
Kathryn Noel, 556th RHS
Anthony Savage, LRS



Jerry Bradfute, AMDS
Lucas Burwitz, MXS
Irasema Campuzano, 356th AS
Roderick Degrate, AMXS
Daniel Hammonds, LRS
Bobby Hollis, MXS
Daniel Mendiola, 26th APS
Michael Muro, MDS
Rueben Rendon, SFS
Roberto Robles, 556th RHS
Pedro Saenz, AMXS
Darnell Springer, MDS
Brent Streiff, SFS
Daniel Troutman, MXS



Veronica Aguilera, AMDS
Susan Ayala, 74th APS
Johnny Bernal, 26th APS
Amie Carr, MDS
Ernesto Chavez, AMXS
Pierre Duval, MDS

Michael Edwards, SVS
Jose Fernandez, MXS
Mark Foreman, 26th APS
Deborah Galbreith, OSS
Carlos Galvisrico, MXS
Philip Garcia, AMXS
Rhonda Garza, SVF
Kimberly Herrera, LRS
Matthis Herrera, MXS
Jeremy Johnson, MXS
Gigi Lopez, MDS
Monica Lopez, CES
Mark Loy, AMXS
Earnest McMillan, AMXS
Gregory Monroe, AMXS
Isabel Mora, OSS
Rahman Odewale, MXS
Jason Pena, AMXS
Mario Quinones, SFS
John Rogers, AMDS
William Stewart, AMXS
Robert Vasquez-Jaramillo, OG
Miguel Villanueva, AES
Myeisha Wade, LRS



Laurencio Abrego, MXS
Stephany Bauknecht, MDS
Caryn Bordner, ASTS
Mike Brooks, MXS
Darryle Brown, AMDS
Jamie Davenport, 26th APS
Louis Delacruz, 26th APS
Dedrean Dixon, CES
Taylor Esco, MDS
Refia Grant, AMDS
Janice McPhee, 556th RHS
Allen Ongpin, AES
Christina Puckett, AMDS
Gabriel Talamantes, 556th RHS
Natalia Trejo, SVF



Donell Granados, AMXS
Robert Payne, AMXS



Cynthia Guerra, OG
Jason Martinez, CES
Lorraine Sparacino, 26th APS
Sean Talamantes, AES
Bryan Winget, CES

* Correction from April Issue

Reenlistments

Chief Master Sergeant

Cori Dockery, MOS
Rudy Durand Jr., CES
Philip Kekahu, ALCF

Senior Master Sergeant

David Delgado, OG
Arthur Gonzales, AMXS
Jesse Hinojosa, AMXS
Kim Leleux, MXS
Federico Montalvo, AMDS
David Scott, MDS

Master Sergeant

Julie Begley, TRS
Allen Brinkerhoff, MDS
Linda Castanon, MOS
Lenny Clark, 556th RHS
David Contreras, AMXS
Allan Folsom, AMXS
Guillermo Jalomo, 68th AS
Edgar Kneupper, 74th APS
Jeffery Madison, 68th AS
Kathryn Noel, 556th RHS
Anthony Savage, LRS
Cynthia Uriegas, 710th IOF

Technical Sergeant

Travis Brite, 68th AS
Jerry Gonzales, AES
Tia Hall, MXS
Daniel Hammonds, LRS
John Jackson, CES
Andres Luera, 556th RHS
Daniel Mendiola, 26th APS
Adriana Montana, 74th APS
Ellen Richardson, AMXS
John Sidlo, AMXS

John Vaughn, 26th APS
Walter Wilkins, 556th RHS

Staff Sergeant

Susan Ayala, 74th APS
Alisha Bullion, 26th APS
Roderick Degrate, AMXS
Michael Edwards Jr., SVF
Philip Garcia, AMXS
Herrera Kimberly, LRS
Herrera Matthis, MXS
Elizabeth Pedegon, AMXS
Mario Quinones, SFS
John Rogers, AMDS
Lawrence Smith Jr., 26th APS
Daniel Varley, 74th APS
Robert Vazquez-Jaramillo, OG
Eana Wallace, 710th IOF

Senior Airman

Stephany Bauknecht, MDS
Louis Delacruz, 26th APS
Pierre Duval Jr., MDS
Taylor Esco, MDS
Janice McPhee, 556th RHS
Juan Mendivil, AMXS
Christina Puckett, AMDS
Natalia Trejo, SVF

Airman First Class

Donell Granados, AMXS

Airman

Cynthia Guerra, OG
Lorraine Sparacino, 26th APS
Sean Talamantes, AES
Bryan Winget, CES

Alamo Wing Chief to be inducted into Airlift Tanker Association Hall of Fame

Congratulations to Chief Master Sgt. Rodney Christa. Chief Christa will be presented the Legacy Award in November during a ceremony in Nashville, Tenn. which will also signify his induction into the Airlift Tanker Hall of Fame.

The Airlift/Tanker Association Hall of Fame was established in October 1988 to honor those who made significant contributions to the advancement of Air Mobility. Upon induction, a bronze bust of the inductee is placed in the Mobility Memorial Park at Scott Air Force Base, IL.

New Operations Group commander arrives

By Capt. Bruce Hill

Wing Public Affairs

There is a new commander of the 433rd Operations Group.

Colonel William Rolocut comes to the 433rd Airlift Wing from the 439th Airlift Wing, a C-5 unit located at Westover Air Reserve Base in Chicopee, Massachusetts.

Colonel Rolocut was the 439th Operations Group Deputy Commander and then served as the 337th Airlift Squadron's Operations Officer. Under his leadership, Westover scored high on their Operational Readiness Inspection in August. He is determined to help the Alamo Wing excel during its upcoming ORI and is rolling up his sleeves already.

"I am honored to be your commander," he said at his assumption of command ceremony on May 5. "My first order of business is to get to know everybody. Next is to get going with the ORI."

Colonel Rolocut isn't just focused on the ORI. The new OG commander

said he feels he is in a good position to bring the Operations Group and

Maintenance Groups into a closer working relationship. Getting to know each group's needs and contributions to the Wing's mission will serve the wing operationally long after the ORI is completed.

Alamo Wing leadership agrees.

"Once I met Bill I could see that he has a very easy personality to him and he will work well with

everyone," said Col. Howard Seid, the 433rd AW Vice Commander. "That is important because of our high ops tempo. Operations and Maintenance have to work very close together for us to succeed and I believe our Maintenance Group and Operations Groups will have a synergy about them that will do nothing but strengthen our team. Westover has always done it right and I think that his East coast ideas will mesh with ours and make us a better unit."

But to be a group commander it takes more than a great attitude and some good ideas. It takes the ability


to get those ideas to fruition and the training to be a leader. Colonel Rolocut has those assets too.

"I made him my deputy, and later the flying squadron Operations Officer, to ensure he would receive the best experience to prepare him to become an Operations Group Commander," said Colonel Udo "Karl" McGregor, 439th Operations Group Commander at Westover. "I had a pretty good idea four years ago that he was going to be a Group Commander within the first few weeks I knew him. I believe he is the commander that Lackland needs."

While at Westover, Colonel Rolocut worked a wide range of tasks ranging in scope from major projects to individual issues.

"He did a tremendous amount of work for me, everything from multi-million dollar quality of life renovation projects to improving the processes to make life easier for the aircrews," said Colonel McGregor.

"I like making life better for people in the military," said Colonel Rolocut. "I love to fly, but find working with people very satisfying."

There are about 3,400 opportunities for job satisfaction for the new Operations Group commander in the Alamo Wing, so Colonel Rolocut's experience with the Alamo Wing should be a satisfying one. 



Remember the Alamo Wing

*Kelly Air Force Base Turns 90!
Kelly AFB actually opened for
operations in April 1917, it wasn't officially
dedicated until May 1917.*

*Though Kelly AFB has since become a
business area called Kelly USA, Kelly airfield
is still in operation shared by Lackland AFB
and the city of San Antonio.*

*"If you reveal your secrets to the wind
you should not blame the wind for
revealing them to the trees."*

*Kahlil Gibran
Artist & Poet (1883-1931)*

Who's Who in the...



Photo by Capt. Bruce Hill Jr.

Col. Howard Seid hands the 433rd Operations Group Flag to newly appointed Col. William Rolocut. Colonel Rolocut took command of the 433rd OG on May 6.



Photo by Master Sgt. Colleen McGee

Maj. Lisa Willis, a flight nurse with the 433rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, is currently serving at Scott AFB, Ill. She is one of several Alamo Wing members who fly wounded troops from Scott AFB to Texas. "Sometimes they need to talk," said Major Willis during a crew briefing on April 30. She puts that to practice during a flight from Scott AFB to Lackland's Kelly Field the same day.

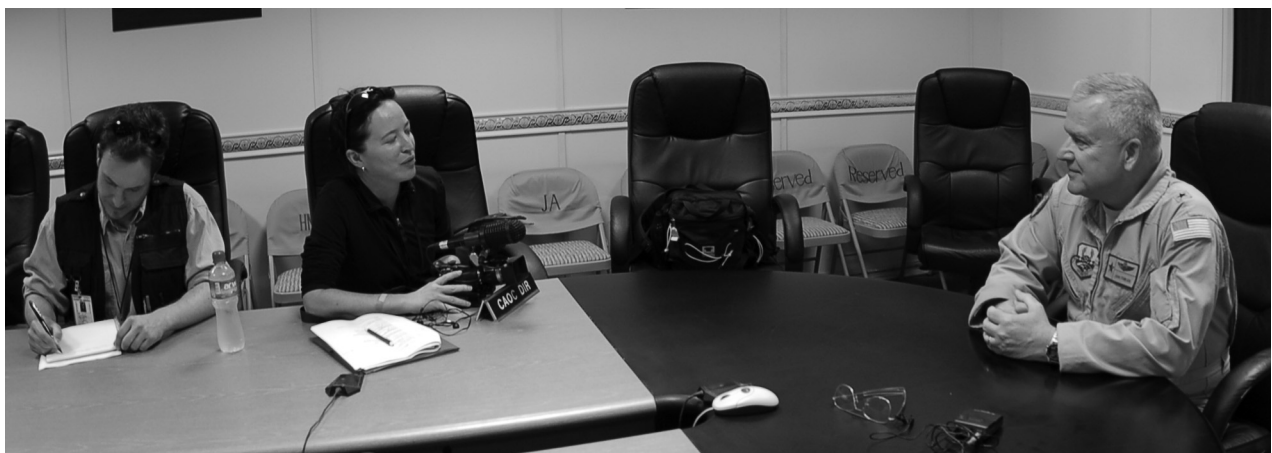
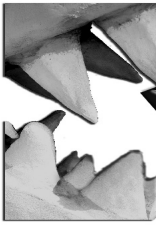


Photo by Master Sgt. Colleen McGee

Brigadier General John Fobian, 433rd Airlift Wing Commander, was interviewed by Ms. Lara Solt from the Dallas Morning News and Mr. Marc Schanz from Air Force Magazine about his deployed role as the Director of Mobility Forces at the Combined Air Operations Center. Ms. Solt and Mr. Schanz met with General Fobian at his deployed location in Southwest Asia about one week before the general and his staff returned from a 4-month deployment. The media representatives travelled to Afghanistan and the CAOC to show what the Air Force Reserve and the Alamo Wing bring to the fight.



News Bites...

COMBAT ACTION MEDAL CRITERIA

Airmen are eligible for the combat action medal if their primary role includes performing duties in a combat zone, either on the ground or from the air, by entering into an unsecured area away from an established installation. While performing their duties, they must have come under fire or fire upon an enemy to qualify. A combat zone is defined as a geographic area for which an Airman receives imminent danger/hostile fire pay.

Aircrew members must be flying in direct support of a combat zone and in combat. They also must be performing official duties and not manifested as a passenger. While performing close air support, taking fire from an enemy is not a prerequisite as long as the Airman is at "great risk."

Award eligibility is retroactive to Sept. 11, 2001, through a date to be determined and is available across the Total Force. Personnel no longer on active duty can submit packages to the Board for Correction of Military Records. For more information, Airmen should contact their local military personnel flight or the Air Force Contact Center at DSN 665-5000 or 800-616-3775.

G.I. BILL ELIGIBILITY BOOSTED FOR RESERVISTS

The DOD policy now aligns with Department of Veterans Affairs rules, which say National Guard members and Reservists are eligible to receive Montgomery G.I. Bill education benefits for the period covering the amount of time they served on active duty, plus four months.

The Reserve Education Assistance Program is another DOD education initiative for members of the Guard and Reserve. To be eligible, servicemembers must have served at least 90 consecutive days of active service after Sept. 11, 2001, in response to a Presidential or Congressional call-up of military forces for wartime or other emergency service. Guard and Reserve members who served for two continuous years on active duty in support of a contingency operation would qualify for both the Montgomery G.I. Bill and REAP and could select which program they want to use.

Servicemembers can determine if they qualify for the Montgomery G.I. Bill and REAP by contacting their local education office.

CIVILIAN RECORDS CAN NOW SHOW UNIT AWARDS

The Defense Civilian Personnel Data System can now reflect Air Force unit

awards. The DCPDS has been updated to include unit awards so civilians who earned them can be recognized. For more information contact the civilian personnel office.

TOTAL FORCE INTEGRATION

A historic agreement was signed April 16, finalizing the association between the active-duty and Air Force Reserve fighter wings at Hill Air Force Base, Utah. The union, in which the wings will fly and maintain a shared F-16 fleet, is the Air Force test case for future fighter associate programs.

While active-duty Airmen will retain responsibility for the F-16s, operations

and maintenance experts from both wings will work together on a daily basis to accomplish the flying mission. The Air Force's Total Force Integration initiative aims to increase combat capabilities and efficiencies

among like units while capitalizing on high experience levels of Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard personnel.

RESERVE DIRECTORATE

The Air Force Reserve Command office that handles analyses, assessments and lessons learned, officially split from the A/5/8 directorate April 19.

Col. Eric Sitrin is the new director of AFRC/A9. In addition to overseeing the three main objectives of A9, Colonel Sitrin will also manage AF5021, the Air Force program that focuses on improvement initiatives and lean-enterprise events to improve combat and combat support.

All About ATSO

If you can survive but you don't operate, the enemy wins. Make sure you can function even in full personal protective gear. Here are some tips to make it easier.

◆ Use zip-style bags with plastic zippers that are easy to grab with protective rubber gloves to store your decontamination kit in. The plastic keeps the kit clean and the large zipper is easier to operate with thick gloves.

◆ Slip plastic shopping bags over your boots before putting on the rubber overboots. This prevents the boots from sticking to your combat boots and makes them easier to slip on and off.

◆ Keep a couple of unsharpened pencils on your desk within easy reach so that you can still type while wearing the protective gloves.

History repeats during Volk Field exercise

By Capt. Peter Springirth

Logistics Readiness Squadron

More than 400 members of the Alamo Wing celebrated the anniversary of the Republic of Texas' victory at the battle of San Jacinto. April 21, 1836 was the day General Houston's forces defeated General Santa Anna's men. The Alamo Wing didn't celebrate by re-enacting the battle or holding a special ceremony. In fact, they didn't have their observance anywhere in the State of Texas. Members of the 433rd Airlift Wing went to Wisconsin instead. April 21 is the day the men and women of the Alamo Wing wrapped up their week long expeditionary combat readiness exercises.


This deployment exercise to Volk Field, Wis., was one step in the marathon length process of preparations the Alamo Wing is making to prepare for the triennial December 2007 Operational Readiness Inspection. The most recent wing-wide exercise was a taxi exercise in January. Consequently, this time the deploying members and cargo not only complete their specific de-

ployment processes, but were airlifted to "Base X"...also known as Volk Field. This experience was designed to test the wing's ability to carry out one of its strategic operational plans.

While in the state of Wisconsin, the exercise participants were paired with about 400 Airmen from the 403rd Wing from Keesler AFB, Miss., to practice the ability to survive and operate in a combat zone.

Every part of the deployment exercise was planned out in detail. It is no simple matter to transport over

800 Airmen and 100 short tons of equipment from one place to another. The readiness section within the 433rd Logistics Readiness Squadron worked side-by-side with the Readiness section of the 37th LRS and the 433rd AW Performance Planner to coordinate this mass movement.

But what happened after the two units got there? Just like the battle of San Jacinto, our side won but there were some casualties. Check out this month's tip card for some tips on ORI excellence. 



Courtesy Photo

Master Sgt. Rob Kusterer of the 68th Airlift Squadron can see clearly through his chemical protective mask because it is sealed well. Mask shields that fog over are a sure sign of an improperly sealed mask. A mask not sealed won't protect the wearer from chemical particles during an attack. Without a proper fit test, it is not possible to see how many particles are allowed to seep inside placing the wearer at risk for contamination, even death. Also note that Sergeant Kusterer's helmet is securely fastened as required.



ORI



MOST WANTED

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