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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE | http://www.af.mil/library/usaf60.asp

EDITORIAL | Unrivaled Wingman vision calls for leadership, readiness



Change is in the air for the Air Force Reserve, just as the thaw of spring leaves another New England winter behind us. There is more change in the air.

To help us get there is the recently released Air Force Reserve Vision - One Air Force,

Same Fight - An Unrivaled Wingman.

During the wing Commander's Call in February, I talked about the vision and where Airmen can find it. I hope you were able to locate the October 2006 issue of Citizen Airman. The issue was dedicated to the vision, a road map that will lead us through the transformation to become - An Unrivaled Wingman.

What exactly does this mean – what is a wingman? A wingman is a highly competent and capable partner, who watches their partner's back.

We see this type of partnership in many walks of life, many that you as citizen airmen occupy – police officers, emergency medical services, and firefighters to name a few crucial occupations. They all share that common trait of partnering with a fully qualified and capable partner who watches their back and can take the lead when called upon.

That is the end point - the goal. How do we get there? Airmen use the aim points of the vision. It will direct our efforts to become that unrivaled wingman, providing mutual support to the Air Force and our joint partners.

February was the 10th anniversary of the Pentagon making the Air Force Reserve a major command. It only seems appropriate that the Reserve begins its transformation into a new and improved force.

How do we get there? One way is readiness. We need to be ready to deploy, to provide the mutual support to the Air Force and our joint partners. We know this already – it's within this wing's mission to be available on a global scale with ready mobility forces. But in this case, readiness takes on a greater meaning. It is not just having our personal affairs in order or having our physicals or immunizations up to date. Readiness includes being properly trained, properly equipped and able to take the lead when necessary.

Training, both in the career field and professionally, leads us to readiness. We need to be capable

and competent in our assigned tasks. Professional development means leadership training. We need to be able to lead when called upon to do so and in some cases, manage what might be unexpected.

I deployed to the AOR in 2002 with a team of 24 aerial porters. At the welcome brief in a tent next to the passenger terminal, I thought what I saw was going to be my work center for the next few months. I was eager to get started. After the briefing we met the Airmen we were to replace. Remember, I expected to be working in the aerial port. Instead I quickly found out my office was on the other side of the base. I wasn't to be the chief in the aerial port, I was chief of transportation. This meant responsibility not just for the aerial port, but vehicle maintenance, vehicle dispatch, and the traffic management office.

We need to be prepared to take on any task big or small. Readiness is the total package within our vision as an Unrivaled Wingman.

Chief Master Sgt. Zigmund Skawski 439th AW Command Chief

BRIEFS |

EPR writing course

A class planned in April at the Westover Conference Center will be part of Enlisted Performance Report (EPR) Awareness Month. Four workshops on EPR writing/processing/tracking will be open to all base people with an emphasis on EPR monitors, supervisors, first sergeants, and commanders. The dates are April 10, 15, 22, and 24.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Elaine Perreault at Ext. 2067.

MSG gets new CC

Col. Michael Mounts took command of the 439th Mission Support Group March 18. Colonel Mounts replaced Col. Dana S. Marsh, who is now the commander of the 622nd Regional Support Group at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga.

The change of command was held in Hangar 3.

Air Force Assistance Fund runs until May

The Air Force Assistance Fund, which began in February, seeks donations from military members for its four charities which include the Air Force Aid Society and the Gen. and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation

The AFAF point of contact is Lt. Col. David Zamorski. He may be reached at Ext. 2239.

Day care program available on UTAs

Westover services has initiated a free daycare program for Reservists on UTA status.

Reservists needing day care for their children should contact Christopher Menard, services director, at Ext. 2899, or any squadron first sergeant. The child care center, offered on A and B UTAs, is located in Holyoke, Mass.

IG reminder to use chain of command

Members are encouraged to resolve Fraud, Waste and Abuse (FWA) issues and personal complaints at the lowest possible level using command channels before addressing them to a higher level or the Inspector General (IG).

Using the immediate supervisory command chain can often resolve complaints more quickly and effectively than a higher level that is not as familiar with the situation.

The IG system should be used when referral to the command chain would be futile or there is fear of reprisal.

For more information, call Ext. 3137 or DSN 589-3137.

Air Force resumes anthrax vaccines

The Air Force announced in late February that anthrax vaccinations have resumed.

The Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program (AVIP) mandates Airmen assigned to high-threat areas receive the vaccine, while also providing Airmen the choice to continue anthrax vaccines if they are not assigned to a designated high-threat area.

More information about anthrax vaccinations can be obtained at the following links—

AVIP Trifold Brochure:

http://www.anthrax.mil/documents/ 996AvipTrifold.pdf

MilVax Anthrax Website Website: http://www.anthrax.mil/

MilVax AVIP 2007 Website:

http://www.af.mil/news/story.



MEAN STREETS >> An Iraqi woman sells bread to motorists in Kirkuk, Iraq, as an Army patrol passes. Kirkuk Regional Air Base operates as a control center for many of the coalition units operating in the area, including these Army patrol units. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Maria J. Bare)

Security forces cops deploy, defend vital air base in Iraq

by Senior Airman Michael Lanza

ix members of the 439th

Security Forces Squadron deployed to Iraq on Feb. 18.
Capt. Shawn M. Swarz, Master Sgt. Paul E. Cyr, Tech. Sgt. Scott Taylor, Tech. Sgt. Ronnie Briere, Staff Sgt. Eric G. Marjault and Senior Airman Arjel R. Falcon, left as part of a 13-man squad of security forces Reservists tasked with the defense of Kirkuk Regional Air Base, Iraq, said Chief Master Sgt. Michael P. Grady, Westover's security forces manager.

The Patriot Wing cops are assigned to the 506th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, one of the Air Force's only security forces units with operational control of base security in Iraq.

Although Kirkuk has maintained a degree of stability compared to other areas of Iraq, ethnic tensions and oil interests make it one of the country's most sensitive areas. Kirkuk's oil fields are responsible for nearly 40 percent of Iraq's national oil production. The competing ethnic groups-Kurds, Arabs and Turkmen, have been vying for control of the area and its oil wealth since Saddam was overthrown by coalition forces in 2003.

Sporadic violence among Kirkuk's ethnic groups and attacks from groups instigating tensions such as Al Qaeda, make the nearby air base vital to the stability of northern Iraq-

and consequently a priority target for insurgent and terrorist groups.

"You hear gunfire everyday- all the time. We get occasional rocket attacks, although they've been basically ineffective," said Sergeant Cyr, a battle captain with the deployed cops. "It's such a big base and there's so much going on every day. I've been on six deployments to the Middle East and this is definitely the most eventful."

Defending an air base in hostile territory is a big job. The cops work 12 to 13-hour days, doing everything from manning guard towers, operating sophisticated sensors that detect small-arms fire and conducting surveillance – to skirmishing with enemy fighters outside the gate, Sergeant Cyr said.

But despite the size of the task and the danger involved, the Westover cops persevere. "Everyone's morale is high and we all support this mission," Sergeant Cyr said. "All of them have deployed before. They've proven themselves," Chief Grady said, "we expect great thingswe know they'll do a great job."

Westover's cops received the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award in January, owing some of that honor to their outstanding record while deployed. They were the first security forces squadron to go to Guantanamo Bay in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, where they managed more than 540 detainees. The squadron also had volunteers supporting military operations in the wake of Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Security forces Airmen from the 910th Airlift Wing at Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Ohio, and the 917th Wing, Barksdale Air Force Base, La. rounded out the membership of the 13-man security team in Kirkuk.

The deployed cops are expected to return home in July.



AIR DOMINANCE >> An F-22 Raptor participates in the Red Flag exercise Feb. 7 over Nevada. Red Flag is an exercise designed to hone the warfighting skills of Air Force pilots. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Kevin J. Gruenwald)

F-22 wields "unfair" advantage at Red Flag

by Tech. Sgt. Russell Wicke

2/20/2007 - NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. (ACCNS) — The 94th Fighter Squadron deployed 14 F-22A Raptors and 197 personnel from Langley AFB, Va., to participate in the aircraft's first Red Flag exercise, which ran from Feb. 3 to 16 here.

An official from the 65th Aggressor Squadron said the F-22s demonstrated an extremely lopsided advantage in their favor.

Pilots from the 65th and 64th AS, including exchange pilots from the Royal Australian Air Force and Royal Air Force, of Australia and England respectfully, expressed their frustration related to flying against the stealthy F-22.

"The thing denies your ability to put a weapons system on it, even when I can see it through the canopy," said RAAF Squadron Leader Stephen Chappell, F-15 exchange pilot in the 65th AS. "It's the most frustrated I've ever been."

According to Lt. Col. Larry Bruce, 65th AS commander, aggressor pilots turned up the heat on the F-22 using tactics they believe to be modern threats. For security purposes these tactics weren't released; nonetheless, they said their efforts against the Raptors were fruitless.

"We [even] tried to overload them with numbers and failed," said Colonel Bruce. "It's humbling to fly against the F-22." This is a remarkable testimony because the Red Flag aggressor pilots are renowned for their skill and experience. Lt. Col. Dirk Smith, 94th Fighter Squadron commander, said the aggressor forces represent the most lethal threat friendly forces would ever face.

"The training provided by the Red Flag adversaries is like no other on earth," said Colonel Smith. "Our pilots are experiencing a tremendous learning curve."

Despite the F-22's "unfair advantage," Colonel Smith said flying against the Red Force aggressors of the 414th Combat Training Squadron was a demanding task.

"These scenarios are not made to be easy," said Colonel Smith. "The [aggressor] pilots are well trained and good at their job." Aggressor pilots are made up of F-16 and F-15 pilots specially trained to replicate tactics and techniques of potential adversaries according Maj. Bill Woolf, 57th Adversary Tactics Group assistant director of operations.

In addition, Red Flag opposing forces aren't limited to aggressor pilots. There is no shortage of ground threats at Red Flag. These include electronically simulated surface-to-air missiles, anti-aircraft artillery, communications jamming, Global Positioning System jamming and more said Maj. Woolf.

In fact, the Red Flag exercise is now so intense one 414th CTS critique quotes a squadron commander saying "This ain't your daddy's Red Flag anymore."

The F-22's debut at the Red Flag exercise is a significant milestone for the jet, according to Lt. Col. Dirk Smith, 94th FS commander. Red Flag is an advanced, realistic combat training exercise designed for fighter pilots, and conducted over the vast Nellis Range Complex.

More than 200 aircraft participated in this Red Flag exercise. Among the foreign aircraft involved were the RAF's GR-4 and RAAF's F-111C. In addition, the F-22s flew with the B-2 Spirit and F-117 Nighthawk, the aircraft that pioneered stealth.

ESGR informs bosses through Employer Day

by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe

he Air Force's role in the global

Westover reservists will devote most of flight, which lasts for about two hours.

The 439th Airlift Wing Public Affairs staff coordinates and conducts Employer Day with members of the Massachusetts Employer

"If you are a traditional reservist who is hav-

ESGR also recognizes civilian employers for their support through educational initiatives.

their compliance with the provisions of

For additional information, reservists and employers may e-mail Mr. Forchielli at Kforch@townisp.com or visit the ESGR

phone numbers to 439patriot.editor@

on Open Water story and photos by Staff Sgt. Tom Ouellette **OCEAN RESCUE**

Tech Sgt. Jeff Cahill, a 337th loadmaster, is picked up by a Navy rescue boat off the shore of Key West, Fla. The Westover aircrews attended a survival training course in February.





SMOKE SIGNALS >> Aircrew surivival training teaches flyers how to survive in hostile and unforgiving environments. Tech. Sgt. Ava Swedock, a 337th Airlift Squadron loadmaster, practices lighting a rescue flare during the exercise at a beach in Key West, Fla.

"I've learned you can't over-inflate the life preserver because it restricts your movement and you can't swim. If you under-inflate it, you can't float. It takes awhile to get it right," said Col. Michael J. Marten, 439th Airlift Wing vice commander.

The biggest challenge was battling "rotor wash." As the Navy's Blackhawk rescue helicopter swooped over the trainees, it brought along an unforgiving force of wind.

"It was like being in a mini-hurricane —
I couldn't see and I was swallowing salt water.
It was much tougher than I thought," said Lt.
Col. Greg Symonds, 337th Airlift Squadron pilot.

Colonel Marten and Colonel Symonds, both with multi-decades of service, are among many of the participants who never experienced this type of live water training.

"I've been with the same unit for 24 years and I've never been hoisted out of the ocean by a helicopter," said Master Sgt. Richard "Jed" Jedery, 337th AS flight engineer.

"Once the helicopter is overhead you get pelted by water. You have to struggle just to get to the rescue sling," Sergeant Jedery said.

"And I didn't anticipate getting dragged. Once I got the sling on, I was pulled about ten feet before getting lifted, Sergeant Jedery added.

"This was excellent training. No mater how many people explain it to you, it's not the same unless you actually experience it," he said. "It was a relief to get out of the rotor wash. I was green, but now I know."

"This is why we need hands-on training," said Lt. Col. Steven Thompson, 439th OSS, and the exercise's coordinator and group training officer. "You can talk about survival all you want in a classroom, but it's never the same as actually doing it."

To simulate desert conditions, the Patriot Wing's life supporters took the aircrews to the beach during the second day of training.

There they gave eight separate survival classes, covering topics such as finding food and fresh water, evading the enemy, building shelter, and the use of flares and signaling mirrors.

The exercise's participants also learned how to treat injuries on the third day of training.

With the Airman's Manual in hand, members of the 439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron taught self- aid buddy care, required training for all Reservists.

"The three goals of the training exercise were to combine the 439th Operations Group, provide hands-on training, and build morale," Colonel Thompson said. "So having the aeromedical squadron was a plus. It's not often they attend this training with the aircrews."

There is an unstated benefit. Even though the Patriot Wing has never lost a C-5 aircraft, it's clear the base isn't willing to rest on its laurels. "Anyone in aviation should take this training," Colonel Symonds said.

Fitness starts with small steps a little. For example, if your morning

by Master Sgt. Tom Allocco

T'S BEEN A LONG WINTER, YOU HAVEN'T BEEN DOING MUCH PHYSICAL activity and you have a bit of a roll around your waist. And the annual physical fitness test is looming on your "radar screen." What do you do?

Reservists can greatly improve their chances of good fitness scores if they start with common sense and take some relatively small steps, said Rick Heller, acting director of the Westover Fitness Center. He has three decades of experience in sports and fitness training, including 18 years training American and NATO troops, with a specialty in water and mountain training.

One of the biggest myths of fitness is that it takes a great deal of sacrifice or time to see real improvement in your fitness level, Mr. Heller said.

He'd like people who have been sedentary or are not satisfied with their fitness level to think in terms of "very often the smallest change equals the biggest difference."

Thirty minutes a day of physical activity on most days of the week can significantly improve your fitness level and help control your weight if you have been sedentary. A gym is a great place to get fit, but if you don't live nearby, you can get the benefits of a fitness program at home with a little improvisation.

It can be as simple as brisk walking and can even be done in 10- or 15minute increments to fit a crowded schedule, Mr. Heller said. Taking a lunchtime walk or parking your car a couple blocks from work can be an easy way to build aerobic fitness.

For aerobic fitness, the goal should be to bring your heart rate up to the mid-range of its maximum. That ranges from 65 to 85 percent of your maximum heart range. You can determine your maximum heart range by starting with the number 220 and subtracting your age.

Aerobic exercise builds endurance by getting your body to efficiently use oxygen. A well-conditioned, aerobically fit person is simply someone who is efficiently using oxygen.

A fitness program is most efficient when it combines aerobic with anaerobic physical activity, brief, strength-based activity, such as resistance training, which helps build lean muscle mass, Mr. Heller said.

Another "small step" toward real improvement in fitness is to write down what you eat over a typical week and think about how you might whittle it down just

coffee includes two packets of sugar and your evening television hour includes half a packet of potato chips, you can easily target those calories. One less packet of sugar and quarter packet of chips is no sacrifice, but over a period of a month it will cut alot of calories.

Over time, you will have to tweak your training program in order to continue to show improvement in your fitness level.

Mr. Heller encourages everyone interested in fitness to visit the fitness center and talk for at least a few minutes to a specialist, who is always available at the center to answer questions and help shape a personal fitness program. You can call the center at Ext. 3958.

He will also set up nutritional classes for groups. One tip he offers is not to rely on vitamins, protein powder or other supplements in place of good nutrition and physical activity. You can't buy fitness in a package. The best diet includes the federal recommendation of at least five daily servings of fresh fruit and vegetables. A serving can be as easy as grabbing carrot sticks instead of chips or 100 percent fruit juice instead of a soft drink. The average person who eats three balanced meals is getting all the nutrition to maintain health and improve their fitness level combined with regular physical activity, Mr. Heller said.

All Airmen must take a fitness test within 12 months of their last test, said Maj. Patrick S. Ryan, 439th Mission Support Group deputy commander, and wing fitness coordinator. Air Force-wide enlisted and officer performance reports now note whether or not individuals meet physical fitness requirements, he said.

WESTOVER PATRIOTS |



Rare opportunity makes HRDC Airmen soar

ix Westover reservists met the Air Force's first female Thunderbird pilot at the 18th Annual International Women in Aviation Conference in Orlando, Fla., in February, thanks to the Human Resource Development Council.

One of the guest speakers was Maj. Nicole Malachowski, who flies right wing for the Thunderbirds. She made an unforgettable impression on Tech. Sgt. Jayme Frey, 439th Security Forces Squadron, and a Patriot Wing HRDC member.

"The one speaker that stole the show for me was Major Malachowski," Sergeant Frey said. "She was the most down-to-earth person I have ever met. She spoke of when she was a five-year old girl who went to an airshow, how she was awed by the jets soaring overhead ... I feel it was very important for me to meet Major Malachowski as I have pretty much quit my flying. I started flying when I was 16 years old, and haven't flown in the last four years. I figured I wasn't going to go anywhere with it, and I really had no reason to pursue it. After talking to her, I realize how important it is that I continue with my flying, and the only person that can stand in my way is me."

Elsewhere during the conference, the reservists volunteered at booths, networked with military and civilian people, and met people who are part of the Air Force's 60 years as a military service.

"I got the opportunity to meet a lot of people who have really contributed to the Air Force," said Capt. Emily A. Naylor, a 337th Airlift Squadron C-5 pilot. "I got to speak with a lot of companies who didn't know much about the Air Force and I was able to impart a little of what we do to them. In addition, I was able to network with not only new Air Force friends and

senior leaders, but with civilian companies as well. The value I got from it was that being there, in a way, renewed my spirit about the Air Force and all of the incredible women in the military."

Master Sgt. Sharon I. Riley, career advisor with the 439th Maintenance Group, spoke to women in career fields ranging from pilots to dispatchers. "It was extremely enlightening to hear their stories and learn the career paths that they took to get where they are in their careers," Sergeant Riley said. "I met several women from the Women Airforce Service Pilots. Their energy and dedication was truly an inspiration to me. I will use and share this information with others that I meet or counsel to encourage them to follow their dreams. The networking that took place was invaluable to me personally and for my military career."

The other reservists who attended the conference were Chief Master Sgt. Kathy Wood, 439th AW performance planner, Master Sgt. Julie Olearcek, 337th AS, and Tech. Sgt. Dawn Scaff, 439th Mission Support Squadron.

The conference was one of the ways that the HRDC meets its mission of boosting morale in the wing through blending reservists' skills and talents to ultimately support national objectives. Other outreach events HRDC members have planned this year include attendance at the League of United Latin American Citizens in July, and at the Tuskegee Airmen meeting in August.

The HRDC is open to all Airmen. Meetings are held every Friday before the A UTA at 4:45 p.m. in the wing conference room in Bldg. 1850. For more information, call Chief Wood at Ext. 2876.

Aerial porter dies in vehicle accident

A 44-year-old reservist died Feb. 24 following injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

Tech. Sgt. Stephan J. Werner, assigned to the 42nd Aerial Port Squadron, died while driving to his home in Feeding Hills, Mass. The accident occurred on Route 57 in Agawam, Mass.

Sergeant Werner was not married and had no children. He was an air transportation journeyman for the 42nd APS and had been a reservist at Westover for 14 years.

The Patriot Wing family came together quickly for the family of the sergeant, and a large group of Westover people, including the Base Honor Guard, attended his funeral Feb. 28 in Agawam.

Board to interview officer candidates

The Reserve Airman Commissioning Program seeks officer candidates to serve in the Air Force Reserve.

Candidates must be able to complete the entire commissioning process, including the Academy of Military Science, prior to their 35th birthday and never have been commissioned before.

Application packages must include a copy of Air Force Officer Qualification Test (AFOQT) scores, a copy of the college transcript, a cover letter explaining why a candidate believes he/she would make a good officer, a letter of recommendation, and a resume that includes work experience.

Packages are due May 6 to Maj. Patrick S. Ryan, 439th Mission Support Group deputy commander, or to Michelle L. Booker, also with MSG. The board will meet on the July A UTA and will interview each applicant with questions on a variety of Air Force and leadership topics.

Two available positions will be part of this board: one in both the 42nd Aerial Port Squadron and 439th Security Forces Squadron.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Alice Mitchell at Ext. 3436.

AIRSHOW PROFILE |



NAME: AV-8B Harrier II LENGTH: 46.3 feet WING SPAN: 30.3 feet

MANUFACTURER: McDonnell Douglas

PROPULSION: One Rolls Royce F402-RR-408 turbofan engine PRIMARY FUNCTION: Attack and destroy surface targets

CREW MEMBERS: I

UNIT REPLACEMENT COST: \$23,700,000

INTRODUCTION DATE: Jan. 12, 1985, AV-8BII(Plus) was introduced in June, 1993 MISSION: To attack and destroy surface and air targets, to escort helicopters, and to conduct other air operations as directed. Able to deploy to and operate from carriers and other suitable seagoing platforms, advanced bases, expeditionary airfields, and remote tactical landing sites.

ARMAMENT: MK-82 series 500lbs bombs, MK-83 series 1000lbs bombs, GBU-12 500lbs laser guided bombs, GBU-16 1000lbs laser guided bombs, AGM-65F IR Maverick missiles, AGM-65E Laser Maverick missiles, CBU-99 cluster munitions, AIM-9M sidewinders, Lightening II targeting POD to deliver GBU-12 and GBU-16 bombs with pinpoint accuracy.

THE GREAT NEW ENGLAND AIRSHOW | Aug 11-12 | for more information visit the base website at www.westover.afrc.af.mil.



PATRIOT PUNS |



PATRIOT PRAISES |

Reenlistments

Senior Master Sgt. John T. Barley

Master sergeant Joseph A. Janusz Kevin R. Mattoon

Technical sergeant Christopher Baca Andre Brown Michael C. Chalmers Brian M. Couture Donna M. Duval Jeffrey R. Kasaras Christy M. Manning Patrick R. Overly Scott E. Trumble Thomas R. Williams

Staff sergeant Craig V. Logan John T. Radley Nicholas J. Roberto

Senior airman Kyle S. King Senior Airman Joseph Losano Jason J. McWilliams Anthony D. Marlak

Promotions

Chief Master Sgt. David A. Mottor

Senior master sergeant Shauon M. Brothers Wilbert Feltner Clayton D. Hanright David O. Reim

Master sergeant Jenny K. Carney Christopher J. Clark Michael S. Duma David B. Dutton Jeffrey C. Greenwood Keith W. Landry Cynthia L. Lapriore Wesley G. Larson Joseph R. Lecuyer Richard J. Levitt Michael S. Linnehan Michael N. Purcaro Christopher R. Rose Georgiana L. Steiner Scott E. Trumble John L. Szafko Jr. Richard P. Titcomb





Published monthly for Patriots like Master Sgt. Arthur Riley, Trumbell, Conn., and 3,053 reservists and civilians of the 439th AW and the wing's geographically separated unit at Hanscom AFB, Mass.

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