

# PATRIOT

439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING · AIR FORCE RESERVE · WESTOVER AFB

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## Final EIS a weighty document

Oak Ridge National Laboratory has distributed copies of the nearly five-pound, 856-page final Environmental Impact Statement assessing the effect of basing 16 C-5As and allowing 24-hour civilian air cargo operations at Westover.

Major differences from the draft EIS released prior to the public hearing in January are mostly in the civilian proposal from the Westover Metropolitan Development Corp.

WMDC has filed a "noise mitigation plan" with federal and state agencies. The plan modifies civilian flight patterns and has most aircraft operations over the less populated area northeast of the base.

The WMDC plan also restricts air cargo operations 1-5 a.m., except for emergencies and weather delays, and

stipulates quieter stage-three jets on civilian aircraft.

Brig. Gen. Frederick D. Walker, 439 TAW commander, told reporters he did not believe there was any information in the EIS which would block plans to station C-5As here.

The EIS contains responses to comments made at the Jan. 8 hearing and during the extended public comment period. A transcript of the public hearing is also included along with reproductions of all correspondence received from governmental agencies and residents.

"I'm sure some people won't agree with me," General Walker told the Springfield Morning Union, but from what I've read in the EIS, I think the questions were adequately answered."

"We're geared up and ready to proceed," Lt. Col. Thomas G. Hargis,

base commander, told the Holyoke Transcript-Telegram. "I'm looking forward to the conversion."

WMDC President Allan Blair also expressed encouragement when the EIS was made public on April 15. He told reporters, "When people see the dramatic drop in (noise) impacts, it enhances our chances for approval considerably."

Opponents to the proposed changes at Westover have come from two positions — homeowners worried about increased air traffic and a few individuals with ideologically rooted anti-military stances.

"The news media has done an excellent job in fostering debate," said Dr. Frank Faulkner, public affairs officer. "Although the ranks of the opposition are thin, their voice has been loud."

*(continued on page 2)*



**BOOSTING WESTOVER** — Commercial photographer Bud Shuback, a former Air Force photo technician once assigned to Westover, films Chicopee Patrolman Stanley Borowiec's cruiser in front of a C-5A Galaxy. The photo will appear on

the cover of the city police department's annual booklet. The C-5A from Dover AFB in Delaware was at Westover in early April to transport five Army helicopters to Europe for exercise Flintlock 87.

(USAF photo by SSgt. Wesley Allen)

## EDITORIAL

# The end of an era

Maybe it's because I was once lost for an hour trying to get from Westover to the Quality Inn.

Or, maybe it's because my score on the pilot-navigator portion of the officer's test was lower than a squatting pygmy.

Whatever the reason, I've always had a great deal of respect for navigators and the job they do.

Flip through some back issues of the "Patriot" and you'll understand why. During the past several years, 337 TAS aircrews have set world records for air-dropping heavy equipment loads. They've located burning and disabled ships at sea. They've won awards at Volant Rodeo competitions and they've air-dropped rubber rafts and Navy SEALs to within 50 yards of submarines.

Sure, it took skilled pilots, loadmasters and flight engineers to successfully accomplish those feats. Teamwork is what being an aircrew member is all about, and teamwork is absolutely vital when that aircrew happens to be in the tactical airlift business.

Westover's C-130 navigators have been consummate team players. Hunkered over their maps and radar screens, they've guided the wing to where it was going on countless missions, and ensured that the job got done when the Herks got there.

The proposed C-5 conversion at Westover will mean the end of the navigator era at the base. The huge Galaxies have inertial navigation systems, which in plain English means that a computer, and not a living, breathing aviator, will plot the big plane's course.

You can't argue with technological advances, and you can't stand in the way of progress. The proposed mission change from tactical to strategic airlift will mean many changes for the wing and Westover, most of them positive.

The loss of the navigators at Westover, however, is recorded on the debit side of the ledger.

There is comfort in the fact that some of the 439th's navs will find slots with other Reserve units.

As Maj. Gen. Sloan R. Gill, former commander of the Air Force Reserve, said during a recent speech to the unit's officers: "As long as there is a tactical airlift mission, there will always be a need for the 'eyeball to the windshield' role of the navigator."

There is also solace in the fact that some of the navigators will remain with the wing in other positions. Brig. Gen. Frederick D. "Mike" Walker, wing commander, has made navigator placement and cross-training a top priority.

Wherever they land, it's hoped that the navigators continue to enjoy long and successful careers. They have made monumental contributions to the wing, and are a classy part of its history.

We will miss them.

— Maj. Rick Dyer  
Public Affairs Officer

## Final EIS from page 1

"Support for each of the separate Westover proposals has been broad based and the evidence far outweighs arguments of the opponents to change," he said.

A Department of Defense decision

on the two proposals is expected in mid-May.

The EIS "certainly enhances the probability that the decision will be favorable," said Chicopee Mayor Richard S. Lak.

## MWR offers medals in fitness program

The 439th Morale Welfare and Recreation office will invite Reservists, Department of Defense employees and their dependents to show they are physically fit and earn a medal during the May UTA.

The Air Force Physical Fitness Program will offer a choice of jogging 5 kilometers (3.2 miles), walking 10 kilometers (6.4 miles) or bicycling 15 kilometers (9.6 miles). Everyone who completes the non-competitive fitness program will be presented a brass medal on a ribbon endorsed by the President's Council on Physical Fitness.

There will be a \$1 entry fee for the May 3 program.

The program will begin at the Base Gym at noon on Sunday. Cyclists can bring their own bikes or borrow one of the 10 which will be available.

Similar events are scheduled Air Force wide throughout May in observance of National Physical Fitness Month. This is the first time it will be conducted at Westover since the program was inaugurated last year by the Air Force.

## PATRIOT

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"The editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 439th Tactical Airlift Wing, Westover Air Force Base."

### 439th TAW Commander

BG. Frederick D. Walker

### Base Commander

Lt. Col. Thomas G. Hargis

### Base Public Affairs Officer

Dr. Frank Faulkner

### Wing Public Affairs Officer

Maj. Rick Dyer

### Public Affairs Assistant

Monica M. Lindberg

### NCOIC

TSgt. John Wallace Spencer

### Editor

TSgt. Gordon A. Newell

### Assistant Editor

TSgt. Sandra M. Michon

### Staff

SSgt. Tom Allocco

SSgt. Patricia Rathay

SSgt. Wesley Allen

SrA Alan Duffy

## Young Reservist named Wing's honor man of the year

By Maj. Rick Dyer

A 19-year-old Reservist who joined the 439 TAW just 18 months ago has been named Westover's "Honor Man of the Year."

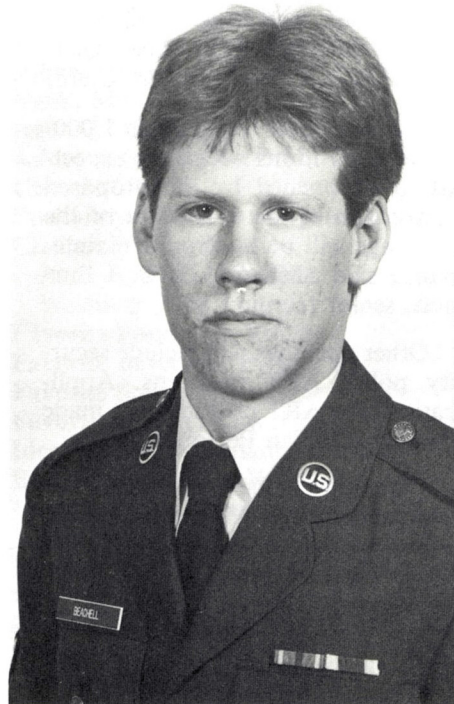
A1C Stephen J. Beachell of the 439th CAMS received the award April 28 during a luncheon at the Consolidated Open Mess.

The award by the Western Massachusetts Reserve Component Recognition Committee is presented annually to the outstanding enlisted member of each major Guard and Reserve component in Western Massachusetts.

Beachell, a 1985 graduate of Belchertown High School, was nominated to receive the honor by Brig. Gen. Frederick D. Walker, wing commander.

The airman was selected for his leadership, motivation and proficiency as a nondestructive inspection specialist with the maintenance squadron, the general said.

In that job, Beachell uses high-



A1C STEPHEN J. BEACHELL

frequency sound waves, x-rays and other testing devices to inspect the 439th's aircraft and aircraft components for defects.

"It's a critical job that is directly related to the safety of our aircrews," said Lt. Col. Thomas G. Hargis, base commander. "Steve is a very dedicated young man, and we are lucky to have him with the unit."

A Belchertown resident, Beachell joined the 439th shortly after he finished high school. He attended Air Force basic training at Lackland AFB in Texas and graduated from the Non-destructive Inspection Course at Chanut AFB, Ill.

Beachell's decision to join the unit continued a long-standing family tradition. His father, Jim, and his brother, Paul, also serve with the 439th, while another brother, Philip, is a member of the Army National Guard in Westfield.

Beachell is employed by the radiographics department of Hamilton Standard in Windsor Locks, Conn.

## 439th's base recreation program picked best in AFRES

By SSgt. Tom Allocco

Westover Reservists and civilians enjoy the benefits of the best recreation program in the Air Force Reserve, according to those who oversee the AFRES program.

The 439 MWR received a plaque in recognition of being the outstanding recreation program in the Air Force Reserve for 1986 during a Commander's MWR Executive Officers seminar at the University of Southern Mississippi, in Hattiesburg, Miss., in March.

The award cited excellence in all facets of the recreation program, including maintenance of facilities, availability of equipment and performance during inspections. The Reserve and civilian recreation staff was also cited for outstanding expertise.

Capt. Peter Fowler, Reserve chief of MWR, said the top AFRES Award was earned through teamwork between the Reservists and civilians on the recreation staff. Mike McNicholas is civilian chief of recreation services.

The recreation program offers a full schedule of services, seven days a week, including the fully equipped base gym, bowling center, pool, fitness

trail, snowmobile trail and softball fields.

Nautilus and Universal equipment and a sauna are among features of the gym.

Additions during the winter months included two pieces of Nautilus equipment, eight Universal equipment items, two rowing machines and a tread-mill running machine.

"We have equipment that would make some health clubs envious," said

Captain Fowler.

MWR's Four Seasons Store offers a wide range of rental equipment, including canoes, tents, a motor boat, trailers, portable electric generators, snowmobiles and cross country skiing equipment. During the winter, down hill skiing equipment was rented 1,200 times.

Volleyball leagues and aerobics classes are also part of the recreation program, he said.

## Federal 'Jobs Fair' slated May 16

Know someone who might want a job with the federal government?

Westover will host a federal "Jobs Fair" between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on May 16 in the Base Hangar.

Joel Martinez of the Civilian Personnel Office said 14 federal offices in Springfield, 23 from Boston and others from the base have been invited to send representatives and exhibits to the Saturday "Jobs Fair."

"This is not a recruiting effort," said Gina Bobba of Accounting and Fi-

nance. "This fair is being conducted to disseminate information on how to apply for federal employment with these various agencies.

Many federal agencies are currently recruiting for openings in professional, administrative, technical, clerical and trades jobs.

Announcements were distributed to more than 60 educational and community service organizations in Greater Springfield, according to Richard T. Wright, civilian personnel officer.

## Recruiters plan to open office in Worcester

Westover recruiters plan to open a Worcester recruiting station in May as part of the effort to meet the manpower needs anticipated by the proposed introduction of the C-5 Galaxy.

The new central Massachusetts office will mean the addition of a recruiter position to the eight-member Westover recruiting team. The Air Reserve recruiter will serve at the Armed Forces Recruiting Station on Main Street, Worcester.

The planned conversion to Galaxies has added new emphasis to recruiting both prior service and first-term Reservists. The Westover re-

cruiters are operating satellite offices at Hanscom AFB, Mass., Griffiss AFB, N.Y., and Milford, Conn.

Westover needs to fill about 1,000 Reserve positions which are expected to be opened by the proposed conversion to the C-5. Most of the openings will be in aircraft maintenance said SMS Gt. Edward Burnett, senior recruiter.

Other openings will include security police ART positions. Applications for ART positions are made through Civilian Personnel.

"We always have positions for medical technicians and nurses in

the 74th AES," Sergeant Burnett said.

He encourages those who know of top-caliber people interested in Reserve opportunities to refer them to the Westover recruiting team.

Westover recruiters enlisted 141 Reservists during the 90-day quarter of January, February and March. That number exceeded their goal by 21 recruits.

A reenlistment ceremony will be held June 7 when the Thunderbirds visit Westover. Members wishing to participate in the public ceremony during the air show can contact SSgt. Terry Harmon, base career advisor, at 557-3026.

## Reservist will bicycle 5,300 miles across the United States

By SSgt. Tom Allocco

TSgt. John Mailo, 439 CES carpentry supervisor, is planning a little jaunt this summer — a 5,300-mile coast-to-coast bicycle ride that will include crossing at least half a dozen mountain ranges.

At stake is more than just the gruelling challenge of 75 days of peddling from Seattle to Boston. He will be making the trip to raise funds for the Alzheimer's Association's battle against the disease which disables elderly victims by destroying their memory.

"Two years ago I rode from Washington, D.C., to Salem, about 700 miles. After that I knew I wanted to make a cross-country trip and I started making plans," he said.

He will cross the continent on bicycle with his friend, Robert Van Etten, a Beverly, Mass., letter carrier.

They plan to leave on June 15 and return by the end of August.

There are two advantages to flying to Seattle and biking eastward. They will be riding with the prevailing wind and they will be able to complete the most strenuous stretch early in the trip. The route through Washington will cross five mountain ranges and include climbing up the highest paved road in the U.S.

They will carry a total of 60 pounds of equipment, including a two-man tent, dehydrated food, cooking utensils, sleeping bags and first aid kits.

"I bought a route planning map. We will camp out in state parks and other areas about five days a week and stay in hotels for beds and showers on the other two days," Sergeant Mailo said.

They ride 15-speed bicycles and plan to wear out at least two or three tires each before returning home.

"We will average about 100 miles a day, although some days we may cover 150 or more miles. When going through the Cascade range and the other mountains in Washington we'll probably be slowed down to 50 miles a day," Sergeant Mailo said.

To build their stamina for the long ride, the two have hiked 38 New Hampshire mountains during the past two and a half years.

A resident of Salem, Sergeant Mailo builds and repairs bicycles for the Huffey Corp. He holds a U.S. Cycle Federation racing license.

The two bicyclists hope to raise money for Alzheimer's research. Van-Etten is asking for help from other letter carriers and Sergeant Mailo is making the same appeal to fellow Reservists.

"A pledge of a penny a mile would make a \$53 donation. Whatever anyone can give would be helpful," he said.

Pledges or donations can be made by calling the Alzheimer's Association at (617) 494-5150.



**IN TRAINING** — TSgt. John Mailo has been training for some time for his upcoming 5,300-mile bicycle trek from the West Coast of the United States back to home. The ride is to benefit the Alzheimer's Association.

(USAF photo by SSgt. Wesley Allen)

## "Patriot People"



Maj. Patrick J. Dery

**Name:** Patrick J. Dery  
**Rank:** Maj.  
**Age:** 41  
**Address:** South Deerfield, MA  
**Unit:** 337 TAS  
**Position:** Instructor navigator  
**Civilian Occupation:**  
 Asst. Airfield Manager  
 Westover AFB  
**Favorite Food:** Pot Roast  
**Favorite Beverage:** Pepsi  
**Favorite Sport:** Hiking  
**Favorite Hobby:** Travel  
**Ideal Vacation:** Canadian Rockies  
**Best Way to Relax:** Reading  
**Preferred Entertainment:** Night out  
 with my wife  
**Favorite Celebrity:** Jimmy Stewart  
**Favorite Music:** Popular  
**Favorite Book:** The Hunt for  
 Red October  
**Favorite Color:** Tan  
**Favorite Car:** Lincoln  
**Pet Peeve:** Red tape  
**Best Thing About Westover:**  
 Camaraderie  
**Worst Thing About Westover:**  
 Paperwork

## Bolivian snakebite victim airlifted by 439th crew

Thanks to a 439 TAW crew, a 10-year-old Bolivian girl is reported in good condition after two operations following a bite on her right leg by a venomous bushmaster snake.

Largest of the South American pit vipers — up to a dozen feet long — the bushmaster produces an immense quantity of venom.

An Air Force Reserve C-130 crew from the 914th Tactical Airlift Group of Niagara Falls, IAP, N.Y., airlifted Fatima Lurice from Howard AB in Panama to Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center in Memphis. The 914th TAG is one of three flying squadrons assigned to Westover's "Patriot" wing.

Lt. Col. Kurt Novak, the pilot who flew her to Tennessee, said an Air Force flight surgeon on a goodwill tour in Bolivia spotted her in a hospital and learned she had been there for about six months.

She was flown from Reyes, Bolivia, to La Paz by a C-12 Super Air King and was airlifted to Howard AB by a C-130 of the 910 TAG from Youngstown, Ohio.

Air Force Reserve crews from both the 914 TAG and 910 TAG were at Howard AB in March on Volant Oak exercises with the U.S. Southern Command.

Fatimas Lurice arrived at Le Bonheur in mid-March. The hospital's spokeswoman said the girl had surgery on March 20 for a microvascular tissue transfer.

A second operation on March 25 grafted skin to the muscle surface. Dr. Dan Shell, the attending physician, said Lurice was doing much better than had been expected and another operation was to be scheduled in April to repair nerve damage. "She is not in danger of losing her leg," said the spokeswoman.

## Career Day

Westover Reserve recruiters will participate in a career day at Ludlow High School on May 13 from 9 a.m.-12 noon.

According to TSgt. Ron Salafia of the recruiting office, the event is one of several that the recruiters attend each year in order to inform high school juniors and seniors about career opportunities in the Reserve.

## White honored

Capt. Robert N. White, 439 CSG personnel officer, has been selected to receive an honor certificate from the Valley Forge Freedoms Foundation.

The captain was cited for his winning essay, "Keeping America Free," in the Foundation's military essay writing competition.

## Westover pushing tot care center

Believing a child care center on or near the base will aid employees, Reservists and recruiting, the Civilian Personnel Office is polling parents to estimate needs and potential usage.

"We would be the first Air Force Reserve facility to offer this type of service to our employees," said Richard T. Wright, civilian personnel officer.

A 30-question survey is being distributed at Westover to assess the needs of parents with infants, toddlers and preschool children.

"I'm happy to see child care beginning to happen," said Lt. Col. Thomas G. Hargis, base commander. "This isn't really a first step, but just a preliminary to the beginning of the program."

"If we can quantify the need, then we can determine exactly what we need for our people," he said.

Among civilian personnel and Air Reserve Technicians there seems to be a high preception of need, he said. "We want to determine if Reservists see a need for such a facility."

"Another point," said the base commander, "is the fact Westover Job Corps Center trains child-care workers and we might keep costs down and assist the center with a facility which would enable trainees to gain on-the-job experience."

## Reservists can use commissaries 14 days per year

By TSgt. John Wallace Spencer

Air Force Reservists and their families are now able to bag groceries in commissaries. Under the new DoD program, single and married Reservists and family members may shop at all military commissaries anytime during the 1987 calendar year, up to a maximum of 14 days.

The number of shopping days are based on the number of active duty for training days, and annual two-week training performed during the previous calendar year.

The commissary shopping program is similar to that used for base exchange privileges. Authorized category A Reservists will be issued a "Commissary Earnings Statement" showing the number of ADT and AADT days the member performed during the previous calendar year.

To shop, Reservists or dependents must present their earnings statement and an identification card. Dependents can use any photo ID such as a state driver's license. Each time the statement form is used, one day is deducted.

CMSgt. Robert P. Johns, personnel resource manager, explained, "Because of the differences between training periods and how the new law is set up, Reservists will be credited during a 15-month period, Oct. 1, 1985 to Dec. 31, 1986. Future credit will be computed on a 12-month calendar-year basis."

Lost or stolen earnings statements will only be replaced if the Reservist's unit commander determines the document was lost or destroyed under unusual circumstances.

## Blood drive

Major David Barnard, chairman of the Westover Blood Drive Committee, asked Reservists and civilian employees to remember the base blood drive on Friday and Saturday, May 1-2.

Arrangements were made for the Red Cross to conduct the drive at the Base Gym throughout the two days. Donors would be excused from duty for two hours, pending approval of their supervisor.



**READY FOR SERVICE** — SSgt. Paul Gagnon pulls Westover's new Calivar extended bucket reach vehicle (left) next to the Landoll de-icer. When used together, the Calivar's great reach enables de-icing of even the C-5's 65-foot tall tail. The Calivar is the newest addition to the base's inventory of service equipment for larger aircraft.

(USAF photo by SSgt. Wesley Allen)

## earning a PAT on the back

### Enlistments

TSgt. John J. Sobczyk  
 SSgt. Robert G. Albert  
 SSgt. George P. Bracey  
 SSgt. Paul M. Giglio  
 SSgt. William C. Laplante  
 SSgt. Cheldon O. Lanier, Jr.  
 SSgt. Robert P. Morin  
 SSgt. Michael J. Remillard  
 SSgt. Clarence J. Paulin  
 SSgt. Vidvanand Setaram  
 Sgt. Richard A. Bergeron  
 Sgt. Orlando Centeno  
 Sgt. Robert J. Powers, Jr.  
 Sgt. William A. Theroux  
 A1C. Howard A. Crawford  
 A1C. Edward E. Demars  
 A1C. Robert J. Ingerson  
 A1C. Thomas D. Lemoine  
 A1C. Keith J. McCabe  
 A1C. Robert E. Stec  
 Amn. Robert L. Duquette, Jr.  
 AB Felicia M. Ash  
 AB Annie L. Crockett  
 AB Kevin J. Graveline  
 AB Felicia A. Jordan  
 AB Kim D. Rakowski  
 AB Mark D. Templeman

### Re-enlistments

SMSgt. Paul A. Bergeron  
 MSgt. Robert R. Durand  
 MSgt. Francis M. Hartley  
 MSgt. Joaquim M. Henriques  
 MSgt. Andrew P. Hoffman  
 MSgt. John P. Leshure, Sr.  
 MSgt. Andrew B. Lown  
 MSgt. L.C. Mays, Jr.  
 MSgt. Richard A. Ricci  
 MSgt. Corinne A. Squire  
 MSgt. Bartholomew C. Stuart  
 MSgt. Thomas R. Templeman  
 MSgt. Benejamin P. Tomlin  
 TSgt. Richard E. Alix  
 TSgt. Richard W. Chenevert, Sr.  
 TSgt. Gerrit Faber  
 TSgt. George W. Gomperis  
 TSgt. Greydon B. Held  
 TSgt. Duane G. Nelson  
 TSgt. Robert G. Shedd, Jr.  
 TSgt. Brian K. Shove  
 TSgt. Gary W. Watson  
 SSgt. Thomas N. Allocco  
 SSgt. Gregory P. Ballam  
 SSgt. Richard I. Boyce  
 SSgt. Bruce J. Bretschneider  
 SSgt. Richard P. Carson  
 SSgt. Theresa E. Dean  
 SSgt. Albert E. Dudley  
 SSgt. Glenn M. Flynn  
 SSgt. Robert F. Flynn, Jr.  
 SSgt. Thomas G. Gaglione  
 SSgt. Gerald A. Grasso  
 SSgt. Richard W. Gross  
 SSgt. Albert D. Guzzo  
 SSgt. Thomas J. Harrison  
 SSgt. Lex S. Johnson  
 SSgt. Judy A. Jones  
 SSgt. Philip J. Lupien  
 SSgt. Richard B. Mundt  
 SSgt. Thomas F. Nolan, III  
 SSgt. Thomas J. Pierce  
 SSgt. David R. Rannikko  
 SSgt. Gerard C. Renaud  
 SSgt. Thomas M. Wright  
 SSgt. Joyce N. Zinnerman

Sgt. Andres Aviles  
 Sgt. David Diaz  
 Sgt. Joseph P. Nolfi  
 Sgt. Bonnie A. Nafsi  
 SrA. Gregory Chin  
 SrA. Bradley T. Perno  
 SrA. Theresa A. Sinz  
 A1C. Karen A. Borek

### Promotions

CMSgt. Ronald A. Ploof  
 SMSgt. Ralph H. Branyen, Jr.  
 \*MSgt. Dorothy Blassengale  
 \*MSgt. Earl W. Cole, Jr.  
 \*MSgt. Robert J. Fuchs, Jr.  
 \*MSgt. Jill A. Humbert  
 \*MSgt. Robert E. Kepka  
 \*MSgt. Jean F. Malek  
 \*MSgt. Donald A. Morin  
 \*MSgt. Dianne M. Wise  
 \*TSgt. Joseph J. Cullen, Jr.  
 \*TSgt. Edwin A. Holtz  
 \*TSgt. Stephen D. Hutchinson, Jr.  
 \*TSgt. Michael A. Kularski  
 \*TSgt. Richard N. Labreque  
 \*TSgt. Robert P. Marciniak  
 \*TSgt. Edward J. Marskalkowski, Jr.  
 \*TSgt. Sandra M. Michon  
 \*TSgt. Craig A. Murray  
 \*TSgt. John L. Negrotti  
 \*TSgt. Pamela J. Nelson  
 \*TSgt. Christopher M. O'Neil  
 \*TSgt. John P. Sievert  
 \*TSgt. Stephen D. Trosterud  
 \*TSgt. Paul A. Yankus

The asterisks indicate people who were promoted under the Promotion Enhancement Program.

## Lead in water a national problem

The Environmental Protection Agency announced last month a national proposal that all customers of public water systems be warned about the risk of lead contamination.

Six months ago, EPA officials banned the use of lead in pipes, solder and flux in public systems. The EPA limit on lead in water is .05 milligrams per liter, or 50 parts per billion.

Low levels of lead can cause fatigue and nausea; higher levels can damage kidneys and central nervous system, the EPA reported.

Water samples were taken at Westover in February and the results were received in March, said Marion Matheiu, occupational staff nurse.

Samples taken from taps which had been flowing for five minutes were well within safe limits, said Mrs. Mathieu, who is also a master sergeant with the 439 Tactical Hospital.

But when early morning samples were taken from faucets, she said, the laboratory analysis indicated a range of lead content levels up to .09 milligrams per liter, or 90 parts per billion.

"With no use overnight," she said, "exposure to lead fittings can

cause the water system to increase in lead content. If water is to be used for drinking or cooking, people should let the tap run for five minutes in the morning, or after hours of non-use."

Westover receives Quabbin Reservoir water through the public system in Chicopee. Joseph J. Swiatlowski, city water superintendent, said lead pipes were common a century ago, and during the Depression and war years, lead fittings were used. He said Chicopee is attempting to eliminate lead couplings in its system.

Tenants in the base housing area were notified of the findings and told that running water for five minutes "definitely clears up the problem," said Mrs. Mathieu.

Reservists living in thousands of New England's older homes where lead fittings or solder was used may also have higher levels of lead going into their coffee pots in the morning, she said.

Chris J. Golba, Chicopee's bacteriologist, said a person would have to drink about eight gallons of water — with a lead concentration of .09 milligrams per liter — each day for three months before reaching the point of becoming borderline toxic.



## Maj. J.P. Gallin is Westover's 1st certified C-5 pilot

Westover has its first certified C-5 pilot and aircraft commander.

Maj. James P. Gallin of the 337 TAS was certified April 5, as the first Westover-based pilot qualified to fly the C-5 Galaxy.

By the May UTA, he should be joined by Lt. Col. Charles S. Joslin, Jr., Maj. Gary Clarke, Maj. Elmer S. Whittier, Jr., and Maj. Fred F. Castle, Jr.

The pilots have completed training including 100 hours of flight time in the C-5 at Altus AFB, Okla.

Other pilots certified and now assigned to Westover are Lt. Col. Ralph Oates, Maj. Lawrence E. Mercker and Capt. Kenneth J. Riley.

Westover flight engineers now certified are MSgt. Frederick Allard, MSgt. Thomas G. Durkin, MSgt. James F. Lynch, TSgt. Kenneth J. Gilbert, MSgt. William E. Mahoney, and MSgt. Paul A. Couture.

Newly certified loadmasters are MSgt. John M. Missale, MSgt. Dzwonkus, TSgt. Garth O. Parker, Jr., and SSgt. Christopher Maille.

## Enlisted Dining Out is Sept. 26

The 13th Annual 439th TAW NCO/Airman Dining Out will be held Sept. 26 at the Consolidated Open Mess. This will be the last formal military function as the 439 TAW, as only five days later, the unit designation will officially be the 439 MAW.

The event's highlights will be presentation of annual awards and a talk by retired Brig. Gen. Donald Balch, who has strong ties with the 439th. The general was a member of the 901 TAG at Hanscom AFB before that group relocated to Westover.

He is also one of several former 731 TAS commanders to become a general

officer. After leaving the 439th, he went on to command C-5 units at Travis and Dover AFBs. His son, TSgt. Gareth Balch, is a loadmaster with the 439th Airlift Control Element.

TSgt. George Hoagland, 439 WSSF, is President of the Mess with MSgt. Marshall Hathaway, wing historian, as Mr. Vice. TSgt. Roland Verrier, 439 WSSF, is the master-at-arms. Music will be provided by Airwave, from the Air Force Band of New England.

Tickets are expected to go on sale by the July UTA. The menu and ticket prices have not been determined.

## AFRES orders redesignation of many units at Westover

Many units at Westover will be redesignated when the federal fiscal year begins on Oct. 1, according to orders issued by Headquarters Air Force Reserve at Robins AFB, Ga. The orders also created a new unit and reactivated two other units.

The major name changes involve the 439 TAW which will become the 439th Military Airlift Wing and the redesignation of the 439th Combat Support Group to the 439th Air Base Group, abbreviated as 439 ABG.

The 439th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron will be redesignated the 439th Field Maintenance Squadron, and the 439th Tactical Hospital will become the 439th USAF Clinic. The clinic and the 439 FMS will both be MAC-gained units.

The 439th Weapons Systems Security Flight will be known as the 439th Security Police Squadron. The same set of orders issued on Mar. 12 created the 639th Weapons System Security Flight and assigned this new unit, with an activation date of Oct. 1, to the redesignated 439 SPS. Military Airlift Command will be the gaining unit of the new 639 WSSF, but the 439 SPS will be AFRES-gained.

The 439th Avionics Maintenance Squadron, which was deactivated in September 1966, will be reactivated in October and assigned to the new 439 MAW. The 439th Organizational Maintenance Squadron, deactivated in June 1966, will be brought back to life and assigned to the 439 MAW.

The 42nd Mobile Aerial Port Squadron will have mobile plucked from its name and become the 42nd Aerial Port Squadron as a MAC-gained unit.

Westover's flying squadron, the 337 TAS, will become the 337th Military Airlift Squadron of the 439 MAW. The 58th Aerial Port Squadron and the 59 APS retain their designations and were assigned to the new 439 MAW.

The 439th Civil Engineering Squadron, the 439th Communications Squadron and the 439th Mobility Support Flight were all formally reassigned from the 439 CSG to the new 439 ABG.



**MOBILITY EXERCISE** — The ability of the 439 TAW to respond to a mobility call was tested during the April UTA. Getting shot records verified are 439 CAMS members SSgt. Mark Hennessey, TSgt. Joseph Dimartino, and TSgt. Edward Lorange. Checking their records is Lt. Col. Dorothy Gates.

(USAF photo by SSgt. Wesley Allen)

## Bob Hope to entertain at Airlift Rodeo

Comedian Bob Hope will kick-off the international Airlift Rodeo competition at Pope AFB, N.C., on May 10 and his performance will be televised nationally by NBC on May 25.

Westover competitors in the annual airdrop and tactical airlift competition will be from the 337 TAS with Capt. Dana Quinn as pilot.

Last year, the 337th sent aircraft 1789 and a 27-member team to Volant Rodeo and won the title of best in the Air Force Reserve and ranked fifth among all competitors, which included Air National Guard units, Marine

Corps, German, British, Australian, Portuguese and Canadian teams.

Hope will entertain aircrews and ground support teams during his two-hour birthday special. About 30 teams of competitors are expected to participate in the ground and air operations, drops of cargo and personnel, and scored events for maintenance, combat controller and security police teams.

Pope AFB abuts Fort Bragg, the Army headquarters for Special Forces, the 82nd Airborne Division and the Airborne Board.

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