

KANZA SPIRIT

931ST AIR REFUELING GROUP



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August 2007

McConnell AFB, Kansas

Vol.12, No. 8

18th ARS Wins Back-To-Back Aircrew Excellence Awards

BY STAFF SGT. K.L. KIMBRELL
931ST ARG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For the second consecutive year an aircrew from the 18th Air Refueling Squadron has received the 4th Air Force Aircrew Excellence award.

The award, presented annually, was presented to Lt. Col. James Allman and Master Sgt. Tonya Halenka at March Air Reserve Base, Calif., July 16 during the Raincross Dinner.

Capt. Austin Aggson, also a member of the award-winning crew could not be present for the ceremony.

The award was given based on events that occurred between Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2006.

During this period, the individuals were deployed in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

According to the nomination package, the crew of Lt. Col. Allman, Capt. Aggson and Master Sgt. Halenka flew more than 20 combat support missions while offloading more than two million pounds of fuel to coalition aircraft.

The document continues by telling how on a night mission over Iraq, Master Sgt. Halenka discovered jet fuel spraying out of a connection point of the boom-to-drogue adapter while refueling an F-18 aircraft. It was then determined that there were no other aircraft available to fuel the fighter. Despite the risks, Lt. Col. Allman and Capt. Aggson relocated the aircraft to an unpopulated area where the crew successfully completed the mission.

“Our tasked mission over Iraq was exciting, but no different than any other crew sortie in the AOR (area of responsibility),” said Lt. Col. Allman. “Bringing fuel to the fight is our business, and handling emergencies and chal-



Lt. Col. James Allman and Master Sgt. Tonya Halenka hold the 2006 AFA award; Capt. Austin Aggson, also on the winning crew was unable to attend the ceremony. (Air Force PhotoMaster Sgt. Bill Kimble)

lenges is just part of the challenges flying in the AOR,” he continued.

The aircrew members also participated in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization International Security Assistance Force Operation MEDUSA where they provided aerial refueling of A-10 aircraft in direct support of ground operations over Afghanistan.

“We have a lot of experienced, professional people in this unit and any one of them would have accomplished what needed to be done to get the mission complete,” said Sergeant Halenka.

Capt. Aggson and Master Sgt. Halenka received last years award along with Majors Larry Brown and Byron Rager.

“Winning (this award) back-to-back highlights the professionalism, commitment, and expertise of every member of the Group,” said Lt. Col. Allman. “Every member of the 931st should be proud of their part in helping our crews achieve this award, without their support, our crews would not be able to deploy.”

THIS UTA

18th ARS Change of Command

On Sunday Col. Randy Foster will relinquish command of the 18th Air Refueling Squadron to Lt. Col. Ted Mathews in a ceremony in the 384th ARS auditorium (Bldg. 840). The event is set to begin at 8:30 a.m.

EPR/OPR Class

Col. Cahoon will lead a class on Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Southwind Conference Room on how to effectively create officer and enlisted performance reports.

HRDC

There will be a 931st ARG Human Resources Development Council meeting on Saturday at 3 p.m. in the Southwind Conference Room (Bldg. 850).

Chapel Service

Chapel Service will be held at 7:45 a.m. Sunday in the Southwind Conference Room. All group members are invited to attend.

Dining Facility

The hours of operation for the Chisholm Trail Dining Facility are:
Breakfast: 6:30 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.
Lunch: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Dinner: 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.



VOL. 12 NO. 8

COMMANDER
Col. William T. Cahoon

SPIRIT STAFF
Lt. Col. Dave Fruck
Chief of Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. K.L. Kimbrell
Editor

HOW TO REACH US

Kanza Spirit
931st Air Refueling Group
53280 Topeka St., Ste. 221
McConnell AFB, KS 67221
Commercial Phone:
(316) 759-3704
DSN: 743-3704
Fax: (316)759-3393

E-MAIL:

kenny.kimbrell-02@mccconnell.af.mil

DEADLINES

The deadline to submit articles and newsbriefs for publication is close of business of the UTA.

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *Kanza Spirit* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government of the Dept. of the Air Force. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 931st Public Affairs Office. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

The *Kanza Spirit* is mailed each month to all 931st ARG members on file with Personnel. Members not receiving their copy should check with their administration section to ensure their filed address is correct.



Energy Update

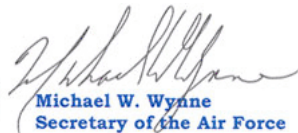


There are some exciting and promising innovations in energy occurring throughout our Air Force. I wanted to make you aware and also ask that you consider what you can do within your area of responsibility, or one adjacent. We have all read about the energy crisis; and likely wonder how to sort fact from fiction. But we are also watching as organizations large and small react by identifying areas where they can “lighten their footprint” on the environment. That resonates with me, as our Air Force is light and agile as well as lethal, and examining how we do this is a major part of Air Force Smart Operations.

What we are discovering is that there are, in fact, areas where we can lighten our footprint. As a part of our nation’s defense, we should consider what we need to be available in the event of an interruption in energy supplies, and to push technologies that reduce our energy demand. We launched several energy reduction initiatives around our Air Force including Low Speed Vehicles with reduced energy consumption; and yes the use of those fluorescent bulbs, that retailers are discounting, produce light at a reduced electrical load.

We are also working innovatively on the supply side, whether it is putting the largest solar panel field to work out at Nellis, or qualifying our aircraft to use synthetic fuel. Synthetic fuel is manufactured from coal, natural gas, or biological sources, like corn or algae. While we don’t plan on being a producer, we have established quality criteria, and a demonstration facility, as we want to be good environmental stewards, and also make sure we can fly our aircraft at expected performance and range criteria. The labs at Wright-Patterson, and the test wing at Edwards are leading the way. Airlines and propulsion companies are partnering with us to extend our efforts. We hope to do our part to reduce our, and maybe America’s, dependence on this more and more expensive source of energy, and that is petroleum.

Thank you for the innovations you already bring to our Air Force. It is helping us create a culture that can be mindful of the footprint we leave on the environment, and yet produce lethal combat power yielding sovereign options for America. I ask that you continue to use your capabilities to uncover new and different ways to increase our energy efficiency in the most effective way.


Michael W. Wynne
Secretary of the Air Force

Who do you know?

The **Kanza Spirit** staff is looking for story ideas about 931st members who have unique hobbies or jobs, especially those that offer opportunities for unusual and interesting photos. Please contact Staff Sgt. K.L. Kimbrell at (316) 759-3686 or kenny.kimbrell-02@mccconnell.af.mil with your ideas.

UTASCHEDULE

Next UTA: Aug. 12-13

Sept. 15-16

Oct. 13-14

Nov. 3-4

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Let's Get Ready for the ORI!

Who? You!

What? Air Mobility Command Inspector General Operational Readiness Inspection.

When? Late June 2008.

Where? Alpena Air National Guard Training Site, Mich. or Volk Field ANG Training Site, Wis.

Why? To prove we can do our mission under the most demanding scenario.

Beyond our day-to-day mission execution, which is a lot, our number one priority the next 10 months will be preparing for and executing the upcoming ORI with our associate unit partners, the 22nd Air Refueling Wing, and the Air National Guard's 134th Air Refueling Wing from Knoxville, Tenn. Approximately 1,000 personnel from the three units will deploy to a training site to conduct the inspection. I expect that approximately 120 Group members will be tasked to go, but we must all be prepared.

I have selected Lt. Col. Keith Kontz to be our Group "ORI King" and he along with a capable team of unit reps and functional experts will be working overtime for the next many months to create a training and exercise plan to help prepare us for this critical event. The other wings also have their POCs, and we are already working closely with them to synchronize our efforts to ensure success. Late in July we sent a number of reps to Tinker AFB, Okla. and Phoenix ANGB, Ariz. to meet with their personnel. Both of those units just completed ORIs and we learned a lot by "picking their brains" to learn where we should place our planning, training and exercising emphasis.

The bottom line is that each member of the group must be ready. We can have a great plan, and fail on the inability of just one of us to know our jobs, know how to wear our chemical defense ensembles, to know how to render Self-Aid and

Buddy Care, how to respond to an attack, etc. I am asking that you pay close attention to all training you receive over the next few months

and that you give our exercises your full effort. Patience and a positive attitude will go a long way toward winning the IG over to our side, and possibly giving us the benefit of the doubt if an error is made. Attention to detail will be a must. Helping "your Buddy" will be the order of the day.

We will be distributing the UTA and directed annual tour schedule very shortly. The vast majority of our UTAs will be mandatory and any reschedule requests will be scrutinized by your commanders. We need your full participation to make the most of our training and to have the right folks in the right place at the right time to make the exercises a success, and of course to wow the inspectors next June. Even if you do not end up participating in the actual ORI you may be asked/tasked to help get those who are going out of town, or to help bring them home.

Every one has a critical role in this, and we need your help to prove once again to the world that the 931st Air Refueling Group is the finest organization in the U.S. Air Force. I know the 22nd and 134th Air Refueling Wings are looking forward to working with you, to your experience, and the continuity that your experience will bring. I thank you in advance for your effort, and look forward to training with you this year.



William T. Cahoon

William T. Cahoon, Colonel
931st Air Refueling Group Commander

Integrity



Service



Excellence

NEW SHERIFF IN TOWN



SECURITY FORCES SNCO FIRST AGR IN 931ST HISTORY

BY STAFF SGT. K.L. KIMBRELL
931ST ARG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

New traditional Reservists and Air Reserve Technicians join the 931st Air Refueling Group on a regular basis.

The past month, a new breed of Reservist joined the unit: an Active Guard Reserve (AGR) member, a 931st ARG first.

How's that you may ask? Aren't all of the full-time personnel here ARTs or civilian employees?

Well, they were until the new "sheriff" arrived in town.

Master Sgt. Robert Reader, the new chief of the Security Forces division of the 931st Mission Support Flight comes to us from the 913th Airlift Wing at Willow Grove Air Reserve Station, Pa., a unit that will be no more as of Oct.1 due to being selected in the last Base Realignment and Closure Commission.

"Due to the base closer, REMO (AGR Management Office) offered this position along with two others," said Master Sgt. Reader.

AGR Airmen are on active duty status and attached to a Reserve unit.

"Aside from school tours, I have to go through the Air Force Reserve Command commander to get deployed," said Master Sgt. Reader. "My primary mission is to support the home station."

According to Master Sgt. Reader there are two ways to become an AGR.

1. When a position becomes available, an applicant has to apply for the position. Consideration for the position is based on the resume and recommendation letters that are turned in. Competition is stiff as slots are limited and benefits are high.

2. Be in an ART position that will later be converted to an AGR slot. You would need to meet the requirements for that position but you wouldn't have to compete with anyone for the job.

Sergeant Reader joined the Air Force as a Traditional Reservist in Nov. 1997 and was stationed at Willow Grove ARS, Pa.

"After Basic (Military Training) I stayed on orders to support such missions as Southern Watch, Olive Harvest and the home station security mission," said Sergeant Reader.

Nearly three years after his initial enlistment, the Security Forces Airman transitioned out of TR status.

"I became an ART on Sept. 11, 2000, then an AGR in Nov. 2005," he continued.

The sergeant's initial impressions of the group are all positive.

"I have been welcomed with open arms," said Sergeant Reader. "The full-timers and TR members alike have been extremely eager to welcome me to my new home."

Sergeant Reader, who hails from Philadelphia, Pa., is impressed with what he sees around the Group.

"The people make the organization and this Group has some of the best," said Sergeant Reader.

That's seemingly not too shabby of a compliment coming from someone who hails from the city of brotherly love.

AGR INFORMATION

GENERAL INFORMATION:

[HTTPS://WWW.RE.HQ.AF.MIL/AGR/AGRHOME2.HTML](https://www.re.hq.af.mil/AGR/AGRHOME2.HTML)

VACANCY INFORMATION:

[HTTPS://WWW.RE.HQ.AF.MIL/AGR/AGR_VACANCIES.HTML](https://www.re.hq.af.mil/AGR/AGR_VACANCIES.HTML)

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

[HTTPS://WWW.RE.HQ.AF.MIL/AGR/HOW_TO_APPLY.HTML](https://www.re.hq.af.mil/AGR/HOW_TO_APPLY.HTML)

BRONZE Star awarded to Father, Son

Medals issued for service in Global War on Terrorism, World War II

BY TECH.SGT. JASON SCHAAP
931ST ARG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

So far, he didn't have so much as a scratch. But as Melvin Thompson inched his way toward the crest of the hill, he knew harm might be waiting for him on the other side. "Stay down, stay down," his platoon sergeant quietly urged the mostly 18- and 19-year-olds behind him. They, the men of the 304th Infantry Regiment, part of Patton's 76th Division, kept their police-style helmets to the ground as they crawled.

For the whole regiment, there was a point man, soldier to go first. For this mission, Melvin was that man, chosen from the platoon that was chosen from the company that was chosen from the battalion that was chosen from the regiment, to lead the way. It was his turn.

Just a few months earlier he was home on the farm in Larned, Kan., where the U.S. Army let him stay, following his draft date, until harvest was over. Now he was a kid soldier, face down with fear on a German hill not

looking for a fight.

He reached the top, pulled his helmet back and stared down the barrel of a 40mm German anti-tank gun. "Oh no," he thought. But the gun was silent. As was all the other equipment around it. Nothing moved, for it was abandoned.

"The Germans saw us coming and took off," Thompson said, more than a half century later on the day a Bronze Star was pinned to his chest by Col. Tim Cahoon, 931st ARG commander.

The award was authorized 60 years ago when Thompson was already home in Kansas, a World War II survivor done with his two-year commitment. He did not know he had earned it until after his son, Lt. Col. Kimberly Thompson, 931st Civil Engineer Squadron commander, recently returned from a deployment. Colonel Thompson was to receive the Bronze Star for his service in Afghanistan, Colonel Thompson told his dad. "Well I have two of those," Melvin replied.

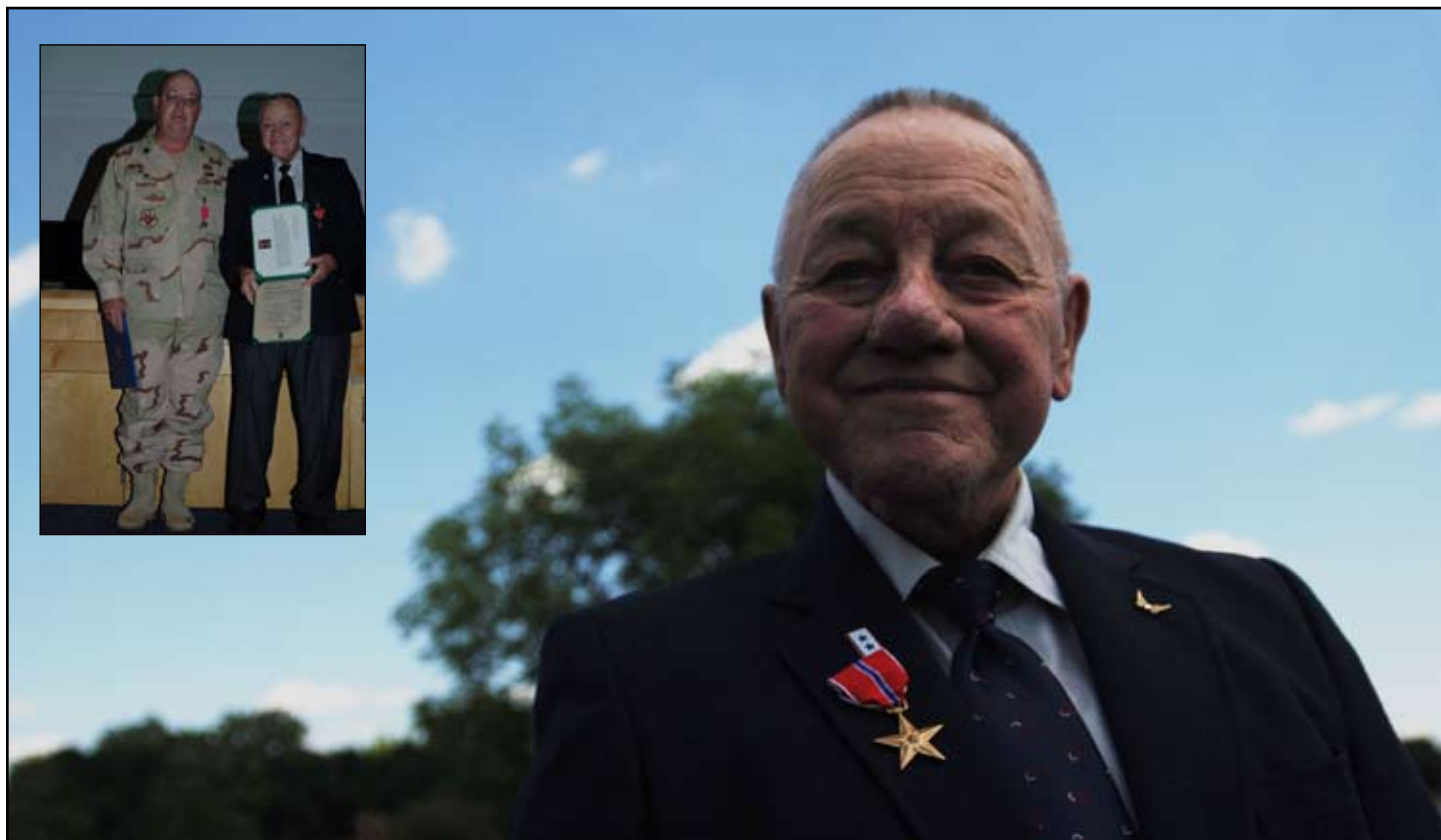
Melvin was half right. A dusting-

off of his military medals revealed two Bronze Battle Stars. He told his son he was wrong.

"Then you should also have a Combat Infantry Badge," Colonel Thompson said to his father, remembering an Army story he read while in Afghanistan. In 1947, the story said, the Bronze Star Medal was authorized for all of those who earned a Combat Infantry Badge. The medal was designed to honor the infantrymen and medics who endured the greatest hardships on the front lines.

Father and son received their medals together at a ceremony during the July Unit Training Assembly. "I'm very thankful ... but I don't think I deserve (all the attention)," Melvin humbly said in his gruff, 81-year-worn voice, after the ceremony. Most of his comrades are gone, he said.

Colonel Cahoon was visibly choked up as he spoke during the ceremony. Melvin is part of the Greatest Generation, he said with watery eyes, a vanishing generation.



Family Day Picnic



Thanks to 2007 Family Days Volunteers

The following individuals volunteered at the Group's annual Family Day's Events. Your time and effort was greatly appreciated by family members, those who coordinated the event and group leadership.

Group Staff

Ms. Mary Borst
 Ms. Kayla Hayden
 Capt. Stephen Hicks
 Senior Master Sgt. Donna Lorenz
 Tech. Sgt. Kiesha Hale
 Tech Sgt. Kristina Elswick
 Senior Airman Brenda Ramon
 Senior Airman Michael Abbey

931st Operations Support Flight

Lt. Col. Willie Eaton

18th Air Refueling Squadron

Maj. Travis Clark
 Maj. Suzie Jones
 Maj. Joe Oline
 Maj. Brant Abraham
 1st Lt. Brian Cole
 Senior Master Sgt. Diane Hiebert
 Master Sgt. Darren Demel

931st Aerospace Medicine Flight

Tech. Sgt. Cyndi Hoffman
 Senior Airman Brandi Evans

931st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Master Sgt. Ralph Babcock
 Master Sgt. Aaron Baker
 Master Sgt. Jeffrey Schrier
 Tech. Sgt. David Harris
 Tech. Sgt. Walter Williams
 Staff Sgt. Dale Posey
 Staff Sgt. David Vogel
 Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Babcock
 Staff Sgt. Marvell Summerow
 Staff Sgt. David Vogel
 Senior Airman John Fliszar
 Senior Airman Zachary Mollet
 Senior Airman Neil Parks
 Senior Airman Davin Perry
 Senior Airman Travis Reimer

931st Civil Engineer Squadron

Senior Master Sgt. Eric Osen
 Senior Master Sgt. Jeff Killian
 Senior Master Sgt. Kurt Smith
 Master Sgt. William Souder
 Master Sgt. Edwin Craig
 Master Sgt. Andrew Cullum
 Tech Sgt. Willie Tucker
 Tech Sgt. William Westpfahl
 Tech Sgt. Brent Robinson
 Staff Sgt. Michele McMahon
 Staff Sgt. Michael Woodward

Staff Sgt. Tina Koehn
 Staff Sgt. Nabil Abdul-Kader
 Staff Sgt. Karl Keck
 Senior Airman Timothy Porter
 Senior Airman Theron Thompson
 Senior Airman Colby Shepherd
 Senior Airman Alex Marshall
 Senior Airman John Springston
 Airman First Class Darrell Williams

Mission Support Flight

Master Sgt. Bob Lorenz
 Master Sgt. Ed Woolson
 Master Sgt. Debroada Cornelius
 Master Sgt. Mike Walker
 Master Sgt. Robert Reader
 Tech. Sgt. Tanya Lange
 Tech. Sgt. Ryan Cooper
 Tech. Sgt. Vicki Wilson
 Tech. Sgt. Anick Wallace
 Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Beason
 Tech. Sgt. Tyrel Askren
 Staff Sgt. Luke Mahoney
 Staff Sgt. Michael Green
 Senior Airman Jamie Greer
 Senior Airman Nicole Nunez
 Senior Airman Nicholas Parrot

AIRMAN AMBASSADORS: Raincross forges new ideas

BY AMY ABBOTT
452ND AMW/PA

MARCH AIR RESERVE BASE, CALIF. -- "Sometimes the rest of the world doesn't really realize you're at war. I had never talked to another person whose husband has been shot at. The nicest thing is to have that shared experience."

Joy Thompson was one of many the spouses and senior leaders who showed up to Riverside in full force, over 300 of them, for the annual 4th Air Force sponsored Raincross 2007, "Airman Ambassadors," this week.

The wife of Lt. Col. Kimberly Thompson, 931st Civil Engineering Squadron commander at McConnell AFB, Kan., Mrs. Thompson's husband has been deployed to both Kuwait and Afghanistan.

"I'm really grateful I had the opportunity to do this," she said. "It's my first time (coming to this event) and it gave me the opportunity to meet wives in similar situations. It also reinforced the need to foster community relations the best you can."

The three day long conference began Monday morning with Maj. Gen. Robert Duignan,

4th Air Force commander, giving the opening remarks. Covering a variety of imperative subjects, General Duignan's emphasis was on perfection and the need to stay constantly vigilant.

"Perfection has to be the goal, what you strive for," he said. "You have to demand that your people are doing right every day ... If we're not striving to be perfect, we're never going to get there ... We can't afford to not be ready 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

The conference covered many issues, such as developing future leaders, stress on military marriages and keeping family papers ready for the unexpected. The attendees also participated in breakout sessions, determined by their roles and responsibilities.

According to the welcome letter by General Duignan, the aim was to give everyone an opportunity to "meet counterparts, share experiences, collaborate on common issues, forge new ideas, practices and explore the future challenges of our continual and growing requirements of the Expeditionary Air Forces and the Global War on Terrorism."

Monday evening, the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce hosted the Raincross

Trophy Dinner. The dinner, a long standing tradition, is a way the community recognizes March Field and its vital role in the local economy.

Trophies are given to acknowledge outstanding wings and their achievements. This year's Raincross Trophy recipient was the 349th Air Mobility Wing at Travis AFB, Calif.

"We have exceptional people," said Maj. Margaret Shaeffer, the 349th Civil Engineering Squadron commander at Travis, about the troops at the wing and their contribution to receiving the award.

"Through all the changes we have gone through ... we also have great support from the families for the military members."

Accepting the Aircrew Excellence Award was the 18th Air Refueling Squadron, 931st Air Refueling Group, McConnell AFB, Kan.

RAINCROSS

For the rest of the story and supporting photographs, visit :

[HTTP://WWW.MARCH.AFRC.AF.MIL/NEWS/STORY.ASP?ID=123061365](http://www.march.afrc.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123061365)

Reserve Wing First To Host Guard Associate Unit

BY LT.COL.RICH CURRY
507TH ARW PUBLIC AFFAIRS



TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. -- The Air Force Reserve Command's 507th Air Refueling Wing begins a new partnership in August when members of the Oklahoma Air National Guard team up for the drill weekend. With this action, the 507th ARW will become the first AFRC wing to have an ANG wing associated with it.

Approximately eight Oklahoma Air National Guard aircrew members are part of an initial cadre working side-by-side with their Air Force Reserve hosts to stand up associate operations.

As a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure process, the 137th Airlift Wing at Will Rogers World airport was identified to lose their C-130 aircraft and convert to a KC-135 associate unit with the 507th ARW.

Under this associate organization, the 507th Air Refueling Wing is the host wing

with all 12 aircraft owned by AFRC. The Oklahoma ANG will maintain separate administrative and operational control, but be associated with the 507th ARW, working together to fly and maintain all aircraft. For deployable tasking, both the 507th ARW and 137th AW will function with 6 primary aircraft assigned.

"When you think about it, starting this associate relationship is pretty exciting. We're part of a DoD-wide Total Force Initiative reorganization. We're going to show that our air reserve component mix will be just as viable and beneficial to national defense," said Col. Jeffery R. Glass, 507th ARW commander.

According to an April 2007 Site Activation Task Force report, the main body of aircrew and maintenance personnel should begin arriving before the end of the year.



Col. Jeffery R. Glass and Col. James McCormack, on the flight line prior to their first duo commander mission.

931ST AIR REFUELING GROUP

EMPLOYER APPRECIATION DAY

SEPTEMBER 15, 2007

RANK & NAME

SQUADRON/SECTION

WORK/HOME/CELL PHONE NUMBERS

EMAIL ADDRESS

EMPLOYER'S NAME/TITLE

COMPANY NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER

EMPLOYER'S EMAIL ADDRESS

Employer Appreciation Day is scheduled for Sept. 15, the Saturday of the September unit training assembly. This event offers the employers of the Group's Airmen the opportunity to see their employee's mission and military job up close.

Scheduled activities will include a mission briefing, a flight on a KC-135 Stratotanker during an actual refueling mission, lunch, and time to visit employee work areas.

Participating Reservists are required to be in duty status, in uniform, pay for their own lunch and provide their employer a tour of their duty section and specific work area.

Reservists wishing to nominate their employer to participate

should complete this form and submit it to the 931st ARG Public Affairs Office, Suite 221 in the Group headquarters building by August 12. Forms may also be faxed to **(316) 759-3393**, requested by email sent to **david.fruck@mccconnell.af.mil** or mailed to:

Lt. Col. David Fruck, Public Affairs Officer
53280 Topeka St., Ste. 221
McCconnell AFB, KS 67221

The selection of employers to participate is subject to mission requirements and is not guaranteed. Priority is given to employers who have not participated in previous employer events.

Completion of this form is voluntary



Participation greatly appreciated

PROMOTIONS



LT. COL.
 Maj. Joseph Burns
 Maj. Richard Fowler
 Maj. Kerry Lehman
 Maj. David Payne
 Maj. Charles Youngblood
 Maj. Anthony Brusca
 Maj. Michael Wagner

SENIOR MASTER SGT.
 Master Sgt. David Lofton
TECH. SGT.
 Staff Sgt. Tina Koehn
SENIOR AIRMAN
 Airman 1st Class Darrell Williams
 Airman 1st Class Philip Mayes

NCOLDP

The NCO Leadership Development Program offers two college credits and hands-on experience in leadership and management. The curriculum addresses theories and concepts of leadership and management. The hands-on sessions stress real life situations and includes 10 days of instruction covering two phases. Phase One consists of three academic days conducted by a civilian instructor and two days conducted by military facilitators. Phase Two consists of three additional academic days with a civilian instructor and two days with military facilitators. The course takes place from Oct. 10 -19.

Contact Staff Sgt. Shannan Hughes at 743-6082 for more information or register for the program.

TriWest Supports Reserve

TriWest Healthcare Alliance has announced the launch of an online resource center designed specifically for members of the National Guard and Reserve. TriWest's Guard and Reserve Resource Center was developed with a virtual library of information for West Region TRICARE beneficiaries serving in the National Guard and Reserve, their families and leadership.

WWW.TRIWEST.COM

Services Agency Scholarships

Air Force Services Agency officials are offering \$25,000 in scholarships for club members and eligible family members.

WWW.AFCLUBS.NET

DD 214 Requests via vMPF

Air Force reservists released from qualifying active duty tours of 90 days or more now submit a DD Form 214 "Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty", worksheet online via the virtual Military Personnel Flight. Before submission to their MPF or the Reserve Personnel Contact Center, Airmen are to review their DD Form 214 worksheet to ensure data is captured correctly and attach source documents for record data which may be missing or inaccurate. Worksheets should be completed not earlier than 45 days before the end of the qualifying tour or upon receipt of a travel voucher. The local MPF will finalize and distribute the official vDD Form 214 to all necessary agencies for traditional reservists.

[HTTPS://ARPC.AFRC.AF.MIL/VPC-G](https://ARPC.AFRC.AF.MIL/VPC-G)

REAP the Benefits

Have you been on Active Duty for 90 days or more since 2001? If so, you might qualify for the new Montgomery G.I. Bill benefit referred to as REAP. REAP is a new benefit providing educational assistance to members of the Reserve component who are called up to active duty in response to war. You could earn between \$430 and \$860 a month as a full time student for serving. Contact Staff Sgt. Shannan Hughes at 743-6082 to check eligibility.

MAFB Airman's Council

A new Airman's Council has been established for McConnell Air Force Base. The council leadership would like to include Reservists in their meetings and activities. To join or for questions contact Senior Airman Jamie Train at 759-4567.

WWW.931ARG.AFRC.AF.MIL

Submissions?

Have something such as an announcement, request or photograph you would like to see in this or another section of the Kanza Spirit? All submissions are subject to editorial review. Please email submissions to:

kenny.kimbrell-02@mccconnell.af.mil

Boss Lift

The 931st Air Refueling Group will be hosting an employer appreciation event during the Sept. UTA. If you would like to nominate your employer, please fill out the form on the adjoining page and submit it to Public Affairs. Contact PA for more information 759 - 3704.

DFAS Increases MyPay Security Features

A new security feature has been added to protect customers' data on the pay account system. As part of their on-going commitment to strengthen password and account security to protect customer data, Defense Finance and Accounting Service has implemented the "virtual keyboard" to assist in protecting against malicious software such as spyware, trojans and keylogging.

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 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.

WWW.DFAS.MIL

NBC Baseball

Aug. 10-12 — The National Baseball Congress World Series takes place this weekend at Lawrence Dumont Stadium. Quarterfinals on Friday, semifinals on Saturday and the NBC Championship on Sunday. For tickets or more information visit:

WWW.NBCBASEBALL.COM

Pepe Aguilar

Aug. 11— Ranchero singer Pepe Aguilar brings his musical talents to the Kansas Colliseum on Saturday. Tickets cost from \$45 to \$75 and can be purchased in advance or on the day of the show. To obtain tickets or for more information visit:

WWW.SELECT-A-SEAT.COM

Neal McCoy

Aug. 10 — Country music recording artist Neal McCoy will perform at The Cotillion on Friday. Doors open at 7 p.m. Advance tickets are \$20 in advance and \$23.50 the day of the show. To purchase tickets or get more information visit:

WWW.THECOTILLION.COM

At the Movies



LIVE FREE OR DIE HARD

FRIDAY, Aug. 10, 7pm

2 hr. 10 min. An attack on the United States infrastructure begins to shut down the entire nation. The mysterious figure behind the scheme has figured out every modern angle -- but he never figured on an old-school "analog" fly in the "digital" ointment: John McClane. No mask. No cape. No problem.

MPAA Rating: PG-13, language, graphic violence



LICENSE TO WED

SATURDAY, Aug. 11, 7pm

1 hr. 40 min. Newly engaged Ben Murphy and his fiancée, Sadie Jones, plan to live happily ever after. The problem is that Sadie's family church, St. Augustine's, is run by Reverend Frank, who won't bless Ben and Sadie's union until they pass his patented, "foolproof" marriage-prep course.

MPAA Rating: PG -13, sexual content, language

Movies are shown at the McConnell Air Force Base Theater and are subject to change. Admission is \$3.50 for adults, \$1.75 for children 11 and under. Doors open 30 minutes prior to showtime.

McConnell Movie Line – (316) 759-4181

Interested in a rewarding part-time job?

The 931st Air Refueling Group is looking for sharp individuals to fill vacancies in the following career fields: Security Forces, Comm/Nav Technicians, Hydraulic Technician, Electro-Environmental Technician, Jet Engine Technician, Structures Technician, Liquid Fuels Technician, Environmental Technician, Medical Administrative Technician, Lab Technician, Optometrist Technician, Dental Technician and Medical Technician. If interested please contact Senior Master Sgt. David McCormick at 316-759-3830 or Master Sgt. Stephan Kimbrough 316-759-3766.

931st ARG/PA
53280 Topeka Street
Suite 221
McConnell AFB, KS
67221-3767