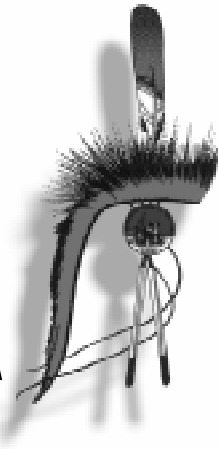


KANZA

SPIRIT

931ST AIR REFUELING GROUP



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McConnell Air Force Base, Kansas

January 2002

War on Terrorism



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Shane Cuomo

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM—Air Force B-52H Stratofortress crew chiefs from the 28th Air Expeditionary Wing change a tire on a B-52 at an Operation Enduring Freedom location.

Reservists activated at home, abroad

With the mobilization of reservists from the 939th Rescue Wing, Portland International Airport, Ore., Dec. 19, Air Force Reserve Command has called up members from every major operational flying unit.

Three months after the initial mobiliza-

tion announcement Sept. 20, more than 11,000 unit reservists and individual mobilization augmentees were on active duty to support America's war on terrorism.

Not all of them have gone overseas for Operation Enduring Freedom. Some have

been activated in place or gone elsewhere in the United States for homeland defense.

In mid-December, the Reserve began placing C-130 airlift crews, from the 302nd Airlift Wing, Peterson AFB, Colo., on ac-

See Mobilization Page 7

Citizen Airmen remain vigilant

By Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III

Commander, AFRC

WASHINGTON—As you all know so very well, the men and women of Air Force Reserve Command have stepped forward, in spectacular fashion, to meet the needs of our Air Force, as we pursue our nation's "War on Terrorism."

Your dedicated service and unselfish sacrifices clearly have shown to all that today's Citizen Airmen bring a combat capability and a devotion to duty that is unprecedented.

Although increased security measures, both at home and abroad, have been initiated, it is absolutely essential that we continue to reinforce, to all of our members, the need to remain ever vigilant for challenges to our security measures and for potential areas of vulnerability.

In order to insure we provide the security our personnel, equipment and facilities demand, each of us must undertake, on a daily basis, "extra measures" to seek out areas requiring additional emphasis.

We have the responsibility to ourselves and to our fellow service members to insure we never jeopardize security and safety, as we carry out our assigned duties.

Any compromise of security and safety is unacceptable and must never be condoned.

While our achievements to date, in support of Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Enduring Freedom, have been exceptional, we have experienced several mishaps/incidents, which give me considerable concern.

AFRC members have sustained serious injuries and we have had extensive equipment damages as the result of aircraft taxi accidents, cargo loading accidents, and failure to follow established flight operations procedures. In each case, these



Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III

injuries/damages were preventable. However, for reasons unknown, actions were not taken which would have stopped the unsafe practices prior to the injury/damage.

We each have the responsibility to follow established procedures in all of our operations and to immediately stop any actions which are contrary to the sound operational procedures we all know to be proper.

Every mission we undertake must include security and safety as essential elements of our plan of action, if we are to be successful in carrying out our responsibilities.

Through our maintaining the highest state of vigilance, we insure safe, efficient mission accomplishment and the safe return of our very talented, dedicated personnel.

General returns as vice commander

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.—When Maj. Gen. John J. Batbie Jr. became the vice commander of Air Force Reserve Command Dec. 5, it was as much a homecoming as an advancement in his career.

Batbie, who served as director of Mobilization and Reserve Component Affairs for U.S. Eu-

ropean Command in Stuttgart, Germany, replaced Maj. Gen. David R. Smith, who retires effective Dec. 31.

"I spent a year and a half in the purple-suit, joint service world and while they are good people and it was a great assignment, it's not the same as being with people you have grown up

with and are accustomed to," Batbie said.

"While there are some new bright, cheerful faces at Headquarters AFRC, there are still some gray beards here who make this job comfortable. It was great walking through the door – truly a coming home," he said.

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Chaplain's Message

Looking forward in 2002

By Chap. Charles Peters
931st ARG

New Year's Eve and Day is a time to look forward to the beginning of a new year. There is usually a joy because of a sense of hope and expectancy – hoping and expecting success; hoping and expecting happiness; hoping and expecting opportunities.

But there is also a feeling of anxiety because of all the uncertainty of what tomorrow may hold. Human nature demands that we put our trust in someone or something, and I suggest you put your trust in God for the new year of your life.

Psalm 40:3 says, "He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God..." and verse four says, "Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust..."

Let God put a new song in your mouth this new year as you put your trust in him for your tomorrows because:

- With God there is peace when facing uncertainty
- With God there is hope when in despair
- With God there is comfort when in distress
- With God there is strength when in adversity
- With God there is courage when in danger
- With God there is light (wisdom) when in darkness (confusion)

Paul's words in Romans 15:13 make a good prayer for the new year and it's my prayer for each of you:

"May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

4 flying wings get new commanders

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.—Command of four Air Force Reserve Command flying wings will change hands effective Feb. 10.

Col. Dean J. Despinoy, former 931st Air Refueling Group commander, will become the new commander of the group's parent unit, the 507th Air Refueling Wing, Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. Despinoy is currently the commander of the 934th Airlift Wing, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Air Reserve Station, Minn.

Col. Timothy J. Wrighton, commander of the 507th ARW, transfers to command the 452nd Air Mobility Wing, March Air Reserve Base, Calif. He replaces Col. Peter T. Bentley, who will retire.

Col. Gary L. Cook, chief of the operations division for 4th Air Force, March ARB, moves to Minneapolis to command the 934th AW.

Col. James N. Stewart, commander of the 94th Operations Group, Dobbins ARB, Ga., steps up to command the 908th AW, Maxwell AFB, Ala. He replaces Col. Thomas R. Brown, who will retire.

AFRC News Service

Spirit Spotlight
Tech. Sgt.
Chris Crosser
931st Aircraft Generation Squadron

This month's Spotlight selectee is a Mansfield, Mo., native and has been in the Air Force for 18 years. After serving 12 years on active-duty, he has spent the past six in the Air Force Reserve.

Job title: Comm/Nav Technician

Civilian job: Student, majoring in history

What I'm reading now: U.S. history from 1877 to the Present

What I'm listening to now: Piano and guitar instrumentals

Favorite way to relax: Fishing and hunting

Easiest way to annoy me: People who complain about the small things

Most influential people in my life: My parents

If I won \$1 million, I would: Give some of it to my family, give some to my church and invest the rest of it.





Around the Air Force



Changes affect Reserve officer promotion policies

By **Tech. Sgt. Scott Elliott**
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON—Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche approved or released two new policies Dec. 19 that provide sweeping changes to the Air Force Reserve officer promotion system.

These policies will not impact the Air National Guard.

The first change reduces time-in-grade requirements for promotion to captain from five years to two years. The second establishes separate competitive categories for officers in the selected and nonselected Reserve.

“The (time-in-grade) change will result in a one-time increase of about 300 eligibles to the grade of captain,” said Maj. Douglas A. Young, chief of the promotion and evaluation policy branch for the office of the Air Force Reserve. “There is a nominal programming cost to implement this change.”

More than 12,000 officers have joined the Reserve in the ranks of captain or higher since 1996, Young said. Those officers had the opportunity of mandatory promotion to captain at four years time in grade or less. During the same time frame, only about 2,000 officers who had been commissioned into the Reserve as lieutenants were considered for promotion to captain.

“Without this change,” Young said, “we were prohibiting our ‘home-grown’ lieutenants from promotion consideration until the four- to five-year mark, while officers in the active duty component were being considered with two years time in grade.”

“This is a fairness and equity issue — especially in light of the high (operations tempo) the Reserve (has) attained in the past few years,” Young said. “This will permit our home-grown lieutenants to be considered in the same time frame as active-

duty officers.”

The new time-in-grade policy goes into effect immediately for fiscal 2003 captain promotion boards for all competitive categories in the Air Force Reserve.

Beginning with the major’s board in February, officers in the selected Reserve will compete against each other by competitive categories and those officers assigned to nonselected Reserve will compete against each other by competitive category.

The competitive categories include line officers, chaplains, judge advocates, biomedical science corps, medical service corps, nurse corps, medical corps and dental corps.

Separate promotion quotas for selected Reserve and nonselected Reserve officers will also be developed.

“Selected Reserve officers participate (in weekend and annual drills), are paid, accumulate points and receive evaluation reports,” Young said.

“Nonselected Reserve officers fall into two categories: those who participate for points and evaluation reports only, and those who earn membership points only.

When nonselected Reserve officers were promoted in the past, Young said, those promotions came at the expense of selected Reserve officers. “Each quota spent on a nonparticipating nonselect Reserve officer leads to the potential loss of a twice-deferred participating selected Reserve officer.”

“Since our quota is based on the selected Reserve population, it should apply only to them,” Young said. “Establishing a separate competitive category with its own quota would ensure those officers who have demonstrated potential to serve in a higher grade in the nonselected Reserve are afforded the opportunity for promotion without penalizing the selected Reserve.”

Nation observes Martin Luther King holiday, Jan. 21

By **Rudi Williams**
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—Monday, Jan. 21, 2002, marks the nation’s 16th observance of the legal holiday honoring slain civil rights leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner Martin Luther King Jr.

King was born Jan. 15, 1929. Legislation creating the holiday

in his honor names the third Monday of January as the day on which it is observed.

Legislators created the holiday in 1985 to serve as a time for Americans to reflect on the principles of racial equality and nonviolent social change espoused by King.

King’s widow, Coretta Scott King, served as chair of the federal commission planning the

first nine-day observance of the holiday the following year.

“For the first time in the history of this great nation, we’re honoring a peacemaker, a messenger of nonviolence — a drum major for justice, love and righteousness who was a native son of America,” she said.

“Where others preached hatred, he taught the principles of love, nonviolence and a patriotic

commitment to making democracy work for all Americans,” she said.

“Martin’s day, therefore, should be a time for peace and nonviolence in all our human relationships and in every aspect of our personal lives . . . a day when all of us put aside our differences and join in a spirit of togetherness in recognition of our common humanity.”

931ST ARG SENIOR NCOS, NCOS INDUCTED



Spirit Photo/Tech. Sgt. David Brumley

Members of the 931st ARG Honor Guard, (from left to right), Tech. Sgt. Randy Brown, Staff Sgt. Brad Fields, Staff Sgt. Nathan Parks, and Tech. Sgt. Roxanne Howard, perform at the NCO Induction Ceremony during the December UTA. The induction ceremony marked the first public performance by the newly-formed 931st Honor Guard. Any unit members interested in volunteering for the honor guard can contact MSgt. Charles Smith, 931st Security Forces, at ext. 5989.



Spirit Photo/Tech. Sgt. David Brumley

Spirit Photo/Tech. Sgt. David Brumley
Staff Sgt. Jodi McGill, 931st AGS (center), salutes Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III, commander, AFRC (left), during the 931st ARG's recent NCO/SNCO Induction Ceremony. Staff Sgt. Alicia Bowers, 931st OSF (right), is next in line to accept congratulations from Sherrard.

Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III, commander, AFRC (left), shakes hands with MSgt. John Wallman, 18th ARS, during the 931st NCO Induction Ceremony as MSgt. Ray Patterson, 931st AGS looks on. Sherrard and AFRC Command Chief Master Sgt. Cheryl Adams were on hand to congratulate more than 35 new NCOs and Senior NCOs.

Spirit Shorts

New PME Credit

The new ALS via correspondence, course 01, has been evaluated and is now worth 8 hours of credit. Those enrolled on Jan. 3 or later will automatically receive this PME credit upon course completion.

Hometown News

Have you just been promoted or received an achievement medal? These are just two of many events that qualify you to fill out a hometown news release. Once you've completed the form, an announcement will be sent to your hometown newspaper to publicize your achievements.

Examples of qualifying events for the program include promotions, awarding of the achievement medal and above, re-enlistments, obtaining a col-

lege degree, winning airman of the quarter and many more.

Stop by the Public Affairs office in Rm. 221 to fill out your Hometown News Release.

Movin' On Up

Congratulations to the following members for completing Professional Military Education or formal technical training.

In residence PME graduates: Captains **Mike Moeding**, **John Pece** and **TJ Tarr** from the 18th ARS all completed Squadron Officer School in December. **SrA Brandon Yandell**, 931st MSF, completed Airman Leadership School in December.

The following recently completed PME via correspondence:

TSgt. Christine Lewis, 18th ARS, 6 (NCOA)

The following recently completed or will soon complete for-

mal training:

A1C William Baker, Jr., 931st AGS, Guidance & Control 3 level school; **A1C Crystal Maxton**, 931st OSF, Intelligence 3 level school; **SrA Jennifer Myers**, 931st AFM, Aeromedical 3 level school; **SSgt. Edwin Espinoza**, 931st AMF, Aeromedical 3 level school; **SSgt. Michael Kissire**, 18th ARS, Inflight Refueler school.

Retrainees: **SrA Brent Robinson**, 931st CES, is retraining from Information Management to Structural.

Need to outprocess?

If you need to out process for TDY, reassignment or retirement, keep in mind that on UTA weekends the Military Pay Office (Traci or Dee) is only open for business on Saturdays from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. For infor-

mation, contact Tech. Sgt. Anick Wallace at Ext. 3665.

MPF Training

MSgt Kasl will provide training for all 3As and 3Cs on Sunday of the UTA. The location is Bldg. 850, in Rm. 217, from 9-11 a.m.

One-Stop Travel Pay

All members of the 931st are required to turn in completed travel vouchers to Reserve Pay at the time they file AF 938, travel orders. FM will then review the voucher for accuracy, log it in to be tracked, and turn it in to 22nd ARW Travel Pay.

It is expected this will expedite processing of vouchers and cut down on rejected and lost vouchers. For questions, call Traci Teachout at Ext. 3615 or Mary Borst at Ext. 3657.

Health risk assessments implemented

By **MSgt. Lea Shivley**
931st AMDF

In years past, periodic non-fly physical examinations were accomplished every five years.

Aircrew members had a physical every year ("long" physical examination every three years). In addition to a physical examination, unit members were also required to complete an AF Form 895-"Health Certification."

This method of ensuring a fit and healthy force did not meet the Air Force philosophy of Preventative Care Standards. Additionally, the AF Form 895 asked members very broad questions about their health status. When members reported for a physical examination they could count on a battery of

tests that may not even be needed (based on family history, health risk factors, lifestyle, etc.)

Now there is a new way of protecting the health of member, the Reserve Component Periodic Health Assessment, or RCPHA. You may also hear other military acronyms related to this, such as: HRA, or a Health Risk Assessment; or PHAM, a Periodic Health Assessment Monitor. This person may be a Physician Assistant, Nurse Practitioner, Family Practice doctor, or a Flight Surgeon.

RCPHA is a web-based program that all members will have some level of access to. They may access the site either from their personal home computers or from their Reserve unit. Every year members will complete a HRA; based on their birth month. Members may com-

plete their HRA six months prior to their birth month. After the member successfully completes their HRA a counseling letter will be generated, based on lifestyle health risk factors.

As a minimum, for the first year all members will complete a HRA, verify their immunizations are current for a worldwide duty status, and return a completed DD Form 2813-"DOD Reserve Forces Dental Examination."

Every year members will receive a Dental Examination. However, since the Dental component of RCPHA has not been brought online all that is required is to request your civilian dentist complete DD Form 2813. If a member does not have dental insurance they may enroll in TRICARE Selected Reserve Dental Program.

Air Force Reserve Units and Personnel Activated (as of Jan. 2)

908 th Airlift Wing	Maxwell AFB, Ala.	52
349 th Air Mobility Wing	Travis AFB, Calif.	314
370 th Flight Test Squadron	March ARB, Calif.	4
452 nd Air Mobility Wing	March ARB, Calif.	151
4 th Air Force Headquarters	March ARB, Calif.	20
940 th Air Refueling Wing	Beale AFB, Calif.	51
302 nd Airlift Wing	Peterson AFB, Colo.	672
310 th Space Group	Peterson AFB, Colo.	81
512 th Airlift Wing	Dover AFB, Del.	317
482 nd Fighter Wing	Homestead ARB, Fla.	111
622 nd Aeromedical Squadron	MacDill AFB, Fla.	28
919 th Special Operations Wing	Eglin AFB, Fla.	560
920 th Rescue Group	Patrick AFB, Fla.	190
944 th Fighter Wing	Luke AFB, Ariz.	91
22 nd Air Force Headquarters	Dobbins ARB, Ga.	22
94 th Airlift Wing	Dobbins ARB, Ga.	118
Headquarters AFRC	Robins AFB, Ga.	32
932 nd Airlift Wing	Scott AFB, Ill.	59
954 th Reserve Support Flight	Scott AFB, Ill.	13
434 th Air Refueling Wing	Grissom ARB, Ind.	457
931 st Air Refueling Group	McConnell AFB, Kan.	4
917 th Wing	Barksdale AFB, La.	382
926 th Fighter Wing	JRB New Orleans, La.	54
439 th Airlift Wing	Westover ARB, Mass.	1041
459 th Airlift Wing	Andrews AFB, Md.	61
927 th Air Refueling Wing	Selfridge ANGB, Mich.	57
934 th Airlift Wing	Mpls-St. Paul, Minn.	91
442 nd Fighter Wing	Whiteman AFB, Miss.	68
403 rd Wing	Keesler AFB, Miss.	50
916 th Air Refueling Wing	Seymour-Johnson AFB, N.C.	242
610 th Intelligence Flight	Offutt AFB, Neb.	32
514 th Airlift Wing	McGuire AFB, N.J.	151
914 th Airlift Wing	Niagara Falls IAP, N.Y.	84
722 nd Aeromedical Squadron	Ft. Hamilton, N.Y.	1
445 th Airlift Wing	Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio	75
910 th Airlift Wing	Youngstown ARS, Ohio	62
507 th Air Refueling Wing	Tinker AFB, Okla.	54
513 th Air Control Group	Tinker AFB, Okla.	231
939 th Rescue Wing	Portland IAP, Ore.	21
911 th Airlift Wing	Pittsburgh IAP, Pa.	79
913 th Airlift Wing	Willow Grove ARS, Pa.	82
315 th Airlift Wing	Charleston AFB, S.C.	426
301 st Fighter Wing	JRB Ft. Worth, Texas	59
433 rd Airlift Wing	Lackland AFB, Texas	1065
610 th Security Forces Squadron	JRB Ft. Worth, Texas	95
710 th Intelligence Flight	Lackland AFB, Texas	32
810 th Civil Engineer Flight	JRB Ft. Worth, Texas	12
419 th Fighter Wing	Hill AFB, Utah	65
953 rd Reserve Support Squadron	Norfolk, Va.	3
446 th Airlift Wing	McChord AFB, Wash.	99
440 th Airlift Wing	General Mitchell IAP, Wis.	89

Mobilization

Continued from Page 1

tive duty for the first time. In addition to other kinds of airlifters, the command flies a vast array of planes, including air refueling, bomber, fighter, rescue, special operations and weather reconnaissance aircraft, as well as helicopters.

Other mobilized reservists from around the command include aircraft maintenance, civil engineer, security forces, medical and space operations personnel.

Major units not affected by the call-up are the 340th Flying Training Group and the 622nd Flight Test Group because of the nature of their missions.

In addition to mobilized reservists, the command has about 2,000 unit reservists and IMAs on duty every day as volunteers. One week after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, more than 7,200 volunteered for various duties.

The total number of reservists currently on active-duty in support of the partial mobilization for the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve is 30,628; Army National Guard and Army Reserve, 17,952; Naval Reserve, 9,193; Marine Corps Reserve, 1,492; and the Coast Guard Reserve 2,108. This brings the total Reserve and National Guard on active-duty to 61,373 from 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and individual augmentees.

AFRC and DOD News Service

Thrift Savings

The deadline for military members to enroll in the civilian federal employees Thrift Savings Plan has been extended to Jan. 31. Servicemembers can contribute up to 7 percent of their basic pay initially with incremental increases to 10 percent by 2005. Servicemembers can contribute all or a percentage of any special pay, incentive pay or bonus pay up to \$10,500 for members not in a combat zone. Combat zone contributions will be subject to 25 percent of pay or \$35,000, whichever is less. For information, visit www.tsp.gov/uniserv/forms/index.html.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Shane Cuomo

Easy Does It

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM (AFPN)—An Air Force crew chief from the 405th Air Expeditionary Wing guides an E-3A Sentry Airborne Warning and Control System aircraft into its parking spot at an Operation Enduring Freedom location. The radar and computer subsystems on the E-3 Sentry can gather and present broad and detailed battlefield information. Data is collected as events occur. This includes position and tracking information on enemy aircraft and ships, and location and status of friendly aircraft and naval vessels.

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