

Happy New Year

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January 1998

Vol. 3, No. 1

Kanza

SPIRIT

Air Force Reserve's first Associate KC-135 Unit

## Briefs

### Little reminders

Anyone who received their flu shot at the mass immunization at Emerald City needs to bring their shot record to the January UTA. You need to take them to the flight surgeons office so our files can be updated.

Also, if you have not gotten your DNA done it must be completed ASAP. You cannot be deployed without it. If you live within the immediate area, contact your orderly room about coming in to get it done. If you're outside the immediate area, contact the flight surgeons office in January so we can have an accurate head count for the February UTA.

### JOLDS II Seminar

The next Junior Officers Leadership Development Program (JOLDS) Seminar will be in Charleston Apr. 23-26. One Junior Officer from our unit is eligible to attend. See *Base Training* for the "specifics". Suspense for applications is the end of the January UTA.

### Unexcused absences

Effectively IMMEDIATELY, it now takes nine unexcused absences to be involuntarily reassigned to the inactive reserve. Involuntary demotion may also occur!

### Anthrax or not?

During the UTA, the flight surgeons office will try to have some information regarding the news of all active duty and reserve personnel receiving the Anthrax vaccine. This information should enable medical personnel to answer many questions you may have.

## Unit wins award for meritorious service

By Staff Sgt. Barbara Davis  
*Kanza Spirit Editor*

"The distinguished accomplishments of the members of the 931<sup>st</sup> Air Refueling Group reflects great credit upon themselves and the United States Air Force."

Do those words sound familiar to you? They should because if you have ever received a citation or been present while someone else was getting one you would have heard that sentence read.

The 931<sup>st</sup> ARG is scheduled to be awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for exceptionally meritorious service from Nov. 1, 1995 to Oct. 31, 1997. The award was announced Dec. 2 at the 4<sup>th</sup> Air Force Commanders Conference. "It was a marvelous testament to the hard work and spirit of the people of the 931<sup>st</sup>. To my knowledge no unit has ever won this award their second year of existence," Col. Dean Despinoy, commander of 931<sup>st</sup> Air Refueling Group said.

The AFOUA is authorized by the Secretary of the Air Force to units that have distinguished themselves by exceptionally meritorious service or outstanding achievement that clearly sets the unit above and apart from

similar units.

The award was based on an outline of all the accomplishments of the unit during the award period. "Every member truly played a part in winning this award and should take great pride. I was delighted that headquarters is acknowledging what I recognized from my first day, the unique abilities and spirit of this unit. I am truly privileged to serve with such a professional group," Despinoy said.

Every member of the 931<sup>st</sup> ARG will be authorized to wear the ribbon while in the unit whether they were an actual member during the aforementioned time frame or not. Individuals who were not members in the time frame are not authorized to wear the ribbon when they leave the unit.

Ribbons will be provided for members, with the exception of members who already have been awarded the ribbon before. Members who have been awarded the ribbon before will have to purchase their own cluster(s).

As soon as Military Personnel Flight receives the order granting authorization of the award your awards record will be automatically updated.

## Air Generation Squadron forms advisory council

By Staff Sgt. David Brumley  
*Kanza Spirit Staff Writer*

Members of the 931<sup>st</sup> Air Generation Squadron (AGS) attended a party Dec. 6 to celebrate Christmas, but this was not your average Christmas party. This party was planned and carried out by a new group of individuals in the unit. The individuals aren't new but the group is. This new group is called

the Unit Advisory Council.

Staff Sgt. Robert Lorenz, an electro-environmental specialist with the 931<sup>st</sup> AGS and Master Sgt. Greg Bourgeois, 931<sup>st</sup> AGS first sergeant, spearheaded the formation of the new 11 member volunteer group. "We established the UAC for the enlisted person to have another avenue to deal with problems they may have and they weren't able to use their

**See UAC page 7**

# Happy New Year

By Col. Dean Despinoy  
931st ARG Commander

The 931<sup>st</sup> is starting the new year on the right foot. I recently returned from the 4<sup>th</sup> Air Force Commander's Conference where the 931<sup>st</sup> fared very well in almost all areas. I was very pleased not to be in the lime light for other than good reasons.

The highlight of the conference, for me, was when it was announced that the 931 Air Refueling Group was named the AFRC Outstanding Unit for 1997. Gen. Whaley will try to personally present this award to us in the near future.

I was also just informed that the last obstacle to our move to the new building has been overcome and by the time you read this we should be making final preparation for a move the third week of January. Moving into this new facility will be a fantastic way to start the new year.

I count on everyone to ensure that this building will remain pristine and functional for many years to come.

During my commander's call this

month, we will recognize and induct all NCOs who were promoted since the unit's stand-up. I think that you will be surprised at the number of personnel that have been promoted in such a short time. It speaks well of the opportunities that exist within the 931<sup>st</sup> and the talents and professionalism of our people.

In addition to presenting quarterly and annual awards to individuals, we will recognize achievement in PME and advanced education. These are people who have spent countless hours in self-betterment and making themselves more valuable to the 931<sup>st</sup> and the Air Force.

When we look back on this new year we will recognize it as a time of growth. The unit will expand to 32 crews by September 1998. This year, as does every year, will present new challenges. It is my pledge to say "NO" to taskings when it is appropriate or it stretches us too thin.

I count on you and the commanders to inform me when the operations tempo becomes too great. This is a unit of dedicated patriots with whom I am proud to serve. I hope to fill all reasonable tasking,



Col. Dean J. Despinoy

but also make sure that we still have fun.

Help me create an environment where people can thrive, do their duty, be professionals, and above all enjoy every minute of their time here.

Happy New Year.

## "Year of the Enlisted Force"

By Maj. Gen. Robert McIntosh  
AFRC Commander

Air Mobility Command has selected "Year of the Enlisted Force" as their theme for fiscal year 1998. Because we provide the largest share of our combat ready forces to AMC, this is a unique opportunity for us to focus as well on the enlisted men and women who distinguish themselves daily.

Air Force Reserve Command shares an important common factor with every other military organization; without our enlisted force, we could not exist. The professionalism, technical skill and dedication to duty of these specialists, technicians and first-line managers are key to our combat readiness.

This is an excellent opportunity to publicly recognize the contributions of our enlisted force and for all of us to better under-

stand the important roles they play. Our enlisted corps has been the backbone of the Air Force Reserve from the beginning.

As we celebrate our golden anniversary, I encourage all enlisted reservists to renew commitments to service and professionalism. With a new century around the corner, your continued efforts are crucial to our continued success.

### Kanza Spirit

Volume 3, No. 1

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**931st Commander**  
Col. Dean Despinoy

**NCOIC, Public Affairs**  
Tech. Sgt. Brian Bowman

**Staff Writer, Public Affairs**  
Staff Sgt. David Brumley

**Chief, Public Affairs**  
Capt. Dave Fruck

**Editor, Public Affairs**  
Staff Sgt. Barbara Davis

**Congratulations to Senior Airman Russell Hunt from 931<sup>st</sup> ARG Intelligence on his graduation from Airman Leadership School (ALS), Dec. 12, 1997. Hunt is the fourth member of the 931st ARG to graduate from ALS. Job well done!**



# Office of Air Force Reserve turns 30 in January

By Dr. Kenneth C. Kan  
Headquarters AFRC

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — On Jan. 1, the Office of Air Force Reserve celebrates the 30th anniversary of its establishment by the Air Force. The action reflected, in-part, congressional action designed to thwart on-going Department of Defense attempts to merge the Army's Reserve and Guard components.

In the early 1960s, Air Force leadership pursued the idea of merging its own Reserve and Guard components. These policy makers, however, recognized the idea's highly political na-

ture and deliberated the merits of which component, the Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard would be dissolved during the merger. Ultimately, the secretary of Air Force directed that the Air Force prepare a proposal for Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara's approval that entailed merging Reserve units into the Air National Guard.

By the mid-1960s, however, Secretary McNamara and Congress were engaged in a spirited debate over his efforts to merge the Army's Reserve units into the National Guard. Congressional critics not only opposed the idea on face value but also because many perceived this

course of action as an example of Secretary McNamara infringing upon Congress' prerogative in providing for the organization, welfare and upkeep of the reserve components. The ensuing battle between Secretary McNamara and Congress took on such importance that he never acted on the Air Force's merger proposal.

In 1967, Congress drafted legislation designed to solidify the reserve components and effectively end the merger question. The Department of Defense declined to testify as it still favored merger. The final legislation passed in November 1967 and on Dec. 1, 1967, Presi-

**See 30, page 7**

## Happy Birthday to us, how old are we?

By Tech. Sgt. Randy Brown Jr.  
931st ARG Historian

Are you interested in military history? Do you know that the Air Force Reserve is turning 50? If you have an interest in military history then this is prime time for you! Throughout the next year the AF Re-

serve will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary. The AF Reserve began operating as a separate service on Apr. 4, 1948.



1948-1998

While we are celebrating the history of the AF Reserve let us also remember our own history. This coming January and

February will mark 35 years since the con-

stitution and activation of the 931<sup>st</sup>, at Bakalar AFB, Ind.

First operations began under the designation 931st Troop Carrier Group, Medium, flying the C-119 "Flying Boxcar." Unit designations and missions have been numerous, to include airlift, air support, special ops, fighter, and air refueling.

With the many mission changes, various aircraft have also been utilized. These aircraft include the O2 "Skymaster", U3 "Blue Canoe", T37 "Dragonfly", and KC-135A "Stratotanker".

For more information on unit history contact me at X6935.

## Air Force Reserve January History.....

**Jan. 10, 1958:** The first two air reserve technicians, Master Sgt. Samuel C. McCormack of the 446<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Wing, Ellington Air Force Base, Texas, and Tech. Sgt. James W. Clark of the 65<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron, Davis Field, Okla., entered the ART program.

**Jan. 1, 1968:** The Air Force organized the Office of Air Force Reserve under Maj. Gen. Tom E. Marchbanks Jr., a Reserve officer called to active duty. Marchbanks became the first chief of Air Force Reserve.

**Jan. 17, 1991:** Desert Shield became Desert Storm as allied aircraft launched massive air strikes against Baghdad and other military targets throughout occupied Kuwait and Iraq.

**Jan. 19, 1991:** President Bush declared a national emergency and ordered the partial

mobilization of the Ready Reserve for up to 12 months.

**Jan. 1, 1993:** The Air Force Reserve activated the 7<sup>th</sup> Space Operations Squadron, the first Reserve unit of its kind, at Falcon Air Force Station, Colo.

**Jan. 17, 1994:** A C-5 aircraft and crew from the 433<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Wing, Kelly AFB, Texas, transported emergency teams and cargo from Travis AFB, Calif., to Los Angeles after an earthquake rocked the city. Within a week, reservists from March AFB, Calif., were trained to assist federal and state employees at Federal Emergency Management Agency field offices.

**Jan. 1, 1995:** The Air Force Reserve activated its first KC-135 associate unit, the 931<sup>st</sup> Air Refueling Group, at McConnell AFB, Kan.

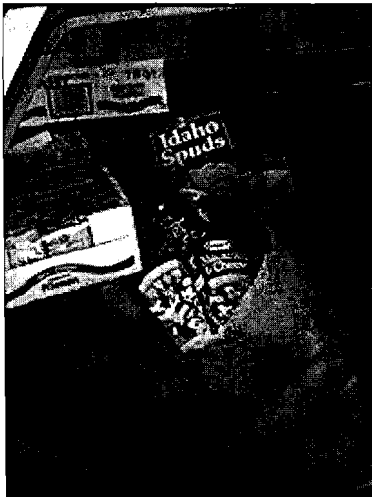


Photo by Staff Sgt. Barbara Davis

### Gift of Love

931st Air Refueling Group collected groceries and money for the needy at McConnell Air Force Base for Thanksgiving. They were able to donate over \$200 worth of groceries.

# SPIRIT Spotlight

NAME: **Randolph D. Brown Jr.**  
 RANK: **Tech. Sgt.**  
 FROM: **Willits, California**  
 UNIT: **931<sup>st</sup> ARG**  
 DUTY TITLE: **Aerospace Historian**  
 CIVILIAN POSITION: **Truck Driver**  
 FAVORITE FOOD: **Pizza**  
 FAVORITE MUSIC: **Contemporary Christian**  
 FAVORITE MOVIE: **Somewhere in Time**  
 HOBBIES: **Canoeing, photography and writing poetry**  
 IDEAL VACATION: **Canoe trip to Boundary Waters Canoe Area in Northern Minnesota**  
 BEST WAY TO RELAX: **Spending quality time with friends**  
 PET PEEVE: **Inattentive drivers**  
 WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH A \$1 MILLION? **Invest in national and international humanitarian efforts.**



Photo by Staff Sgt. Barbara Davis

## Personnel News....

### Military Personnel Flight Hours

The core hours of operation for the MPF are as follows:

Monday - Friday 0730 - 1600  
 Saturday - UTA 1000 - 1600  
 Sunday - UTA 1000 - 1600

### SGLI update

Currently, all service members are afforded the opportunity to elect up to \$200,000 coverage under the SGLI. If you are unsure of the coverage you have elected or the beneficiary you have chosen, please contact Customer Service at X-3593.

### Ancillary Training for Newcomers

Because we WON'T be moving into the new building this month, we will still hold these classes in the CES building on Saturday afternoon. Time will be from 1230 - 1615.

### Outprocessing

All personnel scheduled to do any of the following items TDY for 30 days or more, Retirement, TDY to School tour, Assignment or Separation from unit must outprocess through Personnel Relocations - contact Master Sgt. Dee Melvin at X-3637 for more information.

### PEP Nomination Packages

ATTENTION SUPERVISORS: PEP packages are due to the MPF Career Enhancement office NLT Jan 11. PEP rosters were sent to each unit for the January UTA. Nomination format can be obtained from the Career Enhancement office.

### CDC Recognition Award

Congratulations to our first recipients of this award! Tech Sgt. Angela Chatmon (MSF), Staff Sgt. Frank Avila (AGS), Staff Sgt. Mark Jacobs (AGS), and Staff Sgt. Mike Faulk (AGS) all received a 90% or higher score on their mandatory CDC end of course exam. Col Despinoy will present their awards at the January Commander's Call. WELL DONE!!

## REFER A FRIEND !!

There are positions available within the 931st ARG. Help your unit recruit by providing them a name of a friend or have them contact one their area recruiters listed below:

**MCCONNELL AFB, KS**  
 MSgt Terry Gosh (316) 652-4350  
 MSgt Lester Shaw, Jr. (316) 652-3766

**TINKER & VANCE AFB, OK**  
 MSgt Al Garza (405) 734-5331

**ALTUS AFB, OK & LAWTON, OK**  
 MSgt Larry Gillos (405) 357-2784

**SHEPPARD AFB, TX**  
 MSgt Bob Wright (817) 676-3382

**MIDWEST CITY, OK**  
 MSgt Linda Smith  
 TSgt Erick Gilck  
 (405) 733-9493

## UTA Schedule for FY 98

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| Jan.  | 10-11 |
| Feb.  | 7-8   |
| March | 7-8   |
| April | 4-5   |
| June  | 6-7   |
| May   | 2-3   |
| July  | 18-19 |
| Aug.  | 22-23 |
| Sept. | 12-13 |

**Family Care Plans**

"Keep the fires burning, I'll be back soon". Ahhh... some members believe all their family, business, and financial matters will run smoothly at the time of deployment. If a major deployment occurred today would you be ready? AFI 36-2908, Family Care Plans, states that all Air Force members will ensure their family members are provided for during the absence of the member (ie. UTA, TDY, annual tour, etc). All single parents, dual military couples with dependents and members with civilian spouses who have unique family situations (as determined by the commander) MUST complete an AF Form 357, Family Care Certification. This is a vital part of our READINESS process. Questions may be directed to your First Sergeant or squadron Family Care Plans Monitor.

**DANTES Testing to begin**

DANTES testing will be available during the UTA beginning in February (contingent upon our move to the new building). Reservists, their spouses, or AFRC civilians are encouraged to take advantage of this Command sponsored benefit! Testing will be on a "by appoint only" basis to assure we have the exam on file. Those wishing to test in February need to schedule by the end of the January UTA.

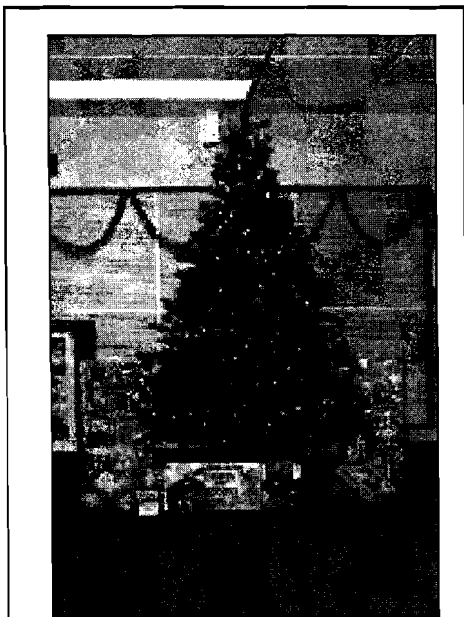


Photo by Staff Sgt. Barbara Davis

**Merry Christmas**

The 931st ARG collected \$210.50 which bought 46 toys for Christmas for needy children. Seventeen McConnell children will have a little something extra under the tree this year.

**Record of Emergency Data (DD Form 93)**

This is the single most important source of information within your personnel record for dependent data and notification of next-of-kin in an emergency. If data is incomplete or incorrect, the Air Force cannot extend dependent benefits, and timely or proper notification cannot be made in the event of injury, serious illness, or death while on duty. You are the only one who can keep this document current. Remember, there is no such thing as a minor error on this form. Check the form in your mobility folder. If any information is in error or out of date, come by the MPF Customer Service to update the information. You may be one of the lucky ones who escape injury or illness, but can you afford the risk?

**Looking Ahead**

- March 2-8**  
Unit Readiness Training Exercise  
"Phoenix Buddy" 98
- March**  
Southwest Asia Support (Desert Storm)
- April/May**  
Joint Exercise with 22 ARW
- May**  
Silver Flag
- June**  
Unit Compliance Inspection
- Summer**  
Major Accident Response Exercise
- Nov**  
Operational Readiness Exercise
- Mar 99**  
Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI)

***Integrity first, service  
before self and excellence  
in all we do***

**Professional Military Education**

**Airman Leadership School:**

We have one ALS quota left for class dates: Jul 28 - Aug 28. Interested Senior Airman may obtain an application from Base Training.

**AFRC NCO Leadership Development Program (NCOLDP):**

Carswell has offered our members space in their classes. Dates are: Feb. 14 - 22 ; Apr. 11 - 19 ; Jun. 13 - 21 ; or Aug. 8 - 16. Interested Staff Sgts. and Tech.Sgts. should contact Base Training for further information. Tinker has also offered us slots. Their dates are Jan. 12-16 & Feb. 2 - 6 . Members going to Tinker must attend BOTH sessions.

**Command NCO Academy (in-residence):**

Classes will be held at Goodfellow AFB, TX. Our dates are: Feb. 24 - Apr. 2, Jun. 1 - Jul. 9, or Aug. 3-Sep.10. Interested Tech. Sgts. (and Staff Sgts. with eight years time in service) should complete an AFRC Form 129 (available at Base Training). Applications for June dates must be turned in NLT April UTA.

**SR NCO Academy (in-residence):**

Dates have been announced for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of FY'98. They are: May 13 - Jun. 24 , Jul. 29 - Aug. 19 and Sep. 8 - Oct. 20. Interested Master Sgts. should contact Base Training for application procedures (X-3587 or X-3673).

**Going places**

- Jan. 5 - Jan. 9 Charleston AFB SC
- Jan. 13 - Jan. 16 Seattle
- Jan. 17 - Jan. 22 Travis AFB CA
- Jan. 23 - Jan. 26 Hawaii
- Feb. 2 - Feb. 6 Davis Monthan AFB AZ
- Feb. 10 - Feb. 15 Mildenhall, UK
- Feb. 12 - Feb. 19 Roosevelt Roads
- Feb. 21 - Feb. 26 Travis AFB CA
- Feb. 27-March 2 Travis AFB CA

**931<sup>st</sup> Airman / NCO of the Quarter**

The Board will be held on Saturday, Jan. 10 at 1400. Members should report to the Group Conference room at 1345.

The Airman / NCO of the Quarter Schedule:

| Nomination Quarter | Board Date | Due to DPMS |
|--------------------|------------|-------------|
| Jan - Mar 98       | April UTA  | March UTA   |
| Apr - Jun 98       | July UTA   | June UTA    |

# Act provides additional benefits for reservists

WASHINGTON — The 1998 Defense Authorization Act signed by the president Nov. 18 gives Air Force Reserve Command greater force stability and additional benefits for its members.

In addition, the act includes a 2.8 percent military pay raise. It also extends the period of eligibility for Selected Reserve reenlistment bonuses from members with less than 10 years total military service to members with less than 14 years service.

After a steady decline in end strength for the past six years, the Reserve end strength rises by more than 100 authorizations from 73,311 in fiscal year 1997 to 73,447 in FY 1998.

Maj. Gen. Robert A. McIntosh, AFRC commander, praised Congress for stabilizing the force and offering reservists improved benefits. His continuing goal is to improve benefits for reservists.

One provision of the defense bill improves medical and dental care and death and disability benefits for reservists. The provision entitles reservists, whose orders are modified or extended while the member

is being treated for or recovering from an injury in the line of duty, to medical care on the same basis as active duty.

The authorization bill terminates the Ready Reserve Mobilization Income Insurance Program, something that would have helped Air Force reservists if tasked to involuntarily support an operation for an extended period of time. At the same time, the bill creates a new category of members of the Individual Ready Reserve, who could be subject to recall to active duty under a Presidential Selected Reserve Call-up.

The president can recall up to 30,000 members of this new IRR category. People must volunteer to become part of this new IRR category before they leave active duty and cannot remain in that category for more than 24 months.

The bill eases the time in grade requirement for reserve commissioned officers to retire during any drawdown through Sept. 30, 1999.

A limited number of officers, 2 percent of the active status reserve strength, can retire with not less than two rather than three

years in the highest grade held.

The Reserve may be able to allow some officers to leave the service earlier but it needs a strong infrastructure to perform its mission.

In recent years the Reserve has seen a reduction in military construction dollars to build dormitories, day care centers and other facilities that are directly needed by the active force.

This year Congress added other construction projects to the bill, such as a \$4.2 million aerial port training center at Gen. Mitchell International Airport, Wis., but the president deleted the added military construction projects with line item vetoes.

All military commands will share in the reduction of their headquarters staffs. With a baseline of Oct. 1, 1997, Department of Defense management headquarters and headquarters support activities have five years to reduce their personnel staffs by 25 percent. This reduction is to be phased in by 5 percent each year. (AFRC News Service)

## Reserve crews "help out" active duty in Persian Gulf

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — Air Force Reserve Command aircraft and crews worked along side their active-duty counterparts to provide airlift and air refueling support for the buildup of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf.

That kind of commitment to U.S. national foreign policy will continue into the new year with scheduled KC-135 deployments to Europe and the Middle East to support no-fly missions over Bosnia and Iraq.

Support of the Persian Gulf buildup began Nov. 20 with the deployment of six KC-10 air refueling aircraft flown by 349<sup>th</sup> Air Mobility Wing crews from Travis AFB, Calif. During the

first four days of that operation, Reserve crews flew 20 sorties during the course of 138 hours of flying time.

During the same period, Reserve C-5 crews logged 38 sorties in 246.5 hours, and C-141 crews compiled nearly 39 hours in eight sorties in direct support of the contingency. Reservists also flew 32 C-5, 59 C-141 and 10 C-17 contingency backfill sorties for Air Mobility Command.

These deployments were in response to Iraq's refusal to cease work on the development of weapons of mass destruction, said Department of Defense officials.

Before this recent confronta-

tion with Iraq, the Reserve had already signed up to support contingencies in Europe and the Middle East.

Two KC-135 aircraft and crews from the 507<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing, Tinker AFB, Okla., and two KC-135s and crews from the 452<sup>nd</sup> AMW, March Air Reserve Base, Calif., will deploy in December to Istres, France, to support Deliberate Guard, enforcement of the no-fly zone over Bosnia. A third KC-135 and crew from the 507<sup>th</sup> ARW will launch missions from Aviano Air Base, Italy. Both units will keep people in Europe from Dec. 1 to Jan. 8.

Reserve KC-135s will provide the same kind of support to fighter aircraft over Iraq in Feb-

ruary and March.

Three KC-135s and crews from the 927<sup>th</sup> ARW, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., and a KC-135 and crew from the 940<sup>th</sup> ARW, McClellan AFB, Calif., will operate out of Al Khazr, Saudi Arabia, Feb. 15-28.

During March, the Reserve will send two KC-135s and crews from the 434<sup>th</sup> ARW, Grissom ARB, Ind.; a KC-135 and crew from the 452<sup>nd</sup> AMW, March ARB; a KC-135 and crew from the 507<sup>th</sup> ARW, Tinker AFB; and a KC-135 crew from the 931<sup>st</sup> Air Refueling Group, McConnell AFB, Kan., to Al Khazr. (AFRC News Service)

# Happy New Year





# Inspectors to take smaller, broader look at units

By Master Sgt. M. Gail Floyd  
Headquarters AFRC

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — Beginning Jan. 1, the Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command inspector general will eliminate some of the sting associated with unit inspections.

The IG will continue to concentrate on critical areas - those areas mandated by federal or state law, executive order, Department of Defense directive and key result or objective of the Air Force and Air Force Reserve Command strategic plan.

However, non-critical areas, which may or may not affect the overall performance of the unit, will not be inspected. The IG team will also stop checking unit's self-assessments, which means units will need to rely more heavily on higher headquarters staff assistance visits.

These changes came out of an Air Force Blue Ribbon Commission that met earlier this year to discuss the role of the inspector general in inspections, assessments, evaluations and awards. Concerned with the increasing inspection demands on bases and units, the

commission recommended to senior Reserve officials a reduction in the aggregated footprint of the IG. As a result, the size of the inspection team will decrease and the amount of time the IG spends on a base will lessen.

"The current way of doing evaluations and unit awards was putting too much stress on units," said Col. James P. Czekanski, AFRC/IG. Because units were spending too much time and resources in preparing for inspections, the Blue Ribbon Commission recommended a 70 percent reduction in Quality Air Force Assessments, a 30 percent reduction in operational readiness inspections and a 30 percent reduction in compliance inspections.

"Unit compliance inspections are going to be very different from what people are used to," Czekanski said. Core inspection items are safety; environmental management; intelligence oversight; contracting; and command, control, communication and computers. Two inspection areas to come out of the AFRC strategic plan include financial responsibility and resource management.

"We're going to focus the IG on what we call 'go to jail' items - violating critical ar-

reas that could have a severe legal or readiness impact on the units," Czekanski said. "We're not looking at as many things and we will be evaluating cross functional areas rather than squadrons by functional office of primary responsibility. We hope to reduce our footprint by 50 percent within two years."

The Blue Ribbon Commission also recommended changes to the traditional five-tier grading system for inspections. The Air Force Reserve Command will institute a grading system which is basically a "pass/fail" system. Critical areas in compliance with requirements will receive a satisfactory. Best practice will go to units who benchmark for the rest of the command. And unsatisfactory is reserved for critical areas that don't meet requirements.

Czekanski said there should be no increase in workload for units to prepare for this new and improved IG. "In many areas, these requirements are so basic that there really should not have to be a whole lot done to prepare for us," he said. "Since these are so critical for the operation of the organization, they (units) should be doing them on a daily basis anyway." (AFRC News Service)

## 30 CONT. FROM PAGE 3

dent Lyndon B. Johnson signed Public Law 90-168, the "Reserve Forces Bill of Rights and Vitalization Act," which became effective Apr. 1, 1973.

The law included among its provisions the establishment of the Office of Air Force Reserve, an Air Staff-level office. The chief of Air Force Reserve, a reservist recalled to extended active duty with the rank of major general, served as principal adviser on Reserve affairs to the Air Force chief of staff. The president nominated a candidate for the position of chief of Air Force Reserve, who then had to be confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

The Air Force's Air Reserve Forces Policy Council recommended Brig. Gen. Tom E. Marchbanks, commander of the 433<sup>rd</sup> Troop Carrier Wing, Kelly Air Force Base, Texas, be nominated as the first holder of the post. Marchbanks served a special tour of duty to help establish the new office while awaiting Senate action. On Feb. 16, 1968, the Senate approved his appointment and promotion to major general.

After taking office, Marchbanks concentrated on finalizing the Office of Air Force Reserve's organizational structure and personnel strength levels.

Initially the office was abbreviated as

AFCOR, then AFTOR in 1968, and AF/RE, its present abbreviation, in 1970. The AFTOR structure in 1969 was supported by the following divisions: liaison and information (AFTORLI); personnel (AFTORP); medical (AFTORM); operations and training (AFTORX); plans and programs (AFTORO); systems and logistics (AFTORS); and comptroller (AFTORK).

Since 1969, the Office of Air Force Reserve has undergone numerous internal reorganizations but its primary mission remains to advise the Air Force chief of staff and Air Staff on Air Force Reserve issues. (AFRC News Service)

## UAC CONT. FROM PAGE 1

chain of command," said Lorenz. "There may be times (when) the chain of command is part of their problem, also in most cases an enlisted member would feel more comfortable speaking with a peer," said Lorenz. "There also may be issues that they consider to be too small for them to interrupt their chain," Lorenz added.

The purpose of the UAC is to be there to hear ideas, suggestions or problems of the reservists and try to be there to elevate them as well as ensure they get answers or results. In addition to the aforementioned we are also here to plan, aid and assist in fund raising for worthy causes as well as social events in hopes of creating some *esprit de*

*corps*, explained Lorenz.

"We started raising money by selling tickets for the Christmas party, which was a new event for us. The money was more than enough to pay for the party," said Lorenz.

The money left after the Christmas party was donated to the Lutheran Social Services Adoption and Foster Care

Agency.

At this point the UAC is made up of AGS members only but membership is open to everyone. "Our goal for the future is to expand the UAC to the whole group," said Lorenz. For more information please contact Master Sgt. Bourgeois at ext. 3030 or Staff Sgt. Lorenz at ext. 6401.

## From the Safety Office

### Are you Ready for Winter Storms?

#### Prepare a winter storm plan and disaster supply kit containing:

- Extra blankets
- A warm coat and other extra warm clothing, gloves or mittens and water-resistant boots for each member of your household
- First-aid kit and essential medications
- Battery-powered National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio, flashlight and extra batteries
- Canned food and non-electric can opener
- Bottled water (at least one gallon of water per person per day to last at least three days)
- Assemble a disaster supplies kit for your car, too
- Have your car winterized before winter storm season

*Stay tuned for storm warnings. Listen to NOAA Weather Radio and your local radio and TV stations for updated storm information.*

#### Know what winter storm WATCH and WARNING mean:

- A winter storm **WATCH** means a storm is possible in your area.
- A winter storm **WARNING** means a storm is headed for your area.

· A blizzard **WARNING** means strong winds; blinding wind-driven snow and dangerous wind chill are expected. Seek shelter immediately!

#### When a winter storm WATCH is issued....

- Listen to NOAA radio, local radio and TV stations or cable TV such as The Weather Channel for updates
- Be alert to changing weather conditions and avoid unnecessary travel.

#### When a winter storm WARNING is issued....

- Stay indoors during the storm.
- If you must go outside wear several layers of lightweight clothing to keep you warm (will keep you warmer than a single heavy coat). Gloves and a hat will prevent loss of body heat. Cover your mouth to protect your lungs.
- Understand the hazards of wind chill, which combines the cooling effect of wind and cold temperatures on exposed skin.
- As the wind increases, heat is carried away from a person's body at an accelerated rate therefore driving down the body temperature.
- Walk carefully on snowy and icy sidewalks. After the storm, if you shovel snow, be extremely careful. It is physically strenuous work, so take frequent

breaks. Avoid overexertion.

- Avoid traveling by car in a storm, but if you must....
- Carry a disaster supplies kit in the trunk.
- Keep your car's gas tank full for emergency use and to keep the fuel line from freezing.
- Let someone know your destination, route and when you expect to arrive or return.

#### If you get stuck....

- Stay with your car. Don't try to walk to safety.
- Tie a brightly colored cloth to the antenna (preferably RED) for rescuers to see.
- Start the car and use the heater for about 10 minutes every hour. Keep the exhaust pipe clear so fumes won't back up into the car.
- Leave the overhead light on when the engine is running so that you can be seen.
- As you sit, keep moving your arms and legs to keep blood circulating and to stay warm.
- Keep one window that is away from the blowing wind slightly open to let in air.

**So, are you ready?**

## VEHICLE TALK by Master Sgt. Alejandro Clemeña, VCO

Prior to daily use perform and document vehicle operator inspections on AF Form 1800. Maintain oil, windshield washer solvent, transmission fluid, and anti-freeze levels within safe operating limits. Clean vehicle exterior and interior prior to turning it into the vehicle section. Check and annotate tire pressure by the 5<sup>th</sup> calendar day of each month. Direct your questions or ideas to improve our service to your Unit VCO. Thank you and drive safely!!!

931st Air Refueling Group  
Public Affairs Office  
McConnell AFB, Kan. 67221