

Commander's Comments
Editorial, Page 2

April 1998
Vol. 3, No. 4

ATSO photos
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Air Force Reserve's first Associate KC-135 Unit

What is IPPD?

By Maj. Gail Fancher and
Tech. Sgt. Paul Hudson
18th ARS

IPPD is an annual immunization is actually a test for antibodies to tuberculosis (TB). We inject a small amount of purified protein (dead sterile bacteria) into your arm. If you have ever been exposed to a TB infection your body will have created antibodies to fight it.

Having a positive IPPD does not mean you have active TB; it just means that some time you were exposed and your body reacted. People with positive tests are given medicine to prevent them from ever getting active TB because TB is a very strong and contagious bug.

The test is yearly. Once placed in your arm, the protein must be read by a medical person within 72 hours. It's such a small amount of bacteria that, if the arm is examined any time after 72 hours, the results could be erroneous. So be responsible. Get it checked and signed off on time.

Hepatitis A update

We are sorry the Hepatitis A vaccination was not available during the ATSO. Due to a huge back

See Hepatitis, page 7

R.E.S.P.E.C.T.



Staff Sgt. David Brumley/Spirit

Master Sgt. Alise Talley, left, does her best Aretha Franklin impersonation with help from Master Sgt. Corinna Seitz, right, during the combat dining-in March 7. Not pictured were lip-syncers Master Sgt. Pamela Summers and Tech. Sgt. Thelma Herrera. The dining-in culminated activities for the week-long Ability to Survive and Operate Exercise. For more photos of the ATSO, see pages 4 and 5.

From the IG...

Primary IG: LtCol Ralph Rissmiller
Bldg 850, Rm 244 652-3684/DSN 743-3684

Alternate IG: LtCol Ron Johnston
Bldg 850, Rm 146 652-3812/DSN 743-3812

650-0566 (cell)

Fraud, Waste, Abuse Monitor: LtCol Ron Johnston
Bldg 850, Rm 144
652-3812/DSN 743-3812

See IG, page 6



Staff Sgt. Barbara Davis/Spirit

The 931st Civil Engineer Squadron bids a fond farewell to one of its founding members, Master Sgt. Joseph Fitzpatrick, during an emotional retirement ceremony on March 8th. Fitzpatrick is shown here at left with Col. Dean Despinoy. See page 3 for details.

Thanks for a successful exercise

By Col. Dean J. Despinoy
931st ARG commander

Thanks goes out to all the players in our first ATSO exercise. Each Squadron did an outstanding job in scheduling unit specific training in conjunction with the ATSO training. I feel that every minute was productive and worth the sacrifice of time away from home and job. The level of knowledge has collectively risen in the 931st and we are prepared to stand alongside any unit and hold our own in an ATSO environment.

There is a tendency to have several separate units in a group, each not knowing or caring what the others are doing. We are stronger if we have a sense of family and community. I saw people working together during the training classes and during the ATSO exercise without regard to whether they were a flier, maintenance, CE, or support. Officer and enlisted came together to get the job done. The attitudes were great and this fact showed through during all the activities. I feel this week's activities went a long way in pulling the 931st together as one unit.

If you work hard you need to play hard. Play hard we did at the Dining-In. Kudos to all the people involved in the production.

The acts and skits were great. Once again the entire unit was together for a good time. At times, events pushed the envelope, but I appreciate your response to my cease-fire calls and requests to take your seats. People made good use of designated drivers and the watch your buddy program. The Sunday morning clean up impressed me the most. Without any arm twisting there was a good number and good cross section of 931st members who rolled up their sleeves and completely cleaned the hangar. On Monday morning, the 22 ARW's only remark was how unbelievably clean things were.

As with all things, we are identifying areas for improvement. Squadrons have done a good job in collecting recommendations and we will review this information during a "hot wash" on the April UTA. During the Dining-In the hangar floor got very slippery and not all the rules were followed concerning the no play area. We will use all this information as "lessons learned" to make any future exercises and events better and safer.

We are now well on our way to becoming more than a bunch of people with a casual association. Exercises and social events such as this one is the glue that binds us and makes us a tight, caring and efficient



Col. Dean J. Despinoy

military organization. In July, we will have our Family Day to share events and fun with our spouses and children. In October, we will put on our best uniforms and be on our best behavior for our formal Dining Out. Each event is different in purpose and atmosphere, but each continues to strengthen that military bond that so few organizations have or understand.

Have an opinion? A story idea? Submit your input to the Public Affairs office; Room 221 in Bldg. 850

Visit our webpage at www.mcconnell.af.mil/931/931.htm

Kanza Spirit

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931st Commander
Col. Dean Despinoy

Chief, Public Affairs
Capt. Dave Fruck

NCOIC, Public Affairs
Tech. Sgt. Brian Bowman

Editor
Staff Sgt. Barbara Davis

Staff Writer
Staff Sgt. David Brumley

Personnel News....

Military Personnel Flight Hours

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

Monday – Friday 0730 – 1600
 Saturday – UTA 0800 – 1600
 Sunday – UTA 1000 – 1600

Attention Pregnant Military Members

A member must not perform any duty past the 34th week of pregnancy, nor return for duty earlier than 6 weeks after delivery. The member must obtain a letter from her private physician showing her expected date of delivery. This letter must be taken to the 18 ARS medical section for an AF Form 422, Physical Profile Serial Report. This will ensure continued duty until the 34th week.

Upon the 6th week after delivery, you must have a letter from your private physician for a postpartum examination. This letter will be given to the 18 ARS medical section, who will produce the AF Form 422 returning you to military duty. (AFMAN 36-8001 & AFRESI 41-104)

Airman/NCO of the Quarter

Board will be held on 4 April at 1400 in the group conference room. Individuals should report to the Group Conference room NLT 1345.

Reenlistment Incentive Bonus

Under the 1998 Defense Authorization Act,

the eligibility criteria for receiving a bonus has changed from 10 years to 14 years (based on pay date) of military service. The following AFSCs in the 931 ARG are currently authorized bonuses for 1 Jan 98- 30 Jun 98:

K1A0X1		X1A0X1	
2A452		2A6X5	
2A6X6	2E1X3		
3C1X1	3E0X1		
3E0X2	3E3X1	4F0X1	

Contact the MPF Career Enhancement office for more information.

Outprocessing Hours

If you, or any unit member you know, needs to outprocess for TDY, reassignment, or retirement, please keep in mind that on UTA weekends the Military Pay section (Mrs Cecelia Hagen) is only open for business on Saturdays from 0730 to 1300 hours. Thinking ahead can insure that you do not have to come out during the week to finish your outprocessing.

DD Form 93, Record of Emergency Data Card (AFI 36-3002)

The primary purpose of the DD Form 93 is to list the next of kin to be notified in the event of a casualty situation. It is imperative the form be reviewed and / or updated immediately anytime information changes (i.e. new child, divorced, married, name change, etc.) See your orderly room or Customer Service for assistance.

PME Opportunities

The 931st has several Enlisted PME opportunities available. See Base Training for a complete list and application procedures.

DEERS and Medical Care

To add / update your dependent in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS), you will need legal documentation for viewing (i.e. birth /

See Personnel, page 7

Longtime CES member Fitzpatrick hangs 'em up

By Staff Sgt. Barbara Davis
 931st Public Affairs

The 931st Civil Engineer Squadron bid a fond farewell to one of its founding members during an emotional retirement ceremony on March 8.

The members of the CE Squadron paid tribute to their friend and comrade, Joseph Fitzpatrick with clapping and standing ovations. Fitzpatrick also received a Meritorious Service Medal for his exemplary dedication to service from Col. Dean Despinoy, 931st Air Refueling Group commander.

His wife Adella, daughter Linda Wysocki and son-in-law Kenneth Wysocki, accompanied Fitzpatrick for the special event.

"You all are going to be missed. I appreciate you all," Fitzpatrick said as he concluded his thank you speech.

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	
AJTUS AFB, OK & LAWTON, OK	MIDWEST CITY, OK
MSgt Larry Ghes (405) 357-2784	MSgt Linda Smith
	TSgt Erick Glick
	(405) 733-9403
SHEPPARD AFB, TX	
MSgt Bob Wright (817) 676-3382	

UTA Schedule for

April	4-5
May	2-3
June	6-7
July	18-19
Aug.	22-23
Sept.	12-13

A B I L I T Y T O



ATSO Exercise March 2-7, 1998



Cpt. David Fruck/Spirit

Top Left, 931st ARG members scramble to don their chemical protective masks after an attack. Mid Left, Senior Master Sgt. Marlo Bowman (right), Maj. Randy Foster (center) and an unidentified NCO steady the center pole during the erection of a tent at the ATSO play area. Mid Right, Tech. Sgt. Scott Fletcher aims his "weapon" at a photographic intruder while waiting for the



"all clear" signal. Bottom, Staff Sgts. Al Ryder and Tina Stage share a laugh on the flight line near the KC-135 used in the flying simulation during the ATSO.

Photos by...



SURVIVE &



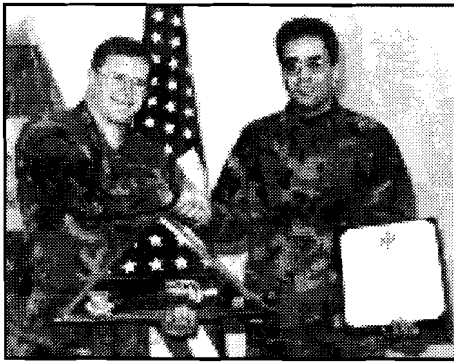
OPERATE

Top Left, Staff Sgt. Mark McIntosh shows his enthusiasm after an "all clear" is given. Top Right, Staff Sgt. Harold Jones just tries to stay warm during the frigid temperatures of the exercise. Center, aircrew members learned much about the latest version of their masks throughout the week. Bottom, Maj. Susan Lovus, left, and Miriam Carlson look over plans during the exercise.



...Tech. Sgt. Brian Bowman

Busy March for AGS



Top left, Tech. Sgt. Jorge Montero, a communication navigation avionics technician, was the first member of the 931st AGS to go into retirement status. Commander Maj. Tim Nesley poses with Montero (right).

Photos by Staff Sgt. Barbara Davis



Top right, Tech. Sgts. Bob Lorenz and Clarence Slater pose with the model KC-135 they created for the unit. Slater welded the model plane, while Lorenz constructed the wood stand. Mid left, 931st AGS Chief Master Sgt. Robert Stephenson reenlists. Mid right, four other AGS members, from left,

Senior Master Sgt. Marlo Bowman, Staff Sgt. Timothy Calhoun, Senior Airman David Kienzle and Tech. Sgt. Paul Shattuck also reenlist. Bottom left, Col. Dean Despinoy reads the reenlistment oath to Master Sgt. Larry Shippy. It was Shippy's final reenlistment before retirement.

IG continued from page 1

WHO WE ARE

Since assuming the duties of the 931st ARG Inspector General from Col Edwards in January, I hope to continue that tradition of dignity and fairness he established in this office.

Every member of the group has the right to use the IG complaints system to seek resolutions to problems. As the IG, I will do everything I can to help resolve any problems you bring me. I will, however, always ask you to go through your chain-of-command first. Your immediate supervisor, first sergeant, or squadron commander deserves the opportunity to work your problem, if possible. The group commander and the senior enlisted advisor also stand ready to help, if necessary. If none of these individuals are able to resolve the issue to your satisfaction, the IG process may be your next course of action.

Any time you desire to talk to me about an IG issue, or any other matter, please feel free to call extension 3684, make an appointment, simply stop by the office, or send email to me. If an IG issue arises and I am not available, you may contact LtCol Johnston, 18 ARS/, extension 3812, who is the alternate IG.

Finance news...

Effective March 1, 1998, Finance will not authorize nor pay travel advances to members who have a government American Express card regardless of TDY length. In accordance with AFI 65-104, members who decline the opportunity to apply for an American Express card are also not entitled to an advance.

The only members entitled to travel advances are those presenting a written statement signed by their commander or first sergeant specifically stating the individual is financially irresponsible and has had his/her American Express card cancelled.

Please direct questions to Lt. Williams, ext. 4637.

Personnel continued from page 3

marriage certificate, adoption papers, etc.) DEERS is a computer-based system that identifies personnel entitled to military care benefits. You must pre-enroll your family to receive medical care at a military medical facility while you are mobilized or on active duty 31 consecutive days or more. The family members are enrolled when they receive an ID card. Contact Customer Service at X-3593 for additional information.

Be aware of the Unknown in Life Insurance Policies

By law, all reservists are automatically covered under SGLI for \$200,000 unless they elect, in writing using SGLV-8286, to increase or decrease coverage or decline coverage. This form is completed at Customer Service. Your monthly LES will reflect the amount collected from the UTA pay. Additional information about the SGLI may be found in the ARPC Guard & Reserve Personnel Fact Sheets, Fiscal 1998 (<http://www.arpc.org/newsinfo>.) ADDITIONALLY, check your civilian life insurance policies to make sure you have coverage during training periods. Many policies

contain exclusion clauses while on full-time active duty; particularly during conflicts, war, or while aboard military aircraft other than AMC contract aircraft. Frequently, an insurance rider is available for an extra premium.

Family Care Plans

Do you believe all your family, business, and financial matters will run smoothly at the time of deployment? If a major deployment occurred right now would *you* be ready? AFI 36-2908, Family Care Plans, stipulates that all AF members will ensure their family members are provided for during the absence of the member (i.e. TDY, UTA, annual tour training, mobilization, etc.) All single parents, dual military couples with family members and members with civilian spouses who have unique family situations (as determined by the commander) MUST complete an AF Form 357, Family Care Certification. As this is a vital part of our READINESS process, if you are in doubt, talk with your First Sergeant or Family Care Plans Monitor.

Hepatitis cont. from page 1

order, it was unavailable to us. We know that you're just as disappointed as we were that you couldn't get "speared" again. But fear not, fellow warriors. Those of you who are due to receive the yellow fever vaccine will have that taken care of during the April UTA.

April 4 Appointment times:

ARS/ARG/MSF/OSF - 0900-1000

AGS - 0930-1030

CES - 1030-1130

The shots will be given at the **22nd Med Group's immunization clinic**. Please be on time. Once the vial has been activated, it is only good for one hour. Everyone was told what shots they needed and if you are required to receive this shot and don't show,

we will not be held responsible if and when you deploy. It is your responsibility to keep your immunizations current.

Remember, if you come in with a bright shining face full of cheer, we will make the shot as painless as possible; come in grumpy and mean to the nice Med Techs and you never know what you might get (was that yellow fever or anthrax in that syringe?). We'll be waiting for you.

Air Force Reserve April History.....

April 14, 1948: With the publication of Army Circular 103/ Air Force Letter 35-124, the Department of the Air Force established the United States Air Force Reserve. All officers and enlisted members of the Air Corps Reserve were transferred to the United States Air Force Reserve. The Air Corps Reserve Section, Army of the United States, and abolished.

April 15, 1961: Headquarters Continental Air Command moved from Mitchell AFB, N.Y., to Robins AFB, Ga.

April 30, 1965: Air Force Reserve C-119s, C-123s, and C-124s, operated by volunteer crews, began participating in Operation Power Pack, the American intervention in the Dominican Republic. Operations continued until June 30, 1965.

April 1, 1973: The Air Force Reserve assumed responsibility for the aerial spray mission from Tactical Air Command. The Reserve's 355th Tactical Airlift Squadron at Lockbourne AFB, Ohio, carried out the mission until July 1, 1982, when the Reserve's 907th Tactical Airlift Group, Rickenbacker (formerly

Lockbourne) AFB, picked up the mission.

April 7, 1991: Reservists participated in Provide Comfort, the operation to deliver relief supplies to Kurdish refugees in southern Turkey and northern Iraq.

April 1, 1992: The first Air Force Reserve associate C-17 unit, the 317th Airlift Squadron (Associate), was activated and assigned to the 315th Airlift Wing (Associate), Charleston AFB, S.C.

April 10, 1994: Aircrews from the 315th Airlift Wing (Associate), Charleston AFB, S.C., and the 446th Airlift Wing (Associate), McChord AFB, Wash., evacuated 217 American and foreign citizens from Bujumbura, Burundi, after fighting broke out in neighboring Rwanda.

April 1, 1997: Air Force Command activated two associate units, the 5th Flying Training Flight, Vance AFB, Okla., and the 43rd Flying Training Flight, Columbus AFB, Miss. They were the first reserve units of their type.

From the Safety Office ...

USAF AIRCRAFT DESTROYED THROUGHOUT THE YEARS

Have you ever wondered how many USAF aircraft have been destroyed due to non-combat mishaps? According to the Air Force Safety Center, here are the totals:

Aircraft	Since	Lost
A-10	1972	89
B-1	1984	6
B-52	1955	165
C-5	1968	4
C-9	1968	1
C-130	1955	83
C-135	1957	63
C-141	1964	16
F-4	1971	335
F-15	1972	89
F-15A	1973	85
F-15B	1977	13
F-15E	1987	13
F-16	1975	221
F-111	1965	96
F-117	1991	5
T-33	1956	131
T-38	1960	182

PRODUCT RECALLS

Complete listing of recalls..<http://www.ConsumerReports.org>
<http://www.cpsc.gov>

The following products have been recalled by the manufacturer. Contact the manufacturer, dealer, or place of purchase for more information.

To report an automotive safety related problem or to seek further information, consumers can contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) at 1-800-424-9393. The U.S.

Consumer Product Safety Commission Hotline is 1-800-638-2772. The National Safety Council's Help Line is 1-800-557-2366. The Reducing Radon Risk # is 1-800-767-7236. The American Lung Association's # is 1-800-586-4872. The EPA's Drinking Water Hotline is 1-800-426-4791. The EPA's Lead Hotline is 1-800-424-5323.

'97 Toyota Camry. In extremely cold climates, icing could disable brake vacuum assist, increasing pedal effort and lengthening stopping distances. Have dealer install redesigned brake vacuum hose.

'95 Dodge and Plymouth Neon. Driver could lose steering control if car runs over object that strikes underbody. Have dealer install new steering-column coupler.

'95-97 Audi (Various models). Driver's side airbag could deploy suddenly, possibly causing injury. Have dealer install ground wire on driver's side airbag.

'83-93 Audi (Various models). While car is being driven, air bag could deploy suddenly, possibly causing loss of control. Have dealer replace air bag's sensor control module.

'97-98 Ford F-150 and F-250 pickup trucks and '97-98 Ford Expedition and '98 Lincoln Navigator Sport-utility vehicles. Insulation on battery cable could chafe against body panel in truck and eventually wear away. Short circuit could cause loss of electrical power and create fire hazard. Have dealer reposition and/or replace battery cable.

'96-97 Chevrolet S10 and GMS Sonoma pickup trucks. Front brake hose could chafe against left side of engine oil pan, leak, and reduce stopping ability. Have dealer check brake-hose clearance and if necessary, install extra brake hose clip

and replace hose.

'87-91 Volvo 780 and 940. Electrical wiring to seat heater, power seat motors, and safety belt warning indicator could short-circuit, posing safety hazard.

97 Suzuki TL 1000SV motorcycle. When front wheel hits bump, rider could lose control. Have dealer install steering-damper kit.

'94-96 BMW R1100RSL motorcycles. If motorcycle is stationary and engine is left running at speed above normal idle, exhaust system could overheat, causing fire hazard. Install warning label on motorcycle. To get label, call 1-800-831-1117.

Fridgidaire, Gibson, Tappan, and White-Westinghouse gas ranges. Oven-burner assemblies could leak and cause fire or explosion. Call 1-800-724-7519 for inspection and/or repair. If you smell gas, turn oven off immediately.

Brio Wooden clown stacking toy. Clown's hat could choke child. Mail hat to Brio Corporation for replacement toy.

Cannondale C-Sole bicycle shoes. Cleats could come off and allow foot to slip off pedal. Return shoes to dealer or call 800 245-3872.

Lava-Java microwavable beverage mugs. Could catch fire or split open and spew hot liquid into microwave oven. Return mug to store or call 800-283-7887.

Black & Decker SPacemaker Optima under-the-cabinet toaster. Food can catch fire. If food flames up and automatic door opens, flames could spread to cabinet. Disconnect power cord and cut off plug and return to nearest store for replacement.

**931st Air Refueling Group
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