

PATRIOT

439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING (AIR FORCE RESERVE)

WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MASS.

Vol. X, No. 8

August 1983

439th flies relief missions to Peru

By SrA. Kathleen Lincoln

"The rains had stopped but there were rivers where rivers never were and bridges needed where bridges were never needed before." according to Capt. Glenn DeForge, 439th TAW pilot. He flew one of the two Westover C-130's carrying food and supplies to the flood stricken Piura, Peru.

The president of Peru had requested an emergency airlift of much needed food and supplies to Piura, a city 500 miles north of Lima. According to the president, airlift was essential. Overland transport was difficult due to the flood ravaged roads and the perishable food demanded immediate attention.

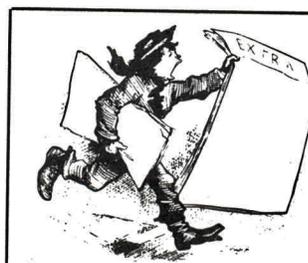
Two aircrews and planes from Westover and one Air National Guard aircraft and crew from Nashville, Tenn., on duty in Panama, responded. This 'real world' disaster relief exercise was a Special Assignment Airlift Mission (SAAM) and part of the ongoing Volant Oak.

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USAF Photo by MSgt. Larry Lentz

Secretary of State George Shultz is welcomed to Westover by Col. Roy Ayers, base commander, during the Secretary's stopover on July 10.



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Relief missions . . .

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"This was a very rewarding mission to fly," said Captain DeForge, "despite all the trouble we had." Mechanical problems accompanied Westover's two aircraft during the week long mission, from June 26 to July 1.

"We left Howard AFB, Panama after a four and one-half hour delay. We had tried for two frustrating hours to get one aircraft engine started. We then decided to unload everything and change planes. We arrived in Piura four hours later and dropped off a forklift and additional equipment plus Panamanian and U.S. personnel for our ground support there. From there we flew to Lima only to find we were losing oil and needed an engine replacement." Captain DeForge said.

An emergency call was placed to Howard AFB and the following day Capt. Kent Michaelsen, 337th TAS pilot, arrived with the replacement engine and maintenance specialists. That evening Captain Michaelsen flew a supply run to Piura and returned to Lima with aircraft problems of his own. Maintenance worked well into the night.

Captain DeForge's aircraft was loaded and ready to go the next morning but just before take off the replacement engine failed a check. Maintenance was called out once more.

"It was one thing right after another. We didn't sleep much. Three hours was all we caught one night and the only sightseeing was the 35 minute bus ride to and from the airport," said MSgt. Ray DesRosiers. 905th CAM propellor foreman.

"It was the teamwork. I've never seen that kind of cooperation before. Everybody was helping each other out. It showed just how people support each other in a real emergency," said TSgt. Paul Tetreault, an electrical technician from the 905th CAM squadron.

"It was rough though. Maintenance wasn't the only problem we had. The first night we worked on the plane we couldn't get any food or water and we didn't dare move very far. That click of the guards rifle was enough to make us stay pretty close to the plane. Security was very tight and with a language barrier we didn't want any misunderstandings. Another time we ran out of fuel for the power generators and had to wait until morning for more. We even worked by flashlight. I suppose it was knowing that so many hungry people were waiting for us and they were hungry — even the rice swept from the plane was saved," Sergeant Tetreault noted.

"On one of our supply runs to Piura, communication was down and we didn't have any of our people waiting

for us but the Peruvian personnel and trucks were there. With no forklift to unload the supplies, they backed the trucks right up to the plane and we all pitched in and unloaded it. The Peruvians were very helpful and organized. They sent a representative with us on every supply run. We had one of the Peruvian air force mechanics working with our crew. He really helped — found the cause of one of the electrical problems we were having.

"This was a real test of our skills and we scored high, I think. Before we left Lima the U.S. ambassador and several other dignitaries came out to the airport. In gratitude, the President of Peru invited all of us, the disaster relief team to his Palace. But the aircrews were still shuttling supplies and couldn't accept the offer."

"On our way back to Howard we were told to land in the VIP section. The Armed Forces Radio and Television Service and the Panamanian press were waiting for us. We were told that we transported 170 tons of food and supplies — enough to support 44,000 people for a month. It sure made you feel good to know you were part of helping out so many people."

Commander's Call

Brig. Gen. Donald E. Haugen, wing commander, presented five awards during Group Commander's Call on July 10.

Lt. Col. Alfred Viviani earned the Meritorious Service Medal for his service as Personnel Staff Officer, in the Directorate of Personnel Plans, at Air Force Reserve Headquarters.

TSgt. Daniel Hernandez of the group personnel utilization office and **SSgt. Laberta D. Squires** of the group orderly rooms were awarded the Air Force Achievement Medal.

Sergeant Hernandez received the medal for his outstanding skill, knowledge, and leadership in identifying and solving problems as a Military Personnel Technician.

Sergeant Squires received the medal for her accomplishments as a Staff Administrative Technician.

TSgt. Ronald B. Galvagni, 59 MAPS, received a Transportation and Traffic Management diploma from the Community College of the Air Force.

The 439CSG Disaster Preparedness Mobility Team received an Outstanding Performance Certificate from 14th Air Force. They were nominated Outstanding AFRES Disaster Preparedness Mobility Team for 1982. **TSgt. James Lapsertis** was team chief. The other members of the team were **TSgt. John A. Hoerner**, **James A. La Croix**, **Anthony P. Manuel** and **SSgt. Halyna Chaniewycz**.

THE PATRIOT is an Official Class II U.S. Air Force newspaper published monthly for the personnel of the 439th Tactical Airlift Wing, Westover AFB, MA 01022. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the U.S. Air Force.

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TSgt. John Wallace Spencer

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The low down on low level flights

By MSgt. Larry Lentz

They could hear, first faintly then unmistakably, the roar of an approaching aircraft. But the plane was nowhere in sight. Then, without further warning, a C-130 was immediately overhead — just a few feet over the tree tops.

In a matter of seconds, in less time than it took for the enemy gunners to sight their weapons, the aircraft was again hidden from view and continuing its journey deeper into hostile territory.

"This low level flying is the best tactic used by unarmed aircraft to avoid visual and radar detection," explains Lt. Col. Arthur Sorenson, director of operations. Also, their camouflage paint helps prevent sightings from higher flying aircraft. Thus, the crews can bring supplies and personnel into forward, hostile areas and return with wounded."

Flying at more than 200 knots and following the contour of the land a few hundred feet below requires highly skilled crews. That skill comes only through considerable practice. For the crews of the 439th TAW; this practice comes in the skies of New England.

Their low level training takes them over routes which are planned by members of the Wing and then approved by Air Force higher headquarters and the Federal Aviation Administration.

"We give wide berth to cities, towns, airports, wildlife preserves and recreation areas," Colonel Sorenson continued. "Over unpopulated areas, the Air Force authorizes us to fly almost at tree top level. However, for safety considerations, we never go below 300 feet in these areas. Over sparsely populated areas, our normal low level altitude is 500 feet above the ground. When we fly over built up areas, such as cities and towns, and only if we must fly over them, we fly at a minimum of 1,000 feet."

Unfortunately, these low level flights occasionally generate complaints from local residents. Usually their calls to the base are directed to the Public Affairs Office. There, the staff document the pertinent information. Then, they'll verify with base operations, by time and location, that the plane, in fact, belongs to the 439th. Quite often the aircraft is from another military organization.

The public affairs representative then

returns the complainant's call and explains the nature of the flights and why they're essential to the unit. Says Colonel Sorenson, "Because we want Westover to be considered a good neighbor, we take great care to avoid noise-sensitive areas on our training flights. But low level flying is more than just a defensive tactic. It is the key to our mission effectiveness and combat survivability."

Lloyd takes over communications post



Arthur L. Lloyd is the new Chief of Operations, Location C of the 1998th Communications Group.

Arthur L. Lloyd has been named to replace Capt. William Shedd as Westover's new communications officer.

Lloyd, who has held various civil service positions at Westover since 1966, became Chief of Operations, location C of the 1998th Communications Group, formerly the 1917th Communications Squadron.

Most recently, Lloyd worked for Detachment 5 as a technical advisor and trainer at the unit's transmission site in Granby.

Lloyd, a Pennsylvania native who moved to Massachusetts in 1956, resides with his wife Jane in South Hadley.

Captain Shedd's new assignment will take him to RAF Watton, England as Air Traffic Control Liaison Officer to the Third Air Force.

Jiminez and Sklut earn Peacekeeper honors

Two members of the 905th WSSF have qualified to participate in the Air Force Peacekeeper Challenge to be held at Kirkland AFB in New Mexico in November.

SSgt. Gilberto Jiminez earned the right to compete by finishing second overall in the AFRES phase of the competition at Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz. Sgt. Daniel Sklut earned a spot by placing fourth overall.

Only eight reservists of the 50 competing qualified. Sergeant Jiminez took first place in the physical fitness competition, SRA Mike Longo, the first place

finisher in the rifle combat course, unfortunately, suffered a badly twisted ankle and was forced from further competition.

Peacekeeper Challenge is the Security Police competition, held annually, which develops Security Police skills. Areas tested are rifle security police course, revolver security police course, rifle combat course, revolver combat course, land navigation, physical fitness, military working dogs, accident investigation, M-60 machine gun, M-203 grenade launcher and protection and prevention.

Give Blood

American
Red Cross



The Feeding of Westover's Hungry

By SSgt. Gordon A. Newell

Perhaps the most maligned facility on any military post is the dining hall.

Since the days of the Roman legions, military cooks have probably been the object of off-colored jokes and borne the brunt of good-natured teasing and taunting.

1st. Lt. Jackie Crothers, food service officer at Westover's 439th CSG dining hall, thinks that's a lot of bunk.

"With a food budget that runs around \$100,000 a year, the feeding of Westover's hungry Reservists is a big job," she said.

"I think our people do a very good job. We try very hard to provide a varied selection of good food while closely watching the pennies. Once in a while, we'll go over our budget and have to cut back somewhere but most of the time our meals are exceptional," she added.

Lieutenant Crothers is also very proud of the people who make up her staff.

"At least five of our workers have attended culinary college in civilian life and almost all work in food service related fields. Three of our people have even started their own catering service so you can see that this is a very professional group of people."

While most Reservists are still sleeping on UTA weekends, cooks, bakers and other dining room personnel are

hard at work preparing the day's meals.

"Our first shift starts work at 5 a.m. on Saturdays and at 4:30 a.m. Sundays. Many of our workers stay well beyond their regular eight-hour shift. We work very hard at making the dining hall a pleasant place," said Crothers.

"Our's is the largest dining facility in AFRES," explained SMSgt. Frank Babin, the dining hall's NCOIC.

On any given UTA weekend, we serve as many as 3,600 meals to more than 1,000 Reservists. Our busiest times, naturally, are noon meals when we put out an average of 1,100 meals," said Sergeant Babin.

"A few months ago we initiated a take-out service that has become very popular. We started the service to help alleviate long lines during noon meals and it has worked out well so far. In the future we hope to expand the program by offering a variety of meals for take-out."

Cooking 3,600 meals in a two-day period requires a lot of dedicated people.

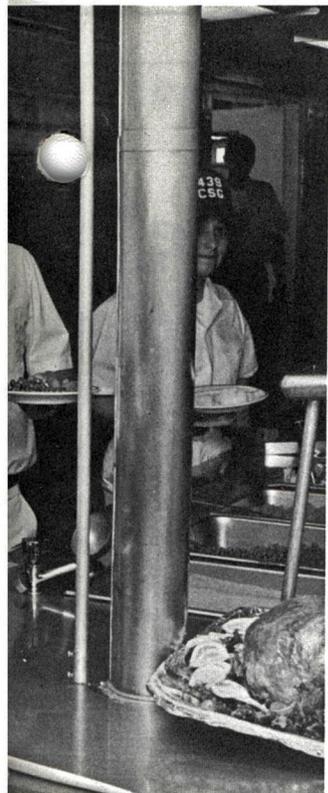
"We could probably do the job with fewer people," said Sergeant Babin, "but because of on-going training, we may have as many as 30 working at one time. Most of them come from the 905th CES and the 439th CSG but on occasion, we also train Army and Navy Reservists from area units."



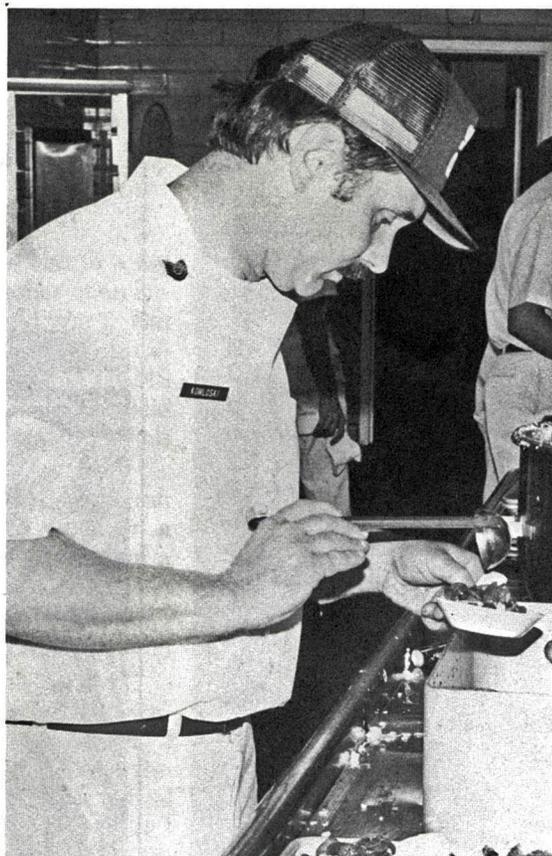
The only beef Col. Roy Ayers, base commander, has with (from left) Michael Spano, TSgt. Fred Cook and Sgt. John Simpson, is the edible ki



SrA. Sylvia Gallagher, SrA. Barbara Stillwell, Al Sheats take up the challenge of preparing enough



Sgt. Joseph Menzyk, TSgt. [unclear] and [unclear].

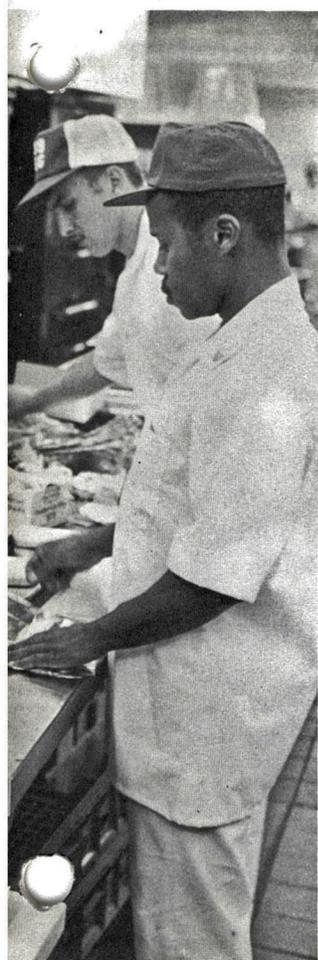


TSgt. Frank Komloski dishes out a just dessert — strawberry shortcake.



Westover's own hamburger helper is SSgt. Carl Lavin.

All photos by Capt. Philip Weber



C Mark Hager and Sgt. Eddie [unclear] take out lunches.



SrA. Debra Mau and Sgt. Ed Anderson meet to discuss the day's menu.

News around the Reserve

Nine MAC gained Reserve units played a key part in the 1983 Volant Rodeo, tactical airdrop competition, held June 12-18 at Pope AFB, N.C. The 911th TAG at Greater Pittsburgh IAP, Pa. represented the 439th TAW in this year's competition. For the second consecutive year, Air Force Reservists from Grissom AFB, Ind., have won the top gunnery team and maintenance competition at Fighter-comp '83 held at Gulfport, Miss. May 14-21. A-10 Thunderbolt II aircrews and maintenance personnel from the 434th TFW and 930th CAMS outscored nine other teams to win the competition. The 403rd Rescue and Weather Reconnaissance Wing at Selfridge AFB, Mich., has won the Air Force's System of Cooperation Among Air Forces of the Americas Flight Safety Award for 1982. Two Air Force Reserve aerial port units from 14th Air Force have been selected to receive MAC's Air Reserve Forces awards for 1982. The 46th Aerial Port

Squadron, Dover AFB, Del., was selected the best strategic unit, and the 40th Mobile Aerial Port Squadron, Rickenbacker ANGB, Ohio, was chosen the top mobile aerial port unit. The Air Force Reserve will activate an A-10 training squadron at the 917th Tactical Fighter Group this fall. Designated the 46th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron, it will provide the Air Reserve Forces A-10 training. Air Force Reserve associate units won the top three places in the C-141 maintenance competition at the Military Airlift Command's fifth annual Volant Rodeo exercise June 12-18 at Pope AFB, N.C. First place award went to the 315th Military Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, S.C. The 514th MAW, McGuire AFB, N.J., came in second and third place went to the 445th MAW, Norton AFB, Calif. The 514th MAW won the same competition in 1979 and 1981.

"Patriot People"



Name: LINDA L. BRONDER
Rank: SRA
Age: 29
Address: 109 Stedman Street
 Chicopee, MA 01013
Unit: 905th CAM
Position: Administrative Specialist
Civilian Occupation: Aviation Secretary
Favorite Food: fruit
Favorite Beverage: tea
Favorite Sports: hockey, flying
Favorite Hobby: cooking, meeting people
Ideal Vacation: summer in Europe
Best Way to Relax: driving
Preferred Entertainment: theater
Favorite Celebrity: Lionel Ritchie
Favorite Music: easy rock, classical, country western
Favorite Magazine: Time
Favorite Color: burgandy
Favorite Car: Sopporo
Pet Peeve: deceitful people
Best Thing About Westover: close to home
Worst Thing About Westover: when Westover closed as an active duty base



Promotions Enlistments & Re-enlistments Congratulations

PROMOTED
 Lt. Col. Dorothy E. Gates
 Maj. Wayne J. Booker
 Maj. Dorothy H. Donnelly
 Sgt. Marianne M. Brinker
 Sgt. Richard P. Carson
 Sgt. Richard Guiles

SSgt. Raymond E. Taillefer
 SSgt. Gary R. Turner
 Sgt. Edward J. Greenwood, Sr.
 Sgt. Ronald R. Viens
 A1C. Richard A. Jedrey
 A1C. David L. Pelletier
 A1C. Cynthia J. Pucillo
 Amn. John C. Morton
 AB Michael A. Brailsford
 AB Roseann C. Talbot

ENLISTED
 SSgt. Jack H. Bouchard

REENLISTED
 CMSgt. Lucien J. Charette
 MSgt. Richard R. Berryman
 MSgt. James V. Divita
 MSgt. Richard W. Germana
 MSgt. Donald W. Hadley
 MSgt. Thomas F. Kenney
 TSgt. Stephen J. Cimma
 TSgt. Stephen C. Dutely
 TSgt. Robert B. Fetherston
 TSgt. George F. Gadbois
 TSgt. Arthur A. Gutierrez
 TSgt. David P. Henry
 TSgt. David D. Lapa
 TSgt. Michael A. Major
 TSgt. George C. Murray
 TSgt. Arthur J. Pollier
 TSgt. Garth Saucier
 TSgt. Robert E. Smith
 TSgt. Wade W. Tate
 TSgt. Richard E. Thoresen
 SSgt. Jeffrey B. Bryan
 SSgt. Lillian M. R. Cote
 SSgt. David R. Cowdrey
 SSgt. Joseph I. Demers, Jr.
 SSgt. Thomas J. Harrison
 SSgt. Michael D. Hurley
 SSgt. Francis I. Johnson, Jr.
 SSgt. William L. King
 SSgt. Michael G. Kudron
 SSgt. Janet E. Marcello
 SSgt. Jimmy D. Moore
 SSgt. Richard I. Narey
 SSgt. Frankie C. Pierce
 SSgt. Saul Sherter
 SSgt. Donald R. Talbot
 SSgt. Roland E. Verrier, Jr.
 SSgt. Elizabeth R. Weinhold
 SSgt. James C. Wolfe

1984 UTA Schedule

October 15-16	April 7-8
November 5-6	May 5-6
December 3-4	June 2-3
January 7-8	July 14-15
February 4-5	August 11-12
March 3-4	September 8-9

"LeRoy's Joy" becomes a toy

By Capt. Phil Weber

It isn't very often that a visit to a toy store will bring back memories of an airfield in France during World War II. But that's exactly what occurred to TSgt. LeRoy "Red" Dennis of the 905th CAMS when he went to Springfield's Eastfield Mall to pick up a birthday present for his son.

"I was looking over the model aircraft when I spotted a familiar outline of a pin-up I had painted on the side of a B-25H on an airfield in France in 1944," Sergeant Dennis said. "At first I was in a state of shock. It sure did bring me back to my youth."

Recalling the events that led to the original painting, Sergeant Dennis said, "I was assigned to the 46th Mobile Reclamation and Repair Unit at an airfield outside of Lyon, France. While there I was approached by members of an aircrew who had seen a painting I had done on another aircraft. They told me they once had a pin-up on their aircraft but ran into some German flak that took out the side where the pin-up was proudly displayed. They asked me if I'd paint another one for them. At first I



TSgt. Leroy Dennis displays the B-25 model featuring his World War II art work.

Painted a nude but they asked if I could put some clothes on her since they didn't want to offend the Red Cross workers when they brought around the coffee wagon. So I added a red dress."

"In a rush to get back to my regular job after finishing up the painting," Sergeant Dennis continued. "The aircrew members asked me what rhymed with LeRoy. I told them since I enjoyed women how about 'Joy.' So they painted on it 'LeRoy's Joy'. I never saw the painting again until I saw it on a model in the toy store."

The model aircraft is the product of Monogram Models Inc. of Morton Grove, Ill. Sergeant Dennis sent a letter to them giving them the history of the painting and was surprised to receive a reply from Monogram President Thomas Gannon along with a case of B25H models. In the reply, Gannon pointed out, "If 'LeRoy's Joy' had been left in its original state (without clothes) it would never had been made into a model."

A life long resident of Ludlow, Ma., Sergeant Dennis has been a fixture at Westover having worked on the base in government service since the end of World War II. In 1981, he retired from his position as an Air Reserve Technician in maintenance but still is a very active member of the 905th CAMS maintaining his Reserve affiliation.



(left) A young soldier/artist sent this post card to his parents from France in 1944. (Above) A downed German fighter gets a first hand inspection by Sergeant Dennis.

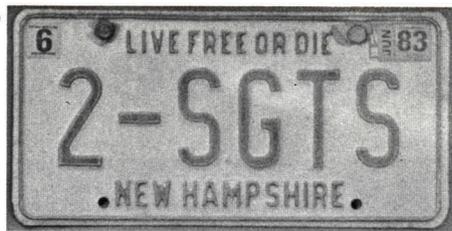
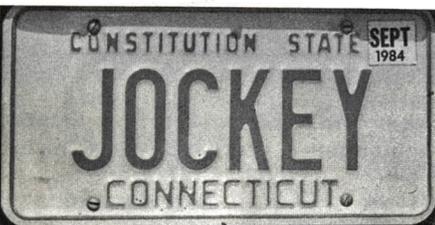
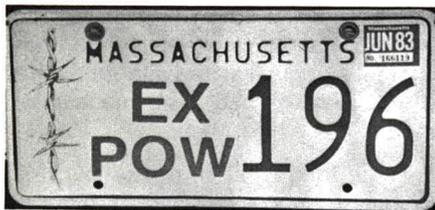
POETIC LICENSE???

What's in a name?

You can obviously ask the same question about automobile license plates.

During a recent UTA, Maj. Bob Carroll of the public affairs staff roved Westover's parking lots in search of unusual motor vehicle marker plates.

The results of his search reveal something special about each auto's owner.



Photos by Maj. Bob Carroll

BRIEFS

Mash Bash

The 74th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron hosted their first MASH BASH, on July 9, and provided plenty of food, fun and music to the members of the 439th. The festivities also marked the retirement and a presentation to Lt. Col. Jean Oslin, the first nurse to join the unit.

Canadian Fighters

Four Canadian CF-101 Voodoos from the 425th All Weather Fighter Squadron were based at Westover, during Sentry Watch III Exercise, July 11-22. The Canadians, from a small community 350 miles north of Montreal, took part in the exercise which trained their weapons controllers along with Air National Guard units. The appreciated Westover's warm reception and the warm weather. Said their commanding officer, Lt. Col. Roger Maltais, "L'Hospitalite' des gens de Westover est superbe."

Base to Host Swimming Meet

Polish up that backstroke and start turning in those extra laps at the pool.

Westover will again host its annual swimming meet on Labor Day at the base pool.

According to Ron Turmelle, assistant director for recreational services, the competition will feature a full slate of events for all age groups.

Information and entry blanks for the meet are available at the base gym.

HQ 439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING (AFRES)
WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MA 01022

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THIRD CLASS - BULK RATE