

PATRIOT

439TH MILITARY AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER AFB

VOLUME XV, NUMBER 1

JANUARY 1988

\$1 million a week flows from base into local economy

Westover Air Force Base pumped nearly \$1 million a week into the economy of the Pioneer Valley during the past year, according to statistics released today by the 439th Military Airlift Wing.

The federal payroll at Westover for reservists, civilians and tenant units was \$35,922,711 during FY 1987 when 16 C-130Es were assigned to the 439th Tactical Airlift Wing. With the arrival of the C-5A Galaxies and creation of more than 300 jobs at Westover, base officials predict the nearly \$36 million payroll will soon be boosted by another \$14 million.

During the reporting period, from Oct. 1, 1986, to Sept. 30, 1987, the government spent \$4,601,915 on construction at Westover. Projected construction at the nation's largest Air Force Reserve base is estimated at more than \$45 million during the next three years.

Local contracts for supplies, building materials and other items totaled \$4,555,467 and another \$1,883,208 was spent for other local purchases.

Payments to military retirees living in the immediate area and using facilities at Westover were not included in this year's Economic Resource Impact Report from the base.

During FY 1987, some 713 civilian workers and 2,719 military personnel were employed at Westover. With the aircraft change to C-5A Galaxies, the 439th Military Airlift Wing is expected to increase its strength by almost 1,000 Air Force Reserve members.

The wing, commanded by Brig. Gen. Frederick D "Mike" Walker, now has 1,968 men and women assigned from throughout New England.



(Photo by John Suchocki)

VISITING VEEP — Vice President George Bush pressed the flesh and joked with 439th MAW members and civilian workers at Westover during an official visit on Dec. 17. The vice president stopped at Westover AFB in Air Force II before flying to New Hampshire to campaign for president. Traveling with the Republican front runner was Boston Red Sox legend Ted Williams.

EDITORIAL**1987 — A big year at Westover**

The past year has probably been the most significant 12 months in the history of Westover since the creation of this national asset in 1940.

We've toiled earnestly during 1987 to hammer the 439th Military Airlift Wing and Westover AFB into acceptable shape to receive our nation's largest aircraft and to perform our new and vital strategic airlift mission.

Beginning last January with our successful public hearing, we have endeavored to keep our neighbors informed of the importance of our duties here and our new mission requirements.

Our air show in June was probably the largest public event in the history of Western Massachusetts as nearly 400,000 people showed their support for and interest in our operations at Westover.

Our dedication of "The Patriot" in October was also met with widespread public support and the important endorsement of elected officials.

During this year of seemingly unending minor and major tasks in preparation for the arrival of our C-5A Galaxies, the men and women of the Air Force Reserve at Westover continued to garner command and Air Force awards in a clear demonstration of our professionalism.

And while we were flying international missions, deploying our people to other bases, conducting field exercises, moving offices and tackling stacks of necessary paperwork, the 439th Military Airlift Wing continued to grow in strength.

I am very proud to have been here at Westover during this crucial year in the history of this 47-year-old base. And when I reflect on how all this was accomplished by Reserve members — volunteers who live and work in the cities and hamlets surrounding this base — I am amazed.

Not only did we have a tremendously successful 1987 and lay the groundwork for important contributions to the national defense, but we also witnessed a resurgence of pride in our unit and public respect for Westover and the Air Force Reserve.

As the man fortunate to command the 439th MAW, I offer each member of our wing and our civilian workforce my sincere thanks and best wishes for 1988 as we advance from the milestones of the past year toward becoming a fully operational C-5A wing with a worldwide mission.

—**Brig. Gen. Frederick D. Walker**
Commander, 439th MAW

**PATRIOT**

"This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the **PATRIOT** are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force.

"The editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 439th Military Airlift Wing, Westover Air Force Base."

439th MAW Commander
Brig. Gen. Frederick D. Walker
Base Commander
Lt. Col. Thomas G. Hargis
Base Public Affairs Officer
Dr. Frank Faulkner
Wing Public Affairs Officer
Maj. Rick Dyer
Public Affairs Assistant
Ms. Monica M. Lindberg

Editor NCOIC
TSgt. Gordon A. Newell
Assistant Editor
TSgt. Sandra M. Michon
Staff
SSgt. Tom Allocco
Sgt. Vincent Blanchard
SrA. Alan Duffy
Nora MacKay

Briefs**439th supervisor bolts down award**

ROBINS AFB, Ga. (AFRNS) — A 439th MAW supervisor was one of six Air Force reservists recognized for knowing the nuts and bolts of their business by winning Air Force Reserve maintenance personnel awards for 1987.

CMSgt. James L. Robson of the 911th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at Greater Pittsburgh IAP, Pa., was named Supervisor/Manager of the Year.

MSgt. Robert G. Lougher of Westover AFB, Mass., received the 10-10-10 Award and SSgt. Ronald J. Lischka of Niagara Falls IAP, N.Y., received the Special Recognition Award.

Wing honors outstanding members

The 439th MAW's top enlisted personnel were recently honored during ceremonies at Westover.

MSgt. Leroy Johnson, vehicle operations NCOIC, was cited as the senior NCO of the year.

TSgt. George L. Hoagland, senior security controller with the 439th WSSF, was honored as the NCO of the year, and Amn. Kristine M. Colby, CBPO personnel specialist, was selected as 1987's outstanding airman.

Sergeant Brown promoted

Hampden County Sheriff Michael J. Ashe, Jr. announced in December the promotion to senior correctional officer/sergeant of Thomas Brown of Springfield.

A master sergeant in the Air Force Reserve at Westover, Sergeant Brown is an air transportation supervisor with the ramp service unit of the 59th Aerial Port Squadron.

Turkey Trot winners

Two names were missing from the list of Turkey Trot Road Race winners published last month.

Glen Golba finished first in the men's 17-23 category with a time of 31:51, while Tim Flynn was second in 45:34.

Scavenger-bashing aids Westover crews

By TSgt. Sandi Michon

Birds of a feather flocking together could mean big trouble for Westover's big birds — the C-5A Galaxies and approximately 100 transient aircraft a month along with hundreds of civilian flight operations at the base — which could be endangered by Westover's little birds if not for a rigorous Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard program.

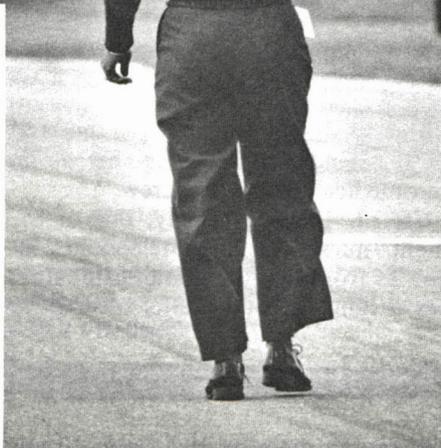
The base operations staff has the responsibility to undertake measures to ensure that pesky birds of a feather will not flock together at Westover.

According to Pat Dery, assistant chief of airfield management, the bevy of birds congregating on the runways pose a potentially serious problem for aviators at this base.

"Four local landfills are the major attraction for the scavenger type birds that are our biggest problem," said Lt. Col. Gale French, wing flying safety officer.

According to Colonel French, bird strikes can break aircraft windshields, damage aircraft skin, or be ingested into the turbo-fan engines. He said the degree of danger depends on the size and number of the birds.

Colonel French related how Col. Ralph H. Oates, wing vice-commander, was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross while stationed at Dover AFB, Del., as a result of a bird strike



SSgt. Madeleine DeVane

incident.

"After takeoff, his C-5 entered a cloud and encountered a flock of snow geese," related Colonel French.

"The aircraft sustained more than 75 bird strikes, resulting in the failure of two engines, making the aircraft very difficult to land. He skillfully landed the C-5 back at Dover safely."

Colonel French said, "We've never had a bird strike accident at Westover, but we've been very careful. We do everything possible to minimize the hazard.

"Controlling the birds is a base-wide effort," he said. "The control tower is usually the reporting agent as well as airfield management personnel during their daily runway safety checks."

Base operations staff is responsible for clearing the birds from the runway area. "We use a sound gun to disperse the birds," explained Mr. Dery. "The loud bird-scare cartridge disperses the birds and we also broadcast gull-distress tapes from the loudspeaker of the Base Ops vehicle to keep them from settling back on the runways."

"Prevention is the key, so our objective is to keep the birds away from the runway area," said Colonel French. "We have a base Bird Air Strike hazard program, and receive valuable information from the Air Force-wide BASH program."

According to Colonel French, the BASH program compiles information on the altitudes, times, areas and other factors present in the majority of bird strike incidents across the nation.

"We use this information to educate the aircrews on methods to minimize bird strike hazards," he said. "We know that 50 percent of all bird strikes occur within five miles of the airfield and from ground level to 500 feet. We can then instruct the aircrews to maintain certain altitudes to avoid bird strikes."

Base civil engineering also contributes to flying safety by maintaining a 7- to 12-inch grass height around the

(Continued on page 10)

(Union-News Photo by Michael Gordon)

74TH AES seeks med techs via direct mailing

"Join our professional team. Come fly with us," says Lt. Col. Joseph A. Curley, commander of the 74th Aero-medical Evacuation Squadron at Westover.

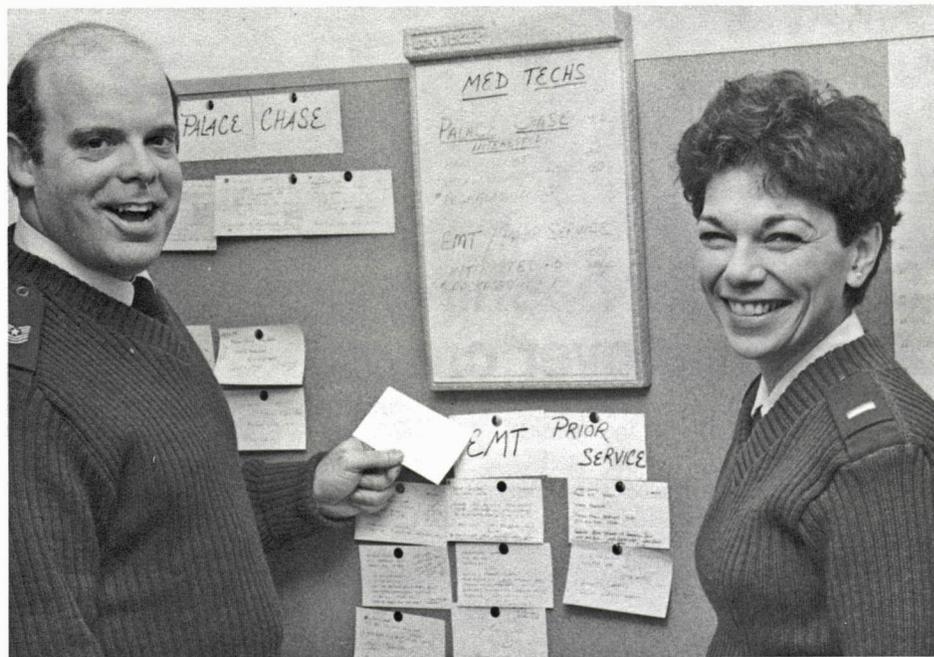
The colonel's message is being mailed to the 11,000 emergency medical technicians in Massachusetts, dozens of former Air Force-trained 902XOs living in New England and notices are being placed in newsletters throughout the Air Force system.

1st Lt. Elaine F. D'Aprile, a flight nurse with the 74th, said responses are coming in from bases across the country, but Westover currently needs about 30 medical technicians.

Colonel Curley's message to EMTs explains the 74th is "made up of men and women who have found what you may be looking for — new challenges, opportunities to expand your horizons, learning new skills or developing skills you already have."

"We also need help from our network of Westover supporters," said MSgt. Timothy C. Brown, aeromedical evacuation technician. "We would like our people to pass on the word that Westover's 74th is looking for people with medical expertise."

Colonel Curley said, "We're college students, electricians, emergency medical technicians, nurses, paramedics, sales people, firefighters, social



(USAF photo by Sgt. Vincent Blanchard)

GOOD RESPONSE — MSgt. Timothy C. Brown and 1st Lt. Elaine F. D'Aprile post responses from the massive direct mail campaign to bring Med Techs into the 74th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.

workers, single, married, parents and we're friends working together as an aeromedical evacuation crew."

1st Lt. Cheryl Delaney, one of the flight nurses fielding telephone inquiries from the direct mail campaign, has a long list of benefits offered by

membership in the 74th AES. "The prestige and excitement of a paid flying assignment, training in aeromedical patient care skills, leadership training, management skills and obtaining medical Continuing Education Credits, plus tuition assistance."

PATRIOT is again selected best in the Air Force

ROBINS AFB, GA (AFRNS) — Journalists from the 439th Military Airlift Wing headquartered at Westover AFB, Mass., received four of the seven awards received by AFRES members in the 1987 Air Force Media Contest.

Air Force Reserve units and individual journalists took three first-place, two second-place and two third-place awards in the 32nd annual Air Force Media Contest.

Edited by TSgt. Gordon Newell, the *Patriot* of the 439th Military Airlift Wing at Westover AFB, Mass., was selected as best in the Air Force in the funded unit newspaper category.

Third place went to another 439th newspaper, the *Frontiersman* of the 914th Tactical Airlift Group at Niagara Falls IAP, N.Y., edited by SSgt. Jennifer Miller.

Two members of the 439th MAW public affairs staff at Westover collected awards in the Air Force-wide competition. Dr. Frank Faulkner, chief of public affairs, took first place in the single photo category with a *Patriot* photograph of vapor trailing from the props of a C-130, and Maj. Rick Dyer, wing public affairs officer, came in third in the Journalist of the Year category. Major Dyer was named USAF Print Journalist of the Year in 1986.

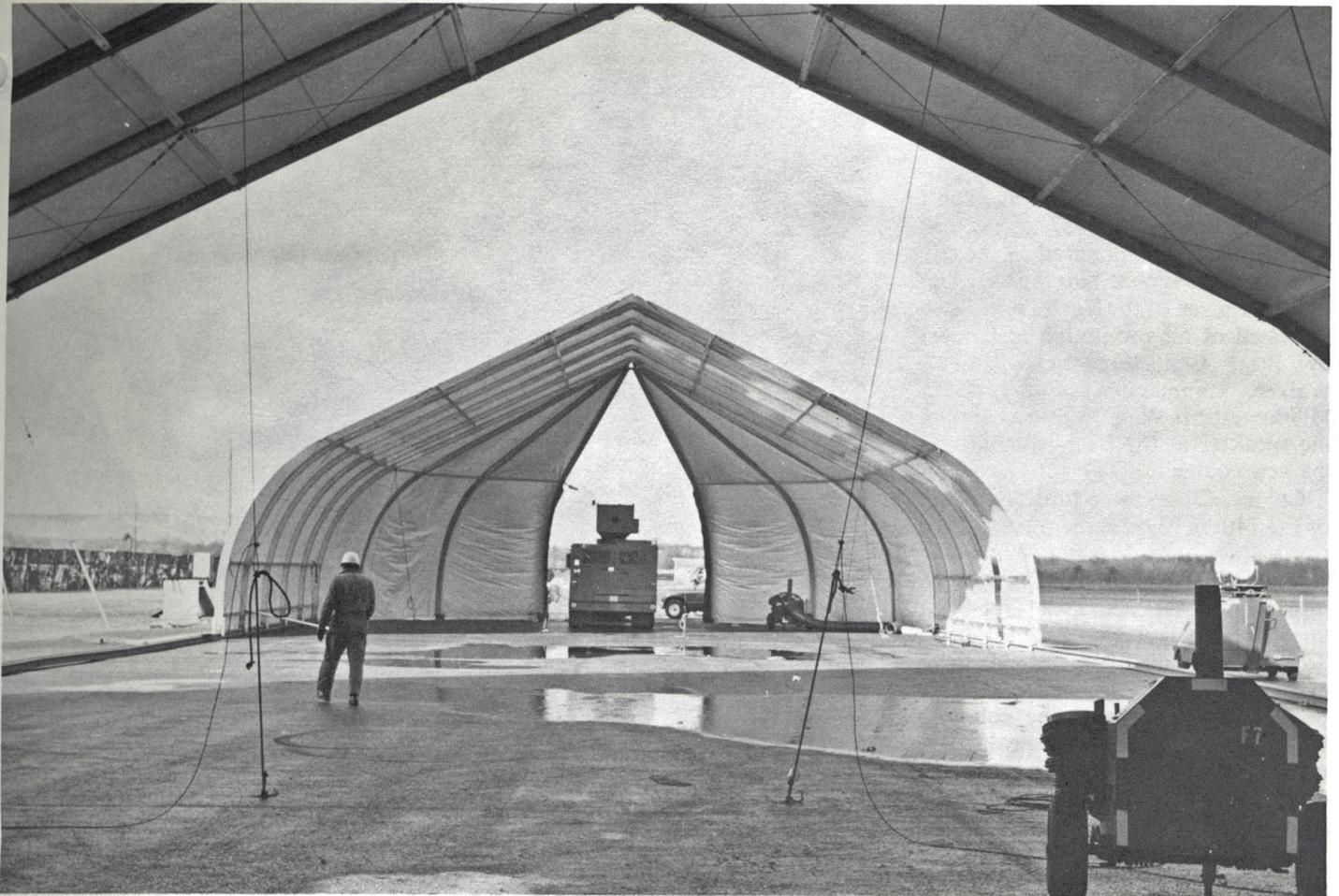
First-place winners in the contest will compete with those from other services in the Department of Defense Thomas Jefferson Awards contest which will be judged in late January.

The *Reserve Recruiter*, the official newspaper for Reserve recruiters, placed second in the funded command

newspaper category. The paper is edited by MSgt. Rodney Spears at AFRES headquarters.

AFRES posted a one-two showing in the magazine format newspaper category. The *Penetrator*, 403rd Rescue and Weather Reconnaissance Wing, Keesler AFB, Miss., edited by TSgt. Sherry DeSantis, won first place, and the *908th TAG Times*, 908th TAG, Maxwell AFB, Ala., edited by Capt. Cherie Vick, came in second.

The Air Force contest was judged Nov. 16-19 at Headquarters Air Force Service Information and News Center, Kelly AFB, Texas. Judges for this year's contest were Harry Levins, *St. Louis (Mo.) Post-Dispatch*; Dr. Douglas Starr, Texas A & M University, College Station; and Roy Heitman, *Air Force Times*, Springfield, Va.



(USAF photo by TSgt. Sandi Michon)

OPEN WIDE — A portable hangar was recently erected on the North Ramp. The fabric-covered, metal structure was constructed by reservists from civil engineering and maintenance squadrons and will provide additional storage during the C-5 transition. According to Maj. Bill Friedhofer,

assistant deputy commander for resources, the hangar is fitted onto metal runners to expand and contract the sides to house the wings of a C-130. After the C-130s are gone, the hangar will be used primarily to store vehicles.

1987: A year of contributions and celebrations

ROBINS AFB, Ga. (AFRNS) — Air Force Reservists had plenty of reason to mark their calendars in 1987 — the 40th anniversary of the Air Force, the 70th year since the creation of the first Air Force Reserve unit, the First Reserve Aero Squadron, and 80 years since the establishment of an aero division under the U.S. Army Signal Corps.

The opportunity to take part in history came early in 1987 for members of an aircrew from the 446th Military Airlift Wing, McChord AFB, Wash. They evacuated eight victims of a New Year's Eve hotel fire in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Four days after the fire, the crew flew the patients to New Haven, Conn., for treatment.

Within two months, other reservists answered the call for help. This time they flew supply missions from Howard AFB, Panama, to Ecuador in the wake of earthquakes and aftershocks which rocked the Andean nation. One mission was flown by a C-141 associate crew from the 315th MAW, Charleston AFB, S.C. Three other missions were performed by members of the 439th Tactical Airlift Wing, C-130 crews from the 914th Tactical Airlift Group, Niagara Falls, N.Y., a unit performing rotational support to U.S. Southern Command in a program known as Volant Oak. The reservists airlifted tents, blankets and other supplies for the some 10,000 left homeless following the earthquakes.

An AFRES unit returned to San Juan in the summer to quash the threat of another natural disaster. The 907th TAG, Rickenbacker ANGB, Ohio, with specially equipped C-130s flew aerial spray missions to suppress a possible epidemic of dengue hemorrhagic fever, caused by a specific type of mosquito.

Another type of aerial spray mission using C-130s helped contain a different type of natural disaster. Reservists from the 93rd TAG, March AFB, Calif., teamed up with Air National Guardsmen to fight raging fires in southern and central California.

Rescue units in Oregon, Florida and Michigan were credited with seven

(Continued next page)

Colonel Curley has a big night

WAKEFIELD—Colonel Joseph A. Curley, commander of the 74th Aero-medical Evacuation Squadron, won't soon forget Nov. 21, 1987.

Not only was he honored by the city of Wakefield's West Side Social Club as their Citizen of the Year, he was also informed of his promotion to colonel by Brig. Gen. Frederick "Mike" Walker, commander of the 439th Military Airlift Wing, who was among the speakers at the banquet honoring the new colonel.

Colonel Curley, who took command of the 74th in May, is the owner of the Curley Insurance Agency in Wakefield and has served his community through numerous local activities and with many local organizations.

Over 250 relatives, friends and guests, including local and state political figures shared the colonel's big night. speaker after speaker repeated the message many times in many different ways that Colonel Curley is a first class kind of citizen.

During his remarks, General Walker first informed the audience of Colonel Curley's promotion and then went on to laud the colonel's military accomplishments. "Colonel Curley's unit at McGuire AFB, the 72nd AES, earned two consecutive outstanding ratings during very rigid inspections. In fact his record still stands as the only unit to do so," the general said.

"The Air Force Reserve could not do what we do for the defense of this country without people like Colonel Curley," the general added.



IN ADDITION TO his local claim to fame — being named Citizen of the Year by the West Side Social Club of Wakefield — Lt. Col. Joseph A. Curley, right, was informed of his promotion to colonel by Brig. Gen. Frederick "Mike" Walker, commander of the 439th Military Airlift Wing at a banquet held Nov. 21.

(Continued from Page 5)

saves during the first 10 months of 1987. Most of the saves involved mountain climbers and hikers.

While rescue crews were picking up people, reservists from the 514th MAW at McGuire AFB, N.J., were putting a cargo drop in the record books. They airdropped the heaviest single load from a C-141 — a 38,490-pound Army Sheridan tank — at Pope AFB, N.C., according to USAF Airlift Center officials at Pope.

More than 32,000 reservists packed their bags and left home to train in exercises.

Eight aircrews and four C-130's from the 934th TAG, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn., went north to Alaska to participate in Brim Frost '87, a U.S. Readiness Command Joint readiness exercise. Reservists from other units provided intratheater airlift in the Pacific as part of Team Spirit.

In addition to Volant Oak rotational missions, reservists went south of the border to participate in Pegasus '87. AC-130 gunships from the 919th Special Operations Group, Eglin Aux. Field 3, Fla., and helicopters from the 301st and the 305th Aerospace Rescue

and Recovery Squadrons at Homestead AFB, Fla., and Selfridge ANGB, Mich., respectively, took part in the exercise in Honduras.

Two F-4 crews from the 906th Tactical Fighter Group, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, gained a close look at Soviet aircraft when they intercepted two Bear bombers over the Atlantic. The Checkered Flag participants' intercept marked a first for AFRES crews flying from Iceland.

Four other crews from the 906th

(Continued on Page 13)

Nurse seeks recognition for 'invisible veterans'

By Maj. Rick Dyer

Her face is haunting — an expressive mixture of weariness and compassion.

She stands clutching a combat helmet, armed only with a stethoscope and surgical scissors.

To Florence Holman of Ludlow, the bronze replica of the combat nurse is a "visible symbol of some invisible Americans." One day soon, she hopes to see the statue standing in Washington, D.C.

"Flo" Holman, Vietnam veteran and former Air Force nurse, visited Westover in December with a 100-pound scale model of the proposed Vietnam Women's Memorial Statue.

Legislation is currently before Congress to have the life-sized sculpture, which was designed by Minneapolis artist Rodger Brodin, erected near the national Vietnam Veteran's Memorial between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument.

The cost of the project, which will be funded entirely by private donations, is estimated at \$1.2 million.

Mrs. Holman, a soft-spoken nurse now employed at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, came to Westover to promote the women's memorial. She spoke with flight nurses from the 74th AES about the "invisible veterans" from Vietnam.

"Most people don't realize that nearly 10,000 women served in Vietnam," she said. "It's as though we are a forgotten part of American history."

Noting that the existing bronze statue at the Vietnam Memorial depicts three male soldiers, Mrs. Holman believes the project will enable the nation to "close the books" on the Vietnam experience.

"I'm hopeful that this memorial will help us locate veterans who have been neglected and enable them to begin the healing process that the men have already begun," Mrs. Holman said. "We need to reach out to them, involve them in a network of other sympathetic women vets, and help them with their problems.

"For one thing," she explained, "many people don't believe we were over there." She said public ignorance contributes to the feelings of isolation and loneliness some of her fellow nurses still experience today.

"How can they be welcomed home



(USAF photo by Sgt. Vin Blanchard)

Standing with the Vietnam nurse statue are, from left, Lt. Col. Mary A. Roche, 74th AES flight nurse, Maj. Joan E. Riccio, 74th AES flight nurse, and Florence Holman of Ludlow, Mass.

when people don't know they were there?" she asked.

Mrs. Holman related one incident which occurred after the war, when she reported to a veterans' hospital for an Agent Orange screening test. "The orderly kept calling for 'mister' Holman," she said.

But being overlooked is not the only problem which women Vietnam veterans experience.

"I was exposed to Agent Orange, and since Vietnam I've had a miscarriage, a thyroid problem, and a child who survived a bout with cancer," she said. "Other people in the civilian community have those same problems, but it does raise questions," she said.

Because of those questions, Mrs. Holman believes the government should compile baseline data about the medical problems of women veterans and their children.

Mrs. Holman says that of the 10,000 women who went to war in Vietnam, about 7,500 of them were nurses. She was one of the first Air Force nurses assigned there, helped to open the 12th Air Force hospital at Cam Ranh Bay, and also served at a staging hospital at Tan Son Nhut Air Base outside Saigon.

She says her most vivid memory of the 11 months she spent there during

1966 was of the first time she walked into the recovery unit at Tan Son Nhut.

"It was a quonset hut, literally filled with casualties," she remembered. "I'll never forget all those patients with missing limbs and bandaged heads — all those tubes and pumps."

While at Cam Ranh Bay she met her husband, John Holman, an Air Force navigator. Although he remained in the Air Force until 1974 and retired as a major, she left active duty in 1967 when they married and began raising their family.

"Being an Air Force wife, I was insulated somewhat from the problems other female Vietnam veterans experienced after the war," the 51-year-old nurse said. "Still, it's only been recently that I've been able to talk about it."

Mrs. Holman hopes the memorial project will "draw out" other women veterans and enable them to deal with the physical and psychological issues which they may have ignored.

"The statue is just the beginning," the nurse said, with a wistful look — an expression not unlike the one, permanently captured in bronze, which she hopes to view in Washington.

PATRIOT

439TH MILITARY AIRLIFT WING • AIF



JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					①	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29					

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

PROPOSED



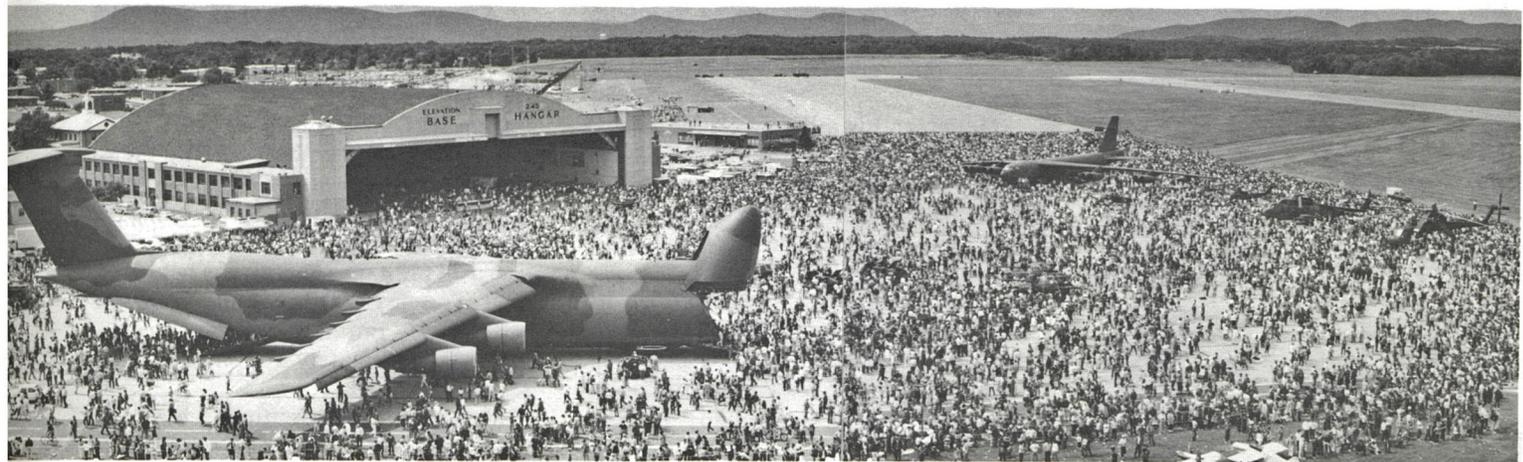
"A" UNIT TRAINING ASSEMBLIES



"B" UNIT TRAINING ASSEMBLIES

OT 1988

FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER AFB



(USAF photo by Nora MacKay)

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



(Continued from Page 3)

runways to discourage loitering birds. They also check for certain grain grasses, animal remains or insect breeding places, all of which could attract birds to the area.

The scavengers, such as gulls and starlings, are problematic throughout the year, and migratory birds such as hawks and waterfowl are a major problem in the spring and fall, according to Colonel French.

"Gulls are our major problem," he said. "We have four sanitary landfills in the area, and the gulls settle on the warm concrete runways after scavenging at the local dump sites."

Air Force BASH teams meet regularly with local representatives of the state Department of Environmental Quality

SMSgt. Clayton Gallant

WEST SPRINGFIELD—SMSgt. Clayton J. Gallant, Jr., 55, of 95 Herman St., a veteran of 31 years of military service, died Dec. 2 in Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

At the time of his death, Sergeant Gallant was an Air Reserve Technician with the 439th Air Base Group's training office. Among his responsibilities was the base photo lab. An accomplished photographer, many of his pictures appeared in the *Patriot* over the years.

He began his military career in 1948 when he enlisted in the Massachusetts National Guard. He later spent four years on active duty with the Air Force and joined the Reserve in 1959 at Bradley Field.

Sergeant Gallant is survived by his widow, the former Helga M. Joschko; a son, Eric; and a daughter, Diane M. Gallant, both of West Springfield and a brother, Barry D. Gallant, of Saco, Maine.

Sergeant Gallant was born in Worcester and had lived in West



SMSgt. Clayton J. Gallant, Jr.

Springfield for the past 30 years.

He was a member of the West Springfield-Agawam Lodge of Elks and a communicant of St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

A full military funeral was held Dec. 5 at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home followed by burial in the parish cemetery. Approximately 100 Westover reservists attended.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Leukemia Society of America, 31 Elm St., Springfield, 01101.

TSgt. John F. Hayes, Jr.

WESTFIELD—TSgt. John F. Hayes, Jr., 51, of 23 Robinson Drive, died Oct. 22 in Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Sergeant Hayes was a quality assurance technician with the 439th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. He was a veteran of 20 years of military service.

He is survived by his widow, the former Joan A. Kilpatrick; a son, John; and a daughter, Debra A. Hayes.

Sergeant Hayes was a quality assurance inspector for the U.S. Navy at the General Electric plant in Lynn, Mass.

He was buried in the National Cemetery at Otis AFB in Bourne, Mass.

and Engineering to encourage their cooperation in reducing the attraction of scavengers to the landfills. Proper maintenance of city and town landfills reduces the number of scavengers attracted and contributes to a healthier environment.

Residents and elected officials in Chicopee are also concerned about gulls flocking around their municipal landfill. Alderman Timothy J. Sullivan has asked the city Board of Health to investigate means of reducing the number of gulls attracted to the landfill off Burnett Road.

Granby voters have been asked to approve borrowing \$50,000 to hire an engineering firm to decide what disposal methods would be most appro-

priate for that town's landfill off New Ludlow Road.

BASH meetings are also held semi-annually with base personnel to review new information and to ensure a concerted effort in reducing bird strike hazards at Westover.

"Destruction of any bird is strictly a last resort," said Colonel French. "We adhere carefully to the absolute preservation of endangered species and no poisons or toxic chemicals are used.

"While we continue to address the problem of birds in the airfield area," Colonel French continued, "it is well-known that other areas of Westover are actually sanctuaries for numerous types of birds, including endangered species."

Westover's new air terminal is dedicated

The new air terminal building, expanded and renovated by Westover Metropolitan Development Corp. was dedicated Dec. 17 during a gala ceremony at the former "mole hole" of the Strategic Air Command.

WMDC officials announced the possibility of Westover providing regular commercial air service for Greater Springfield could come as early as this spring.

One out of five commuter passengers at Bradley International Airport lives in Hampden or Hampshire counties in Massachusetts, according to WMDC statistics. Since C-5A Galaxies were assigned to the 439th MAW, Westover has been mentioned frequently by elected officials as a desirable site for commercial aviation as facilities at Logan, Kennedy, and Bradley airports become more congested and the cities of Springfield and Chicopee move ahead with plans for a new bridge over the Chicopee River.

Invited dignitaries included state Senators John Burke of Holyoke and Martin Reilly of Springfield; state Representatives Kenneth Lemanski of Chicopee and Thomas Petrolati of Ludlow; Chicopee Mayor Richard Lak and mayor-elect Joseph Chessey, president of the Board of Aldermen; Brig. Gen. Frederick D. Walker, 439th MAW commander, and Lt. Col. Thomas G. Hargis, base commander; and Norman Fredkin, chairman of the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission. Robert Carroll, chairman of the WMDC Board of Directors, was master of ceremonies.

According to WMDC President Allan Blair, the 8,000 square foot SAC facility was increased to 14,000 square feet and completely modernized with new heating and air conditioning, plus a new roof and windows.

Mr. Blair said WMDC is developing a marketing program to present to major commercial airlines and hoping to bring airline service to the Greater Springfield region in the late spring.

The Chicopee Chamber of Commerce has assisted in compiling data for the program by completing a survey on commercial airline service needs for the area surrounding Westover AFB.



Chaplain (1st Lt.) Joseph Raeke

(USAF photo by TSgt. Sandi Michon)

New Catholic chaplain joins 439th MAW

Westover welcomed a new Catholic chaplain after two years without one when Chaplain (1st Lt.) Joseph Raeke offered his first Mass on base and met reservists during the December UTA.

Chaplain Raeke's duties at Westover are in addition to an already busy schedule in Eastern Massachusetts as a high school chaplain, pre-marriage counselor and youth worker.

"After the challenge of in-processing, I look forward to the more pleasing challenge of meeting the men and women of Westover and responding to their wants and needs. I'm grateful for the warm welcome I was offered on my first weekend," he said.

During the week, Chaplain Raeke is kept occupied as chaplain of Pope John High School in Everett near Boston, where he is "Father Joe" to the

the students.

Born and raised in Boston, Chaplain Raeke was ordained in 1980 following graduation from St. John's Seminary, Brighton, Mass. While studying for the priesthood, he served two summers as a chaplain's assistant at Norton AFB, Calif., and Dover AFB, Del.

Before taking the position at Pope John High School, he served six years at St. Joseph's Parish in Quincy.

Chaplain Raeke is chaplain of the Catholic Alumni Club, a state-wide singles club for Catholic college graduates. He also conducts Pre-Canna marriage preparation classes and works with youths. He is available during the week at (617) 387-3343.

Chaplain Ernest Moreau and Chaplain Rosari Montcalm, both retired colonels, had served as auxiliary chaplains for the 439th MAW.

Patriot profile

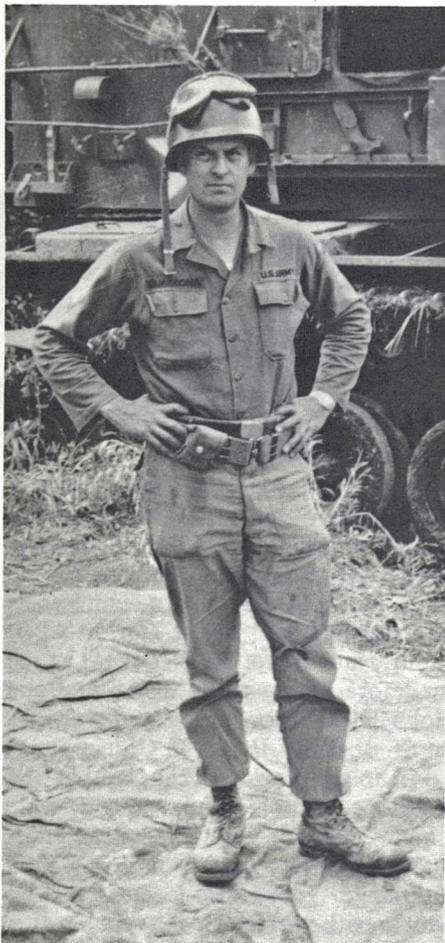
From horseback to Galaxy, Sgt. Zamacona saw it all

By SSgt. Tom Allocco

From spurs and saddles to Galaxies is a long way, but MSgt. Manuel Zamacona saw it all during a military career that began on horseback in the Mexican desert and ended as a West-over medical technician.

In November, Sergeant Zamacona hung up his blue uniform for the last time when he retired as 74th AES Disaster Preparedness NCOIC. He wore many uniforms during 28 years in the U.S. Air Force and Army and earlier service in the Mexican and British armies.

When Sergeant Zamacona talks about the "old days" in uniform he recalls campaigning with the Mexican horse cavalry, running with a haversack full of rocks in the ranks of the British Special Air Service and jumping



Sergeant Zamacona is shown in June, 1954 in West Germany when he was a member of the 12th Infantry Regiment of the 4th Infantry Division.

medic with the Army Reserve Special Forces. That was his "prior service" when he joined the Air Force Reserve in 1978.

Sergeant Zamacona was born and raised in Mexico City where his father and grandfather had served as British diplomats to Mexico. In 1948, at age 18, he was drafted into the Mexican Army for a one-year tour, during which he served first in the horse cavalry and later in the mechanized cavalry.

He did his horse cavalry stint in the desert country of Mexico's Chihuahua state and quickly lost any illusions about service on horseback.

"It was the roughest part of my military experience. It's not like in the movies — the horse is number one and you're maid to the horse."

"Every day at 1700 there were stiff inspections of the saddle, saber, other equipment and the horse from the hooves up."

Sergeant Zamacona

"It was the roughest part of my military experience. It's not like in the movies — the horse is number one and you're maid to the horse," he said.

"Every day at 1700 there were stiff inspections of the saddle, saber, other equipment and the horse from the hooves up."

On Saturday mornings there were more inspections before the horse cavalrymen could go into the village and spend some of their monthly pay of 100 pesos — about \$25.

Shortly after his Mexican Army hitch was completed he went to his family's home in England, and in 1950 joined the British Special Air Service. For two years he underwent the rigorous training and hard discipline of the unit respected as among the world's most elite.



MSgt. Manuel Zamacona

They jumped from C-47s, British Auro Tudors and balloons, and did quick-march hikes up to 26 miles carrying a pack filled with rocks.

"You didn't know when you would eat or sleep. You might start at midnight and not get a break until the next noon and then keep going until the next day. You didn't look at the clock because you were always going," he said.

In 1953 he immigrated to the U.S. and the next year he opened up his draft notice from the Army.

"After the SAS, basic training at Fort Dix was a picnic," he said. He spent most of his two year's duty as an infantryman in the Army of Occupation in Germany.

Sergeant Zamacona later joined a New York Army National Guard field artillery unit and then served three years in an Army Reserve Special Forces group as a medic.

He came to Westover in 1978 as a member of the former 901 WSSF and in 1980 transferred to the 74th AES.

A security member with the New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs, Sergeant Zamacona resides with his wife, Charlotte, in Saugerties, NY. They have two children.

"Patriot People"

Name: Michelle Turconi
Rank: Sgt.
Age: 26
Address: Holyoke, Mass.
Unit: 639th WSSF
Position: Security Specialist
Civilian Occupation: Carpenter
Favorite Food: Steak
Favorite Beverage: Orange juice
Favorite Sport: Basketball
Favorite Hobby: Canoeing
Ideal Vacation: Camping
Best Way to Relax: Hot bath
Preferred Entertainment: Horseback riding
Favorite Celebrity: Charles Bronson
Favorite Music: Soft rock
Favorite Color: Red
Favorite Car: 280Z Datsun
Pet Peeve: Chalkboard screech
Best Thing About Westover: Gym
Worst Thing About Westover: Hurry-up-and-wait.



Sgt. Michelle Turconi

PAT on the back

Enlistments

TSgt. Ronald N. Beaulieu
 TSgt. Gary W. Pike
 SSgt. Bruce B. Buechele
 SSgt. William E. Chapdelaine II
 SSgt. Lewis Suriani
 Sgt. John R. Ferriter III
 Sgt. Lester S. Howard
 Sgt. David R. McIntosh
 A1C Daniel J. Agati
 A1C Dawn M. Berne
 A1C Stacy L. Booker
 A1C Gladys M. Lawrence
 A1C Felicia M. Marshall
 A1C Andrew T. Rivet
 AB Wanda F. Devereaux

Reenlistments

CMSgt. Ronald C. Perrault
 MSgt. Gary E. Gladu
 MSgt. George L. Hoagland
 MSgt. Randy J. Malek
 MSgt. Jeffrey C. Walker
 TSgt. Beth J. Brooks
 TSgt. Lewis G. Carter
 TSgt. Christopher P. Doyle
 TSgt. Daniel G. Hogan
 TSgt. Victor M. Marden
 TSgt. Harry N. Merchant
 TSgt. Gordon A. Newell
 TSgt. Bruce W. Szeplak
 SSgt. Vincent T. Algonzino
 SSgt. Harry D. Delude
 SSgt. Michelle R. Fusco
 SSgt. Helen M. Hillman
 SSgt. Ronald Mink
 SSgt. John J. Munro
 SSgt. Richard R. Niemiec
 SSgt. Barbara A. Robotti
 SSgt. Phillip E. Russ
 SSgt. Lori J. Stenhouse

(Continued from page 6)

TFG took on a less demanding mission; they performed an aerial demonstration to kick off the Pan American Games in Indianapolis, Ind. C-130 aircraft from the 94th TAW, Dobbins AFB, Ga., 908th TAG, Maxwell AFB, Ala., and the 403rd Rescue and Weather Reconnaissance Wing, Keesler AFB, Miss., transported supplies to support the 16-day athletic event.

Medical personnel took part in two extensive aeromedical evacuation exercises. Fourth Air Force medics moved patients from forward-operating staging locations to McChord AFB in Washington. Reservists from throughout the United States traveled to Europe and received hands-on training during the Reforger exercise. Training experience translated into trophies for some reservists.

Rescue people hoisted some of the most impressive awards won by reservists. A team of aircrews, pararescue-men and support personnel from the 304th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron, Portland IAP, Ore., and the 301st ARRS from Homestead won the overall SAREX Award at Prince Edward Island, Canada.

The team representing the 403rd RWRW From Keesler also amassed other awards at the international search and rescue exercise. Those honors included the best overall performance in parachuting accuracy, the

best parajump team, second place in the medical event and third place in the search and rescue event.

AFRES units notched their share of awards at Gunsmoke '87, the Air Force-wide fighter gunnery competition at Nellis AFB, Nev. Maj. Danny Hamilton, 419th Tactical Fighter Wing, Hill AFB, Utah, won the top gun award, followed closely by teammates who came in second and fifth in the event. The 419th TFW, the defending overall champion of Gunsmoke '85, finished second to the 388th, its active duty counterpart at Hill. The 926th TFG, New Orleans, La., locked up the maintenance team crown and finished second in the weapons load event.

Reservists navigated their way to an impressive showing at the Strategic Air Command Bombing and Navigation competition. The combined AFRES Team from the 452nd Air Refueling Wing, March AFB, Calif., 434th AREFW, Grissom AFB, Ind., and 940th Air Refueling Group, Mather AFB, Calif., received the Saunders Trophy. The reservists attained the most points in all phases of tanker operations. The award is given in honor of Brig. Gen. Donald W. Saunders, who died attempting to set a world cruise record aboard a KC-135 flying out of Westover AFB, Mass., in 1958.

The refueling team finished second
 (Continued on page 15)

'News Hound' warning issued by TAC

With Cable News Network actively advertising a news-gathering program called "News Hound," the TAC News Service is warning Air Force members of regulations concerning news release.

Now that Westover's 439th MAW has converted to C-5As and regular world-wide strategic airlift missions, the CNN situation applies to Reserve members here.

Directors of the "News Hound" program say they will consider purchasing and broadcasting video tape recordings of potentially newsworthy events taken by amateurs. If the material is used, the photographer can be compensated for the report, making this program very tempting to many home video buff.

In view of this, and with Westover personnel having far greater opportunities to fly to many interesting points on the globe, each Air Force Reserve member should be aware of the ground rules for releasing official Air Force information, according to the Tactical Air Command News Service.

According to a recent message from the Secretary of the Air Force Public

Affairs Office, any material shot off base while off duty is personal and the photographer can do whatever he or she pleases with the video or photographs.

If the material is shot on Westover AFB or some other base or while on duty, however, release of the material outside the Air Force Reserve is contrary to Air Force directives. This SAF/PA guidance applies to unauthorized release of any information.

Air Force Regulation 190-1, "Public Affairs Policies and procedures," states the procedures for releasing information and who may make such a release.

The regulation states, "the command is responsible for releasing information to the public. Even though information is unclassified or has been cleared by security review... it cannot be given to the public unless the commander approves it for that purpose."

Each member of the 439th MAW is responsible for getting the necessary review and clearance through the Public Affairs Office before releasing any proposed written or spoken statement,

or taking any action, such as selling home video productions, that involves an issue of public concern.

Westover's public affairs personnel are dedicated to working with the news media to explain the role of the Air Force Reserve and are willing to help.

According to Maj. Rick Dyer, wing public affairs officer, no problem occurred in November when a Westover C-5A crew returned an American defector from Germany, but the potential was there.

"I think that mission was just the first of many internationally important events that Westover reservists will be involved with," said Major Dyer.

"Our PA staff at Westover is composed of professionals who are here to help," he said. "But with all the interesting missions coming up, we just want to pass along this word of warning from TAC News Service. As a Reserve member at Westover, odds are great that you will travel far and see things which will be of great interest to many. Our PA staff is here to help."



(USAF photo by Sgt. Vincent Blanchard)

LOOKING FOR LOGOS — The 50th anniversary of Westover AFB in 1990, which coincides with the 100th anniversary of Chicopee, has spawned a competition for an appropriate logo to promote the proposed international

airshow. Formal rules and design requirements for the competition will be announced soon by the Chicopee Chamber of Commerce.

(Continued from page 13)

in its bid for the Bruce K. Holloway Trophy. The trophy is awarded to the tanker unit compiling the most points in celestial navigation and is named in honor of General Holloway, a former SAC commander in chief.

A crew from the 452nd AREFW also won the best KC-135 crew award.

Although not as dominant as in previous years, AFRES teams picked up several awards at Military Airlift Command's Airlift Rodeo at Pope. The 445th MAW, Norton AFB, Calif., landed second place in the best overall wing category, best in C-141 aircraft maintenance, second in C-141 crew competition and third in the combat run.

Nine units received the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.

Recipients included the 439th MAW's 914th TAG At Niagara Falls IAP, N.Y., and Headquarters 10th Air Force, Bergstrom AFB, Texas; 78th Air Refueling Squadron, Barksdale AFB, La.; 327th Tactical Airlift Squadron and 913th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Willow Grove ARF, Pa.; 403rd RWRW from Keesler; 459th Military Airlift Wing, Andrews AFB, Md.; 507th TFG,

Tinker AFG, OKla.; and the 931st Air Refueling Group from Grissom.

Two units in Florida won AFRES' top flying unit awards. The 711th Special Operations Squadron at Elgin won the Grover Loening Trophy.

Air Force Reserve units underwent several changes to reorganize and modernize its units to keep pace with the Air Force mission.

The 434th TFW was redesignated an air refueling wing and the 931st AREFG was redesignated a tactical fighter group at Grissom in July. The 434th AREFW became the parent unit for KC-135 and KC-10 units at Grissom.

In October, the 439th TAW at Westover AFB, Mass., became the 439th Military Airlift Wing and began receiving C-5As to replace its 16 C-130Es.

Other changes included the activation of the 909th Civil Engineering Squadron at Langley AFB, Va., the reorganization of airlift control elements into 12 airlift control flights, and the eventual redesignation and build up of medical readiness squadrons to replace hospitals and clinics.

Several new policies came about in 1987 to improve quality of life and

working conditions for reservists. The most notable change in benefits occurred in March when reservists were allowed to shop at commissaries as many as 14 times a year whenever they want, based on their previous year's training participation.

Unit commanders were given more flexibility to manage their programs. For instance, they have the option not to require annual weight-in of reservists who obviously meet weight standards. Also, commanders received a more flexible approach to managing training costs using actual dollars rather than mandays and will have more timely information about unit travel costs.

The number of reservists in the command and their role in support of the Air Force mission continued to grow in 1987. In fact, recruitment and retention were so good that a manning limitation was set on units for the first time.

The coming year will mark the 20th anniversary of the Air Force Reserve as a command, and it's already shaping up as another record year in which increased contributions are made as part of AFRES' vital Total Force mission.

Martin Luther King Jr.

Jan. 18



Living the dream: Let freedom ring!

Wing exec named Chicopee solicitor

Chicopee's new mayor, Joseph J. Chessey Jr., has named 439th MAW Executive Officer Maj. Thomas G. Costello to head the municipal Law Department as city solicitor.

Assigned to Westover as an Air Force Reserve member since 1972, Major Costello is a graduate of Suffolk University Law School and is associated with the law firm of Murphy, McCoubrey, Murphy, St. Clair, Gelinis and Stocks in Chicopee.

Major Costello is the author of two books, *Government Prime and Sub-contract Acquisition Practices for Executives and Attorneys* and *Negotiation of Government Contracts*. He will be Chicopee's chief negotiator, Mayor Chessey said.

Last year, as president of Chicopee's Board of Alderman, Mayor Chessey participated in Westover's civic leader tour to Dobbins, AFB, Ga., and Dover AFB, Del., to learn firsthand about the C-5A operations proposed for this base.



Maj. Thomas G. Costello

Westover's honor guard puts best face forward

By Nora MacKay

If the Honor Guard's performance looks easy, don't be fooled. That well-honored public facade results from literally hundreds of hours of dedicated training and mind-boggling attention to detail.

"I have three books, each two inches thick, containing all the regulations I need to cover just about every aspect of the Honor Guard," said SSgt. Thomas J. Roe III, NCOIC of the Westover Honor Guard.

"I know about 90 percent of it by heart just from using the regulations so much over the years," said the 439th OMS aircraft maintenance specialist.

The Honor Guard is one of Westover's most visible means of representation in the community. This distinctive ceremonial group which represents the base — and, in effect, the military in Western Massachusetts — at events ranging from parades to funerals.

"We're there to show that Westover is not only flying missions all the time," said the Springfield resident. "We want to show that Westover is made up of professional, highly trained individuals who are proud to serve this nation."

The 31 men and women who comprise the Honor Guard do far more than read regulations to be proficient in their three major functions — color guard, funeral detail and drill team.

Sergeant Roe said all Honor Guard members have received enough training that he can "call them, tell them where to be and which detail they'll be

performing and they will know exactly what to do.

"To be proficient in every Honor Guard detail, each member has to go through 80 to 100 hours of training in both classroom and the field," he said.

Westover's Honor Guard was formed in 1982 by Sergeant Roe and three other Air Force Reserve members. At that time they didn't have any funding or support from the base, he said.

"We bought all our own equipment and practiced on our own time," Sergeant Roe said. "We weren't even given man-days."

That situation has improved greatly over the past six years as commanders have seen the Honor Guard in action and have increasingly appreciated members' efforts and gauged public reaction to the team.

Sergeant Roe said he has worked with Dave Michaud, 439th ABG executive officer, who has allocated unit funds for the Honor Guard to purchase military equipment. Security police have provided the required ceremonial arms and Lt. Col. Thomas G. Hargis, base commander, has vigorously supported Honor Guard activities, he said.

But the Honor Guard commander says he still encounters some opposition from other supervisors at Westover when trying to coordinate training activities. "It's typical if I end up going to an event with about half the personnel I planned to go with," Sergeant Roe said. "This is often because an Honor Guard member's supervisor will



Sgt. Luisa Cabana, left and SSgt. Thomas Roe.

not release him or her from duty."

Despite some of the difficulties, the hard work of the volunteers has paid off in their highly professional performances which contribute to unit pride.

Sgt. Luisa Cabana of Wilbraham, the color guard flight commander, said her two years of participation has instilled in her a sense of pride in the Air Force Reserve.

"I feel very proud to be in the Air Force when representing Westover outside the base in an organization like the Honor Guard," said Sergeant Cabana, a 439th MAW admin specialist.

PATRIOT



Published monthly for Patriots like TSgt. Howard Garbarsky of Pittsfield and 1,943 members of the 439th MAW.

HQ 439TH MILITARY AIRLIFT WING
WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MA 01022

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300

THIRD CLASS
BULK RATE
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
USAF
PERMIT NO. G-1