

PATRIOT

THE TEAM OF CHOICE

439TH AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER ARB, MASS.

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AUGUST 2000



BRAVE HEART — A young Guatemalan boy bravely sits as Westover reservists treat his head wound. More than 7,500 Guatemalans from seven villages received treatment during the annual tour from May 20 to June 4. Thirty-three 439th AW personnel made up the various teams. *Photo by SMSgt. Barbara Bender*

439th AW sends medical ambassadors to Guatemala

by MSgt. Sandi Michon

It could have been the 10-month-old baby that almost died from dehydration. Or maybe it was the elderly woman's face half eaten away by cancer. Perhaps it was the scores of kids who came alone and bravely endured everything from shots to tooth extractions.

A kaleidoscope of images vied for the most memorable experience for the 33 Westover reservists who provided medical care in Guatemala from May 20 to June 4.

If reservists could sleep through the rooster chorus at 3:30 a.m., their days began at 5 and often ended at dusk as they treated more than 7,500 Guatema-

lans in seven different villages over 11 days. They set up "shop" by 8 a.m. and hundreds of people were already lined up for treatment.

Their traveling medical shop used desks and folding chairs in local schools, and they often worked outdoors where

Continued on pages 6-7

439th AW MISSION: Actively support national objectives on a global scale with ready, mobility forces.

Welcome to Your Great New England Airshow

The time has come for us to put the Air Force on display for all New England to see. This is the largest community outreach event we will do for two years.

It is our opportunity to show folks what we do as an Air Force and allow it to be up close and personal. We are the

Commentary

best Air Force in the entire world! This show offers people the ability to witness our heritage and see our present. For most it will be the only opportunity they will have to "touch" the Air Force they read about in the newspaper or see on television.

It represents our participation in world events such as Kosovo, Bosnia, Saudi Arabia or the floods in Mozambique. It also represents our Air Force as people, the faces behind the events. We get to be ambassadors of an Air Force that consists of just over one-half million active, guard and reserve members.

It takes a ton of work to put on this airshow and we could only do it through you. So stand tall this weekend and be proud. For possibly you may be the only Air Force member some of the expected 750,000 people of New England will ever interface with in person. And that makes you special!!!

Thanks for all you do!



Col. Martin M. Mazick

by Col. Martin M. Mazick
439th AW Commander

Briefs

Employer Appreciation Days slated for October

Employer Appreciation Days are scheduled for both Unit Training Assemblies in October (14th and 28th).

Reservists are encouraged to invite their employer to Westover for the day that will include an orientation flight aboard a 439th Airlift Wing C-5A.

Application forms are available in the Public Affairs office located in building 1850 and will appear in the September issue of the Patriot.

Employers will be treated to breakfast as part of the day's activities.

Only reservists assigned to aircrew duties for the day will be allowed to take part in the orientation flight.

Volunteers needed for annual stand-down

Volunteers are needed for this year's Western Massachusetts Veterans' Stand-Down which will be conducted at Westover Sept. 30.

Individuals with medical skills, as well as general manpower are needed, according to Maj. Kathy Schnepf of the 439th ASTS, who is co-ordinating the event.

Thanks to a combination of joint service and civilian efforts last year, more than 350 veterans received legal consultations, social services, job placement, health care and needed clothing.

For information contact Maj. Schnepf at (413) 557-3073. Volunteers are asked to respond by Sept. 10.

AF Training Course scheduled for Nov. 4

The Base Education and Training Office will offer the Air Force Training Course at 1300 hours, Nov. 4.

If any unit has reservists who need to attend and cannot get the training from their unit training manager, contact MSgt. Frank Simone at Ext. 3441. Classroom space will be limited.

**Great New England
Air Show
August 12-13**

PATRIOT

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Westover medical units steal the show

by SSgt. Charlie Cangemi

Medical reservists at Westover recently won several top-level Air Force Reserve Command Surgeon awards including seven of 14 individual awards and four out of nine unit awards for 1999.

With 75 Air Force Reserve medical units and hundreds of members vying for awards, competition is fierce, making these recognitions for the Westover units all the more significant.

Awards were won by all three of the medical units on base: the 439th Medical Squadron, the 439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, and the 439th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.

The MDS, commanded by Col. Yash Malhotra, captured all individual awards for a non-deployable unit. The squadron also snatched the Outstanding Reserve Medical Quality Initiative and the Outstanding Medical Squadron (with generation mission).

This is not the first time the MDS was deemed "outstanding," by AFRC. The unit received this honor in 1971, 1995, 1996, 1998, and now in 1999.

"There definitely seems to be a trend here," said CMSgt. George J. Kudla, superintendent of medical administration with the 439th Medical Squadron.

Kudla believes that one reason the unit performed so well is because they frequently

deploy on humanitarian missions.

"We've treated people in Guatemala, Honduras, Guyana — this allows our people to become highly skilled and also brings a lot of recognition," he says, adding that during a recent trip to Guatemala reservists treated over 7,500 patients.

"Do they walk on water? Yes they do. And I am very proud of all of them," Kudla said.

The 439th ASTS — the unit in charge of setting up and staffing an aeromedical staging facility between a medical treatment facility and an aircraft — garnered four individual awards: Capt. Lydia Todd was designated outstanding officer; TSgt. Helen L. Crouch, best NCO; and SrA. Cornelia Babcock, top airman.

The 439th ASTS is commanded by Col. Sarah Waterman. "Everyone in the unit is proud of the award winners," said Waterman. "The individual awards also reflect a total team effort," she added.

And finally, the 439th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron — which handles patients close to the front lines — took one award: Outstanding AES with C-130 Mission and Mobile Aeromedical Staging Facility Missions. The unit, which is commanded by Col. Dennis J. Manning, was also named the Reserve Officer Association's outstanding medical unit.

"It is a great honor for our unit to have been chosen for this award," Manning said. "The award recognizes the selfless efforts of so many devoted unit members in pursuit of excellence."

Award winners will formally receive their recognition at a ceremony in Las Vegas in November.

Award listing Unit awards

439th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

439th Medical Squadron

The 439th MDS also won *all* available individual awards in their category:

Maj. Robert A. Sousa
MSgt. Ron Labonte
SrA. Lesli Creighton

439th ASTS individual awards:

Capt. Lydia Todd
TSgt. Helen L. Crouch
SrA. Cornelia Babcock

Additionally, the chief says the unit always performs excellent on inspections.

The individual winners are Maj. Robert A. Sousa officer category; MSgt. Ronald Labonte, NCO category; and SrA. Lesli A. Creighton, airman category.

42nd APS trains at Travis



Photo courtesy of the 42nd Aerial Port Squadron

Members of the 42nd Aerial Port Squadron upload a submarine screw for the U.S. Navy. The propeller, along with the commercial tractor-trailer which carried it, weighed a total of 129,180 pounds. All 24 people deployed worked with their active duty counterparts during their annual tour for training and mission support at Travis AFB, Calif. from May 13-27.



JUST PLANE INTERESTING — Lt. Col. Ken Riley, Westover C-5 pilot, explains cockpit controls to civic leaders while en route to Georgia (left). In the photo above, the group tours the F-15 in the hangar for maintenance at Robins AFB, Ga.

Georgia tour highl

Article and photos
by MSgt. Sandi Michon

When 34 area civic leaders left Westover on June 14th, it was 51 degrees. Two hours later, when they touched down at Robins AFB in Georgia, the mercury stood at 101 degrees with 100 percent humidity.

By the end of the two-day, whirlwind tour at Robins, the civic leaders experienced not only a climate change, but a dramatic attitude change as well.

"When I see a C-5 now at Westover, I have a whole new perspective of what it takes to keep them flying," said Joe Marois, local contractor and secretary of Westover's Galaxy Council. "I can see how the whole military family works together and I'm impressed with the quality of the people, not only at Robins, but also at Westover," he said.

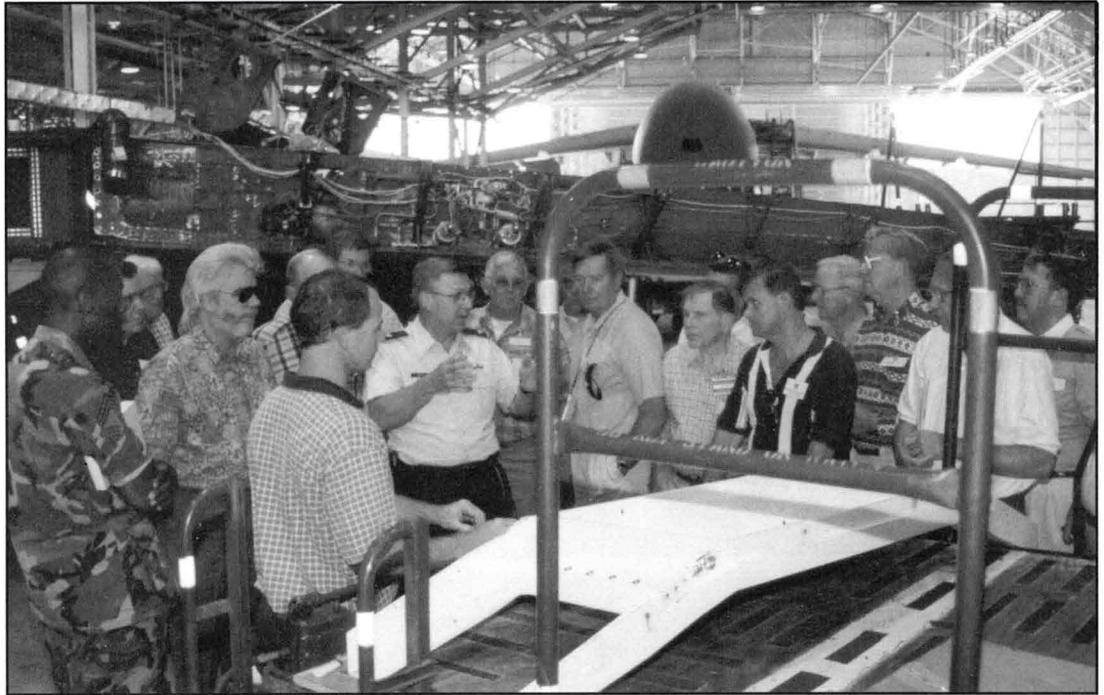
The civic leaders got an up-close-and-personal look at the C-5 mission when they visited the cockpit during the flight to Georgia. Aircraft commander Lt. Col. Ken Riley and Maj. Ken McQuade answered scores of questions as they piloted the C-5.

After a welcome luncheon at Robins, the civic leaders were shuttled to the huge maintenance depot where two Westover C-5s were up on jacks, stripped down. Maintenance specialists were combing the aircraft, inspecting every detail. The Warner Robins Air Logistics Center provides full-scale maintenance for C-



NORTH/SOUTH CONNECTION — Westover's civic leaders met with their Georgian counterparts at a dinner held at the Museum of Aviation on June 14. Prior to the dinner, the group listened to music by an Air Force Reserve Band.

TIE BOX CLASS — Col. Martin M. Mazick, 439th AW commander (center), explains to the group the function of the tie box which is to handle the stress of opposing wings.



ights Air Force mission

141s, C-5s, C-130s and F-15s. C-5s rotate through the depot every five years for extensive maintenance. The tour included instruction on the various phases of the maintenance cycle.

Other tour stops highlighted high-tech advancements in maintenance that included a robotic digital camera system to map F-15 wing skin rivets for replacement templates, and a water jet cutter system capable of cutting intricate patterns in metal and slicing through up to 11-inch-thick aluminum.

The leaders dined at the Museum of Aviation, with music provided by an Air Force Reserve Band. Amid the backdrop of vintage and modern aircraft, Westover area civic leaders heard from Robins AFB senior staff and local Georgia civic leaders. The visiting civic leaders were impressed by the unique partnership between civilian and military leaders in Georgia that made the second largest Air Force museum a reality — and a resounding success.

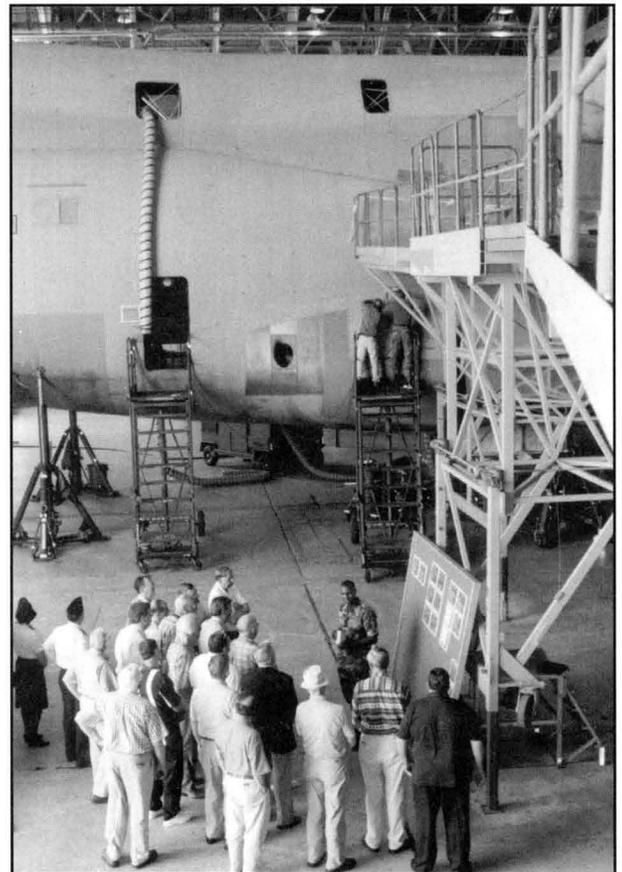
Before departure, attendees walked through an expansive avionics facility that showcased the innovative technology that not only keeps pace with advancements but also makes outdated parts still needed but no longer made by original manufacturers. They were also briefed on the new 1,000-member Joint

STARS mission at Robins. The Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System, which utilizes a modified Boeing 707 (E-8) to classify and track ground targets, is loosely termed the “flying computer.”

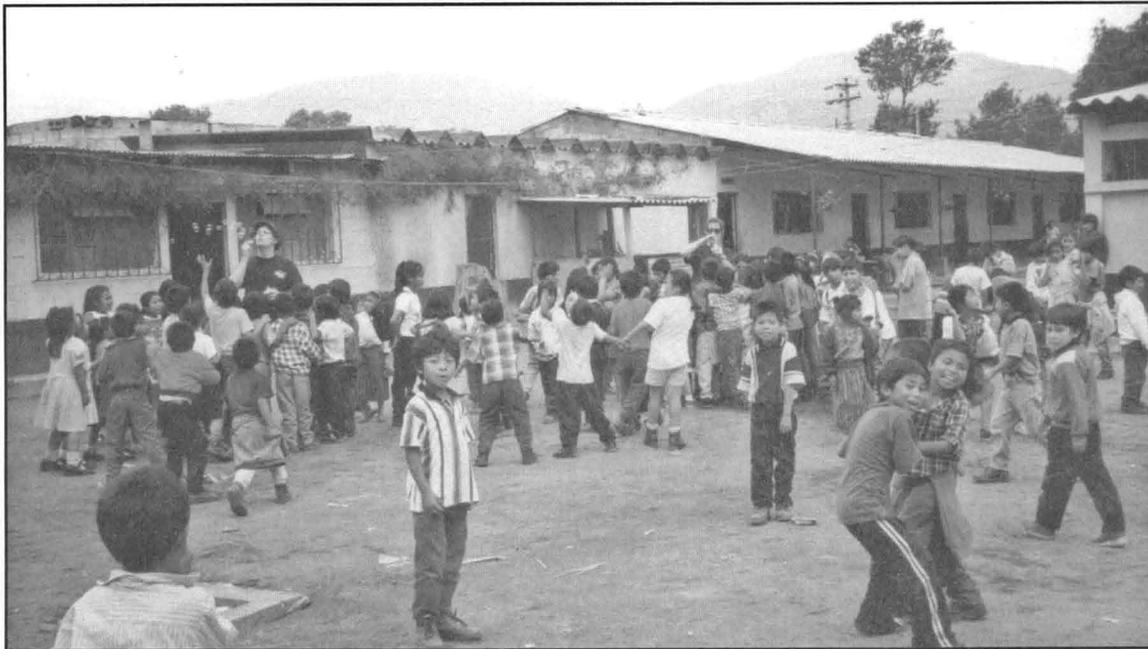
At the end of the tour, enthusiasm was high as attendees better understood how the 17,000 employees at Robins were linked to the Westover mission. Many asked, “How can we better support Westover at the community level?”

Just prior to boarding the C-5 for the return flight, Aviation Artist Peter Ring said he was on overload trying to process all the images. “But I loved every minute of it,” he added smiling broadly. Ring said he was impressed by the dedication of all the technicians and said he had a greater appreciation for the readiness and pride at Westover.

Col. Martin M. Mazick, 439th AW commander, accompanied the tour and was pleased with the outcome. “This (the civic leaders flight) is another phase of outreach. It allows people in the community to see the total Air Force perspective and all that goes on behind the scenes to get a C-5 airborne,” he said. “And hopefully, they will take what they know and share it with their friends and neighbors.”



THE BIG FIX — A military maintenance member explains to the civic leaders the various phases the C-5 completes before returning home. Two Westover C-5 were in the maintenance depot at the time of the visit.



BUBBLE TIME — Blowing bubbles was simple but popular entertainment for local kids during the annual tour to Guatemala.

Photo by Maj. Ari Fisher



PEDIATRIC PATIENT — After treatment for severe dehydration, this 10-month-old baby (shown with his mother) was taken to a local hospital.

Photo by Maj. Ari Fisher

Ambassadors

Continued from front page

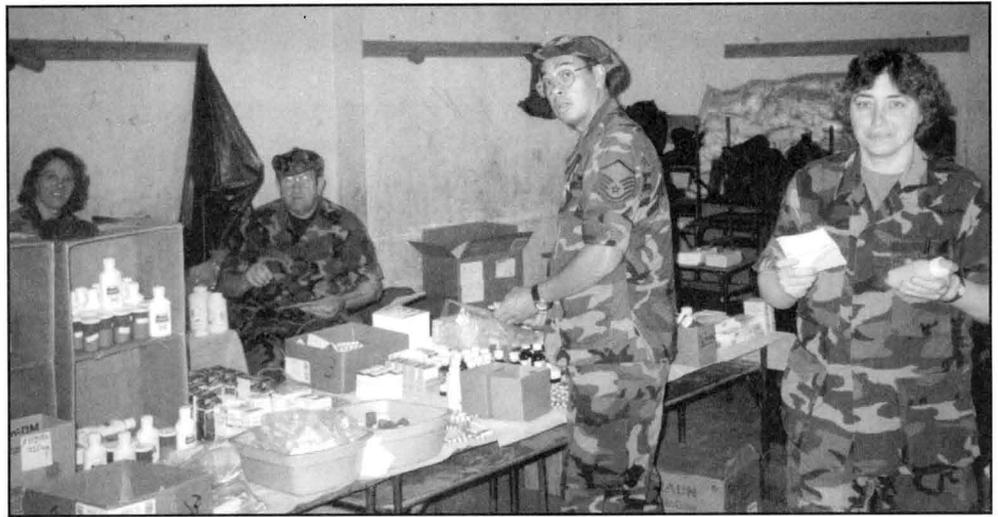
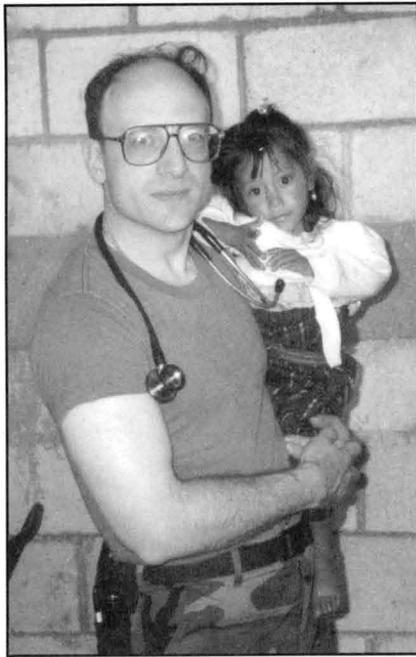
the light was better.

“There was no privacy, no lab services, limited meds – and a language barrier,” explained Maj. Ari Fisher, 439th MDS physician assistant. At home, also as a physician’s assistant in Albany, N. Y., Fisher’s busiest days include 25 patients. In Guatemala, each medical team treated 50 patients on the first day, and within four days, had leveled off to an average of 175 patients.

“We had to adjust our professional paradigm to meet their needs,” said Maj. Elaine Tucci, 439th MDS nurse, as she explained their team approach to working smarter.

Besides the three medical teams, there were dental, optometry, pharmacy and public health teams as well as a food service team and radio operators.

Maj. Michael Szostak normally sees 10-12 patients daily in his civilian dentist practice. In Guatemala, the dental team of three dentists and technicians saw an average of 200 patients daily, spiking a 280 one day. “They were all extractions. With rampant tooth decay, we could only hope to manage their pain with such short-term care, Szostek said.



LABOR OF LOVE — The Guatemalan children captured the reservists' hearts. Maj. Ari Fisher is shown with a young child at left. Above, (left to right) staffing the pharmacy are: SMSgt. Barbara Bender, CMSgt. George Kudla, MSgt. Andy Vanlingen, and SSgt. Ellen Burnett. Below, Westover reservists work with Guatemalan army personnel to clear a fallen tree from the road to a local village. Photos by TSgt. Katy Kratochvil and Maj. Ari Fisher

to Guatemala

According to Maj. Nabil Raheb, 439th MDS physician, the medical maladies most often treated included upper respiratory problems, parasitic infections, fungal skin infections, muscular/joint problems and chronic ear and urinary tract infections.

Raheb cited lack of hygiene, cost and distance of medical care, poor diets and lack of education as the primary reasons for the poor medical conditions. Raheb said he found the Guatemalans a very hard-working, warm and appreciative people.

Faced with a plethora of problems, it was easy to feel overwhelmed. Many medics commented, "You felt like you were not doing enough, yet were so glad you could help in any way."

"It was like putting a band aid on a huge incision," said Tucci.

It was a challenging tour with unique obstacles, but Westover's medical cadre emerged with good humor and incredible camaraderie.

When a large tree blocked a village road after a storm, they all got off the bus and dragged the tree off the road.

They made the best of bare-bones



billeting at the Guatemalan army base, with 17 women in one room with two cold showers, and 16 men sharing two rooms no larger than a typical walk-in closet.

Five members of the team served as interpreters, but everyone proudly rattled off Spanish phrases by the tour's end. They laughed about playing "medical charades" to glean patient feedback — and even the translators stumbled verbally when asked to solicit answers to intimate health questions.

When an elderly man was delivered for treatment in a wheelbarrow, it was dubbed the "Guatemalan ambulance."

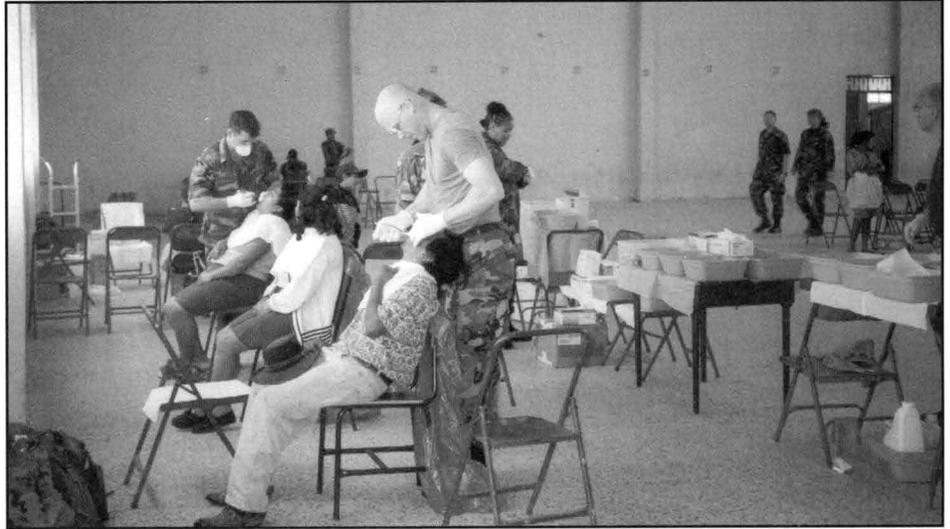
Everyone spoke of the critically-

dehydrated, 10-month-old baby, and the mother's dilemma about whether to go to the hospital with the baby or return home to her other seven children.

The average family size in Guatemala is five children. "The kids were in pain, yet bravely sat through extractions," said SrA Lesli Creighton, dental technician.

SSgt. Katy Kratochvil, 439th MDS dental technician and mother of two boys, brought toys from home to give the local children. She was touched to see a six-year-old come for treatment carrying his four-year-old sister. Kratochvil even bought a new soccer ball to replace the ragged one the kids had.

Continued on page 8



EQUAL TREATMENT — Although most of the medical treatment took place in the villages, Maj. Joel Bognar, 439th MDS flight surgeon (left) treats a Guatemalan soldier at the army base. In photo above, Maj. Steven Johnson, 439th MDS dental officer, extracts a tooth from a Guatemalan patient. Maj. Richard Shelton, an IMA from the 9091 ARS in Florida, in background, augmented the team. Photos by Maj. Ari Fisher

Guatemalan medical annual tour... continued from page 6 and 7

Many reservists left personal possessions behind for the children.

Despite the pain and poverty, the medical team was deeply touched by the humble appreciation of the Guatemalans. There were "thank you's, and God bless you's" — and hugs, added TSgt. Patricia Freeman, 439th MDS med tech.

The Guatemalan tour not only provided experiences vastly different from civilian work routines, but also expanded military expertise. For SSgt. Ellen Burnett, running the pharmacy operation was a sharp contrast to the limited scope at Westover. Getting supplies and figuring dosages for such huge numbers was a daunting task.

SSgt. Martin Gosselin, 439th MDS med tech and civilian construction worker, spent two weeks transcribing for doctors and assisting with procedures. TSgt. Felicia Marshall, 439th MDS administration specialist, and SMSgt. Benedict Fiamma, 439th AES radio operator, both served as dental assistants. "Just think of it as OJT crosstraining," quipped Maj. Deborah Fuller, 439th MDS nurse.

For medical challenges, the best

treatment was teamwork. Many commented that, while military courtesies were respected, rank barriers were removed and everyone did whatever was needed to get the job done. Whether it was moving trees, loading trucks, filtering 20-50 gallons of water daily with a hand pump, everyone worked long and hard.

"You notice that the only pronoun everyone uses is 'we'," said CMSgt. George Kudla, 439th MDS superintendent of medical administration, as the group trades stories during the interview.

"I never saw a bunch of people work so hard," commented SSgt. Genetta Staple-Ward, 439th MSS administration specialist and one of five Spanish translators. "I thought my role was going to be minor until I saw the number of people and what needed to be done," she said. "One day, I was so tired, I told a lady in Spanish to take one pill every eight years! She gave me such a startled look and I corrected my error."

Besides the honors Westover reservists received from Guatemalan vil-

lage officials and the U.S. Ambassador to Guatemala during closing ceremonies, they returned home with intangible treasures.

"Everyone in America should take a trip like this at least once in their lifetime. It gives you a much greater sense of appreciation," said one of the troops.

"I don't even mind standing in line any more," said SSgt. Jason Comeau, health services administration specialist.

"This experience tested our ability to apply our military training to real life. Although we train for war, we had the opportunity to use our skills to advance peace," said Lt. Col. Lenore L. Boris, 439th chief nurse and mission commander.

"It was my best annual tour in 25 years," said SMSgt. Barbara Bender, 439th MDS first sergeant, who credited the cooperation from the Guatemalan army personnel who guarded them and helped out in each village.

When asked who would go again, every hand in the room went up — but a pragmatic voice in the back said, "Not next week, though..."

Recruiters hand out 'Help Wanted' sign

by MSgt. Tom Allocco

Last fiscal year reserve recruiters, like most military recruiters, fell short of their recruiting target and are now calling for sharp Reservists to join their ranks to meet the challenge.

The Air Force Reserve recruiting service is short about 15 recruiters, which explains how in fiscal year 1999 they fell about 1,100 recruits short of their goal of 11,241 sign-ups.

This short-fall took place despite the fact that the hard working recruiters had their best annual enlistment rate for recruiters in fiscal year 1999.

The challenge for recruiters in fiscal year 2000 should be even greater because the recruiting goal has been raised to 12,000 qualified citizen airmen.

While reserve recruiters work to fill vacancies in a variety of career fields, they must also work to fill shortages in their own ranks. A new program called "Recruit the Recruiter" offers four-year tours as recruiters, with options of four-year renewals.

"Recruiting experience is not a prerequisite," said SMSgt. George Anderson, Westover assistant senior recruiter. "The

recruiting service is looking for enthusiastic enlisted members with at least five-level training in their career field who are interested in an active guard and reserve (AGR) renewable tour in recruiting," he said.

The available positions can be filled by senior airmen, staff or technical sergeants. A master sergeant willing to give up a stripe can be accepted into the Recruit the Recruiter program.

"A full-time AGR assignment in recruiting includes full pay and allowances, \$375 per month special duty pay and great promotion potential," Anderson said.

The 15 recruiter vacancies are at flying wing locations worldwide, including Europe and the Pacific. There are currently no vacancies in the Westover recruiting offices located here, in Worcester; Hanscom AFB; Manchester, Conn.; and Albany, NY, although positions open periodically.

"The recruiting service makes an effort to assign recruiters in the locality of their choice, but there are no guarantees. An assignment can be wherever there is a vacancy," Anderson said.

"Recruiting is a tough job, but it's also a very satisfying one. One reason is be-

cause you know you're doing something really important. We like to think of ourselves as the refuelers or boom operators of the Reserve system because successful recruiting is so critical to the future of the Reserve," Anderson said.

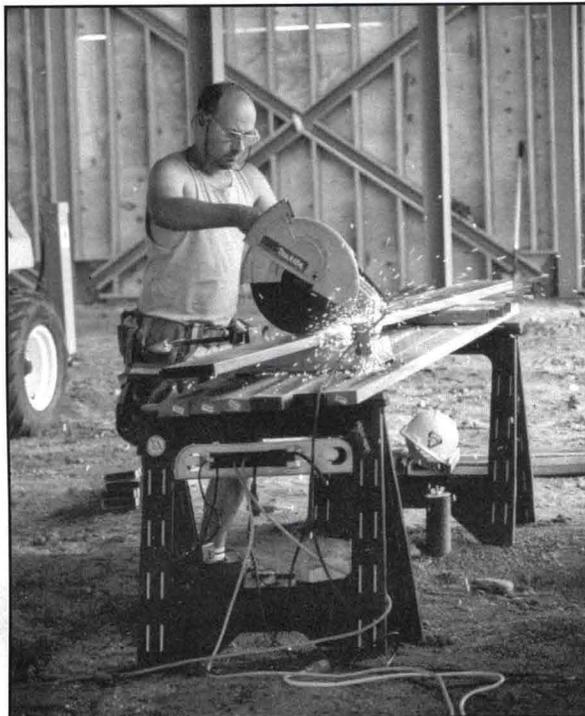
"Nationally, the Reserve must maintain a full complement of 300-plus recruiters working directly with potential recruits to meet our recruiting goal," he said.

"The Reserve recruiting picture reflects a national down-turn in enlistments. We've all heard that the strong economy has slowed recruiting, but another reason for the short-fall is that we set high standards that exclude many people who can't meet them," Anderson said.

The first step to serving as a recruiter is to be interviewed by senior Westover recruiter, CMSgt. Gary Anderson. Spouses are encouraged to take part in the application process because of the high level of commitment required to serve as a recruiter. Those who are accepted by Headquarter AFRC Recruiting Service will undergo five weeks of recruiting training at Lackland AFB, Tex.

To learn more about opportunities in the recruiting service, call the Westover recruiting office at extension 3923 or send e-mail to George.Anderson@cef.afres.af.mil.

New Disaster Preparedness building



Using a steel chop saw power miter, carpenter Stephan Veillux cuts steel studs to frame upper windows of the new \$1 million disaster preparedness building. The new building is scheduled to be completed in October, and will serve as the focal point for all nuclear, biological and chemical warfare training.

Photo by Capt. James Bishop



ASTS holds mass casualty exercise

by SSgt. Charlie Cangemi

FORT HAMILTON ARMY POST, N.Y. The 722nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron, a 439th AW geographically separated unit located in Brooklyn, N.Y., recently conducted an annual mass casualty exercise where they joined forces with the New York Army National Guard.

According to TSgt. John J. Jackson, mental health technician, training with different branches of the military is necessary for medical units because it is unlikely that any one branch of the military will be treating its own patients exclusively. This is consistent with the military's total force concept.

"As medical units we must train together," he said, adding that learning how the different units operate makes them more effective.

"In addition to working with the army's medical personnel, we also trained with their ambulances, humvees, and other equipment," he said.

The mission of the 722 ASTS is to set up and run a 50-bed Aeromedical Staging Facility. Additionally, the unit is to assume responsibility for combat casualties and to transport as many patients as possible out of the combat area to the United States, said Capt. Edwin Cabassa, medical readiness officer.

Medical readiness training enhances wartime and peacetime skills for the entire unit, he said.

"The purpose of this exercise is to recognize our weaknesses, to make corrections, to make perfect. The sharing of our knowledge [with the Army National Guard] helped to bind a working relationship," said First Sergeant Theresa Smith.

Maj. Dwayne Wilson, commander, said he was pleased to see the total force concept displayed during the exercise. "Folks jumped right in and worked on unloading ambulances, demonstrating the 'purple force' concept," he said.



WAR PAINT — TSgt. Jose Torres, Jr. (left) and SrA. Daniel Samuel, both from the 722nd ASTS, participated in the mass casualty exercise.
photo by TSgt. John J. Jackson

337th AS looking for 'first shirt'

The 337th Airlift Squadron is seeking candidates to meet a selection board for its first sergeant position. The selected individual will be expected to be in place for the October UTA for a three-month transition, and take full responsibility for first sergeant duties on the January UTA.

Minimum qualifications for meeting the board are a rank of the master sergeant, seven-level in any AFSC and availability to attend the two-week first sergeant's school within one year of selection.

Individuals who seek to meet the

selection board should forward a resume, including military and civilian qualifications; copies of their two most recent EPRs, endorsement letters as appropriate; and a cover letter outlining qualifications and reasons to be considered for the position.

The selection board will meet on the September "A" UTA. Candidates selected to meet the board will be notified by Aug. 31.

Packages should be mailed or hand delivered to SMSgt. Karen Scott at the 337th AS. For more information, call her at Ext. 3367.

Medical retirement eligibility changes

by MSgt. Sandi Michon

The National Defense Authorization Act of 1995 changed retirement eligibility for reservists with medical disqualification.

Prior to the change, if a reservist was medically disqualified and had less than 20 years of service, he/she would receive an administrative discharge. With the new law, if a reservist has 15 or more years of satisfactory service, with the last six years of satisfactory service in a guard or reserve component, he/she would be eligible for early retirement if medically disqualified. The injury or illness does not need to be service-connected.

With a medical retirement, reservists may draw retirement pay at age 60, based on calculations of 20 years or more.

To determine eligibility for medical retirement, reservists must have their cases reviewed by a Physical Evaluation Board (PEB) for a fitness determination. The reservist, the unit commander and clinic administrators are required to submit documentation.

"This process takes time. People can jeopardize their opportunity for this benefit if they wait too long to initiate the paperwork," stressed MSgt. Bev Cote, chief of personnel relocations. She said that reservists who try to hide ailments to protect their military career may actually hurt themselves and their families by losing a medical retirement.

New provisions also allow reservists more leeway to stay in the military despite certain medical restrictions. If reservists with medical problems wish to stay in the military, they can initiate a case review by the Informal PEB by contacting the clinic. Since 1997, some members who have had asthma, breast cancer, prostate cancer or heart attacks have been allowed to return to duty with some restrictions. Each case is reviewed individually.

"It is important that our folks report medical changes to our medical squadron in a timely manner. It protects the member and can be critical to our mission," said Col. Martin M. Mazick, 439th AW commander.

For more information, contact MSgt. Bev Cote at Ext. 2588, or TSgt. Linda Moen at the clinic at Ext. 3565.

Patriot People

Name: John Masaitis
Rank: SSgt.
Age: 34
Address: Athol, Mass
Unit: 42nd Aerial Port Squadron
Position: Aerial port craftsman
Civilian position: Lumber yard foreman
Favorite food: Lasagna
Years of service: 16 years
Favorite sport: Football
Favorite hobby: Being with my family
Ideal vacation: Hawaii
Best way to relax: Coach potato
Preferred entertainment: Being home with wife and kids, Sherry, Morgan and Tim
Favorite hero: Wife Sherry
Favorite music: Country
Favorite movie: "Top Gun"
Favorite aircraft: F-16
Pet peeve: Too many chiefs and not enough Indians
What I would do if I won \$1 million: Fullfill my family's dreams



Photo by MSgt. W. C. Pope

SSgt. John Masaitis

Patriot Praises

Promotions:

CMSgt. Lewandowski, John S.
 CMSgt. Lobianco, Frank, Jr.
 CMSgt. Szewc, John F.
 SMSgt. Ingham, Michael G.
 SMSgt. Lashley, Leon K.
 SMSgt. MacIntyre, John
 SMSgt. Merchant, Robert D.
 SMSgt. Reed, Scott E.
 SMSgt. Reily, James H., II
 SMSgt. Swotchak, James J., Jr.
 SMSgt. Watson, Gary W.
 MSgt. Anelunde, Ernest, III
 MSgt. Austin, William W., Jr.
 MSgt. Bailey, Alan W.
 MSgt. Barszcz, Joseph E.
 MSgt. Cadran, Michael F.
 MSgt. Clark, John W.
 MSgt. Day, Timothy A.
 MSgt. Dillon, William B.
 MSgt. Edwards, Michael A.
 MSgt. Fish, Ronald M.
 MSgt. Forcum, Steven J.
 MSgt. Goncalo, John W.
 MSgt. Healey, Marianne S.
 MSgt. Johnson, Lex S.
 MSgt. Letasz, David J.
 MSgt. MacKay, Steven D.
 MSgt. Major, Daniel J.
 MSgt. Marino, David J.
 MSgt. Martel, Donald R.
 MSgt. McGraw, Robert J., Jr.
 MSgt. Mercure, Robert M.
 MSgt. Moen, Linda S.
 MSgt. Neslusan, Paul J.
 MSgt. Ohearne, Michael W.
 MSgt. Orzechowski, Ronald J.
 MSgt. Paquette, Michael G.
 MSgt. Parrott, Alan D.
 MSgt. Perry, Ann
 MSgt. Pietrowski, Kevin J.

MSgt. Savarese, Lawrence J.
 MSgt. Shamett, Serge M.
 MSgt. Stanwood, Leonard J.
 MSgt. Sutton, Michael
 MSgt. Taylor, Keith M.
 MSgt. Warbeck, Shirley A.
 MSgt. Wentworth, Michael L.
 MSgt. Wojtowicz, Richard E.
 TSgt. Atkinson, Russell J., Jr.
 TSgt. Aurette, David
 TSgt. Boczanowski, Joanne F.
 TSgt. Bray, Robert L., III
 TSgt. Breckenridge, Daniel C.
 TSgt. Bussiere, Carol A.
 TSgt. Campbell, Patrick K.
 TSgt. Chmielinski, Wade M.
 TSgt. Chouinard, Kenneth W., Jr.
 TSgt. Companik, Michael E.
 TSgt. Cote, Gerard A.
 TSgt. Crawford, Scott S.
 TSgt. Cullen, Timothy M.
 TSgt. Dipietro, Michael G.
 TSgt. Durand, Donald G.
 TSgt. Emmons, Brian A.
 TSgt. Gaj, Christopher P.
 TSgt. Godley, David S.
 TSgt. Greene, Richard D.
 TSgt. Grant, Richard J.
 TSgt. Gustafson, Lisa A.
 TSgt. Jalbert, Daniel R.
 TSgt. Knight, Ralph E., Jr.
 TSgt. Kycia, Julie A.
 TSgt. Lapinski, Timothy P.
 TSgt. Levangie, Gregory S.
 TSgt. Lovett, Terry G.
 TSgt. Maguire, Timothy B.
 TSgt. Masaitis, John A.
 TSgt. McEwan, Bonnie L.
 TSgt. McGovern, Andrew P.
 TSgt. Moriarty, Quinn D.
 TSgt. Morris, Craig A.
 TSgt. Mundt, Sandra C.

TSgt. Niquette, Robert R.
 TSgt. Ouimette, Derek A.
 TSgt. Paris, Stephen A.
 TSgt. Penna, Michael N.
 TSgt. Popiak, John P.
 TSgt. Riley, Arthur H., Jr.
 TSgt. Roberts, Robert A.
 TSgt. Santana, Fernando
 TSgt. Simmons, Vanessa U.
 TSgt. Stabile, Shane E.
 TSgt. Sullivan, Daniel O.
 TSgt. Thibodeau, John L.
 TSgt. Thomas, Blain D.
 TSgt. Toft, Hezekiah J.
 TSgt. Tynan, Patrick A.
 TSgt. Visser, Joseph H.
 SSgt. Long, John C.
 SSgt. Mondor, Brian M.
 SSgt. Pais, David A.
 SSgt. Pope, Michael W.
 SSgt. Rebman, James P.
 SSgt. Salvatore, Santo A.
 SSgt. VanLoon, Ellen M.
 SSgt. Weston, Valerie J.
 SSgt. Wilson, John J.
 SSgt. Zalimas, Steven
 SrA. Bailey, Michael J.
 SrA. Kopp, Kimberly L.
 SrA. Marini, Jeffrey C.
 SrA. McGrail, Wesley A.
 SrA. Monahan, Andrew J.
 SrA. Vicente, Joao P.
 A1C Gellner, Theresa M.
 A1C Grassetti, William T.
 A1C Longtin, Ryan T.
 A1C Perna, Nicholas P.

Enlistments:

TSgt. Burke, Terry L. M.
 SSgt. Borel, Douglas J.

SSgt. Wasedahida, Kyoko
 SrA. Kuklinski, Eric A.
 SrA. Miller, Cory R.
 A1C Dertinger, James T.
 A1C Hinch, Rebecca E.
 A1C King, David A., II
 A1C Okaiadjetey, Perseverance A.
 A1C Wieland, John F., II

Newly Assigned:

Capt. Riley, Stephanie
 Capt. White, Stephanie
 1st. Lt. Maynard, Robert M.
 1st. Lt. Rutherford, Christopher S.
 1st. Lt. Theberge, Michele L.
 2nd. Lt. Downs, Reah C.
 2nd. Lt. Reese, Debra A.
 2nd. Lt. Provencher, Kelly H.
 TSgt. Roszak, Barbara A.
 SSgt. Widor, Andrzej K.
 SrA. Antoine, Amber M.
 SrA. Flebbe, Matthew J.
 SrA. Greenberg, Jack A.
 SrA. Haley, Michael P.
 SrA. Ziesing, Kimberly A.

Retirements:

CMSgt. Ferrara, Matthew M.
 MSgt. Divita, James V.
 MSgt. Kovaleski, Stephen
 MSgt. Yankus, Paul A.
 TSgt. Bulluck, Carlton G.
 TSgt. Canfield, Sidney J.
 TSgt. Moquin, Liam S.
 SSgt. Colon, Angel L.
 SSgt. Grady, Daniel J.
 SSgt. Waldron, Francis L., Jr.

CONGRESSIONAL VISITORS — Col. Martin M. Mazick, 439th AW commander, left, and Congressman John W. Olver, listen as Congressman Richard E. Neal addresses an audience during a groundbreaking ceremony for Westover's new air traffic control tower on June 19.



Congressmen Neal, Olver present for tower groundbreaking

by Gordon A. Newell

Congressmen Richard E. Neal (D-Springfield) and John W. Olver (D-Amherst) joined Wing Commander Col. Martin M. Mazick and other officials in a groundbreaking ceremony for Westover's new air traffic control tower June 19.

The \$4.25 million, 10-story tower, should be completed in a year and a half, will have an elevator, fire sprinkler system and emergency generator.

"I remember when Westover was the number two Air Force Base in the country and I think it is important to make it the number

one Air Force Reserve base, said Olver, who is the ranking minority member of the military construction subcommittee. "It is our closest base to Europe and Africa."

Congressman Neal too, was supportive of the money Congress is spending to upgrade base facilities.

"I think it reinforces the idea that internationally this base is of high strategic importance," he said.

"I feel it's a real coup to have both of our congressmen here today. It's indicative of how important they feel the base is, said Mazick. Without them, We wouldn't be putting the shovel into the ground today."

The new tower will stand 13 feet higher than the existing one, which opened in August of 1962.

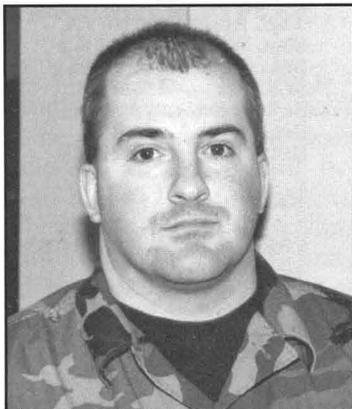
It will be equipped with state-of-the-art electronics for modern computer equipment, said Jeffrey S. Perchak, project engineer for the Army Corps of Engineers.

In addition to the control tower, Congress has also agreed to fund a \$5 million military entrance-processing center at Westover.

Congress is debating a bill now that will give \$6.7 million to the base to construct a Marine Corps Reserve center and another \$4.45 million to renovate two dormitories next year.

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Published monthly for Patriots like SRA Joseph Allard of Adams, Mass., and 2,311 members of the 439th AW at Westover ARB, and geographically separated units.

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