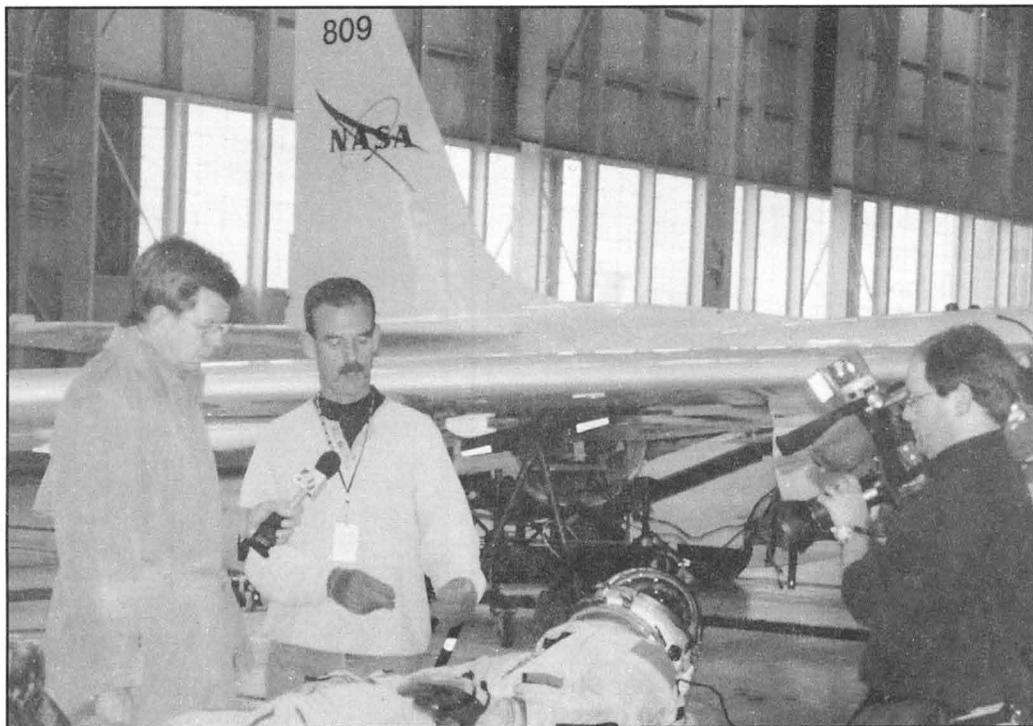


PATRIOT

439TH AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER ARB

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 1

JAN/FEB 2000



Meet the press

OZONE PILOT – Ryan Ragsdale, center, a NASA life support technician, explains the use of a space suit to Channel 40 reporter Ray Hershel, and videographer Kevin Culverhouse. The instrument-laden NASA ER-2 aircraft shown in the background stopped at the base en route to Sweden. The ER-2 is to fly missions around the Arctic Circle conducting experiments on the earth's ozone.

(Photo by Gordon A. Newell)

AEF tours: up and running, working out the bugs

by Capt. James G. Bishop

The story is nearly legendary by now. MSgt. Jackie Davis, one of the first people to travel under the new Aerospace Expeditionary Force rotations, flew to Rhein-Main AB, Germany, for what she thought would be a 15-day AEF tour. When she arrived at the unit, she was told to return to Westover.

First Lt. Kelly Braudis, personnel flight commander, said Davis handled herself like a pro. "I think a less-experienced person might've have gotten out of the service for being treated so poorly," she said.

But after a rough start, some of the bugs are being worked out of the system, and Westover's 72 people who have already done AEF tours are racking up success stories. On the day a two-person Personnel Support for Con-

tingency Operations team left for Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait, in October, the gaining unit called Westover to tell them not to come.

The two people went, and they soon found they had more experience than their active-duty counterparts. Working 12-hour shifts—the standard for AEF tours—TSgt. Robert McGraw was able to show the active duty team chief, who had no experience as a team chief, what his responsibilities entailed.

The deployed unit was grateful for McGraw and TSgt. Gregory Libby's help and expertise. Both Westover reservists have already said they would go on another AEF tour.

"We just wish the rest of the team had a chance to go and experience it too," McGraw said.

"Once the reservists get out there, they impress the heck out of the active duty," Braudis said.

But obstacles continue. Sometimes the advance-notice time is short. Other times the requirements are unclear. But as time goes on, the glitches become fewer, said Lt. Col. Forrest Price Jr., wing plans officer.

People coming back have been pleasantly surprised by how accepted they felt by their active duty counterparts, Price said.

The AEF tours started in October. Since then, people have gone to places such as Moron, Spain; Ali Al Salem AB, Kuwait; and Prince Sultan AB, Saudi Arabia.

Below is a collection of some of the most frequently asked questions about the new style of doing business.

Continued on page 13

Welcome back!

I hope you had a great holiday season and got to spend plenty of quality time with your families. As you will note, we decided to do something extra in this *Patriot* edition by including a center pull-out section identifying our units and their commanders. This is a kind of program, if you will, so you can know about all our units and who our senior leadership is in the wing. We hope to make this an annual feature.

Well, roll up your sleeves and get ready for a very good year. Some of the big events coming up are our 22nd Air Force Staff Assistance Visit and the Enlisted Dining Out in April. Our 439th ASTS will receive their EORI, and our wing will participate in the Air Mobility Command Rodeo in May. We will all participate in the wing-wide Mobility Exercise (MOBEX) in June; and host the "Great New England Air Show" here in August.

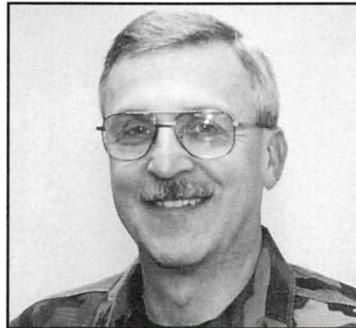
We will continue to support Air Expeditionary Force (AEF) tasking throughout this year. Right now we have tasking for AES, ASTS, CES, SFS, Command Post and PA.

By the time you are reading this, our Services folks who missed New Years at home will be back from the desert, a great example of service before self.

It promises to be another challenging year, but one just as successful as 1999 was. Your readiness continues to be the key to our success as a wing. I look forward to working with you in this effort.

Thank you for your hard work!

Commentary



Col. Martin M. Mazick

By Col. Martin M. Mazick
439th AW Commander

Briefs

Recruiting squadron lists business hours

The 439th Airlift Wing's Recruiting Squadron is open for business Monday through Friday from 0730 to 1700 hours.

Their offices are also open on both UTAs from 0900 to 1400 hours.

Anyone needing to contact recruiters outside of these hours may call (413) 557-2125 and leave a message or e-mail at name.name@cef.afres.af.mil

Commissaries change policy for reservists

Military commissaries are no longer checking identification cards at the door, allowing reservists to browse without forfeiting one of their 24 store visits per year. Additionally, guests of reservists are allowed to accompany them. Although guests are allowed in the commissary, they are still not allowed to make purchases. IDs will be checked at the cash register.

The change came about after shoppers complained to the Defense Commissary Agency that they were prohibited from window-shopping without forfeiting a visit. Because IDs were checked at the door, relatives or friends of reservists who were visiting from out of town were forced to wait in the car while reservists shopped.

Government travel card

Any civilian or military member who anticipates traveling on or after Feb. 29, 2000, and who does not currently have a Bank of America Visa Government travel card, should apply for one immediately.

The Bank of America application form is available by accessing the finance folder on the Y drive and printing a copy.

Completed applications should be forwarded to 439 AW/FMF, attention Dan McCarthy or Bev Morley. Once the application is processed, members should receive a card within 7-10 days.

March UTA schedule

A UTA March 4-5
B UTA March 18-19

PATRIOT

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"The content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 439th Airlift Wing, Westover Air Reserve Base. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated."

439th AW Commander

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A road map for Westover's medical units

by MSgt. Sandi Michon

If injured in war – you might want to be treated by one of Westover's four medical units – depending on how close you are to the front lines.

The four units – the 439th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (AES), the 439th Medical Squadron (MDS), the 439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron (ASTS), the 722nd ASTS, have 527 reservists.

If activated, the 4439th AES, and the two ASTS units would work with army personnel to move patients away from the frontlines to various levels of medical treatment. The 439th MDS remains at Westover to medically support the C-5 airlift mission. The MDS and ASTS units are under the Airlift Mobility Command, while the AES is under the Air Combat Command.

Organizationally, the MDS and the 439th ASTS units fall under the 439th ASTS units fall under the 439th Medical Group commanded by Col. Joseph Curley, and the 439th AES functions separately. The 722nd ASTS reports to Dobbins ARB, Ga., but gets mission support and training with Westover.

To understand the primary role of each unit, particularly their wartime mission, a summary is provided:

439th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

The 439th AES is commanded by Col. Manning with 260 authorized positions. Of the four units, the AES would handle patients closest to the frontlines. According to Maj. Dave Zamorski, AES Health Services Administrator, the unit has a tasking for two Mobile Aeromedical Staging Facilities (MASF).

The MASFs are tents set up in bare-base areas, such as a dirt airstrip. They receive patients from a MASH unit and maintain the patient until they can be airlifted for further treatment. "We coordinate all patient airlift movement from the MASH unit – all the way home, if necessary," said Zamorski. "We function like an ambulance dispatch – we pro-

vide transportation for the patient, and figure out which medical facility they go to next."

The AES must not only provide all the personnel to man the MASFs, including communications personnel and medical staff, but they also have the ability to provide medical aircrews if necessary.

In addition, the AES provides personnel to coordinate the needs of all the MASFs in the theater through aeromedical evacuation command posts. The 439th AES is one of three AES units with such comprehensive

responding to local incidents.

The MDS does not have a mobility mission, but may send individuals to other bases to backfill positions vacated by active duty personnel sent to a forward operating theater.

439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

The 439 ASTS is one of 23 ASTSs in the Air Force Reserve. Commanded by Col. Sarah Waterman, the ASTS has a wartime mobility mission to set up and staff a 100 beds

(expandable to 150 beds) Aeromedical Staging Facility (ASF) between a Medical Treatment Facility (MTF) and an aircraft. "We're a medically staffed passenger terminal whose primary responsibility is to monitor patients transiting through the Aeroevacuation System."

Patients, casualties are entered into the aerovac system

at Navy Fleet Hospital or in Air Force Air Transportable Hospital (ATH) and are put onto specially configured aircraft through a Mobile Aeromedical Staging Facility (MASF).

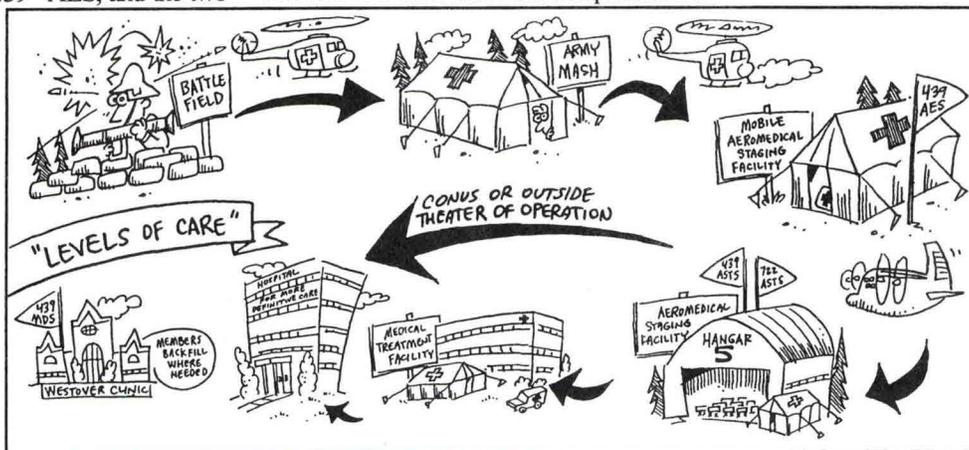
Patients are flown to the next level of care, received by ASF personnel and transported to a hospital.

The ASTS is a personnel package who would be deployed to an area which has pre-positioned assets. The ASF assets could be set up in tents, a lawyer in any building of opportunity. The 98 members of the 439 ASTS have a peacetime requirement to train for their mobility mission.

722nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron

The 722nd ASTS is a geographically separated unit attached to the 439th Airlift Wing for support, but physically located in Roslyn, N.Y. Command and control lies with the 622nd Regional Support Group at Dobbins. The unit has 160 reservists and is commanded by Maj. Dwayne F. Wilson.

The mission of the 722nd ASTS is similar to the 439th ASTS except they have a 250-bed staging facility.



Art by MSgt W.C.Pope Source: 439th AES, 439th ASTS, 722nd ASTS, 439th MDS

responsibilities.

The prior mission of the AES was to generate medical aircrews, but with the new tasking, they must be a proficient on the ground as they are in the air.

The AES is a multi-purpose unit that can deploy as an entire unit, or deploy as an entire unit, or deploy specialty teams as needed.

439th Medical Squadron

The 439th MDS is a fixed facility at Westover under the command of Col. Yash Malhotra. Their primary wartime mission is centered here at the base where they provide the medical support for all base personnel needed to launch C-5 missions. They provide flight physicals and medical documentation for aircrews. If Westover becomes a stage base, the MDS also treats transient aircrews. The MDS maintains 14 medical career fields to perform their diverse function. During peacetime, the 96 MDS members provide all physicals, flight exams, immunizations, public health screenings and environmental/ job-related health concerns. The MDS is very active in community disaster drills and augments civilian resources

Faith helps Riley family through three-year Lyme Disease battle

by MSgt. Sandi Michon

If you could wrap good health, it would have been the biggest gift under Maj. Kevin Riley's Christmas tree this past year.

Just three years ago on Christmas Eve, a severely debilitated Riley, and his wife Wendy, tearfully gathered their five sons to tell them that Christmas wasn't going to happen like usual. Within the hour, men from their church arrived unexpectedly with presents for all and food for the next day.

Although friends and family, including the base, helped them with their practical needs, it did not lessen the medical maelstrom that had begun six months earlier. What began as a misdiagnosed insect bite in April began to steadily collect other symptoms such as back pain, neck stiffness, locking jaw joint and diminished mental function.

"I had just turned 40 and jokingly thought my guarantee had expired," said Riley. But it was no joke when he worsened significantly in November. On Dec. 3, he was consulting with a client, and suddenly could not verbalize answers to questions. "I went home and laid down — and couldn't get back up," he recalled. By Christmas, he was bedridden with skull-crushing headaches, extreme confusion, weakness, nauseated by any motion and he could hardly communicate — and he had not had a paycheck in a month.

Because of his earlier symptoms, and living in Uncasville, Conn. (about 15 miles from Lyme), doctors suspected Lyme disease, but Riley's tests were not conclusive. Despite the fact that Wendy and their son Alan had been diagnosed and treated for Lyme disease that year, doctors continued to look for other reasons as Riley remained very sick and unable to work.

"This was a miserable time, but we were absolutely stunned and encouraged by the gifts and money provided by base personnel," he said.

Due to a lack of a firm diagnosis, the Rileys battled with their insurance company to get the aggressive treatment they believed was needed. In January 1998, a doctor finally got the okay to begin a 28-day intravenous antibiotic treatment. "On the 26th day, I felt a fog lift and had a mental clarity I had not experienced for a long time," said Riley. That summer, the tall, lanky officer started back on a limited basis at his job as 439th SPTG executive officer. Although the progress was slow, but steady, Riley could not put his finger on what was still wrong with him. "I wanted so badly for this to be all over — I tried to will it to be so," he said.

In April 1999, Riley approached his insurance company about getting off disability and requested an evaluation. Halfway through the two-day, neuropsychological



"My role as a husband and father has matured.

We've gained a keen appreciation for each other as we've lived through this ordeal."

Maj. Kevin Riley

exam, he developed a massive headache.

They continued to grope for answers, and finally found them at Boston University with Dr. Sam Donta, a world-renowned researcher on Lyme disease.

As he reviewed Riley's file, he found that Riley had actually tested positive for Lyme disease since 1997. When Riley had taken antibiotics for the insect bite in 1996, it was not concentrated enough to wipe out the disease but merely cleared it out of his blood and into his cell tissue where it is more difficult to detect. According to Donta, the standard test levels set by the Center for Disease Control are not completely reliable as there is still not enough data to set definitive levels.

But, under Donta's care, by the end of September, Riley felt the best he had since his ordeal began. It was also then that they discovered that their son Alan had not been cleared of his infection with Lyme disease three years earlier. At the Connecticut Children's Hospital in Hartford, Alan learned that his diagnosis of mononucleosis was actually Lyme disease still active in his body. Under proper treatment, he too responded.

With Riley's promotion to major on Oct. 1, he was also promoted to a clean bill of health and began back at Westover fully participating in his reserve duties, and actively seeking fulltime employment.

In December, the entire Riley family headed to Westover for the UTA weekend. The previous Thursday, Alan had completed his IV therapy and all were healthy. As their van passed through the Bright Nights display in Springfield, Riley happily remembered Alan pointing everywhere and repeatedly yelling "look here!"



CIRCLE OF LOVE — Maj. Kevin Riley and his wife Wendy with their boys, (left to right) Alan, Jack, Andrew, Christopher and Bryn, in their Connecticut home.

Continued on page 5

Lyme Disease patient tips

After their three-year trek through the jungle of Lyme Disease, Kevin and Wendy Riley offer the following tips to anyone who might suspect a Lyme Disease infection.

The Rileys hope that information gained through their ordeal may help others facing similar trials.

- X Don't be naïve. Do your research and be your own patient advocate. Form a therapeutic alliance with your doctor and be a part of the medical team. There are local support groups and web sites such as LymeNet.org.
- X Don't fool around with Lyme Disease. It can seriously affect your health, and if left untreated, can result in permanent damage or death.
- X Symptoms vary greatly and may initially stay hidden. Do NOT take antibiotics without a confirmed diagnosis as it will mask the disease in future blood tests. Get several types of blood tests (Western Blot and others). Screenings may be unreliable; get a full Lyme titer.
- X If you are diagnosed, press for 60 days of antibiotic therapy. The standard is usually 21-28 days, but depending on duration of infection, it may not completely kill the infection, and relapse and more serious symptoms may occur.
- X Lyme Disease is relatively new (named in 1975), there is a lot of controversy, and doctors have varying levels of expertise. Find out your doctor's position on the disease, and find a doctor who is responsive to your needs.
- X New evidence suggests that ticks may carry multiple pathogens and effective cures may need to include treatment for protozoans. This may also effect diagnostic testing.
- X Learn to trust your instincts. Asking the right questions may save your life.

Recruiters getting leads through cyber space

by SSgt. Charlie Cangemi

Thanks to a national Air Force Reserve advertising campaign that includes a commercial World Wide Web site, Westover recruiters are now netting more leads than ever through e-mail inquiries.

"Leads that come over the Web are easier to respond to because you have the person's e-mail address," said SMSgt. George W. Anderson, assistant senior recruiter. "It's instant communication and it leaves a paper trail."

TMP Worldwide, an advertising agency specializing in recruitment, worked with reserve recruiters to create the Web site found at www.afreserve.com. The Web page is advertised on several commercial Web sites targeting students, parents, and educators.

CMSgt. Gary L. Anderson, Westover senior recruiter, said that because there are less prior-service people in the population due to post-Cold War cutbacks, the advertising campaign heavily targets those with no prior service.

The Web advertising supplements billboards, posters, radio, and television advertising.

According to CMSgt. Eric Snipes, chief of the advertising branch for the Directorate of Recruiting at Headquarters AFRC, the Web page receives about 1,500 inquiries a month. Those inquiries are forwarded to production recruiters based on where the person lives.

Anderson said that although inquiries are coming through the Internet regularly, data on how many people actually enlisted as a result of the Web page are unavailable.

Visitors to the site can click through job descriptions, benefits, testimonials and base locations. From almost every page, those perusing the site can contact a recruiter through e-mail.

"E-mail is the communication of the new millennium," said SMSgt. Anderson. "As time goes by I believe we will rely on it more and more as a recruiting tool."

Riley ordeal... continued from page 4

A far cry from the Christmas of 1996, the Rileys planned this holiday to travel to Pennsylvania to see family. "The best gift this Christmas is joy in our household. We had peace through it all – but now we have joy," Riley said.

Looking back on the three-year trial, Riley recalled the whirlwind of emotions which included fear, confusion and doubt – but most of all – faith that God was in control of him and his family. "I have a deeper appreciation for the Lord's hand in our lives and His sovereign plan for each of us," he said.

Prior to his illness, Riley was working 60-plus hours each week as a business consultant to Navy program management, plus

two reserve weekends a month. "I didn't know my family and had begun to pray for a way to make the needed changes in my life. God answers our prayer, but certainly not the way we would have chosen.

"My role as a husband and father has matured. We've gained a keen appreciation for each other as we've lived through this ordeal," Riley reflected.

The Rileys have become skilled at finding treasures in trials, and want to help others with what they have learned about Lyme disease. While not presented as professional medical advice, Riley hopes his tips will help others avoid the medical maze they were trapped in for three years.

Gainer works with horsepower — and jet power

by Capt. James Bishop

Photos courtesy of SSgt. David Gainer

When he's not fixing jet engines at Westover, SSgt. David Gainer can often be found in a stall, fitting and hammering horseshoes onto his "clients." As a professional farrier, he has shod horses for movie stars Bo Derek and tough-guy Steven Segal.

Gainer was living in Santa Barbara, Calif., in 1988, when he began to work for the stars. Derek, along with her movie-director husband John, had eight high-quality andalusian horses at that time. Segal owned five "warm bloods" when Gainer worked for him.

"Bo and John Derek were friendly, and they were a good plug for the business," Gainer said.

He charged about \$80 to fit and attach a set of four shoes, depending on what work is involved. He didn't hike up prices for the stars. "I have a set rate," he said. "I don't charge movie stars any more than others."

Gainer is also a traditional reservist. At the 439th Aircraft Generation Squadron, he works as a mechanic on aircraft engine and associated propulsion systems. He enjoys the drill weekends with the members of Bandit 7. Gainer said it's a welcome change of pace to have something technical and mechanical to work on.

"Here, I feel that I'm part of something bigger than myself. It feels good to complete a job and see the results fly away," he said.

Gainer, 36, grew up in the 1970s around horses, riding his mother's two morgans.

After he graduated from high school, Gainer joined the Marines as an infantryman. He became a

sniper, and he carried a bolt-action rifle as a member of the 1st Battalion 6th Marines, 2nd Marine Division stationed at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

He began shoeing his family's horses in 1985 as a matter of convenience. "It was hard to get someone out to shoe," said Gainer.

He found that he enjoyed horseshoeing, so in 1986, he left the University of Massachusetts at Amherst after his freshman year and

attended a nine-week, private farrier school in Martinsville, Va. At the Eastern School of Farriery, he learned everything from blacksmithing, tool making, horse handling, and horseshoe making to corrective horseshoeing (if there's lameness or a gait problem.)

Nationwide, there are over 50 farrier schools, including a short course at Cornell University. There are probably fewer than 10,000 farriers in the country, but the exact number is difficult to pinpoint because it is a non-regulated trade. Few farriers are nationally certified, as is Gainer.

After farrier school, Gainer began working in Belchertown. He did quality work. Word spread, and people started calling.

In 13 years he has never been seriously injured. Other farriers have been kicked; some have been killed. "Injuries are common. It's considered a dangerous profession," he said. "It's unusual to go that long without a serious injury. I've been lucky."

Gainer makes house calls, driving from farm to farm. On an average week in the summer, Gainer will shoe about 20-25 horses. Each job takes about an hour per horse. A horse that frequently walks along paved roads needs shoeing every six to eight weeks, which makes for plenty of repeat business. Winter business drops to about half of the summer demand, because horses aren't used as much.

Right now, Gainer doesn't own horses. He's occupied with his business and his three girls, ages three-months, six, and eight. He met his wife, Aida, from Mexico, when he was living in Santa Barbara.

How exactly does a horse benefit from wearing shoes? Shoeing protects the three to four-inch hoof from rapid wear. The heaviness of the rider and the hardness of the



ANOTHER SATISFIED CUSTOMER — SSgt. David Gainer, a 439th AGS reservist and farrier as a civilian, fits a new set of shoes on one of his clients.

roads take a higher toll on the hoof. Steel reinforces the hoof, which would otherwise wear down to the tender spot and the horse would be lame.

A blacksmith is often confused with a farrier, because both bend hot metal into usable shapes. The difference is that farriers are primarily familiar with keeping the hoof healthy, curing diseases of the hoof, and correcting faults of the horse's gait.

A big part of Gainer's job is communicating with the horse's owner. For example, if the horse's two front feet are hitting each other, or the front and back feet are hitting each other, a malady called forging, the farrier puts on a square-toe in the back and specially-shaped shoes in front.

Gainer likes the people he meets as a farrier, and he likes the fact that he's in a different place every day. Being outdoors and working with his hands are additional job benefits.

Gainer said of his Air Force job, though it rings true for both: "You work hard, but it's a good job if you don't mind getting dirty."



SSgt. David Gainer

UNIT ROUND UP: What the units do at Westover

by Capt. James Bishop

439th Airlift Wing

Some 2400 reservists and 900 civilians make up the 439th AW at the nation's largest Air Reserve Base. The men and women of the 439th share a common goal: to keep the 16 C-5s flying, bringing troops, supplies, equipment, and medical patients around the world at a moment's notice. The airplanes they fly and support are worth over \$1 billion. But the job they do—protecting America—is priceless. The vignettes below tell the story, in brief, of the 19 units that work to accomplish Westover's lofty goal.



from the 439th OG have been all over the world to carry out their missions, such as, Europe to support Operation Allied Force Kosovo, and Honduras to provide aid in the wake of Hurricane Mitch.

439th Operations Support Squadron

The 51 members of OSS provide airfield and air traffic operations, weather, mission planning, scheduling, combat tactics, training, intelligence, and aircrew life support.

Base operations oversees the safe and orderly flow of all aircraft through Westover. Combat tactics cover route threats, terrain information,

flight altitudes, terrain masking, and tactical arrivals and departures, among other topics. Mission planning and scheduling, or current operations, arrange for everything from getting the aircraft fueled and serviced at remote locations, making sure the crew is billeted, to getting diplomatic clearance to land in or overfly all countries that require it.

Intelligence, one of two OSS functions to deploy, provides awareness of threats and culture, and provides mission-relevant intel updates from around the world. Aircrew life support, the other function that deploys, provides aircrews with protective gear, survival and rescue gear, and trains the members on how to use the gear.

439th AW Headquarters

The 439th Wing Headquarters section is comprised of 80 people who provide support in the Command section, Command Post, Chaplains' section, Historian, Inspector General's office, Judge Advocate General's office, Military Equal Opportunity office, Public Affairs office, Safety office, Center for Performance Planning, Finance, Plans section, and Recruiting Services.

439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

The ASTS is one of 23 similar units in the Air Force Reserve. The squadron has a wartime mobility mission to set up and staff a 100-bed (expandable to 150-bed) aeromedical staging facility between a medical treatment facility and an aircraft. They create, in effect, a medically staffed passenger terminal, and they monitor patients moving through the aerovacutaion system.

Patients and casualties are entered into the aerovac system at Navy Fleet Hospital or in Air Force Air Transportable Hospital and are put onto specially configured aircraft through a Mobile Aeromedical Staging Facility. Patients are flown to the next level of care, received by ASF personnel and transported to a hospital.

The ASTS is a personnel package, which would be deployed to an area with pre-positioned assets. The ASF assets could be set up in tents, a lawyer in any building of opportunity. The 74 members of the 439 ASTS have a peacetime requirement to train for their mobility mission.

439th Medical Squadron

During an activation, the 439th MDS remains at Westover, where they provide the medical support for all base personnel needed to launch C-5 missions. They provide flight physicals and medical documentation for aircrews. If Westover becomes a stage base, the MDS also treats transient aircrews. The MDS maintains 14 medical career fields to perform their diverse function. During peacetime, the 96 MDS members provide all physicals, flight exams, immunizations, public health screenings and environmental/job-related health concerns. The MDS is very active in community disaster drills and augments civilian resources responding to local incidents. The MDS does not have a mobility mission, but may send individuals to other bases to backfill positions vacated by active duty personnel sent to a forward operating theater.

439th Operations Group

The 751 people assigned to the OG provide airlift, aeromedical, aerial port, and operational support. They accomplish airlift mission taskings by Air Force Reserve Command, and Air Mobility Command during wartime, and military operations other than war and humanitarian crises. Averaging 20 flying missions a month, crews

337th Airlift Squadron

Since 1987, the people of the 337th have been flying the C-5, the largest aircraft in the United States, anywhere it was needed. The aircrews fly 50-60 missions per quarter, putting in an average of 120 days a year, compared with an Air Force Reservist's average of 58 days per year.

The 209-person squadron includes pilots, who fly a combined 1,050 hours per quarter; flight engineers, who monitor, operate and control the aircraft systems; loadmasters, who get the cargo safely on board, and administrative personnel.

Over the past year and a half, the squadron has flown missions to Germany, Italy and England in support of Operation Allied Force in Kosovo. They also flew humanitarian missions to Honduras after Hurricane Mitch devastated the area, as well as anti-drug missions in Central and South America and joint-service missions throughout the United States.

42nd and 58th Aerial Port Squadrons

The 180 members of the 42nd APS and the 130 aerial porters of the 58th APS keep the cargo moving. The squadrons are tasked worldwide. Westover's two aerial port squadrons plan to share Hangar 3 when renovations are completed this year.

The jobs they perform include safely and strategically packing and placing cargo, operating K-loaders and forklifts in the ramp section, handling special or hazardous materials and assisting passengers. ATOC (Air Terminal Operations Center) assumes command and control for all aerial port sections working on the flight line.

439th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

In wartime, the 174 members of the 439th AES would handle patients closest to the front lines. The unit has two Mobile Aeromedical Staging Facilities (MASF). The MASFs are tents set up in bare-base areas, such as a dirt airstrip. They receive and maintain patients from a MASH unit until they can be airlifted for further treatment. They coordinate all patient airlift movement from the MASH unit, functioning like an ambulance dispatch by providing transportation, and deciding which medical facility the patients go to next. The AES also can provide medical aircrews if necessary.

**439th Airlift Wing
Commander**
Col. Martin M. Mazick



439th Ai



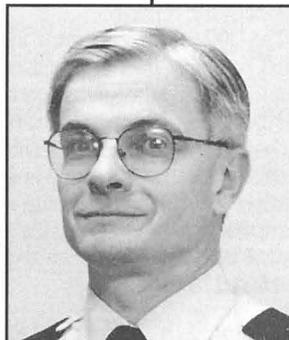
439th Support Group
Lt. Col. James Joyce



439th Logistics Group
Lt. Col. Charles Brown



439th Civil Engineering Squadron
Lt. Col. Talivaldis Maidelis



439th Communications Squadron
Maj. Charles Zaorski



439th Aircraft Generation Squadron
Lt. Col. Daniel Allen



439th Maintenance Squadron
Lt. Col. Jacquelyn Crothers



439th Mission Support Squadron
Lt. Col. Terry Thomas



439th Security Forces Squadron
Maj. Mary Ann Lutz



439th Services Squadron
Maj. Alan Gardeski

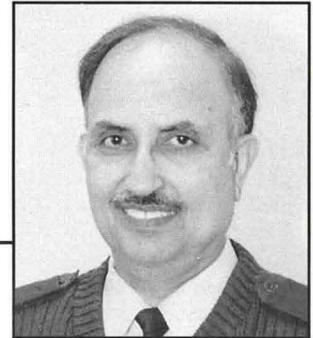


439th Logistics Support Squadron
Lt. Col. Patricia Hale

Airlift Wing



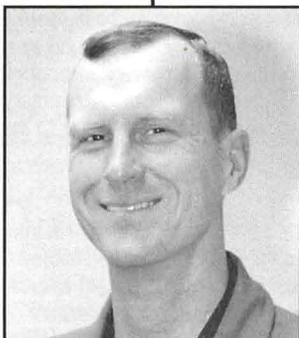
439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron
Col. Sarah Waterman



439th Medical Squadron
Col. Yash Malhotra



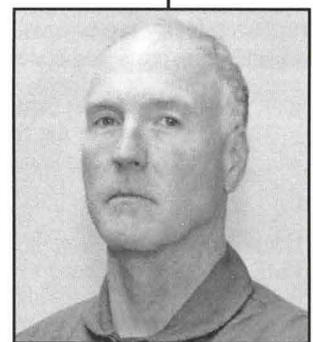
439th Operations Group
Col. David McCarthy



337th Airlift Squadron
Lt. Col. Michael Vinskey



439th Airlift Control Flight
Lt. Col. Thomas Mauzaka



439th Operations Support Squadron
Lt. Col. John Riley



42nd Aerial Port Squadron
Lt. Col. James Carey



58th Aerial Port Squadron
Lt. Col. Peter De Tone



439th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron
Col. Dennis Manning

439th Airlift Control Flight

The 18-member ALCF unit, when deployed, functions as a headquarters element, coordinating every aspect of the flying mission. They provide on-site command and control. The unit pulls together expertise in airfield operations, communication, administration, aircraft loading and maintenance. Once deployed, the unit oversees other support functions such as aerial port, security police, services and fire protection.

To support a mission, the ALCF members monitor all flights going through their location, coordinate all cargo movement, departures and maintenance coordination. The unit may be deployed to a fully operational base, or a bare-bones base with a runway and a tent. The ALCF also trains a dozen sister units in the Northeast how to package their personnel and equipment for airlift.

439th Support Group

The 490 military and 500 civilian members of the 439th SPTG provide support services members of the air wing, as well as Westover's 15 tenant organizations, which make up another 680 people.

The support group provides all the functions required to manage and support all the base functions, including Civil Engineers, Civilian and Military Personnel, Security Forces, Communications, Morale, Welfare and Recreation, Bioenvironmental Engineering and Base Readiness.

439th Communications Squadron

The squadron's 45 military and 35 civilian members oversee thousands of phones, computers, network switches and hubs in base's 43 buildings. If it has to do with getting a message from one point to another, the CS helps make it happen. Their help desk last year worked 950 hours to complete 558 work orders. They maintain 1100 e-mail accounts. The telephone operators put through over 2,000 assisted outbound calls each week. The CS also operates the photo lab and maintains all the meteorological and navigation equipment on base, as well as 850 miles of underground fiber optic cable.

Two mobility teams provide 24-hour support in the field, and the squadron also provides augmentation during contingencies.

439th Mission Support Squadron

The 41 members of the MSS administer support services to the wing. The Military Personnel Flight services hundreds of people a week through issuing ID cards, in-processing, out-processing and other administrative items. The Education Office administers professional military and college-level testing, and coordinates in-residence PME and training. Career Enhancement assists with every aspect of military careers, from medals to promotions. Family Readiness administers programs ranging from help with finances to preparing a military member's family to cope with a deployment.

Westover is also one of four bases in the Air Force Reserve to have a Casualty Assistance office.

439th Civil Engineering Squadron

The 120 members of CES could be tasked with anything from building a base and a runway at a remote site, to fixing a stuck door. The Prime Base Engineering Emergency Force, or Prime BEEF, could also augment another unit that is setting up or maintaining a base. The squadron would not only build a base, it must also protect it from attack, along with the security forces.

In addition to civil, electrical and mechanical engineer officers, CES is made up of electricians, linemen, heavy equipment operators, carpenters, welders, plumbers, fuel specialists, surveyors, heating and air conditioning specialists, fire-fighters, machinists, readiness experts, power production workers, and even entomologists—to take care of insect problems.

439th Security Forces Squadron

The 125 members of the SFS provide air base ground defense here and abroad. Their job is to provide installation and airfield security,

and law enforcement. That could mean anything from protecting the gate around-the-clock to controlling access to restricted areas such as the airfield, and responding to any emergency on base. The squadron works with state and local police to arrest and prosecute offenders apprehended on base property.

The squadron also includes special security teams, ready to deploy anywhere in the world within 48 hours. These teams include a command and control element trained to lead consolidated base defense. The combat arms section provides all weapons training for Westover's 2400 members.

439th Services Squadron

The 37 members of SVS provide food, fun, billeting, and even mortuary support for people at Westover and, in their mobility function, anywhere around the world.

About 75 percent of the job entails providing food service on UTA weekends, followed by staffing the award-winning gymnasium and managing other recreation services. On an average A-UTA weekend alone, they'll serve over 1,000 meals. In a quirk of jurisdiction, SVS also has the "bag and tag" responsibility for mortuary support in the event of war. The squadron has two 17-person mobility teams, which provide all of the services in a mobile environment. Every member trains in each of the services.

439th Logistics Group

The 934 people of the LG include 461 reservists, 355 air reserve technicians, and 118 civilians. Together they supply, transport, fix, plan, budget and assure the quality of the base functions.

The military functions within the LG include the Logistic Support Squadron, the Aircraft Generation Squadron, and the Maintenance Squadron. The all-civilian contracting shop handles all the Wing's contracts, averaging 159 transactions a month, for an average \$1.1 million a month.

439th Logistics Support Squadron

The logistics support squadron handles transportation, base supply, and staff functions (such as plans and scheduling, programs and mobility, budget and training). The squadron has 102 military personnel. The transportation section maintains 334 vehicles. The 23 military troops will remain, but the 53 civilians will be phased out due to the A-76 study.

439th Aircraft Generation Squadron

The 297 people at AGS are in-depth first responders to a maintenance problem. The squadron is split into four fully equipped teams—Bandit 6 and 7, the blue teams, and Raider 6 and 7, the red teams—each with responsibility for four airplanes. Two people from AGS pack their toolboxes and go with every C-5 flight that leaves Westover to troubleshoot and fix problems.

AGS operates on the flightline: fueling, launching and maintaining the aircraft during flight, takeoff, landing and while deployed to remote stations.

439th Maintenance Squadron

With nearly 300 people assigned and 354 authorized, MXS is the largest maintenance squadron in the Air Force Reserve. MXS performs the regular back-shop maintenance and tackles the tough problems. They also do the major teardown inspection of each C-5 about every 400 days.

MXS is comprised of 15 separate work centers such as machine and welding, non-destructive inspection (where they X-ray aircraft parts to make sure they're not cracked), sheet metal (where they replace any of the C-5's approximately 1,000 panels), propulsion, repair and reclamation, aerospace ground equipment, fuel systems, electro-environmental, survival, guidance and control, structural maintenance, and pneudraulics shops.

Westover salutes Chicopee

CITY OF CHICOPEE II – The 439th Airlift Wing paid tribute to its host city on Dec. 21, 1999 by naming C-5 number 67017 the “City of Chicopee II.” At right, Chicopee Mayor Richard J. Kos, left, and Col. Martin M. Mazick, 439th AW commander, pose by the C-5 at the dedication ceremony in the pull-through hangar. It is a long-standing Air Force tradition to name aircraft after the city in which bases are located. On Dec. 8, 1956, a B-52 Stratofortress assigned to the famed 99th Bomb Wing was designated the “City of Chicopee”, but a B-24 Liberator was dubbed “The Spirit of Chicopee” back in September 1943.

“This is a terrific gesture” said Mayor Kos. “This highlights the strong relationship the city has with Westover.” (Photo by MSgt. W.C. Pope)



SF commander keeps job in mint condition

by Capt. James Bishop

For the first time in 18 years, Maj. Mary Ann Lutz wears civilian clothes to work during the week.

Lutz, 439th Security Forces Commander since August, 1998, accepted a job as physical security specialist at the Philadelphia Mint. Lutz will stay on as commander at the 439th SFS, and changed from being an air reserve technician to being a traditional reservist. Before coming to Westover, Lutz spent six years serving in active duty at Minot and Elmendorf Air Force Bases, then joined the Reserve and spent the last 12 years at units in Minneapolis, Florida, Georgia, and finally Westover.

At the security squadron, the ART position will revert to Capt. Ron Coburn from the 610th SFG at Naval Air Station at Fort Worth, Texas. Coburn will become deputy chief of security forces here, and he will serve as the senior ART.

The restructuring in the security forces squadron, Lutz said, will make the unit look more like a traditional reserve unit, with a senior ART in charge, reporting to a traditional reservist commander. The 125-member squadron provides installation and airfield security and law enforcement here and around the globe. The unit has 45 ARTs, 45 civil service security personnel, and 35 traditional reservists to do everything from staffing round-the-clock shifts to pulling 30-day tours, which support the continuing mission in Kuwait.

Being a traditional reservist means that during the week Lutz now performs her commander duties for free, checking in by e-mail and phone for issues that can't wait until the weekend. For example, last month she was called mid-week to plan how to proceed with a possible security violation, a disclosure of classified information.

Lutz joins the handful of reservists who commute via airplane to Westover. “It pays to make reservations a month in advance,” she said of her 40-minute flight from Philadelphia to Bradley International Airport, Conn.

In her position at the Philadelphia Mint—the largest of the nation's four mints—she deals with the multi-million dollar equipment, alarms, and emergency plans. For example, the Philadelphia Mint

produced almost one billion quarters in 1999 (960,400,000 for those who are keeping count), and over one billion dimes, 688 million nickels, and over five billion pennies. They have to store all those coins somewhere before being sent to Federal Reserve banks and branches. Consequently, Lutz is managing the replacement of the 18-inch thick vault doors to the storage safe that's large enough to drive a forklift through. The vaults also contain medal and coin dies, as well as stored gold and silver bullion, adding millions of dollars in value to what Lutz oversees.

One week after Lutz arrived, internet sales at the mint topped a record-breaking \$2 million, largely because of the newly-created state quarters, which Mint Director Phillip Diehl called “the hottest collectible in a generation.” An estimated 106 million Americans are collecting the new state quarters, according to Diehl.

Though still involved in full-time federal service, Lutz's move from the Department of Defense to the Department of Treasury involved some transitions. One striking difference between military and civil service was a less direct chain of command at the Mint.

“It's a little tougher trying to figure out where the power lies,” she said. Below the Director of the Mint are three division chiefs, but rather than reporting to the Mint Director in Philadelphia, they report to the U. S. Mint Headquarters in Washington, D.C. “It would be like having three group commanders here at Westover working directly for 22nd Air Force instead of the Wing Commander,” she said.

Although security is tight at Westover, it is tighter at the Mint. Hot items for illegal “coin collectors” to plunder are damaged coins—ones that for instance became stuck in the press and got stamped three or four times—and coins like the Sacagawea gold dollar which have been minted but are not in circulation yet. To discourage would-be thieves, before leaving the mint, people walk through an x-ray so sensitive that it can detect the metal nails in shoe-heels or the wire support in certain types of bras, Lutz said.

Lutz says she now understands the rushed feeling of trying to catch up all weekend that other traditional reservists experience. “It's a huge difference,” she said.

Ramstein tour gives 58th APS diverse experiences

Article by Capt. James Bishop
Photo courtesy of SrA. James Rebman

RAMSTEIN, Germany — During a two-week tour at this key European base, MSgt. Thomas Shaughnessy saw, for the first time in his 22-year career, smoke “pouring out of every opening” on a C-141 parked on the ramp.

Shaughnessy and 15 other members of the 58th Aerial Port Squadron were augmenting the 623rd Air Mobility Support Squadron at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, from Oct. 16-30.

The C-141 fire, which occurred three days before the troops returned to Westover, took about 40 minutes for firefighters to put out. “I came to work the next day and the plane was gone,” Shaughnessy said.

Shaughnessy, who works as a quality control inspector at the 58th APS, said the aerial porters had a rare opportunity to work on “every kind of plane,” including contract 747s carrying troops to Kosovo, Bosnia, and other European sites, C-17s, C-130s, C-141s, KC-10s and other tankers, along with Westover’s C-5s.

“It’s kind of nice to service your own aircraft as it goes through Ramstein,” he said. “It brings the link between the home port and worldwide bases together.”

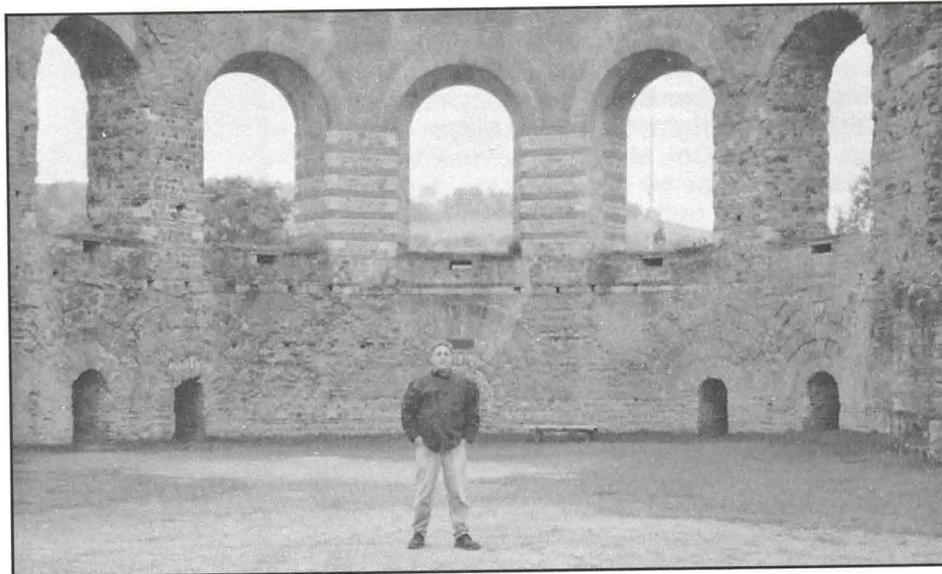
Ramstein Air Base is part of the Kaiserlautern Military Community, the largest of its kind in Europe, with some 58,800 Air Force and Army active duty members, DoD civilians, and dependents. Located 80 miles southwest of Frankfurt, Ramstein is the largest U.S. air base in Europe.

Ramstein, which is a stopover area for most European destinations, required 24-hour a day service from aerial porters. The 16 people from Westover worked mainly cargo and ramp services five or six days a week, depending on the job.

SrA. James Rebman worked the graveyard shift, from 10:30 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., doing pallet buildups, switching cargo such as food or ammunition from the larger planes—C-5s, C-17s, and KC-10s—to C-130s headed for Bosnia, Kosovo, Hungary, and even Kuwait.

Shaughnessy has been going to Ramstein with the aerial port squadron since he began serving in 1977. And he’s seen a big difference once the Cold War ended. For example, military members no longer have to carry gas masks on their belts, and the F-4 fighters no longer stand on the flight line, with pilots close by on constant alert.

Two years ago, the squadron commander



ROMAN RUINS — SrA. James Rebman stands in the Roman ruins of a former bath in the city of Trier, Germany on the Luxembourg border. Rebman and other members of the 58th APS toured during time off from their annual tour at Ramstein AB, Germany.

made a poignant request to the Westover workers to be prepared for any crisis. At the beginning of their visit, the commander asked the group of 25 aerial porters how many people were involved in Vietnam or the Gulf War.

About half of the people raised their hand.

She told the others to look around at the ones who had experienced war, and said, “I want you to impress upon these younger people the importance of knowing your job, and exactly what a war scenario would be.”

The trip allowed the people of the 58th APS to put their training to real-world use on an estimated 150 planes, said First Sergeant MSgt. Norman Hoskeer.

But the trip wasn’t all work and no play. Off-duty, the group got a chance to see the country. Rebman and others got a chance to visit the Black Forest, Lake Luzerne, Switzerland, Luxemburg, and nearby sites. Some squadron members toured France, others went to Munich, Germany. Shaughnessy took a one-day Wine Cruise down Germany’s Rhine River, tasting various local wines as they went along.

On a tour to Dachau Concentration Camp, the former German extermination camp during World War II, Shaughnessy and others got a chance to see the first camp—which camp commandant Theodor Eicke, who later became inspector for all the

concentration camps, used as a “model” the other camps.

The visit was a moving experience to Shaughnessy. “I expected to see an area bigger than Westover,” he said. Actually, the restored camp was relatively small, although the reception area was large. “They just didn’t keep the prisoners long,” he said. Altogether, more than 200,000 men and women from more than 30 countries were imprisoned at Dachau. The fence around the camp included a 10-foot initial fence with broken glass bottles glued on top, then a pit, another fence, a dog run, then the final wall, he said.

Initially, what Shaughnessy found striking about Germany was the wealth: “every home looks new, and the people are driving new cars,” he said. After WWII, Ramstein village began a period of continuous economic growth, according to Ramstein AB officials. That growth was accentuated by the construction of Ramstein AB in 1953.

The base is currently home to two headquarters—Allied Air Forces Central Europe (AIRCENT) and United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE).

Another seven members of the 58th APS returned from two weeks at Aviano AB, Italy on Dec. 11.

In July, the 58th APS earned the Air Mobility Command’s Total Team award during a competition in Little Rock AFB, Ark.

It was the first time a Reserve unit won

2000 Reserve Pay for Four Drills

	Years of Service														
	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
O-10	1095.32	1133.84	1133.84	1133.84	1133.84	1177.36	1177.36	1242.60	1242.60	1331.52	1331.52	1420.68	1420.68	1420.68	1509.12
O-9	970.76	996.20	1017.40	1017.40	1017.40	1043.28	1043.28	1086.68	1086.68	1177.36	1177.36	1242.60	1242.60	1242.60	1331.52
O-8	879.24	905.64	927.08	927.08	927.08	996.20	996.20	1043.28	1043.28	1086.68	1133.84	1177.36	1206.40	1206.40	1206.40
O-7	730.60	780.24	780.24	780.24	815.28	815.28	862.52	862.52	905.64	996.20	1064.72	1064.72	1064.72	1064.72	1064.72
O-6	541.48	594.88	633.92	633.92	633.92	633.92	633.92	633.92	655.48	759.08	797.84	815.28	862.52	891.64	935.40
O-5	433.12	508.52	543.72	543.72	543.72	543.72	560.04	590.28	629.84	677.00	715.76	737.48	763.28	763.28	763.28
O-4	365.04	444.52	474.16	474.16	482.96	504.24	538.72	569.00	594.88	621.08	638.12	638.12	638.12	638.12	638.12
O-3	339.20	379.24	405.48	448.64	470.12	486.96	513.36	538.72	551.88	551.88	551.88	551.88	551.88	551.88	551.88
O-2	295.84	323.08	388.12	401.20	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48
O-1	256.84	267.32	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08
O-3E	0.00	0.00	0.00	448.64	470.12	486.96	513.36	538.72	560.04	560.04	560.04	560.04	560.04	560.04	560.04
O-2E	0.00	0.00	0.00	401.20	409.48	422.48	444.52	461.52	474.16	474.16	474.16	474.16	474.16	474.16	474.16
O-1E	0.00	0.00	0.00	323.08	345.12	357.84	370.84	383.68	401.20	401.20	401.20	401.20	401.20	401.20	401.20
E-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	402.04	411.12	420.36	430.08	439.76	448.20	471.72	490.08	517.68
E-8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	337.12	346.88	355.96	365.20	374.88	383.40	392.84	415.92	434.40	462.28
E-7	235.44	254.16	263.48	272.76	282.08	291.04	300.36	309.76	323.72	332.92	342.16	346.60	369.92	388.32	415.92
E-6	202.52	220.76	229.92	239.68	248.72	257.68	267.12	280.88	289.72	299.04	303.60	303.60	303.60	303.60	303.60
E-5	177.68	193.40	202.80	211.64	225.56	234.80	244.00	253.08	257.68	257.68	257.68	257.68	257.68	257.68	257.68
E-4	165.72	175.04	185.36	199.64	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56
E-3	156.20	164.76	171.28	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12
E-2	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32
E-1>4	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08
E-1<4	124.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Effective Jan. 1. This chart reflects an increase of 4.8 percent over 1999 pay levels. Normally, reservists receive credit for four drill pay periods during one weekend unit training assembly. The drill pay rates will increase again on July 1 when targeted raises of up to 5.5 percent take effect.

AEF Q and A... continued from page 1

(Editor's note: the following answers were compiled from interviews with Lt. Col. Forest Price, 1st Lt. Kelly Braudis, and current Air Force information on AEF and EAF.)

Q: Why do we have the new expeditionary deployments?

A: Because the military is moving from a mindset of "deterrence" to "global engagement," global taskings have increased about 400 percent since the end of the Cold War. Over 14,000 airmen are deployed around the world. EAF is, in effect, the new Air Force philosophy.

Q: Do AEFs deploy to a theater?

A: No. What we deploy is Air Expeditionary Wings, Groups and Squadrons. Then individuals from the Guard and Reserve fill augmentee taskings.

Q: Is this a wholesale restructuring of the Air Force?

A: No. What the planners have done is to overlay the AEF structure onto our existing organization to bring structure to the way we task people.

Q: Right now the AEF tours are voluntary. Will the taskings eventually become mandatory?

A: No. AFRC policy is that the tours will be filled by volunteers, and planners want to keep it that way.

Q: If I go on an AEF tour, what will my job be?

A: The same job you do at Westover.

Q: How will I get to the desert, since there aren't any commercial flights to Saudi Arabian air bases?

A: You'll take a commercial flight from Boston or Hartford, whichever is closer, to BWI in Baltimore. From there, you'll take a commercial jet that AMC has chartered directly to your destination in Saudi Arabia.

Q: How will I get desert BDUs?

A: You'll be issued those before you leave Westover.

Q: How far in advance will I know my departure date?

A: Usually, people have had several months to plan. In a few cases people have had less than a month.

Q: Do I really need the anthrax shots before I go?

A: Yes. Having the anthrax shot is an Air Force and AFRC requirement. Ideally, personnel would receive at least the first three of the six-shot series of anthrax vaccinations prior to leaving on an AEF tour.

Q: Where can I go for more information?

A: Locally, call the wing plans office at Ext. 3317, or the military personnel flight at Ext. 3430.

For the view from the top, go to the AFRC homepage at www.afrc.af.mil/afrc.htm and the Air Force homepage at www.xo.hq.af.mil/eaf.

Recruiting challenges call for new ideas

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — Despite having the best annual accession rate per recruiter, Air Force Reserve Command recruiters fell short of meeting their goal for Fiscal Year 1999.

From Oct. 1, 1998, to Sept. 30, 1999, the command recruited 9,146 people or 81.4 percent of its 11,241 target for the year. However, AFRC led the Department of Defense in recruiter accessions, averaging 37.8 new recruits per production recruiter.

"Generally speaking, all recruiting components are facing significant challenges," said Lt. Col. Dirk Palmer, chief of the AFRC Recruiting Operations Branch. "Our recruiting shortfall is primarily due to a market shift toward non-prior service personnel, a strong economy and the reduced propensity to enlist in the military. Another recruiting challenge is the increasing operations tempo in the active force and reserve components."

The active force drawdown, especially in the Air Force, has required recruiters to focus more efforts on non-prior service recruits and individuals with previous military service in other branches.

The resulting focus on non-prior service applicants requires more money to be spent per individual recruit, said Palmer. "It's challenging for recruiters because they must spend additional time in non-prior service markets, which are more competitive and historically have higher attrition during the recruiting process," he said.

"We've beefed up our in-service recruiting force and it's paid off," said Palmer. "In FY 99 we got 19 percent of active-duty Air Force reserve-eligible separatees, the highest we've ever done."

Because resources have not kept pace with the changing marketplace, the Reserve is requesting additional recruiters, advertising funds, office real estate, Montgomery G.I. Bill kicker incentives, and recruiter support monies through the FY 2002 POM process.

Reserve recruiters have also turned to the computer to help their efforts. New computer software packages are being installed to help track recruiting data and train recruiters.

"This will allow management to pinpoint potential training needs and focus on steps in the recruiting process that may need improving," said Palmer.

Patriot Praises

The large number of promotions for the 1 Jan. 2000 Unit Vacancy Promotion Cycle is due to grade enhancements in the manning documents for squadrons belonging to the 439th Logistics Group. The authorized rank of many NCO positions have been increased.

A similar, although smaller grade enhancement took place in two squadrons of the 439th Operations Group in Oct. 1999. Similar grade enhancements are anticipated for the 439th Support Group, 439th Airlift Wing and the Medical Squadron in the future.

Promotions

SMSgt. Brainard, Edward H.
SMSgt. Dimartino, Joseph S.
SMSgt. Jamieson, Ralph A.
SMSgt. Lagasse, James H.
SMSgt. Pirog, Mark J.
SMSgt. Pursell, Dean L.
SMSgt. Roberts, William J.
MSgt. Abare, Gary A.
MSgt. Abrams, Alexander J.
MSgt. Archibald, David A.
MSgt. Aube, Daniel P.
MSgt. Baker, Robert J.
MSgt. Bebeau, Eugene III
MSgt. Berube, David E.
MSgt. Bisson, Gary P.
MSgt. Bogard, Steve, Jr.
MSgt. Cabana, David M.
MSgt. Dager, Roger A.
MSgt. Darling, Charles F.
MSgt. DeMarco, Antonio
MSgt. Depaoli, John C.
MSgt. Desorcy, Roger P.
MSgt. Dirienzo, Michael F.
MSgt. Doherty, James M.
MSgt. Duncan, Earl E., Jr.
MSgt. Ferry, Daniel L.
MSgt. Gagnon, William B.
MSgt. Halla, Richard W.
MSgt. Hartwig, Carl R.
MSgt. Hausman, Paul
MSgt. Herbert, Harry T.
MSgt. Henry, David P.
MSgt. Holding, David E.
MSgt. Irla, James T.
MSgt. Janusz, Joseph A.
MSgt. Kalisz, Robert F.
MSgt. Kenneally, Kenneth
MSgt. Konunchuk, James J.
MSgt. Lemoine, Joseph M.
MSgt. Lesure, Glenn C.
MSgt. Marchand, Gary F.
MSgt. Martindell, Andrew
MSgt. Mattoon, Kevin R.
MSgt. May, Ronald E.
MSgt. Needham, Arthur R., II
MSgt. Ohearn, Michael J.
MSgt. Philbrick, Ronald E.
MSgt. Preble, Robert S.
MSgt. Rodrigue, Robert S.
MSgt. Ross, Steven E.
MSgt. Staryarsky, William
MSgt. Stone, George D.
MSgt. Thomas, Michael J.
MSgt. Turcotte, Robert R.
MSgt. Venturella, Frank
MSgt. Vight, Dennis J.
MSgt. Walker, Robert J.
MSgt. Wurszt, Richard
TSgt. Abood, Mitchell D.
TSgt. Allen, Steven P.
TSgt. Backlund, Kenneth
TSgt. Bennett, Roger C.
TSgt. Benoit, John H.
TSgt. Berne Allen, Dawn M.
TSgt. Bicho, Janet M.
TSgt. Boucher, Kenneth R.
TSgt. Boucher, Thomas W.
TSgt. Boudreau, James M.
TSgt. Butler, Stephen P.
TSgt. Chaffee, Todd A.

TSgt. Chalmers, Michael C.
TSgt. Clark, Judith A.
TSgt. Cote, Daniel A.
TSgt. Culhane, Timothy E.
TSgt. Daniels, Thomas J.
TSgt. Doyle, Doran P.
TSgt. Duval, Donna M.
TSgt. Gardner, Frederick
TSgt. Hareld, Lee D.
TSgt. Ingerson, Robert J.
TSgt. Jolicoeur, Dwayne D.
TSgt. Kimball, Laurence D.
TSgt. Kline, Craig M.
TSgt. Laffond, Michael S.
TSgt. Lasky, Todd J.
TSgt. Layden, Kevin M.
TSgt. Marshall, John E.
TSgt. Montano, Valerie S.
TSgt. Nogas, Steven R.
TSgt. Panico, Todd R.
TSgt. Perras, Anthony J.
TSgt. Prescott, Daniel R.
TSgt. Ricchi, Donald R.
TSgt. Rivet, Andrew T.
TSgt. Rosica, Peter
TSgt. Rousselle, Keith R.
TSgt. Roux, Kevin D.
TSgt. Snow, Lawrence D.
TSgt. Sweikhart, Karl E.
TSgt. Theroux, Mark R.
TSgt. Thurber, Justin E.
TSgt. Trombley, Anthony J.
TSgt. Turner, David W.
TSgt. Veresko, Paul
TSgt. Walas, Christina M.
TSgt. White, Robert T., II
TSgt. Willette, Mark E.
TSgt. Witt, Michael S.
TSgt. Yargeau, Bruce A.
SSgt. Barcome, Michael J.
SSgt. Beaudry, Keith M.
SSgt. Brower, Chad C.
SSgt. Carlson, Lisa C.
SSgt. Chavez, Manuel D.
SSgt. Cleveland, Michael
SSgt. Columbus, Ryan M.
SSgt. Coyle, Charles B.
SSgt. Daly, Gordon M.
SSgt. Dietrich, Sabine
SSgt. Dunn, Valerie A.
SSgt. Dybski, Dawid D.
SSgt. Ferguson, William H.
SSgt. Girouard, Michael C.
SSgt. Hellyar, Ryan M.
SSgt. Hetu, Frederick E.
SSgt. Loughman, Scott J.
SSgt. MacNeveins, Scott A.
SSgt. Savard, Arthur E., Jr.
SSgt. Tepper, Ryan N.

Enlistments

SSgt. Busch, Kathleen M.
SSgt. Carter, Teresa S.
SSgt. Mainusch, Robert W., Sr.
SSgt. Phillips, Glenn K.
SrA. Anderson, Douglas S.
SrA. Lanzo, David R.
SrA. Pavenski, Peter J.
SrA. Wyand, Herbert R., Jr.
A1C Abreu, Josafa J.
A1C Stenton, Anthony W.

Amn. Kanarek, Richard L.

Reenlistments

SMSgt. Lewandowski, John H.
MSgt. Anson, Frank H.
MSgt. Barringer, Stanley L.
MSgt. Bradshaw, Anna P.
MSgt. Brunetti, Michael R.
MSgt. Roberts, William J.
MSgt. Schile, Dawn S.
MSgt. Squier, Kenneth M.
MSgt. Whelan, Patrick T.
TSgt. Aguinaga, Isidro W.
TSgt. Berube, David E.
TSgt. Bouchard, Jack H.
TSgt. Cadran, Michael F.
TSgt. Chunyk, Robert W.
TSgt. Deveaux, Laray
TSgt. Elkins, James W.
TSgt. Fannin, Nevin C.
TSgt. Flynn, Robert F., Jr.
TSgt. Guiel, Allen J., Jr.
TSgt. Hackett, Michael K.
TSgt. Healey, Marianne S.
TSgt. Hellyar, Christopher J.
TSgt. Herbert, Harry T.
TSgt. Holt, Todd T.
TSgt. Johnson, Keith A.
TSgt. Kibe, Daniel E.
TSgt. Lieb, Michael J.
TSgt. Little, Irving G.
TSgt. Malone, Scott D.
TSgt. Marcin, Robert P.
TSgt. McDonough, Thomas G.
TSgt. Mercier, Arthur H.
TSgt. Nunnally, Vonsicia S.
TSgt. Pietras, Andrew J.
TSgt. Pritz, Roger P.
TSgt. Robinson, Trevor O.
TSgt. Roy, Craig A.
TSgt. Sequeira, Steven A.
TSgt. Smith, Daniel P.
TSgt. Wells, David A.
TSgt. Williams, Timothy G.
SSgt. Breckenridge, Danial C.
SSgt. Bowen, Brian J.
SSgt. Busch, Kathleen M.
SSgt. Carey, Michael J.
SSgt. Cawthra, Timothy D.
SSgt. Chouinard, Kenneth W., Jr.
SSgt. Coviello, Edward J.
SSgt. Evans, Kenneth J.
SSgt. Greene, Richard D.
SSgt. Holmes, Trenton E.
SSgt. Kratochvil, Kathleen A.
SSgt. Leone, Daniel A., Jr.
SSgt. Mrowka, Thomas
SSgt. Murphy, Peter J.
SSgt. Pregeant, Merrill R.
SSgt. Sweikhart, Karl E.
SSgt. Thibodeau, John L.
SSgt. Willette, Mark E.
SSgt. Winters, Stephen D.
SrA. Anderson, Douglas S.
SrA. Hebert, Joshua
SrA. Labier, Jonathan M.
SrA. Mainor, Arthur J.
SrA. Pavenski, Peter J.
SrA. Pollock, Charles R.
SrA. Russo, Nicole

Patriot People

Name: David Halat
Rank: SSgt
Age: 28
Address: Putnam Valley, NY
Unit: 439th Communications Squadron
Position: MIS System Administrator
Civilian position: MIS System Administrator
Favorite food: Barbeque
Years of service: 8
Favorite sport: Football
Favorite hobby: Computers
Ideal vacation: Somewhere warm with beaches
Best way to relax: Driving on scenic road
Preferred entertainment: Movies
Favorite hero: General George Patton
Favorite music: Metal
Favorite movie: *Monty Python's Holy Grail*
Favorite aircraft: KC-10
Pet peeve: Bad drivers
What I would do if I won \$1 million: "Invest half and enjoy the other half!"

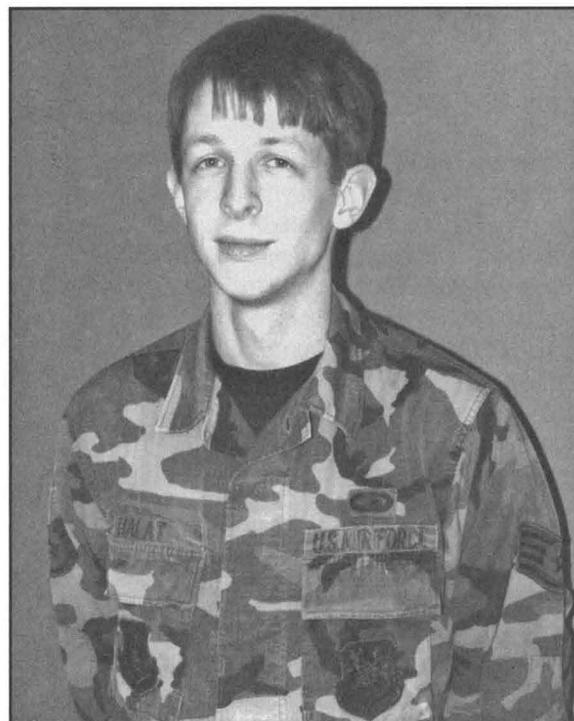


Photo by MSgt W.C. Pope

SSgt David Halat

Eagle grants awarded for CCAF graduates

Westover ranks in the top 10 percent of Air Force Reserve bases when comparing CCAF graduates to base population. Last year, 33 Community College of the Air Force diplomas were awarded representing a 66 percent increase from the previous year.

Because of Westover's success, the Aerospace Education Foundation has awarded two \$400 Eagle grants. To be eligible for the grant, reservists must be a 1999 CCAF graduate between the ranks of E-4 and E-7, and be enrolled in a bachelor

degree program.

TSgt. Lori Boucher, who has spearheaded the CCAF program, applauded the hard work of all the graduates. She also credited the availability of CLEP testing in raising the number of graduates.

Letters will be sent out to all eligible reservists by the end of January. For more information, call SMSgt. Kristine Seney at the Base Education and Training Office at Ext. 2042, or visit the office in Bldg. 1875.

Reservists can buy government-rate tickets

The General Services Administration now permits reservists who fly to unit training assemblies to buy government-rate airline tickets for .

To get the GSA City Pair airfares, travelers must request a letter of authorization from their wing commander and possess a government travel card. Those members who live outside a reasonable commuting distance are eligible.

The law granting reservists this benefit took effect Oct. 1; however, no system was in place to allow travelers to purchase the tickets through City Pair. This was changed in mid-November when Air Force financial management officials approved the use of government travel cards to buy the non-reimbursable tickets at government-contracted commercial travel offices.

Awards and Decorations

Meritorious Service Medal

MSgt. Marilyn A. Dube	439 LSS
MSgt. Scott E. Reed	42 APS
MSgt. Daniel J. Turner	42 APS
MSgt. Bruce L. Westcott	439 LSS
TSgt. Scott E. Andrews	439 LSS
TSgt. Mary R. Michaud	42 APS

Air Force Commendation Medal

TSgt. David P. Adams**	439 MXS
TSgt. John P. Betsold	439 CES
TSgt. Jennifer A. Lavigne	439 AW
TSgt. David J. Marino**	85 APS
TSgt. Edward T. Moynihan	42 APS
TSgt. Scott A. Moyt	439 LSS
TSgt. Michael Ohearne	42 APS
TSgt. Robert N. Tower	439 CES
TSgt. Leah M. Upshaw	42 APS
SSgt. Kevin M. Bowen	439 MXS

Air Force Achievement Medal

MSgt. Michael M. Cuccovia**	439 LSS
TSgt. Paul K. Janeczek	439 MXS
TSgt. Laurence R. Lafleche	439 LSS
TSgt. David J. Valego	439 CES
SSgt. Daniel R. Boucher	439 MXS
SSgt. Anne K. Kymalainen	439 AW
SSgt. Terry G. Lovett	42 APS
SrA. Shawn J. Christopher	439 LSS
A1C Karla M. McGrath	439 LSS

**second award

\$134 million flow from Westover into area economy

by Gordon A. Newell

Westover pumped more than \$134 million into the area's economy during fiscal year 1999, according to the Air Force Reserve Command

During the fiscal year, which for the federal government runs from Oct. 1, 1998 to Sept. 30, 1999, the various military units assigned to the base spent \$134, 641, 470 on salaries, contracts, construction and other expenses. This figure represents an increase of \$3,493,328 over the 1998 total.

"Westover has long been a major player in the economic well-being of Western Massachusetts," said Col. Martin M. Mazick, commander of the 439th Airlift Wing. "We have nearly 4,000 people drawing a pay check from the base and most of us live in the area. So we are part of the community."

The base's total annual payroll for the year comes to \$68,860,123 with civilian salaries totaling \$44,227,070 and military pay accounting for \$20,060,362. Another \$4,572,691 was paid to non-appropriated fund civilians employed in such areas as the Base Exchange, Shoppette, bowling alley, base gymnasium and billeting.

There are 4,026 people assigned to the base, including 2,705 military active-duty and reserve personnel. The base also has 913 full-time federal employees and 252 non-appropriated fund workers.

Construction on the base totaled \$17,484,710, more than double the previous year's amount. An additional \$6,084,537 was spent on service contracts locally while \$3,838,824 was spent on materials and equipment.

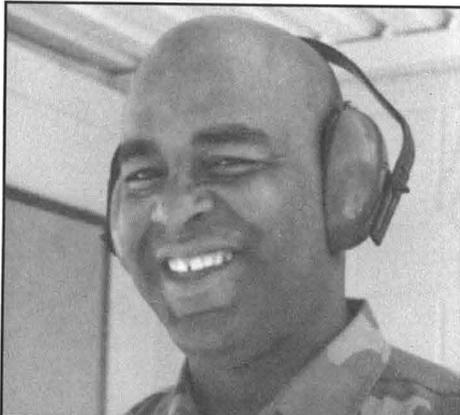
Westover is home to the Air Force Reserve Command's 439th Airlift Wing as well as Marine Corps Support Squadron

Six; Marine Wing Support Squadron 474, Detachment B; a Massachusetts National Guard aviation support group; United States Corps of Engineers; the United States Armed Forces Reserve Center; Dynamic Services (weather station contractor); Army-Air Force Exchange Service; a Reserve Readiness and Mobility Squadron and TOW Platoon HQ, 4th Marine Division.



PATRIOT

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Published monthly for Patriots like MSgt Leon Lashley from Malden, Mass., and 2,344 members of the 439th AW at Westover ARB, and geographically separated units.

439th AW/PA
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