

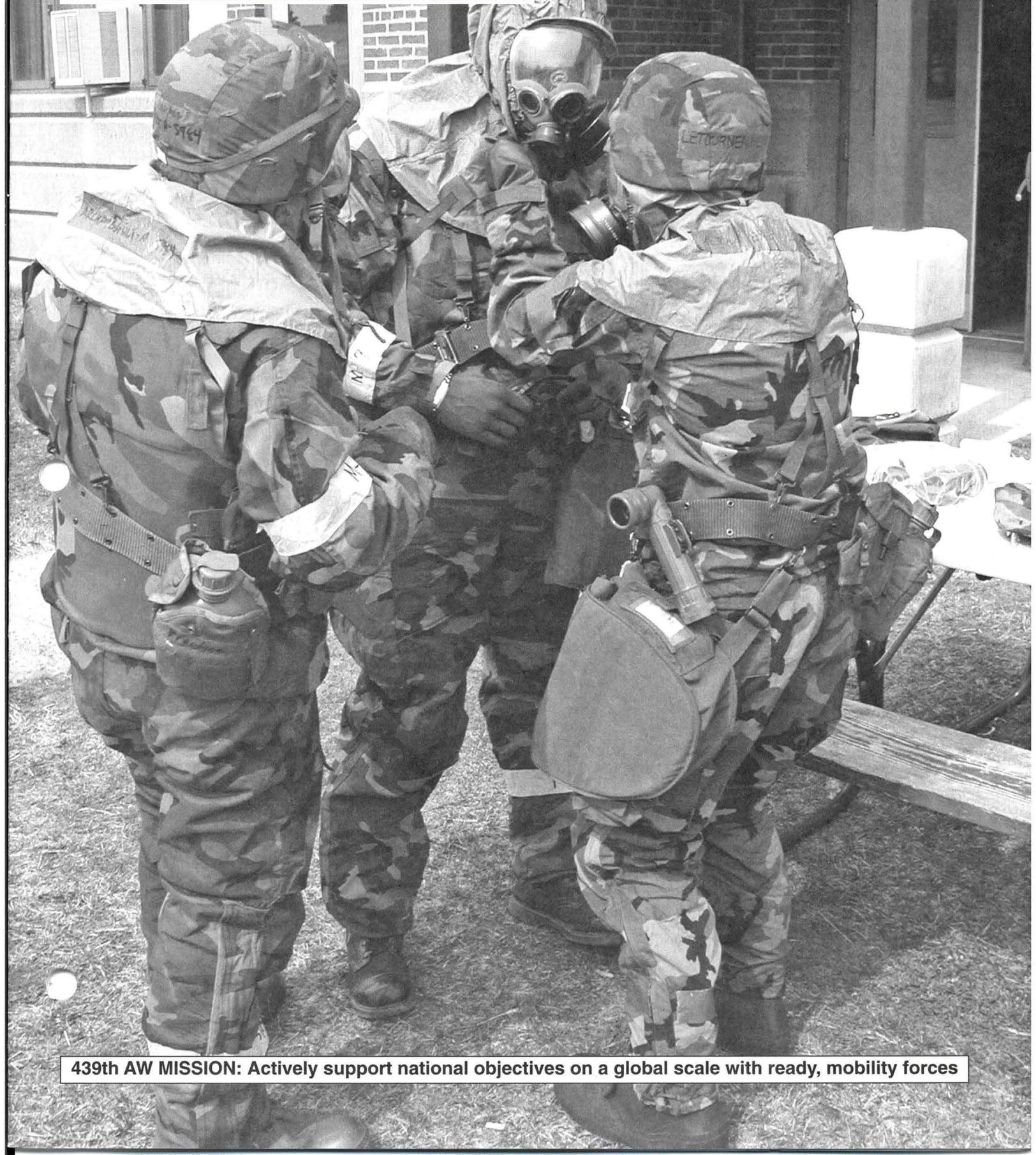
PATRIOT

BEST IN THE AIR FORCE

439TH AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER AFB

VOLUME 28, NUMBER 5

MAY 2001



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

Resources for Readiness

This month's key issue message from Maj. Gen. Sherrard talks about "Resource Management being the key to readiness." I'm sure you can understand the importance of this topic since our number one wing priority is **READINESS**.

I also know that you are aware of how we continue to be constrained by limited resources. It shows locally through the lack of an appropriate budget, to carry out all of our duties in a timely manner, the lack of real property

Commentary

dollars to keep up our facilities, and the lack of military construction dollars to build the new facilities we need. We have been very lucky to have congressional support. Our congressmen and senators from Massachusetts have helped us with new projects like the control tower, lodging renovation for two of our five buildings, Military Entrance Processing Station, and a new training facility for the Westover marines. They continue to strongly support the upgrades to our C-5As because they understand that "Airlift" is a national asset and the C-5 is the only aircraft that can perform this role for oversized cargo in a military hostile environment.

You have heard me talk about how our Air Force Reserve has transitioned from a Cold War force that trained to be ready for a major mobilization to a new-century force that augments the active duty around the clock and globe on a daily basis. I call this "running with the big dogs." This takes its toll when you strive to achieve this end and continue to be resourced in money, materials, facilities and full-time manning like that Cold War force of the '70s and '80s. Your leadership continues to fight for the appropriate resources from the active-duty Air Force in this day of "total" and "seamless." But until then, we must prioritize and be very conscientious to use our limited resources to achieve the maximum bang for the buck.

That is why we have wing priorities and we spend to assure readiness for each of you in the wing. When we get you the right equipment and training, we assure the nation that you can safely and effectively do your part for our mission.

THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO!

by Col. Martin M. Mazick
439th AW Commander



Briefs

First Fitness Challenge scheduled for May 5

The 439th Airlift Wing has scheduled its first "Fitness Challenge" for May 5.

The challenge, which will feature three person teams (at least one woman on each team) will begin at the Fitness Center at 4 p.m.

The first event will consist of a three-mile run from the base gym to Wade Lake. The second event will be a canoe course around Wade Lake and the third is a bicycle course back to the fitness center.

On May 19, a one-person challenge will be held featuring the same events.

To sign up a team and inquire about availability of equipment and safety items, call Rick Heller at Ext. 3958.

July date changes

Dates for the B UTA in July have been changed from July 21-22 to July 28-29 because of the IGX scheduled for July 30 through Aug. 5.

Further information is available from unit first sergeants.

Because of the UTA date change, the dates of the NCO Leadership Development Class, Phase I will also be changed from July 18-22 to July 25-29. Phase II dates will remain Aug. 15-19. Anyone interested in attending the course should inform their supervisor and have them contact TSgt. Lori Boucher at Ext. 3440.

Patriot Tomahawk

May 17-25

Team Yankee

May 18-20

**Expeditionary Operational
Readiness Inspection (EORI)**

July 30—Aug 5

May UTA schedule

A UTA May 56

B UTA May 19-20

cover photo

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT —
To prepare for upcoming inspections, 439th AW members review chemical warfare gear and procedures. —photo by MSgt. W.C. Pope

PATRIOT

THE TEAM OF CHOICE

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Key issue: Resource management key to readiness



by Maj. Gen. James E. Sherrard III
Chief of Air Force Reserve and commander of Air Force Reserve Command

The men and women of the Air Force Reserve Command continue to be key players in our nation's involvement around the world and at home. In daily support of the Air Force mission and Expeditionary Aerospace Force, reservists can be found at work on—or over—every continent in the world.

The greater our participation, the

broader our experience base becomes. Reserve skills become sharpened with use, and we are better able to serve the nation.

Readiness is nothing new to us. We have demonstrated our readiness for years, responding, mission-ready, on short-notice, exactly as advertised. However, we must closely monitor our resources in this era of aging aircraft and constrained budgets to preserve our current readiness through:

Proper resource allocation: Congress has expressed concern that the reserve components are assuming additional missions without additional resources — facilities, equipment, funds and personnel. This issue becomes increasingly important as the coun-

try places more reliance on the reserve components. We are eager to assume new missions and taskings but must receive the accompanying funds and personnel.

Military construction: To recruit, train and retain the best and brightest, the Air Force Reserve must have adequate, modern facilities. Without proper facilities, the Reserve would experience a long-term degradation of readiness due to reduced recruiting and retention of personnel who would not want to work or train in inadequate facilities. A few dollars spent on military construction now will provide future dividends.

(AFRC News Service)

Cemetery opening increases honor guard duties

by Capt. James Bishop

The base honor guard is looking for a few more sharp troops.

In one year the group has grown from six to 24 people whose additional duty is to provide a special military presence at funerals, ceremonies and parades. For the honor guard, business is increasing.

"In January 2001, we supported seven funerals, which is more than we did in the previous 10 months combined," said Honor Guard Superintendent MSgt. Tom Roe, the only full-timer assigned to the group. Word has gotten out to community and veteran's associations that the honor guard is available.

With the May 21 opening of the Massachusetts Veterans Cemetery in Agawam, their responsibilities will increase dramatically. The honor guard will be at the opening, along with representatives from all the military services.

"Right after it opens, we're going to start interments," Roe said. By late March, about 218 veterans already deceased were scheduled for interment. "Hundreds more veterans have already made arrangements to be buried there," Roe said.

To handle the caseload required, Roe said, the honor guard needs more people.

"When you look at 24 people that seems like a lot, but not all are available on a full time basis. Some who are available aren't local," Roe said. And some who are local aren't always available.

There are three categories of military funerals. For a veteran who has completed one tour of duty or who was drafted, military funeral honors take a minimum of two people, or three with a live bugler. Retirees with over 20 years active or active reserve time get



FRONT AND CENTER— Westover's honor guard, shown at the 50-yard line at Patriot Stadium, are in great demand throughout the Northeast, and are looking for new members.

a team of nine — six are pall-bearers. Those six plus a seventh person act as the firing party. Then there's an NCOIC or OIC and a live bugler. The third category — those who died on active duty — have a 20-person team which includes the firing party, pall bearers, four color guard, bugler, NCOIC, OIC and chaplain, if available.

Westover's honor guard covers funerals in the six New England states and the upper half of New York state.

The biggest challenge over the past year has been recruiting and training. "People I get are there because they want to be there and are eager and willing," Roe said. Someone who is brand new trains six full days in a row.

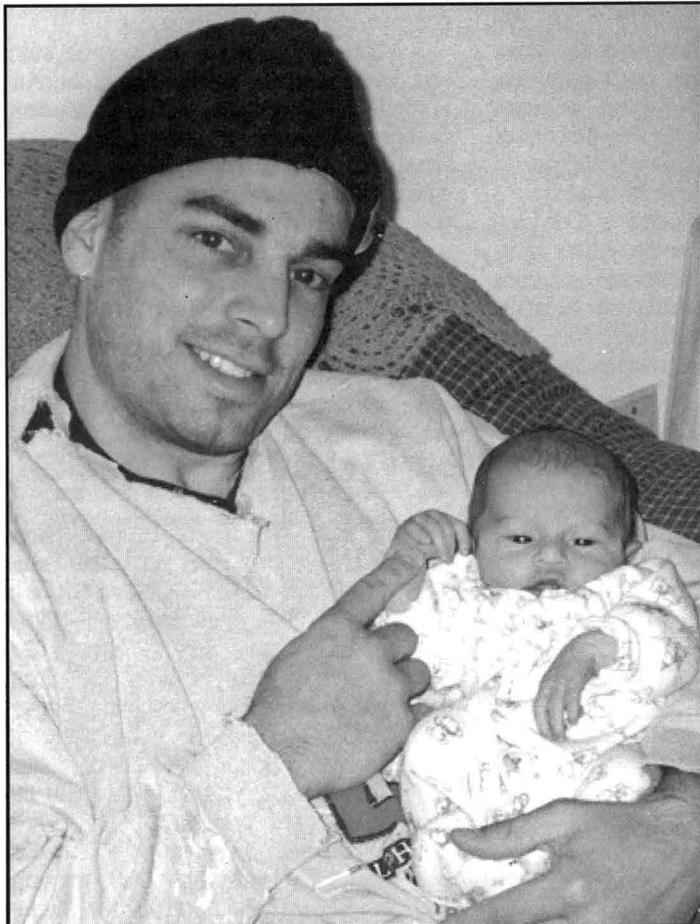
The rewards are sometimes as simple and complex as a look of gratitude in the eye of a family member at a funeral. So far no honor guard member here has dropped out.

When the Agawam cemetery opens, they'll be doing funerals nearly every day, Roe said. So the honor guard is looking to fill the next class, which runs May 14-18. Once trained, up to 12 members can do 139-day tours. And waivers up to 179 days are routinely granted, he said. "There will

be that much of a need when the Agawam cemetery opens," Roe said.

The base honor guard is now located in the Family readiness building near the Fairview (James Street) gate. Volunteers, veterans or interested family members can contact MSgt. Tom Roe at (413) 557-3342. To learn more about military funeral honors or the honor guard, visit www.militaryfuneralhonors.osd.mil, or call (877) 465-4667.

Reservist makes it home to celebrate 'Labor Day'



LABOR OF LOVE — Proud papa, SrA. Richard English from the 439th AMDS, cradles his newborn son, Michael Richard English.

Photo and article by SMSgt. Sandi Michon

The plane just barely touched down on the runway and SrA. Richard English was running down the aisle to the front exit. "My wife is having a baby!" he shouted over the stewardess's protests.

He had just spent the better part of a seven-hour flight from California on a cell phone coaching his wife's breathing as she prepared to delivery their first child at a Boston-area hospital.

The front stewardess handed off a bottle of champagne and English jumped from the side exit even before the gate was attached. His father got him to the hospital with less than an hour to spare. Tears of fatigue and relief mingled with tears of joy when English and his wife, Kerrie, finally held little Michael Richard 50 minutes later.

The day-long drama ended an annual tour and began parenthood — vividly portraying the often delicate balance between reserve demands — and the rest of life.

When English left for Travis AFB, Calif. in February, his

wife was eight months pregnant, but the doctor said it did not appear that she would deliver early. When the aeromedical apprentice planned his first annual tour, his first sergeant with the 439th Aeromedical Squadron assured him they would get him home if they had to.

He remained in daily phone contact with his wife while he worked at the David Grant Medical Center at Travis. "It was great training!" said English of his medical tour with 14 others from Westover. He talked animatedly about working with flight surgeons, assisting with minor surgeries and going on flight emergency calls. "It was rewarding to have actual experience in areas I covered in school, but don't get to do at Westover," he said.

As English monitored his wife's pregnancy across the country, co-workers jokingly took bets on her delivery date. The day the Westover medical cadre was scheduled to return home, English received a call from his mother at 5:30 a.m. stating that his wife was in labor. "Get home," she said.

Within minutes, all his co-workers were up and helping get English on the road. His roommate, TSgt. Dale Edwards, helped him pack, others arranged transportation to the airport and got him breakfast, and First Sergeant SMSgt. Barbara Bender made airline arrangements. In just 30 minutes, MSgt. Andy Van Lingen was ferrying English to the airport.

"I was a little nervous," said English. "I can't believe how much everyone pitched in to help me get home."

Once airborne, English kept tabs on his wife via the cell phone, and soon everyone sitting around him was involved in the drama. An obstetrics nurse, seated behind English, talked him through various stages as he coached his wife. During lulls in the action, his "plane mates" anxiously awaited updates. "I kept trying to calm her [Kerrie] and assure her I would get there. When she couldn't talk because of the pain, I felt so helpless," he said.

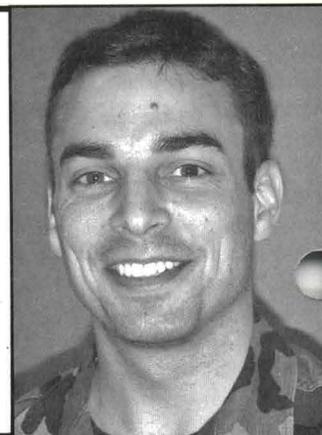
Once he arrived at the hospital, the day's strain took its toll. "I was trained to help with the delivery, but I was so overwhelmed, I forgot everything," he recalls.

Back at Westover for his UTA weekend, seven weeks after his son's birth, English knows the reality of being a parent. "I never knew a person could function with so little sleep — but you can," he said with red-rimmed eyes and a weary smile. Amid the flurry of activity at the clinic, he sighed and said, "I hope I can catch a nap during lunch."

But even a five-minute conversation belies English's love for his family and the military. He readily shows off pictures of his son — and regarding annual tours — he says, "I can't wait to go on the next one!"

"I was a little nervous... I can't believe how much everyone pitched in to help get me home."

SrA. Richard English



Special Family Readiness Supplement to the Patriot

Family Readiness

Westover Air Reserve Base

May - July 2001

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Reserve Family Member Benefits



As a reservist, or the family member of a reservist, you have many benefits and services available to you FREE of charge. We want you to use these benefits and services.

Opportunities abound if you choose to take advantage of them.

The Department of Defense has produced A Guide To Reserve Family Member Benefits. This booklet provides an overview of military benefits and how to access them. Topics include: identification cards for military family members, medical and dental benefits, Commissary, Exchange, Morale Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) benefits, legal assistance, military pay and

allowances, etc. Each topic also provides reference to a website to access further information.

A copy of this publication was mailed to military personnel with family members and single parent homes in April. If you did not receive your copy, please contact us at (800) 367-1110, Ext. 3024 or locally at 557-3024 and we will mail it to you.

Because of the geographic dispersion of reserve families, it is often difficult to obtain information about your benefits and in some cases to use them. Knowing your benefits and how to access them will help you plan for when your spouse of family member is away performing military duty.

Emergency Financial Assistance Available to To Air Force Reserve Members

The Air Force Aid Society (AFAS) is the official charity of the US Air Force. It is rooted in the original Army Air Corps and the World War II Army Air Forces, whose members wanted to "take care of their own." Through the years AFAS has become increasingly effective in helping

individuals with personal emergencies.

Historically, assistance policy has always centered on the active-duty force while assistance to reserve component members has been limited to those serving on extended active duty. With changes in the mission of the

Guard and Reserve, AFAS will consider new eligibility criteria as follows:

Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve personnel away from home station on 15 extended active duty days or more under

Continued on Page 3.

Blended Families - A Test of Love and Faith

A large proportion of parents and children will be a part of a blended family at some time in their lives. There can be many advantages to combining families, such as: less loneliness for the parents, less strain on resources, and a more stable environment.

But some of the hoped-for benefits do not readily materialize. The anticipated friendships between step siblings are as likely to generate rivalry and misunderstanding as closeness and friendship. Adolescent girls may find the transition to be especially hard because their closeness with their mothers may be displaced by her new marriage partner. All the family challenges make second marriages even more likely to fail than first marriages.

There are things that people can do to prevent problems and build unity. The first is to have patience. While a step dad may hope to bring order, peace, and healing to a new family, he also brings new ideas, new demands, new relationships. A step parent is wise to be very patient and listen a lot.

In fact, in any time of family stress, the counsel to "seek first to understand" is vitally important. Rather than impose our meanings and solutions on a new family, we can listen, seek to understand, and invite family members to suggest solutions.

A new step parent is also wise to avoid competition. While a new step mom may feel that she is a real improvement over her predecessor, she should recognize that her step children have deep ties to their natural mother. Step parents should be supportive of continuing relationships between children and their natural parents.

The new couple can prevent problems by making time together. Some of that time should be dedicated to building their partner relationship. Some of it should be committed to untangling family challenges. A strong partner relationship can help the family survive and thrive.

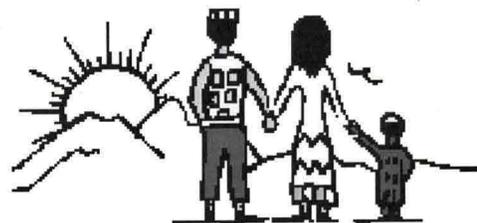
Families are strengthened by having goals. A new step parent might seek to discover the goals and dreams of each child. They can support and encour-

age each child's dreams. Over time the parents can invite all family members to think about common goals. Family projects can be a catalyst for unity. Family fun can build closeness.

One of the dangers for step parents is taking sides. It is natural to develop stereotypes about our children and step children. "He is the stubborn one." "She is the selfish one." Stereotypes prevent us from helping. Thinking win-win is more likely to lead to helpful relationships.

When children are in conflict, a parent or both parents can meet with each combatant individually. Each child will benefit from being understood. "You are really tired of all the noise and confusion. You wish we could have peace." After the child feels understood, it is time for synergy. "What can you do to make things more peaceful in your life?"

There are challenges in blending families. But there are also satisfactions when we patiently build relationships.



Books available for checkout at the Family Readiness Center on Blended Families

"You're a Stepparent...Now What"

by Joseph Ceraquone

"Making Peace With Your Stepfamily"

by Harold Bloomfield

"Keys to Successful Stepmothering"

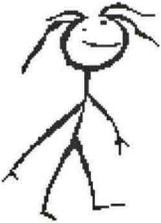
by Philippa Mulford

"Mom's House, Dad's House"

by Dr. Isolina Ricci

How to Deal with a "RUDE" Teenager

The teen years bring special challenges. Teens generally want more freedom than they had as children. They are more influenced by peers and movies. They are often less compliant. They are more likely to be rude to parents, siblings, and others.



As teenagers try out their ideas on family members they may sound very confident. If challenged, they may be very defensive. This can be irritating if we do not understand them. If we see a teenager as a relatively inexperienced person struggling to become an adult, we can be more patient and supportive.

Haim Ginott, one of the world's greatest psychologists, tells us that it is common, when our teens get in trouble, to take sides against them. He suggests that they need an advocate, someone who will understand their situation and help them. We do not condone misbehavior but, "in the most difficult situations [the parent] tries to see the extenuating circumstances and to provide aid and hope."

It may help us to remember back when we were teens. Most of us felt very lonely and clumsy at times. If we were lucky, we had people who were patient with us, who loved us, who saw past the weaknesses.

Sometimes teens will make outlandish statements with bold bravado. "The problem with our country

is . . ." It is very tempting to react to their arrogance and to their misinformation. If we understand them, we react in a different way. "I'm glad you are taking an interest in our country. What things might help us do better?"

Sometimes teens demand freedom to do foolish things. Again, it is easy to criticize them. But growth starts with understanding. "It would be fun to go to the lake for the weekend with your friends." "You are a person who likes adventure."

Understanding is not the same thing as agreement. We can understand their enthusiasm and still resist the conclusion. "What concerns do you have about the trip?" We can also start creative cooperation with our teens when we use the right words and attitude: "It would be fun for you to go to the lake with your friends. I have some concerns. Let's talk about them and see if we can find some solutions."

It is popular to portray the teen years as a time of storm and strife. The reality is that there are bumps and jars in the process of growing up but, when we are patient and understanding, the teen years can be a time of growth and closeness unlike anything that came before.

Great books on teens are available at your Family Readiness Center:

"The Art of Talking With Your Teenager" by Paul Swets

"The Angry Teenager" by Dr. William Carter

"You're Grounded Until You're 30" by Dr. Judi Craig

AFAS Continued From Page 1:

Title 10, USC are eligible. Assistance is limited to emergencies incident to, or resulting from applicant's active duty tour, to include funeral expenses incidental to burial of a dependent spouse or child, within limits of the Society's funeral grant

program. AFAS will respond to genuine emergency situations and offer stabilizing assists, but not long-standing needs caused by other factors such as previous employment, poor home maintenance, or a serious mortgage delinquency.

AFAS expects and welcomes the surfacing of more emergency travel requests and other unique cases, which will be approved/disapproved at the HQ AFAS level. The spirit and intent of this initiative is to put more emphasis on the emergency need and less emphasis on USC Titles and number of days

Like to Crochet - Like to Help Others?

The Family Readiness Center is looking for volunteers to crochet baby blankets for a new "Bundles for Baby" program being implemented in October 2001. If you're inter-

ested in sharing your crochet talent and time (no money involved), call the Family Readiness Center at (800) 367-1110, Ext. 3024 for more information.

Special Family Readiness Supplement to the Patriot

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Be Ready for Annual Tour!

It seems like the Family Readiness Office is busier during the months from May through September with reservists performing annual tour. This is why it's a good time to remind everyone to be prepared for your military member's absences from home.

These are some items that are particularly important if your reservist is away from home:

1. Do all family members who are eligible have ID cards? An ID card not only gets you on base and in the commissary, it serves as your insurance card if you use the TRICARE system when your military spouse is on orders for more than 30 days. A note about TRICARE – Even if you have other health insurance, TRICARE can act as a secondary insurance to pick up costs your primary insurance may not cover. This becomes extremely important in case of something catastrophic. Check out the TRICARE website at <http://www.tricare.osd.mil>.



2. Do you have the address where your spouse is performing his or her military duty? If something were to happen and your spouse would have to come home, the American Red Cross needs the address at the physical location of the reservist, in addition to his or her name, rank, and social security number. Remember, the ARC only relays messages, the military decides if the member comes home. Keep a copy of his or her TDY orders handy.

3. Do you have emergency numbers handy, including the Family Readiness Office (800) 367-1110, Ext. 3024, and the American Red Cross numbers (888) 737-4306 or www.redcross.org. If you would like a Quick Reference Magnet, call the Family Readiness Office to have one mailed to you.

4. Have you made arrangements about how you will handle finances, especially if two people are sharing one checking account?

Air Force Crossroads Spouse Network

The Family Readiness Office sent information in April to all military spouses and single parents about Air Force Crossroads, the "Official Community Website of the United States Air Force." In this article, we would like to highlight the Air Force Crossroads Spouse Network.

The Spouse Network section of Crossroads provides a means of communication Air Force-wide on a variety of topics affecting spouses and their families. Today's global Air Force and the increased commitment of Guard and Reserve assets often call upon the military member to perform his or her duties away from home, leaving the spouse to maintain the family unit. The purpose of the spouse Network is to assist spouses with the daily routine as well as those extraordinary circumstances that inevitably seem to occur when the military member is away from home.



There are many topics and subtopics available on the Spouse Network, including forums on cooking, employment, teens and youth and more. Spouses can also post messages on any topic of interest to them on the bulletin board.

Although the site is password protected, spouses can log on from their home computers, and create individualized usernames and passwords. There will be about a 5-minute waiting period to ensure each spouse is an approved user before the forum can be accessed. Once approved, spouses can begin posting messages and have access to a wide variety of information.

Here's how it works. A spouse goes to the Air Force Crossroads website at www.afcrossroads.com and clicks on the category titled "Spouse Network." At that point, click on "enter" and then register as a new user creating an individualized user name and password. Once approval comes through, sign in and access the Spouse Forum. The first time a spouse accesses the Spouse Forum, he or she will receive an e-mail Welcome Message from Mrs. Jane Ryan, spouse of Air force Chief of Staff, General Michael Ryan.

The Family Readiness Office encourages you to take a look at this site. Chances are you will find some very useful information and links to other sites. *Check it out!!!*

Westover hosts muster of Inactive Ready Reserve

by SrA Brad Harrison

The young people in the conference center looked like they'd never seen military service — long hair, goatees and thick-soled trendy shoes seemed to be the uniform of the day.

Looks can be deceiving. They are actually recently separated active-duty members, now part of the Inactive Ready Reserve (IRR), attending the Air Force's annual muster to keep records updated and to make the pitch for the Air Force Reserve.

The IRR is the active file the military keeps of members discharged within the last four years. If necessary, these former members can be recalled to active duty in the event of war, national emergency or as prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.

Despite the improbability of a recall, the Air Force keeps up with these IRRs with regular contact, and an annual muster. For participating in the muster, each IRR is paid \$152.65, before taxes.

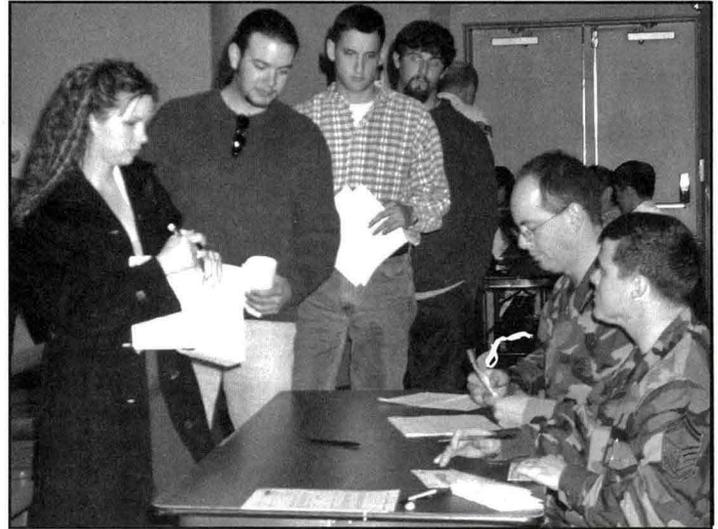
While in the Inactive Ready Reserve, former service members must keep their military records in order, respond to all correspondence from the military, and keep their uniforms in serviceable condition.

Besides updating records, IRRs also heard from 439th AW Commander Col. Martin Mazick about the benefits of the Air Force Reserve. They also heard from 10 recruiters who represent the area bases, including Westover, Hanscom AFB and the Connecticut Air National Guard.

"We want to tell them that the Air Force Reserve needs them. These are people who have already made the investment of time in the military," Mazick said. "We ask them, why not continue that investment?"

Westover's recruiters were glad for the muster. TSgt. Sirita Day, Westover recruiter, said seven solid assignments came from the one-day event, and 25 to 30 leads — people who were interested in the reserves, but could not make a decision that day. In her opinion, the muster was "in the top five on a scale of one to 10" for successful recruiting events.

The IRRs were also told about the Montgomery G.I. Bill, available tuition assistance and what they could expect to get during retirement after having served four years of active duty and 16 years of re-



PAID LEAVE — SMSgt. Glenn Brault, 439th AW financial management supervisor (foreground right), processes paychecks for the 146 Inactive Ready Reserve members who showed up for the muster held at the base in April.

— photo by SMSgt. Sandi Michon

serve time.

While the muster is supposed to be an annual event, Westover has not hosted one since 1998.

First Lieutenant Kelly Braudis, commander of the Military Personnel Flight at Westover, explained that the muster was the result of a directive from the Air Reserve Personnel Center (ARPC) in Colorado. The directive came to Westover around the first of the year, giving a short lead time to get the event organized.

Of the 397 ordered to show up, 146 arrived, and of that number, recruiting was able to interest 25 in joining the reserves. Of that 25, 16 were definitely interested in returning to the Air Force as reservists.

The muster was split into two two-hour sessions. During the morning muster, 85 members of the IRR were present. Sixty-one showed for the afternoon session.

Each member filled out forms to update their contact information and filed through a medical checkpoint to show that they have not had any major physical changes that could affect their eligibility for recall.

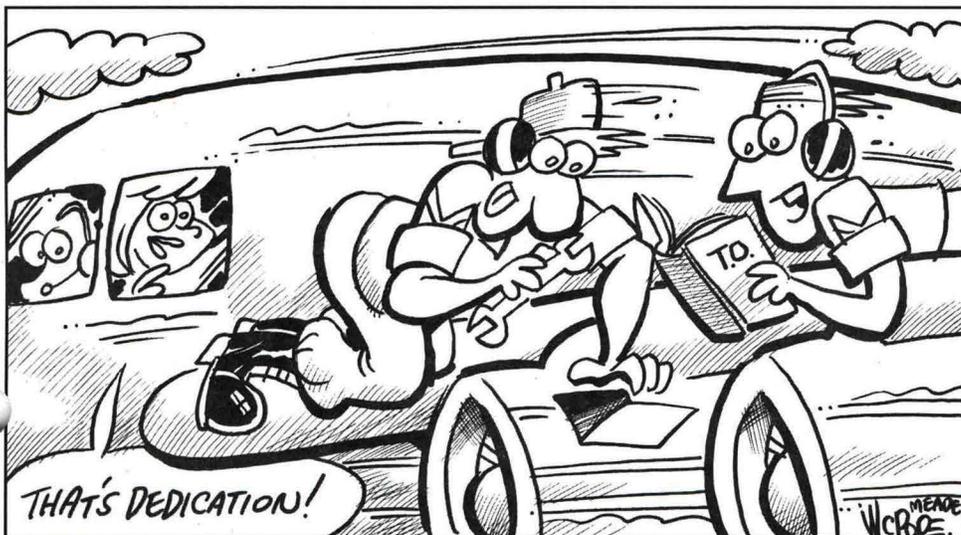
After the paperwork was processed, the IRRs could meet with recruiters or get new I.D. cards, before filing through the finance area to accept their checks and leave for home.

While at Westover, the IRRs were free to use any of the facilities, including the health center, the bowling alley, the base exchange, the club and the chow hall.

The work was not over Saturday afternoon, however. For the Military Personnel Flight, the paperwork had to then be returned to Colorado, along with the checks which had been cut for people who did not show, and after-action reports had to be filed.

PATRIOT PUNS

BY MSGT. W. C. POPE



42nd APS train in Japan, Hawaii

by SrA. Brad Harrison

A 24-member team of aerial porters from the 42nd Aerial Port Squadron recently spent their annual tour at Yokota Air Base, Japan, where they received real-world training and were instrumental in processing 216 aircraft.

During the 16-day tour which was held from Feb. 15 to March 3, members of the team worked in every section of the aerial port, processing cargo, moving passengers, servicing aircraft and working in the Air Terminal Operations Center (ATOC).

Assigned to the 630th Air Mobility Support Squadron, the Westover team provided assistance to the host port as well as to the 374th Airlift Wing during the Initial Ready Response Exercise, in preparation for the upcoming inspection by the Pacific Air Forces Command (PACAF). The members of the 42nd benefited from this additional experience because it gave them a taste of what they should expect during the port's January 2002 Operational Readiness Inspection.

At Yokota, reservists participated in air crew briefings, the Computer-Aided Load Manifesting system (CALM), U.S. Customs reports and the handling of human remains. They were also able to use the Global Air

Transportation Execution System (GATES), which is now the Air Force-wide standard computer program for processing aircraft, passengers, cargo and mail through an aerial port. This system only recently arrived at Westover.

"The training and experience has significantly enhanced our capability to augment other active duty squadrons as well as improve our home station," said SMSgt Michael Goldberg, the NCOIC of the 42nd APS's ATOC flight, and NCOIC on the Yokota trip.

The deployed reservists worked in three 12-hour shifts. During their day off, SMSgt Mark Cei, the NCOIC of Air Freight at Yokota, arranged for a tour bus and guide to take them to Kamakura, home of the second largest Buddha in all of Japan and also to Asakusa, Ueno, home of the Imperial Palace, Enoshima island and Tokyo.

"I would strongly recommend an annual tour be performed here on a regular and continuing basis," said Maj. Joanne Brogis of the 42nd, who served as tour OIC.

As the 24 members were returning from Japan, 19 more 42nd members deployed to Hickam AFB, Hawaii.

The tour ran from March 3-17, and the



Hickam AFB, Hawaii

Westover crew handled almost 500 tons of cargo, as well as more than 3,000 passengers who traveled into or out of the air base. The 42nd team was partnered with 16 members of the Wyoming Air National Guard and the combined team augmented the 735th Air Mobility Squadron, stationed at Hickam.

The team participated in an Initial Response Readiness Exercise, responding to various threat condition scenarios and security strategies.

Reservists were on-station when Gen. Charles L. Robertson, Commander of the Air Mobility Command visited Hickam and toured the aerial port facilities.

Maj. James Finneran, OIC of the annual tour, commented that "working with the 735AMS was a rich and rewarding experience. The professionalism of this entire squadron is especially noteworthy."



CUT ABOVE — SSgt. Jason Kennedy, communications operator with the 439th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, gets a haircut by hair stylist Kim Randolph at the newly-opened Westover Barber Shop. The shop is located in the Base Exchange and operates Tuesday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday 12 p.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturday 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

— photo by MSgt. W.C.Pope

Westover alumni get stars

by Gordon A. Newell

A former 439th Airlift Wing commander and a former vice commander have been nominated by President Bush for promotion to Major General while two other Westover alumni have been chosen to receive their first star.

Former Wing Commander, Brig. Gen. James D. Bankers, now commander of the 22nd Air Force at Dobbins AFB, Ga., and former Vice Commander Brig. Gen. Marvin J. Barry, who is now Mobilization Assistant to the commander of the Air Education and Training Command at Randolph AFB, Texas, are candidates for their second stars.

Col. Fred Castle, who was commander of the 337th Airlift Squadron before becoming Mobilization Assistant to the deputy assistant secretary for management, policy and program integration, Headquarters Air Force at the Pentagon and Col. Bruce Hawley who was a long-time JAG at Westover prior to being named Mobilization augumentee to the judge advocate, Headquarters Air Combat Command at Langley AFB, Va. are slated to become brigadier generals.

Patriot People

Name: Michael Carey
Rank: SSgt.
Age: 41
Address: Rutland, Mass.
Unit: 439th Civil Engineer Squadron
Position: Utilities Craftsman
Civilian position: Plumber
Favorite food: Corn beef hash
Years of service: 14 years
Favorite sport: Basketball
Favorite hobby: Beach volleyball
Ideal vacation: A resort in Mexico
Best way to relax: Going fishing
Preferred entertainment: Red Sox opening day
Favorite hero: Fast Eddy
Favorite music: Rolling Stones
Favorite movie: "Ruthless People"
Favorite aircraft: F-111E
Pet peeve: Unhappy people
What I would do if I won \$1 million:
 Live a long and happy life



Photo by MSgt. W.C. Pope

SSgt. Michael Carey

Patriot Praises

Enlistments:

SSgt. McCarthy, James M.
 SSgt. Padeni, Jeffrey J.
 SrA. Adams, Shane T.
 SrA. Bristol, Heidi R.
 SrA. Dallachic, Matthew B.
 SrA. Early, Sebastian T.
 SrA. Flowers, Jesse A.
 SrA. Stack, James D.
 A1C Diorio, Christopher R.
 A1C Donahue, Jesse J.
 A1C English, Terrence
 A1C Grasso, Kara D.
 A1C Mathews, Melissa A.
 A1C Ortiz, David
 A1C Rivera, Glenn E.
 A1C Villalobos, Amy E.
 A1C Walsh, Robert F.
 A1C Wojcik, Kristie M.
 Amn. Mascaro, Dawn T.
 Amn. Moya, Elliot L.
 Amn. Santiago, Ivetta
 Amn. Puga, Lui S.
 AB Sambrook, Leanne J.

Reenlistments:

CMSgt. Budenas, John M.
 CMSgt. Milliken, Lawrence N.
 SMSgt. O'Keefe, Bruce E.
 MSgt. Janusz, Joseph A.
 MSgt. Hartwig, Carl R.
 MSgt. Friguglietti, Albert J.
 MSgt. Hebert, Gary A.
 MSgt. Pease, Richard L.
 MSgt. Walker, Charles W.
 MSgt. Chappelle Paul H.
 MSgt. Conboy, Michael J.
 MSgt. Cuccovia, Michael M.
 MSgt. Delgreco, Steven W.

TSgt. Cote, Daniel A.
 TSgt. Cotton, Alexander J.
 TSgt. Dwyer, John A.
 TSgt. Faucher, Norman A.
 TSgt. Fielding, Brian T.
 TSgt. Hall, Michael A.
 TSgt. Mink, Ronald
 TSgt. Panico, Todd R.
 TSgt. Roux, Kevin D.
 TSgt. Quigley, Joseph T.
 TSgt. Torrey, Robert B.
 SSgt. Bean, Kendra J.
 SSgt. Finneran, Therese E.
 SSgt. Halat, David M.
 SSgt. Hart, Charles J.
 SSgt. Lankarge, Michael E.
 SSgt. Pais, David A.
 SSgt. Peterman, Bret A.
 SSgt. Quinn, Shawn P.
 SSgt. Steiner, Georgiana L.
 SSgt. Sweet, David R.
 SSgt. Wilson, John J.
 SrA. Brooks, Stephen R.
 SrA. Busenbark, Kenneth A.
 SrA. Fitch, Todd J.
 SrA. Korman, Michael H.
 SrA. Lafreniere, Peter H.
 SrA. Pavao, Albert R.
 SrA. Prieto, Peter E. Jr.
 SrA. Sanctuary, Joseph A. Jr.
 SrA. Skaza, John P. III

Newly Assigned:

TSgt. Conboy, Thomas F.
 TSgt. Warren, Joseph M.
 SSgt. Pierce, Lisa G.
 SSgt. Manning, John James, Jr.
 SSgt. Rimmer, Dayana S.
 SSgt. Smith, Erik D.
 SSgt. Valley, Thomas P.

SrA. Hurd, Laura S.
 SrA. Mitchell, Andrew T.
 SrA. Sagendorf, Scott J.

Retirements:

CMSgt. Mersincavage, Paul M.
 SMSgt. Chaloux, Joseph G.

SMSgt. Fiamma, Benedict B., Jr.
 MSgt. Corcoran, Michael J.
 MSgt. Dunn, Harry E., Jr.
 MSgt. Pestana, Carlos A.
 MSgt. Post Steven F.
 MSgt. Smith, Jason R.
 MSgt. Giovannucci, Luciano
 MSgt. Raines, Larry W.

April 2001 CCAF graduates:

Kenneth Whiteside	SSgt	439 ASTS
Dynelle Longto	SSgt	439 AMDS
Jonathan M. Labier	SSgt	439 LSS
William A. Carroll	SMSgt	337 AS
Kim Covey	SMSgt	439 AW
Christopher Clark	TSgt	337 AS
Sharon L. Lausier	SMSgt	439 LSS
Richard R. Michaud	TSgt	439 CES
Theodore E. Dygon	MSgt	439 MXS
James J. Gallagher	MSgt	439 CES
Michael Guerin	TSgt	439 MXS
Jeffrey B. Sherwin	SMSgt	439 AGS
Ryszard S. Kracwicz	SSgt	722 ASTS
James H. Lagasse (2)	SMSgt	439 AGS
Louis T. Costanza	TSgt	439 MSS
Timothy Boyer	TSgt	439 AGS
Sandra Mundt	TSgt	439 MSS
Donald B. Robertson	SSgt	439 AGS
Brian Martel	SSgt	439 CS

Former Wing commander, Billy Knowles, dies

He's remembered as an "airman's airman"

by MSgt. Tom Allocco

Retired wing commander Brig. Gen. Billy Knowles, 75, remembered as an "airman's airman," was laid to rest with military honors following services at the Robins AFB Chapel in March. The general, who resided in nearby Byron, Ga., died March 20.

Knowles served as the third commander of the 439th Tactical Airlift Wing from 1974 to 1978 when the wing flew 16 C-123s of the 731st TAS and 8 C-130s of the 337th TAS.

Under his leadership, the wing first deployed C-123s to Germany as part of RE-FORGER, an annual national exercise to conduct an airbridge of troops and equipment to Europe.

Knowles was born in Bay City, Texas and served in the Army Air Force in World War II.

He left the 439th TAW to serve as commander of the 94th TAW, Dobbins AFB, Ga. Following his retirement after 38 years of service, he served as civilian Director of Operational Plans at Air Force Reserve Headquarters, Robins AFB, Ga. In that position he developed a series of exercises leading up to Condor Readout in 1981, in which Westover was hub of the largest exercise in the history of the Air Force Reserve. The exercise focused on deploying Americans, Canadians, British and Germans to Goose Bay, Labrador.

"He was an airman's airman," said SMSgt. Chip Connolly, superintendent of Wing Plans.

"He would never have anyone do any-

thing he hadn't done first. When we deployed to Gulfport for ORIs, he would sleep in the tents like everyone else," Connolly said.

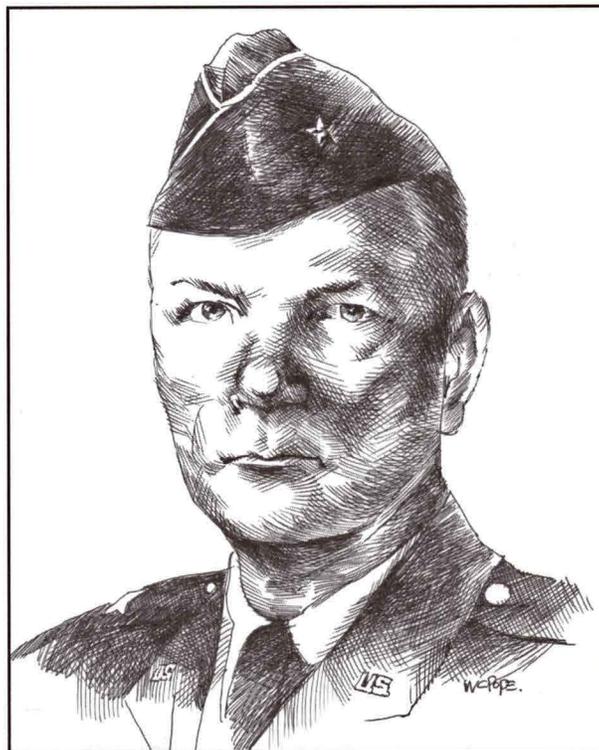
"He was a general who could stay wherever he wanted, but he chose to stay with his troops. He was like that. He was a great guy to work with.

"He would say: 'Keep your wheels up and your powder dry'. He had 50 sayings like that. If he gave you a speech, you'd follow him into a burning building," Connolly said.

Retired Col. George Caldwell remembers that Knowles took over when the wing was going through growing pains after recently being formed by combining the 901st Military Airlift Group of Hanscom AFB and the 905th Military Airlift Group of Bradley Airport, Conn.

"Billy Knowles was known as a trouble shooter before he came to Westover. He came on board and he brought us up to where we had an ORI and were rated outstanding," Caldwell said.

"He believed in being ready to deploy. He was known as "Big Foot" because one day he saw people walking in the wrong direction, so he painted big footprints on the hangar floor for people to follow through the ORI line. He was highly respected. He would call you into his



Brig. Gen. Billy Knowles

office, give you your marching orders and see that you followed through," Caldwell said.

Knowles was a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Retired Officers Association, Military Order of World Wars and Order of Dadaelians.

He is survived by his wife, Cecile Duhon Knowles, three daughters and a son, 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

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Published monthly for Patriots like TSgt. Howard Blackwood of Springfield, Mass., and 2,428 members of the 439th AW at Westover ARB, and geographically separated units.

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