

# PATRIOT

THE BEST IN THE AIR FORCE

439TH AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER ARB  
VOLUME 20, NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2002



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

## Happy New Year

I hope the holidays were good to you and your families. We had just fewer than 100 wing members deployed over Christmas and New Year's Day and I want to express my deep appreciation to those folks and their families for the sacrifice.

We have a few presents under the ol' wing Christmas tree to unwrap this year. We should open Airmen's Dorm 5103 in February giving us 75 single bed/single bathrooms continuing with the goal to upgrade lodging at Westover. In April, we should commission our new control tower for the airfield. In the spring, the ribbon should be cut on the Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS). AAFES has promised upgrades this year for the Shopette gas station and the Base Exchange.

Key events in 2002 will be inspections and, hopefully, the airshow. A number of UTCs will receive EORIs starting with the 42<sup>nd</sup> APS in January (Good luck, guys). The wing will receive a Unit Compliance Inspection (UCI) in May that will impact every one of us. Our medical units will receive Health Services Inspections (HSI) and the aircrews and aeromedical folks are scheduled for Aircrew Standardization Evaluation Visit (ASEV) from HQ/AMC also in May.

In June we go on vacation! We are presently assessing our ability to have an airshow in August this year. I feel it will be important to show the public up close our Air Force and what we use to accomplish our jobs. Obviously, world events and the security situation will play a major part in my ultimate decision.

Last year's statistics on "Living the Standard" is incorporated in this month's Patriot (on page 9). The numbers represent a minority of the wing population, which is a very good thing. Nevertheless, it shows that these things do occur on Westover and some folks just have a problem with our Air Force Core Values.

As of this writing we have 1,030 Patriot Wing members mobilized. Volunteerism among those not activated is very high. All of you are doing a great job and you're doing it safely! Keep up the good work. Your efforts and performance are certainly enhancing our reputation as the "TEAM OF CHOICE".

Thanks for all you do!



Col. Martin M. Mazick

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

# PATRIOT

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**439th AW Commander**  
Col. Martin M. Mazick  
**Chief of Public Affairs/Co-editor**  
Gordon A. Newell  
**Wing Public Affairs Officers**  
Lt. Col. Sally Nutt Morger  
Capt. Wilson Camelo  
**NCOIC/Editor**  
SMSgt. Sandi Michon

**Deputy NCOIC**  
MSgt. Tom Allocco  
**Illustrator**  
MSgt. W.C. Pope  
**Staff**  
SSgt. Andrew Biscoe  
SSgt. Andrew Reitano  
SrA. Amber Ryals

## Briefs

### Activated members need family member ID cards

According to Linda Rieth, director of Westover's Family Support Center, all mobilized personnel and their family members must have an active duty ID card to access Tricare medical services.

"If a family member lives away from Westover, you may choose to have them obtain an ID card at another military installation closer to their home. On line, go to: [www.dmdc.ods.mil/rsl](http://www.dmdc.ods.mil/rsl) to locate an ID card customer service point of contact," she said.

She also said military members should visit Westover's MPF to obtain paperwork their family will need to receive an ID card.

### Air Force web site

Air Force Crossroads, termed the "Official Community Website of the United States Air Force," can be accessed at [www.afcrossroads.com](http://www.afcrossroads.com). The site promotes a sense of community among family members and contains a wealth of pertinent information, particularly for activated reservists and their families. Topics include information on family separations, medical and dental, financial, casualty and loss and eldercare. Once registered, Air Force dependents can reduce the sense of isolation by "chatting" with other dependents in a secure chat room.

### Range is off limits

According to MSgt. Michael F. Thorpe, NCOIC of Combat Arms, Westover's small arms range is off limits to unauthorized personnel. The range is located off Range Road.

"Trespassing on the range is not only illegal it is very dangerous because of live fire," said Thorpe. If there is a need for valid entry to the range, facility, please contact the Law Enforcement desk at Ext. 3557.

### New hours for base facilities

Temporary Shopette hours are Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Westover Fitness Center will be open from 5:30 a.m. to 1 a.m. seven days a week.

**January UTA schedule**  
A UTA Jan. 5-6  
B UTA Jan. 26-27

### Cover Photo

**Westover reservists board a C-5 in December for worldwide deployment.**

—photo by MSgt. W.C. Pope

# Chaplain Miesel ministers to Conn. anthrax victim

by MSgt. Thomas Allocco

Chaplain Richard Miesel (Lt. Col.) was recently thrust into the spotlight of the anthrax terrorist attacks when he had the difficult duty of ministering to a member of his Connecticut parish who fell victim.

The nationwide string of anthrax attacks took on a personal meaning for the wing Protestant chaplain when a 94-year-old woman parishioner of his Immanuel Lutheran Church, Oxford, near Waterbury, Conn. was stricken in late November. Miesel ministered to the woman, her family and other parishioners. At the same time, he and his parish were drawn into the FBI and medical investigations and media scrutiny as the nation's attention was focused on the mystery of the immediate source of exposure.

For almost two weeks as investigators speculated, Miesel and parishioners lived with the unnerving awareness they could have been exposed to anthrax in the woman's home or during church services. On the advice of doctors, Miesel began a course of Cipro antibiotics until the source was tracked to mail exposed at a local facility.

For parish members, the woman's death was a personal loss. "She was a very compassionate, caring person with a good sense of humor... I had just started taking Communion to her in her home. She was not in ill health. Until recently she was still driving," Miesel said.

Her family took her to the hospital on a Friday where Miesel ministered to her until her death on the following Wednesday.

"As soon as word came out that it was probably anthrax, our community became the center of intense activity by the CDC, FBI and national and international media. A Japanese TV crew showed up at the church," Miesel said.

"Following evening choir practice, parish members came out of the church and were bombarded by the media. The next day there was an enormous crowd outside the church and the phone was ringing off the hook from the media," he said. When he came to the December 11, 2001, A, it seemed that every member of the wing had seen him interviewed on local and national television.

***"I believe this tragedy served to strengthen us as a community. What I saw emerging was a sense of composure, an inner strength and resolve that we will deal with what we have to deal with."***

**Chaplain Richard Miesel (Lt. Col.)**



He was impressed by the professionalism of the investigators trying to unravel the mystery of how the elderly woman contacted anthrax. Besides conducting interviews at the church, her beauty parlor and local restaurants, investigators vacuumed the church and even took an older church vacuum bag to check for anthrax spores.

"People were not panicked, partly due to the very good proactive leadership of the CDC, FBI and Connecticut Department of Health. The government was on top of it..."

"They worked around the clock, even conducting interviews on Thanksgiving Day — they were frustrated because they couldn't turn up any trace of anthrax anywhere else," he said.

While investigators probed, and the media kept the nation informed of progress, church members conducted memorial and ecumenical prayer services and came together to help each other.

"I believe this tragedy served to strengthen us as a community. What I saw emerging was a sense of composure, an inner strength and resolve that we will deal with what we have to deal with," Miesel said.

"One of the hymns we sing is 'A Mighty Fortress is Our God' and it includes the words 'though the life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day. The Kingdom is ours forever'. I think there was a sense of power against evil and sense that the terrorists cannot win this," Miesel said.

## Five flyers surpass 10,000 flying hours

by SMSgt. Sandi Michon

Racking up more than 1.14 years of flight time is adequate proof that your career is really up in the air.

Such is the case for five Westover aircrew members who received Air Mobility Command recognition for logging more than 10,000 accident-free flying hours. The most recent addition to the "frequent flyer" group, which makes up only three percent of the flying squadron, is 337<sup>th</sup> loadmaster, MSgt. Paul Benson.

Lt. Col. Sandy Whittier leads the pack with more than 12,000 flying hours, and he is followed by: SMSgt. Tom Dzwonkus, TSgt. Daniel J. Giddinge, CMSgt. John Missale and MSgt. Paul Benson.

Accrued flying hours are generally on various aircraft flown during each individual career. Lt. Col. Michael Vinskey, 337<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron commander, puts this accomplishment into perspective. "These people have to be born aviators to keep themselves accident-free for that long," he said. "You can just imagine the number of emergencies, mechanical failures, flights in and around bad weather, and hostile environments these aircrew members have faced over that many hours."

He praised their outstanding judgment, extensive knowledge and composure under stress as main ingredients for their accomplishments.

"These men have earned the respect from those of us with lesser flying time," Vinskey said.

## Reservists train State Department attack response team

by Capt. Wilson Camelo

With the threat of terrorism to U.S. interest at home and abroad a stark reality, numerous government organizations stand at the ready to deploy in response.

The State Department's International Medical Surgical Response Team (IMSURT) is one such unit. Their job was made more effective thanks to the help of Westover reservists here Nov. 17. The expertise of the 42<sup>nd</sup> APS improved IMSURT's ability to respond.

IMSURT is made up of highly-skilled physicians, nurses and paramedics, and is charged with responding within six hours to attacks against U.S. diplomatic assets overseas. Part of that response requirement is to have their equipment and vehicles properly configured for transport on military aircraft.

A four-person 42<sup>nd</sup> Aerial Port Squadron crew headed by TSgt. Michael Downs answered the call by providing logistical mobility training that included building pallets, measuring, cubing, netting, safety and identifying the necessary paperwork needed for their equipment.

"For this team, time is of the essence. We had to teach them everything from square one. The more we can help them ahead of time, the more they can focus on the other parts of their job," said Downs, assistant unit deployment manager for the 42<sup>nd</sup>.

The team's ability to quickly deploy was made more evident following the bombing of two U.S. embassies in East Africa in 1998 where 224 people, including 12 Americans, were killed, and the increased risk of terrorism that stemmed from the Sept. 11 attacks.

Downs, a teacher in his civilian capacity, tailored a course to meet the team's specific needs. For instance, the medical team travels with numerous pharmaceutical supplies that need specific paperwork to be certified for carrying on military aircraft. Downs and his team also provided them checklists, manuals and the regulations governing transporting controlled substances. He even designed a worksheet so they could pre-determine the center of balance of their vehicles.

"Paperwork delays could mean that people die. I hate to sound so morbid about it, but it's a reality," he said.

The training dramatically increased the confidence level that this team is capable of moving expeditiously in response to a tasking," said Maj. Edwin Hurston, medical plans and operations officer for the Office of Emergency Preparedness – the agency tasked with coordinating a request from the State Department.

In an appreciation memo to Downs he added, "Your professionalism, and that of your colleagues, is a testament to the quality of our total force and validates the institutional confidence inherent in the shift toward increased reliance on our Reserve Component counterparts."

Downs said members of the team continue to contact him not only for mobilization-related questions, but also basic questions about the military.

"This team is now completely prepared to rapidly respond to overseas incidents that require immediate life and limb-saving intervention by trained professionals," said Lt. Col. Stephen Knych, chief of Disaster and Trauma Systems Development at the Office of the Surgeon General.

## DACOWITS representative collects Reserve information at Westover

Article and photo  
by SMSgt. Sandi Michon

Professor Nancy Anne Wanderer visited Westover in December to gather information about women's issues in the military.

It was the first visit to a reserve installation for Wanderer who was appointed in 2000 to advise the Secretary of Defense as part of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS). The committee was formed in 1951, and presently includes 32 women and two men.

Wanderer met with various groups of Westover personnel representing all ranks. She prefaced the sessions with, "If you had five minutes with the Secretary of Defense, what comments or concerns would you share?"

Feedback ran the gamut from health issues, billeting, accessibility to certain facilities, as well as positive comments about the progress of women in the work

force. Women with prior service in other branches of the military rated the Air Force as superior when it came to opportunities for women, and how women were treated in general. Women with more than 15 years of service said they observed significant progress regarding equality issues in the military.

Wanderer felt her time at Westover was very productive. "I was extremely impressed with the dedication and commitment of the reservists I met," she said. "For the most part, they are pleased with their decision to serve in the Air Force Reserve."

She noted that female reservists struggled to balance their commitment of their civilian jobs, home and children, aging parents, and their reserve role. "Somehow it all gets done, but it takes a tremendous toll," she said.

Wanderer will include these concerns to DACOWITS when they meet in the spring.



**FACT GATHERING** — Law professor Nancy Anne Wanderer holds informational meetings at Westover in December in an advisory capacity to the Secretary of Defense. She represents the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Service.



# UNIT ROUND UP: Who we are

By SSgt. Andrew Biscoe

## 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing

A combined workforce of more than 4,000 people make up the 439<sup>th</sup> AW at Westover, the nation's largest air reserve base. The men and women of the wing, who comprise active duty, reserve, federal, and non-appropriated fund personnel, share a common goal: to keep the 16 C-5A Galaxies flying. The giant airlifters routinely fly around the globe while carrying troops, supplies, and medical patients at a moment's notice. The airplanes the wing flies and supports are worth more than \$1 billion. But the job each Westover person faces – protecting America – is priceless. The following vignettes tell the story, in brief, of how the 19 units at Westover do their jobs.

## 439<sup>th</sup> AW Headquarters

The 439<sup>th</sup> Wing Headquarters section comprises 74 military and 31 civilian people. They provide support in the Command Section, Command Post, Chaplain's Section, Historian, Inspector General, Judge Advocate General, Military Equal Employment Opportunity, Public Affairs, Safety, Center for Performance Planning, Finance, Plans, and Recruiting Services.

## 439<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Staging Squadron

The 439<sup>th</sup> ASTS is one of 23 similar units in the Air Force Reserve Command. The squadron has a wartime mobility mission to set up and staff a 250-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 aeroevacuation system. When needed, the ASTS functions around-the-clock. Casualties are put onto specially configured aircraft through a mobile aeromedical staging facility (ASF) located closer to the front line. Patients are flown to the next level of care, received by ASF personnel and transported to a hospital. The ASTS is a personnel package that would be deployed to an area with pre-positioned assets. The ASF assets could be set up in tents, or in any "building of opportunity," such as an aircraft hangar. ASTS also includes two critical care air transport teams that oversee medical attention to more seriously injured patients. The 151 squadron members have a peacetime requirement to train for their mobility mission.

## 439<sup>th</sup> Aerospace Medical Squadron

The peacetime mission of the 439 AMDS is to provide medical and support services to the 439<sup>th</sup> AW by conducting Reserve Component Periodic Health Assessments (RCPHA), occupational physicals, dental exams, immunizations, drug testing, shop visits, and various first aid kits. The squadron maintains 17 medical career fields to perform its diverse function. The 439 AMDS is a "generation" medical squadron that would generate in place during a wartime scenario and provide sick call, limited treatment and TRICARE case management in addition to their peacetime activities. They would do this under the Concept of Operations (CONOPS) of an Air Base Clinic (ABC). If Westover were to become a staging base, squadron personnel would also be sent to other CONUS medical facilities to backfill positions vacated by mobilized active duty personnel.

## 439<sup>th</sup> Operations Group

The 771 people assigned to the 439<sup>th</sup> OG provide airlift, aeromedi-

cal, aerial port, and operational support. They accomplish airlift missions taskings from Air Force Reserve Command, Air Mobility Command and active duty Air Force authorities during wartime. The group also provides airlift support for military operations other than war and humanitarian crises. Missions undertaken have included airlifting humanitarian aid to victims of Hurricane Mitch in Honduras, presidential support cargo, and transporting a 65-foot Navy mini-submarine. Units in OG include the 337<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, the 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Control Flight, 439<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron, the 42<sup>nd</sup> and 58<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadrons, and the 439<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.

## 439<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron

The 79 OSS members provide airfield and air traffic operations, weather, mission planning, scheduling, combat tactics, training, intelligence, and aircrew life support. The base operations staff oversees the safe and orderly flow of all aircraft through Westover. More than 27,000 military aircraft arrived and departed the base in 2000. Combat tactics staff members cover route threats, terrain information, flight altitudes, terrain masking, and tactical arrivals and departures, among other topics. Mission planning and scheduling is accomplished in the current operations section. The staff arranges for everything from getting the aircraft fueled and serviced at remote locations and making sure the crew is billeted to getting diplomatic clearance to land in or overfly all countries that require it. Intelligence, one of the two OSS functions set to deploy, provides awareness of threats and culture and provides mission-relevant intelligence updates from around the world. Aircrew life support is the other function that deploys. The members provide aircrews with protective gear, survival and rescue gear, and train the members on how to use it.

## 337<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron

Since October 1987, the people the 337<sup>th</sup> have been flying the C-5A, the largest aircraft in the United States and second largest in the world, anywhere it was needed. Aircrews fly 50-60 missions per quarter, putting in about 120 days per year, compared with the Air Force Reservist's annual average of 58 days. The 193-person squadron includes pilots, who fly a combined 1,000 hrs per quarter; flight engineers, who monitor, operate and control aircraft systems; loadmasters, who get the cargo safely on board, and administrative personnel. During 2001, the squadron flew scores of overseas missions in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and many other high-profile tasks.

## 42<sup>nd</sup> and 58<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadrons

More than 300 people keep the cargo moving at Westover ARB. They are the members of the 42<sup>nd</sup> and 58<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadrons. Each squadron is tasked worldwide. Every year, sites around the world – from Japan and Italy to Germany and England – submit requirements and the aerial porters deploy to help fill the shortfalls. The two squadrons share Hangar 3. The aerial porters are responsible for safely and strategically packing and placing cargo, operating K-loaders and forklifts in the ramp section, handling special or hazardous materials, and assisting passengers. An air terminal operations center (ATOC) assumes command and control for all the aerial port sections working on the flight line.

## 439<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

In wartime, the 162 members of the 439<sup>th</sup> AES would handle patients close to the front lines. The unit is tasked with two mobile aeromedical staging facilities (MASF). The MASF's are tents set up in

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



# 439th



**439th Support Group**  
Col. Dana Marsh



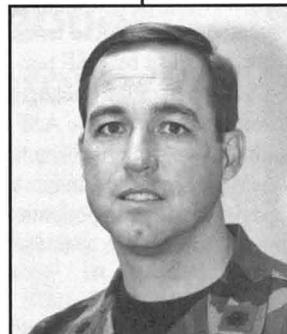
**439th Logistics Group**  
Col. Charles Brown



**439th Civil Engineering  
Squadron**  
Lt. Col. Paul Babin



**439th Communications  
Squadron**  
Maj. Qais Ajalat



**439th Aircraft Generation  
Squadron**  
Lt. Col. Daniel Allen



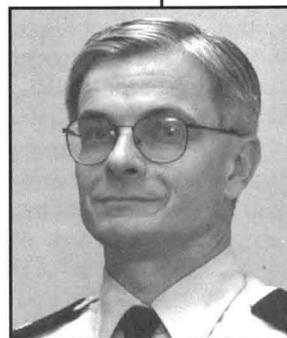
**439th Maintenance Squadron**  
Lt. Col. Jacquelyn Crothers



**439th Mission Support  
Squadron**  
Lt. Col. Terry Thomas



**439th Security Forces  
Squadron**  
Maj. Mary Ann Lutz



**439th Services Squadron**  
Maj. Charles Zaorski



**439th Logistics Support  
Squadron**  
Lt. Col. Patricia Hale

# Airlift Wing

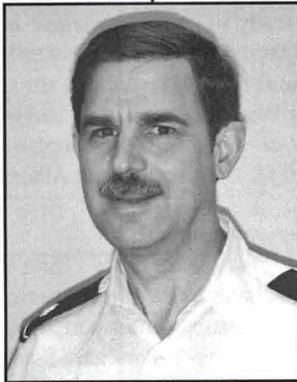
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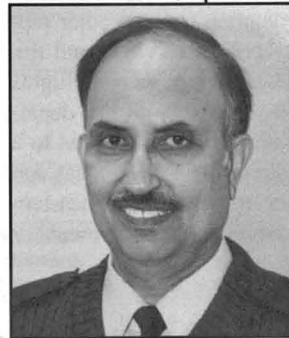
**Special Assistant  
to the  
Wing Commander**  
Col. Thomas Mauzaka



439th Aeromedical  
Staging Squadron  
Col. Sarah Waterman



**439th Operations Group**  
Lt. Col. Michael Kohut



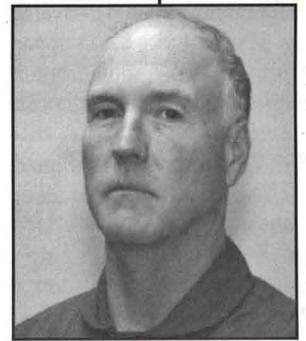
439th Aerospace  
Medicine Squadron  
Col. Yash Malhotra



337th Airlift Squadron  
Lt. Col. Michael Vinskey



439th Airlift Control Flight  
Lt. Col. James Hosey



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

bare-base areas, such as a dirt airstrip. They receive patients from a MASH unit and provide medical care for normally two to four hours, when they are airlifted by a C-130 for further treatment. In addition, the squadron has four AE liaison teams, two squadron headquarters, one AE coordination center, an AE advon team, and two AE support cells. AES members coordinate all patient airlift movement requirements, functioning like an ambulance dispatch by securing transportation for patients to medical facilities both in and out of country. The squadron also has the ability to provide medical aircrews if necessary. In addition, the squadron provides personnel to coordinate the command and control function for all AE medical assets in the theater of operation. The 439<sup>th</sup> AES is one of only three AES Reserve units with such comprehensive responsibilities.

#### **439<sup>th</sup> 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, ALCF members oversee 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 movements, departures and maintenance coordination. The unit may be deployed to a fully operational base, or a "bare bones" base with all but a runway and a tent. The ALCF also trains a dozen sister units in the northeastern United States in how to package their personnel and equipment for airlift.

#### **439<sup>th</sup> Support Group**

Nearly 1,000 military and civilian people of the 439<sup>th</sup> SPTG provide support services for some 4,000 people that comprise the 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing. Support is also provided to the 680 people in the 15 tenant organizations at Westover ARB. The support group provides all of the functions required to manage and support all of the base infrastructure. This includes the civil engineers, civilian and military personnel, security forces, communications, morale, welfare and recreation; base readiness, and bioenvironmental engineering.

#### **439<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron**

The 46 military and 39 civilian members oversee thousands of phones, computers, network switches and hubs in every one of the base buildings. The CS help desk last year worked 2,673 hours to complete 1,627 work orders. They maintain 2000 e-mail accounts. The telephone operators connect more than 100 assisted outbound calls each week. The CS also operates the photo lab and maintains all of 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.

#### **439<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Squadron**

Sixty-one members of the MSS administer support services to the wing. The military personnel flight services hundreds of people per week from issuing cards to in-processing and out-processing members. The education office administers professional military and college-level testing, and coordinates in-residence professional military education and training. Career enhancement assists with every aspect of military careers, from medals to promotions. Family readiness administers programs 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 Command to have a casualty assistance office.

#### **439<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineering Squadron**

CES members could be tasked with anything from building a base and runway at a remote site to fixing a stuck door. The squadron includes 138 military and 105 civilian employees. CES is made up of electricians, linemen, heavy equipment operators, carpenters, welders, plumbers, fuel specialists, surveyors, firefighters, readiness experts, power production workers, and even entomologists – to take care of insect problems.

#### **439<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron**

The 158 military and civilian members of SFS provide air base ground defense at Westover and abroad. The squadron's job is to provide installation and airfield security and law enforcement – meaning 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. SFS members work 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 control element trained to lead consolidated base defense. The combat arms section provides all weapons training for Westover's reservists and qualifies thousands annually on a variety of weapons. The unit also routinely augments active duty forces and provides security for Aerospace Expeditionary Force taskings.

#### **439<sup>th</sup> Logistics Group**

The people of LG include comprise a reservist, air reserve technician, and civilian work force. Together they supply, transport, fix, plan, budget and assure the quality of base functions. The military functions within the LG include the 439<sup>th</sup> Logistic Support Squadron, the Aircraft Generation Squadron and the Maintenance Squadron. The all-civilian contracting shop handles all of the wing's contracts.

#### **439<sup>th</sup> Logistics Support Squadron**

This squadron handles transportation, base supply, and staff functions that include programs and mobility, plans and scheduling, and budget and training. One hundred-four military and 23 civilian personnel comprise LSS. In 1998, the base fuel storage capacity was increased from 610,000 to 1.45 million gallons with the construction of new fuel tanks near the flight line.

#### **439<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Generation Squadron**

The 293 people of AGS are like 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 team maintains four C-5A's. Two people from AGS pack their toolboxes and go with every C-5 flight that leaves Westover to troubleshoot and fix problems. AGS fuels, launches, and maintains each C-5A on the flight line from takeoff to during flight to landing and while deployed to remote stations.

#### **439<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron**

MXS performs the regular back-shop maintenance and tackles the tough problems. They also do the major teardown inspection of each C-5A about every 400 days. MXS comprises 15 separate work centers such as machine and welding, non-destructive inspection (aircraft parts are x-rayed for detection of cracks); sheet metal (workers replace any of the huge C-5A's panels that number about 1,000); propulsion, repair and reclamation, aerospace ground equipment, fuel systems, electro-environmental, survival, guidance and control, structural maintenance, and pneudraulics shops.

## Living the Standard... the bottom line

*The following are discharges, involuntary reassignments and involuntary demotions at Westover ARB for fiscal year 2001.*

Rank	Offense (s)	Action
SSgt	Interest of National Security, Conditions that interfere with military service, failure to reply to official correspondence, personal finances, irresponsibility in management of personal finances	General (Under Honorable Conditions) Discharge
SrA	Pattern of Misconduct, failure to meet financial obligations	Under Other Than Honorable Conditions (UOTHC) Discharge
SrA	Drug Abuse (Marijuana). Random testing	Under Other Than Honorable Conditions (UOTHC) Discharge
SrA	Unsatisfactory participation and Substandard Performance, job skill proficiency.	General (Under Honorable Conditions) Discharge
SrA	Unsatisfactory Participation and Inability to Locate	General (Under Honorable Conditions) Discharge
SrA	School Requirement, Commission: Refusal to attend required technical training.	General (Under Honorable Conditions) Discharge
A1C	Medical Fraud. Had several medical conditions not disclosed during the recruiting process.	Entry Level Separation without Characterization Discharge
A1C	Unable to leave for BMT due to a medical condition. Member was diagnosed with this condition and given medication after enlistment.	Entry Level Separation without Characterization Discharge
A1C	Behavioral Analysis Services involving a lack of psychological fortitude to successfully complete Basic Military Training.	Entry Level Separation without Characterization Discharge
A1C	Medical Reasons Existing Prior to Entry (Asthma) in Air Force Reserve	Entry Level Separation without Characterization Discharge
A1C	Medical Reasons at Basic Military Training. Found not fit for military duty. No risk to himself or others	Entry Level Separation without Characterization Discharge
Amn	Failed to report for Basic Military Training	Entry Level Separation without Characterization Discharge
AB	Medical reasons involving a lack of psychological fortitude to successfully complete Basic Military Training	Entry Level Separation without Characterization Discharge
AB	Failed to report due to pregnancy	Entry Level Separation without Characterization Discharge
AB	Medical Reasons Existing Prior to Entry (Asthma) in Air Force Reserve	Entry Level Separation without Characterization Discharge
<b>INVOLUNTARY REASSIGNMENTS</b>		
SSgt	9 or more unexcused absences (two members)	Involuntary Reassignment for Unsat Participation
SSgt	Didn't take Anthrax shots and had 9 or more unexcused absences	Involuntary Reassignment for Unsat Participation
SrA	9 or more unexcused absences	Involuntary Reassignment for Unsat Participation
A1C	9 or more unexcused absences (two members)	Involuntary Reassignment for Unsat Participation
<b>DEMOTIONS</b>		
Previous Rank	Offense	Rank Demoted to
CMSgt	NCO Responsibilities	SMSgt
SMSgt	NCO Responsibilities	MSgt
TSgt	Unsatisfactory Participation	SSgt
SSgt	NCO Responsibilities	SrA
SSgt	Unsatisfactory Participation (four members)	SrA
SrA	Unsatisfactory Participation (five members)	A1C
A1C	Unsatisfactory Participation	Amn
A1C	Failure to Achieve Skill Level	AB
<b>ARTICLE 15 ACTIONS</b>		
Rank	Offense	Punishment
Lt Col	Maltreatment, Conduct Unbecoming an officer	Reprimand
1st Lt	Bad Checks (2x)	Reprimand
SrA	Theft	Suspended reduction



**SHOPPING FOR RECRUITS** — New recruit Bodden Francisco, of Providence, R.I. is sworn into the Air Force Reserve by 439th AW Commander Col. Martin M. Mazick at the newly opened recruiting office in the Hampshire Mall in Hadley, Mass. — photo by MSgt. W.C. Pope

## MSgt. Spence-Elder receives grant award



**MSgt. Lisa Spence-Elder**

MSgt. Lisa Spence-Elder received the Pitsenbarger Award at the December Commander's Call.

The award is presented annually by the Air Force Association and Westover was eligible because they exceeded the Community College of the Air Force quota for this past calendar year.

According to SMSgt. Kristine Seney, Education and Training superintendent, individual eligibility includes earning a CCAF degree within the past year, and an active pursuit of a four-year degree.

Spence-Elder, a reservist with the 439<sup>th</sup> Military Equal Opportunity section, was selected by the wing to receive the grant worth \$400.

## Dependency Determination program

It is a reservist's responsibility to provide for the care of their dependants and some situations extend beyond the typical definition.

If you believe your dependant will remain temporarily or permanently incapacitated and thus dependent upon you for financial support past the age of 21, visit Customer Service at Military Personnel or the Randolph Air Force Base web site at [www.afpc.randolph.af.nmil/deers](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.nmil/deers). Click on FactsForms, Procedures and Sponsor & Member Info to review required documentation and processing procedures.

The Customer Service Office at Military Personnel is the contact point for a program called Dependency Determination. This program is designed to ensure eligible dependants of actively participating retired and deceased members, receive applicable medical coverage and/or access Commissary and other Morale and Recreation facilities. In order for a dependant to be declared temporarily or permanently incapacitated for physical or emotional reasons, the member must prove the financial dependency existed prior to age 21 and for full-time college students prior to age 23.

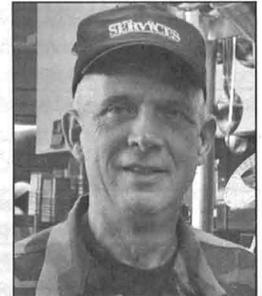
Supporting documentation for Dependency Determinations include verification of dependent's income, relationship, Determination of Incapacity from a Uniformed Services medical provider and/or civilian physician and Medical Sufficiency Statement from a Military Treatment Facility Commander.

## Perrault retires after 34 years

by SSgt. Andrew Reitano

After 34 years serving his country, Chief Master Sgt. Ronald Perrault, is hanging up his apron and spatula to enjoy life as a retiree.

Perrault has spent his 27 years in the Air Force Reserve with the services squadron; 12 years as the squadron superintendent where he oversees operations of the fitness center, dining hall, and lodging facility.



**CMSgt. Ronald Perrault**

"Westover has been very fortunate to have a very special person like Chief Perrault in the services squadron," said Maj. Charles Zaorski, 439<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron commander. "He understands the role of the squadron and its significance. As a result, he has used his human resource experience and position to accomplish the mission."

The chief began his services career with the Army National Guard. "I consider myself an appetite covered in skin — I could never get enough to eat, so the services field seemed like the logical choice for me," said Perrault. After serving seven years with the Army, he took a break in service and went into business for himself.

He joined Westover in 1974, serving as a cook in the dining hall. "One of my cousins used to be a firefighter in the Navy. When he crossed over into the Air Force in the early 70s, he was always telling me what a great deal it was," said Perrault. "I was then working in real estate, but the market wasn't doing well, so I joined the Air Force Reserve."

As a traditional Reservist, Perrault developed a civilian services background while working at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. According to Perrault, it was his military training that helped him land the job at the university. Perrault is also scheduled to retire from UMass after 27 years of service. He is currently manager of chase operations at the university. "It will be nice not only having my weekends free but eventually my weekdays," said Perrault, who plans on learning more about computer technology. "I've been working both UTAs for the past 15 years. I'm going to enjoy having no place to go and having all day to get there."

## Patriot People

**Name:** Louisa Gonzalez  
**Rank:** TSgt.  
**Age:** 52 years  
**Address:** Bronx, N.Y.  
**Unit:** 439th Airlift Wing  
**Position:** Paralegal  
**Civilian position:** Medical secretary  
**Favorite food:** Licorice  
**Years of service:** 15 years  
**Favorite sport:** Walking  
**Favorite hobby:** Reading  
**Ideal vacation:** Time to spend with grandchildren  
**Best way to relax:** Reading mysteries  
**Preferred entertainment:** Movies  
**Favorite hero:** My mother  
**Favorite music:** Jazz  
**Favorite movie:** "Top Gun"  
**Favorite aircraft:** F-16  
**Pet peeve:** Never enough time...  
**What I would do if I won \$1 million:** Spend it up my family



Photo by MSgt. W. C. Pope

**TSgt. Louisa Gonzalez**

### Promotions:

CMSgt Coughlin, Leonard A.  
 SMSgt Hebert, Gary A.  
 SMSgt Hebert, Kenneth R.  
 SMSgt Marrone, Michael J.  
 SMSgt Stokes, Vikki J.  
 MSgt Bernard Roger  
 MSgt Golenski, Michael J.  
 MSgt Matchkie, Paul A.  
 MSgt Moz, Rafael A.  
 MSgt Nash, Charles W.  
 MSgt Perreault, Stephen A.  
 MSgt Prinz, Roger P.  
 MSgt Squier, Corrine A.  
 TSgt Anderson Michael A.  
 TSgt Benjamin, Michael W.  
 TSgt Brown, Andre  
 TSgt Conway, Patrick M.  
 TSgt Cowern, Thomas E.  
 TSgt Cyr, Paul  
 TSgt Dotson, Marvin  
 TSgt Gable, Timothy C.  
 TSgt Garrafa, Lewis T.  
 TSgt Godin, Richard J.  
 TSgt Griffin, Thomas F.  
 TSgt Harford, Kevin L.  
 TSgt Johnson, Robin K.  
 TSgt Klaesges, Darin  
 TSgt Kvadus, Glen J., Jr.  
 TSgt Landry, Keith W.  
 TSgt Latter, Michael J.  
 TSgt Letourneau, Joeph  
 TSgt Lojkue, Henry C.  
 TSgt Majersky, Edward  
 TSgt Overton, Elisa M.  
 TSgt Pelkey, Eric M.  
 TSgt Ronan, Kevin  
 TSgt Snay, Shawn  
 TSgt Snyder, Robert A.  
 TSgt Steiner, David A.  
 TSgt Syrrac, Phillip M.  
 SSgt Anderson, Doug S.  
 SSgt Beadle, Robert J.  
 SSgt Biscoe, Andrew S.  
 SSgt Cormier, Michael C.

## Patriot Praises

SSgt Haverstock, Howard W.  
 SSgt Hodge, Matthew J.  
 SSgt Krueger, Sandra D.  
 SSgt Mandeville, James E.  
 SSgt Wilcox, Debra J.  
 SrA Davidson, Gregory J.  
 SrA Johnson Lauren M.  
 SrA Kitchens, Parthengia R.  
 SrA McCaughey, Deborah A.  
 SrA Roberts, Andy A.  
 SrA Roberts, Charity M.  
 SrA. Ryals, Amber L.  
 SrA. Sisco, Gerald R.  
 A1C Bonaldi, Tina M.  
 A1C Lochard, Rolf R.  
 A1C Puga, Lui S.  
 A1C Ulloa, Martha  
 Amn Beaulieu, Christopher J.  
 Amn Csernick, Scott R.  
 Amn Lamountain, Andrea

### Re-enlistments:

SMSgt Bender, Barbara A.  
 SMSgt Woods, Patrice M.  
 MSgt Colby, Mark W.  
 MSgt Dager, Roger A.  
 MSgt Kazalski, Robert J.  
 MSgt Moon, Ronald J.  
 TSgt Bradshaw Roy T.  
 TSgt Buonanducci, Ronald J.  
 TSgt Crawford, Scott S.  
 TSgt Dibrindisi, Eric P.  
 TSgt Harris, Robert W. Jr  
 TSgt Layden, Kevin M.  
 TSgt Leeman, Mark D.  
 TSgt Nunnally, Vonsicia S. C.  
 TSgt Rivers, Warren D., Jr.  
 TSgt Thomas, Michael S.  
 TSgt Zuzula, Todd R.  
 SSgt Fedrick Michael R.  
 SSgt Sarno, Joseph F.  
 SSgt Young, William J.  
 SrA Barnes, Grace G.

SrA Davidson Gregory J.  
 SrA Jester, Michael J.  
 SrA Sandoval, Jason R.

### Enlistments:

SSgt. Claffey, William F.  
 SSgt. Dion, Christopher G.  
 SSgt. Kane, Timothy J.  
 SSgt. Smith, Matthew L.  
 SrA. Bonanno, Christopher M.  
 SrA. Gonzalez, Arthur  
 SrA. Trudeau, Dean M.  
 A1C Burkhart, Jeffrey D.  
 A1C Habbinger, Jodi L.  
 A1C Levey, Rosalind D.  
 A1C Perez, Kelvis E.

### Newly Assigned:

Maj. Heroux, David M.  
 TSgt. Connor, Patrick S.  
 TSgt. McLean, Richard A.  
 SSgt. Foust, Shelley L.  
 SSgt. Pisconski, Steven J.  
 SSgt. Prindle, William A., Jr.  
 SrA Cournoyer, Evan R.  
 SrA Ivory, Lovonna L.  
 SrA Lawler, Bruce J.  
 SrA Marsh, Robert R.  
 SrA Potter, Shauna L.  
 SrA Pernisi, Alicia M.  
 SrA Sandoval, Jason R.  
 SrA Windom, Lakeia

### Retirements:

MSgt. Dotson, Waymond

## Awards and Decorations

### Meritorious Service Medal

CMSgt George Mackey\* 85 APS

### Air Force Commendation Medal

SMSgt Robert Knutson 85 APS  
 MSgt Marcus Filkins 85 APS  
 TSgt Stephen Aziz 85 APS  
 TSgt Anthony Bonanno 85 APS  
 TSgt Deitra Kearney 85 APS  
 TSgt Mark I. Ratcliffe 85 APS  
 TSgt Vincent Sciacca\* 85 APS  
 TSgt Steven Vail 85 APS  
 SSgt Marcus Filkins 85 APS

\*First Oak Leaf Cluster

# Westover pumps \$177 million into area economy

by Gordon A. Newell

The 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing, the primary unit assigned here, and its tenant units poured more than \$177 million into the economy of Western Massachusetts during fiscal year 2001 through salaries, purchases and construction, according to an Air Force report recently released.

Westover's fiscal impact on the economy of communities located within a 50-mile radius of the base is estimated at \$177,762,190 from Oct. 1, 2000 to Sept. 30, 2001. This represents an increase of more than \$21 million over last year.

"Westover continues to grow as Western Massachusetts' premier reserve training center and I am pleased that we can be an important part of the Pioneer Valley's economic engine. Our relationship and balance with the surrounding communities has never been better," said Col. Martin M. Mazick, commander of the 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing.

The base's total payroll for the year was \$80,995,770, with civilian salaries totaling \$43,032,793 and military pay accounting for \$28,594,214. Another \$9,368,763 was paid to contract civilians and non-appropriated fund civilians in such areas as the Base Exchange, gas station-shoppette, bowling alley, gymnasium and billeting office.

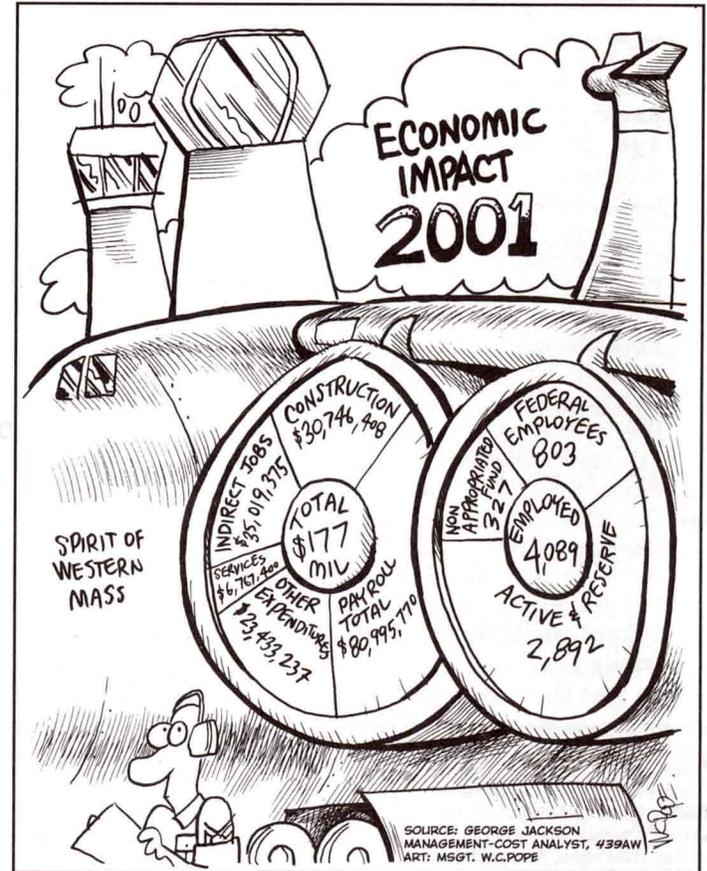
About 4,089 people are employed at Westover, with 2892 active-duty and reserve military personnel. There are also 803 federal employees and 327 non-appropriated funds workers.

Construction projects on base during the year totaled \$30,746,408, up almost \$12 million from the previous year. Major projects include a new control tower, a new Military Entrance Processing Center, new fire training area and renovated dormitories.

Services contracts for the base totaled \$6,767,408 and other expenditures, which include materials, equipment and supplies reached \$23,433,237.

Westover is the largest Air Force Reserve base in the country and the closest fully operational base to Europe.

In addition to being home to the 439<sup>th</sup> AW, Westover has many tenant units including Marine Corps Support Squadron Six, Marine Corps Support 474, Detachment B; a Massachusetts National Guard



aviation support group; United States Corps of Engineers; the United States Armed Forces Reserve Center; Maytag Aircraft Services (weather services contractor); Army-Air Force Exchange Service; a Reserve Readiness and Mobility Squadron; TOW Platoon HQ 4<sup>th</sup> Marine Division; the 226<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company (U.S. Army Reserve) and Griffin Services (a civilian contractor which provides various services to the base.

# PATRIOT

PATRIOT online: <http://www.afrc.af.mil/439aw>



439th AW/PA  
WESTOVER AIR RESERVE BASE  
100 Lloyd Street  
East Wing, Suite 103  
CHICOPEE, MA 01022-1825

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