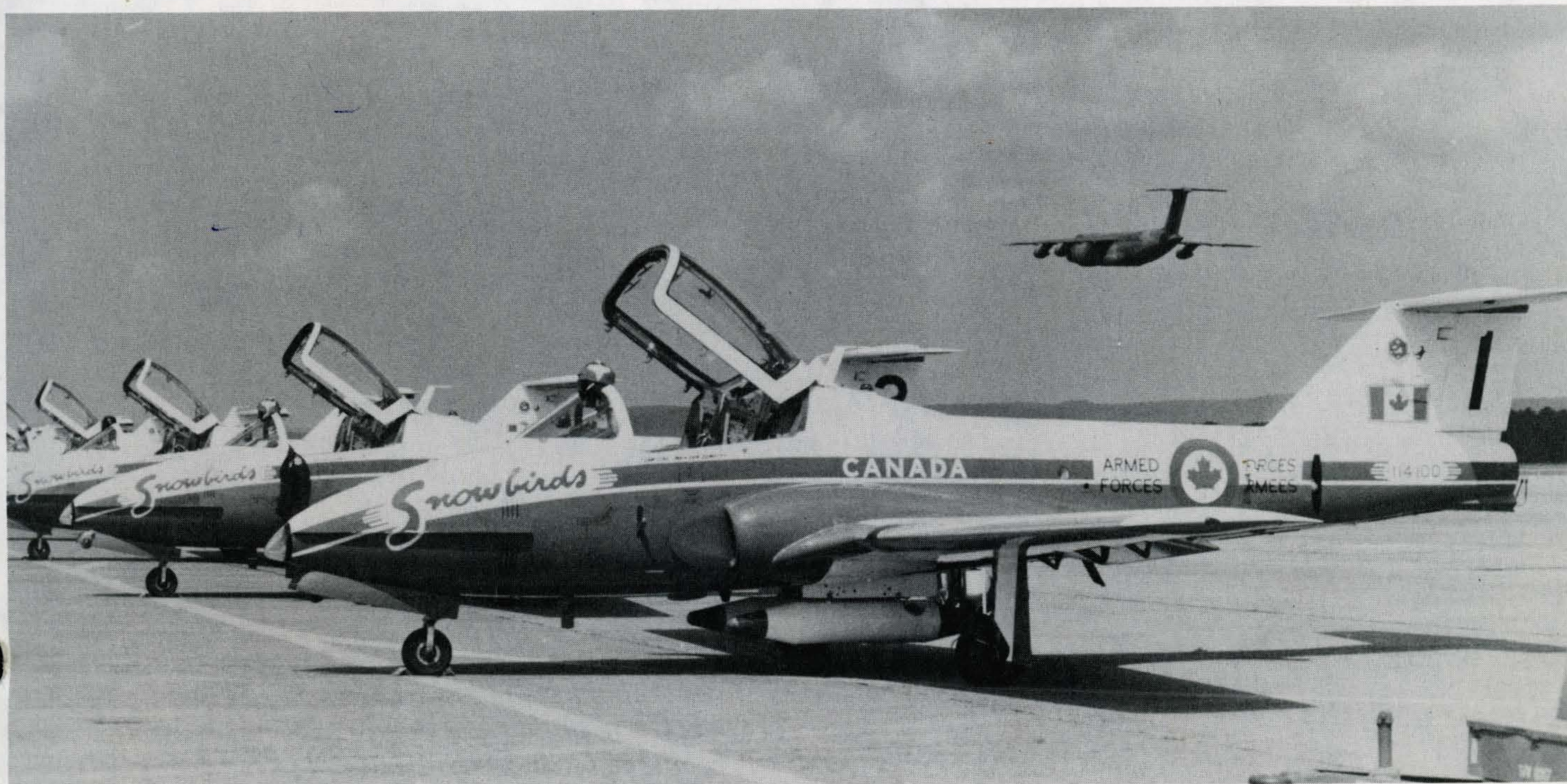


PATRIOT

439TH AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER ARB

VOLUME 21, NUMBER 1

JANUARY 1994



ENCORE PERFORMANCE -- The Canadian Snowbirds, precision military aerobatic team which last

performed at Westover in 1990, will be back for the base's Open House Aug. 27-28.

Canadian Snowbirds to headline open house

by MSgt. Gordon A. Newell

The Snowbirds, Canada's precision military aerobatic team, will make an encore performance at Westover during the base's biennial open house, scheduled for Aug. 27 and 28.

"I'm thrilled that we were able to get the Snowbirds," said Col. James P. Czekanski, commander of the 439th Airlift Wing. "They put on a tremendous show and are a pleasure to work with," he said.

The Snowbirds appeared at Westover's 50th anniversary open house in 1990 and thrilled a three-day crowd estimated at 750,000 with their nine-ship formation.

In addition to the Snowbirds, the Golden Knights, the U.S. Army's precision parachuting team will headline the festivities.

"There is a distinct possibility that we will be able to get parachuting teams from Canada as well as Great Britain", said Lt. Col. Forrest Price who has been named Westover's coordinator for the open house.

"We will also be inviting air force units from Australia, Germany and several other countries to again give us an international flavor," said Price.

The Snowbirds, officially known as 431st Air Demonstration Squadron, is based at Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. The team performs breathtaking maneuvers in gleaming red, white and blue Tutor CT-114 jet aircraft.

They have entertained millions of flying enthusiasts around the world as roving goodwill ambassadors for the Canadian Forces.

The Golden Knights, billed as the finest parachuting team in the world have

appeared at Westover's last four open houses.

Streaking through the skies at 150-miles per hour, the Army skydivers appear to defy gravity before landing with pinpoint accuracy on a large orange target.

Price said the show will also feature aerial demonstrations by other military aircraft including C-5 Galaxies from Westover.

During the two-day event, Westover's base hangar will again house scores of military displays and demonstrations.

According to Price, gates to the base will be open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. each day.

"We're trying to make this the best open house we've ever held," said Price. "It should be a very exciting and entertaining day for everyone."

TSgt. Sandi Michon

Two wing medics receive national honors

by TSgt. Sandi Michon

Two members of the 439th Airlift Wing have been recognized by the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, at an award ceremony in San Antonio, Texas.

Capt. Rosemary Costa, 74th AES nurse administrator, was named outstanding medical air reserve technician officer, and CMSgt. Joseph A. Ilardi, 34th APSS supervisor of administration, was selected outstanding reserve medical airman assigned to an aero medical staging squadron.

In addition, the 34th APSS was recognized for getting an excellent rating on their health service inspection. The 34th APSS is under the leadership of Lt. Col. Patricia Walegir.

The awards, which encompass approximately 77 medical units, were presented at the 100th annual luncheon by Maj. Gen. John J. Closner, Chief of the Air Force Reserve, and Col. Thomas McNish, M.C., Command Surgeon.

Also attending was Col. Joseph A. Curley, 439th AW commander of medical resources. "I am extremely proud of our people," he said.

Curley spoke on behalf of the 34th APSS, and particularly CMSgt. Ilardi. "Ilardi single-handedly guided the unit through the transition from the 514th at McGuire AFB, N.J. to the 439th at Westover.

"As a reservist, he functioned as the backbone of the unit for two years in the



Courtesy of Capt. Rosemary Costa

SHINING MOMENT -- Capt. Rosemary Costa, center, is joined by Col. Thomas McNish, M.C., command surgeon, left, and Maj. Gen. John J. Closner, chief of the Air Force Reserve, to accept her award.

absence of full-time staffing," said Curley.

Captain Costa was highly commended by Col. Richard Carr, 74th AES commander.

For Costa, the award finally sank in at the presentation. "I've never won anything like that. It was wonderful to be recognized by 22nd Air Force, but an absolute thrill to be selected throughout all of AFRES," she said.

Costa's nomination itemized a long list of kudos and accomplishments. Threaded through her medical expertise was her caring attitude, and ability to recognize and act on the needs of others.

She has a bachelor's degree in health science, an associate's degree in nursing. She has extensive experience in emergency medical, trauma, and programs for the mentally ill. She also travels extensively, on the civilian and military side, to teach medical skills.

"The award was very, very humbling. I love the work I do. I get a lot of pleasure out of nursing," Costa said.

"I really enjoy the base," she said. According to Costa, it's one of the first jobs she has had outside of a hospital setting.

"I love the team and family feeling. It's a marvelous place to work."

Outstanding NCOs and airmen for 1993 honored

by MSgt. Tom Allocco

MSgt. Doreen Bronner, chief of quality force; TSgt. Robert Driscoll, NCOIC of nursing services; and A1C Shane Robitaille, training specialist, have been named the 439th Airlift Wing's outstanding NCOs and airman of 1993.

The three will receive plaques in recognition of exceptional performance during the year.

Based on recommendations from their commanders, the three were previously cited as NCOs and airman of the quarter by a committee headed by Maj. Thomas Gray, wing executive officer.

OUTSTANDING
Msgt. Dorren Bronner
TSgt. Robert Driscoll
A1C Shane Robitaille

The names of NCOs and airmen of the quarter are engraved on a 439th Airlift Wing Honor Roll in the Command Sec-

tion of the Wing Headquarters Building.

Outstanding NCOs and airmen also earn certificates of appreciation from the wing and Base Exchange and MWR gift certificates.

Others honored during 1993 were: Senior NCO of the Quarter, MSgt. Christopher Doyle, MSgt. John Sullivan and MSgt. Jacqueline Davis; NCO of the Quarter, SSgt. Michael Dibrindisi, SSgt. Gary Van Wie and TSgt. Sharon Riley; and Airman of the Quarter, SrA. Dean Villella, SrA. Diane Whelihan and SrA. Heather Carrier.

Nominations for the first quarter of 1994 may be sent to Major Gray.

Westover plays major role in area's economy

Westover Air Reserve Base generated more than \$3.1 million weekly into the region's economy during fiscal year 1993, according to a report released today by the Air Force.

In all, \$164,521,188 poured from the base into the local economy--communities within a 50-mile radius--during FY 1993, which for the federal government was Oct. 1, 1992 to Sept. 30, 1993.

Col. James P. Czekanski, commander of the 439th Airlift Wing, which is assigned to Westover said, "These figures have a large impact on the economic well being of this area. I think our neighbors can see that Westover is an important economic partner in Western Mas-

sachusetts."

Westover's gross federal payroll during fiscal year 1993 was \$59.8 million compared to \$56.7 million a year ago.

On a day-to-day basis 526 Air Reserve Technicians (full-time reservists) and 537 civilian employees--1,063 total--are employed at the base and received \$39.4 million in salaries.

In addition, more than 3,100 members of the Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps Reserve and National Guard, are assigned to the base.

Reservists and Guardsmen train one weekend a month plus 15 days of required annual training. The payroll for these citizen soldiers amounted to \$17.6

million during the year.

There are also 242 people employed on the base in non-appropriated fund positions such as at the bowling alley, consolidated open mess, gymnasium, base exchange, shoppette etc. Their payroll totaled \$2.7 million.

A total of 6,315 military retirees living in the Westover area, who collected \$73.5 million in benefits last year.

Military construction projects at Westover rose more than \$17.2 million during FY93, compared to \$2.4 million the previous year.

The government also spent more than \$3.8 million on contracts for services, materials, equipment and supplies.

\$164,521,188 poured from the base into the local economy ... during fiscal year 1993

Westover dollars



Region's economy

Westover ARB generated more than \$3.1 million weekly into the local economy

TSgt. Sandi Michon

Base security police train local tactical response teams

by MSgt. Tom Allocco

Westover security police instructors recently expanded their training program to include tactical response team training for Hampden County Sheriffs Department correctional officers.

MSgt. George Hoagland, TSgt. Scott Buchanan and TSgt. Brian Copperthite designed a program that gave the sheriffs five days of physical and mental training to put a sharp edge on their police skills in November.

The Westover security police introduced the correctional officers to Air Force procedures ranging from riot control and security formations to interpersonal communications skills. The sheriffs learned how Air Force security police handle a baton, make a forced entry into a building and respond to a fire or an emergency.

Instructors of Westover's 439th SPS and 639th SPF have set up field and classroom training programs for Air Force Reserve law enforcement and mobility units from around the country. Massachusetts State Police have also been trained in recent years

at Westover.

The Hampden County Sheriffs who trained at Westover will serve as a tactical response team at the 1,000-inmate maximum security Hampden County Correctional Center at Stony Brook.

Their senior member, Capt. Daniel Truschelli, described the training opportunity as "an invaluable experience. We're very grateful for access to the facilities, and the expertise of Westover's security police training NCOs," he said.

The training program was capped on the last day by an evaluation that started with a surprise 3 a.m. wake-up call. Security police officers SSgt. Henry Minor and SrA. Jered Lockwood volunteered to be "subdued" in a variety of training scenarios which tested the ability to control disorderly individuals.

The sheriffs were finally run through the 21-station, 30-exercise Westover fitness trail wearing their full riot control ensemble.

Four more Hampden County Sheriffs Department teams are scheduled to be trained by Westover security police instructors.

Positive drug tests end Reservists' careers

by Capt. Paul P. Koscak Jr. and SSgt. Nancy Robbins

Drug abuse has dashed the careers of at least five Westover airmen over the past eight months after trace amounts of drugs were discovered in their urine, according to figures released by the base social actions office. Three of the five tests were ordered by commanders because of aberrant behavior displayed on the job, the other two airmen were discovered by random testing.

The statistics show a sudden rise in illicit drug use says Col. Warner Jones, commander of the base clinic, where urine samples are collected and then sent for testing to a laboratory at Brooks AFB, Texas.

"We hope to stop it so it won't become a trend," Jones says.

Laboratory testing throughout the Air Force suggests a growing pattern of drug abuse among reservists since 1990. At that time, .84 percent of the tests came up positive. By 1992, the rate nearly doubled to 1.40 percent. And since 1988, positive drug tests for the Reserve have been double that of the regular Air Force and the Air National Guard, AFRES statistics show.

Despite Westover's increase in drug abuse cases, Wing Commander Col. James P. Czekanski cautions against drawing conclusions based on random testing.

"Random sampling does not accurately graph a specific increase or decrease. Since testing is random, the results are random," said the commander of the latest findings. "The commander-directed positives are of more concern to me because they indicate these individuals used drugs just prior to reporting for duty."

There's no doubt about anyone's military future if they test

positive.

"If you do drugs, the odds are you are going to get caught," Czekanski said. "If you get caught, you're out, that's all there is to it."

Capt. Kathleen Reaves, base social actions officer, says faulty test results are unlikely. Urine samples move through a strict chain of custody.

"First, the medical urine test program monitor seals the sample in front of the individual," Reaves says. "The person then initials the taped seal before it's shipped to the testing facility."

At the Brooks facility, the sample is subjected to a nearly foolproof gas chromatography test which can detect traces of drugs, and steroids. Reaves says steroids, regardless if they're legally obtained, are viewed the same way as drugs.

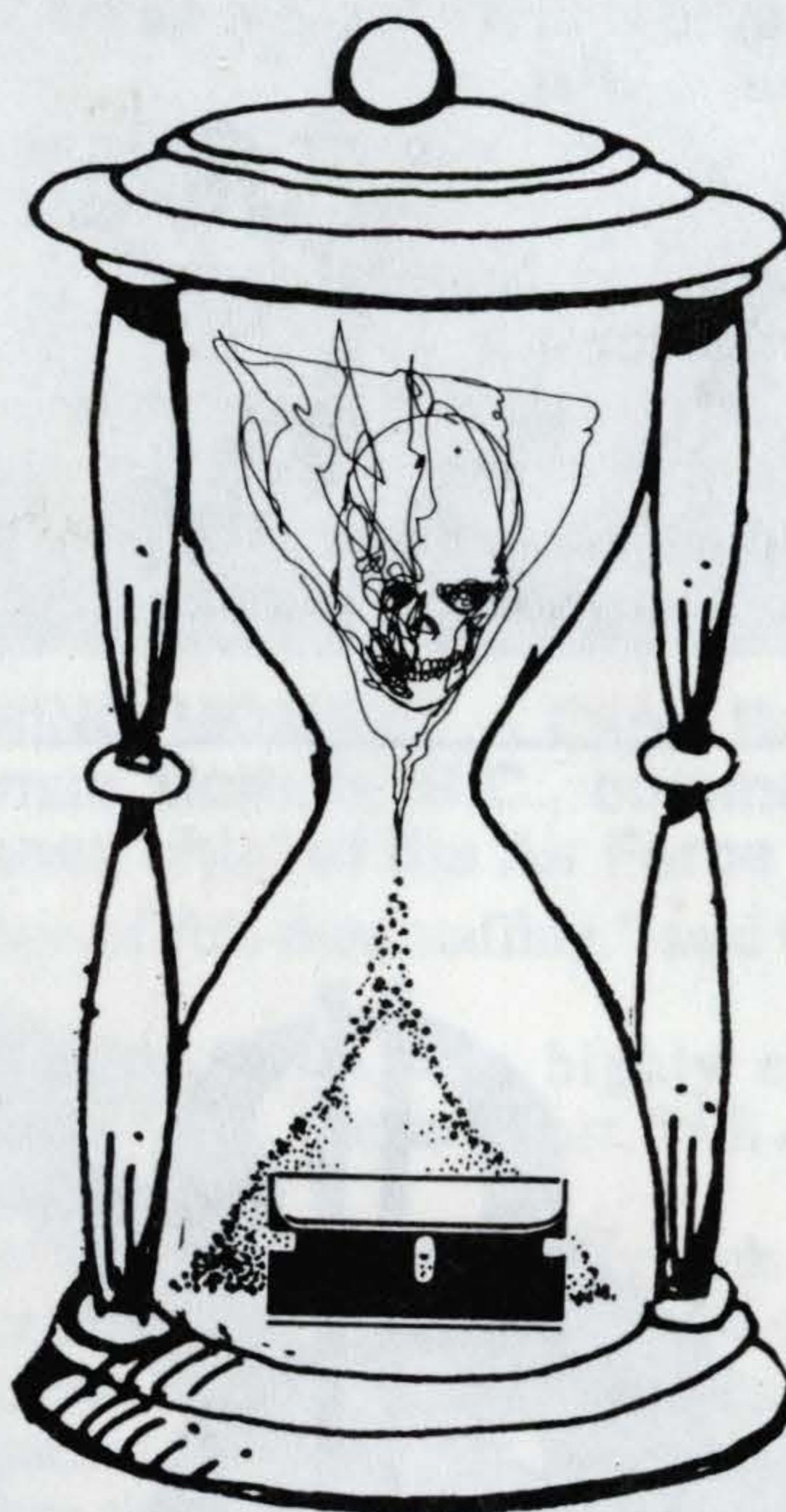
Positive samples are frozen for 60 days, Reaves says, while action is taken at the base level.

Each month, 12 reservists from both the A and B UTAs are randomly selected by computer from the base roster. Those selected for testing are only known by number and cover the gamut from airman basic to top commanders.

Reaves says drug abuse is everyone's concern. "It's each reservist's responsibility to notify the proper officials if they see one of their co-workers abusing drugs," she says.

Czekanski agrees.

"Most people want to know that their counterparts are doing their job in the safest manner possible and not using drugs," the commander says. "There are many sensitive and potentially harmful job fields here, and reservists often trust their own safety to the work performed by others."



Innocent poppy seeds can skew results of drug tests

by Capt. Paul P. Koscak Jr.

Hold the cake, spare the muffin, watch that bagel--there's danger in them there delights. Think of this: avoid poppy seed pastries at least three days before your UTA, they contain traces of dope.

Poppies produce heroin. Mostly from Turkey to Thailand, these blood-red flowers are farmed on countless Asian acres for their white sap, which is processed into this illicit euphoric.

Although anyone who tries to overdose on poppy bagels is more likely to end up with indigestion than a high, risks can still lurk for reservists surprised with a random drug test.

An October Air Force Reserve memo outlines these hazards. It claims that ingesting poppy seeds, "may result in a positive urinary opiate test...be-

cause morphine and trace amounts of codeine are present on the surface of the seed."

Evidence of the drug can begin to show up in urine samples within two to four hours of ingestion but sometimes can be detected for up to 72 hours.

Getting caught with this or any other unauthorized narcotic spells curtains for any military career.

"Once discovered, a reservist will be redlined; they receive no points or pay," said Capt. Kathleen Reaves, base social actions officer. "If they're proven guilty, they will be discharged. There is absolutely zero tolerance for substance abuse."

But avoiding poppyseed pastries should be a concern, not an obsession. Not all seeds contain enough morphine to cause a positive test, according to the

memo.

Nevertheless, the issue is taken seriously. Articles appearing in numerous medical periodicals from the "Journal of the American Medical Association" to "Military Medicine" claim that poppy seeds should be an issue for any workplace drug testing.

So what does it take to score positive from poppy seeds? Not much. Urine containing more than 300 nanograms of drugs is flagged by the Air Force (one nanogram is one billionth of a gram).

Test results released by AFRES show the following levels of morphine from poppyseed pastries: a slice of cake, 860 nanograms; two Danish, 11,571 nanograms; a muffin, 629 nanograms; and a bagel, 550 nanograms.

For native Nigerian AF Reserve is a dream come true

Article and photo
by TSgt. Sandi Michon

When Obioma Hillary Nna was a boy, he always knew he would someday be in the military.

It was an Ibo tribal tradition strongly reinforced growing up during the bitter and bloody civil wars in his native country of Nigeria.

Over two decades have passed, and "Hillary" Nna is a military man - in a different country, and for different reasons. For SSgt. Nna, 58th APS air transportation specialist, his memories of war still influenced his decision to join the Air Force Reserve.

"My first awareness of war was when the Biafran soldiers took over our school to house the refugees who had fled their villages," Nna said.

Nna grew up in southeastern Nigeria in a village called Mbutu Ngwe, outside the city of Aba. He was part of the Ibo tribe which is one of the three largest in Nigeria. The Ibos overthrew the Nigerian government in 1966, but lost power in a coup after only six months. Thousands of Ibos were massacred and hundreds of thousands returned to their homeland in the southeast.

It was a strong Ibo cause in the mid-1960's to fight for secession and independence. "We were taught very young to fight for our independence. We learned war songs, and there was always the presence of soldiers," Nna remembered.

Nna lived the reality of war from 1967 to 1970. "Many family relations and neighbors died in the war," recalled Nna in his thick Ibo accent. He struggled to find the English words to describe the emotions of the event.

As the Nigerian troops neared each village, the inhabitants would grab what little they could and flee to the next village. Nna's family of eight was more fortunate than some. While most were dependent upon the Red Cross organizations or Catholic relief groups, a business associate of Nna's father received them into their home until it was safe to return to their village.

The war ended in 1970, and while the country's government remained tumultuous, Nna's life returned to normal.

Oddly enough, Nna's primary glimpses of life in the United States came through his regular reading of "Newsweek" magazine.

He decided to come to America for college. He entered Worcester Polytech-



SSgt. Obioma Hillary Nna

nic Institute in 1981. He later transferred to the University of Lowell, Mass., and graduated with a degree in electrical engineering in 1986.

While at Worcester Tech, Nna's boyhood memories stirred him to join the ROTC. After two years, he could not progress further due to visa restrictions.

After college, Nna secured a job as electrical engineer for the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority. He became a U.S. citizen in 1988, and joined the Air Force Reserve in 1989.

Nna, a gentle, soft-spoken man, said there were two reasons for joining the Air Force, but said he didn't know which reason was stronger. "My childhood experiences made me want to serve in the military, but I also very much wanted to serve this country," Nna said seriously.

He said he got along really well with his technical instructors in basic training, because he knew the importance of

military training. He maintains that he is more realistic, because he knows what is at stake.

When asked to describe the differences between Nigeria and the United States, Nna was at a loss for words. "The differences are so big, it is indescribable," he said.

He did elaborate on the day he became a U.S. citizen. "This is not a perfect society, but I think it is the best country in the world. It means a lot to me to be able to stay," he said. Nna feels he has a greater appreciation for America because he has come from the outside. "A lot of people don't understand what they have here," he said.

Nna currently lives in Leominster, Mass. with his wife, Glory, who is also from Nigeria, and their 16-month-old son, Chika.

Only time will tell if the Ibo tradition is passed on.



1994

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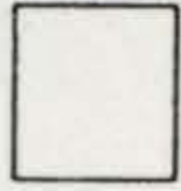
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UTAS

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October

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November

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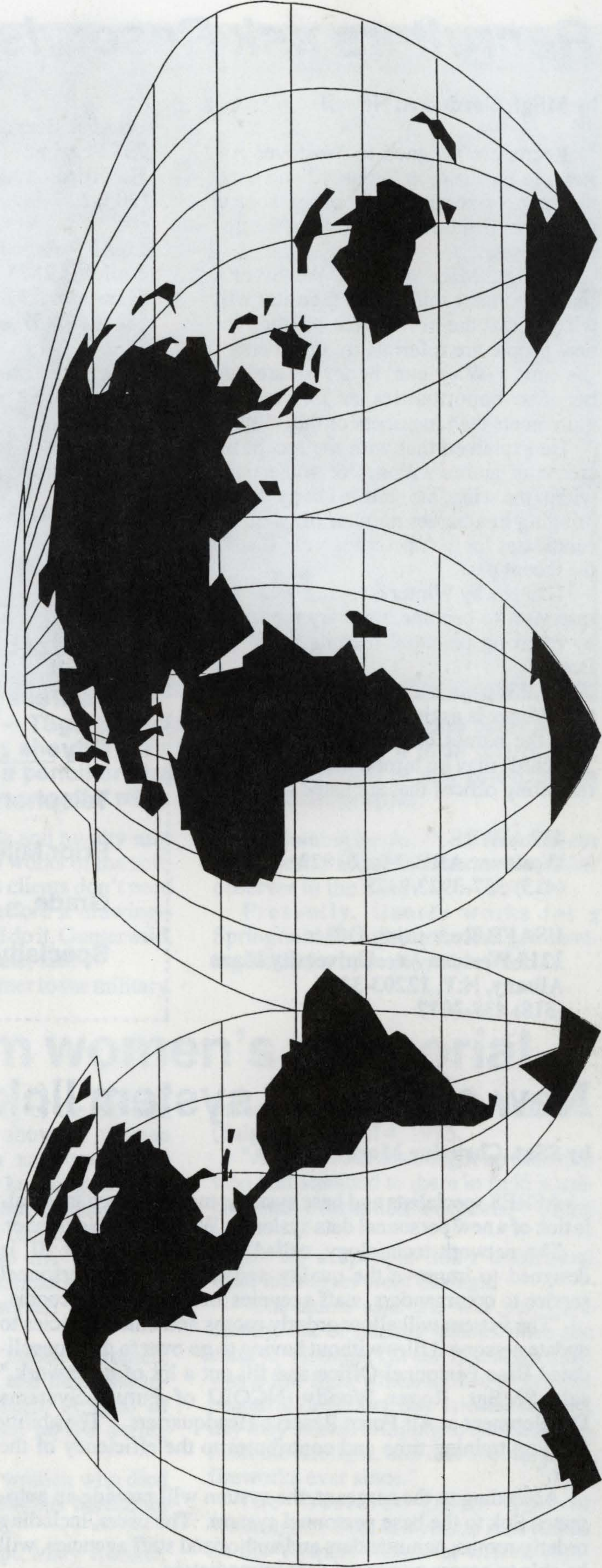
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September

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GLOBAL REACH



Recruiters ask Reservists to help find applicants

by MSgt. Gordon A. Newell

Recruiters assigned to Westover Air Reserve Base are on the prowl and need the help of reservists to bring aboard more qualified candidates during the upcoming year.

CMSgt. Mike Winter, Westover's senior recruiter said, "Any recruiter will tell you that the best source of leads for new people are referrals by members of the unit. Who can better relate the benefits, opportunities or mission requirements than members of the 439th?"

He explained that with the recent increase of authorizations for some units within the wing, his staff is charged with bringing in a higher number of qualified candidates for the upcoming year than in the recent past.

That is why Winter is asking Westover reservists to become honorary recruiters by referring potential recruits to his office.

On this page is a recruiter referral card that Winter is asking reservists to fill out with the names of potential applicants. The cards may be turned in to any of the recruiting offices that are listed below.

439 AW/RS
Westover ARB, Ma. 01022
(413) 557-3923/2125

USAFR Recruiting Office
1215 Western Ave. University Plaza
Albany, N.Y. 12203-3317
(518) 438-3077

USAFR Recruiting Office
233 Pearl St.
Hartford Ct. 06103
(203) 525-5595

USAFR Recruiting Office
Building 1825 Dow Street
Hanscom AFB, Ma. 01731-5000
(617) 862-5708

USAFR Recruiting Office
54 Bridge St.

Ansonia, Ct. 06401
(203) 735-2223

USAFR Recruiting Office
509 Main St. Park Plaza
Worcester, Ma. 01608
(508) 753-7616

416 MSSQ/MSPISR
592 Market St. Ste. 301
Griffiss AFB, N.Y. 13441-4614
(315) 330-2715

I would like to know more about the opportunities available to me as a member of the Air Force Reserve

Name _____

Date of birth _____ Sex _____

Address _____ Apt. no. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Prior Military Service Date (If applies) _____

Grade _____

Specialty _____

New computer system links base personnel functions

by SSgt. Christine Mora

AFRES specialists and base systems managers began installation of a new personnel data system at Westover in November.

The network technology, called Personnel Concept III, is designed to improve the quality and efficiency of personnel service to commanders, staff agencies and unit orderly rooms.

"The system will allow orderly rooms and other agencies to update personnel files without having to go over to the Consolidated Base Personnel Office and fill out a lot of paperwork," said SMSgt. Roger Woody, NCOIC of Future Systems Development at Air Force Reserve Headquarters. "The ability frees up training time and contributes to the efficiency of the unit."

According to the sergeant, the system will provide an automated link to the base personnel system. The users, including orderly rooms, commanders and authorized staff agencies, will be able to access personnel data immediately.

Commanders will have the ability to run inquiries and gener-

ate reports on any or all of their assigned personnel. Orderly rooms will be able to update specified data items in personnel records right from their office.

The current personnel system (BLMPS) located in the CBPO, while centrally automated, requires large numbers of forms and computer products to be exchanged between personnel offices and units for input and retrieval of information.

"Information updated from the orderly room on the PC-3 system will automatically update all relevant documents in a reservist's files," said MSgt. Kelly Payne, 439th personnel systems manager. "Staff agencies like the Clinic and Billeting will have access to the system so paperwork is decreased." Payne added that less paperwork will also eliminate duplication of effort.

The system will be fully operational when the CBPO moves into Bldg. 1875 in May.

Social Actions NCO knows how to draw the line

by Capt. Paul P. Koscak Jr.

TSgt. Beverly Gunter is a natural with lines, but only if you want to be drawn.

Gunter has successfully channeled a childhood penchant for shape and form into a successful portrait business.

"I've been drawing ever since I was a kid," said the 41-year-old social actions specialist. "Mostly I've learned on my own, through art books and observation."

Using pencil or charcoal, the Westfield resident completes about three drawings every month. Gunter said the average illustration takes about 18 hours to complete. And because every face is different, she prefers working from high-quality photographs.

Photos like the one shown are drawn onto a lithograph. There are a wide variety of theme lithographs to match the interest with the subject.

"In a live sitting, I feel under pressure to get done, because the person is getting tired," Gunter said. "I'm a perfectionist, but once I get through, it's exact."

Business demand is rooted in personal celebrations--birthdays, anniversaries, accomplishments--but the end of the year bustles with activity during the holiday season, Gunter said.



SSgt. Vin Blanchard

ART ON DISPLAY — TSgt. Beverly Gunter, a social actions technician, displays a drawing she did from the photograph of a little girl (inset). Gunter can create a pencil or charcoal reproduction of any photograph superimposed over one of a wide variety of lithographs.

Although presidents and royalty may not number among the works of the soft-spoken artist, Gunter's clients don't need a King's Ransom to afford a drawing--usually about \$200 will do it, Gunter said, and that includes a frame, too.

Gunter is no newcomer to the military.

Before joining the Air Force Reserve, she spent nearly a dozen years as a weather observer in the Navy.

Presently, Gunter works for a Springfield firm that provides job hunting skills for unemployed workers.

Reservists salute Vietnam women's memorial

by MSgt. Tom Allocco

Six Westover reservists went to Washington, D.C. to join in the national tribute to women when the Vietnam Women's Memorial was dedicated on Veterans Day.

The ceremonies, which brought together veterans from every corner of the country, were witnessed by SMSgt. Edward Kolodjay, SMSgt. James Gillett, SMSgt. Robert Fetherston, SMSgt. Francis Simone, MSgt. David Page and TSgt. Joyce Zimmerman.

"There were very emotional reunions for nurses and wounded men they had cared for," said Gillett, who flew Vietnam missions as a C-124 loadmaster out of Hanscom AFB. "Many people hadn't seen each other since Vietnam," he said.

Vice President Al Gore was keynote

speaker at the unveiling of the 6.5-foot bronze statue which shows a woman seated on sand bags and cradling a wounded man, another kneeling, holding a helmet and a third standing and looking skyward. Insignia was omitted from the women's uniforms so the memorial would represent all American service and civilian women who served during the Vietnam era.

More than 11,000 military women, plus Red Cross, USO and other volunteers, served in Vietnam. A total of 265,000 military women served during the Vietnam era.

The names of eight women who died are on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial wall.

Among them is Capt. Mary Klinker, an Air Force nurse, who was killed in the crash of a C-5A Galaxy carrying Viet-

namese children out of Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) on April 4, 1975.

"A lot of veterans caught up to nurses who had attended to them in field hospitals and evacuation hospitals," Gillett said.

"A lot of people don't understand what the nurses went through."

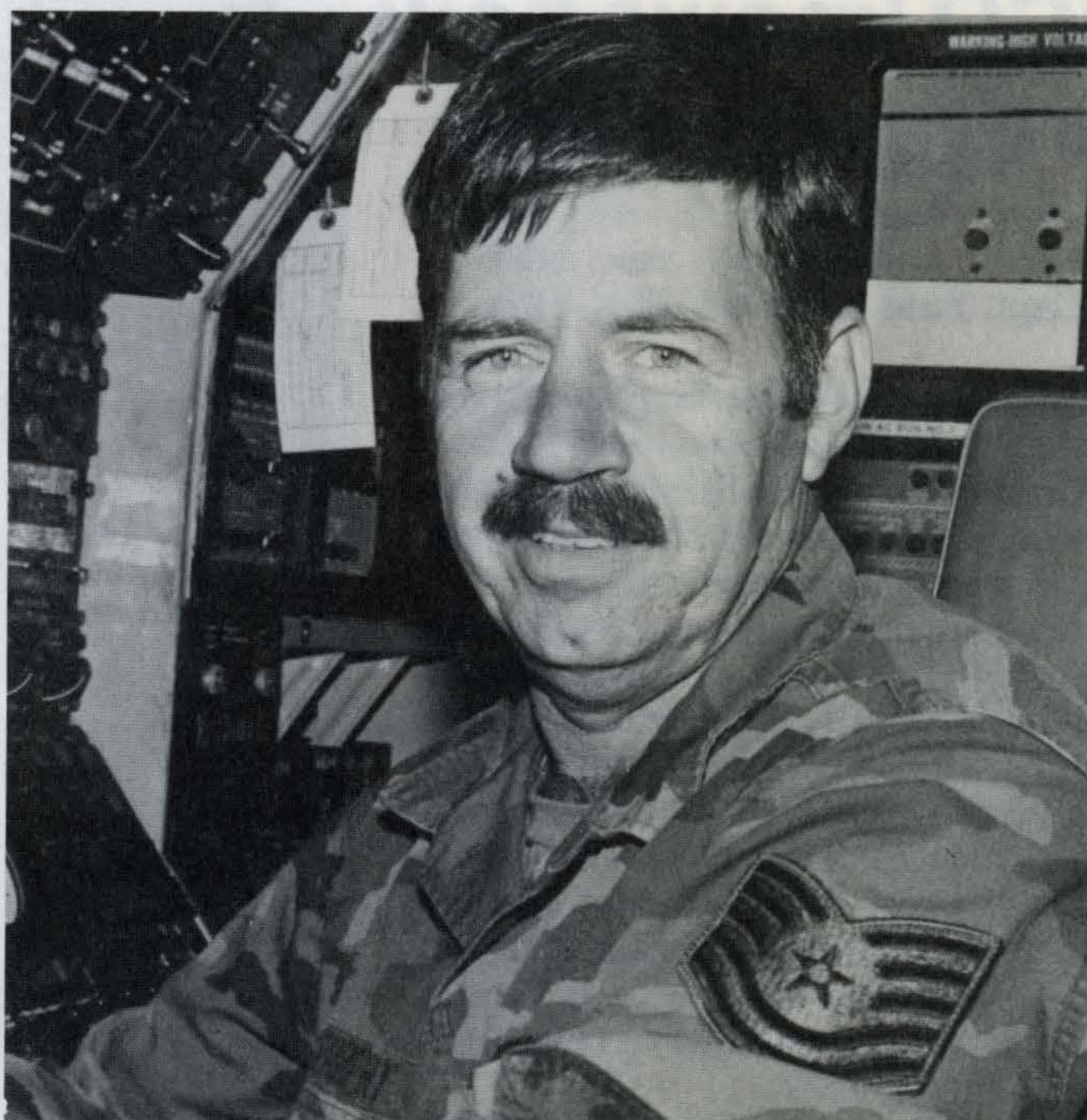
"One nurse said she was just three months out of nursing school when she went to Vietnam. On the first night there was a fire fight which looked to her like beautiful fireworks. She said that the next day they started bringing in the casualties from the firefight, and that she has hated fireworks ever since."

The Westover group went to Washington, D.C. last year to read names on the Vietnam memorial wall to commemorate its 10th anniversary.

Patriot People

Name: Harry Herbert
Rank: TSgt.
Age: 45
Address: Chicopee, Mass.
Unit: 439th AGS
Position: Crew chief
Civilian position: ART
Favorite food: Pizza
Years of service: 26
Favorite sport: Softball
Favorite hobby: Photography
Ideal vacation: Camping
Best way to relax: Watching "Cheers"
Preferred entertainment: Watching my kids play sports
Favorite celebrity: Kramer in "Seinfeld"
Favorite music: Oldies
Favorite book: *Field and Stream*
Favorite color: Red
Favorite car: '68 Camaro
Pet peeve: Untrue rumors
Best thing about Westover: Being around aircraft
Worst thing about Westover: Flightline winters

SSgt. Vin Blanchard



TSgt. Harry Herbert

AFRES gets B-52s as force structure is realigned

ROBINS AFB, Ga. -- The Air Force Reserve will begin receiving B-52H bombers this year and convert one of its fighter units to tankers next year, Air Force officials announced in Washington.

Several other force structure and realignment actions in 1994 will affect operations at 11 AFRES unit locations nationwide.

The Air Force is modifying its May 27, 1993, announcement on the 46th Fighter Training Squadron becoming a B-52H (Associate) Reserve unit. Instead, it will be unit-equipped with eight B-52H aircraft. Standup of the unit is anticipated before the end of the year.

The 507th Fighter Group, Tinker AFB, Okla., will become an air refueling group and convert from 24 F-16 Fighting Falcons to 10 unit-equipped KC-135 Stratotankers.

The conversion begins in mid-1994 as a result of the 1993 Base Closure and Realignment Commission, McGuire AFB, N.J. will remain an active-duty base.

The 913th Airlift Group and its C-130 Hercules aircraft will remain at Willow

Grove ARS Pa.

In related actions, the 98th Refueling Group (Associate) will move from Barksdale AFB, La. to McGuire AFB along with its active-duty counterpart and 19 KC-10 tankers, with the first 10 aircraft arriving in late 1994.

The 514th Airlift Wing (Associate) will remain at McGuire but the timing of the arrival of the remaining 14 aircraft has not been finalized.

Travis AFB, Calif., will receive 10 KC-10A tankers in late 1994 as the 79th Air Refueling Squadron (Associate) realigns to Travis AFB from March AFB, Calif.

The 349th AW (A) will assume Reserve command and control of the 79th AREFS (Associate). The Air Force plans to base 24 KC-10A tankers at Travis AFB. The timing of the arrival of the remaining 14 aircraft has not been finalized.

At Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C., the 916th AREFG (A) will end its KC-10 associate unit status and receive 10 KC-135 tankers.

The 924th Fighter Group will remain in a cantonment area at Bergstrom ARS,

Texas, and operate the base as a Reserve-owned installation, at least through the end of 1996. An action to modernize the 924th FG's F-16A/B fleet to C/D models was indefinitely postponed. Tenth Air Force will also remain at Bergstrom ARS.

As result of the 1883 BRAC, the 482nd Fighter Wing and its F-16A/B aircraft will not realign from Homestead AFB, Fla., to MacDill AFB, Fla. The unit will remain at Homestead AFB, in a cantonment area upon completion of construction.

The unit's conversion from F-16 to KC-135s is canceled.

The 301st Rescue Squadron and its HC-130N/P and HH-60G aircraft will temporarily realign from Homestead AFB to Patrick AFB, Fla. in a permanent change of station status. Upon completion of construction, the unit will return to Homestead AFB.

Officials said the announced actions will achieve the fiscal year 1994 amended president's budget, achieve effectiveness, adjust top fiscal constraints or modernize the Air Reserve Component.

EDITORIAL

A no-win gamble

In just the past eight months, five Westover airmen gambled their careers for a cheap high and lost. These drug abusers are now statistics that suggest an alarming trend: Drug abuse is up again, and the Air Force is leading the way. It's one race we need to lose.

Today, there's a pill for every malady. Pharmaceutical companies make millions keeping us content, promising effortless recovery. But these profits pale compared to the illicit trade, fueled by a permissive society and an accommodating media that glamorizes getting off. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services estimates that 5.5 percent of our population abuse drugs. That's a startling 11,404,000 Americans.

Rationalizers claim the abuser is the only loser. That kind of thinking leads to other forms of lunacy, such as legalizing drugs. After all, they say it's a victimless habit. You decide.

With 70 percent of all users employed, productivity suffers, says the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. At General Motors, drug-users drive up manufacturing costs, averaging 40 sick days per year, compared to 4.5 for non-users. We pay for their idiocy in the sticker price.

There's a human carnage: broken families, shattered lives, dysfunctional children, overflowing hospitals, prisons and morgues. Law enforcement officials say business from affluent suburban drug buyers is behind much of the all-too-familiar gangs'n guns turf battles now turning our cities into the Wild West. Meanwhile, innocent residents are cut down in the cross fire.

Compared to all this, the few oafs doing drugs as reservists is small potatoes. It should be. Citizen airmen are held to a higher level of accountability. They engender public trust.

In a cynical society that scoffs tradition and winks at idealism, bluesuiters can be the new mavericks. Unswayed by banal pop culture, we can stand for something.

Capt. Paul P. Koscak Jr.
Public Affairs Officer

PATRIOT

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Briefs

Congress drops expanded benefit

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Congress has dropped expanded commissary privileges for members of the National Guard and Reserve from the 1994 Defense Authorization Bill.

Acting on behalf of Senate and House conferees, members of the House and Senate Armed Services committees agreed not to permit unlimited commissary privileges for Reservists and their family members. The House bill had recommended the expanded benefit.

CBPOs now flights

ROBINS AFB, Ga. -- Air Force Reserve consolidated base personnel offices have begun transitioning to military personnel flights.

Headquarters AFRES officials at Robins anticipate completing the change to the new organizational structure by March 15, 1994. The active force made the switch in October 1992.

Maternity uniforms now being issued

ROBINS AFB, Ga. -- Starting Dec. 1, 1993, the Air Force began to issue maternity uniforms to pregnant enlisted reservists instead of having them buy uniforms and file for reimbursement.

To receive these uniforms, a woman must submit to her unit orderly room an Air Force Form 422, Physical Profile Serial Report, signed by a physician. Orderly room personnel then will issue an AF Form 656, needed by supply.

Unit commanders may authorize one or both of the following maternity uniforms:

- One service dress coat, two blouses, one skirt or pair of slacks;
- One camouflage maternity uniform, shirt and slacks.

Reimbursement is available for items purchased prior to policy.

RESERVE PAY FOR FOUR DRILLS EFFECTIVE JAN. 1, 1994

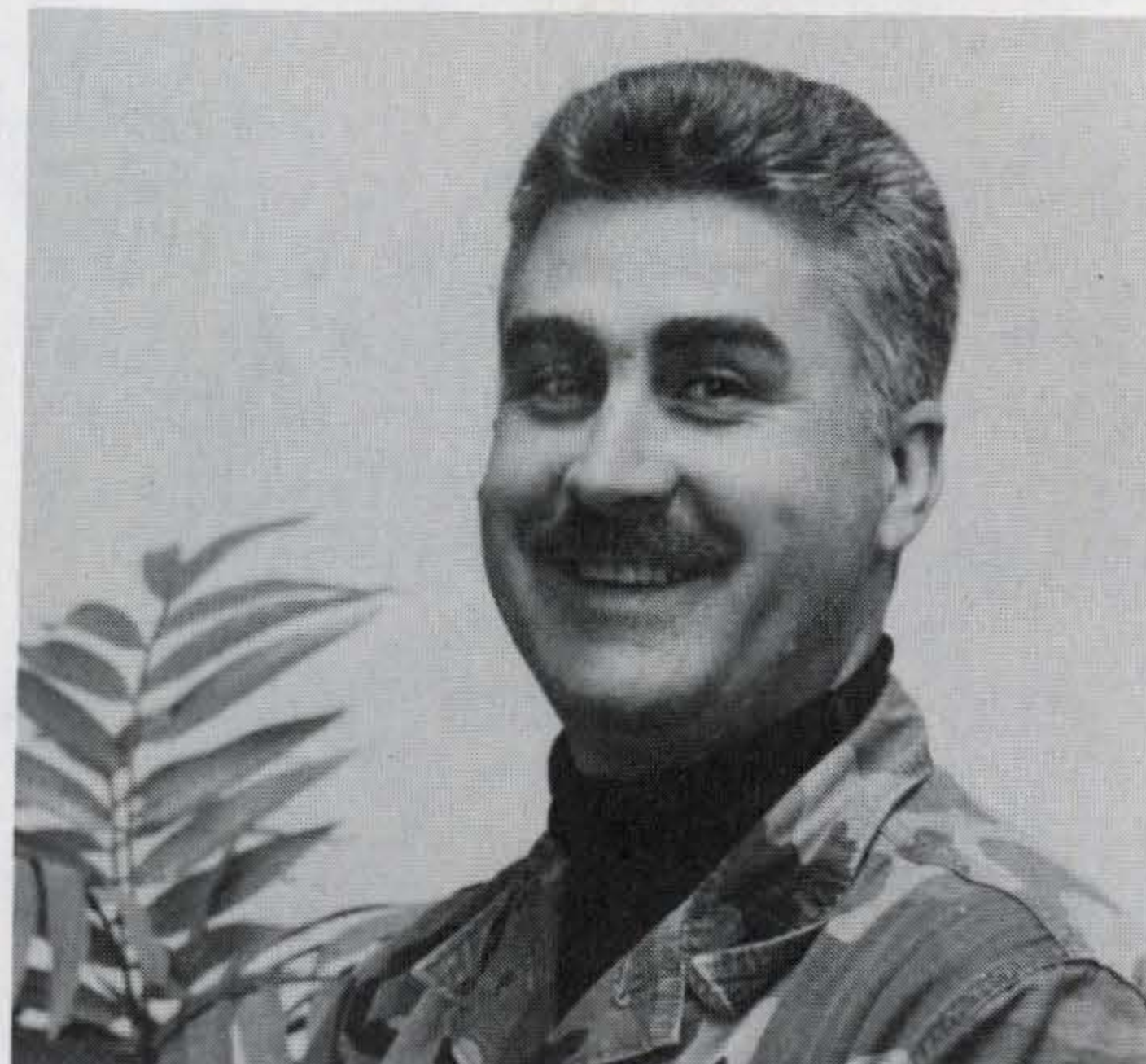
PAY GRADE	YEARS OF SERVICE														
	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS															
O-10	906.88	938.76	938.76	938.76	938.76	974.80	974.80	1028.80	1028.80	1102.36	1102.36	1176.20	1176.20	1176.20	1249.48
O-9	803.72	824.76	842.32	842.32	842.32	863.76	863.76	899.68	899.68	974.80	974.80	1028.80	1028.80	1028.80	1102.36
O-8	727.96	749.80	767.56	767.56	767.56	824.76	824.76	863.76	863.76	899.68	938.76	974.80	998.84	998.84	998.84
O-7	604.88	646.00	646.00	646.00	674.96	674.96	714.08	714.08	749.80	824.76	881.48	881.48	881.48	881.48	881.48
O-6	448.32	492.56	524.84	524.84	524.84	524.84	524.84	524.84	542.68	628.48	660.56	674.96	714.08	738.24	774.48
O-5	358.56	421.00	450.12	450.12	450.12	450.12	463.76	488.72	521.48	560.52	592.60	610.60	631.92	631.92	631.92
O-4	302.24	368.04	392.60	392.60	399.88	417.52	446.00	471.08	492.56	514.20	528.36	528.36	528.36	528.36	528.36
O-3	280.84	314.04	335.72	371.44	389.20	403.16	425.00	446.00	456.96	456.96	456.96	456.96	456.96	456.96	456.96
O-2	244.92	267.44	321.36	332.16	339.04	339.04	339.04	339.04	339.04	339.04	339.04	339.04	339.04	339.04	339.04
O-1	212.64	221.32	267.44	267.44	267.44	267.44	267.44	267.44	267.44	267.44	267.44	267.44	267.44	267.44	267.44
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS WITH OVER FOUR YEARS ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE AS AN ENLISTED MEMBER OR WARRANT OFFICER															
O-3E	0.00	0.00	0.00	371.44	389.20	403.16	425.00	446.00	463.76	463.76	463.76	463.76	463.76	463.76	463.76
O-2E	0.00	0.00	0.00	332.16	339.04	349.80	368.04	382.16	392.60	392.60	392.60	392.60	392.60	392.60	392.60
O-1E	0.00	0.00	0.00	267.44	285.76	296.28	307.00	317.68	332.16	332.16	332.16	332.16	332.16	332.16	332.16
WARRANT OFFICERS															
W-5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	488.36	506.88	521.52	543.48
W-4	286.16	307.00	307.00	314.04	328.32	342.76	357.16	382.16	399.88	413.92	425.00	438.72	453.40	467.52	488.72
W-3	260.08	282.12	282.12	285.76	289.08	310.24	328.32	339.04	349.80	360.24	371.44	385.92	399.88	399.88	413.92
W-2	227.80	246.44	246.44	253.60	267.44	282.12	292.84	303.56	314.04	325.08	335.72	346.28	360.24	360.24	360.24
W-1	189.76	217.60	217.60	235.76	246.44	257.00	267.44	278.52	289.08	299.84	310.24	321.36	321.36	321.36	321.36
ENLISTED MEMBERS															
E-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	332.92	340.36	348.08	356.08	364.04	371.12	390.56	405.76	428.56
E-8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	279.16	287.16	294.72	302.36	310.36	317.48	325.28	344.36	359.72	382.72
E-7	194.88	210.40	218.16	225.84	233.52	240.96	248.68	256.44	268.04	275.64	283.28	286.96	306.24	321.48	344.36
E-6	167.68	182.76	190.36	198.48	205.92	213.32	221.16	232.56	239.84	247.60	251.36	251.36	251.36	251.36	251.36
E-5	147.12	160.16	167.96	175.24	186.80	194.40	202.08	209.52	213.32	213.32	213.32	213.32	213.32	213.32	213.32
E-4	137.24	144.96	153.48	165.32	171.84	171.84	171.84	171.84	171.84	171.84	171.84	171.84	171.84	171.84	171.84
E-3	129.32	136.40	141.84	147.44	147.44	147.44	147.44	147.44	147.44	147.44	147.44	147.44	147.44	147.44	147.44
E-2	124.44	124.44	124.44	124.44	124.44	124.44	124.44	124.44	124.44	124.44	124.44	124.44	124.44	124.44	124.44
E-1 >4	111.04	111.04	111.04	111.04	111.04	111.04	111.04	111.04	111.04	111.04	111.04	111.04	111.04	111.04	111.04
E-1 <4	102.68	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

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