



THE PATRIOT



439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING

WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MASS.

Vol. III, No. 6

June 1976

439TH ACES ORI, SETS AF RECORD

"We're Number One!"

(Story on Page 2)



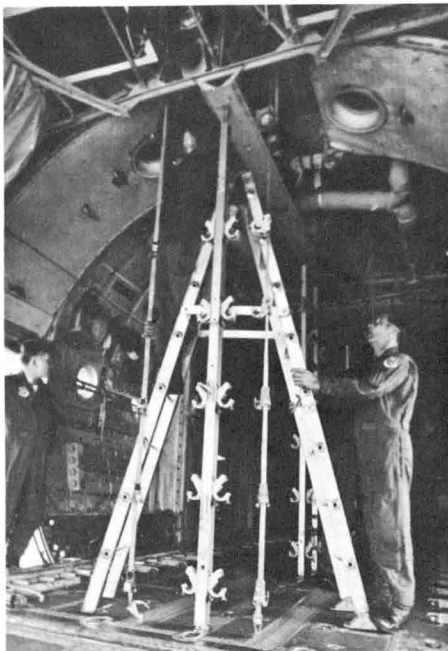
NO LIGHTS UNDER A BUSHEL HERE 16 C-123s of the 731st TAS and their 901st CAMS support vehicles shine bright and proudly after completion of the 64th sortie of the ORI—an unprecedented feat for any tactical airlift unit. (Photo by SSgt. Stephen C. Walter, 1917 Comm. Sq.)

Westover Passes ORI With Flying Colors

Brig. Gen. Billy M. Knowles dispatched this message on May 18 to the following commanders: CSAF/RE and DA, AFRES, MAC, 21AF, EAFRR, NGB and 439th CSG, and to all commanders of AFRES wings and detached groups. SUBJECT: MAC/IG Operational Readiness Inspection of 439 TAW at Westover AFB MA 15-16 May 76. ***** Current inspection policy does not provide for award of Outstanding adjectival rating. Considering (our) performance and General Jones' declaration that CY 1976 is readiness year, I declare the 439 TAW (Patriot Wing) from the Minuteman Commonwealth of Massachusetts not only outstanding but the number one tactical airlift wing in the Air Force.



ANXIOUS MOMENTS in the Wing Command Post



CHAMPUS FISCAL YEAR has been extended to Sept. 30, 1976. Any bills for the period starting July 1975 will be accepted up to that date.

"I'm so proud of you all I could spit!" Not an aesthetic statement, but it sure brought the house (theatre) down when Brig. Gen. Billy M. Knowles, 439th Tactical/Airlift Wing commander used the words to express his pleasure after the MAC Inspector General's (IG) team presented its outbriefing.

The 439th TAW demonstrated that it is "ready for any emergency" by the outstanding job it did during the operational readiness inspection/management effectiveness inspection (ORI/MEI) conducted at Westover from May 14 to 18, producing an astonishing 94% effectiveness rate.

In doing so, the wing also broke all known existing Air Force records and set another which is going to be hard to beat.

During Saturday's afternoon exercises, 16 C-123s were launched, bettering the established mark of 13 aircraft set by the 911th TAG at Pittsburgh.

The Westover unit launched all 16 of its C-123s and all 9 C-130s at the same time. This was four more C-123s and four more C-130s than required by the ORI team. Launching all of its planes in one operation is an Air Force accomplishment we believe is unequalled. Future efforts could only tie and never better this distinction. Coupled with the success of the inspection of the 914th TAG at Niagara, this truly makes the 439th Number One.

On the same evening, one C-130 troublesome engine kept the 439th from duplicating its feat.

Colonel Donald L. Arth, head of the MAC IG team, talking to an overflow crowd at the base theatre, congratulated the wing on a "first" for that team—seeing the launching of all unit equipment and better. He told the gathering, "It's the first time we have ever seen it done. It's something for the others to shoot for. This was an effort of teamwork—operations, maintenance, support. Maintenance really put out—just great. The Operations people went above and beyond to put on that show."

ORI Success

The unit was notified of the impending inspection in a message from Headquarters, Military Airlift Command, on April 1: "The purpose of this inspection is to evaluate unit management, combat readiness, organization and mission accomplishment."

The 439th showed it was ready. The ORI/MEI evaluated the wing's readiness and management and consisted of three main exercises—mobility, deployment and equipment.

The mobility portion tested the 439th's "get ready to go" capability. Only on mobility requirements were satisfied, could the wing, in an actual emergency, get from Westover to wherever it was needed, in the briefest period of time.

During the ORI, the Westover-based the aircraft did not actually deploy, that is leave Westover for another location. But

the first mission launch was considered by the evaluators to have simulated the unit's ability to get to the action.

The employment portion measured the wing's ability to deliver the goods in a war or disaster zone. It demonstrated the unit's proficiency in navigation, formation flying, personnel drops and cargo drops—day and night.

Job Well Done

The hours of hard work paid off for everyone, including those of the airmen of the 901st and 905th CAMS. Their aircraft were in first class flying condition when the time came. The record breakers showed that. And heartfelt thanks were extended by both flying squadrons operations officers who said that without the ground support from the 439th Combat Support Group—Base Supply, Transportation, and all those who contributed behind the scenes, their record breaker might not have come about.

Another group of people instrumental in making the ORI a success were those involved in mobility—a large number of augmentees and those regularly assigned to the mobility team. They work in the mobility control center (the mobility command post), mobility control units, the mobility orders unit, the mobility processing unit, the air passenger terminal, the air cargo terminal and the sub-motor pool.

Capt. Walter H. Bumgardner, air terminal officer, whose augmentee people helped carry the brunt of efforts in both terminals and the sub-motor pool, proudly said, "They worked hard! They really put themselves out."



MARSHALLING a generator for loading

The 901st (C-123) and 905th (C-130) Aerial Port Flights worked continually with their flying squadron and were instrumental in the highly successful effectiveness of the aerial drops.

Colonel Arth noted that this is all part of the "fine tuning"—the Total Force concept of regular and active duty personnel working together is now called Total Force Policy. Since the active duty forces are being reduced the Air Force has to depend on The Reserves—"it's the way to go."

Reminding us that The Reserves is the best way to keep our trained people in the service, Colonel Arth warned, "This is what it's all about—training. Just putting

on a show isn't enough. We have to keep doing it." He noted our training is unsatisfactory—not just one area—across the board, and that we need emphasis in that area.

The team chief ended his remarks with the thought that foreign lands are not very far from here in time, and we have to be ready. He also said the IG report is the road map to taking care of discrepancies.

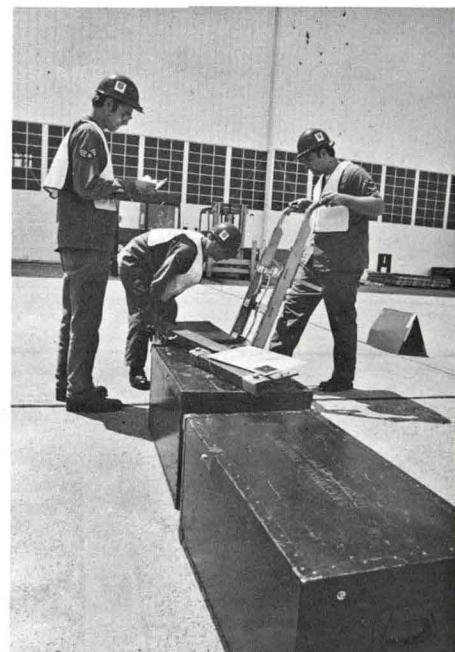
Congratulating the wing for its performance, Maj. Gen. Alden C. Glauch, Commander of the 21st AF, said, "It was re-

(continued on page 4)

(More photos on pages 5 and 8)



PASSENGER PROCESSING line starts



LOADING on "silhouette" shape of C-130

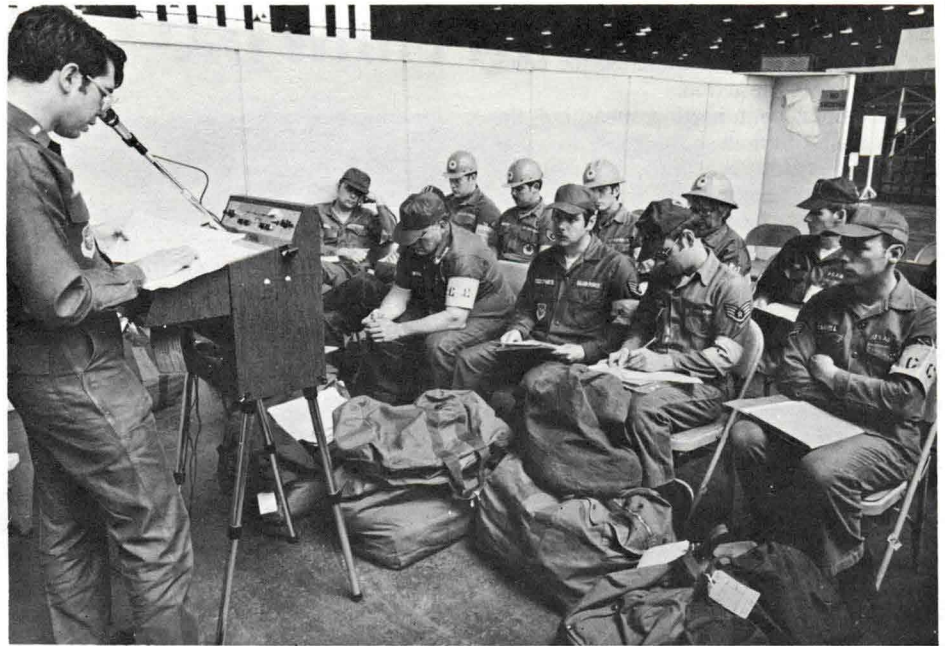
ORI . . .

(continued from page 3)

refreshing to see the way you launched your aircraft and to hear the words 'Highly satisfactory ORI and MEI.' A great job and I'm happy to have you folks as part of the 21st AF. I'd like to have your Maintenance—have your people come down and help some of our wings—a remarkable performance."

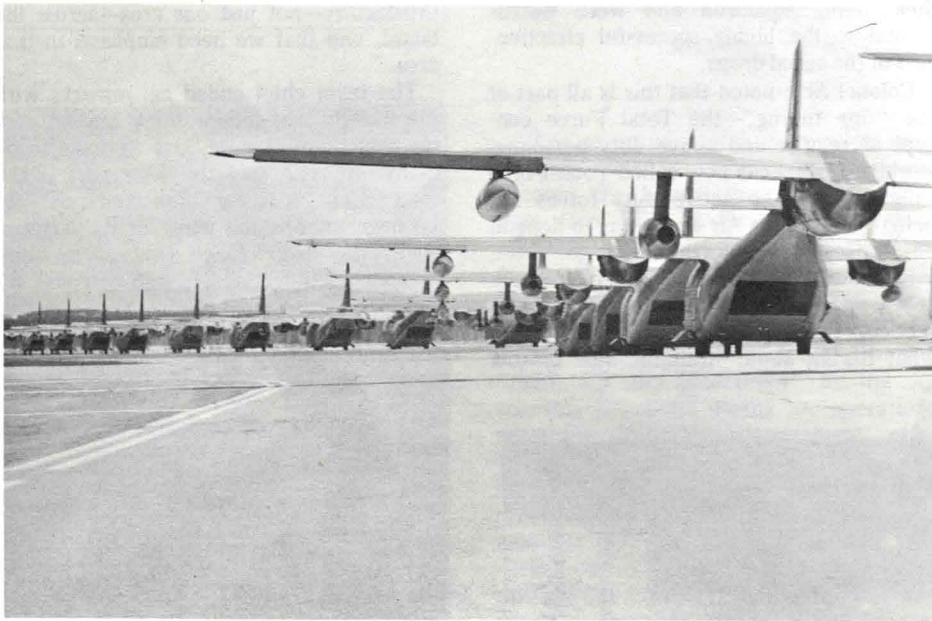
Brig. Gen. Cecil T. Jenkins, Eastern Region commander noted that as a former wing commander for both of these units, "It is a special pleasure for me to appear at this overbriefing. An outstanding report. Especially impressive to me, and quite often we don't give them the right credit, were the Aerial Port units."

Closing out the briefing, General Knowles acknowledged that we will correct any discrepancies, and announced, "There are two gates leading into and out of Westover. Both are saying 'We're Number One.' Since the criteria don't call for "Outstanding", I have designated us Outstanding and Number One.' You're the greatest!"

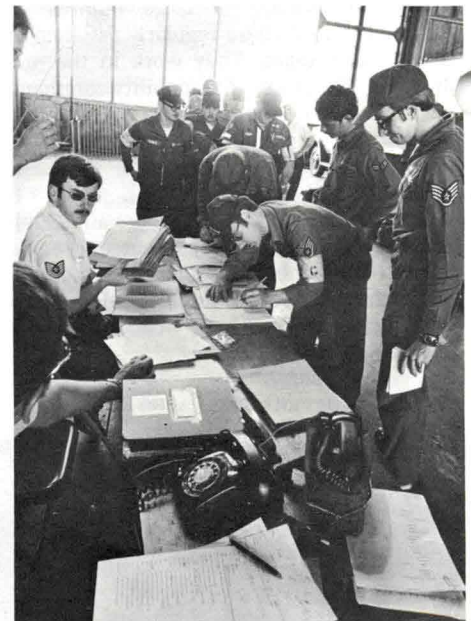


CARGO COURIERS' briefing.

(More Photos on Pages 5 and 8)

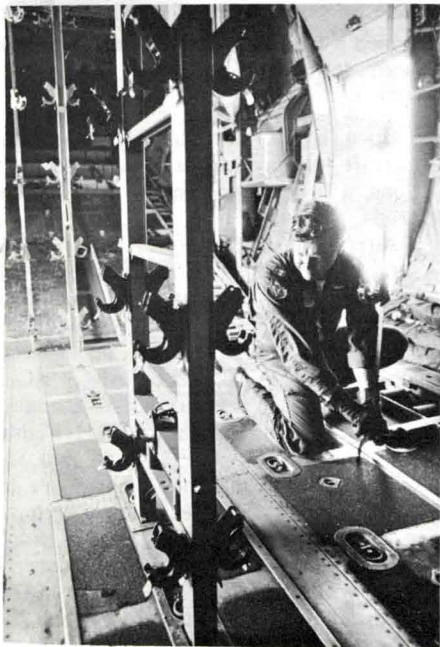
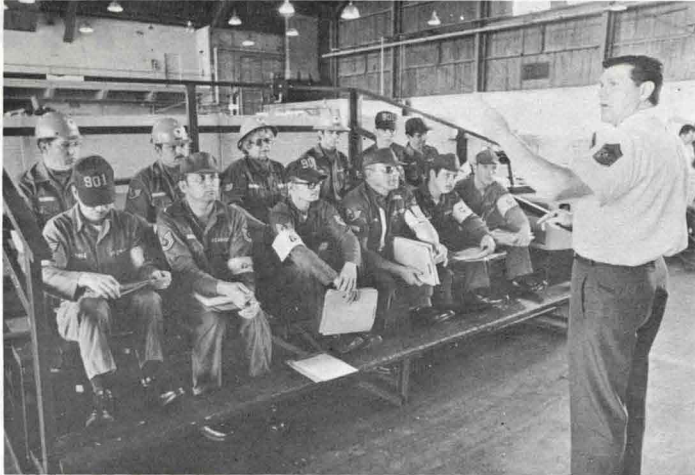


C-123s LINE UP for the next mission

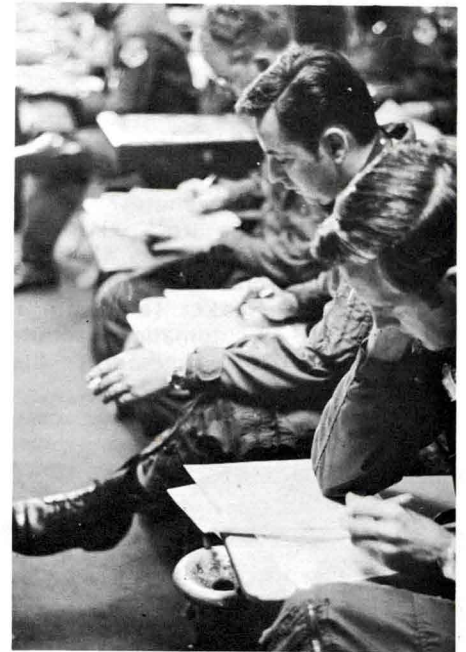


THAT NECESSARY EVIL . . . paperwork





**THEY
ALSO
SERVE...**



OPEN HOUSE HEL



"MAN, THIS IS NEAT. Do you guys let little kids use the parachutes?" A local youngster "suits up" with the assistance of Sgt. Edwin Ross, 439th life support technician. Looking on is Colonel S. T. Reaker (a dummy), dressed in a B-18 automatic parachute and an LPU-2/P underarm life preserver.



THE TIGER-STRIPED NOSES of the Thunderbird's T-38 Talons stand out against the rain-soaked Westover runway as the crowd waits for the action.

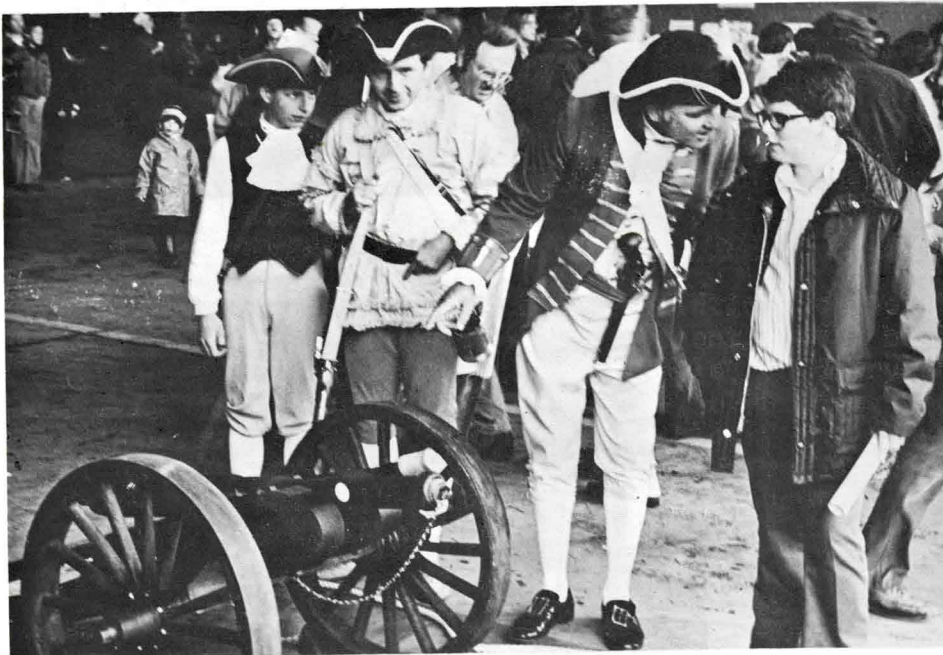
*Rain, rain go away
Come again another day.*

The words of a child's melody chanted by countless generations were countlessly repeated by visitors at Westover's 1976 Open House on April 25. Though the rain might have deterred some of the less determined, it failed to dampen the spirits of 30,000 spectators. Nor did the precipitation prevent the Air Force's Thunderbirds from displaying their aerial wizardry, albeit in a limited performance.

Open house attractions included static aircraft displays, drill team demonstrations, a firefighting display, and paratroop drops.

Aircraft on display were: (Air Force I reserve) C-7 Caribou, C-123 Provider, C-130 Hercules, A-37 Dragon Fly, and F-105 Thunderchief; (Mass Air National Guard) F-106 Delta Dart and F-100 Super Sabre; (Ohio ANG) F-100; (N.H. ANG) KC-135 Stratotanker; (Vt ANG) EB-57 Canberra; (Strategic Air Command) FB-111 Fighter-Bomber; (US Navy) P-3 Orion and SH-3 Sea King anti-submarine helicopter; (US Coast Guard) HH-3 Sea King search and rescue helicopter; (US Marine Corps) UH-1 Iroquois helicopter; (US Army National Guard) UH-1 Iroquois and OH-6 Cayuse helicopters; (private owner) T-28 Trojan trainer; (Conn Civil Air Patrol) T-34 Mentor trainer; (Mass CAP) T-41 Mescalero trainer and O-2 Bird Dog.

The exhibits in the base hangar received a great deal of attention. In addition to



THOMAS JANAS, Tad Witowski and Rudy Gradzinski, left to right, of the Hampshire Regiment, Ludlow, bring up their heavy artillery in a demonstration of Revolutionary military technology. The cannon, a replica of a model which could hurl a one-pound ball 300 yards, was made by Chester M. Ogorzalek and exhibited beside more refined (but less picturesque) modern weapons during the open house celebrations.



PARATROOPERS OF THE 11TH SPECIAL FORCE GROUP, Company A, Fort Devens, flood groundward over the drop zone.

LD DESPITE RAIN



FANCY FOOTWORK . . . The Blue Bengals, members of Springfield Technical High School's Junior AFROTC drill team and color guard, display a unique parade rest demonstration during their exhibition.

meeting a wide variety of visitors' interests, the hangar provided a relief from the sometimes-drizzles, sometimes-showers.

The 439th was well represented. The life support section's offerings included displays of parachutes and rescue aids. People from the CAM squadrons explained to inquisitive youngsters how engines and props work.

Westover AFB's Army Reserve unit, the 444th Medical Company, brought in several military vehicles and medical technicians. Other service branches were portrayed in recruiting booths and offered complimentary posters, key chains and other promotional handouts to potential enlistees.

A 1909 Bleriot XI, restored by Mr. Shirley Wardle of Jerome, Idaho, owned by the Bradley Air Museum, and loaned to Westover for the day, highlighted the hangar exhibition.

Precision marching demonstrations by



"THE FIRST AIRPLANE to be put into extensive production . . ." This relic of the piano-wire-and-canvas era, the Bleriot XI, was powered by an engine with less than half the horsepower of a sub-compact automobile, The Bleriot, owned by the Bradley Air Museum, was loaned to the base for its Armed Forces Day celebrations.



FOLKS CHECKING OUT the Marine Corps aircraft watch the 439th's C-130 as it spews forth a container delivery system (CDS) bundle. In the "real thing," this CDS could bring medicine, food or ammunition to ground troops.



NEITHER RAIN, NOR WIND, nor chill could keep the curious from lining up to enter the wing's C-130.

the University of Massachusetts ROTC drill team, the Springfield Technical High School Junior ROTC drill team and the Smith Agricultural School Junior ROTC drill team thrilled onlookers with their intricate maneuvers, fancy dance steps, and elaborate rifle passing.

The Thunderbirds, as expected, were the day's highlight. After anxious moments waiting for weather clearance, an abbreviated, low-level show delighted those standing patiently in the rain. The precision passes and aerobatics dramatically took place just overhead.

Though bad weather kept some of the expected crowds away, the day was far from a washout for those who braved the storm. Undaunted spectators were treated to the sight of 25 aircraft, most on ground display where the visitors could get a close-up look.

One of the only sour notes came from an ice cream vendor. When asked how sales were going, he replied sarcastically: "Hmmp, fantastic. Just fantastic."

For everyone else, however, it was a fantastic day.

BRIEFS

EAC UPDATE. . . During the June EAC meeting, election of officers will take place. All members are urged to attend this important meeting, to be held at 0900 on the Saturday UTA.

* * *

HONOR GRADUATE . . . Amn. Dwight Manning, a cook with the 439th CSG, recently graduated from the Air Force Service School at Lowery AFB, Col., with a 97% average. He is now using his new talents in the base dining hall.

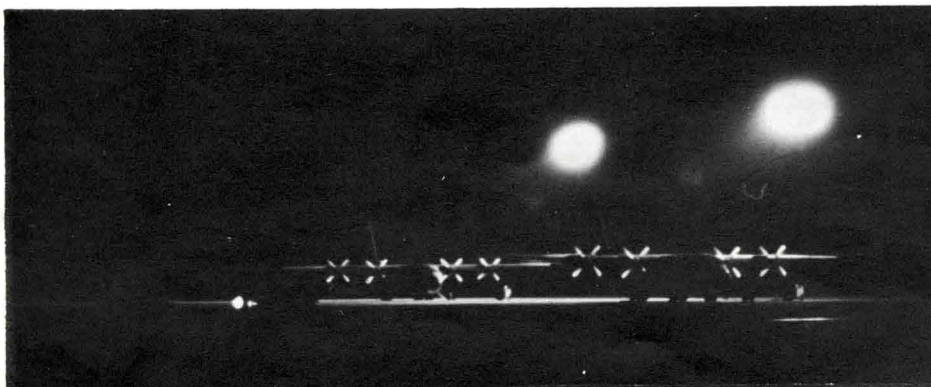
* * *

PAPER DRIVE . . . Bring your old newspapers and cartons to the CAP, building 1850 or drop them off at the van in the old BX area parking lot.



10th SFG CONDUCTS WAFB EXERCISE

The 10th Special Forces Group (SFG) from Fort Devens, Mass., conducted an operational readiness training test (ORTT) exercise, "Windy Range" at Westover from April 12 to May 9. The exercise deployed elements of the 10th SFG to forward operating locations in Massachusetts and New York, and SFG teams infiltrated simulated enemy forces in New York and New Hampshire. On April 29, Maj. Gen. Robert Kingston, Senior Special Forces General for the Army, met with 439th wing personnel here to discuss the 439th TAW's planning, command and control required to execute the ORTT at Westover.



Our Condolences to the Families of Members Who Passed Away Recently:

**Anthony Nubile, 439CSG/
Carpenter Shop**

**MSgt. Aubrey L. Pegram,
59 Aerial Port Sq**

**Stanley Swieskowski
4040 ABSq/Commissary**

Capitol Visitors

Bicentennial visitors to Washington, D.C. will have an opportunity to stay with area residents and save money on the cost of accommodations.

The USO has established Bicentennial Lodging Locators, a reservation service to find inexpensive lodging for military, dependents and other visitors in private homes in Washington and nearby Maryland and Virginia.

Rates

Rooms cost an average of \$10 per night for a single, \$15 a double, \$5 for each additional adult and \$3 for each child in the same room. Some accommodations offer breakfast, cooking privileges or baby-sitting for a small additional charge. Private apartments (from \$20-\$25 per night), and dormitory-style group accommodations (\$8-10 per person per night) can also be arranged through the USO's Lodging Locators. Enlisted military members and dependents are eligible for reduced rates.

Reservations

Reservations should be made as soon as possible by writing or calling Bicentennial Lodging Locators, 451 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001; telephone: (202) 737-6070. A deposit equal to one night's lodging, which will be credited toward the total cost of accommodations, is required to hold a reservation.

Registration

Upon arrival in Washington, register at the Bicentennial Lodging Locators office in the USO building (address above) for directions to lodgings, and for information and brochures about transportation, historical sights, cultural events, dining out and special Bicentennial activities.



CHOW DOWN Boy Scouts from Troop 622, Holyoke, Mass., take a break during their recent 3-day camporee at Westover. Joseph Wright, general chairman of the Pioneer Valley Council, Boy Scouts of America spring camporee, declared the cooperation and support given by base personnel to the 2,000 scouts, "Outstanding and Sensational."

Standards of Conduct

Policy Clarifies Difference In Contractor, Association

Department of Defense military and civilian personnel may participate in "luncheons, meetings, symposia, and similar gatherings hosted by an organization representing a wide diversity of business interests."

That clarification of DoD standards of conduct policy defines the relationship between *association-hosted* events as opposed to *contractor-hosted* events. DoD personnel are *prohibited* from participating in the latter.

DoD Directive 5500.7, "Standards of Conduct," states in part: "Participation by DoD personnel is appropriate when the host is the association and not an individual contractor. Acceptance of gratuities or hospitality from private companies in connection with such association's activities is prohibited."

The policy specifically prohibits DoD civilian and active duty military personnel from:

- Attending social functions as guests of any contractor or accepting hospitality from any such contractor.

- Accepting invitations to association luncheons or similar events unless the sponsoring organization arranges the seating in a random manner or in such a way that seats are not influenced by contractor interest.

- Accepting gifts of other than specialty advertising items of trivial intrinsic value.

DoD emphasizes that when attending such activities, military and civilian personnel within DoD must insure that they are in full compliance with the letter and the spirit of DoD Directive 5500.7, "Standards of Conduct."



Wing Commander's Message

By Brig. Gen. Billy M. Knowles

Although I've already corresponded with you concerning the highly successful ORI/MEI results, it's worth repeating briefly. We're Number 1! When you're Number 1, bask in that knowledge, but remember what it took to get there, what it takes to stay there and that there are those who are number 2 or 3 or 4 and striving to unseat the top dog. Feels good, though, just the same.

I would say the most important subjects confronting this wing right now are recruiting and retention. We will be developing and implementing a fully organized long range retention program shortly and I will not dwell on that just now. However, we must attack the matter of recruiting immediately and treat it as a crash-type effort.

Our small recruiting force is just not large enough to carry the whole burden of recruiting. All of us must assist. Our quota for April-May-June is 172. At the time of this writing, we have gained 40, leaving about 132 to go. But you can see if only 6% of you recruited one man, we would make our goal. Our cutoff date is 26 June 1976. You have time. Look to your neighborhood, associates and work area for good, interested prospects—prior service or non-prior service.

* * *

FROM BASE CIVIL ENGINEER: Conservation of energy means turning off electric lights when not required, at Westover as well as at home. It has often erroneously been stated that it is more economical to leave lights on, rather than turn them off, if they will be turned back on shortly. Not so . . . absolutely untrue for fixtures with incandescent lamps. With fluorescent tube fixtures, the lamp life can be increased slightly by decreasing the number of starts; however, the dire need to conserve electrical energy, and the cost of electricity, exceed the requirement for an increase in lamp life.

LONG HAIR IN THE HIGH COURT

WASHINGTON (AFNS)—Airmen hoping for a Supreme Court decision in favor of longer hair styles suffered a setback recently along with policemen of Suffolk County, Long Island, N.Y.

On April 1, 1976, the Supreme Court upheld the right of police departments to prohibit beards and regulate the length of police officers' hair. The wording of the decision left little doubt that it would be cited as precedent by the military services in cases involving the permissible length of servicemen's hair.

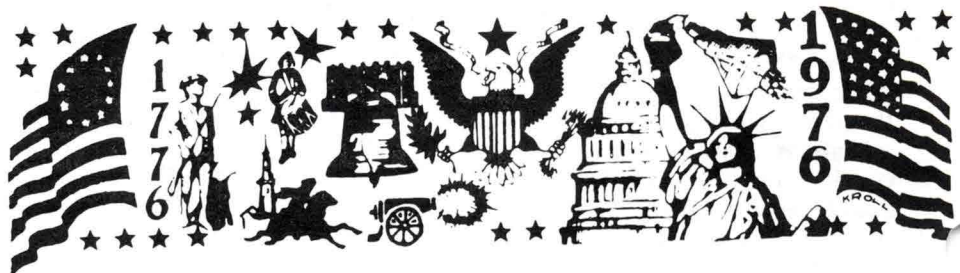
At the time of the decision, the Court of Military Appeals had yet to decide a case questioning the Army's right to regulate hair lengths.

The Supreme Court ruled that the hair regulations are one of the many demands that state and local governments may make on policemen in the interests of "discipline, esprit de corps and uniformity."

Justice William H. Rehnquist who wrote the majority opinion, noted that ". . . the county has chosen a mode of organization which it undoubtedly deems (to be) the most efficient in enabling its police to carry out the duties assigned to them."

The six-to-two decision also upheld the police regulation which banned wigs to conceal long hair while on duty.

* * *



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SUGGESTION CERTIFICATE SSgt. Alfred Wood, 439th TAW/LGM, receives a letter of commendation and congratulations from Brig. Gen. Billy M. Knowles, 439th TAW commander, for his suggestion concerning an inherent safety hazard. Sergeant Wood, who as a civilian employee is an aircraft mechanic (ART), recommended drilling holes in the base of the handrail support of aircraft maintenance stands and the stanchions where they are inserted. A pip pin placed through the two objects would thereby prevent the rail from dislodging when grasped by employees, virtually eliminating the possibility of anyone falling off the stand. Mrs. Agnes Sullivan, base suggestion committee chairperson, and Mr. John Mitchell, civilian personnel officer, were also in attendance.

PROMOTIONS

Lt. Col. Leon L. Furr, Jr.
 1st Lt. Thomas R. Waldron
 MSgt. Michael J. Guiliani
 TSgt. Donald E. Anderson
 TSgt. William P. Angello
 TSgt. Steven F. Leib
 TSgt. Roy C. Menard
 SSgt. George E. Armel
 SSgt. Steve Bogard Jr.
 SSgt. Richard L. Carr
 SSgt. Robert F. Clinkscale
 SSgt. Paul E. Deshaies
 SSgt. Albert J. Drenthe
 SSgt. Georges F. Gadbois
 SSgt. William D. Groeber
 SSgt. Lewis Kalesnik
 SSgt. Lawrence P. Ouilette
 SSgt. Robert F. Pajak
 SSgt. Gerald D. Racine
 SSgt. Janice M. Shine
 SSgt. Thomas M. Troy
 SSgt. Donald F. Wyzik
 Sgt. Robert A. Allard
 Sgt. Michael F. McMahon
 Sgt. Birgit Scott
 A1C Michael C. Albert
 A1C Linda J. Ammon
 A1C Richard H. Bialoglowy
 A1C Leda G. Brinton
 A1C Gail M. Mas
 A1C Dean M. Mauro
 A1C Nancy J. Olszewski
 A1C Kathleen M. Ritter
 A1C Lisa M. Waldron
 A1C Charlene B. Weaver
 A1C Annie M. Wibby
 A1C Robert D. Williams

ENLISTED

SSgt. Richard E. Alix
 SSgt. Eugene E. Little
 SSgt. Grahame J.L. Richards
 Sgt. William T. Burghardt
 Sgt. Fredrick M. Capella
 Sgt. Roger A. Cheverier
 Sgt. Andrew F. Goodwin
 Sgt. Robert E. Ranck
 Sgt. George P. Sulikowski
 Sgt. James T. Tucker
 A1C William L. B. Gargano
 A1C Karen S. Martin
 A1C David A. Thorpe
 AMN Wanda M. Wood
 AB Richard A. Borelli
 AB Jan L. Bronder
 AB David R. Dunn
 AB Lillian T. Goodale
 AB Barbara J. Kamkin
 AB Rodney D. McCoy
 AB Joanne M. Pacella
 AB Joann Roa
 AB Steven R. Roudi
 AB Eddie A. Sheats
 AB James W. Williams
 Sgt. Leroy R. Gomes Jr.

**REENLISTED**

Sgt. Leroy R. Gomes Jr.

REASSIGNED

Capt. Thomas P. Massello
 SMSgt. Robert L. Xanders
 SSgt. Carlo M. Vollaro
 Sgt. Russell L. Davis Jr.
 Sgt. James R. McCoon
 A1C Dennis P. Fountain
 A1C Paul V. Valente

TO STANDBY RESERVE

Lt. Col. John J. Douches Jr.
 SMSgt. Alfred J. Smith
 TSgt. Guy H. Howe
 SSgt. Donald R. Taylor
 Sgt. George Borey
 Sgt. Timothy D. Cronin
 Sgt. Michael G. Dolbec
 Sgt. Lawrence E. Linehan
 Sgt. David M. Pinkham
 Sgt. Kevin F. Renaldi
 Sgt. Frank T. Silva
 Sgt. Stephen F. Thompson
 Sgt. William S. Trope Jr.
 Sgt. Thomas C. Van Deusen
 A1C William T. Costello
 A1C Deborah L. Pariseau
 A1C Betsy V. Rainville
 AMN Richard L. Coville
 AB Mervin N. Gonzalez

DISCHARGED

MSgt. Charles J. Mokeler
 TSgt. Thomas E. Allen
 SSgt. Douglas G. Brady
 SSgt. Linwood M. McCloud
 SSgt. Kenneth C. Rehler
 SSgt. Thomas F. Roshier
 SSgt. Steven B. Sidman
 SSgt. James F. Quigley Jr.
 Sgt. Howard E. Belliveau
 Sgt. Richard A. Burke
 Sgt. Daniel J. Kennedy
 Sgt. David L. LaJaunesse
 Sgt. David A. Levien
 Sgt. Fredrick C. Roy
 Sgt. Dominick J. Tria
 A1C Paul E. Begley
 A1C Theresa Marie Klewin

RESERVE CALL BILL GOES TO HOUSE

(AFNS) The House Armed Services Committee has forwarded to the full House a bill to permit ordering reservists to active duty for a limited period, whether or not war or national emergency has been declared. This legislation would give the President authority to call up, for 90 days, up to 50,000 members of the Selected Reserve. This legislation would provide a fast way of activating reservists for operational missions. It will help establish the credibility of Reserve components and ease their integration into the defense structure.

**SHOOT
 THE
 WORKS
 WITH
 U.S.
 SAVINGS
 BONDS**



THE PATRIOT is an Official Class II U. S. Air Force newspaper published monthly for the personnel of the 439th Tactical Airlift Wing (AFRES) at Westover AFB, MA 01022. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the U. S. Air Force.

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Two 439th Airmen Named Outstanding

White EAFRR Runnerup

A1C Sarah F. White, 439th CSG's one and only graphics specialist was recently selected as Eastern Air Force Reserve Region Runnerup for AFRES' Outstanding Airman of the Air Force, 1976. One candidate per unit was submitted from the region's 12 units.

After completing basic training, Airman White was assigned to Hanscom AFB for training in the graphics field from April through August 1975. She finished her OJT and CDC courses simultaneously for her five-level within two months and stayed on for further experience. Her biggest accomplishment at Hanscom was to produce from scratch a brochure on traffic safety for base-wide use.

At Westover, Airman White faced a very challenging situation by filling a slot vacant for two years. She activated, by herself, a functional graphics shop that served the base within a month. In order to accomplish that, she found it necessary to work voluntarily without compensation other than for personal satisfaction.

"For a young airman, Airman White has a lot more responsibility than most, as she doesn't have an intermediate supervisor and reports directly to me," says Lt. Col. Jack Ferguson. "Airman White has proven to be a self-starter, she sets up her own workload, does very well and with a minimum of supervision. She's a very pleasant, well groomed military mannered young woman."

Her graphics interest came from being interested in art as a hobby through high school and she did take an art course from Quinebaug Community College, Killingly, Conn., before joining The Reserve. Now she reflects on her good luck, "Would you believe they had a position as a small firearms instructor, but then luckily they found the graphics opening and I got it?"



THE DOCTOR AND THE DRAFTSPERSON The 439th's newest named Outstanding Airmen, Col. Alan Fleckner, M.D., 439th Tactical Hospital commander; and A1C Sarah White, 439th CSG, discuss some of her "tools of the trade" in the physician's office.



Fleckner Top Physician

"I was quite surprised when I heard the news," recalls Col. Alan N. Fleckner, M.D., when he learned that he was named the "Outstanding Reserve Aerospace Medical Physician of the Year."

The Reservists who work with the colonel, however, were delighted and expected the commander of the 439th Tactical Hospital would win an award based on performance, achievement and dedication to the reserve program. "Colonel Fleckner does a real good job," said SSgt. David Lavoie, a unit member. "I'm not surprised at all."

Since 1959, Colonel Fleckner has served in a variety of medical positions as a regular and reserve Air Force member. While on active duty, he served as a flight surgeon and later as chief flight surgeon at Sheppard AFB, Tex.

As a reservist, Colonel Fleckner worked at L.G. Hanscom Field until the 901st TAG relocated to Westover in 1973. He received the Air Force Commendation Medal in 1972.

Colonel Fleckner also leads a busy civilian life. He has a practice in obstetrics in Billerica, Mass. and is associate director of obstetrics at St. Joseph's Hospital, Lowell, Mass. The doctor also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Merrimack Valley Health Service Agency and is on the Armed Service Committee of the Massachusetts Medical Society.

In addition to his wide range of professional interests, Colonel Fleckner still finds time to be an assistant scoutmaster and district medical officer for the Lowell (Mass.) district Boy Scouts.

Not only were the reservists Dr. Fleckner works with not surprised about his latest award, they're expecting even more citations for his continued accomplishments in the future.

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