



# THE PATRIOT



439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING

WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MASS.

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## 439 TAW Brings Holiday Joy

Santa Claus' bag of Christmas gifts for the patients at the Shrine Hospital, Springfield and the Newington (Conn.) Hospital, was splitting at its seams thanks to the efforts and generosity of 439 TAW members, their families, and friends.

Westover personnel, under the coordination of Maj. Robert Hafner and SMSgt. Hugh Fraleigh, collected over \$800 by the end of the November UTA. The amount exceeded last year's total by 50 percent.

At a recent meeting of the base's Federal Women's Committee, another \$60 was donated.

The Milton Bradley Company joined base Reservists donating gifts. It sent a very appropriate and generous contribution of seven cases of their games. Also, the Morris' Novelty House, Pawtucket, R.I., gave a very substantial discount on gifts purchased there.

All the presents were gift wrapped on December 11 by a volunteer team of Mrs. Ann Marie Pitman; her sons, Mark and Michael; Capt. Rachel E. Fraleigh; TSgt. Michael Conboy; SSgt. James Duell; SrA Charlene Weaver; SrA Carol Cole, Amn. Cheryl Babbitt, AB Holly Dill, and AB Maureen Huddock.

Later that afternoon, 439th delegations visited 43 children at the Shrine Hospital, and 93 at Newington. Because of the highly successful appeal, the Reservists were able to give each child two gifts.

Extra gifts will be distributed to other youngsters through the Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots program.

Because gift-giving calls for a party, the children also received ample portions of ice cream and candy, compliments of the 9th.

In addition to receiving some very attractive and unexpected gifts, perhaps the children will remember the Reservists' visit for other reasons. As in past years, members of Westover's family shared a few hours with youngsters facing a Christmas party away from their own family.



**THE PROTECTIVE RAILINGS** of a hospital bed don't stop Santa (TSgt. Maurice La-Fortune) Claus from delivering toys to an anxious youngster at Springfield's Shrine Hospital.

### Maj. Gen. Bodycombe New AFRES Vice Commander; Other General Officers Get New Assignments

HQ AFRES, ROBINS AFB, Ga. (AFRNS) —Maj. Gen. Richard Bodycombe, Mobilization Assistant to the Commander-in-Chief, Strategic Air Command, has been named Vice Commander, Air Force Reserve, effective November 1, 1976. He replaces Maj. Gen. Earl O. Anderson, who retired recently.

In other actions, Brig. Gen. James E. McAdoo, Commander of the 514th Military Airlift Wing (Assoc), at McGuire AFB,

N.J. replaces Brig. Gen. Edward Dillon as Deputy to the Chief, Air Force Reserve, and Brig. Gen. Dillon assumed command of the 14th Air Force (AF (R)) headquartered at Dobbins AFB, Ga.

In two other Reserve Numbered Air Forces, 4 AF (R), McClellan AFB, Calif., and 10 AF (R), Bergstrom AFB, Tex., are commanded by Brig. Gen. Sidney S. Novaresi and Brig. Gen. Roy A. Marshall respectively.

# Westover Personnel Entertain Ho



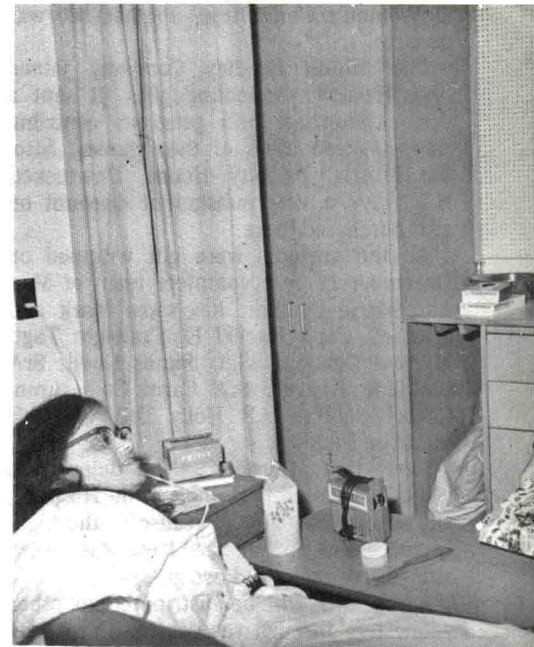
A HAPPY PATIENT unwraps her Christmas gift as SrA Charlene Weaver smiles in anticipation of the young lady's comments.



THIS YOUNGSTER shows Amn. Kathleen Wood Fraleigh one of his many gifts as one of his nurses.



YOUNG PATIENTS open their gifts at Newington Children's Hospital as Capt. Rachel E. Fraleigh looks on.



MR. GEORGE SANFORD, director of recreation talks with a young patient as Amn. Kathleen M. V.

**OFFICERS' DINING-OUT  
STORY NEXT PATRIOT**

# HAPPY NEW

# Hospital Patients and Area Youngsters

## Children Treated at 58 APS Annual Party

Slippery road conditions and extreme winter weather curtailed the festivities at the 58th Aerial Port Squadron's annual Christmas party for local youngsters.

The dozen young men and women who were able to attend the party were treated to a bountiful supply of goodies and gifts.

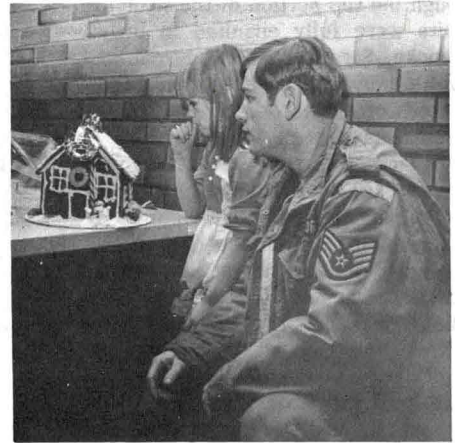
The Friendly Ice Cream Corporation donated ice cream, and the dining hall personnel donated their time to prepare food.

Before bringing them into the dining hall, the children were taken through the 731 TAS C-123, "Patches", for their first close-up view of an aircraft.

The generous load of gifts on Santa's (SSgt. Daniel Cheney) pack were donated by the members of the squadron. Timothy Nolan pleased everyone with his clown antics.



left center, and SMSgt. Hugh J. and other Reservist watch.



STEADY AS SHE GOES . . . Sgt. Daniel Sturtz, 439CSG/DE, left, and TSgt. Jack Cichaski, 905CEFit, erect Westover's Christmas tree at the entrance to the ellipse.



at Newington Children's Hospital food holds her gift.

# NEW YEAR!

## Filliettaz Credited With Fire Rescue

"Driving home from work I noticed smoke billowing from a building across the street," MSgt. Richard B. Filliettaz recalls about the first seconds of his heroic life saving rescue. "I realized no one else had seen the fire and that I had to do something fast!"

Sergeant Filliettaz then immediately instructed a nearby gas station attendant to call the fire department as a merchant from next door was explaining that an elderly woman lived on the top floor of the burning building and that she was deaf.

Although the top portion of the structure and stairs were fully engulfed in heavy, black smoke, Sergeant Filliettaz managed to find his way to her apartment. Door bells, shouts of alarm, or pounding on the door would have been futile because of the lady's lack of hearing, so he had to patiently wait until his frantic gestures at the window caught the potential victim's attention to explain the imminent danger.

With flames drawing nearer, the woman adamantly demanded that certain cherished belongings be brought to safety as well. The two started collecting her choices.

By the time the Watervliet (N.Y.) Fire Department arrived, Sergeant Filliettaz had saved the woman's life and prized possessions.

With his job done, Sergeant Filliettaz, personally pleased with his efforts, continued on his journey home. It was not until eight months later that the fire department confirmed who the heroic but quiet rescuer was, and thanked him for his actions.

The cause of the fire is unknown. Perhaps if Sergeant Filliettaz could have used his Air Force training at the house prior to the incident, the fire would never have occurred. On Reserve weekends, he's a fire prevention inspector with the 439th's Fire Department.



**WARM WORDS OF PRAISE AND CONGRATULATIONS** are extended to Westover's newest "hero", MSgt. Richard Filliettaz, left, by Base Assistant Fire Chief for Operations Roger Hemond.

### AF Assists Earthquake Victims

More than one million pounds of relief supplies were airlifted by the U.S. Air Force to Van Airport, Turkey, for survivors of the Nov. 24 earthquake in the northeast area of the country. C-5 Galaxies, C-141 Starlifters and C-130 Hercules aircraft flew more than 25 missions hauling tents, space heaters, blankets and other goods in Incirlik Common Defense Installation (CDI), Adana, Turkey. Supplies airlifted from Incirlik to the Van Airport took 39 C-130 airlift missions. Although the airlift of supplies has been completed, Air Force efforts are continuing. Personnel will remain at Van to assist the disaster area for as long as needed.

### Recycling Program Canned

Air Force Reserve headquarters has directed all its subordinate units to "can" their recycling efforts.

Actually, each base's efforts are not stopping but are being expanded. A new program to collect and recycle aluminum and steel cans, such as beverage containers, recently started throughout the country, including Westover.

Thirty pairs of 55-gallon drums will be placed around the base; one for aluminum cans, the other for steel. Crushed containers are preferred, but are not required. The base civil engineers will periodically collect them and the base property disposal office will insure the cans' recycling.

Everyone working at Westover is urged to pitch in.



**FINISHING TOUCHES** are added to the Christmas scene by Mike McNicholas and Bob Gerber.

**HQ 439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING (AFRES)  
WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MA. 01022**

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