

PATRIOT

439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING (AIR FORCE RESERVE)

WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MASS.

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Maj. Gen. Sharp sees increased role for Reserve

By TSgt. Gordon Newell

Maj. Gen. Alan G. Sharp, commander of the Fourteenth Air Force, envisions an expanded role for the Air Force Reserve as the 20th century enters its final decade.

The general visited Westover on June 1-2 on a periodic inspection tour and for an update on the progress of the C-5 conversion.

As the C-17 begins coming into the active duty Air Force's inventory around 1992 or 1993, more and more planes will be released to the Reserve forces," he said.

"We'll probably see more C-141 units coming into the Reserve as well as an increase in the size of C-130 units from the present eight to 12 or even 16, depending on facilities that are available," the general said.

"Basically, everything depends on what happens in Congress"

"Of course this is all just guesswork at this time and all of these plans depend on funding. Any cutbacks would stretch the plans out. Basically, everything depends on what happens in Congress."

The general sees the increase in the role of the Reserve as a big challenge to recruiters.

"During the current year, the Air Force Reserve is going through its highest growth rate in its history. The recruiters are doing well but they'll have to do even better in the future," said General Sharp.

"With the 439th converting to the C-5, recruiters here will have their work cut out for them, especially in specific career fields."

"The two major areas that I suspect will be especially challenging for the recruiters will be in filling additional maintenance and aircrew slots. We're not too worried about that though. When West-

over was being considered for the conversion, demographic studies told us that necessary resources were available in the immediate area."

The change in aircraft will also mean a drastic change in mission for the 439th.

"The C-5 mission is basically an inter-theater one, while the C-130 is intra-theater," the general explained. "The C-130 was designed to fly into a theater of operations and operate there. The

C-5 on the other hand, will fly into a theater, unload at a large port of debarkation and return to its original base."

Accompanying General Sharp on his tour at Westover's facilities were Maj. Gen. William L. Copeland, mobilization assistant to the chief of Air Force Reserve and Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Gregory, mobilization assistant to the chief of staff, Military Airlift Command, Scott AFB, Ill.



Members of the Reserve Naval Construction Battalion 27 from the Brunswick Naval Air Station, Maine, offload a Navy tractor trailer from an Air Force C-5. (Story on page 7)

(USAF photo by MSgt. Larry Lentz)



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- 74th AES in casualty drill

EDITORIAL

Will your voice be heard?

Did you ever wonder what organizations such as the Air Force Sergeants Association, the Reserve Officers Association and the Air Force Association are all about?

Did you ever consider why you should join them?

For answers to those questions, you won't have to look much further than your daily newspaper, or weekly magazine. Consider the following headlines:

"House Debates MX Missile"

"Stockman Raps Military Pension System"

"Air Force Reserve Modernizes Airlift Structure"

Nearly every day, our nation's lawmakers and policy shapers reach decisions that affect the Armed Forces and all of its members. What they decide has a tremendous impact on our national security, or our unit and our individual lives.

It's a long way from Westover to Washington, D.C. and it's virtually impossible for an individual Reservist to keep abreast of the plethora of military legislation that is pending in Congress at any given time.

That's precisely why groups such as AFSA, ROA and AFA were created. They are dedicated to preserving a strong national defense through a well-trained and well-equipped military. They seek to ensure that the contributions of military personnel are recognized.

In austere economic times, many valid interests compete for limited tax funding. In times of controversy, divergent points of view are always expressed.

Organizations like AFSA, ROA and AFA serve as our eyes, ears and voice in the halls of Congress and the Pentagon. They allow the views of Westover Reservists, and our colleagues throughout the United States, to be heard by the people who must make the tough choices.

As Longfellow once wrote: "All your strength is in your union, all your danger is in discord." It is absolutely imperative that those who are most concerned about a viable military and vibrant national defense voice their views in a cohesive and coherent manner.

The costs of joining these organizations are minimal. The benefits — to each of us, and to the country — are monumental.

Capt. Rick Dyer
Public Affairs Officer

Open House offers fingerprinting for kids

Westover police will offer free child fingerprinting during the Base Open House on July 27.

The service will be available to any child who is accompanied by a parent or guardian.

According to Chief Harold Voelker of the Westover Police Department, base officials decided to offer the fingerprinting service in response to growing national concern about missing and abducted children.

"Fingerprints can play an important role in locating and identifying a missing child," Chief Voelker said. "We hope that parents will take advantage of this service, and keep the fingerprint records in a safe place."

During the open house, Reserve and civilian law enforcement personnel will fingerprint the youngsters at a location outside of the Base Hangar, near the flightline. The fingerprint record cards will be donated by the Chicopee Police Department.

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

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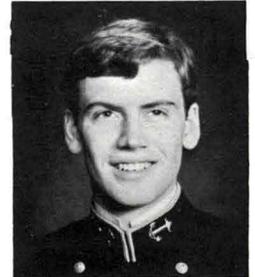
SSgt. Glenn Bogart

BRIEFS

AFRES' ensign?

There should be some interesting discussions in the Caldwell home the next time Navy plays Air Force in football.

Ensign Shawn M. Callahan, son of Marilyn Caldwell, the 439th CSG's traffic management officer, and stepson of Maj. George Caldwell, the 439th



TAW's logistic and plans officer, was commissioned in May when he graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md.

The new naval officer received his degree during ceremonies at which President Ronald Reagan delivered the commencement address.

Safe driver

William J. Fagan, a civilian employee with the 439th Combat Support Group transportation office, has been named Westover's "Safe Driver of the Year."

Fagan was honored for having driven 15,000 miles without a citation or mishap. The veteran Westover employee recently received his award from Lt. Col. Gale H. French, the Wing's chief of safety.

Peacekeeper Challenge

Three Reservists from the 439th Weapons System Security Flight represented the Wing at Peacekeeper Challenge competition during May at Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.

SSgt. Eban T. Goode, SSgt. William D. Noble Jr. and A1C Victor R. Roque competed in the grueling combat competition which involves law enforcement personnel from the Air Force, Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard and foreign nations.

Although the trio failed to finish among the contest's leaders, their efforts drew praise from Maj. Frank McCormick, 439th WSSF commander.

Volant Rodeo team returns: bloody but unbowed

By SSgt. Glenn Bogart

"Wait 'till next year" were the words heard most frequently at the June 8 welcome-home party given for Westover's Volant Rodeo team.

Our 26-member team spent a week at Pope AFB, N.C. competing with more than 40 other teams from the active duty Air Force, the Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, and teams from eight foreign countries.

"We were competing against champions," said Lt. Col. Gale H. French, Westover's Volant Rodeo team chief. "Only the best from each wing or country participates, so we were proud to be there.

"We are also proud that the Reserve and Guard ran off with the show," he said.

The 94th TAW, from Dobbins AFB, Ga. outperformed 32 challengers to become the first Reserve unit to win a Volant Rodeo championship since the competition began in 1978.

The 315th MAW, a Reserve associate unit from Charleston, AFB, S.C., landed the C-141 aircrew division, and the 446th MAW, a Reserve associate unit from McChord AFB, Wash. placed first in the C-141 engine-running cargo off-loading event. The 446th MAW missed first place in the C-141 maintenance division by only a half point.

The 459th TAW from Andrews AFB, Md. won the C-130 short-field landing event.

In special recognition of the Air Force Reserve units, Brig. Gen. Larry D. Wright, competition commander, said the performance by the 94th TAW and the other groups demonstrate that the Reserve is a dependable fighting force.

An Air National Guard unit, the 133rd TAW represented by the 167th TAG, Shepherd Field, Martinsburg, W. Va., was best in C-130 maintenance.

Other winners were the 435th TAW from Rhein-Main AB, Germany winning the C-130 aircrew division, the 443rd MAW from Altus AFB, Okla. won the C-141 maintenance division and Australia won the C-130 engine-running off load event.

West Germany won the security police event and the 62nd MAW from McChord AFB, Wash. was first in the combat control team events.

"All the competition was tough,"

commented Colonel French. "Even though Westover did not bring home any trophies this year, I'm still very pleased with our performance. It's a competition of inches."

CMSgt. Charles Fusco, maintenance superintendent, added his comments, "For 16 hours a day, you're in a fishbowl. Not a moment goes by when the team is not under observation. Add that kind of stress to the incredibly hot weather, and it's almost like a combat situation."

"After all that, they all want to go back next year," he said. "Now *that's* a pretty good team."



Team members: back row, (l. to r.) SSgt. Alan Rogers, SSgt. Samuel Colon, TSgt. Wayne Hayes, MSgt. James Maynard, CMSgt. Charlie Fusco, Capt. Bill Freidhofer, Lt. Col. Gale French, TSgt. Richard Turpin, TSgt. Tommy Dzwonkus, Maj. Tom Grenham, TSgt. Tom Kelly, Maj. Sandy Whittier, TSgt. John Missale, 1st Lt. Michael Marten, TSgt. Dianne Wise, SSgt. Jake Negrotti, SSgt. George Beckwith, SSgt. Bob Motley, and TSgt. Zigmund Skawski. (front row): TSgt. Mike Doyle, TSgt. Dick Halla, TSgt. Richard Moul, SSgt. Joe DiMartino, SSgt. Bill Latham, SrA Michael Golenski, SSgt. Patrick Whelan, SSgt. Frank Puopolo and SSgt. Joseph Desjardins.

(USAF photo by SSgt. Sandi Michon)

Sergeant saves family from burning home



TSgt. Albert Drenthe

A Reservist from the 439th Civil Engineering Squadron recently was credited with saving the lives of a Springfield woman and her two children.

TSgt. Albert Drenthe, a 16-year veteran of the Reserve, was returning home from his civilian job at 5 a.m. on May 17 when he noticed smoke pouring from the eaves of a neighbor's home.

The 34-year-old NCO ran to the burning dwelling and awakened Linda Lassonde and her two children.

Springfield fire officials believe that Sergeant Drenthe's quick action averted a disaster.

"We feel he (Drenthe) really saved the day," said Springfield District Fire Chief George Nadeau. "The fire had apparently been smoldering unnoticed all day, and the roof was near collapse when they escaped from the house."

Sergeant Drenthe, who lives across the street from the Lassonde home, said that the fire apparently started in some insulation which had recently been installed.

"The fire had already burned through three or four joists when I saw it," the NCO said. "I'm just glad that I was in the right place at the right time."

Training pays off in flight emergency

By **MSgt. Marshall Hathaway**
Wing Historian

With solid airmanship, proper procedures and adherence to prescribed safety standards, Maj. David Crowther, 439th TAW aircrew standardization/evaluation branch chief, successfully averted a potentially hazardous incident recently and brought a severely damaged 337th TAS C-130 to a safe landing.

Only 200 feet off the ground after a heavyweight takeoff during a routine training mission at Westover, a spacer between engine turbine wheels disintegrated on #4 engine. Hot broken pieces were thrown through the engine housing puncturing the right external fuel tank filled with 6,000 pounds of JP-4 fuel.

Shrapnel also ruptured a heat shield, air duct, a part of the fire warning system and melted electrical harnesses. Lt. Col. Arthur J. Sorenson, wing deputy commander for operations, said, "Blue fire-suppressant foam in the external tank very likely prevented a wing fire, explosion, or worse." Debris traveled to the aft end of the engine damaging the turbine beyond repair. The tail pipe fell from the engine onto the runway and hot debris blown by a crosswind started a grass fire on the side of the runway.

"The first indication of trouble was when the throttle jerked out of my hand," Major Crowther said. "The airplane immediately yawed 40 degrees to the right — it got your attention in a hurry. After feathering the engine, the topmost thing in my mind was to maintain 150 knots airspeed with a control-

lable flight attitude.

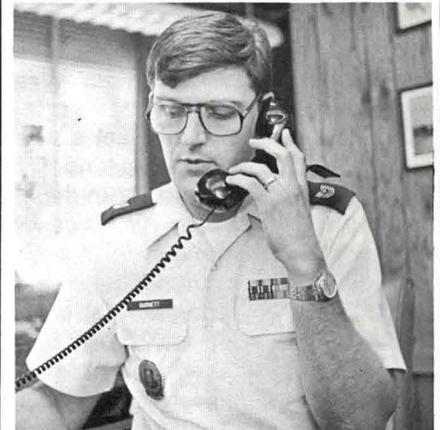
"We landed as fast as we could, fuel streaming out of the external wing tank. None of us know what was wrong till we landed and by the time we got out of the plane, we were surrounded with fuel on the ground. Until then, I thought I had throttle linkage failure." The Fire Department met the aircraft and foamed down the leaking tank. There were no injuries or fire.

The emergency was further compounded by the low altitude and the loss of 25 percent power. The failure was in the outboard right wing engine making control of the aircraft at that altitude and weight much more difficult than an inboard engine loss. A dead outboard engine greatly exaggerates the effect of aerodynamic drag, more so at a low altitude. In addition to fighting mechanical problems, a pilot in an emergency must also cope with psychological factors.

Col. Walter Holliday, 337th TAS commander and Lt. Col. Joseph Butler, 439th TAW Command Post chief, both agreed that the entire gamut of contributing factors caused "extreme stress."

In the case of the turbine explosion, the crew responded as they were trained to do. Colonel Sorenson said, "This aircraft commander and crew possessed the knowledge, professionalism and personal disciplines needed to deal with a seriously disabled airplane and to bring it down safely. I believe I can say the same for all of the wing's mission-ready crews.

New Senior Recruiter



MSgt. Edward J. Burnett

There's a new face in the newly-remodeled recruiting office in Building 1800. MSgt. Edward J. Burnett arrived May 6 to take his place as the new senior recruiter. Sergeant Burnett, originally from Youngstown, Ohio, has been on extended active duty for more than six years. He has held recruiting posts at Youngstown and, most recently, at Greater Pittsburgh International Airport.

"Recruiting will become even more important here at Westover as we prepare for the C-5's," said the sergeant. "We're really looking forward to it."

Sergeant Burnett was an air cargo specialist before becoming a recruiter. He says he is very impressed with the professionalism he has seen at Westover, and looks forward to bringing his wife Karen and their two children here soon.

Capt. Gross is new commander of Information Service

The new commander of the 439th Information System Squadron is more like an old friend than a new face.

Capt. Stephen P. Gross assumed command recently from Lt. Col. Alan M. Salus. During Capt. Gross' 6½ years on active duty, he served as commander of the now former 1917th Communications Squadron, parent unit to the 901st Communications Flight and the 905th Communications Flight, which was recently redesignated the 439th ISS.

After assuming command, Captain Gross said, "I appreciate the opportunity to work with the fine people in the unit. They are a very effective, spirited group. In the past two years, they have helped me learn and we will all grow in



Capt. Stephen P. Gross

the years to come." Captain Gross has been the flight's communications officer for the past two years.

He received his commission in September 1975 and served as Strategic Air Command headquarters from 1977 to 1979 as an aide to the commander of the Defense Communications Systems Communications Electronics division before arriving at Westover in November 1979. He then assumed command of Detachment 5 of the 1st Aerospace Communications Group.

Captain Gross lives in Pelham and is manager of computer operations for Amherst Associates, a firm which provides computer services to the health care industry.

Services cooperate in joint casualty drill

By SSgt. Glenn Bogart

Reservists from Westover played a major role in a recent test of the Civilian-Military Contingency Hospital System.

In a May 18 exercise marked by inter-service cooperation, members of the 74th AES and 337th TAS worked with Navy, Naval Reserve, and Army and Air National Guard units to move simulated casualties throughout Connecticut.

The contingency hospital system is a tri-service program which would be used in case of overseas conventional war or large-scale civilian disaster. Its purpose is to disperse casualties to receiving civilian and VA hospitals to avoid overloading military hospitals while ensuring that the patients receive the best of medical care. The CMCHS program is scheduled to be expanded into a National Disaster Medical System this month.

Westover Reservists flew a C-130 to the Groton-New London (Conn.) Airport, arriving at approximately 9:45 a.m. During the hectic hour that followed, aeromedical evacuation teams from the 74th helped sort and load 45 Naval and Army Reserve "casualties" aboard the plane, which was manned by members of the 337th.

After a short flight to Bradley Interna-



TSgt. Michael Graham (l) and SrA Leo Wallin, both medical technicians from the 74th AES, carry a stretcher off the C-130 as part of the joint casualty drill.

(USAF photo by SSgt. Glenn Bogart)

tional Airport Connecticut Air National Guard facility, the evacuation team, led by 1st Lt. Pamela J. Kluwe, quickly carried the litter patients off the plane. There, members of the Massachusetts Army National Guard's 65th Medical Detachment took over, loading the "patients" into military ambulances destined for local civilian and VA hospitals.

Navy and Air National Guard personnel had earlier set up medical sorting, holding, and regulating facilities at Bradley Field.

Navy Capt. John R. Wheeler, administrator of the program in Connecticut, said that the successful tests would not have been possible without the support of Westover Reservists.

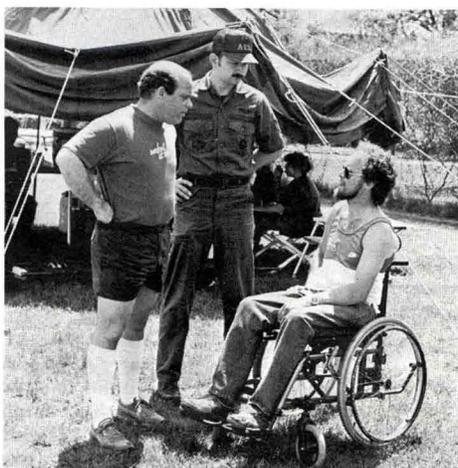
74th AES is a frequent community helper

Members of the 74th AES take their services above and beyond the call of duty as they reach into the community regularly.

The 74th aeromedical evacuation squadron consists of approximately 200 members, and their primary role is treatment and evacuation of wounded.

"We support approximately 15 to 20 extra events each year," said Maj. Mary Griffin-Bales, 74th AES flight nurse. Most of our involvement is first-aid support to the community, but we also support many military exercises, as well.

"For the past five years we have supported the Special Olympics, and just recently provided a first aid booth for the Wheel Chair Olympics. We offer blood pressure checks at the Air Force recruiting booths and at senior citizens blood pressure clinics.



SSgt. Timothy Brown (l) and SSgt. Thomas Geneczko, from the 74th AES speak with Darrel Willette from the New England Wheelchair Athletic Association.

"Often our assistance involves staffing a C-130 configured for medical evacuation, and giving medical briefings," explained Major Griffin-Bales. "We recently participated in the Red Flag exercise at Pease AFB, N.H. and will soon help out on a survival exercise.

"We will provide a first aid booth at the open house in July and also support the Model Airplane Show the week after.

"The most frequent problems our first aid stations treat are heat exhaustion, cuts, and abrasions," said Major Griffin-Bales.

"We are a very busy unit" commented Lt. Col. Edward T. Kosakowski, 74th AES commander. "We feel our extra activities in the community represent Westover and the Reserve in a very positive way.

"Patriot People"

Name: RAY BRIONES

Rank: Sgt.

Age: 23

Address: 604 Campbell Avenue,
Apt. 7
West Haven, Conn.

Unit: 905th CES

Position: fireman

Civilian Occupation: asst.
manager/retail

Favorite Food: chinese

Favorite Beverage: Pepsi

Favorite Sport: soccer

Favorite Hobby: stamp collecting

Ideal Vacation: trip to Caribbean

Best Way to Relax: lounge chair
on beach

Preferred Entertainment: comedy

Favorite Celebrity: Eddie Murphy

Favorite Music: contemporary

Favorite Book: Moby Dick

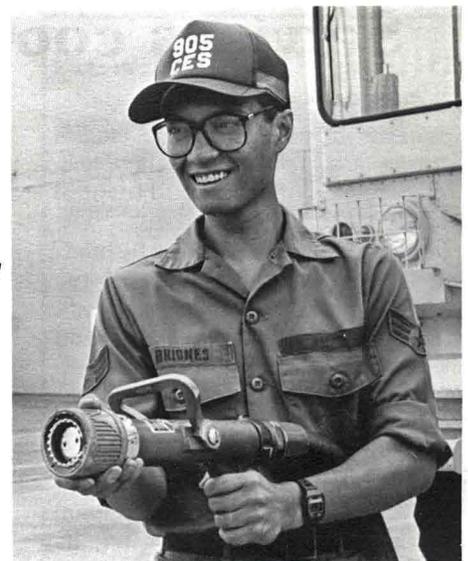
Favorite Color: sky blue

Favorite Car: Corvette

Pet Peeve: waking-up

Best Thing About Westover:
people

Worst Thing About Westover:
nothing



Sgt. Ray Briones

Dining Out features Brig. Gen. Billy Knowles

Retired Brig. Gen. Billy M. Knowles will be the guest speaker for the 11th Annual 439th TAW NCO/Airman Dining Out Oct. 26 at the Consolidated Open Mess. The Mess will convene at 6 p.m.

General Knowles, HQ AFRES director of Operational Plans, was 439th TAW commander from early 1974 until mid 1978 and was the first general officer to command the wing.

The dining out is being held on a non-

UTA weekend, partly to cut costs for members of the Mess. Billeting will be available for members and spouses who live at a distance and don't wish to drive home after a long evening. The off weekend will also eliminate an early Sunday morning sign-in.

Other dining out formalities will include presentation of annual wing awards: Airman, NCO, Senior NCO and Work Center of the Year. After the program there will be music for dancing

from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m.

Tickets are \$15.00 and will go on sale during the July UTA through unit representatives. Quantities will be limited.

MSgt. Faith Longfield, 439th career advisor, is President of the Mess and TSgt. Bradley Himelick, 439th WSSF fire team leader, is Mr. Vice. Sergeant Longfield said, "We've got a super committee this year and I'm looking forward to the best dining out ever."

PROMOTIONS

A1C Ellen T. Clark

ENLISTMENTS

SSgt. Jacques F. Breton
SSgt. Gerald T. Brown
SSgt. Richard J. Claffey, Jr.
SSgt. Richard A. Foerster
SSgt. Richard R. Jermy
SSgt. James R. Kendall
SSgt. Stephen Kerestan
SSgt. Michael H. MacMillan
SSgt. Thomas F. Nolan, III
Sgt. Donald E. Connell
Sgt. Bradley T. Higgins
Sgt. Gerhard H. Rancin
Sgt. Mark A. Roussell
Sgt. Charles L. Spinks
Sgt. Stanley C. Witek
A1C Douglas J. Dichard
A1C Nancy S. Joseph
A1C Judith A. Kennedy
A1C Garrett G. Kokko
A1C Elaine V. Lagasse
A1C Joseph D. Story, III
A1C Lulse L. Velasco
A1C John Wesley White
Amn. Warren E. Coleman
Amn. Richard T. Schmoke

AB Anthony M. McLeod
AB Brian P. Moreau
AB Renee A. Remedis

REENLISTMENTS

SMSgt. Paul T. Babin
SMSgt. Leonard F. Dube
SMSgt. Edward J. Greenwood, Sr.
SMSgt. Robert W. Ryan
MSgt. Stuart E. Degray
MSgt. Matthew M. Ferrara
MSgt. George E. Ouellette
MSgt. Gregory R. Swanson
TSgt. James D. Archer
TSgt. Lawrence J. Bara



TSgt. Lenore P. S. Bell
TSgt. Steve Bogard, Jr.
TSgt. Richard W. Chenevert, Sr.
TSgt. Marilu Depalo
TSgt. Larry A. Helmer
TSgt. Hubert Jaundoo
TSgt. Ralph A. Jamieson
TSgt. Richard O. Johansen
TSgt. Martin E. Kowalski
TSgt. Dennis R. Lendzioszek
TSgt. David C. Mee
TSgt. Donald A. Morin
TSgt. Brian P. Picard
TSgt. Louis R. Poirier
TSgt. Richard B. Roberts
TSgt. Edward J. Wall

TSgt. Raymond Weatherbee
TSgt. Paul M. Wiater
SSgt. Harry L. Beane, Jr.
SSgt. Howard M. Blackwood
SSgt. A. Clesynski
SSgt. James J. Cobb
SSgt. Warren S. Compton, III
SSgt. Thomas W. Dambrosio
SSgt. Kenneth P. Ferreira
SSgt. Mary P. Ferriter
SSgt. Mark A. Gagnon
SSgt. Frank R. Gustafson
SSgt. Helen M. Hillman
SSgt. Michael D. Hurley
SSgt. Stanley F. Jones, Jr.
SSgt. John Kappus
SSgt. Stuart A. Lambert
SSgt. Robert J. Martin
SSgt. David Perrault
SSgt. Ronald E. Philbrick
SSgt. Eddie A. Sheats
SSgt. Everett L. Simonds
SSgt. Walter P. Southard
SSgt. Michael J. Veniresca
Sgt. Douglas E. Hallett
Sgt. Thomas A. Jandreau
Sgt. Mark E. Levesque
SrA. Raymond Ramos
SrA. David F. Rannikko

Weekend drill with Westover's dentists

Story and Photo
By SSgt. Sandi Michon

The majority of Westover's Reservists drill on weekends and fill a slot in their unit.

Two of the Wing's newer members do things a little differently. Some of the time they drill on teeth and fill cavities.

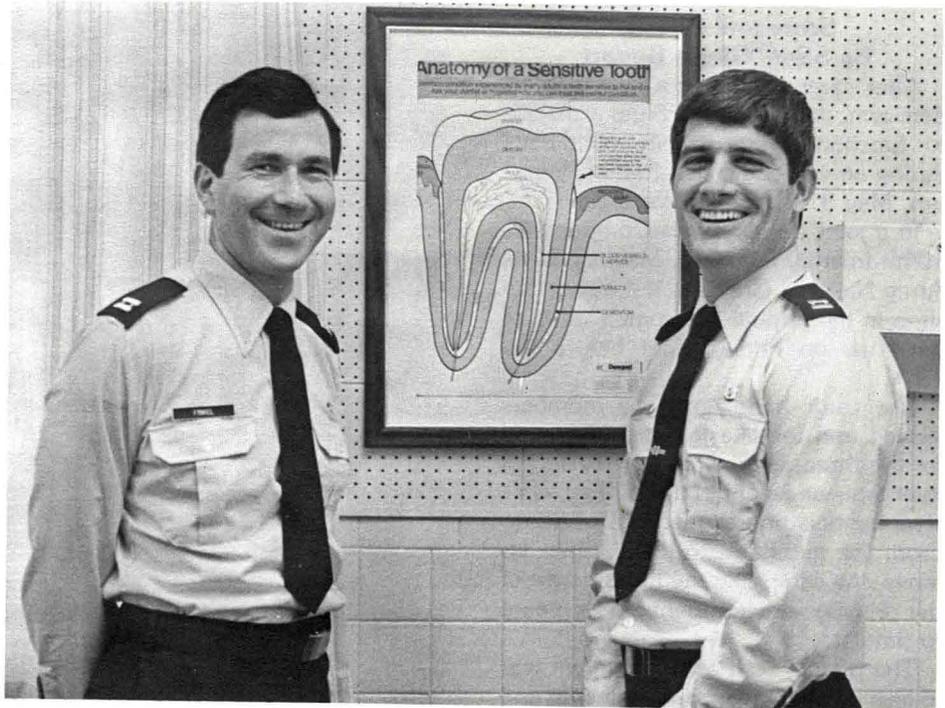
Obviously they are dentists — Capts. Barry Cunha and Burt Finkel. They both joined the 439th Tactical Hospital last fall.

"Our work on the UTAs involves exams and diagnosis more than actual drilling," explained Captain Cunha. "But there are certainly enough Reservists to keep us busy."

While both captains obviously enjoy their chosen career fields, chances are good they would not practice dentistry if activated during war. "We would probably be triage officers, anesthesiologists or would practice minor surgery," said Captain Finkel. "And that is a real plus in the Reserve," said Captain Cunha. "Our Reserve training really expands our knowledge in areas other than dentistry."

Burt and Barry, often coined the "Bert and Ernie" of the TAC Hospital, both come to Westover after active duty assignments. Captain Finkel served at Moody AFB, Georgia from 1972 to 1974, and Captain Cunha served at Keesler AFB, Miss. and Goodfellow AFB, Texas from 1981 to 1984.

Both dentists enjoyed active duty and are enthusiastic about the Reserve program. "I guess I'm patriotic," said Captain Cunha. "I get a charge out of serving my country." Captain Finkel has perhaps even stronger patriotic feelings.



Showing the pearly whites that are the heart of their business are (l.) Capt. Burt Finkel and Capt. Barry Cunha.

"Both my parents were born in Russia," explained Captain Finkel as he recounted the many horror stories he's heard his parents tell. "After their experiences," he said, "I'm very thankful to be in this country — and proud to serve my country."

Captain Finkel is a dentist at West Haven's Veterans Administration Hospital in Connecticut. Most of his patients there are older and generally very sick. "The population at Westover is usually very healthy," he said. "It's a refreshing change for me. It's also interesting to see people on both ends of the military

spectrum."

Both dentists said they chose dentistry as a career because they wanted to be in a health care field, but wanted a somewhat normal work schedule. Family life is a priority with both captains and being a dentist allows them to spend a reasonable amount of time with their families.

Captain Cunha has two children and he and his family reside in Lexington, Mass. where he has a private practice in general dentistry. Captain Finkel is married with three children and resides in Cheshire, Conn.

Navy construction engineers "land" at Westover

By Capt. Rick Dyer

It wasn't their usual port of call, but the Navy landed at Westover on May 2.

Ninety Navy Seabees, with nearly half a million pounds of heavy construction equipment in tow, spent a two-week tour or active duty living under combat conditions at the base's "Dog-patch" area.

The construction engineers, members of the Reserve Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 27 at the Brunswick Naval Air Station, Maine, were ferried to Westover aboard an Air Force C-5 air-

craft from Dover AFB, Del.

During the encampment, the Navy personnel operated out of tents, and frequently had to scurry for cover when "enemy" troops interrupted their construction work.

The mock aggressors were actually Army paratroopers from the 11th Special Forces at Fort Meade, Md. They "battled" the Seabees both at Westover, and during a special weekend exercise in the Berkshire Mountains.

"Our mission is to fight and build in remote areas like this," said Chief Petty

Officer Donald Cole, a Belchertown, Mass. resident who serves with the unit. "In actuality, we're a small construction outfit that could be sent anywhere in the world on short notice to build an airstrip off forward operating base."

Using bulldozers, graders and dump trucks, the Seabees cleared trees and handled a host of heavy construction assignments. They also built a new loading ramp for the railroad trunk line which runs near Westover's flight line.

The exercise was the first of several which Westover will host for other units or branches of the service this summer.

42nd MAPS goes camping with the infantry

Story and Photos
By SSgt. Glenn Bogart

After camping out in a heavy thunderstorm, the 42nd MAPS got a chance to function under mobile conditions during an exercise called Patriot Premium, May 31-June 2 at Westover.

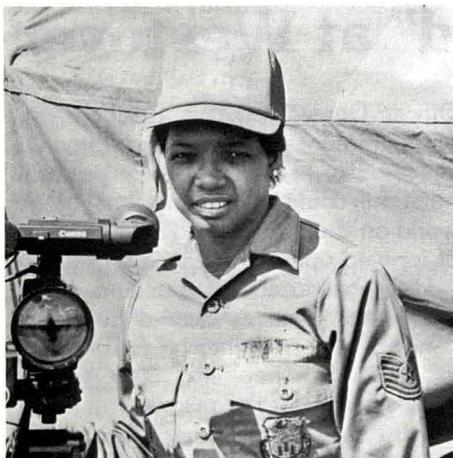
In a joint exercise with Company C, 104th Infantry Battalion, Massachusetts Army National Guard, the 42nd set up shop in the remote "Dogpatch" area of the base on Friday night before the UTA.

The cargo-handling unit's members looked and felt like infantry personnel for the three-day exercise. They set up their tents and slept in them; they wore steel helmets and shaved out of them. From the mess tent to the outdoor latrines, the camp had the atmosphere of the primitive environment it was meant to simulate.

The purpose of Patriot Premium was to give the unit practice in setting up and operating a Forward Operating Base (FOB). As a mobile aerial port, the 42nd must be able, on short notice, to transplant its entire operation from its home at Nose Dock 36 to a landing strip near the front lines.

Dogpatch certainly looked like the front lines, with M-16 toting Guardsmen emerging from C-130's at a dead run and jeeps armed with missiles tearing across the open fields and disappearing into the woods.

Thunderstorms and heavy rains during the first night of the drill threatened to make it a dreary weekend for the Reservists. "It seemed like the sky was going to split open — I almost jumped out of my cot a couple of times," said SSgt. Jack W. Middleton of the 42nd, refer-



TSgt. Lenore Bell, "camerawoman" for the 42nd MAPS.



An Army jeep off-loads from a C-130 in the Dogpatch area during the June UTA.

ring to the booming thunder in the night. "The tents held up really well, though. At least we stayed dry."

The weather fortunately cleared as the work began in earnest Saturday morning. The exercise, which was the first of its kind for AFRES, involved the loading and unloading of troops, rolling stock, and other equipment under simulated combat conditions.

Three C-130's manned by members of the 337th TAS were loaded and unloaded eight times over the weekend. "This 'Forward Operating Base' exercise gave our squadron a chance to work with rolling stock to an extent not usual-

ly possible," said Maj. Barry F. Monahan, 42nd MAPS commander. "It's a great opportunity to test our ability to operate in an active, hostile environment."

Crews from Springfield television channels 40 and 22 were on hand to cover the story for their viewers. The 42nd had its own TV "crew" there, in the person of TSgt. Lenore P.S. Bell. Sergeant Bell had been asked to bring her videotape camera to record the action. The tapes will be reviewed later, like football game films, to help evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the 42nd's work during the exercise.

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