

PATRIOT

439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING (AIR FORCE RESERVE)

WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MASS.

Vol. XIII, No. 6

June 1985

Wing's expansion prompts leadership changes

By MSgt. Larry Lentz

Although the C-5s haven't arrived, they already are bringing change to Westover.

The wing's top management has been restructured to reflect similar strategic airlift organizations. The responsibilities of the deputy commander for resources and the base commander, previously held by Col. Roy Ayers, have been divided between two deputy-level commanders.

Lt. Col. James Handy, a 22-year military veteran will replace Colonel Ayers as base commander. He is scheduled to assume his new position at the end of May.

In addition, Col. Clarence E. Smith, currently the wing's assistant deputy commander for resources will be the new deputy commander for resources. He will supervise the wing's three aerial port units, logistics plans and mobility.

The wing also has a new deputy commander for operations. He is Col. David L. Webber, who was the commander of the 907th TAG at Rickenbacker AFB, Ohio and who has an extensive C-5 background.

The trio will join Westover's deputy commander for maintenance, Lt. Col. Harold Lawrence.

"This change in structure brings Westover into line with other units with similar missions," said Brig. Gen. Jack P. Ferguson, wing commander. "As the C-5 conversion grows nearer, and corresponding responsibilities accumulate, I felt it was necessary to reassess these positions. In addition, these two new individuals have a wealth of experience that will benefit the 439th greatly.

"The transfer of Colonel Ayers to Dobbins is coincidental to the changes I have instituted. Had he not been transferred, we still would have changed our leadership structure," said the General. "He takes with him a vast amount of experience and knowledge to Dobbins



Col. David L. Webber

and will face a whole new set of challenges. But the move is in the best interest of the Air Force Reserve."

Colonel Handy holds a bachelor of education degree from University of Hawaii and a masters degree in aerospace operations management from the University of Southern California.

He enlisted in the infantry with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C. In 1962 he graduated from Officer Training School and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air Force. Colonel Handy completed navigator training and bombardier training and was assigned to the 325th Bomb Squadron at Fairchild AFB, Wash., as a B-52 navigator. He flew numerous

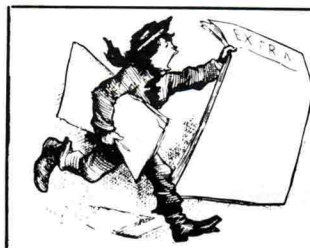


Lt. Col. James Handy

combat missions into Vietnam from Anderson AFB, Guam while attached to the 433rd Bomb Wing.

Next, Colonel Handy flew as a rescue navigator on HC-130s at Tachikawa Air Base, Japan and later flew C-124s into Southeast Asia. He returned to the United States in 1969 and served as a C-133 instructor navigator and unit administrator officer at Travis AFB, Calif. In 1970, released from the Air Force, he joined the C-141 unit at McChord AFB, Wash.

In 1976, Colonel Handy became an air reserve technician and a C-141 navigator instructor/flight examiner. Two years later he moved to Robins AFB, continued on page 7



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- Maintenance crews ready for Rodeo
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Maintenance crews ready for Volant Rodeo

By Capt. Rick Dyer

Lots of tender loving care.

That's what a hand-picked team of maintenance specialists has been lavishing recently on "1974", the C-130 aircraft which a Westover crew will fly early June at Pope AFB, N.C. during the Military Airlift Command's Volant Rodeo competition.

Wing officials subscribe to the adage that there's a successful maintenance team behind every successful aircrew.

Because of this, they've selected their best personnel in each maintenance field to give the plane a thorough going over prior to June 2, when the MAC event begins.

"We've been working on it since April 22," said Capt. Bill Friedhofer of the 439th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. "We want to make sure that the aircraft is in top-notch condition so that the crew isn't penalized for lost time due to repairs."

During the grueling, week-long competition, the Westover aircrew will fly "1974" on scores of missions which are designed to test its skills in such areas as short field takeoffs and landings, aerial deliveries and combat tactics.

"The plane is constantly in the air, and that takes its toll," said Captain Friedhofer. As a result, he and his team-members are preparing for some 20-hour days along the flight line at Pope.

"We're gearing up for some long, hard days at Volant Rodeo," the maintenance officer stated. He added that

"The judges go over each plane with a fine-tooth comb."

Capt. Bill Friedhofer

because the number of maintenance personnel which a team can bring to the competition is limited, his crewmen will often have to "double up" on assignments.

The captain will rely heavily on two of his senior NCOs, CMSgt. Charlie Fusco and MSgt. James Maynard, during the event.

Other 439th CAMS members who will participate in Volant Rodeo include MSgt. Ray Desrosiers, TSgts. Richard Halla, Wayne Hayes and Richard Moul, and SSgts. Joseph DiMartino, William Latham and Alan Rogers.

During the past two months, the maintenance team inspected every me-



SSgt. Peter Skoglund (top) with an assist from SSgt. Scott McLeish, both jet engine mechanics, change a fuel line on a T-56 engine.

(USAF photo by MSgt. Larry Lentz)

chanical and structural part of "1974" and made any necessary repairs.

Some of the preparation were cosmetic. The captain said that the C-130 was recently given a new paint job so that it will look its best at Pope.

"The judges go over each plane with a fine-tooth comb," Captain Friedhofer stated. "They look for things like dust in the engine and loose rivets on the wings. Their evaluation is about the

most demanding one I've ever seen."

The maintenance people put their skills to the final test on May 20 when they accompanied the plane and aircrew to Pope for a "shakedown" flight over the base's drop zones.

"It's a lot of hard work, but maintenance does make a crucial difference at events like Volant Rodeo," Captain Friedhofer added. "We're hoping that a lot of 'TLC' will go a long, long way."

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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439th TAW bids farewell to six Reservists

By Capt. Rick Dyer

The Wing paid homage to 139 years of military service on May 4 when six Reservists were honored during formal retirement ceremonies at the base ellipse.

Brig. Gen. Jack P. Ferguson, wing commander, presented certificates of appreciation to: Lt. Col. Kenneth C. Stevens, commander of the 59th Aerial Port Squadron; MSgt. Richard Douville, Sr., MSgt. Phillip Retelle, TSgt. Stephen O. Howe and SSgt. Kenneth D. Cornell, all of the 439th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; and TSgt. Valentino A. Paglieroni of the 57th Aerial Port Squadron.

Sergeant Paglieroni led the retirees in length of military service with 31 years. Sergeant Retelle served for 29 years, one year longer than Colonel Stevens.

Spouses of the retirees were also honored during the ceremony. General Ferguson presented awards to Perry Stevens, Rita Douville, Helen Retelle, Evelyn Howe and Rose Paglieroni.

The wing commander praised the Reservists and their wives and thanked them for their contributions to the Air Force Reserve. "Each of you can take pride in the fact that your efforts and



A proud son, Jeffrey Cornell, takes a picture of his father, SSgt. Kenneth Cornell, accepting congratulations from Brig. Gen. Jack P. Ferguson.

(USAF photo by MSgt. Larry Lentz)

sacrifices have played an important role in our nation's defense," General Ferguson said.

The wing color guard, and members

of the 439th CAMS, 439th Civil Engineering Squadron and 59th Aerial Port Squadron also participated in the ceremonies, which are held twice each year.

Westover eyed for communications network

By TSgt. Gordon A. Newell

The Defense Communications Agency has proposed construction of a communications facility on three sites in western Massachusetts, including Westover.

The project would expand the capacity and responsiveness of the National Communications System which is part of a network that transmits and receives data between various government agencies.

The proposed facility consists of three components: an operations facility, which will be placed at Westover, a transmitter which is planned for the town of Hawley, and a receiver which will be installed on an existing government site in the town of Granby.

The equipment operates in the high

frequency band between 3-30 megahertz with an average power output of 10 kilowatts. To avoid interference, the transmitter and receiver must be separated by a distance of approximately 20 miles.

"The Air Force chose the Westover and Granby sites to minimize costs," said Captain Philip Weber, base public affairs officer. "The government already owned the land so it makes good sense to utilize the property for the new project." He added that approximately 60 new jobs would be created to operate the sites.

The primary user of the network is the Department of Defense, however communications for civilian needs are provided during times of emergency or national disaster.

An environmental impact statement which analyzes and compares impacts of any proposed action, will be prepared for the proposed construction. The Air Force plans to make the statement available for public review and comment later this summer.

Public meetings were held in Granby and Hawley for the purpose of providing information to the public regarding the project.

The planned network, known as the Northeast Regional Communications Facility, is not related to the Ground Wave Emergency Network which caused a controversy when the Air Force proposed to erect a 300-foot antenna in Amherst. The two systems represent separate concerns needed for the government's operation, explained Captain Weber.

May UT

Story and Photos
By SSgt. Sandi Michon

The May UTA weekend was the weekend for chemical disasters, both on and off base. Luckily, they were training exercises.

At 8 a.m. May 5, Reservists were notified of "condition yellow" signifying that an attack was probable. It began the chemical attack response exercise for approximately 1,400 Reservists at Westover. All Reservists assigned to mobility slots in high-threat areas donned their chemical warfare gear in preparation for an attack.

At 10 a.m., it was "condition red", indicating an attack was imminent or in progress. At 11 a.m., it was "condition black," meaning contamination was present or suspected.

All during the exercise, Reservists completed assigned task in full chemical warfare ensembles.

"The response by base personnel to the exercise was excellent" said MSgt. George Copeland, disaster preparedness NCOIC. This fulfills our annual requirement for task qualification training."

Almost simultaneously, a chemical accident was staged at the Indian Orchard plant of the Monsanto Company to test the community's ability to react to a chemical disaster. In addition to providing a foam truck as part of the community's mutual aid agreement, Westover also provided 35 "victims" for the accident.

Civilian medical personnel, 2nd Lts. Ann and Kathy Doyle and SMSgt. Donald Cherry from the 74th AES added the necessary realism to the victims. Embalmer's wax, liquid blood, grease paint, fake glass, plasticine and other substances were used to create a variety of wounds. This process is called moulage. Each victim was briefed on his injury and what the symptoms should be. Reality acting was stressed to help make the training successful.

At 10 a.m. the accident "occurred" and activity buzzed. The Springfield fire and police departments were summoned to the scene, the foam truck from Westover was called, victims were triaged and taken to area hospitals in ambulances, and the contaminated area was secured of chemical danger.

"Westover often helps in disaster training in the community," commented Sergeant Copeland, "The community recognizes our valuable resources in this area."



Michael Gorski (l.) EMT at Monsanto Company "creates" a severe burn on the arm of TSgt. John P. Leshure, Sr.



2nd Lt. Ann Doyle and MSgt. Donald Cherry of the 74th AES moulage (r. to l.) TSgt. Al Hall, SSgt. Albert Chenaille and MSgt. Jim Faye of the 905th MOBSF.

A was a disaster



Lucie Beliveau (l.) registered respiratory therapist at Baystate Medical Center and R.N. Mary Roos simulate treatment to SrA. Ann Rice.



Broken glass, make up, masks, and hidden blood sources help create realistic wounds.

The victim's viewpoint

As SSgt. Ron Muenchow was carried from the ambulance, his body shook, blood oozed from his arm, he appeared to be in shock and he faded in and out of consciousness.

While hospital personnel checked his vital signs and physicians ordered further treatment, Sergeant Muenchow continued to twitch. He displayed all the signs of traumatic injury until it was time for him to get up and leave.

The sergeant has been "acting" in his role as a victim at the May 5 simulated chemical disaster at the Monsanto Company plant in Springfield.

Although the tragedy and his injuries were make-believe, the experience left its mark on the 439th MOBSF member.

"I was 'volunteered' to participate," explained Sergeant Muenchow, a vehicle maintenance mechanic. "They

created my injury and instructed me on the symptoms. Once the disaster was underway, I really started to get into it.

"The instructions were vague, so you had to adlib," he said. "I decided that my condition would worsen on the way to the hospital. I figured that it's a training drill, so I wanted to act as realistically as possible."

"It's amazing to witness all the activity in the emergency room," Sergeant Muenchow continued. "I think the real patients were a little bewildered seeing us come in."

Aside from some discomfort of being strapped to a wooden pallet for two hours, Sergeant Muenchow felt it was definitely a worthwhile experience. "My girlfriend is a nurse," he said. "After this, I appreciate what she does much more."

EDITORIAL

Democracy and demonstrations

The 125 demonstrators who gathered outside of Westover's main gate April 26 intended to protest the United States' military policy in Central America.

To many, their placards and chants may have seemed quite negative. But whether the protesters realized it or not, their demonstration said something extremely positive about our nation, and its Armed Forces.

By exercising their constitutionally guaranteed rights of assembly and free speech, they graphically proved that we really are a free country where dissent and divergent points of view are tolerated — and protected — by the government.

Of course, the same thing can not be said about many other places in the world, including some countries about which the demonstrators voiced concern.

How long would a Contra supporter be allowed to demonstrate outside of a Nicaraguan military installation? How long would an opponent of Fidel Castro be permitted to speak outside of the premier's residence in Havana?

The demonstrators at Westover denounced the military, but their presence was evidence of the fact that our Armed Forces have succeeded in preserving freedom over the past two centuries.

As one serviceman from Westover so aptly noted while observing the protest: "I think if it wasn't for us, people like them couldn't sit down there and protest."

No one enjoys being criticized, or seeing the organization to which they belong, and the ideals to which they subscribe, being denounced.

But the protesters did prove a point: that democracy, although imperfect, works, and that we've been doing our job.

Capt. Rick Dyer
Public Affairs Officer

Commander's Call

A total of eight awards were presented by Lt. Col. Arthur Sorenson, deputy commander for operations, at the 439th TAW Commander's Call during the May UTA.

The Outstanding AFRES Life Support Noncommissioned Officer of the Year Award was presented to **MSgt. Paul N. Larochelle** who directed his shop to an exceptional rating from the Operational Readiness Inspection Team, and a top rating from the Management Effectiveness Inspection Team.

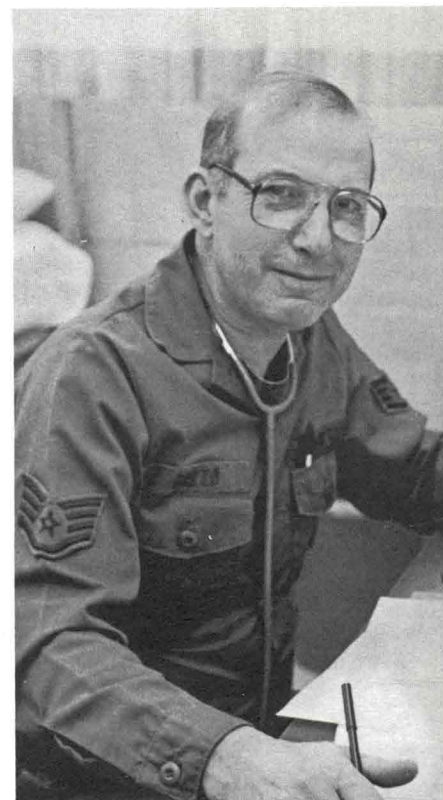
Air Force Commendation Medals for meritorious service were presented to: **Maj. Joy B. J. Garland,**

clinical nurse, 439th Tactical Hospital; **Capt. Anita M. Marchetti,** flight nurse and educational coordinator, 74th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron; **SSgt. Richard Guiles,** veterinary technician, 439th Tactical Hospital.

The Air Force Achievement Medal for professional skill, knowledge and leadership was presented to **TSgt. Gerald L. Coney, Sr.**

Community College of the Air Force Degrees in the area of Health Services went to: **SSgt. Richard C. Bell,** 74th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, and **SSgt. Linda E. Gould,** 439th Tactical Hospital.

"Patriot People"



Name: ALBERT GUZZO

Rank: SSgt.

Age: 55

Address: 18 Glenwood Drive
Windsor, Conn.

Unit: 439 Tac Hospital

Position: medical technician

Civilian Occupation: maintenance/construction

Favorite Food: spaghetti

Favorite Beverage: coke

Favorite Sport: baseball

Favorite Hobby: woodworking

Ideal Vacation: long car trips

Best Way to Relax: fishing

Preferred Entertainment: night clubs

Favorite Celebrity: John F. Kennedy

Favorite Music: jazz

Favorite Book: Mickey Spillane novels

Favorite Color: blue

Favorite Car: Chevrolet

Pet Peeve: discipline

Best Thing About Westover: education

Worst Thing About Westover: formations and inspections

One of Westover's first Reservists retires

By MSgt. Larry Lentz

Question: What had thousands of active duty airmen and two Reservists?

Answer: Westover.

Between Feb. 1 and Mar. 1, 1966 the base had been home to SAC's 99th Bomb Wing and two Reservists, Maj. Art Murphy and MSgt. John Dawson. They had been assigned to Westover and AFRES's 337th Military Airlift Squadron prior to that unit's relocation from Bradley Field, Conn.

"For a month prior to our colleagues arrival, we were the only Reservists here on base," explains Murphy. "We therefore also could claim the distinction of being the first Reservists at Westover as well."

Now, almost 20 years later, Murphy has left Westover. On of May 3, he retired from his civil service position of Airfield Manager, the position he has held since 1974.

Murphy's career began as a pilot during World War II, flying C-47s, C-53s, and C-46s over Europe. He participated in the massive Market Garden exercise — the first crossing of the Rhine River by the Allies, and in resupplying fuel to General Patton's Third Army.

After the war and his discharge, he earned a University of New Hampshire degree in management. He joined a Reserve C-119 unit at Grenier Field, N.H. Four years later, he was back in the military on a full-time basis, serving as an

Air Reserve Technician instructor pilot at Grenier Field before transferring to Westover in 1966.

He then became the 905th MAG's director of operation. He eventually retired from the Air Force Reserve as a lieutenant colonel in 1972. Two years



Art Murphy

later, he was appointed to the airfield manager's position.

As such, he was responsible for base operations, and the maintenance of the airfield's facilities including taxiways, runways and navigational aids and lights. His nine-person division also oversaw, the aircrews, flight records and aircraft flight plans.

Under Murphy's leadership, base operations helped Westover earn the prestigious Rex Riley Transient Services Award in 1979. The award recognized Westover's continuing support and facilities for visiting aircrews.

"I've always enjoyed being an airfield manager and the daily association with the aircrews. Next to flying there's nothing I'd rather do," Murphy said. "Now, I'm looking forward to spending more time with my wife, Anita, my family and soon, my first grandchild, at my home in New Hampshire. I hope to do a little fishing and playing golf . . . and a little golfing and fishing."

Medical, dental care increased for Reservists

ROBINS AFB, Ga. (AFRNS) — Medical and dental care has been expanded for Reservists, according to Department of Defense officials. As a result of some recent changes in federal law, Westover Reservists now are authorized medical and dental care if they:

- Sustain an injury in the line of duty while performing inactive duty training or any period of active duty;

- incur or aggravate an injury while traveling directly to or from the place of duty, unless the injury is incurred or aggravated by the member's own gross negligence or misconduct;

- contract a disease or become ill in the line of duty while on active duty or while traveling to or from that duty; or

- contract a disease or become ill in the line of duty while on inactive duty training under circumstances in which it is determined that the disease or illness was contracted or aggravated incident to that inactive duty training.

Leadership changes . . .

continued from page 1

Ga. and completed an active duty tour as chief, Command Post Division, Headquarters AFRES. He next served at 14th AF Headquarters as air operations staff officer. Colonel Handy then attended and graduated from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and was assigned to the 315th MAW at Charleston AFB, S.C. as air operations officer with the 707th MAS prior to his Westover assignment.

A graduate of Penn State University with a bachelor of science degree and an AFROTC commission, Colonel Webber also did graduate work at Lehigh University. He completed pilot training and B-25 school prior to his first assignment at Dover AFB, Del. flying C-124 aircraft.

After active duty, in 1961, he joined AFRES at Willow Grove ARF, Penn.

where he was a C-119 aircraft commander, instructor/flight examiner pilot and assistant operations officer of the 912th TAG.

In 1968, Colonel Webber became an ART and a member of the cadre establishing the C-141 Reserve Associate Program at Dover. In 1973, he completed the C-5A Advanced Transport Pilot School and was appointed deputy commander for operations of the 512th MAW during its conversion to C-5s.

Colonel Webber was appointed commander of the 315th MAW (Associate) at Charlestown AFB, S.C. in 1974. Two years later, he returned to Dover as 512th commander. He was transferred to Rickenbacker, in 1979, as vice commander and senior ART of the 302nd TAW. When the wing was deactivated he became the 907th commander.



Bob Motley (USAF photo by MSgt. Larry Lentz)

Motley named new manager of airfield

Retired Lt. Col. Robert Motley has been appointed Westover's airfield manager by Col. Roy Ayers, base commander. He replaced Art Murphy who retired in May. (See Patriot story on page 7)

Motley, who had been assistant airfield manager for the past three years, has been at Westover as an Air Reserve Technician and Reservist since 1969. He was a member of the 905th TAG, as chief navigator, when the unit converted from C-124s to C-130 aircraft and was redesignated the 337th TAS. From 1980 until his military retirement two years later, he served as the unit's operation's officer.

The 28-year active duty and Reserve technician veteran has flown more than 7,500 hours in C-119s, C-124s, and C-130s. He was recalled to active duty during 1968's Pueblo Crisis.

"We'll miss Art Murphy's expertise as Westover converts to C-5s," said Motley. "The new aircraft will pose new problems for base operations, from aircraft parking, increased flights, to foreign countries and expanded involvement with immigration services. Yet, I'm looking forward to the challenges the next few years have in store."

59th APS competes in rodeo

Routine material handling equipment training took on the look of a mini super-stars competition for members of the 59th Aerial Port Squadron on Sunday of the May UTA.

They were invited by 2nd Lt. Donald Moran, officer in charge of the air terminal operations center, and TSgt. James Hniedziejko, to compete in a squadron rodeo pitting unit member against unit member.

Three members in three teams were assigned to a tug, 10K and 25K loader respectively. Each took a multiple choice test and was judged in pre-inspection of vehicles and driving through the obstacle course within 15 minutes.

The obstacle course, set up near the DC Hangar, required the team members to follow intricate patterns past strategically positioned cones and barrels.

"The most fun was at the water hazard," explained Lieutenant Moran. "Two rows of cardboard cups, filled with water, were positioned on the course. The 25K's front tires would easily pass through. However, the double

set of rear wheels, the one's the drivers could not see, posed the problem. The distance between the rows of cups gave no margin for error. In the beginning of the competition, we were replacing the broken cups quite often and having a few laughs as well."

At the end, it was the team of SSgts. Stephen Gold, Joseph Pandolfi and Albert Russo, of the cargo section, that came out on top.

"The squadron rodeo had a more serious purpose," Lieutenant Moran continued. "It provided realistic training and the opportunity to improve the skills we'll need to compete against other units in the more serious rodeos next fall."

Judges for the competition were: TSgts. Gary Brougham, Warren Coughlin, Michael Goldberg, Michael O'Hearne and Donald Plouffe.



SSgt. Andrew Pietras maneuvers his 25K loader through the water hazard.

(USAF photo by MSgt. Larry Lentz)

UTA Dates Through FY 1986

Oct. 5-6
Nov. 2-3
Dec. 7-8
Jan. 4-5
Feb. 8-9
Mar. 8-9
April 5-6
May 3-4
June 7-8
July 12-13
Aug. 9-10
Sept. 13-14

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