

# PATRIOT

439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER AFB

VOLUME XIV, NUMBER 4

APRIL 1986

## Impact of Gramm-Rudman-Hollings bill assessed

By Capt. Rick Dyer

Budget cuts in the wake of the recently enacted Gramm-Rudman-Hollings legislation probably won't endanger Westover's C-5 aircraft conversion and its associated construction projects.

But the law, which mandates a balanced national budget by 1991, has both Air Force and Wing officials predicting some "serious fiscal belt tightening" on both the national and local levels.

"It will change the way the Air Force does business in fiscal year 1986," said Maj. Gen. Leo W. Smith, Air Force budget director.

"The whole country is facing cuts as a result of the deficit problem, and we won't be isolated from them," said Brig. Gen. Jack. P. Ferguson, 439th TAW Commander. "Our capacity to perform our mission won't be affected, but we are going to have to do it in more economical ways."

Passed by Congress in December, 1985, Gramm-Rudman-Hollings sets a ceiling for each year that would progressively lessen the growth of the nation's nearly \$200 billion annual budget deficit.

The year-by-year deficit ceiling set by the law is: 1986 (\$171.9 billion); 1987 (\$144 billion); 1988 (\$108 billion); 1989 (\$72 billion); 1990 (\$36 billion) and 1991 (\$0).

In order to comply with the law's deficit-reduction guidelines, the Department of Defense chopped \$5.9 billion from its fiscal year 1986 budget. The impact of that reduction is already being felt at the base.

### \$761,600 lost

According to Raymond Gilbert, base comptroller, the base lost \$761,600 in funds that had been approved for civil engineering projects.

"This money has been appropriated for CE projects previously

okayed by the Air Force Reserve," Mr. Gilbert stated. "No project has been cancelled yet, but several have been delayed, or reduced in size, as a result of the cutbacks."

General Ferguson said that the 439th's conversion to C-5 aircraft in fiscal year 1988, and the construction necessary to accommodate the huge Galaxies, would probably be spared the budget cutter's axe.

"We will, however, most likely have to space some of that construc-

tion out over several fiscal years, instead of getting it done all at once like we had hoped," the wing commander explained.

Wing officials also believe that the fiscal crunch will place some constraints on the availability of man days, and upon the practice of deploying 439th units to other bases during annual tours.

They do not, however, believe that training will suffer.

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SSgt. Jack Bouchard, 58th APS ramp instructor, comes to an abrupt stop after a seatbelted ride on the 'convincer'. The demonstrator simulates the impact of a car hitting a solid object traveling seven mph. Trooper James Wolfe of the Connecticut State Police Office of Safety Education and a 58th APS Reservist offered the test rides. "Most people are shocked at the force of the impact," he said. "Nobody has walked away doubting the benefits of seatbelts."

(USAF photo by SSgt. Sandi Michon)



## EDITORIAL

## Adios, Carmen

Please don't read this editorial.

Air Force regulations (not to mention the dictates of good taste and modesty) generally prohibit us from writing about public affairs staffers on these pages.

That's why I don't want you to read this editorial — it's about one of our own.

SSgt. Carmen Burgos left this office in March after three years of yeoman service. Her job title at Westover was administrative specialist, but that's like saying that Mickey Mantle and Carl Yastrzemski were baseball players.

Her fingers could fly like a swarm of hummingbirds over the keyboards of typewriters and word processors. She could navigate through a maze of confusing regulations with the ease of a raft guide on the Colorado River. Henry Kissinger couldn't have been more diplomatic when it came to soothing the ire of callers with noise complaints.

Deadlines never fazed Carmen. If, as Hemingway once wrote, class is grace under pressure, then this NCO is blessed with plenty of it.

Like so many of her Reserve colleagues at Westover, Carmen was an unsung hero. She never won any Pulitzers, but her willingness to do the "down and dirty" jobs made her the glue that held us all together.

Although there are going to be some long faces around the PA shop for a while, we are also delighted for Carmen. Her civilian employer just promoted her and is sending her to handle an important assignment in China.

Adios, Carmen. We have a suspicion that China will never be quite the same.

Neither will we.

Capt. Rick Dyer  
Public Affairs Officer

## DOD announces new POW medals

Members of all services and some 20 veterans groups have been asked to help design a new military medal recognizing prisoners of war.

The award will rank in precedence, in the language of the law, "before any other service medal, campaign medal, or service ribbon authorized to be displayed. . ."

It will be retroactive and will be awarded to former POWs still on ac-

tive duty or who served since April 6, 1917, and received an honorable discharge. It also will be available to the legal heirs of deceased POWs who have served in the armed forces since World War I.

Among those eligible to receive the award will be Major Charles Brown, a 337th TAS pilot who was held captive in the "Hanoi Hilton" during the Vietnam War.

# P ATRIOT

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## 439th TAW Commander

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SSgt. Kathleen Lincoln

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## Briefs

## Sergeant recovering

MSgt. Robert G. Erhardt of the 905th CES is recovering from open-heart surgery performed on March 3. The 50-year-old Chicopee policeman had complained of chest pains and was rushed to Holyoke Hospital.

He was immediately airlifted to Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston where he underwent surgery for an aortic dissection. Members of his unit sent their get-well wishes and a gift to speed his recuperation.

## Name change

Remember *Air Reservist* magazine? Well, the name has been changed, but the publication lives on.

The magazine, which has been renamed *Citizen Airman*, will be published bimonthly and mailed to the homes of all Air National Guardsmen, unit-assigned Air Force Reservists, and Reserve Individual Mobilization Augmentees.

## Quit smoking seminar

A Quit Smoking Seminar is offered by Westover's social actions personnel. The seminar, which utilizes hypnosis and education to eliminate the subconscious motivation to smoke, is normally held on Sunday during the UTA.

Reservists or Department of Defense personnel interested in the seminar should contact Maj. Chuck Curci of the social actions office during UTA weekends, at extension 3546.

## C-17 development

(AFNS) The Air Force's proposed C-17A aircraft took a giant step closer to reality recently with the award of a \$3.387 billion development contract to the Douglas Aircraft Co.

The wide-body, four-engine transport is being designed to augment existing Air Force cargo planes by moving large Army combat equipment to almost any location in the world. It will be flown by a crew of two pilots and a loadmaster.



# Computerization progressing — byte by byte

By SSgt. Sandra Michon

**W**estover has just completed a major phase of computer growth and the future looks brighter still.

All computer hardware was recently replaced at Westover and all new software just recently became operational on the new systems. The updating is the first step of an ambitious, Air Force-wide computer improvement program called Phase IV.

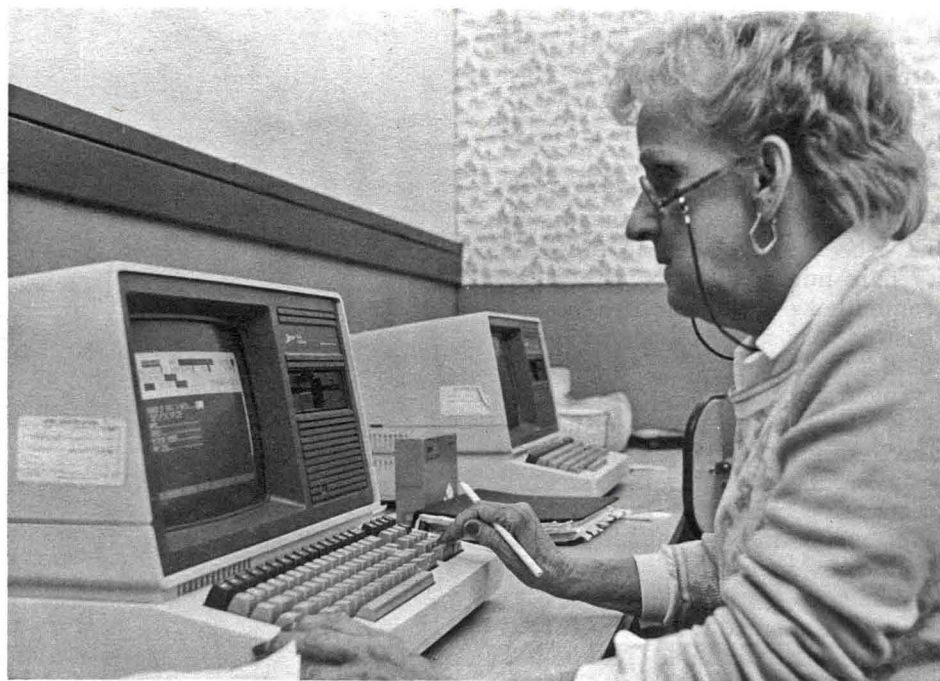
The second step of Phase IV, which is scheduled for the late 1980's, involves a new data base management system. "The new system would provide a broader data base in the computer and reduce duplication of data storage," explained MSgt. Donald Proctor, civilian systems manager. "This fourth generation enhancement provides a wider base of data, but improves security measures so only the appropriate people are able to access the data.

"An effort to eliminate paper in the workplace is the focus of the third step scheduled for the early 1990's," continued Sergeant Proctor. "As the computer becomes more reliable, it becomes the source document except when a printout is required. It would no longer be necessary to store printed copy as a back up to computer data storage, because the computer would have its own back up system."

Other advantages of the improvements are less down time, greater reliability and an almost non-existent loss of storage data. Microwave transmissions are replacing phone lines, and there are several contingency plans in the event of major problems.

There are currently two basic types of computer systems at Westover. The primary computers are those that tie into a main computer system at Hanscom AFB, Mass. Through the main frame system at Hanscom, Westover is indirectly tied into the HQ/Air Force computer system. Military and Civilian Personnel, Maintenance, Civil Engineering, 337th TAS and Accounting and Finance are the principal users of the computer system that is connected to Hanscom.

The second type of computer system, although compatible with Phase IV is used independently. There are approximately 150 other stand-alone



**Jeanne Beauchamp, chief of military pay, enters information into the Zenith 100 computer terminal.**

(USAF photo by SSgt. Sandra Michon)

computers in offices around the base. The individual systems are generally tailored to the specific information processing and record keeping needs of the particular work station,

"Computers have streamlined much of the office routines," commented Sergeant Proctor. "I suspect that more and more office information will be processed on these computers as various personnel become more confident using computers and more knowledgeable concerning their application."

*All annual tour, special tour and school tour manday orders are generated by computers.*

An excellent example of computer-affected work routines is Reserve Pay. Prior to using the computer, all pay information was entered on punch cards. The cards were then brought to Data Automation who made a listing for the pay personnel. Then the cards were sent to the communications center who sent the information to Denver to generate paychecks. This process was done once a week.

Now, Reserve Pay is able to feed all input directly into their two Zenith

100's. The information is transmitted every day to Robins AFB, Ga and then directly to Denver, all within the computer (on-line). Each day information is sent, and error message can be requested, so instead of waiting two weeks to discover an error, the error is available immediately and can be corrected the same day. The pay system now also interacts with other base systems to keep track of pay points.

"It is definitely an improvement," said Jeanne Beauchamp, chief of military pay. "Before, we were running all over the base."

Training has also been affected by computers. All annual tour, special tour and school tour manday orders are generated by computers. "The biggest advantage is accountability," reported CMSgt. Eugene Longfield, chief of training. "The computer compares all manday order requests against the individual unit authorizations for mandays, and it also provides a current annual tour for every Reservist. It's a great management tool."

Computer usage at Westover is relatively new, but the general attitude is very enthusiastic. "We're still working out the bugs," commented Chief Longfield, "but we're definitely on the right track."



# Westover lawyers target speeders, drunk drivers

By Capt. Rick Dyer

Speeders, drunk drivers and certain others who violate the law at Westover may soon be meeting Majors Andre Kocay and Bruce Hawley — in court.

The two lawyers, members of the 439th TAW's judge advocate's staff, have been empowered to prosecute certain minor offenses which are committed on the base in the U.S. District Magistrate's Court in Springfield.

Under a special agreement with the U.S. Attorney's office in Springfield, the Reservists spend one or two days each month in the federal court prosecuting people who run afoul of Westover's motor vehicle regulations, or who commit minor crimes on the base.

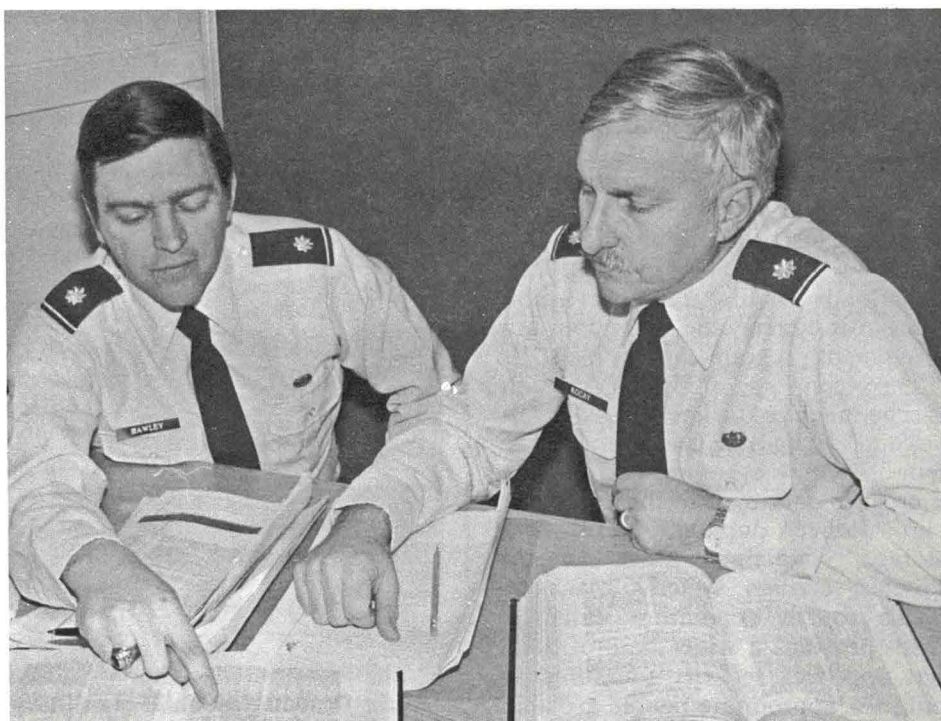
Persons charged with felonies (serious offenses punishable by more than one year in prison) are still prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney.

## Minor Crimes

"Thus far, we've handled mostly speeding and drunken driving charges, and one or two minor crimes, like breach of the peace and trespass," said Major Kocay. "Many of the cases are disposed of with plea bargains, but occasionally there is a trial."

The two lawyers, both of whom have active legal practices in civilian life, also would serve as prosecutors if a Westover Reservist were to be courtmartialed under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

"Thank God we haven't had a court-martial at Westover in a number of years," said Major Hawley. "But we're ready for that



Majors Andre Kocay, right and Bruce Hawley prepare the prosecution's case prior to a hearing before the U.S. District Magistrate's Court.

(USAF photo by SSgt. Kathleen Lincoln)

eventuality."

The legal officers say that under a provision of the federal law known as the Assimilated Crimes Act, the federal courts can impose punishments for certain offenses at Westover which are the same as those imposed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

They indicate that this law could spell big trouble for intoxicated drivers apprehended on the base.

"An extremely small minority of people believe that they may be able to get away with something on base that they couldn't do in the commun-

ity because Westover is a military installation," Major Hawley said.

"But that just isn't true," he continued. "The federal courts will impose Massachusetts's penalty law if someone is convicted for operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated. In some cases, that could even mean a jail sentence," he warned.

Both legal officers say that they find their work as part-time prosecutors interesting, but they also agree that the role has its drawbacks.

"We'd rather not see anyone from Westover in court," said Major Kocay.

## Dependent survivors of Reservists get added benefits

Congress recently improved medical, commissary and exchange benefits for dependent survivors of Reservists who died after Sept. 30, 1985. Dependent benefits are available when the Reservist's death occurs while on active duty, active duty for training or inactive duty for training, including travel to or from the place of duty, regardless of the period of such duty.

Survivors are entitled to medical

and dental care in facilities of the uniformed services, subject to the availability of space and the capabilities of the medical and dental staff. Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS) benefits are also available for widows and children but not dependent parents and parents-in-law. All dependents would be authorized to use the commissary and exchange stores.

Before the new law, Reservists had

to be on tours in excess of 30 days for survivors to receive medical benefits. Also, under the old law for commissary and exchange store use, a Reservist's death must have occurred during active duty for training or from injuries received on inactive duty training.

For more information, contact MSgt. James Freer, in the personnel affairs office, CBPO, or call extension 2560.



## 74th AES facing shortage of nurses, med techs

Like Hawkeye and Trapper John from television's M.A.S.H. series, Westover officials are on the lookout for nurses.

"We are looking to recruit 15-20 flight nurses and 30-35 medical technicians," said MSgt. Edward J. Burnett, Reserve recruiter. "It is a critical shortage."

He indicated that qualified flight nurses would receive direct commissions as Air Force Reserve second lieutenants, while enlisted medical technicians would qualify for a \$1,500 enlistment bonus.

"It's a different type of nursing, and it takes a very special type of person," said Maj. Mary Griffin-Bales, nursing services representative with the 74th AES. "That is partially why we are facing this shortage."

The 74th's mission during a war involves flying into a battle area to evacuate casualties, and then transporting them to hospitals.

Major Griffin-Bales said the flight nurses hold particularly responsible positions, because they are generally the senior medical persons aboard an evacuation flight.

"There usually are not any doctors on the plane," she said. The flight nurse is totally in charge of patient care, and has to make the life and death decisions."

In order to qualify as a flight nurse, an applicant must be less than 34 years old, pass a flight physical, be a U.S. citizen, and have graduated from a nursing program approved by the National League of Nursing.

"Our standards are high, but our

job is vital and the position has a lot to offer," the major said.

Major Griffin-Bales said that benefits of a part-time career as an Air Force Reserve flight nurse include continuing professional education, the chance to travel, supplemental income (including incentive pay) and the opportunity to increase management skills.

"But the most important benefit is an intangible one," the veteran flight nurse added. "It is the satisfaction you get from knowing that you are saving lives and contributing to the national defense."

She indicated that persons interested in applying for flight nurse and medical technician positions could contact her at 557-2508, or Sergeant Burnett at 557-3923.

## Gramm-Rudman-Hollings bill . . . . . continued from page one

"The fat will be gone, but the job will get done," said CMSgt. Gene Longfield, chief of consolidated training. He indicated that by better utilization of time during unit training assembly periods and annual tours, the Wing will be able to meet all of its training requirements.

"It will be a challenge, but by stressing management and using our resources wisely, there should be no degradation in the quality of our training capability of our people," Chief Longfield said.

### Maximize Training

Maj. Robert Martens, operations officer with the 337th TAS, echoed Chief Longfield's opinion. "Obviously, we'd like to have more flying time than less flying time," he said. "But if there are cutback, we'll just have to use our time more judiciously and find new ways to maximize training opportunities."

General Ferguson said that deployments for annual tours at other bases, and particularly those in foreign countries, will be limited.

"The costs associated with sending our people to other bases are becoming more and more prohibitive, particularly when we have to pay for commercial transportation and lodging," the wing commander said.

Comptroller Gilbert added that in

an effort to reduce expenditures, non-essential supplies, such as new office furniture, might become limited. "We are going to focus on those things which we must have, and not on those things that would be nice to have," he stated.

Air Force and Wing officials caution that it is too early to completely gauge the impact of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings legislation.

### Impact being Assessed

"The full impact of Gramm-Rudman on the Air Force mission is still being assessed," General Smith

said.

General Ferguson shares the belief that it is premature to speculate on how the deficit reduction will affect Westover. "That will depend, in large measure, on what the DOD budget will be during the next several years," he said.

Still, the wing commander says that Congress has sent a very definite message to all federal agencies by its passage of the law. "We can certainly expect that less, instead of more, will be the standard with budget people," General Ferguson said.

## Reenlistments — Enlistments

### REENLISTMENTS

SMSgt. Leo J. Bourret  
MSgt. William B. Bowen  
MSgt. John R. Carter  
MSgt. Alfred H. Graveline  
MSgt. Faith E. Longfield  
MSgt. Edward M. Sierzego  
MSgt. Alan J. Sorensen  
TSgt. Raymond E. Beauregard  
TSgt. George W. Blauvelt  
TSgt. Robert J. Corcoran  
TSgt. Charles A. Lexius  
TSgt. Francis J. Malone  
TSgt. Carol J. Pelletier  
TSgt. David C. Pierrepont Jr.  
TSgt. Gilbert F. Rua  
TSgt. Brian M. Vesper  
SSgt. Howard D. Bassett Jr.  
SSgt. Anthony P. Bonanno  
SSgt. Manfred Charles Borcuk

SSgt. Linda L. Bronder  
SSgt. Robert A. Cekovsky  
SSgt. Jeffrey M. Chmura  
SSgt. Jacqueline M. Davis  
SSgt. Shellie D. Davis  
SSgt. George M. Dempsey  
SSgt. Waymond Dotson  
SSgt. William H. Ford  
SSgt. Richard H. Frost  
SSgt. Paul J. Gagnon  
SSgt. Joseph E. Gallant  
SSgt. John T. Hurst  
SSgt. Judy A. Jones  
SSgt. Rodney W. Kelly  
SSgt. Richard N. Labreque  
SSgt. Jeanne A. Lunny  
SSgt. Marilyn P. Manfra  
SSgt. David J. Marino  
SSgt. William D. Morrill  
SSgt. Gary B. Palmer

SSgt. Robin M. Pleva  
SSgt. Ronald Prada  
SSgt. Frank M. Puopolo  
SSgt. Joseph A. Reilly  
SSgt. Christine M. Smith  
SSgt. Patrick T. Whelan  
SSgt. Kathleen M. Yost  
SSgt. Benedict Louis Zollo Jr.  
Sgt. James H. Keay  
Sgt. Paul E. Sodergren  
Sgt. Linda A. Thornholt  
SrA. Carmen L. Diaz  
SrA. Sherri L. Freitas  
SrA. Rose M. Holland  
SrA. Daniel J. Myers III  
SrA. Anne L. Sayward  
**ENLISTMENTS**  
SSgt. Arthur L. Bump  
Sgt. Paul T. Aylwin  
AB. Michael K. Barna





The Air Force Thunderbirds will "slip the surly bonds of earth" above Westover June 7 when the fabled aerial demonstration team stages a performance in connection with the base open house. (USAF Thunderbirds photo)

## Westover Reservists seek special license plates

**TSgt. Tom Allocco**

Westover personnel are working on two fronts for special Massachusetts license plates for Reservists.

TSgt. Victor Gobbi, 439th CAMS avionics technician, said in March that he planned to attend a Massachusetts House of Representatives hearing on a proposed bill to authorize license plates imprinted with the designation "Air Force Reserve." The proposal was submitted to the legislature by his state representative, Marie J. Parente of Milford, at Sergeant Gobbi's request.

Westover Chapter 50 of the Reserve Officers Association has called on the Massachusetts ROA to lobby the state legislature for a special license plate for all members of the military reserve.

Chapter president, Capt. Jack Sanocki, ground safety officer, wrote a letter to the state ROA in March citing the Westover chapter's support

of such legislation.

He said the effort to get special plates is important.

### A symbol

"A special purpose license would be a symbol of pride and commitment.

"The national ROA has clout in Washington and we should have some on the state level," Captain Sanocki said.

He noted that Air and Army National Guard members are authorized special plates in Massachusetts and other states.

The Massachusetts House of Representatives Public Safety Committee was scheduled to conduct a hearing on Representative Parente's bill by April 30.

She first introduced the bill last year following a telephone call from Sergeant Gobbi.

"I felt the Reservists should have

some recognition and she immediately liked the idea," he said.

### Uphill battle

Because the proposal died in the Public Safety Committee last year, Representative Parente submitted it a second time in November. She said it will face an uphill battle and its success depends on the level of support it wins from Reservists.

"Between 8,000 and 10,000 petitions are presented to the legislature each year. Only a small number become law and that can take years," she said.

"You have to convince the other 159 members of the House of Representatives."

Representative Parente said it is too early to say if Reservists would receive such plates without charge.

She has also proposed a bill to authorize special plates for war veterans, such as plates imprinted "World War II" or "Vietnam War".



## "Patriot People"



**Name:** ROB RIDER  
**Rank:** 2nd Lt.  
**Age:** 28  
**Address:** Enfield, Conn.  
**Unit:** 74th AES  
**Position:** flight nurse  
**Civilian Occupation:** registered nurse  
**Favorite Food:** beef stroganoff  
**Favorite Beverage:** Diet Coke  
**Favorite Sport:** baseball  
**Favorite Hobby:** baseball statistics  
**Ideal Vacation:** somewhere warm  
**Best Way to Relax:** by the ocean  
**Preferred Entertainment:** baseball games  
**Favorite Celebrity:** Clint Eastwood  
**Favorite Music:** 60's and 70's music  
**Favorite Book:** The Fourth Protocol  
**Favorite Color:** blue  
**Favorite Car:** Mercedes  
**Pet Peeve:** backbiting people  
**Best Thing About Westover:** being able to fly  
**Worst Thing About Westover:** cold weather

## PEP is based on superlative performance of duty

By TSgt. Tom Allocco

You may meet with all the requirements for promotion and always do your job, but that doesn't give you a "right" to stripes under the Promotion Enhancement Program. If your supervisor tells you that you've been recommended to the PEP board, he's also in the wrong.

PEP has brought new stripes to Westover Reservists but left members with misconceptions about how the rank is earned.

"Both supervisors and those seeking PEP promotions need to better understand the program" according to SSgt. Pamela Nelson, chief of Quality Force. She records the proceedings when the PEP board meets to consider candidates for promotion.

"Too many people think that time in grade or in service should qualify them for a PEP promotion.

"Basically, PEP is a promotion for superlative performance of duty. It has to be earned," Sergeant Nelson said.

### Confidential

Some supervisors also fail to understand that the proceedings of the PEP

board are confidential. Under regulation, only those selected for promotion are ever to learn they were among PEP candidates.

"One of the biggest misconceptions is that the PEP board acts alone to promote people. It's the supervisors who make it possible for people to be promoted," Sergeant Nelson said.

"When the board reviews a candidate, it is only reacting to what the supervisor says about the individual. That is why it is so important for supervisors to do a conscientious job with APRs and letters of recommendation.

"Some supervisors write superficial APRs without writing comments on an individual's performance. That keeps qualified people from being promoted or winning other recognition," she said.

"Supervisors should understand that it is part of their job to give an in-depth justification for promotions and decorations."

### Eligibility

Some Reservists are also under the misconception that everyone is eligible for a PEP promotion. The PEP

board can only recommend that individuals be promoted one stripe above the grade of their slot. For example, a technical sergeant in a staff sergeant slot is not eligible for a PEP promotion.

PEP boards have met three times at Westover. The board meets at random intervals, with the number of promotions determined by Air Force headquarters according to the AFRES need for NCOs. No decision has been announced on when the next PEP board may meet.

The board consists of one colonel and two chief master sergeants from Westover and one each from the 914th TAG at Niagara Falls IAP and the 911th TAG at Pittsburgh IAP.

They judge candidates based on their APRs, records and supervisor's letters of recommendation. Each board member assigns a numerical value from 1 to 10 and candidates with the highest average are recommended to Brig. Gen. Jack P. Ferguson, 439th TAW commander, for promotion.



# Connecticut's governor honors Reservists' bosses

By Capt. Rick Dyer

The employers of two 439th TAW Reservists were among seven bosses honored for their support of the Guard and Reserve by Connecticut Governor William A. O'Neill during ceremonies at the State Capitol in Hartford on March 7.

The governor presented "Pro Patria" state chairman's awards to Attorney John M. Bailey and Michael Fitzpatrick.

Attorney Bailey, who is State's Attorney for Hartford County with the Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice, was nominated by two of his employees, TSgt. Charles Lexius of the 337th TAS and Army Reserve Sgt. David Best.

Mr. Fitzpatrick, general manager of Equifax Services, Inc. in Rocky Hill, Conn., was recommended by CMSgt. Frank Pecka of the 58th APS.

Both were cited for their "outstanding contributions to the national defense" by their vigorous support of the Guard and Reserve programs.

Joining the governor in making the presentations in the Capitol's Hall of

Flags were Brig. Gen. Jack P. Ferguson, 439th TAW commander, and Lt. Col. Andrew J. Kasznay, commander of the 58th APS.

In his remarks, Gov. O'Neill told the audience that the Connecticut Constitution makes him "captain general" of the state's militia.

"This 'commander' wants you to know how much we value the volunteer services of Guard and Reserve members, and the support they receive from you, their employers," the governor said.

Attorney Bailey, who is the chief criminal prosecutor for Hartford County, said that he values having Guard and Reserve members on his staff. "They bring training and dedi-

cation to their jobs that makes them excellent workers," he said. "I'm delighted to have them with me."

The ceremonies, which were sponsored by the Connecticut Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, under the direction of Chairman David A. Foster, were followed by a luncheon at the Officer's Club in the State Armory.

Among the honored guests were Maj. Gen. John T. Gereski, Connecticut's Adjutant General; Maj. Gen. Herbert J. Riley, commander of the 94th U.S. Army Reserve Command; Brig. Gen. John H. Capalbo, assistant division commander of the 76th Division, U.S. Army Reserve and General Ferguson.

## 3 Reservists honored at Commander's call

Three Air Force Commendation Medals were awarded by Lt. Col. James Handy, 439th CSG commander, during ceremonies at Westover on March 9.

The medals were presented to SMSgt. Francis E. Babin of the 439th CES, SMSgt. Ronald C. Perrault of the 439th CSG and MSgt. George Copeland of the disaster preparedness unit.

Sergeants Babin and Perrault were cited for outstanding management and achievement in the food services area, while Sergeant Copeland was honored for his innovation and leadership in the disaster preparedness program.

A plaque honoring the *Patriot* as the best Air Force Reserve command newspaper was presented by Colonel Handy to MSgt. Larry Lentz, the publication's editor.



Connecticut Gov. William A. O'Neill, center, greets Michael Fitzpatrick of Equifax Services Inc. and his employee, CMSgt. Frank Pecka of the 58th APS during Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve ceremonies at the State Capitol in Hartford on March 7.

(USAF photo by Capt. Rick Dyer)

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300



THIRD CLASS - BULK RATE