

PATRIOT

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

VOLUME XIV, NUMBER 6

JUNE 1986

Colonel Walker assumes command of 439th TAW

By Capt. Rick Dyer

With a handshake and a salute, the command of the 493th Tactical Airlift Wing officially changed hands on May 3.

Incoming Wing Commander Col. Frederick D. Walker replaced Brig. Gen. Jack P. Ferguson during ceremonies at the Base Hangar. (see related story on page 3).

Presiding at the change of command was Maj. Gen. Alan G. Sharp, commander of the 14th Air Force.

"It is not without trepidation that I stand before you today," Colonel Walker told the 300 unit members who attended the ceremony. "No other unit in the Air Force Reserve faces the challenges that we do today."

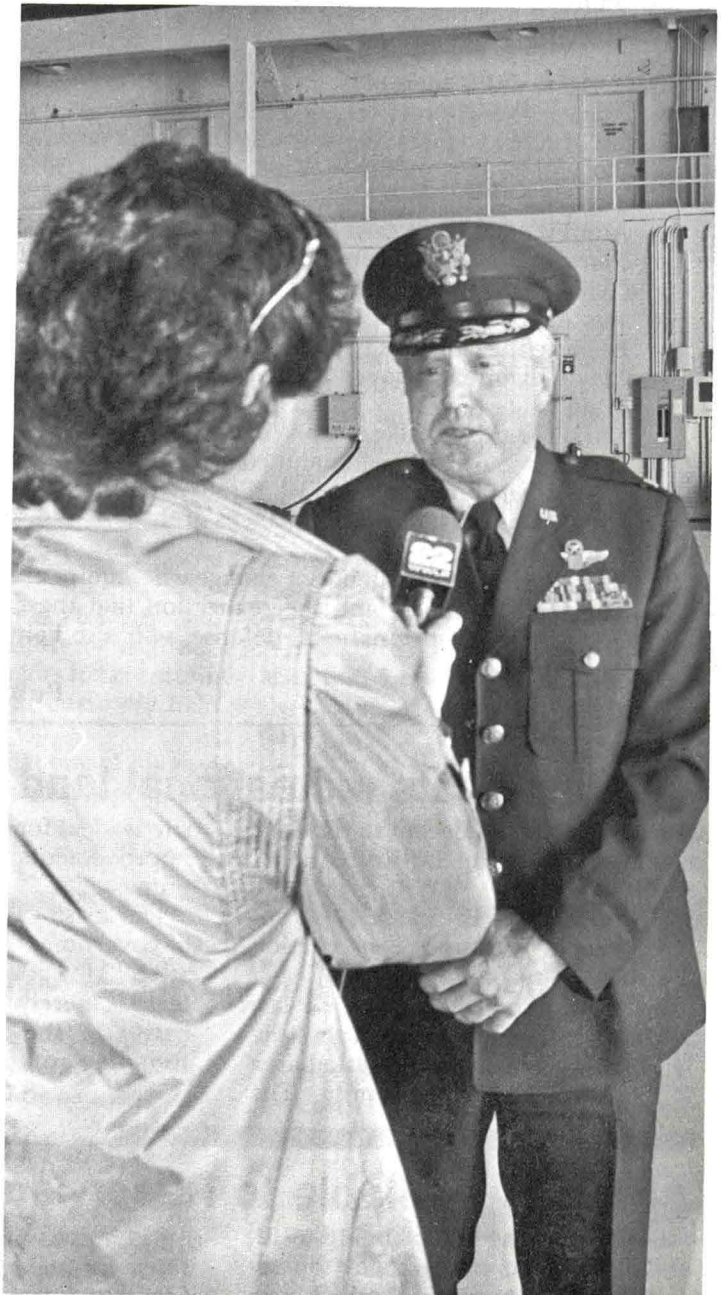
Alluding to the wing's impending conversion to C-5 aircraft, the new commander said that Westover was facing "changing times." "It will undoubtedly be both demanding and exciting," he said. I'm delighted to have been selected."

General Ferguson, who had led the 439th since March, 1984, thanked the Westover community during his remarks.

"I'll always have a soft spot in my heart for this base," he said. "I served here first as base commander and then as wing commander, and I was promoted to general at Westover. I want to thank each and every one of you for the support you have given me."

General Ferguson left Westover to assume command of the 514th Military Airlift Wing at McGuire AFB, N.J.

Colonel Walker, a 53-year-old command pilot with more than 6,000 flying hours, comes to the base from McChord AFB, Wash., where he led the 446th Military Airlift Wing.



WWLP-TV reporter Amy Landsman interviews Col. Frederick Walker following change to command ceremonies in the base hangar.

(USAF Photo by SSgt. Sandra Michon)

On the inside . . .

- Media view the Galaxy
- Reserve to expand drug testing
- 74th AES stages MASF training

EDITORIAL

The price of change

"Things do not change; we change."

Thoreau penned that line more than a century ago, but his words have taken on particular significance at Westover lately.

Although the first of the Wing's 14 C-5 Galaxies won't touch down here until the late summer of 1987, we already are changing in anticipation of the conversion.

Some of the changes are obvious. Westover now is embarking on construction projects totaling nearly \$46 million that are needed to house and maintain the jumbo transports.

Security throughout the base is being beefed up. That fact was readily apparent during the May UTA to any Reservist traveling through Westover's gates.

Some of the changes are more subtle, and will place great demands on many of the unit's members.

Because the 439th will be expected to continue with its regular schedule of C-130 missions while learning to fly the new aircraft, personnel resources will be stretched thin. This will require better organization and, in some cases, longer hours.

Aircrews and maintenance workers will be required to attend C-5 training courses. This will mean a large personal sacrifice for many Reservists who will be separated from their families for several months while training at Altus AFB, Okla.

Because the Galaxies have inertial navigation systems, 337th TAS navigators will eventually have to either learn new skills, or transfer into other C-130 units.

Col. Frederick Walker, the Wing's new commander, said recently that the simultaneous conversion and continuation of C-130 operations will require a "super human effort" by Westover Reservists.

That is undoubtedly true. Changes of the size and scope which face the 439th are never easy.

Coping with the challenge of change will require extra effort. A sense of humor, some patience, and the realization that these changes are being made in the interest of national defense, will also help immeasurably.

Capt. Rick Dyer
Public Affairs Officer

Westover gets recreational land

A 22-acre tract adjacent to the base has been leased to the Recreational Services Branch, MWR, from the Town of Ludlow. The parcel is part of the 315-acre Westover conservation area deeded to Ludlow in 1977.

According to Mike McNicholas, chief of recreational services, the land will be used as a recreation area for the Westover community. The

site is ideal for a campground, and all improvements will be made by volunteers.

The lease calls for no expenditure of government funds. The "consideration" for the 15-year renewable lease is merely "improvement and security of the picnic area and surrounding grounds."

Bonuses available to Reservists

Reservists who are planning to reenlist can earn extra money by reenlisting or retraining, if eligible, in some Air Force Specialty Codes according to MSgt. Edward J. Burnett, NCOIC for Reserve Recruiting.

"Bonuses will be paid at fiscal 1985 rates through Sept. 20," explained Sergeant Burnett. He added that Reservists should contact their wing or group career advisor to see if they qualify.

Briefs

Smoking banned

Military Airlift Command has permanently banned smoking on all aeromedical evacuation flights as a result of a recent no-smoking test. MAC officials said the policy change was made because medevac flights are part of a hospital system dedicated to preventing disease and promoting health.

Former Reservist dies

Don MacGillivray, a former flight mechanic and master sergeant with the 731st Tactical Airlift Squadron, died at the Veterans' Administration Hospital in Bedford, Mass.

MacGillivray's death was attributed to Kuf's Disease, a rare affliction that slowly destroys the nervous and digestive systems. Two of MacGillivray's children, Bonnie, 20 and Danny, 17, have also been diagnosed as suffering the same neurological disorder. There are only two other cases of Kuf's disease known in the world.

During the September, 1985 UTA, TSgt. Jim Marrone of the 439th Consolidated Maintenance Squadron initiated an effort that raised more than \$17,000 to aid the MacGillivray family.

PATRIOT

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"The editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 439th Tactical Airlift Wing, Westover Air Force Base."

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New commander goes from farming to flying

By Capt. Rick Dyer

Col. Frederick D. Walker believes that he knows a thing or two about the problems confronting Reservists today.

He learned about some of them on his farm.

The 439th's new wing commander was formerly a dairy farmer with a herd of 60 cows in rural Michigan.

From 1960 until 1969, he had to juggle the demands of working full-time on the farm and part-time in the air as a Reserve pilot. During some of that time, he also served as an elected member of his local school board.

"I believe that I know as well as anyone the problems facing Reservists," the 53-year-old colonel said. "My cows had to be milked every day, and there were many times that I had to get up at 3 a.m. to do my chores before rushing off to the flight-line."

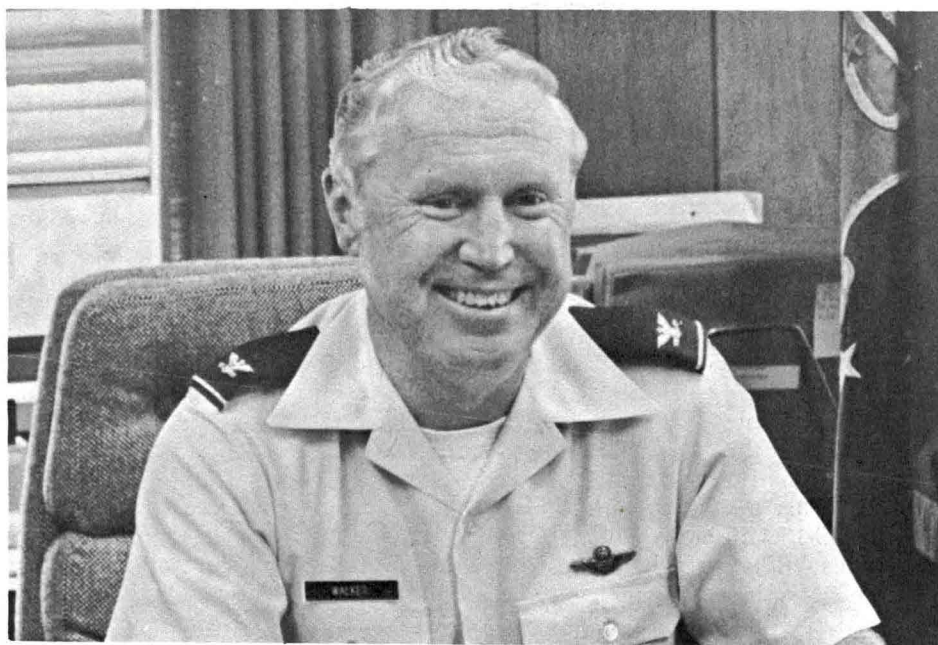
The veteran pilot, who assumed command of the wing last month, says that he has "always been torn between farming and flying."

"I went from flying to farming to flying," he said. But with five kids to put through college, I finally decided that flying full-time was the way to go."

Since becoming an Air Reserve Technician in 1969, the colonel has been primarily involved with C-130 and C-141 aircraft operations.

He says that is one reason why he is so excited about his new assignment, which will involve overseeing the unit's conversion to C-5 Galaxies.

"It is going to be really challenging, because while we are learning about



Col. Frederick D. Walker

the C-5s, we'll be expected to hold the line and continue with our regular C-130 missions," Colonel Walker said.

"Some of the most immediate challenges will be the \$45.9 million in construction projects needed to accommodate the conversion, and the A-76 cost comparison study," he stated.

The purpose of the A-76 study is to determine the feasibility of contracting with private vendors to fill certain positions at Westover currently held by civil servants.

The colonel said that one of his first priorities will be to meet the people at Westover.

"I'm sincere when I say that I want

to get to know everyone at the base and to learn about what they do," he said. He believes that this will help him to attain one of his major goals.

"I want to provide each Reservist with a challenge," Colonel Walker explained. "I want each member of the unit who spends time here each month to go home with the feeling that the time he or she spent at Westover was worthwhile."

In return, the wing commander said that he expects that Reservists "will give a full days work for a full days pay."

"If I'm known for anything, I hope that I will be known for being fair," he said. "I want to be fair — to the Reservists and to the taxpayers."

Reserve will expand drug testing program

ROBINS AFB, Ga. (AFRNS) — The Air Force Reserve will expand its drug testing program beginning Oct. 1, by giving AFRES commanders the authority to order commander-directed and limited-inspection drug abuse urinalysis testing of Reservists not on active duty.

Commander-directed testing may be ordered when probable cause does not exist but there is reasonable suspicion of drug abuse or to determine a member's competency for duty and

the need for counseling, rehabilitation or other medical treatment. Inspection testing, may be conducted as a unit sweep or randomly on segments of a unit, squadron, duty section, dormitory etc. Reserve members who are randomly selected for inspection testing will be notified no earlier than four hours prior to the actual time they are to report for testing.

Westover's Social Action Office will play an integral role in establish-

ing a viable and productive program for the base. "It's in everyone's interest that we implement this program," said Maj. Ben Goff, social actions officer. "Drug abuse is incompatible with Air Force life. It's the major contributor to performance and mission failure. We made every effort to educate Reservists about the hazards of drug abuse. Now, the drug testing program augments those educational efforts."

Wing cracks ground two base C-130 aircraft

Two of the 16 Westover C-130s were grounded in May when cracks were found in the wings in an Air Force-wide inspection of outer wing assemblies.

Parts were on order and repair work is expected to be completed soon, said Lt. Col. Harold Lawrence, deputy commander for maintenance. When the cracks are repaired the aircraft will be released for flight with restrictions imposed on them until they are replaced by "H" model

wings at the maintenance depot, he said.

Nine other Westover aircraft had passed the inspection. The other five C-130s were not inspected because they were recently outfitted with new "H" model wings.

The Air Force has restricted 298 C-130s from flight pending inspection of the aircraft outer wing assemblies. The inspection will help determine the structural integrity of the outer wing box which is the primary sup-

port of the outer wing.

An Air Force wide program has been underway to replace the wings of older model C-130s with the new "H" model wings. The 11 Westover aircraft which have their original wings are scheduled for replacements in coming years, Colonel Lawrence said.

The wings are being replaced as a safety precaution due to their age and not because of design flaws or other problems, he said.

Aldridge confirmed as Air Force Secretary



Edward C. 'Pete' Aldridge has been confirmed by the U.S. Senate at the new Secretary of the Air Force. He was nominated by President Ronald Reagan following the resignation of Russell A. Rourke in April.

Aldridge had been serving as Under Secretary of the Air Force since 1981. In a statement made following the White House announcement, Aldridge said, "I am honored President Reagan has chosen me to be the seventeenth Secretary of the Air Force. I pledge to do my best to continue the momentum he has built over the last five years in providing for a more secure America.

Prior to joining the Department of Defense in 1967, Mr. Aldridge held various staff and management positions in the Douglas Aircraft Com-

pany, Missile and Space Division in Santa Monica, California and in Washington, D.C.

In 1967 he joined the staff of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Systems Analysis as an Operations Research Analyst and then served as Director of the Strategic Defensive Division until July 1972. He also served as an adviser to the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks in Helsinki and Vienna.

He re-entered private industry in 1972 as a senior manager with LTV Aerospace Corporation in Dallas for a year until he was named senior management associate in the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, Washington, D.C.

Returning to the Department of Defense in February 1974, Mr. Aldridge served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategic Programs until March 1976. He was then selected to be the Director of Planning and Evaluation, a principal adviser to the Secretary of Defense in the planning and program evaluation of U.S. Military forces and support structure.

He was named Vice President, National Policy and Strategic Systems Group for the Systems Planning Corporation, Arlington, Va., in March 1977. Aldridge was responsible for the corporation's study and analytical activities in the areas of strategic and conventional forces and long range strategic planning.

C-124 crews hold reunion

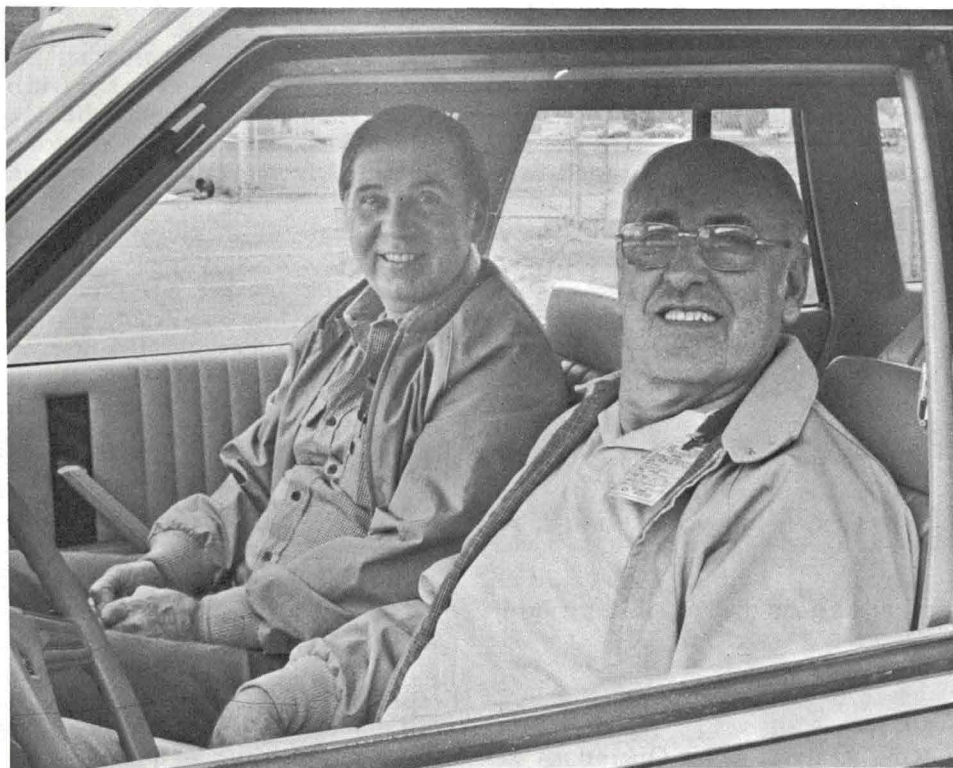
More than 40 flight nurses from the 74th AES and crew members of the 337th TAS, who had flown on C-124 aircraft based at Westover, held a reunion at the Open Mess on Saturday, May 3.

The event was organized by Lt. Col. Ann Stevens, a former flight nurse in the unit and now an Army Reservist and MSgts. Thomas Durkin and James Lynch, of the 337th. It featured a slide presentation of the C-124 activities prepared by Col. Yvonne Snow. She was one of the unit's first flight nurses.

The Globemaster aircraft were stationed at Westover between the late 1960s and 1972.

Some of the invited guests didn't have too far to travel. One was Lt. Col. Dorothy Gates, a former 74th flight nurse, who is now assigned to Westover's tactical hospital. Her husband Steven, a Master Sergeant, was a C-124 loadmaster and now flies C-130s. Also, Col. Louis Paskevicz and Col. Walter Holliday, former squadron commanders, flew the huge aircraft early in their careers at Westover.

Gelinas, Sieracki presented safe driving award



Leo Sieracki and Raymond Gelinas

(USAF Photo by SSgt. Sandra Michon)

By SSgt. Sandi Michon

They drive thousands of miles each year, in all kinds of weather. For both parts and people, Leo Sieracki and Raymond Gelinas get them there safely.

Sieracki, of base supply, and Gelinas, of base transportation, are this year's co-recipients of the Safe Driver of the Year Award. Between them, they have compiled more than 20,000 miles, mostly on base, without a single accident, citation or vehicle

abuse/misuse charge.

Sieracki is a welcomed sight at Westover work centers as he averages 32 hours a week delivering bench stock (parts and materials) to work stations around the base. "The main consideration in driving safely is to stay alert," he said. "You always have to be ready to react to the unexpected."

Sieracki expressed satisfaction on his selection. "I'm just doing my job," he said. "But, it's great to be

recognized."

Sieracki has been in his present position since 1979, and is no stranger to Westover. He worked as a forklift operator and warehouseman with the Military Air Transport Services, from 1951 to 1954, and worked for a private contractor under SAC from 1971 to 1973. He lives with his wife in South Hadley.

Gelinas has ferried many people around Westover. In the past 13 years, he has accumulated approximately 156,000 miles always with a smile and never with an accident. He has been at Westover since 1966. He started at the commissary, then spent seven years with security police before moving to transportation.

In August, he'll retire after 30 years of government service and is looking forward to adding mileage of a different sort. "I just bought a travel trailer. So, the scenery, for my wife Shirley and I, will be different."

TSgt. Kenneth Green Dies

TSgt. Kenneth Green died of a heart attack while on the job as an air reserve technician in the 439th CAMS Aerospace Ground Equipment Shop Feb. 20.

Sergeant Green also served as a Reserve aerospace ground equipment technician in the shop.

A long-time Reservist, he was a resident of Granby, Mass. Sergeant Green is survived by his wife and children.

Promotions — Reenlistments — Enlistments

PROMOTIONS

MSgt. Robert L. Pratt
MSgt. John E. Sheehan
TSgt. Neal A. Jason
TSgt. Nathaniel White
SSgt. David P. Adams
SSgt. Edward A. Brown
SSgt. Ellen T. Caporiccio
SSgt. Donald E. Connell
SSgt. Eugene H. J. Edmunds
SSgt. Laurent Frechette
SSgt. Arlene A. Harris
SSgt. Donna M. Harris
SSgt. Mark F. Hennessey
SSgt. Sherri Leatherman
SSgt. Albert Markert
SSgt. Thomas G. Morehouse
SSgt. Spiro M. Moulis
SSgt. Robert A. Parkinson

SSgt. Gerhard H. Rancin
SSgt. Mark A. Wehrer
SSgt. Charles F. Woodward
Sgt. Bruce E. Goetsch
SrA. Patrick A. Brooks
SrA. Jeffrey P. Connor
SrA. Kenneth Dauphinais
SrA. David A. Dubois
SrA. Nancy S. Joseph
SrA. Dean M. Knight
SrA. Garrett G. Kokko
SrA. Linda S. Ryan
SrA. Mark R. Scarito
SrA. John F. Skelly, III
SrA. Theresa Staletovich
SrA. Luise L. Velasco
SrA. Stephan A. Warren
SrA. Leo P. Wiedersheim
A1C Renee A. Remedis

A1C Richard T. Schmoke

REENLISTMENTS

SSgt. David D. Anderson
TSgt. Stanley L. Barringer
SSgt. John P. Betsold
SSgt. Manfred C. Borcuk
TSgt. William A. Bowles
TSgt. James A. Bray
SSgt. Jack A. Canfion
SSgt. Bruce Z. Cleveland
SrA. Walter E. Deitz
SSgt. Neil A. Delisle
SSgt. Terrance M. Farrell Jr.
SSgt. Chester V. Frost, III
Sgt. Thomas G. Gaglione
MSgt. Claire L. Gaudreau
Sgt. Terrence O. Grant
SSgt. Edward Griffin

SSgt. Robert W. Harris Sr.
SSgt. Christopher R. Hodges
MSgt. Maurice S. Jiggetts
TSgt. John B. Langevin
SSgt. William M. Latham
SSgt. John J. Lawrence
SSgt. Victor L. Lawrence
SSgt. Henry C. Lomba
SSgt. Michael J. Marrone
SSgt. Robert J. Martin
TSgt. Leon J. Mason Jr.
SSgt. Wayne A. Moore
TSgt. Peter A. Nikonczyk
TSgt. Stella L. Nine
TSgt. Quentin J. Oakley
Sgt. Robert F. Parkinson
SSgt. Barbara A. Robotti
SSgt. Michael J. Roderick
SSgt. Robert E. Rys

TSgt. Stanley W. Strzepek
SSgt. Michael Sutton
TSgt. Allen R. Tomlinson
SSgt. Michael J. Ventresca
SSgt. Keith A. Webb
TSgt. Lawrence A. Weir
SSgt. Abram L. Winters

ENLISTMENTS

SSgt. Grady M. Bowen
Sgt. Glenn R. Brault
AB Kristine M. Colby
SSgt. Otis Delaney Jr.
A1C Robert F. Ferriter
Amn. Stephen C. Letares
SSgt. Sara K. McCoy
Amn. Deborah A. Sammataro
SSgt. Bruce A. Slabinski

O.S.I. agent and T.V. cops have little in common

By Capt. Rick Dyer

When Ray Erwin speaks of police work, there aren't any references to gun fights or high-speed car chases.

In fact, his most interesting tales focus on rancid meat, scheming contractors and the people he helped prove innocent.

Special Agent Raymond L. Erwin of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations recently was assigned to Westover.

The 18-year Air Force veteran, who is an expert in white collar crime and contractor fraud investigations, is assigned to O.S.I. District I at Pease AFB, N.H.

His one-man operation at Westover requires that he be a jack-of-all-trades when it comes to criminal investigations and protecting Air Force personnel and assets.

Contractor fraud

"I actively investigate contractor fraud, but our mission at the base and in this area includes all types of criminal investigations, anti-terrorism, counter-espionage and executive protection," Agent Erwin said.

If a serious crime was committed on the base, Agent Erwin would respond to the scene and handle the initial stages of the investigation, until O.S.I. agents from Hanscom AFB could take over the case.

He also works closely with state, federal and local law enforcement agencies to gather intelligence about possible threats against Air Force targets.

The O.S.I. agent said that he frequently briefs Air Force personnel on steps they can take to better protect themselves when traveling to foreign countries.

O.S.I. Academy

Agent Erwin is a graduate of the Air Force O.S.I. Academy at Bolling AFB, D.C. The 11-week course, which includes training in firearms, laws, investigative techniques and crime scene processing, is patterned after the F.B.I. Academy at Quantico, Va.

Although he has been a criminal investigator for the past 11 years, the 38-year-old special agent sees little resemblance between the work he does, and that of the detectives de-

picted on television.

"We don't kick down doors and we don't seek the limelight," he said. "We prefer to work quietly and methodically, and to get results."

Those "results" are often Federal criminal convictions against Department of Defense contractors and subcontractors who attempt to bilk Uncle Sam.

"O.S.I. has placed heavy emphasis in recent years on white collar crime, because when DOD is being defrauded, commanders have fewer resources with which to fulfill their missions," Agent Erwin said. "The end result is that the national defense suffers."

Because of this, Agent Erwin spends a good deal of his time poring over contracts and invoices, visiting factories and job sites and interviewing people with possible information about fraud.

Several years ago, one of his investigations resulted in the conviction of

a Texas vendor who had been cheating the government by selling substandard meat products to DOD.

"It was a vicious case," he recalled. "That meat would turn your stomach, and some of the employees who cooperated with our investigation were physically intimidated."

The meat packer was convicted after trial and received a lengthy prison sentence. "Frankly, he deserved it," the agent said.

While Agent Erwin is tenacious in his pursuit of rip-off artists, he says that the most exciting part of his work comes when he exonerates a suspect. "We are not here to put people in jail — we want to know if a crime happened, who did it, and why," he said.

"I think it's most exciting when we prove a suspect is innocent, or that a complaint is unfounded," Agent Erwin added. "Anyone who feels differently probably shouldn't be doing this job."

Patriot People

Name: WINFRED DAILEY

Rank: MSgt.

Age: 37

Address: 75 Gourley Rd.,
Springfield

Unit: 439 WSSF

Position: supervisor

Civilian Occupation: security
officer

Favorite Food: salad

Favorite Beverage: fruit punch

Favorite Sport: basketball

Favorite Hobby: cars

Ideal Vacation: absolutely
nothing

Best Way to Relax: reading a
book

Preferred Entertainment:
theater

Favorite Celebrity: Jane Fonda

Favorite Music: contemporary

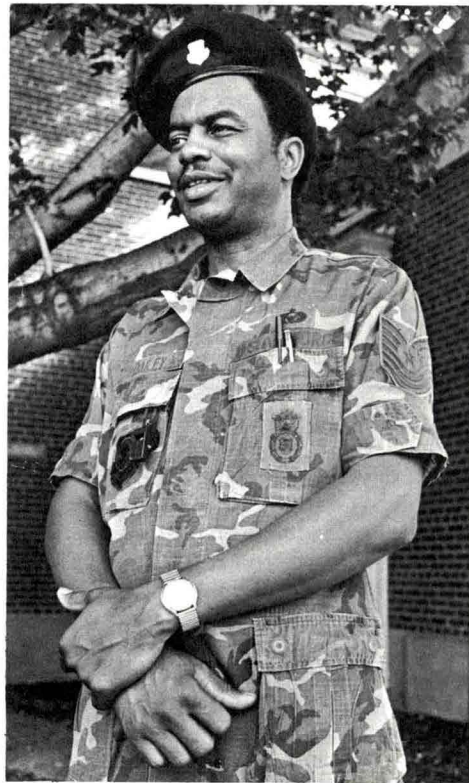
Favorite Book: military history

Favorite Color: blue

Favorite Car: Camaro

Pet Peeve: people being late

Best Thing About Westover:
close to home



74th AES practices patient evacuation training

Bone chilling temperatures and gusting winds made flight line conditions less than ideal on Saturday, May 3. Yet, the weather didn't deter 40 members of the 74th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron during their patient evacuation training.

Working in three teams, they erected a 60 by 20 foot Mobile Aero-medical Staging Facility tent and then, throughout the day, processed 'simulated' patients from the triage area into a C-130.

"Everyone in the unit must be com-

petent in all phases of the evacuation process," explained 2nd Lt. Michelle Breault, team chief. "That ranges from the operation of the electric generator and proper patient care while waiting transfer to the correct boarding procedures on the aircraft and placement of the litters."

The nurses and medical technicians must be able to admit, care for and discharge 100 patients routinely in one day and 150 under 'surge' conditions.

"Once on board the aircraft, the patients may be cared for by the personnel of the MASF," said Maj. Rachel Fraleigh, officer in charge of the MASF. "These exercises help us maintain our proficiency as fully qualified air crew members. It ranges from water survival and egress training to chemical warfare familiarization."



Members of the 74th AES bring a 'patient' into their MASF prior to evacuation from the battle zone on the waiting C-130.

(USAF photo by MSgt. Larry Lentz)

59th APS goes to Rodeo

By SSgt. Paul K. Ford
59th APS PA Representative

A six-man team from the 59th Aerial Port Squadron represented the Wing in Patriot Rodeo at Charleston, AFB S.C.

The 59th's team consisted of MSgt. Francis Hartley, team chief; TSgt. Warren Coughlin, TSgt. Paul Petorsante, SSgt. Joseph Pandolfi, SSgt.

John Tinnemeyer and SSgt. Paula Fields.

Competition events included academic testing, cargo processing problems, aircraft loading and a driver's obstacle course.

Co-winners of the event were the 32nd APS from Pittsburgh IAP, Pa. and the 94th APS from Robins AFB, Ga.

Russell named AFRES SEA

(AFRNS) CMSgt. Richard E. Russell has been selected as the sixth Senior Enlisted Advisor for the Air Force Reserve. Chief Russell, currently SEA for 4th Air Force, was chosen for the top enlisted position in the command by Maj. Gen. Sloan R. Gill, Chief of Air Force Reserve and AFRES Commander.

He replaces CMSgt. Henry Scott, who will become AFRES Special Assistant for career motivation. Chief Scott had served as SEA of the 439th TAW prior to his AFRES assignment.

One of 17 candidates for the assignment, Chief Russell enlisted in the Air Force Reserve in 1960 and assumed his present duties in February 1983.

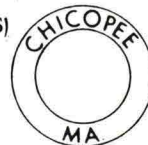
59th APS gets new chief

The Indians at the 59th APS have a new chief. CMSgt. Thomas E. Crameri not only received his promotion to the highest enlisted rank, but was also appointed to air transportation manager with the 59th APS.

Chief Crameri has 35 years of military service and has been with the 59th APS since 1977. As a civilian, he is a machinist with Homet Machining Center in Winsted, Conn. He resides in Torrington, Conn. with his wife, Carmela, and their three children.

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