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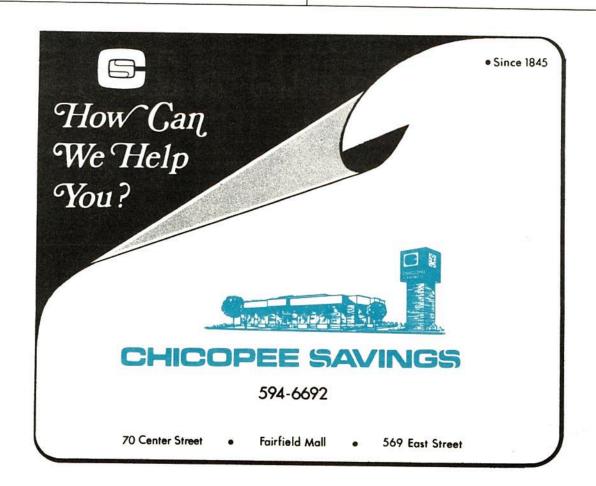
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## the free world's largest aircraft

# C-5 Galaxy

In February 1985, U.S. Rep. Edward P. Boland, D-Springfield, announced an Air Force proposal to base the giant C-5A Galaxy at Westover AFB.

After more than two years of careful study, Westover officials announced last month that 16 of the four-jet transports would be based in Chicopee beginning in October.

Nearly \$50 million will be spent here to alter Westover facilities to accommodate more than \$1 billion in aircraft.

Westover will be increasing Air Force Reserve strength by 1,000 members, hiring more than three hundred more full time employees and increasing annual the base payroll by another \$14 million a year.

Once the C-5As are operational here, Westover will be putting about \$100,000 a day directly into the local economy. Purchases and indirect expenditures are expected to add another \$100,000 a day during the first three years of preparation.

Westover AFB construction projects will also generate about 800 labor-years of direct employment and 700 to 800 labor-years of indirect jobs in the community.

The C-5 has been operating from Westover's two-mile long runway since 1971. Aircraft stationed elsewhere in the country have used Westover as a stopping point for intercontinental missions.

The C-5 Galaxy is the largest aircraft in the inventory of the free world's air forces, and is a giant in more than just size.

Designed during the early days of the Vietnam War when American supply ships sat idle off ports like Cam Ranh Bay and Da Nang which were overwhelmed with cargo, the first C-5 took to the air a month after the Tet Offensive ended.

The C-5 can carry out-sized equipment, and dense cargo -- like tanks -- which had never been air transportable until the Galaxy. The C-5 has a cargo compartment 121 feet long, one foot shorter than Orville Wright's first flight at Kittyhawk in 1903.

The aircraft has an overall length of 247.8 feet, and a wing span of 222.7 feet. The tail

is 65 feet off the ground, taller than a sixstory building. The crew sits about 45 feet above the runway.

The C-5 Galaxy is so large that the paint for the camouflage design alone weighs more than a ton.

The large nose, known as "the visor," opens and the rear ramp opens -- allowing speedy roll-on, roll-off capability for trucks, tanks, cannon and palletized cargo.

At take off with a maximum load of 240,000 pounds aboard, the C-5 weighs 769,000 pounds, and can hold up to 49,000 gallons of fuel for intercontinental flights. With that full load, the aircraft can cruise 3,250 miles at 520 miles per hour. With no load, the aircraft can cruise 6,940 miles at 555 miles per hour.

There are six crew members on the C-5, and the plane can carry as many as 343 passengers in three compartments.

The C-5 is powered by four General Electric turbo fan jet engines, each delivering 38,000 pounds of thrust at takeoff. When at full power for takeoff, each engine gulps 42 tons of air a minute through the eight-foot diameter engine air scoops.

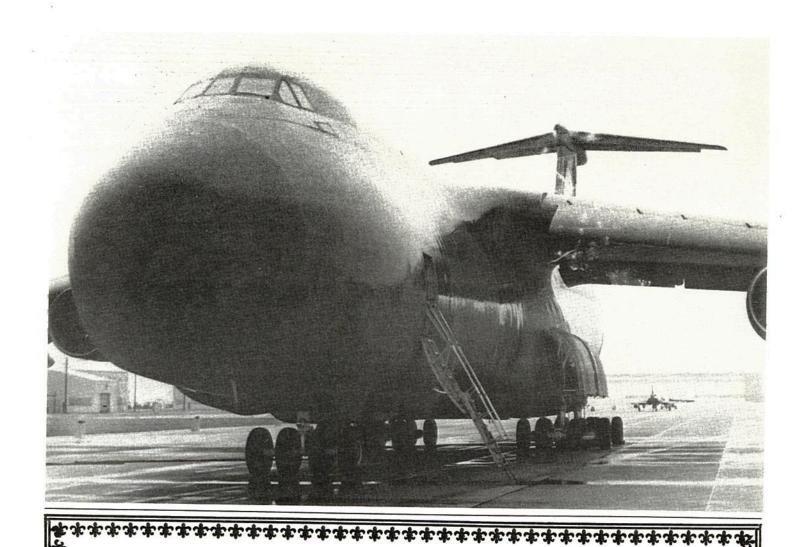
Inside, besides being long, the cargo compartment is wide and spacious. The compartment could accommodate six Peter Pan buses, 48 full-size Cadillacs, a 105-bed mobile hospital, or 25,844,746 ping pong balls.

The C-5 does need room to operate, the takeoff roll with a full load is 8,400 feet, and the landing distance is 3,675 feet.

Westover's main runway is 11,600 feet long and 300 feet wide, making Chicopee an ideal location as a major C-5 base.

The C-5 Galaxy was officially accepted by the Air Force in 1969. Its size, volume, versatility, and performance combine to make the Galaxy the Air Force's most efficient cargo transport.

When the Blizzard of 1978 struck New England, the C-5 was used to haul large snow removal equipment to dig out Boston. Earlier this year, a C-5 was used to transport a Continued on Page 24



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Continued from Page 22

large arson investigation van to Puerto Rico for use in solving a major hotel fire in San Juan.

The C-5 was designed, of course, to protect Americans in wartime. The C-5 can deliver virtually anywhere in the world completely equipped combat units, support forces, and all types of supplies, including large and heavy weapons and military vehicles never before airlifted, making it one of the most valuable tools of the Military Airlift Command.

The Air Force has 77 C-5As in its inventory and another 50 C-5Bs have been ordered. As the B models are purchased, updated A models are being transferred to the Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard.

#### C-5 TRIVIA

A C-5 Galaxy can carry:

-- 25,844,746 ping pong balls
-- 100 Volkswagen Beetles or 48 Cadillacs

-- enough fuel for the family car to make 31 trips around the world or 130 trips between New York and Los Angeles

-- 3,934 bushels of wheat

-- 7,833 bushels of unshelled peanuts

-- 158,631,184 shelled peanuts

-- 277,263 12 oz. cans of Budweiser

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#### The C-5 Galaxy has:

-- five miles of control cables

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-- a price tag of more than \$108 million



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# F-15 Eagle

The F-15 Eagle is an all-weather, extremely maneuverable, tactical fighter aircraft designed to gain and maintain air superiority in aerial combat.

The F-15 has electronic systems and weaponry to detect, acquire, track and attack enemy aircraft while operating in friendly or enemy airspace.

The weapons and flight control systems are designed so one man can safely and effectively perform air-to-air combat. The Eagle is the first operational aircraft with engine thrust exceeding the weight of the aircraft -- which means the F-15 can accelerate while climbing straight up.

The multi-mission avionics system sets the F-15 apart from other fighter aircraft. This system includes as head-up display which projects all essential information from the dashboard onto the windscreen at eye level. This allows the pilot to engage in combat and still be aware of the weapons indicators and aircraft functions without having to look down at the instruments.

The F-15 is equipped with pulse-Doppler radar which enables the pilot to look up at high-flying targets and look down at lowflying targets without having the radar confused by ground clutter.

The radar feeds information into the central computer for efficient weapons delivery. The first flight of an F-15 was in July,

1972, and the first delivery to an operation-

al unit was in November 1974.

The aircraft is equipped with two jet engines, each delivering 25,000 pounds of thrust, and can reach speeds of Mach 2.5 plus.

The combat ceiling is 65,000 feet, and the Eagle has a ranges of 3,450 miles.

The maximum takeoff weight is 68,000 pounds including full armaments. The aircraft is armed with one M-61Al multibarrel gun, and four air to air missiles.

The tremendous power of the engines has enabled the F-15 to hold six of the eight time-to-height records.

The fastest climb to altitude ever recorded by a non-rocket powered aircraft was set in 1975 by an F-15 when the aircraft went from the ground to 65,516 feet in 2.94 minutes.

With the power available and relatively large wing surface, the F-15 is one of the fastest and most maneuverable aircraft in the world today.

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## KC-10 EXTENDER

The KC-10A Extender is a tanker/cargo aircraft with receiver refueling capability.

Along with the ability to refuel fighters and bombers, the KC-10 can refuel a C-5 -- giving a Galaxy transport loaded with nearly a quarter million pounds of cargo a range limited only by the endurance of the flight crews living on board.

The C-5A Galaxy and KC-10A Extender team would allow Air Force Reserve crews from Westover to fly directly from Chicopee to any point in the world.

The KC-10 is a modified McDonnell Douglas DC-10. All non-essential systems and airline type equipment was removed from the aircraft and mission systems were added.

The Extender has two large fuel tanks under the cargo floor, and aerial refueling boom, hose and drogue, seated aerial refueling operator station, aerial refueling receptacle and military avionics.

The wing tanks of the DC-10 were supplemented in the KC-10 by two additional fuselage tanks, one under the forward lower cargo compartment and on under the rear compartment.

Combined, the six fuel tanks can carry more than 342,000 pounds of fuel -- almost twice as much as the KC-135 Stratotankers which were stationed at Westover AFB in the 1960s and early 1970s.

The fuel tanks of the KC-10 are installed for safety with rubber fuel bladders, fuel lines located away from the bottom of tanks, and special structural arrangements under the tanks give protection against the hazards of collapsing fuselage-mounted landing gear, wheels-up landings or other dangers.

Because the KC-10 is equipped with both types of aerial refueling systems -- the boom and the hose and drogue systems -- the Extender can refuel a variety of aircraft flown by the U.S. military and those of allied nations.

The Extender boom is 10 feet longer than the refueling boom on the KC-135, and of larger diameter. The KC-10 has an improved flow nozzle and can transfer up to 1,200 gallons a minute -- or 20 gallons, about the capacity of a mid- to full-sized automobile, each second.

Fuel transfer is directed from the aerial



refueling operator compartment, which has seated stations for the boom operator and two others. Seated stations were designed because the prone position used in the KC-135 was less comfortable and caused operator fatigue.

Hand controls for aerial refueling equipment are located at the operator's arm rest. A window, supplemented by a periscope, is installed for rear viewing. Sideview mirrors also allow observation of formation areas off the KC-10's wing tips.

Special equipment and lighting enables the KC-10 to refuel aircraft at night.

In addition to the Extender's primary mission of refueling aircraft, the KC-10 can carry cargo loads ranging from 27 standard pallets weighing up to 170,000 pounds or a mixture of people and cargo up to 75 support personnel and 17 pallets.

Flown by a crew of four, the Extender has an unrefueled range of 4,373 miles with 170,000 pounds of cargo. The KC-10 can reach 42,000 feet and an air speed of 528 miles per hour.

The aircraft has a wingspan of 165.3 feet, is 181.6 feet long and the tail is 58 feet tall.

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# KC-135 STRATOTANKER

The KC-135 Stratotanker was developed from the basic design of a Boeing 707 passenger plane. The first of 732 models of the C-135 was delivered to the Air Force in 1957.

Stratotankers were developed to replace the KC-97s, propeller driven tankers stationed at Westover AFB in the 1950s. As Air Force aircraft evolved into faster and more sophisticated fighters, bombers and cargo planes, the slow speed of the KC-97 caused the newer jets to slow to dangerous nearstall speeds.

The KC-135 cruises at 530 miles per hour.

Stratotankers stationed at Westover AFB from 1957 to 1974 were powered by noisy turbojet engines. Loaded to capacity with fuel for Westover's B-52s, the KC-135As were nearly as loud as the heavily loaded bombers which roared over Western Massachusetts.

Newer KC-135 models flown by the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard have turbofan Pratt & Whitney engines which are quieter and more fuel efficient. The KC-135E can offload 20 percent more fuel than the A model.

Flown by a crew of four, Stratotankers have a ceiling of 50,000 feet and a range of 1,150 miles with 120,000 pounds of fuel. Without a capacity fuel load, the range is 9,200 miles.

The KC-135 has a wing span of 130.9 feet, is 136.3 feet long, and the tail reaches 41.6 feet above the runway.



Boom of a KC-135E reaches toward a B-52

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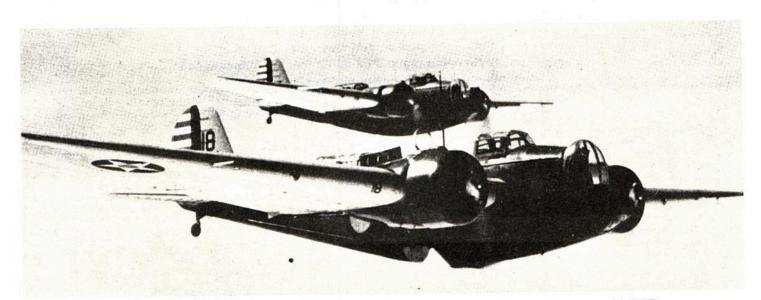
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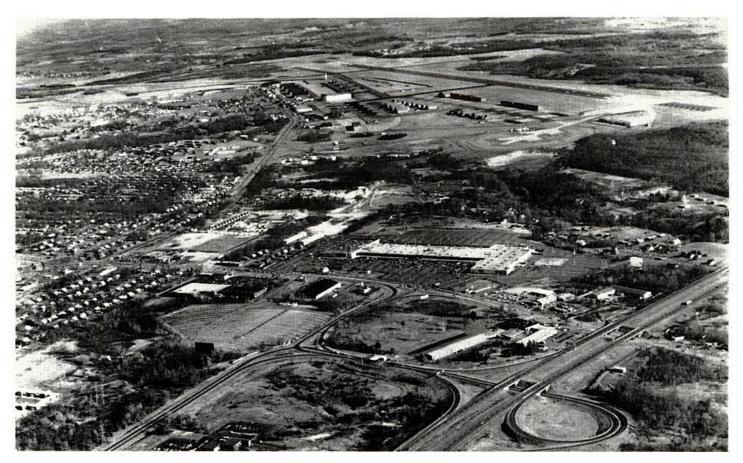
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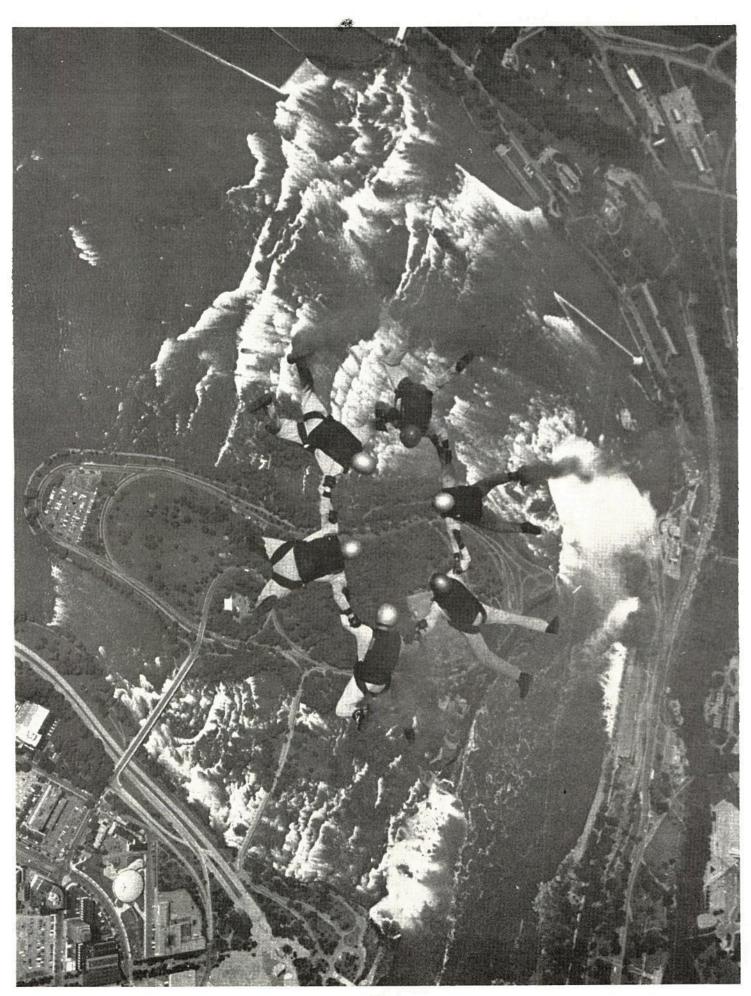


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With the recent authorization to increase our strength by another thousand members, the various units operating one weekend a month and two weeks during the year at Westover may have openings for which you qualify.

In the Air Force Reserve you will have many travel and service-related benefits. You will capitalize on your prior service and earn points toward retirement at age 60.

IF YOU ARE JUST GRADUATING FROM SCHOOL

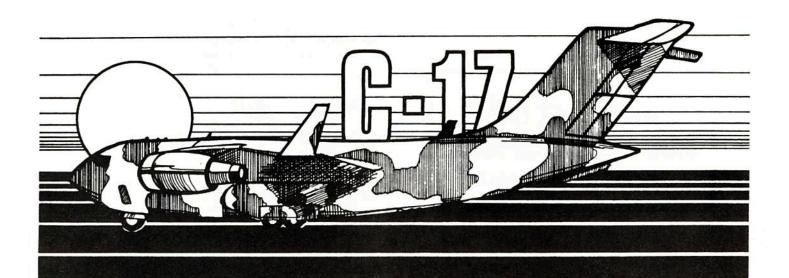
Recent high school and college graduates can join the Air Force Reserve instead of the active duty services. After the equivalent of a half semester for basic training, you can enter advanced training and learn a high-paying skill.

Upon completion of training -- and many courses carry college credit -- you will return home and serve as an Air Force Reserve member at Westover AFB.

The payback for your Air Force skill training will be an obligation to come to Westover AFB and train one weekend a month and two weeks a year with your unit.



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The C-130Es will soon be leaving Westover, but the heritage they leave behind is a proud tradition of service to our nation by citizen airmen who live right here in New England.

Many people are surprised to learn that this huge airbase is operated by their friends and neighbors instead of active duty Air Force members.

Last year, the number of Air Force people assigned to Westover AFB was eight.

Westover AFB has a civilian work force of about 600 people. There are also another 200 employees known as ARTs -- Air Reserve Technicians -- who are members of the Air Force Reserve and work full time at Westover.

About 2,000 Air Force Reservists are members of units based at Westover. There are also about 1,000 Army, Navy and Marine reservists assigned to units based at Westover AFB. Among the other units, only 99 people were from the active duty services.

This year marks the 350th anniversary of the Massachusetts Militia. In the spring of 1637, men from the Massachusetts Bay Colony formally banded together to protect their settlements.

There are men and women at Westover today who are descended from members of the Massachusetts Militia and continue to serve their nation on a part time basis. Service to their neighbors and the commonweal is in some cases a family tradition; for others, part-time military service is a partial payback for the benefits of being an American.

Back in 1637, the men who gathered at the first Massachusetts Militia muster were not soldiers; they were farmers, tradesmen, merchants and servants.

Few people realize that by 1775, Massachusetts had 16,500 trained men under arms in its well-organized 138-year-old militia.

Some historians maintain the Massachusetts Militia made the concept of the American Revolution feasible. Twice during the French Indian Wars the "weekend soldiers" of the militia defeated professional French troops. By the mid-18th Century, some colonists believed the expertise of the Massachusetts Militia was good enough to defeat professional British soldiers and English mercenaries. Concord Bridge, Bunker Hill and Saratoga proved the part-time "Yankee" militia units and companies of Minutemen could defeat regiments of England's professional standing army.

As we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution, the cycle is coming full circle and the nation is increasingly looking toward part-time Reserve and National Guard forces to protect America.

The 350-year-old tradition of part-time military service -- and the new emphasis on the importance of America's reserve forces -- is clearly seen at Westover AFB.

About a third of Westover reservists come from Hampden and Hampshire Counties. Another third are from other cities and towns in Massachusetts. The final third come from throughout New England and New York.

When the last of Westover's sixteen C-130Es zooms over this historic 47-year-old airfield for a final salute, the spirit of service to neighbor and nation will remain behind.

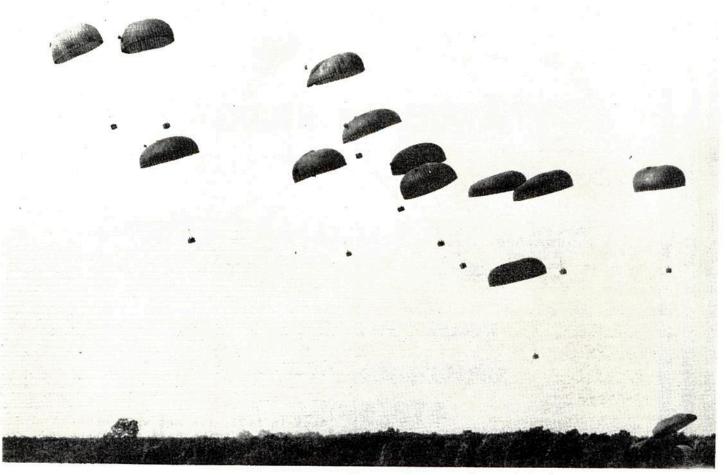
And, when the first intercontinental C-5A Galaxy glides in to its new home on the two-plus-mile main runway on the old tobacco fields of Chicopee, the men and women of Westover's units will continue the tradition.

We will miss the C-130s and our navigators -- the C-5A's sophisticated avionics make navigators unnecessary -- but the history of Westover AFB has been one of evolution and looking to the future.

When Westover celebrates its golden anniversary in 1990 this base will look much different that it does today. The nose-docks beyond the display area will be razed and camouflaged C-5As will be parked wingtip to wingtip for more than a half-mile.

New buildings will be constructed and taxiways will be built. One hangar will be so large that a 223-foot wide C-5A with its 65-foot tall tail can be towed in one door and out the other side.

And there will be new jobs for the communities surrounding Westover. The new mission will bring 334 more full time jobs to Chicopee and open up positions for a thousand more Air Force Reservists.



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and mementos presented by foreign and American leaders.

The squadron also was proclaimed the first official Bicentennial organization in the Air Force in 1976, and was the only flying unit so recognized.

#### People Number One

All the plaques, awards and records of performances seen to overlook the most important ingredient -- PEOPLE. It's not just the men and women in the squadron, but those people who greet the squadron with elaborate ceremonies; people smiling up at squadron members from hospital beds during goodwill visits; people waiting through hours of scorching heat, on freezing flightlines, or as at Westover AFB last year on rain drenched concrete and mud hoping to watch a demonstration.

For squadron members, the daily activities of toting suitcases, pressing uniforms, inspecting aircraft, polishing boots, and the hundreds of other behind-the-scene tasks which must be done -- week after week, year after year -- can become routine.

However, while many of the tasks they perform become routine, the Thunderbirds guarantee there will never be a routine Thunderbirds air demonstration. And this year at Westover the Thunderbirds have created a lengthly performance.

This year, two of the Thunderbird pilots are from Connecticut -- Capt. Herbert J. Nelson of West Hartford, the team narrator, and Capt. Dave Robinson of Fairfield, the left wing pilot.

#### Capt. Bert Nelson

Nelson enlisted in the Air Force in October 1972 and became a crew chief on an FB-111. He left active duty in 1974 to complete his college degree at the University of Connecticut.

As a Yukon student seeking a batchelor of science in finance, Nelson enrolled in Air Force ROTC and was named the unit's distinguished graduate in 1978.

Returning to the Air Force, he went through pilot training at Vance AFB in Oklahoma and in 1980 was assigned as a T-38 instructor pilot there and later at Randolph AFB in Texas.

While in Texas he earned a masters in management from Webster University. Then he underwent fighter training at Holloman AFB, N.M., and was selected the distinguished graduate of his flying class. He was trained on F-4s in 1985 at Homestead AFB in Florida.

Prior to his selection for the Thunderbirds, Nelson served as an F-4E pilot at Osan Air Base in Korea. The 32-year-old pilot has logged more than 2,000 hours flying jet aircraft.

#### Capt. Dave Robinson

Born in Woonsocket, R.I., but calling Fair-field, Conn., his home, Robinson is in his first year with the Thunderbirds.

The 32-year-old pilot flies the number two aircraft as left wing pilot in the diamond formation.

Robinson attended pilot training at Vance AFB, Okla., where he was named outstanding graduate and was the recipient of the Air Training Command Commander's Trophy. He earned outstanding graduate honors at T-38 instructor pilot training at Randolph AFB, Texas, and returned to Vance AFB as a T-38 instructor pilot and flight examiner.

He trained on the F-15 at Luke AFB, Ariz., where he was an outstanding graduate in 1981. Assigned to the 59th Tactical Fighter Squadron, Eglin AFB, Fla., Robinson and also served as the wing executive officer for the 33rd Tactical Fighter Wing. He returned to Luke AFB in 1983 as an instructor pilot with the 426th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron prior to his selection for the Thunderbirds.

Robinson has logged more than 2,500 hours flying high performance jet aircraft during his Air Force career.





## BECOME A WESTOVER ACE



#### **BECOME A WESTOVER ACE**

The Arts have angels and patrons, but Westover Visitor Center seeks Aces to aid our museum with contributions of cash and historical memorabilia. Westover Visitor Center needs Norden bombsights, flying jackets, patches, airplanes, photographs, books, films, goggles, display cases and money.

Dust off your military aviation memorabilia and peek into your wallet. If you can help us launch the Westover Visitor Center, we'll make you an Ace. As one of Westover's Aces, you'll receive our Westover AFB Visitor Center patch, a handsome certificate identifying your efforts, and an identification card which will someday \* entitle you to discounts at the museum.

\* We want to turn someday into some day soon.



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