

# PATRIOT

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

VOLUME XVII, NUMBER 6

JUNE 1990

## July 27, 28 and 29

### Anniversary airshow: just "plane" heaven

by TSgt. Tom Allocco

Plans for this year's largest airshow in the northeast are gaining momentum as aircraft from around the U.S. and Canada are being confirmed for appearances in the Westover Anniversary Airshow.

The saga of the Air Force, from the P-51 Mustang to the B-1, will be on display on the ground and in the air for Westover's 50th anniversary airshow, July 27, 28 and 29. The gathering of aircraft from around the United States and Canada is expected to be a record breaker for the northeast.

More than three times as many aircraft than any past Westover airshow have been confirmed to be at the airshow and more are still being scheduled, according to Lt. Col. Dante Mazzochi who is assisting in airshow planning.

In addition to more than 50 active duty, reserve and Guard aircraft, the New England Escadrille and privately owned aircraft will be on the ground and in the air.

"We believe this will be the largest airshow in the northeast. More than one million visitors are expected to pass through the gates during the three days," Colonel Mazzochi said.

"Word is getting around and people are beginning to call us," he said of the owners of historic aircraft who will be at the airshow.

Westover's neighbors will have the opportunity to preview the aircraft when they stage a fly-in south down the Connecticut Valley into Westover on Thursday afternoon, July 26.

Highlights of the airshow will be the Canadian Snowbirds aerial demonstration



(U.S. Army photo)

**OUT OF THE BLUE --** The Army's Golden Knights precision parachute team have developed a spectacular series of maneuvers that will be among the highlights of Westover's Anniversary Airshow.

team and the Army's Golden Knights precision parachute team.

Others who will perform in the air will be Air National Guard F-15 Eagles from Otis ANGB, Mass., F-16 Talons from Burlington, Vt., and A-10 Warthogs of the 104th TFG, Barnes Municipal Airport. C-130 Hercules aircraft will do airdrops and Massachusetts and Connecticut Army National Guard helicopter units will also give aerial demonstrations.

Aerial demonstrations will be identical each of the three days of the airshow.

The Canadian Snowbirds from Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan have earned a reputation for breath-taking aerial demonstrations at airshows across North America with their nine Canadian Tutor jet trainers.

The anniversary airshow will be a return performance for the Army's Golden Knights who awed crowds here in 1987 with precision jumps and such flourishes as freefalls trailing red, white and blue smoke. The New England Escadrille, an organization of private owners, head-  
(continued on page 14)



## EDITORIAL

## The 'dividend' debate

How will the so-called "peace dividend" affect the Air Force Reserve?

What impact will the reductions in military funding have on Westover's mission?

These questions still remain largely unanswered. But lately, hardly a day passes without a news story appearing about cutbacks in the U.S. Armed Forces as a result of the lessening tensions in Europe.

There are basically two schools of thought about how the National Guard and Reserve will fare in the reduction climate.

Some Pentagon officials and government leaders believe that the Reserve forces--as components of the Total Force--should share the reductions proportionately with their active duty counterparts.

Others advocate the position that highly-trained, part-time soldiers, sailors and airmen offer a very cost-effective alternative for performing many military missions.

The Guard and Reserve, they argue, should be given greater responsibilities.

Obviously, the strongest proof in support of that argument is solid readiness and mission performance by Guard and Reserve units. In that regard, each of us has some limited, but direct, control over the reduction debate's outcome.

The debate will continue over the next several months in the halls of Congress and the corridors of the Pentagon. It's likely to get heated at times.

The *Patriot* will cover the topic and both military and civilian publications are likely to devote much space to the "peace dividend" reduction issue.

Every reservist at Westover should stay well-informed on this issue, since each of us will undoubtedly be affected by it.

No one can quarrel with a "peace dividend" if it is the product of sensible and judicious reductions.

But as eight Westover aircrews proved in Panama just six months ago, well-equipped and highly motivated reservists are still very prudent "investments."

--by Major Rick Dyer  
Public Affairs Officer

## Briefs

### Commander promoted

DOBBINS AFB, GA.- The Senate has confirmed the promotion 14th Air Force Commander Maj. Gen. Dale R. Baumler to his present rank effective April 27, 1990.

As commander of 14th Air Force, the general is responsible for management of Air Force Reserve airlift resources located in the eastern United States.

### Blood drive

A blood drive will be conducted at the base gymnasium June 1 and 2 from 9 a. m. until 3 p.m.

Capt. Tom Schwechheimer, of Morale, Welfare and Recreation said he is hoping to collect at least 200 units of blood during the drive.

### Billeting office

Reservists checking in for billeting on UTA weekends must now register at Building 2201 rather than Building 5103.

The new billeting office was officially opened May 5 and will be the central point for check-ins. The office in Building 5103 will remain open on UTA weekends for the sale of sundry items and for check-outs.

### Commissary hours

Fort Devens commissary hours  
(Effective April 22, 1990)

Monday .....closed  
Tuesday .....10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Wednesday .....10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Thursday .....10 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Friday .....10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Saturday .....8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Sunday .....11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Quit smoking

Maj. Charles Curci, of Westover's Social Actions Office, will offer a quit smoking clinic program on the August UTA.

Contact Maj. Curci at ext. 3546 or 3581 if interested.

# PATRIOT

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# New automated sign-in speeds pay

by SSgt. Heather Schroeder

That new plastic card in your wallet will credit your account instead of debiting it.

Automated sign-in cards have been issued to reservists to stream line UTA attendance and pay procedures, according to CMSgt. Joseph LaFrance, 439th Combat Support Group first sergeant.

The card replaces the Air Force Form 40A, according to Sue Meehan, 439th CSG administrative assistant. A magnetized strip on the back of the card contains personal information including your name and social security number. Now when you go to sign in the card is run through a reader replacing your signature on the Form 40A.

"The new process is going to work out a lot better because it's quicker," she said. "The only problem now is people not letting us know when they want to reschedule their UTA."

"We ran 120 people through today in minimum time," said Chief LaFrance. "I'm very happy with the way it ran."



(photo by SrA. Christine Mora)

**SIGN-IN -- TSgt. Hernandez Cartagena, with the 439th CSG, runs his card through the automated sign-in machine.**

Eventually the system will enable reservists to be paid for their inactive duty training by the time the weekend is up, according to the Chief.

"Coming down the pike in the very near future it will be possible that people will be able to have their checks on Sunday afternoon," he said. "Ultimately it will mean an almost immediate paycheck." Pay documents will eventually be transferred to headquarters by computer.

If you have not received the card yet you should get it by the June UTA, according to Chief LaFrance. "We knew their were shortfalls when we put the cards on order a month ago," he said. "Those people who don't have cards yet will merely have to be keyed into the computer manually, but I'm hoping that everyone will have a card by the next UTA."

Reservists should treat the card as they would a credit card or other important documents according to Mrs. Meehan. "The card will only be re-issued if it has been lost or demagnetized."

## MWR captures Program Excellence awards

by SSgt. Heather Schroeder

The criteria becomes more difficult every year, but for the 10th consecutive year three branches of the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Division have captured U.S. Air Force Reserve certificates for Program Excellence.

MWR Logistics Support, Sports, and the Bowling Center are the 1989 recipients, according to Mike McNicholas, chief, recreation services. "Each activity merits the award," he said. "We've well exceeded the standards to get such honors."

MWR service at Westover is "exceptional," according to Robert N. Bemis, AFRES director of MWR.

Management and service as well as the product delivered are all aspects which aided in acquisition of the citations. "It's a lot of hard work to produce a better, more attractive service," said Mr. McNicholas. "Merely qualifying tells the Air Force that our people are supporting mission goals."

Westover reservists have the privilege of enjoying a full-service gymnasium that offers the latest state-of-the-art nautilus equipment, universal and free weights, lifecycles, locker rooms that include whirlpools and saunas, and much more. Other special extras at the gym include discount movie tickets, a video club and VCR rentals.

Recreation Services provides rentals for camping, fishing, boating, snowmobiling, and skiing. They have also planned occasional trips. A white-water rafting trip is slated for June 29 through July 1.

The Bowling Center is open seven days a week. You can bowl for \$1.40 and rent shoes for 65 cents. League bowling is available too.

The MWR people have worked very hard to earn recognition, according to Col. Thomas Hargis, 439th Air Base Group commander. "I'm proud of them," he said. "I hope the customers who receive their service can tell there is a concern for support and customer service."



# Families play critical role in Reserve mission

by TSgt. Sandi Michon

The military has always been aware of the impact family has on the military member's performance. While the family emphasis has been on active duty military, officials are recognizing the role family plays in Reserve members' effectiveness.

Col. Thomas G. Hargis, base commander, agrees with the importance of family to Reserve effectiveness. "If a Reservist has a family and they don't support his or her participation, that member usually ends up leaving the program."

A Reserve Component Spouse Survey conducted in 1986 revealed that the majority of Reserve spouses favorably support their Reserve husband or wife, but they did not feel accepted as part of the Total Force. The survey indicated spouses want better communication regarding benefits, general military information and mission information relating to their spouse's unit.

"Our annual family picnic is our way of getting Reservists' families out to Westover," said Colonel Hargis. "We encourage them to tour the base, especially

their spouse's unit, and our maintenance area provides guided tours of the various shops."

"We communicate with our families mainly through our base newspaper, the Patriot, which is sent to the Reservists' home," explained Maj. Rick Dyer, wing public affairs officer. "We strive to include military, base, unit and benefit information relevant to the families of Reservists," he said.

Other initiatives that affect Reserve families include the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) which is a pre-enrollment to active duty in case of mobilization or any other contingency.

A DoD Commissary Privilege Card for eligible Reservists became mandatory Jan. 1 which also gives the Reservist and dependents easier access to facilities at other installations.

In addition to the DEERS and the commissary card, various Westover agencies provide family support although no central family support agency exists on base. "Our legal section provides the paperwork for wills and power of attorney which is key to mobilization readiness," said Colonel Hargis. He said the base personnel section maintains emergency data cards which contain important insurance information, and the chapel staff helps through counseling and crisis intervention although in a limited capacity due to UTA time constraints.

"Our career advisors often uncover family problems related to Reserve commitments," said Colonel Hargis. "This helps us to work out solutions wherever possible." The First Sergeants Association sponsors the family day picnic each year and the Chiefs Council is very active raising scholarship funds for children of enlisted personnel. MWR also provides recreation activities for family members during each season.

"Obviously, if mobilization occurred, these agencies would become more intensively involved with our families," the colonel said. "In the meantime, we continue to recognize our Reserve families and provide the best services we can." He mentioned that Westover is the only Reserve base he is aware of that is pursuing possible child care facilities for dependents of single parent Reservists and for families where both parents are Reserve members.

## A message from the President

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 2, 1990

I am delighted to send greetings to the men and women of Westover Air Force Base as you celebrate the 50th anniversary of this outstanding facility.

The contributions of Westover began in the early days of World War II, when it was used as an attack base. It later became an important training base for many of the American airmen who helped defeat the forces of tyranny. During crises like the Berlin Airlift or the international missions flown in support of United States foreign policy, the dedicated men and women of Westover have, for half a century, served their country with honor and distinction. I salute you for a job well done.

Barbara joins me in sending best wishes for a wonderful anniversary celebration and every success in the years to come. God bless you.

*Ge. Bush*





(photo by SrA. Christine Mora)

**ON PARADE --** Chicopee Centennial parade judges awarded Westover's float first place in the patriotism category during the May UTA. The float featured a display of career fields

needed to support the worldwide C-5 mission. Also participating in the parade were the Westover Honor Guard, base fire trucks, other vehicles and individual reservists.

## Billeting check-in moves to new quarters

by SSgt. Heather Schroeder

Those of you who walked into Building 2200 for billeting check-in during the May UTA probably found a deserted counter.

That's because the office moved to Bldg. 2201 May 1.

The new surroundings are more modern and very attractive, according to Amy Ward, housing manager. "We now have individual offices," she said. "Before my assistant and I shared an office. The reservationist has their own office also."

Ms. Ward said that she worked with an interior designer when furnishing the new workplace. "A more pleasant atmosphere has been created for employees and customers alike," she said. "Adding plants and more light has really created a homey atmosphere."

Everyone is extremely enthusiastic about the new surroundings, according to Ms. Ward. "The better working conditions have improved morale and provided a more comfortable environment for everyone," she said. "Customers can come in, have coffee and sit and relax."

The billeting office is in essence a hotel lobby. Not only do they offer check-in and



(photo by SrA. Christine Mora)

**OPENING DAY --** The new and expanded Flyer's Inn billeting office was opened with a flourish in Building 2201 during the May UTA. Taking part in the ribbon-cutting ceremony were from left, Col. Ralph Oates, wing vice-commander, Gail Ramos, assistant billeting manager, Dave Michaud, chief of MWR, Col. Thomas Hargis, base commander, and Amy Ward, billeting manager.

check-out but you can also purchase sundries. The visiting officers' quarters are stocked with refreshments and daily maid service is offered.

In addition to the offices being renovated at least two of the dormitories

will be refurbished in the future, according to Ms. Ward. "The roofs are being redone now," she said, "but I'm not sure when the rest of the project will come to fruition. More than likely it will be a couple of years down the road."

## Chiefs offer scholarships to offspring of reservists

The Westover Chief's Council will award eight \$250 scholarships to children of 439th Military Airlift Wing enlisted reservists this fall.

To be eligible, students must have been accepted at or presently attend an accredited college or university. They must also submit an autobiography and a letter of recommendation from an official of the school.

If already in college, they must have a cumulative average of

at least 2.75.

All candidates will be screened by the Chief's Council Scholarship subcommittee.

Winners will receive their scholarships at a dinner scheduled for Aug. 26.

The application form on this page may be used and must be mailed to Westover Chief's Council, C/O Westover MAW/CS, Westover AFB, MA, 01022.

### 439th MAW WESTOVER CHIEF'S COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

STUDENT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

AGE \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL ATTENDED \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS STANDING \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOLASTIC RATING \_\_\_\_\_

COLLEGE DESIRED \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE ACCEPTED \_\_\_\_\_ MAJOR/COURSE SELECTED \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF 439TH MAW RESERVIST PARENT \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT ASSIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ RANK \_\_\_\_\_

LENGTH OF SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_ LENGTH OF SERVICE IN 439TH MAW \_\_\_\_\_



# Kirschling named commander of APS

by SSgt. Heather Schroeder

Although it's a fact of career progression not everyone wants the responsibility of being a squadron commander. Even if they ask for the job they might not get it. Competition is tough.

Recently Brig. Gen. Frederick Walker honored such a request, however, and now Lt. Col. Robert Kirschling is the commander of the 42nd Aerial Port Squadron. He assumed the position April 1.

Colonel Kirschling replaces Col. Geraldine Dodson-Smith who left to become the Air Force advisor to the Army Adjutant General in Maine.

"I thought it would be a wonderful challenge to command an aerial port," said Colonel Kirschling, "so in 1989 I wrote a letter to Colonel Kasznay asking for his consideration for the position if an opening came up."

He said he requested the job because he was impressed with the caliber of personnel in the aerial ports. "During my tenure as Airlift Control Element operations officer it was my job to run the forward operating base exercises at Dogpatch," he explained. "It was then that I noticed the professionalism and competency of the aerial port people."

Colonel Kirschling is excited about leading the 42nd APS. "The chance to command a group like this is a thrilling, rare opportunity," he said. "They know their job and they work hard at what they do."

While his style of command may warrant some alterations in the squadron,



(photo by TSgt. Tom Allocco)

**CHANGE OF COMMAND --** Lt. Col. Robert Kirschling, right, took over the reins of the 42nd Aerial Port Squadron during a ceremony presided over by Brig. Gen. Frederick D. Walker. Colonel Kirschling replaces Col. Geraldine Dodson-Smith, left, who will become the Air Force Advisor to the Army Adjutant General in Maine.

Colonel Kirschling said those changes won't be major methods of operation. "I believe that they will develop as the 42nd continues to evolve and that change will be a group effort," he said. "I like for change to come out of consensus."

Colonel Kirschling has spent his entire military career at Westover AFB. He was commissioned through the ROTC program at the University of Detroit in 1968. He came to Westover in November 1969 as a KC-135 navigator. When the Strategic Air Command departed the base he left active duty and pursued a graduate degree. In January 1976 he entered the

reserves and was a C-123 and C-130 navigator with the 731st and 337th Tactical Airlift Squadron. In 1985 he assumed the position of ALCE operations officer.

As a civilian, Colonel Kirschling has been a guidance counselor at Minnechaug High School in Wilbraham, Mass. for 15 years.

He received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Detroit and a Masters of Education in Counseling from Westfield State College.

Colonel Kirschling and his wife Elaine have two children, Kimberly and Eric. They live in Somers, Conn.

## C-5 carries 93,000 fruit trees to Pakistan

You might say they were modern day Johnny Appleseeds; those two Military Airlift Command units that delivered apple tree seedlings to Pakistan for that country's neighbors in Afghanistan.

Members of the 629th Military Airlift Support Squadron, Incirlik AB, Turkey, and the 3rd Military Airlift Squadron, Dover, Del., helped deliver 93,000 of the seedlings to the war-torn country.

More than 30 people from the 628th built 31 shipping pallets for the project. Then the cargo was transported to nearby Pakistan from Turkey via a 3rd MAS C-5 Galaxy.

The seedlings were purchased from a Turkish contractor by the U.S. Agency for International Development for approximately

\$150,000, according to Guy Bowen, a procurement representative for the Ronco Consulting Corp., which is under contract to obtain and distribute various types of humanitarian relief to Afghanistan.

"This mission boosted our morale and our folks really enjoyed being part of the relief effort," said Capt. Jack Starkey, aerial port operations officer at the 628th. Loading the seedlings was made possible through direct support by the 39th Tactical Airlift Control Group, the host unit at Incirlik.

"Afghanistan had a great fruit tree industry that was mostly destroyed during the war," said Mr. Bowen. He added that the trees will take six to seven years to begin producing fruit.



# Civil engineers spend 'constructive' tour in Spain

Article and photos  
by SrA. Christine Mora

They traveled from Massachusetts to Spain to lend a helping hand.

The 439th Civil Engineering Squadron deployed 125 reservists to Torrejon AB, Spain, in mid-April and embarked upon a flurry of construction to support the 401st CES there.

The broad spectrum of projects ran the gamut as the engineers worked on everything from powerlines and secure ammunition dumps, to bus stops and playgrounds.

"The deployment of the 439th CES really illustrates total force," said Lt. Col. Thomas Hanson, 401st CES commander. "The troops worked on 'quality of life' projects that we couldn't have completed without their help."

The Prime BEEF (Base Engineering Emergency Force) section of the 439th CES was basically divided into roads and grounds, and structures. Engineers from the roads and grounds section completed

numerous projects including the construction of several bus stops and sidewalks at the recreation center and housing area.

Colonel Hanson said work done by the 439th improved the relationship between the Spanish civilians and the American military.

"Projects like the bus stops or road improvements are actually great conveniences to the civilians as well as military on base," he said.

Roads and grounds personnel also enlarged a base playground, repaired the firing range, reconstructed bunkers at an ammunitions site and performed a variety of other heavy equipment tasks.

"Our troops performed in their normal outstanding manner," said CMSgt. Ben Tomlin, 439th CES project manager. "The projects involved a great deal of concrete and heavy-equipment work that gave them more hands-on training than is available at Westover."

Members from the structures section continued the wave of construction at Torrejon. They joined their counterparts at the

firing range, building framework, replacing posts and installing a roof.

Another project delegated to the structural engineers was the total refurbishment of maintenance offices involving the destruction and reconstruction of walls, electrical wiring and lighting.

"One of the main objectives of annual tour is to see how we handle construction projects away from base," said MSgt. John Indomenico, 439th CES project manager.

He explained that at Westover, supplies and equipment are more easily accessible. "When we deploy, we're thrown into different jobs that test our capabilities under adverse circumstances," said Sergeant Indomenico. "The completion of the projects measures the success of the people."

Training for many of the unit's electricians was tremendously different than drills at Westover, according to MSgt. Paul Bates, exterior electrical supervisor.

"We received excellent line work and the base even scheduled major powerline projects to coincide with our tour," he said.

Also part of the 439th CES is the Prime RIBS (Readiness in Base Services) section. Reservists from the unit assisted their Torrejon counterparts in the dining hall, flight kitchen, and crash kitchen. They were also assigned duties at the base's mortuary services facility.

"In many areas, such as the flight kitchen, crash kitchen and mortuary, our reservists trained for the first time," said CMSgt. Ted Erhardt, Prime RIBS supervisor. He said at Westover, these facilities are not available and training must be simulated.

"The performance of our troops was outstanding," said Lt. Col. William Garrity, 439 CES commander. "We received excellent support from the base and the training gave us a good deal of project experience."

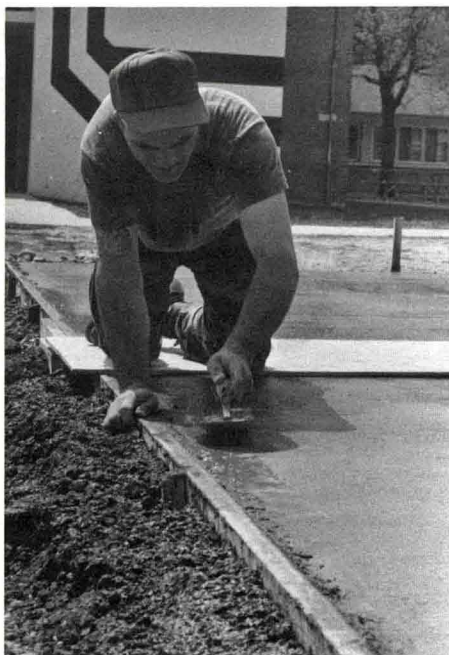
"The 439th was definitely a much needed asset to help us out," said Colonel Hanson.

After the Westover engineers completed their annual tour, two smaller civil engineering squadrons from the Air National Guard deployed to Torrejon to aid the 401st CES. (more on page 10)



**POWER CHISELING --** SMSgt. James Devitt, electrical superintendent, cuts a new doorway in a masonry wall while refurbishing maintenance offices.





**FINISHING TOUCH --** SSgt. Joey Schramm, a pavement maintenance specialist, trowels the edges of a cement pour to complete a concrete pad.



**PRYING HIGH --** MSgt. John Mailo, a structural technician with the 439th CES, removes a steel plate from a baffle at the U.S. military firing range.



**OVERHAUL --** Members of the structures and pavement and grounds section of the 439th Civil Engineering Squadron per-

form different stages of construction as they realign baffles at the U.S. military rifle range at Torrejon, AB, Spain.





(photo by SrA. Christine Mora)

**CEMENT POUR --** MSgt. Michael Garceau guides the shoot from a ready mix truck as SMSgt. Michael Guiliani, MSgt. John Indomenico, and SMSgt. Joseph Malinguaggio help pour a retaining wall for a bus stop during annual tour in Spain.



(photo by SrA. Christine Mora)

**SOARING HEIGHTS --** An electrician with the 439th Civil Engineering Squadron installs a powerline at Torrejón AB, Spain.

## Retired chief still deploys

by SrA. Christine Mora

"Have you seen the chief?"

"Yeah, the chief's here in Spain."

"I told you I was coming," cried the booming voice. "Somebody's got to keep my guys out of trouble!"

Three years after retirement, Chief Al Aniello was still commanding his troops on annual tour, much to their delight.

The chief, formerly of the 439th CES, and his wife, Josephine, flew to Torrejón AB, Spain to visit his old unit during their overseas deployment.

"I love the guys," said Chief Aniello. "When we heard they were going to Spain, my wife and I decided to join them."

According to the chief, he still remains active at Westover even though he's retired. The South Windsor, Ct., native is a common sight at the squadron on UTA weekends, "to keep in touch with the CE family."

Chief Aniello also works out at the base gym three times a week. Another retirement benefit he took advantage of reunited him with the troops on annual tour. The chief had his first experience flying Space Available.

"Josephine retired from her job on a Wednesday, and Sunday we were aboard a C-141, headed for Europe."

"The nicest part of the plane trip was the beautiful people we met," said Mrs. Aniello.

When the unit had time off, the chief and his wife accompanied them on sightseeing tours. "We were able to see great places in the company of great guys," said Chief Aniello.

The chief's military career spanned 42 years and began during World War II. He spent 16 years as a fire chief with the 905th CES and then became the structural superintendent with the 439th CES when the two Westover CE squadrons, the 905th and the 901st, merged in 1979.



# Westover Galaxy brings patriots home

by SrA. Christine Mora

When the reservists saw "The Patriot" painted across the side of the huge aircraft, they knew they were a little closer to home.

A Westover Galaxy added another load to its seemingly endless list of cargo when the plane became an "airbus" for the first time. Members of the 439th Civil Engineering Squadron traveled back to Westover from annual tour in Spain aboard a C-5A that had been configured with passenger seats in the cargo hold.

The Galaxy flew to Dover AFB, Del., and was palletized with a 270-seat kit that included two comfort pallets. The comfort pallets had two kitchens and four latrines to serve the passengers. The only added features to the C-5A were oxygen bottles for emergencies and extra no smoking lights.

Loadmaster's duties in the cargo compartment were not much different than in the troop compartment, according to TSgt. Dennis Delisle, of the 337th Military Airlift Squadron. "We just figured the weight of the cargo compartment by the book and paid extra attention to the passengers be-



(photo by SrA. Christine Mora)

**PATRIOT CARGO --** Members of the 439th Civil Engineering Squadron fly home in the cargo compartment of a C-5A. The area was configured with 270 passenger seats for the first time on a Westover Galaxy.

cause of the great number."

The seats were attached to pallets and rolled into the cargo hold. Over 200 passengers were on the first flight, which

went from Dover to McGuire AFB, N.J., and then on to England. The return trip brought back about 130 passengers to Westover from Torrejon AB, Spain.



**PRESIDENTIAL GREETINGS --** Stanley Zucker, chairman of the Massachusetts committee for the Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve, presents a letter from President George Bush to Col. Ralph Oates, vice commander of the 439th Military Airlift Wing.

The letter of greetings praised the men and women of Westover AFB in honor of the base's 50th anniversary.

(photo by SrA. Christine Mora)



## Mobility Support Flight -- *An integral part of the Westover machine*

by SrA. Kymberly Saganski

Westover reservists have proven to be a strong team, repeatedly dazzling inspectors with outstanding efficiency and mission capability. They pull together, working to impress local residents with the spectacular military ball, the dedication of the new C-5 Hangar and the upcoming anniversary air show.

The Mobility Support Flight, often in the background at such public displays, is actually one of the most integral parts of Westover's well-oiled machine.

Although most reservists are familiar with clothing issue, one of the MSF's most visible tasks, many don't realize that the base could not begin to fulfill its mission without the many dedicated services provided by flight members.

"Since the unit's war-time mission is the supply of vital combat support aircraft

parts and fuel," said Unit Commander Capt. Patricia Hale, "we have five surge areas in which we are constantly training."

The training areas are varied and include "everything from planning the mobility of the unit, to ordering aircraft parts or ensuring that repairable items are fixed and returned to service. The unit also has an additional Accounting and Finance function," she added.

In spite of its extensive and critical mission, the 48-member unit is currently unmanned. But, said SMSgt. Claire Gaudreau, who is the unit's acting first sergeant, innovative commanders have found an ingenious way of coping with a heavy work load and not enough hands.

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*The training areas are varied and include "everything from planning the mobility of the unit, to ordering aircraft parts..., " according to Capt. Patricia Hale, unit commander.*

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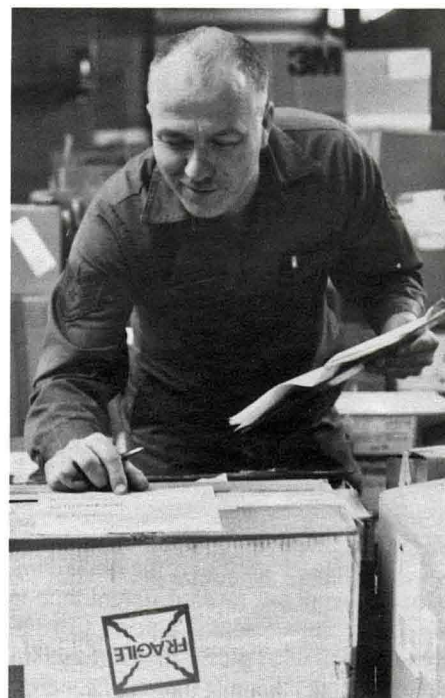
A different uniform may greet a visitor in the Mobility Support Flight offices.

Since early this year, Naval reservists from the Naval Reserve Naval Station Norfolk Detachment 101 have been working and training with the MSF. The Navy drills are usually performed at Naval Reserve Center, Chicopee.

"It's interesting the way this happened," said Sergeant Gaudreau. "New commanders have a way of making new ideas work."

According to Navy Lt. Celia Ward, Storekeeper First Class Bernard Connolly came up with the innovative idea to create an exchange between the Navy and Air Force reserve supply units. The MSF benefits from a slightly reduced work load, and the naval supply workers, called "storekeepers," gain valuable hands-on experience.

Sk1 Connolly then met with



(photo by TSgt. Sandi Michon)

**CHECKING STOCK --** TSgt. Ray Weatherbee, an inventory management technician with the Mobility Support Flight, records the arrival of new supplies.

John LeShure and Sergeant Gaudreau to work out the details of the collaboration.

"My reservists are really excited that they are able to work in an actual warehouse in support of a military unit," said Lieutenant Ward, whose rank is equivalent to that of an Air Force Captain. "The only difference between the way the Air Force and the Navy supply workers do business is in the types of forms that they use. This situation allows my storekeepers to work with computerized supply systems that are usually unavailable to them," she said.

"There are sometimes as many as ten Navy people working with us on a given UTA," said Captain Hale.

"Usually a core of about four people help out each weekend, but most of our naval duties can be handled by just a few of the many storekeepers we have assigned to our unit," said Lt. Ward. "This is a marvelous training opportunity."



(photo by TSgt. Sandi Michon)

**HELPING HAND --** Ed Nellis, a civilian supply clerk, instructs Sgt. Dan O'Brien, an inventory management specialist with the Mobility Support Flight, as they process demands.



## 50 years ago at Westover

### Raging war in Europe sparks growth of air base

by SrA. Christine Mora

By June 1940, construction at Westover Field had taken on new urgency as the war intensified in Europe.

The German war machine had conquered Paris, as Nazi soldiers marched down the Champs Elysees. For the first time since 1871, hostile troops trampled through the avenues of the "City of Lights" while tense, defeated Parisians stood by.

Italian Premier Benito Mussolini declared war against France and Great Britain. President Franklin D. Roosevelt condemned the decision saying, "The hand that held the dagger has struck it into the back of its neighbor."

President Roosevelt denounced that Italy's intervention was a threat to the American way of life and offered

all U.S. material aid to Great Britain and France.

The surge of events backed up the President's preparedness message calling for an impregnable America. Military authorities had outlined plans seeking \$3 million to bring aircraft production to 30,000 planes a year as quickly as possible.

The White House also placed its stamp of approval on the idea of Col. Frank Knox, a Chicago publisher, to create a chain of aviation training camps throughout the country to supplement military and naval training facilities.

As fighting escalated, the subsequent need for aircraft and pilots emerged. New bases were needed also and at Westover Field, Colonel H.E. Fitz, executive officer in charge of construction of Army air bases, commented that construction of the northeast air base was proceeding on schedule.

Many soldiers and aircraft would make one final stop at the base in Chicopee, bound for war in Europe.

## ROTC cadets take orientation flight on 439th Galaxy

by SSgt. Heather Schroeder

Fifteen Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets from University of Massachusetts at Amherst and Worcester Polytechnic Institute sacrificed their classroom hours for a ride on a C-5 Galaxy April 19.

The hour-long flight took them over Albany, N.Y. and Mount Washington in New Hampshire before returning to Westover.

Most of the students are slated for pilot slots or are trying to obtain one. Recently

the Air Force has gone from 900 pilot allocations for ROTC to 440, according to Capt. John Steele, assistant professor of Aerospace Studies at UMass. "It's getting really ugly out there," he said.

Cadet First Class Beth Aragaki attends Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley. She has a technical slot, but took the flight because she sees Westover C-5s flying in the area frequently. "I see them flying over South Hadley all the time. The other night I saw one flying and it had all its lights on it looked really neat," she said. "I'm really glad I took the flight, it's very interesting."

Because of limited space on the flight deck the cadets had to take turns looking out the window. Two cadets also had the opportunity to occupy the jump seat during takeoff and landing.

Cadet Colonel Mike Smith, UMass ROTC Corps Commander, sat in the jump seat during landing. "When we landed I couldn't believe it," he said. "We were still so far off the ground and I felt something hit. I asked what it was and the pilot told me we were on the ground." The Galaxy flight deck is 35 feet off of the ground.





# 439th Clinic earns high praise during HSRI

by TSgt. Tom Allocco

The 97 members of the Westover Clinic earned praise as a group and as individuals from a Norton AFB, Calif., IG medical team which inspected the unit in May.

Following four days of scrutiny of every aspect of the Clinic's mission, the Health Services Readiness Inspection awarded outstanding performance certificates to the unit and 16 individual members.

Lt. Col. Jerry Waggoner, head of the six-member medical team, saluted the Clinic for "superb" achievement.

"By far this is the largest number of certificates presented by this group or any

other, as far as I know," Colonel Waggoner said.

"The Westover Clinic is blessed with very talented and eager individuals...it is obvious to us that a great deal of work went into training."

He presented the unit outstanding performance certificate to Col. Schiele Brewer, Clinic commander, and individual certificates to 1st. Lt. Charles Streciwilk, 1st. Lt. Robert Sousa, 1st. Lt. Debra Notturmo, 1st. Lt. Kathleen Moynihan, 2nd Lt. Martha Shea, MSgt. Edward Peplinski, SSgt. Frank Vanlangen, SSgt. Bobby Shaffer, Sgt. Howard Crawford, SrA. Dino White, SrA. Jeffrey Bosinske, SrA. Patricia Jones, SrA. Valli Jo Lee, Mrs. Marian Mathiew, Mrs. Linda

Mellen and Mrs. Diane Thompson.

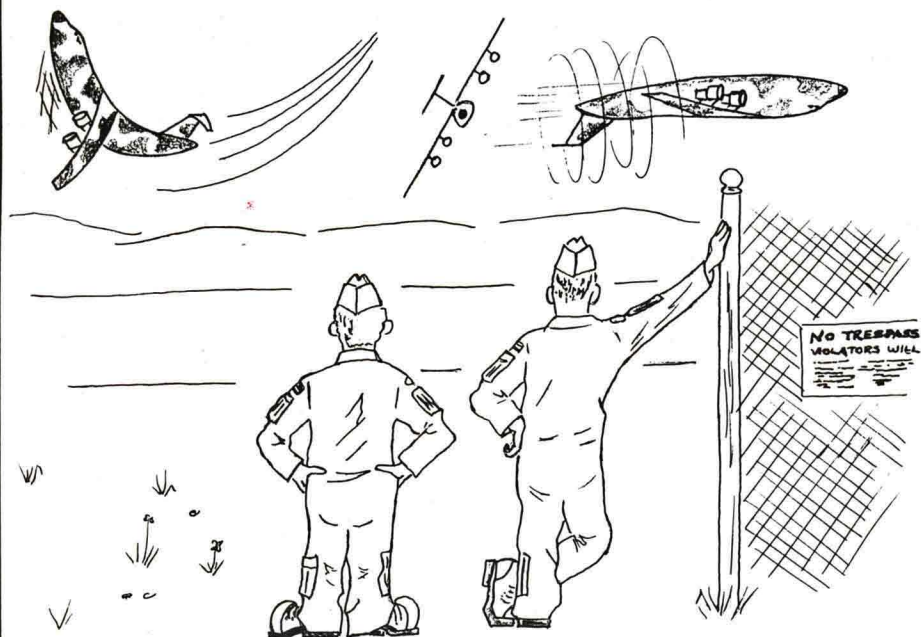
Lt. Col. Allan Davidson, Clinic administrator, and CMSgt. George Kudla, medical administration manager, also received standing ovations from Clinic members in recognition of their contributions to the successful inspection.

Colonel Joseph Curley, deputy commander for medical resources, gave Clinic members his personal rating of "best in the Air Force."

The Clinic earned "excellent" ratings in numerous categories, including dental, ambulance and administrative services, self-inspection, environmental health training and facility management.

There were no marks below "satisfactory."

*"Tell the colonel his boys put on a good show.."*



*"...but it's too late to cancel the Snowbirds."*

(by SSgt. Vin Blanchard)

## Airshow

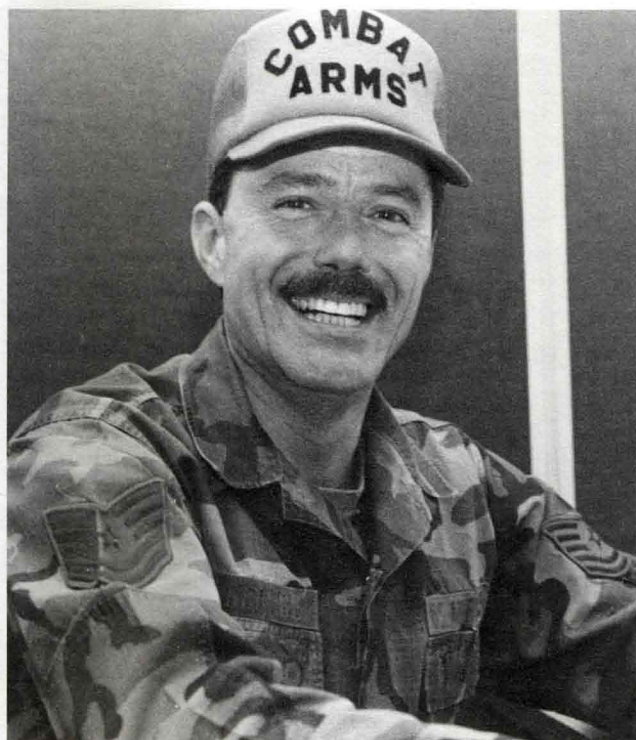
(continued from page 1)

quartered in Manchester, N.H. will send about 20 aircraft that illustrate the history of the Air Force, including World War II B-17, B-24 and B-29 bombers and the P-51 Mustang. Among other individuals who will bring aircraft to the airshow is CMSgt. Robert Adams, Air Transportation manager, who will show his World War II vintage L-4 Piper Cub observation plane.

At least one B-1 bomber from Ellsworth AFB, S.D. has been confirmed to be here. Other aircraft scheduled are the EC-135, Ellsworth; KC-135, Grissom AFB and Loring AFB, Me.; KC-10, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.; C-141, Andrews AFB, Md., and B-52s from several SAC bases. The Hercules aircraft at the airshow will include the armed AC-130 from Duke Field, Fla.; the electronic warfare EC-130, Keesler AFB, Miss.; and the Air National Guard's LC-130 from Schenectady, N.Y. The LC-130, the only ski-equipped Hercules aircraft, is ferries supplies to supply Thule AB, Greenland.

A Massachusetts Army National Guard Huey rappelling team will also be at the anniversary airshow..





TSgt. Bob St. George

## "Patriot People"

**Name:** Bob St. George  
**Rank:** TSgt.  
**Age:** 38  
**Address:** Westfield, Mass.  
**Unit:** 439 CSG/CATM  
**Position:** Small arms instructor  
**Civilian position:** Small arms test technician  
**Favorite Food:** Prime Rib  
**Years of Service:** 16  
**Favorite Sport:** Softball  
**Favorite Hobby:** Woodworking  
**Ideal Vacation:** Beach  
**Best Way to Relax:** Sleep  
**Preferred Entertainment:** Old movies  
**Favorite Celebrity:** Humphrey Bogart  
**Favorite Music:** Soft rock  
**Favorite Book:** *Hobbit*  
**Favorite Color:** BDU  
**Favorite Car:** 300 ZX  
**Pet Peeve:** Laziness  
**Best Thing About Westover:** People  
**Worst Thing About Westover:** Parking

## earning a **PAT** on the back

### ENLISTMENTS

TSgt. Lawrence C. Broadway  
 SSgt. Timothy A. Burnell  
 SSgt. Brian K. Copperthite Sr.  
 SSgt. Stephen A. Guerrero  
 SSgt. Steve Z. Kukawka  
 SSgt. Anthony Naylor  
 SSgt. Leslie L. Orpeza  
 Sgt. Brian N. Bancroft  
 Sgt. John P. Gregor  
 Sgt. Gerald M. Leamy  
 SrA Jacob M. Gamboa  
 SrA James B. Laroche  
 A1C Charles J. Garam  
 A1C Julio M. Gomez  
 A1C Scott A. Johnson  
 A1C Timothy B. Maguire  
 A1C Amy J. Morin  
 A1C Robert C. Thomson  
 AB Jesse A. Gouvin  
 AB Michelle L. Kern  
 AB Gregory T. Ransom

### REENLISTMENTS

CMSgt. Lindley H. Casey  
 CMSgt. Leonard F. Dube  
 SMSgt. Robert S. Hamilton Jr.  
 TSgt. James G. Chappuis  
 TSgt. James H. Swotchak Jr.  
 TSgt. Aubrey U. Watson

SSgt. Paul J. Beauregard  
 SSgt. Allen J. Guiel Jr.  
 SSgt. Darrell J. Tripp  
 Sgt. Susan P. Corey  
 Sgt. Courtney A. Croll  
 Sgt. Gisela Rodriguez  
 SrA. John S. Manos

### PROMOTIONS

SMSgt. Christopher J. Menard  
 MSgt. William J. Archambeau  
 MSgt. Joseph M. Bara  
 MSgt. Ronald R. Bernier  
 MSgt. James E. Edington  
 MSgt. Delbert A. Gilmore  
 MSgt. Richard C. King  
 MSgt. Donald L. Loveland  
 MSgt. Vidyanand Setaram  
 TSgt. Mark D. Baker Jr.  
 TSgt. Joseph A. Bitel Jr.  
 TSgt. Eddie L. Brown Jr.  
 TSgt. Warren E. Coleman  
 TSgt. Charles F. Darling  
 TSgt. Francis W. Hogan  
 TSgt. Harold J. Jackson  
 TSgt. Karl H. Kopp  
 TSgt. Michael S. Macleod  
 TSgt. Mark J. Pirog  
 TSgt. Bert A. Quick  
 TSgt. Rose M. Stark  
 TSgt. Raymond T. Taylor

TSgt. Patrick O. Thompson  
 TSgt. Christine C. Tucker  
 SSgt. Thomas C. Adamchak  
 SSgt. Kathleen M. Barrett  
 SSgt. Thomas J. Budington  
 SSgt. James L. Coyle  
 SSgt. Karen D. Crossman  
 SSgt. Ronald F. Donofrio  
 SSgt. Hustus F. Falana II  
 SSgt. William R. Flaucher  
 SSgt. Aaron D. Gates  
 SSgt. Glen D. Gerrans  
 SSgt. Leslie S. Kovacs Jr.  
 SSgt. Monika A. Kucala  
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 SSgt. Dean S. Lund  
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 SSgt. Tammie J. Payette  
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 SSgt. George W. Waters II  
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 SSgt. Joseph M. Zackaricz  
 SRA. Stephanie D. Duquette  
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 SRA. Johnny K.W. Ng  
 SRA. Edward M. Sierzego Jr.  
 SRA. Michael F. Thorpe  
 SRA. Mary A. Villarreal  
 SRA. Michael R. Walker  
 Amn. Belitza Morales



## State ESGR group becomes 'recruits' during Parris Island visit

Article and photo  
by TSgt. Tom Allocco

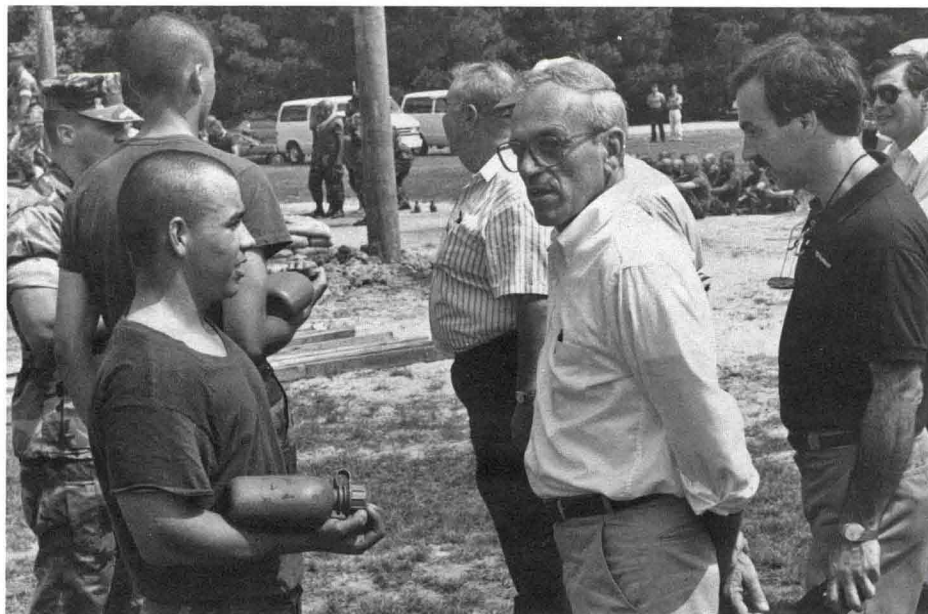
Members of the Massachusetts Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve flew on a Navy C-9 from Westover to the Marine Corps boot camp at Parris Island, S.C. for a two-day visit in May.

The trip by the 40 Massachusetts employers was sponsored by the Department of Defense as part of a national program to encourage support in the workplace for reservists and guardsmen. It was organized by Mr. Stanley Zucker of Longmeadow, chairman of the Massachusetts committee.

The contingent of employers arrived at Parris Island by bus where they were greeted at the boot camp's in-processing building by a Marine drill instructor in campaign hat and black leather belt that are the symbol of his fearsome authority over recruits. He gave the traditional welcome to the island in the form of barked "orders" to stand in formation on the painted yellow footprints in the road.

The employers were then given a guided tour of through the island where more than one million Marine recruits have been trained since 1915.

Recruits arrive at Parris Island at night and are not allowed to sleep for the first 24 hours. The shock treatment introduces them to the demanding schedule they will endure for 12 weeks of training during



**BASIC TRAINING --** Stan Zucker, Harry Aaron, and George Charros of the Massachusetts Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, chat with Marine Corps recruits during a visit to Parris Island, S.C.

which every hour of every day is filled, with the exception of eight hours of sleep at night. Following graduation from Parris Island, each Marine recruit undergoes another four weeks of infantry training at Camp LeJeune, N.C.

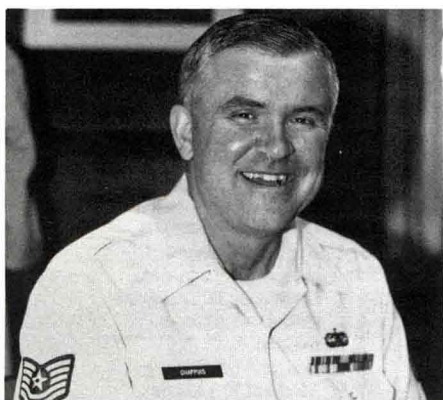
The Massachusetts employers saw the Parris Island band and a company of recruits conduct a morning colors ceremony, followed by graduation ceremonies. The guests of honor on the

parade field was actor George Peppard who went through Parris Island in 1946 before serving with the 10th Marine Artillery Regiment.

Among the members of the Massachusetts Committee was Navy Capt. George Street (Ret.) of Boston, a Medal of Honor winner for seamanship and courage in the conduct of a submarine attack on Japanese warships in a strongly defended Korean port during World War II.

# PATRIOT

Coming in July: Close-up: 74th AES



Published monthly for Patriots like TSgt. James G. Chappuis of Washington, Ct., and 2,379 members of the 439th MAW at Westover AFB.

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