

# PATRIOT

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

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## Novelist Tom Clancy repays debt of honor with speeches to Wing

By Maj. Rick Dyer

Author Tom Clancy brings the world to the brink of nuclear destruction in his latest novel, but he once had trouble "killing off" a single character in an earlier book.

"I had planned to kill off the character," Clancy explained to a Westover audience Nov. 3.

"But then he did something so intelligent that I just couldn't do it," the 44-year-old writer said. "Characters sometimes surprise you — and books don't always go where you'd expect."

One place where Clancy's novels have consistently gone is on the bestseller list.

All of his high-tech thrillers, "The Hunt for Red October," "Patriot Games," "Cardinal of the Kremlin," and "Clear and Present Danger," have sold millions of copies and have ranked first on the New York Times' fiction bestseller list.

A former insurance agent who "dreamed of seeing my name on the cover of a book," Clancy spent the November "A" UTA weekend at Westover.

He had flown with a Patriot Wing aircrew during Operation Desert Storm, and came to the base to "repay a debt of honor."

Westover officials had previously helped the famous writer arrange a C-5 flight for an 11-year-old friend of Clancy's who was terminally ill with cancer.

The boy died before the flight took place, but the novelist expressed his gratitude by arranging to speak at the base.

Clancy addressed the Officer's Dining Out on Nov. 2, and spoke to other wing members in a packed base theater the following day.

Speaking without notes and often employing barbed humor, Clancy delighted Westover reservists with anecdotes about his books, his characters and his literary career.

"I get to live out a lot of my fantasies," he said.

The author said that Jack Ryan — the CIA operative who is the hero in many of his novels — was "an alter ego who is a little dumber than I am.

"Jack gets shot at, and I wouldn't dream of being in that position," Clancy said.

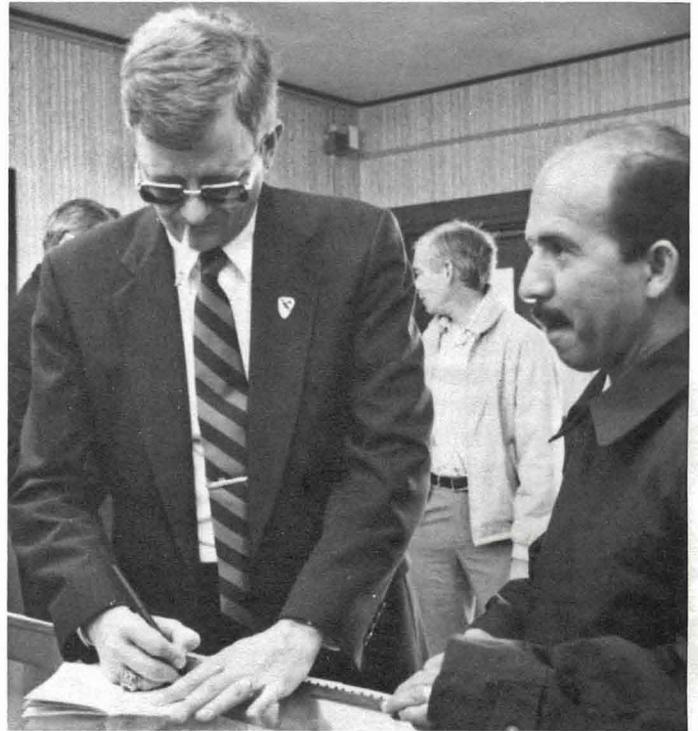
Just how much of Tom Clancy is revealed in the Jack Ryan persona? "That's a question better answered by a psychiatrist," the author quipped.

But a glance at Tom Clancy's biography reveals many obvious similarities. Both Clancy and Ryan are Irish-American Catholics who were educated at Jesuit colleges.

Clancy was an insurance agent before switching careers, and Ryan was a stockbroker before he went to work for the CIA. Both men had abbreviated military service, and both share an intense dislike of flying.

"I don't fear flying," Clancy insisted. "I fear the dangers

(Continued on page 10)



SSgt. Christine Mora

**AUTOGRAPH** — Celebrated author Tom Clancy signs autographs at the base theatre on Nov. 3.

### *The quotable Clancy*

When Tom Clancy spoke at Westover Nov. 2-3, he delighted his audiences with witty comments on a wide variety of subjects.

Here is a sampling of some of the author's memorable quotes:

**ON VISITING THE PRESIDENT** — "It's like going to see God, except all the angels carry guns."

**ON HIS RAPPORT WITH OTHER WRITERS** — "We have a friendly union. All its members know the misery of the keyboard."

**ON THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY** — "It's like dealing with the Mafia, except without the honor."

**ON THE SECRET OF GOOD WRITING** — "The art of writing is figuring people out."

**ON WHY HE WRITES** — "I'm in it for the money. It worked for Bill Shakespeare and it works for Tom Clancy."

**ON WRITER'S BLOCK** — "Writer's block is an excuse for a lazy writer. It (the term) really means that the writer doesn't want to work today."

## EDITORIAL

## Untie the ribbons

"Each day I wake up, I check the obituaries, and if my name isn't there, I get up and start a new day."

Although aimed at humor, the cartoon character Ziggy represents the pessimistic, cynical outlook of many in our society today.

In this season of holiday gift-giving, many harried shoppers come out of malls like the proverbial pinball after ricocheting from store to store. At that point, they are beginning to think that maybe Scrooge was right after all.

Many have reduced the definition of a gift to a total on a cash register.

In our complicated world, we get so consumed with the process, we lose the simplicity of the season. For millions of people, Christmas is simply the birth of a Life to be given for others.

The origin of the holiday wasn't monetary. In fact, our most precious gifts are the ones money can't buy. Consider the treasure of a friendship, family, a smile, a kind deed or an encouraging word.

The holiday message is celebrating Life and sharing it with others.

After a tumultuous year of Desert Shield and Desert Storm, many soldiers were prepared to offer the ultimate gift to their nation — their very own lives. Thank God very few lost their lives. May the rest of us honor their lives by sharing our own.

When we clear out the trimmings, boxes and wrapping paper of 1991, let's look to 1992 thankful for the gift of life itself.

Let's leave the obituaries to Ziggy and embrace an outlook of exciting optimism and opportunity.

Let our new motto be: "Every new day offers many gifts, untie the ribbons."

Best Holiday and New Years wishes,  
TSgt. Sandi Michon

## Briefs

### 239 enter airshow logo contest

The Great New England Airshow drew more than 400 entries in the \$500 logo design contest involving 62 colleges and high schools in Western Massachusetts.

Pioneer Valley art teachers endorsed entries designed by 239 students and submitted them to Westover's Galaxy Community Council by the Oct. 21 deadline.

The designs were slated to be judged in mid-November and the winner announced after the "A" UTA in December.

The winning designer will receive \$500 and be invited to participate in activities during The Great New England Airshow next summer at Westover AFB.

The logo will be licensed by the Galaxy Community Council.

### Suggestions win

Three people received cash awards and two others were presented Certificates of Appreciation for suggestions they submitted to the Air Force's Suggestion Program.

Receiving \$200 awards were Nevin C. Fannin and Keith A. Corsi for a suggestion they submitted together while Thomas G. Durkin Jr. received \$75.

Certificates of Appreciation went to Gerald R. Gagnon and Robert E. Begley.

Anyone wishing to participate in the program may contact Susanne Schmidt at ext. 2355.

### New headquarters

WASHINGTON (AFNS) —Langley AFB, Va., has been named the future headquarters for Air Combat Command, one of two new commands to be created as the Air Force dissolves Tactical and Strategic Air Commands as well as Military Airlift Command.

Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. Merrill A. McPeak announced the selection in October.

"The merger of SAC and TAC eliminates the artificial distinction between Tactical and Strategic airpower," McPeak said. "It will organize us in peacetime to be ready for the integrated use of airpower during conflict."

When operational, ACC will carry out deterrence, air superiority and global power taskings, while the other new command, Air Mobility Command, will be assigned global reach missions.

# PATRIOT

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## Reservists anticipate brighter holiday

# After centuries, holidays still focus on the Middle East

by TSgt. Sandi Michon

Centuries ago, wise men rode camels following a star in the East to pursue the Prince of Peace. A year ago, reservists flew in Galaxies and Starlifters to the Middle East prepared for war. For them, a star in the East was a possible Iraqi SCUD attack.

This holiday season, as representatives from the war-torn Middle East met in Madrid pursuing peace, Westover reservists reflected on the difference a year can make.

On Dec. 3, 1990, more than 1,000 reservists were mobilized at Westover, and celebrating the holidays took a back seat to the anxiety of impending war. Hundreds of reservists were separated from family and friends during the Christmas season and the experience changed their perceptions forever.

"People were trying to hold their lives together, and the comfort and hope of Christmas was something very specific to hold on to," said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Sandy Van Norden. The chaplain's section ministered to many hurting families through the Family Support Center during Desert Shield and Storm. "The loneliness, the pain of family separation and general anxiety marked the holidays for many," said Van Norden.

Many members of the 337th MAS were on the road during the holidays and life itself was uncertain. "We never knew for sure if we were coming back," said TSgt. Nelson Serrao, 337th flight engineer. "It makes you think about what you have to lose and it makes you more grateful," said Serrao. He said he is looking forward to spending this Christmas with his family.

Bob Martens, 337th pilot was in Torrejon, Spain on Christmas Eve last year and most of his crew celebrated midnight mass together. "It breaks the typical stereotype of aircrews," said Martens. He commented that such camaraderie was common even with mixed crews representing different bases.

After midnight mass, Martens was able to patch through to a Westover operator to reach his brother's home where his family was gathered for Christmas Eve. He was able to speak with his wife and two sons. "It was certainly less than ideal, but in a lot of ways the gaps were bridged," he said. "I had no complaints. Every time I felt sorry for myself, I could always find someone worse off."

Many squadron members are still anxious about this December. The 337th participated in Operation Just Cause in Panama in 1989, Operation Desert Shield in 1990, and some wonder if this year is clear for them. Serrao, who completed a 10-day mission delivering Patriot missiles to the Gulf two months ago, is realistic about the continued unrest in the region.

Many reservists never traveled to the Gulf, but shared the burden with those that did. Food service specialists at West-

over's dining hall put on holiday feasts for troops passing through, and made many friends.

SrA Kelly Letham, food service specialist was reporting for her first UTA at Westover when she was activated. She worked Christmas Eve at 5 p.m. to Christmas morning at 5 a.m. "We saw troops coming through that evening and Christmas morning, and tried to make it very special for them," she said. "We got to know them and it was hard to see them leave.

"This past year caused me to grow up a little. It caused me to think a lot more about other people," said the 21-year-old airman. Last Christmas was her first Christmas away from home and she plans to spend this Christmas with her family in Florida.

SSgt. Gary Cormier, food service specialist, was released from duty at noon Christmas Day to travel home to Fitchburg, Mass. While he didn't miss the entire holiday, soon afterward he left for the Gulf to spend three months serving in the UAE. "I think the experience matured me," he said. He is looking forward to this Christmas, but can't believe it is already December again.

Many reservists told of family members that shouldered their responsibility in their absence. Many said they wanted to make up for that this Christmas. "My wife was seven months pregnant, and while I was home for Christmas Day, she handled all the shopping, decorating, plus a fulltime job," said Lt. Col. Al Heinrich of his wife TSgt. Barbara Patterson. He said he will handle the details this year and looks forward to spending his first Christmas with their 10-month-old daughter Cassandra.

For one Westover reservist, last Christmas brought a surprise trip home and a special engagement to his high school sweetheart. SSgt. Howard Crawford was working a backfill medical slot at Langley AFB, Va. in December, when he was granted an unexpected five-day leave. "We were planning on getting engaged and our unexpected holiday together seemed the perfect time," said Crawford. His father helped coordinate the purchase of the ring, but Crawford said the hardest part was asking his future father-in-law for permission to marry his daughter.

This Christmas holds greater promise for Crawford. He has a new job, a new residence and they have set a marriage date.

SSgt. Marta Boczyuk, medical technician with the 439th Clinic, plans to spend this Christmas with her mom in Florida. "Last year my mom came to spend the holiday with me. She stayed at my place, and I was at Westover," she said. "I think I grew up a lot in the past year. After active duty, I'm much more conscious of world issues."

As the peace talks continue this year, the hope of many is "peace on earth, good will toward men."

Best holiday wishes to all Westover reservists who gave the nation their most precious holiday gift — themselves.

# Peace on Earth



# Westover continues to reap AFRES awards

Westover's USAF Clinic, fuels section and public affairs office recently have been recognized as best in the Air Force Reserve.

An announcement from Headquarters AFRES named the **439th USAF Clinic Outstanding Reserve Hospital/Clinic Medical Element** for the 1990 calendar year. Although the unit award was earned as a result of the concerted effort and hard work of all members, individuals were also recognized for exceptional service.

**Maj. Andrew Monteiro** was named Outstanding Reserve Physician and **1st Lt. Charles F. Streciwilk** captured the Outstanding Reserve Nurse honor. To round out the Westover contingent, **Maj. Randy Brown** earned the Outstanding Reserve Biomedical Science Corps Officer title.

"I'm not the one who deserves this award," Brown said. "I accepted this award on the behalf of the team. I'm really fortunate to have so many fantastic people working with me."

"I'm proud as a peacock," said Col. Joseph Curley, deputy commander of medical resources. "When you have good, motivated people, they deserve to be recognized for the work they do. I don't know of any other clinic that can hold a candle to ours."

Although the awards did not reflect service during the height of Operation

Desert Storm, Curley is confident that the Clinic will shine for future review committees. "The taste of war added fuel to an already roaring fire," he said.

Special thanks go to Capt. Robert A. Sousa, health services administrator, for his work in preparing the awards for submission. "He was a real workhorse," said Curley.

The **439th CSG/LGS Fuels** have been named 1991 AFRES Runner-up of the Year for their accomplishments during the Gulf War.

"The award was given to us because of our ability to handle all fuel requirements for Westover during the Gulf War," said Barbara Hurst, 439th CSG chief of supply.

"We pumped nearly 60 million gallons of JP-4 (jet propulsion) fuel during the war. During that time, there wasn't a single case of late take-offs being attributed to fuels," she said.

**Mr. Wilfred Mathieu**, 439th CSG/LGSF management officer, was named 1991 USAF Fuels Personnel of the Year (Civilian, General Manager).

"It's great to win such a prestigious award," said Mathieu. "I'm thankful to be recognized by Barbara Hurst."

"Matt did an outstanding job during Desert Storm/Desert Shield coordinating scheduling and insuring there was always a sufficient supply of fuel from

DFR (Defense Fuel Region Northeast) to meet mission requirements," said Hurst.

**Mr. Larry Helmer**, 439th CSG/LGSF distribution system worker was named 1991 Outstanding USAF Fuels Personnel of the Year (Civilian - Wage Grade).

"It feels fabulous to receive the award," said Helmer. "But I feel everyone should get one for the job they did during the past year."

The 439th Public Affairs Office once again swept the AFRES Media Contest. The PATRIOT took "Best Newspaper in the Command" honors for the sixth time in the last 10 years.

"Westover Today," the biweekly newsletter produced by the PA office for the duration of Operations Desert Shield/Storm, came in first place in the Special Achievement Category.

**Maj. Richard W. Dyer**, wing public affairs officer, earned first place recognition in the three individual categories of newswriting, feature writing and editorial writing for his outstanding coverage of Westover's involvement in Operation Desert Storm. He also placed second in the Journalist of the Year category.

**TSgt. Sandra Michon**, photo editor for the PATRIOT, placed first for her stand-alone photographs and took second place in Picture Stories.

## Reorganization plans for 439th MAW under study

By Capt. Dan Allen.

"Reorganization is a very high priority," said General Merrill A. McPeak, the Air Force Chief of Staff. His comments are now being transformed into what is known as the "Objective Wing Structure."

The Objective Wing Structure does make some major changes to the way Air Force units will operate. "There is one basic rule for wing reorganization: one base, one wing, one boss. The installation commander commands the wing, the base, and all the resources associated with it," said Maj. Gen. Robert A. McIntosh, vice commander of the Air Force Reserve.

The proposed structure does away with what we now know as deputates and replaces them with groups. An Operations Group will carry responsibilities now shouldered by the Directorate of

Operations and part of the Combat Support Group. A Logistics Group will handle much of the combined tasks of the Resources and Maintenance Directorates, and some Combat Support Group functions.

The Combat Support Group will become the Support Group and retain responsibility for installation and personnel support. A Medical Group will bring all associated responsibilities under its command. There is also a proposal to form a separate Transportation Group, responsible for Aerial Port activities and ground transportation.

In November, leaders representing each area of the 439th formed a Process Action Team to plan how the wing will do business in the future. They are now studying options and mapping out the details of each new group's area of responsibility.

"With our emphasis on Total Quality Management and the quality training wing personnel are involved in, we will be able to build the opportunity for worker empowerment into our new structure," said Col. James P. Gallin, wing vice commander. "This is really good timing to open some greater opportunities for our people," he added.

Gallin pointed out this new structure will be "almost transparent," from a job specialty standpoint. "The purpose is to create a structure in which our people can be the most successful." Given the Wing's knack for outstanding performance, Process Action Team members see even greater success in the future.

Wing restructuring plans by higher headquarters should receive final approval in the spring. Changes will be formally announced at that time, with implementation by July 1992.

## Col. Bob McMillan becomes new deputy commander

Article and photo by SrA. Mike Lyman

Col. Bob McMillan was exhilarated when he found out he would be Westover's new deputy commander for resource management (DCR).

"I'm real excited about playing an important part in defining and supporting the role of Westover during the 1990's," McMillan said.

Prior to replacing Col. Andrew Kasznay on Nov. 1, McMillan spent nine years as the 439th ALCF commander.

"After serving nine years as the ALCF commander it was time to move on to new challenges," he said. "The promotion allows me to stimulate and advance my military career, as well as increasing my responsibilities.

"In addition, leaving the ALCF gives that unit a chance to work with a new commander with new ideas," McMillan said.

"Don't get me wrong, it's very tough to leave the ALCF," he said. "It's been a big part of my life. I will continue to have all the admiration and respect for its mission and the outstanding people in the flight."

As the new DCR, McMillan is responsible for the supervision of the air transportation function at Westover, including the 42nd, 58th and 59th aerial port squadrons, resource plans, supply and training agencies.

"One of my chief responsibilities will be to look at the reorganization of Westover and the transportation function," McMillan said. "Currently, there are many offices on base that deal directly with passengers and cargo. We want to make sure that the new organization supports the Northeast Air Station mission and, more specifically, the customer or client," he added.

"This will involve centralizing or consolidating facilities and personnel to improve our efficiency and effectiveness," he said. "This will also include acquiring more and newer materials handling equipment to ensure our people have enough of the right equipment to do the job correctly.

"To perform the job, knowing the personnel and Westover's mission is a big help," McMillan said. "Though I don't know many specific aspects of air transportation, I feel I have an advantage of starting with no preconceived or outdated ideas."

McMillan, who has served 28 years as a pilot in the Air Force, graduated from OTS at Lackland, AFB, in November, 1963. He then attended OTS pilot training school at Moody AFB, Ga., where he graduated in 1965.

From 1965-1969, McMillan served active duty as a KC-135



Col. Bob McMillan

pilot at Fairchild AFB, Wash.

In 1970, he left active service and joined the reserves, where he was assigned to the 337th MAS at Westover. During this time, McMillan flew C-124s, C-130Bs, C-130Es and C-5s until he assumed command of the 439th ALCF in 1982.

"The promotion shouldn't require any changes in my life," said McMillan, who has been a TWA pilot for 21 years. "Family life still comes first. I have always been active in the reserves. Now I'll be spending more time at meetings and less time in the air. In fact, accepting this position has one disappointment. It doesn't require duty time as a pilot so my military flying career has, in essence, come to an end," he added.

McMillan and his wife, Joyce, live in Southington, Conn. They have two children; Todd, 25, and Cary, 22.

## Lt. Col. Philip Petitt succeeds McMillan as new 439th ALCF commander

By TSgt. Tom Allocco

Lt. Col. Philip Petitt took command of the 439th ALCF's 14 operations, communications, loadmaster and administration support members in November. He succeeded Col. Robert McMillan, who was named deputy commander for resource management.

As commander, Petitt will oversee the flight which trains to set up and operate airlift operations under bare-base conditions. Members operated an airfield under

austere conditions at King Khalid Military City, Saudi Arabia to help airlift home the Army's VII Corps following Desert Storm.

An AFROTC graduate of DePauw University, Green Castle, Ind., Petitt earned four Air Medals as a C-7 Caribou pilot flying out of Vung Tau and Cam Rahn Bay, VietNam in 1970-71.

He served with SAC at Westover and Plattsburgh AFB, N.Y. as a KC-135 pilot from 1971 to 1975.

In 1980 Petitt returned to Westover as a reservist C-123 pilot with the 731st TAS. After serving as a C-130 pilot, he was named a wing plans officer in 1986.

He later served as officer controller and then chief of the Command Post. Petitt served on active duty from December to July during Desert Shield/Storm.

An assistant vice president at Vanguard Bank, Holyoke, he resides in Amherst with his wife, Donna, and their two children.

# 74th medics go to war during Patriot Brew

Article and photos by  
SSgt. Christine Mora

Tension hung in the air as the crew was briefed on the mission. There was a coup attempt in a small, neighboring country. Martial law had been declared and the capital was under heavy fire. Their mission: evacuate heavy casualties.

The medics sprung into action. This was war. Well, not exactly, but it was supposed to be. The five-member flight crew from the 74th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron participated in "Patriot Brew," a reserve airlift competition held at Gen. Mitchell Field IAP, Wisc., Oct. 19.

The flying and airdrop tournament for C-130 and C-141 crews also drilled aeromedical personnel in treating, processing, and loading "injured" patients. The Westover contingent placed fourth out of nine competing medical units.

"The scenario depicts a typical tactical mission," said MSgt. Mark Johnson,

the charge medical technician. "We're tasked to transport patients from a Medical Air Staging Facility to a more definite care site."

Capt. Glen Daviau, the medical crew director (MCD), began planning the load and gave a safety briefing to the rest of the crew. The flight nurse, 2nd Lt. Adele Costantino, gave the medical briefing as she studied patient assessments to determine flight care.

"The patients must be placed so the injury is facing the medics," said Costantino. Those requiring the least care are placed on the top "bunk" of the station, which is composed of a litter attached to two poles by brackets, she said. The more critical casualties were placed in more accessible litters for easier care.

After donning safety gear, the crew rushed to the roaring C-130. The aircraft was soon transformed into a "flying ambulance," as wooden stretchers were hung in stations set up into the middle of the aircraft.

Oxygen bottles were filled, and

equipment and supplies were hung from "kits" on the walls. Patients, or "casualties of the coup," were brought in on wooden litters.

The medics moved like cogs in a machine as they secured the patients and examined their conditions and injuries. The crew cared for six patients who suffered from gunshot wounds, head injuries, amputation and fractures.

The flight nurse was in charge of direct care and administered medications, supervised technicians and performed head-to-toe surveys. The MCD supervised the overall operation of the aircraft and kept in constant communication with the aircraft commander.

The charge, second and third med techs rounded out the crew. The charge tech was directly responsible for configuring the aircraft and supervising the other med techs. The technicians assisted the flight nurse and tended to the ambulatory patients seated along the wall of the C-130.

The crew encountered a series of emergencies when several patients went into cardiac arrest and hypodermic shock.

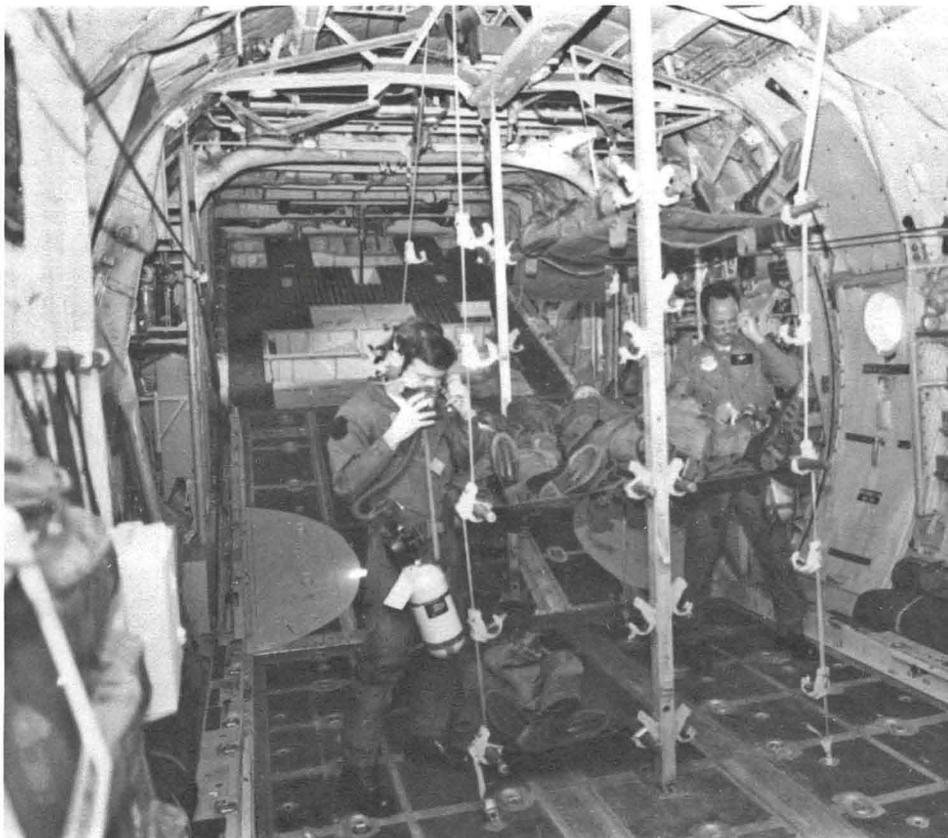
Orders rang out through the aircraft as the flight nurse initiated cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and administered medications intravenously as the crew successfully revived the patients.

The surprises weren't over. While the medics attended to the casualties, a fire alarm rang out. The crew immediately donned their oxygen masks and monitored the patients. SSgt. Gary Van Wie grabbed a fire extinguisher and doused the fire.

When the situation was stable, the aircraft prepared for a shortfield landing. The patients were offloaded and transported to a medical care facility. The mission was completed.

Sergeant Johnson, compared the exercise to his recent duty in Saudi Arabia during Desert Storm. "The obvious difference is that the exercise is simulated, but just like an actual mission, we jump right in and provide the best care we can." During his stint in the desert the med tech treated a variety of injuries, most often from land mines and diseases.

The Westover team trained for a week prior to competing. They drilled in the C-130 hulk, configuring the aircraft and practicing individual roles in the scenario.



**FIRE ALARM** — Medical technicians SSgt. Gary Van Wie and MSgt. Mark Johnson don their oxygen masks as the fire warning is sounded.



**CRISIS** — SSgt. Gary Van Wie administers oxygen using an AMBU bag while 2nd Lt. Adele Costantino and MSgt.

Mark Johnson attempt to revive a “patient” in cardiac arrest.



**RADIO CHECK** — SSgt. Bill Anderson, SSgt. Gary Van Wie and 2nd Lt. Adele Costantino test their headsets before heading out to the C-130. The crew communicated by battery-operated headsets throughout the mission.



**UNDER PRESSURE** — SSgt. Bill Anderson tests pressure in the oxygen tanks prior to departure.

# Joe Longworth becomes Westover's new fire chief

By SrA. Mike Lyman

After 37 years of military and civilian service, Assistant Chief Joe Longworth became Westover's new fire chief on Dec. 1.

Longworth assumed the full-time position, by replacing Chief Haskel Jenkins who retired, after completing a 40-year firefighting career.

For Longworth, the promotion has meant more responsibility and new challenges.

"Being the boss is a tough job," he said. "But I don't feel there will be any problem I can't handle. I've had considerable experience in all three departments, including operations, training and fire prevention.

"In addition, I served as the military fire chief during my last year of active military service at Westover in 1974, when the base changed from Strategic Air Command to Air Force Reserve," Longworth added.

"My biggest challenge will be to standardize training," Longworth said. "To make sure everyone is properly trained in all types of emergency situations, from crash rescue to hazardous material. The goal will be to have both shifts using the same routine and procedures."

"I feel a good department is a well-trained department," Longworth said. "You can never put enough emphasis on training."

Longworth began his career as a military fireman in the Air Force in 1954. He spent two years at Reese AFB, Texas, and transferred to Bermuda in 1956, where



SrA. Mike Lyman

**CHANGING OF THE GUARDS** — Brig. Gen. Mike Walker and Chief Haskel Jenkins meet in front of the fire station after formally promoting Joe Longworth (center) to base fire chief.

he was stationed for 27 months.

Following Bermuda, Longworth spent a year at Edwards AFB, Calif., and then six years at Toulrosieres AB, France, until he was transferred to Westover in 1965.

Longworth spent the next 10 years of active military service here and retired in September 1974. He returned to Westover a month later as the civilian fire prevention inspector and served in this capacity until he was promoted to assistant fire chief in May 1981.

"It feels great to be the new fire chief here at Westover," Longworth said. "My family and I have been a part of Westover since 1965.

"I feel I have a big advantage being promoted within," Longworth said. "I am familiar with most base agencies, and the layout of the base facilities. I also have had the opportunity to work with many of the firefighters assigned to Westover, and am aware of their abilities.

In replacing Jenkins, Longworth had nothing but praise for his predecessor. "Chief Jenkins did a great job," he said. "I would just like to build on his accomplishments."

Longworth and his wife, Françoise, live in Springfield, Mass. They have four children, Eric, Thierry, Valerie and Patricia.

## Air Force debuts new, streamlined service dress uniform

Airmen and NCOs got their first look at the Air Force's new service dress uniform on Nov 1, at Luke AFB, Ariz.

The apparent, intentional absence of "doodads" adorning the attire seem to be one of the foremost features that caught the eye of viewers.

In what was only the second public showing of the uniform, the first to an all-Air Force audience, the lack of collar brass, name tags, epaulets, pockets and seven less buttons were the most visible change on the uniform. One Luke technical sergeant described the change as attractive and more in line with today's more fashionable style.

"It looks like a suit," said TSgt. Nancy

Northrop of the 58th Tactical Training Squadron. "The bulkiness of the old uniform is gone. It looks more professional."

The advent of the new style, revealed at a Pentagon press conference Oct. 31, is the Air Force's push for its own distinguishable uniform, one that accurately reflects the service's aerospace image.

"Basically, what our uniform is today is an Army uniform dyed blue," Pfingston said of the current service dress worn by airmen since shortly after the Air Force became a separate service in 1947.

Although people heard rumblings that the new, redesigned chevrons would be larger, Luke people were taken by

surprise at the actual appearance of the stripes. Making them stand out more, however, is not their size, but the white instead of silver thread used as background. Pfingston said the stripes result from the Air Force's attempt to make the enlisted rank bigger and bolder.

Designed with quality, style and affordability in mind, the new uniform will undergo a fit test, during which a full range of sizes will be tried on 300 people. The dyes used in the new service dress are better matched, thus making it easier to match the coat to slacks and skirts.

The Air Force could possibly start issuing the new uniform to new recruits in basic training in early 1995.

# Red Cross offers services for Gulf War veterans

## Federal grant provides dollars for benefits

By SrA. Mike Lyman

The American Red Cross has recently announced its new services for Persian Gulf Reserve and National Guard veterans and their families.

The Red Cross was awarded over \$13.5 million to help military personnel and their families cope with the kinds of unique problems arising in the aftermath of Operation Desert Storm, according to Robin L. Roberts, director of emergency services, Pioneer Valley Chapter, American Red Cross.

Individual local chapters, including the Pioneer Valley Chapter, will be participating in this program.

"We recognize the unique needs of military families, particularly families of Reservists and National Guard members deployed during the conflict," Roberts said. "They often have limited access to family support services found on active-duty military bases. During the deployment, they were quickly faced with a very tough situation—one of lengthy separation and stress."

Red Cross caseworkers will help

families access a variety of services which will include marital and family counseling, crisis intervention, budget counseling and respite child care.

"The child care program will allow non-licensed as well as licensed people to be child care providers," Roberts said. "This means funds may be used to allow relatives, friends and babysitters to provide child care, as long as families provide the proper documentation."

The nationwide assistance program began on Nov. 1 in the Massachusetts area and will run for an indefinite period.

The Red Cross chapters nationwide will provide vouchers to pay for services through a new system designed to help families obtain services quickly and easily.

"Unlike other military personnel who are entitled to VA benefits, these service members are entitled to military benefits for only 30 days following discharge," Roberts said. "For these reasons, special funds have been made available to these veterans."

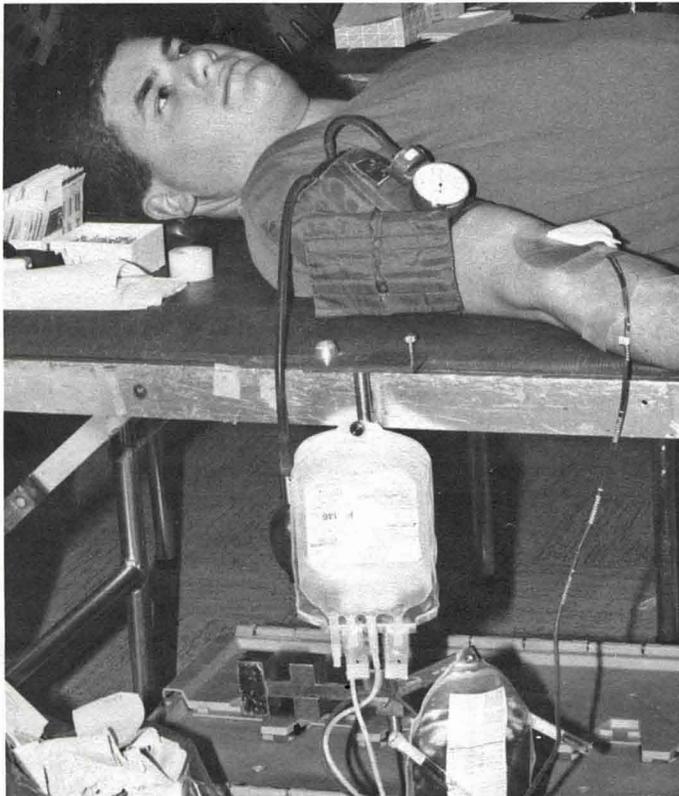
"To qualify for the program, a veteran needs to provide us with a copy of their

orders," Roberts said.

The Red Cross received the grant under the Persian Gulf Conflict Supplement Authorization and Personal Benefits Act of 1991 to provide military families with child care assistance and a variety of counseling services.

During Desert Storm, the Red Cross provided a variety of services to both active duty and Reserve/National Guard personnel and their families, including sending nearly 200,000 emergency messages to and from military personnel during family emergencies. In addition, Red Cross chapters across the country sponsored military family support groups and worked closely with local military units to educate family members about services and benefits available to them during active duty.

For more information about these new services, military personnel should contact the emergency services office of the Pioneer Valley Chapter, American Red Cross, 235 Chestnut Street, Springfield, Mass. The local chapter's telephone number is (413) 737-4306, extensions 919 or 921.



## Laying down on the job

**RED GOLD --** SrA. Robert Richter, 439th EMS structural repair technician, seems deep in thought as the priceless gift of blood flows into the pint bag. Richter was one of 139 blood donors who contributed during Westover's blood drive on Nov. 1 - 2 at the base gym. Nurses from the Northeast Chapter of the American Red Cross gathered 35 pints on Friday, and at lunchtime on Saturday, the outlook for a successful blood drive was bleak. But in the final two and one half hours of the drive, more than 65 units of blood were collected. This is a particular accomplishment since Westover has hosted four drives this year compared to only two. According to 2nd Lt. Timothy Flynn, base recreation officer, the Red Cross counts on Westover as one of their largest blood donors in the area. Red Cross officials said they had put in a long day, but were elated to be so busy.

TSgt. Sandi Michon

## Dinner theater intro to busy Club schedule

By SSGT F. X. Kelley

One of the most successful comedies in the history of American stage, Neil Simon's classic "Barefoot in the Park" was performed by the Repertory Theater of America's Alpha-Omega Players at Westover's Consolidated Club on Oct. 20.

The five-course gourmet meal and show marked the debut of the dinner-theater program here, and according to Consolidated Club Manager John Filler, was well-received by all.

He said the evenings success convinced him to repeat the effort in March, expanding the seating limit to 150 persons.

Filler, who together with assistant club manager Sandi Hunt personally greeted and mingled with all guests, emphasized that the Consolidated Club staff and management are thankful for the support of the membership and its guests.

With patron satisfaction in mind, a full calendar of events is scheduled through the holiday season.

Below is a sampling:

- Base-wide Christmas party at the Club on December 7. Tickets and information available through Jackie

Davis (ext. 3056). (Any club or organization interested in booking a Christmas party at the Consolidated Club should contact the Club. They have pledged to find room for all interested parties.)

- The Granby, Mass. Community Chorus is scheduled to perform a concert featuring traditional Christmas favorites from 7-8 p.m. in the ballroom on Dec. 10. Admission is free.
- For New Year's Eve, the Club offers a buffet extravaganza, party favors, live entertainment by High Variety, complimentary champagne and a 1992 continental breakfast. A sell-out is anticipated and seating is limited to 400. Call soon for reservations.
- A Westover Country & Western Jamboree is scheduled for January with the exact date to be announced.
- The USO is hosting a talent show Jan. 18. The show is open to the public. Information is available through Exie Hall (ext. 2522).  
"We're here for the membership," said Filler, adding that the input of each member is essential to the club's growth and success. The number at the Con-

## Red Ribbon Campaign



*Westover kicks off the first Red Ribbon Campaign during the December UTA in an effort to discourage drunk driving during the holiday season.*

*Red ribbons will be distributed at unit commanders's call to be tied on automobiles as an alcohol awareness reminder.*

*The campaign was originally sponsored by Mothers Against Drunk Driving and has been adopted DoD-wide in an attempt to inspire others to follow their example, according to Maj. Charles Curci, social actions officer.*

*For further information, call ext. 3225.*

## Author Tom Clancy entertains Westover reservists *(continued from front page)*

associated with crashing."

Clancy told Patriot Wing members that his journey to the bestseller list was an improbable one, filled with "incredible luck."

"I wanted to be the American Rommel when I was young," he said. But Clancy's dreams of becoming a tank commander were dashed when vision problems forced him out of the Army ROTC program at Loyola University.

He went into the insurance business after college but felt that it wasn't "intellectually satisfying." "Writing was always my dream," Clancy said.

After reading news accounts in 1975 about the attempted defection of a Soviet Navy ship, Clancy began thinking about a novel. "The Hunt for Red October" was published in 1985 by the Naval Institute Press.

An editor at the Washington Times read the book and gave a copy to President Reagan.

"It must have been a slow Christmas at the White House that year," Clancy joked. "President Reagan read it and

mentioned to 'Time Magazine' that he liked it. Shazam, I was a bestseller."

Clancy impressed Westover audiences with his extensive knowledge of high tech weapon systems, world affairs and military tactics. He also explained where he finds much of the technical information which wind up on the pages of his novels.

"It's all in books — it's just a matter of reading the right books," he said.

Clancy added, "When I do field research, I'm not looking for technology. I'm looking at the color of the walls and how the food tastes."

The Maryland-based author believes that his latest novel, "The Sum of All Fears," is his best effort.

He began the project — the fictitious account of a Middle East crisis which threatens to plunge the world's superpowers into nuclear war — in 1979. Clancy said that it took him until 1987 to "figure out how to end it."

"I'm genuinely proud of the book. The last couple of hundred pages are the best I've ever written," he said.

The father of four children, Clancy quipped that he is currently "an unemployed writer." He indicated that he has three or four literary projects in mind. The author also writes a syndicated newspaper column, and is attempting to bring a National Football League franchise to Baltimore.

Because the Soviet Union in frequently an antagonist in Clancy's writings, Westover personnel were interested in his views about the recent demise of communism in the U.S.S.R.

"We won our most important war in history when we forced the Soviet Union to change its political system," Clancy said. "It was you guys that did it."

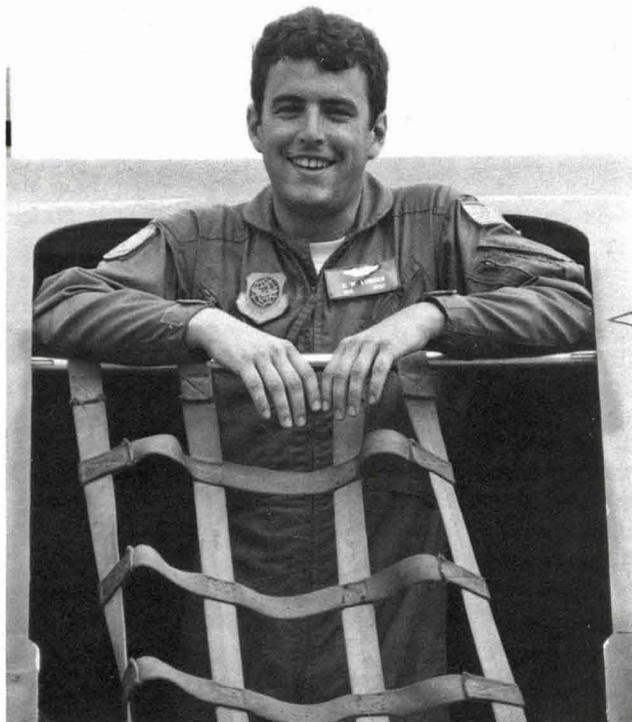
Would the death of communism and the outbreak of democracy in the Eastern Bloc remove all the fodder for future Jack Ryan thrillers?

Tom Clancy, like his literary alter ego, was analytical.

"If changes in the world mean I can't write anymore, it means my kids will grow up in a safer world," he said.

## "Patriot People"

**Name:** Christopher Lussier  
**Rank:** SSgt.  
**Age:** 27  
**Address:** Southampton, Mass.  
**Unit:** 337th MAS  
**Position:** C-5 loadmaster  
**Civilian position:** College student  
**Favorite food:** Anything without mushrooms  
**Years of service:** 8  
**Favorite sport:** Waterskiing!  
**Favorite hobby:** Restoring a 1947 Willys Jeep CJZA  
**Ideal vacation:** French Riviera  
**Best way to relax:** Playing the piano  
**Preferred entertainment:** Playing with little nephew  
**Favorite celebrity:** Paul McCartney  
**Favorite music:** 60's rock and roll  
**Favorite book:** All Creatures Great and Small  
**Favorite color:** White  
**Favorite car:** Red 1984 Jeep CJ7 named "Quasmo"  
**Pet peeve:** Lazy, critical people who live off the society they criticize  
**Best thing about Westover:** Countless opportunities  
**Worst thing about Westover:** "C-5A broke!"



SrA Mike Lyman

SSgt Christopher Lussier

## PAT on the back

### ENLISTMENTS

SSgt. James Patrick Garrity  
 SSgt. Richard J. Goguen  
 SSgt. John J. Harmon  
 SSgt. Donald R. Morin  
 SrA. Jeffrey L. Purvis  
 SrA. Peter A. Surowiec  
 SrA. Michael A. Veilleux  
 A1C William David Dangutis  
 A1C Karen J. Loconto  
 Amn. Lynn M. Hotchkiss  
 AB Roderick Anderson  
 AB Thomas J. Batchelor Jr.  
 AB Jared M. Lockwood

### PROMOTIONS

MSgt. John A. Dejnak Jr.  
 MSgt. Peter J. Hancock  
 MSgt. Daniel G. Hartling  
 TSgt. Gregory A. Baker  
 TSgt. Kenneth R. Belanger  
 TSgt. Brian T. Fielding  
 TSgt. Steven J. Forcum  
 TSgt. Theodore Jeremicz  
 TSgt. Ronald J. LaBonte  
 TSgt. Benjamin Omaiye  
 TSgt. Roger D. Squyres  
 SSgt. Jeffrey W. Blake  
 SSgt. Jeffrey M. Bosinske  
 SSgt. Robert L. Bray III  
 SSgt. Mark W. Butler  
 SSgt. Brian J. Crawley  
 SSgt. Patrick J. Egan Jr.  
 SSgt. Thomas M. Evangelisto  
 SSgt. Jessie L. Fletcher

SSgt. Steven J. Foote  
 SSgt. Brian R. Francis  
 SSgt. Matthew P. Gaudet  
 SSgt. Vanessa L. Hatton  
 SSgt. Sean M. Labbe  
 SSgt. Paul C. LaFlamme II  
 SSgt. Brent A. McGlenn  
 SSgt. Owen J. Meier  
 SSgt. Charles W. Nash  
 SSgt. Daniel R. Olszta  
 SSgt. Anthony J. Rinaldi  
 SSgt. Christopher M. Sawyer  
 SSgt. Travis E. Schwarzer  
 SrA. Kimberly A. Allen  
 SrA. Bruce E. Appell  
 SrA. Karen A. Borek  
 SrA. Joseph L. Daly  
 SrA. Richard D. Frost  
 SrA. Charles H. Hudson  
 SrA. Michael S. Lyman  
 SrA. Michael J. McFaun  
 SrA. Donald R. Normandin  
 SrA. Maribel Sepulveda  
 SrA. Glen J. Sullivan  
 SrA. Alexander W. Walczyk  
 A1C James M. Archambault  
 A1C Kevin M. Bowen  
 SrA. Jeanine A. Gile  
 A1C Maryann Y. Perkins  
 A1C Robert L. Vanalstyne  
 Amn. Carol A. Amaral  
 Amn. Ronald M. Crump  
 Amn. Albert S. Czupkiewicz Jr.  
 Amn. Cortez DeBoise Jr.  
 Amn Robert F. Luby  
 Amn. Maurice A. Ritter  
 Amn. Lee R. Shoup



SrA Mike Lyman

**KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE!** -- Three-year-old Amanda Chaloux gets fingerprinted at the base gym, as part of the Identia-Child program, sponsored by MWR and the Chicopee Police Department.

# Evidence of fowl play at annual Turkey Trot

Photo and article by SrA. Mike Lyman

Once upon a time, people would walk a mile for a camel.

These days, people will run five miles for a chance to win a turkey.

Actually, people at Westover recently took part in the base's 14th Annual Turkey Trot which was held at the base gym on Nov. 3. As the traditional Thanksgiving sports event on base, the Turkey Trot is broken down into 14 different age categories, including six men, six women and two children's groups. Within each group, participants have a chance to win a turkey, as well as first, second and third place trophies.

The race is held each year to provide an activity for reservists and dependents who are interested in running, according to Capt. Thomas Schwechheimer, reserve chief of MWR.

The annual run, which began at noon, consisted of a five-mile course for the men, a three-mile run for the women and a mile-and-a-half route for the children.

The 32 people who participated were of all ages, from 11-year-old Evin Carr to 59-year-old Frank Sweryda. Along with their different ages and occupations, each had his own purpose for running.

"Running in the race is a lot of fun," said TSgt. Cathy Skalecki, 74th AES med tech. "It's also nice because I usually win a turkey."

"I run for the excitement and hopefully to drop a few pounds," said TSgt. Diane Thaxton, 439th MAW information management technician.

As the race got under way, friends, family members, co-

workers and other spectators waited anxiously for the first runners to approach the finish line.

Their wait was not long.

First to cross the line was 14-year-old Bob Church to win the children's 13-16 group. He romped home with a time of 9:05 and was followed a minute later by his 12-year-old brother Brian, who won the children's 8-12 group.

The climax of the day came when TSgt. Celio Hernandez, 439th EMS aircraft hydraulics specialist, approached the finish line hand-in-hand with his wife, Mary, to win their respective divisions.

"It was funny," Celio Hernandez said. "I asked Mary to slow down because I figured that crossing the finish line together would make a nice picture."

His wife saw it a little differently.

"He asked me to slow down because he didn't have anything left," Mary Hernandez said with a smile.

For the Hernandez', who have won nearly every year they have participated, with the exception of last year, the victories meant they were once again back in the



**PHOTO FINISH --** Mary and Celio Hernandez cross the finish line together, winning their respective divisions.

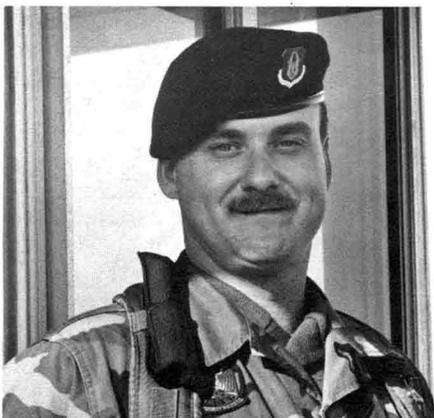
winners' circle.

One by one, other contestants crossed the finish line. Some, like Skalecki, were elated to be ahead of their division and capture first place. "I'm psyched!" Skalecki said.

As seconds and then minutes continued to tick off the timekeeper's stopwatch, more runners completed the run, including Chris Rivers, Linda Ryan, Dan Carr, Frank and Diane Sweryda, Carmen Kuziak, Richard Gould and John Aukstikalnis, all of whom, won their division.

## PATRIOT

Coming in January: WACs at Westover



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