

PATRIOT

439TH AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER AFB

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Base security police convert to active duty

by MSgt. Gordon A. Newell

Westover's security police units are scheduled to undergo a conversion to active duty that will take effect in March 1998.

Units affected are the 439th Security Police Squadron and the 739th Security Police Flight with a total of 54 civilian jobs. Initially there will be a Reduction In Force of current employees due to the change in qualifications. However, long term plans indicate an increase in the number of military jobs in the unit.

Maj. Roger Summerlin, commander of the affected units said, "Plans for the 1997-87 time frame will actually result in an increase of 13 full-time positions. These actions are the result of a shift in emphasis from the peacetime police mission to the security mission, especially when wing aircraft travel to overseas locations."

"It's going to be a lot more than riding around in a patrol car," Summerlin said. "Civilians can't go overseas armed, and the second part of the equation is we are traveling overseas more and more."

Westover will begin filling the 70 new Active Guard Reserve posts on Oct. 1. The existing force of Air Force Reserve and Department of Defense police will not be laid off until March 1998.

Col. James P. Czekanski, commander of the 439th Airlift Wing, said that Air Force Reserve Headquarters issued a Programming Plan which converts all the civilian positions in those units, Air Force Reserve Technicians and Department of Defense slots to

(continued on page 10)



DRESSED FOR SUCCESS — Airman Basic Biological Bob attended his first UTA at the 58th Aerial Port Squadron in January. The brainchild of MSgt. Thomas Shaughnessy (right), the chemical warfare ensemble-clad mannequin is the subject of a monthly contest designed to test reservists on their disaster preparedness knowledge. Shaughnessy and SSgt. Melissa Cody (left) manage the program in which aerial porters are challenged to identify the three things wrong with Biological Bob's ensemble. *(Photo by SSgt. Christine Mora)*

1st Sgt. seeks to advance troops

by TSgt. W.C. Pope

He wants you to be all that you can be.

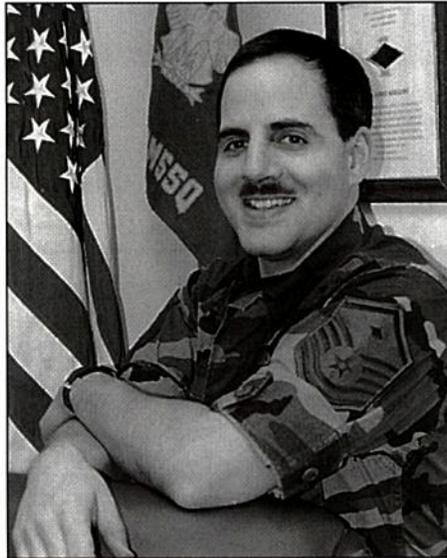
MSgt. Cliff Wittman is Air Force through and through, but he doesn't mind borrowing from the Army motto when it comes to his new job.

Wittman who succeeded CMSgt. Joseph LaFrance in December as first sergeant of the 439th Mission Support Squadron says that his top priority is support of career advancement of every reservist of his unit.

"I want to make sure that all of our troops grow and prosper," said MSgt. Cliff Wittman. "I plan on being supportive and hope to guide everyone on the path to advancement, through awards and promotions."

Although a new face to some, Wittman has been a big part of the 439th Airlift Wing family. He served in the 933rd Civil Engineer Squadron at Griffiss AFB, a 439th AW geographically separated unit. He served many years in the heavy equipment career field before becoming the first sergeant in February 1993. He remained in that position until the unit disbanded with the closure of Griffiss in April 1994. He then joined the 439th Wing Safety office.

He began his Air Force career in July 1981 as a radar operator in the 5th Defense Space Communications Squadron based in Woomera, Australia. Two-and-a-half-years later he received orders to Mt. Lagun Air Station, Calif., where he served out the remain-



MSgt. Cliff Wittman

der of his four years.

"I know I have some big shoes to fill, but I believe I have both the life and Air Force experience to connect with people of any age or background," he said.

"Joe LaFrance is a tough act to follow, but Cliff isn't intimidated by that. He's well driven and knows what he wants," said Lt. Col. Bob Martens, commander, 439th MSS. "He's also a terrific human being that is enthusiastic about the job."

Wittman lives on a 28-acre horse farm near Rome, N.Y. He says time taking care of the horses is time he uses to mentally organize UTA details. He lives with Terrie, his wife of 15 years and their 9-month-old daughter Alexis.

AF Reserve new command

by Gen. Ronald Fogleman

WASHINGTON D.C. — Air Force Reserve Command was activated during the 1997 Reserve Officers Association Mid-Winter Conference and Military Exposition Feb. 17 at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

Gen. Ronald Fogleman, Air Force chief of staff, presided over the ceremony, which made AFRC the ninth major command of the Air Force. Maj. Gen. Robert A. McIntosh is the commander.

According to McIntosh, there will be little change in how the Reserve works within the Air Force since it has functioned much like a major command for many years. "When we deploy for an exercise or for one of the many recent contingencies, it's hard to tell which people or units are reservists and which are active duty," McIntosh said. "That is why we wear our gaining command patches. The seamless daily operation enjoyed today serves us well."

Previously the Air Force Reserve was a field operating agency.

The standup of the Air Force Reserve as an Air Force major command came as a result of Title XII—Reserve Forces Revitalization—in Public Law 104-201, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1997. Title XII revises the basic statutory authorities governing the organization and administration of the reserve components of the Armed Forces. The revision came about to recognize the realities of reserve component partnership in the Total Force and to better prepare the American citizen-soldier sailor, airman and Marine in time of peace and duties for war.

The need for this revision was first identified by U.S. Representative Greg Laughlin (D-Texas) and 33 co-sponsors by introduction of HR. 1646 on May 16, 1995. This was a direct result of lessons learned during mobilization for Desert Shield/Storm. (AFRC News Service).

PATRIOT

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439th AW Commander

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Attention to detail the key for protocol chief

by Lt. Col. Rick Dyer

Her job demands the patience of Job, the etiquette of Miss Manners, and the diplomacy of Madeline Albright. Not infrequently, it also requires the ability to be in two places at one time.

It's an art, not a science," said Mary Syriac, as she reflected on her position as chief of Westover's Protocol Division. "There's no protocol course offered by the Department of Defense or the Air Force.

You have to learn this job as you do it, and much of it revolves around basic common sense."

Syriac became the Patriot Wing's protocol specialist two years ago. She's responsible for every aspect of a distinguished visitor's stay at Westover, and the job involves much, much more than meeting and greeting the Air Force's movers and shakers.

"I handle their arrival, departure, itinerary, transportation, billeting, official functions and social events," said Syriac, who has worked for 15 years as a civil service employee at Westover. Prior to becoming a one-person protocol shop, she served as secretary for the wing and support group commanders here.

The pressure and demands of Syriac's job were apparent on January 30. That morning, she was responsible for coordinating a working breakfast in Building 1850 for Brig. Gen. Michael R. Lee, 22nd Air Force Commander. Lee was on base to review planning for an upcoming operational readiness inspection with senior wing officials.

At the same time, the protocol officer also hosted five colonels and 15 other guests from Air Force ROTC headquarters who were meeting in the base conference center.

"She's a human dynamo," said Col. James P. Czekanski, wing commander. "Mary gives our guests a wonderful first impression of Westover, and her attention to detail is meticulous."

The protocol officer said that she handles arrangements for approximately 25 distinguished visitors each year. Her other duties include management of the base's new conference center, coordinating protocol details for Westover's biennial air show and acting as a liaison with the Chicopee



Mary Syriac

Courtesy of Mary Syriac

Chamber of Commerce and the Galax Community Council.

Syriac handled one of her most memorable assignments last June when she was sent on temporary duty to McChord AFB, Wash. during Rodeo '96. While there, she planned a luncheon for Secretary of the Air Force Sheila E. Widnall, who had asked to meet with representatives of each command participating in the event.

"I was in awe of Secretary Widnall, she was so down to earth," Syriac said. Maj. Denise Wishoski, a flight nurse instructor with Westover's 439th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, was seated next to the Air Force secretary at the luncheon. "The job sometimes has its advantages," the protocol

officer added.

Syriac also handled the protocol arrangements last November when three Medal of Honor recipients—Thomas Hudner, Charles A. MacGillivray and Nicholas Oresko—came to Westover for a dedication ceremony. "It was an honor to meet true heroes like them," she said.

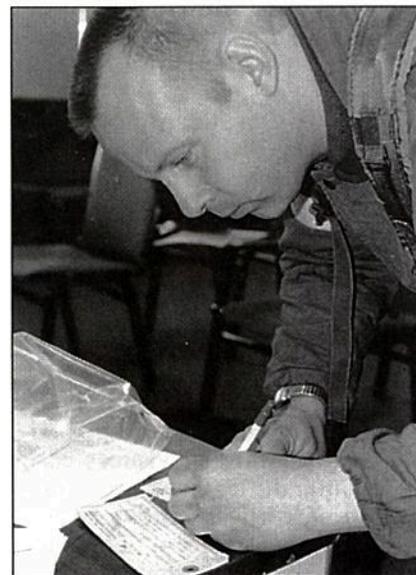
The protocol officer indicated that little details—like knowing about a visitor's dietary restrictions or transportation needs—often spells the difference between success or failure in her job. She credited a strong working relationship with Westover's transportation, billeting, public affairs and other staff with enabling her to effectively fulfill her varied responsibilities.



Making a list ... checking it twice

photos by TSgt. W.C. Pope

MSgt. Paul Carroccia, at left in top photo, checks the hood as a fellow 439th AGS member during chemical warfare refresher training. At left, TSgt. Rick Halla, connects a communications cord to the belly of a C-5 while adorned in chemical warfare ensemble. At right, SSGt. Tom Griffin fills out the chemical warfare mask serviceability card. The squadron held training in preparation for the Operational Readiness Inspection scheduled to begin March 1.



Three security police capture top AFRES honors

by SSgt. Christine Mora

Three Westover security policemen captured top honors last month when they were named best in the Air Force Reserve for 1996.

The 439th Security Police Squadron trio included Maj. Roger Summerlin, squadron commander, who was selected AFRES Outstanding Security Police Officer, SMSgt. Tim Murphy, CATM superintendent, who won Outstanding Combat Arms Training and Maintenance Manager, and SSgt. John Monopoli, law enforcement specialist, was chosen Outstanding SP Airman, Law Enforcement Specialty.

"Major Summerlin is one of the most aggressive and driven officers I've ever seen," said Col. James P. Czekanski, 439th Airlift Wing commander. "He's the type of guy that people respond to. He's fortunate to have dedicated and talented troops like Murphy and Monopoli to help maintain a top security force at Westover."

According to Summerlin, his kudos are a reflection of the hard work of his troops. "As commander, I point the squadron in a direction," he said. "The people take it where it needs to go."

"They've gone all over the world. "In addition to security programs on base, our troops are being asked to deploy all over the globe more than ever before," he said. "With our operations tempo at

"As commander, I point the squadron in a direction... the people take it where it needs to go."

**Maj. Roger Summerlin
439 SPS commander**



Maj. Roger Summerlin

an all time high, we have to ask a lot, and they keep slugging away."

Summerlin's own operations tempo has been raised pretty high as he takes part in the conversion of Westover's security force to an active reserve unit.

The 22-year veteran started his career as an active duty Air Force enlisted and later Air National Guard enlisted. After a variety of jobs that included X-ray technician, training manager and computer operator, he completed ROTC and became an active-duty SP for ten years.

After he retired, he joined

Westover's ranks in 1992 as the 439th SP commander.

Summerlin has particular praise for his fellow recipients. "Sergeant Murphy has brought the CATM section from a good unit to the command standard," Summerlin said. "Units all over AFRES visit our CATM section to see how we do business."

The CATM business involves the firearms training of more than 3,000 people a year, two weekends a month with a 14-person staff. "We wouldn't be able to do it if our CATM shop wasn't so dedicated," said Murphy.

Like Summerlin, Murphy attributes his award to the hard work of his staff. "They take a lot of time off to perform the extra duty required to keep our shop running."

Murphy, a 21-year veteran, is a former active duty Marine who has spent his entire career instructing troops on the use of weapons. The Springfield resident spends civilian days as a project engineer at Pratt and Whitney.

According to his SP commander, Monopoli is the prime example of the "working cop."

"Sergeant Monopoli is where the rubber meets the road," Summerlin said. "He is out there working the beat and dealing with the public. He earned his award through dedicated, consistent hard work."

Monopoli is a eight-year veteran who has been at Westover since 1993. As a civilian, he is a police officer in Worcester, Mass.

Monopoli was unavailable for photo.



COPPING AWARDS -- SMSgt. Tim Murphy, left, superintendent of the 439th SPS CATM shop, has been named Outstanding Combat Arms Training and Maintenance Manager for the Air Force Reserve. He is shown with SSgt. Michael Campanik, a member of the CATM staff.

Students may apply for Chiefs' Council scholarships

Once again this year, Westover's Chiefs' Council is offering scholarships to students who have connections to the base.

CMSgt. Larry Lose, who heads the scholarship committee, said 10 grants, worth \$350 each will be awarded to students who are either dependents of current 439th AW enlisted reservists or who are reservists themselves. Other members of the committee are CMSgt. Vince Viglione, CMSgt. Mike Winter and

CMSgt. Paul Mersincavage.

To be eligible, candidates must be either accepted by or currently attending an accredited college or university and must be carrying a minimum of six credit hours per semester.

Lose added that "if a potential recipient is entering college, he or she must have maintained a scholastic rating of a 'B' average or better during their senior year of high school. If presently attending college, candidates must have a cumulative

average of at least 2.75."

Anyone wishing to apply for one of the scholarships must submit an autobiography to include outside activities, scholastic and extra curricular activities.

Cut-off date for applications is July 13. Award presentations will be made at a dinner at the Westover Club on Aug. 10. Application forms are also available in unit orderly rooms.

439TH AIRLIFT WING WESTOVER CHIEFS' COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Student name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Age: _____ School attended: _____

Class standing: _____ Scholastic rating: _____

College desired/attending: _____

Address: _____

Date accepted: _____ Major course selected: _____

Name of 439th AW reservist/parent: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Unit assigned: _____ Rank: _____

Length of service: _____ Length of service in 439th AW: _____

Attachments:

1. Autobiography of student
2. Recommendation from school official
3. Most recent transcript
4. Council Application form

Mail applications to:

CMSgt. Lawrence B. Lose
439 CES/CEF
250 Patriot Avenue, Suite 2
Westover Air Reserve Base
Chicopee, Mass. 01022

Boyer leads fire department

by MSgt. Gordon A. Newell

It has taken Phil Boyer 23 years, but he has finally reached to top of the ladder.

Boyer was appointed chief of the Westover Fire Department in January, capping a career he began in 1974 when he joined the department.

Boyer actually started his long journey in 1967 when he enlisted in the Air Force. His first assignment was as an apprentice firefighter at Columbus, Miss. He also served at Tainan AB, Taiwan.

Boyer left firefighting for a brief time after leaving active duty but returned in 1972 when he joined the Ludlow, Mass. department.

"I'm very pleased to have been selected as chief of this department. We have a great group of people here and I'm looking forward to working with them in the future," Boyer said.

The Westover fire department consists of 63 civilian and 45 reserve firefighters who operate two pumper trucks, four crash trucks and several other pieces of firefighting equipment.

"Phil has paid his dues in getting to the top of his profession and I'm sure he will provide good, strong leadership for Westover's department," said Col. Franklyn Senft, commander of the 439th Support Group.

Boyer replaces Wayne Dukes who moved to Patrick AFB, Fla. after serving as chief here from June 1995.



Chief Phil Boyer

50
YEARS
USAF

Out of the Blue

1947
★
★
★
★
1997



A YOUNG WESTOVER PILOT BY THE NAME OF LT. GAIL HALVORSEN BECAME KNOWN AS THE "CANDY BOMBER" AND "UNCLE WIGGLY WINGS". IN 1948, AT THE START OF THE BERLIN AIRLIFT HE WOULD ROCK HIS C-54'S WINGS AS HE FLEW OVER DROPPING CANDY TO THE WAITING GERMAN CHILDREN BELOW.



IN MAY 1987 THE OFFICIAL DECISION WAS MADE TO STATION 16 C-5A GALAXYS AT WESTOVER. THEIR ANTICIPATED ARRIVAL BROUGHT AN OUTPOURING OF SUPPORT AND PROTEST.



TSgt. W.C. Pope

Coffee break

JAVA TO GO -- Reservists from the NMCB 27 Seabee unit at Westover enjoy the convenience of the new Dunkin' Donuts shop located at the Base Exchange.

The shop opened in December, and is open from 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and on UTA weekends.

Customer focus training class

Westover's Center for Excellence continues its commitment to quality with a new course — Customer Focus Training.

The two-day course was put together by a working group chartered by the Wing Quality Council. Students learn the importance of customer care through a combination of video, lecture, student interaction, and a "shopping exercise."

According to CMSgt. Kathy Wood, quality technician, the shopping exercise not only allows students to gather information from real customer-supplier situations, but the exercise generates a "report card" which provides feedback to the supplier.

"The suppliers will be rated on responsiveness, job knowledge, good service or product, attitude and how they represent their organization," Wood explained. The report cards will be shared in class and forwarded to the group commander for praise or instruction.

Wood said the course is designed for everyone. "We all have customers and we are all customers," she said.

Remaining course dates for fiscal year 97 are: March 12 - 13, May 21 - 22, July 16 - 17, and Sept. 17 - 18. To sign up, or inquire about the class, contact Chief Wood at 557-2273.

Uniform items phase-out dates

Last Date	Uniform Item
1 Jan 97	Long and Short Sleeve Blouse with Fly-Front Closure w/rounded collar
1 Jul 97	OD 107/507 Olive Green Field Jacket
1 Oct 97	Embroidered Badges and Specialty Insignia Worn on Dress Uniform
1 Oct 97	Women's Mess Dress Blouse
1 Oct 97	Aircrew Style Name Patch on BDU's
1 Oct 97	Women's Service Dress Hat (White & Blue)
1 Mar 98	Men's & Women's Single-Breasted all weather coat
1 Oct 98	Satin and Oxidized Finish belt tip and buckle
1 Oct 98	Satin and Oxidized Finish Badges & Specialty Insignias
1 Oct 98	Miniature highly polished and chrome finish Badges and Specialty Insignia, except wings and Missile Badges
30 Sep 99	Service Dress Coat, Shade 1598 (Polyester Double Knit)
30 Sep 99	Service Dress Coat, Shade 1608 (Polyester Wool Tropical)



Travelers pay in advance for AF lodging

Without a valid credit card, travelers must pay for lodging in advance with cash or check.

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — Individual travelers staying in Air Force lodging must now provide a valid credit card at check in or be required to pay in advance with cash or check for anticipated room charges.

This new policy applies to Air Force reservists in man-day (per diem) status but does not apply to those in agency billed groups, such as unit training assemblies, annual tours and additional flying training periods.

Credit card holders have three options of payment, according to Lynda Mikanowicz, chief of the military support branch in Headquarters Air Force Reserve's Directorate of Services.

Advance payment allows credit card guests to check out without visiting the front desk, unless they have telephone and sundry sales charges.

Cardholders who plan to pay at check out have their credit card number and its expiration date entered into the lodging facility's computer either at the time the reservation is made or at check in. Travelers sign a guest registration form when they check in, and can pay by credit card, cash or check when they check out.

Long-term guests have the option at check in to pay by cash, check or credit card. If paying by cash or check, they must pay the entire amount for the number of nights they are staying. If paying by credit card, they must pay every 30 days.

"The third option should eliminate concerns about the less than 45 day temporary duty periods where members cannot obtain an interim advance from the accounting and finance office," Mikanowicz said. "Regardless of what day of the month they check in, by guaranteeing payment with a credit card, they may elect not to be charged for 30 days. (AFRES News Service.)"



PATCHING THINGS UP -- Security policeman SSgt. Charles Gablaski shows off some of the 700-plus military patches he had collected from around the world. Some of his most prized patches include those of units that no longer exist at Westover, C-5 patches and cruise missile patches. His most treasured patch, however, comes from Kadena, Japan. Gablaski stores his patches in two duffel bags -- under tight security. (photo by TSgt. W.C. Pope)

Federal employees pay lodging taxes

The General Services Administration (GSA) has issued a reminder that most states require federal employees to pay state and local taxes on their lodging bills during official travel.

The only states which grant exemptions to state and local lodging taxes are New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Florida, Oklahoma and Oregon. In addition, some California cities, including

Los Angeles and San Francisco offer exemptions.

Use of a government-issued American Express Card does not exempt federal employees from paying state and local taxes on lodging. However, in states and municipalities which grant exemptions, vendors may require use of the card to receive the exemption.

Patriot People

Name: Brian Mortimer
Rank: TSgt.
Age: 37
Address: Poestenkill, N.Y.
Unit: 439th CES
Position: Firefighter
Civilian position: Corrections officer
Favorite food: Roast beef
Years of service: 18
Favorite sport: Baseball
Favorite hobby: Collecting beer steins
Ideal vacation: Florida with family
Best way to relax: Listening to radio
Preferred entertainment: Watching movies
Favorite hero: Father
Favorite music: Easy listening
Favorite movie: *Clear and Present Danger*
Favorite aircraft: C-5
Pet peeve: Rude people



SSgt. Vm Blanchard

TSgt. Brian S. Mortimer

Patriot Praises

Enlistments

SSgt. Sheeran, Joanna O.
 SrA. Brooks, Darren B.
 SrA. Chapp, Richard D.
 SrA. Tonge, Donald M., Jr.
 A1C Foley, Paul M.
 A1C Sherblom, Jason G.
 A1C Thong, Jean Siew Lin
 AB Owen, Rickey L., Jr.

Reenlistments

MSgt. Jamieson, Ralph A.
 MSgt. Jason, Neal A.
 MSgt. Keay, James H.
 MSgt. Lendzioszek, Dennis R.
 MSgt. Whitehead, Jeffrey A.
 MSgt. Yost, Kathleen M.
 TSgt. Hoyt, Scott A.
 TSgt. Lau, Scott W.
 TSgt. MacIntyre, John D.
 TSgt. Moynihan, Edward T.
 TSgt. Myhaver, Glenn L.
 TSgt. Nadeau, Philip W.
 SSgt. Conover, Mark S.
 SSgt. Daniels, Thomas J.
 SSgt. Davis, Blair, J. E.
 SSgt. Felton, James M.
 SSgt. Gauntt, Kevin P.
 SSgt. Huther, Russell F., Jr.
 SSgt. Ormerod, Wesley A.
 SSgt. Paris, Stephen A.
 SSgt. Stebbins, Henry J., III
 SrA. Lazar, Shawn J.
 SrA. McCarty, Metta L.
 SrA. Malbaurn, Norman R.
 SrA. Mycek, Arkadiusz J.

PA staffers capture AFRES media awards

Four members of the 439th Airlift Wing Public Affairs staff are first place winners in this year's Air Force Reserve media contest.

All first place winners in all individual categories are automatically entered in the Air Force-wide contest which is being judged this month.

In addition to the individual winners, the PATRIOT is the third place winner in

the small funded newspaper category.

First place winners include: **Capt. Paul Koscak**, Commentaries; **MSgt. Sandi Michon**, Feature Articles; **TSgt. W.C. Pope**, Illustrative Art and **SSgt. Christine Mora**, News Articles.

In addition, Koscak finished second for Print Journalist of the Year and Mora was selected second in the Commentary category.

Security police convert to active duty from page 1

Active Guard Reserve status.

"I want to emphasize that this action affects only security police positions and no other positions on base," Czekanski said.

Norm Lorange, Chief of Westover's Civilian Personnel, said steps have already been taken to freeze all vacancies which can be used for placement of any displaced personnel.

"We will also request Voluntary Early Retirement Authority and Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay to minimize disruption," Lorange said. VSIP, he explained, is commonly referred to as the separation bonus or 'buyout.'

A mock RIF will be conducted in August 1997, to gauge the impact and determine what other actions management may need to take to further minimize the impact of the RIF.

In addition to the security police conversion, the following actions are currently in process:

1. A reduction-in-force for five civilian positions in the transportation section and one Air Reserve Technician slot in the Medical Group. Lorange said he expects to place all affected employees in other available vacancies.

2. A reduction of 20 positions will occur in the civilian personnel office during the first quarter of Fiscal Year 98.

"We have been filling positions with temporaries and freezing vacancies for the past seven months to minimize the impact of these losses as well," Lorange said. "With the attrition we are experiencing and current anticipated vacancies, there should be minimal disruption to the work force outside of civilian personnel," he said.

Looking to the 21st century

“Global Engagement: A Vision for the 21st Century Air Force,” is one of the hottest topics in today’s Air Force, and I believe enlisted members will play a vital role in its success. Simply put, global engagement is the Air Force’s commitment to provide America the air and space capabilities to deter aggression, and to fight and win wars.

Success in implementing the new vision depends on the people who make up the Air Force now and into the first quarter of the 21st century. We need to shape the future of what the enlisted force is going to look like as we go into the 21st century. Understanding the vision of air and space power that covers all aspects of the Air Force—people, capabilities and support structures—is understanding who we are and where we fit into the big picture of the Air Force.

Editorial

Air Force leaders agree that creative and innovative people are the foundation for the success in the future of the Air Force and that all its members must understand the Air Force as a whole, in addition to mastering their own specialties.

The future will require the force to think on a broader scale and outside of their own career fields. In order to effectively and efficiently operate in the future, the Air Force must be flexible and think outside the stovepipes.

Enlisted members must understand the six core competencies in order to realize the vision. The core competencies are: air and space superiority; global attack; rapid global mobility; precision engagement; information superiority and agile combat support.

To achieve our vision, we must recruit and retain the highest caliber force possible. In addition to helping our recruits learn the core competencies we must instill in them a culture of integrity, service before self and excellence in all we do.

by CMSgt. ERIC W. BENKEN
Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force

928th Airlift Wing leaves legacy of safety

As we take down the flag of the 928th Airlift Wing, it is important to focus on what their legacy means to the Air Force Reserve. For the past 50 years, reservists at Chicago-O’Hare served their country in war and peace. Their lasting legacies include a professionalism inherent in their motto “Deeds Not Words,” and an unparalleled safety record. In nearly 50 years of service, they never suffered a Class A or B flying accident. Flying, maintaining and supporting airplanes is an inherently

risky business.

To achieve this unmatched safety record is nothing short of remarkable. But I know their secret. They adopted safety as a value, to be ingrained into every activity and action, cultivating it carefully and never taking it for granted. The rest of us can follow their leading — always making safety a priority.

by Maj. Gen Robert McIntosh
Commander Air Force Reserve

Briefs

Sgt’s Association offering scholarships

Air Force Reservists or members of their families who are currently attending or who plan to attend college are eligible for scholarships being offered by Chapter 109 of the Air Force Sergeant’s Association.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- be graduated from a secondary school and entering first year of college;
- be a college student in good standing and up to 26-years-of-age;
- have a parent, grandparent or guardian who is a member of the AFA/or Auxiliary.

Chapter 109 is offering two \$500 scholarships. Applications and further information are available from Senior Enlisted Advisor CMSgt. Chris Menard at Ext. 2214, Al Cosgrove at (413) 593-3313 or Charles Catania at (413) 593-9751.

Suggestions pay

Westover’s Suggestion Awards Committee approved a total of \$1,650 for six ideas recently.

The biggest award was for \$750, another got \$350, a third \$175 and a fourth \$125.

None of the suggesters was guaranteed a cash award but took a chance and hit big. Anyone interested in submitting a suggestion should ask for an AF Form 1000 at Civilian Personnel in Building 1850 and return it to 439 AW/DPCE. Further information is available from Susanne M. Schmidt at Ext. 2355.

UTA dates

March ORI dates
March 1 - 7

April UTA
A UTA 5 - 6
B UTA 19 - 20

WHERE DO THE 2,752 WESTOVER RESERVISTS COME FROM?



Recycling update

by Lt. Col. Rick Dyer

The Patriot Wing turned more of its trash into treasure in 1996.

Figures recently compiled by base engineers indicate that Westover recycled 100 tons of cardboard, 27 tons of wood and four tons of glass, metal and plastic during the past year. According to base officials, these numbers mean that the recycling bins located in industrial shops and offices here have been paying environmental dividends.

"The program is working well," said Jim Kelly, an environmental engineer at Westover. He noted that as a result of the recycling program, the base was only required to send 765 tons of solid waste to the landfill in 1996.

This figure represents a 34 per cent reduction from the 1164 tons of trash which Westover dumped just four years ago.

Kelly added that the base wants to be even more environmentally friendly in 1997. "Our goal this year is to achieve a 50 per cent reduction of our 1992 solid waste tonnage," he said.

Kelly credited increased public awareness as the major reason for the recycling effort's success. "We're all becoming more conscious of what should be thrown away and what should be recycled. That's a very positive result," he added.

PATRIOT



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