439TH AIRLIFT WING . AIR FORCE RESERVE . WESTOVER ARB

VOLUME 25, NUMBER 7

JULY 1998



FIELDING PATIENTS — TSgt. Joseph Fitzgibbon, 337th Airlift Squdron flight engineer, applies a splint to the right arm of a simulated casualty, as

patients were treated and triaged out in Dogpatch to respond to the Team Yankee medical scenario. Team Yankee was held at the base in May and

Team Yankee exercise celebrates two 'firsts'

by MSgt. Tom Allocco

The latest round of Team Yankee exercises combined old-fashioned hot, dirty work and the next generation of new technology, as medical teams went to the field-during the May "B" UTA. to test their ability to save lives.

The annual Team Yankee field training hosted by Westover's medical specialists introduced two "firsts." This year's scenario called for a C-17 to perform a simulated aeromedical evacuation and for medical specialists to field test the newly development.

oped TRAC2ES system which electronically tracking the flow of patients from battlefield to hospital. (See page 8.)

The Charleston C-17, under the command of former Patriot Wing Maj. Keith Guillotte, backed up to the Dogpatch Battalion Aid Station (BAS) to load ambulatory and litter casualties. After several hours in the air, the causalities were delivered to a simulated Medical Treatment Facility in the Base Hangar. Team Yankee participants believe it was the first time the aircraft performed an aeromedical evacuation in an exercise. Also adding realism to

Team Yankee were a Niagara Falls C-130 and Army National Guard Huey helicopter from Otis Air National Guard Base on Cape Cod.

"The assignment of the C-17 shows the strength and prestige that the Team Yankee exercises here have earned over the years," said CMSgt. Mark Gilyard, 439th ASTS medical services superintendent.

Transportation Command observers also took a special interest in Team Yankee when it provided the first field evaluation of their electronic TRAC2ES. The system pro-

(continued on pages 6 and 7)

Troops back from the desert

LANDING ON THE AIR — After four months in Kuwait, SSgt. Matthew M. Pinaradi is re-united with his wife Christine who is pregnant with their first child which is due in August. The couple is interviewed at Westover by Ray Hershel from Channel 40 News.





SSgt. Andy Reite

WELCOMED WITH OPEN ARMS

— Thirty-eight members of the 820th Security Forces Group at Westover, file off a C-5 after four months duty in Kuwait where they provided air base security. After 110-degree heat, the New England climate was cool, but welcome-home embraces (below) were very warm.

SSgt. Andy Reitano



"This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *PATRIOT* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force."

"The content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 439th Airlift Wing, Westover Air Reserve Base. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated."

439th AW Commander
Brig. Gen. James D. Bankers
Chief of Public Affairs
Gordon A. Newell
Wing Public Affairs Officer
Capt. Michael Franco
Public Affairs Specialist
Monica M. Lindberg
NCOIC/Co-editor
MSgt. Gordon A. Newell
Deputy NCOIC/Editor

MSgt. Sandi Michon

Deputy NCOIC MSgt. Tom Allocco Photo Editor SSgt. Vin Blanchard

Staff

Capt. Jim Bishop
TSgt. William C. Pope
SSgt. Kimberly A. Babin
SSgt. Charlie Cangemi
SSgt. Christine Mora
SSgt. Nancy Robbins
SSgt. Andrew Reitano

SSgt. Andy Reitano

Great New England Airshow to feature array of aircraft

by SSgt. Christine Mora

Westover will put out an aeronautical smorgasbord for aircraft enthusiasts when the base hosts the 1998 Great New England Airshow Sept 12-13.

"Because 1998 is the 50th anniversary of the Air Force Reserve, we are hoping to make this airshow something special," said Lt. Col. Dan Nichols who is in charge of lining up military aircraft for the show. "We are still trying to get a B-2 bomber for either a static display or a flyby but they are limiting their appearances this year. We also hope to get an F-117 stealth fighter."

The U. S. Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron's Thunderbirds and their F-16s will perform precision aerial maneuvers demonstrating the capabilities of Air Force high performance aircraft.

Close to 100 aircraft will be on display including the C-5, F-15, B-52, F-4U, UH-1 and the B-1.

"We are planning a fast-paced show," said Nichols. "We try to have something going on at all times to entertain the crowd. We will also have numerous displays in the base hangar as we have in the past."

The British Parachute Regiment Free Fall Team, the Red Devils, will appear and aerobatic Mike Goulian will return to Westover this year. They will be joined in the air by a sailplane aero routine, F-104 Starfighters and L-39 Russian jets.

Warbirds decorating Westover's runway will include the B-17, B-25, C-54, P-51 and PBY. Visions of the famed Red Baron will fill the air when the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome, a living museum of early aviation, will re-enact a World War I dogfight between a Fokke DR-1 triplane and a Sopwith Camel or a Nieuport II. Spectators will also jump a few decades in history to witness a MiG-15/F-86 dogfight.

There is no admission charge for the open house and gates will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For security and safety, coolers, bicycles, rollerblades and skateboard are not allowed on the flightline.

Those interested in more information about the airshow can visit the airshow website at www.gneas.com/airshow.htm.



UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL — The Great New England Airshow is the place to be to view a wide variety of aircraft, both on the ground and in the air. This year's airshow is September 12 - 13.

Mock disaster provides real training



TRAINING IMPACT — Dummy passengers fly out the sprung rear door of a mini-van as it is struck by a freight train in a simulation at Westover as part of a course for law-enforcement officers and a drill for emergency responders. The crash, held in May by Conrail, was in conjunction with a two-day course to dozens of law-enforcement officers on how to reconstruct train accidents.

Photo by SSgt. Andy Reitano

MSgt. Sandi Micho

Employer appreciation days set for October

by MSgt. Gordon A. Newell

The 439th Airlift Wing will conduct its annual Employer Appreciation Days in October this year.

Reservists will have the opportunity to invite their bosses to spend a day at Westover and to participate in an orientation flight aboard a unit C-5A.

Reservists who normally drill on the A Unit Training Assembly are asked to invite their boss on Oct. 3 while those who drill on the B UTAs should bring their supervisors on Oct. 17.

Brig. Gen. James D. Bankers, commander of the 439th AW urges all reservists to take part in the program.

"Employer Appreciation Days are very important to the success of the Air Force Reserve. Without the cooperation and understanding of employers, the AFRC cannot complete its mission," he said. "We must let your employers know that your participation here is vital to the defense of this country."

Employers should report to the Westover Club no later than 9 a.m. Gen. Bankers will kick off the day with a short briefing and question and answer period.

The highlight of the day will be an orientation flight for employers starting at 10:30 a.m. Reservists are also encouraged to invite their boss to visit their reserve work site.

Each reservist may invite just one boss or supervisor. Only reservists assigned to the aircrew will participate in the flight.

To make reservations, reservists must fill out the form below and return it to the Public Affairs office. Further information is available at the Public Affairs office, Ext. 3500.

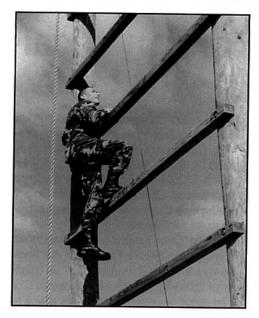
EMPLOYER APRECIATION DAY APPLICATION

Reservists's name, rank and unit:					
Reservist's home address:					
Reservist's daytime telephone number:					
Employer's name and title:					
Employer's company name:					
Choice of UTA:					
Oct. 3 (A UTA)					
I understand that I may nominate one person annually, and only an individual who is my supervisor, foreman, manager, etc.					
Signature:					
(Falsification of information on this form can be punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.)					

Return this form to:

439th Airlift Wing/ Public Affairs, 100 Lloyd St., East Wing, Suite 103 Westover ARB, Mass. 01022-1825 fax: (413) 557-2011, for information, call: (413) 557-3500

Personal Data Privacy Act 1974 (U.S.C. 552a)



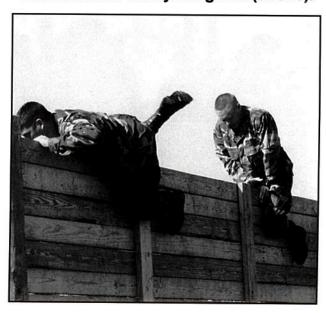


ROTC camp grooms future officers

photos by SSgt. Andy Reitano

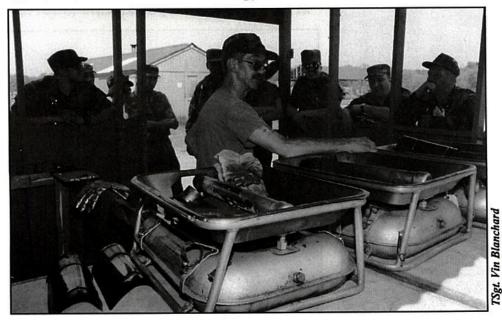


TESTING THEIR METTLE — Westover became home for most of the month of June to 284 ROTC students from 99 different colleges across the country. For the second year, Westover is a training location for the AFROTC Field Training Encampment. The encampment encompasses a rigorous schedule which is demanding both physically and mentally. In the top left photo, a cadet aims for the sky as he struggles to the top of the 'high climb.' At left, a cadet maneuvers through a low-crawl course, and two cadets (below) go up and over the wall. Even recreation fuels the drive to excel as ROTC teams vie for victory in an outdoor volleyball game (above).





BED AND BREAKFAST — Patients (above) are transported to the Base Hangar which served as a Team Yankee simulated medical treatment facility. SSgt. Gerald Sedelow, of Services, demonstrates an M-2 burner in a field kitchen in Dogpatch.



Team Yankee to and medical tra

vided instant reference on location and condition of patients from the BAS to Ramstein AB, Germany, the final destination simulated by the Westover Clinic. The Clinic's 439th MDS medical specialists conducted their normal UTA activities while also activating their command post and tracking patients for the exercise.

The Team Yankee series of events was a graduation exercise for 26 new Air Force, Army and Navy emergency medical technicians following nine months of classes here. The series of combat events was also a rehearsal of skills and techniques for Patriot Wing medical specialists. This year's exercise, involving about 450 people, was supported by Marines and other joint service teams, and was under the overall command of Marine Corps Reserve Col. Gerald Boyle.

The scenario pitted joint service teams against an aggressive Southwest Asia country attacking its neighbors.

The introduction of new technology didn't make the work any easier for medical specialists who sweated under a hot sun hefting litters and running from patient to patient to provide care. The heat, dust, roar of aircraft engines and stress of hustling to shave time off delivery of medical care tested the endurance of participants.

This year's exercise included Services members who set up a field kitchen to provide hot meals. They also trained in the Services' role of providing mortuary operations in the field.

In the Base Hanger, the medical specialists worked with intense concentration to stabilize casualties, check them for weapons and perform paperwork chores and assign patients to care areas.

"We have to be self-sufficient to provide care, food and supplies, such as dressing and special dietary needs, for when they leave. We have to move fast to get them out quickly because we don't know how many more casualties are coming," said Lt. Col. Karlene Devine, 439th ASTS clinical nurse.

SMSgt. Frances DeFazio, medical services superintendent, who served in Saudi Arabia during Desert Storm, rated the exercise "a good example of teamwork and good experience for the newer troops to see what the mission is all about. It involves speed and

W.C. Pope

sts new aircraft king equipment

accuracy but you have to be thorough so you're not backlogged. There's a lot of things to remember."

The next National Registry Emergency Medical Basic Program on base will offer UTA classes from next October to May. For information on enrollment, call Capt. Adele Sorak, 439th AES flight nurse, at extension 2508.

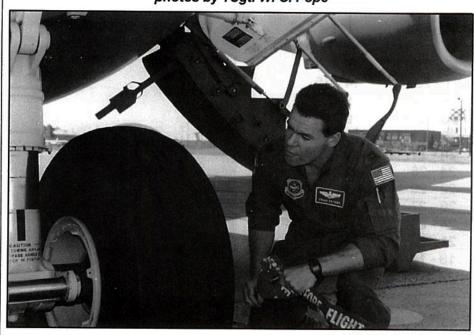
PATIENT OFFLOAD — Team Yankee members evacuate patients off the C-17 responding to the three-day medical training exercise that also tested new patient configuration on the aircraft.



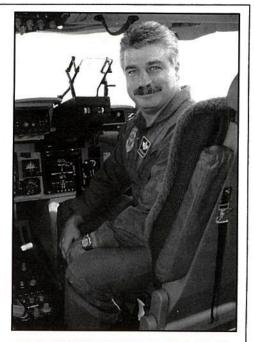
Sgt. Vin Blanchard

Exercise flies two C-17 pilots home

photos by TSgt. W. C. Pope



PRE-FLIGHT CHECK — Capt. Craig Peters, C-17 pilot, checks the landing gear prior to take-off. Peters and Guillotte, both former pilots at Westover, returned to the base in support of Team Yankee.



FLY AWAY HOME — Maj. Keith Guillotte, long-time C-5 pilot with Westover, commanded a Charleston AFB, S.C. C-17 in support of Team Yankee in May. The exercise tested the C-17 for aeromedical evacuation, and gave Guillotte a chance to catch up with family and friends.

Medics introduced to patient-tracking system

The 439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron is learning the intricacies of a new and complex patient tracking system known as TRAC2ES.

By SSgt. Charlie Cangemi

Members of Westover's medical units probably never thought they'd be surfing the Internet to track wartime casualties, but that's exactly what they did during last month's Team Yankee.

During the medical exercise the reservists tested out a new high-tech and complex patient tracking system known as TRAC2ES, which was recently developed for the Air Force by the U.S. Transportation Command to get casualties from the battlefield to the hospital as quickly as possible.

Short for "Transcom Regulating and Command & Control Evacuation System," TRAC2ES, which relies on communicating via the Internet, will allow the Air Force Reserve to track more efficiently the whereabouts of all war casualties as they leave the battlefield, receive treatment, and return to battle if possible.

The system will aid decision-makers in getting casualties to the right place in the least amount of time, ultimately saving lives.

"TRAC2ES moves patients through the system much more quickly, and medical personal know immediately all there is to know about the patient, so treatment will be faster," says Capt. Martha C. Shea, health services administrator.

The faster casualties receive treatment, medical personnel say, the better their odds for recovery.

Shea said that through TRAC2ES, the clinic was able to treat 27 litter patients plus five ambulatory patients, without interrupting the regularly scheduled physical examinations. "We treated an additional 35 patients, and thanks to the new tracking system, we had no problems doing it," she says.

The Carnegie Group, contracted by the U.S. Transportation Command created TRAC2ES. According to the Dale Roberts, the Carnegie Group's senior knowledge engineer, TRAC2ES will also be able to provide "in-transit visibility," which aid in patient movement forecasting and "lift-bed solution support." Roberts led several classes on the tracking system for Westover's medical personnel.

"Not only will casualties receive faster treatment, but those in the field will know their manning status at all times," he said.

Projected UTA schedule for FY 99

The following is the projected UTA schedule for FY-99 for Westover ARB and the geographically separated units.

	Α	В	85 APS	722 ASTS
October	3 - 4	17 - 18	17 - 18	17 - 18
November	7 - 8	21 - 22	21 - 22	14 - 15
December	5 - 6	12 - 13	5 - 6	5 - 6
January	9 - 10	23 - 24	23 - 24	9 - 10
February	6 - 7	20 - 21	20 - 21	6 - 7
March	6 - 7	20 - 21	20 - 21	6 - 7
April	10 -11	24 - 25	24 - 25	29 - 30
May	1-2	15 - 16	22 - 23	1 - 2
June	5 - 6	26 - 27	26 - 27	12 - 13
July	10 - 11	24 - 25	24 - 25	10 - 11
August	7 - 8	21 - 22	21 - 22	14 - 15
September	11 - 12	25 - 26	18 - 19	11 - 12

Holidays and other important dates:

12 Oct - Columbus Day

11 Nov - Veteran's Day

26 Nov - Thanksgiving

25 Dec - Christmas

18 Jan — Martin Luther King Day

15 Feb - President's Day

4 Apr - Easter

9 May - Mother's Day

31 May - Memorial Day

20 Jun - Father's Day

4 Jul - Independence Day

6 Sep - Labor Day



TAKING A BITE OUT OF CRIME

— Scott Martin plays the 'bad
guy' and is attacked by a German
Shepherd, as dog handler Joel
Wun watches from the background. The Mass./Conn. police
unit practice at Westover.

Fitness center muscles out the competition

by SSgt. Andrew Reitano

The Westover Fitness center has once again claimed the Air Force Reserve Command's top honor for the best fitness and sports program.

This marks the second consecutive time Westover has outperformed all other AFRC bases for this award.

"Winning this for a second consecutive time makes you feel great," said Mike Wysocki, fitness center specialist. "It's always harder to win something again, especially knowing how good we were last year and still make improvements. We have a lot of great programs here and we made them even better to win again."

With a facility and equipment that rivals high-cost gyms, the fitness center offers many options to get in shape, including: Nautilus equipment, free weights, a rock climbing wall, and numerous cardiovascular machines. To further improve the cardiovascular program, the fitness center moved the equipment into a larger area that not only provided more room for additional machines, but better ventilation. Three large screens TVs were also added.

By TSgt. W.C.Pope

By relocating the cardio equipment, the aerobics and martial arts program was able to expand and grow in the original cardio room.

If you want to practice your foul shot, a full-size basketball court is available, and two racquetball courts are at hand. Patrons can borrow basketballs, racquets and racquetballs from the front desk.

Building up and maintaining the top sports and fitness program in AFRC is something that comes naturally to the staff members.

According to Wysocki, a large part of the fitness center's success is based on the skill and dedication of its people. "We have the best trained staff in the command," said Wysocki. "We're customer service oriented and we accommodate our patrons by taking the extra step."

Wysocki also attributes the fitness center's success to its director, Jim Kelly, a retired chief master sergeant with 40 years of services experience. In turn, Kelly credits the excellent command support at all levels. "Without help from base agencies such as civil engineering, finance, and the other service reserve components on

"We have a lot of good programs here and we made them even better to win again."

Mike Wysocki fitness center specialist

base, many things would not have been possible," said Kelly. When the fitness center sponsored the haunted house in October 1997, the Marines were instrumental in the construction of the project. "We can't win without the help of these units," Kelly added.

Wysocki is already thinking about next year. "We're going to brainstorm and add new programs," he said. "Westover is an busy base and the tenant units here give us the opportunity to create unique programs to meet their mission needs, while enabling us to become more innovative."



Out of the Blue

Martha Soper, a flight nurse with the 439th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron was given the Bronze Star for her meritorious service while assigned to the 1610th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron in Cairo, Egypt, and Mogadishu, Somalia, May - July of 1993.

During these United Nation peacekeeping missions, 1st.Lt. Soper was exposed to sniper attacks, rocket grenades, mortar attacks and enemy raids while providing medical support for Operation Restore Hope.

n one occasion, Soper was a medical crew director on an Army CH-47 helicopter while airlifting 11 Moroccan casualties to the Mogadishu Airfield and then assisted the awaiting Moroccan aircrew to reconfigure their aircraft to take the wounded aboard for transport to Morocco.



Source: 439th Military Personal Career Enhancement

Patriot People

Name: Tony DeProspo

Rank: SSgt. Age: 32

Address: Boston, Mass.

Unit: 42nd APS

Position: Air Cargo Specialist Civilian position: Law student

Favorite food: Pasta Years of service: 9 Favorite sport: Baseball

Favorite hobby: Listening to music Ideal vacation: Visiting ball parks Best way to relax: In front of the TV

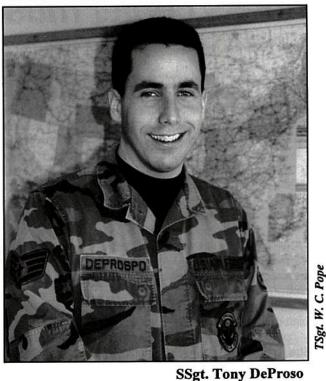
Preferred entertainment: Movies and time spent with girlfriend

Favorite hero: My father Favorite music: Beatles

Favorite movie: Field of Dreams

Favorite aircraft: C-130 Pet peeve: Clutter

What I would do if if I won \$1 million: Pay off school loans



Patriot Praises

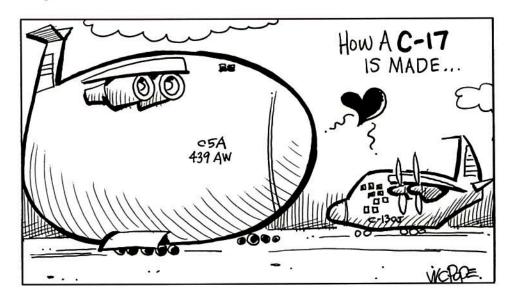
Enlistments

SSgt. Bubencik, James L. SSgt. Donahue, James P. SSgt. Riordan, William E. SrA. Mendez, Richard L. SrA. Prieto, Peter E., Jr. A1C Babcock, Cornelia A1C Brown, David H. A1C Defina, John S., Jr.

Reenlistments

CMSgt. Lose, Lawrence B. CMSgt. Wood, Kathleen M. SMSgt. Johnson, Mark G. SMSgt. Yarborough, Alec R. MSgt. Lane, Gary P. MSgt. Marten, Martha A. MSgt. Rampino, Joseph A. TSgt. Asselin, Jennifer F. TSgt. Bouchard, Virginia M. TSgt. Buehler, Albert P. TSgt. Burgess, Jon TSgt. Kelly, Francis X. TSgt. Michaud, Richard R. TSgt. Middleton, Jack W. TSgt. Paquette, Michael G. TSgt. Smith, Stephen J. TSgt. Yarnall, Carol A.

SSgt. Chapman, John R. SSgt. Circe, Raymond J. SSgt. Denault, Thomas J. SSgt. Dunfield, Michelle M. SSgt. Edwards, Dale A. SSgt. Fagullar, Corey E. SSgt. Grant, Richard J. SSgt. Haskell, Merton C. SSgt. Kelso, Donna J. SSgt. Lavigne, Jennifer A. SSgt. Mitchell, Amelia G. SSgt. Montanez, Joseph W. SrA. Guntor, Michael W. SrA. Tracey, Scott A. A1C Bennett, Chad C.



Awards and **Decorations**

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

Lt. Col. Dennis Manning 439 ASTS (third award) Maj. Nancy E. Gordon **722 ASTS** Maj. Thomas E. Henry **439 ASTS** CMSgt. Joseph A. Ilardi (second award) **722 ASTS** MSgt. Arthur E. Baer, Jr. **439 CES** MSgt. John H. Brames **439 CES** MSgt. Clifford Crawford **722 ASTS** MSgt. Theodore Durand, Jr. 439 CES MSgt. Miner L. Fyler **439 CES** MSgt. Joseph A. Guglielmo 722 ASTS (second award) MSgt. Robert C. Harmon **439 CES** MSgt. Joseph S. Lubrano **722 ASTS** MSgt. Rudolph A. Sobers **722 ASTS**

MSgt. John J. Wilson, Jr. **722 ASTS** TSgt. Kenneth R. Belanger 439 AGS

JULY 1998 PAGE 11

Cadets invade Westover

"Produce leaders for the Air Force and build better citizens for America." That's the mission of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC), and that's exactly what's been going on at Westover ARB the last month.

For the second year in a row, Westover has been the site of an AFROTC Field Training Encampment. This year's single camp was the largest ever, consisting of

COMMENTARY



Col. Richard Evans

284 young men and women from across the nation. Of the total 144 college AFROTC detachments, 99 of them had cadets represented at Westover. A staff of 40 officers and enlisted members were also hand picked from detachments in the Northeast Region.

I couldn't be more pleased with the Westover ARB support. Numerous agencies and individuals bent over backwards to support our mission, and were directly responsible for this encampment being a huge success.

Field training is the biggest step a cadet takes toward a commission in the United States Air Force. AFROTC students are competitively selected to attend during the summer between their sophomore and junior years in college. Without question, these

encampments are extremely demanding and challenging, both physically and mentally.

Cadets are up by 5:30 a.m. and their days are filled with physical training, drill, military training, and more PT. Upon successful completion, they are put on contract, which means they'll have 2nd lieutenant bars waiting for them immediately after college graduation.

I honestly believe this has been one of the toughest field training encampments ever conducted. But these cadets are up to the challenge in every way, and I couldn't be more proud of them. With these young men and women getting ready to be our future Air Force leaders, I'd say our country's future is in pretty good shape.

by Col. Richard G. Evans Westover '98 Field Training Commander



PASS AND REVIEW — Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets tour the C-5 during their three-week encampment in June.

Briefs

Decorations Board In need of volunteers

The Westover Awards and Decorations Board is expanding and seeks senior NCOs and commissioned officers to volunteer to help select reservists who are deserving of recognition.

The board will be composed of two senior NCOs and two officers and will meet on the following dates: July 12; Aug. 20 and Sept. 17. Board members will review awards and decorations packages and make recommendations.

Those who wish to volunteer may submit a letter requesting to be a board member addressed to Mrs. Ann Beebe, 439th MSS/DPMC. The letter must be endorsed by the volunteer's unit commander.

For further information, call SMSgt. Tammy Vezina, chief of Military Personnel Programs at ext. 3428 or Beebe at ext. 2953

Y2K help available

Y2K=The Year 2000. It has to do with what your computers will do when the clock turns to Jan. 1, 2000.

If you have newer systems this could be a non-event, but if you have older equipment we are not sure what will happen. The problem applies to any system you have that uses an internal clock run by a computer chip. AFRC has taken on the task of identifying these systems in use at Westover.

The Wing point of contact for this project is Scott Buchanan who may be reached at ext. 2228. He has been sending out e-mail on the subject because there is so much information in the system.

Each Group has assigned personnel to work Y2K and they are available to help you.

July UTA dates

A UTA July 11-12 B UTA July 25-26

Renovation of Building P-1900 to begin in the fall

by MSgt. Gordon A. Newell

U.S. Rep. John Olver paid a visit to Westover last month when he announced approved federal funding for the renovation of Building P-1900. Construction is scheduled for this fall.

The huge building, has housed, among other things, a top secret photo lab that was used to develop film shot from U-2 spy planes during the Cold War. Once renovation plans are completed, the facility will be a training center for Marine Corps reservists.

"This project adds value and versatility to Westover," said Brig. Gen. James D. Bankers, commander of Westover's 439th Airlift Wing, during a dedication ceremony. "It is critically needed for readiness, retention and equipment management."

"It makes good economic sense for Westover to become a complete training base that can provide taxpayers with the most efficient use of their tax dollars," he added.

In addition to federal money, the state of Massachusetts has promised to share the expense of the project, which is estimated to cost around \$10 million.

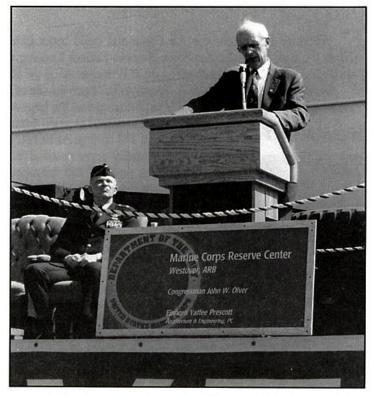
When complete, the building will house a training center for the Marines complete with offices, a motor pool and an armory. The Marines were relocated to Westover from the Naval Air Station at South Weymouth, which was closed in 1995.

Olver said the training center, along with Westover's location and resources, will help the base withstand two scheduled future base closings rounds before the year 2005.

"I think Westover is in a strong position to withstand two more rounds of closings," he said. "Increasing diversity of this base will only strengthen Westover's standing."

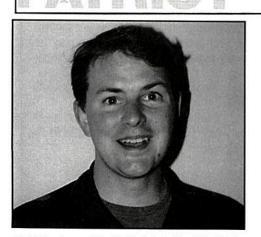
Maj. Richard E. Roa, site commander for the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing at Westover said he was pleased by the 500-member unit's move to Westover.

"This is a great facility," he said. "The quality of life here is much better than it was at South Weymouth.



CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL – U.S. Rep. John Olver, D-Mass. addresses audience during a ceremony held in front of Building P-1900 last month. Olver, a member of the House Appropriations Committee, announced that renovation of the building would begin in the fall. The building will be used as a training center for Marine Corps reservists. Brig. Gen. James D. Bankers, commander of the 439th Airlift Wing, is seated next to Olver.

Great New England Air Show September 12 - 13



Published monthly for Patriots like SSgt. Dale Edwards of Westfield, Mass., and 2,503 members of the 439th AW at Westover ARB, and geographically separated units.

439th AW/PA
WESTOVER AIR RESERVE BASE
100 Lloyd Street
East Wing, Suite 103
CHICOPEE, MA 01022-1825

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #43
CHICOPEE, MA