

PATRIOT

439TH AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER ARB

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JUNE 2000

Rodeo 2000: World's best showcase skills

Article and photos by Capt. James Bishop

POPE AIR FORCE BASE, N.C. —

Ten minutes before Westover's C-5 was due to take off for the air refueling event at Rodeo 2000, the generator on number three engine malfunctioned. If the crew didn't take off on time, they would lose up to 150 points in a competition where a few points can determine a winner.

Maintenance team members ran to the engine, fixed the problem, unchocked the plane and got the aircraft off a few minutes late for taxi, but right on time for takeoff.

Thirty-seven members of the 439th Airlift Wing spent eight days working hard and playing hard at the largest Air Mobility Rodeo ever, held here May 6-13.

Rodeo — a biennial, weeklong competition — focuses on testing and improving the skills of air mobility professionals.

More than 100 teams and more than 3,000 people from all over the world competed in Rodeo 2000.

Westover's 10-man maintenance team took first place for best C-5 pre-flight inspection, one of 18 events in five major areas of competition. Other teams — aerial port, aeromedical evacuation, aircrew, and security forces — performed well, but none took home trophies.

The flight crew scored a nearly perfect 1295 out of 1300 on their second air-refueling event, and lost only 25 points on their first refueling.

One of the highlights of Rodeo for Maj. Doug Gernhard, aircraft commander, was being the only team that didn't lose points on the actual air refueling.

For weeks before the event, maintenance crews extended their shifts four to five hours a day to make sure that the plane, "Lucky 13," was ready to compete.

On May 6, pilots Gernhard and 1 Lt. Richard Scheller landed the C-5 within seven seconds of scheduled arrival time, beating the requirement by 53 seconds and scoring a perfect 200 points.



PASS AND REVIEW — Members of the 439th stand with over 3,000 participants in Rodeo 2000 during the opening ceremony on Sunday, May 7. Gen. Tony Robertson, commander, Air Mobility Command and Maj. Gen. Silas "Si" Johnson, Rodeo commander, reviewed the troops prior to competition. —photo by MSgt. W.C.

The week of competition was marked by above-and-beyond team attitude, and by terrific team support at each other's events, commented Col. Martin Mazick, 439th Airlift Wing commander.

Rodeo began and ended with class.

During the opening ceremony, with all 3,000 participants in formation, 175 paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne at Fort Bragg jumped from transport aircraft flown by active duty, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve pilots.

Later in the ceremony, Gen. Tony Robertson, commander of Air Mobility

Command, told the participants, "This week is living proof that if the world calls tomorrow... with some far-off contingency, you'll be ready."

They were ready. During the combat rifle competition, the security forces team ran a short course wearing gas masks and hauling 40-pound packs in 90-degree heat, then stopped and fired M-16s at pop-up targets ranging from 50 to 300 meters away.

In another event, the aeromedical evacuation team had 90 minutes to reconfigure a bare C-130. Drenched in sweat after the first few

Continued on page 6

Well done, Westover!

During the month of May, I had the opportunity to see us in action and receive direct feedback from outside the wing as to how well we are doing. I spent one week with our R2K team at Pope AFB. Our aircrew, maintenance, aeromedical, aerial port, and security forces representatives did us proud. Not only did our team work long

hours and give their best; they learned, taught, made

Commentary

new friends and had fun.

What impressed me, and every-

one else watching, was our team's esprit and camaraderie.

The support each functional part gave to one another was outstanding! They were true ambassadors of our "Patriot Wing." They made me proud and showed the mobility world our best. And yes, we took home some hardware as our maintainers won "Best C-5 Pre-flight." WELL DONE!

On the "B" weekend I was able to see our folks in action again during Team Yankee. Our ASTS and Mission Support Squadron's PERSCO folks took the bold move to request their EORI during this annual exercise. They partnered with the 459th AES from Andrews (also receiving their EORI). They were supported by our own 439th AES, Services Squadron, Civil Engineers, 42nd APS and a host of other Westover folks as well as the multi-service Team Yankee players to meet the goals of an AMC IG inspection. Once again, we showed why we are the "Team of Choice." WELL DONE!

We also had the honor of being named the recipient of the Armstrong Trophy. This is 21st Air Force's award for the best Air Force Reserve unit. I have even received unsolicited feedback from an active duty colonel on the tremendous job our two radio operators from the 439th AES have done in Thailand during a major exercise there.

As you can see, people are watching and taking note when they observe good people doing good things. Whether you perform your job at Westover, or on the road, you are doing the right things and getting the mission accomplished. This is all any commander can ask for. WELL DONE!



by Col. Martin M. Mazick
439th AW Commander

PATRIOT

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Briefs

Quarterly award winners announced

Three Westover reservists and two civilian employees are base quarterly award winners.

Congratulations to the following personnel:

Airman: SRA Lesli A. Creighton, 439th MDS; *NCO:* TSgt. Scott M. Pashko, 337th AS; *Senior NCO:* MSgt. Anna P. Bradshaw, 439th MSS; *Officer:* Capt. Michael J. Barden, 439th AGS; *Civilian:* Eric R. Brown, 439th MXS; *Supervisor:* Catherine Volpe-Proctor, SPTG/DPC.

Disbursement option available for travel pay

Government travelers now have a disbursement option for travel pay, according to Dan McCarthy, Westover's Financial Services Officer.

Travelers may now elect to have all or a specified amount of their travel reimbursement sent electronically to their Bank of America VISA account, he explained.

"Members may elect this option by annotating block # 1 of the DD Form 1351-2, Travel Voucher, and specify a dollar amount or annotate 'all' in the space provided," he said.

The March 2000 electronic version of the DD 1351-2 is available at the following website: <http://web1.whs.osd.mil/icdhome/ddeforms.htm>

Emergency numbers

As of May 1, "911" replaces numbers 117 (fire, medical) and 116 (police) as the base emergency telephone number.

Dialing 911 will put callers in touch with the base fire department and security police. This change will streamline the base emergency call system.

July UTA schedule
A UTA July 8-9
B UTA July 22-23

Great New England
Air Show
August 12-13

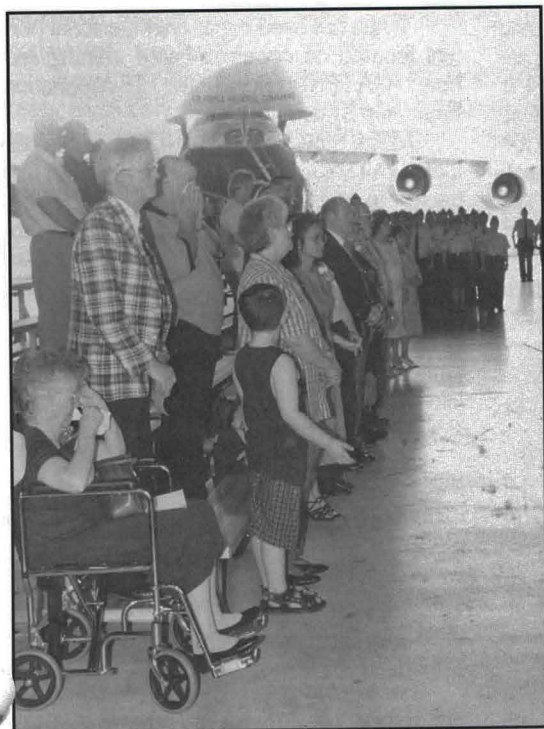


FAREWELL FORMATION — 439th Airlift Wing retirees listen to Col. Thomas Mauzaka, 439th vice commander at the Retiree Appreciation/Memorial Day ceremony held May 6.



ORDER ARMS — Members of the 439th Airlift Wing salute the retirees during a ceremony held in the base hangar in May.

Westover pays homage to retirees



REMEMBERING THE FALLEN — Family members of deceased Westover personnel weep as the memorial wreath is carried to the front of the formation during ceremonies in May.

by SSgt. Charlie Cangemi
Photos by MSgt. Sandi Michon

Illustrating how quickly things change, Col. Thomas Mauzaka, vice commander, put the retirees' careers in perspective at the 7th Annual 439th Airlift Wing Retiree Appreciation/Memorial Day ceremony on May 6, where 25 military and civilian retirees from Westover were honored.

"Someone entering service 20 years ago would have known the Soviet Union was the main adversary, the C-141 was a mainstay of the airlift squadron fleet, and Desert Storm would have been midway in his or her career," he said.

Standing in formation behind the seated retirees were the men and women of Westover, a symbolic representation of today and tomorrow's force. The ranks rendered a salute to the retirees, thanking them not only for their service, but also for all the years of experience these former senior members of the wing have passed on to today's reservists.

"You trained [the men and women in formation]," Mauzaka told the retirees, "This is your legacy and I know we are in good hands — you have done your job well."

Mauzaka added that the nation relies on the Air Force Reserve now more than ever, and it was the sacrifice and unselfish service of the retirees that has helped make the reserve an "indispensable part of the total force."

During the ceremony, retirees from the previous year were given certificates signed by Wing Commander Col. Martin M. Mazick and Chicopee Mayor Richard J. Kos. On behalf of the City of Chicopee, Kos thanked retirees for their "time, effort, and dedication to Air Force."

Lt. Col. Armand Tourangeau, who served as emcee, said that in observance of Memorial Day, a ceremonial wreath is placed in honor of deceased members of the wing.

The Chicopee High School band performed the national anthem and the Air Force Song for the attendees. Chaplain (Maj.) Richard Miesel gave the invocation.

58th Aerial Porters spend deployment in Japan

by Capt. John Mailo

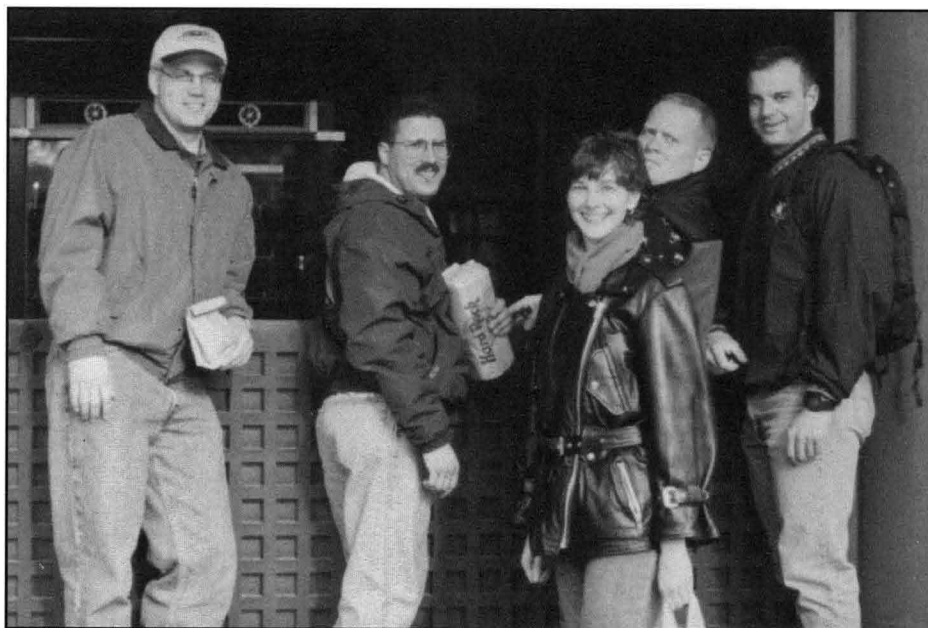
Photos courtesy of Capt. John Mailo

For one member of the 58th Aerial Port Squadron, the two-week deployment to Yokota AB, Japan was a homecoming. For most of the others, it was unknown territory.

SSgt. Stephen Winters, an air transportation craftsman, grew up at Yokota, while his father flew B-52 missions during the Vietnam War. "To say the base has changed in thirty-three years is an understatement," he said. "The wooden house we lived in is now gone. I am amazed at how much the place has changed."

Whether it was a rain-soaked flightline, the base of Mount Fuji, or the busy streets of Tokyo, the 58th Aerial Port Squadron made its presence known during their annual tour March 18 – April 2. Twenty-two 58th members worked alongside transporters of the 630th Air Mobility Support Squadron. The 630th is a premier training unit with state of the art facilities that affords supervisors the opportunity to assess and measure Aerial Porters' expertise and knowledge.

The large numbers of KC 10, C-130, C-17, C-141 and C-5 aircraft transiting Yokota AB allowed 58th personnel the opportunity to hone their skills and resolve potential problems with aircraft they normally never work



DOWN TIME DOWNTOWN — SSgt. William Palaia, SSgt. David Steiner, SSgt. Georgiana Steiner, SSgt. Gerald Leamy, and SSgt. Thomas Williams of the 58th APS, stand in front of a Japanese shrine in downtown Tokyo.

with. In addition, the variety of commercial cargo airframes, L-100, DC-10, MD-11, B-747, DC-8 provided excellent training for "porters" to rediscover skills that are not used on a daily basis at home station.

Yokota is the major en route station for all cargo and passengers transitioning the Far East. The 58th APS became fully integrated into the 630th for the entire deployment. They participated in the Air Terminal Operations Center, cargo preparation, ramp service, load planning and passenger/fleet service operations. Twelve-hour shifts, heavy early morning launches and late evening recoveries punctuated a full day of activities.

The 630th AMSS is the only en route Air Mobility Command unit undergoing force restructuring which provided the Westover group with an additional benefit. This new program incorporates Passenger and Aircraft/Fleet services under one control center. The air freight section, responsible for all cargo processing and ramp services, now adds load planning to the mix. The major change is a consolidated

Command and Control operation. The Air Terminal Operation Center is co-located with Command post and Maintenance controllers. Mission tracking from one location has a positive impact on all work centers.

When not handling aircraft the aerial porters focused on computer-based training and new (GATES) Global Air Transportation Execution System.

MSgt. Steven Charest, NCOIC explained that "GATES is a powerful new program that tracks in-transit visibility of all cargo within the Air Mobility Command system." It encompasses five key areas: decision support, passenger reservations, mission operations, system support and resource management.

"The training we received on GATES will pay off for our squadron as we move into the newly-renovated Hangar 3 facilities," he said.

MSgt. Kenneth Wolff, ramp supervisor, expressed his satisfaction with the amount of material handling equipment training. "From the first shift after orientation, our personnel were operating warehouse, fleet service, passenger service, and aircraft loading equipment." The only "wrinkle" for some was learning to drive on the left side of the road.

For most members of the 58th, the Yokota experience was a great tour and the consensus is that everyone will go back — if afforded the opportunity.



LITTLE BIT OF HOME IN A FAR-AWAY PLACE — (L-R) Capt. John Mailo, MSgt. Ken Wolf, SSgt. William Palaia, SSgt. Thomas Williams, and SSgt. David George pose in front of the Tokyo Hard Rock Café.

42nd Aerial Port Squadron deploys to Elmendorf

by SSgt. Charlie Cangemi

Twenty-four members of the 42nd Aerial Port Squadron from Westover deployed to Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, for a two-week annual tour in March.

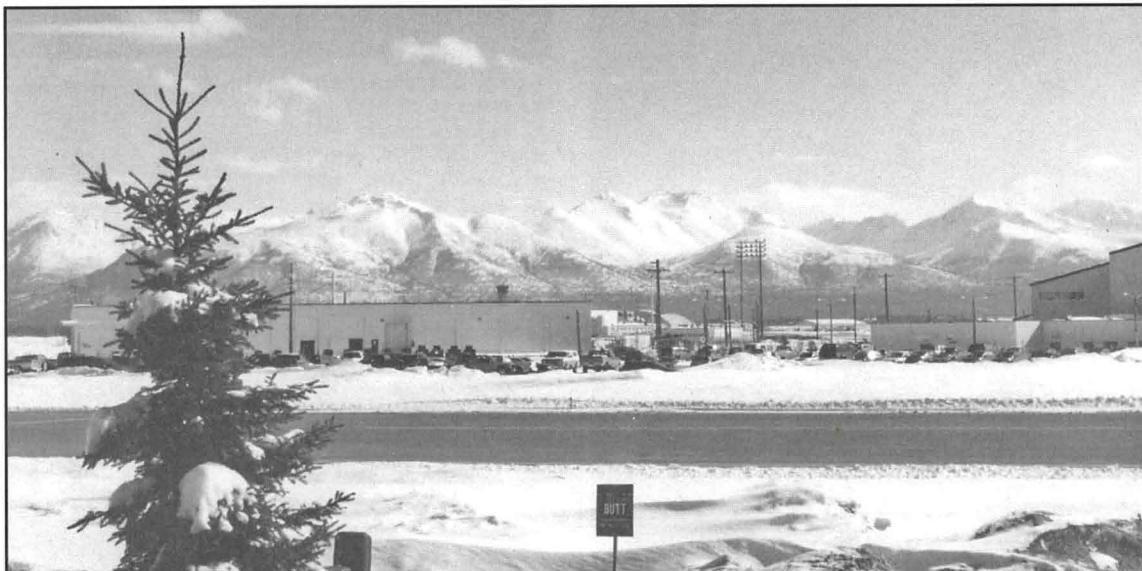
The team worked with Elmendorf's 632 AMSS to support the active duty mission and train in areas which a typical UTA weekend does not always offer, said 42nd APS First Sergeant Michael Brunnetti.

"We worked a lot with the HAZMAT cargo people," said Brunnetti, "HAZMAT cargo requires special handling techniques." The first sergeant explained that reservists practiced moving things like explosives, chemicals, medical supplies, and human remains.

Another significant training opportunity came when two reservists, TSgt. Richard Martin and TSgt. Steve Paris, were accepted into the 60K Operator's School and became certified operators.

Westover just received a 60K in early March, and several members from each of the three aerial ports need certification on the new equipment.

Reservists also gained experience tracking cargo and passengers using RGATES, or Remote Global Air Transportation Execution System. Once cargo and passengers are loaded on an aircraft, it's important



BREATHTAKING VIEW — Members of the 42nd Aerial Port Squadron took in the view of the snow-covered mountains behind Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.
—photo by MSgt. Michael Brunnetti

to track their whereabouts, especially during wartime. RGATES is one method used by the Air Force.

"The Air Freight Section was commended on their knowledge and professionalism while on the two week deployment," said MSgt. James F. Hniedzieko, Tour Team Chief.

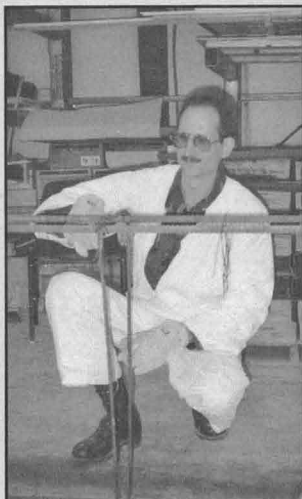
Although reservists called the deployment "typical," they said being in Alaska made it special.

"I'm not normally a picture-taker, but I couldn't keep my camera down because the scenery was so beautiful," said Brunetti, referring to the teeming wildlife and vegetation.

Engineers build at AF Academy

photos by
TSgt. Alan Bailey,
439th CES

FIRM FOUNDATION — TSgt. Mike Paquette assembles rebar cages for the foundation of a Field Engineering Research Lab at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.



CONCRETE CONNECTION — TSgt. Alan Bailey trowels concrete for the foundation of the Field Engineering Research Lab. Bailey was one of 13 reservists from the 439th CES who deployed to Colorado for two weeks in late March and early April.

Rodeo Roundup

—photos by Capt. James Bishop



CONFIGURED FOR CASUALTIES — TSgt. Nancy Clegg and SrA. David Brown rush to configure the C-130 in preparation for loading wounded troops. Once finished, the aircraft was equipped with everything needed to save and sustain lives.



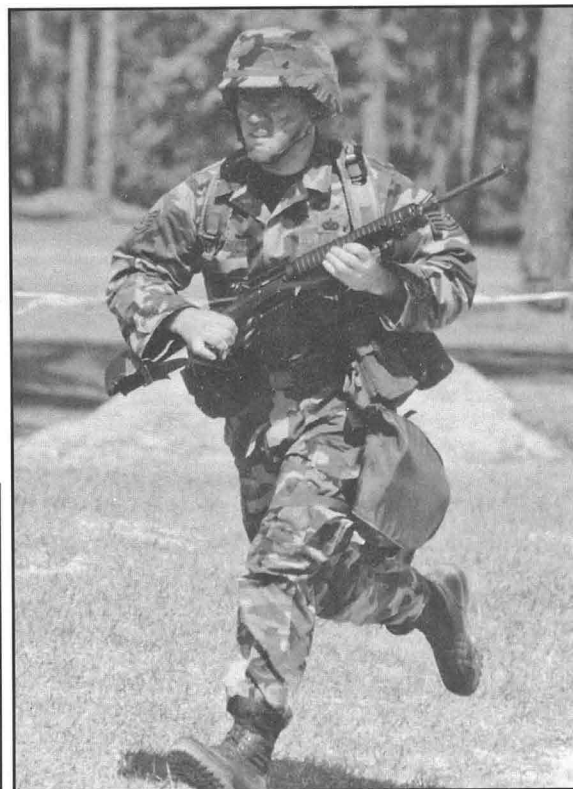
WALKING THE WOUNDED — Carrying a 125-pound litter, members of the 439th Aeromedical Evacuation Team emerge from a smoke-filled trench lined with barbed wire.



WILLFUL SUSPENSION — TSgt. Dan Witt from the 42nd Aerial Port Squadron struggles to hang on moments before he hangs and drops 50 feet into 20 feet of water.

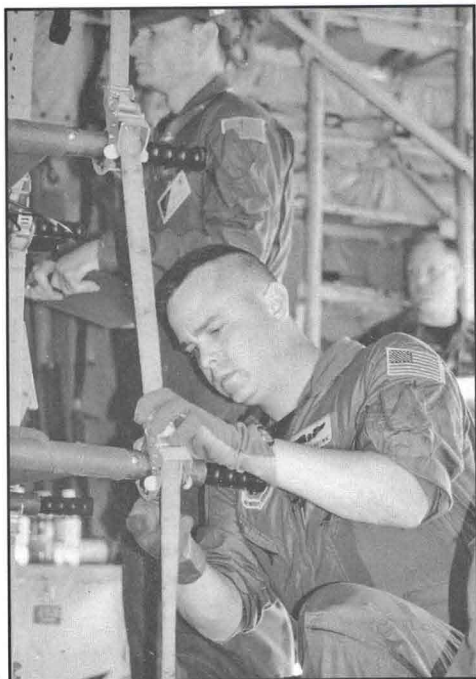


TIGHT SPOT — MSgt. Paul Gagnon marshals the Westover bird into a spot the professionals at Pope AFB had trouble with. Westover was the only team to willingly perform the 180 degree turn flawlessly.



HIT AND RUN — SSgt. Michael Bellerose sprints 125 yards during the Security Forces Combat Rifle Competition. They also fired M-16 rifles, donned gas masks, and shot wearing the masks, while carrying about 40 pounds of equipment on an unseasonably hot day.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE — A five-person security team uses land navigation skills to rescue a wounded troop. The team also practiced interacting with host-nation friendly forces and defending against sniper fire.



HASTY HOOKUP — SrA. Dave Brown, a member of the 439th Aeromedical Evacuation team, prepares a C-130 for loading litters with patients.



B-2 stand-in — Within minutes after arriving, MSgt. Paul Gagnon and TSgt. Bill Feltner put together a Westover-modified B-2 stand.

AMC Rodeo 2000

continued from page 1 ...

minutes, the team of five pulled off rollers "that felt like they had been super-glued," according to team member SrA. David Brown.

They quickly hooked up life-support systems and transformed the airplane into "a flying hospital," then loaded patients, said Lt. Col. Martha Stowe, the AE chief umpire.

"The good thing about this event is that it's exactly what they would be doing in wartime," Mazick said.

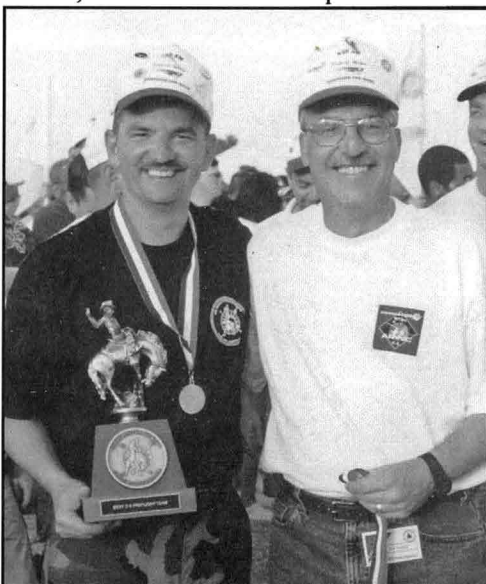
On May 7, the 10-man maintenance crew worked late into the night on the flight line, arriving at their hotel just before midnight. The next morning they got up at 2:30 a.m. to change two brake lugs and prepare for the 7:15 a.m. pre-flight event, which they won.

TSgt. Wilbert Feltner, a member of the maintenance team, said no one complained about the long hours. "Everyone's attitude was, 'What can I do to help?'" he said.

That was the standard attitude, said Maj. Vito Addabbo, 439th AW team commander. He added that it's been nice to see everyone work together, and to "get to share each other's joy and pain."

The competition was tough, and the inspectors looked close. One inspector spent an entire hour in the nose landing gear, and used a mirror to find a loose rivet.

Other write-ups are out of the competitor's control, such as when the aerial port team took



CONGRATULATIONS! — Col. Martin Mazick congratulates SMSgt. Mike Barrick, the maintenance team chief, on a job well done.



BEST C-5 PREFLIGHT TEAM — 439th Airlift Wing maintenance team moments after receiving their trophy, plaques and medals at a ceremony held in "Dodge City": (L-R) TSgt. Bob Ingerson, TSgt. Bob Smith, TSgt. Bill Richardson, TSgt. Joe Steffer-son, TSgt. Tim Skehan, (back row) MSgt. Paul Gagnon, Gen. Tony Robertson, commander of Air Mobility Command, SMSgt. Mike Barrick, TSgt. Bill Feltner, TSgt. Paul Barboza, TSgt. Glen Connon.

a 10-point hit because one of the Army truck drivers wasn't wearing ear protection on the flight line.

Using Army drivers to load trucks was a change that umpires thought brought a real-world flavor to the engine running, onload/offload competition.

During the competition, Westover's four aerial porters sprinted about 100 yards to the idling C-5, loaded and chained three trucks, then sprinted back to the starting point. Minutes later, they ran back to the aircraft and off-loaded the vehicles.

The team had to onload and offload in just seven minutes for a perfect score. After seven minutes, they lost one point per second. If a team took more than 12 minutes, the score would be zero. The 439th team completed the event in nine minutes.

Westover was one of 20 Reserve units to participate in Rodeo 2000.

Adding an international look to the event were teams from Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Egypt, France, South Korea, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.

Daytime temperatures during Rodeo oscillated between "unseasonably hot" and

record-breaking highs. Services trucks seemed to be everywhere, handing out 20-ounce water bottles. By event's end, they had handed out about 90,000 bottles, according to Don Fellers, Rodeo's director of support.

But the heat didn't stop the camaraderie. Just minutes after the maintenance team won the best pre-flight award, SMSgt. Mike Barrick, team chief, stood on a chair in the 439th tent area, held the trophy above his head, and said, "This isn't just for maintenance, this is for every Westover team here."



Westover rodeo team roster

439th Airlift Wing Commander
Col. Martin Mazick

Team Commander
Maj. Vito Addabbo

Public Affairs
Capt. James Bishop

Flight Crew
Maj. Douglas Gernhard
1Lt. Richard Scheller
MSgt. Thomas Durkin
MSgt. Robert Motley
TSgt. Todd Hold
TSgt. Todd Wesoloski
SSgt. Shawn Harris

Maintenance Team
SMSgt. Michael Barrick

MSgt. Paul Gagnon
TSgt. Paul Barboza
TSgt. Glenn Connon
TSgt. Wilbert Feltner
TSgt. Robert Ingerson
TSgt. William Richardson
TSgt. Timothy Skehan
TSgt. Robert Smith
TSgt. Joseph Stefferson

Aerial Port Team
42nd Aerial Port Squadron
TSgt. Daniel Witt
SSgt. Michael Michaud
SSgt. William Young

58th Aerial Port Squadron
SSgt. David Steiner
A1C James Lowe

Aeromedical Evacuation Team
Team Chief:

Capt. Brenda Jaeger

Team Members:

Maj. Adele Ainsburg

1Lt. Mark Bialas

TSgt. Nancy Clegg

SrA. David Brown

SrA. Michele Oparowski

Security Forces Team

Team Leader:

MSgt. Kevin Cahill

Team Members:

TSgt. Richard Schmoke

SSgt. Michael Bellerose

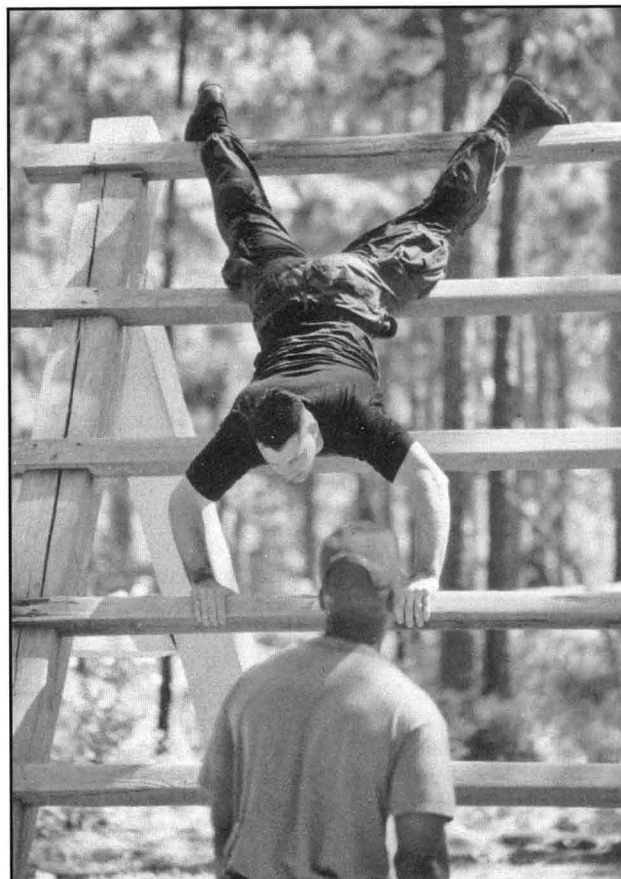
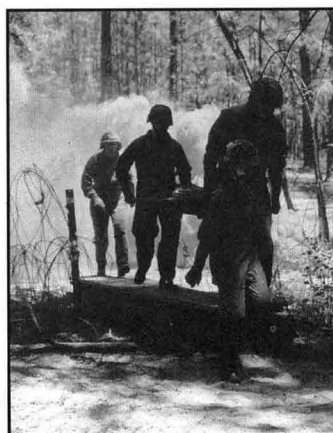
SSgt. Daniel Ehlers

SSgt. Shawn Snay



COUNTING THE SECONDS — The four-member aerial port team sprints out of the C-5, as they set out to direct and load three army Light Medium Tactical Vehicles, wait, then unload the trucks. Anything under seven minutes is a perfect score. After seven, teams lose 1 point per second.

AEROMEDICAL EVACUATION ENDURANCE COURSE — Team members carry a 125-pound litter over a low wall. The AE team had 45 minutes to complete a 1/2 mile course. They were graded on proper lift and carrying techniques.



OVERCOMING OBSTACLES — TSgt. Dan Witt, of the 42nd APS, hangs from 82nd Airborne Division obstacle course during the aerial port competition in Ft. Bragg, N.C.

Air Force reservists begin anthrax shot series

by Capt. James Bishop

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — As of mid April, 11,014 Air Force reservists have begun the six-shot, 18-month anthrax vaccine series, according to the Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program, Office of the Army Surgeon General, which administers the program.

A total of 40,125 doses have been given to blue-suit reservists. The Air Force's Selected Reserve has about 70,120 reservists in the unit and individual mobilization augmentee programs.

Another 5,406 members of the Army Reserve and 3,468 Naval reservists have begun the series as of April 19, AVIP reported. Eventually, all 2.4 million military personnel, including about 1 million members of the National Guard and Reserves will be vaccinated according to AVIP figures.

As of the end of March, 422,946 DOD service members have begun the anthrax vaccination series, AVIP reported.

In March, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Michael Ryan ordered that all airmen, including reservists, receive briefings on the anthrax immunization by the end of August.

Consequently, Air Force Reserve Command formed three briefing teams, one for each numbered air force, led by Col. (Dr.) Patricia Nell, chief of aerospace medicine and professional services at Headquarters AFRC, Robins AFB.

The operations tempo has increased for the active force and the Reserve alike, resulting in more troops who need the anthrax vaccine. Since reservists serve two-week tours to fill a 90-day Air Expeditionary Forces assignment, it takes six times as many reservists as active duty to fill each AEF slot. And under Phase 1 of the immunization program, each person going to designated high-threat areas such as Korea and Southwest Asia must begin the anthrax shots.

"Proportionally, we have immunized more of our people than the active duty," Nell said.

What if a reservist refuses to take the shot?

First, a commander would take steps to educate the member on the seriousness of the threat and the effectiveness of the vaccine. Then, according to an AFRC Staff Judge Advocate memorandum to commanders, the member would be given a written order. After that, the price for refusing the vaccine escalates from receiving letters of counseling to reassignment to the inactive reserve.

The bottom line about refusals is that commanders choose consequences from a range of options, and no member can consistently refuse to take the anthrax shot and stay in the Reserve, said Col. Carl Behrens, deputy staff judge advocate at Headquarters AFRC.

"We're not trying to punish people who don't take the shots," Behrens said. "We're trying to protect our troops from a deadly weapon."

Side effects expected but short-term?

The number of side effects reported so far remains low. As of March 29, nearly 1.6 million doses of anthrax vaccine had been given to 422,946 service members. Of those, 674 people have submitted reports of adverse reactions to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

An independent panel of civilian medical experts found just 396 of the 674 reports were "certainly or probably caused by anthrax vaccine," according to a report by the Anthrax Vaccine Expert Committee.

"Right now, everything is being blamed on anthrax," Nell said.

Because the reporting system, called Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System, is voluntary, if a member doesn't choose to report, "we can't track it," Nell said.

"Inherently, the vaccine has expected side effects, but it's a safe

vaccine," she said.

The number of complaints reported is typical of any immunization, according to Nell. She said a vaccination should, by its nature, produce a response from the body. "If it's any good you're going to have a side effect," she said.

Along with the increased number of vaccinations comes increased number of side effects.

Responding to news media reports in which a disproportionately high number of pilots in the 9th Airlift Squadron at Dover AFB, Del., reported side effects from the anthrax vaccination, Nell said, "Every single vaccine released has had a report of nausea, chills, and fever at some point.

"Though the most severe reactions may temporarily disqualify a pilot from flying status, they are rare and short-term," she said.

Most adverse reports are of skin rashes and bumps on arms, Nell said.

Nell noted that, as with any vaccine, if an adverse reaction occurs, reservists should first seek medical attention as necessary, then follow up with the Reserve medical unit, and submit a report through VAERS. (Reports to VAERS may be made in writing or by calling 1-800-822-7967, or online at www.anthrax.osd.mil/vaers/vaers.htm.)

"In looking at the anthrax vaccine issue and the media blitz highlighting people's fear of immunization, we need to focus on the real issue," said Lt. Gen. Charles Roadman II, former Air Force surgeon general who retired in December 1999. "People need not be afraid of the immunization; they need to be afraid of the disease."

Reservists can obtain further information by contacting their medical unit or visiting the DOD anthrax web site at www.anthrax.osd.mil.

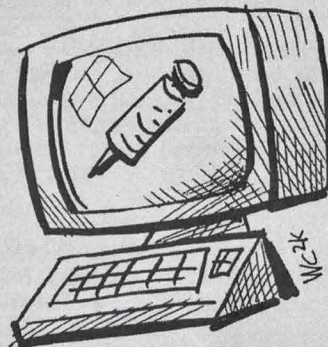
Flight crews should visit www.aviationmedicine.com and may read anthrax-related articles and information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov.

Other useful DOD sites include:

Air Force anthrax site at www.af.mil/current/anthrax/;
Air National Guard anthrax site at www.ang.af.mil/sg/default.htm;
Army anthrax site at www.armymedicine.army.mil/armymed/default2.htm;
Marine Corps anthrax site at www.usmc.mil/anthrax.nsf;
Navy anthrax site at www.chinfo.navy.mil/navpalib/anthrax/anthrax.html#web.

Other useful non-DOD sites include:

World Health Organization anthrax data site at www.vetmed.lsu.edu/whocc/anthrax.htm;
The Mayo Clinic: "Anthrax: Ancient Disease Turned Biological Weapon" at www.mayohealth.org/mayo/9803/htm/anthrax.htm;
Johns Hopkins News: "Questions and Answers: The Dangers of Anthrax" at www.intelihealth.com.



Patriot People

Name: Brett Westcott
Rank: SrA.
Age: 22
Address: Westfield, Mass
Unit: 439th Security Forces Squadron
Position: Patrolman
Civilian position: Air Reserve Technician
Favorite food: Raw oysters
Years of service: 4 years
Favorite sport: Football
Favorite hobby: Hanging out with wife Cheryl
Ideal vacation: Caribbean
Best way to relax: On the couch with a remote
Preferred entertainment: Wrestling
Favorite hero: My dad SMSgt. Bruce Westcott
Favorite music: Rock and roll, heavy metal
Favorite movie: "Patton" & "Patriot Games"
Favorite aircraft: MH-53 special ops helo, C-130 gunship
Pet peeve: People who wrap gum up in a napkin while at the dinner table
What I would do if I won \$1 million: Invest

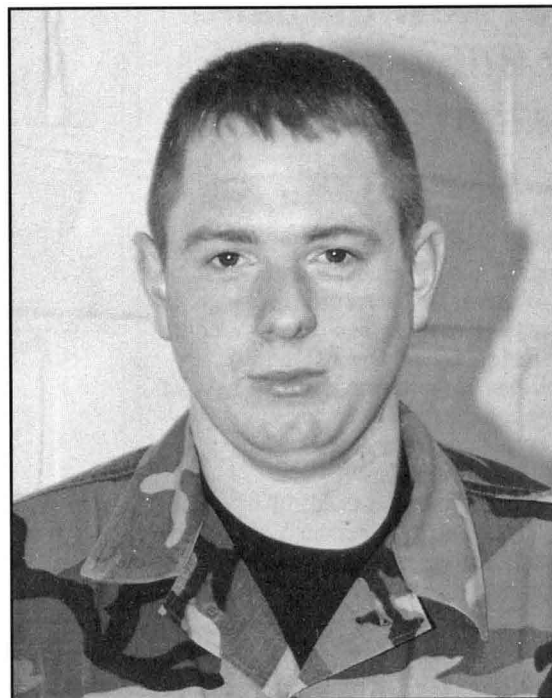


Photo by MSgt. W. C. Pope

SrA. Brett Westcott

Patriot Praises

Promotions

CMSgt. Brady, James
 CMSgt. Byrnes, Patricia
 CMSgt. Vezina, Tammy H.
 SMSgt. Begue, Cynthia J.
 SMSgt. Drenthe, Henri
 SMSgt. Lausier, Sharon
 MSgt. Barsalou, Paul A.
 MSgt. Bates, Randy J.
 MSgt. Carney-Richter, R. H.
 MSgt. Evangelisto, Thomas
 MSgt. Ferry, Daniel
 MSgt. Gerrans, Glen D.
 MSgt. Hickey, Daniel P.
 MSgt. Little, Irving G.
 MSgt. Leydet, Dennis J.
 MSgt. McCarthy, Jeffrey E.
 MSgt. McGinnis, Thomas
 MSgt. Rimola-Webb, Rosa
 MSgt. Smith, Stephen J.
 TSgt. Bryant, Steven J.
 TSgt. Evers, Richard C.
 TSgt. Freeman, Patricia A.
 TSgt. Gonzalez, Louisa
 TSgt. Harris, Shawn M.
 TSgt. Kearney, Deitra E.
 TSgt. Negrotti, John L.
 TSgt. Quill, Gregory F.
 TSgt. Rogers, Peter N.
 TSgt. Serricchio, Robert M.
 TSgt. Silva, Mark R.
 TSgt. Valley, Stephen B.
 SSgt. Christopher, Shawn
 SSgt. Cognato, Charles D. J.
 SSgt. Comeau, Jason L.
 SSgt. Cowern, Thomas E.
 SSgt. Davis, Smith M.
 SSgt. DeJimenez, Lazaro A.
 SSgt. Hebert, Joshua

SSgt. Kirton, Floyd M.
 SSgt. Kleinebekel, Carl E.
 SSgt. Markey, Victor M.
 SSgt. Pollock, Charles R.
 SSgt. Samuel, Daniel
 SSgt. Thomas, Michael A.
 SSgt. Whiteside, Kenneth
 SrA. Clinton, Joseph M.
 SrA. McCormick, Neil C.
 SrA. Rogers, Derek W.
 SrA. Runions, Joseph A.
 SrA. Wilson, Sophia C.

Enlistments

SSgt. Lowe, Daniel R.
 SSgt. Stone, Robert E.
 SrA. Hamm, William V., Jr.
 SrA. Ortiz, Heriberto
 A1C Gomes, Jenifer S.
 A1C LaPierre, Christina A.
 AB Garcia, Rachel

Reenlistments

MSgt. Greenwood, Roland F., Jr.
 MSgt. Jensen, Peter E.
 MSgt. LeClair, John J.
 MSgt. Skowron, Steven
 TSgt. Anderson, Andrew M., Sr.
 TSgt. Cirillo, Robert J.
 TSgt. Golenski, Michael J.
 TSgt. Goodfield, Edward J., Jr.
 TSgt. Grybko, Kim L.
 TSgt. Harder, Jason C.
 TSgt. Manning, Jeffrey N.
 TSgt. Neslusan, Paul J.
 TSgt. Pietrowski, Kevin J.
 SSgt. Adduci, Michael E.
 SSgt. Burr, Adam J.
 SSgt. Bussiere, Carol A.

SSgt. Durham, Holly C.
 SSgt. Flores, Carlos D.
 SSgt. Henrickson, David K.
 SSgt. Hinkson, Marva L.
 SSgt. Kycia, Julie A.
 SSgt. Swarbrick, David J.

SrA. Boucher, Scott A.
 SrA. Giardini, Anthony C., Jr.
 SrA. Ortiz, Heriberto
 SrA. Plant, Edward L.
 SrA. Salinas, David R.

Awards and Decorations

Meritorious Service Medal

1st Lt. Rex H. Steves 439 AW
 SMSgt. John F. Szewc 42 APS
 MSgt. Bruce J. Bretschneider 42 APS

Air Force Commendation Medal

SMSgt. Peter M. Hogan** 439 LSS
 TSgt. William D. Dyx 439 LSS
 SSgt. Steven C. King 439 MXS

Air Force Achievement Medal

1st Lt. Donald G. O'Brien 439 AES

**second award

Four Seasons Rental Store expands line

Westover's Four Seasons Rental Store has expanded its line of lawn and garden and home equipment. The rental list now includes:

Roto tiller, 3.5 horsepower gas engine, rear tine; leaf blower/vacuum, gas; lawn spreader/feeder; hedge trimmer, 18" electric; edger, electric; weed whacker, gas; carpet cleaner; tables (6' and 8') and chairs. The rental store has also acquired new camper trailers. The new 19-foot, deluxe units sleep four and feature air conditioning, shower/tub, toilet and microwave oven. The trailers weigh only 2,400 pounds and require only a class II hitch. Call 557-2974 to make reservations.

Great New England Air Show attracts aviation's top acts

by Gordon A. Newell

The Great New England Air Show, scheduled for Aug. 12 and 13, again has attracted some of the top Warbirds and aerobatic performers in the country as well as an impressive array of military aircraft for static and flying display.

Lt. Col. Dan Nichols, who is operations chief for the event is anticipating that this year's show will again be a huge favorite for aviation buffs from throughout New England.

"The Thunderbirds and Golden Knights are always big hits and we feel confident, because of the big crowds that we draw, we will also bring some top aerobatic acts for this show. We are also anticipating that we will have more military aircraft on display and in the air," he said.

Vintage aircraft expected to make an appearance this year include P-40, F-4U, P-51, B-17, A-4D, C-123, B-25, AN-2, T-34 and an F-104.

Mike Goulian, Sean Tucker, Frank Ryder and members of the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome are also slated to be here.

Planes currently in military inventories and expected, include: A-10, AC-130, B-1B, B-52, C-130, C-141, C-17, C-5, C-9, EA-6B, F-14, F-15, F-15E, F-16, F-18, H-60, KC-10, KC-135, MC-130, MH-53, T-1, T-38, T-43 and a UH-1.

Gates will open at 9 a.m. and close at approximately 4:30 p.m. There is no admission charge and the base will provide plenty of free parking.

Coolers, bicycles, roller blades and pets will not be allowed in display areas.



AWARD BREAKFAST — Col. Dave Moore, wing safety officer (left), serves as emcee at the Chicopee Chamber of Commerce Military Salute Breakfast at the Westover Club on April 19. The event honored Westover's top Air Force reservists, civilians and Marines. Left to right in rear row are: Betty O'Connell from the Chicopee Chamber, Chicopee Mayor Richard J. Kos, and Wing Commander Col. Martin M. Mazick.
-photo by MSgt. Sandi Michon

Recruiters seeking testimonial letters

Westover recruiters are looking for your help.

SMSgt. George W. Anderson, the base's assistant senior recruiter, is inviting reservists to write a letter telling their Reserve story and how the Reserve has helped them.

"We are soliciting testimonial letters to share with potential Reservists what the Air Force Reserve has done for you and why

you are serving," he said. "Keep in mind that our purpose in asking for these letters is to show why the Reserve is worth joining and that it is truly a satisfying experience."

Responses may be e-mailed to george.anderson@cef.af.mil; faxed to (413) 557-2126 or mailed to: OL EE AFRCRCS, 450 Ellipse Drive, Westover ARB, Chicopee, MA 01022-1718

PATRIOT

PATRIOT online: <http://www.afrc.af.mil/units/439aw/Default.htm>



Published monthly for Patriots like SSgt. Chad Brower of Stoneham, Mass., and 2,311 members of the 439th AW at Westover ARB, and geographically separated units.

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