

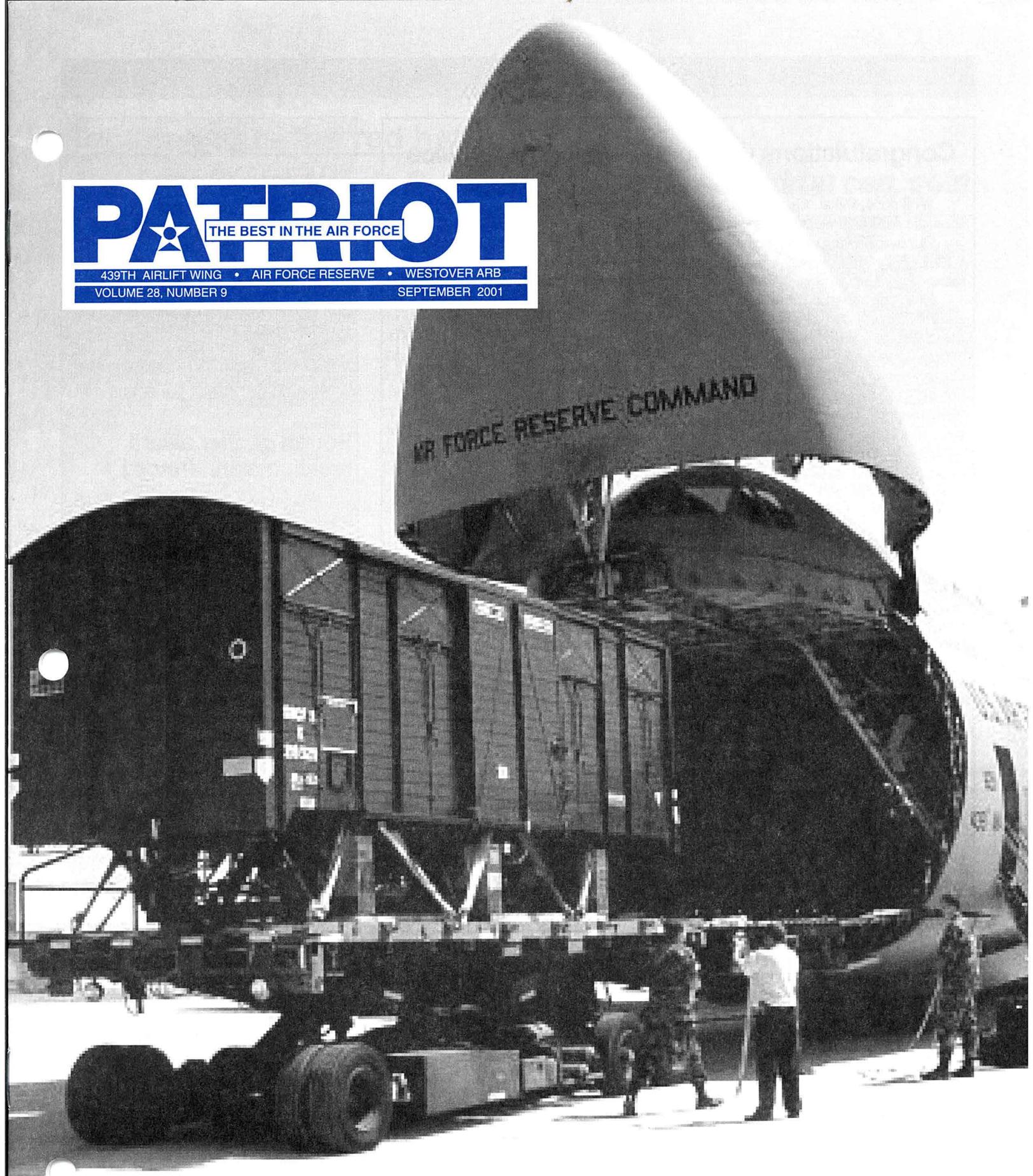
PATRIOT

THE BEST IN THE AIR FORCE

439TH AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER AFB

VOLUME 28, NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 2001



439th AW MISSION: Actively support national objectives on a global scale with ready, mobility forces

Congratulations warriors — welcome families

Well done, folks! Once again, you were up to the task. It took a team effort to show the Air Force we can get the job done right.

Our overall wing grade for the Initial Response (IR) portion of the EORI was **EXCELLENT**. IR consists of grades for Command and Control — *Excellent*; Deployment — *Excellent*; Safety — *Satisfactory*; Aircraft Generation — *Outstanding*.

Everyone in the wing can be rightly proud of this accomplishment. A round of applause to: the units that marshaled people through the mobility line, the team efforts of the MPF processing line, the Deployment Control Center (DCC) overseeing the team efforts of our contractor, the 42 APS processing and loading our people and cargo, the command post efforts working with the Crisis Action Team (CAT), our maintainers teamwork to fix a returning broken C-5 in the middle of generating 7 aircraft on-time, and our aircrews that made four on-time take-offs happen for the deployment. You all went above and beyond.



And this was just the first half! Congratulations to our UTC's that deployed for the IGX. As of this writing we are waiting for the results. Here again, our TALCE and maintainers ran the forward operating location (FOL) at Pope AFB, N.C., leading to a 100-percent departure reliability. At the forward operating base (FOB) in Savannah our aircrews, maintenance, life support, supply, OSI, transportation, and PA troops teamed up with other units and made it happen. My thanks to you and all the folks here at Westover that had a hand in making this inspection a success.

Time for a well-deserved break. We have a great Family Day planned which promises to be both fun and informative. We are pleased and proud to have reservists' families here to share this day. You too, can be proud of our accomplishments, for without your support at home, we could not do our jobs here. Our goal is to share with you what we do here at Westover for our nation, and thank you for your enduring support. You are key to our success.

I want to thank everyone on the Family Day committees for all your hard work and the Galaxy Community Council who once again volunteered to do the cooking so our reservists could enjoy the day with their families.

Thanks for all you do!

by Col. Martin M. Mazick
439th Airlift Wing Commander

Briefs

Threatcon is gone; FPCON takes over

"Threatcon" is being removed from the military vocabulary.

Used to announce degrees of heightened threat awareness on military bases, the term has been discarded as the Department of Defense updates its protective measures.

The term has been replaced by "FPCON", to signify "force protection condition" levels. Conditions—alpha, bravo, charlie and delta will remain.

Fourth quarter award recipients announced

Westover's Quarterly Awards Board has selected the following fourth-quarter award winners for fiscal year 2001.

Airman:

SrA Michael S. Linnehan, 439 ASTS;

NCO:

SSgt. Peter S. Murphy, 439 CS;

Sr. NCO:

MSgt. Ann Flugge, 439 MSS;

Officer:

Capt. Michael Owczarzak, 439 SFS;

Civilian:

Virginia Grinnin, 439 LSS.

SFS seeking first sergeant

The 439th Security Forces Squadron is recruiting for a new first sergeant.

Squadron Commander, Capt. Ron Coburn said applicants will be interviewed during the September and October B UTAs. Interested reservists are asked to contact SMSgt. Mike Olenick at ext. 3211 or e-mail him at michael.olenick@westover.af.mil to schedule a date and time for an interview. SMSgt. Kirt McGee, current first sergeant is retiring.

October UTA schedule

A UTA Oct. 13-14

B UTA Oct. 27-28

On the cover

INSIDE TRACK — A Westover Galaxy provided airlift for a boxcar used in WWII to transport U.S. servicemen to prison camps in Germany. The C-5 flew the train from France to the Air Force museum at Wright — Patterson AFB in Ohio in July. (more coverage on page 9)

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Top man gets the red hat

42nd member presents President Bush with squadron cap, coin

By SSgt Bradford Harrison
42nd Aerial Port Squadron

Yes, that is a 42nd APS hat the president is holding.

President George W. Bush was given the familiar red cap and a squadron coin by TSgt Tim Maguire, 42nd APS ramp services journeyman, during a visit at New York's JFK airport on July 10.

The President was in New York City to swear in immigrants at Ellis Island and to visit St. Peter's Cathedral.

Maguire, of Saratoga Springs, N.Y. who has been with the 42nd for almost 12 years, was invited to tour the presidential plane by his brother-in-law, Air Force Lt. Col. Tom Gould. Gould, a former F-16 pilot, is one of the military members who travel with the President and carry the 'nuclear football,' the nickname for the briefcase holding the high-security launch codes Bush would

need in the event of a nuclear war.

Upon receiving the coin and hat from Maguire, the president thanked him and said he was glad to see that Maguire's family was continuing its military tradition. Both the hat and coin will be documented and kept in the president's archives, along with every gift he receives as president.

Bush also talked with Maguire's son, Andrew, 6, who shares the President's July 6 birthdate, and Maguire's daughter, Jessica, 10, and Maguire's wife, Kathleen and the rest of Kathleen's family, who were also invited by Gould.

After talking with Maguire's family, the president then asked for a family photo.

"He was very friendly, cordial, accommodating. He went out of his way to make us feel comfortable," Maguire said. "He was really down-to-earth."



COINED — President George W. Bush speaks with the family of TSgt. Tim Maguire, 42nd APS ramp services journeyman. Maguire (right) presented President Bush with a 42nd APS cap and coin during a visit at JFK airport in July.

Maguire described the interior of Air Force One, of which his family got a private tour from Gould and the copilot of the plane. During the hour-long tour, Maguire and his family saw the president's bedroom, office, boardroom, medical area, and cockpit.

Maguire explained that certain areas of the plane were designated as off-limits by the color of the carpet — brown for presidential staff, blue for visitors. Visitors cannot step onto the brown carpet unless personally invited the president.

As mementos of the visit, Maguire and his family were given a photograph of Air Force One flying over Mt. Rushmore, a box of M&M candies with the presidential seal and Bush's signature, along with a book of matches, the in-flight movie listings for the month of July and an Air Force One fact sheet.

Fellow members of the 42nd shared Maguire's excitement about his visit.

"I think it's great for one of our members to meet the President of the United States. To also have the chance to present him with a squadron hat and coin is really something," said CMSgt Zigmund Skawski of the 42nd.

Maguire may have another chance to meet the president. He plans to reenlist before next April, and hopes to be sworn in by Gould at the White House.



COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF — President George W. Bush, center, poses with TSgt. Tim Maguire (left), his wife Kathleen, their son Andrew and daughter Jessica, and Maguire's brother-in-law, Lt. Col. Tom Gould. Maguire and his family met the president during a visit to New York's JFK airport in July.

Air Force Reserve benefits: recreation opportunities

Editor's note: *This article is the second in a three-part series that highlights some of the benefits of serving in the Air Force Reserve. This series attempts to capture the practical, recreational, and ideological benefits – some known and some “off the beaten track.” Any suggestions of benefit “heads up” can be contributed by calling the Public Affairs Office at Ext. 2020.*

By Capt. Wilson Camelo

To some extent, people join the Air Force to “see the world.” Little do they know the “world” turns out to be a hot desert and there’s a word called “MOPP” that doesn’t let you fully enjoy the so-called beach paradise.

Fortunately, there are other means to see the world while serving in uniform, and many are available for prices much lower than civilian fares.

How does eight days, seven nights in a time-share condominium in the Bahamas, Egypt, or Thailand for \$234 sound? (Editor’s note: for us non-math geniuses, that’s less than \$34 per night.) While these time-shares are usually available during non-peak times of the year when occupancy is low – for the flexible traveler – opportunities abound. This benefit comes courtesy of the Armed Forces Vacation Club. Their web site, www.afvclub.com, lists all the locations, availability and information needed for embarking on that dream vacation many of us have put off for various reasons.

For those who prefer to book a vacation in advance or during peak times such as summer, DOD-owned resorts may be the solution. The Shades of Green, located in the heart of Walt Disney World, Fla., and the Hale Koa in Waikiki, Hawaii, are two Armed Forces Recreation Centers that provide an exclusive resort experience for DOD people. Perhaps best of all is the fact the resorts offer room rates based on grade making them affordable for most.

At these resorts, the unwritten rule of “rank has its privileges” is actually reversed meaning Airman Basic “Smith” can enjoy the same luxuries as Gen. “Smith,” but at a cheaper rate. For instance, at the Shades of Green, a poolside room for E1-E5 is \$76 per night. The same room will cost the general \$109 per night. At the Hale Koa, rooms for E-1s to E-5s range from \$67 per night for a standard room to \$120 per night for a deluxe ocean front room. The general will be charged \$95 to \$174 respectfully for the same accommodations. Sorry, sir.

Traveling to and from these resorts, or just about anywhere, is also made easier for military people thanks to the nearly 120 USO airport centers around the world. Established 60 years ago, the USO mission is to provide morale, welfare and recreation-type services to uniformed military people. The airport centers offer a place to relax during layovers. The USO provides numerous other services like entertainment for troops stationed worldwide, cultural awareness seminars, children’s programs, picnics and cookouts, and discounted tickets and tours.

For instance, the USO of New England, located in Boston, has \$7 tickets to see the Red Sox, complimentary tickets to several theater performances, discounts to area attractions and muse-

ums, and information on area festivals. Their web site, www.usonewengland.org, has additional details.

What would an article about military travel benefits be without mentioning what many would consider the granddaddy of them all: space A (space-available) travel?

Space A travel works like this: after all duty cargo and people are loaded on military aircraft there maybe space available for people to travel on the aircraft. Since the Air Force flies all over the world, destinations can be exotic places such as Hawaii, Puerto Rico or Little Rock, Ark. Actual flying costs are minimal: some terminals collect a head tax or a federal inspection fee from Space A passengers on commercial contract missions and meals may be purchased at a nominal fee out of most air terminals.

However, while the actual flying cost is low, there are no guarantees you will make it to your destination or back to your original departure point as the space available on an aircraft can quickly evaporate due to mission needs or maintenance problems. Along with patience, it’s recommended people traveling space A have enough funds to purchase a civilian airfare home in the event a flight is cancelled or space is not “A.”

There are rules, restrictions, and prioritization categories for using space A. For instance, reservists using space A are limited to travel to, from, and between Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the continental United States. Retirees, on the other hand, are not restricted to these locations. Specifics can be obtained at http://public.scott.af.mil/hqamc/SPACEA/24_203.htm.

There are space A opportunities at Westover. The office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and has a recorded message with flight information available 24 hours at Ext. 2549. Officials at the office say there are approximately 12-15 flights per month with space A opportunities. While there are no routine routes, recent flights have gone to Germany, Spain, Hawaii and numerous U.S. destinations.

If staying closer to home is preferred, there are several base facilities that offer recreational options. For instance, reservists can rent boats, campers, ski equipment, and other recreational aids at the Four Seasons rental store. Those interested can call Ext. 2974.

Bowling is another option for recreation on base. The bowling alley is open Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., and Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. There’s also Cosmic Bowling Friday nights from 9:30 to 11 PM and Saturday 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. There is league bowling available Monday through Friday and a children’s instructional league on Saturday mornings. Those interested in league bowling can call the bowling alley at 557-3990.

Finally, how about spending time enhancing physical fitness? With the pool, free weight room, nautilus area, racquetball court and aerobic exercise area, the base fitness center offers facilities found at civilian fitness club that could cost \$250 or more a year.

So, whatever the destination, the means or activity, Air Force service has fringe benefits people can take advantage of by doing a little legwork. There are numerous opportunities available at the touch of a dial, click of a mouse or word of mouth.

Wing members answer the call during EORI

Article by MSgt. Tom Allocco
 Photo by SSgt. Andrew Reitano
 Artwork by MSgt. W. C. Pope

Wing members proved they could answer "ready" if called, when their ability to move cargo and troops was tested during a week-long Expeditionary Operational Readiness Inspection (EORI) in late July and early August.

In two back-to-back Air Mobility Command Inspector General exercises, men and women of the wing demonstrated their ability to generate aircraft, process personnel and cargo for deployment, and then deploy to operate in a simulated overseas environment. Although separate exercises, the wing requested both at the same time to take advantage of the intense preparation involved in them.

The first exercise was an Initial Response evaluation which tests the capability to prepare and process tasked personnel and cargo, and to generate all available C-5A aircraft on station. This exercise simulates the preparation and planning which the Air Force is using in its Aerospace Expeditionary Force (AEF) operations.

With very few errors and no delays



SANDBAGGERS — Reservists fill sandbags to reinforce a defensive position during an Expeditionary Operational Readiness Inspection conducted in early August.

in the all-important completion times, wing members generated seven aircraft and processed 318 personnel and 116 tons of cargo for movement.

The subsequent Inspector General Exercise (IGX) carried on with the actual movement of personnel and cargo to two locations which simulated overseas destinations in support of a crisis.

Dubbed "Crisis Reach 01-35A," this exercise called upon personnel and equipment from many different active duty, Reserve and Air Guard units to deploy and form an Air Expeditionary Wing (AEW).

The actual deployment location was the Savannah, Ga. Combat Readiness Training Center, which simulated Clark AB, Philippines. Sixty wing members joined nearly 500 other Air Force personnel to conduct operations in a simulated threat environment to test their ability to do their jobs under a wide variety of enemy threats.

The scenario was realistic to the point of JAG briefings for all incoming personnel on the Law of Armed Conflict, Rules of Engagement and Host Nation law. Inspectors even posed as CNN reporters and interviewed troops.

At the same time, 27 wing mem-

bers, along with 35 tons of cargo, deployed to Pope AFB, N.C., to join up with other Air Force members and support the upload of Army personnel and equipment destined for Fort Campbell, Ky. This group was lead by the 439th ALCF which provided the leadership and direction necessary to accomplish this demanding mission.

IG team members were enthusiastic about the Initial Response results. In particular, the 439th Logistics Group, led by Col. Charles Brown, was commended for its outstanding efforts in generating all available C-5A aircraft and for the excellent performance of these aircraft throughout the entire exercise.

The AMC IG also recognized the 337th Airlift Squadron aircrews who flew these missions.

Lt. Col. Forrest Price, wing plans officer, rated the performance of both those who deployed and those who supported them as "an exceptional team effort by everyone involved. It was good to see the hard training all come together.

"The successful EORI was only possible because of that hard training in preparation, followed by hard work throughout the exercise," he said.





Patriot Tiger pounces on Westover

Hundreds of aerial porters receive training

HEAT WAVE — The forecast included heat, humidity and Hercules during the four weeks of Patriot Tiger.

Article by MSgt. Tom Allocco
Photos by MSgt. W. C. Pope

Aerial porters and C-130s from around the country conducted operations in Dogpatch during four weeks of the country's premier aerial port exercise Patriot Tiger 2001 in July and August.

Held every two years by 22nd Air Force, this was the 10th Patriot Tiger in which several hundred aerial porters honed the skills that it takes to deploy to a forward location — to move troops and cargo.

Patriot Tiger was conducted in two two-week shifts, with aerial porters of the 42nd and 58th APS participating in both shifts.

Lt. Col. Peter DeTone, 58th APS commander, who served as Patriot Tiger commander during the second two weeks, described Patriot Tiger as "a unique opportunity for aerial port personnel to train under field conditions.

"It's a tough two weeks of hard training that ultimately provides training that they cannot get any other time. It takes total effort to support such an intricate exercise, and the Westover family really came through to meet the needs of Patriot Tiger," DeTone said.

More than 400 people, including 11 aerial port 20-member teams, supported by members from 14 other units, took part in Patriot Tiger. They conducted about 100 airlift missions, moved about 10,000 tons of cargo and equipment and 650 passengers.

The scenario envisioned a deployment to Southwest Asia on the Saudi Arabia/Kuwait border. Aerial porters set up tents in Dogpatch where they received one MRE and two hot meals daily prepared by New Hampshire Army National Guard troops.

Duty days started early with aerial porters donning chemical warfare gear for Ability to Survive and Operate (ATSO) exercises. Later they performed joint inspections of cargo and conducted engine running on-loads and off-loads of C-130s and C-5s. During the afternoon and evening they kept busy fending off attacks by soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division from Fort Drum, N.Y.

Patriot Tiger called upon every aerial port skill — ATOC, ramp, passenger terminal, and special handling of hazardous cargo — and added PER-SCO teams of personnel specialists.

During the second half of the exercise, members of the 302nd Airlift Control Element of Colorado Springs, Col., set up airlift operations in Dogpatch and sent a mission support team to the airfield at Fort Drum, which simulated a forward operating area. Aerial porters loaded and off-loaded vehicles and cargo as C-130s flew in from Fort Drum.

"Patriot Tiger is a very realistic training opportunity," said Maj. Jay Learned, 302nd ALCE operations officer, who formerly served with the 439th ALCE at Westover. "Partly be-

cause of the heat, it is very reminiscent of 10 years ago when Westover's ALCE was in a situation in Saudi Arabia near Kuwait very similar to our scenario," he noted.

The weather added realism with temperatures hovering around the 90-degree mark during the second half of Patriot Tiger. A public address system issued repeated warnings to drink two quarts of water in such heat.

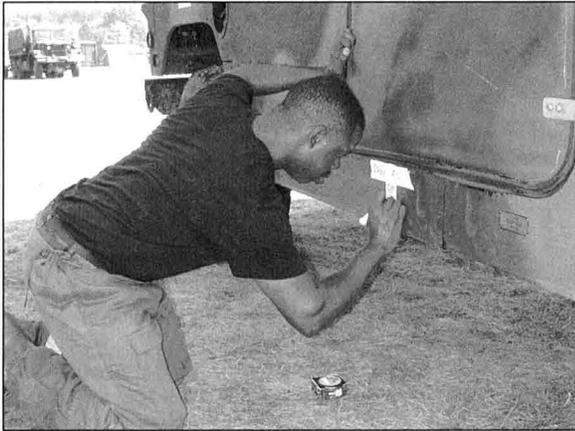
One early-morning, heavy down-pour knocked four tents to the ground and turned Dogpatch into a soggy sponge. "The tents were big swimming pools," said Lt. Col. James Tully, commander of the 39th APS, Peterson AFB, Col., who served as camp commander.

"That's when everybody really pulled. The morale got better as things got worse. They put the tents back up in an hour and 26 minutes. It's great to see. I think this is the best annual tour I've ever had," he said.

SSgt. Santiago Almonte of the 35th APS, McGuire AFB, N.J., appreciated the realism. His experiences included a simulated chemical attack, a UXO (unexploded ordnance) sweep, rocket attack, hostage negotiations, and filling and stacking sandbags for a defense bunker.

"I think I'm better prepared. Patriot Tiger prepares you to be aware when you go into a real world situation. I have an idea of what's going to happen," Almonte said.

Patriot Tiger



FIELD CONDITIONING — Hundreds of aerial porters from around the country converged on Westover in July and August to participate in Patriot Tiger, a biennial four-week exercise to test military readiness to deploy troops and equipment.

At top left, SSgt. Benjamin Watson, from the 80th APS at Dobbins AFB, Ga., marks a humvee prior to loading. Steamy temperatures, compounded by heavy chemical warfare gear, made water a high priority. In above photo, reservists fill water coolers to help hydrate the troops. At left, SrA. Julia Hobart, left, and TSgt. Kent Hautanen, from the 58th APS, provide security at the entry control point of Dogpatch.

MOBILE GARAGE — Reservists (at right) guide a vehicle onto a C-130. The ability to accomplish the “engine-running-onload” (ERO) is an essential deployment skill.



Westover NCO and wife recognized for being foster parents



PROBLEM SOLVING — TSgt. James LaCroix performs a bench check in the Communications/Navigation shop of a color weather radar indicator for the C-5.

—photo by MSgt. W.C.Pope

by Capt. Wilson Camelo

What originally started as a means to have children for a Westover reservist and his wife has turned into a nearly quarter-century passion, and now formal recognition by Massachusetts governor and state agencies.

When it appeared TSgt. James LaCroix and his wife, Debra couldn't have children of their own, they thought about adopting a child. However, the thought of waiting several more years to realize their dream through adoption didn't sit well with them. So, they thought they'd give foster parenting a try.

Now, nearly 23 years and approximately 400 foster children later, that "try" has garnered statewide recognition for the LaCroixs as recent recipients of the 2001 Massachusetts All-Star Foster and Adoptive Parent Award.

The award, now in its 16th year, is sponsored by the Department of Social Services and the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. It is presented to families across the state for their "unwavering dedication and commitment to children and families in the Commonwealth."

The award came complete with a certificate of appreciation from Massachusetts Governor Jane Swift.

"She would have presented the award personally, but she was too busy having twins," LaCroix, a 439th Maintenance Squadron maintenance avionics technician, jokingly said.

While the LaCroix family has seen many children come and go during their time as foster parents, there has been always been one constant: children who desperately need homes, Debra said.

According to the DSS, there are currently more than

8,000 children in the state who are benefiting from the short-term care provided by foster children.

"Our goal is to provide a positive family setting, teach them about life and the benefits of a good education," LaCroix said. "We've actually equipped our house to be 'kid friendly' and we can take in about five kids at a time.

"Foster parenting is just something we have within our hearts. All these kids need is a positive role model and the opportunity to have a productive life," he added.

Debra echoed her husband's sentiment by adding, "These kids are so appreciative of everything you can provide for them. They thank you for the littlest things that other kids would take for granted. We really do enjoy it."

Debra concedes that like everything else in life, there are road bumps. There was even a time when the LaCroixs stopped taking in foster children. But, who could blame them? After nearly 15 years of taking in foster children, their steadfast determination to have a child of their own paid off with the birth of their daughter, Sarah.

"She definitely is our miracle baby," Debra said of their now nine-year-old daughter. "She's very much like her father."

Debra said they decided to stop, foster care to dedicate more time to Sarah and concentrate on being good parents to their "miracle baby."

But, citing the fact they "hate having a quiet house," the LaCroixs resumed taking in foster children about a year and a half later.

"Foster parenting has actually been good for Sarah being an "only child". She's definitely learned how to share," she said.

As to when they'll stop being foster parents, the LaCroixs say they aren't completely sure. LaCroix, who has been at Westover since 1976, may retire from the Air Force Reserve in about four years and that could be the catalyst for them to stop, Debra said.

LaCroix said. "Foster parenting, it seems, has always been part of our identity."

Whatever their decision, the LaCroixs say they hope more families will try foster parenting so children can have a loving family to turn to at a time of need.

To help ensure that happens, officials at DSS say they have an ongoing recruitment effort to attract and retain caring individuals to become foster parents. They list additional information on their website <http://www.state.ma.us/dss/>. Those interested in becoming a foster parent can also call (800) KIDS-508.

"To those contemplating being foster parents, I say 'give it a try.' If it's not for them, they can always stop. If they have children of their own, I would say to ensure it's a family decision because the whole family will definitely be involved," Debra said.

Reservist's bone marrow donation, anonymous gift that may save life

by MSgt. Tom Allocco

It takes courage to endure pain and make a sacrifice for a friend or neighbor, but it takes a special kind of courage to answer up like that for a stranger, someone whose name you may never know. When she was needed by a stranger, a Westover aerial porter had the fortitude to stand up and do the hard, but right thing.

TSgt. Karen Roy, 58th APS transportation specialist, answered in the affirmative in June when she was asked to undergo a painful medical procedure involving an overnight hospital stay in order to give a stranger a fighting chance against bone cancer. Roy agreed to allow her healthy bone marrow to be drawn from her hips through six needles. The life-saving bone marrow was rushed to a 30-year-old woman undergoing radiation therapy against deadly T-cell lymphoma.

Marrow is a tissue located in the hollow portion of bones which produces red and white cells and platelets. Healthy marrow may be destroyed by cancer, aplastic anemia or other diseases or radiation treatment.

Roy's hour-long procedure under anesthesia was performed at the University of

Massachusetts Medical Hospital, Worcester. She has no idea of the identity of the woman who received her bone marrow or even the state in which she resides. Roy doesn't know the woman's medical condition, but only knows that the gift of healthy bone marrow has a chance of extending her life.

To prepare to have the bone marrow extracted, Roy had two pints of her blood drawn and stored for her. Her bone marrow was taken on a Thursday afternoon, and during the night she was given her two pints of blood to help her rebuild her strength.

She was released from the hospital on Friday afternoon and although still weak, she was strong enough by Saturday night to go to work. She was advised that it would take several weeks to get back her full strength.

The donation was made under the auspices of the National Donor Center of New England Marrow Donor Program of Dedham.

Because of the stress that patients are under, the program has a policy of not allowing donors to meet recipients, at least until the recipient is comfortable with it. When the recipient of Roy's bone marrow is prepared, she may choose to send a letter to her.



TSgt. Karen Roy

The two women, who briefly reached out to each other, may always remain strangers to each other. But, Roy's unique sacrifice does not go unrewarded.

"It's very uplifting. I'd like to receive a letter from her, but if not, that is all right. It still boosts self-esteem, it's very uplifting and fulfilling. I can't describe it. It's kind of neat," she said.

Roy is also a Red Cross pheresis donor who until now has made monthly donations of platelets. A resident of Chicopee, she is a building maintenance manager at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst library.

POW boxcar airlifted

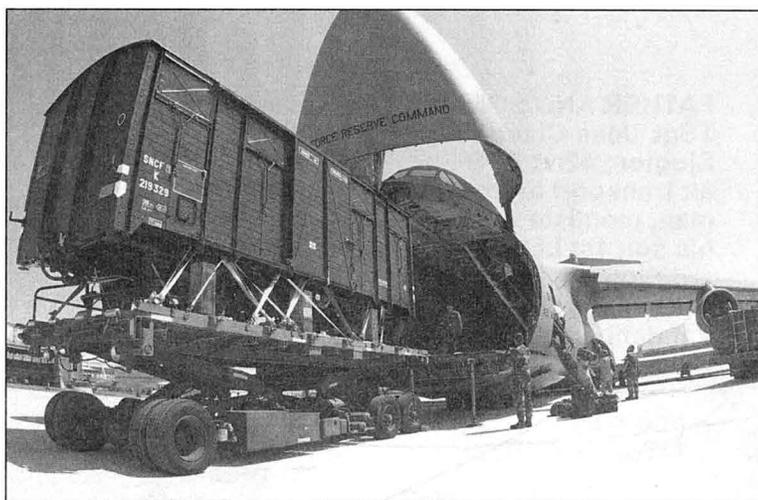
Westover aircrews not only make history — they carry history.

The 439th Airlift Wing transported a WWII-era rail car, used as a prisoner-of-war troop train, to Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio in July. The Westover C-5 picked up the boxcar, donated by the French National Railroad Company and the American Prisoner of War Association, in Istres, France.

This type of boxcar is said to have transported downed American pilots to Germany and Poland during WWII.

Using train tracks, theatrical lighting and actual memorabilia, the boxcar is scheduled to be a walk-through exhibit, completing the prisoner-of-war display at the Air Force Museum in Ohio.

This boxcar was donated in 2001 by SNCF (the French National Railroad) to the American Veterans of World War II who were transferred in it to Germany as prisoners of war. It was restored to its original condition by the railroad workers of SNCF's Rolling Stock Maintenance facility of Dijon.



— Photos by MSgt. Keith Reed

58th APS members train in Guam

Compiled by SMSgt. Sandi Michon
Photo courtesy of the 58th APS

Scorching heat, a rain soaked flight-line, and the beautiful crystal clear waters of Tumon Bay were some of the mental snapshots of Guam captured by 15 members of the 58th Aerial Port Squadron. During their annual tour to Andersen AFB, Guam, June 21 – July 7, Westover's aerial porters worked alongside transporters of the 734th Air Mobility Squadron.

The 734th AMS is a premier training location with state-of-the-art facilities that allow supervisors the opportunity to assess and measure Aerial Porters' expertise and knowledge. The large numbers of KC 10s, KC 135s, C-130s, C-17s, C-141s, C9s and C-5s transiting Andersen provide training scenarios with aircraft not routinely seen at Westover. In addition, the variety of commercial cargo airframes, (DC-10, MD-11, and DC-8) provided excellent training for "porters" to rediscover skills that are not fully utilized at home station.

Andersen is a major AMC en-route station for all cargo and passengers transitioning the Pacific theater. The strategic importance of Andersen was magnified with the closing of Clark Air Base, in the Philippines, ten years ago. The Mount Pinatubo eruption wreaked havoc

on Clark and caused its abrupt end after 90 years of American presence.

Teamleader Capt. John Mailo described the tour, "Our unit was fully integrated into the 734th AMS for the entire deployment." The 58th directly participated in all ATOC, cargo preparation, ramp service, load-planning and passenger/fleet service operations. When not handling aircraft they focused on (CBT) Computer Based Training and the new (GATES) Global Air Transportation Execution System

According to the Mailo, the 734 AMS is the only en-route Air Mobility Command unit under going force restructuring. This pilot 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. "We were fortunate to have the opportunity to witness the future of aerial port operations," he said.

TSgt. David Reim, passenger service supervisor, expressed his satisfaction with the amount and quality of training the 58th APS personnel re-



TROPICAL TRAINING — Fifteen members of the 58th Aerial Port Squadron trained at Andersen AFB in Guam for their annual tour June 21—July 7.

ceived. "From the first shift after orientation, our personnel were thrown into the mix. The passenger terminal was so busy manifesting multiple aircraft that the active duty supervisor relied heavily on our people."

Military and civilian superintendents at Andersen praised the efforts of Westover personnel as a "highly professional, well motivated and knowledgeable team".

Capt. Mailo, 58th APS OIC, said the 58th had previously placed a higher priority in supporting the major East Coast and European en-route stations with our annual tours. "This trip to Andersen was a rare opportunity to integrate and understand how the 'Pacific region' operates. We should continue to request this assignment to broaden our knowledge of the AMC system," Mailo said. "The training was excellent."

All in the family

FATHER AND SON — TSgt. Jean-Claude Sjogren, 42nd APS air transport journeyman, reenlists with his son 1st Lt. Richard Sjogren, from the 30th Space Wing at Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

—photo by
MSgt. W. C. Pope



Patriot People

Name: Sabine Dietrich
Rank: SSgt.
Age: 41 years
Address: Chicopee, Mass.
Unit: 439th AMDS
Position: Medical Administrator/Base Advisory Council
 President/Honor Guard Member
Civilian position: Land use and environmental planner
Favorite food: Crab legs
Years of service: 11 years
Favorite sport: Skiing
Favorite hobby: Canoeing
Ideal vacation: Sea kayaking and tropical island sunbathing
Best way to relax: Sitting on couch reading & writing
Preferred entertainment: Ethnic dining and movies
Favorite hero: Dalai Lama
Favorite music: Alternative
Favorite movie: "It's a Wonderful Life"
Favorite aircraft: F-16
Pet peeve: Dishonest people
What I would do if I won \$1 million:
 Travel around the world 20 times



Photo by MSgt. W. C. Pope

SSgt. Sabine Dietrich

Patriot Praises

Enlistments:

TSgt. Buckridge Jeffery T.
 TSgt. Copperthite, Brian K.
 TSgt. Dufresne, Heidi J.
 TSgt. Thomas, Joni M.
 TSgt. Yoder, Kimberly L.
 SSgt. Alleyne, Ingrid
 SSgt. O'Flaherty, Daniel P.
 SSgt. Villamil, Julio V.
 SSgt. Vinskey, Jonathon C.
 SSgt. Williams, Michael P.
 SrA. Buzard, Jason M.
 SrA. LaBrecque, John P.
 SrA. LaPriore, Cynthia L.
 SrA. Mandeville, James E.
 SrA. Tocci, Matthew A.
 A1C Brown, Justin T.
 A1C Callahan, Donald J.
 A1C Camacho, Orlando I.
 A1C Dansereau, Benjamin J.
 A1C Goncalves, Raymond J.
 A1C Horsey, Eric D.
 A1C Kaminsky, Michael E.
 A1C Lajoie, Heather M.
 A1C Lyn, Errol C.
 A1C Malooly, Christopher G.
 A1C Mohammedsalih, Mohammed Y.
 A1C Muller, Oliver T.
 A1C Peterson, Tiffany L.
 A1C Pisani, Nathan R.
 A1C Roberson, Taream T.
 A1C Shea, Jenilee J.
 A1C Spaight, Rashawna J.
 A1C Talamanco, Lyndella M.
 A1C Verdaguer, Alejandro
 Amn. Athanasiou, Stephanos
 Amn. Beadle, Daniel D.
 Amn. Lochar, Rolf R.
 AB Boyd, Jeffrey J.
 AB Gallagher, Mary E.

Reenlistments:

CMSgt. Kudla, George J.
 CMSgt. Smith, Thomas A.
 SMSgt. Coda, Richard L.
 MSgt. Bennis, Robert W., Jr.
 MSgt. Bisson, Gary P.
 MSgt. Cabana, David M.
 MSgt. Evans, James J., Jr.
 MSgt. Janeczek, Paul J.
 MSgt. Laroche, Paul N.
 MSgt. Laux, Arthur W.
 MSgt. Mattoon, Kevin R.
 MSgt. Oliva, Vincent J.
 MSgt. Peery, Ann
 MSgt. Powell, Sean R.
 MSgt. Schworm, Kenneth E.
 MSgt. Stokes, Vikki J.
 MSgt. Whittington, Charles A.
 TSgt. Brewton, Rachael A.
 TSgt. Brock, Timothy G.
 TSgt. Dawson, Kelly E.
 TSgt. Delude, Harry D.
 TSgt. Dunn, Michael T.
 TSgt. Duval, Donna M.
 TSgt. Lanzi, Matthew J.
 TSgt. Roberts, Robert A.
 TSgt. Stavros, Stephen D., Jr.
 TSgt. Stefferson, James J.
 TSgt. Velky, John S. II
 SSgt. Cleveland, Michael G.
 SSgt. Hatcher, Amy D.
 SSgt. Hetu, Frederick E.
 SSgt. Johnson, Robin K.
 SSgt. Karol, Jason F.
 SSgt. Leclerc, Brian D.
 SSgt. Majersky, Edward J.
 SSgt. Rodriguez, Pablo E.
 SSgt. Snyder, Robert A.
 SSgt. Swyers, Thomas P.
 SSgt. Towlson, Richard J.
 SSgt. Wallace, Hayden A.
 SrA. Belanger, Kristina M.

SrA. Bishins, Timothy R.
 SrA. Blanchard, Nickolas C.
 SrA. Cortes, Isaac
 SrA. Finch, Jason R.
 SrA. Gaines, Ian D.
 SrA. Ilsley, Joseph S.
 SrA. Jump, Michael R.
 SrA. Ross, Stephen T., Jr.
 SrA. Windom, Lakeia
 SrA. Wixon, Richard E., Jr.

Newly Assigned:

Capt. Holmsten, Peter J.
 Capt. Ryan, Patrick S.
 1Lt. Moore, Julie B.

MSgt. Gallant, Michael A.
 TSgt. Lane, Christopher S.
 SSgt. Fedrick, Michael R.
 SSgt. Kimbell, Michael A.
 SSgt. Langevin, Steven G.
 SSgt. Sykes, Keith R.
 SSgt. Ullrich, Timothy R.
 SrA. Lanning, Crystal D.
 SrA. Lanning, James R.
 SrA. Omara, Catherine A.
 SrA. Ross, Stephen T., Jr.
 SrA. Therrien, Kariann
 SrA. Tobin, Chris
 SrA. Wieland, Maricela
 SrA. Wixon, Richard E., Jr.

Awards and Decorations

Meritorious Service Medal

Lt. Col. Talivaldis I. Maidelis** 439 SPTG
 MSgt. Robert J. Kazalski 439 AW

Air Force Commendation Medal

Maj. Rodney B. Furr**** 439 LG
 MSgt. Joseph E. Fitzgibbon 439 AW/CP
 TSgt. Michael A. Cadran** 42 APS
 TSgt. Janet L. Walker 42 APS

Air Force Achievement Medal

TSgt. Frederick Williams 42 APS

**Second Award

****Fourth Award

Wing to hold Bosses Days in October

by Gordon A. Newell

The 439th Airlift Wing will once again conduct Employer Appreciation Days during both Unit Training Assemblies in October.

Reservists are encouraged to invite their boss to the base to foster a better understanding of what they do when they put on their uniforms. In addition to observing reservists doing their military jobs, employers will also be treated to an orientation flight aboard a Westover C-5A.

Col. Martin M. Mazick, commander of the 439th AW, will again host employers at breakfast at the Westover Club to kick off the day's activities.

"This is a perfect opportunity for our reservists to share out mission with their civilian employer and help bolster his/her support for what you do for your country. We always have a great turnout, so I ask you to nominate your boss early," he said.

Reservists who normally drill on the A UTA should ask their boss to be here Oct. 13 while B UTA reservists may invite their employer for Oct. 27.

Employers should be instructed to arrive at the Westover Club by 8 a.m. for registration. Breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m. Reservists may attend the breakfast with their boss but must pay for their own meal. Employers are guests of the wing commander.

EMPLOYER APPRECIATION DAY

Reservist's name, rank and unit: _____

Reservist's home address: _____

Reservist's daytime telephone number: _____

Employer's name and title: _____

Employer's company name: _____

Breakfast for employer: YES _____ NO _____

Breakfast for reservist: YES _____ NO _____

Choice of UTA:

Oct. 13 (A UTA) _____ Oct. 27 (B 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)

The orientation flight is scheduled for approximately 10:30 a.m. and will last for about 90 minutes. Following lunch, employers will be given the chance to observe and field exercise in the Dogpatch area and then may visit their reservist's on-base workstation.

Reservists are allowed to bring just one

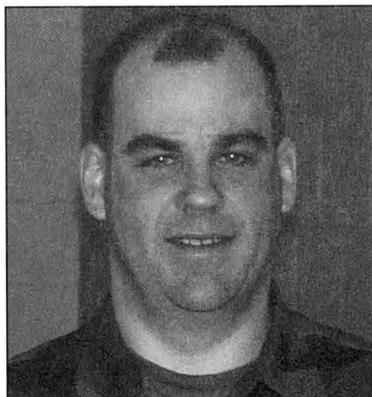
supervisor. Only reservists assigned to the flight crew will be permitted to take part in the orientation flight.

To make reservations, fill out the application that appears on this page and return it to the Public Affairs office.

Further information is available at (413) 557-3500. Fax number is (413) 557-2011.

PATRIOT

Come to the base for Family Day on Sept. 8!



Published monthly for Patriots like SSgt. Craig Morris, of Ludlow, Mass., and 2,431 members of the 439th AW at Westover ARB, and geographically separated units.

439th AW/PA
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