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Scan for our website. 439^{тн} Airlift Wing commander Col. Steven Vautrain

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UTA SNAPSHOT

>> Mobilization exercise, Oct. 14. Deployers will be bussed to base supply, issued deployment bags and then in-process at Base Hangar. Questions should be directed to unit deployment monitors.

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A Patriot Wing C-5 approaches Gillette Stadium Sept. 8 for a flyover to start off the University of Massachusetts football game. For more on the flyover, turn to page 4.



ALUMNI PREFLIGHT >> These three C-5 pilots (all University of Massachusetts graduates) were among the Patriot Wing crew that performed the Sept. 8 flyover at the UMass-Indiana football game at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, Mass. From left are Lt. Col. Mike Smith ('84), Maj. Dan LaBoeuf ('99), and Col. Jeff Hancock ('85, and 439th Airlift Wing vice commander). (photo by MSgt. Andrew Biscoe)

EDITORIAL | Mentoring, opportunities shape careers

PATRIOT | PAGE 3

Let me start by saying what an honor and privilege it is to be your Mission Support Group commander.

I'd like to challenge you to focus on three vectors: professionalism, opportunities, and mentoring. Let's begin with professionalism -- you are all professionals and Leaders in Excellence. I know this because during my visit in August to headquarters Air Force Reserve Command directorates, they all mentioned Westover is a Leader in Excellence.

You each have a specific AFSC with a special skillset to accomplish the mission -- whether it is fighting a war or providing humanitarian relief. You are a part of what I consider the greatest institution -- the United States military. Whether you are a traditional reservist or full-timer, you should be proud to wear the uniform. When you put the uniform on and look into the mirror, do you feel like a proud professional? If not, take a step back and evaluate where you are in life. I understand life gets hard, so I know you will make the right decision.

Opportunities -- that's what life is all about. You need to take advantage of those opportunities that come your way, whether for personal or professional growth. Don't be afraid of opportunities. Step out of your comfort zones and go get them -- you won't regret your choice. Education is one of those opportunities, whether it's civilian and or military, such as the Community College of the Air Force. I think of professional military education as a "must-have" for career progression. Take advantage of opportunities. Provide opportunities to others so they too can progress in their careers.

"Don't be afraid of opportunities. Step out of your comfort zones and go get them."

Mentoring -- you need to have a mentor, if not, many. A mentor helps guide and direct you with personal and career choices. Seek him or her out -this is someone who is willing to invest an interest in you, and someone who doesn't have to be your supervisor or a military member. That person also needs to be able to hold you accountable for your decisions/actions. I have many mentors. Two are retired Col. Michael



Mounts and retired CMSgt. Steven Roberts. They helped me get to where I am today. Don't stop there -- regardless of what supervisory/leadership level, you need to be a mentor. Don't go out and tell someone you're going to be their mentor. Find an Airman and take an interest in their career and be their mentor.

I look forward to working with the entire Westover Team -- Leaders in Excellence.

by Col. Kenneth Lute 439th Mission Support Group commander

BRIEFS

Runway race

The Company Grade Officers Council will host a 5K Runway Race at 5 p.m.Oct. 13 (the October A UTA).

A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Combined Federal Campaign. Those interested in participating, will need to register from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Base Hangar Oct. 13.

For more information, email Capt. Shelly Martin at shelly.martin.1@ us.af.mil

Angel Tree program helps its own

The Westover Holiday Angel Tree Program begins in October for all Westover military personnel (wing and tenant units) and their dependent children (ages 1-17), who are in financial need during the holiday season.

Angel adoption starts Nov. 3. Sponsors interested in adopting an "Angel" will be provided with the gender, age, and a request for a special gift.

Gifts will be due back to Airman and Family Readiness by Dec. 8 at noon.

Candidates should provide their names to their respective first sergeants who will provide the family's information to the Airmen and Family Readiness Center staff.

The center staff will be the liaison between sign-ups and sponsors to ensure program anonymity.

Questions should be directed to 557-3023 or 866-690-2161. The center is located in Bldg. 1100 on Walker Avenue (across from the Westover Conference Center). Base exercise

A base mobilization exercise will be held Oct. 14. Reservists will be bussed to base supply, issued deployment bags, and then go to the Base Hangar for various briefings. Deployers will also have their mobility folders inspected.

Questions should be directed to unit deployment monitors.

Civilian CC Call

A Commander's Call for all civilian employees will be held at 3:30 p.m. Oct. 18 at the Westover Conference Center.

NEWS

New AF reg consolidates standards

by TSgt. Shawn Jones Air Force Public Affairs Agency

JOINT BASE ANDREWS, Md. (AFNS) -- When referencing fundamental standards, Airmen now have a single source: Air Force Instruction 1-1, Air Force Standards.

As one of the capstone acts of his 39year career, Gen. Norton Schwartz, Air Force chief of staff, put his signature on the brand new instruction, which communicates in one document the required standards of conduct, performance and discipline expected of every uniformed Airman.

The instruction -- the first and only to be signed and certified by the chief of staff - was preceded by Air Force Policy Directive 1, Air Force Culture, in which the secretary of the Air Force directed the chief of staff to develop and execute policy related to standards.



ASSUME COMMAND >> Col. Kenneth Lute addresses the audience during the 439th Mission Support Group assumption of command and his pin-on ceremony Sept. 9 in the Base Hangar. The assumption of command included unit formations of the 439th Force Support Squadron, 42nd Aerial Port Squadron, 439th Security Forces Squadron, 439th Communications Squadron, 439th Civil Engineering Squadron and 439th Logistics Readiness Squadron. (photo by MSgt. Andrew Biscoe)

The new instruction is noteworthy not because it offers many new standards, but because it consolidates many of the standards that had been spread among many separate instructions, officials said. In a single document, the instruction conveniently summarizes the expected standards of conduct for uniformed Airmen.

The intention for the instruction is to serve as a compass, providing a convenient overview of standards while directing Airmen to other instructions where more detailed information may be found, officials said.

Having a one-stop shop for standardsrelated guidelines has long been absent in the Air Force. In fact, the vast majority of the new instruction's initial content and structure were borrowed from the now outdated Air Force Regulation 30-I, Air Force Standards, which was not replaced until the early 1990s when Air Force instructions replaced Air Force regulations.

In December 2011, Schwartz directed the Air Staff to develop the new instruction. Much of the heavy lifting related to coordinating and drafting the instruction was performed by Scott Martin, a legal adviser on Schwartz's senior air staff counsel.

"We needed to capture and consolidate the existing Air Force standards," Martin, a 23-year veteran who retired as a colonel in 2010, said.

From cover to cover, the instruction counts 27 pages, broken into three chapters.

The first chapter, the Air Force environment, focuses on topics such as core values, customs and courtesies, force structure and diversity. According to the chapter overview, the Air Force environment "encompasses the actions, values and standards we live by every day."

The second chapter focuses on standards of conduct, including sections on professional relationships, ethics, drug and alcohol abuse, and government neutrality regarding religion.

The instruction's final chapter addresses standards related to dress and appearance, fitness and housing.

EDITOR'S NOTE: For the complete story on this new regulation, visit Westover's web site at westover.afrc.af.mil.

Westover C-5 soars at Foxboro by TSgt. Timm Huffman

Thousands of University of Massachusetts football fans who attended the home opener at Gillette Stadium, Sept. 8, had front row seats to a C-5 flyover.

The matchup between the UMass Minutemen and the Indiana Hoosiers, and the flyover, was televised nationally on ESPN-3.

Westover's honor guard presented the colors as the marching band played "America the Beautiful." A 337th Airlift Squadron spotter, SrA. Peter Gauvin, was perched high in the stands communicating with the C-5 and gave the go-ahead to begin the flyover.

The band transitioned into the Star Spangled Banner and the sun came out from behind the clouds. As the last notes of the national anthem faded and the crowds cheered, the Westover C-5 appeared on the giant field screen before roaring over the still-cheering fans.

Five Westover Airmen were present on the field for the coin toss, UMass alum Bill Cosby presided.

The all-UMass aircrew included Col. Jeff Hancock ('85 and 439th Airlift Wing vice commander); Lt. Col. Mike Smith, ('84); and Maj. Dan LaBoeuf ('99).

Indiana won the coin toss and opted to receive the kick-off and returned it for a touchdown and extra point. The Minutemen came right back at them and scored their own touchdown. Despite the even start, UMass lost, 45-6.

58th Homecoming





STAR SPANGLED SMILES AND HUGS >> Left, SrA. Jennifer Grace and her husband, John, spend their first few moments together Sept. 12 following the Airman's deployment to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. Above, Kim Masood hugs her husband shortly after SSgt. Daniel Masood stepped off a bus, capping his six-month deployment. (photos by MSgt. Andrew Biscoe)

Aerial porters swap out Bagram deployments

by MSgt. Andrew Biscoe

Sunshine and a gentle breeze accented a euphoric homecoming as loved ones welcomed aerial port reservists back into their lives here Sept. 12.

SSgt. Daniel Masood was one of about 20 deployed 58th Aerial Port Squadron Airmen who stepped off a bus at Westover following the long flight home that ended at Bradley International Airport, Conn.

His first home assignment: Hoisting his wife, Kim, off the ground for a few powerful and emotional moments.

Elsewhere, camera shutters clicked, TV crews panned, and smiles and tears proliferated. The weary but happy reservists set foot on American soil after spending six months in the mountainous terrain at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

MSgt. James Lowe -- returning from his sixth deployment -- said he's grown used to the transitions reservists go through as they cross the world for deployments. One was the difference in climates with Afghanistan and the United States.

"It's dusty over there. And I've been looking forward to the food back here."

The 16-year veteran recounted the kinds of food and drink he anticipated upon getting back home.

"Not that I've been thinking about it," he said with a smile, to a gaggle of reporters and TV crews.

The aerial porters logged impressive statistics while serving at Bagram, one of the largest U.S. overseas bases in the world. The reservists processed 325,883 passengers, 141,332 tons of cargo, and 2,536 tons of mail, said 1st Lt. Alan Fairey of the 58th APS.

"While we're happy they're home, we know the nation is still at war," 1st Lt. Fairey said. The mission continues at Bagram. Reservists with the 58th's sister squadron, the 42nd APS, replaced their Westover counterparts at Westover. They headed to Bagram in early September as part of a swap-out of Westover's deep pool of skilled reservists.

Another large group of 58th reservists came home Sept. 19. Their replacements -- more than 50 42nd APS reservists -- have taken over the handling of the massive daily cargo movements involving a constant armada of military and civilian transports and airliners.

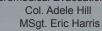
439th Airlift Wing Commander Col. Steven Vautrain







439th Airlift Control Flight Lt. Col. Patrick King Vacant



439th Maintenance Squadron Lt. Col. Kristofer Terry CMSgt. Clifford Wittman



Vice Wing Commander Col. Jeffrey Hancock



TAN

Command Chief CCMSgt. Michael Thorpe

439th Mission Support Group Col. Kenneth Lute





439th Civil Engineering Squadron Maj. Robert Russo SMSgt. Stacy Gilman



439th Communications Squadron Lt. Col. Anthony Perkins MSgt. Chelsey Martin





439th Logistics Readiness Squadron Lt. Col. Michael Buoniconti MSgt. Kimberly Babin



439th Force Support Squadron Lt. Col. Patrick Dufraine MSgt. Daniel Howard





42nd Aerial Port Squadron Lt. Col. Qais Ajalat SMSgt. Timothy MaGuire



58th Aerial Port Squadron Lt. Col. Richard Bellshot SMSgt. Michael Wysocki



439th Security Forces Squadron Lt. Col. Wesley Thiel SMSgt. Frederick Hetu

photos by 439th Airlift Wing Public Affairs staff

FEATURE

'Earl of ESGR': A dedicated volunteer is honored with a national award

by 2nd Lt. Andre Bowser

For 12 years, Earl Bonett has put the needs of veterans before his own need to enjoy his retirement.

For this and more. he's the 2011 National Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Military Outreach Volunteer of the Year.

But voluminous titles aside, he just likes to be called Earl. of ESGR.

After retiring from the U.S. Postal Ser-

vice, Bonett returned to his military roots and became a volunteer with ESGR, a national organization that supports reservists and guardsmen by, among many other things, helping them maintain gain-



Earl Bonett

military. Bonett himself joined one

of the sea services, he'll tell you, "during

the sixties -- in the Destroyer Navy." After four years, he left the Navy and returned to his hometown Mass., before attending and finishing college, and embarking on careers in edu-

cation and federal civil service.

The 68-year-old retired postmaster of Holyoke became an ESGR volunteer after one of his employees, who happened to be in the Air Force Reserve, invited him on a Bosslift, an

ful employment outside of the Air Force and ESGR-sponsored trip which show employers what their employee/reservists do as a means to garner support for those Citizen Airmen.

In Bonett's case, it worked.

"I was amazed that all the pilots and aircrew were reservists, and I said to myself 'I'd like to get involved in this," Bonett recalled.

Since then, Bonett served of Monson, as ESGR's state vice chairman, Western Massachusetts chairman, acting ombudsman director, and ombudsman director.

> Even as a junior enlisted Sailor in the Navy, Bonett had a warm place for veterans. He was stationed in Newport, R.I., aboard a destroyer; and since he was so close to his family in Massachusetts, he said he took advantage of his mother's generous nature almost every weekend.

"I would bring eight, nine, 10 guys home with me every weekend and my mother would make each of them a favorite food," he said of his mother who worked as a mechanic for the military, as well as a professional chef.

Recalling the tough times in the Navy, Bonett said: "The thing that was the worst on the Navy destroyers was the sterilized milk. All you could taste was the metal, but I drank it anyway."

Bonett served in the Navy as a radioman crypto technician, which meant he sent and received top secret messages for the sea service.

He left the Navy to attend school at the American International College in Springfield, Mass., where he earned a bachelor's degree in English.

Bonett taught high school for eight years before he took a job

TROOP TALK How do you plan to use your post-9/11 GI Bill benefits?



"I'm going to save it for any future children I might have, so college isn't as much of a burden for them as it has been for me." -- SrA. Heather Wilson 439th Airlift Wing commander's support staff

photos by SrA. Charles Hutchinson IV

"I was enrolled in EMT school. I took a semester off but I would like to go back to school and ultimately become a firefighter." --SrA. John Ashley 439th Maintenance Squadron





"I'm on seasoning training but once that's done, I want to go back to school. I have an associate's degree in criminal justice and would like to get a bachelor's degree in business." --A1C. Karl Makusiewicz 439th Civil Engineering Squadron

with the Postal Service. After retiring from that career, he worked as a youth counselor before becoming heavily involved in volunteer programs such as ESGR.

Bonett said part of the impetus for volunteering, besides returning to his military roots, was the "raw deal" Vietnam veterans like himself received from the public when he returned to civilian life.

"It was different back then," he recalls. "People weren't as supportive as they are today of the military."

Bonett said he decided to be a part of a solution he envisioned to help make the bond between the military and the public stronger.

He has helped reservists and guardsmen avoid issues at their places of work, by educating the service members. and sometimes

the employers.

is reactive versus proactive is going to places of employment and smoothing out relationships between reservists and their employers," Bonett said. Otherwise, he said he's out engaging military members across the state within his area of responsibility -- or Western Massachusetts -- and sometimes beyond.

The difficult part for him is when reservists in challenging situations continue to feel the pinch of poor workplace relations.

"We explain the law to reservists and highlight the law that applies to their specific circumstance, and then the next step is a formal case after the employer has been informed of an issue or violation of reservist's rights," Bonett said.

Often, in his experience, cases "The only part of ESGR that involve reservists who leave on deployments and return to find their civilian positions marginalized, in which case ESGR steps in and informs reservists and employers of the law in the hope that it ends there.

> Bonett said he's found outreach, before a problem arises, to be a much better road to travel. To that end, he pushes reservists to nominate supportive bosses, employers and places of employment for Patriot Awards, by would be invited to attend the contacting his office.

Bonett's zeal for military outreach and his proactive posture for seeking out supportive employers are precisely what netted him the distinction of the national military outreach volunteerism award. And the field of competition was no small swath, with more than 4,500 people in ESGR.

"The functional area volunteers are integral to the accomplishment of our mission as they provide critical support to our reserve component members, their families, and employers," stated James Rebholz, the national chairman of ESGR, in a letter informing Bonett of his selection. "Your active participation in this vital program has done much to enhance ESGR overall."

As the national winner Bonett Freedom Award Ceremony and National Leadership Conference at the White House in September.

Bill Hebert, a program support technician for the Massachusetts ESGR, said he nominated Earl "because of the tireless effort he puts into briefing military members about their rights."

The do's and don'ts of the political season

With the presidential primaries approaching, everyone is encouraged to vote. However, for democracy to work properly, civil servants and military members can't be seen as taking sides.

Federal employees have an obligation to support elected officials regardless of whether they voted for them. For this reason, getting a paycheck directly from the federal government limits a person's ability to participate in some aspects of the political process.

Do's and don'ts for reservists on status

Unlike their active duty counterparts, reservists who are not in any orders status and not in uniform can generally fully participate in the democratic process, including speaking at political gatherings, and speaking on a radio or TV program, and they may advocate for a political candidate.

Active duty military members (including reservists in military status), however, are prohibited from engaging in numerous political activities. For example, members cannot display large political signs on their vehicle. However, members are allowed to display a political bumper sticker on their vehicle.

Active duty military members may not participate in partisan political clubs, solicit for a partisan political group or march in a partisan political parade. Further, Active duty and Reserve military members are prohibited from using official authority to influence an election or solicit votes for a candidate or issue.

Do's and don'ts for federal civilians

Rules governing political activities by government civilians are found in the Hatch Act. DOD civilians who violate the Hatch Act face personnel actions, including being suspended or fired. Most Hatch-Act restrictions are centered on preventing supervisors from influencing subordinates to participate in or contribute to partisan groups or candidates.

Federal employees may not display

political campaign materials in the workplace.

Federal employees may express opinions about candidates and issues when off duty.

Federal employees may not express opinions directed at the success or failure of a political party or candidate when on duty, in uniform, in a federal building, or in a federally owned or leased vehicle.

There are three important things to remember during the upcoming political season. First, regardless of status, using command influence to sway subordinates to vote for a particular party, candidate or issue is prohibited. Second, when you receive a paycheck from the federal government, some aspects of your political freedom are limited. Third, if you are unsure whether or not a political activity is approved, reference AFI 51-902.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The 439th AW Staff Judge Advocate General's staff assisted with providing this information. Anyone with questions should call 413-557-3180.

WESTOVER PATRIOTS

Tail enclosure streamlines maintenance inspections

by SrA. Alexander Brown

Its dimensions impose itself anywhere -- 65 feet tall, 222 feet wide and 247 feet long. Working on a C-5 Galaxy demands a lot of space.

Imagine having to fit those dimensions inside a building. It didn't happen at Westover until 1990, when crews built the towering pullthrough hangar.

But soon, two buildings will be able to contain the Air Force's largest aircraft.

Crews broke ground April 1 for the \$4.2 million mobile tail enclosure that will become part of the regional isochronal inspection dock. The maintainers' goal is to have a

controlled environment, so Airmen can work on the C-5s' T-tails -- no matter the time nor anything Mother Nature brings to the flight line.

"It will increase productivity for sure," said MSgt. Jeffrey Schillawski, RISO day shift supervisor with the 439th Maintenance Squadron. "When you are fighting the elements, it will always take a lot longer."

Since the RISO's beginning in December 2006, Westover's maintenance workers have drastically improved the efficiency of the C-5's nose-to-tail inspection process.

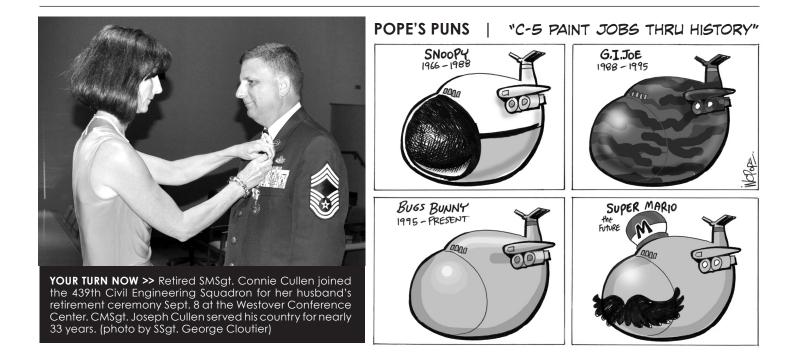


They've reduced the process to scrutinize the inside and outside of a Galaxy from 50 days to an average of 16.

Maintenance centers at Dover Air Force Base, Del. and Robins AFB, Ga., also have mobile tail enclosures.

The enclosure is expected to be operational next spring. Until then, maintainers will conduct inspections in the pull-through hangar.

"This will enable us to continually become more efficient and better suited to withstand New England's notoriously cold winters," MSgt. Schillawski said.



PROMOTIONS

Master Sergeant Larry Couch

Christopher Harry Brad Ward

Technical Sergeant

Paul Barboza Augustin Cardona Janet Clayton Ian Crowley Francisco Lopez-Torres Peter Stone

Staff Sergeant

Alexis Agnew Matthew Blais Kenneth Close Tyler Coffey Anthony Racco Katrina Somerville

Senior Airman

Eric Atwater Todd Jones Ian Leblanc Frank Levitre Amanda Longton **Richard Myatt** Paul Randall Jr

Airman First Class

Stephanie Badale Kenneth Chinjen Steven Christensen Carolina Cid Randy Cordova Eric Farr Erik St. Germain Rafal Grabarski Pamela Hubyk **Tiffany Jenkins** Shannon Mackenzie Andrew Nadrowski **Travis Phillips Tramaine Pringle** William Schiavi

Airman



Ernest Awusah Chad Clark Joshua Horne Joel Nunez **Emanuel Ocasio Ramos** Joshua Szpila

Airman Basic

Stephan Dacosta Amanda Lopez **Omar Perez** Joshua Welton



SSgt. Sheila Hazen

RETIREMENTS

Major John Crotty

Chief Master Sergeant Earl Duncan

Master Sergeant Anthony Gambardel

PATRIOT | PAGE11 FACES OF WESTOVER

SSgt. Sheila Hazen 439th Security Forces Squadron

"I entered the active-duty Air Force almost 10 years ago because of the brotherhood, education benefits, and ultimately a sense of belonging to something greater than oneself," SSgt. Hazen said. "I chose to go into security forces because it was the only combat-related position I was interested in."

After serving at Minot Air Force Base, N.D., and Aviano Air Base, Italy, SSgt. Hazen took a year break and came home to Massachusetts in 2010 to contemplate her next career decision.

"Ultimately, I missed the camaraderie from the military and decided to re-enlist with the reserve. I heard about the AGR positions available for security forces at Westover and applied," she says. "I intend to finish out my 20 years and retire from the military," she said.

"I want to give my daughters, Talia and Rose, a mother that they look up to. They are the reason why I do what I do every day."

-- by SrA. Kelly Galloway



SERVICES CALENDER

12 p.m.

ALCF

MXS

I RS

CLUB >> The renovation is progressing; keep updated at www.westoverservices. com. On UTAs, troop feedings are in Bldg. 5550. For more information, call 593-5531, Ext. 103. The feeding schedule is:

11 a.m.
439 AMDS
ASTS
OSS
337 AS
AES

11:30 a.m. MOS AMXS FSS/AW SFS

12:30 p.m. 42 APS **58 APS** CES CS

Submitted by Mollie Anello, services marketing assistant

BOWLING CENTER >> Changes are happening -- follow along on our Facebook page, the Spotlight newsletter, or www.westoverservices.com!

OUTDOOR REC >> Outdoor recreation stocks all fall clean-up equipment. Rent the log splitter, wood chipper, lawn vacuum, and much more! 557-2192.

FITNESS >> Zumba classes, Mon. 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tues. 4:45 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.; boxing Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.; Body By Design Personal Training Group Classes \$10 per class, personal class \$45 per session; flag football continues. Schedules are displayed at the fitness center.

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www.westover.afrc.af.mil



Published monthly for Patriots like SSgt. Justin Grenon, Woonsocket, R.I., and the more than 3,400 reservists and civilians assigned to the 439th Airlift Wing. 439th Airlift Wing 100 Lloyd St., Box 49 Westover ARB Chicopee, Mass. 01022-1825



1825



ENGINEERING FEAT >> SMSgt. Glenn Flynn, left, and TSgt. Cecil Calvin, 337th Airlift Squadron loadmasters, monitor the C-5's flight while enroute to the University of Massachusetts football game flyover Sept. 8. For more on the flyover, see the cover and pages 2 and 4. (photo by MSgt. Andrew Biscoe).