

WESTOVER WELCOMES NEW COMMANDER, COL. D. SCOTT "BULL" DURHAM!



Provide global reach capabilities with mission-ready Citizen Airmen

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UTA SNAPSHOT

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ON THE COVER >> The annual Youth Outreach event was held on April 26 in Hangar 3 and on the flight line. See page 4. (photos by Master Sgt. Andrew Biscoe, Senior Airman Monica Ricci, and W.C.Pope)



FINAL PRESENTS >> Bud Shuback, Galaxy Council President, presents Brig. Gen. Jay Jensen, former 439th Airlift Wing commander, with a C-5 model as an appreciation of his tenure at Westover, June 2. In the background, a "loaner" C-5M from Dover Air Force Base, Del., taxis for a local training flight. (photo by W.C.Pope)



As we begin our journey together, I want you to know that my family and I were extremely impressed by the warm welcomes and awesome show of force during the change of command ceremony on Sunday of the June UTA. Stepping into this role is a responsibility that I take seriously. Commander of the Patriot Wing is one of the most important and humbling challenges of my life.

Before joining your ranks as your wing commander, Jennifer and I were a part of a great Reserve unit at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware, and that was an important job with global impact. Westover is a completely new ball game, as you are the premiere Reserve wing and certainly one of the biggest.

For those who were unable to attend the change of command, whether at home or busy at your jobs, I want to share with you some of the message imparted to the more than 1,000 Airmen who were volun-told to be there in formation!

I discussed with them three simple things that will set the tone for our journey together, as well as the dialogue I'd like to have with all of you as we work to continue the strong legacy Westover has as "Leaders In Excellence."

The theme of my remarks centered on three words. "Position, Place, and Time." By "Position," I mean that I feel fortunate

to be here and will continue the good stewardship of Westover along with its most important asset: the Airmen who serve here.

On "Place," I said that the place is Westover and you are the best at making the hard seem easy. All the accomplishments and awards this wing has earned is truly an incredible service to our nation, and yet you all do your jobs with the ease that only comes with the years of experience from truly professional Reservists. This base consistently comes out in front. What that tells me is there is a lot of sweat and elbow grease flying around here, and very little complaining about the important work we do in defense of our country.

Regarding "Time," now is the time to capitalize on our new C-5M's. The time to prove Westover's value to the nation is right now. We have an awesome opportunity to demonstrate the capability of this plane and our ability to maximize its use. I affirmed my commitment to honor and respect your time. I will do my best to ensure that you all are able effectively train, operate and receive the recognition you deserve as AFRC Airmen. That is my commitment to you, and Jennifer and I are proud to serve and be on the 439th team with you.

Keep up the good work, be Patriot Proud!



Col. "Bull" Durham
439th Airlift Wing commander

BRIEFS

New Instagram

- Check out and follow the new base Instagram, @westoverarb

- Follow us on Facebook and read about the latest Westover news first at www.facebook.com/westover.patriot

- Catch the latest episode of Channel 50, Westover's own local news broadcast, on YouTube at youtube.com/439westover

Remember to treat your wingmen with respect on social media and tell your friends to follow us!

Listen closely

Westover's new C-5M Super Galaxy is radically quieter than previous versions of the U.S. military's largest aircraft. It's now among the quietest aircraft in the Air Force inventory. As of June, the 439th Airlift Wing had taken ownership to two M-models, with the remaining six due to join the flight line by August 2018.

Patriot Wing names second quarter winners

The wing's second quarter winners are:

Airman: Senior Airman Katelyn Dotson, 439th Communications Squadron; NCO: Tech. Sgt. Maria Mena, CS; SNCO: Senior Master Sgt. Jeffrey Roule, 439th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Company Grade Officer: Capt. Matthew Borowski, 439th Contingency Response Flight; Civilian: Joshua Menard, 439th Maintenance Squadron; Civilian Supervisor: Lisa Blasdell, 439th Force Support Squadron.

Online conduct

Any Airman with reason to believe he or she may have been affected by online hazing or bullying is encouraged to seek local assistance from AFOI, commanders, first sergeants, chaplains, SARC, SVC, and inspectors general. Anyone inquiring about Air Force social media standards can refer to AFI 1-1.2.2.8 or AFI 1-1.2.15.

Social Media Do's

- DO treat people with respect
- DO think before posting information online and/or sending to friends
- DO be cautious of unintended consequences of information sharing and privacy
- DO avoid actions that could bring discredit upon yourself, your unit, or the Air Force, including posting defamatory, threatening, or other offensive information
- DO say something if you see violations

Green Dot

Squadron leaders should be aware that upcoming mandatory green dot training sessions will begin June 28, and will occur from July through October. Please check the schedule and get more information about the training at www.facebook.com/westover.patriot. Sign up for initial training at CVK Share-Point or call 557-3862.

Change of command takes place on historic base ellipse



COMMAND CHANGES HANDS >>

Nearly 1,000 Westover Airmen attended the change of command ceremony June 2, held on the historic base ellipse. Brig. Gen. Jay Jensen relinquished command of the base to Col. D. Scott Durham during the ceremony, which was presided over by Maj. Gen. Randall Ogden, 4th Air Force commander. (U.S. Air Force photos by Senior Airman Monica Ricci, Staff Sgt. Tamara Williams, and Master Sgt. Andrew Biscoe)

by Capt. Andre Bowser

Brig. Gen. Jay Jensen relinquished command of the 439th Airlift wing to Col. D. Scott Durham during a change of command ceremony June 4, on the base ellipse.

Maj. Gen. Randy Ogden, 4th Air Force commander, who has a history of involvement with the leadership of the base, presided over the event.

In an opening speech, Ogden addressed the near 1,000 Airmen in attendance by commending them on their hard work and saying that Westover's Airmen are known as leaders in excellence.

During the ceremony, Jensen said that his job leading the Patriot Wing was memorable and rewarding, but was also one of the most challenging assignments to leave.

In his time as wing commander, beginning in March 2016, Jensen led the wing in the conversion from the C-5B to the C-5M Super Galaxy and the base through a period that will forever impact its mission and history.

Following the change of command, Jensen





was appointed the Director of Air Force Reserve Programs and Requirements at the Pentagon.

Before officially taking command, Durham placed the formation of near 1,000 Airmen that stretched across the base ellipse at ease.

It was a sight to see as the Airmen moved out of the position of attention.

According to Master Sgt. Joseph Gluckert,

base historian, there is no recent history of an Air Force change of command taking place on the base ellipse. The ellipse was constructed in 1940 and is one

of the oldest remaining features of the original Westover landscape.

In a brief welcome address, Durham said he wanted to discuss three things with the Airmen gathered before him: position, place, and time.

"In the position of leader, I will continue the good stewardship of Westover," said Durham. "Its most important asset is the Airmen who serve here."

Regarding place and time, Durham said, "The place is Westover and you make the hard seem easy. I will honor and respect your time, and I promise all of you I will do my best."

Durham began as commander June 12.



COMMAND CHANGES HANDS >>

Col. D. Scott Durham's family attends the change of command ceremony June 2, to witness another 439th Airlift Wing leadership milestone. During the ceremony, Durham stressed the importance of the role every Airman plays in the success of the mission, saying Westover's most important asset is the Airmen who serve here. (photos by Senior Airman Monica Ricci, Staff Sgt. Tamara Williams, and Master Sgt. Andrew Biscoe)

Weekend Warrior Concert Honored

Six Airmen were personally thanked by country singer Brad Paisley on stage during the kickoff concert of his "Weekend Warrior World Tour" May 18, in Saratoga Springs, New York.

Within the country music genre, it is not uncommon for artists to write songs thanking the military, or to produce songs written from the perspective of military members. Many country artists have been known to recognize the service members and play concerts on military installations overseas to boost troop morale.

Paisley recently released a new song, "Love and War" which tells emotional stories of the struggles service members face in their work. The goal of the song, written with Army reserve veteran John Foggerty, was to send a message to the public about Paisley's opinion that the U.S. should be taking



better care of veterans after their time serving is over.

Paisley has been a public supporter of the military and has invited service members on stage at his shows several times in the past. The music video for "Love and War" was filmed aboard the USS Midway Museum to honor veterans and their service.

At the concert, Airmen, including Westover personnel, were invited on stage in uniform, where Paisley thanked them for their service and reminded his fans never to forget the sacrifices that military members make.

"It was overwhelming," said Chief Master Sgt. Joann G. Shaw, flight chief of the recruiting office here, "As soon as we walked in at the venue everyone stopped, applauded, and thanked us for our service."

WESTOVER: A HISTORIC FIXTURE IN THE PIONEER VALLEY



by Capt. Andre Bowser

Those who attended the June 4 change of command might not be aware of the decades-long military tradition that's been centered on the base ellipse since Westover's opening in 1940.

"Westover Field was constructed as the premier Army air base for the northeast when United States preparations for entry into World War II were precipitated by the Nazi invasion of Poland in 1939. Up to

then, the country had only seventeen unimproved, and ill-maintained air bases," according to the booklet "An Historical Walking Tour of Westover Air Reserve Base," which was published in part by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. "President Roosevelt signed a \$750,000 Works Progress Administration (WPA) project bill for the air base's construction in November, 1939. Fourteen hundred WPA and Civilian Conservation Commission (CCC) workers cleared the land, and actual construction was started in February, 1940."

The leaflet, a total of 16 pages, lists various stops of historical significance on the base, describing both facilities that exist and a few no longer on the base, such as Building 7450, or the "Mole Hole" that's currently located at

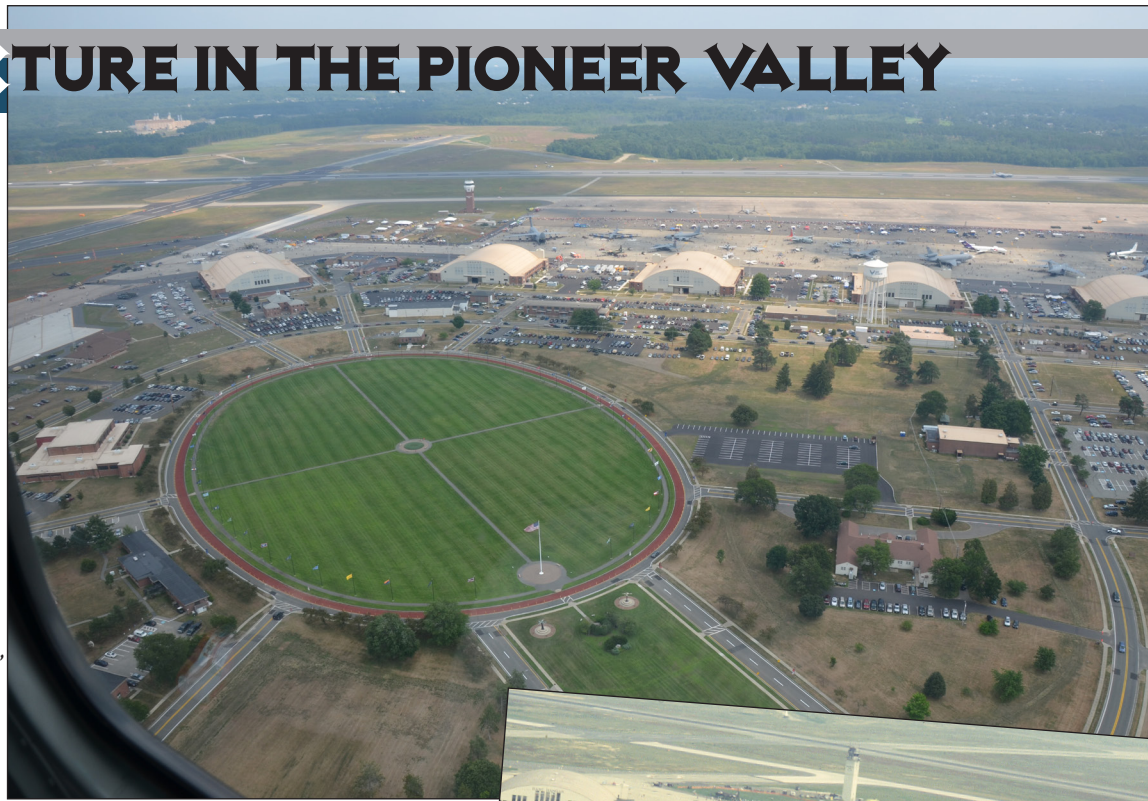
Westover Metropolitan Airport. The stops, a total of 16, include "Stop #13 Ellipse and Flagpoles."

The stop is described as follows: "When the Quartermaster Corps drew up its first plans for the Northeast Air Base, they followed a formal geometric approach making the elliptical parade ground its center, with base buildings constructed on streets outward. Although it has been reported that the base was modeled after Chanute Air Base in Illinois, it is clear that Westover was

a more formally executed plan. The plot plan for the base drawn up in 1939 with its carefully thought out axis of gate, flag pole, parade ground and Base Hangar No. 1, made this the geographic and symbolic center of the base. The center flag pole was, and continues to be a focus of the imagery of this important American military installation, and fifty new flag poles have been added around the edge of the ellipse for the states of the union.

"During its history, the parade ground has been the ceremonial center of the base where parade review was held every month during World War II, visitors presented and occasions celebrated ... After the war, personnel continued to be reviewed here to keep their training polished and morale high."

To learn more about Westover's history, stop by the 439th Airlift Wing's Public Affairs Office to peruse the pamphlet "An Historical Walking Tour of Westover Air Reserve Base."

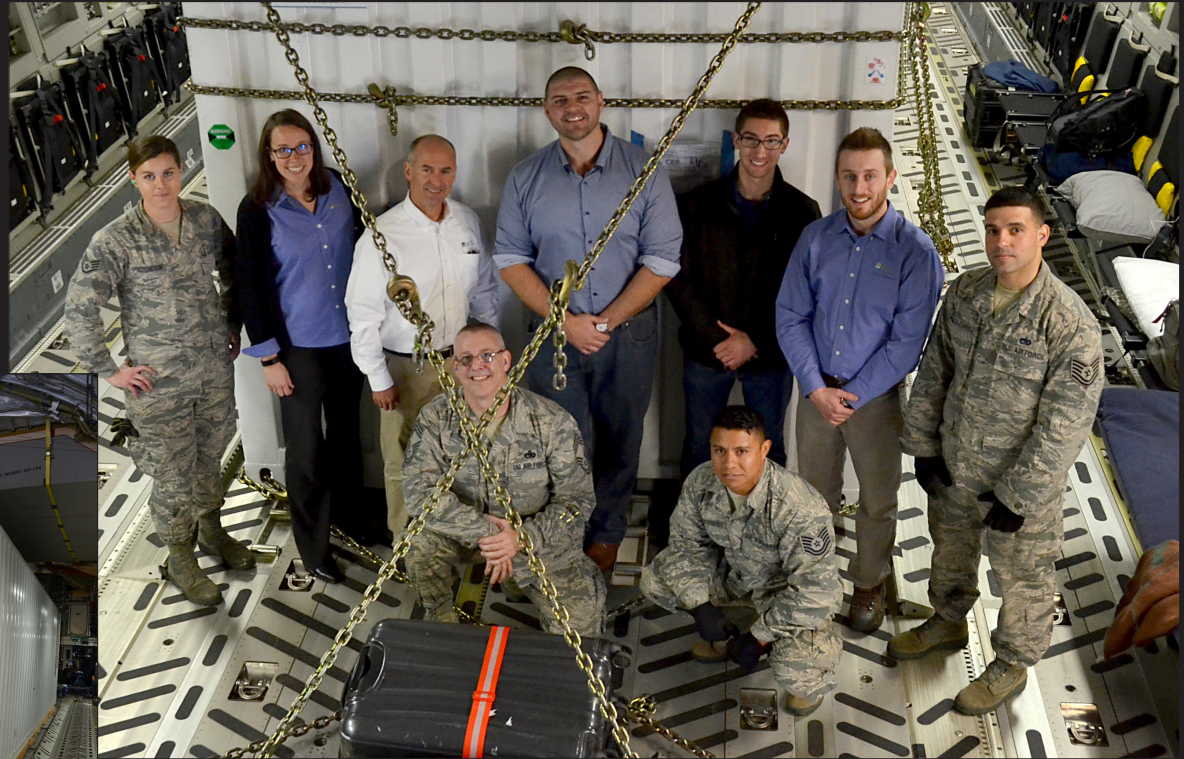


42ND HELPS LOAD WATER PURIFIER ON AUSSIE C-17

Words/photos by Airman 1st Class Sadie Hewes

A Royal Australian Air Force C-17 arrived at Westover May 25. Airmen from the 42nd Aerial Port Squadron worked with Australian airmen May 26, to load ECT2 water purification systems onto the aircraft to be flown back to Australia. The water systems are manufactured in Portland, Maine. Airlift coordinators chose Westover because it is the closest base with the lifting and loading capabilities to get the systems securely on the C-17.

"Westover has been nothing but accomidating and helpful," said Nathan Bleathman, project manager and representative of the Australian Department of Defense. "We couldn't have done it without them."



WESTOVER'S FIRST C-5M RETURNS WITH A HERO'S WELCOME

7037 made history on June 2

by Airman 1st Class Sadie Hewes

Excitement buzzed on the Westover flight line June 2 as media, Airmen, and plane fanatics alike stood waiting for the arrival of the military's largest aircraft. Everything was in perfect place for its landing. A static C-5 loomed next to the control tower, awaiting retirement, and the fire engines were in place to christen the new C-5 as it landed.

Suddenly, a low-pitched sound came from the distance. As it approached, it was hard to believe the quiet behemoth in the sky was the first C-5M Super Galaxy to be assigned to Westover. As it swooped over the heads of its onlookers and circled back to make its landing, another aviation milestone was in the books.

The aircraft, which had been stationed at Westover in 2016 as a C-5B, was recently renovated and



upgraded into a C-5M. It is the first of a fleet of eight, with the rest of the new models scheduled to arrive here by summer of 2018.

Designed by Lockheed-Georgia Co., the Super Galaxy lacks the distinctive whine known to the legacy cargo aircraft. However, it certainly isn't lacking in its lifting capabilities. It has the capacity to carry 36 standard pallets and 81 troops simultaneously.

"This aircraft was built with a performance increase in mind and it delivers," Lt. Col. Scott Kuhrt, instructor and C-5 aircraft commander, told reporters and public affairs staff, during a planeside interview. Indeed, with a maximum cargo weight of 270,000 pounds, the C-5M's performance is unmatched by any other cargo aircraft. Additionally, the M-model consumes about 20 percent less fuel than previous models, and has the ability to fly up to 5,000 nautical miles without aerial refueling.

With the assistance of aerial refueling, the new model aircraft can travel worldwide.

"We can travel further, without making stops for fuel from the east coast to as far as Central Asia



HISTORIC CREW >>

The crew that flew 7037 up from Stewart Air National Guard Base, N.Y., from top to bottom consisted of Col. Les Bradfield, Lt. Col. Scott Kuhrt, 2nd Lt. Terrance McKenna, Senior Master Sgt. Steven Bryant, Master Sgt. John Lyons, Tech. Sgt. Eric Ciborowski, Master Sgt. Carlton House, and Senior Airman Ashley Kostka.



direct," said Master Sgt. John Lyons, a loadmaster assigned to the 439th.

As the newest addition to the Westover family landed, it was taxied through towering arches of water, courtesy of the Westover fire department, before parking. As the crew departed the aircraft, they were greeted by their aircrew and maintenance wingmen line to congratulate them on their safe arrival.

"I feel lucky, I'm one of the few maintenance people here left that has actively worked on the old model aircraft," said Master Sgt. Kevin Bowen, a crew chief assigned to the 439th Maintenance Squadron, during an interview with local media. "To be a part of this transition is a big deal."

The Super Galaxy is sure to enhance mission readiness and performance at Westover as a new aviation chapter has been written for the base.

"What's happening today is one of the most significant aviation milestones in the 77-year history of this base," said Master Sgt. Andrew Biscoe, acting chief of the 439th Public Affairs office.

With a red tail stripe and Patriot logo freshly painted proudly on the tail of the aircraft, there's no doubt the C-5M will live up to its expectations. Westover's C-5M will soon be formally named "The Spirit of Chicopee" during a dedication ceremony on base.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Photos provided by Chief Master Sgt. Justin Thurber, Master Sgt. Todd Panico, Master Sgt. Andrew Biscoe, Airman 1st Class Sadie Hewes, and W.C. Pope.

Please visit Westover's Facebook page for photos of the C-5M's arrival: <https://www.facebook.com/westover.patriot>

Westover Security Forces hosts annual National Police Week Shooting Competition 2017

by Master Sgt. Andrew Biscoe

Airmen with the 439th Security Forces Squadron hosted a shooting competition at the Westover firing range May 18, with police officers spanning from departments in the Boston area to Connecticut.

According to Senior Master Sgt. Randy Bates, the competition raised money for the family of Tech. Sgt. Matthew Daigle, a SFS Airman and Massachusetts state trooper, who passed away suddenly earlier this year.

Some of the competing officers were also members of the 439th SFS. They included Chief Master Sgt. Michael Grady and Senior Master Sgt. Anthony Giardini.

Bates, who was on the verge of retirement during one of his last days at the firing range, said the competition was a good way for him to wrap up his 32-year career in the military.

"This is about helping Matt's family," he said. "This is my second year arranging this tournament. What happened to Matt was so sudden. I'm glad I could be part of this before my retirement."

The goal of the competition was to raise \$2,000 for the Daigle family.

Shooting competition awards rundown:

Team awards:

First place: Connecticut Department of Corrections, Special Operations Group

Second: Massachusetts Environmental Police

Third: 439th SFS

Individual awards:

First place: Officer Ryan Vesneau, Connecticut Department of Corrections

Second: Sgt. Gagne, South Hadley, Mass.

Third: Officer T.J. Connors, Massachusetts Environmental Police



6 bases, 4 airframes, and 9 units come together for 1 big exercise



by Airman 1st Class Sadie Hewes

Critical care patients were loaded in and out of trucks, C-17's and helicopters by aeromedical evacuation Airmen while aerial porters and Marines worked to secure anything from litter storage units to Humvees for various flights. Federal Emergency Management Agency workers loaded a static aircraft. Even their service dog was there for training. Airmen trained in emergency communications relayed flight patterns and patient movement information across the east coast as Westover Airmen trained in emergency operations.

It was a long and educational week for some 300 exercise players who participated in the Patriot Clipper 2017 exercise, which lasted from June 2 through June 9.

The exercise included 83 flights carrying 134 simulated patients, 150 passengers, and 192 short tons of cargo. Westover Airmen worked alongside aircraft and service members from five other bases, including Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, March ARB, California, Keesler AFB, Mississippi, Maxwell-Gunter AFB, Alabama, and the Connecticut National Guard.

The joint-operations exercise, which highlighted skills of Airmen from the 439th Aeromedical Evacuation and Aeromedical Staging squadrons, the 42nd and 58th Aerial Port squadrons, the 439th Communications Squadron, and several units tenant units, consisted of simulated deployed operations in three locations: Westover, Joint Base Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and Plattsburgh International Airport, New York.

In addition to support from multiple Air Force units, both Marines from units around the country and Connecticut Army National Guardsmen also participated.

Every unit attending the exercise played a major part in supporting the operations.

The Contingency Response Element, which was made up of Airmen from several units, worked to maintain communications across the three locations.

Airmen working for the CRE have the technical skills to set up communication via secure and unsecure means anywhere in the world between 75 degrees North and 75 degrees South as long as they have power, said Master Sgt. Jason Garvin, assigned to the Contingency Response Element at Plattsburgh.

This communication capability aided 439th AES Airmen in relaying patient and aircraft movements across the exercise.

For Senior Airman Jose Mendez, a 439th AES radio transmissions systems technician, this year's exercise provided better training on equipment than in previous years.

"It's better because we actually have more equipment than last year," said Mendez. "We get more training on setting up and being more comfortable with the equipment."

Meanwhile, Airmen trained in aeromedical procedures loaded, cared for, and unloaded simulated critical care patients on C-17s both on the ground and in flight.

In flight, there were simulated incidents involving patients the aeromedical Airmen had





to respond to, including a psychiatric patient attempting to start a fire and a patient having a seizure.

The medical crew on the flight worked quickly and efficiently to stabilize patients when these incidents occurred, so quickly, in fact, it was hard to tell what was happening until after it was over.

"The unexpected is going to happen eventually," said Senior Airman Brandon Mitchell, 439th AES, who worked as the lead medical

technician on one of the flights, about the in-flight patient incidents. "This is what we trained for."

Those who were not working to save lives on the aircraft actually had the opportunity to role play as patients in flight.

Senior Airman Alyssa Lynch, 439th ASTS, played the role of an ambulatory patient.

Lynch said experiencing things as a patient, going to the aircraft, being on the



PATRIOT CLIPPER >>

Over 300 service members worked together during the week long Patriot Clipper exercise, held across Westover, the Plattburgh International Airport, and Joint Base Cape Cod. Units from more than five bases from across the country played a part in success of the exercise. (U.S Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Sadie Hewes and Tech. Sgt. Stephen Winn)

Patriot Clipper

aircraft, and being unloaded from the aircraft was excellent training for the medical technicians.

Experiencing how the patient actually feels, as a medical technician, is great to see. We see the other side, so we know how to better care for them, said Lynch.

In addition to patient movement, aerial port Airmen worked with Marines to load trucks and Humvees onto aircraft and secure them to be moved to other participating locations.

Senior Airman Jacob Nieves, a ramp technician assigned to the 58th Aerial Port Squadron, said working together with other branches and agencies was a lot of fun for the aerial port Airmen.

"Everybody has a different mentality and a different way of doing things," said Nieves.

"You learn different ways of communicating and different ways of getting the job done."

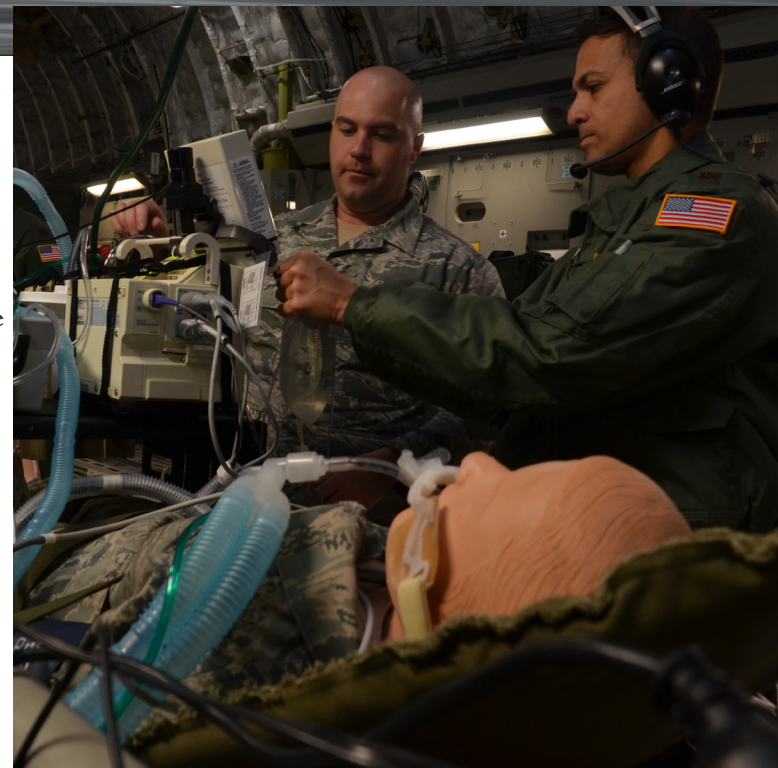
To an onlooker, it may have been difficult to determine what was going on and who belonged where, but for the members of the exercise, everything had run very smoothly.

"This was a lot of fun, we've got to do this more often," said Nieves.

As Airmen gain experience with exercises like Patriot Sands and Patriot Clipper, they grow more and more proficient in how to respond to real-world emergency situations.

"You did tremendous things," said Col. Howard Clark, 439th AW vice commander, addressing participants during a hotwash June 9. "This exercise was an amazing success, and our Airmen even had a little bit of fun."

Planners are already discussing next year's Patriot Clipper, scheduled to be held in the late summer to early fall.



Editor's note: For ongoing coverage of Patriot Clipper visit Westover's Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/westover.patriot>

AROUND WESTOVER



BIRD IS THE WORD >> Col. Daniel Moore, 439th Maintenance Group commander, stands with his wife, Sandra, following his pin-on ceremony for colonel on June 3. (photo by Tech.



ENDS WITH A SPLASH >> Brig. Gen. Jay Jensen is "hosed" down after his final flight on a C-5 and as commander of the 439th Airlift Wing. Wife, Chantel and Col. Frank "Anchor" Bradfield weld the hose on a rainy June 5. (photo by W.C.Pope)



BITTER SWEET

>> Retirement ceremonies were held for Chief Master Sgt. Kristine Seney, 439th Force Support

Squadron, who retired May 20, and for Chief Master Sgt. Roger Prinz, 439th Civil Engineering Squadron, who wrapped up his career, June 2.



DIAMOND DAWGS >> Every June the first sergeants get together for training after the UTA, this year there were a lot of new faces. (photo by W.C.Pope)

AROUND WESTOVER



EASY RIDERS >> More than 20 Patriot Wing motorcyclists take a break for a group photo June 1 while in front of a C-5A Galaxy. The photo shoot was arranged as a send-off to Brig. Jay Jensen, former 439th Airlift Wing commander, and Col. Daniel Moore, 439th Maintenance Group commander. (photos by Master Sgt. Andrew Biscoe)



Command Chart



439th Airlift Wing

"Leaders in Excellence"

June 2017

439th Airlift Wing Commander
Col. D. Scott Durham



Vice Wing Commander
Col. Howard Clark



Command Chief
CCMSgt. Shana Cullum



The **Patriot** Wing

Westover
Air Reserve Base

439th Operations Group
Col. Les Bradfield



439th Maintenance Group
Col. Daniel Moore
MSgt. Gary Chandler



439th Mission Support Group
Col. Karen Magnus



439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron
Col. Stanley Chartoff
MSgt. Brett Connor



439th Operations Support Squadron
Lt. Col. Erik Brine
MSgt. Manuel Chavez



439th Aerospace Medicine Squadron
Col. Patrick Carpenter
MSgt. Ellerie Rollins



337th Airlift Squadron
Lt. Col. Mark Brule
MSgt. Rachel Garcia-Gosselin



439th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron
Col. James Schaaf
MSgt. Kevin Zullo



439th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Lt. Col. Nathan Meleo
SMSgt. Alexander Reno



439th Maintenance Squadron
Lt. Col. Jordan Murphy
SMSgt. Albert Raymond



439th Security Forces Squadron
Maj. Bruce Lawler
SMSgt. Daniel Howard



439th Civil Engineer Squadron
Vacant
SMSgt. Matthew Mynczywor



439th Force Support Squadron
Lt. Col. Rodney Furr
Vacant



439th Logistics Readiness Squadron
Lt. Col. Trenton Holden
MSgt. Shannon Donnelly



42nd Aerial Port Squadron
Lt. Col. Qais Ajalat
SMSgt. Rayanne Emerson



58th Aerial Port Squadron
Lt. Col. John Dugan
SMSgt. Kimberly Kopp



439th Communications Squadron
Maj. Venice Goodwine
MSgt. Reid Sindelar

TROOP TALK "With 101 Critical Days of Summer soon approaching, how do you plan to stay safe during the season?"



"Ensure the upkeep of vehicle maintenance; making sure I have good tires, windshield wipers, etc."

Staff Sgt. Daniel Kennedy
439th Civil Engineer Squadron

"With summer coming up I would love to learn how to swim, so making sure I'm fully equipped to do so is a must"

Airman Yao Kouame
439th Force Support Squadron



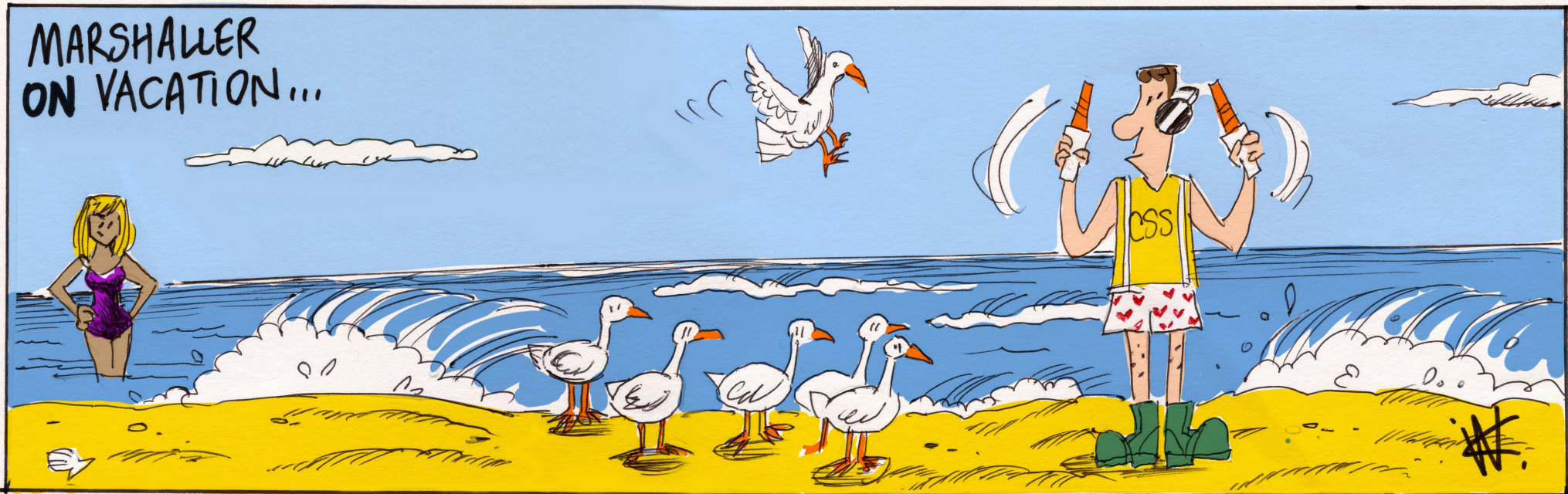
"Having a water bottle always on my side."

Staff Sgt. Oscar Weke
439th Civil Engineering Squadron



POPE'S PUNS

by W.C. Pope



PROMOTIONS

Chief Master Sergeant

Patrick Connor



Master Sergeant

John Somers
Marhia Taylor



Technical Sergeant

Rozlyn Edwards
Jacqueline Rivera
Bradley Stahl
Patrick Velie



Staff Sergeant

Christopher Carbone
Fu Deng
Brendan Fontaine
Joseph Roberts
Andre Sample



Senior Airman

William Comette, Jr
Angela Decillis



Airman First Class

Katelyn Ekmalian
Jarod Louison
Caleb Perez
Isaac Stone



Airman

Matthew Bigbie
Hanna Smith



RETIREMENTS

Lieutenant Colonel

David Smith

Chief Master Sergeant

Roger Prinz

Senior Master Sergeant

Robert Tyndall
Ellen Vanloon

Master Sergeant

Lori Milner

Technical Sergeant

Russell Finnegan
Edward Laroche

Staff Sgt. Joshua Alvarez

439th Security Forces Squadron

by Airman 1st Class Sadie Hewes

A day in the life of a member of the 439th Security Forces Squadron can vary anywhere between working shift at the gate to spending a day on the firing range. Staff Sgt. Joshua Alvarez, SFS combat arms instructor, does a little bit of everything.

Alvarez, a Durham, Connecticut native, said he spends his days doing anything from teaching small arms classes and repairing weapons to taking classes out for live shooting at the firing range, sometimes, even, in three feet of snow.

The enthusiastic instructor enlisted at Westover in November 2008 and has been working here as many days as he can. He's deployed twice, first to Kandahar and Bagram, Afghanistan, and more recently to Kuwait.

On the outside, Alvarez manages a family pawn shop in Meriden, Connecticut. He is a motorcycle enthusiast and dreams of opening a performance shop after working for 20 years or more in the Air Force.

Mechanics fascinate Alvarez, who has been working toward a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering when he can fit online college classes in with his busy work schedule. Although the mechanics of a gun and the mechanics of an automotive are entirely different, the value of the skills he has learned here over the years are evergreen.

"Westover provides me with a lot of knowledge about being an individual, and keeping myself up and going," said Alvarez, "It's also given me a lot of knowledge as an individual in the business world."

Evidently, Alvarez doesn't plan on bidding farewell to Westover any time soon.

"The base is up and coming, there are a lot of new things coming that we in security forces are excited for," said Alvarez. "We're looking to build a secondary building across the street that will be an indoor firing range within the next two years."

As the base changes, he believes that his unit will also evolve and has many good changes to come.

"We're a tight-knit family," he said about his unit. "We have our sibling moments, but we're definitely tight-knit. We have a good time here."

Whether he's working the gate, patrolling the flight line, or teaching weapons classes, Alvarez is enjoying what he's doing and happy to be working at Westover and doing his part to achieve mission success.



SERVICES CALENDAR

westoverservices.com

CLUB >> "DJ Kuls" in the Club Lounge, Sat. July 8, 7 to 11 p.m. "Steak Night", every Friday on the Patio from 5 to 7 p.m.

BOWLING CENTER >> Kids Bowl Free membership is free for each child 15 years and under. To sign-up go to www.kidsbowlfree.com to get the KBFR coupons. The promotion offers coupons for two free games per day during the program. July UTA Bowling Special, Sat. July 8 from 5 to 10 p.m., \$1.50 Shoes, \$1.50 Games. Bring your whole squadron and make it a team building event! In July bring in your report card and get a free game, you need an "A" to get the free game, ask for the "Games for Grades" promotion.

FITNESS CENTER >> "Yankee Fleet Deep Sea Fishing Trip", will be held July 15, the cost is \$25 per person and the bus will leave the fitness center at 5 a.m. Also there will be a "Brownstone Exploration and Discovery Park bus trip", July 22, \$25 per person the bus will leaving the fitness center at 8:30 a.m., to sign up and pay for both of these at Outdoor Rec. These events are open to Military members active/reserve and their dependents. Must have a valid ID card to attend.

OUTDOOR RECREATION >> We offer etching, custom made plaques, trophies, awards for your quarterly and annual presentations, sporting events, retirements, achievements, and make great gifts. Visit Outdoor Rec to see the wide selection of what we have to offer!



PATRIOT



Look for WNN50 on local community access channels



Published monthly for Patriots like Staff Sgt. Leslie Palmer, 439th Operation Support Squadron and more than 4,700 people assigned to Westover Air Reserve Base.

Patriot Wing Airmen,

It's an honor to serve you as the Commander of the Patriot Wing. Three weeks into the job and the front office team is getting into the groove. My learning curve has been and still is steep! I have much to learn about the Patriot Wing and I promise to do my best to meet the mission ahead.

The reason for this note is to explain the September UTA reschedule. The September UTA dates are now 23-24 Sept. We have a phrase in the flying world that says, "You always have to honor the check ride." The Command Inspection team builds out their calendar five years in advance. We looked at trying to accommodate the fact that there will not be many rooms available in the area due to the "Big E" but in the end it was just impossible to move the inspection dates. I am a strong believer in controlling the things we can control, and in that light and honoring the check ride it just made good sense to move the UTA for the inspection window to allow our Wing the best shot at demonstrating just how great we are. Please work out these details with your respective supervisors and orderly rooms, the expectation is that we will all be here for the UTA at a minimum...having said that, group CC's have the ball on excusals; we would love for you to come in early if you are a program manager, more is better. We are addressing the billeting situation and exercising all our options to make this event another great showing for the 439th.

The Capstone team will be here from 21-26 Sept. They wrap up on that Tuesday the 26th.

As we apply our final "tuning of the drum" this summer in advance of Capstone, be sure to remember our mission statement.

"Provide global-reach capabilities with mission-ready Citizen Airmen" -- it underlies everything we do in the service of our country and our Air Force.

Thank you for your dedication, understanding, and your flexibility.

V/r, Bull

Col. D. Scott Durham

439th Airlift Wing commander



ONE FOR THE CORPS >>
Marine Corps enlistees perform chin-ups during a USMC mass enlistment meeting May 20 on the base ellipse.
(photo by Master Sgt. Andrew Biscoe)