



America's First Choice

CONTACT

Vol. 22, No. 02

Magazine for and about Air Force Reserve members assigned to the 349th Air Mobility Wing Travis Air Force Base, California

February 2004

349th Wing beats food drive goal (See story on Page 5)



Invite excellence, success with the right atmosphere

Welcome to the February UTA! As it always seems we have a busy month upon us.

By now everyone should have everything in order for the upcoming Unit Compliance Inspection. I know every person has been working hard on getting their work areas in good shape and ready for the arrival of the inspection team. I'm sure each and every one of you has sound processes in place.

With processes in order and functioning correctly it is a good time for supervisors and commanders to take some time to examine the mind-set of their members. Attitude has a large influence on how we look at ourselves, our environment and how we interact with others, as well as how others view us.

Attitude can also affect our goals and how we deal with successes and failures. Take a moment to look at your attitude and the attitudes of those around you and develop a plan on how best to focus your members

on the mission, thus creating an atmosphere that invites success and excellence in all we do.

I would like to take this time to recognize two new commanders of both the C-5 squadrons. Lt. Col. Dale Andrews recently took command of the 301st Airlift Squadron. He previously served as the 312th Airlift Squadron chief of standardization and evaluation and has



U.S. AIR FORCE

been with the wing since October 1988.

Lt. Col. Abel Barrientes took command of the 312th Airlift Squadron last month



Pass and Review

By Brig. Gen. Thomas M. Gisler, Jr.

and has been a member of the 349th AMW since December 1989. He was assigned to the 312th as an assistant operations officer.

They are both superb leaders and will excel in these positions, congratulations to you both.

Today we have approximately 790 members still mobilized and we await word from the Pentagon on either a rotation of our people or further activation. Either way, it appears our ops tempo will remain high for the time being.

With that said, remember to spend time with family, be vigilant in your training and focused on the mission. Continue the good work, strive for success and have a wonderful UTA!



All about tradition: Five members of the 349th Component Maintenance Squadron were recently inducted into the Top Three. (Shown in photo from left to right are Master Sgts. Henry Leon, Jr., Rebecca Kaseman, Robin Raine, Jesse Sellona, and John Biasotti.)

The 349th CMS has revitalized an old tradition, which brings honor and professionalism to enlisted members entering the Top Three ranks in the Air Force by revitalizing an induction ceremony for those enlisted members promoted into the rank of master sergeant.

It is a time to recognize those members in the squadron that are taking on a leadership role and a mentorship position for those coming up in the ranks behind them. During this ceremony the newly promoted master sergeants are presented with a certificate with the Creed of the Senior Noncommissioned Officer inscribed on it and a squadron plaque.

Courtesy photo



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CONTACT

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Cover photo by Ron Lake, 349th Public Affairs

Doing God's work: Helping load part of the 349th Air Mobility Wing's 2,400 pounds of food donation aboard the Food Bank truck are Chaplain (Maj.) Greg Stringer (right), and Tech. Sgt. Bob Wade, wing historian. The food was delivered to the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano Counties at the Railroad Avenue facility in Suisun City this past Christmas Eve.

Smaller force with greater responsibilities

Military history has proven that we are all vital members of the Air Force.

This is even more true today than ever before because we are smaller in number, yet have a greater responsibility around the world. Each of you holds important positions within the structures of the Air Force unit. Therefore, the successes or failures, the strengths and weaknesses, the effectiveness of a unit directly reflect on each person assigned to that unit.

Throughout your career, your responsibilities will vary greatly, so to better equip yourself, never forget your basic responsibilities to the Air Force: *Preserve peace and security for our nation at all times.* We must also uphold the public trust placed on each of us. Exercise our full legal and moral authority in carrying out our responsibilities. Apply sound management and leadership techniques in accomplishing the mission. Strive for increased effectiveness in yourself and in those entrusted to your supervision. Remain loyal to your supervisors, subordinates and contemporaries. Enhance the proud reputation of the Air Force through your personal example.

Here are two areas in leadership that have helped me most in my career. I had a

very difficult time with delegation. As a new supervisor, I believed I could do it faster and better if I just did the job myself instead of trying to have a subordinate perform the job. I quickly learned that delegating duties and authority is one of the best things you can do to help develop your people. This gives your people a chance to grow and learn about new jobs and added responsibilities. It also gives you time to handle other aspects of your job.

Those that know me know I am now very quick to select volunteers to perform assignments.

The second leadership issue deals with setting goals. In 1982, I set the goal to one day become a Command Chief Master Sergeant. After setting my goal, I spoke to as many Command Chiefs as possible to obtain information about the job and how they reached the position.

I learned a lot from these Chiefs - the good, bad and ugly. This gave me the details and a road map that I needed to reach my goal. It also helped me develop my own leadership style because I was able to see how they dealt with people, problems and the mission. It made me also realize that I would have to learn more about other career fields to develop the skills necessary to be the best



Chief's Counsel

By Command Chief Master Sgt.
Anthony L. Maddux

candidate.

I accepted a master sergeant position as a senior master sergeant because it was not about getting promoted, but about developing and reaching my goal.

I encourage you to set a goal in your Air Force career such as a shop chief, noncommissioned officer in charge of a section, a superintendent, first sergeant or command chief master sergeant.

How did it work for me? In 1998, the wing commander at the time, Brig. Gen. Jerry Black, during the formal interview, asked me why I wanted to be a command chief master sergeant?

I told him it was a goal I had set long ago and that everything I have done in my career had been to prepare me to reach that goal. But what convinced him was my Airman Performance Report dated July 1982 that documented my goal to one day be a Command Chief.

Believe me, setting goals works!



Photo by Ron Lake, Public Affairs

A job well done: Brig. Gen. Thomas M. Gisler, Jr., 349th Air Mobility Wing, Commander, (right) accepts this C-5 painting from Mr. Mark F. Johnston, Business Development Senior Manager, Lockheed Martin, at a presentation ceremony Dec. 12.

The painting is a tribute to the contributions of the 349th AMW and the C-5 Galaxy aircraft to the efforts in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Wing donates more than a ton of food to help feed the hungry

Story and photo by Ron Lake
349th Public Affairs

Exceeding last year's goal by more than 70 percent, members of the 349th Air Mobility Wing donated more than a ton of food to help feed the hungry this past Christmas season as part of its annual Chaplain's Holiday Food Drive.

The food donations were delivered to the Food Bank's location on Railroad

Avenue in Suisun City, Calif., Dec. 24. Mr. Michael Trainor accepted the wing's donation on behalf of the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano Counties.

According to Steve Linkhart, operations director of the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano, the 349th Air Mobility Wing collected and donated 2,400 pounds of food. Included in the total was 16 frozen turkeys and \$500 worth of canned food from the 349th Honor Guard alone, according to 349th AMW Chaplain (Maj.) Gregory Stringer.

This year's total far exceeded last year's total of 1,400 pounds of food, Chaplain Stringer indicated.

"It warms my heart to see the love and generosity flow out from our members and touch so many lives," Chaplain Stringer said.

"This is one of many ways our members make a huge impact on our community. I know God smiles with joy when he sees us caring for others," the Chaplain said.

The food bank supplies six million pounds of food a year to needy individuals and of that 150,000 to 200,000 pounds of food is donated during the holiday season.

The food is sorted and categorized by food type and expiration dates for redistribution to the needy, Linkhart said. On occasion, groups of Travis personnel have volunteered to



help sort the food to avoid the chance of it spoiling or exceeding expiration dates before pick up by or delivery to area Food Bank member agencies, Linkhart indicated.

Individuals or squadrons, who may want to help, or make such an effort a unit project, should contact Ms. Sharon Zeppegno, Food Bank Volunteer Coordinator, at (925) 676-7543, Ext. 209, or (707) 421-9777.



All in a day of God's work: Helping load part of the 349th Air Mobility Wing's 2,400 pounds of food donation aboard the Food Bank truck is Chaplain (Maj.) Greg Stringer (left), and Tech. Sgt. Bob Wade, wing historian. Accepting the food is Mr. Michael Trainor of the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano Counties. The food was delivered to the Food Bank's location on Railroad Avenue in Suisun City on Christmas Eve.

National African American History Month

Racial integration in the military

by Maj. Chris Clay

349th Military Equal Opportunity

Fifty-six years ago, President Harry S. Truman issued Executive Order 9981 officially ending racial segregation in the United States Armed Forces. Prior to that, blacks in the military had limited opportunities.

Since the Revolutionary War, the prevailing military doctrine held that blacks were inferior fighters who fled under fire and lacked the intelligence, reliability, and courage of white fighters.

That all changed in the closing months of World War II, when for the first time, more than two-thousand African-American infantrymen entered the front lines in Germany to fight alongside white soldiers in infantry and armored divisions engaged in the final battles of the war and drove back the German Army.

When Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis spoke to these black soldiers in 1945, he said, *"We of the United Nations must live and work together, regardless of race or nationality, creed or uniform or rank. Supported by our homelands, we must fight on relentlessly, side-by-side, at sea, on land, and in the air, so that we*

will win together a better world, secure and free for all men everywhere. Your presence here in response to the invitation of the high command to volunteer for retraining as reinforcements indicates that you and the race you represent wish to live and work together..."

The circumstances that brought about Executive Order 9981 were the civil rights movement and pressure for reform from more and more American citizens at home who began to realize the hypocrisy of black soldiers fighting for "freedom" abroad, but themselves being denied freedom at home. However, the more compelling reason was that the United States needed manpower to replenish the thousands of casualties during the final months of fighting in the European theater. In France alone, 1.5 million American soldiers were engaged with hundreds of thousands of German soldiers. In the Battle of the Bulge, the U.S. suffered 80,000 casualties in one month alone, including 19,000 killed.

In June 1945, the army conducted a survey on the performance of black troops in combat. The report proved conclusively that black individuals in combat performed extremely well.

Additional studies conducted between 1945-1948 on the possibility of integration not only pointed out that those black soldiers who fought side by side with white soldiers in the European Theater proved themselves, but also that whites and blacks got along very well—in some cases they openly socialized—and that everybody was relatively happy about the circumstances.

On the 50th anniversary of Executive Order 9981, former Senator Carol Moseley-Braun (D-Illinois) wrote, *"President Truman recognized the value of diversity. It lay not only in the singular talent and contributions of some, but in the collective vigor of the whole. Our great nation has been forged by the sacrifice of Americans of every stripe, by the values that define us as one people. The military services have led the country in providing opportunities for excellence, and the defense of our country has benefited from that leadership. Excellence and honor, valor and patriotism are values that bring us together as Americans, and shape our national character. Truman's decision made us a 'more perfect nation' and continues to this day to be a shining example of leadership."*

Learn more about African-American individuals and their contributions by visiting the world wide web or your local library to check out these very informative biographies:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Muhammad Ali | James Forten | Richard Pryor |
| Maya Angelou | Henry Louis Gates Jr. | Jackie Robinson |
| Josephine Baker | Marvin Gaye | Smokey Robinson |
| James Baldwin | Alex Haley | Wilma Rudolph |
| Daisy Bates | Billie Holiday | Arthur A. Schomburg |
| Chuck Berry | Langston Hughes | Dred Scott |
| Gwendolyn Brooks | Zora Neale Hurston | Robert George Seale |
| Ralph Bunche | Jesse Jackson | Betty Shabazz |
| George Washington Carver | Mahalia Jackson | Russell Simmons |
| Kathleen Neil Cleaver | Mae C. Jemison-Jackie | Sojourner Truth |
| Nat King Cole | Joyner-Kersey | Harriet Ross Tubman |
| Bessie Coleman | Martin Luther King, Jr. | Denmark Vesey |
| John Coltrane | Queen Latifah | Alice Walker |
| Ward Connerly | Jacob Lawrence | Sarah Breedlove Walker |
| Frederick Douglass | Spike Lee | Booker T. Washington |
| Charles Drew | Malcolm X | Denzel Washington |
| W. E. B. Du Bois | Elijah Muhammad | Ida B. Wells |
| Duke Ellington | Gordon Parks | Serena Williams |
| Medgar Evers | Rosa Parks | August Wilson |
| Myrlie Evers-Williams | Colin L. Powell | Oprah Winfrey |



Do you know what to in case of an earthquake?

Preparation makes all the difference

by 349th Safety Office

Staff members

Did you know there are five major fault lines within 50 miles of Travis Air Force Base?

The Kirby/Vacaville fault lies directly under the base. Yes, that's right, we're sitting on top of a disaster waiting to happen. It runs right down the middle of the base and under Bldg. 381. This fault hasn't produced a major earthquake in more than 100 years so we are *way overdue*.

Since earthquakes do not make their presence known until the ground shakes, what can you do to prepare for one?

Before an earthquake:

- Develop a unit and family disaster plan and ensure all members know their responsibilities.

- Create a Family Survival Kit.

- Keep bottled water, a flashlight and a battery-powered radio handy in case the power is cut off.

- Place secure latches on bookshelves and cupboards to prevent doors from swinging.

- Check gas switches for emergency shut-off.

- Store a fire extinguisher and first aid kit in an easy-to-reach place.

- Pick 'safe places' in each room, which could be under sturdy tables or desk or against interior walls away from window, bookcases, or tall furniture that could fall on you.

- Practice drop, cover and hold-on in each safe place.

- Discuss earthquake preparedness with your family and co-workers.

During an earthquake:

- Remain calm.

- If you are outside, get into the open, away from buildings, trees, walls, and utility wires.

- If you are in a car, stop the car but stay inside. Do not stop on bridges or under trees or light posts.

- If you are indoors, get under a sturdy piece of furniture or in a doorway. Stay

clear of windows and exterior doors.

- Never use candles, matches, or other open flame during or after a tremor because of possible gas leaks.

After an earthquake:

- Look for casualties and give first aid.

- Use the phone only for emergencies (e.g., report serious injuries, fires or trapped people).

- Check your home for fire hazards.

- Do not enter partially collapsed or damaged buildings. An aftershock could bring the walls or roof down without warning.

- Be prepared for aftershocks, which can occur for many hours after the initial earthquake.

It is not a matter of **IF**, but a matter of **WHEN** there will be an earthquake. By taking these actions we can drastically reduce losses and have a safe place to live.

The time to prepare is now!

Contact the 349th Safety Office at (707) 424-2587 for additional disaster preparedness information.

New technology promises to speed-up deployment processing

by Master Sgt. Randy L. Mitchell

Air Force Reserve Command

Public Affairs

A new technology, similar to what grocery aisle workers use to inventory store shelves, may soon eliminate long in-processing lines at deployed sites.

The handheld scanner initiative currently being tested allows personnel support team members to scan ID cards of military members as they get off the aircraft arriving at a deployed location, reducing wait time from hours to minutes.

This initiative will enable combatant commanders to account for the whereabouts of each deployed person in 'real time,' according to Col. Bruce Lovely, chief of the personnel readiness division here.

"This system will help ensure the right people - with the right experience and

specialties - are at the right place, at the right time for mission accomplishment," said Col. Lovely.

The scanner, officially known by the acronym BATMAN, can read the two-dimensional barcode on the front of the common access card, or the one-dimensional barcode on the back. The system can also read the old green or red ID cards, ensuring 100 percent accountability no matter what ID card someone may deploy with, according to Ms. Rosemary Flores, a program manager with the project.

Recently, a two-man PERSCO team used the scanners to process 250 people in 20 minutes for the exercise Ulchi Focus Lens in Korea.

"The results of the test in Korea speak for themselves and the overwhelming advantages of the scanner-based in-

processing method are clear - saving time, manpower and materiel," said Ms. Flores.

With the success of additional field-testing in Germany; plans have already been made to take the scanner to Southwest Asia for more tests.

"We think the testing in SWA will show the scanners are capable of operating in a harsh environment while minimizing processing time and getting the troops quickly to the fight," Col. Lovely said. "Besides saving valuable time for deployed [Personnel Support for Contingency Operations] team members, we're also examining ways to utilize and integrate scanner technology into all aspects of agile combat support."

The system is tentatively scheduled to become operational as early as fall of this year.



Employer Appreciation Day application

EMPLOYER: Mr. Ms. Mrs. Dr. Other:

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Employer's Title: _____

Company Name: _____

Employer's Home Mailing Address: _____

Employer's Social Security Number: _____

Person to be Notified in Emergency: _____

Employer's Emergency Phone: () _____
(Area Code and Number)

Sponsoring Reservist Information

Reservist Rank: _____ Unit Assigned: _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Job Title: _____ Phone: Duty _____

Home () _____ Work () _____

Reservist Social Security Number: _____

Note: An orientation flight is offered to employers pending approval by higher headquarters and is subject to cancellation. Space is limited; one employer per reservist. Reserve members may accompany their employer if space is available.

Employer Appreciation Day dates

Mission Support Group -- June 5
POC: Capt. Lynn Klink,
424-5037

Medical Group -- June 26
POC: Master Sgt. Kalan Winston,
424-5220

Operations Group -- Aug. 21
POC: Lt. Col. Lonnie Williams,
424-1641

Privacy Act Statement:

Authority: 10 U.S.C. 8013

Principal Use: Use of individual's SSAN is required for military flights; home address/phone is required to contact, coordinate, and/or provide participation details for Wing Employer Appreciation Day events.

Routine Use: Log and track employers and their participation.

Disclosure: Voluntary, however, without SSANs, individuals cannot be on a manifest for flights; home address/phone is required to contact employers regarding their Wing Employer Appreciation Day participation.

Dental exams required for Reservist

by Dr. (Lt. Col.) Jeffery Light
349th Aerospace Medicine Squadron

Health Affairs Policy Memorandum 98-201 has directed the Military Services to ensure all members undergo an annual dental examination.

The ADE can be accomplished by having an exam done while completing your annual physical exam or by having your civilian dentist complete the Department of Defense Form 2813 and submitting it to the 349th Aerospace Medicine Squadron.

Fly and Non-Fly personnel scheduled for a long physical must be seen for a dental examination by a military dentist every third year beginning at the age of nineteen. The ADE may be completed with DD Form 2813 the other two "off" years.

The DD Form 2813 should be provided to you when your unit health monitor

notifies you of your annual physical exam.

The form should be given to you in enough time for your civilian dentist to complete it and have it submitted to the 349th AMDS before your next birth month.

Failure to complete the ADE by your birth month through military dental exam or by DD Form 2813 will automatically disqualify you from worldwide duty.

Because of logistical limitations and the large size of the 349th Air Mobility Wing, with approximately 3,400 members assigned, it is impossible for the 349th AMDS dental section to provide every one in the wing with their annual dental by military dentist. As a result, if a military dentist has provided an ADE for a member in the last two years and it is not a year of your long physical, you may be given a DD Form 2813 at the time of your physical exam with instructions for your civilian dentist to fill it out and return it

to the 349th AMDS.

This, of course, will delay the completion of your physical exam and may disqualify you from worldwide duty. The best way to avoid this from happening is to have the DD Form 2813 complete by your civilian dentist each year and return it to the 349th AMDS prior to your birth month.

If you do not have dental insurance, you are encouraged to enroll in the low cost Concordia dental insurance plan offered to reservists. Coverage includes an ADE plus treatment of a variety of dental conditions. You may contact Concordia at www.ucci.com or at 1-888-622-2256.

As long as the member has the ADE completed by a Concordia network dentist, there will be no additional charge for completing the DD Form 2813.

Contact the 349th AMDS for further information about the Concordia dental insurance plan or contact the 349th AMDS at (707) 424-3814.

MREs with pot roast, BBQ pork ribs, manicotti

by Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

Servicemembers in the field about to grab a Meal, Ready to Eat combat ration might want to choose the Jamaican pork chop, the pasta with alfredo sauce or the beef with mushrooms.

These entrees will soon be gone from the MRE inventory, and replaced by new dishes that food technologists at the United States Army Soldier Systems Center at Natick, Mass., said will be a bigger hit with servicemembers.

New to the MRE menu board are pot roast with vegetables, barbecue pork ribs and vegetable manicotti. Side dishes are hearty New England clam chowder and a carbohydrate-fortified applesauce.

Servicemembers with a sweet tooth will soon be able to bite into two new cookies: a vanilla waffle sandwich and a chocolate mint. They can also enjoy peanut butter and crispy versions of M&M candies, and almond poppy seed and pumpkin pound cakes.

The changes are designed to maintain variety while keeping pace with warfighters' taste preferences, said Janice

Rosado, a food technologist for the Department of Defense combat feeding program at the center.

"People like what's new, and we get a lot of requests for more ethnic foods and for vegetarian meals," she said.

In recent years, new MRE entrees have reflected those preferences, with several Italian, Mexican and Oriental selections offered.

New this year will be an entrée Rosado said she is convinced will be a big hit: Cajun rice with sausage. In addition, four of the 24 MRE entrees will be meatless.

That does not mean that some of the perennial favorites, like spaghetti and beef stew, are going to go by the wayside, Rosado said. Both have remained on the MRE menu list since the pouched combat rations were first widely introduced in the early 1980s.

Besides scorching heat and frigid cold, center testers expose potential MREs to impact tests to ensure they do not break open when air-dropped and nutrition tests to make sure they meet prescribed requirements.

But no matter how well MRE items perform in these tests, Rosado said they never enter the military inventory until

they survive one of the toughest tests of all: the troop taste test.

Food scientists take all potential new MRE selections to the field, where warfighters conducting military exercises get the final say in whether they will make the cut.

Based on successful field tests, Rosado said center officials plan to introduce three new entrees next year: Cajun rice with sausage, a veggie griller in barbecue sauce, and a jalapeño-laced Mexican macaroni and cheese.

Also new is the a Kreamsicle cookie that tastes just like the ice cream bar, carrot cake (without the cream-cheese icing) and red-hot candies.

And because MREs generally take about two-and-a-half years to develop, test and get approved, Rosado said she already knows what is on the radar screen as far out as 2005.

In 2005, she said to look forward to chicken fajitas with tortillas, a cheese omelet with vegetables, penne with spicy tomato sauce, and the all american favorite, sloppy joes. Also to be introduced are hash browns with bacon and a blueberry-cherry cobbler that is full of fruit.

Employment

UNIT	SERIES	ART	NON-ART	# OF VAC	REMARKS
349th AMDS	GS-0303-07	X		1	Medical Administrative Assistant
82nd APS	GS-0303-07	X		2	Resource Management Assistant
349th MAS	GS-0303-07	X		1	Services Assistant
349th CS	GS-0335-07	X		1	Computer Assistant
349th MSS	GS-0203-05		X	1	Human Resources Assistant
349th MXG	WG-8852-11	X		1	Aircraft Work Inspector
349th MOF	GS-1702-07	X		1	Training Technician
749th AMXS	WS-8801-13	X		1	Aircraft Overhaul Supervisor
349th EMS	WG-5378-10	X		1	Powered Support Systems Mechanic
79th ARS	GS-0303-07	X		1	Operations Resource Management
79th ARS	GS-0301-09	X		1	Aviation Resources Mgmt Specialist
70th ARS	GS-0303-07	X		1	Operations Technician
349th OPS	GS-2181-14	X		1	Aircraft Operations Officer
301st AS	GS-2181-12/13	X		1	Airplane Flight Instructor
301st AS	GS-0303-07	X		1	Operations Technician

The civil service vacancies are provided by the 349th Mission Support Squadron and will be announced regularly in the Contact magazine.

For more information about these vacancies, please contact the Travis Civilian Personnel Office at (707) 424-3067.

Group POCs are: Capt. Terry Cotter, 349th AMW, (707) 424-3922; Chief Master Sgt. Mark Kloeppe, 349th MDG, (707) 424-7301; Maj. Heather Capella, 349th MSG, (707) 424-3861; Master Sgt. Dave Taillon, 349th MXG, (707) 424-0715; and Ms. Karen Lobeck, 349th OG, (707) 424-2108.

News

Air Force logo authorized on jacket

by Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter
Air Force Print News

Air Force Uniform Board members have introduced a new addition to the lightweight blue jacket. “The Air Force Chief of Staff approved adding the Air Force logo to the existing lightweight blue jacket,” said Senior Master Sgt. Jacqueline Dean of the Air Force Uniform Board.

All told, 300 jackets will be distributed Air Force-wide for wear testing, Sgt. Dean said. Board members are targeting Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., as a distribution point because of its high number of temporary duty officers and enlisted airmen.

“Because the TDY members come from so many bases throughout the Air Force, giving them out at Maxwell allows us to reach a large audience in a short amount of time,” Sgt. Dean said.

Airmen receiving the jackets will wear test them and give feedback to the uniform board about fraying or other problems with the embroidery, Sgt. Dean said.

Anyone not issued an embroidered jacket can have the logo applied on their jacket by a local embroidery shop using certain guidelines, Sgt. Dean said.

The Air Force logo is to be embroidered in a polyester white meridian thread with a stiff tear-off backing, according to information provided by Libby Glade, Air Force clothing office chief. The total stitch count of the logo and lettering will be between 4,200 and 5,000 stitches.

The symbol is to fit within a two-inch square. There is a one-fourth inch space between the symbol’s lowest point and the “U.S. AIR FORCE” type.

The “U.S. AIR FORCE” type is to be one-fourth of an inch high, 3.5 inches long, in all capital arial font, 24 point.

The symbol is to be embroidered on the upper left chest. The dot in the center of the symbol is centered vertically between the shoulder seam and where the underarm side seam joins the armhole sleeve, and centered horizontally between the zipper and the sleeve armhole seam.



Logo good to go: Air Force Uniform Board members have introduced embroidering the Air Force logo onto the lightweight blue jacket as an optional wear item. The new addition will undergo a wear-testing period at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. Airmen can have the addition added to their jackets at any time by visiting an embroidery shop.

Rank on the jacket continues to be worn on either the collar or the sleeve, Sgt. Dean said.

Change in mandatory Separation Date for ARTs

The current normal Mandatory Separation Date extension policy for Air Reserve Technician officers under the Federal Employees Retirement System allows individuals to extend to the age 55 with 25 years of creditable service or minimum retirement age with 20 years of creditable service.

The Board changed this policy to allow all FERS officers to extend to MRA/20. The MRA is a sliding age, 55 to 57, dependent on year of birth.

Individuals whose birth year is 1948 or later and who have already requested an extension to the normal policy date will be contacted to determine if they would like to take advantage of the policy change.

ART officers with a current MSD in 2004 who have not received notification by Jan. 16, should contact the ART Officer Career Management Program Office at DSN 497-1338 for assistance.

Future requests for MSD extension to the normal policy date that are not covered in the above category should continue to follow the procedures outlined in AFRCI 36-201, Air Reserve Technician Officer-Extension to Mandatory Separation Date.

Previous Command policy has allowed for blanket MSD extensions of ART pilots, but this is no longer the case. The Air Force Reserve Command may make individual case-by-case exceptions for extensions beyond the normal policy date based on the needs of the Command, and ART pilot extensions now fall into this category. In this regard, all future case-by-case exceptions should follow the process outlined above and be accompanied by sufficient justification. Wing and Numbered Air Force commanders should ensure the package provides information weighing the needs of the Command for the skills of the individual against the impact of the extension to the program. The justification should include data on the inability to fill the position with qualified candidates by addressing any recruitment/retention problems and any other relevant information substantiating the need for the individual to remain on board through the requested time.

Points of contact for MSD extension

policy issues are the unit MPF, NAF/DPC, or Ms. Emma Harrison, HQ AFRC/DPCS, DSN 497-1338. Please contact Ms. Mary Augsburger, HQ AFRC/DPCE, DSN 497-1325, with retirement-related questions. (AFRC)

Military Equal Opportunity surveys available online

Unit Climate Assessments surveys are now available to unit commanders and their members online.

The UCA is a survey that assesses the unit's human relations environment, including members' perception of issues such as sexual harassment, unlawful discrimination, favoritism, unit leadership and peer relationships.

These web-based UCAs offer several advantages to its paper predecessors.

- Longer period of time to accomplish the survey. Instead of a 10 or 15-minute deadline, they may have up to one month to complete the survey, as determined by their commander.

- Survey can be completed in the privacy of workstation, home, while deployed, or anywhere there is a computer access.

- Yields more detailed information because they give seven possible responses per question instead of five.

- Web-based UCAs allow the unit commander to add up to 10 locally generated questions regarding issues specific to that particular unit.

- Ensures the anonymous nature of the survey, each member will be given their own computer-generated password that is not linked to their name.

Military Equal Opportunity will offer the paper UCA if there are exceptional circumstances that make the web-based survey impractical to administer.

"Obviously this is a tremendous step forward in terms of technology, convenience, speed and flexibility. Anytime commanders can get feedback from the rank and file, the mission is enhanced. We are very pleased to be able to offer it to commanders and their unit members," said Maj. Chris Clay, Chief of MEO.

To arrange a web-based UCA for your unit or for more information, please contact the 349th MEO Office at (707) 424-1693.

Passwords available online

More than 500 people forget their passwords to personnel center customer service web applications like the Virtual Military Personnel Flight and Civilian Employment Application every day, but many of them are unaware that they can reset a password on their own within seconds online.

For online resets, people need to know their social security number and mother's maiden name, said Mr. Danny O'Neil, chief of the information assurance branch. The system is case sensitive.

First time users need basic personal information including civilian service computation date, or pay date for military, he said. Common Access Card users can create an account using the security "certificates" on the card and the card reader.

To access the Virtual Military Personnel Flight or other online personnel resources, visit <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>. (AFPC)

Air Force seeks reservists for force protection duties

Air Force reservists, E-1s through AE-6s, can apply for installation force protection duties.

The Air Force needs about 3,000 volunteers from any specialty code to replace Army National Guard soldiers who have been doing these duties. The Army is preparing some soldiers for other missions.

The volunteers will serve on active-duty manday orders for 30 days or more through Sept. 27, 2004.

These tours will qualify the reservists for full basic allowance for housing and TRICARE Prime, as well as lodging and per diem if outside the commuting area.

Interested reservists should be current on all medical, government travel card and membership issues. They also need permission from their wing commander.

The Volunteer Reserve System Web page – <https://vrs.afrc.af.mil/> – has more details under the Force Protection Augmenter announcement. Interested unit reservists should call Maj. Luke Grubb and individual mobilization augmentees should contact Senior Master Sgt. Tom Tirey at (210) 671-5628 or DSN 945-5628, or extensions 5147 or 7051. (AFRC News Service)

Promotions

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT		FICHTNER, RYAN A.	312TH AS	SENIOR AIRMAN	
MCNULTY, BERNADETTE C.	82ND APS	HAMMOND, TIMOTHY S.	349TH SFS	BORJA, ROSEJANE E.	349TH ASTS
SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT		HILTON, PATERESA F.	82ND APS	BROOKS, STEPHANIE A.	349TH EMS
BROWN, DENNY C.	349TH AES	HO, TIMOTHY W. Y.	349TH AMXS	BROTHWELL, MATTHEW S.	349TH CMS
CAMBRA, JAMES B.	749TH AMXS	IBON, MARLO M.	349TH CES	CHEN, SU QING	55TH APS
MORRISSEY, WILLIAM S.	349TH CMS	LOOMIS, ERNEST J.	349TH CES	CHILDS, KEITH A.	55TH APS
NUUSA, BERGER S.	349TH AES	LYON, GEORGE D.	349TH CES	FRANKLIN, ANDREA L.	349TH MOF
OLSZEWSKI, THADDEUS	349TH CMS	MASTRO, ANDREA E.	349TH AMDS	HSU, CHIA YI	349TH AMXS
SPRINGER, MARY J.	349TH AMDS	MILLER, MICHAEL S.	301ST AS	JOHNSON, COURTNEY	349TH ASTS
THOMASON, JERRY W.	349TH SFS	PIGA, ROLDAN C.	349TH CES	KEATING, LOGAN A.	349TH AMXS
MASTERSERGEANT		ROUPE, TRAVIS H.	349TH CS	MAGLIARI, JOHNATHAN	349TH AMDS
BOYKIN, MIKE W.	349TH CMS	RUBANG, TEODORO G. R.	749TH AMXS	MCNAMARA, JEREMIAH	349TH EMS
CAULDER, LEONARD L.	349TH CES	SALMERON, RONALDA.	349TH CMS	MORRIS, MICHELE M.	349TH ASTS
CURTIS, JON W. II	749TH AMXS	SNYDER, PATRICIA L.	349TH MDS	NEWBY, CHRISTINA L.	349TH ASTS
ESPINOZA, LORRAINE L.	349TH EMS	STEPP, TIMOTHY J.	79TH ARS	OLIVEIRA, CRYSTAL M.	349TH MDS
HENLEY, JAMES A.	349TH MDS	TUCKER, JONATHAN H.	79TH ARS	ORENDORFF, JASON T.	55TH APS
LEMUS, CARLOS L.	349TH CMS	WHALEN, RUSSELL C.	349TH AMDS	PARRISH, MICHELLE A.	45TH APS
LOW, STEVEN O.	349 AMXS	WILLIAMS, BRANDON M.	301ST AS	REYES, JAYDEL I.	45TH APS
NUNO, FELIPE	349TH ASTS	STAFF SERGEANT		REYNALDO, PERCIVAL	349TH ASTS
PRIEST, ERIC J.	312TH AS	BAILEY, JACQUELINE	349TH OSF	RUEDAS, JR., VICTOR	349TH AMXS
SOTTO, CHARLIE	349TH SFS	BLACKFORD, JOSHUA S.	82ND APS	SCHROEDER, AMANDAR	349TH ASTS
WEST, STEVEN S.	349TH SFS	BOSTON, JAMES T.	349TH AMXS	UONG, QUYNH DOTU	45TH APS
WIEBBECKE, DAWN E. M.	349TH ASTS	CHUN, ANDREW S.	55TH APS	AIRMAN	
TECHNICAL SERGEANT		DAVILA, BRIAN C.	349TH AMDS	BOLDS, CHAMIA C.	749TH AMXS
ANDAHAZY, ZOLTAN F.	55TH APS	ELMHORST, JESSE J.	45TH APS	DEVOE, IMAROGBE A.	349TH MSS
BAILEY, CRAIG H.	349TH CMS	FASSETT, JAMES B.	349TH MAS	GRAJO, FREDERICK	349TH CES
BAKER, CHRISTOPHER S.	349TH SFS	GARRIGUS, AMARA	349TH AES	PERKINS, ANTOYA N.	349TH CMS
BOHREN, CHAD C.	349TH CS	GARRISON, LAURIE G.	349TH MAS		
CHAMPAC, MIGUEL S.	349TH CMS	GAU, CHARLES R.	312TH AS		
CORBETT, GLENN B., JR.	312TH AS	GREEN, ELIDA E.	349TH MDS		
CRADER, ANDREA J.	349TH MDS	POE, CAROL A.	45TH APS		
DILLON, RITAA.	45TH APS	SETO, FUNG N.	349TH AMXS		
		WINGATE, RICHARD Z.	349TH ASTS		
		HAMMONDS, STEPHEN A.	349TH AES		

THE ABOVE LISTED INDIVIDUALS, ARE PROMOTED AS RESERVIST OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED EFFECTIVE JAN. 1, 2004 UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED.

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ARTs not allowed 44 days of military leave

Air Reserve Technicians can no longer use 44 days military leave while serving on active duty outside the continental United States, according to Office of the Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs.

AFRC had interpreted the law to mean that only those who were activated or recalled in support of current contingency operations were prohibited from using this type of leave. Those who had volunteered for active duty were allowed to use the 44 days of military leave while supporting operations overseas.

"Once a national emergency is declared, no one can use it," said Margaret Keith, a human resources specialist in Headquarters AFRC's civilian personnel division. "It will affect all technicians."

Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III, AFRC commander, has asked Keith's division to submit a legislative initiative to change the law. If approved, the change could take up to two years before becoming law, according to Keith. (AFRC)