

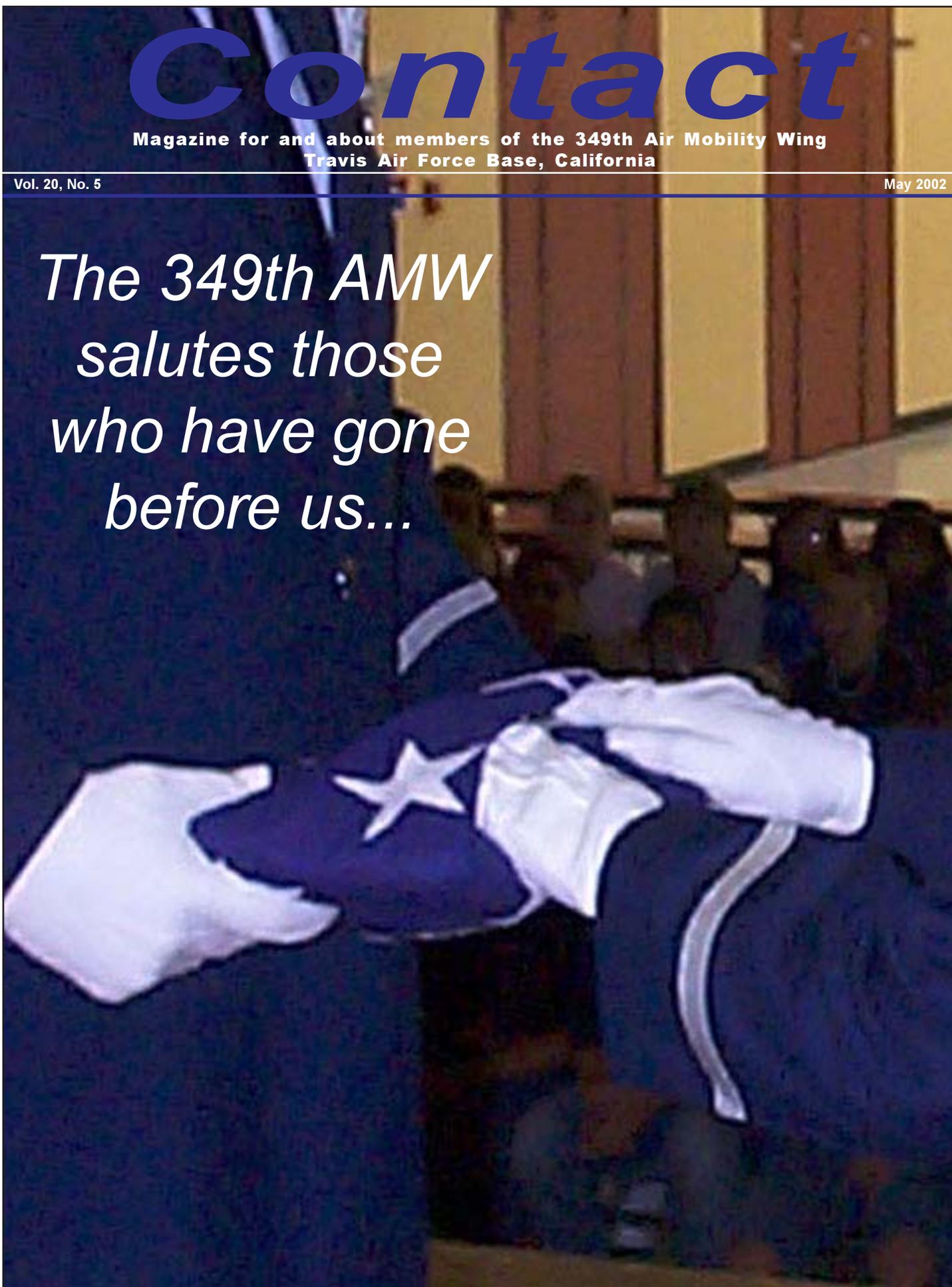
Contact

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

Vol. 20, No. 5

May 2002

*The 349th AMW
salutes those
who have gone
before us...*



Mission details to be worked

Welcome to the May UTA! Mobilizations are holding steady at 478 and we currently have 95 members deployed, including many to some very forward locations! Reports continue to stream in about the great work you men and women are doing, both mobilized and volunteer, and I thank you for that. Keep up the great work!

To make my point about the world-class people we are fortunate enough to have in our wing, take a look at the list of award recipients over the past month! (Awards are AFRC level unless otherwise indicated)

-- Junior Supply Technician of the Year, **Senior Airman Charlie Pacheco**, 349 LSS

-- Senior Supply Technician of the Year, **Tech. Sgt. Andrew J. Kastan**, 349 LSS

-- HQ AFRC Logistics Plans Award Civilian Manager for 2001, **Mr. James E. Standley**, 349 LSS

-- Communications-Electronics/Wire System Maintenance of the Year, **Senior Master Sgt. Victor R. Talani II**, 349 CS

-- Communications-Computer Systems Enlisted Members of the Year, **Master Sgt. John E. Temple, Jr.**, 349 CS

-- Communications-Electronics/Wire System Maintenance, **Staff Sgt. Jonathon D. Grace**, 349 CS

-- Education and Training Manager of the Year, **Tech. Sgt. Joseph W. Sullivan**, 349 MSS

-- Air Force Wide Firefighter Combat Challenge and 1st Place Top Fireman in the United States Civilian and Military, **Staff Sgt. Michael C. Melton**, 349 CES.

-- Communications Organization of the Year, **349 Communications Squadron**

-- Logistics AMC Clements McMullen Memorial Daedalian Weapon System, **349th/60th.**

Congratulations to all the award winners, their units and their families!

Our nation celebrates our diversity in many ways. One way is to designate certain months for particular recognition of an ethnic group. For May it's Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month and we are hosting it! We have many people involved but a special thanks to **Lt. Col. Truman Lum** (SPTG), **Senior Master Sgt. Rudy Perez** (CRS), **Master Sgt. William Dismukes** (70 ARS), **Master Sgt. Don Pierotti** (CES), **Tech. Sgt. Luis Caragan** (MSS), **Tech. Sgt. Jojo Cinco** (EMS), and

Staff Sgt. Diane Sullivan (LSS). Anyone interested in getting involved can attend their planning meetings held 1000 on Saturday of every UTA until May 31 in the Support Group office. There are activities and celebrations all month long, but two important ones are the kickoff luncheon at 1130, May 1 at the Delta Breeze Club and the grand finale banquet the evening of May 31. Get your tickets now--particularly for the banquet--it always sells out!

I have mentioned the great folks we have throughout this wing and we all know how crucial the support of families is to a successful reserve career. The third leg of a successful reserve career is our civilian employers and we have many ways to recognize them. Perhaps the best being our Employer Appreciation Days. Each group has one a year and Logistics has theirs on May 18. Enclosed in this edition of *CONTACT* you will find an application form. I highly encourage you to fill it out and bring your boss out for this great day of employer appreciation and education. Many of our employers do not fully understand the importance of your duty here in the reserve and how they benefit directly from all the training you receive here that carries over into the civilian workplace. We spend the better part of a day briefing them about what we do and then we show them air mobility in action aboard a KC-10 as it refuels a C-5 on a local training flight. They'll leave here with a much greater appreciation for the reserve contribution to the Total Force. Better yet, they'll be your number one fan! **Chief Master Sgt. Joseph W. Tagliarini** is putting the event together and he can be reached at (707) 424-0734. Come join us!

Lets talk a little bit about the C-17s coming to Travis AFB. While it has made headlines in a lot of the local papers, there are a lot of details yet to be worked out. As Billy the Kid said, "There's many a slip twixt the cup and the lip!" The Air Force does indeed have a plan to bed down C-17s at Travis AFB but it has yet to be briefed to Congress. It will have to go through the entire legislative process to receive approval. Inherent in this process is an increase in the C-17 buy to 180 which has not yet been funded. Even if the Congress does approve the Air Force plan, I would expect implementation to be



Pass and Review

By Col. James T. Rubeor

several years in the future. Those details have yet to be worked out, but I can tell you there are several units with C-141s scheduled to retire between now and 2006 and I would expect them to get C-17s before us. There's also a major decision to be made about the C-5 and whether or not to fund the reliability Enhancement and Re-engineering Program. That decision many well affect the timing and also the mix of how many C-17s/C-5s we get. So lots of variables and many decisions are yet to be made. I'll keep you posted as well as I can.

Congratulations to our PEP selectees! They are all listed on the back of the *CONTACT* and we are justifiably proud of them. For those of you not familiar with the program, we hold two semiannual boards. Career Enhancement in the MPF runs the program and **Master Sgt. Eddie Fears** at 4-1664 is the guy to answer all of your questions. He just updated his guide with all the details and he'll be glad to give you a copy. All PEP nominees meet a 349 AMW board comprised of Senior NCOs from around the wing. That board has a quota of promotions to MSgt (typically 5) and TSgt (typically 10) that can be selected. In the case of SMSgt and CMSgt, they only select which 349 AMW nominees will be forwarded to 4th Air Force. Those members meet another board of Senior NCOs (selected from across all the wings) and compete with all the nominees from across 4th Air Force. Highly competitive indeed! So special congratulations to **Chief Master Sgt. John A. Cole** (301 AS), **Senior Master Sgt. Michael E. Delgiacco** (312 AS) and **Senior Master Sgt. Gary A. Lewis** (349 EMS) who were selected from all the nominees across 4th Air Force.

See you at the UTA!



349th Air Mobility Wing
Office of Public Affairs
520 Waldron Street
Travis AFB, CA 94535--2100

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday and UTAs

7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Phone: (707) 424-3936

FAX: (707) 424-1672

www.travis.af.mil/pages/349pa

Commander

Col. James T. Rubear

Public Affairs Officers

Capt. Gaelle Aronson

Capt. James Wallace

1st Lt. Dawn Young

Deputy Chief of Public Affairs

Ronald Lake

Public Affairs Assistant

Patti Holloway

Editor

Technical Sgt. Robin Jackson

Public Affairs Staff

Master Sgt. Marvin Meek

Technical Sgt. Jacqueline Murray

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CONTACT

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May 2002

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The 349th ReBlue Program is lauded by 4th Air Force. This program helps members re-familiarize standards on dress and personal appearance, wearing of the uniform and customs and courtesies.

5 Memorial Day kicks off 101 critical days of summer

Planning and flexibility are key in a safe and fun summer.

6 Activated 349th Moms tells thier stories

Mother's Day this month will be even more special for those families where "Mom" has been activated.

7 349th member are recognized are honored

Members of the 349th Memorial Affairs Squadron and the Chaplain's office are honored for their outstanding assistance after the 11 September attacks.

8 Celebrate Asian Pacific Islander month

Asian Pacific Americans have influenced and contributed to art, science industry, language, entertainment, sports and the very freedom of our country.

9 Health Services Inspection for Det 1

The 349th Medical Squadron, Det 1 recently passed a Health Service Inspection.

11 'Your Guardians Of Freedom' recognizes service

Air Force chief of staff Gen., John P. Jumper recently approved a program to sustain support for airmen over the long haul, as the Air Force continues its efforts in Operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle.

12 Anthrax vaccine is found safe and effective

The vaccine used by DoD is said to be effective in protecting against all forms of the deadly disease.

On the Cover



Memorial Service The 349th Air Mobility Wing Honor Guard is shown here during a memorial flag folding ceremony. The Honor Guard members and all members of the 349th take great pride in celebrating the bravery, valor and sacrifice of the women and men of the United States Armed Forces who have come before us.

ReBlue and the Warrior Image

There is never enough said about the proper wear of the uniform. This is why Travis was the first base to implement and the only base to continue a ReBlue program since 1993.

ReBlue is the name of our uniform orientation program to familiarize everyone about their responsibilities in regards to dress and personal appearance, wearing of the uniform and customs and courtesies. AFI 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel contains a description of each item of the military uniform and prescribes the manner in which it is worn. I believe we are all proud to wear our uniform. However, we all must take the necessary time and make the effort to wear it correctly.

Here are my personal observations of the two most common uniform violations I see at Travis. The first violation is headgear not being worn while outdoors. The two most common areas for this violation are the parking lots and the base gas station.

Remember, you must wear your hat unless indoors or in a designated area. The next violation is the wearing of

eyeglass ropes more commonly known as “croakies”. The reason is they are designed to allow your glasses to be removed and worn around the neck. The only authorized eyeglass holders are the black elastic bands with snaps because they are designed to safely keep the glasses on your face and do not distract from your military image.

These violations and many more of the do’s and don’ts are discussed in detail at the ReBlue briefings. Although we have had this program in our wing for almost nine years, it has only been in the past year that it has been totally revamped.

At the recent 4th Air Force Commander’s Conference, our ReBlue Program was presented to all 4th Air Command Chief Master Sergeants. By the unanimous support of the Command Chiefs, our program will be presented to each wing in 4th Air Force by our instructors.

I want to recognize some of those responsible for this great program. **Master Sergeants Charlene Sigwart and Randy White**, are two outstanding individuals who have worked hard to make this program the best in the command! They are also the first two volunteers to



Chief's Counsel

By Command Chief Master Sgt. Anthony L. Maddux

instruct our new program.

Also instructing this program are **Master Sergeants Dennis Madsen, Donna Morris, Johnnie Mitchell and Aretha Chandler**. I want to thank each of these First Sergeants for all their efforts.

There will be additional instructors as this program continues to grow and develop. I believe through the information and knowledge imparted by this program, we can all play an important part in enhancing our image as true professionals.

In closing, we must all remain aware of current changes to ensure our uniforms meet the standards. It is not just the Commanders and First Sergeants who enforce the standards, it is everyone’s responsibility to ensure our warrior image.

Flight Line: What are your plans for Memorial Day?



MSgt. Peggy Kelly
349th AMDS

“We always do a big family campout for the weekend. We go fishing and the kids will play in the water. We try to water-ski, if it’s not too cold.”



MSgt. Mario Simon
349th AMDS

“I just visit the cemetery to see some relatives there. I visit some family and we have a small picnic.”



SSgt. Gregg Machel
349th CS

“I spend the day with my family. I put out the flag at my house. I will probably do a barbecue.”



1st Lt. Julie Wible
349th AMDS

“We will probably go out and have a picnic and celebrate the fact that we are here, helping our country and healthy.”



SrA Gisela Lopez
349th AMW

“I am staying home and avoiding the traffic.”



Maintainers launch milestone mission: Members of the 349 AMW and 60 AMW celebrated a milestone recently. Reserve and active duty personnel deployed to a forward location in support of Operation Enduring Freedom commemorated the launch of a mind-boggling 1,500 consecutive KC-10 missions without a maintenance related delay, an accomplishment made all the more impressive in light of the challenging conditions and combat operations tempo.

101 Critical Days of Summer

Memorial Day kicks off 101 days

Spring into 101 Critical Days of Summer is not just another safety campaign, but rather a time for us to think about and prepare for the summer, and schedule our activities accordingly.

By planning ahead of time, we can do a much better job of anticipating the many challenges we'll face as we try to balance personal, family and Air Force priorities. And, most importantly, we will be able to build in some flexibility, which will allow each of us to deal with the inevitable pop-up circumstances requiring changes to our original plan.

Although we face seasonal risks throughout the year, I have found the summer season to be the most dangerous. With longer days and predominantly better weather, we have a tendency to overestimate the number of activities we can accomplish in any given day while underestimating the fatigue factor associated with those activities.

Additionally, the summer months



produce rapidly changing and often violent weather patterns that can catch even the most prepared at an awkward and dangerous point. The first step in all mishap prevention plans is to be aware of and expect change.

Next, match and assess the risks associated with a change.

Finally, we must adjust our attitudes and behaviors based on change and its associated risks. I offer the following as a recipe for your personal mishap prevention plan:

- Expect change
- Assess the risk before you act
- Trust your intuition
- Take care of each other
- Your goal is to survive

I cannot stress enough how important our people are in making our mission a success. I do not subscribe to the view that mishaps are considered a normal part of our military business. They can be prevented and eliminated! We must all step out and demonstrate our sincere concern for everyone's safety and security to ensure a healthy environment during this time of year as we "Spring into 101 Critical Days of Summer."

(This article was written by Gen. Gregory Martin, who at the time was U.S. Air Forces in Europe Commander. It was first printed in May of 2001).

Activated Reservist/Moms juggle home front on Mother's Day

by TSgt. Robin Jackson
Public Affairs

Mother's Day is a cherished tradition in which one day is set aside to honor all mothers.

The first Mother's Day observance in the United States was at a church service honoring Mrs. Anna Reese Jarvis, held at her daughter's, also named Anna Jarvis, request in Grafton, West Virginia, and in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on May 10, 1908. She hoped Mother's Day would increase respect for parents and strengthen family bonds. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson officially proclaimed Mother's Day as a national holiday to be held on the second Sunday of May.

For many mothers, volunteering in schools, churches and homes is a way of life; women in the Air Force Reserve they also volunteer their time away from the home to complete missions for their country, which is as natural for them as attending a school field trip.

According to C-5 Maintenance crew chief Staff Sgt. Nicole Gonsalves-Frantzeb, "Even though being activated is hard on my family, especially my kids, I feel it is where I should be. If the military needs people to work, I have no problem stepping up to the plate."

Gonsalves-Frantzeb is assigned to the 349th AGS and has been in the reserve nine years. She is married with two children, a son, 6 years old, and a daughter who is 3 years old. Gonsalves-



SSgt. Nicole Gonsalves-Frantzeb works on a C-5's nose steering assembly.

Frantzeb also participates in the wing honor guard and the schoolhouse-recruiting program.

Tech. Sgt. Theresa VanHoose is also assigned to the 349th AGS as a C-5 maintenance crew chief. She was on active duty 10 years and has been a reservist seven years. She is married and has one daughter, 12 years old.

According to VanHoose, she explained to her daughter why mommy volunteers for the reserve and her daughter realizes the importance of it all. The time apart from the family is still difficult, but she feels it will help make her daughter a stronger person.

"My husband is very supportive, we work together and do whatever it takes to get through it," said VanHoose. "My daughter's grandfather has jumped in and helped out as well. He retired from the Navy so we have a background of strong military ties which makes it a little easier to relate to."

Gonsalves-Frantzeb stated her entire family has assisted her with her children. Her husband is a loadmaster here at

Travis and although he is not activated, they have both needed the extended family to help them with the children. "My three sisters, brother and the parents have jumped in and assisted in any way they can, and I really appreciate their help," said Gonsalves-Frantzeb.

This Mother's Day both women are scheduled to work, however, they will celebrate with their families the day before.

"Normally I wouldn't think much about the holiday at all but since I've been away from them so much this year I feel more obligated to celebrate," said Gonsalves-Frantzeb. "It's important to allow my family to express to me how they feel on that day and I want to enjoy that with them."

"This Mother's Day means a little bit more to my daughter because she realizes I could be deployed at anytime," said VanHoose. "We signed up to keep the country free and my daughter understands that's what I have to do."

Both mothers have been activated since Feb. 13, 2002.



Remembering those who serve on Memorial Day

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day set aside for remembrance of those who have died in our nation's service. Memorial Day was first proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, in his General Order number 11, and was first observed on 30 May 1868; when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers. The South, at first, refused to acknowledge Memorial Day, honoring their dead on separate days until after WWI. It is now observed in almost every state of the union on the last Monday of every May. Since the Civil War more than 1.1 million veterans, both women and men, have lost their lives in service to America. Indeed the Civil War alone accounted for more than 600,000 dead.

On Memorial Day I had the opportunity to witness a memorial in San Francisco, aboard a submarine, the USS Pampanito, used in WWII and Korea. The United States submarine service suffered the highest percentage of casualties of any other of the

services that served in WWII. They also sank over 55 percent of all Japanese shipping sunk in WWII. This was all pointed out to me with pride by several of these veterans.

As our National Anthem was played over the speaker system some of them started to cry as they remembered all of their fallen comrades, the ones that served with them, and the ones that did not. I thought about how many of these veteran's brothers had made the ultimate sacrifice so that we may all enjoy the freedom this country offers.

As we stood for the Pledge of Allegiance I saw the reaction on their faces, it was a thoughtful, respectful look, a look of such sadness. I thought about what my dad's submarine veterans group was really all about -- "To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives while serving in the United State Naval Submarines". I then started to cry myself with the realization of what that really meant. All those old sailors, my dad included, standing on the deck of an old submarine holding the flag with such pride

and sadness.

Then it was time for the speakers to give their speeches about their experiences and the meaning of Memorial Day. A WWII veteran talked about the hardships and struggles and the fact that he was lucky to be alive when so many of his brothers had fallen victim to the war. One talked about how it was up to the veterans to teach "our children about the sacrifices made by so many". Another said, "that America will only be the land of the free so long as it is the home of the Brave". So many of the speakers spoke with so much pride about America that it was hard not to think about all the people who have no idea what this holiday is really about. While they go to their Bar B Q's and beaches there are some who keep up a tradition of pride in service to the United States of America and remember all those who had fallen, and rejoice in the ones who still live and remember. Let none of us ever forget what Memorial Day really is.

(Editor's note: Kathlena Peebles was a Junior at Highlands High School in North Highlands, Calif., when she wrote this. [US Sub Vets, Inc. Mare Island Base].)

Memorial Affairs honored for their outstanding work at Dover AFB



Col. Jim Leli, 349th Air Mobility Wing vice commander presents a Certificate of Appreciation to TSgt. James Rice, 349th Memorial Affairs Squadron, April 6.

Story and photo by TSgt. Robin Jackson
Public Affairs

Members of the 349th Memorial Affairs Squadron and two members of the Chaplain's Office were honored by the Air Force Reserve Command April 6 for their assistance after the terrorist attack on the Pentagon.

Twenty-six members were awarded Achievement Medals and 29 members

received Certificates of Appreciation for their dedication and time served in the Port Mortuary at Dover Air Force Base, Del. following the Sept. 11 attack on America.

The awards were presented by Col. Jim Leli, 349th Air Mobility Wing vice commander during the squadron's commander's call.

The specialists volunteered to assist in

the mission of identifying and processing the remains of the casualties resulting from the terrorist attacks on the Pentagon. Chaplain (Maj.) Labane Hall and chaplain assistant, SMSgt. Teresa Hamner, from the 349th Air Mobility Wing, accompanied the team to provide comfort and support throughout the mission.

"This squadron has established itself as one of the 'go to' groups and the command is aware of this," said Maj. Carl Stolnacke, 349th Memorial Affairs Squadron commander. "I just recently attended a conference and many commanders throughout the command spoke highly of this group and their accomplishments."

Col. William Rollin, 349th Support Group commander addressed the group by stating that "we all recognized what you have done but you are the people that actually did it and you should feel proud of your achievement."

"I'd also like to give a special thanks to Chaplain Hall and SMSgt. Hamner for the support they gave while at Dover," said Stolnacke. "I heard nothing but accolades about you both from airmen up to commanders. They all commented on how much they leaned on you and what great support you gave in keeping the members going."

May celebrates Asian-Pacific Islander month

Story by 1st Lt. Mark DuBois

Military Equal Opportunity

The month of May is significant in the history of Asian-Pacific Americans. Japanese immigrants first arrived in the United States on May 7, 1843. May 10, 1869 marks the day that the transcontinental railroad, which connected the East to the West was completed by more than 12,000 Chinese people.

Asians and Pacific Islanders undertook the dangerous, and oftentimes, deadly task of laying railroad tracks throughout the Sierra Nevada Mountains. For these, and many other reasons, Americans across the country celebrate the collage of cultures and the historical contributions of the Asian and Pacific Islander communities.

Asian-Pacific Americans originate from more than 50 countries, and represent about 10.6 million residents of the United States, 3.7 percent of the general population and 3.6 percent of the military. Asian-Pacific Americans are the fastest growing racial/ethnic population in the U.S., expected to reach 37.6 million people, making up 9 percent of the total population by the year 2050.

It would be unrealistic to expect to depict an accurate reflection of these varied cultures of Americans (i.e. Asian: Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Koreans, Asian Indians, Vietnamese, Cambodians, Laotians, Hmong, and Thai; Pacific Islanders: Hawaiians, Samoans, Guamanians, and Tongans among others) in one cultural practice.

Nonetheless, Asian Pacific Americans have influenced and contributed to art, science, industry, language, entertainment, sports and the very freedom of our country.

Societal influences:

-- The martial arts are popular sport and self-defense options.

-- Many Asian words have become part of the English language, like tea, typhoon, tong, honcho (from han-cho meaning squad leader), shanghai (to press someone into service), and yen (desire).

-- Japanese gardens and landscaping have proven popular (like "bonsai," the growth of miniature trees). Japanese

painting and printmaking have influenced American artists. Bamboo, long used in Japan for building purposes, has found many uses in the U.S.

Elected positions:

-- Doris Matsui and Shirley Sagawa (Asian-American members of President Clinton's subcabinet); Joy Cheria (Chairman of Equal Employment Opportunities Commission in Reagan Administration); Dennis Yao (Federal Trade Commissioner picked by President



Bush); Hiram L. Fong, Spark M. Matsunaga, and Daniel K. Inouye (U.S. Senators)

Science and Medicine:

-- Jokichi Takamine (chemist, first to isolate adrenaline); Hideyo Murayama (isolated syphilis germ); Mohammad Asad Khan (geophysicist and educator); Dr. Muhammad Akhtar (Commissioner of Public Health in Washington, DC);

Military and Space:

-- Dr. Wen-Tsing Chow, pioneered the use of photochemical circuitry, in the development of inertial guidance systems for the Air Force's Titan and Atlas missiles, allowing for miniaturization of the guidance system computer components, and paving the way for further micro miniaturization, used in so many products today.

-- Lt. Col. Ellison Onizuka, flew aboard the first Defense Department shuttle

mission in January 1985 and later died aboard Challenger in 1986.

Military conflicts of our past:

-- Contributions go as far back as the Spanish American War (1898).

-- The 100th and the 442nd suffered 9,486 casualties, including 650 soldiers killed in action, in WWII. During the Italian Campaign alone the Japanese American men of the 100th Battalion (many of whom had families in the Japanese relocation centers) had earned more than 1,000 Purple Hearts, 11 Distinguished Service Crosses, 44 Silver Stars, 31 Bronze Stars, and three Legions of Merit ribbons.

All told, they took 18,143 individual decorations for valor, making the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team the most decorated unit for its size and length of service in the history of the United States.

President Harry S. Truman pinned the final Presidential Citation to the 442nd colors and said, "I can't tell you how much I appreciate the privilege of being able to show you just how much the United States thinks of what you have done... You fought not only the enemy, but you fought prejudice—and you won."

Other conflicts included Korea and Vietnam, but Asian Pacific Americans were fully integrated into the ranks of the armed forces by then. Statistics were not kept with respect to specific groups within the Asian minority.

Asian Pacific Americans have fought and continued to persevere against stereotypes, both positive and negative in order to be a part of this great nation.

Essentially, Asian Pacific Americans have brought everything they have to the table and added to the bounty of our nation in every way a true American would.

I encourage inquiring minds to participate in community functions throughout the month to learn and experience more about these cultures and their contributions to our society.

For more information about community organizations and events in the San Francisco Bay Area visit: <http://www.aaco-sf.org/links.htm>

Detachment 1 sails through Health Services Inspection

by MSgt. Marvin Meek

Public Affairs

The 349th Medical Squadron's Detachment 1, located at Fairchild AFB, Wash., completed its triennial Health Services Inspection in March with no answerable findings and a score of 91 percent.

"Detachment 1's performance during this inspection is remarkable. On top of conducting all their war readiness preparations, they were able to prove that they can also dot their I's and cross their T's," said Col. Robert C. Singler, commander of the 349th Medical Squadron.

During an Health Service Inspection, a medical unit's related functions are grouped into major assessment areas.

The four major categories are leadership and executive development, health care support, operational and preventive health services, and medial readiness.

Inspectors score a unit based on their ability to meet mission requirements for sustained performance in key functional areas within each category. Det.1 met the criteria for each category.

Located at Fairchild AFB, Wash., Det.1 faced many challenges in the moments leading up the HSI inspection. The unit underwent a grueling 4th Air Force Staff Assistance Visit two years ago.

And, it is also dealing with the difficulties associated with trying to remain combat ready while its medical support mission undergoes a drastic change.

"In the past we were a single, monolithic medical organization that required a sizeable amount of resources to deploy. We are now an Expeditionary Medical Support Squadron," said Dr. (Colonel) Singler.

"We're more modular. We've become a more mobile force, with tailored force packages capable of very rapid response. What that means, most of all is that we're

now able to be on the first plane into a contingency. Where in the past we needed an entire aircraft, we now have a footprint of about three pallets.

Detachment 1's success on its HSI inspection means the 349th MDS is on the right track as it works toward achieving sustained combat readiness in its new business model.

Top 3 Council gets new meeting location, time

Place: Delta Breeze Club

Time: 5 p.m.

Day: Saturday of each UTA



All in the family: Amy Wyant is given the oath of enlistment to join the Air Force Reserve from Col. Jim Leli, 349th Air Mobility Wing vice commander. After completing basic training, Wyant will be a member of the 349th Aerospace Staging Squadron. She will be a Medical Service apprentice. Wyant's father, TSgt. Theodore Wyant, is currently a member in the 349 AMW assigned to the civil engineer squadron. TSgt. Wyant is currently a mobilized reservist working in the 60th Civil Engineering Squadron. Her brother is also a member of the unit and is assigned to the 349 CES and works in the explosive ordinance disposal section.

(Photo by 1st Lt. Dawn Young)

Chief of staff approves patriotic outreach program

A program designed by the Air Force to unite Americans in support of their military has recently been approved by the Air Force Chief of Staff.

The program seeks support from key groups such as families, employers, politicians, educators, community leaders and media, through myriad ways such as letters, posters, post cards, patches and other methods.

"I believe 'Your Guardians of Freedom' will help promote real grassroots support for the efforts of all airmen involved in Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom," Gen. John P. Jumper said. "To sustain the war on terrorism to its conclusion, America's Air Force will need extensive support."

Brig. Gen. Edward Tonini, the chief of staff of the Kentucky Air National Guard, originally crafted the program for troops in his home state, but soon was asked to implement it nationwide in the Air

National Guard. Interest and enthusiasm for the project has now expanded the reach across all three components of the Air Force, active duty, Guard and Reserve.

"The Air Force has wonderful tools and wonderful weapons systems, but ultimately it all boils down to people," Tonini said. "What we're trying to do with 'Your Guardians of Freedom' is make the support structure as solid as it can be over the long term."

Tonini's motivation for developing the program came as he was visiting several of his troops as they were preparing to deploy. "I asked one airman, a police officer in his civilian life, how he notified his boss that he was being deployed," Tonini said.

"He said that he handed in his gun and badge and told the watch officer that he didn't know when he was coming back. It was then that I realized we had a problem. I want to make sure that when this is over

and when these airmen return, they are welcomed back with open arms."

The program recognizes that America's military benefited from huge public support in the immediate aftermath of Sept. 11.

However, that support may eventually start to erode as the war continues and as other national and world events, such as the economy, rise to the top of people's consciousness.

"Our president has said several times that the war on terror is a marathon, not a sprint," said Brig. Gen. Ronald T. Rand, Air Force director of public affairs. "We need to maintain support for our airmen around the world. What better way to maintain this support than to have a campaign of letters, posters and reminders that this person close to you is supporting the war on terror? This war on terror really does reach out and touch everyone." (AFNS)

BRIEFS

Top enlisted person set to retire in June

The Air Force's top enlisted leader announced March 28 his plans to retire after nearly three years in the job and 28 years of service. A formal ceremony is scheduled for June 28 at Bolling Air Force Base, D.C.

"Selecting an appropriate retirement date was a very difficult decision due to the current state of world events," said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Jim Finch. "However, after careful consideration of various options and the long-term benefit for the Air Force, my family, and my replacement, I concluded this was the most appropriate time to make the transition."

Force Structure Changes for 2003

Air Force officials announced fiscal 2003 force structure changes March 22 that will result in a total increase of 470 positions, 299 military authorizations, 142 civilian authorizations and 29 drill authorizations.

The announcement specifies the force structure changes experienced by the Total Force — active duty, Guard and Reserve. Prior to making any decisions concerning a major movement of forces, the Air Force will fully comply with the spirit and requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, officials at the Pentagon said.

In reference to manpower authorizations, "military" equates to full-time active duty, Reserve or Guard authorizations. "Drill" indicates part-time Air Force Reserve Command or Air National Guard authorizations. "Civilian" refers to federal civil service, AFRC technician or ANG technician authorizations. The force structure changes include adjustments at the following California installations:

* Beale AFB, Calif. - Total impact is an increase of 76 military and seven civilian authorizations;

* Edwards AFB, Calif. - Total impact is a decrease of 129 military and an increase of 59 civilian authorizations;

* Travis AFB, Calif. - Total impact is

an increase of 29 military authorizations.

Open period for long term care insurance

A period of early enrollment into the new Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Program is now open. Federal personnel managers estimate as many as 20 million people are eligible to use this new benefit.

The federal Office of Personnel Management has contracted with John Hancock and MetLife insurance companies to provide this additional benefit for all federal employees, including military, and retirees.

The insurance program is designed to cover expenses associated with long-term care in a nursing home or in the beneficiary's home. Federal employees will be able to purchase the insurance for themselves, spouses, children and parents.

Federal retirees are entitled to enroll only themselves and their spouses, according to information on the program's Internet home page: <http://www.opm.gov/insure/ltc>.

EMPLOYER APPRECIATION DAY APPLICATION

Employer: Mr. Mrs. Dr. Other:
Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Employer's SSAN: _____

Employer's Job Title: _____

Company Name: _____

Employer's Home Mailing Address: _____

Person to be Contact in Emergency: _____

Contact's Emergency Phone: () _____

SPONSORING RESERVIST

Reservist Rank: _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Unit: _____ Reservist SSAN: _____

Reservist Phone: Duty: _____ Home: () _____

Work: () _____

Employer Appreciation Dates		<u>DATE</u>	<u>POC</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
	Logistic Group	18 May 02	SMSgt. Tagliarini	4-0734
	Medical Group	13 July 02	MSgt. Winston	4-7301
	Operations Group	17 Aug 02	Maj. Darrell Young	4-5484

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 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.

PEP promotions

Chief Master Sergeant
John A. Cole, 301st AS

Senior Master Sergeant
Michael E. Delgiacco, 312th AS
Gary A. Lewis, 349th EMS

Master Sergeant
Joseph W. Cullivan, 349th MSS
William C. Hight, 301st AS
William C. Griffith, 349th EMS
Rebecca A. Kaseman, 349th EMS
Juan Cruz, 349th EMS

Technical Sergeant
Grayland L. Hilt, 349th ME
Tauri J. Schown, 349th AES
Theodore J. Williams, 349th MDS
Steven L. Smith, 349th CRS
Douglas A. Gunn, 349th EMS
Zachary D. Patterson, 349th CRS
Susan E. Hodges, 349th AES
Michael P. Waeger, 749th AGS
Edward E. Martinez, 349th AGS
Randy S. Klipenstein, 349th AGS
Eric L. Warwick, 70th ARS

Scientific group finds Anthrax vaccine safe, effective

According to American Forces Press Service, a new report claims that the current anthrax vaccine used by the DoD is safe and effective in protecting against all forms of the deadly disease.

The Institute of Medicine, a private, nonprofit scientific organization, released its findings in a comprehensive report March 6. The report states the vaccine, as the Food and Drug Administration currently licenses it, is effective protection against anthrax, including inhalation anthrax. In 1998, the Defense Department began an aggressive program to vaccinate all service members against the disease, which is a feared biological warfare agent. The vaccination program came under public criticism amid concern about the vaccine's safety.

Critics became more vocal when the program was scaled back several times because of vaccine shortages. The Institute of Medicine report affirms the vaccine is "reasonably safe" in regards to immediate reactions. The report states temporary injection-site reactions such as pain, redness and swelling are fairly common but "are comparable to those



observed with other vaccines regularly administered to adults."

The full report is available online at www.iom.edu/iom/iomhome.nsf/Pages/Recently+Released+Reports.

For a general FAQ on anthrax, visit http://www.military.com/Content/MoreContent1/?file=BC_anthrax.

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Contact magazine is printed for reservists like Lt. Col. Efrain Marrero the new commander of the 70th ARS.



Photo by MSgt Marvin Meek