

Contact

Magazine for and about members of the 349th Air Mobility Wing
Vol. 16, No.4 April 1998



1948 - 1998

Commander's

by Col. Gerald A. Black
Commander, 349th Air Mobility Wing

CORNER

This month marks the 50th anniversary of the Air Force, which is a significant milestone in anyone's book.

Think of it. In our modern throwaway society, where change is constant, and desire for the newest, shiniest, biggest or fastest "toy" runs rampant, any entity that reaches its golden anniversary is remarkable. Not only is Air Force Reserve Command still around, it is still viable, powerful, and growing daily in importance as an equal partner in the defense of this nation.

In our 50th year, much has changed, yet much remains the same. From our primitive roots as a World War I-era Army Air Corps Aero Squadron to our official birthday as the Air Force Reserve on April 14, 1948, to today, we have come a long, long way from a part-time "flying club."

We have graduated from "weekend warriors" making do with obsolete, cast-off equipment handed down from the active duty counterparts (when equipment was available at all!), to our current status: fully-trained professionals, using the latest equipment, on duty around the clock, around the globe.

As we've evolved through the years, we've watched the perception of the Air Force Reserve change as we've modernized and assumed a higher

profile in the public mind. As the old saying goes, nothing succeeds like success.

And the very source of our success has been and will continue to be our people, the men and women who proudly wear the uniform because they want to.

That has never changed. From George Washington's time forward, the concept of dedicated "citizen soldier" has endured, basically unchanged.

Not that the road has been smooth. We have suffered lean times, small budgets; severe cutbacks-sound familiar? But we've always rebounded, and paradoxically, grown stronger and more determined than ever to overcome each obstacle and to win.

We have a lasting legacy from our past which will help us in the years ahead. Meeting the challenges of the future with air and space power depends upon staying focused on the priorities of the nation.

But in our 50th anniversary year, we should pause and celebrate our golden legacy, and refine our vision so that we are prepared, not only for our next half-century, but for the new millennium too. ➔



McIntosh

by Maj. Gen. Robert A. McIntosh
Commander, Air Force Reserve Command

SENDS

BX TAKING ACTION ON DPP

Many of you are beneficiaries of the base exchange's Deferred Payment Plan.

DPP allows you to take advantage of BX prices and specials while saving the BX millions of dollars in outside credit card fees. DPP can also aid members in establishing good credit.

Unfortunately, we have more than 800 reservists, officer and enlisted alike, who are more than 60 days late in making their DPP payments. The BX is taking

action to collect from reservists with overdue accounts, including using commercial debt collectors.

Lack of financial responsibility can carry serious civilian and military penalties and may damage your credit rating. We have worked long and hard to earn this benefit; don't abuse it. ➔



Welcome

Wrighton leaves 349th in Wright hands

by Staff Sgt. Shayne Sewell

He has complete oversight of flying operations, aerovac missions, aerial port squadrons, ALCE operations, operations support squadron and interfaces with our active duty counterparts "to ensure we are combat ready." His duty title is Operations Group commander.

"I've been very impressed with everyone I've met since I arrived two weeks ago," said Col. Louis D. Wright, who came to us from the 445th Airlift Wing at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Wright was the commander for the 445th Operations Group for three and a half years. The difference between his job as operations group commander at Wright-Patterson AFB and here is this unit is twice as big as an associate wing and Travis has about twice as many people than Wright-Patterson AFB, he said.

The colonel is a command pilot with more than 10,150 hours in the T-38A, C-141A, and C-141B. Wright flew C-141s with Col. Gerald Black, 349th

wing commander, in the 7th Military Airlift Squadron here in 1973 while on active duty. Wright returned to Travis in 1981 to the 7 MAS, and now in 1998 works once again with Black.

One difference Wright noticed about Travis since he was last here in 1986, besides the new facilities, are the missing C-141s. "I am going to train in the KC-10 and my goal is to also train in the C-5," said Wright.

Wright was born in Palo Alto, Calif., May 23, 1949. Wright was an Air Force brat who lived in Europe for nine years while growing up. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in environmental biology from the University of Colorado, Boulder, in 1971 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps. He completed Squadron Officer School in 1976, Air Command and Staff College in 1985, and Air War College in 1987.

"I like to visit my units," said Wright. "I'm just glad to be here and serve everybody and I like to listen," he said. ✈

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History of the Air Force Reserve

BRIEF HISTORY - PART 4 BERLIN AND CUBA, 1961-1962

The Air Force activated several Air Force Reserve C-124 troop carrier units to augment active duty forces during the crisis that developed following the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961. The units, recalled on 1 October 1961 and released on 27 August 1962, were:

- 435th Troop Carrier Wing, Homestead AFB, Florida
- 77th Troop Carrier Squadron, Donaldson AFB, South Carolina
- 78th Troop Carrier Squadron, Barksdale AFB, Louisiana
- 442d Troop Carrier Wing, Richards-Gebaur AFB, Missouri
- 303d Troop Carrier Squadron, Richards-Gebaur AFB, Missouri
- 304th Troop Carrier Squadron, Richards-Gebaur AFB, Missouri
- 305th Troop Carrier Squadron, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma

These units, assigned to the Tactical Air Command, conducted operations out of their home stations. In addition, approximately 100 officers and enlisted personnel assigned to the five Air Force Reserve air rescue squadrons served voluntary 60-day tours to provide rescue coverage during the deployment of Air National Guard fighter units to Europe.

On 28 October 1962, the Air Force activated (for one month) one C-123 and seven C-119 troop carrier wings and six aerial port squadrons following the discovery of Soviet offensive missiles in Cuba. The units operated from their home stations and deployed aircraft and crews to support the buildup of forward operating locations in the southeastern United States and to prepare for a possible airborne assault on Cuba. Air Force Reserve air rescue squadron members again served voluntarily, along with the 14,000 Reservists mobilized with their units.

As the crisis abated, 442 aircrew members remained on active duty for an additional 15 days to

help return dispersed Air Force units to their home stations. The following units participated in the Cuban call-up:

- 94th Troop Carrier Wing, L. G. Hanscom Field, Massachusetts
- 512th Troop Carrier Wing, Willow Grove NAS, Pennsylvania
- 440th Troop Carrier Wing, Gen Billy Mitchell Field, Wisconsin
- 349th Troop Carrier Wing, Hamilton AFB, California
- 302d Troop Carrier Wing, Clinton City AFB, Ohio
- 403d Troop Carrier Wing, Selfridge AFB, Michigan
- 434th Troop Carrier Wing, Bakalar AFB, Indiana
- 445th Troop Carrier Wing, Dobbins AFB, Georgia
- 11th Aerial Port Squadron, McGuire AFB, New Jersey
- 14th Aerial Port Squadron, Ellington AFB, Texas
- 15th Aerial Port Squadron, Donaldson AFB, South Carolina
- 16th Aerial Port Squadron, Bakalar AFB, Indiana
- 17th Aerial Port Squadron, Paine Field, Washington
- 18th Aerial Port Squadron, Pope AFB, North Carolina ✈



Chief to the Rescue

By Master Sgt. David S. Newman
First Sergeant, 55th Aerial Port Squadron

Technical Sgt. Abdon A. David, assistant NCOIC cargo processing, suffered from brain damage as a result of a fall while he was on a two week active duty assignment for Deployment Response Training (DRT) at Dobbins Air Force Base, Ga., in March 1997. David was listed in critical condition in the intensive care unit at a Marietta, Ga. Hospital. I was asked by Maj. Craig A. Medvigy, then commander, 55 APS, to fly to Dobbins AFB to assist David's family.

David had just gone through surgery to relieve pressure on his brain and was in coma when I arrived in Marietta. David's wife Ena, his son Clifford, and his two daughters, Priscilla and Donna, had already flown to Georgia to be by his side.

I knew immediately the David family was in good hands when I met Chief Master Sgt. James Roshak, DRT program manager, and his wife Priscilla.

When David's family arrived at Dobbins AFB the Roshak's insisted they move in with them. They lived 10 minutes from the hospital, making it easier for the family to maintain their vigil at the hospital.

I got a firsthand glimpse of Roshak making sure

everything possible was being done to care for David and his family.

The Roshak's literally opened up the warmth of their home for three months to people they had never met. The generosity of the Roshak family was limitless; their caring unsurpassed.

Roshak immediately involved the Family Readiness office and the base casualty office to assist David's family while the 94th Airlift Wing collected donations for anyone who wanted to help.

Master Sgt. David Jones, one of Roshak's staff, not only provided transportation but helped David's family receive military ID cards to access base facilities.

In June of 1997 David's condition stabilized and he returned to Travis to undergo extensive physical therapy. He retired in 1998 after 16 years in the military.

David's wife, Ena, was pregnant when he was injured and in January 1998 the David's invited the Roshak's to San Francisco for the baby's baptism and to be honored as his godparents.

It is with the help of caring people like the Roshak's, his family and staff and the Air Force Reserve that demonstrates the true meaning of "family." ➔



Civilian Employee of Quarter

Mr. John D. McKern, aerospace ground equipment technician, 349th Component Repair Squadron, was selected the civilian employee of the quarter in March and nominated for the coveted unit Ralph Hobson award honoring the best AGE mechanic in 349 CRS.

The nomination package states Mr. McKern's efforts embodies the "total force" concept and combines the interests' of the active duty. Some of his many accomplishments include:

- *Improved the ability to support home station and transient aircraft.
- *Completed three generator changes in 36 hours.

*Changed two engines and replaced a crankshaft oil seal on another engine in minimal time.

*Taught two apprentices to rebuild diesel engine cylinder head and completed repair on schedule.

*Ramrodded draw down of Repairable Processing Center (RPC).

*Inventoried and segregated approximately 800 parts into storage bins, and processed all excess parts to base supply for restocking.

*Consolidated two diesel engine cylinder head tool kits and 45 other special tool items into one mobile toolkit thus reducing time and effort required to maintain separate kits. ➔





APPRECIATION FOR AERIAL PORTER'S

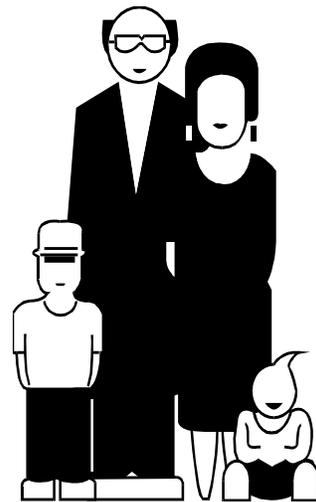
Maj. Gen. Robert A. McIntosh, commander, Air Force Reserve Command, in speaking with fellow commanders during his travels has "observed the professional dedication and involvement of the reserve aerial porters in daily Air Force requirements."

"Although, this is true of other support functions, none is more heavily tasked or better able to respond to the call of duty, than our air transporters," he said.

McIntosh quoted, "Our aerial porter's provide outstanding support around the world in every request. The Air Force could not do the mission without them."

"I want to pass my personal thanks and appreciation to these superb citizen airmen and women for their loyalty, performance, and response to our country's call."

"I am proud of every individual and unit in this command which supports the daily challenges of the Air Force mission. The aerial port community defines the total force concept."



FAMILY READINESS IS HERE FOR YOU

Family Readiness is a program developed as a result of deployment of reserve members during Desert Storm.

Deployed reservists sometimes left behind family members who were not prepared to handle situations on their own.

Family Readiness is here to help reserve families prepare for possible deployment and to be a link between family members and the military.

Family members may contact Family Readiness, whether the sponsor is here or TDY. They provide information, services, or act as a source of referral on Family Life Education, Career Focus, Financial Management and Relocation Assistance.

We are here for you and are located in Bldg. 228, Military Personnel Flight, ext 4-1661/3555 or 1800-453-8011 ext 4-1661/3555.

EMPLOYER SUPPORT

Realizing the importance of the continued support of private sector employers in the interest of national defense, Air Mobility Command has established an Outstanding Employer of the Guard and Reserve Award program to honor civilian employers of Reserve and Guard members.

Recognition will be quarterly, with the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard alternating quarters so there will be two civilian employers honored each year.

Nominees may be submitted on the "My Boss is a Patriot" form which is available in the Public Affairs office or via the Internet on the National Committee for Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve Home Page: <http://www.ncesgr.osd.mil>

SHERRARD NOMINATED TO REPLACE MCINTOSH

Maj. Gen. James E. Sherrard III has been nominated as the next chief of Air Force Reserve upon Senate confirmation, replacing Maj. Gen. Robert A. McIntosh who will become the first reserve assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Sherrard currently commands 22nd Air Force at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga.



JOINT CHIEF OF STAFF ASSISTANTS

Gen. Henry H. Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has selected Army National Guard Maj. Gen. Michael W. Davidson and Air Force Reserve Maj. Gen. Robert A. McIntosh to serve as assistants to the chairman. These full-time Joint Staff positions were established by the FY 1998 National Defense Authorization Act.

Davidson and McIntosh will advise Shelton on National Guard and Reserve matters, act as his personal liaison with their respective service branches and associations, and will participate when Guard and Reserve issues are brought before defense forums such as the Joint Review Board. The assistants will serve for a term of two years, which may be extended for an additional term.

"Both of these officers bring tremendous talent, experience and energy to these new positions," said Shelton. "I'm confident that General Davidson and General McIntosh will help further our goal of forging a Total Force to meet the defense challenges of the 21st Century."



RECRUITERS IN EUROPE

To increase the success rate of recruiting prior-service Air Force people, Air Force Reserve Command has placed in-service recruiters in Europe and the Far East.

"More than 15,500 Reserve eligible Air Force members will leave active duty in 1998, and more than 700 of them will complete their commitments at select overseas locations.

By placing in-service recruiters at overseas locations, we can educate individuals on opportunities in the Reserve as full or part-time citizen airman," said Maj. Dirk A. Palmer, chief of recruiting's operations branch at AFRC headquarters.

CAPITOL HILL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Air Force Reserve Command is looking for officers to serve in the Capitol Hill Fellowship Program and on the Air Force Association Reserve Council.

The AFA Reserve Council will have five vacancies this year for officers in any grade.

Selectees serve on the council for two years and attend all meetings on orders at the expense of the unit or agency.

Both programs are open to unit reservists and individual mobilization augmentees.

Applications go through their wing commander or agency equivalent to HQ/USAF/REI, 1150 Air Force Pentagon, Washington, D.C., 20330-1150.

Deadline to apply for the Capitol Hill Fellowship Program is July 17.

Other requirements include being available in December, serving at least four years in the Reserve program and completing professional military education for current grade.

AFA Reserve council applicants have until Aug. 10 to submit their requests.

MAINTENANCE SENIOR NCO, NCO AND AIRMAN OF THE QUARTER

The following individuals have been selected as the Maintenance Quarter winners for second quarter, FY98:

Master Sgt. Dale G. Sandusky, 349 EMS, Senior NCO of the Quarter
Technical Sgt. Jerome Stockton, 749 AGS, NCO of the Quarter
Senior Airman Tony J. Parham, 749 AGS, Airman of the Quarter

CONGRATULATIONS!!!



LIGHTENING



1. PLAN IN ADVANCE YOUR EVACUATION AND SAFETY MEASURES. **WHEN YOU FIRST SEE LIGHTNING** OR HEAR THUNDER, ACTIVATE YOUR EMERGENCY PLAN. **NOW IS THE TIME TO GO TO A BUILDING OR A VEHICLE.** LIGHTNING OFTEN PRECEDES RAIN, SO **DON'T WAIT FOR THE RAIN TO BEGIN BEFORE SUSPEND-ING ACTIVITIES.**

2. IF OUTDOORS...AVOID WATER. AVOID THE HIGH GROUND. AVOID OPEN SPACES. AVOID ALL METAL OBJECTS INCLUDING ELECTRIC WIRES, FENCES, MACHINERY, MOTORS, POWER TOOLS, ETC. UNSAFE PLACES INCLUDE UNDERNEATH CANOPIES, SMALL RAIN SHELTERS, OR NEAR TREES. **WHERE POSSIBLE, FIND SHELTER IN A SUBSTANTIAL BUILDING OR IN A FULLY ENCLOSED METAL VEHICLE SUCH AS A CAR, TRUCK OR VAN WITH THE WINDOWS COMPLETELY SHUT. IF LIGHTNING IS STRIKING NEARBY WHEN YOU ARE OUTSIDE, YOU SHOULD:**

- CROUCH DOWN. PUT FEET TOGETHER. PLACE HANDS OVER EARS TO MINIMIZE HEARING DAMAGE FROM THUNDER.**
- **AVOID PROXIMITY TO OTHER PEOPLE (MINIMUM OF 15 FT.)**

3. IF INDOORS...AVOID WATER. STAY AWAY FROM DOORS AND WINDOWS. DO NOT USE THE TELEPHONE. TURN OFF, UNPLUG, AND STAY AWAY FROM APPLIANCES, COMPUTERS, POWER TOOLS, & TV SETS.

4. INJURED PERSONS DO NOT CARRY AN ELECTRICAL CHARGE AND CAN BE HANDLED SAFELY. **APPLY FIRST AID IF YOU ARE QUALIFIED AND CALL 911 OR SEND HELP IMMEDIATELY.**

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"CONTACT" magazine is printed for reservists like Master Sgt. Galeard May, wing control center supervisor.

photo by Staff Sgt. Steven Ontiveros