

# CONTACT

MAGAZINE FOR AND ABOUT MEMBERS OF THE 349TH AIR MOBILITY WING  
TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

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AUGUST 2001



# New vision, mission for Air Force Reserve Command

Welcome to the August UTA!

I just returned from a conference at Air Force Reserve Command Headquarters in Robins AFB, Ga. We discussed several issues but perhaps the most important discussion was about the new AFRC vision.

**Vision: Citizen Airmen fully engaged in global Vigilance, Reach and Power.**

You'll notice that it's almost identical to the vision for the active duty forces and I think that's a good thing. The one major difference is right at the beginning: Citizen Airmen. I think it sets us apart as a special kind of citizen. The new mission statement further defines our role.

**Mission: To provide Citizen Airmen to defend the United States and protect its interests through aerospace power.**

No matter what you do at the 349th Air Mobility Wing, you should be able to see yourself in that vision and that mission and know how you contribute to those ends. If you don't, ask your commander for his or her thoughts on the matter. It may lead to an interesting discussion!

We also received a briefing from **Lt. Gen. James Sherrard**, AFRC commander. He listed four "must do" items that I think everyone should be aware of:

-- Achieving Full Manning is "A MUST"

-- Flying the Flying Hour Program is "A MUST"

-- Increasing Retention is "A MUST"

-- Maintaining Standards is "A MUST"

Fortunately for me, I've discovered the key to meeting all these challenges. It's you. You great men and women are going to recruit your friends and neighbors and the next generation of reservists who will fill our ranks. The hard work of our operators who fly the planes and the maintainers who fix them will enable us to meet our flying hour program. You will welcome new members into your unit and give them the support and friendship they need to become proud members of the team. And it is you who will set the high standards for your organization and make sure they are understood and enforced. It will be tough work and will require

leadership and followership and teamwork but the key to success is the same as it has always been – you!

One of the best parts of my job is to acknowledge our outstanding achievers. And we have a lot of them! Our most recent recognition was the C-5 Jet Engine Dispatch team which was the AFRC nominee to compete in the Chief of Staff Team Excellence Award. The team is a joint effort between the 349th and 60th Component Repair Squadron and in typical Team Travis fashion, the sum is greater than the total of the parts. Thanks to the reserve members of the team: **Chief Master Sgt. Jerry T. Parrish, Master Sgt. William S. Morrissey, Tech. Sgt. Vicky L. Hedger, Staff Sgt. Brian M. Sullivan, Staff Sgt. Keith A. Ingram, and Tech. Sgt. Michael A. Derosier.** Good luck at Air Force!

Perhaps you've heard of the random drug tests being directed at the front gate of Travis. We had about 20 of our members get stopped on their way in during the early morning hours on Sunday A Flight. The target audience were any active duty members returning from a "rave" party in San Francisco. Unfortunately the hard charging, leading edge of our reserve force got caught in the same net. Since there may well be more of these random tests, the deal we struck with the 60th AMW is this: if you are coming in for UTA duty during one of these random searches, identify yourself as a reservist. You will be allowed to report to your unit, sign in and let them know where you will be. If you have immediate duties that you must do, go ahead and do them. Report for drug testing as soon as possible. Also, be aware that drug testing for this program is not at David Grant Medical Center. It's at the old hospital building at the top of the hill. There will be a map with reporting instructions on the paperwork you will be given at the gate. Thanks in advance for your patience.

We have two new additions to the wing I want you to welcome. First is **Chief Master Sgt. Theron Lord** who is here as the new senior recruiter. He is replacing



## Pass and Review

By Col. James T. Rubeor

**Chief Master Sgt. Roger Buck** who is retiring after a long and distinguished Air Force career. Welcome **Chief Lord** and thank you, **Chief Buck!** The second is not really an addition but he does have a new job. **Lt. Col. Kerry Keithcart** is the new 301st Airlift Squadron commander. Welcome to he and his wife **Betsy!**

Good news on the funding front. The President just signed the Supplemental Appropriations Bill and we should have enough RPA funds to successfully accomplish our mission through the end of September. Full speed ahead!

As you are all aware, Air Mobility Command has changed the way it inspects units. The traditional big Operational Readiness Inspection involving the entire wing has been replaced with the smaller, Unit Type Code centered Expeditionary ORI. One of the problems with that approach is that the inspector general does not get to see the mobility processing line and the aircraft sortie generation function handle a wartime surge load, an important part of our business. Accordingly, they plan to come test our capability in the March 2002 timeframe. Right now it looks like we'll be tasked to generate all the aircraft on the ramp (up to taxi), process 350 personnel and marshal 31 short tons of cargo. Needless to say, we'll be practicing our skills prior to the inspection. In fact, many of you on A flight will be involved in a mobility processing line exercise. I'm committed to keeping them as short as possible so we don't interfere with UTA training too much. Help us out by showing up ready to go. Thanks in advance for your support.

One last word before I close – keep up that great safety attitude!

See you at the UTA!



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# CONTACT

Vol. 19, No. 8

August 2001

## Inside this issue

### 4 Believing in the Air Force core values

Integrity First is the first line in our Air Force Core Values. I believe that integrity is one of the most important words of our time. It may mean different things to different people, but it certainly means keeping our promises and doing what we said we would do.

### 5 Moving has many meanings

On June 16 2001, I found that the word moving does indeed have more than one meaning. That night I volunteered at the Vietnam Memorial Wall at Travis AFB.

### 6 Wing flies through ASEV inspection

An inspection team from 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force arrived here to conduct the Aircrew Standardization Evaluation Visit and left with the understanding that the 349<sup>th</sup> Air Mobility Wing flyers are fully qualified to meet mission requirements.

### 7 Unit vacancies

The 349th Air Mobility Wing currently has 31 civil service vacancies. These openings range from GS-05 to GS-14.

### 8 DoD, bank revise cardholders terms, add fees

The Defense Department and Bank of America have agreed to a revised cardholder terms and agreement policy for the government travel card. The new agreement is scheduled to take effect Aug. 10.

### 9 Reserve offers high-year-of-tenure extensions

Reservists with a high-year-of-tenure date between June 1, 2001, and Dec. 31, 2002, may request an extension of their enlistment in the Selected Reserve.

### 11 Nominate your boss for award through ESGR

The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve conducts an awards program designed to recognize employers who support a strong National Guard and Reserve force.

## On the Cover



Senior Master Sgt. Moore teaches during the Leadership Development Program. The LDP is for staff sergeants and technical sergeants looking to learn and or sharpen their management and supervisory skills. This class was held July 18-29. The next LDP class is Aug. 8-19. Those interested in attending should contact their unit training managers. Graduates of the course receive two management credits from Central Texas College. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Robin Jackson)



## Chief's Counsel

By Command Chief Master Sgt.  
Anthony L. Maddux

**I**ntegrity First is the first line in our Air Force Core Values.

I believe that integrity is one of the most important words of our time. It may mean different things to different people, but it certainly means keeping our promises and doing what we said we would do. It also means choosing to be accountable and taking as our first core value, the promise to be faithful.

Integrity comes from the word integer - a whole number, indivisible, singular. Integrity as a treasure will not tarnish, but instead is an eternal investment. The ideals of craftsmanship, instead of just getting by. Doing the right thing even when no one would know if you didn't. Telling the truth even when it hurts. Deliberately giving your best even in the worst of situations.

Simply put, integrity is doing what you said you would do. It would be easy to fill this space with many other examples to affirm integrity. The chronology of human failures is endless. But the real question is not, "Who's involved in the latest failure?" It doesn't take much guts to hold up the faults of someone else to hide ones own shortcomings.

The larger issue is, "What can you and I do personally to avoid our own failures and preserve our ability to serve?" As members of the armed services, we each swore an oath that when the time comes, you can count on us in defending our freedom.

We do have a special calling to place Service Before Self and practice Excellence in All We Do to defend the national security of the country. How different it sounds when, instead of talking about reviewing plans and objectives, we picture ourselves as reviewing the promises we have made and making commitments to new ones. Ideas in theory and ideas in action are seldom the same.

But when one follows the other, there is the opportunity for change and growth. We need our core values.

I'm confident you will echo that same sentiment as you allow its wisdom to flow through you to become part of your life. I believe our core values are exactly what is needed for our Air Force and our country.



## FLIGHT LINE: How does PME benefit you as an noncommissioned officer?



**TSgt. Michael Cannon**  
349th EMS

"I feel PME makes me a more well rounded NCO by allowing me to see beyond just the squadron level. It gives me insight to the Air Force as a whole."



**TSgt. Rafael Gaddi**  
349th AGS

"It helps me with developing my public speaking and leadership skills."



**TSgt. Forest Bashaw**  
349th CRS

"I feel this training is very beneficial because during stressful times it has really paid off, it has become second nature."



**SSgt. Amelia Cinco**  
349th CS

"I feel PME gives you a lot of hands on experience and exposes you to situations that give you a chance to stand up and speak for yourself."



**TSgt. Mark Jimenez**  
349th AGS

"PME gives me an inside look at what my supervisors expect from me and these courses coincide with my civilian education. This helps me as I move up to counsel and supervise my subordinates."

# Moving offers more than one meaning

## Airman volunteers time at Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall

By Technical Sgt. Ed Reece

349th EMS

On June 16 2001, I found that the word **moving** does indeed have more than one meaning.

That night I volunteered at the Vietnam Memorial Wall at Travis AFB.

I did this to show my support solidarity and respect for the many that gave their lives for something that they had no control over.

Most were thrust into this "action" due to the draft, right out of high school.

I actually didn't have to go in country. My folks tell me that the Air Force did ask their permission to send me there, twice. My parents say that as the sole surviving son and the last of the bloodline, "Uncle Sugar" had to request their permission. Both times my folks denied permission.

I did serve from 1968 through 1975, all "war" years. I was stationed at Travis for these years.

I was a C-141 crew chief. I prepped, launched and recovered my aircraft many times during those years.

All too often, I would "block in" my plane and find out that it was a "coffin run" mission that it was returning from. I would board the aircraft and see pairs of "tin boxes" on the cargo deck from the number one pallet position all the way back to the ramp. Some times I would read the tags on them. Many tags, too many,



(Photo by Capt. Gaelle Aronson, 349th AMW/PA)

would show the age of the person to be 18 to 21 years old when their life was ended.

Did they really start to live before it was all ended for them?

There were some somber moments when I brought my wife to the wall. She located names of four classmates she went through high school with. As I helped her with the name rubbings, I could feel her sadness and sense of wonder.

I'll admit, there were some good moments there too.

One was when an older gent came to me and started relating to me some of his World War Two "war stories". He shared

his experiences as a P-51 crew chief near Iwo Jima.

Another fellow related his tour through Europe, France and Italy.

Later a group of folks from the VFW came. We talked at some length. One lady did remark that there were only four women named on the wall and she felt that was odd.

I did come away with a better feeling towards myself. Even though I didn't serve in Vietnam, I did serve. I did not run or hide. I did my job to the best of my abilities and I did them proudly.

Can I finally be a Vietnam Vet?

## Wing flies VIPs on orientation flight

[Editor's Note: The 70th Air Refueling Squadron, had the honor of flying Congressional Medal of Honor recipients during a recent orientation flight. What follows is 1st Lt. Michael Butler's account of the day.]

The Congressional Medal of Honor Orientation Flight with six CMOH recipients and five local distinguished visitors was a success for everyone.

The flight was a formation departure with a KC-135 leading a two ship with a KC-10. Together, the two planes rendezvoused with four F-16s in anchor air refueling track-625. The weather was questionable; whether or not the mission was going to be successful with booming thunderstorms in the area.

In the end, the thunderstorms were not in the anchor. The clouds in the background made for great viewing of the KC-135 with its two F-16s that were 1000 feet below. The viewing from the boom compartment was also, picture perfect.

After the honored guests got a chance to see everything from the cockpit and the boom compartment, the two tankers departed to do some of their own tanker/receiver work.

Again, everything went great and everyone got a chance to see a contact, whether it was from the cockpit of the KC-10 or the boom compartment of the KC-135.

Overall, the aircrew and the

distinguished guests appeared to be equally honored in each other's presence. Personally, I was moved to shake the hands of these (all from World War II) honored people.

After we landed, we said good-bye to the folks departing the plane. I feel I could never do enough to repay these people for their service to our country and to the people who died during battle that the living CMOH recipients credit their honors too. So, just as they were all on the bus and ready to drive away, I had to run down and tell everyone what a deep honor it was to have them on the plane. They all reciprocated the feeling and I was very humbled.

# Wing flies through ASEV inspection

By 1st Lt. Dawn Young

Wing Public Affairs

An inspection team from 15th Air Force arrived here to conduct the Aircrew Standardization Evaluation Visit and left with the understanding that the 349th Air Mobility Wing flyers are fully qualified to meet mission requirements. The team was here from May 30 to June 13.

Inspected were the two C-5 squadrons, the 301st and 312th Airlift squadrons, the 70th and 79th Air Fueling Squadron, flying the KC-10s and the 349th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.

The inspection consisted of numerous

check rides for pilots, flight engineers, loadmasters, boom operators, flight nurses and medical technicians. Of the 140 rides, 11 of the flight checks were performed to an exceptional standard.

Also, written tests were administered with participants achieving an overall average of 99 percent. Almost 600 tests were administered. "This is an outstanding accomplishment," said Col. Ron Rutland, 349th Operations Group commander.

Noted from the inspectors were the stan/eval programs. These programs were noted as well managed and robustly constructed. The report went on to state, "Administration, FEFs, trend analysis, aircrew testing and the no notice programs

were the high points; there were no lows."

The following people received special recognition as outstanding performers: Lt. Col. Del Lewis, Maj. Terrell Munson, David Goodhue, Boyd Parker, Senior Master Sgts. John Megyeri Jr, Shawn Sanborn, Joseph Lambertus, Russell Martin, Master Sgts. David Lafferty, William Dismukes and Technical Sgt. Jeanette Davidson.

Programs receiving special recognition were: 70th ARS flight management, 312th AS flight management, 349th AES flight management and the 349th AES aeromedical equipment.

The 301st AS loadmaster's FEF were best seen to date.

## BRIEFS

### 301st Airlift Squadron gets new commander

Lt. Col. Kerry E. Keithcart is the new commander of the 301st Airlift Squadron.

He assumed command of the C-5 Galaxy unit from outgoing commander Col. Peter Doby at a change of command ceremony July 22.

Doby will become the vice wing commander for the 433rd Airlift Wing at Kelly AFB, Texas.

### Wing Combat Dining-In happens in September

The Wing Combat Dining-In will begin at 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 8 in Bldg. 881, the 349th Civil Engineer Squadron facility.

Doors open at 5 p.m. Tickets are available from any unit first sergeant or Top Three Council member.

### Reserve welcomes active-duty retirees

Active-duty military retirees in all career fields are being offered the opportunity to return to military service by the Air Force Reserve.

Those eligible for the program are regular active-duty Air Force retirees who retired not more than five years ago, or current active-duty members with an approved retirement date.

Interested people may contact the nearest Air Force Reserve recruiter, (707) 424-0981, or call (800) 257-1212 for details.

### Commissary web site makes shopping easier

Shoppers can find out what is on sale at the commissary of their choice and make up their own shopping list on the Defense Commissary Agency Web site at <http://www.commissaries.com>. New and improved features include a savings aisle button that lets visitors see special promotions being featured at their local commissary.

More details about the commissary Web site are in an Air Force News Service story at <http://www.af.mil/news/Jul2001/>.

### Crossroads flea market now online

An online flea market is the newest service available on the Air Force Crossroads Web site. The section was built at the request of the Air Force community to ease permanent change-of-station moves, and allow Air Force members and their families to post items for sale.

The flea market is categorized into auto lot, boat lot, homes and apartments, and household items, and can be searched by location and item type. Only the auto lot is up and running, but the boat lot should be running by the end of July, followed by the remaining sections.

Visit the site at [http://www.afcrossroads.com/flea\\_market/index.cfm](http://www.afcrossroads.com/flea_market/index.cfm).



### Play ATWIND and win

The Air Mobility Command-sponsored summer promotion, "Around The World In Ninety Days," also known as "ATWIND," is underway.

ATWIND is a virtual around-the-world adventure game with the goal being to fly from one landmark destination to another while earning chances to win prizes along the way.

Once you or one of your eligible family members has earned a game piece, you can set up an ATWIND account by calling a toll-free number, (888) 597-9960, or accessing the web site, [www.atwind.com](http://www.atwind.com) and entering the number found on your game piece. Game pieces are earned by participating in a variety of base programs and activities.

Check with your first sergeant or the 349th Support Group, (707) 424-3737, to ask about eligible events.

# Wing Civil Service Vacancies

UNIT	SERIES	NoN-ART	ART	# OF VAC	REMARKS
349 AMW/FM	GS-0545-05	X		1	Military Pay Technician
349 OG	GS-2181-13		X	1	Airplane Flight Instructor
349 OG	GS-2181-14		X	1	Asst Aircraft Operation Officer
70 ARS	GS-2181-12		X	1	Airplane Flight Instructor
70 ARS	GS-2181-13		X	1	Airplane Pilot
70 ARS	GS-2181-14		X	1	Aircraft Operations Officer
79 ARS	GS-0303-06		X	1	Operations Assistant
79 ARS	GS-0303-07		X	1	Operations Technician
301 AS	GS-0301-12		X	1	(Classifying PD)
312 AS	GS-0301-12		X	1	(Classifying PD)
312 AS	GS-2181-13		X	1	Airplane Pilot
312 AS	GS-2181-13		X	1	Airplane Flight Instructor
312 AS	GS-2181-14		X	1	Aircraft Operations Officer
349 OSF	GS-0303-05		X	1	Operations Flight Clerk
349 OSF	GS-2181-13		X	1	Airplane Flight Instructor
82 APS	GS-0303-07		X	1	Resource Management Assistant
349 ASTS	GS-0301-09		X	1	Medical Administrative Specialist
349 ASTS	GS-0303-07		X	1	Medical Administrative Assistant
349 AGS	WS-8801-09		X	1	Aircraft Overhaul Supervisor
349 AGS	WS-8801-09		X	1	Aircraft Overhaul Supervisor
349 AGS	WG-2610-12		X	1	Electronic Integrated Systems Mechanic
349 LSS	GS-0346-11		X	1	Logistic Management Specialist
349 EMS	WG-3806-10		X	1	Sheet Metal Mechanic
349 LSS	WG-6641-10		X	1	Ordnance Equipment Mechanic
349 CS	GS-2201-09		X	1	Supply Technician
349 CS	WG-2604-11		X	3	Electronic Mechanic
349 CS	GS-0335-07		X	1	Computer Assistant
349 MSS	GS-0204-05		X	1	Military Personnel Clerk
349 SPTG	GS-0204-07		X	1	Military Personnel Technician

The above civil service vacancies are provided by the 349th Mission Support Squadron and will be announced quarterly in the magazine. For more information about these jobs, please call the Travis Civilian Personnel Office at (707) 424-3067. Group POCs are: 1st Lt. Terry Cotter, 349th AMW, (707) 424-3922; Chief Master Sgt. Mark Kloepfel, 349th MDG, (707) 424-7301; Chief Master Sgt. Anne Kohutanycz, 349th SPTG, (707) 424-3861; Master Sgt. Dave Taillon, 349th LG, (707) 424-0715; and Ms. Karen Lobeck, 349th OG, (707) 424-2108.

# DoD, bank agree to changes in credit card terms, policy

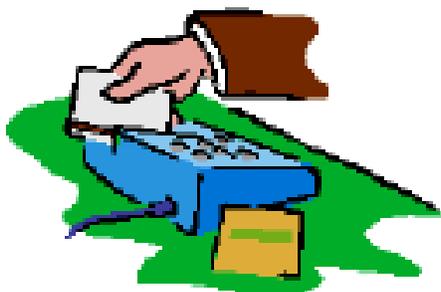
The Defense Department and Bank of America have agreed to a revised cardholder terms and agreement policy for the government travel card. The new agreement is scheduled to take effect Aug. 10.

The new terms include increased fees for some transactions, according to Michael Weber, Air Force travel card program coordinator.

Although some fees have increased, he predicts only a small number of people will be affected.

"The Air Force has seen a significant decrease in travel credit card delinquencies," he said. "Since January, delinquencies have dropped from over 12 percent to currently 5 percent, and we continue to see a decline".

He said people can avoid the higher cash advance fees simply by using the credit card to charge their lodging, transportation, meals and rental car costs.



card as much as possible and avoid using the ATM for cash advances to pay expenses that should be charged directly to the card," he said. Nearly all other additional fees will be avoided by paying bills on time and being financially responsible, he added.

New terms include:

- **Late fee:** A late fee of \$29 at 75 days past closing date on the statement of the account in which the charge first appeared.

- **Expedited cards:** A \$20 fee for

expedited delivery of cards, which is reimbursable on the travel voucher; no fee will be charged for emergency replacement of lost/stolen/damaged cards while in a travel status.

- **Returned check fees:** A \$29 fee for returned checks.

- **Cash fees:** For cash advances, a fee of \$2 per transaction or 3 percent of the transaction amount, whichever is greater.

- **Reduce credit lines** on restricted and standard cards consistent with travel needs.

Bank of America included the revised terms and agreement policy in the July statements, Weber said.

Additionally, Weber said future changes include a split disbursement default option and procedures to implement salary offset for delinquent accounts. These changes are expected to take effect later this fall and additional information will be announced once it becomes available. (AFPN)

## AIR FORCE BRIEFS

### Telephone dialing access codes to be standardized

Air Force Reserve Command bases are making the switch to standardized telephone access codes.

In February 2001, Brig. Gen. Walter I. Jones, assistant deputy chief of staff for Air Force communications and information, directed that all Air Force bases convert to the same access codes. Standardizing the codes for Defense Switched Network, and commercial long-distance and local calls will eliminate confusion when people transfer or travel to another installation.

Officials in Headquarters AFRC's Directorate of Communications and Information are working with telephone operations at the command's bases to implement the change by Aug. 1.

The two-digit access codes are:

- 90 - DSN flash override,
- 91 - DSN flash,
- 92 - DSN immediate,
- 93 - DSN priority,
- 94 - DSN routine,

- 98 - FTS2001 commercial long distance, and
- 99 - commercial local.

Other major commands will determine when their installations will standardize their access codes, said Headquarters AFRC officials. Air Force units based on other service installations are subject to the host installation implementation plans. (AFRC News Service)

### BAH, base pay rates increase for some

Effective July 1, most servicemembers in grades E-1 to E-4 with families saw an increase in their tax-free basic housing allowance.

Additionally, airmen in grades E-5 to E-7 with six to 26 years of service got up to \$59 a month pay raise based on where they fall in the pay chart, also effective July 1, said Air Force officials. People can go to <http://www.dfas.mil/money> to determine actual pay increases.

Both rate increases are in accordance with the fiscal 2001 National Defense

Authorization Act, said Air Force officials.

The NDAA combined the BAH rates for pay grades E-1 through E-4 and recalculated the dependent rate to ensure the median housing profile standard is half the difference between the cost of a two-bedroom apartment and a two-bedroom town home. As a result, most of the affected BAH rates increased slightly.

People can go on the Internet to <http://www.dtic.mil/perdiem> for actual BAH rate increases. (AFPN)

### Thrift Savings Plan opens to military Oct. 9

Thrift Savings Plan, an optional retirement and investment program, becomes available to servicemembers Oct. 9. Open season to sign up for the program will run to Dec. 8 with deductions starting in January 2002.

Servicemembers can contribute up to 7 percent of their basic pay the first year, with increases planned up to an unlimited amount of basic pay in 2005.

Details about the program are at <http://www.tsp.gov/uniserv/index.html>.

## Reserve offers High-Year-of-Tenure extensions

# Members able to stay around longer

**R**eservists with a high-year-of-tenure date between June 1, 2001, and Dec. 31, 2002, may request an extension of their enlistment in the Selected Reserve.

Unit reservists, including Active Guard and Reserve members, have until Aug. 31, 2001, to obtain their wing commander's recommendation.

Individual mobilization augmentees have 30 days from the date of notification to apply for an extension.

Military personnel officials here said Air Force Reserve Command is offering the temporary exception to policy so it can attain mission and end-strength objectives. Members cannot be extended beyond their 60th birthday.

Reservists with a previous extension may request an additional two years not to exceed a combined total of five years or age 60. People requesting an extension for the first time may ask for up to three years if the extension does not take them past

their 60th birthday.

If the Reserve filled a position before June 1, 2001, because of an anticipated vacancy created by a HYT date, the replacement and the reservist eligible for the extension can occupy the same position during the extension period. The replacement is not eligible for promotion until the promotion cycle after the extended reservist actually leaves the position. The extended reservist, who is considered an overage, is not eligible for promotion.

When evaluating unit mission needs, commanders have the option of requesting the return to the Selected Reserve of reservists who retired because of a HYT date between October 2000 and May 2001. The same terms apply to returning retirees – their combined HYT extension cannot be for more than five years, and they cannot be extended beyond age 59.

Air Reserve Technicians who decide to retire from civil service will have their HYT

extension terminated when they leave their civil service position.

The Reserve began phasing in its HYT program Jan. 1, 1989. The program limits participation in the Reserve to 33 years of total federal military service for all enlisted reservists unless they are selected for an extension beyond the HYT. The Reserve started the program to improve grade ratios, ensure sustained promotion opportunity for lower-grade enlisted people and increase readiness with a more fit force.

Before 1989, reservists could conceivably stay in the service more than 40 years, depending on when they enlisted. For example, reservists who joined the service on their 18th birthday and did not take a break in service could serve for 42 years before reaching mandatory separation at age 60.

Military personnel flights have more information about HYT extensions. (AFRC News Service)

# Roche becomes Secretary of the Air Force

## *To the Men and Women of the United States Air Force:*

**I** was recently sworn in as your 20th Secretary of the Air Force and became, on that day, a proud member of a magnificent team of active duty airmen, guardsmen, reservists, and civilian employees.

You have earned the admiration of our nation, the respect of the world, and the promise of a bright future.

I already can tell you that you should be enormously proud of your achievements, from combat operations over Iraq and the Balkans to your recent validation of the Expeditionary Aerospace Force Concept.

In the realm of aerospace power, you fly the best, train the best, and maintain the best. As you put it: "No One Comes Close."

We must now turn our focus to the journey ahead, and be responsive to this new century's emerging security environment. I look forward to piloting that journey with you.

My focus is on developing new strategies for military aerospace power in

this new millennium; improving Air Force retention, professional education, and leadership development; eliminating the inefficiencies in how we do our business; and developing our acquisition policies and processes to insure innovation and competitive vibrancy within our defense industrial base over the long haul.

My vision is an aerospace future just as remarkable as your admired past: undeniable and global reconnaissance and strike superiority.

My pledge to you is that I will serve the way you do every day, worldwide - with integrity, selflessness, and in earnest pursuit of excellence.

In 1963, President Kennedy said of military service: "I can imagine no more rewarding career. And any man who may be asked in this century what he did to make his life worthwhile, I think can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction: 'I served in the United States Navy.'"

That sentiment rings very true for me. As you know, I am deeply proud of my Navy career.

But, today we are in a new century, with



Air Force Secretary, James G. Roche

new opportunities, new challenges, new capabilities, and vastly different threats to the security of our great nation.

In this century, men and women can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction: "I serve in the United States Air Force." And now, I am proud to be able to say that too. **Dr. James G. Roche**

# Lending a helping hand: CES team works on three Travis projects

By Staff Sgt. Ryan Labadens  
926thFW Public Affairs

Coming from the humid swamps surrounding New Orleans, La., to the wind-swept terrain of Fairfield, Calif., was quite a change for members of the 926th Fighter Wing Civil Engineers Squadron, an Air Force Reserve unit stationed at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, La.

And the work that many of the 926th CES troops performed here was also quite a change from the work they perform at the NAS JRB back home.

More than 40 members of the 926th CES labored at Travis AFB from July 7 to July 20.

While here the 926th crew worked on three separate projects: gutting and re-roofing a section of the 60th Air Mobility Wing CES Horizontal Shop, replacing four heating units on top building belonging to the USAF Band of the Golden West with four new heating/air conditioning units, and running more than 86,000 feet of high-voltage cable underground.

If you saw those big, white trailers with the three huge spools of cable and one spool of ground wire were for and a bunch of CES troops popping in and out of manholes along Travis Ave., then you saw the cable-running, cable-splicing job the 926th CES crew and base civil service workers have been pulling here.

"This was absolutely essential training we cannot get back home," said Senior Master Sgt. Gerald S. Prine, 926th CES electrical superintendent. "The idea (behind the project) is to divide the power grid so the housing area may be isolated in smaller sections and also separately from base operations areas."

Essentially, the reason the 926th ran and spliced all of that cable was to help redistribute the electrical load that Travis's three substations provide.

"Theoretically, one substation could go out and the other two could still supply enough power for whatever the other substation was feeding," said Senior Master Sgt. Ricky A. Spencer, 926th CES heavy equipment operator.

The 926th CES members also played an



Photo by Staff Sgt. Ryan Labadens

Tech. Sgt. Alfred Cain (right) and Master Sgt. Conrad Cosey, both from the 926th Civil Engineers Squadron at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, LA., hook cables to a heating unit for removal from the band building. The 926th CES was at Travis working on three separate projects.

important part in helping provide the Golden Band of the West with a little cool air by installing some new heating/air conditioning units on top of the band building.

The 926th troops helped base civil service workers and members from the 60th CES remove the four heating units by crane and then install the new heating/air conditioning units.

The 926th team also ran the wiring and the gas lines from the building to the new units. The main thing left to be done before the units can be switched on is to connect sheet metal from the building's ductworks to the units themselves.

Over at the 60th CES Horizontal Shop, 926th members made quite a ruckus, both tearing out the interior and tearing down the old, flat roof of a small section at the rear of the building.

After clearing away the debris, the 926th covered the section with a new, pitched roof and built an overhang for the

porch. The section itself will eventually be converted into a small workout room.

Lt. Col. Rodney N. Roberts, 926th CES commander and the deputy base civil engineer at Columbus AFB, Miss., in his civilian job, understands the importance of the work and training the 926th civil engineers performed here at Travis.

"Virtually every individual has had an opportunity to work within their career fields with their active-duty counterparts," said Roberts.

"The spirit of cooperation between the 60th CES and the 926th has been superb. Could not have been better," said Maj. Frank C. Fromherz II, 926th CES operations officer.

The projects the 926th CES faced at Travis were definitely challenging, but now one more big challenge awaits the civil engineers squadron troops back home in New Orleans: trying to get used to the dang humidity again after all this breezy weather.

# Nominating your boss for award is easy

The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve conducts an awards program designed to recognize employers who support a strong National Guard and Reserve force.

Employers qualify for recognition when they practice personnel policies that support employee participation in the National Guard and Reserve. All employer recognition and awards originate from nominations by individual Reserve component members recognizing their employers for supportive employment policies and practices.

## My Boss is a Patriot Certificate of Appreciation

The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, on behalf of the Department of Defense awards the certificate and a Patriot lapel pin. All members of the National Guard and Reserve are eligible to nominate their employers for the "My Boss is a Patriot" certificate.

Nominations can be given to the 349th Public Affairs Office or reservists can use the on-line form at the ESGR Web site ([www.esgr.org](http://www.esgr.org)).

Every nominated employer will receive the MBIAP award. Local ESGR committees review all submissions for higher-level employer support awards.

**When completing the employer recognition form take a few moments to explain why your employer deserves to be recognized.** Your explanation will be reviewed when consideration is given for higher-level employer support awards by your local ESGR committee.

Once completed, the signed Certificate of Appreciation is sent to your unit commander or your local ESGR Committee, along with suggestions on how best to present the award.



# "My Boss Is A Patriot" Award Nomination Form

Please print legibly or type all information requested on this form. We cannot process your nomination without complete information.

**This section pertains to your civilian employer, employer-owner or supervisor:**

Nominee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(As it should appear on the certificate)

Business/Company Where You Work: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Write out the company's full name)

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

FAX #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**This section pertains to you, the nominator:**

Your Complete Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Component: (Check one)	
<input type="checkbox"/> ARNG	IRR or IMA (Check one only if it applies to you.)
<input type="checkbox"/> USAR	
<input type="checkbox"/> USNR	
<input type="checkbox"/> USCGR	
<input type="checkbox"/> ANG	
<input type="checkbox"/> USMCR	
<input type="checkbox"/> USAFR	

**This section pertains to your National Guard or Reserve unit:**

Your Unit: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please spell out, don't abbreviate.)

Unit Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Commander's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The certificate of appreciation is forwarded to the unit commander in a presentation folder. Your boss may be eligible for higher recognition, but only if you take the time to explain! Please write a few sentences on the reverse side of this form to explain why your boss deserves this recognition.

**My boss: (check all that apply)**

- is highly supportive of my National Guard or Reserve service -- even when I am called on short notice.
- outwardly recognizes me as a special asset because I am in the National Guard or Reserve.
- continues my salary when I am on active duty.
- continues company benefits while I am on active duty.
- hires someone to fill in for me when I am on annual training duty without penalizing me.
- keeps in touch with my family when I am on active duty for more than 30 days.
- should be considered for a higher level award.
- \_\_\_\_\_

Your boss may be eligible for additional statewide recognition. In the space below, please take a few moments to explain why your boss is a "patriot." How has the company supported your service in the National Guard or Reserve? How has your boss made it easier for you to serve? Use extra paper if needed. Fold and tape this form (or use an envelope) and mail it to the address shown. Please use proper postage.

For more information, phone or write the National Committee's Awards Office: (800) 336-4590

# PROMOTIONS



**Chief Master Sergeant**

Randy L. Lovejoy, 349th CES



**Senior Master Sergeant**

Louis W. Webster, Jr, 349th MAS



**Master Sergeant**

Edgar Anunciacion, 55th APS  
Howard D. Cox, 349th EMS  
Bryant C. Hemby III, 349th AGS  
Larry T. Roberts, 349th SFS  
Douglas W. Smith, 45th APS



**Technical Sergeant**

Edwin A. Bocobo, 45th APS  
Vaughn H. Cambridge, 55th APS  
Melanio M. Deguzman, 82 APS  
Gwendolyn Hamilton, 349th LSS  
Robin M. Jackson, 349th AMW  
Sherri Kaemming, 349th MDS  
Anthony R. Macaraeg, 55th APS  
Wilbur Nimmons, Jr, 349th AGS  
John A. Vivo, 349th AGS



**Staff Sergeant**

Carlos N. Ibanez, Jr., 349th CRS  
Jo Ann McDowell, 45th APS  
Philip G. Patterson, 82nd APS



**Senior Airman**

Joshua W. Ames, 349th MDS  
Lorraine P. Armijos, 349th AMDS  
Lamont C. Bohoman, 349th CES  
Tyler N. Otto, 301st AS  
Jackie S. Rullan, 349th CRS  
Amir A. Shiekh, 79th ARS



**Airman First Class**

Maria V. Y. Atis, 301st AS

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Contact magazine is printed for reservists like Staff Sgt. Derrick Parker of the 349th Mission Support Squadron.

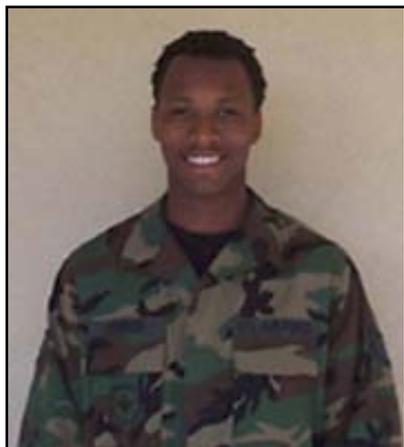


Photo by Michael J. Holloway