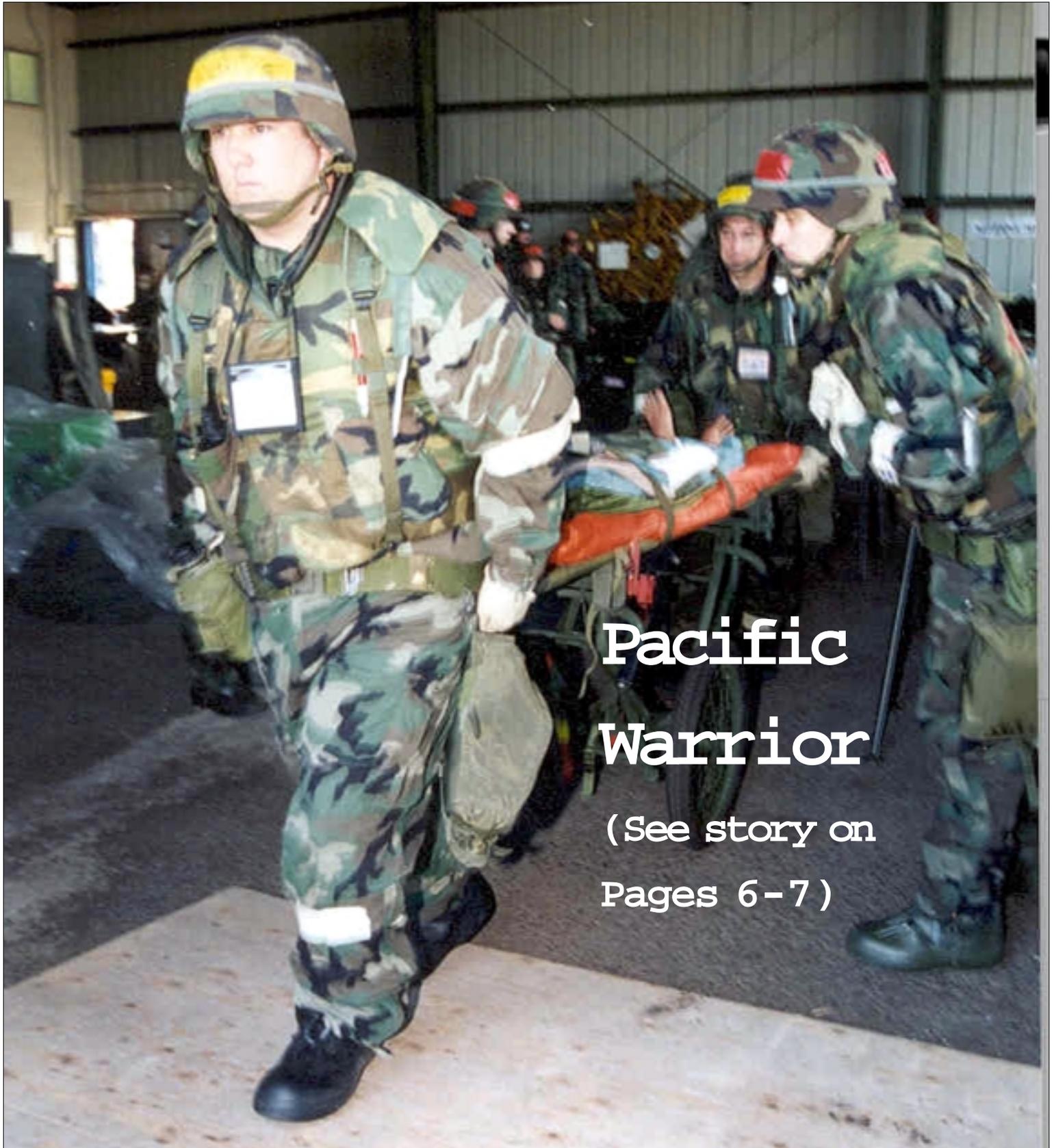


# CONTACT

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

VOL. 19, NO. 3

MARCH 2001



## Pacific Warrior

(See story on  
Pages 6-7)



## Pass and Review By Col. James T. Rubeor

**W**elcome to the March UTA! We'll start the month of March with an Employer Appreciation Day for the Medical Group on Saturday of "A" Flight. The application to nominate your boss is enclosed in this edition of the CONTACT. There's still time! We'll take reservations right up to the day prior!

Employer Appreciation Days are the best way to show your boss the great things you do as a reservist. We'll turn them into your number one supporter! And if your immediate supervisor can't make it, ask the next person up in the organization. We'll even take the CEO! Because what you do is important and we want to make sure your civilian employer knows it!

Right now we have plenty of room on the flight and it looks like you'll be able to escort your boss on the air refueling mission. If you've never seen a mid-air refueling from the inside, this is your chance!

### Wing welcomes home Pacific Warriors

Also inside this edition of the CONTACT, you'll find a lot of coverage of the wing's participation in PACIFIC WARRIOR. Many units deployed including members of our SF, ALCF, OSF and APS, but I want to specifically commend the 349th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron and 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadron. They received their Expeditionary Operational Readiness Inspection from the Headquarters, Air Mobility Command Inspector General, and passed with flying colors! Congratulations to **Lt. Col. Deborah Aspling** and **Col. Bart Aspling** and all the members of the team!

We had a special guest with us to welcome back many of the victorious

# Support Employer Appreciation Day

warriors from PACIFIC WARRIOR, the new 4th Air Force Commander **Brig. Gen. Jim Czekanski**. He visited the wing for three days and was thoroughly impressed with our world-class people and the big job we do! He promised to come back again and visit more of you on A and C flights.

The folks on B flight did a great job giving our new boss a good first impression and now it's C flight's turn. We will be getting a visit from another important commander, **Lt. Gen. Woodie Hogle**, 15th Air Force commander. He's the active duty counterpart to Czekanski and he'll be visiting us March 16-17. If you see us walking around, come up and introduce yourself! He's a fine gentleman who really cares about people and he would love to meet you.

March is the first month of a very

important inspection for our operators. The 15th Air Force Aircrew Standardization and Evaluation Visit will be conducted for 90 days beginning in March. During this period, any crew member on any flight could receive an evaluation at any time. Three months is a long time to be on your toes! Much hard work has gone into the preparation for this inspection by all our flyers but I want to thank the folks in 349 OGV particularly: **Maj. Terrell Munson, Capt. Boyd Parker, Senior Master Sgt. Shawn Sanborn, Senior Master Sgt. John Megyeri, Senior Master Sgt. Lance Case, Senior Master Sgt. Russell Martin, Maj. Nancy Mikulin, Master Sgt. Dean Morra** and **Jackie Gibbons**. These hard working men and women will be leading the celebration when the ASEV is finished in June!

See you at the UTA!



4th Air Force commander, Brig. Gen. James P. Czekanski, presents the Legion of Merit to Col. James T. Rubeor, 349th Air Mobility Wing commander, during his visit to Travis in February. (Photo by Arielle Kohn, Base Visual Information Service Center)



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# CONTACT

Vol. 19, No. 3

March 2001

## Inside this issue

### 4 One Suicide is Too Many

Air Force Surgeon General Lt. Gen. Paul Carlton says suicide is a community problem and that everyone has a responsibility to help prevent it. Nearly 21,000 suicides are committed annually in the United States, including 21 active duty Air Force members in 2000.

### 5 SGLI Coverage Increases

The Servicemen's Group Life Insurance coverage will increase to \$250,000, effective April 1. The increase is automatic unless it is declined after the start date.

### 6-7 Pacific Warrior 2001

Sixty-six members of the 349th Aeromedical Evacuation and Aeromedical Staging Squadrons recently spent two weeks in Hawaii. During that time, they participated in a large-scale medical exercise and completed their Expeditionary Operational Readiness Inspection.

### 8 Outstanding Airmen for 2000

Four members of the 349th Air Mobility Wing have recently been recognized as the top airman, noncommissioned officer, senior noncommissioned officer and first sergeant for 2000.

### 9 Takin' Care of Business

Career development, leadership and mentoring will take center stage at the Wing Enlisted Workshop in May. Dynamic senior leaders from Air Force Reserve Command and the Wing will give attendees advice on how to succeed.

### 11 Virtual Military Personnel Flight

A new high-tech Military Personnel Flight, known as vMPF, has recently expanded its service to include Reserve and National Guard members. It enables airmen to obtain an array of military information while away from their home base.

### 12 Women's History Month

They were once cooks, laundresses and nurses with no rank. Today, they are generals, pilots, physicians, administrators and much more. This month we honor the tremendous contributions that women make to our military and our nation.

## On the Cover



Staff Sgt. Steven Doane (left) from the 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadron leads a gurney out of the 1051st Provisional Aeromedical Staging Facility to an awaiting ambulance during the Pacific Warrior exercise conducted Jan. 28 - Feb. 9. Sixty-six members of the 349th ASTS and 349th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, along with their Reserve counterparts from the 445th Airlift Wing, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, and the 934th Airlift Wing, Minneapolis, Minn., underwent and passed an Expeditionary Operational Readiness Inspection conducted by the Headquarters, Air Mobility Command Inspector General's Office during the exercise. See related story and photos on Pages 6-7. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Kevin Jackson)

# New year brings changes, recognition

**H**ave you heard how the pendulum moves from one side to the other? I believe it is finally moving in the direction that will assist America's military. I see many great things coming our way.

It begins with a new administration and many new leaders in the Pentagon, and a new command chief master sergeant for the Air Force Reserve Command, Chief Master Sgt. Cheryl Adams.

She comes to AFRC's top enlisted position with years of experience as the command chief master sergeant for the 932nd Airlift Wing, Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

I have known and worked with her for many years and believe that her experience, dedication and genuine interest in our people will make her a very strong advocate for our concerns and issues.

We are also in the midst of unveiling many new programs and policies that will positively impact you and your families. Col. Jim Rubeor discussed many of these new benefits and entitlements at the wing commander's calls. There will be a lot more information available to everyone in the coming months.

I would like to briefly discuss some local news. The wing has implemented a new wing Airman, Noncommissioned



**Chief's Counsel**  
By Command Chief Master Sgt.  
Anthony L. Maddux

Officer, Senior NCO, First Sergeant and Company Grade Officer of the Quarter Program. People selected by their respective group commanders will compete for the wing awards beginning in March. The quarterly winners will then be considered for the wing's annual board in December.

I would also like to recognize the winners of our Outstanding Airmen of the Year for 2000.

Senior Airman Voke Uwedjojevwe from the 349th Communications Squadron is our Airman of the Year. "VW," as his friends call him, is a computer and switching

systems technician.

Tech. Sgt. Hendrik vandePol from the 349th Civil Engineering Squadron is our NCO of the Year. He is an explosive ordnance disposal craftsman.

Master Sgt. Gary Lewis, an aircraft structural repairman from the 349th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, is our Senior NCO of the Year.

Finally, Master Sgt. Paul McCullough, 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, is our First Sergeant of the Year. Many of us know him as our Honor Guard superintendent.

Anyone who has any knowledge of or who has observed these top-notch people can easily understand why they were selected for this most prestigious recognition. I wish them all the best as they advance to the higher headquarters competition.

Finally, I would also like to personally thank the men and women of Detachment 1, 349th Medical Squadron at Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash., for their friendship and hospitality during my recent visit.

I salute each of you for the efforts made in making our Air Force and wing top-notch organizations. I am proud to call you my friends and comrades-in-arms.

## Air Force surgeon general: One suicide is too many

By Leigh Anne Bierstine

Air Force Surgeon General Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — One Air Force suicide is one suicide too many, according to Lt. Gen. Paul Carlton, Air Force surgeon general.

The surgeon general is trying to combat suicides by instilling in every Air Force member that it is a community problem. That philosophy is the basis for the Air Force's community approach to suicide prevention.

"We have to stop thinking of suicide prevention as something only mental health professionals do," Carlton said.

"All of us have a responsibility to our fellow airmen and co-workers," he explained. "Recognizing when a person is having problems and actively encouraging that person to seek help is a vital part of suicide prevention.

"We lose too many airmen to suicide in the Air Force, and it is preventable," he

said. "Whatever the numbers are, we can never stop being proactive and declare victory. Instead we must continue our efforts."

Today, the Air Force is using a prevention team called the integrated delivery system that includes chaplains and professionals from mental health, family support, child and youth services, health and wellness centers, and family advocacy, all working together and taking responsibility for enhancing community health and well-being.

To date, suicide prevention efforts include an emphasis on involving and training Air Force leadership, and on buddy care and annual suicide prevention training for all military and civilians. The Air Force also maintains a database that tracks not only suicides but also suicide attempts.

The Air Force is not alone in its battle against suicide. David Satcher, surgeon general of the United States, described

suicide as a "serious public health problem." Nearly 31,000 people commit suicide annually in the United States. Twenty-one active-duty Air Force people committed suicide in 2000, according to the casualty services branch of the Air Force Personnel Center.

Raising suicide awareness is not enough, according to Lt. Col. Wayne Talcott, who leads the Air Force's suicide prevention team.

"Our pilots are responsible for early signs of problems with their jet engines, so mechanics can intervene before engine failure occurs," Talcott said. "In the same way, we expect our commanders, first sergeants and supervisors at every level to be responsible for their co-workers and watch for early signs of problems so we can intervene early."

**Editor's note:** For the rest of the article, please refer to [http://www.af.mil/news/Jan2001/n20010126\\_0112.shtml](http://www.af.mil/news/Jan2001/n20010126_0112.shtml)

# Smith takes 349th LG reins

## Rollin to command 349th Support Group

By Capt. Gaelle Aronson  
Wing Public Affairs

On Jan. 27 the 349th Air Mobility Wing welcomed its new Logistics Group commander, Col. Clifford D. Smith, II.

Smith replaced the outgoing Commander, Col. William F. Rollin, who was reassigned as commander of the 349th Support Group after more than four years of leading the 349th LG.

Smith comes to Travis from the Logistics Directorate at Headquarters, Air Force Reserve Command, at Robins Air Force Base, Ga., where he was the resources division chief. During his tenure there, he spent some time chairing a group that examined logistics and aircraft maintenance work processes.

“What we concluded was this: we have



**Salute:** Col. Clifford D. Smith II salutes 349th AMW Commander Col. Jim Rubeor during the 349th LG change of command ceremony.

to have a back to the basics approach to aircraft maintenance,” he said during the ceremony. “There are basic building blocks which are our core competencies, and they

haven’t changed in the past 75 years, unlike most things in the Air Force. Some of these are following technical data, servicing, inspecting, repairing, loading, documenting and training. That’s a great constant, our technicians understand it and are good at it.”

The new commander feels that the most important part of his job will be to prioritize daily requirements and channel them so that his people can stay focused on these basic work processes. To him, to be a part of the Travis team will be the opportunity of a lifetime, and he plans to combine his prior active duty and reserve experience with his time at headquarters to lead his new troops.

“I am absolutely certain that we can do whatever we are asked in a most inspired, efficient and safe manner,” he added.

Smith was joined at the change of command ceremony by his wife, Trudy, and their two children, Benjamin, 10, and Daniel, 5.

## SGLI benefit increases to \$250,000

### Coverage boost automatic unless member declines

By Tech. Sgt. Marvin Meek  
Wing Public Affairs

Effective April 1, 2001, Servicemen’s Group Life Insurance benefits will increase from \$200,000 to \$250,000. The amount you’ll pay each month will also increase from \$16 to \$20.

On the effective date, all members eligible for SGLI will automatically be insured for the \$250,000 maximum coverage.

The standard monthly premium deduction will remain \$.80 per \$10,000 of coverage. Therefore, \$20.00 will become the monthly premium for full coverage. Premiums will be deducted automatically from the members paycheck.

On or after April 1, reservists will have the option to decline coverage or elect a reduced level of insurance in multiples of \$10,000. Changes must be made on or after April 1, 2001, by completing a new form

SGLV 8286 (April 2001 version). Election made before April 1, 2001, will not apply to the higher level of coverage. Existing beneficiary designations will remain effective until a new SGLV 8286 is properly completed.

Members may fill out the appropriate form at the 349th Mission Support Squadron’s Customer Service Unit, Bldg. 239, Bay G after April 1.

New SGLI elections will continue to become effective the first day of the month after an election is otherwise properly made. Thus, all members will be fully insured for \$250,000 throughout the month of April 2001, regardless of any election filed during the month.

Any member who elects to reduce or decline coverage during April 2001 will not be required to pay the April premium associated with the increased coverage. If the full premium is deducted from the member’s April pay, the excess premium will be refunded.

Any member who does not make a reduced or declined election during April 2001 will be charged for the full \$250,000 of coverage for April, as well as for any other month in which the level of coverage

remains in effect.

These changes have been enacted by Section 312 of the Veterans Benefits and Health Care Improvement Act of 2000, P.L. 106-419, Nov. 1, 2000.

For more information about SGLI, contact the 349th MSS Customer Service Unit at (707) 424-3550.



# *Pacific* **WARRIOR**

Lift: Master Sgt. Lastenita Schuster and Maj. Gary Whitmore from the 349th ASTS load a simulated litter patient on an ambus in Hilo, Hawaii. The exercise involved the mass movement of simulated casualties through the Pacific Theater Aeromedical Evacuation System back to the U.S. Mainland.

Ready, lift: Reservists from the Aeromedical Staging Facility discuss the patient load and outbound mission with the Aeromedical Evacuation Operations Team. Almost 400 of the 1,700 Pacific Warrior participants came from the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard.

## *Aeromedical squadrons meet in Hawaii, pass Operational Readiness Inspection*

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Story and photos by  
Tech. Sgt. Kevin Jackson  
Wing Public Affairs

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**H**awaii. It conjures images of sunshine, palm trees swaying gently in the trade winds, beautiful beaches and the vast, blue Pacific Ocean.

To battle-tested members of the 349th Aeromedical Evacuation and 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadrons, it brings flashbacks of Pacific Warrior and a stressful, but successful Expeditionary Operational Readiness Inspection.

More than 100 members from the 349th Air Mobility Wing deployed to Hawaii as participants and battle staff for the third annual Army-sponsored medical exercise, which was conducted at four locations on Oahu and at the Hilo International Airport on the "Big Island."

The exercise, which simulated a conflict in the Pacific theater, was designed to test the capabilities of medical units to treat casualties in field hospitals as they are moved by ground, rotary and fixed-wing aircraft between the five locations. Hilo simulated Yokota Air Base, Japan, and the last stop for medical treatment before patients were evacuated to the United States for long-term care.

Working alongside their Reserve counterparts from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, and the Minneapolis-St. Paul IAP Air Reserve Station, Minn., an Air Mobility Command Inspector General team evaluated the team against about 40 scripted wartime scenarios. The combined aeromedical team encountered simulated cluster bombs, terrorist penetrations, enemy prisoners of war, foreign journalists, unexploded ordnance forcing a temporary relocation of

Hydrate: Tech. Sgt. Juan Cabada helps fellow 349th ASTS member Col. Margaret Pay get a drink from her canteen in a simulated chemical environment. Pay, 1051st Provisional Aeromedical Staging Facility commander, and her troops had just relocated to safety following an attack on the facility.

# I O R

facilities, conscientious objectors, a loss of critical personnel, short notices to airlift numerous critical care litter patients, last-minute aircraft swaps and more.

“I’ve never seen a group of people from around the country for the first time meld together seamlessly as this group did,” said Senior Master Sgt. Dale Miller, 349th ASTS and aeromedical staging facility manager.

“Without question, this group epitomizes a deployed ASTS.”

“We meshed so well that the only way you could tell us apart was by the different colored tape,” added Col. Margaret Pay, 349th ASTS chief nurse and ASF commander for the morning shift.

While participants and inspectors alike praised the group’s teamwork and synergy, the players were placed in the somewhat unfamiliar roles of having to sweep for unexploded ordnance and provide security.

“The ATSO play was very heavy, which taxed our staff’s ability to accomplish its regular mission,” said Maj. Bryan Weber, 349th AES officer-in-charge of the aeromedical evacuation operations team’s afternoon shift. “In our UTC, there is no security function and we were having to assign six or seven people for security out of a shift package of 16 people.”

But the challenges didn’t end there. Real world situations arose sporadically throughout the exercise and EORI.

“We were challenged by some real world situations – dehydration and staff shortages,” said Capt. Cheryl Spray, 349th ASTS and ASF medical control center operations officer. “Wherever you go, situations arise and you must adapt to them.”

Life wasn’t any easier for the aircrews that were charged with providing patient care during the evacuation missions.

“It was particularly difficult putting on all the chem gear in the air and then providing patient care while wearing all the additional gear,” said 1st Lt. Sarah Brooks, 349th AES flight nurse. “But it’s been a great learning

experience and I’m more confident now in my duties as a flight nurse.”

“This was my very first deployment exercise and I’m new to aerovac so I came here very inexperienced,” added Capt. Dawn Bagley, a 349th AES health services administrator who worked as an aeromedical evacuation operations officer during the EORI. “I got some good experience and it’s increased my confidence. I now have a better understanding of my role in aerovac.”

Other participants with real world experience also acknowledged the benefits of Pacific Warrior and the EORI.

“This has been a concentrated pill of what I’ve learned in 10 years of deployments,” said Maj. Fawn McCloud, 349th ASTS assistant chief nurse and a Desert Storm veteran. “If these guys ever get deployed, they will know what to do and it’s a great feeling.”

349th AES medical technician Tech. Sgt. Aprilito Castillo compared it favorably to his real world experience.

“I was deployed to Yugoslavia and the scenarios we’ve had here during the exercise and the EORI were actually harder than the real thing I experienced there,” he said.

It was the third EORI for Staff Sgt. Steven Doane, a 349th ASTS medical service assistant and an ASF sweep team leader for

Bag ‘em: Tech. Sgt. Aprilito Castillo, a 349th AES medical technician, packs away a mannequin after completing the final mission of the Expeditionary Operational Readiness Inspection conducted during Pacific Warrior in Hilo, Hawaii, Jan. 28- Feb. 9.

Gas, gas, gas: 349th AES’ Capt. Dawn Bagley takes cover and adjusts her gas mask during a simulated chemical attack on the Aeromedical Evacuation Operations Team facility. Bagley is new to the AES and it was her first exercise deployment.

the EORI. He said the deployment from Travis, setting up the ASF and the integration with other squadrons was very realistic. AMC inspectors took notice.

“From the start this group had a great sense of urgency and a positive attitude,” said Lt. Col. Susan Connor, AMC IG team leader. “They blended well in a true expeditionary fashion and their great teamwork was evident in everything they did from patient care to getting missions, both sending and receiving, to attack response and recovery. Everybody did a superb job and is ready for the fight.”

# Wing names outstanding airmen

Wing leadership recently announced the winners of the 2000 enlisted awards.

Claiming the honors are Senior Airman Voke Uwedjojevwe, 349th Communications Squadron, outstanding airman; Tech. Sgt. Hendrik vandePol, 349th Civil Engineer Squadron, outstanding noncommissioned officer; Master Sgt. Gary Lewis, 349th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, outstanding senior noncommissioned officer; and Master Sgt. Paul McCullough, 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, outstanding first sergeant.

## Airman

Uwedjojevwe is an electronic computer and switching systems journeyman assigned to the 349th CS. In that capacity, he sets up, configures, monitors and controls the performance of the telephone circuit switch.

He has been credited for demonstrating outstanding technical abilities in the creation of operational instructions for a switch system that provides voice communications in a deployed network. Both the 349th CS and the 615th Air Mobility Operations Squadron use the OIs.

He was also recognized as being instrumental in the first operational package exercise of the complete Theater Deployable Communication/Initial Communications Access Package that incorporates both voice and data communications. The Ann Arbor, Mich., native was also lauded by his commander during a field training exercise for assisting with the Ability to Operate and Survive training for other squadron members.

He completed all requirements and received his Community College of the Air Force degree. He also volunteers his personal time to help other unit members attain their CCAF degrees.

## Noncommissioned Officer

VandePol is an explosive ordnance disposal craftsman for the 349th CES.

He is credited for his superb performance as a member of the EOD team in support of Operation Southern Watch while deployed to the 4404th Civil Engineer Squadron's EOD Flight, Prince Sultan Air Base, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He singularly managed more than \$900,000 worth of specialized EOD emergency response equipment. During his tour, he also implemented the use of the All-Purpose Robotics Transport System and performed numerous tests ensuring the ARTS was emergency response capable.

The San Francisco native also spent two months of temporary duty with the 28th EOD Flight at Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D., leading a 26-person team that was tasked with clearing the 2,487 acre Air Force Badlands Bombing and Gunnery Range of dud explosive ordnance.

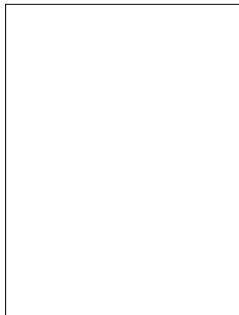
VandePol was one of the first EOD technicians to complete the new established EOD 7-level upgrade training in residence.

He works as a managing editor for GX Media Incorporated.

## Sr. Noncommissioned Officer

Lewis is the noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the 349th EMS Aircraft Structural Maintenance Shop.

He is credited with directing an extensive maintenance repair of a damaged C-5 "Galaxy" aft ramp bulkhead. Lewis streamlined repair procedures to improve communication between engineering and other maintenance centers, thus producing a \$47,000 savings. He also spearheaded repair of a damaged C-5 radome, which normally requires the aircraft to be returned to the repair depot.



**Tech. Sgt.  
Hendrik vandePol**

The repair procedures produced a \$55,000 savings.

Lewis is also very active in the community. He organized a golf tournament that raised \$8,000 for the Travis Fisher House and has helped install new landscaping at the facility. He also speaks at an adoptive parents group on issues concerning special needs children. He also participates in the All-American Youth Football Conference in Roseville, Calif., as an official.

Lewis has received his Community College of the Air Force degree in applied aerospace science and is pursuing a bachelor's degree in communications at Sierra College.

## First Sergeant

McCullough is the first sergeant for the 349th ASTS. Among his duties, McCullough supervised the Family Care Program for 182 squadron personnel and the government travel card program.

However, he also serves as the superintendent of the 349th Air Mobility Wing's 20-member Honor Guard. Under his tutelage, the Honor Guard has performed at 34 retirement ceremonies, five changes of command and posted the colors at 30 events in 2000. Additionally, he organized Honor Guard members to participate in the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action memorial at the Wing Combat Dining-In. He has also proven himself to be a masterful recruiter by bringing in six new members. Additionally, he was selected to coordinate the retirement ceremony for the chief master sergeant of the Air Force.

349th ASTS Commander Col. Bart Aspling said McCullough is "one individual superiors routinely rely on to manage and resolve difficult problems or situations."

McCullough also revitalized the 349th ASTS Junior Enlisted Advisory Council and created and implemented the 349th ASTS Semi-Annual Outstanding Unit Member Program Awards.



**Senior Airman  
Voke Uwedjojevwe**



**Master Sgt.  
Paul McCullough**



**Master Sgt.  
Gary Lewis**

# Workshop to promote career development

By Senior Master Sgt. Pat Thornton  
70th Air Refueling Squadron

*"Takin' care of business... everyday!  
Takin' care of business... every way!  
We'll be takin' care of business; it's all  
right!*

*Takin' care of business and workin'  
overtime... WORKOUT!"*

"Takin' Care of Business" is the Bachman Turner Overdrive anthem to working hard and getting ahead. It's also a philosophy that can be applied to all aspects of life including reservists' careers. And, it's the focus for this year's Wing Enlisted Workshop to be conducted May 17-18.

Last year's workshop addressed numerous quality of life issues. As a direct result of an issue raised during the WEW, the 349th Air Mobility Wing commute area was adjusted, entitling an additional 500 reservists to lodging and travel benefits for duty performed at Travis AFB.

Drawing from this same energy and "can do" spirit during this "Year of Recruiting and Retention," WEW2 will highlight career development, leadership and mentoring issues — basically, "how to get there from here... takin' care of business."

What can you expect at this year's workshop? Dynamic senior enlisted speakers from the command level down

will give you personal perspectives on how they achieved their own professional success; interactive work groups will address this year's issues; there will be team-building and communication exercises; role-playing scenarios; and high-energy fun. Expect the unexpected.

For more information and to sign-up for the two-day workshop, please contact your unit's first sergeant or superintendent no later than May 1.

If you'd like to help coordinate the workshop, send an e-mail to: [patricia.thornton@travis.af.mil](mailto:patricia.thornton@travis.af.mil) or call (707) 424-7103.

Join us as we're "takin' care of business!"

## 45th APS get new commander

Lt. Col. (Select) Kathleen M. Denzer assumed command of the 45th Aerial Port Squadron from Maj. Dennis W. Butler during a change of command ceremony here Feb. 3.

Denzer comes to the squadron from the 55th APS, where she served as the operations officer from October 2000 until the change of command. She received an Air Force commission in May 1980.

Butler has been the 45th APS commander since January 1997. The squadron received the Air Mobility Command's Air Reserve Component Aerial Port of the Year Award (1999) during his tenure. He was reassigned to 15th Air Force as a transportation staff officer.

## Wing aircrew supports India earthquake relief efforts

A C-5 crew, under the direction of aircraft commander Lt. Col. George Visoskis, 301st Airlift Squadron, departed Travis Jan. 31 with equipment and supplies for India to assist survivors of the previous week's earthquake.

The cargo was comprised of 9,000 blankets, 1,700 sleeping bags and 46 tents. The 27 pallets were downloaded at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. An Air Force C-17 took the cargo load the rest of the way to India.

Crew members were Maj. Jason Fought, 301st AS; Capt. Jason Cousine, 22nd AS; master sergeants William Travers and Kenneth Milkent, both of the 301st AS; technical sergeants Frederick Harper, Rena Fox, Laurence Blanchard, all from the 301st

AS; Tech. Sgt. Jeffery Schwengler, 312th AS; and Staff Sgt. Jerry Felter, 60th Aircraft Generation Squadron.

## 70th, 79th ARS prepare for Operation Southern Watch

Two squadrons from the 349th Air Mobility Wing will deploy March 26 through May 2 in support of Operation Southern Watch. The two KC-10 squadrons are the 70th Air Refueling Squadron and the 79th Air Refueling Squadron.

Both squadrons while deployed are being supported by the 749th Aircraft Generation Squadron and the 349th Operations Support Flight. At any given time during the 90-day period, some 100 reservists will fly, maintain and support the KC-10 aircraft.

Most of the reservists will be overseas for two-week shifts as part of the Reserve's commitment to Aerospace Expeditionary Force 4.

The 90-day rotation is divided up into three rotations. The first rotation and the first KC-10 depart on March 26. The rotation will conclude when three additional aircraft depart Travis during the next three days. After approximately 30 days, the second rotation of planes will depart for the desert.

The staging of the aircraft is exactly the same, except that only three planes will participate in the second and third rotations.

Members from the 70th and 79th ARS will replace reservists from the 514th Air Mobility Wing, McGuire Air Force Base,

N.J. The McGuire crews began their rotations in mid-February.

## 349th EMS need first sergeant

The 349th Equipment Maintenance Squadron has a vacancy for a first sergeant at the rank of senior master sergeant.

All interested candidates should submit an application no later than March 7 to 349th Mission Support Squadron/DPMSA (personnel employment).

For more information, please contact Chief Master Sgt. Anne Kohutanycz at 424-1668.

## AFRC selects new command chief master sergeant

Air Force Reserve Command announced the selection of Chief Master Sgt. Cheryl Denise Adams as its new command chief master sergeant.

The job of command chief for AFRC, which is a three-year controlled tour, involves advising the commander on matters influencing the health, morale, welfare and effective

use of more than 74,000 reservists and active-duty members. Adams is currently the command chief for the 932nd Airlift Wing located at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

She will be the third command chief at AFRC since its inception as a major command in 1997.



# EMPLOYER APPRECIATION DAY APPLICATION

Employer: Mr.                  Mrs.                  Ms.                  Dr.                  Other:

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's SSAN (Required for Passenger Manifest) : \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's Title (manager, foreman, etc.) : \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's Home Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Person to be Notified in Emergency: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## SPONSORING RESERVIST

Reservist's Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Reservist SSAN: \_\_\_\_\_

Reservist Duty Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: (      ) \_\_\_\_\_

Civilian Work Phone: (      ) \_\_\_\_\_

An opportunity to observe an aerial refueling mission will be offered to employers. Space is limited. Reservists will be given the chance to fly with their employer if space allows. Flights are not for family members or friends. The flight is pending approval by higher headquarters and is subject to cancellation for weather or operational reasons.

### Employer Appreciation Dates

Medical Group -- March 3 -- A Flight  
Chief Master Sgt. Mark Kloeppe,  
424-7301

Logistics Group -- May 19 --  
C Flight  
Chief Master Sgt. Marcus Okuda,  
424-5037

Support Group -- June 2 --  
A Flight  
Master Sgt. Patricia White, 424-4904

Operations Group -- July 21 --  
C Flight

(79th ARS; 301th AS; 349th AES;  
45th & 55th APS)  
Lt. Col. Lonnie Williams, 424-1641

Operations Group -- Aug. 18 --  
B Flight

(70th ARS, 312st AS, 82nd APS)  
Lt. Col. Lonnie Williams, 424-1641

## MPF goes virtual for Reserve

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPC) — The Air Force recently expanded the capability of the virtual Military Personnel Flight to include Guard and Reserve members. This expansion provides speed and convenience for those members not stationed near a military base.

“This update brings vMPF a little closer to becoming a total force package,” said Lt. Col. Nellie Riley, chief of AFPC’s Field Activities Division.

Last month alone, the vMPF website received more than 200,000 hits. This release, the third of the new vMPF, adds the following five applications for the Guard and Reserve:

- Duty Status History: allows service members to obtain a listing of current and previous duty information, including effective dates, Air Force Specialty Codes and duty titles.

- Reenlistment Eligibility Inquiry: allows members to see if they are eligible to reenlist or eligible for waiver consideration.

- Selected Reenlistment Bonus (SRB) eligibility: determines if a member is eligible for an SRB and in what zone.

- Proof of service: allows members to print their proof of service letter, a document needed by the department of veterans affairs when purchasing a home.

- Point credit history: gives members the capability to view the points awarded towards retirement.

“Because any Reserve or Guard member is able to access the service modules where or whenever there is an Internet connection, members can now check their total retirement points without waiting for a mailed copy from the Air Reserve Personnel Center,” said Senior Master Sgt. Deborah Fuqua, Air Force Reserve Command, Robins AFB, Ga. “They can also print an authorized copy of their service history to prove eligibility for benefits.”

## Gatsby’s Grill offers new lunch time menu choices

With menu item names such as “The Gangster,” “Duesenberg” and “The Charleston,” guests of the Gatsby’s Grill snack bar at Cypress Lakes Golf Course feel as if they’re stepping back into the Roaring Twenties. A time when speak-easies and ragtime were en vogue, and law and order came from an itchy finger on the trigger of a tommy gun.

This feeling at the Gatsby’s Grill was created as part of the \$182,000 renovation of the old snack bar.

Now guests look forward to a tasty menu lineup that’s as interesting as the names given to them.

“We thought coming up with a theme would be a nice way to introduce the new

snack bar to the guests,” Cypress Lakes Manager Debbie Joyce said. “We wanted a theme that was classy and that we could carry throughout the club house.”

With Gatsby’s Grill up and running, they are able to offer the traditional food items — and even more. This includes lunch specials and even breakfasts.

Joyce pointed out that Gatsby’s Grill is a great place for squadron functions. And with five televisions, guests can come out on Sundays to enjoy food and beverages while watching football.

Hours of operation for Gatsby’s Grill is 6:30 a.m. until dusk, Tuesday through Sunday. *(Information provided by 60th SWS)*

### Special deals

## Take advantage of services, enjoy the fun, save money

### DBC hosts regular Saturday Super Reserve Social Hour

Saturday is party time for reservists at the Delta Breeze Club’s Super Reserve Social Hour. Free hors d’oeuvres and reduced price drink specials are on tap during the social hour 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. every Saturday in the Gold Rush and Golden Bear lounges. Call 437-3711.

### Learn to fly

Whether you’re looking to make a childhood dream come true, or just the opportunity to try something radically different check out the Travis Aero Club Flight Training Center. Those eligible for tuition assistance will be able to complete ground school training for about \$175. Call 437-2880.

### Outdoor Adventure provides transportation to slopes

Let the Outdoor Adventure Program worry about the driving while you relax and recover from a hard day of skiing at area ski resorts.

The day starts with the bus leaving the Outdoor Rec building at 6 a.m. The \$10

cost covers transportation only. Trips planned to the slope are:

March 3	Squaw Valley
March 7	Sugar Bowl
March 10	Homewood
March 14	Homewood
March 17	Northstar
March 21	Sugarbowl
March 24	Sierra-at-Tahoe
March 28	Homewood
March 31	Alpine Meadows

Skiers can receive deep discounts when they purchase one lift ticket and get the second free at Sugar Bowl on March 7 and 21.

If you need ski gear, talk with the folks at the Equipment Rental Center to get all your gear: skis, boots, snowboards and more. Call 424-5240.

### Sugar Bowl, Homewood offers adults discounts

Discount Wednesdays offers adult skiers deep savings when they will be able to purchase lift passes at the Sugar Bowl and Homewood resorts for half price. Passes must be purchased at the resorts. Call 424-5240.

# Nation to honor women of courage, vision

## Maj. Chris Clay

349th AMW Military Equal Opportunity Office

March is Women's History Month and this year's theme is "Celebrating Women of Courage and Vision."

One of the aspects that make women's service to our country particularly impressive is that the military was a traditionally male dominated institution, replete with attitudes of intolerance, arrogance, sexual harassment and gender discrimination.

Yet, today's military women are making and will continue to make many outstanding contributions and sacrifices in defense of our nation. They are doctors, lawyers, pilots, heavy equipment operators, security police and much more.

It didn't occur overnight. They've climbed from being cooks, laundresses and nurses with no rank, to generals, pilots, physicians, administrators and much more, according to retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Wilma L. Vaught.

While Vaught doesn't dwell on the past, she cites an ancient Chinese proverb:

"When drinking the water, don't forget who dug the well."

With this in mind, I'd like to encourage each member to take the time to reflect upon their own attitudes and behaviors

and to do everything they can to encourage, promote and empower women. Once we do this, women's service to mission accomplish and to the nation will be easier and seamless.

## Wing completes EO 2000 training

By Staff Sgt. Robin Jackson

Wing Public Affairs

After four years, and training more than 3,000 reservists at Travis, the 349th Military Equal Opportunity Office finished its EO 2000 classes in January.

"I am extremely pleased with the 86 percent training rate we achieved," said Maj. Chris Clay, chief of Military Equal Opportunity. "I know EO 2000 had a positive effect on raising the human relations awareness and consciousness of our people. I am thankful for all the reservists who participated in the classes. I am especially grateful for the support of our squadron commanders and first sergeants."

Even though the EO 2000 classes have officially ended, key components of the class will be incorporated into the MEO Newcomer's Orientation.

In addition, the MEO Office can customize presentations to a squadron commander's specific needs, Clay said. MEO will also focus on making more cultural awareness information available through monthly publications.

"As long as human relations challenges are an issue in the workplace, we must continue to give them our full attention," Clay added.

If you have comments, concerns, or need further information, call the MEO Office at 424-1693, or e-mail Clay at [chrisclay@diverseinsights.net](mailto:chrisclay@diverseinsights.net)

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Contact magazine is printed for PACIFIC WARRIORS like Maj. Sydney Saito, a flight nurse from the 349th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.

