

CONTACT

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

VOL. 17, No. 10

NOVEMBER 1999

The 349th Air Mobility Wing Honor Guard



See pgs. 6-7 for Honor Guard Day photos

COMMANDER'S CORNER

by Col. Gerald A. Black
349th AMW Commander

I am proud to recognize the Honor Guard and their outstanding achievements. Our Honor Guard is a very special team of people who provides services at functions and ceremonies where a uniformed presence of the Air Force is proper and fitting.

The history of the Honor Guard goes back to the early days of the Air Force. In September 1948, a ceremonial unit was formed within an Air Police Squadron. It had an original membership of 98 enlisted and two officers. From this beginning, the Honor Guard has expanded into each wing in the Air Force.

The 349th Air Mobility Wing's Honor Guard is made up of volunteers from throughout the wing. They represent each functional area and rank from senior airman to senior NCO. All of these people bring their individual time, talents and other resources to the team to make it successful. We all know that today's Air Force is a Total Force. I believe our Honor Guard members represent a "total team." They are a group of people with various skills, experiences and backgrounds with a common bond to fulfill a common purpose – honoring our flag and the freedom it represents. ✈



COMMAND CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT'S CORNER

by Chief Master Sgt. Anthony L. Maddux
349th AMW Command Chief Master Sergeant

Military customs and courtesies play an extremely important role in building morale, esprit de corps, discipline, and mission effectiveness. Our Honor Guard has dedicated itself to learn, train and perform customs and courtesies through hard work and professionalism.

As Honor Guard members, each person is tasked to attend training, master the drill and know traditional formation ceremonies and protocol. These people have performed in honors and ceremonies for distinguished persons, military funerals and memorial services, change of command ceremonies and numerous civilian programs, parades and celebrations. They are an immensely significant resource to the wing, our command, and the Air Force, not only because of their role in military formations, but also because of their role as our ambassadors in our local community. Because of their outstanding reputation throughout the Air Force, members of our Honor Guard continue to perform at various events throughout the United States. They truly are the benchmark other teams try to emulate.

This is an impressive accomplishment when you consider that just a few years ago our Honor Guard team did not even exist. Through the efforts of many people in our wing, the Honor Guard has become the best in the command. I would like to mention just a few of these outstanding people responsible for making this team a reality.

It began with Master Sgt. Jim Ernest, a member of the former 65th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, and a Vietnam and Desert Storm veteran. His death was the impetus for the formation of our Honor Guard. Senior Master Sgt. Alan Arndt and Master Sgt. Dennis Madsen, both top-notch first sergeants, then paved the way to begin the Honor Guard. Master Sgt. Paul McCullough, the superintendent of the Honor Guard, ensures each member maintains the highest standards of personal appearance and a positive attitude. Master Sgt. Richard VanDine, the first NCOIC of the Honor Guard, has helped to recruit and train the team since day one. Mr. Paul Post, wing plans and staff logistics manager, works tirelessly to obtain the uniforms and special equipment needed for the team. Capt. Tania Daniels, Honor Guard OIC, handles scheduling of the team and other issues. Finally, the individual supervisors and units who support their people on the Honor Guard.

This support has been vital in guaranteeing the team's success. Through the collective efforts of these individuals and many others, our Honor Guard has and always will have outstanding support.

These people truly exemplify the perfect blend of military qualities in terms of commitment, understanding and determination. The Honor Guard embodies the image of the 349th Air Mobility Wing both to the outside world and to every single member of the Air Force. ✈



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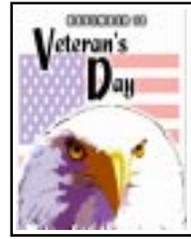


Cover photo:

Honor Guard members listed from left to right:

Staff Sgt. Ann Marie N. Scott, 349th Medical Squadron
Master Sgt. Richard L. VanDine, 349th Component Repair Squadron
Technical Sgt. Luis M. Caragan, Jr., 349th Air Mobility Wing
Staff Sgt. Franklin A. Aldridge, 55th Aerial Port Squadron
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Technical Sgt. Donald L. Bishop, 349th Security Forces Squadron
Senior Airman Takeo Eda, 55th Aerial Port Squadron
Technical Sgt. James R. Coleman III, 349th Air Mobility Wing
Staff Sgt. Johnny Yu, 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadron
Staff Sgt. Darin D. Farmon, 349th Equipment Maintenance Squadron
Staff Sgt. Graci Monahan, 349th Contingency Hospital
Master Sgt. Paul G. McCullough, 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

What is a vet?



by Father Denis Edward O'Brien
United States Marine Corps

Some veterans bear visible signs of their service: a missing limb, a jagged scar, a certain look in the eye. Others may carry the evidence inside them: a pin holding a bone together, a piece of shrapnel in the leg - or perhaps another sort of inner steel: The soul's ally forged in the refinery of adversity. Except in parades, however, the men and women who have kept America safe wear no badge or emblem. You can't tell a vet just by looking at one.

He is the cop on the beat who spent six months in Saudi Arabia sweating two gallons a day making sure the armored personnel carriers didn't run out of fuel. He is the barroom loudmouth, dumber than five wooden planks, whose overgrown frat-boy behavior is outweighed a hundred times in the cosmic scales by four hours of exquisite bravery near the 38th parallel. She - or he - is the nurse who fought against futility and went to sleep sobbing every night for two solid years in Da Nang.

He is the POW who went away one person and came back another - or didn't come back AT ALL. He is the Quantico drill instructor who has never seen combat - but has saved countless lives by turning slouchy, no-account rednecks and gang members into Marines, and teaching them to watch each other's backs.

He is the parade - riding Legionnaire who pins on his ribbons and medals with a prosthetic hand. He is the career quartermaster who watches the ribbons and medals pass him by.

He is the three anonymous heroes in The Tomb Of The Unknowns, whose presence at the Arlington National Cemetery must forever preserve the memory of all the anonymous heroes whose valor dies unrecognized with them on the battlefield or in the ocean's sunless deep.

He is the old guy bagging groceries at the supermarket - palsied now and aggravatingly slow - who helped liberate a Nazi death camp and who wishes all day long that his wife were still alive to hold him when the nightmares come. He is an ordinary and yet an extraordinary human being - a person who offered some of his life's most vital years in the service of his country, and who sacrificed his ambitions so others would not have to sacrifice theirs. He is a soldier and a savior and a sword against the darkness, and he is nothing more than the finest, greatest testimony on behalf of the finest, greatest nation ever known.

So remember, each time you see someone who has served our country, just lean over and say thank you. That's all most people need, and in most cases it will mean more than any medals they could have been awarded or were awarded. Two little words that mean a lot, "THANK YOU." ✈



From the other side

- Author unknown

At first there was no place for us to go until someone put up that Black Granite Wall. Now, everyday and night, my Brothers and my Sisters wait to see the many people from places afar file in front of this Wall. Many stopping briefly and many for hours and some that come on a regular basis.

It was hard at first, not that it's gotten any easier, but it seems that many of the attitudes towards that war that we were involved in have changed. I can only pray that the ones on the other side have learned something and more Walls as this one, needn't be built.

Several members of my unit and many that I did not recognize have called me to the Wall by touching my name that is engraved upon it. The tears aren't necessary but are hard even for me to hold back. Don't feel guilty for not being with me, my Brothers. This was my destiny as it is yours, to be on that side of the Wall.

Touch the Wall, my Brothers, so that we can share in the memories that we had. I have learned to put the bad memories aside and remember only the pleasant times that we had together. Tell our Brothers out there to come and visit me, not to say good-bye but to say hello and be together again, even for a short time to ease that pain of loss that we all share.

Today, an irresistible and loving call comes from the Wall. As I approach I can see an elderly lady and as I get closer I recognize her...it's Momma! As much as I have looked forward to this day, I have also regretted it because I didn't know what reaction I would have.

Next to her, I suddenly see my wife and immediately think how hard it must have been for her to come to this place and my mind floods with the pleasant memories of 30 years past.

There's a young man in a military uniform standing with his arm around her...My God!...it has to be my son. Look at him trying to be the man without a tear in his eye. I yearn to tell him proud I am, seeing him standing tall, straight and proud in his uniform.

Momma comes closer and touches the Wall and I feel the soft and gentle touch I had not felt in so many years.

Dad has crossed to this side of the Wall and through our touch, I try to convey to her that Dad is doing fine and

is no longer suffering or feeling pain. I see my wife's courage building as she sees Momma touch the Wall and she approaches and lays her hand on my waiting hand. All the emotions, feelings and memories of three decades past flash between our touch and I tell her that it's all right. Carry on with your life and don't worry about me...I can see as I look into her eyes that she hears and understands me and a big burden has been lifted from her.

I watch as they lay flowers and other memories of my past. My lucky charm that was taken from me and sent to her by my CO, a tattered and worn teddy bear that I can barely remember having as I grew up as a child and several medals that I had earned and were presented to my wife. One of them is the Combat Infantry Badge that I am very proud of and I notice that my son is also wearing this medal. I had earned mine in the jungle of Vietnam and he had probably earned his in the deserts of Iraq.

I can tell that they are preparing to leave and I try to take a mental picture of them together, because I don't know when I will see them again. I wouldn't blame them if they were not to return and can only thank them that I was not forgotten. My wife and Momma near the Wall for one final touch and so many years of indecision, fear and sorrow are let go. As they turn to leave I feel my tears that had not

flowed for so many years, form as if dew drops on the other side of the Wall.

They slowly move away with only a glance over their shoulder. My son suddenly stops and slowly returns. He stands straight and proud in front of me and snaps a salute. Something makes him move to the Wall and he puts his hand upon the Wall and touches my tears that had formed on the face of the Wall and I can tell he senses my presence there and the tears flow from his eyes and I try my best to reassure him that it's all right and the tears do not make him any less of a man.

As he moves back wiping the tears from his eyes, he silently mouths, God Bless you, Dad. God Bless you, Son. We will meet someday but in the meantime, go on your way...there is no hurry...there is no hurry at all.

As I see them walk off in the distance, I yell out to them and everyone there today, as loud as I can...**thanks for remembering** and as others on this side of the Wall join in, I notice that the U.S. flag that so proudly flies in front of us everyday, is flapping and standing proudly straight out in the wind today. Thank you all for remembering. ✈

“ I wouldn't blame them if they were not to return and can only thank them that I was not forgotten. ”

Honor Guard recognized for

by Staff Sgt. Shayne Sewell

A crowd of spectators gathered in the Logistics Group atrium, Sept. 25, to witness Col. Gerald A. Black, 349th Air Mobility Wing commander, present medals to every 349th Honor Guard member. The Honor Guard members, in turn, folded and presented an American flag to Col. Black.

“The positive attitude and cooperation displayed by this team has directly contributed to the unparalleled success of the Honor Guard program and the positive and enormous public presence. We all need to support our Honor Guard and ensure this great wing continues to recognize this dedicated team of people,” said Chief Master Sgt. Anthony L. Maddux, 349th Air Mobility Wing command chief master sergeant.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Honor Guard, please call Master Sgt. Paul McCullough, Honor Guard NCOIC, at (707) 424-3406, or Capt. Tania Daniels, Honor Guard OIC, at (707) 424-3936. ➔



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ROBIN JACKSON

Honor Guard members stand at attention in preparation for their medals and plaque presentation.



PHOTO BY AUDREY QUILLEN

Chief Master Sgt. Anthony L. Maddux presents Chief Master Sgt. Billy Blackburn, command chief master sergeant of the Air Force Reserve Command, a plaque to thank him for being a speaker at the ceremony.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ROBIN JACKSON

Senior Master Sgt. Robert E. Potter shakes the hand of Staff Sgt. Johnny Yu while presenting him a plaque.

dedication to service and self

Each member of the Honor Guard team exemplifies their creed:

Handpicked to serve as a member of the United States Air Force Honor Guard, my standards of conduct and level of professionalism must be above reproach, for I represent all others in my service.

Others earned the right for me to wear the ceremonial uniform, one that is honored in a rich tradition and history. I will honor their memory by wearing it properly and proudly.

Never will I allow my performance to be dictated by the type of ceremony, severity of the temperature, or size of the crowd.

Obligated by my oath I am constantly driven to excel by a deep devotion to duty and a strong sense of dedication.

Representing every member, past and present, of the United States Air Force, I vow to stand sharp, crisp, and motionless, for I am a ceremonial guardsman.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ROBIN JACKSON

Col. Black pins a commendation medal on Staff Sgt. Ann Marie Scott during the Honor Guard appreciation ceremony.



PHOTO BY AUDREY QUILLEN

Technical Sgt. James T. Coleman and Staff Sgt. Darin D. Farmon fold the American flag before presenting it to Col. Black.

Travis airlift crews deliver East Timor relief

by Capt. Tania Daniels and 2nd Lt. Dawn Young

A C-5 Galaxy aircraft, flown by members of the 301st Airlift Squadron, delivered 32 tons of humanitarian aid Oct. 17 to Darwin, Australia, the staging area for the multinational peace-keeping effort in East Timor. The United States and Portugal came together to make this delivery of humanitarian aid and supplies possible.

The mercy mission had its beginnings when the C-5 Galaxy, manned by members of the 312th Airlift Squadron departed Travis Air Force Base Oct. 10, and flew to Lisbon, Portugal, where it was met by the Prime Minister of Portugal, Antonio Manuel de Oliveira Guterres, and U.S. Ambassador to Portugal Gerald McGowan.

The C-5 was loaded with humanitarian aid donated by Portugal and collected by the High Commission for the Transition in Timor.

The cargo included an ambulance, other rescue vehicles, field shelters, reconstruction materials, medicines, medical equipment and clothing.

Portuguese citizens and soldiers assisted the 312th AS loadmasters in palletizing and loading the cargo. "The assistance we were given in Lisbon was pretty awesome," commented Master Sgt. John Marinucci, loadmaster, 312th AS. "The Portuguese worked really hard and were able to palletize four semi-truck loads of cargo in a few hours."

Continuing its travel westward, the aircraft stopped at Lajes Field, Azores, where it was loaded with 25 tons of Meals Ready to Eat. Lajes was able to donate the MREs when it was left with a surplus following the elimination of a requirement to maintain an inventory, said Capt. Dave Smith, 65th Air Base Wing public affairs officer, at Lajes Field. With an aircraft full of humanitarian items, it headed back to Travis Oct. 14 to swap out the aircrew. Taking on the next leg of the trip were members from the 301st AS.

Team members from the commission met the C-5 when it arrived in Darwin, Australia, just before noon Oct. 17 and thanked the crew for flying the last leg of the mercy mission.

"The entire crew took personal leave from work to

volunteer for this mission," said Lt. Col. Del Lewis, aircraft commander, 301st AS. "We're just happy to be able to help."

McGowan requested the airlift of supplies, which was later approved by the Department of Defense. "The mercy mission of this C-5 is only the latest - and not the last - signal to the people of East Timor that Portugal and the United States will continue to stand with them as they rebuild their lives and their country," McGowan said.

"Besides coordinating with all the official actors involved, those planning and implementing the airlift are working with a volunteer-based Portuguese relief agency which was continually updating its manifest. The pickup worked, despite the countless challenges and changes, because (they) appreciated the importance of getting these relief supplies to East Timor."

"I hope that this joint Portuguese-American shipment shows the people of East Timor our commitment to them," Northern California Congressman Richard Pombo stated.

"As chairman of the House Portuguese-American Caucus, this issue is of particular importance to me. I

will continue to monitor this situation closely and provide any assistance I can."

From Darwin, the supplies will be transported by C-130 aircraft to East Timor, where aid workers will distribute the donations. The Air Force has three Alaska-based C-130 aircraft flying missions in and out of East Timor.

In all, there are about 400 U.S. troops on the ground as part of the Australia-led International Force in East Timor, or INTERFET. The United States is providing transportation, logistics, command and control, communications, intelligence, and sustainment support for the peacekeeping operation.

INTERFET is charged with imposing order in East Timor and also for paving the way for the territory's independence from Indonesia. The pro-Indonesian militias rejected East Timor's overwhelming vote for independence Aug. 30 and began burning buildings, looting and killing people sympathetic to the independence movement. (Pacific Air Forces News Service, Operation Stabilise, contributed to this story) ✈



COURTESY PHOTO

Air Force members push cargo onto a C-5 Galaxy.

Secretary speaks about pay reform

by Whit Peters
Secretary of Air Force

I know there is concern among enlisted members about the fairness of pay table reform, however, let's not lose sight of the bottom line: Airmen are about to have their best year in terms of pay and benefits in almost two decades.

The Jan. 1 pay raise will be 4.8 percent, the largest since 1982. Pay table reform, which takes effect July 1, 2000, will give an additional raise to 82 percent of our enlisted members and 57 percent of commissioned officers. Congress has pledged to fund future raises that narrow the pay gap between military and private-sector wages. Best estimates are that pay raises will be in the neighborhood of 4.4 percent annually through 2006.

And that's just basic pay. To get the whole picture, look at what else has happened. Congress and the Clinton administration have agreed to repeal the Redux retirement plan, ensuring everyone 50 percent retirement

pay at 20 years and full cost-of-living allowances.

The budget also gives us Career Enlisted Flyer Incentive Pay (CEFIP) for our aircrews, larger maximum enlistment and reenlistment bonuses, Temporary Living Expense for airmen moving to their first assignments and \$225 million above the president's budget for Basic Allowance for Housing.

Finally, the budget keeps us on schedule for one-plus-one dormitories, better family housing, and more and better fitness and child development centers. When it comes to pay and benefits, the glass is beyond half full. ✈



COURTESY PHOTO

Wing welcomes new Operations Group commander

by Staff Sgt. Patti Holloway

The 349th Air Mobility Wing welcomed Col. Ronald A. Rutland as the new Operations Group

commander in an assumption of command ceremony Oct. 15. Rutland is responsible for more than 1,500 personnel assigned to the only wing in the country to fly the C-5 "Galaxy," and the KC-10 "Extender," along with the host wing, the 60th Air Mobility Wing. "Let me just take this opportunity to say to the outstanding members of the 349th how much I am looking forward to working with such a hardworking and professional group of men and women," said Rutland.

Rutland was born in Birmingham, Ala., and received his commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Mississippi State University. He began his career on active duty in June 1973 and has served in numerous wings to include squadron staff and operations assignments encompassing Air Training Command, Strategic Air Command and Air Mobility Command. "The 349th is the benchmark for the command and the pride it displays in

performing its mission is second to none. Since before World War II this country has never needed its citizen airman as it needs them today. You are continually being tasked to the breaking point and you are always there," he said.



PHOTO BY SENIOR MASTER SGT. RONALD C. LAKE

Col. Black passes the Operations group flag to Col. Rutland.

Colonel Rutland has more than 6,100 flying hours, the majority of those as an instructor pilot in the T-37, T-38, KC-135 and the KC-10. He joined the Reserve in June 1989 at Barksdale Air Force Base, holding the positions of operations officer, chief mission development, chief pilot and chief of training for the 78th Air Refueling Squadron until November 1994. As the operations officer, he led the 78th Air Refueling Squadron's relocation assignment to McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., in December 1994. Colonel Rutland held the positions of the deputy commander for the 514th Operations Group and the alternate inspector general for the 514th Air Mobility Wing prior to his arrival to the 349th.

"This country owes every one of you a heartfelt thanks because you never quit. To the men and women of the 349th AMW, I am truly honored to have the opportunity to work with such a dedicated group of professionals," Rutland stated. ✈

WEEKEND DRILL AIRFARE POLICY CHANGES

WASHINGTON- A ceremony hosted by Charles L. Cragin, principal deputy assistant secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, was held Tuesday, Oct. 5. Reserve force members who travel by air to and from their weekend drills can now buy tickets at the General Services Administration City Pair contract rates. This benefits reservists by giving them greater flexibility and potential cost savings when traveling to perform military duties.

Reserve force members traveling to and from their weekend drills are required to pay for their own transportation. The GSA City Pair travel contract with the airlines previously excluded members of the National Guard and Reserve from using the government fares even though they were in an official duty status. Congress passed Public Law 105-261 directing the GSA to include members of the National Guard and Reserve in the GSA airfare contract, effective Oct. 1, 1999. For more information on this program see your first sergeant or orderly room.

AUTHORIZATION BILL INCREASES BENEFITS, FULL-TIME MANNING

WASHINGTON - Better pay and benefits, and more full-time people are among key features of Air Force Reserve Command's portion of the fiscal year 2000 National Defense Authorization Act.

Signed into law Oct. 5 by the president, the act grants a 4.8 percent military pay raise, effective Jan. 1, 2000, the largest pay increase since a 14.3 percent hike in 1981. Additional raises take effect July 1 with a pay table reform, which primarily targets mid-level officers and NCOs. To help keep pace with inflation, basic pay increases for FY 2001 through FY 2006 will be calculated using the annual Employment Cost Index plus .5 percent. This action will reduce the current 13.5 percent gap between military and private industry pay.

Manning: The new bill permits 1,134 Air Force reservists to serve full time as members of the Active Guard and Reserve, 142 more than in FY 1999, and calls for 9,785 full-time air reserve technicians, 24 more than in FY 1999. Part of the reason Congress authorized the increase in the number of AGRs is to permit the Reserve to assume some missions performed by active-duty pilots in Air Force Materiel Command.

Retention and recruitment: Enlisted flight crew members who hold certain aviation specialty codes get a pay boost if they qualify for career enlisted flyer incentive pay. The new incentive replaces hazardous duty incentive pay for these people Oct. 1.

Other benefits: For the first time, members of the active force and the Ready Reserve will be able to participate in the Thrift Saving Plan, which has been available to federal civil service employees. The effective date is contingent on the president proposing offsets for the lost

revenues in the FY 2001 budget request. Under the TSP program, military people can contribute up to 5 percent of their basic pay or reserve pay before taxes each month. They can also contribute special and incentive pays. The annual contribution limit is \$10,000.

Federal employees can now use military leave to perform inactive duty for training, such as unit training assemblies. In the past, they could only use military leave for annual tours and other non-IDT tours of duty.

Reservists called to active duty for less than one year may not have to pay the deductible before TRICARE begins sharing the costs of medical care for them and their families.

The FY 2000 bill expands eligibility for voluntary enrollment dental plans to certain members of the Ready Reserve. Reservists subject to involuntary recall would share premium costs with the government, and the remaining members of the Individual Ready Reserve would pay the full premium cost.

A provision of the bill authorizes giving a reservists lodging in kind for IDTs when transient government housing is not available. This option especially benefits individual mobilization augmentees and unit reservists when they travel to major metropolitan locations, where on-base lodging is difficult to obtain.

Another provision establishes a new type of duty for reservists to perform military funeral honors. Reservists earn retirement point credit and receive a \$50 stipend if the duty lasts at least two hours, plus they get travel entitlements if commuting more than 50 miles to perform this duty. They are also authorized medical care for injury or illness associated with this duty.

Next of kin may now request military funeral honors for deceased members or former members of the Selected Reserve.

Retirements: Reservists will now be eligible to receive a flag, at no cost to the recipient, upon retiring. Reservists with more than 15 but less than 20 years of service who have a physical disability that did not occur in the line of duty may now qualify for a disability retirement.

NEW MISSION OFFERS JOBS FOR RESERVISTS, RELIEF FOR ACTIVE DUTY

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - Air Force Reserve Command aircrews facing job loss because of aircraft modernization may find new careers in a program designed to ease the active force's pilot shortage.

After the fiscal year 2000 National Defense Appropriations Act is signed, the Reserve will receive funds to establish seven units to perform aircraft test support and functional check flights for Air Force Materiel Command. The Reserve units will replace active duty units currently performing the AFMC missions.

"These missions are ideal for the Air Force Reserve," said Lt. Col. Craig Branning, chief of tanker

programs in the program execution branch of Headquarters AFRC's directorate of plans and program. "They will give our aircrews more job opportunities as the Air Force draws down its C-141 fleet, and possibly provide a career for KC-135 navigators whose positions are being eliminated by the Pacer CRAG conversion."

This fall the Reserve will launch flight test squadrons at Robins; Hill AFB, Utah; Tinker AFB, Okla.; and Randolph AFB, Texas, to check the flight functions on planes that have received programmed depot maintenance. At Edwards AFB, Calif., reservists will stand up an associate unit, which will integrate with the Air Force Flight Test Center. The associate unit will replace an active-duty squadron in carrying out test support for developmental test and evaluation, operational test and evaluation, and advance range instrumentation aircraft programs.

Two more Reserve units will come on line starting in January to conduct functional check flight testing. The units will be at Kelly AFB, Texas, to do FCF tests on KC-135 aircraft for Boeing Co. contractors and at a contracting site in Mesa, Ariz., on T-38C's, again for Boeing.

"Partnering with AFRC is a win for the corporate Air Force, a win for the Reserve and a win for AFMC," Harbour said. "It helps solve our active-duty pilot shortage and takes the burden off the active duty to supply AFMC with all of its pilots."

DoD MOVES AHEAD ON DIGITAL DOG TAGS

WASHINGTON—In the future, service members may wear two kinds of dog tags instead of one—the traditional metal ID tags and a new plastic tag bearing digitized medical information.

Defense officials are considering using Personal Information Carriers, known as PICs. Similar to the plastic memory cards used to store pictures taken with digital cameras, the PIC holds a service member's shot record and data on allergies and surgical history.

While the metal tags would continue to serve as the primary means of identification on the battlefield, the PIC would give field medical personnel access to service members' medical records. It could be read by laptop computers at battalion aid stations.

The military first issued each service member an aluminum dog tag in 1906. During World War I, mindful of the realities of war deaths, the military began issuing two tags, one to be interred with the body, the second to turned over to personnel to record the death.

DoD recently awarded Informatec, Inc., a contract to produce an initial order of 5,000 to 20,000 digital tags, which will be demonstrated in simulated operational environments in the next few months. The contract includes options for a total of 2.5 million tags over the next five years, according to Lt. Col. Bradley Dawkins, an Air Force physician and DoD's PIC project manager.

DoD has not yet decided to employ the high

capacity PIC, however, Dawkins said the department is also developing digital Smart Cards to carry an individual's security key and other information. Officials are studying whether the cards could also carry medical information, Dawkins said.

The PIC is part of the Composite Health Care System II (CHCS II), a computerized system designed to allow providers to track health care services delivered to members of the military's health care beneficiary community. The PIC would be an electronic theater medical record in settings where computer network connectivity is unavailable. Thus, the PICs would give in-theater health care providers immediate access to accurate clinical information and would allow them to update service members' permanent records in the field.

The PICs are a result of lessons learned following the Gulf War, Dawkins explained. Defense officials found medical services performed in the field did not always reach service members' permanent paper medical records. A 1998 presidential report on Gulf War illness directed the department to develop a force health protection program and maintain consistent, continuous records, he said.

PRESIDENT CALLS FAMILIES "HEART OF OUR NATION'S" ARMED FORCES.

SPRINGFIELD, Va.— "Our military families are the heart of our nation's Armed Forces," said President Bill Clinton in his 1999 Military Family Week message released Oct. 15, through the Armed Services YMCA.

"Time and again, military duty has called our young uniformed men and women to trouble spots around the world," the President said. "And time and again, answering that call to duty has meant that families would be separated for months and sometimes years at a time."

The Armed Forces celebrate Military Family Week each year during the Thanksgiving holiday week, this year Nov. 21-28. Many installations hold special events related to family life in the military during the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving. Chaplains and local churches recognize families during their services and programs.

The Armed Services YMCA, as in past years, prepared packets of materials related to Military Family Week and they were disseminated to military installations around the world by the individual services.

Included in the packets are copies of the 1999 Military Family Week poster, featuring the art of one of the winners of the ASYMCA annual art contest. This year 11-year-old Cecilia Javier, whose father is a master sergeant at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, was featured on the poster.

The poster and President Clinton's 1999 greeting are posted on the Armed Services YMCA website: www.asymca.org. Other winners in this year's art contest also are posted.



LIEUTENANT COLONEL

Jerald L. Brunz, 301st AS, 1 SEP 99
 Teresa M. Luchi, 349th MDS, 28 MAY 00
 James M. Marsden, 70th ARS, 1 OCT 99
 Mark J. Millican, 312th AS, 22 JUN 00
 Kevin J. Morinec, 312th AS, 1 OCT 99
 Guy R. Morris, 312th AS, 1 OCT 99
 Samuel C. Mullin, III, 349th AMW, 1 AUG 99
 Alan C. Plyler, 349th LSS, 1 OCT 99
 Jennifer H. Siu, 349th MDS, 1 OCT 99
 Randle W. Suttkus, 70th ARS, 1 SEP 99
 Sandra L. Yope, 82nd APS, 1 SEP 99



MAJOR

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 Sharon P. Argenbright, 349th CH, Det. 2, 1 OCT 99
 William W. Barbour, 349th AMW, 1 OCT 99
 Richard J. S. Beale, 312th AS, 1 OCT 99
 Thomas A. Bell, 312th AS, 1 OCT 99
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 Janet P. Broome, 349th AES, 1 OCT 99
 Terrance A. Brown, 312th AS, 1 OCT 99
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 Richard M. Casto, 70th ARS, 1 OCT 99
 Gregory A. Chastain, 79th ARS, 1 OCT 99
 Christopher W. Clay, 349th AMW, 1 OCT 99
 Warren J. Clingan, 349th AES, 5 AUG 00
 Allan R. Davis, 312th AS, 1 OCT 99
 Vincent M. Dempsey, 79th ARS, 1 OCT 99
 Kim P. Dickie, 749th AGS, 3 APR 00
 Brian R. Donaldson, 349th ASTS, 1 OCT 99
 Jeffery L. Durrett, 55th APS, 13 Dec 99
 Brian J. Dykstra, 349th CH, Det. 2, 1 OCT 99
 Keith W. Ellenberger, 349th OSF, 1 OCT 99

OFFICER PROMOTIONS

Joseph B. Elliot, 70th ARS, 1 OCT 99
 Scott M. Fieldsend, 79th ARS, 1 OCT 99
 Dale A. Forman, 45th APS, 1 OCT 99
 Leora M. Franks, 349th AES, 19 NOV 99
 George Z. Friedman, 349th ASTS, 1 OCT 99
 Paul E. Frydenlund, 301st AS, 1 OCT 99
 Marie J. Fuentes, 349th CH, Det. 2, 1 OCT 99
 Bryan K. Fulton, 301st AS, 1 OCT 99
 Jeffrey S. Gaw, 55th APS, 25 JUL 00
 Eric D. Haussermann, 349th AMW, 1 OCT 99
 Garry G. Heitmann, 301st AS, 1 OCT 99
 Lars E. Helgeson, 349th CH, Det. 2, 1 OCT 99
 Patrick J. S. Inouye, 349th AMW, 1 OCT 99
 Darin H. Kato, 70th ARS, 1 OCT 99
 Juana Labelle, 349th CH, Det. 2, 1 OCT 99
 Steven A. Lacelle, 349th AES, 1 OCT 99
 Ronald W. Lautzenheiser, 301st AS, 1 OCT 99
 Dianne M. Laven, 349th CH, Det. 2, 1 OCT 99
 Maria M. Leyba, 349th CH, Det. 2, 1 OCT 99
 Charles R. Lochbaum, Jr., 349th AGS, 21 MAR 00
 Richard R. Lucas, 349th SFS, 1 OCT 99
 Sharron A. Mackey, 349th OG, 1 OCT 99
 Cathleen A. Madge, 349th AES, 1 OCT 99
 Ronald L. Maines, 349th CH, Det. 2, 14 JUL 99
 Craig E. Meyer, 312th AS, 1 OCT 99
 Nancy Mikulin, 349th AES, 1 OCT 99
 Peggy A. Miller, 349th MDS, 5 AUG 00
 William J. Moody, 312th AS, 1 OCT 99
 Debra A. Muhl, 349th AES, 1 OCT 99
 Timothy E. O'Brien, 349th ALCF, 1 OCT 99
 Ronald J. Orlando, 349th CH, Det. 1, 1 OCT 99

Scott A. Paffenroth, 301st AS, 1 OCT 99
 Robert Palon, 70th ARS, 1 OCT 99
 Paul A. Rankin, 70th ARS, 1 OCT 99
 John L. Reece, 301st AS, 1 OCT 99
 Douglas P. Sanford, 79th ARS, 1 OCT 99
 Juergen W. Schupp, 301st AS, 1 OCT 99
 Bruce Schussler, 312th AS, 1 OCT 99
 Michael R. Solomon, 70th ARS, 1 OCT 99
 Maria T. Spry, 349th ASTS, 10 JUN 00
 Mark J. Tirrell, 301st AS, 1 OCT 99
 Vera A. Tu, 312th AS, 1 OCT 99
 Bryan F. Weber, 349th AES, 1 OCT 99
 Debra A. Werner, 349th CH, Det. 2, 1 OCT 99
 William W. Wickersham, 301st AS, 1 OCT 99
 Rory S. Womack, 301st AS, 1 OCT 99
 Steven J. Wycoff, 312th AS, 1 OCT 99



CAPTAIN

Tamra L. Abbott, 349th CH, 1 Oct 99
 Regis S. Carr, 349th CH, Det. 1, 18 MAR 00
 Martin K. Dotson, 79th ARS, 30 SEP 99
 Sandra L. Elenz, 349th CH, 30 SEP 99
 Peter J. Gross, 312th AS, 30 SEP 99
 Cheryl Y. Inniss, 349th ASTS, 30 SEP 99
 William D. Johnston, 349th OSF, 30 SEP 99
 Timothy S. Lloyd, 349th AGS, 30 SEP 99
 Alice J. Quiroz, 349th ASTS, 23 JUN 00
 Halili Josie Quizon, 349th ASTS, 27 JAN 00
 Jeffrey M. Severns, 70th ARS, 30 SEP 99
 Adams J. Summers, 70th ARS, 30 SEP 99
 Kirk Wamsley, 349th AES, 1 OCT 99

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