

Contact

Magazine for and about members of the 349th Air Mobility Wing
Vol. 16, No.2 February 1998

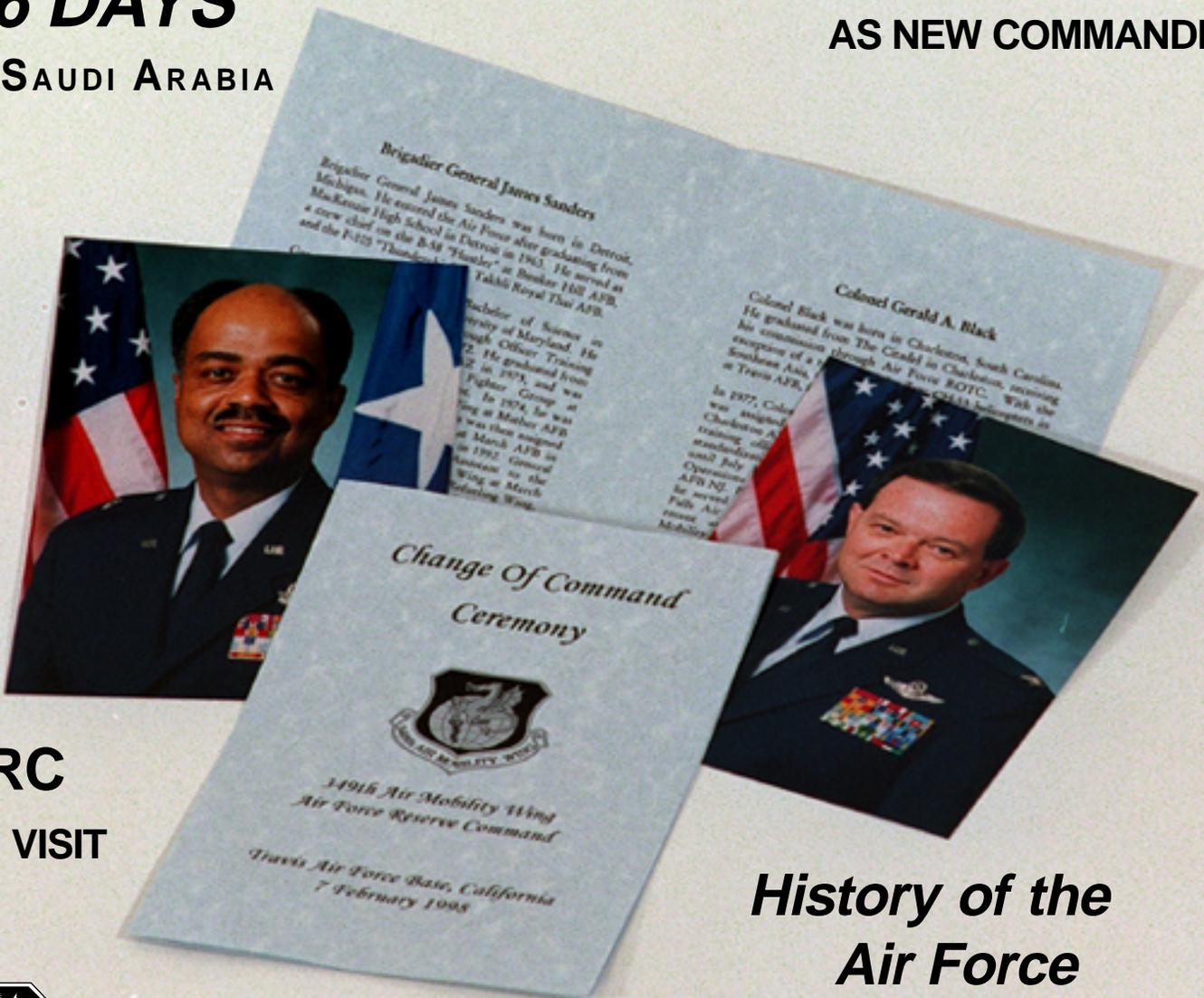
Going through some changes

WING SAYS GOODBYE TO
GENERAL SANDERS AND WELCOMES

COLONEL BLACK
AS NEW COMMANDER

16 DAYS

IN SAUDI ARABIA



**AFRC
VICE VISIT**

**History of the
Air Force
Reserve**

Part Two... The Korean War

Promotions



Commander's

by Brig. Gen. James Sanders
Commander, 349th Air Mobility Wing

CORNER

IT'S BEEN A PRIVILEGE

It's hard for me to believe that this is my last column as your commander. To have the best as my final command is indeed a rare and great honor. It seems as if Cindy and I have just arrived, but it's been a year and a half since you first welcomed us to the 349th family. From the beginning, you went out of your way to make us feel as if we were a part of you. You graciously offered us your friendship, loyalty and an unbelievable level of support. For that, we thank you. This will always be home.

As I reflect back on my tenure here, I am reminded of my first impression of the 349th: a wing of an unrivaled level of expertise, a tremendous depth of talent and a sense of organizational pride that is unparalleled. This was evident in every shop, every office, and on every mission. As your commander, I only needed to give you the tasking, listen to your inputs, then step back and watch you make it happen.

Believe me, there are no other organizations that even come close to your capabilities.

Your devotion to duty, love of country, willingness to sacrifice job and family to defend this great nation are what make this wing so remarkable, and for that, I thank you.

But now it's time for me to move on. In my new

assignment at 15th Air Force, I will have the opportunity to get involved with not only Reserve issues, but also Guard and active duty issues as well. I will still be working for you, bringing your concerns and great ideas to Gen. Tony Robertson, the 15th Air Force commander.

This is an exciting assignment, and I am looking forward to the many new challenges.

I must admit it's tough to leave the 349th. But I am very pleased to leave you in the capable hands of an outstanding leader, Col. Jerry Black. I know you will give him your best, as you have always given me. And just like me, he will have the satisfaction of commanding the finest wing in the Air Force Reserve.

It has been a privilege and honor to be your commander. Thank you all so very much. ✈



McIntosh

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

SENDS

CELEBRATE YOUR ANNIVERSARY

This new year is doubly important to Air Force Reserve Command. Not only do we complete our first year as a major command, we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Air Force Reserve as well.

The anniversary of five decades of continuous achievement is a great opportunity to ring our own bell, to remind the American people and our friends in the active forces that, over the years, our contributions to our nation's military capability have increased significantly. Nineteen Ninety-Eight is the command's year to

commemorate the many events marking a half century of reservists' service to America, and it's your moment in the sun.

I encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity and to participate in local anniversary activities whenever possible. ✈



Front cover: Official photos and programs from the change of command ceremony. Photo by Scott Drier, BVISC

Dropping in

AFRC VICE COMMANDER VISITS THE WING

Story, photos and graphics by
Staff Sgt. Steven O. Ontiveros



Maj. Gen. James Smith, vice commander of Air Force Reserve Command, visited the wing this month for a how's-it-going meeting with Col. Gerald A. Black, wing commander, and several group commanders. The visit was an informal one, but provided a direct audience to the second in command to voice any concerns facing

commanders in the field.

Wing officials greeted Smith

with breakfast and a multimedia presentation on mission history. Following the presentation Smith took questions during the wing manning and ops tempo slideshow.

After the briefing Smith toured 349th facilities. He then flew on a local C-5 sortie crewed by the 301st Airlift Squadron. ✈



Making the rounds

Left: General Smith shakes hands with members of the KC-10 community. **Center:** Smith briefs aircrew at KC-10 building auditorium. **Right:** Smith checks his headset mike prior to takeoff. **Above:** Smith greets Col. Ronald V. Dorst, Medical Group commander.

C O N T A C T



**349th Air Mobility Wing
Office of Public Affairs
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Times they are a changin'

Story, photos and graphics by
Staff Sgt. Steven O. Ontiveros



WING CHANGES COMMANDERS

AMID EL NIÑO SQUALL

Amidst the driving rain and thunder of one of the biggest storms to batter the California coast, the torch was passed from one commander to another. This time-honored tradition of pomp and circumstance is known as the change of command ceremony.

But the storm did little to dampen the spirit and sacredness for those who braved the downpour. On the contrary. The storm added a visceral emphasis to the events which would transpire in Hangar 818. It symbolized the equinox of the commander cycle.

The ceremony itself was all too brief. The review of the troops. The passing of the guidon from Brig. Gen. James Sanders, former wing commander who will become the Individual Mobilization Assistant to the Fifteenth Air Force commander, to Maj. Gen. Wallace Whaley, Fourth Air Force commander. Whaley would in turn pass it to Col. Gerald Black, the former wing vice commander who now accepted the responsibility of commanding the largest reserve wing in the nation. Some quick photos and official narration concluded the formal portion of the ceremony. Now came the true meaning of what these events were all about. The heartfelt words of the ones who must say goodbye.

"Yesterday I asked the chaplain to pray for sunshine," said Sanders, "so as my last official act as commander, chaplain, you're fired."

The audience responded with applause and laughter.

"It's hard for me to believe that this will be the last time I will stand before you as your commander," he continued.

"When I first came here I was a little apprehensive about commanding an associate unit where you don't own the iron," Sanders said. "From the beginning, you went out of your way to make us feel like we were part of you. You graciously offered us your friendship, loyalty and an unbelievable level of support. For that we thank you with all of our heart. This will always be home."

The emotion from the moment weighed heavily in the

A fond farewell

Left: Brig. Gen. James Sanders addresses the troops during his farewell speech. **Above:** Wing Honor Guard



hangar as Sanders gave his speech, yet his tone carried along the promise that the storm was merely a moment of change.

"This is an exciting assignment, and I am really looking forward to the many new challenges. But I must admit that it is tough to leave the 349th," Sanders said, "I am very pleased to leave you in the capable hands of an outstanding leader, Col. Jerry Black."

After brief applause Sanders shook hands with Black as he took to the podium.

"General Sanders, it has been a true pleasure to serve as your vice commander for the past six months," Black said. "You have left some big shoes to fill."

"I want to thank the men and women of the 349th Air Mobility Wing. You are the most outstanding professionals in uniform today," Black continued. "Your depth of knowledge and the pride you take in your job is clear."

When the applause died away, the dismiss commands given, and the crowds filed out into the raging weather outside Hangar 818, one thing was clear.

The change of command was not about going through the motions and the passing of the guidon. These were just material incidentals. It is about reflection, hope, saying goodbye, and looking forward to the spring of renewal. ➔



Taking the reins

Above: Maj. Gen. Wallace W. Whaley (left), Brig. Gen. James Sanders (center), and Col. Gerald A. Black (right) prepare for the passing of the guidon.

Left: Col. Gerald A. Black accepts the wing guidon from Maj. Gen. Wallace W. Whaley, 4th Air Force commander, while Brig Gen. James Sanders looks on. Chief Master Sgt. Norris "Doc" Houk (rear), 349th Senior Enlisted Advisor, passed the guidon between commanders.

Scarf graphic illustration by Heide Couch, BVISC

16 DAYS IN THE DESERT

STORY BY STAFF SGT. STEVEN O. ONTIVEROS
STAFF SG.T JOSEPH HART
CAPT. DONNA NICHOLAS,
4404TH WING (P) PUBLIC AFFAIRS
PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. JOSEPH HART



"For me, it was a true combination of who I am as a professional planner and an Air Force reservist,"

Staff Sgt. Joseph Hart

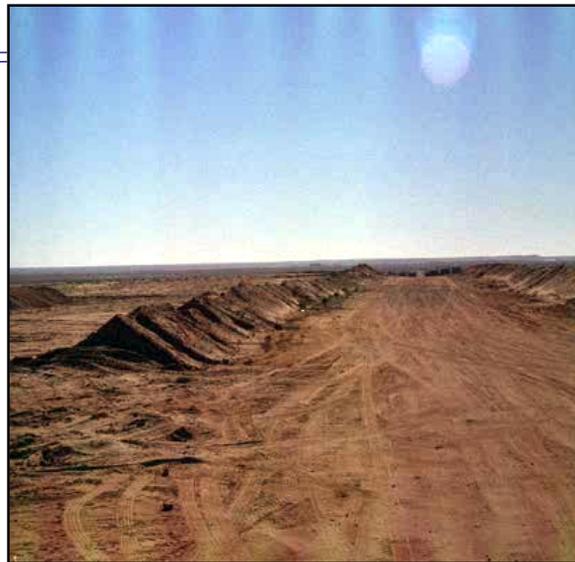
The terrain was the same as back home but the accommodations were a little different. The desert of Saudi Arabia and the desert of Las Vegas are basically the same, except the Saudi Arabian desert has considerably fewer tourists or attractions.

So what would bring a program development office manager for the Nevada Department of Transportation, Las Vegas unit, to the Saudi Arabian desert? For one Travis reservist, it was a chance to serve on a special team revamping a Saudi air base.

"For me, it was a true combination of who I am as a professional planner and an Air Force reservist," said Staff Sgt. Joseph W. Hart, an aircraft mechanic with the 349th Equipment Maintenance Squadron. "Because I hold a master's degree in Regional Planning, am a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, and I also have flightline clearance, I could deploy as community planner, using my special skills in land use and transportation planning", he said.

The Planning Assistance Team was created by the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence, Brooks AFB, Texas. Hart's colleagues included active duty, reservists, and Department of Defense civilians. Each of the 13 team members was an expert in his field, and included community planners, architects, and programmers, whose skills and talents were matched to address the specific issues and challenges related to re-configuring Prince Sultan Air Base to allow for runway and facilities expansion..

Hart's assignments included two separate jobs: moving existing facilities, and future land use planning. First, he had to relocate the coalition forces' main entrance, called the "Golden Gate." This included the development of alternate roadway



The road leading out of the "Golden Gate" at Prince Sultan Air Base. Photo shows the heat damage (vertical streaks).

alignments going through the Golden Gate, which would connect to existing roadways within PSAB. "In the end, safety and cost were the deciding factors in the location of the roadway," Hart said.

For the second part of the job, Hart assisted with the land plan including future site of "Tent City" and aircraft maintenance facilities, as well as developing vacant space. The final product, called the Contingency General Plan, included all the team's findings and specific recommendations, including costs. Hart wrote Sections C and D, respectively called "Land Use and Transportation Plan" and "Golden Gate Relocation and Infrastructure."

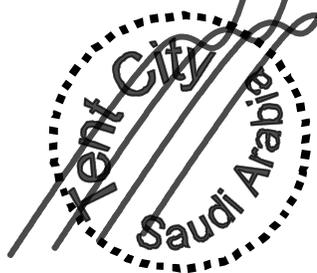
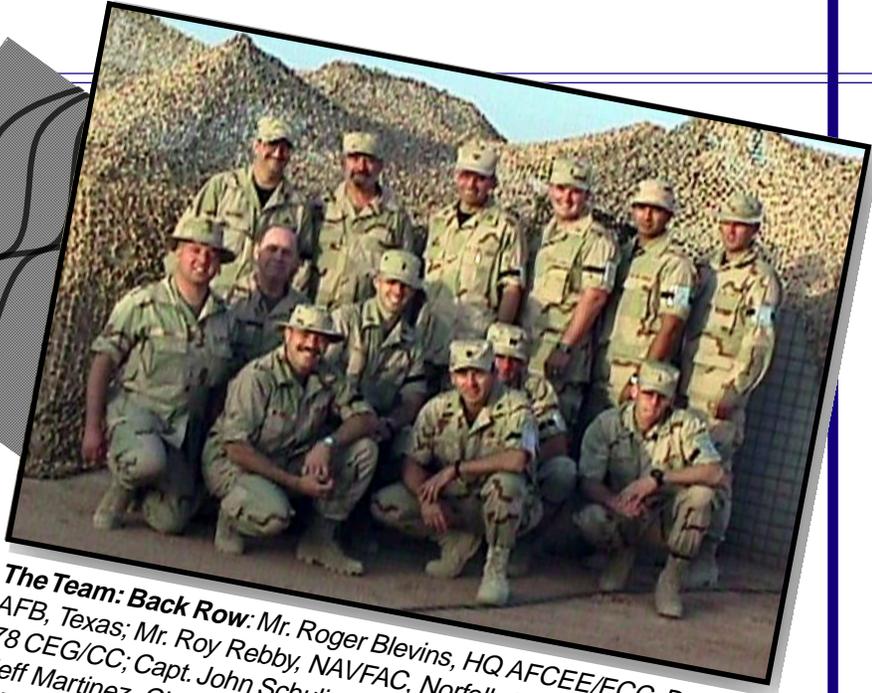
Creating solutions did not come easy. The team worked 16-hour days, exchanging information, and preparing daily briefing slides and maps. Many members toured the entire base, from the newly constructed housing area to the flightline area and even the motor pool/transportation fuel storage, and water storage areas.

"We spent a lot of time discussing all aspects of potential solutions with the people who will be affected," Hart said. "The architects brought the planning conceptualization to life, with internal and external teamwork.

"Doing all this while working and living in tents was the hardest part," Hart admitted. "But the camaraderie



Prince Sultan Air Base. Suffered by the film.



The Team: **Back Row:** Mr. Roger Blevins, HQ AFCEE/ECC, Brooks AFB, Texas; Mr. Roy Rebbly, NAVFAC, Norfolk, Va.; Col. John Mogge, 78 CEG/CC; Capt. John Schuliger, 78 CEG/CCE, Airman First Class Jeff Martinez, Charleston AFB, S.C.; **Front Row, kneeling:** Staff Sgt. John Martin, Shaw Charleston AFB, S.C.; Mr. Ron Peters (no hat), Willow Grove ARB, Pa.; 1st Lt. James Stanolowski, Fairchild AFB, Wash.; Lt Col. Steve Stringham, 99 CES/CCV, Nellis AFB, Nev.; Capt. Rex Langston, US Surgeon General's Office, Atlanta, Ga.; and 2nd Lt. Travis Leighton, Ellsworth AFB, S.D.

among the team made the whole thing bearable. I enjoyed working with all the guys on the team."

Hart also praised the advancement in electronic technology.

"Without the use of a digital camera and laptop computers, this mission could not have been completed in the short time allowed," Hart said. "The heat affected my personal rolls of film and the results of the hard rains could be seen in the terrain."

"We commonly take two reserve assets to every two active duty ones," said Roger Blevins, HQ AFCEE/ECC Brooks AFB, Texas, "Joe brought a unique quality to the mission and we loved having him."

"I found the work challenging and rewarding," Hart concluded, "It was an opportunity to promote the planning process and profession while serving our great country. It was a privilege to have served with such a dedicated group of people." ➔



Planners had to consider erosion caused by sudden downpours in the desert.

PRINCE SULTAN AIR BASE

MAJOR PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS/BENEFITS:

Relocate F-15's to the North end of "Banana Loop".

- Improves safety in operations associated with munitions handling.

Consolidate and move Maintenance City, including the Forward Operating Location move.

- Streamlines maintenance support, locating like functions within close proximity to each other.
- Increases force protection, lessens footprint.

Relocate Air Transportable Hospital into current support function modular facilities.

- Better quality of life for patients, improved medical care.
- Privacy of examining rooms, better access to toilets for patients.

Erect a hardened dining facility near the new MX location (replaces Quick Turn)

- Better dining accommodations for 60-70% of the base's population.

Bed-down plan for the EA-6B arrival

- Utilizes current MX layout to support this function.

Floor plan for the new Base Exchange complex to house AAFES facilities.

- All weather gathering location for leisure time pursuits.
- Double space for BX from current facility.
- Includes food court and other AAFES functions

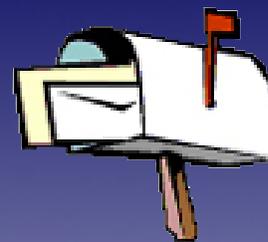
Mind your

E-MAIL ETIQUETTE

P's

and

Q's



When using electronic mail, check your e-mail inbox for messages on a regular basis. Follow the same chain of command when sending messages up the line as you would when using paper correspondence. You should send courtesy copies as necessary. Respect the privacy of others by asking permission to forward the original author's e-mail message, unless the message is part of a chain of command communication.

Avoid overburdening the e-mail system resources by frequently sending e-mail to mass addressees such as the entire base population or your

whole unit. This can be wasteful of others time, and of the computer resources to deliver it. Only send messages to a very large mailing distribution list when it is essential. Make sure that you are sending the message to the intended audience or reader(s). You should exercise good judgment in deciding whether to reply to a very large mailing list. You may create and make use of a mailing list to expedite a work project.

Place critical incoming and outgoing messages in system file folders and organize them by categories to aid in

future searches/retrievals.

Exit from the e-mail program whenever you finish using e-mail. Never leave an active terminal unattended. This helps prevent unauthorized use of your system. Would you want a disgruntled co-worker to send a derogatory note to your supervisor, using your terminal, and name? Probably not.

In addition, you should delete outdated or unwanted incoming and outgoing messages. These messages take up needed system resources and are wasting space. Archive messages of long term value or save them to a floppy diskette for future reference. ➔

Additional rules to follow when using e-mail:



1. REMEMBER THE BASIC ELEMENT OF EFFECTIVE WRITING: CLARITY, BREVITY, AND COURTESY.
2. BE DISCREET AND PROFESSIONAL.
3. USE A TONE OF ADDRESS THAT IS APPROPRIATE TO YOUR RECIPIENT.
4. LEAD THE MESSAGE WITH THE MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION.
5. MAKE YOUR MAIN POINT IN THE FIRST PARAGRAPH. CITE ALL QUOTES, REFERENCES, AND SOURCES.
6. RESPECT COPYRIGHT AND LICENSE AGREEMENTS.
7. WATCH YOUR LANGUAGE.
8. AVOID EMOTION-LADEN TERMS, SARCASM, JOKING, OR DISCRIMINATORY TERMS.
9. USE THE MORE COMMON ABBREVIATION SUCH AS **FYI** (FOR YOUR INFORMATION), **FWIW** (FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH), **BTW** (BY THE WAY), **FAQ** (FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS), AND **ET AL** (AND OTHERS) AS APPROPRIATE.
10. SEND THE ORIGINAL BACK WITH THE REPLY OR JUST ENOUGH TEXT TO INDICATE WHAT YOU ARE RESPONDING TO.
THIS SERVES AS A QUICK REMINDER TO THE SENDER AND SAVES TIME.

History of the Air Force Reserve



BRIEF HISTORY - PART 2

The FY 1950 program had been in operation for little more than a year when the Korean War broke out in June 1950. During the buildup that followed, all 25 Air Force Reserve T/O&E units, with their nearly 30,000 assigned personnel, came on active duty, as did more than 116,000 individual reservists from the three other parts of the Air Force Reserve. These nearly 147,000 reservists, and more than 46,000 members of the Air National Guard, provided a substantial augmentation to the active duty Air Force, which in June 1950 numbered only 416,000 officers and enlisted personnel.

Ten of the mobilized Reserve wings remained intact. The Air Force disbanded the other 15 and reassigned their

personnel as fillers throughout the Air Force.

Three wings — the 452nd Light Bombardment Wing, (Long Beach, Calif.), the 437th (Chicago) and 403rd (Portland, Ore.) Troop Carrier Wings—served tours in East Asia, while the 433rd Troop Carrier Wing (Cleveland, Ohio) deployed to Europe. Six other troop carrier wings — the 435th (Miami, Fla.), 516th (Memphis, Tenn), 434th (Atterbury Air Force Base, Ind.), 443d (Hensley Field, Texas), 375th (Pittsburgh, Penn.), and the 514th (Mitchel Air Force Base, N.Y.)—formed the core of Tactical Air Command's newly-created Eighteenth Air Force.✈

Courtesy of the Directorate of Historical Services, Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command





DOD, AIR FORCE PLAN TO IMMUNIZE AGAINST ANTHRAX

BOLLING AIR FORCE BASE, D.C. — Despite the easing of tensions in Southwest Asia, the Department of Defense is still preparing to immunize its members against anthrax, a highly-lethal bacteria which could be used as a biological weapon.

Anthrax is an infectious disease which normally afflicts animals; however, according to military officials, several countries are believed to have weaponized anthrax as a biological warfare agent which, when inhaled by humans, causes death within a week.

"Vaccination is critical for everybody's protection," said Col. (Dr.) Jim Laub, chief of operational medicine for the Air Force Medical Operations Agency. "Anthrax is 99 percent lethal to unprotected individuals exposed to battlefield concentrations of the agent."

The vaccine for anthrax is approved by the Food and Drug Administration and has been in use since 1970. It has been routinely administered in the United States to veterinarians and livestock handlers.

The typical side effect is a sore arm or a small lump under the skin at the spot the shot was given, similar to side effects experienced with immunizations for the flu.

"There are no reported long-term side effects," Laub said. "This vaccination is similar to others such as for polio. It won't make an individual sick and it is critical for survival if the person is exposed to the bacteria.

"The vaccine is perfectly safe," Laub said. "And once you realize how lethal the bacteria is, there is no question that the vaccine is absolutely necessary."

The secretary of defense concluded that vaccination is needed for force protection, but actual vaccination won't begin until further details of the implementation are finalized.

Once word is given by the secretary of defense to begin the immunizations, plans call for the vaccine to initially be given to those individuals at high risk of exposure, such as those already deployed or those who would be deployed to high-threat areas.

Vaccinations will occur in phases, as requirements and production allows, he said. By the year 2005, a total of 2.4 million service members, including guard and reserve, will receive the vaccination.

The vaccine promotes increased resistance to anthrax by stimulating the body's own immune system to produce antibodies more efficiently, Laub explained.

Military members will receive a series of six injections, followed by an annual booster, to maintain immunity against the bacteria.

A small number of DOD individuals have already received the vaccinations, such as laboratory specialists who work to develop vaccines and diagnostic methods. (AFRC News Service)

NEW SYSTEM ALLOWS RESERVISTS TO VOLUNTEER VIA WEB



WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Office of the Air Force Reserve in the Pentagon is offering web-based, one-stop shopping for tours of duty to Air Force reservists.

By pointing a browser to the Volunteer Reserve System at <http://134.205.96.217/vrs>, a reservist can review worldwide opportunities from any location with web access. From their computer at home, reservists can connect to an extensive database of all available Reserve temporary duty TDY assignments. When they find a tour that interests them, they can input their volunteer information, and the organization that posted the requirement will contact them if they are selected.

"In this day and age of increasing military involvement and decreasing

budgets, it makes sense to use existing technologies to link active-duty and reserve commanders with cost-effective reservists who have the skills and experience to get the job done," said Lt. Col. Glenn R. Whicker, a VRS point of contact. "Never before has such a broad effort to bring the volunteer directly to the user been attempted."

The Office of Air Force Reserve invites any organization with a need for Air Force reservists to contact Whicker or Lt. Col. Bob Shaw at DSN 227-7036 or (703) 697-7036 for instructions on how to insert requirements directly into the system from a desktop computer.

The Reserve started offering the system to customers Jan. 21.

"It's easy, painless and most of all it works," Whicker said. Whicker says the new system will improve Air Force Reserve Command's already impressive record of volunteerism. He says the command is the leading reserve component in supplying needed skills to its active-duty counterparts and has a solid history of providing timely, skilled augmentation to war-fighting commanders in chief.

"Volunteerism has been the key to Air Force Reserve success over the past decade," Whicker said. "Now we're ready to open the doors to a new level of integration by bringing this new system online." (AFRC News Service)

CONTACT MAGAZINE NOW ON-LINE



TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. - We hope you like the new look to the CONTACT magazine. The full color version can be found on our website. The web address is: www.travis.af.mil/pages/349pa.

You must first download Adobe Acrobat Reader from the provided hyperlink to view it. The wing's mission history video is also available in Real Player format and the link to it will soon follow. Please let us know what you think of the new changes.

Prayer

Story by Capt. Anne F. Macdonald
Photos by Master Sgt. Luther Tolliver,
349th Component Repair Squadron UPAR

RETIRED TUSKEEGEE AIRMAN VISITS TRAVIS FOR NATIONAL PRAYER LUNCHEON

Those of you who did not have the opportunity to attend last month's annual Prayer Luncheon missed out on a real treat.

The 349th Chaplain staff, spearheaded by Chaplain (Capt.) Greg Stringer, project officer, put together a program that combined elements of spirituality and a living history of both the Air Force and the American black civil rights movement.

The luncheon featured scripture readings, songs, prayers, and guest speaker retired Air Force Lt. Col. James Warren, a Tuskegee Airman, whose life reflected the event's theme of "*Success over Adversity*."

Warren offered a fascinating glimpse of the early days of the Air Force in the days when segregation was the accepted way of life, and black Americans had to fight for the privilege to serve and die for their country. He spoke movingly about excellent candidates who failed to graduate pilot training because of an unspoken quota system which severely limited the number of black flyers. Warren told stories of courage and conviction when these same airmen were threatened with court-martial or damning remarks in their military records for challenging unspoken but real racial barriers such as de facto segregated clubs, inferior aircraft and bigoted commanders.

The colonel also spoke of the great success of those early pioneers, both in war, and in their subsequent lives, speaking familiarly of Chappie James and Benjamin O. Davis as his friends and colleagues, bringing history to life.

A deeply religious man, Warren described how his faith helped carry him through those turbulent times as well as more than 150 combat missions in three wars, from World War II through Vietnam.

"I wish more people could have had the opportunity of hearing Colonel Warren," said Wing Chaplain (Maj.) Tom Clark. "It was certainly a privilege to have this unique and inspirational man share his story with us. I think it's very appropriate that the birth of Air Force coincided with the official end of segregation in the military. Colonel Warren's story embodies that history."

"We who are here today stand on the shoulders of such individuals as the Tuskegee Airmen," said Col. James Blackman, 349th Operations Group deputy commander. "Not only has Colonel Warren paved the way for the modern Air Force, he has carried this message to us as his successors. Now it is our turn. The role of those who hear the message must carry the message to inspire the next generation. That is how we can best thank Colonel Warren, who has served his country so well." ➔



Guest speaker: Tuskegee Airman and retired Air Force Lt. Col. James Warren.



Warren, and his wife Xanthia, take time to sign autographs.

Promotions



AIRMAN FIRST CLASS

Anna Y. Bradshaw, 349th ASTS
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 Katrina R. Harden, 349th MSS
 Christopher M. Lee, 349th ASTS
 Ines L. Leong, 349th MSS
 Joel O. Rivera, 349th MSS
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 Rene G. Steinhauer, 349th AES
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 Christopher K. Toler, 349th ASTS
 John A. White, 749th AGS

EFFECTIVE
MARCH 1, 1998



MASTER SERGEANT

Ruben A. Cabrera, 349th CES
 Robert S. Jones, 349th CES



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Freddie J. Davis, 349th EMS
 Matthew E. Fisher, 70th ARS
 Veronica M. Knight, 349th ASTS
 Lance D. Lawrence, 349th ASTS
 Miland L. Lugtu, 349th ASTS
 Vicente V. Manalansan, 349th ASTS
 Alexander Nunez, 349th EMS
 Melodie C. Pracale, 349th ASTS
 Hope A. Reed, 349th ASTS
 Lucinda R. Tilley, 349th ASTS



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 Kathleen E. Baker, 45th APS
 Bernie G. Barron, 349th CES
 Caridad A. Brown, 82nd APS
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 Peter O. Fontanilla, 604th LSS
 Dave S. Ham, 604th LSS
 Robert L. Jones, Jr., 349th CES
 Timothy M. Jones, 79th ARS
 Don W. King, Jr., 349th CRS
 George W. Lott, Jr., 82nd APS
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photo by Master Sgt. Luther Tolliver