

Cajun Courier



926th Fighter Wing
Air Force Reserve Command
NAS JRB New Orleans, Louisiana
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We've been "BRAC"ed *Proposed realignment is future of 926th*

By Tammy Prine

If put into law, the recommendations given to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission could realign the 926th Fighter Wing sending the designation and aircraft in different directions. It will also close three Air Force Reserve Command installations and move people from a dozen locations to two dozen sites throughout the United States.

Although command officials anticipate keeping roughly the same troop level authorizations, AFRC will expand some existing missions such as air operations center, space, unmanned aerial vehicle and associate-unit flying.

These and other changes are among those recommended by the Department of Defense to the BRAC Commission. DOD announced the recommendations May 13 now being called "Black Friday," by many wing members at the 926.

"I've been working here my entire Air Force and working career," said Tech. Sgt. Sherry Richard, NCO in charge of personnel readiness. "I always thought I'd be here my entire military career. I can't imagine what it will be like working somewhere else."

But that's something Sergeant Richard and everyone else at the 926th might have to experience.

Col. Steve Arthur, wing commander, has been holding commander's calls for civilians during the week as well as military on the UTA. His message is clear.

"Nothing is official. We still have a mission at this unit and can still be called up at any time," he said.

Many wing members have voiced concerns because of the lack of media coverage on the proposed realignment of the 926th.

"The local media has no focus on us," said Colonel Arthur. "The big news in the New Orleans area is the recommendation of the closure of the Naval Support Activity and a major growth at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base."

Even though the 926th would no longer be at NAS JRB the base will grow by about 1,700 members.

The official changes for NAS JRB include:

Air Force Reserve Command's 926th FW sends nine of its A-10 aircraft to the 442nd FW, Whiteman AFB, Mo., and six to the 917th Wing, Barksdale AFB, La. The moves permit more optimally sized squadrons at Barksdale AFB and Whiteman AFB. In addition, 30 full-time and 277 traditional reservist slots from the 926th FW's expeditionary combat support force and medical squadron transfer to Buckley AFB, Colo. Another 30 full-time and 60 traditional reservist authorizations from the wing headquarters staff go to Nellis AFB, Nev., to help man an air warfare center associate wing. These manpower moves better support air reserve missions at Nellis AFB and Buckley AFB.

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Col. Steve Arthur, 926th Fighter Wing commander, addresses the wing during the May UTA commander's call.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Chance Bahin

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Summer – A season to exercise off-duty safety

By Lt. Gen John A. Bradley
Commander of Air Force Reserve Command

WASHINGTON – “There are no second acts in American lives,” F. Scott Fitzgerald once wrote. Memorial Day Weekend signals the start of summer, traditionally a time of fun and sun. During the 101 Critical Days of Summer, we sometimes try to do too much because of the extra sunlight. Here are suggestions on how to keep healthy and safe this summer:

Alcohol consumption – Don’t drink and operate vehicles – automobiles, boats, jet skis, etc. If you drink, do it moderately and always appoint a designated driver.

Traveling – Be sober, vigilant and well-rested. Ensure everyone wears a seatbelt.

Watercraft – Know your craft and use personal floatation devices. Use caution when operating boats and jet skis, staying away from other boaters, swimmers and jet skiers.

Motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles – Don’t operate without proper training and personal protective equipment. Always remain vigilant and drive defensively.

Outdoor activities – Before and after athletic activity, take a short moderate-to-brisk walk to improve circulation rather than stretching, which experts say contributes to muscle strain. Know your limits and don’t overdo it. Avoid prolonged exposure to the sun, use sunscreens and drink plenty of water.

Swimming – Swim with a buddy in known waters and don’t drink.

In the past few years we’ve been made more aware of the need for diligent force protection. We need to apply this same kind of vigilance off duty during the 101 Critical Days of Summer.

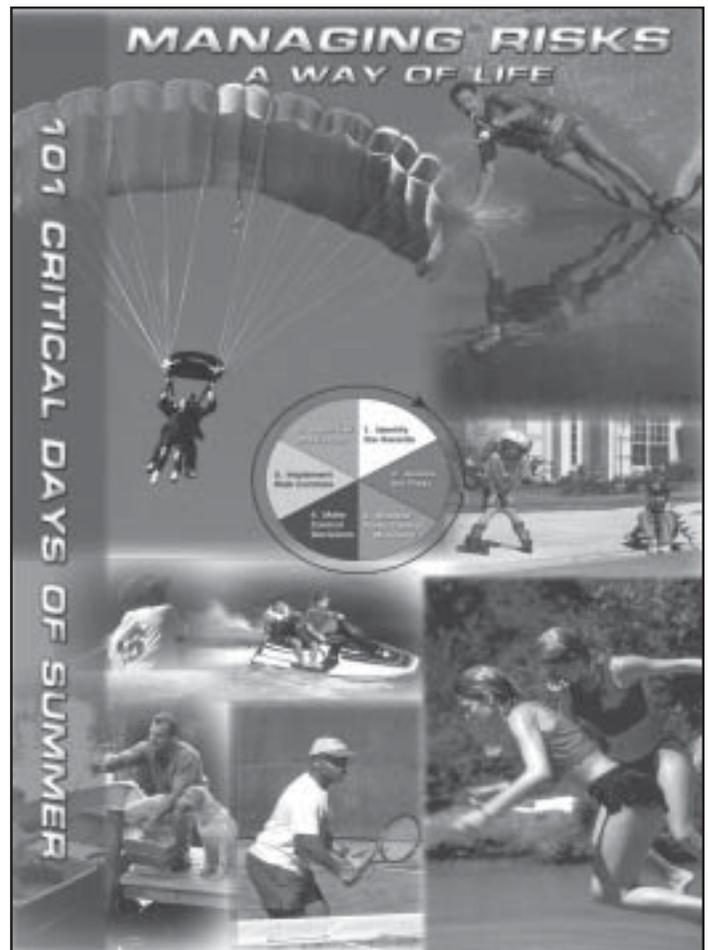
Most mishaps involve one or more of the following factors: alcohol, fatigue, darkness, bad weather, poor judgment, inappropriate risk-taking. Let’s use common sense, plan ahead and be prepared.

An “it-will-never-happen-to-me” attitude is not a guarantee but rather a recipe for disaster.



Take care of your family and of your Air Force Reserve family. Be alert and prevent incidents that could cause a lifetime of regrets.

Let’s all enjoy the months of summer, but let’s enjoy our off-duty time responsibly. (AFRC News Service)



Clemons takes command of operations group

By Senior Airman Tallace Encalade

A familiar face has become the man in charge for flight operations. In April 2005, Col. Mark Clemons, whose call sign is "Rock", was selected to be the 926th Operations Group commander.

Colonel Clemons has been at the 926th for more than half of his military career. He first arrived at the 926th in 1992 when he, along with two other F-16 pilots, flew in the wings first three F-16 aircraft when the unit converted from A-10s to F-16s. His first job at the 926th was chief of flying safety.

Over the years he has added more rank to his shoulders and more duties by continually accepting jobs that put him in supervisory roles. Before assuming his current position, Colonel Clemons was the director of operations for the 706th Fighter Squadron.

As commander "I am now involved with macro issues rather than micro issues," he said. "The people assigned to the operations group stay focused on the mission and the micro issues which allows me to focus on the larger issues, such as budget and personnel issues. I do have increased responsibilities but that always comes with command."

Although his responsibilities have grown Colonel Clemons says his transition to commander was relatively easy moving across the building to a new office. Having been at the wing for 13 years he knows just about everyone.

"Having been here a number of years is definitely an advantage in that I know the individual or organization pertaining to a particular issue," he said. "It also can be a disadvantage being too close and blinding a commander to the real issue at stake. I have to keep issues professional and not personal," which, he says, is a challenge he confronts daily.

He has adopted Air Combat Command's motto "Mission first, people always."

"We have great people in the operations group that deserve nothing less," said Colonel Clemons.

Since becoming operations group com-



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Chance Bahin

Col. Mark "Rock" Clemons

mander he describes his life as "very meaningful."

"My position enables me to address programs that I can make an impact on, as well as areas where I can make a positive difference," he said. "My schedule varies on the needs of the mission but not a lot of change. I do have more meetings at various levels but they all come with the territory.

"I am a very fortunate commander. I have absolutely the best personnel I could ask for. When I see a challenge headed our way they usually are way ahead of me with the answer."

Colonel Clemons answered the question many people ask pilots. What's the story behind your call sign?

"An old fighter pilot buddy of mine said I reminded him of Sergeant Frank Rock of

comic book fame," he said. "It stuck and I've had it ever since."

He received his commission through the Officer Training School at Medina Annex, Lackland AFB, Texas, after graduating from Delta State University, Miss., where he earned a bachelor's degree in banking and finance. He has since logged more than 4,500 hours as a command pilot including combat since he entered pilot training in 1981.

Being the commander has kept the colonel's feet on the ground a little more.

"Since I'm the boss I don't have the same flying requirement as a squadron pilot," he said. "This affords me more time for other challenges."

Snapshots from the ORE



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Chance Babin

Senior Airman Mike Weir, services flight journeyman, lights an M2 burner for the mobile kitchen trailer. 926th Services Flight members prepared meals in the MKT during the ORE. Below, wing members go through the serving line.



Master Sgt. Darryl Devenny, NCO in charge of training for the 926th Security Forces Squadron, calls in a situation report to the battle damage operations center during a security exercise on the flightline. Security exercises included a car bombing situation and unauthorized entries to the flightline.



BRAC

continued from page 1

Orleans, will also receive nine F-15 aircraft from Portland International Airport Air Guard Station, Ore., and a base-level F-100 engine maintenance facility. The base will also receive the Marine Forces Reserve Headquarters from NSA in New Orleans.

"I've been through this before," said Colonel Arthur, "and I know most people feel like this is the end of the world but it isn't. Life goes on."

"As with other base closures and realignments in the past, everyone at the 926th will be offered a job within AFRC," he said. "We can not let this distract us. Our country is still at war and terrorists don't care about BRAC. We need to continue marching to one tune."

Colonel Arthur also reminded everyone that the unit will still undergo a Unit Compliance Inspection during the Sept. UTA.

Colonel Arthur will continue to update wing members through commander's calls, newsletters and updates on the wing website.

Complete information on the BRAC list can be found at www.defenselink.mil/brac.

Talking BRAC with elected officials

By Maj. Robert McKnight
926th FW judge advocate

Unit military and civilian members may have questions about contacting political leaders or talking to media outlets or civic groups, etc., concerning the recent recommendations of the Secretary of Defense to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission.

Soon after Congress in 2003 authorized a BRAC round for 2005, the Secretary of Defense established this basic guidance: "DOD personnel may not participate, in their official capacity, in activities of any organization that has as its purpose, either directly or indirectly, insulating bases from realignment or closure."

That basic guidance remains in effect. In 2004, the Air Force's top civilian lawyer, Mary L. Walker, wrote the following: "Although Air Force personnel may voluntarily participate in non-Federal organizations in a personal, off-duty capacity, they must take care that they not engage in any outside activities that conflict with their official duties or that would suggest endorsement by the Air Force or DOD."

"This is more problematic," she continued, "for senior Air Force officers and civilians in that it becomes more difficult to distinguish between their official and personal capacities. Consequently, commissioned officers and civilian equivalents (GS-11 and higher) must be particularly careful in this area."

So, for example, if a wing member writes a letter to the editor of a local newspaper, they should not identify themselves with a military title or position, or as a member of the 926th Fighter Wing or any other specific military organization. These, according to DOD policy established long before the current BRAC, can wrongly suggest that the military member is speaking in an official capacity.

Reservists can, on the other hand, refer to their grade or rank and to membership in the Air Force Reserve (so long as they don't otherwise suggest that their views are the Air Forces views).

Any questions concerning speaking out on BRAC should be directed to Maj. McKnight in the legal office, 678-3292.

Paperless transition of emergency data cards complete

By Tammy Prine

After decades of stopping by the military personnel flight to update emergency contact information in their personnel records, Airmen are now required to update the information online.

"We have already pulled the paper copies of the Virtual Record of Emergency Data forms from everyone's personnel folder," said Senior Airman Michele Delapp, 926th Military Support Flight customer service assistant.

The paperless form provides the Air Force with information needed to contact family members if an Airman suffers a serious illness or injury, or dies while on active duty.

The vRED, which replaced Department of Defense Form 93, Record of Emergency Data in 2003, is required to be kept updated by everyone. Now the only way to

update emergency data information is by visiting the virtual MPF online.

Airmen who do not have access to a vMPF account, such as new accessions or basic trainees, must still complete a DD Form 93 until they establish an online account, said Maj. Yancey Cowen, chief of the casualty services branch at the Air Force Personnel Center.

"This is a big advantage for our Reservists," said Delapp. "They won't have to take time from their jobs to come in here on UTAs and wait in line to have the information updated."

Airmen are required to keep their vREDs current at all times and review their contact data at least annually, Delapp said. Also, every Airman must review his or her vRED during inprocessing and before all deployments.

"We remind everyone to go into vMPF

to double check their information," said Delapp. "In vMPF Airmen can verify their mailing address, awards and decorations as well as family contact information."

Accurate and current family contact information can prevent delays in notifications and perhaps benefits for Airmen and family members," Major Cowen said.

Personnel officials encourage everyone to update their information every six months. Civil service employees are also encouraged to update their virtual Emergency Data System contact information as needed for the same reasons.

The online applications take about 15 minutes to complete.

For more information, visit www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/vs/ to log into vMPF or to establish an account. (Information compiled from Air Force Print News Service)

Units stop mailing point credit summary

By Tammy Prine

For the past 32 years members of the Air Force Reserve have received their Air Force Form 526, Air National Guard/Air Force Reserve Point Credit Summary, in the mail but now Reservists must use the virtual Military Personnel Flight to get the information.

In addition, the Air Force is eliminating the form itself and will no longer place it on microfilm.

Reservists have been receiving the AF Form 526 in the mail from their MPF since October 1972.

As a result of the changes, point credit information will reside in data form in the Military Personnel Data System where personnel specialists will obtain it by pulling prod-

ucts from the system. They will use these products to verify reservists' service.

Reservists should print their summary of points using the vMPF and maintain copies in their personal files in the same manner as leave and earnings statements and other important documents.

This change promotes the use of the vMPF and self-service by reservists. Both actions are transformation goals. Whether at home, at work or while deployed, reservists have the means to access their point credit information.

Wing members may call the military personnel flight at 678-3306 for more information on credit of points. They can access the vMPF by going to: www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/vs/.

AIR FORCE POINT CREDIT SUMMARY

DUTY LOCATION: NEW ORLEANS AFB AIG LA 70149000 DATE PREPARED: PAB: SSAN: RETIREMENT DATE: OADR CLOSEOUT DATE: 07 APR 2004 SATISFACTORY SVC: 00000 STATEMENT REASON: AWW/LA

NAME: ADDRESS: RETIREMENT DATE: OADR CLOSEOUT DATE: 07 APR 2004 SATISFACTORY SVC: 00000 STATEMENT REASON: AWW/LA

FROM DATE	THRU DATE	ACTIVE DUTY TRAINING	INACTIVE DUTY TRAINING	ED MEMBERSHIP	TOTAL POINTS	TOTAL POINTS FOR RETIREMENT	SATISFACTORY FOR SERVICE PMS MOS AND ETS
08 APR 2003	07 APR 2004	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	010000

TYPE DUTY CREDIT(S)

FROM DT	THRU DT	TD PTS	FROM DT	THRU DT	TD PTS	FROM DT	THRU DT	TD PTS
08 APR 2003	08 APR 2003	7	08 APR 2003	08 APR 2003	7	08 APR 2003	12 APR 2003	4
14 APR 2003	14 APR 2003	2	16 APR 2003	23 APR 2003	2	08 APR 2003	27 APR 2003	2
02 MAY 2003	04 MAY 2003	2	03 MAY 2003	08 MAY 2003	2	08 APR 2003	15 MAY 2003	2
17 MAY 2003	18 MAY 2003	2	03 MAY 2003	20 MAY 2003	7	08 APR 2003	21 MAY 2003	7
23 MAY 2003	24 MAY 2003	2	03 MAY 2003	08 JUN 2003	08	08 APR 2003	19 JUN 2003	7
11 JUN 2003	11 JUN 2003	2	08 JUN 2003	12 JUN 2003	2	08 APR 2003	28 JUN 2003	2
07 JUL 2003	07 JUL 2003	2	08 JUN 2003	18 JUL 2003	2	08 APR 2003	14 JUL 2003	2
10 JUL 2003	10 JUL 2003	2	08 JUL 2003	18 JUL 2003	7	08 APR 2003	17 JUL 2003	2
21 JUL 2003	21 JUL 2003	2	08 JUL 2003	24 JUL 2003	7	08 APR 2003	05 AUG 2003	2
10 AUG 2003	10 AUG 2003	7	08 JUL 2003	28 AUG 2003	7	08 APR 2003	01 SEP 2003	2
08 SEP 2003	10 SEP 2003	2	08 JUL 2003	18 SEP 2003	7	08 APR 2003	17 SEP 2003	7
28 SEP 2003	28 SEP 2003	2	08 JUL 2003	18 OCT 2003	7	08 APR 2003	14 OCT 2003	7
10 OCT 2003	10 OCT 2003	7	08 JUL 2003	18 NOV 2003	7	08 APR 2003	18 NOV 2003	7
01 DEC 2003	01 DEC 2003	7	08 JUL 2003	02 DEC 2003	7	08 APR 2003	18 MAR 2004	2
11 MAR 2004	17 MAR 2004	7	08 JUL 2003	18 MAR 2004	7	08 APR 2003	08 APR 2004	2
07 APR 2004	07 APR 2004	7	08 APR 2004	08 APR 2004	7	08 APR 2003	08 MAY 2004	2
18 MAY 2004	18 MAY 2004	2	08 APR 2004	18 MAY 2004	7	08 APR 2003	23 MAY 2004	7
08 JUN 2004	08 JUN 2004	7	08 APR 2004	12 JUN 2004	7	08 APR 2003	08 JUL 2004	7
07 JUL 2004	27 JUL 2004	4	08 APR 2004	22 JUL 2004	7	08 APR 2003	15 AUG 2004	7
11 AUG 2004	11 AUG 2004	7	08 APR 2004	12 AUG 2004	7	08 APR 2003	09 SEP 2004	7
08 SEP 2004	08 SEP 2004	7	08 APR 2004	17 OCT 2004	7	08 APR 2003	18 OCT 2004	7

New law to affect SGLI payments, premiums

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, May 18, 2005 – Defense and Veterans Affairs officials are ironing out details of programs that will expand benefits provided through Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance.

The \$82 billion supplemental legislation signed into law by President Bush May 11 increases maximum SGLI coverage to \$400,000 and provides payouts of up to \$100,000 for servicemembers with traumatic injuries, explained Stephen Wurtz, the VA's deputy assistant director for insurance.

The increased SGLI coverage will take effect Sept. 1, and the so-called "traumatic SGLI" benefit, December 1. Wurtz said the legislation directs that both benefits will be retroactive to Oct. 7, 2001.

Traumatic SGLI benefits will be retroactive for troops who have lost limbs, eyesight or speech or received other traumatic injuries as a direct results of injuries received during Operation Iraqi Freedom or

Operation Enduring Freedom. The benefit does not apply to servicemembers suffering from disease.

The retroactive coverage increase is payable as a result of deaths in either operation, or under other conditions prescribed by the secretary of defense, Wurtz said.

Servicemembers enrolled in the SGLI program will notice an increase in their premiums when the increases take effect. The traumatic SGLI benefit will be rolled into the basic SGLI program and will likely cost about \$1 a month, Wurtz said.

Troops opting for maximum SGLI coverage — \$400,000 vs. the current \$250,000 - will see their monthly premiums increase from \$16.25 to \$26, Wurtz said. This is based on the rate of 6.5 cents per \$1,000 of insurance coverage.

SGLI coverage is currently available in \$10,000 increments, but as of Sept. 1, the increments will increase to \$50,000.

Because the rates have not changed, servicemembers who retain \$250,000 or less coverage will see no increase in their pre-

miums, Wurtz said, except for the \$1 "traumatic SGLI" premium.

While these expanded benefits will be provided retroactively, affected servicemembers won't be charged retroactive payments, he said. DoD will absorb that cost.

In a new twist introduced through the supplemental legislation, troops with dependents must get their spouse's approval to purchase less than the full amount of SGLI coverage. In the case of members who are not married, notice will be provided to the designated beneficiary when the member purchases less than the maximum coverage.

While VA staff members consult with DoD to write regulations that will put the new SGLI benefits into effect, Wurtz said, "lots and lots of details have to be worked out."

Wurtz said VA is confident Congress will resolve this issue before there's any lapse in coverage.

VA will continue to oversee and control the SGLI program.

New commandwide anti-drug initiative

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – Supply and demand are part of life in America. Unfortunately, that life includes a large supply of abused legal and illegal drugs.

In an effort to reduce the demand for these drugs, Air Force Reserve Command began its “True Blue” campaign commandwide in April.

“In the past, anti-drug or anti-substance abuse efforts were all negative and centered on disciplinary action,” said Dr. Don Jenrette, the command’s drug demand reduction program manager. “Our new True Blue initiative promotes healthy living, career-mind sets and career role models.”

Trial runs of the new initiative exceeded planners’ goals during May - November 2004 at the 440th Airlift Wing, located at General Mitchell International Airport Air Reserve Station, Milwaukee, Wis.

“We focused the trial test

around four themes,” said Ms. Bobbie Sellers, AFRC’s drug demand reduction specialist. “We worked to raise awareness of what reservists should value over substance abuse and what they can do to protect their health, career and family and fulfill their leadership role with others.”

The new True Blue initiative showcases positive and healthy life choices. It introduces reservists and other command members to a new logo, themes and messages that are communicated by a dedicated Web site, with downloadable in-house developed posters, video streams, tri-fold pamphlets and other educational venues encouraging people to be free of substance abuse and where to go for help.

“Our goal, while a lofty one, is to have a workplace free of substance abuse,” said Dr. Jenrette.

The mission of the AFRC Drug Demand Reduction Pro-

gram is to enhance readiness by eliminating substance abuse through prevention, education, community outreach and drug testing.

“In the past, we have used handouts such as pencils, writing pads, calculators and water bottles to get the substance abuse-free message out there,” said Dr. Jenrette. “We’ll continue to provide the promotional items, but our targeted four theme approach is something brand new that our reservists really responded to in a positive way in Milwaukee.”

The program’s vision is for Air Force True Blue reservists to set the standard and lead the way to a substance abuse-free community. Reservists can learn more about the program by going to the True Blue link on the restricted AFRC Web site. While visiting the site, planners encourage visitors to take a moment to complete a survey.

(AFRC News Service)

Living wills ensure wishes are followed

By Maj. Robert McKnight
926th Staff Judge Advocate

Anyone who paid any attention to the Mrs. Terri Shiuvo saga knows that she didn’t have a written living will. For 926th FW members who want a living will, the unit’s legal office can provide one.

Because Mrs. Schiavo didn’t have a living will, a key battle in the case was whether she had ever indicated, other than in writing, her unwillingness to be maintained indefinitely while remaining in a persistent vegetative condition. One of the other key battles was whether she was, in fact, in such a condition. Having a written living will is the best way to avoid the first battle.

The wing’s legal office team can advise members and their spouses on living wills and can prepare them, usually with same-day service. (Last wills and testaments, another of the legal office’s regular products, typically take longer.)

Louisiana residents can also download the state’s standard-form living will as published by the secretary of state. Members can get this from: http://www.sec.state.la.us/pubs/Liv_Will_Dec_form-1.pdf.

The standard-form follows Louisiana law on living wills. It does not require notarization, so individuals can accomplish it on their own with only two other persons as signature witnesses.

The legal office also prepares medical powers of attorney. A medical POA is a special type of power of attorney. It is used by someone to designate someone *else* to make health care decisions on behalf of the first person when the first person is incapable of doing so. For anybody whose preferred decision maker is not a spouse or next of kin, a medical POA is very important to have.

Questions on wills for wing members can be directed to the wing legal office during UTA weekends either in person in Room 203 of the wing headquarters building or by phone at (504) 678-3492.

Reenlistments

Master Sgt.

David Glaude, AMX
Lamar Jordan, CES
Terry Goines, FW

Tech. Sgt.

Craig Harris, CF
Walter Bailey, MXS
Scott Bowman, MXS
Jhalma Finch, AMX

Staff Sgt.

Ovie Mulkey, AMX

Promotions

Senior Master Sgt.

Jermaine Mackson, LRS

Master Sgt.

James Bynum, FW
Robert Carlan, AMX
Kevin Foster, SFS
Kim Smith, SFS
David Strate, LRS

Tech. Sgt.

Francisco Alvarenga, LRS
Dougary Banks, MOF
Janine Bickham, LRS
Senera Birch, CF
Christopher Carrico, LRS
James Graham, OLA AMX
Timothy Mansion, AMX
Theresa Marshall, LRS

Senior Airman

Chiquita Collins, AMS
Joseph Ellingburg, LRS
Rebecca Martin, AMX
Vance Young, MXS

Airman First Class

Gene Brown, LRS



Short Snorts



BRAC process

The Base Realignment and Closure Commission is holding hearings and examining the Department of Defense's recommendations, a process that runs through September. The commission sends an "all-or-nothing list" to the president, meaning the president can approve all of the closures and realignments on the list or disapprove the entire list. If he approves, the list goes to Congress. The House and Senate have 45 "legislative days" to disapprove the list. If they do nothing, the list automatically is approved and has the force and effect of law.

Callups at McChord

During the first two weeks of May, the Department of Defense activated 108 reservists from the 446th Airlift Wing at McChord Air Force Base, Wash., to support the Global War on Terrorism. Since February, a total of 271 wing people received orders placing them on active duty. DOD has the authority to call up another 54 in the Air Force Reserve Command wing. These reservists expect to report for duty in June and July.

March will get C-17s

If all goes as planned, March Air Reserve Base, Calif., is closer to accepting its first C-17 aircraft in August. Officials in the 452nd Air Mobility Wing expect to take delivery of a new hangar June 1. The first phase of the

building process ended April 20 with the final fire sprinkler foam test. Nine generators pumped foam from a 700-gallon tank onto the hangar floor, a fire suppression feature designed to smother flames in less than a minute. Phase two started May 16 and included construction of an adjacent facility to house C-17 maintenance shops.

Tracking storms

The first storm of this year's hurricane season arrived early and offered the Hurricane Hunters from Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., the opportunity to track a hurricane for the first time in a WC-130J. When thunderous winds threatening El Salvador formed Tropical Storm Adrian in the Pacific during the third week of May, the National Hurricane Center called on Air Force Reserve Command's 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron to get a fix on the storm's location. During previous seasons, unit crews flew the J-model into storms for training and evaluation but never to fulfill a tasking from the NHC.

Andrews gets first

A former wing vice commander is the first African-American woman in the Air Force Reserve Command – and perhaps the Air Force – to command a flying wing. Col. Stayce Harris accepted command of the 459th Air Refueling Wing in a ceremony May 15 at Andrews Air Force

Base, Md. Before replacing Brig. Gen. Richard Severson as commander of the 1,300-member wing, she was vice commander of the 507th ARW at Tinker AFB, Okla. Colonel Harris will serve as a traditional reservist and continue to fly United Airlines Boeing 747-400 aircraft out of Los Angeles while living in the national capital region.

New recruiting logo

Air Force Reserve Command has a new advertising logo that more closely aligns it with the active force while touting the command as a high-tech, professional

fighting force. Sleek and simple, the AFRC logo features the Air Force's new logo alongside the words "Air Force Reserve" in a stylish, modern typeface. AFRC recruiting officials began working with Blaine Warren Advertising in January to develop the new logo. It replaces the "Above and Beyond" logo featured in Reserve recruiting and advertising products since 1998. The command will feature the new logo in all of its new advertising products but will continue using promotional items with the old logo until they are all gone.



AIR FORCE RESERVE

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