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# VIKING FLYER

934th Airlift Wing, Air Force Reserve Command, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Air Reserve Station, Minn.

## Readiness exercise

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Staff Sgt. Robert Walz

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Vol. 20, No. 11  
November 1998

Col. Richard Moss,  
Wing commander  
Mark Davidson,  
Chief of PA  
Cherie Huntington,  
Editor/PA specialist  
Senior Master Sgt. Mark Davidson,  
Superintendent  
Master Sgt. Darrell Habisch,  
NCOIC  
Master Sgt. Tim Turner,  
Tech. Sgt. Janet Byerly,  
Staff Sgt. Larry Dean,  
Newspaper staff  
Tech. Sgt. Greg Krajewski,  
Staff Sgt. Robert Walz,  
Photographers

## On the cover

Senior Airman  
**Marcie Huttner**,  
934th Aeromedical  
Evacuation  
Squadron, took  
part in a unique,  
joint service  
medical exercise,  
part of the wing's  
readiness  
exercise at Camp  
Ripley, Minn. For  
details, see  
Page 4.



Staff Sgt. Robert Walz

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## UTA schedule

Dec. 5-6      ▶ UTA entrees:  
Saturday, holiday  
1999 meal, prime rib and  
Jan. 9-10 chicken; Sunday,  
Feb. 6-7 ham and fish.  
March 6-7      ▶ UTA pay date:  
April 10-11 Nov. 18.

934th Airlift Wing on the Internet:  
<http://w3.afrc.af.mil/units/934aw/default.htm>

## Commentary

# Successful exercise

## October events accomplished numerous training goals

Col. Richard Moss  
Wing Commander

I hope everyone has recovered from our training exercise both here and at Camp Ripley, Minn. Overall, we had a very successful weekend. We accomplished a myriad of training events in an atmosphere that was not too stressful. We definitely got caught up on immunizations thanks to our medical people. We also established a foundation to build upon as we fine-tune our ability to operate in a chemical environment, meet our wartime taskings and prepare for our Operational Readiness Inspection in 2001.

One facet that truly impressed me was the attitude displayed during the exercise — an attitude that reflects well upon the culture of the 934th Airlift Wing. Everyone pitched in and worked together to get the job done. Whenever training classes were conducted, people showed up with the desire to learn. This "can-do" type of attitude is what makes a wing successful. Keep it up.

### Special visitor

This weekend, we are fortunate to have **Mr. Wayne Gracie** from the Pentagon visiting us. Mr. Gracie is the chief of the policy integration division for the Air Force Reserve. He serves as an advocate and is responsible for working issues affecting the Reserve

component with Congress. He will be giving a series of presentations to explain present and future legislation affecting the Air Force Reserve on Capitol Hill. This is a tremendous opportunity to get your concerns in front of someone who has the capability to address them. Don't miss this chance to catch one of his presentations.



Moss

### New chiefs

I would also like to congratulate our two newest chiefs — **Chief Master Sgt. Tom Foss** and **Chief Master Sgt. Marc Gilbertson** of the 96th Airlift Squadron. Both of these individuals are tremendous assets to their unit and to the wing. (See story, Page 5.)

### Holiday safety

Last, but by no means least, as we approach the holiday season, I would like to stress safety. During this busy time of holiday celebrations, be safe — both on and off the job.

You are the most valuable asset we have in the wing. We cannot afford to have anyone injured. Have a good time and enjoy the time with family and friends, but by all means be safe. □

## Reserve chief, commander confirmed

**M**aj. Gen. James Sherrard III has been confirmed as chief of Air Force Reserve and commander of Air Force Reserve Command. He formerly commanded 22nd Air Force, Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga. Sherrard replaced **Maj. Gen. Robert McIntosh**, who left the dual-

hat Pentagon post in June to become the first reserve assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

**Maj. Gen. John Batbie Jr.**, formerly director of plans and programs, Headquarters, AFRC, assumed command of 22nd AF Oct. 13. (AFRC News Service) □

**Air Force**

▶ **Defense bill:** President Clinton signed the Fiscal Year 1999 Defense Authorization Bill into law Oct. 17, setting the stage for a 3.6 percent military pay raise Jan. 1. *(Air Force Print News)*

▶ **Civil Air Patrol:** CAP is a civilian nonprofit auxiliary of the Air Force with more than 53,000 members. Members do not have to be pilots; in fact, most volunteers are not aviators.

One of the greatest benefits of joining CAP is the chance for Air Force families to serve together. Men and women, at least 18 years of age, are eligible to join as adult members while youth, ages 12-20, qualify for CAP's cadet program.

For information, write to Membership Development, National Headquarters CAP, 105 South Hansell St., Bldg. 714, Maxwell AFB AL 36112-6332; call (800) Fly-2338; or see the Web site:

<http://www.cap.af.mil/> *(AFPN "must un")*

▶ **Civilian information system:** The Benefits and Entitlements Service Team, an automated call center, is now available at more than 70 bases, including the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Air Reserve Station. The BEST system provides information on benefits and entitlements and conducts business transactions.

☎ Call BEST at (800) 997-2378 from a touch-tone telephone. *(AFPN "must run")*

▶ **Infant seats:** Young children processed through Air Mobility Command owned and operated terminals must now have an Federal Aviation Authority-approved infant/car seat. Passenger service agents will ensure children under the age of 2, below the weight of 40 pounds and under the height of 40 inches have such a seat.

Seats must have appropriate certification labels, so travelers should check with passenger service agents to ensure seats meet current requirements. *(AMC News Service)*

▶ **Badge phaseout:** The Air Force phased out several items from its uniform inventory Oct. 1. Items made obsolete include the

satin and oxidized finish belt tip and buckle; satin and oxidized finish badges and specialty insignia, both regular and miniature sizes; and the miniature highly polished and chrome finish badges and specialty insignia. The only badges not affected by the phaseout are the miniature wings, missile and fire protection badges and the security police shield. *(AFPN)*

▶ **Gulf War hospital records:** A new, consolidated database will help Desert Storm veterans who have trouble getting copies of their inpatient hospital records from the Gulf War. Veterans, including reservists, may call (800) 497-6261 to request a data search for those records. Veterans will receive a request form in the mail. A signature of the next of kin, if the veteran is deceased, is required. *(934th Military Personnel Flight)*

**Reserve**

▶ **Reserve items in defense bill:** The new defense bill grants several new benefits to reservists, including raising the authorized end strength by almost 800 and active-duty positions by 125. Other items include:

▶ ▶ Reservists may now visit commissaries 24 rather than 12 times annually.

▶ ▶ Reservists may now use government-rate airfares when traveling to weekend drills.

▶ ▶ Reservists may now receive a full month of imminent danger pay, \$150, regardless of the number of qualifying days served.

▶ ▶ Special pay and bonuses for reservists have been extended through the end of the calendar year instead of the fiscal year, including special pay for critically short wartime health specialists, and enlistment and reenlistment bonuses. *(Air Force Reserve Command News Service)*

▶ **Military leave system:** Federal employees who are also reservists stand to benefit from three significant changes to the military leave system.

Under one change, employees can opt to receive pay for roughly 15 days military leave beginning with the second year and for each subsequent year if *(BRIEFS, continued on Page 11) ▶*

**Hot Line**

**Q** Why charge for using 1-800 numbers while people are staying in the North Country Inn base lodging facility? In particular, when the distant end is busy.

**A** Tamara Davis, lodging manager, said all Air Force Reserve Command facilities have a telephone contract with Protel, Inc. The contract states that a .50 cent charge will be assessed for each 800, 888, 900 and Internet call. The contract is set up, maintained and monitored by Headquarters AFRC, not the North Country Inn.

Regarding charges for calls that are not connected, Davis spoke with a Protel representative who said the 50 cent charge is considered a line usage fee and not necessarily a connection fee. "The customer may dispute frequently-placed calls that are not connected," said Davis in her response to the hot line query. "Protel will review telephone records and issue a credit to the customer should their inquiry indicate a credit is necessary."

Dispute forms are available at the North Country Inn front desk. They are faxed to Protel for action, who then contacts the customer directly for resolution. □

**Commander's  
Hot Line  
713-HOTL**



# News bytes

## October exercise deemed success

**MINNEAPOLIS** – Wing reservists headed to “war” on October drill via bus, car, truck, tractor trailer and aircraft, conducting a new hybrid training experience called REDEX, or readiness exercise.

The REDEX combined annual bivouac requirements with ancillary training, flying events and deployment to Camp Ripley, Minn.

“This was my first exercise with the wing,” said **Col. Richard Moss**, wing commander, “and I was impressed with the attitude displayed – 99.8 percent of the people I saw had an outstanding attitude. The way people got together and pitched in was great.”

Training took place through a broad spectrum of activities at Ripley and home station, including:

- ▶ Three hundred forty-one members deployed, with 218 airlifted and 123 traveling over the road via convoy or individual vehicles. Some 216,000 pounds of cargo moved over the road.

- ▶ More than 500 people took part in a combination of camouflage, concealment and deception training plus chemical decontamination through the contamination control area. At Ripley, 225 people received training and survived two chemical attacks, while 295 at home trained and went through one chemical attack.

- ▶ Aircrews flew three heavy equipment drop missions, two container delivery system drops, three aeromedical evacuation missions and eight sorties for passengers.

- ▶ Aerial port handled the air drop missions as well as extensive engine-running load/off-load training. They also performed the passenger service mission in the absence of normal passenger processing handled by personnel specialists during full-blown exercises and real-world deployments.

- ▶ Approximately 1,900 immunizations were given by the clinic, and a mass casualty exercise was held, involving approximately 20 “patients.”

- ▶ Aeromedical evacuation members hosted the first-ever joint service medical exercise with units from the Army Reserve and Air National Guard. More than 60 “patients” were handled, including 40 litter patients at one time, requiring configuration of the entire center of the aircraft. A total of 374 participants were involved, with the primary goal of laying a foundation for future joint medical exercises. Training was provided for many new or inexperienced squadron members.

- ▶ Annual bivouac requirements were conducted by the civil engineers, aerial porters and services members.

- ▶ Services provided four hot meals, including turkey and

steak dinners, from the mobile field kitchen for an estimated 1,300 diners. They also packed 900-1,000 sack lunches called “Meals, Other, Ready-to-Eat, Canned.” MORECs, pronounced “morks,” the Army’s cheaper alternative to Meals, Ready-to-Eat, contained single servings of items such as soup or pasta, heated in tubs of hot water. The squadron provided lodging and linen service as well.

- ▶ Communications specialists erected antennas, worked radio issues and helped set up the command post.

- ▶ Civil engineers at Ripley trained in rapid runway repair, called “triple R.” They also trained in areas such as field sanitation and extensive chemical warfare activities.

“I thought the REDEX was an unequalled success in meeting the established goals,” said **Lt. Col. Robert Spence**, deputy commander for operations and REDEX project officer. “We wanted a low-key training opportunity to piggyback on the bivouac held by civil engineering and aerial port last year. Next time, expect more in-depth and loftier goals.”

The wing readiness council plans to hold at least two similar exercises before the 2001 Operational Readiness Inspection. Next year’s event, tentatively planned for October 1999, may be a double unit training assembly, moving the November drill to the Thursday and Friday prior to October drill.

The next wing training event will be a home station mobility exercise with no flying during April UTA.

## New credit cards make debut

**WASHINGTON** – Reservists on official duty should not leave home without their Visa cards beginning Nov. 29.

At 7:01 p.m. local time in Minneapolis on Nov. 29, a new Visa travel card issued by Nations Bank replaces the American Express Card, ending a five-year contract.

“The change brings the Department of Defense into the 21st century with a card that has greater worldwide acceptance,” said **Michael Weber**, program manager for the Air Force travel card program. Visa is accepted at six times the number of automated teller machines and by seven times as many merchants as American Express, say officials.

Members of the 934th Airlift Wing will receive their new cards in the mail at home, according to **Mike Burgess**, wing comptroller. They cannot be used until the switch takes effect, so travelers on temporary duty Nov. 29 and 30 should carry both their AMEX and Visa travel cards. Cards were scheduled to be mailed Oct. 15-Nov. 15 to more than 400,000 Air Force travelers.

“It’s important that we have your correct address,” Burgess said, “as the address on file with American Express is what will be used.”

Each unit commander decided who would receive the new card, and one opted for no new cards to be issued to unit members due to a low instance of official travel. As for the AMEX card, it should be destroyed by the holder upon the switch, even though the expiration date may be current.

“The AMEX card will be useless after the new card takes effect,” said Burgess. “But you’re still liable for any outstanding balance on your AMEX card – that balance does not roll over onto the new card.”

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The new card, arriving with a card holder agreement to sign and return to Nations Bank, will not be a credit card in the traditional sense, cautioned Weber. "Travelers will not be able to carry a balance, and bills will be payable on receipt. As was its predecessor, the Nations Bank Visa card is strictly for official business." Card holders will also need to call NationsBank to activate the new card.

With this card, the bank can garnish wages to collect overdue bills, and a monthly \$20 fee is charged to accounts more than 120 days overdue. Commanders will continue to receive monthly listings of members with accounts more than 30 days overdue.

"We've been lucky, though," said Burgess. "Ninety-nine percent of the card holders have been good and honest, and only 1 percent has been delinquent."

A new on-line account review service will be available for card holders. Also, Burgess will have more electronic access to the accounts, with a capability for immediate maintenance and changes, including turning cards off and on electronically.

Burgess expects split disbursement service to become available in the future, enabling a traveler to designate an amount of money to be paid directly to Nations Bank with the remainder going to a personal account.

"On the whole, everything should go smoothly with the transition," he said. "We'll work with people who haven't gotten their card, authorizing electronic fund transfers for their immediate travel needs."

Burgess said wing members accrue approximately \$90,000 monthly in travel expenses billed to government travel cards. (*Air Force Print News*)

## Aircrew members see grade enhancement in five specialties

**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.** – Enlisted aircrew members will receive a boost starting with the Nov. 1 promotion cycle when Air Force Reserve Command implements grade enhancements for about 3,500 people in the operational career field.

Reservists eligible for earning grade increases within the 934th are flight engineers and loadmasters, with eight members assuming promoted rank on Nov. 1. Loadmaster promotions were awarded to **Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Foss**, chief loadmaster; **Master Sgts. Curtis Hlenke** and **John Hoffman**; and **Tech. Sgts. Robert Arkulary**, **Thomas Kim** and **Lynette Petsinger**. Flight engineer promotions were awarded to **Chief Master Sgt. Marc Gilbertson**, chief flight engineer; and **Senior Master Sgt. John Skarhus**. Other specialties earning rank boosts are in-flight refuelers, weather forecasters and pararescuers.

Leveling actions to alleviate overgrade situations were directed initially. Promotions of eligible members, who must meet all normal requirements for promotion, will continue incrementally every other month starting with the Nov. 1 promotions.

No leveling actions were necessary in the loadmaster section, gaining one chief, one senior, four masters, six technical sergeants and five staffs. "We just had to put names with the positions, with the commander's concurrence," said Foss. "The chief's slot was the only one that went to an air reserve technician."

The flight engineers, however, saw more leveling and just two promotions.

"The rest of the section was unaffected due to the leveling we had to do," said Gilbertson, the section gaining rank for one chief, one senior, two masters and two technical sergeants. "Since I've been successful in getting people promoted under the Promotion Enhancement Program, the leveling process took care of all the other enhancements."

**Chief Master Sgt. Geraldo "Chewy" Villagomez**, current operations superintendent at Headquarters AFRC, compared rank structure between various weapon systems and concluded the more rank the better for retention. Specifically, the C-130 rated poorly when looking at the rank of the person vs. the individual's experience and time in grade. Also, an aircrew survey overwhelmingly cited the lack of rank as the cause of poor retention.

"It was the greatest factor identified," said Villagomez. "These grade increases represent a very positive achievement for our enlisted aircrews. It's not about the money, but a sense of accomplishment, pride and respect from your peers."

Command officials plan to look next to the logistics community for possible grade enhancements. (*AFRC News Service*)

## Working group tackles 'Y2K'

**MINNEAPOLIS** – A wing working group striving to face down the Year 2000 problem appears to be succeeding in their efforts.

"This has been a lot of work," said **Keith Evans**, chairman of the Y2K working group and quality assessment evaluator for Rothe Development, Inc., the base communications contractor. "A lot of people on this base have worked a lot of hours."

The Y2K bug came from the early days of automated data processing. For decades, programmers used only the last two digits of years rather than four – 1998 would be written "98." In 2000, however, when computers see "00," they may not know whether it's 2000 or 1900.

The wing's primary working group came from the Computer Systems Requirement Board, with two representatives from each of the wing's three groups plus a few other members, according to Evans. Though Y2K activities started in March, the working group became formalized in May, meeting approximately once a month.

"The first phase, inventory, was completed March 30," said Evans. "We identified anything and everything that had a computer chip, whether the item was Y2K compliant or not." Exactly 6,317 items were identified on the base, including elevators, vehicles, test equipment, radios, telephones and even power lines.

Next came the assessment phase. "We started in April and finished Sept. 30," said Evans. "If the items were not date-time oriented, O.K. If they were, then we had to decide if the items were mission essential or mission critical."

The group found 769 non-compliant items, and of those, 153 await testing or vendor findings. Yet only 18 non-compliant

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# News bytes

(Continued from previous page)

by the end of December.

"We in communications have the biggest job," he said, "as most of the systems are ours." These items include software, computers, data circuits and the telephone switch. Civil engineering holds the next-highest level of equipment under scrutiny, with items in water treatment, fire and intrusion alarms, and environmental control – heating and air conditioning.

Next comes the "fix phase," ending in May 1999, followed by six months of testing. With the fiscal year 1998 year-end purchase of \$135,000 in computer equipment, however, Evans said much of that phase's work has been completed. The working group originally found 120 computers were not Y2K compliant, such as the 386s and low-end machines in the 25-33 megahertz range.

Actually, the first test of compliance will come earlier than Jan. 1. The global positioning system used by operations will face the unknown on Sept. 9, 1999, as 999999 used to mean "undefined date" in computer language. This hurdle pales beside Evans' main concern, however: areas beyond base control.

"We're reliant on a lot of outside, local service, such as power to the base," he said. "Of course, they [civilian service agencies] are still testing and doing all they can do. A lot of it will be cross your fingers and hope it works."

## Members recruit family members in 'Get One' recruiting program

Staff Sgt. Larry Dean  
Public Affairs

**MINNEAPOLIS**— Sometimes being successful in recruiting's "Get One" program can be as easy as looking in your own back yard.

That's exactly what **Tech. Sgt. Terry Preusse**, 96th Airlift Squadron, did recently as he successfully recruited his son, **Cory**, to join his squadron, and **Master Sgt. Tim McGuire**, financial management, who recently convinced his brother to return to the Reserve.

Preusse's 18-year-old son, who completed basic training Oct. 9, plans to follow in dad's footsteps as a loadmaster here.

"I really didn't think about the Get One program at the time, but it's nice that it's there to recognize people who successfully recruit someone to the base," Preusse said. "I did know that we needed help here, and my son just graduated from Edina High School and wanted to make some money for college."

He added that Cory had been out to

items were deemed essential or critical to the mission.

"I think we're going to be in good shape," Evans said, adding that those 18 items now require contingency plans, due to Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command

the base many times for events such as Family Day, and he had told his son about the benefits and what a great part-time job the Reserve is.

"He should be back here from his schools in November," Preusse said. "It really was a matter of timing and opportunities. He just graduated, and we need people here. It's really pretty fortunate for him and for the base."

McGuire's brother, **Mike**, has been back in uniform four months, thanks to talking with his brother about promotion opportunities with the Reserve.

"Mike has 13 years active duty experience and time with both the Reserve and the Guard, so it wasn't a difficult sell to get him back with the 934th," McGuire said. "He's now with the civil engineers as their OJT [on-the-job-training] manager, with better chances for promotion before reaching retirement than what he had serving with the Guard."

Working together isn't new for the McGuire brothers. "During the week we work together in our family plumbing, heating and cooling business," said McGuire, "so working here on base isn't a new thing for us."

Both McGuire and Preusse received certificates of appreciation and the commemorative Get One business folder to recognize their efforts in helping the wing reach membership goals.

## Wash rack provides joint service

**MINNEAPOLIS** -- "No job too big or too small" could be the motto of the new \$472,000 vehicle and equipment washing facility.

Located east of the NCO Club and commonly called "the wash rack," Bldg. 837 is a tall, brick building now providing joint-use service for the 934th and the Air National Guard's 133rd Airlift Wing.

"It's designed to handle any size of equipment, from pickup trucks to K-loaders, snowblowers and refuelers," said **Roger Hanson**, installation transportation officer. "This project was submitted many years ago, and now it has become reality."

Previously, the transportation complex garage served as the only place to wash vehicles and equipment, but the new facility offers more than just an open bay with running water.

"It's designed to be environmentally friendly," said Hanson. "It has a water reclamation system, so all the soaps and residues go through a filtration system. Once it's done, the result is clean water, ready to be reused in the washing facility."

A catwalk provides accessibility when washing the top of large vehicles such as snowblowers, buses and refueling trucks, according to Hanson, but smaller items such as aircraft generation equipment can be washed as well. Spray wands and brushes help make cleaning and liquid waxing easier.

"It's a pretty simple operation," Hanson said. "You just open the door, drive in and wash your vehicle."

The wash rack, available for government vehicles and equipment only, is open 7 a.m. to 4 a.m. on weekdays and 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the drill weekend. □



Tim McGuire



Terry Preusse

# Wing roundup

## 27th Aerial Port Squadron

*Tech. Sgt. Mark Pierson*  
Home station members successfully uploaded three heavy equipment platforms on Saturday that were successfully dropped later over the drop zone at Camp Ripley, Minn. At Ripley, unit members participated in camp setup and takedown, plus various classes offered, such as waste management, ground cover/camouflage protection and ability to survive and operate in full chemical warfare gear. Two seven-member teams also participated in engine-running onload/offload training, or EROs, loading two aircraft with Humvees. At home station, people stayed busy with administrative functions, T-Net [satellite-televized] training on EROs, chemical warfare exercises and returning aircraft reception.

## 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

*Master Sgt. Bernadette Koehle, Senior Airman Shana Strozewski*  
The Readiness Exercise and joint training with the Army was extremely successful and laid the groundwork for ongoing joint training. We thank the civil engineers, aerial port and services for providing outstanding support and for their willingness to go the extra mile to help us achieve our training goals. Their efforts were greatly appreciated.

## 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

*Staff Sgt. Michael Sanford*

Most of the squadron participated in a medical readiness exercise called "Operation Medical Terror" during last unit training assembly. The immunization clinic provided 1,900 immunizations to unit members.

## 96th Airlift Squadron

*Airman Jess Lind*  
The squadron used 100 percent of its flying hours for the fiscal year. Also, two pilots were sent to Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., to help "fly out" their flying time. Last drill, the unit participated in the Readiness Exercise at Camp Ripley, Minn.

## 934th Civil Engineer Squadron

*Tech. Sgt. Randy Matthews*  
The squadron successfully completed its annual bivouac training and deployment to Camp Ripley, Minn., by air and convoy. All members participated in hardening of equipment and structures; chemical decontamination processing; camouflage, concealment and deception instruction; and field sanitation training. **Master Sgts. Pat Murphy and Russell Carne,** and **Tech. Sgt. Harold Naatz,** firefighters, recently supported fire and safety support at Volk Field, Wis., for five days during other units' Operational Readiness Inspection.

## 934th Communications Flight

*Staff Sgt. Robert Walz*  
Members in unit information

management and communications/computer systems operations are working with the Rothe Development help desk to assist Reserve offices on drill weekends. Assistance with network-related problems is still limited; however, with ongoing training and on-the-job experience by working with Rothe technicians, this will improve. Ten members deployed to Camp Ripley, Minn., for the exercise, providing communications support for telephone lines, antennas and related equipment. Two members provided photo documentation.

## 934th Logistics Support Squadron

*Senior Master Sgt. Robert McGonigal*  
Five members deployed to Camp Ripley, Minn., for the Readiness Exercise, providing transportation and vehicle support.

## 934th Maintenance Squadron

*Tech. Sgt. Steven Lerbakken*  
Twenty members deployed to Camp Ripley, Minn., for the wing exercise. The rest of the unit participated in chemical warfare exercises at home station. On Sunday, maintenance recovered all the aircraft returning from Ripley.

## 934th Operations Support Flight

*Tech. Sgt. Cara Utecht*  
The unit participated in the Readiness Exercise, coordinating aircraft departures and arrivals and manifesting passengers. Also, everyone had a shot record review.

## 934th Security Forces Squadron

*Staff Sgt. Niklas Hammarberg*  
The squadron provided training to other units on camouflage, cover and deception. Members participated in classroom training on various subjects, such as tactical movements in urban environments, military working dogs and self aid/buddy care.

## 934th Services Squadron

*Tech. Sgt. Pamela Peck*  
The bivouac at Camp Ripley, Minn., went well, with good weather and accomplishment of lots of training requirements. Four meals were served, including a traditional turkey dinner and a steak dinner. Our thanks go to the civil engineers for their support and to all the positive comments extended to the cooks. Medical squadron members performed "minor surgery" in the dining hall — removal of stitches from an injury not incurred during the bivouac!

## Wing Headquarters/934th Mission Support Flight

*Senior Master Sgt. Patricia Boettner*  
Members were able to complete valuable wartime training during the October unit training assembly. All sections within the two units were able to shut down normal operations in order to concentrate on mobility training. Also, interviews for the MSF commander position were conducted, and the new commander should be named within the month. □

# More than a health kick

Karate becomes a family sport for this reservist, who discovered fitness, fun and her warrior spirit



Photos by Scott Kuntz

▲ Vicky Kuntz (left) delivers a kick to her daughter, Amy, who holds a black belt in karate.



▲ Vicky Kuntz

Tech. Sgt. Janet Byerly  
Public Affairs

**W**hen Vicky Kuntz absorbed the karate kick to her throat, she was momentarily stunned and clearly in pain. That the person delivering the kick was her 17-year-old daughter, Amy, didn't bother her a bit.

"You have to be able to take a punch," she said. "If you can't, karate is not your cup of tea."

Karate was the furthest thing from her mind when she began considering what sport she wanted to pursue to get in shape.

"About five years ago, I quit smoking and gained weight," she said. "I knew I had to do something to get in shape. If my family hadn't started karate first, I never would have considered it. I had to see other people my age doing it to think I could do it and might try it."

Her husband, Scott, her 8-year-old son, Jacob, and her daughter, Amy, were all involved in the sport. But with the whole family involved, the cost was a stumbling block.

"It's not a cheap thing to get involved with," said Kuntz, the training manager for the 934th Airlift Wing headquarters and 934th Mission Support Flight. "When the karate center director offered free instruction for a few months, I decided to give it a try."

Twice a week, she attended class, learning the forms — or movements — of Americanized tae kwon do taught at a Brooklyn Park, Minn., karate center.

"Form is a series of moves you go through," she explained. "You imagine you have someone there as you go through a series of movements. As you progress to the higher belts, you add chops and other moves; then you add self defense movements. Again, it's more difficult as you get to the higher belts."

Kuntz went through her workout recently, her auburn hair pulled back with a headband, her face fixed in concentration as she executed the moves called out by her instructor. Her cheeks were flushed and her breathing a little ragged as she executed the forms again and again, like a basic trainee following the commands of her drill instructor. No time for

hesitation, no time to think, the drill firmly implanted, the execution practiced repeatedly until perfect. Although no drill instructor would nose his hat brim into her face and chew her out if she did make a mistake, she would mutter under her breath if she flubbed something, needing no one to tell her she could do better.

"This sport is definitely up to you," she said. "You aren't dependent on anyone else as you are in team sports. You can work out at home, go to class more often if you want to — it's really up to you."

Kuntz goes to class three or four times a week now and practices her forms in her basement. Her work has paid off in that she wears a brown belt with two black stripes, one belt below a black belt, only three years after deciding to give karate a try.

Her work has reaped rewards in karate competitions as well. Last year, she placed third in Diamond Nationals, a national tournament held annually in Minneapolis.

"Competition is kind of scary and nerve-racking," she said. "It brings out a part of who I am, a warrior type. I'm a fighter. It's good for stress. You can yell and hit hard and not get in trouble. Let it all out."

Now with kickboxing workouts added to the mix, Kuntz had noticed an enhancement in her level of fitness.

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"I'm a lot stronger," she said. "I've definitely noticed an improvement. I've gone down a couple of clothing sizes. I haven't lost a whole lot of weight, but I'm definitely toned up and in better shape. I'm still working on flexibility. I need to put more time into stretching."

She says the military benefits

from the mental and physical skills she's learned through karate.

"I think it's a plus for the military," said Kuntz. "I think my stamina, my ability to be in a stressful situation and cope, my ability to jog in the desert in battle dress uniform if I had to, are much better than they were three years ago. I'm less likely to cry or break down; I'm less

afraid."

That strength translates into her personal life as well.

"I'm not afraid of any one person, regardless of their size," she said. "I know I'm capable of defending myself if I have to — I know I could at least break away and run."

After watching her daughter experience the rigors of earning her black belt, Kuntz knows what lies ahead.

"You have to go through three screenings and pass them, then take the black belt exam," she said. "The screening is very hard. They put you through hell. They try to burn you out. It takes every ounce of your being to get through. They want to see stamina and endurance, and they don't cut you any slack. If you show any fear, they're on you."

"I know I'm not ready yet," she continued. "I'm probably six months to a year from earning my black belt. But I'm not in any hurry. I feel like karate is always going to be a part of my life." □



◀ ***The mother-daughter session ends with the customary courteous bow.***

# People

## Medals

### Meritorious Service Medal

Senior Master Sgt. Luis Garridogodoy Jr., MXS, retired  
Master Sgt. Darrell Habisch, AW  
Maj. Steven Hatcher, AW, retired, first oak leaf cluster  
Senior Master Sgt. Gerald Yasgar, MSF, retired, second OLC

### Air Force Achievement Medal

Tech. Sgt. Conrad Kluck, MXS  
Tech. Sgt. Alan McCann, MXS, first OLC

## Promotions

Tech. Sgt. Robert Arkulary, AS  
Capt. Carol Bentley, LSS  
Capt. Terri Egesdal, ASTS  
Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Foss, AS  
Chief Master Sgt. Marc Gilbertson, AS  
Capt. Brian Haugen, LSS  
Master Sgt. Curtis Henke, AS  
Master Sgt. John Hoffman, AS  
Tech. Sgt. Thomas Kim, AS  
Tech. Sgt. Lynette Petsinger, AS  
Senior Master Sgt. John Skarhus, AS  
Capt. Jay Smeltzer, MXS  
Capt. Bruce Wiskus, AS

### Promotion selectees (future pin-on)

1st Lt. Gordon Sigl, AES  
1st Lt. Thomas Zutter, ASTS

## Newcomers

▶ Staff Sgt. Harry Adams, AES, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.  
▶ Staff Sgt. Wendy Albee, SVS, Air Reserve Personnel Center/prior 934th  
▶ 1st Lt. Mark Andrews, AES, Dover AFB, Del.  
▶ Senior Airman James Bogart, CES, Willow Grove Air Reserve Station, Pa.  
▶ Tech. Sgt. Duane Cook, CES, Minnesota Air National Guard  
▶ Staff Sgt. Eric Eversman, APS, prior service Army  
▶ Senior Airman Tasnim Hassan, MXS, ARPC  
▶ Staff Sgt. Jerome Humphrey Jr., AW, Pittsburgh ARS, Pa.  
▶ Senior Airman Douglas Kiser, MXS, prior service Air Force  
▶ Senior Airman Clifford Larson, CF, ARPC  
▶ Airman 1st Class Nanette Maglinao, CES, Hickam AFB, Hawaii  
▶ Airman Basic Daniel Mellesmoen, SFS, non-prior service

▶ Senior Airman Donna Sanders-O'Donnell, ASTS, MNANG  
▶ Staff Sgt. Heidi Schmidt, CF, South Dakota ANG  
▶ Senior Airman Darlene Tupaz, AES, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.  
▶ Senior Airman Amy Tupy, SVS, Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass.

## Achievements

▶ **Staff Sgt. Kelly Bochniak**, AES, was selected as the "Member of the Month" for October. She recently passed her nursing boards.  
▶ **Tech. Sgt. Bob Buie**, OSF, was selected as "Supporter of the Quarter" for service above and beyond the call of duty in helping out with the Air Force Sergeants Association convention in September.  
▶ **Master Sgt. Bernadette Koehle**, AES, was awarded an associate's in health care management from the Community College of the Air Force.  
▶ **Capt. Erik Sutcliffe**, APS, earned the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Award as top graduate for superior academic achievement and high standards of leadership, teamwork and character at the basic transportation officer course, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

## Reenlistments

Tech. Sgt. Dieter Bartz, AES  
Senior Airman Jerry Covington, APS  
Senior Airman Daniel Dobra, LSS  
Senior Airman Alan Ebbert, APS  
Staff Sgt. Eric Eversman, APS  
Staff Sgt. Kenneth Ferderber Jr., MXS  
Master Sgt. Daniel Forcier, SFS  
Senior Airman Lara Gallegos, APS  
Senior Airman Semika Gates, MSF  
Master Sgt. Kevin Harstad, SFS  
Staff Sgt. Todd Holden, MXS  
Tech. Sgt. Calvin Johnson, APS  
Senior Airman Douglas Kiser, MXS  
Senior Airman Gregory Kuhn, APS  
Sgt. Chad Larson, MXS  
Airman 1st Class Gregory Mitwede, MXS  
Senior Airman John Morrison, APS  
Tech. Sgt. Curtis Johnson, MXS  
Airman 1st Class Troy Novak, ASTS  
Master Sgt. Curtis Pargman, CES  
Sgt. Vincent Radaker, SFS  
Staff Sgt. Timothy Rice, CES  
Tech. Sgt. Jack Sabin, MXS

Master Sgt. Phillip Sells, SFS  
Staff Sgt. Daniel Wetsch, APS  
Staff Sgt. Joseph Wiatros, SFS

## Education

The following members completed formal training courses, Sept. 16-Oct. 15, plus earlier courses not previously listed. Information is found in the base training directory on the shared G-drive.

**Staff Sgt. Donald Albee**, SFS; Latin American orientation; Hurlburt Field, Fla.; Sept. 21-25.

**Staff Sgt. Robert Arkulary**, AS; combat survival training; Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash.; and water survival training; Pensacola Naval Air Station, Fla.; Sept. 22-25.

**Staff Sgt. Douglas Blair**, SFS; Latin American orientation; Hurlburt, Sept. 21-25.

**Staff Sgt. Charles Brynnetson**, AS; combat survival training; Fairchild; Aug. 24-Sept. 9; and water survival training; Pensacola; Sept. 22-25.

**Capt. Michael Burns**, AW; financial management staff officer; Sheppard AFB, Texas; Sept. 8-21.

**Staff Sgt. Eric Decamp**, AS; loadmaster mission qualification; Little Rock AFB, Ark.; Aug. 25-Oct. 13.

**Staff Sgt. Patrick Garvey**, SFS; Latin American orientation; Hurlburt; Sept. 21-25.

**Master Sgt. Kevin Harstad**, SFS; Latin American orientation; Hurlburt; Sept. 21-25.

**Staff Sgt. Barry Haukoos**, SFS; Latin American orientation; Hurlburt; Sept. 21-25.

**Airman 1st Class Jason Hyatt**, AES; medical service apprentice phase I; Sheppard; Aug. 5-Sept. 29.

**Airman 1st Class Daniel Lamere**, AS; basic training; Lackland AFB, Texas; Aug. 31-Oct. 9.

**Airman 1st Class Michael Larsen**, MXS; basic training; Lackland; Aug. 3-Sept. 11.

**Staff Sgt. Keeton Lawson**, ASTS; medical service apprentice phase II; Scott AFB, Ill.; June 2-July 27.

**Lt. Col. Rocco Maffei Jr.**, AW; Reserve Annual Survey of the Law; Denver; Oct. 9-11.

(Continued on next page) ▶

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**Staff Sgt. Christopher Manchester**, ASTS; medical service apprentice phase II; Scott; June 2-July 27.

**Staff Sgt. Robert Mattern**, AS; flight engineer instructor; Little Rock; Sept. 10-Oct. 7.

**Airman 1st Class Olanrewaju Olaleye**, ASTS; medical service apprentice phase I; Sheppard; June 30-Oct. 1.

**Airman 1st Class Cory Preusse**, AS; basic training; Lackland; Aug. 31-Oct. 9.

**Staff Sgt. Ryan Quiroga**, AW; finance apprentice; Sheppard; June 24-Sept. 24.

**Airman Richard Raymond**, SFS; basic training; Lackland; Aug. 24-Oct. 2.

**Staff Sgt. Donald Schlinsog**, AES; radio/communications systems craftsman; Keesler AFB, Miss.; Sept. 8-21.

**Staff Sgt. Eric Schraeder**, AS; basic loadmaster course; Little Rock; Aug. 26-Oct. 8.

**Capt. Erik Sutcliffe**, APS; basic transportation officer; Lackland; Aug. 17-Oct. 5.

**Maj. (Dr.) Sharon Turovaara**, ASTS; combat casualty care; Camp Bullis, Texas; Sept. 17-25.

**Senior Airman Robert Zak**, CF; computer systems operations apprentice; Keesler; July 15-Oct. 13.

▶ The following members completed mandatory career development courses. Exceptional scores of 90 and above are indicated by an asterisk:

**Master Sgt. Tom Overman**, CES

\***Senior Airman James Tczap**, ASTS

**Engagements/ marriages**

▶ **Mark Blalock**, AS, and **Sharon Lake**, AES, were married Sept. 25.

▶ **Tom Hansen**, OSF, and **Jill Shorba** were married Oct. 3.

▶ **Alan Lawver** and **Phyllis Price**, AES, were married Sept. 19.

**Retirements**

▶ **Capt. Cheryl Bowser-Antonich**, AES, 20 years

▶ **Tech. Sgt. James Clausen**, CES, 26 years

▶ **Senior Master Sgt. Luis Garridogodoy Jr.**, MXS, 26 years

▶ **Tech. Sgt. Donald Kloek Jr.**, CES, 20 years

▶ **Maj. Michael Nathan**, ASTS, 20 years

**Taps**

**David Eisterhold**, 38, budget analyst with the 934th Financial Management Division, died suddenly Oct. 12. Services were held in Austin, Minn. □

**Briefs ...**

*(Continued from Page 3)*

they remain in leave without pay status while serving on an extended active-duty tour spanning two or more fiscal years.

Another change allows those on an active-duty tour spanning no more than two fiscal years to wait until later in the fiscal year to use their new allotment of military leave if they are on the tour Oct. 1.

The third change permits employees to keep their military leave for intervening non-workdays if military leave is not used at all during a tour of duty.

**Local**

▶ **Chapel news:** The base chapel staff will hold the Advent and Christmas sing-along on Saturday, Dec. 6, at 1 p.m. at the chapel, Bldg. 865. All are invited to come and sing - or just listen. Coffee, cider and holiday cookies will be served.

▶ **Dress shoes:** Female enlisted members may receive an allowance for the replacement of dress shoes every three years. For technicians and recruiters, replacement is based on fair wear and tear. A cash allowance not to exceed \$40.19 is paid by submitting a receipt with an SF Form 1034, Public Voucher for Purchases and Services Other than Personal, signed by the unit commander.

☎Call the 934th Military Pay Section, Ext. 1411, for more information.

▶ **Civilian donations:** At the annual corn feed held Sept. 16, sponsored by the 934th Civilian Welfare Fund Council, attendees donated \$105.05 and four boxes of nonperishable food. The cash and food were donated to the Trinity Mission Food Shelf, St. Paul, Minn.

▶ **Trespass notice:** The 934th Airlift Wing firing range, located at Fort Snelling grounds, is off-limits to unauthorized people. Trespassing is illegal and dangerous due to gunfire. For information, contact the 934th Security Forces Squadron, 760 Military Highway, Minneapolis MN 55450, (612) 713-1812. □

**Recycling review:**

**July, August/September, October**

Building	Area	Recyclable items found in trash
395	Officers Club	None/None
710	Aerial port	None/None
711	Lodging	None/None
716	Lodging	None/None
744	Civil engineering	None/None
745	Transportation	None/None
750	Security forces	None/Paper, newspapers
755	Base Exchange	None/Cardboard
760/761/852	Headquarters area	None/None
801	Supply/services	None/None
807	NCO Club/dining hall	Cardboard/Cardboard
812	Boiler plant	Cardboard, paper/cardboard
821	Hangar, east end	None/None
821	Hangar, west end	None/None
822	Maintenance	Cardboard, paper/cardboard
830	Life support	Cardboard, newspapers/cardboard
840	Medical	None/None
	Fuel site	None/None
	Rifle range	None/None □



Cherie Huntington

▲ **Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Nyhus, noncommissioned officer in charge of receiving**

**Viking Search:**

# Supply

**C**lip this for a colleague or family member and assist recruiters in their search for new reservists.

**Specialty code/unit:** 250X1; 934th Logistics Support Squadron.

**Job description:** Much of the work deals with aircraft components, including wartime readiness spare parts. Activities include issue and receipt, pickup and delivery, stocking items, selecting property, equipment turn-in, data entry and equipment pallet buildup for shipment.

**Civilian job equivalent:** Warehouse work with data entry.

**Training:** Seven weeks and four days, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

**Recent travel locations:** California, Florida, Germany, Hawaii, Panama, Southwest Asia.

- What's great about the job:**
- ▶ Flexible annual tour schedules; moderately flexible unit training assembly reschedules.
  - ▶ Opportunities for additional travel/duty.
  - ▶ Stable, well-forecast workload works well for students.
  - ▶ Normal upgrade training required without a lot of extra schooling.
  - ▶ Great camaraderie within the squadron, with participation in organized softball, golf and bowling.

**Contact:** 934th Recruiting Office, (612) 713-1456. □

## Services Briefs

**NCO Club briefs**

▶ **A traditional Thanksgiving buffet** will be offered at both clubs on Thursday, Nov. 26. Entrees include a choice of turkey and dressing or ham. Other items include mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, candied yams, cranberries, rolls/butter, coffee/tea and a choice of apple or pumpkin pie. Call either club for details and reservations.

☎Call Ext. 1655 for details on NCO Club activities.

▶ **Drill weekend entertainment** will be the Patty Maning variety and music show, starting at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 6, and Saturday, Nov. 7.

▶ **Get a 10 percent discount** on lunch or dinner throughout November when you bring in a food shelf item and in December when you bring in a toy for the Toys for Tots drive.

▶ **A two-for-one baked scrod dinner special** will



be offered Tuesday, Nov. 17. Call for a reservation.

▶ **"Football Frenzy"** is featured in both clubs at 7 p.m., every Monday night. There are free snacks and drawings for free prizes at halftime.

**Officers Club briefs**

▶ **Music and dancing** are offered every Friday by the Ivory Keys Show and Dance Band at 7 p.m., followed by a Las Vegas-style show at 9 p.m. then a disc jockey plays favorite hits until 12:45 a.m.

▶ **An early-bird special** is featured each Friday in the dining room. Order between 5-6 p.m. and deduct \$2 off the member price. No coupons necessary.

▶ **Family Night** is every Tuesday in the dining room, with a special kids' menu. Call for reservations.

▶ **Each Wednesday offers two-for-one dinner**, with broiled walleye Nov. 11 and pork roast Nov. 18.

☎Call Ext. 3678 for Officers Club information.

**Recreation services**

▶ **Toys for Tots** boxes are out, so donate new, unwrapped toys now through December drill.

☎Call recreation services, Ext. 1128. □