

VIKING FLYER

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

National honor

27th Aerial Port
Squadron completes
stellar year

► Pages 8-9

Inside the VF

- 5 Operation Allied Force winds down
- 6 Three base members win command awards
- 7 Dining hall closes for remodeling
- ROTC cadets serve internships with wing
- 10 Wing roundup
- 11 Aeromedics return from Japan
- 13 Security forces member joins elite team
- 14 Squadron raises charity funds with wing coin



Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz

Col. Richard Moss,
Wing commander
Capt. Rob Clark,
Director of PA
Mark Davidson,
Chief of PA
Cherie Huntington,
Editor/PA specialist
Master Sgt. Darrell Habisch,
NCOIC
Master Sgt. Tim Turner,
Tech. Sgt. Janet Byerly,
Tech. Sgt. Larry Dean,
Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Williams,
Public affairs staff
Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz,
Photographer

On the cover

27th Aerial Port Squadron members, including Airman 1st Class Kyle Dagestad, share the squadron's recent national honor as the top military unit in the reserves. For more on the award, see Pages 8-9.



Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *Viking Flyer* are not necessarily the views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force. The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 934th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office, Air Force Reserve Command, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Air Reserve Station, 760 Military Highway, Minneapolis MN 55450-2100, DSN 783-1217 (fax, Ext. 1425) or commercial (612) 713-1217. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. The deadline for unsolicited submissions is Friday, one week prior to UTA. For editor, call (612) 713-1213 or e-mail: cherie.huntington@msp.afres.af.mil

UTA schedule

- Aug. 7-8
 - Sept. 11-12
- 
- UTA entrees: Saturday, ham steak; Sunday, baked chicken.
 - UTA pay date: July 21.
- New schedule, Page 4.

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

Commentary

High operations tempo

Wing members tackle busy summer schedule

Col. Richard Moss
Wing Commander

As I talk to various civic organizations around the state, often I am asked if any of our units have been activated for the Kosovo conflict. When I respond we haven't been, people tend to think we are not involved in any way.

That is quite the opposite. This unit has responded in many ways. We currently have four aerial port members in Germany for 120 days directly supporting the operation by being part of the crisis action team. Our firefighters spent the middle two weeks of June providing essential backfill support to Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England. We also have aeromedical people in Saudi Arabia, supporting Operation Southern Watch.

Our civil engineer squadron was scheduled to deploy to Mildenhall to perform their annual tour augmenting the active duty. However, due to the Kosovo contingency and the lack of suitable housing, their overseas tour had to be canceled. Instead, the squadron performed their tour at home station, which turned out to be the wing's good fortune as the unit "fixed" several problems we could not have otherwise afforded. They put a new roof on the NCO Club and dining hall, refurbished the old fitness center, extended goodwill to a local community by helping to develop a community park, and repaired several sorely needed air conditioning systems on base. They put in extremely long hours and deserve our gratitude.

Also, operations and maintenance members spent the month of June in Puerto Rico supporting Southern Command throughout Central and South America. This is the Coronet Oak mission that used to be staged out of Panama. We picked up this mission, along with the 913th Airlift Wing, Willow Grove Air Reserve

Station, Pa., and the 403rd Wing, Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., because other Reserve units with newer aircraft and upgraded defensive systems were being tasked to



Moss

support operations in Europe. We also were tasked recently to be the lead wing for another Coronet Oak deployment to Puerto Rico from late August to early October.

Because of the late tasking for the additional Coronet Oak deployment, we have been forced to exercise one of the core competencies of the Air Force Reserve - flexibility. Because of their requirement to "camp-out", the civil engineer squadron and the services squadron will still deploy to Camp Ripley, Minn., in October. Part of the aeromedical evacuation squadron will also deploy to participate in a joint service air-evac exercise.

For all other people, our October deployment to Ripley has been pared down to a two-day, home-station exercise only, concentrating on honing our Ability to Survive and Operate in a simulated chemical environment.

Thanks to you, the 934th Airlift Wing continues to provide vital support to our nation. Keep up the good work. □

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

Call Ext. 4685 to record questions for the wing commander. Callers may remain anonymous. Questions of general interest will be answered in the *Viking Flyer*.



Air Force

Acting secretary earns nod

President Bill Clinton announced June 2 his intention to nominate Whit Peters to be secretary of the Air Force. Peters has been acting secretary since January 1998.

"Our current operations around the globe highlight the countless contributions Air Force men and women make to our national security," said Peters, commenting on his honor in accepting the nomination. "They serve proudly,

with great dedication and professionalism, and they make enormous sacrifices on behalf of our great nation. It is truly a privilege to be a part of the Air Force family." (*Air Force Print News*)

New top enlisted leader selected

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Michael Ryan named Chief Master Sgt. Frederick "Jim" Finch to serve as the thirteenth chief master sergeant of the Air Force. Finch is currently the command chief master sergeant for Air Combat Command.

He replaces Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Eric Benken, who retires July 30 after more than 29 years of service in the Air Force.

Finch, who was born July 29, 1956, joined the Air Force in 1974. His career includes various assignments in missile maintenance and positions in professional military education, including commandant of the Pacific Air Forces Noncommissioned Officers Academy. He also had two assignments as a command chief master sergeant. (*AFP*)

Kosovo Web sites established

- Air Force News Service has established a "Crisis in Kosovo" Web site to track Air Force dealings in Eastern Europe. The site is available to the public and is updated throughout the regular work day and when events warrant.

<http://www.af.mil/current/kosovo/>

Another site tracks Air Force and coalition partners' activity in Iraq:

<http://www.af.mil/current/iraq2>

- The Office of Personnel Management has authorized a special solicitation for cash donations from Federal employees and military members who wish to provide help to the Kosovar Albanian refugees. Donations can be directed to any of the more than 50 charitable organizations located on the Web site:

<http://www.info.usaid.gov>

☎For more information, call (800) USAIDRELIEF. (*AFP*)

Course 5 returns to service

Course 5, the interactive course for the Senior Noncommissioned Officers Academy, is back in business.

The software was taken off the shelves for four months while technicians fixed a software problem. Once the course was put on hold, 1,100-plus students enrolled and

will have course materials shipped immediately. New students enrolled in Course 5 after May 7 will not be affected by the previous hold. (*AFP*)

Reserve

Reservist high-year tenure extensions available

Reservists with a high-year-of-tenure date between Oct. 1, 1999, and Dec. 31, 2000, may request a two-year extension of their enlistment to stay in Air Force Reserve Command.

Reserve officials said this temporary exception to policy is designed to help the command meet its mission and end-strength

objectives.

Only unit reservists and individual mobilization augmentees in the Selected Reserve are eligible. They may not enter an extension beyond age 60. Previous extensions of HYT dates combined with extensions under this program may not exceed three years.

Under this program, eligible reservists have until Aug. 31 to submit a request for an extension. Air reserve technicians who retire from Civil Service during the HYT extension will have their extension terminated when they leave their civilian position.

The Reserve began phasing in its HYT program in 1989. The program limits participation in the Reserve to a total of 33 years of total federal military service for all enlisted members unless they are selected for an extension. Program goals included improved grade ratios, sustained promotion opportunity for lower grade enlisted people and increased readiness with a more fit force.

Before 1989, enlisted reservists could stay in the Reserve an unlimited number of years up to age 60.

☎For more information about the temporary extension program, call Tech. Sgt. Mike Ginapp, 934th Military Personnel Flight, Ext. 1503. (*AFRC News Service*)

Enlisted education news ...

- Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command started taking applications last month for reservists to attend the Air Force Senior NCO Academy in residence at Maxwell Air Force Base, Gunter Annex, Ala., during fiscal year 2000.

A selection board convenes in August for the first three classes. Those classes are set for Nov. 1-Dec. 15, 1999; Jan. 19-March 1, 2000; and March 16-April 26, 2000.

AFRC has 80 class quotas per year for the unit program and 10 for individual mobilization augmentees. Applicants must be master sergeants or senior master sergeants.

☎More information is available on AFRC's restricted Web site under "HQ AFRC Directorates — Personnel — DPT."

- Important changes have been published in the new Extension Course Institute guide regarding administrative

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

procedures for professional military education courses 00001, 00005, 00006 and 00008, which could adversely affect some enrollees. Anyone enrolled in these courses should review information regarding their course, especially new requirements for extensions, by checking the ECI Web site:

<http://www.au.af.mil/au/oas/eci/eci/ch4.htm#SNCOA>

Reservists take on fitness testing

The Reserve's 433rd Airlift Wing, Kelly Air Force Base, Texas, has been selected as a test site for determining future Air Force standards for muscular strength and endurance, as well as flexibility.

Officials said the unit was chosen because of its close location to Brooks AFB and the people evaluating the data and developing test software.

Reservists there will be tested in push-ups, sit-ups, a sit-and-reach flexibility test, and a one-mile walk test. (AFRCNS)

New drill schedule set

The fiscal year 2000 unit training assembly schedule for the wing has been announced:

1999	2000	
Oct. 2-3	Jan. 8-9	May 6-7
Nov. 6-7	Feb. 5-6	June 3-4
Dec. 4-5	March 4-5	July 8-9
	April 1-2	Aug. 5-6
		Sept. 9-10

Paralegal slot announced

The wing staff judge advocate office has an opening for a paralegal.

Qualified applicants must possess a 5-skill level in their career field, pass a typing test of 25 words per minute, be able to attend a six-week technical school within one year of assignment, and have no record of courts-martial, civil convictions, Article 15 punishment or any other derogatory information.

Interest individuals should call Tech. Sgt. Pamela Russell, Ext. 1235, to set up an interview.

Retiree program offered

An annual Retiree Appreciation Days event is set for Friday and Saturday, Sept. 24-25, at the Fort Snelling Historical Site auditorium, Minneapolis, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The program is open to all military retirees, including spouses and widows, from all service branches.

Representatives from the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, TRICARE, Medicare, Social Security, Veterans Affairs Medical Center, National Cemetery, Minnesota Veterans Affairs and others will be on hand to answer questions. Reservations are recommended, as seating is limited to 300 per day. Lunch will be \$6, served in the Fort Snelling Officers Club.

For information or reservations, call Chief Warrant

Officer Gerald Blume, (651) 738-7672; Col. Wayne Farnberg, (320) 846-8725; Command Sgt. Maj. Owen Hefner, (507) 263-2096; Lt. Col. John Nowicki, (612) 894-1857; Capt. Will Philipson, (651) 653-1287; or Commander Richard Rohleder, (651) 681-9094.

Recruiters need volunteers

Recruiting events in the community call for wing members' assistance. Call recruiting, Ext. 1456, to volunteer or receive more information on the following events: July 14, Madison, Wis., Thunderbirds show; July 15-18, Ramsey County, Minn., fair/parade; July 31-Aug. 1, Minnesota Military Expo, on base; Aug. 3, Maplewood, Minn., National Night Out; and Sept. 18-19, Minneapolis Metropolitan Airports Commission Airport Days.

Combat Dining Out planned

A wing "Combat Dining Out" is set for Saturday, Aug. 7, catered in Bldg. 821/aircraft hanger. Reservists, civilian employees, retirees and adult guests are invited to attend.

The cost is \$15 for a barbecue dinner of ribs, chicken, beans, coleslaw and cornbread muffins, with the social starting at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. A disc jockey will provide entertainment. There will be unit challenges in mental or physical events, and a fund raiser, "Soak your First Sergeant," will be held for 50 cents a vote.

There will be four bunkers in the hangar, one for each group plus one for the wing and the 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron. Battle dress uniform is preferred; casual dress is acceptable.

Tickets are available in unit orderly rooms. For more information, call Maj. Carol Lohman, Ext. 1205, or Tech. Sgt. Robert Jacobson, Ext. 1491.

'Brief briefs'

• **Unit commanders and first sergeants** are looking for ideas from unit members, military and civilian, for a workshop set for Aug. 21 in the dining hall. They will be working with the wing commander and his staff on setting fiscal year 2000 goals and objectives, discussing a wing annual training plan and leadership philosophy.

Submit ideas in writing to unit commanders by the end of the August unit training assembly.

• **The 934th Military Equal Opportunity Office** is the new name of the former social actions office.

• **Col. Michael Gjede**, former wing commander, was one of 11 Air Force Reserve Command colonels nominated for the rank of brigadier general, May 12. Gjede is wing commander of the 910th Airlift Wing, Youngstown-Warren Regional Airport Air Reserve Station, Ohio.

• **The 934th Airlift Wing firing range**, located at Fort Snelling, 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 55450-2100, (612) 713-1812. □

Operation Allied Force farewell

Reservists head home as bombing ends, Serb troops withdraw

Air Force Reserve Command officials announced June 21 the initial return of reservists called to active duty to support NATO efforts in the Balkans.

The command also announced the end of Stop-Loss on June 22 as the Air Force announced a phased termination of the program. Stop-Loss began June 15 and was designed to keep airmen in fields critical to the allied effort from leaving the service during the air campaign over Yugoslavia.

"With the end of hostilities, withdrawal of Yugoslav troops from Kosovo and the redeployment of our

forces home, it is appropriate to begin releasing our people from Stop-Loss," said **Col. Lynn Pratt**, chief of the Air Force's Military Personnel Policy Division. "Stop-Loss is terminated for everyone not deployed in support of Kosovo. For those deployed, Stop-Loss terminates upon return to home station."

Approximately 15 reservists from the 434th Air Refueling Wing returned to Grissom Air Reserve Base, Ind., June 19. About 50 more from the 931st Air Refueling Group arrived at McConnell Air Force Base, Kan., two days later, after a seven-week deployment to

Moron Air Base, Spain. Both units fly KC-135 Stratotanker air refueling aircraft, which were used to refuel NATO fighters and bombers in the Kosovo war.

More reservists will return to their stateside units in late June and early July as they are sent home by U.S. European Command officials. Some reservists will be released from active duty immediately and return to their civilian jobs; others will remain on active duty longer.

Reserve volunteers will remain deployed until the end of their scheduled tour rotations, which are usually two weeks long. (*AFRC News Service*)

Shifting gears as air campaign ends

Chief of staff thanks members for support, refocuses on scheduled transition to expeditionary aerospace forces

Mobilized reservists may soon get to come home, but others may be asked to perform different tasks as the Air Force begins shifting gears with the end of Balkan air hostilities.

In a message to commanders of major commands, **Gen. Michael Ryan**, Air Force chief of staff, congratulated the men and women involved in and supporting Balkan operations on a job well done.

"Your efforts have been vital in winning a very just and noble cause," he wrote. "While we can be thankful for the end of Balkan air hostilities, we still have important and dangerous missions to support not just in Europe but in operations around the world."

The Air Force's top military leader said Operation Allied Force participants will want to return

home as soon as possible but said forces will redeploy only after the region has been stabilized by ground troops.

"Until then, commanders at all levels must ensure their personnel remain focused," he said.

He said the Presidential Selected Reserve Call-Up authority for Kosovo will remain in effect, and major commands need to use good judgment in requesting the activation of more reservists.

"We may find ourselves deactivating some units and individuals while activating others in support of changing peacekeeping Balkan operational requirements," he said. "We will provide guidance as soon as possible regarding demobilization of reserve forces."

Air Force Reserve Command senior leaders are working with

gaining commands to work out a schedule to bring reservists home. As of June 18, nearly 1,300 reservists were mobilized with more than two-thirds of them overseas, primarily in Europe. AFRC also has more than 300 volunteers on active duty. Most of them are at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, supporting Operation Shining Hope, the Kosovo humanitarian mission, and at Incirlik AB, Turkey, participating in Northern Watch, enforcement of the no-fly zone over northern Iraq.

Planners also have their eyes on transitioning the Air Force to the expeditionary aerospace force, which is scheduled to start Oct. 1.

"We are working to reconstitute and transition to our expeditionary aerospace force schedule as quickly as practical," said Ryan.

The Reserve will be an active partner in the EAF, taking part in all 10 contingents. Details about how reservists will be employed in these units are still being worked, said AFRC officials. (*AFRCNS*)

Viking Victors: Three wing members earn honors



Anderson *Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz*

Capt. Dan Anderson

Honor: Air Force Reserve Command Outstanding Medical Air Reserve Technician Officer of the Year 1998.

Position/unit: Senior ART/medical administrative officer, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.

Education: Bachelor's in biology and psychology, St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn.

Hobbies: Reading, camping and Reserve Officers Association.

Professional organizations: Life member, ROA, and executive vice president, Department of Minnesota; life member, Air Force Association; 934th Airlift Wing representative, Officers Club Advisory Board.

Goals: "To ensure members of the 934th AES can go to war and return in one piece."

Family: Wife, Denise Hesselroth; children, Emily (9), and Maggie (7); live in Brooklyn Park, Minn.

Comments: "I'm fortunate to have the opportunity to work with the best ART staff in the command and to have a very supportive family! They make my job very easy." □

Melissa Blasier

Honor: Air Force Reserve Command Outstanding Services Marketing Award Runner-Up 1999.

Position/unit: Marketing director, 934th Services.

Education: Attended Bryant & Stratton Business Institute, Syracuse, N.Y., majoring in travel and tourism.

Hobbies: Reading, walking my dogs, shopping, remodeling my home.

Goals: "To increase awareness and participation in our services facilities, bring back the tradition of supporting our clubs and stress the importance of this to the people of the base."

Family: Husband, David; two dogs, Chipper and Raven; live in Farmington, Minn.

Comments: "It is a great honor to be recognized in the Reserve for a job I love doing. I work with an excellent staff of peers and supervisors, and this award is really for all of us who work together to make 934th Services successful." □



Blasier *Cherie Huntington*



Boettner *Cherie Huntington*

Patricia Boettner

Honor: Air Force Reserve Command Financial Analysis Officer of the Year 1998.

Position/unit: Financial analysis officer, 934th Financial Management. [As a reservist, Senior Master Sergeant Boettner is first sergeant for the 934th Mission Support Flight and wing headquarters section.]

Education: Bachelor's in business administration, Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, Minn.

Hobbies: Golf, reading, biking.

Goals: "I plan to take some classes this fall to begin working on my master's degree. I also have a 'lifetime' goal to try and improve my golf game."

Family: Husband, David; dog, "Ben, the Yellow Lab"; live in Chisago City, Minn.

Comments: "I owe this award to the excellent support staff we have in the financial management office and to the many resource advisors throughout the base who help me to manage the base funds. Thanks to all of you!" □

Reserve interns

ROTC cadets tackle special projects in wing program's second year

Maj. Doug Kveene

Wing Executive Officer and
Vice president, Flying Vikings Chapter,
Reserve Officers Association

"Enthusiastic," "motivated," "sense of accomplishment" — these are just a few examples of the comments from the Air Force ROTC cadets participating in the second annual ROTC Cadet Internship Program here this spring.

Five cadets from Air Force ROTC detachments at the University of Minnesota, both Minneapolis and Duluth campuses, and the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minn., tackled real-world projects, partnering with wing members. Projects included:

- Planning and installing a satellite television system in both the command post and wing headquarters,
- Preparing burn management and in/out patient care classes for the 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron,
- Preparing a space utilization analysis and an architectural drawing for a proposed security forces building,
- Developing a combat mission folder for a tactical airlift mission, and
- Developing a Phase II

(ROTC, continued on Page 18)

Dining hall closes

Remodeling moves July, August meals to alternate locations on base

Tech. Sgt. Janet Byerly
Public Affairs

A \$200,000 renovation of the 934th dining facility beginning in June will displace diners for the summer. The following alternate arrangements have been made:

July unit training assembly, meals will be served in the NCO Club. A to-go window will be available on the north side of the building. Expect long lines and delays, however, because the Naval Reserve is drilling that weekend also, said **Master Sgt. Brian Lloyd**, services first sergeant.

August UTA, meals will be served at the Air National Guard dining hall. Shuttle buses will be provided.

"There is a remote chance that our dining hall may be finished," said **Melissa Blaiser**, marketing director for the services division, "but this plan will be in effect unless other information becomes available."

- The renovations include:
- Interior remodeling to

incorporate new line flow features, salad bar and beverage locations,

- Configuration for a meeting area with audiovisual equipment storage and rest room accessibility for use during the month,
- Enlarged lobby so fewer people in line will have to wait outside,
- New roof, installed by the 934th Civil Engineering Squadron.

Changes are scheduled to be completed in August, said **Master Sgt. Ron Knutson**, services air reserve technician.

Though the remodeled dining hall will be open for the September UTA, it will close again on the October UTA for the wing's annual REDEX, or readiness exercise. The 934th Services Squadron will be deploying to Camp Ripley, Minn., so meals at home station will be served at the NCO Club.

Finally, in November, dining hall officials plan to implement rotating quarterly scheduled lunch times. More on this change will be announced in a future *Viking Flyer*. □

Busy summer 'vacation'

Engineers tackle variety of base projects

When the civil engineers' June annual tour to England was cancelled unexpectedly, they lost no time in developing new projects to fulfill training requirements.

- The heating, ventilation and air conditioning shop focused their attention on base air conditioning work orders and servicing.
- Members from HVAC, utilities and other sections will remodel the upstairs level of the base fire station.
- The structures shop headed the

roofing repair project for the NCO Club/dining hall.

- The equipment shop stepped up activity on a community park project in River Falls, Wis.
- The power production shop spent five days at Volk Field, Wis., training on the Mobile Aircraft Arresting System.
- Electric shop members completed numerous base work orders, including installing a 400 amp power distribution panel in the fuels area and working on the runway lighting system at Camp Ripley, Minn. □



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz

Senior Airman Jeanette Gillie-Harp wraps a pallet of supplies in plastic to keep them dry during shipment.



Staff Sgt. Richard Hopkins helps prepare a pallet of humanitarian supplies — note the giant teddy bear at the front.

Pulling together

Making an art of teamwork, aerial port members achieve national honor for reserve forces

Tech. Sgt. Janet Byerly
Public Affairs

When you consider the fact that the 27th Aerial Port Squadron's 143 members airlifted more than a million pounds of humanitarian aid last year, that figures out to nearly 7,000 pounds of goods moved per unit member.

But that's only part of the story. These humanitarian missions were an additional duty, something done in addition to the regular airlift missions of the unit.

It's no wonder, then, that the unit was recognized for their hard work recently when they were named the Air Reserve Component Military Unit of the Year 1998 by the National Defense Transportation Association.

Humanitarian airlift

The year began with the shipment of 28,050 pounds of humanitarian aid to Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, in January and ended with a December shipment of 83,145 pounds of goods to Managua, Nicaragua.

"I look at the Denton Amendment airlift as a good training opportunity," Senior Master Sgt. Mike Dressen, air transportation superintendent, said of the humanitarian missions. "That's what we're here for."

The Denton program allows the Department of Defense to provide space available transportation of humanitarian cargo provided the donor meets certain criteria.

"For me, it's just another day of helping out," said Tech.



Staff Sgt. Richard Hopkins straightens cargo parachute risers prior to packing.

Sgt. Eric Sund, air cargo craftsman.

Sund was involved in palletizing and loading a Norwegian settler's cabin that had been taken apart, all the pieces numbered, then loaded

Viking Flyer



Tech. Sgt. Mark Pierson packs a cargo parachute.

aboard a Royal Norwegian C-130.

"It was pouring rain as we loaded the C-130," said Sund. "The aircraft was nothing out of the ordinary; it's all standard on a C-130. It was fun working with the Norwegians, though."

When he thought about the mission afterward, Sund realized the significance it had for the Norwegians.

"It's amazing, really," he said. "The cabin had historical value to them. They went to considerable trouble to move the cabin from North Dakota, ready it for transport, and I thought, 'Wow, I was part of that.'"

Operation Christmas Child

Another humanitarian mission many unit members counted as their most memorable in 1998 was Operation Christmas Child, when unit members documented and load planned

26 semitrailers of donated Christmas gifts bound for Mexico City.

A chartered Russian AN-124 – one of the largest cargo aircraft in the world and one most reservists hadn't seen up close before – was filled with the gifts.

"They had a wooden floor in the AN-124," said **Staff Sgt. Dale Place**, team chief of "A" flight, referring to the plywood covering the aircraft's thin, titanium floor. "Everything was loaded with a forklift. It was a unique experience."

Hurricane relief

Tech. Sgt. Larry O'Connell, team chief of load planning, counted the relief effort for victims of Hurricane Mitch as one of the most rewarding missions of the year.

"Five of us from the base were the first aerial port

members to arrive in Gulfport, Miss.," he said. "We probably worked 12 to 14 hours a day getting everything set up for receiving and dispatching the cargo that was to be sent to La Ceiba, Honduras. By the time we left, two aerial port squadrons took our place and ran the operation.

During the five days they spent in Gulfport, 81 pallets of goods, weighing nearly a half-million pounds, were airlifted to Honduras.

Whether they're practicing drops in Jordan, Minn., or preparing cargo sent around the world, the aerial porters see these missions as just part of their job.

"It has been busy on unit training assemblies, that's for sure," said **Staff Sgt. Mike Kuntze**, air cargo craftsman.

"We've been quite busy for the past year." □



Senior Airman Patrick Sommer marshalls a loaded K-loader.



Left, an aerial port member drives an all-terrain forklift to recover training loads at the drop zone as an bovine "audience" grazes. Above, Staff Sgt. Timothy Soby "daisy chains" parachute lines for field packing after C-130 airdrops in June.

Wing roundup

27th Aerial Port Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Mark Pierson
No report.

934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

Senior Airman Matthew Durn
In June, our flyers deployed to Camp Ripley, Minn., for combat survival training. We also accomplished an inventory on our medical equipment. Our unit is pleased to have back Master Sgt. Bernadette Koehle, who has returned from Saudi Arabia, and 1st Lt. Mick Lucore, back from Bosnia.

934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Staff Sgt. Michael Sanford
Many members completed training items such as weapons training, Equal Opportunity 2000 and force protection. Also, base physicals, drug testing and individual Air Force specialty code training classes were completed.

96th Airlift Squadron

Airman 1st Class Jess Lind
No report.

934th Civil Engineer Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Randy Matthews
Our annual tour to England, June 6-19, was cancelled due to the tempo and logistics issues there. However, the good news is that local projects will get

worked on and completed (see story, Page 7). Also, 12 of our firefighters deployed to Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England, supporting the fire and rescue base mission. Two firefighters, Tech. Sgt. Dan Schafer and Staff Sgt. Shaun Wimmgren, supported wing recruiters, June 5-6, in Buffalo, Minn., displaying fire and rescue equipment at Buffalo Airport Days.

934th Communications Flight

Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz
Staff Sgt. Heidi Schmidt assisted wing recruiters at the Mankato Air Show, Minn., June 5-6. Tech. Sgts. Karl Thorner and Richard Loesch are serving as the unit's Military Expo coordinators, set for July 31-Aug. 1.

934th Logistics Support Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Alma De La Garza
All members are training on new policies and procedures designed to make training more efficient.

934th Maintenance Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Steven Lerbakken
Last month, the squadron welcomed the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds. We launched two aircraft to San Juan, Puerto Rico, and also sent people to the Azores, Portugal, for enroute support of an active-duty mission.



Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz

Honors board

Command Chief Master Sgt. Richard Grewe, left, and Staff Sgt. Timothy Rice, 934th Civil Engineer Squadron, post airmen of the year photos in the new display board located in the lobby of the wing headquarters building, Bldg. 760. Grewe had the idea to expand the old, smaller display, formerly located upstairs near the command section, to provide plenty of space for all past, current and future honorees. The board, awaiting a few finishing touches, was created by civil engineers, including Rice, Master Sgt. Robert Schabacker, and Staff Sgts. Robert Ennis and Jeffrey Jacobs.

934th Operations Support Flight

Master Sgt. Cara Utecht
No report.

934th Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sgt. Niklas Hammarberg
The squadron will be deploying to the Air Mobility Warfare Center, July 12-23, to attend the Phoenix Readiness course. This consists of classroom instruction, live-fire weapons training, dismounted and convoy

operations, and operations in built-up areas. Also, there will be a five-day field training exercise.

934th Services Squadron

Airmen 1st Class Kristen Maloney and Melissa Putnam
Members cleared out the dining facility to prepare for remodeling (see story, Page 7). The newly-remodeled facility should be ready by September drill.

Wing Headquarters/ 934th Mission Support Flight

Staff Sgt. Linda Jimenez
No report. □



934th AES courtesy photo

From left, Capt. Patricia Rautiola, Tech. Sgt. Scott Rian, Capt. Lynn Rydberg and Maj. Benedicto Bobadilla train with neck and back stabilization equipment for trauma victims.

Aeromedics find training a joy in

Japan

Master Sgt. Darrell Habisch
Public Affairs

In the shadow of Mt. Fuji, 24 nurses, medical technicians and medical logistics technicians of the 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron practiced medicine and honed their skills alongside their active-duty counterparts at Yokota Air Base, Japan during their annual tour, May 1-15.

Demonstrating the effectiveness of Mirror Force, the policy of equal skill levels for members of Reserve, Guard and active-duty members, these medical troops staffed the Yokota hospital emergency room, patient wards and the intensive care unit.

Mutual needs met

The emergency room at Yokota is normally staffed with medical technicians, said Col. Lou Anne Page, AES commander. "They were happy to have nurses with a wide diversity of medical experience and critical care skills there," she said.

"And we needed hands-on patient care — bodies to work on," said Maj. Marge Boldenow, flight nurse.

With limited training resources at the 934th, the squadron needed an active-duty base to complete 800 of their 3,000 sustainment training tasks, said Chief Master Sgt. Don Hohn, training superintendent.

"We can't practice medicine on patients here," he said, "and the best way to demonstrate our skills is to augment an active-duty staff where they really need help."

Stateside hospital tours normally take place every other year, involving smaller groups from the unit. It has been 10 years since an overseas deployment. "This was our largest deployment since Desert Storm," Hohn said.

Reservists earned respect

Suspicion of the unknown is a human tendency, and it was no different for the active duty staff at Yokota.

"I don't think they knew what to expect from this group of reservists," said Page. "Perhaps some visiting units do the minimum required of them, but our people immediately volunteered to work all shifts and areas, and they were very impressed and grateful for that."

Mutual trust and respect offered new opportunities for the reservists, especially during the second week, according to Page. "We showed what we could do and that opened the doors."

One of those doors opened for two medical logistics technicians who worked with active-duty "loggies," from sharing and calibrating equipment to comparing logistical procedures. "I was able to completely upgrade to seven level while there," said Staff Sgt. Dale Cody, medical supply craftsman. "And I wouldn't have been able to do that if we didn't have mutual respect."

Handling emergencies

There is rarely a routine day in a hospital, and that proved true at Yokota.

When an active-duty technician was relieved of duty due to an emergency leave, Staff Sgt. Merle Fischer was called to fill the position in the intensive care unit. "These weren't training scenarios," said Page. "This was demanding patient care and we were very proud when given reports that the doctors were very impressed with his performance."

Another unforeseen emergency involved Tech. Sgt. Christopher Knowles when he heard and responded to a "Code Blue."

During the delivery of a baby, its heartbeat stopped and "doctors were coming out of the walls," Knowles commented. The tense situation lasted for 20 minutes, with doctors stabilizing the baby and Knowles assisting. "They, of course, did the hands-on," he said, "and I did the gopher work. Anything they needed, I delivered."

And the baby? "The docs delivered it fine," he added.

Working customs issues

One of the tasks assigned to the reservists was to observe customs procedures should they ever be called to overseas duty, according to Capt. Pat Rautiola, flight nurse.

Six reservists had that chance while assisting an aeromedical evacuation that took them to Guam AB and

(JAPAN, continued on next page)

Retirement plans

Older but wiser: reservist returns to finish career, secure retirement benefits

Master Sgt. Tim Turner
Public Affairs

For Staff Sgt. Tom Theis, his chance to return to the Reserve after a 15-year break in service came down to a matter of beating the clock.



Theis

Theis, a reservist in the 934th Family Readiness Program and a federal civilian with the Defense Agency Printing Service here, beat the cutoff time to return to uniform by mere months.

"At the ripe old age of age 50, I have 10 years to earn my Air Force pension," he said.

In the early '70s, Theis was a small-town policeman finding himself beat out for promotions by prior-service members with veteran's preference benefits. So he decided to serve his country and help his civilian career by joining the Air Force in 1974 as a communications center operator. His first three years were served at Offutt

Air Force Base, Neb., and the last year here with the 934th, when communications center positions were still active-duty slots.

"I thought it would be neat to be back home," said Theis, who grew up in Cold Spring, Minn., about 70 miles northwest of Minneapolis.

Though he enjoyed active duty, bad supervision and being required to live in the limited confines of base lodging lead him to a Palace Chase release to the Reserve to complete his remaining service commitment. Theis served in the 934th Communications Flight for six years then decided it was time for a career change. When told he would lose a stripe to cross-train, he separated and returned to his civilian career interests — security and graphics arts/printing. Around three years later, he entered federal service.

Buying a "fixer-upper" home near the base last December, however, provided a wake-up call for returning to military service.

"Being single, I was considering a second job to get extra money," said Theis. "At 50, I'm also starting to look at retirement. So since I live so close to the base and was familiar with military service, I decided on the Reserve."

To determine enlistment eligibility, prior service time is subtracted from the member's age to come up with an "adjusted age," explained Master Sgt. Mark Jones, 934th recruiter. "The adjusted age has to be less than 40 at the time of enlistment," he said. "Your last six years have to be in a reserve component, and you must be able to complete 20 years prior to age 60."

Theis met the requirements but knew he couldn't afford any career interruptions — one bad year would end possibility of a military retirement.

"If I'd had it all together, I'd be retired by now," said Theis. "But the first 10 years went quickly, and the last 14 seemed even quicker, so the last 10 should go quickly also."

Planning for retirement, however, doesn't remove military service from Theis's long-range plans. As a lieutenant colonel inspector general with the Minnesota Wing Civil Air Patrol, he holds both fixed-wing and helicopter licenses. He looks forward to spending more time involved in the organization's many activities — and there's no mandatory retirement age.

"You can serve until you die!" Theis said with a grin. □

Japan ...

(Continued from previous page)

Okinawa AB, Japan, which also carried a military spouse and her two young children traveling space-available to reach her husband.

"We observed customs procedures when the spouse didn't have a visa," Rautiola explained. Although the spouse was told in Hawaii that she wouldn't need one, Rautiola said "she did in Japan."

When the pilot of the C-9 was going to keep her on the aircraft for the return trip, a colonel asked to see the customs regulations. "After two hours, the colonel found a way for her to stay," said Rautiola. "His lesson was that everyone needs to take the time to learn the rules before

just accepting an unacceptable situation. I think we met our objective on that one."

Seeing old 'Tractor' again

A reunion of sorts occurred while doing ground crew training in a Yokota-based C-130. While familiarizing themselves with the location of exits, life rafts and other safety procedures, the medical technicians and nurses mentioned they were from Minnesota to the civilian conducting the tour.

According to Senior Airman Elaine Siebert, the guide's face lit up and he hurried everyone to the nose of the aircraft. He pointed to a Flying Vikings logo painted there and said, "We received this C-130 from the Reserve to be a static trainer. We were so impressed that this 'trainer' was in better shape than what we have that we

Raven warrior

Wing member joins elite Air Force security team

Tech Sgt. Larry Dean
Public Affairs

The 934th Security Police Squadron

added a new chapter to the base history book when it joined a handful of active duty, Reserve and Air National Guard bases who have a rare warrior.



Blair

Staff Sgt. Doug Blair, 934th SFS, is that warrior. He recently earned his new title as the unit's Senior Phoenix Raven and is the first in the wing to hold that honor.

"Phoenix Ravens are specially trained security personnel who attend a grueling physical and classroom course that prepares them to be the one person charged with protecting personnel and equipment deployed to hostile locations," Blair said. "These locations are hostile because they are where there is a terrorist or violent threat to us and no other U.S. military protective forces are present, such as locations in Africa, South America and

other places."

Now Blair is among just 23 reservists and slightly more than 300 Phoenix Ravens in the entire military.

"The 12-day training at Fort Dix, N.J., leaves you doubting your ability to survive it from day one," he said. "I had doubts as soon as we started into the IHOP, or what they jokingly refer to is the International House of Pain. Each day there the trainers push your body to its complete and total exhaustion point, and then the next day you get up and do it again, or you're out."

Blair said the course is tough for good reason. "We go anyplace AMC [Air Mobility Command] declares as a Phoenix Raven location," he said. "And those spots are very high risk with threats such as terrorist attacks, etc., but no other American security present. The Phoenix Raven is it. And that person may have to defend our people or equipment, with or without a weapon at a moment's notice. We provide security while aircraft are on the ground and may make stops at more than one hostile location along the way."

Blair volunteered to become a Raven and then was selected for the

'The trainers push your body to its complete and total exhaustion point ...'

program after successfully meeting Army physical training standards for push-ups, sit-ups and the two-mile run.

"They test you on the Army standard right away to make sure you are qualified to continue the training," he said, "but when you've completed it, you're given your Phoenix Raven number. Nobody else will ever hold this elite number. It's yours even after you die. Phoenix Raven is not only a special title, it's a very special honor."

Blair will train a second wing member to become a Raven. That person will attend one of the four classes a year at Fort Dix, enduring the IHOP for themselves, but qualifying to join one of the most elite groups in the entire U.S. military. □

decided to keep flying it!"

Nicknamed "Tractor" by one of its maintenance crew chiefs, retired **Tech. Sgt. Bruce Moin**, the C-130 was deleted from the 934th inventory and delivered to Yokota in 1997. The current owners keep the Flying Vikings insignia as a tribute to its former caretakers.

Time to enjoy Japan

Sandwiched between their classroom training and medical duties, the visitors found time for sightseeing.

Many went by train, bus and bike searching out serene temples, sushi bars and the Tokyo Hard Rock Cafe. "After Tokyo, we visited a nearby 250-year-old tea house," said Rautiola. "We had a wonderful seven-course meal, and most of the food we couldn't even recognize."

Experiencing these cultural and culinary differences

was a large part of the training objective for the squadron. "Should we ever be called to duty, this is our theater of operation," explained Page, "and we need to appreciate the diversity of these cultures and how best to operate within them. Someone higher up definitely had this in mind when considering where to send us."

Hohn believed the squadron had its most successful annual tour in recent memory. "We joined forces with the active-duty folks and did everything we could to help," he said. "We definitely made it more difficult for the next unit coming in. They'll have a high standard to live up to."

The return trip provided a final lesson for most of the reservists, according to Page. "We learned that luggage gets a lot heavier coming home than going over," she said. □

Coins for a cause

Security forces rally to support unit member, special charity

Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Williams
Public Affairs

When Maj. Doug Kveene, 934th Airlift Wing executive officer, gave a Reserve

Officers Association wing coin presentation at the 934th Security Forces Squadron commander's call recently, he expected to sell half of the 20 coins he brought.

He left the presentation with quite a surprise — all 20, plus his personal coin — were sold. Squadron members later bought 29 more coins, totaling 50 purchased.

What made the wing coins as hot as a new shipment of popular bean-bag toys?

First squad member, Tech. Sgt. David Hardy, started the process when he agreed to buy the first coin on the condition that part of the proceeds go to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, in honor of squad mate Staff Sgt. Jeff Imsdahl's 1-year-old son. Christopher John Imsdahl, known as CJ, has cystic fibrosis.

Kveene immediately agreed to the donation. "Through the sale of the 50 wing coins to security forces," he said, "ROA donated \$250 to the Minnesota Chapter of the Cystic



Cherie Huntington

used to it. The support from ROA and SFS has definitely helped."

While the wing coin Cystic Fibrosis Foundation contribution was designed specifically for security forces members, proceeds from the sale of the coins go "to anything that benefits the wing or its people and meets the mission of the Flying Vikings Chapter of ROA," Kveene said. "This demonstrates to me that ROA is concerned about wing issues, not necessarily officer issues, since it helped one of our enlisted personnel."

Anyone wishing to obtain a wing commemorative coin should contact Kveene, Ext. 1202, Capt. Dan Anderson, Ext. 3571, or any of the ROA directors at the unit level. The coins cost \$10 each. □

Fibrosis Foundation."

Col. Paul Groskreutz, 934th Airlift Wing Support Group commander and former security forces commander, also added a personal check for \$50, making the total donation \$300.

Imsdahl was appreciative. "The guys really came forward and are helping me through this crisis," he said. "We look out for each other. This has taken a toll, but my family is slowly getting

Baby gift

Reservist's family welcomes new son born on Mother's Day



Courtesy photo

Hardy and his new son

Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Williams
Public Affairs

Mother's Day is a day when people might pamper their mom with flowers, candy, breakfast in bed and other special niceties of life, but for 934th Security Forces Squadron's Tech. Sgt. David Hardy, this past Mother's Day took on a whole new significance — the birth of a son.

"I cried when he was born," Hardy said. "I thought the baby was going to be our third daughter. I always wanted a son to carry on the family name. I heard that when you have two daughters, statistically there is a 90 percent probability that the third child will be a daughter. I was so happy we beat those odds that I cried."

David Charles Hardy — 5 pounds,

6 3/4 ounces and 20 inches long — was born on May 9. "I had to give the time of birth because the doctor was so wrapped up in the delivery that he didn't even look at the clock," Hardy said. "I told him that he was born at 1501 [3:01 p.m.]."

Even though his son was born on Mother's Day, he considers it an early Father's Day present.

"She gave ME the big gift!" he insists. "It feels like I didn't give her an adequate present. I got her some flowers, too, but it didn't compare with the birth of our son. Unfortunately, she had to go through a lot of pain, but it was still a special present."

After 15 years in the Air Force, Hardy admits that it's not just about him anymore. He said, "As long as my family is healthy and happy — that's what matters most to me." □

Medals

Meritorious Service Medal

Master Sgt. Roger Olek, AES, retired

Air Force Commendation Medal

Staff Sgt. Michael Allen, CF
 Staff Sgt. David Dudash, MXS
 Maj. Thomas Hansen, OSF, third oak leaf cluster
 Tech. Sgt. Gerald Helmken, LSS, retired
 Staff Sgt. Scott Lindell, APS
 Tech. Sgt. John Murphy II, LG
 Tech. Sgt. Christopher Sayre, LSS, first OLC

Air Force Achievement Medal

Maj. Mark Blalock, AS, first OLC*
 Capt. Scott Calvert, SVS
 Senior Master Sgt. Michael Gilbert, AS, second OLC*
 Capt. Drew Hansen, AS*
 Staff Sgt. Curtis Hochstetler, AS*
 Tech. Sgt. Gene Olsen, AS, second OLC*
 Master Sgt. James Schmidt, AS*
 Master Sgt. John Watts, AS, first OLC, retired*
 Capt. Bruce Wiskus, AS, first OLC*

*Performance in relief missions for Hurricane Mitch, November 1998

Newcomers

- Airman 1st Class Jennifer Brooks, LSS, *Travis Air Force Base, Calif.*
- Staff Sgt. Michael Chapeau, MXS, *Air Reserve Personnel Center*
- Senior Airman Kevin Davis, LSS, *Grand Forks AFB, N.D.*
- Senior Airman Angela Fowler, ASTS, *Grand Forks AFB, N.D.*

- Staff Sgt. Randy Gottschalk, APS, *Tinker AFB, Okla.*
- Senior Airman Len Haagenson, LSS, *Peterson AFB, Colo.*
- Senior Airman Douglas Kelch, LG, *prior service Army National Guard, recruited by Staff Sgt. Ben Ward, MXS*
- Senior Airman Shawn Klein, MXS, *Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England*
- Senior Airman Brian Klinkner, MXS, *Fairchild AFB, Wash.*
- Staff Sgt. Nancy Sanders, MSF, *prior service Air Force*
- Staff Sgt. Rodney Schaffer, AW, *prior service Army*
- Tech. Sgt. Ricky Smasal, MXS, *Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass.*
- Senior Airman Patricia Starcher, LSS, *McGuire AFB, N.J.*
- Staff Sgt. Michael Tull, APS, *Minot AFB, N.D.*
- Senior Airman William Wendell, SFS, *ARPC*
- Airman 1st Class Nancy Winter, SVS, *non-prior service*

Reenlistments

Tech. Sgt. Lynn Blackwell, LSS
 Tech. Sgt. James Brausen, ASTS
 Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Grates, SFS
 Staff Sgt. Patrick Haefner, SFS
 Tech. Sgt. Scott Kjolvik, SFS
 Senior Airman Brian Knutson, CES
 Tech. Sgt. Scott Mundy, MXS
 Staff Sgt. Dennis Swanson, AES
 Tech. Sgt. Fred Walker Jr., MXS
 Staff Sgt. Brian Winter, SFS

Achievements

- **Master Sgt. Rick Ensenbach**, CF, has taken over duties as first sergeant for the flight.
- **Master Sgt. Bernadette Koehle**, AES, was selected as the 22nd Air Force outstanding aeromedical evacuation

noncommissioned officer for 1998.

- **Senior Airman Barry Torseth**, CF, was selected for the "Look Sharp Award" for the May unit training assembly.



Koehle

- **Staff Sgt. Erica Twardy**, SVS, achieved a score of more than 90 percent on her final test in her career development course.

Marriages

- **Raymond Gelhouse**, LSS, and **Jennifer Gross** were married June 26.

Births

- **Dan Johnson**, ASTS, and his wife, **Nikki**, have a new son, **Gunnar Martz**, born on May 23, weighing 8 pounds, 7 ounces.
- **Kristie Kingsley**, ASTS, and her husband, **Chris DeWitt**, have a new son, **Samuel Kingsley-DeWitt**, born on Feb. 28, weighing 7 pounds, 9 ounces.
- **Christopher Woodhall**, LSS, and his wife, **Tricia**, have a new daughter, **Emily Lynne**, born on May 28, weighing 7 pounds, 15 ounces.

Retirements

- Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Adriaens, CES, 24 years
- Mike Edwards, SF, 30 years
- Curt Quebodeaux, SF, 20 years
- Master Sgt. John Watts, AS, 21 years □

Fun & leisure

NCO Club

• **National Blueberry Month** brings a breakfast special of blueberry pancakes all month. The club now offers earlier breakfast hours, starting at 6:30 a.m., so stop by before work.

• **A build your own potato bar** will be offered Tuesday, July 27, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

• **NCO Club members** can enjoy dinner by reservation at the Officers Club any Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday evening.

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

Officers Club

The lounge menu offers a variety of food, so drop by for the drink of your choice plus something from the food menu.

☎For dinner reservations at the club or information on other activities, call Ext. 3678.

Fitness center

• **The Gopher Walking Club** offers walk times at 11 a.m., noon, 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Sign up at the fitness center before each walk.

• **The next golf event** is set for Saturday, Aug. 7. Call the

fitness center for details.

• **Discount tickets** for many area and U.S. entertainment centers and major theme parks are available at the fitness center.

• **Summer rental equipment** available includes boats, camping gear and sporting goods.

☎Call for information or a schedule of court times available, Ext. 1GYM.

Charity golf tournament

Federal employees and retirees are invited to play in the Fourth Annual Combined Federal Campaign Golf Tournament, Thursday, Sept. 16, at the Southern Hills Golf Course, Farmington, Minn.

The 18-hole tournament, four-person/best ball scramble offers a shotgun start at 11:30 a.m. Registration begins at 10 a.m. The \$46 fee includes green fee, prizes for low team score, flag prizes and a burger-and-brat dinner with potato and fresh fruit salad. Carts are \$12 per player. Entries must be submitted by Friday, Aug. 20.

☎Call the Federal Executive Board for an entry form, (612) 713-7200, or call **Senior Master Sgt. Sharon Bialock**, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, Ext. 3570.

Military expo planned

Military Expo '99 is set for the weekend of July 31-Aug. 1, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. The wing will host static display aircraft and other activities.

☎For more information, call **Mark Davidson**, public affairs, Ext. 1217.

Volunteers needed

It's Metro Paint-A-Thon time, and the wing needs volunteers to paint a nearby home in early August.

☎For details, call **Master Sgt. David Hammer**, Ext. 1240, or **Master Sgt. David Cormier**, Ext. 1354.

Air Force Marathon set

The third Air Force Marathon is set for Saturday, Sept. 18, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Air Force Services officials have designated this as an event for which individual base services organizations can use appropriated funds to offset travel costs for participants. Registration deadline is Sept. 4.

☎For more information, call (800) 467-1823 or visit the Web site at:

<http://afmarathon.wpafb.af.mil/>
(AFPN "must run") ☐

ROTC cadets tackle special projects ...

(Continued from Page 7)

tactical mission intelligence briefing for Kosovo operations.

Wing sponsors included **Capt. Les Canaar**, 934th Civil Engineer Squadron; **Maj. Lizabeth Erickson**, 934th ASTS; **Keith Evans**, Rothe, Inc.; **Maj. Ken Hanson**, 934th Operations Support Flight/Intelligence; and **Maj. Grelon Williams**, 96th Airlift Squadron. These members helped the cadets learn the technical parts of

each project, as well as officership, leadership and the ability to communicate ideas.

A key component of the internship was introducing cadets to the "Total Force," so they may enter active-duty service with firsthand knowledge of the Air Force Reserve. The cadets also became accustomed to working with other wing officers, noncommissioned officers, civil servants and civilian contractors on a daily basis throughout the wing.

The importance of membership in professional organizations such as the Reserve Officers Association was also highlighted. The ROA has supported the internship program from its inception, and cadets can receive a free, one-year membership upon receiving their commission.

Col. Richard Moss, wing commander, deemed the 1999 program a success, and plans are underway for next year's internships. ☐