

VIKING FLYER



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

Security forces rough it at Phoenix Readiness

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Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz

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On the cover

Staff Sgt. Richard
Waldoch, 934th
Security Forces
Squadron, deployed
to Fort Dix, N.J., for
tough training at
Phoenix Readiness.
Find out about the
squadron's work
there, Page 9.



Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz

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UTA schedule

Oct. 2-3 • UTA entrees:
Nov. 6-7 Saturday, **chicken**
Dec. 4-5 and **fish**, served at
Air Guard facility;
• UTA pay Sunday, **Family**
date: Day picnic.
Sept. 22.

934th Airlift Wing on the Internet:
[http://www.afrc.af.mil/934aw/
default.htm](http://www.afrc.af.mil/934aw/default.htm)

Commentary

Lots of news

New commander selected; Moss heads to Colorado

Col. Richard Moss
Wing Commander

As many of you know, I learned in the past few weeks that I will be moving to the wing commander position at the 302nd Airlift Wing, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado Springs, Colo.

This will take effect at the October unit training assembly with a formal change of command ceremony on Saturday, Oct. 2. **Col. Dean Despinoy** of the 931st Air Refueling Group at McConnell AFB, Kansas, will be my replacement and will assume command in October.

As with any change in assignment, I am quite excited to face the new challenges and opportunities ahead, but I am also deeply saddened to leave the 934th family and community here in Minneapolis-St. Paul. I will have more to say in next month's column in conjunction with the change of command ceremony, but I wanted you to know that I will be moving on.

Due to the change of command ceremony, there will be some modifications to the exercise here at the home station, but other activities associated with the exercise at Camp Ripley, Minn., will not be affected (*stories, Page 5*). Your unit commander and first sergeant will have information on any changes for your specific unit.

Lodging facility success

The past few weeks have been filled with some exciting events. I am happy to report that the 934th received the initial funding for a new lodging facility as part of this year's federal budget. The \$8 million we received will allow us to begin construction on the facility in the next few months.

While we have crossed one hurdle in securing this funding, we do

need additional money to complete this important facility. We will be working hard in the coming months to secure this money.



Moss

Fun dining out

I was impressed and gratified with the outstanding attendance and participation in the Combat Dining Out.

This year's combat format made for an enjoyable, although damp, evening and really highlighted the wing's outstanding camaraderie and spirit. I want to thank **Col. Paul Groskreutz** and his team in the support group who orchestrated and planned the event. From the food, to the music, to the team competitions, the event was truly first-class (*story, Page 13*).

Thanks to families

Finally, this weekend includes Family Day. I welcome all of the family members who could join us this weekend. There are a number of interesting and exciting events planned, and I hope that you find them both informative and fun.

Most importantly, your support is an integral part of our success. I thank you for your continued commitment and support of the Air Force Reserve. □

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

Defense bill looking good

Pending a final floor vote, House and Senate conferees reached agreement on the National Defense Authorization Bill for fiscal 2000.

A final vote on the bill, authorizing funding for the Department of Defense, is expected after Congress returns from recess in September.

Significant items that will go to a vote in the House and Senate include:

- **A 4.8-percent, across-the-board pay raise** for military members in January and a one-time reform of the military pay tables, effective July 1.
- **Setting annual military pay raises** at one-half percent above the annual increases in the Employment Cost Index for fiscal 2001-2006, significant in helping narrow the gap between private sector wage growth and military pay that is currently estimated at 13.5 percent.
- **\$1.5 billion in increased funding** for military readiness – the Air Force portion of this increase is \$648.2 million.
- **\$8.49 billion for military construction** and family housing, including more than \$650 million for vital military construction projects for the Reserve.
- **A requirement for DOD to provide funeral honor details**, with a minimum of two uniformed military members, one of which must represent the service of the deceased veteran, for honorably discharged veterans. *(Air Force Print News)*

Two Air Force leaders confirmed

Whit Peters was confirmed by Congress as the secretary of the Air Force on July 31. Just a week later on Aug. 5, **Carol DiBattiste** was confirmed as the new undersecretary of the Air Force. DiBattiste replaces Peters, who served as undersecretary of the Air Force and acting secretary for 20 months before being sworn in as the secretary Aug. 2. *(AFPN)*

Federal force programs change**Sick leave use program expanded**

Federal workers will soon be able to use up to 12 weeks of accrued sick leave annually to care for ill family members.

The change is an extension of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993. Under that act, federal workers were allowed to use up to 13 days of sick leave to care for family members and up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave. The extension allows workers who need as many as 12 weeks per year to use them without losing pay in the process. However, the act does not provide additional sick leave for employees.

Revised federal regulations reflecting the program's expansion are expected to be published in the next two months. *(AFPN)*

Appraisal program revised

By next spring, all Air Force civilians will be evaluated under a new appraisal program.

The change is in response to feedback from supervisors, commanders and employees for a simpler, less time-consuming program. There are three major changes:

- **Two-level rating system** – acceptable and unacceptable performance, with ratings on whether employees meet or fail to meet performance requirements.
- **Impact on mission accomplishment statements** will be required for grades 14 and 15 for use in GS-15 screening boards. Impact statements are optional for other grades.
- **Mandatory feedback form**, with one feedback session required by law during the rating cycle.

In addition, the award justification has been simplified to nine lines as opposed to the current written narrative for performance elements. For grades 14 and 15, mission impact statements may serve as the award justification.

Management has until December to negotiate implementation with local unions and allow at least 90 days under the new program to render ratings in March 2000 using the new system. *(AFPN)*

Service reviews smoking, fitness**Smoking remains one of top concerns**

A 1998 survey of health behaviors among active-duty members reveals the Department of Defense hasn't cut smoking rates as low as it would like.

Smoking levels dropped just two percentage points from the 32 percent level reported in a 1995 survey. Tobacco use is one of many health-related behaviors the survey looked at, but it continues to be one of DOD's top health concerns.

Prescription for fitness offered

Getting fit and staying fit add up to well-conditioned airmen, according to the Air Force surgeon general, offering his prescription to meeting demands of the Expeditionary Aerospace Force. He recently discussed basics for fitness and the added steps the service might take to enhance overall physical ability – not just those needed to pass the cycle ergometry test.

"If you exercise three times a week for 30 minutes in your target heart zone, you will pass the test," said **Lt. Gen. Charles Roadman II**. "There are some couch potatoes out there who get lucky, but unless you have good parents with great genes, exercise and diet are the keys to staying fit."

Because more than 20 percent of the force is overweight, the Air Force might add sit-ups, push-ups and sit-and-reach flexibility tests to its fitness standards. Cycle ergometry measures only cardiovascular fitness. Adding muscular strength, endurance and flexibility measures, Roadman said, are critical for total fitness. *(AFPN)*

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

'Must run' notices announced

Emergency data card importance stressed

Maintaining a current emergency data card, Department of Defense Form 93, remains critical for all military members.

The card lists next-of-kin and other persons to be notified in case of emergency, injury or death. It also designates beneficiaries for death gratuity pay and unpaid pay and allowances.

Here are circumstances requiring DD Form 93 updates:

- Change to spouse's, children's or parent's address,
- Change to marital status,
- Birth of a child, and
- Death of any person listed on the form. (AFPM)

Career expectation document released

In an effort to help military and federal civilians better understand success and career expectations, the Air Force deputy chief of staff for personnel recently released a document called "Realistic Career Expectations." It may be found on the Headquarters Air Force Web site:

<http://www.dp.hq.af.mil> (AFPM)

Reserve

Full-time pilots earn 'bonus'

To stem the exodus of full-time air reserve technician pilots, Air Force Reserve Command implemented a retention allowance July 18 for GS-12 through GS-14 ART pilots.

Local ART pilots started receiving the allowance in August. GS-12 and GS-13 pilots receive a 10 percent allowance every pay period, while GS-14s receive a 5 percent allowance, all based on the employees' basic pay.

Over the past three years, an average of 13 percent of GS-12 to GS-14 ART pilots assigned to the command left civil service, primarily to take airline pilot jobs.

Reserve officials said the command does not have a plan in place but is looking into establishing a pilot retention allowance for traditional reservists or full-time Active Guard and Reserve members. (Air Force Reserve News Service)

Local

It's Family Day!

Family Day, set for Sunday, Sept. 12, starts at 11 a.m., with most activities located in the field in front of the headquarters building. A tentative list of activities include:

- A picnic lunch hosted by the civilian component of the 934th Services Squadron. The menu will include such items as hamburgers, bratwursts, hot dogs, potato salad and beans;
- A wing C-130 on static display;

- Children's games and activities, all free of charge;
- Recreational activities such as softball and volleyball, and the fitness center will be open;
- Security special attractions, including McGruff the crime dog and the Metropolitan Airports Commission Police Department with K-9 Molly;
- The Base Exchange will host an outdoor "tent sale," 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; and
- The 934th Family Readiness Program plans to sponsor book and art fairs, and a rummage/craft sale. For the sale, only military members, Department of Defense employees and family members may bring items for an individual/family table, with a 10 percent donation suggested to the Friends of Family Readiness. For more details call **Patricia Botkins**, Ext. 1516.

Readiness position available

The 934th Civil Engineer Squadron has an opening in the disaster preparedness/readiness career field. Qualified applicants must attend an 11-week technical school at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., within one year of assignment.

Interested individuals should call **Senior Master Sgt. Clark Johnson**, Ext. 1951, to set up an interview.

Bible study class offered

A Bible study group meets each Thursday at 11 a.m. in the conference room in Bldg. 744, Base Civil Engineering. The group is led by **Staff Sgt. Dave Dudash**, 934th Maintenance Squadron, who is an associate pastor at the St. Croix Falls, Wis., Alliance Church of the Valley.

For more information, call Dudash, Ext. 1341.

Charity news announced

The Civilian Welfare Fund Council reported that base members attending the Aug. 19 "Back to the Corn Feed" event donated \$146, nonperishable food and personal items to the Trinity Mission food bank, Minneapolis.

The Officers Wives Club donated \$1,000 to the Friends of Family Readiness, June 21.

KD Steward, base supply, requests donated school supplies for the children of the Rice Marion Residents' Association, St. Paul, Minn.

For more info, call Steward, Ext. 1535.

Retiree program planned

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.

For details or reservations, call **Lt. Col. John Nowicki**, (612) 894-1857; **Col. Wayne Farnberg**, (320) 846-8725; or **Command Sgt. Maj. Owen Hefner**, (507) 263-2096. □

Busy October drill

Home-station chemical exercise, bivouac, joint service medical exercise, change of command — it's a biggie

Master Sgt. Darrell Habisch
Public Affairs

October drill will see a march of fall colors as well as a march of wing reservists to a number of critical activities.

- A three-day bivouac at Camp Ripley, Minn., involving members of the 934th Civil Engineer Squadron, 934th Services Squadron, 934th Communications Flight, 934th Security Forces Squadron and support people from the 27th Aerial Port Squadron and 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron.

- A joint service medical exercise, Northern Eagle '00 (*story, below*).

- The wing commander's change

of command ceremony, still in the planning stages, set for Saturday.

- A home station attack response exercise on Sunday, focusing on ability to survive and operate.

Mandatory uniform of the day for the weekend will be battle dress uniform, flight suit or other utility uniform, as directed by the wing commander.

The bivouac calls for extensive training in areas such as perimeter defense, communications, convoy tactics, food services and command post. A new element will be a self-contained telephone system, said **Tech. Sgt. Jeff Sonsalla**, communications flight telephone installer.

Four telephone installers and small computer specialists will unpack and test the new, portable system, which will be housed in a small, temperature-controlled tent.

"We'll install 12 lines between key areas of the base," Sonsalla said, "and we'll use about one mile of field wire to do it."

The services squadron is bringing "everyone we can grab," said **Capt. Scott Calvert**, services operations officer.

"We'll be responsible for feeding the troops using a mobile kitchen trailer as well as keeping tabs on everyone with the automated locator system," he said.

Casualty and mortuary search and recovery training is planned also. □

Northern Eagle

October aeromedical exercise will involve more than 400 participants

Master Sgt. Darrell Habisch
Public Affairs

Medical people from near and far will arrive during the October drill for Northern Eagle '00, one of the largest joint service medical exercises ever staged here, said **Maj. Dan Anderson**, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron executive officer.

More than 400 members from the Air Force Reserve and Guard, Army Reserve and Guard, and Naval and Marine Corps Reserve will participate, some serving as mock casualties of everything from simple fractures and burns to blast wounds and chemical and biological weapons injuries.

This second annual exercise is geared toward providing participants an opportunity to do their jobs within a complete patient

movement system, exposing them to working in a joint environment.

"This is truly a joint-service exercise," said Anderson. "No one owns it. We all have our specialties and an important part to play."

"Casualties" will be generated by Marine Reserve infantry squads involved in hostile engagements at Camp Ripley, Minn. These casualties will be evacuated by Navy medical corpsmen to two battalion aid stations for immediate triage at the battlefield.

Patients too severely wounded to be evacuated by air will be moved to a forward surgical team for emergency surgical intervention. This 20-person medical team, which operates for 36 hours at a time and provides its own perimeter defense, treats patients who previously would have died, Anderson said.

Patients will then be collected at

a simulated forward support medical company before being moved to the Air Force mobile aeromedical staging facility, or MASF, staffed by members of both the Reserve and Air National Guard aeromedical evacuation squadrons.

Army National Guard air ambulance helicopters from South Dakota will deliver the patients from the field to the MASF. There, casualties will be further triaged, treated and prepared for the C-130 flight to an Air Force aeromedical staging facility. The patients' ultimate destination will be the Army combat support hospital, which will also double as a Navy fleet hospital.

Due to the size and cross-service nature of this medical exercise, a number of distinguished visitors and active-duty special forces members are expected as observers. □

Wing roundup

27th Aerial Port Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Mark Pierson
While deployed on annual tour to Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, members will be presented the National Defense Transportation Aerial Port Unit of the Year Award by 22nd Air Force officials. The presentation will be highlighted by a film on unit accomplishments. Produced in part by **Senior Master Sgt. Mike Dressen** and narrated by **Tech. Sgt. Jan Stafford**, the video and award will be forwarded to the Pentagon.

934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

Senior Airman Matthew Durn
With some help from the 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, we launched and recovered some mock missions last unit training assembly. We accomplished our biannual chemical warfare training as well as ability to survive and operate training.

934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Staff Sgt. Michael Sanford
No report.

96th Airlift Squadron

Senior Airman Jess Lind
The unit performed tactical airdrop training at Jordan drop zone, Jordan, Minn. We hosted a static display C-130 for the Military Expo, July 31-Aug. 1, as well as a picnic for visiting aircrew of other display aircraft. One interesting mission this month involved airlifting an Army drill team and Denton Amendment humanitarian cargo in Washington, D.C. Starting in late August, we

head back to Puerto Rico for Coronet Oak for our sixth rotation in a year.

934th Civil Engineer Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Randy Matthews
Twelve firefighters deployed to Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., for annual tour, Aug. 11-25, and 12 attended fire inspector courses in St. Paul, Minn. Electrical/power production members provided electrical support for the combat dining out and continued on repair and restoration work on Camp Ripley, Minn., airfield light fixtures and transformers. Heating, ventilation and air conditioning specialists began installation of central air conditioning for the base fire station after pavements and grounds people poured a concrete slab for the system.

934th Communications Flight

Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz
Many members participated in ability to survive and operate training during the drill. The flight won the unit challenge at the Combat Dining Out.

934th Logistics Support Squadron

Senior Airman Martina Delp
The unit is planning its annual tour to Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., in February.

934th Maintenance Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Steven Lerbakken
The munitions section performed a 100 percent inspection to ensure no live ammunition was stored with the blanks. Many squadron members

attended ability to survive and operate training, marksmanship and other ancillary training. A functional check flight, or FCF, was performed on aircraft 1839 after completion of the electrical system upgrade modification.

934th Operations Support Flight

Master Sgt. Cara Utecht
The unit has been getting ready for deployment to Puerto Rico, with **Maj. David Olafson** and **Staff Sgt. Donald Obert** accompanying the aircrews. Primary focus will be on area threats by country for Central America and South American countries, and force protection. Base operations members are preparing for their Aug. 16-18 inspection from higher headquarters.

934th Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sgt. Barry Haukoos
Five members presented the colors for the Combat Dining Out. The unit staffed the enemy prisoner of war detainment area during the dining out, raising \$100 to be donated for cystic fibrosis research. Thanks go to all the "convicts" for being good sports and to all those making contributions.

934th Services Squadron

Airmen 1st Class Kristen Maloney and Melissa Putnam
Meals were served successfully during the August unit training assembly at the Air Guard facility. Unfortunately, renovations on the 934th's dining hall have been set back two weeks,



Wing around the world: September

27th APS: Alaska, California, Germany
934th AES: Germany, Saudi Arabia, Texas
96th AS: Colorado, Puerto Rico, Texas
934th ASTS: No report
934th AW HQ/MSF: No report
934th CES: Missouri, Texas, Wisconsin
934th CF: Maryland, Texas
934th LSS: Maryland, Puerto Rico
934th MXS: Mississippi, Puerto Rico
934th OSF: Puerto Rico
934th SFS: Texas
934th SVS: Texas

This list shows official travel destinations for wing members, via commercial or military transportation. For space-available travel information, call the 96th Airlift Squadron, Ext. 1741, or the local Air National Guard wing, Ext. 2450. □

so we will serve meals at the Guard again this month.

Wing Headquarters/ 934th Mission Support Flight

Staff Sgt. Linda Jimenez
No report. □

New old aircraft

934th gains two C-130s from converting wing

Cherie Huntington
Public Affairs

Two additional C-130E aircraft permanently assigned to the 934th Airlift Wing will boost the local inventory from eight to 10 by October.

Capt. Jay Smeltzer, maintenance officer for the 934th Maintenance Squadron, said the 1963-model planes are coming from the 403rd Wing, Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., which is undergoing a conversion to J-models.

"Our aircraft are going through modifications and scheduled depot maintenance," said Smeltzer, "and we're running into a number of unscheduled depot 'drop-ins' for corrosion, so it made sense to pick up two more aircraft to ease airframe availability."

Some units gaining such aircraft use them primarily for "cannibalization," or readily-available parts while waiting for ordered parts. "We don't see the value in this," he said. "The aircraft is in flyable condition, so we want to use it. That's one of the reasons we got it — to help out on the ops tempo."

The down side to the gain, however, is that no money or staffing is added. "We take it out of our hide," Smeltzer said.

One of the aircraft arrived on station in late July. After various inspections, Smeltzer said the plane was put to work.

"They're essentially the same aircraft as ours," he said. "They haven't been through the electrical upgrade and other modifications, but we will have the parts needed and the modification team here to do the work."



Cherie Huntington

Smeltzer said one challenge will be juggling maintenance specialists among the 10 planes, the responsibility of **Master Sgt. Rick Klick**, 934th MXS production supervisor.

"We're manned for eight aircraft," said Klick, "and everybody's getting cut pretty thin ... With maybe a quarter of our people on deployment and cranking in a couple of cross-country trips a week, we're down to nothing."

Since the ramp has only nine parking spots, the tenth spot will be in either the Bldg. 821 hangar or the fuel cell hangar. Klick said snow removal and deicing operations will be more difficult as well. "In the winter months, we're really going to see the impact," he said.

Though some C-130 units have been "robusted" to 12 or 16 aircraft, Smeltzer said the 934th has reached its limit at 10.

The new aircraft's "Flying Jenny" fin flash was repainted with its "Flying Vikings" stripe, Aug. 19-20. The C-130 has seen its share of duty stations, according to wing history buffs who say it has been assigned to the active duty at Dyess Air Force Base, Texas; the Guard at Kulis Air National Guard Base, Alaska; and the Reserve at Maxwell AFB, Ala., Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, N.Y.; and Keesler AFB, Miss.

"We have a fair amount of transient aircraft and dignitaries coming in," he said, "so if we fill the ramp, we get into problems. Sometimes it gets tight as it is. We don't have the acreage, though I wish we did."

The 934th's other eight aircraft are 1962 vintage, thought to be the oldest flying in the Reserve at this time. Smeltzer said local maintenance specialists deserve commendation for the work required to keep such aging airframes airworthy.

"These people do a fantastic job keeping '62 models in the air," he said. "As short-manned as we are, they still manage to do it." □

Justice served Wing commander initiates investigation resulting in severe penalties for crime

Tech. Sgt. Janet Byerly

Public Affairs

A former 934th Airlift Wing civilian employee who submitted false statements to obtain federal employee compensation benefits was sentenced recently in U.S. District Court.

Albert L. Asrouch Jr., 45, was sentenced to six months of confinement to be served during five years of probation. He was also ordered to pay \$59,816 in restitution to the U.S. Department of Labor, according to a news release from the United States Attorney's office.

On Feb. 8, Asrouch pled guilty to criminal information that charged him with three misdemeanor counts of submitting false statements to the government in connection with obtaining the benefits. As part of his plea agreement, Asrouch agreed to forfeit any entitlement he had to any

further federal employee compensation. Asrouch also agreed to pay the United States a \$2,000 civil settlement.

Asrouch worked in civil engineering 14 years ago until he suffered a back injury.

If it hadn't been for **Col. Richard Moss**, wing commander, the investigation into this case might never have happened.

"I asked that all compensation records be reviewed to see if there were any cases we should check into," he said. "We turned Asrouch's case over to the Defense Criminal Investigative Service, and they did the leg work, videotaping and documenting the case."

The investigation was based on information that Asrouch had been engaged in a family business while receiving Federal Employee's Compensation Act benefits.

From September 1993 to April 1997, Asrouch received more than

\$81,331 in tax-free benefits while certifying he had not been involved in any business enterprise during that period. However, the investigation determined Asrouch had been actively involved in a family owned snowplowing business since 1993.

Workers' Compensation Program beneficiaries are required to report any kind of employment and/or changes in their health.

"I'm glad the Department of Justice pursued this," said Moss. "I wish we could have collected every penny. As it is, this saved the Air Force more than a million dollars they would have paid out in benefits if he had collected until age 70."

"The actions of this individual reflects poorly on the hard working, dedicated civilian employees we have here," he continued. "It hurts people who legitimately need disability benefits. And it violates the first core value, 'Integrity.'" □

Security forces transition

Chief of security position switches from civilian to military

Tech. Sgt. Larry Dean

Public Affairs

Department of Defense security forces here welcomed their new boss in July and are working toward a more integrated base security force under his leadership.

Capt. Chris Simpson is the new chief of security forces and an air reserve technician. Working with the commander of the 934th Security Forces Squadron, **Maj. Barb Dock**, they will chart how the two teams meld together today and into the future to keep the base secure and mission ready.

Simpson holds the position previously held by **Mike Edwards** prior to his July 1 retirement.

Simpson joined the wing

following eight years of active-duty service. His assignments included Langley Air Force Base, Va.; Mildenhall Air Base, United Kingdom; and K.I. Sawyer AFB, Mich.

"Major Dock and I will continue to strive to merge DOD civilian security with the security forces squadron to form an even stronger, more cohesive unit," Simpson said. "We have capable and dedicated troops on both teams and will continue working to fill our 10 vacant civilian positions with talented individuals who have the same commitment to security for the entire base."

He pointed out that plans call for these security positions to be filled as ARTs, and that the current security duty mix will remain the same: DOD handling law enforcement and base entry issues, and SFS focusing on

resource protection and access to restricted areas.

"It's a constant work in progress, with nothing time-phased into when we will complete this merger," he said. "The dedicated crews on both the DOD and SFS teams have put in countless hours to keep security in the good shape it is now and to work together as a team. Filling the additional ART positions will strengthen that effort even further with fewer requirements for overtime for our people."

Simpson said the end product will be one cohesive and effective team to handle the base's security needs. "With the enthusiastic support I've seen among our people so far," he said, "any additions to our forces will help us exceed these goals and expectations." □

Pushing the limits

Wing security forces survive grueling training

Tech. Sgt. Larry Dean
Public Affairs

Thirty-eight members of the 934th Security Forces Squadron completed one of the most grueling training deployments of their careers: meeting the challenges of a flurry of simulated attacks, nearly unbearable heat and humidity, and a barrage of ticks and critters dropping in to see the action.

"We deployed to Fort Dix, N.J., to train with other units in the Phoenix Readiness joint training, which pushed most of us to the edge of our physical and mental limits, and improved ground combat skills,"

said **Tech Sgt. David Hardy**, squad leader.

"We were in full camouflage gear, painted faces and taped from head-to-toe. Days started at 5 a.m. and ended at 11 p.m., with us living and working in scorching heat that reached 126 degrees in heat index at its highest and averaged 110 our whole stay."

"The unit set up operations and worked daily in a wartime environment," added **Staff Sgt. Barry Haukoos**.



Hardy

"We made decisions concerning personnel to send to patrol areas with terrorist and sniper attacks. And we were asked to locate the enemy among friendly



Haukoos

September 1999



Courtesy photo

Tech. Sgt. David Hardy, squad leader, uses the TA-312 field telephone

during exercises at the Air Mobility Warfare Center at Fort Dix, N.J.

villages, removing them as a threat to villages and buildings through systematic searches and clearing."

This also meant making sure security forces members followed rules of engagement concerning treatment of threats and the enemy to avoid facing war crime charges, Haukoos said. "The 'enemies' used AK-47s, which give a sound that is hard to forget," he said. "We also set up and secured a site for an airdrop of needed supplies and conducted a convoy to safely pick up supplies, facing ambushes and more."

"This tested everything we were made of," Hardy said. "The place is full of ticks; the heat made it unbearable working conditions; and the mental pressure on you to make snap judgements and protect people was unbelievable. But in reality, if you don't deal with those pressures, you get killed. So pushing us to the brink, although a challenge none of

us care to go through again, will make us much stronger."

Leadership responsibilities were greater still. As soon as all returned to their home base to shower and rest for another full day, those in positions of leadership still had work to do.

"We still had to handle the operations orders and request supplies we would need for the following day," Hardy said. "The only time to accomplish that was the night before. As the saying goes, failure to prepare is preparing to fail."

"There is no time to rehearse in combat," he continued, "so squad leaders need to keep on their toes with each situation that arises. All you can do is suck it up and do it. Things are happening so fast, and you are really being pushed to the limit to respond to each of the challenges. This was far beyond any training or exercise I've ever been on." □

Facing the new EAF culture



Senior Master Sgt. Andy Stanley
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

Q Speaking as a reservist, we know that there will be some very significant changes when the Expeditionary Aerospace Force comes on line. What's the real change under the EAF?

A We believe EAF gives Air Force Reserve Command a very good road map. It will give us the predictability and the flexibility to do the things we are asked to. EAF will give us stability and the predictability to say in advance which units will be next in line. The rest of their schedules, training and other commitments will be built around that. I certainly think it will make life for our reservists much easier. And this is not all that new for us in the Guard and Reserve, because an Aerospace Expeditionary Force is very similar to the way we've done business for years. We had to take a long-range look to ensure that our training had some stability. What EAF will do now is help us and the active force add predictability to their schedule, which is important because we're going to be mixed in with them on deployments.

Q What are some of the concerns? I would think that being able to allocate specific units that are needed in a particular AEF, based upon their makeup and getting schedules to coordinate might be difficult.

A Timing is important to the Reserve component. You have only a specific period of time to get your forces in, perform the mission and then get them back out. You have to schedule their return leg so you know ahead of time when one group of reservists is coming home and who is taking their place so you don't have a gap in capability. Historically, this has been the most difficult, finding out the requirements and then laying in a force to go there. The kicker in all of this will be the actual implementation and how we work through the early stages. This will set the pattern for how we'll do in the future.

Q The EAF has been put on hold, or at least on the back burner, while the Kosovo conflict is going on, is that correct?

A Not really. EAF is still on track, even though our whole focus is on the Kosovo operation. But because of the importance of EAF and needing to have the AEFs ready to step forward, we've had to continue with the planning. The chief has not changed the implementation date. We're going to be there and we'll be ready.

Q As you've said before, the Reserve side of the house has kind of worked under an EAF doctrine to some degree, philosophically in the past. Would the citizens hold your concept more applicable now than it was under the old garrison force?

A Well, from the Air Force perspective, the Reserve never really was a garrison force because of the way we operate. We're deeply intertwined in the daily mission of the Air Force. Because of that, we're part of virtually every mission the active force has. That's the beautiful part of the way we do business. As you know, they [the active force] define the standard and they evaluate us. So there is never any doubt in anyone's mind as to the caliber of the force we provide, our capabilities or our readiness. We are also working hard to make sure we keep our weapons system up to date so that we can have essential interoperability with active-duty units. While we may not be flying a specific block of airplanes, we still are interoperable with other similarly-equipped units, and there's no loss in capability. That's the key to success in the EAF. It provides a specific capability that is the right force for what you're trying to do. That's what we're

TIG Brief interviews Maj. Gen. James Sherrard III, Chief, Air Force Reserve Command

looking for in each one of those AEFs. You never have any loss in the ability to meet the requirements of the war fighter who says, "This specific capability is important to me." What he needs is what we have to have covered in advance.

Q Would you rate the role of the Guard and Reserve as high or critical to the overall success of the EAF concept? If so, how and why?

A I'd say it's critical. It's critical not from the standpoint that we are so unique in the capabilities we bring to the fight, even though I do think we are. It's critical because we are such a key segment of the force. We stand right there side-by-side with our active-duty counterparts. We have mission segments set across the three components of the total Air Force: the active force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard. Another huge piece of the puzzle is the contributions of our civilian work force.

Q In the coming millennium, what do you see the role of the reservist in the next century – how do you see it in terms of the partnership in terms of the total force? Is it something we're going to be expanding even more than we have in, say, the last 20-30 years? Or do you think there is a specific role for the reservists that will be pretty much defined just by the need?

A I think the future looks good, but there are some pieces of it that we have to be careful about. Our key to success is our experience base. We like to recruit experienced people as they leave the active force, but there are only so many for us to recruit. Therefore, the only option we're going to have is to recruit from non-prior service people. We have non-priors now who are fantastic assets for us, but you have to build their experience base, and that takes time and money.

Also, there's a fine balance in terms of the size of the reserve component in relation to the active force. We'll have to play that out based on the mission segments they ask

us to do. The other big piece of the puzzle will come from the individual and the unit programs. In some areas, the individual reservist, or the IMA [individual mobilization augmentee] as we know them today, will be key because they often bring a unique specialty that you can focus on the duties of the active force. The active force needs this particular skill, but they may not need it all the time, so the best way to do it is to have a member of the reserve forces available to do the job.

Because we can offer some unique contributions to the total Air Force, we cannot let ourselves get trapped into a cookie-cutter approach. Not everybody fits the cookie cutter. We focus on every mission and get in there with our sleeves rolled up to provide the best capability, hopefully the best efficiency and least cost to the American taxpayer. But the key is that we provide the best tools for the Air Force to do its mission, whether we're talking about an Air Force reservist or Air National Guard member. Which tool they use is a decision that needs to be made by the leadership standing there at that point in time. The beautiful part is that the capabilities and the abilities are kept the same across the total Air Force. That's the key – and once we all understand it and know how to employ it, we'll always be No. 1. (Reprinted courtesy TIG Brief, July-August 1999)□

'I think the future looks good but there are some pieces of it that we have to be careful about.'

Paint the town

Wing members complete tenth year of painting area homes

Paint-A-Thon participants

- Maj. Linda Boyda, AW
- Master Sgt. John Bruns, LSS
- * Senior Master Sgt. Dave Cormier, MXS
- Chuck Cunningham, LSS
- Darlene Cormier, family
- Brittany Ernst, family
- Tech. Sgt. Rory Ernst, MXS
- Staff Sgt. Don Fletcher, MXS
- Kay Gilligan, family
- Norman Gilligan, family
- Col. Paul Groskreutz, 934th Support Group
- * Master Sgt. David Hammer, AW
- Nicholas Hammer, family
- Stephanie Hammer, family
- Master Sgt. Betsy Johnston, LSS
- Staff Sgt. Mindy Koukol, AW
- Maj. Cam LeBlanc, LG
- Maj. Pam LeBlanc, OG
- Tech. Sgt. Steve Lerbakken, MXS
- Tech. Sgt. Don MacElroy, MXS
- Tech. Sgt. Al McCann, MXS
- Janie Medina, LGT
- Master Sgt. Craig Molm, LG
- Staff Sgt. Dana Money, MXS
- Col. Richard Moss, AW
- Tech. Sgt. Curt Nelson, MXS
- Senior Master Sgt. Becky Ogden, AW
- Master Sgt. Dan Pekel, MXS
- Bob Priest, LGS
- Master Sgt. Darryl Radford, MXS
- Tech. Sgt. Rich Reinhart, MXS
- Master Sgt. Gerald Schuster, MXS
- Master Sgt. Roy Schwegel, MXS
- Mary Kay Sears, family
- Tech. Sgt. Loryann Stangler, LSS
- KD Steward, LGS
- Alan Stratton, family
- Tech. Sgt. Tom Stratton, LSS
- Tech. Sgt. Clarence Summers, LSS
- Tech. Sgt. John Tverberg, MXS
- Master Sgt. Aaran Weinzirl, MXS
- Master Sgt. Ron Welp, MXS
- Andrea Welp, family
- Connie Welp, family
- Eric Welp, family
- Doug Wold, LG
- Tech. Sgt. Mark Woodson, MXS
- Doug Yocum, CE
- Chief Master Sgt. Mike Zurn, MXS
- Sue Zurn, family

* Co-team leaders

Master Sgt. Darrell Habisch
Public Affairs

Getting a residential face-lift is just what the doctor ordered for an elderly South Minneapolis couple as a team of 51 934th Airlift Wing reservists, employees and family members scraped, sanded and painted their weather-worn house recently.

Part of the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches' 1999 Paint-A-Thon, this year's three-day project had the 79- and 84-year-old homeowners "tickled pink," according to co-team leader **Senior Master Sgt. Dave Cormier**. "They were thrilled," he said, "and kept us supplied with cookies, coffee and homemade newspaper hats to catch the paint splats."

The couple is part of a long line of beneficiaries during the 15 years of the program, according to Cormier, which was designed for elderly, disabled and low-income homeowners. "We've been participating in the Paint-A-Thon for ten years and have had a great time doing it," he said.

This year's event involved 5,700 volunteers metro-wide who used approximately 4,000 gallons of paint, according to Paint-A-Thon organizers.

First, the house was power-washed, then scraped and sanded. "We even did the garage," said **Senior Master Sgt. Becky Ogden**. "It really felt good to do this for those wonderful people."

Paint-A-Thon officials try to match locations of homes to be painted with the best location for the volunteers. Most of the homes painted by 934th volunteers are



Courtesy photo

Wing participants swarmed over this year's home.

within a 15-mile radius of the base. This year's 120-year-old home was in dire need of a new look, according to Ogden. "The neighbors wanted it torn down as an eyesore," she explained. "Some of them even came over and were shocked and happy the Air Force Reserve was doing this."

In addition to helping the surrounding communities, the volunteers receive the pride of a job well done. "I drove by the home to see how it looked after we painted it," Ogden said, "and it was the nicest one on the block. I'm so happy for that nice couple. And I still have my paper hat as a souvenir!"

Volunteers also brought friends, spouses and children of all ages participate. This year, the youngest to participate were **Stephanie Hammer**, 9, and **Nicholas Hammer**, 11, children of **Master Sgt. David Hammer**, co-team leader.

"When I was leaving the house with my supplies," Hammer said, "my children asked where I was going. I told them to the Paint-A-Thon and they raced past me to get into the car. They've participated in the past and enjoy the time painting the house. They also like helping people and this is a great event for them."

He hopes future years bring in even more participants from the wing. "At some point, I would like to have enough volunteers so that the 934th can have more than one team," Hammer said. "I would really like to see us paint two houses in one year!" □

Good, clean fun

Armed with squirt guns, troops cut loose for successful Combat Dining Out

Maj. Rob Clark
Public Affairs

Battle dress uniforms instead of mess dress, bunkers instead of assigned seating areas, barbecued ribs instead of filet mignon. And, oh yes, an infantry of armed warriors with squirt guns.

The Combat Dining Out took on a new approach during the August unit training assembly as the wing shifted from a formal annual event to a more relaxed and informal combat version. The result was an evening of fun and camaraderie for the more than 400 wing members and guests who attended.

"We have done formal dining outs for at least the last 20 years that I have been in the wing," said Col. Paul Groskreutz, 934th Support Group commander and event organizer. "This year we sought to make the event more informal, less expensive and more fun for everyone; and I

think the event turned out to be a huge success."

Staff Sgt. Mindy Koukal, wing command post, agreed. "It was a great evening," said Koukal. "I appreciated the low-key approach and particularly enjoyed the bunker and team competitions. I was soaked by the end of the evening, but it was all in good fun."

The evening's festivities included unit bunkers and safe areas for armed water combat, an enemy prisoner of war detainment area for violators of the mess, and a team challenge including events like limbo and hula hoop.

The event also included a catered barbecued ribs and chicken dinner and special guests including Minnesota Lt. Governor Mae Schunk and State Representative Mark Gleason of District 63B, which includes the Minneapolis-St Paul Air Reserve Station.

The combat format of the evening presented a competitive environment for all attendees, resulting in periods of full-scale water warfare.

"We had a simple plan - win at all costs," said Chief Master Sgt. Tom Foss, 96th Airlift Squadron, whose team began planning for their combat dining out operations two months ago. Their efforts included a bunker with more than 3,000 sandbags and an arsenal of water balloons.

The efforts paid off as the 96th took home the prize as the top combat unit, while the 934th Communications Flight won the trophy for the team competition. Each unit will reign as champion until the next combat dining out. □

Recruiter Andy

New balloon 'recruiter' attracts community interest in Reserve

Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Williams
Public Affairs

When Master Sgt. Dave Hammer, wing historian, was asked to participate in a new recruiting venture for parades and public appearances, he thought it would be a lot of fun.

That is, if you consider fun being strapped inside of a 10-foot balloon on a 90-degree day.

"I just didn't know if I could do it," said Hammer. It's hot in there - even on a cool day with a camelback water pack and a fan inside designed to keep me cool."

The inflatable-suit mascot, with a price tag of approximately \$3,000 and named "Recruiter Andy," is the newest member of the 934th recruiting team. He attended several

Minneapolis Aquatennial events immediately after joining the unit in mid-July. Andy even helped the wing win the 1999 Torchlight Parade Skipper's Award in the "Most Humorous" category.

Wing recruiters expect to give Andy plenty of missions in the local community, wearing the giant suit themselves when necessary. Stored flat and folded, Andy requires only about 10-15 minutes to go from flat to stepping-out status.

The wearer totes the storage case to the appearance location, dons the power pack and air transfer hoses, steps into the suit then pushes a button to quickly inflate Andy. While serving as the balloon boy's living framework, the wearer also carries a walkie-talkie

(RECRUITER ANDY, continued on Page 16)



Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz

Andy makes some friends at the recent Military Expo.

Humanitarian service in Honduras

Base civilian works two weeks in hurricane relief effort

Cherie Huntington
Public Affairs

For Don Manselle, seeing pictures of Hurricane Mitch's destruction in Central America last October evoked more than just an emotional response.

In fact, less than six months later, he headed to Rio Choluteca, Honduras, taking two weeks of vacation to assist in humanitarian efforts there.

"When I heard they'd had almost eight straight days of rain – almost six feet of water – I couldn't believe it," said Manselle, a woodworker in the transportation management packing and crating section. "That's tremendous devastation to any country. It puts people in terrible hardship."

Through his church, he found out about a group forming to help in Honduras. "When I saw I could help in such easy fashion, I volunteered," he said. "We had a team of 10 people, most with a construction background plus a registered nurse."

Though Manselle is no stranger to lending a hand during a crisis, such as the Red River flooding in 1997, he'd never been involved in a disaster of this magnitude. "It seems like I'm always helping someone with a project, he said. "It's good to go out and help someone who's not as fortunate as we are."

Nothing prepared him, however, for what he saw in Honduras.

"It was shocking," he said. "Homes close to the rivers were absolutely washed away – there was nothing left. People had just the clothing on their back, not even a plate to eat on, and this was months afterward."

If people couldn't move in with nearby relatives, he said, they built makeshift homes with cardboard for walls and either cardboard or tarpaulin for the roof.

"When you see people like that, it's not hard to give two weeks to help them out," Manselle said.

Honduras, here we come

"The first three days were pretty tough," said Manselle. "Every morning, we were up before six and on the job by seven or before." The workday usually ended around 4:30 p.m. since the temperature hovered around 110-115 degrees most days and 90-95 at night.

The team primarily built walls for a new church, with only the foundation finished before they arrived. "We laid a lot of blocks and cement columns," Manselle said, explaining that the facility represented more than just a place of worship.

"The church is more of a community center," he said. "It's in a central location, and whenever there is a community disruption, such as a crisis or storm, everyone goes to the church for shelter."



Courtesy photo

Manselle (right) in Honduras

He said it serves as an extension of the country's government as well. "It's where everyone does business," he said. "They build so many houses and then a big church."

As he worked, he observed homes being built by the hundreds, primarily from cement block made from river sand. "Anybody could have been useful," he said. "Just take a wheelbarrow and run cement block around!"

Cement block walls were strengthened with columns poured around "rerod," or bond beams of reinforcing steel rods, and then covered with stucco. Roofs were created from steel bars covered with tin and overlaid with clay tile. Windows were created with steel bars, and steel doors were installed.

Manselle said most homes under construction measured around 16 x 20 feet – roughly half the size of normal but all that was possible through various disaster relief funding programs and government assistance. "When people moved in, they hung hammocks in the other half," he said, "and the family would have to finish the other half ... They'll be better off with these new houses, but it's still a real struggle."

He said it was obvious the country would need a lot of help for a long time to come. "There's not any money to do things with," he said. "The government has trouble just keeping power on in the city – it shuts down numerous times a day."

Daily life

Volunteers found their city hotel living conditions commendable, considering the situation, said Manselle. "We couldn't complain from our standpoint, but from theirs, we were treated very well," he said. "They tried to keep us in air-conditioned rooms so we could rest, but the air conditioners failed a lot."

(HUMANITARIAN SERVICE, continued on Page 16)

Medals

Meritorious Service Medal

Tech. Sgt. Richard Hardenbrook, CES, retired

Air Force Achievement Medal

Master Sgt. Brian Lloyd, SVS

Promotions

Tech. Sgt. Crealeo Alverio, APS
 Master Sgt. Timothy Atchley, ASTS
 Senior Airman Jonathan Berry, APS
 Staff Sgt. William Condon, CES
 Senior Airman Kyle Dagstad, APS
 Senior Airman Brian Hill, MSF
 Master Sgt. Keith Krause, MXS
 Master Sgt. Thomas Krueger, CES
 Senior Airman Jessica Lind, AS
 Master Sgt. Bernardette Lunde, MSF
 Staff Sgt. Troy Oscarson, CES
 Senior Airman Cory Preusse, AS
 Staff Sgt. Lucas Resenius, CES
 Staff Sgt. Benjamin Rettmann, MXS
 Tech. Sgt. Donald Schlinsog, AES
 Tech. Sgt. Scott Struss, AW
 Senior Airman Barry Torseth, CF

Newcomers

- Senior Airman Mark Cornell, APS, *Army National Guard*, recruited by Lt. Col. James Kirchoff, APS
- Amn. David Dachs, CES, *non-prior service*
- Maj. Dominick Driano Jr., AW, *McChord Air Force Base, Wash.*
- Staff Sgt. Daniel Fitzmaurice, CES, *prior service Air Force*
- Senior Airman Loney Gronskei, SFS, *South Dakota Air National Guard*
- Senior Airman Aaron Groskreutz, SFS, *Fort Worth, Texas*
- Airman 1st Class Wendy Haavisto, ASTS, *Air Reserve Personnel Center*
- Senior Airman Bradley Hegge, CES, *Minot AFB, N.D.*
- Senior Airman Latanya Jones, AES, *Grand Forks AFB, N.D.*
- Airman Basic Michael Jones, AW, *non-prior service*
- Senior Airman Thu-Mai Lewis, CF, *Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.*
- Senior Airman Michael Magnuson, MXS, *F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo.*
- Staff Sgt. Dana Money, MXS, *prior*

service Army

- Tech. Sgt. Steven Orwig, CES, *prior service ANG*
- Senior Airman Ryan Pierce, CES, *F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo.*
- Staff Sgt. Frank Preuss, AES, *prior service Air Force*
- Senior Airman Randall Profitt, ASTS, *ARPC*
- Staff Sgt. Jason Rebholtz, ASTS, *prior service Navy*
- Senior Airman Jason Rohman, CES, *ARPC*
- Staff Sgt. Randy Sliva, LSS, *Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.*
- Senior Airman Jeffrey Steien, LSS, *Kadena Air Base, Japan*
- Senior Airman Douglas Thorson, APS, *prior service Army National Guard*
- Tech. Sgt. Deborah Ward, AES, *Kelly AFB, Texas*
- Senior Airman Diane Ward, ASTS, *Whiteman AFB, Mo.*
- Staff Sgt. David Woelper, MXS, *Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass.*
- Staff Sgt. Anthony Zad, CES, *prior service Army*

Air reserve technicians

- Master Sgt. James Courneya, APS, *prior traditional reservist, 934th*
- Staff Sgt. Barry Haukoos, SFS, *prior traditional reservist, 934th*

Civilians

- Daniel Bengs, CEOU, *private industry, St. Cloud, Minn.*

Reenlistments

Senior Airman Derek Green, MXS
 Staff Sgt. Martha Grimes, APS
 Staff Sgt. Paul Gulenchyn, CF
 Senior Master Sgt. David Halverson, CES
 Tech. Sgt. Darrel Knox, AS
 Tech. Sgt. Troy Puckett, AS
 Staff Sgt. Paul Wentler, CES

Achievements

- **Chaplain (Col.) Peter Esterka**, retired, has been appointed by Pope John Paul II as auxiliary bishop of the diocese of Brno in the Czech Republic. Esterka served as the Catholic chaplain of the 934th for more than 20 years as well as the wing chaplain

the last several years of his service prior to retirement in 1995. He has worked with Czech Catholics in California since that time.

Education

Staff Sgt. Diane Johnson was selected as the distinguished graduate of the operation resource craftsman course at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss. She also earned her associate's in airport resource management from the Community College of the Air Force.

- The following members graduated from the Leadership Development Program in August:

Staff Sgt. Michael Allen, CF
 Staff Sgt. Susan Askevold, APS
 Tech. Sgt. Michael Doffing, MXS
 Staff Sgt. James Erickson, MXS
 Staff Sgt. Jodie Eversman, AW
 Staff Sgt. Michael Gangl, SVS
 Staff Sgt. Paul Gauthier, MXS
 Staff Sgt. Debra Hanson, SVS
 Staff Sgt. Devin Heldman, MXS
 Staff Sgt. Shane Lohman, AES
 Staff Sgt. Dennis Maddox, MXS
 Tech. Sgt. Michael Pasbrig, APS
 Staff Sgt. Robert Payne, CES
 Tech. Sgt. Wade Priest, MXS
 Staff Sgt. Stefania Strowder, AES
 Staff Sgt. Holly Theide, LSS
 Staff Sgt. Erica Twardy, SVS
 Staff Sgt. Tara Venem, CES
 Tech. Sgt. Richard Welter, MXS

Marriages

Bob Rivard, SFS, and his new wife, **Julie**, were married July 31.

Births

Scott Calvert, SVS, and his wife, **Carrie**, have a new son, **Ryan Scott**, born on June 19, weighing 9 pounds, 20 3/4 ounces.

Retirements

Tech. Sgt. Jerry Immonen, MXS, 34 years military and 31 years, eight months federal civil service. □

Fun & leisure

NCO Club

- "Music to a T" disc jockey entertainment will be offered at the club on Saturday, Sept. 11, starting at 8:30 p.m. A variety of music will be played.

- "Football

Frenzy" returns every Monday night.

Last year, the 934th Services Squadron had a winner of a free trip to the Super Bowl, so be sure to register.

- **Two-for-one dinner special** coupons may be used Sept. 14,



barbecue ribs, or Sept. 28, prime rib.

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

Officers Club

- **Each Friday in September is chowder day**, each featuring a different chowder, from clam to seafood.

- **Prime rib** is offered for dinner every Friday and Saturday. Call for a reservation.

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

Fitness center

- "**Lift a C-130**" competition starts Sept. 13. Lifting accumulates points by the weight lifted.

- **Personal trainers** are available, so call the fitness center

to schedule a session and get a workout tailored to specific needs.

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

Metrodome Armed Forces Day

Discount tickets are available on Armed Forces Day at the Dome for the Minnesota Golden Gophers homecoming game against the Purdue Boilermakers on Saturday, Oct. 30.

The game starts at 11:10 a.m. Tickets are \$19.75, regularly \$23; \$13.75, regularly \$17; and \$9.25, regularly \$11; \$5, children age 14 and under, in the \$7.50 section. Prices include a hot dog and soda, a \$4.50 value.

☎Order forms are available in unit orderly rooms or in the fitness center. To order by phone, call **Marc Rood**, (612) 624-7308. □

Humanitarian service ...

(Continued from Page 15)

Meals were Americanized as well, he said, with items such as french fries and hamburgers served regularly. Native fare revolved around soft corn tacos filled with beans or a rice and egg mixture, cheese and produce.

"Every tree blooms and produces something – coconuts, avocados, mangos," he said. "They have a round, hard fruit that looks like a grapefruit that grows right in the yards ...

There's also a little, hard fruit like an apple, and kids in the city pick some and eat them on their way to school."

The sight of neatly-dressed children in school uniforms on their way to school, however, conflicted with that of armed guards patrolling city streets, said Manselle, adding it wasn't unusual to hear automatic gunfire at night.

Helping hands

Manselle appears to have found his niche, however, in humanitarian work.

"I'll go back someday," he said.

"When I retire, I expect to be involved with a lot of projects like this."

He said his wife, **Mary**, would have enjoyed going to Honduras but is a kindergarten teacher for Annandale Public School, Minn., and couldn't get away. The couple's three sons are grown, and "there are no grandkids yet," he said. "So we'll go in the summer sometime when she's free. Someday when we're no longer committed to a time clock, we'll find someplace that needs help and go there for around six months at a time."

For the time being, however, he hopes to return to Honduras next spring. "I'd love to go back and do it all over again," he said. "That country is in need and could use help anytime, if you just get hooked up to an organization to steer you in the right direction ... It was an honor and a privilege to be able to help them." □

Recruiter Andy ...

(Continued from Page 13)

to facilitate communications with the outside world.

Master Sgt. Mark Jones, wing recruiter, said Andy's purpose is promoting awareness of the Air Force Reserve in the community.

"Even though we've been here for decades, many people in our local community don't know that we are here," Jones said. "They aren't aware that the Air Force Reserve exists in this area. That's where Andy helps us – he's an attention-getter. He's a hit everywhere he has been."

Hammer believes that the exposure will be good for the unit. "The kids are great," he said. "Their eyes just light up really big with smiles on their faces. That's the kind of positive image we are trying to promote. I don't believe it will ever get old." □