

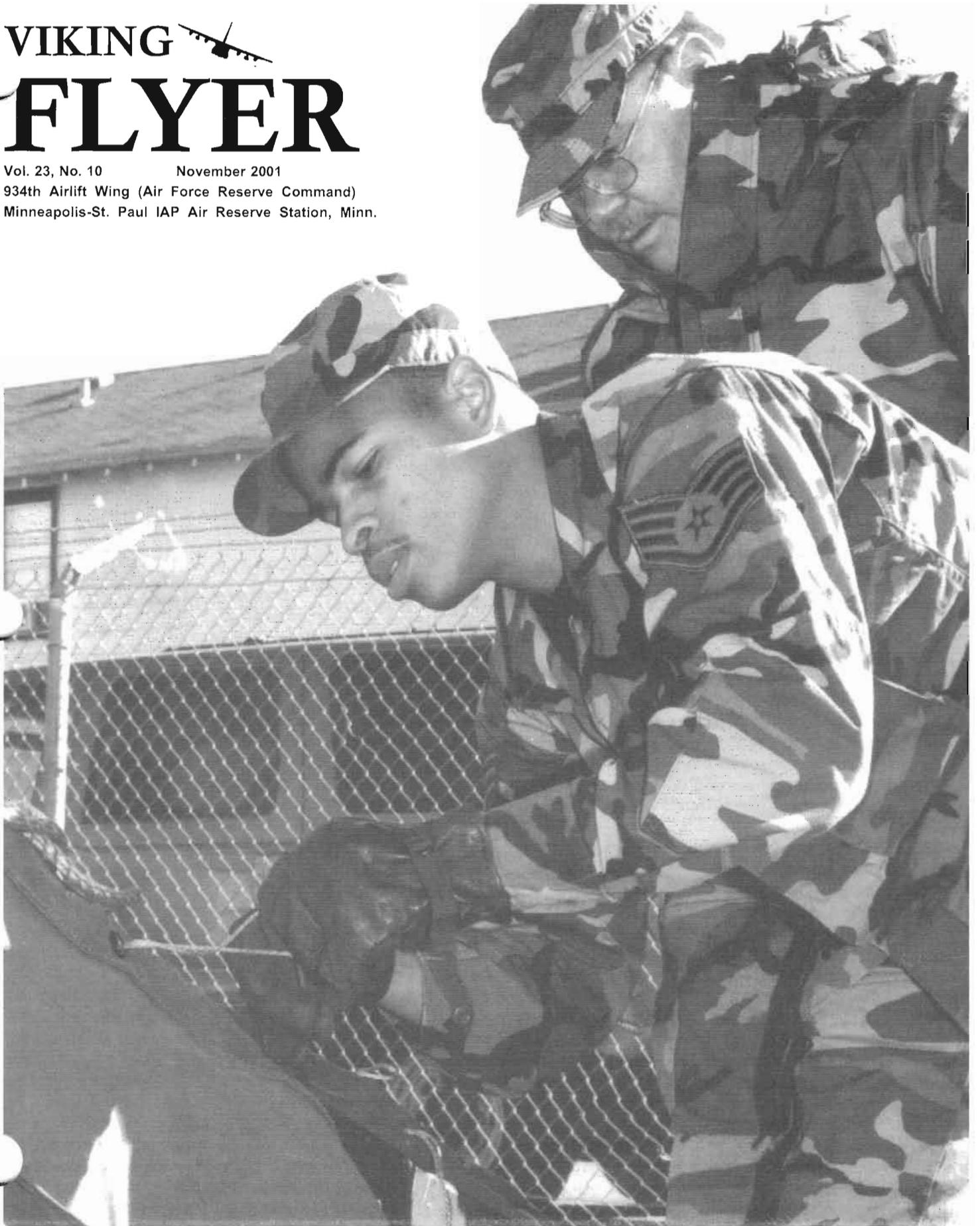
VIKING FLYER

Vol. 23, No. 10

November 2001

934th Airlift Wing (Air Force Reserve Command)

Minneapolis-St. Paul IAP Air Reserve Station, Minn.



More than 5,500 air reservists called-up within the past month

One month after the initial call-up, Air Force Reserve Command called to active duty 5,587 reservists from 40 units in 24 states, among them more than 20 people from the 934th Airlift Wing.

Another 1,338 individual mobilization augmentees from across the United States went on active duty as part of the partial mobilization authorized by President George W. Bush.

The Department of Defense announced the totals in late October.

The Air Force reservists account for more than 21 percent of reserve component members called to active duty to fight America's war on terrorism.

En route to China, President Bush stopped at Travis AFB Oct. 17 to speak with men and women in uniform and their families.

He told a cheering crowd that planes and equipment are not what make America great.



President George W. Bush speaks to military members and their families during a brief stop at Travis AFB, Calif., Oct. 17

"Our real strength (is) the people who fly 'em and who maintain 'em, the people who make the military go," he said.

The president also thanked military family members for their sacrifices. "To...those of you whose mom or dad or husband or wife has been deployed, I want you to know that they're on a noble mission," he said. "The cause is just. And we will win."

Some 14 port mortuary reservists from the 934th Services Squadron were among the first reservists to volunteer to help America recover from the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11.

Part of the group stayed for two weeks, some for a month, while a couple stayed until Oct. 26. They worked at Dover AFB, Del., with more than 100 other reservists from around the country identifying and processing the remains of military members killed in the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the Pentagon.

(AFRC News Service from DOD news releases)

Plans directorate springs into action when personnel needed worldwide

**by Staff Sgt. Jeff Williams
staff writer**

Whenever 934th Airlift Wing personnel are needed for deployment, whether at home or abroad, the Wing's plans directorate springs into action.

Since Sept. 11th, the seven members of the directorate have been in their office more than usual, sometimes coming in during the night and weekends they normally would have had off, and occasionally around midnight.

"As a result of the attack on Sept. 11, the homeland defense issues and overseas military build up, we have been receiving, reading and interpreting the message traffic that affects 934th personnel," said Capt. Bill Short, director of plans and programs.

"We act on that tasking depending on if we are mobilizing or deploying individuals."

Even with the different hours, increased message traffic and the regular deployment of troops and equipment, Short said it hasn't been too difficult for him and his staff, especially since the four traditional reservists

have helped handle the workload.

"The more people you send to different locations, the more difficult it is to track them, that's a given," he said.

"It's not an unnecessary burden at all. It's just part of our job and we are totally prepared for it."

Short said the operations tempo in his office should remain the same for the indefinite future, especially since a task was added on to the regular day-to-day activities.

"We have been gathering information for higher headquarters that we normally don't do during peacetime," he said.

"That means a lot of head counts and equipment counts. We also have to review a lot of message traffic and proposed plans to give the Wing Commander a heads up to our susceptibility of being tasked and deploying people."

Tech. Sgt. Mel Roberts, logistics planner, has been with the 934th for only a few months, having left active duty in July after 12 years of service.

In the short time that has passed since Sept. 11, Roberts said the

experience here has given him a new respect for the entire Reserve organization.

"While on active duty, it was much easier to maintain and mobilize since we had all our assets in one place," Roberts said.

"Here, our assets are all over the place and we have to deal with employers and reservists work schedules.

It's a completely different process than when I was on active duty."

He said the work tempo often changes rapidly.

"One minute it's business as usual, and then the next minute you have to gear up for some stuff.

"A call can sometimes come in five minutes before we're scheduled to leave and we're heard for another four hours. The entire atmosphere changes, but it gives us a chance to see the true state of readiness."

Having had the time to adjust to his new environment, Roberts knows that this is just the beginning of things to come. "We still have a long way to go," he said. "It's far from over."

AFA/AFSA co-host dinner

The Air Force Association and Air Force Sergeants Association are co-hosting an awards dinner on Saturday, Nov. 17 at the Thunderbird Hotel in Bloomington.

Both organizations will recognize the outstanding people of the Air Force, Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, Air Force ROTC, Civil Air Patrol, as well as chapter members.

Gen. John Handy, slated in early November to become commander in chief of U.S. Transportation Command and commander of Air Mobility Command, will be the event's keynote speaker.

The event begins at 6 p.m. and appropriate dress is business attire. The cost is \$25 per person for AFA/AFSA and \$35 for individuals who are not members of either organization.

For more details, contact unit first sergeants.

Registration forms need to be in by Nov. 13.

Outstanding Amn., NCO, FSgt of the Year programs due in Nov.

Nomination packages for these programs are due to the Military Personnel Flight by the end of the Nov. UTA.

A selection board will be held during the Dec. UTA to select the 934th Airlift Wing winners who will then compete at 22nd Air Force in February.

Guidance for putting packages together can be found in AFI 36-2805, Special Awards and Trophies.

Questions can also be directed to Staff Sgt. William Liberatore of the MPF at (612) 713-1085/1507 or Chief Dick Grewe at (612) 713-1211.

Personnel announces new bonus AFSCs

Personnel officials have released the Enlisted Incentive Program bonus Air



Maj. Gen. James D. Bankers, 22nd Air Force commander, and Col. Dean J. Despinoy, 934th Airlift Wing commander, talk with Master Sgt. Scott Kjelvik, 934th Security Forces Squadron during a base visit during the October UTA.



On the cover

Staff Sgts. Jerry Covington and Lyle Coney, 27th Aerial Port Squadron, practice putting together a tent during training behind the unit's building. The aerial port squadron, along with the 934th Civil Engineering and Services Squadrons, conducted a modified deployment, part of their annual training, during the first weekend of October. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Stephanie Robinson.)

Force specialty codes for the period Oct. 1, 2001 through Mar. 31, 2002.

- Bonus AFSC's include:
- 1C0X1 (Airfield Management)
 - 1N0X1 (Intelligence Applications)
 - 2A1X7 (Electronic Warfare Systems)
 - 2A551J (Aerospace Maintenance)
 - 2A6X1B (Aerospace Propulsion)
 - 2A6X4 (Aircraft Fuels Systems)
 - 2A6X6 (Aircraft Electronic and Environmental Systems)
 - 2E1X3 (Ground Radio Communications)
 - 2T0X1 (Traffic Management)
 - 2T3X5 (Vehicle Body Maintenance)
 - 3MOX1 (Services)
 - 4A2X1 (Biomedical Equipment)
 - 4D0X1 (Diet Therapy)
 - 4F0X1 (Aeromedical)
 - 4N0X1 (Medical Services)
 - X4N0X1 (Flying Medical Technician)
 - 4P0X1 (Pharmacy)

Anyone with questions can contact the base career adviser, Master Sgt. Laurie Konz at (612) 713- 3756. Her office is located in Bldg. 852, room 114.

Flying jobs open within wing

Members of the 934th Airlift Wing desiring to take

to the skies as a pilot or navigator can do so, provided they have a bachelors degree and meet several criteria, according to Air Force Reserve recruiters.

"Several changes have occurred in the criteria which will allow more people to apply," said Senior Master Larry Giles, senior recruiter.

"Applicants for either UPT (Undergraduate Pilot Training) or UNT (Undergraduate Navigator Training) can now apply up to age 29, and must be in training by age 30.

"Another change," he said, "is applicants do not have to have 20/20 vision to qualify for UPT."

Individuals interested in applying should contact Recruiting at (612) 713-5627, or Master Sgt. Mike Ginapp in Career Enhancement at (612) 713- 1509.

Flying Vikings mugs available

A number of the special 13-ounce mugs with the 934th AIRLIFT WING "FLYING VIKINGS" logo etched on them are still available at \$5 each. Individuals may purchase them by contacting Roger Hanson at (612) 713-1091 during the week, or Maj. Mo Banavige at (612) 713-3452 on the UTA weekends. Proceeds goes towards next year's event.

Viking Flyer

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.

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The newspaper is distributed on Friday before the UTA. The deadline for unsolicited submissions is the 15th day of the month prior to UTA.

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UTA Schedule

Dec. 1-2, 2001
Jan. 5-6, 2002
Feb. 2-3, 2002
Mar. 2-3, 2002
Apr. 6-7, 2002
May 4-5, 2002
June 1-2, 2002
July 13-14, 2002
Aug. 10-11, 2002

We have many things to be thankful for

by Col. Dean J. Despinoy
934th Airlift Wing
commander

As we approach the holiday season and especially Thanksgiving it may be hard for some to find a reason to give thanks.

Each day brings us more news to either remind us of Sept. 11th or inform us of another person who has been exposed to anthrax.

Looking a little closer to home, we have inconvenient procedures and parking due to the increased security level of the base. Many of our people's lives have been impacted due to activation, 12-hour shifts, or cancellations of leave.

All of these issues may combine to impact negatively on your holiday spirit.

Well, I say, we all have many things for which we should be thankful.

The terrorist efforts, although unfathomable, have not produced the reaction intended.

I see no one hiding in his or her homes, or losing faith in our government or way of life.

Although there have been some stock market



adjustments, we are far from an economic collapse. As a matter of fact we are not acting like an oppressed society at all but rather a society with tremendous resolve to rid the world of these criminals.

The events have united us and brought out the best in every American.

Strangers helping strangers, neighbors helping neighbors, all unconditionally without regard to ethnic background or religion.

It has reinforced to the American public the fact that they can count on the thousands of people in uniform whether a policeman, fireman, or member of the military. They know that each one of these public servants will put other's life and safety ahead of their own.

Those not in uniform or specially trained to help during a crisis helped by giving time or money.

As a matter of fact, if you look past the additional airport security, the non-stop news reports, and the prudent actions being taken

by our government, our lives really have not changed.

The sadness will remain as will the memories of the aircraft crashing into the buildings, but for the most part we all are continuing with our lives. Lives that are especially blessed because of our morals, ethics, religious freedom and diversity.

We will continue to be the envy of the world. We remain inclusive of other people and ideas.

Only in America can we disagree on a subject or cause, but all agree that we want to live in a society that gives us the freedom to disagree.

We all are members of groups or organizations of some kind. These groups may be political, religious, or social. Often we define ourselves through membership in these groups; I am a republican, I am a catholic; I am a Rotarian, but the one overarching classification is I am an American.

If you find you need something to be thankful for this year, be thankful that you are an American and be proud of what that means.

Contributions help strengthen community

by Maj. Mike Laughlin
CFC project officer

The 934th Airlift Wing plays an important part in strengthening the community, the nation and the world, making it a better place to live and work.

Gifts to the annual Combined Federal Campaign help ensure important programs and a broad range of services are available in

case they are ever needed.

Contributions help make the community a healthier, safer and better place for family, friends and co-workers.

The base has been very generous in past years supporting the Combined Federal Campaign.

The November Unit Training Assembly is the last

opportunity for traditional reservists to make a contribution. Each unit has a CFC representative who can answer questions or help someone fill out the necessary forms.

I urge everyone to give. Together we can make a difference in the lives of many people through the power of caring.

Media reports confuse military, civilian communities

by Tech. Sgt. Scott Elliott
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The American news media have flooded the public with reports of biological terrorism, both real and imagined, since Sept. 11. In many of these reports, "experts" and "analysts" have provided seemingly contradictory information.

The result has been growing confusion and speculation in both military and civilian communities.

Air Force medical officials are trying to set the record straight with information about two of the most dangerous threats: anthrax and smallpox.

Anthrax, a product of the *Bacillus anthracis* bacteria, occurs in three forms: cutaneous, gastrointestinal and inhalational, said Col. (Dr.) Dana Bradshaw from the Air Force Surgeon General's office.

Cutaneous anthrax, which attacks through breaks in the skin, is highly treatable and considered the least dangerous. Gastrointestinal anthrax results from eating undercooked meat from an infected animal. Although gastrointestinal anthrax is the least likely to occur, it has a mortality rate of 50 to 85 percent if left untreated. Inhalational anthrax, the most lethal, occurs when enough spores of the *Bacillus anthracis* bacteria are inhaled and settle into the lungs. As many as 99 percent of victims succumb after the onset of symptoms.

Contracting a lethal dose of inhalational anthrax is difficult, said officials from the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

"For anthrax to be effective as a covert agent, it must be aerosolized into very small particles, CDC officials said in a health advisory. "This (aerosolization) is very difficult to do

and requires a great deal of technical skill and special equipment."



Anthrax spores as seen through a microscope.

None of the recently reported anthrax attacks or scares have been of the aerosol variety; all have come through the mail.

Prevention is the most proven way to avoid anthrax, officials said. People who have been vaccinated against anthrax prior to exposure, then receive antibiotics after exposure, have nearly a 100-percent survival rate, Bradshaw said. Those who were vaccinated prior to exposure but do not receive antibiotics after exposure have a survival rate of about 95 percent. If a nonvaccinated person is exposed to anthrax, then receives both the vaccine and antibiotics prior to the onset of symptoms, chances of survival are nearly 100 percent.

The survival rate drops to about 90 percent if a nonvaccinated person is treated with antibiotics only after exposure, Bradshaw said.

Survival rates drop dramatically after the onset of symptoms. Even with both antibiotic and vaccine treatment, people who become symptomatic will survive less than 14 percent of the time, Bradshaw said.

Vaccine treatment alone is not protective after exposure.

Regardless of which form of the disease occurs, anthrax is not spread from person to person; the only way to contract anthrax is through direct exposure to its spores, Bradshaw said.

Not so with smallpox.

Smallpox is a highly contagious disease that is easily transmitted from person to person exponentially.

"One person may typically infect 10 to 20 others," Bradshaw said.

Infection occurs by inhalation of air droplets, direct contact with an infected person or through contaminated clothing or bed linens. The smallpox virus can remain infective for up to two days in environmental aerosol form, Bradshaw said.

Though the U.S. military provided vaccination to some members through 1989, the United States ceased its routine smallpox vaccination campaign in 1972. The virus was declared eradicated worldwide in 1977.

More than 40 percent of the American population is not vaccinated, and immunity in others is waning.

"The duration of immunity based on experience of naturally exposed individuals has never been satisfactorily measured," Bradshaw said.

Antibodies have been shown to decline substantially during the five to 10 years following vaccination, he said.

Therefore, the Journal of the American Medical Association estimates that the population at large is highly susceptible to infection.

Victims of smallpox can experience up to a 30-percent mortality rate. There is no proven treatment for the disease but patients can benefit from supportive therapy to control fever, pain and secondary infection, CDC officials said.

People should report suspicious activities to local law enforcement officials, officials said. Military people should contact local military medical facilities for more information. Public health advice for civilians is available through state or local health departments.

Anthrax: *What you should know and not be afraid to ask*

by Maj. (Dr.) E. Mark Shusterman

507th Medical Squadron flight surgeon

TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. – We all recall the military's hotly debated anthrax vaccination issue, which only a year or two ago sparked a tremendous upheaval of opinion.

Who among us would have predicted that the matter of this relatively obscure disease would again come suddenly to the forefront and become the very stuff of our daily lives?

Who would have thought that the halls of Congress would so suddenly become grim, ghostly realizations of our fictional fears?

Now, as not long ago, beneath the frenzy of misinformed speculation, rest the facts.

To avoid falling prey to half-truths and innuendo, the following is a summary of information about anthrax, gathered from the Centers for Disease Control, United States Army Research Institute of Infectious Disease and other sources:

Anthrax is caused by a bacterium, *Bacillus anthracis*, which forms resilient spores and can survive in the environment for many years.

The germ is relatively easy to culture and store in large quantities.

Many countries have turned it into a weapon, including the former Soviet Union, Iraq, North Korea and others.

Anthrax is a naturally occurring disease of herbivores, such as cattle, sheep, goats and horses.

B. anthracis spores are found in the soil of many continents, and are likely germinating quite happily in your back yard.

Occasionally, humans

who work with farm animals will contract it.

Human anthrax manifests in three forms, depending upon the mode of transmission: cutaneous, gastrointestinal and inhaled.

Cutaneous anthrax appears as a blister at the point where spore contamination took place.

The blister eventually becomes a black scab; hence, the term *anthrax*, which originates from the Greek word for the color black and shares its root with *anthracite*, a type of coal.

Cutaneous anthrax is rarely fatal even if untreated, and can be cured easily with antibiotics in virtually all cases.

This is the most common form of anthrax in humans.

Gastrointestinal anthrax can result from ingestion of undercooked contaminated meat.

It is very uncommon but is usually fatal if untreated.

Symptoms include fever, malaise, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. If detected early, response to antibiotics is excellent.

Untreated, it progresses to a systemic infection, ending in shock, organ failure and death.

Intentional contamination of meat supplies is possible but highly unlikely due to the logistical nightmare that such a task would present if carried out on any significant scale. Typical cooking of most meat makes such an effort very unproductive.

Inhalational anthrax, or Woolsorter's Disease, is caused by the introduction of *B. anthracis* spores into the airway and the lungs. It is very uncommon in nature but presents the greatest weapon potential due to its lethality.

The incubation period – the time from exposure to onset of symptoms – is one to six days, though far longer intervals have been reported. Antibiotic treatment is effective only in the early stage, which manifests as a flu-like illness. The disease progresses rapidly if untreated, and no therapy is significant 24 to 36 hours after the appearance of severe symptoms.

The anthrax vaccine has been used for many decades worldwide. It does not contain the anthrax germ or anything else that can be harmful. It is essentially 100 percent effective when the series of six immunizations is given and offers tremendous protection even after two shots. The vaccine's immunity can be overwhelmed if a person is exposed to millions of spores or possibly thwarted by genetically engineered *B. anthracis* strains.

The only current U.S. manufacturer of the vaccine is undergoing a FDA-mandated plant upgrade, resulting in a significant shortage of the product.

Anthrax is treated primarily by one of three antibiotics: ciprofloxacin, doxycycline and penicillin.

The course of therapy can last several months.

Those who may have been exposed to *B. anthracis* usually receive ciprofloxacin for prevention of the disease.

All antibiotics can cause serious health problems for the individual and the community, and should not be taken without a clear medical indication.

There is absolutely no reason to stockpile antibiotics in the home, or to take them at the drop of a sneeze.

Fortunately, anthrax cannot be transmitted among individuals, barring very unusual circumstances, such

as autopsies of recently deceased victims, ingestion of heavily contaminated blood, etc.

Anthrax is extremely difficult to disseminate on a large scale, is not contagious and requires highly sophisticated bioweapons delivery technologies to infect entire communities. The Soviets built *B. anthracis* warheads for their missiles. We are not likely to see those missiles exploding in anyone's airspace, least of all ours. Envelopes containing *B. anthracis* can frighten many but can hurt only a few and kill even fewer. There is absolutely no reason to worry – just be informed and prudent.

Additional reliable, accurate information about anthrax, bioterrorism and other related topics can be found on the following Web sites:

www.nbc-med.org US Army Surgeon General's site on nuclear, biological, chemical defense;

www.usamriid.army.mil USAMRIID website;

www.hopkins-biodefense.org Johns Hopkins University Center for Civilian Biodefense; and www.bt.cdc.gov CDC's bioterrorism preparedness and response Web site.

Although the events of recent weeks have been painful and unsettling, keep things in perspective.

As individuals, we stand an enormously greater chance of being harmed by our daily modes of transportation than by terrorist acts, particularly those involving anthrax or another biochemical weapon.

So, leave the gas masks at the base, the antibiotics on the pharmacy shelves and the panicked expressions in the tabloids. (Air Force Reserve Command News Service from a 507th Air Refueling Wing news release)



SUSPICIOUS MAIL ALERT

If you receive a suspicious letter or package:



- 1** Handle with care. Don't shake or bump.
- 2** Isolate it immediately
- 3** Don't open, smell, touch or taste.
- 4** Treat it as suspect. Call local law enforcement authorities

If a parcel is open and/or a threat is identified . . .

For a Bomb:

- Evacuate Immediately
- Call Police
- Contact Postal Inspectors
- Call Local Fire Department/HAZMAT Unit

For Radiological:

- Limit Exposure - Don't Handle
- Evacuate Area
- Shield Yourself From Object
- Call Police
- Contact Postal Inspectors
- Call Local Fire Department/HAZMAT Unit

For Biological or Chemical:

- Isolate - Don't Handle
- Evacuate Immediate Area
- Wash Your Hands With Soap and Warm Water
- Call Police
- Contact Postal Inspectors
- Call Local Fire Department/HAZMAT Unit

Pocket cards may assist against attacks

by Staff Sgt. Amy Parr
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — In light of recent terrorist activities, and with the threat of more on the horizon, Air Force leaders developed an informational pocket card on potential biological and chemical attacks.

"The threat of terrorism and our heightened security measures have made these very stressful times for all of us," said Gen. John P. Jumper, Air Force chief of staff. "Even through we may not know what the future holds, it is our responsibility to prepare for the full spectrum of threats and possible terrorist actions."

Some actions may include chemical and biological events, Jumper said.

Although the card is not meant to answer all questions when dealing with biological and chemical agents, Jumper said it is "very basic and easy to carry," and might help someone survive when faced with an emergency situation.

The card, scheduled to be delivered Air Force-wide by the end of the month via the medical community, gives guidance for actions after attacks in both indoor and outdoor situations.

An electronic version has also been distributed to command and medical leadership to be used for local duplication and to ensure widest dissemination.

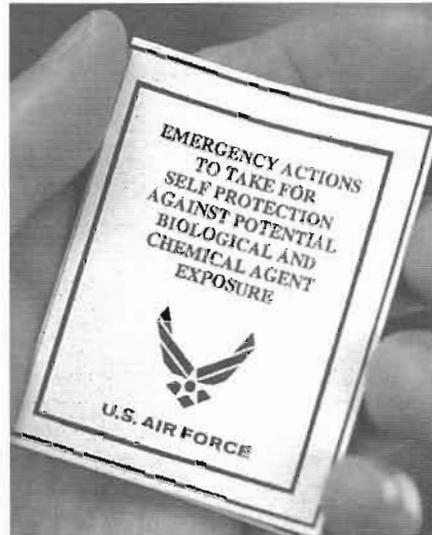
"It is imperative that our people have this information

close at hand to help them be prepared to take basic protective measures when dealing with a chemical or

biological exposure," Jumper said.

For more information, people should contact their

base disaster preparedness office, local civil defense office, or public health authorities.



AFTER ANY BW/CW INCIDENT

LISTEN: Keep calm and listen to the radio/TV for official news updates. Stay indoors and maintain protective measures until notified by the media or public safety officials that the area is safe

DECON:

- Minimize contact with all outside surfaces; avoid droplets and residues
- Remove contaminated clothing as soon as possible/place in a sealed plastic bag
- Wash exposed skin with soap and water and shampoo hair

SEEK CARE: If exposure is known or suspected, report to the nearest medical facility as directed by public health officials for evaluation and treatment. Inform the staff you may be contaminated

INDOORS

MASK: Put on breathing protection (gas or escape mask) or cover mouth and nose with a cloth

MOVE: To the highest and most interior room of the house or building

SHELTER:

- Turn off all electrical appliances, fans, air conditioners, furnaces, etc
- Close and lock all windows, vents, doors, fireplaces, etc
- Seal room windows and door seals with duct or masking tape
- Seal door thresholds with wet towel
- Sit adjacent to an inner wall and away from outer walls and windows Do not smoke, light candles, or use any sources of open flame

OUTDOORS

MASK: Put on breathing protection (gas or escape mask) or cover mouth and nose with a cloth

MOVE: Laterally and upwind, away from any smoke or aerosol cloud

SHELTER: Seek shelter in a building or covered structure (see above).

If caught in a vehicle - pull over, shut off the engine, air conditioner, heater and vents, and roll up windows

Wing composed of patriotic, talented, motivated people

Col. Mark Arnold
934th AW vice commander

During the August Unit Training Assembly, I became the 934th Airlift Wing vice commander.

As with anyone's first days on a new job, the September UTA was, for me, pretty much a blur of new faces, new challenges, and new directions.

A thousand changes have occurred since then, of course.

The one thing that I have not seen change is that our Wing is composed of a terrific group of patriotic men and women that are talented, motivated, and energized to accomplish any goal set before us.

We all knew that we had a great Wing before Sept. 11.

We were awarded the outstanding unit award last year.

Many of our squadrons have



recently completed evaluations in stunning fashion, leaving no doubt of our capabilities.

In May, many parts of the Wing successfully participated in Patriot Tomahawk at Volk Field, Wis.

Our preparations for "the IGX" were progressing forward on an even keel.

All around us were indicators of our readiness and potential to accomplish any assigned mission.

Then that terrible day for our country came, and it touched each one of us in some way or another.

I've been here long enough to witness our great ability to respond to challenges such as Just Cause (Panama), Desert Storm (Kuwait

invasion), Provide Promise and Joint Guard (Bosnian Support), along with several other international crises and numerous disaster relief responses. Throughout the years we've even had individuals voluntarily support other units across the globe in missions as assorted as the relief mission in Somalia, to fire fighting out in the western United States.

As impressive as our response to each of these has been, your collective response to this present crisis has left me in awe.

I am very proud to serve with such a group of people who, day in and day out, willingly do whatever it takes to accomplish the mission.

I believe that when we look back we will see that this is the 934th's finest moment to date.

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Guest editorial

American spirit shines bright as Total Force responses to Sept. 11 tragedies

by Brig. Gen. "Chip" Diehl III
Secretary of the Air Force
Director of Marketing

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — I have never been prouder in my 26 years of serving our great nation.

Our American spirit has never shined as bright as when we came together in response to the tragedies of Sept. 11.

From coast to coast, from the Rockies to our plains, everyone — citizens and families, churches and communities, businesses and charities — united to comfort, console and recover from the harrowing depths of sorrow.

At the same time, our armed forces are responding to the call of the commander-in-chief, as they have since George Washington rallied his fellow citizen soldiers to defend their homeland.

Now, our men and women have deployed and have been called to act, flying combat missions against state-sponsored terrorism.



I am proud. We, my brethren in arms, are proud. We said we were ready, and our airmen have proved us right!

My pride has swelled even higher when I again see

our Total Force and notice how our "citizen airmen" are stepping forward.

Our Reserve and National Guard brethren are among the first to volunteer for active duty.

Day after day, they serve as some of our best, most capable "reserve" forces.

I feel they are among our most cherished national treasures, often unsung, but always ready.

As our nation has united with the world, so, too, has our Total Force team united, coming together to support our president and defend our freedoms.

Total Force is for real — combining our active-duty forces with our Reserve

and National Guard components to form one seamless, strong, tremendously capable team.

From every state, every profession, every background, men, women, officers, enlisted, young and old have stepped forward to meet this calling.

We are one team, one very powerful, very capable team.

My career has been in the mobility business, flying cargo and tanker aircraft, and I have witnessed first hand the Total Force and our reserve forces in action from flying airdrop missions to combat to routine cross-ocean cargo flights.

No longer are they a force in "reserve."

They are fully integrated in the day-to-day mission of our Air Force, training to the same standards of our active duty.

No longer are they known as "weekend warriors," since the average number of days reserve aircrew mem-

Continued on Page 8

Federal court reaffirms employment, reemployment act

A recent federal court reaffirmed the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, when it found that Michelin North American, Inc.'s transfer of a Naval reservist to a lesser position because of his military obligation may have violated the law and remanded it for further findings by a judge.

USERRA provides that employers cannot deny initial employment, reemployment, retention in employment, promotion, or any benefit of employment by an employer because of an individual's service membership or obligation.

The Court concluded

the departmental transfer amounted to a denial of a benefit of employment, since the position to which Charley Hill, the reservist, was transferred carried less status and was a position no one else wanted.

There were significant differences between the two positions, including a discrepancy in the regularity of the work schedules, the cleanliness of the work environments, and the type of clothing that the employees could wear.

After concluding the transfer was the type of action that would trigger USERRA's protections, the court remanded the case for

a determination as to exactly why Hill was transferred.

Hill was transferred to a different department, after an issue of his Reserve status was brought up.

How the transfer came about was disputed.

Hill alleged his supervisor looked "distracted," when Hill informed him about his military obligation, especially the need to take about two weeks off during the summer.

Michelin, however, claimed Hill requested the transfer, because he was concerned his co-workers would resent him for being gone with the Reserve.

After Hill's transfer, Michelin terminated Hill for

reasons not related to his military status.

Hill sued Michelin under the USERRA, claiming he was transferred and then terminated because of his Reserve obligation.

The court ruled Michelin had properly terminated Hill for reasons unrelated to his Reserve status or obligation – but that the departmental transfer was a different story.

For further information on USERRA, including packets of information for your employer, please see the Wing legal office in Building 852, Room 213.

The legal office is only open on unit training assemblies.

Government institutes Relief Act to help called-up reservists

The government is instituting the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act to help those called to active duty.

Letters have been sent to all FHA-approved lenders advising them of their

obligations under the act, and advises them to reduce rates on mortgages to no more than six percent to all members of the military on active duty.

The act prohibits lenders from foreclosing

against any military personnel during and immediately following their tour of active duty.

It helps military renters by ensuring they cannot be evicted from their property.

The act also allows military renters to terminate leases without penalty if doing so is in their own interests.

More detailed information on the Act is available at: <http://www.defenselink.mil>

Wing legal staff begins will preparation for unit members

The 934th Airlift Wing Legal Office began preparing wills for certain unit members during the September unit training assembly.

A will is a written disposition as to how an individual wants his or her property divided or disposed of after his or her death. The wills provided by the legal office will be accomplished

for members in a mobility status first on a unit-by-unit basis, starting with the 934th Logistics Support Squadron.

Individuals desiring a will should accomplish a will worksheet prior to meeting with a staff judge advocate. These worksheets can be obtained at the legal office, located in Bldg. 852, Room 213, during unit training

assemblies. To the extent the member possesses a large net worth or requires complex tax planning, the member may be referred to a civilian estate attorney.

Upon completion of the will worksheet, members can call the legal office, Ext. 1230, to set up an appointment. The member will be

required to return the following UTA to have the will notarized.

The legal office is open to military customers from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. every UTA. Besides wills, the staff can provide free powers of attorney and legal assistance, as well as assist in employer-reservist relations

Officer's Club

Lunch: Tuesday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dinner: Tuesday-Saturday from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Lounge: Monday from 4-11 p.m.; Tuesday-Thursday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to midnight.
Sundays: Closed
Mondays: Dining room closed. Lounge open from 4-11 a.m.
Tuesdays: Fresh catch is the special in the dining room.
Wednesdays: Daily special in the dining room is liver and onions, and on Nov. 14 it's pork loin roast.
Thursdays: Daily special in the dining room.
Fridays: Prime rib or lobster special in the dining room.
Saturdays: Prime rib for two in the dining room.
Bar Menu: Available Tuesday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Nov. 22- Thanksgiving Buffet will be held at the Officers Club for all club members. Avoid the hassle of cooking and bring your family out for a wonderful Thanksgiving meal. Chef Carl and his staff promise a feast "to die for." There will be two seatings: one at 11:30 a.m.; the other at 1:30 p.m. Reservations are required by Nov. 17. The cost is \$13.95 for adults and \$6.95 children under 12. The buffet is free for children three and under.

Enlisted Club

Breakfast: Monday-Friday from 6:30-9:30 a.m.
Lunch: Monday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dinner: Friday-Saturday from 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Lounge: Monday- Thursday from 3:00-9:30 p.m.; Friday-Saturday from 3 p.m. to midnight.
Sunday: Closed
Monday: Chefs special for lunch in the dining room
Tuesday: Different specials for lunch in the dining room
Wednesday: Different specials for lunch in the dining room
Thursday: Buffet for lunch in the dining room
Friday: Different specials for lunch in the dining room; prime rib is the special in the dining room
Saturdays: Different specials for lunch in the dining room.
UTA weekends: During UTA's, the Club dining room will remain

open until 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings.
Nov. 16: Two-for-one special. One of the new Air Force core items will be the special.

Membership drive

The Air Force club system is conducting a membership drive during which selected new members will be able to drive away as winners.

Called the "Ultimate Membership Drive," people who join the club through Nov. 18 have the chance to win one of 10 new vehicles, such as a Chevy Cavalier, Dodge Neon or Ford Ranger.

The campaign is designed to boost the number of officer and enlisted club members, inform the Air Force community about the benefits of club membership and introduce club services to younger Air Force nonmembers, said Air Force Services officials.

New members will also pay no dues until January. The winners of the 10 vehicles have the option of taking an \$8,500 cash prize instead.

To be eligible for the prizes, new members must not have belonged to the club between Feb. 1 and Aug. 14, officials said.

People who were members of an Air Force club as of Aug. 14 will automatically be entered in the current-member drawing category.

All members must be in good standings with a current "active" account and not delinquent on their account.

Vehicle delivery takes about 12 weeks after selections are made, and delivery is to the nearest available location to winner's home duty station within the continental United States, officials said.

For more details, people should visit either the Officers or Enlisted Clubs.

Fitness Center

The annual Pig-Out Fitness Challenge begins Nov. 19. Individuals interested in taking the challenge can sign-up in the Fitness Center.

The Fitness Center will be closed Nov. 12 (Veteran's Day), and Nov. 22-23 (Thanksgiving).

Toys for Tots collection boxes will be put in all Services

facilities and various other locations on base for donations. For more information, call Toys For Tots point of contact, Dave Theisen at (612) 713-1496.

Dining Hall

Saturday UTA: Holiday meal features cornish game hen and roast pork.

Sunday UTA: Meal features spaghetti and fish

Newcomers

Senior Amn. Adrian M. Broberg, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron;
Michael B. Candy, 934th Communications Flight;
Debra E. Crawford, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron;
Staff Sgt. Robert B. Doyle, 934th Security Forces Squadron;
Clint M. Hamann, 934th Maintenance Squadron;
Amber L. Johnson, Finance;
Douglas A. Johnson, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron;
Senior Amn. William E. Lohse, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron;
Airman 1st Class April Pearson, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron;
Airman 1st Class Jenna M. Petit, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron;
Airman 1st Class John M. Phelps, 934th Maintenance Squadron;
Airman 1st Class Lee Place, 27th Aerial Port Squadron;
Tech Sgt. Kenneth M. Roth, 934th Logistics Squadron;
Staff Sgt. Matthew T. Seppala, 96th Airlift Squadron;
Scott A. Skeesick, 934th Security Forces Squadron;
Airman 1st Class Derrick F. Warren, 934th Airlift Wing.
Airman 1st Class Jodi Wortman, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.

Commander's Coins

Master Sgt. Jamie Canniff, 96th Airlift Squadron
Tom Christian, Civil Engineering
Master Sgt. Lin Davidson, 934th Operational Support Flight

Capt. Ed Galvez, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron
Senior Master Sgt. Dave Hammer, 934th Airlift Wing
Master Sgt. Dave Hunter, 934th Logistics Group
Master Sgt. Donald "Mac" MacElroy, 934th Logistics Group
Master Sgt. Craig Molm, 934th Logistics Support Squadron
Tech. Sgt. Lynette Petsinger, 96th Airlift Squadron
Senior Airman Blake Robertson, 934th Communications Flight;
Staff Sgt. Anthony "Andy" Robinson, 934th Maintenance Squadron
Ted Sanderson, Military personnel Flight;
Master Sgt. Tim Payton, 934th Maintenance Squadron

934th Civil Engineering Squadron

The entire unit attended the annual bivouac requirement, with camp set up on land located by the Combat Arms facility off Post Road.

Several training requirements were completed, with a great amount of teamwork displayed by all unit members, making this year's bivouac a success.

Hats off to camp builder, **Master Sgt. Patti Amos**, for a job well done.

Staff Sgt. Lucas Resemius from Structures, Staff Sgt. Wendy Albee from the Orderly Room, and Senior Airman Jonathan Patterson from the Electrical Shop completed their career development course.

Submitted by *Tech. Sgt. Mike McGuire*, unit public affairs representative

934th Communications Flight

Members of the unit are participating in aerospace expeditionary force taskings.

Members of the flight are currently in Texas, France and Spain.

Submitted by *Senior Airman Chris Krug*, unit public affairs representative

Volunteers have come forward from many fields

Continued from Page 5

Operations, logistics, support, and many functions of the headquarters staff have all been impacted in a very real way.

The volunteers that have come forward from across so many career fields speaks to the very heart of your dedication, professionalism, and commitment.

Those among us who have been mobilized have answered the call with eagerness and determination.

Words barely suffice in expressing my appreciation for how every person, military

or civilian, air reserve technician or traditional reservist have stepped forward to help us answer the challenge given to us.

What will the future bring to us here at the 934th?

We probably all want to go back to that warm, fuzzy place before Sept. 11

But now the world has changed.

This war against terrorism has brought us new challenges to respond to.

Terrible things we never really considered now seem like possibilities.

But there are many

things that work to our advantage.

Our enemy has limited resources, limited training, and limited support.

Our enemy also has one major shortfall.

He does not truly understand us, or where our true strength comes from.

Our strength is, and always has been, our people.

Our strength is each and every one of us, and the support we get from our employers, our families and our neighbors.

So for my future, I am

going to continue to learn my new job as vice commander.

I will continue to serve as best I can to help this Wing accomplish our mission.

Life will go on for each of us, although life has been significantly changed for all of us.

The thing that won't change is our determination and our desire to serve our country to the best of our abilities.

Because of this, I know our enemies will never enjoy the flavor of lasting victory.

Reservists are professionals with tremendous experience

Continued from Page 5

bers spend on duty every year is 144, with support members averaging 63 days.

They are known in our Air Force as "professionals," "volunteers" and our "neighbors."

They are professionals.

Our Reservists and Guardsmen provide us capability across the entire spectrum of our military operations.

They're professionals with tremendous experience, sometimes spanning decades, in the performance of their specialty.

Many of us are in awe of their vast experience and credentials.

When they speak, we listen, we appreciate.

They are volunteers.

While the nation understands and appreciates their commitment of two weeks per year and weekend duties, many "volunteer" their time to serve whenever called.

What is amazing is many volunteer more than 100 days a year — that's 100 days on top of a full-time job and time away from their family.

They volunteer to serve because they truly love wearing the uniform; they love serving the nation and protecting the freedoms we believe in and enjoy — which is far more rewarding than any salary.

As we spun-up military operations in support of Enduring Freedom, the Air Force had thousands of Reserve and Guard volunteers step forward.

And with the president's mobilization of our reserve units, there has been no shortfall of units ready to go!

We all should salute them, their families and their employers.

When they leave their jobs, most employers keep those jobs for them when they return. For all employ-

ers, thank you.

We sincerely appreciate your support, understanding, patriotism and kindness.

Your Air Force salutes you!

For all the families, we are all one family. We will continue to bond together to take care of each other as we endure this calling.

We are a team, a Total Force team.

When a reservist comes on duty, he or she is ready, willing and definitely able.

When the armed forces or our nation need them, our reserve components will be there - volunteering, ready to serve.

When you see your neighbors packing their bags, smile and hug them. They are off to protect our freedoms and a way of life we cherish.

When you see Guard members at the airport ensuring security, tell them "thank you." They are proud.

They will appreciate your kindness.

Your Air Force demands so much of its reserve components. They never waver, they never let us down.

From Sept. 11 through our deployments today, they again have shined, and responded.

The Air Force and nation salute with great admiration our Reserve and Guard professionals.

We also salute and thank the employers of these men and women. Their sacrifice and generosity is appreciated.

At this difficult, demanding moment when our nation and the world is calling upon our military, we all should be proud of our Reserve and Guard professionals.

Their call to arms truly exemplifies the wonderful enduring soul and spirit of America.