

VIKING



FLYER

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934th Airlift Wing
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AMC uses CRAF exercise to show versatility

Several members of the 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron were on-hand to witness a demonstration of the Air Force's backup to the airlift fleet during tests at a number of bases throughout the country early last month.

They joined officials from Air Mobility Command and Air Force Reserve Command, and spent 11 days watching a demonstration of the capabilities of the fleet during an exercise that started Jan. 11.

The demonstration was conducted at six different bases across the country and used a U.S. Airways' Boeing 767 commercial airliner that had been converted for such operations.

If the United States were to be involved in a war on a massive scale, the Air Force's current fleet aircraft could not support the mission of aeromedical evacuation.

The Civil Reserve Air Fleet was created in 1986 due to an identified need by the Air Force Surgeon General for more evacuation aircraft than what the military could provide.

The CRAF is made up of contracted U.S. aircraft from both U.S. Airways and Delta Airlines. The Department of Defense contracts these aircraft for use during emergency situations when the need for airlift exceeds the capability of the military.

"We have never exercised aeromedical evacuation with CRAF before," said Maj. Lisa Perdue, chief of AMC aeromedical evacuation training.

"This is the first time we have actually flown with CRAF crews in a reconfigured 767 for the sole purpose of training aeromedical evacuation crew members, flight attendants and critical care teams."

AMC and U.S. Airways have created new standards for training aboard the 767, said Perdue.

"We started with a blank sheet of paper and will write the rules for how AMC will do business with the carriers,"



People from the 932nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron and others at Scott Air Force Base, Ill., get a closer look at a reconfigured 767 as simulated patients are offloaded during a Civil Reserve Air Fleet training mission. (Courtesy photo)

she said.

To prepare a 767 for a mission, the CRAF carrier first guts the interior of the aircraft. It then goes to Ratheon in Greenville, Texas, where it essentially becomes a flying ambulance.

"The floor of the aircraft is converted to include oxygen tanks, electrical supply, litter support stations and everything it needs to make it aeromedically capable," Perdue said. "The standard configuration is 87 litters and 37 seats."

The original plans call for 44 Boeing 767 jets to be used for strategic wartime aeromedical evacuation ships.

Because of the current size of the Air Force fleet, AMC was able to find a cost-effective method of increasing the total fleet in case of war. The crew that worked during the exercise will train civilian pilots and crewmembers for the operations.

"They contracted with civilian operations in case we couldn't handle the influx of patients," said Maj. Dennis Brown, administrator for the 934th ASTS who observed the demonstration.

"Our C-141s and DC-9s are going away, our C-17s are sparse, and our

fleet has aged so much that it's really going to limit our evacuation capabilities. In the case of an emergency, we can pull them out for worldwide duty."

Two local three-person Critical Care Air Transport Teams participated in the cross-country legs of the exercise.

Maj. James Frame, flight surgeon; Maj. Sharon Lee,

critical care nurse; and Capt. Ed Galvez, a critical care nurse specializing in pulmonary resuscitation, make up the CCATT team currently on active duty at Keesler AFB, Miss.

Maj. Gary Peitzmeier, surgeon; Capt. Don Brock, critical care nurse; and SSgt. Mary Rebholtz, a pulmonary resuscitation technician, make up the CCATT team currently on active duty at Lackland AFB, Texas.

During the exercise, Brock was recognized for his work in creating a CCATT training program for the squadron.

"Captain Brock is the only reservist in all of AFRC to have built a CCATT training program," said Brown. "He's really the person responsible for the success of our CCATT program."

The CRAF exercise is a consolidated effort by AMC, its Reserve component and U.S. Transportation Command.

AMC's directorate of plans and programs led the team to evaluate CRAF equipment and design, which play important parts in how AMC develops aeromedical evacuation capability in future Air Force aircraft.

More than 100 Flying Vikings called up; unit members support worldwide taskings

More than 100 people from the 934th Airlift Wing are among the 11,000 Air Force Reservists called up to support America's war on terrorism.

Some of the Flying Vikings' called up have deployed, while others remain in the Twin Cities or elsewhere in the United States for homeland defense.

Many 934th reservists, while not activated, have also volunteered to help out by working in the unit to support mission requirements.

Additionally, local reservists are supporting the Aerospace Expeditionary Force in locations around the world.

A breakdown, by unit, includes:

The **27th Aerial Port Squadron** had 30 people support the Aerospace Expeditionary Force (AEF) Oct. 7-Jan. 27, 2002 on deployments lasting anywhere from 14-83 days. They went to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey; Istres Air Base, France; Moron Air Base, Spain; Prince Sultan AB, Saudi Arabia; and Aviano AB, Italy. One person deployed Sept. 15-29 to Puerto Rico for Coronet Oak.

The **96th Airlift Squadron** had two crews on alert daily Sept. 17-25; one aircrew on alert daily from Sept. 26-Nov. 26; and since Dec. 17, one aircrew is on alert daily. The unit had three aircrews deployed Nov. 26-Dec. 12; and three aircrews deployed Jan. 12-28. The squadron had two people called up Nov. 1 to support Operation Noble Eagle. The unit had 17 people deploy Sept. 15-29 to Puerto Rico for Coronet Oak. One person supported the AEF on a 15-day deployment at Istres AB.

The **934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron** had 15 people called up Jan. 14. The unit also had 40 people support the AEF Sept. 19-Jan. 30 on deployments lasting anywhere from 15-30 days. They went to Mubarak AB, Egypt; Seeb, Oman; Cairo; Skopje,

Macedonia; Ramstein AB, Germany; and Prince Sultan AB.

The **934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron** had six

people called up Jan. 7 to support Operation Enduring Freedom.

The **934th Airlift Wing** had two people called up Nov. 1 for Operation Noble Eagle. The unit had two people deployed Sept. 15-29 to Puerto Rico for Coronet Oak. Thirteen people supported the AEF Nov. 18-Jan. 28 on deployments lasting 15 days. They went to Moron AB; Incirlik AB; Ali Al Salem AB, Kuwait; and Al Dhafra.

The **934th Civil Engineering Squadron** had three people deployed Sept. 15-29 to Puerto Rico for Coronet Oak. Six people were called up Oct. 13 to support Operation Enduring Freedom. Twenty-seven people supported the AEF Nov. 12-Jan. 28 on deployments lasting anywhere from 15-30 days. They went to Istres AB; and Al Dhafra.

The **934th Communications Flight** had three people support the AEF Nov. 8-Dec. 19 on deployments lasting 15 days at Moron AB; and Ramstein AB.

The **934th Logistics Support Squadron** had two people deployed Sept. 15-29 to Puerto Rico for Coronet Oak. Twenty-three people supported the AEF Oct. 21-Jan. 30 on deployments lasting 15 days at Moron AB; Al Jaber; Incirlik AB; and Sembach AB, Germany.

The **934th Mission Support Flight** had five people called up Jan. 7. They also had four people supporting the AEF Sept. 26-Nov. 19 on deployments lasting 15 days at Al Jaber and Istres AB.



The **934th Maintenance Squadron** had 23 people deployed Sept. 15-29 to Puerto Rico for Coronet Oak. Two crew chiefs were on alert daily Sept. 17-25 and one crew chief was on alert daily between Sept. 26-Nov. 26. One person supported the AEF between Nov. 24-Dec. 9 on a deployment lasting 15 days at Moron AB. Ten maintainers deployed to support wing aircrews between Nov. 26-Dec. 12. One crew chief was on alert between Dec. 17-Jan. 31. Ten maintainers deployed to support wing aircrews between Jan. 12-28.

The **934th Operational Support Flight** had five people deployed Sept. 15-29 to Puerto Rico for Coronet Oak. Three people supported the AEF between Nov. 11-Jan. 19 on deployments lasting anywhere from 15 days to 30 days. They went to Aviano and Ramstein ABs.

The **934th Operations Group** had three people deployed Sept. 15-29 to Puerto Rico for Coronet Oak.

The **934th Support Group** had one person support the AEF Oct. 5-Nov. 15, 2001 on a deployment lasting 40 days in Cairo.

The **934th Security Forces Squadron** had, for Operation Noble Eagle, five people activated Sept. 22; 18 people called up Sept. 29; and 61 people called up Nov. 4-5. Six people were activated Jan. 8 to support Operation Enduring Freedom. Four people supported the AEF Dec. 14-Jan. 26 on deployments lasting 14-15 days at Rhein Main AB, Germany.

The **934th Services Squadron** had 14 volunteers deployed Sept. 14-Oct. 26 for port mortuary duty supporting Operation Noble Eagle. Fourteen people supported the AEF Sept. 18-Dec. 13 on deployments lasting 14 days at Istres and Moron ABs.

Viking Flyer

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The deadline for unsolicited submissions is the 15th day of the month prior to UTA.

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UTA Schedule

Mar. 2-3, 2002

Apr. 6-7, 2002

May 4-5, 2002

June 1-2, 2002

July 13-14, 2002

Aug. 10-11, 2002

Assuming command both an honor, privilege

by Col. Gary L. Cook
934th Airlift Wing
commander

Saturday of the February Unit Training Assembly will be a historic occasion for me as I'm sure it has been for every officer granted the privilege of standing before an Air Force wing and saying those four words, "Sir, I assume command."

In my case I will have the added pleasure of assuming the position as wing commander in one of the most respected units in the Air Force Reserve.

Some 39 years ago, the 934th was activated at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport and has built a record of service and excellence ever since.

In the last 20 years you have earned four Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards and in just the last 10 years, you have deployed and supported more than a dozen national actions, both hostile and humanitarian in nature.

Your performance during Operations Just Cause in Panama and Restore Hope in Somalia has allowed the nation to not only pursue its goals but also achieve them.

More telling than even your heralded history might be the enumerable number of senior officers throughout this command who have noted how fortunate I am to be going to such a solid and respected unit.

While this will be my first assignment to an airlift wing I can claim at least shirt tail relation to the 934th.

My first unit in the Reserves was the 931st Air Refueling Group at Grissom AFB, Ind. The 931st was an airlift unit early in its history and no doubt a sister unit to the 934th which was at Fort Wayne, Ind., when the 931st was in Southern Indiana.

I suppose from your point of view though, you are just getting "another tanker driver."

Probably, but like Col. Dean Despinoy before me, I have an eagerness to learn.

Learn and learn quickly will have to be the rule as we are certainly facing challenges in the near future.

There are three major inspections during this coming year (HSI, UCI and ASEV) that will task even the best of units.

That, in addition to the daily challenges we face fulfilling our Operation Noble Eagle commitments, with the HERC portion of the CONR plan, presents a formidable challenge.

Your professionalism, training and overall readiness will be the key to meeting each of these challenges.

Most of us have heard the presentation for the three Rs (recruiting, retention and readiness) and how they are the foundation for a healthy unit. I would like to offer a version of them here from my own perspective.

I just mentioned the key for our completing the next year in a manner which honors the 934th tradition of excellence would be outstanding readiness.

Readiness can certainly be an outgrowth of several things including training, teamwork and time.

The training we have (good instructors, good lesson plans) and the unit's teamwork is well recognized with your most recent Outstanding Unit Award. Which leaves us with time, your time, my time and the calendar.

Time on a personal level can certainly be a fleeting thing and sometimes with events moving at ever increasing velocities we feel we can only do so much in our preparation



for readiness.

But I have found nothing allies itself with time so well; when looking for success, like tenacity.

Tenacity is the willingness and desire to keep trying, not accepting defeat or even ordinary results but continuing to learn and improve.

If we can all just keep the effort high the desired results will happen.

How about those other two Rs, retention and recruiting?

I feel nothing is more exhilarating or alluring than a success story.

Players on a winning team are naturally a happy lot and why shouldn't they be?

They are succeeding, being recognized for their efforts, earning awards, getting promoted and seeing the fruits of their labor in real values like freedom, safety and justice.

As for recruiting, everyone else wants to play for a winner. It looks like fun.

Sure, they see the effort but they also see the results, the significant contribution and the respect.

All the winners have to do is show the rest of the community how they can be on the team.

So the real challenge is to stay tenacious, continue the effort to keep learning and improving.

Pursue excellence in your job and the unit will be ready. A ready unit succeeds and people naturally want to stay with and be a part of the success.

One last comment.

You are winners!

You've shown it in the past in Saudi Arabia, Panama, Bosnia and Somalia. You're showing it today with your contributions to Operation Noble Eagle both at home station and deployed

I am proud to be here and play a position on your team. Now lets go win another one.

Stop-Loss program review anticipated this Spring

by Col. Mark Arnold
934th AW vice Commander

We are anticipating the Stop-Loss program to be reviewed this spring.

Some or all of Stop-Loss may be rescinded.

I've heard several members saying they intend to leave the Wing after stop-loss is rescinded. I have very mixed feelings when I find this out.

I find myself torn between gratefulness for the time that this individual has been able to share with us, and sadness that someone wants to leave us prior to the end of a complete career.

I am regularly telling anyone who listens that we must keep our priorities in order.

Our priorities need to be our families first, our civilian employers second, and then lastly, the Air Force Reserve.

If these priorities aren't kept in line, then fairly soon something falls off the plate, and most often it is a member's military service.

So when someone tells me they don't desire to continue I try to understand that sometimes that's how it goes.

Things change as one goes on in life, and occasionally continued service is not possible.

However, a career change like this isn't something someone should do just as a reaction to our country's present crisis and Stop-Loss.

If you are considering retiring or even leaving short of retirement, please take the time to properly consider all factors involved.

Think about the reasons you came into the service to begin with.

Look at any financial consequences that will occur, both short term and long term.

Think about where your future career here may take you.

We are continually trying to improve and enhance career opportunities throughout the Wing.

Grade enhancements,

early promotions, the Deserving Airman commissioning program, and the ongoing pay and benefit increases are just some of the areas where we are making progress.

And please consider the factor that I think is the most important. Please consider what your continued service to this country means.

Our Wing will go on if any one person leaves, no doubt.

But we do need the experience, the innovation, the determination, and the heart that so many of you have shown us during these last months.

We continue to make significant contributions to our country's war effort. We continue to be prepared to



answer even greater challenges if required.

I personally feel that during my career there has been no better time to serve than now.

Our cause is just and noble.

Our nation needs individuals willing to come forward and make a difference.

Our neighbors and our families need to know that someone will stand to defend them from true evil.

So please, make your best decision.

I fully understand sometimes it is impossible for one to continue with their military career. And that doesn't take away anything from the past service and sacrifice that one has made.

But if you can, stay with us.

Every one of you is important to this organization. Every one of you can continue to make a difference.

Our fight isn't over yet.

AF senior leaders: put survey at top of 'to do' list

by TSgt. Mark Kinkade
Air Force Print News

Air Force leaders want Air Force people to speak their minds in the 2002 Chief of Staff Organizational Climate survey, available online now through March 8.

The survey, offered every two years since 1997, is designed to gauge how people feel about leadership, communication, supervision, training, job satisfaction and other aspects of Air Force organizations.

The 1997 survey gathered more than 200,000 responses and resulted in a number of quality-of-life and organization changes within the Air Force, survey officials said. The 1999 survey continued the

process.

"The '99 (survey) put these types of issues into the cross hairs at every level of our Air Force, from the Pentagon, through the major commands and on down to the unit level," said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Fredrick J. Finch.

"With data like this, we can make this great Air Force of ours better yet. We'll 'shape tomorrow' for the Air Force, our people and our families."

Senior leaders want a stronger turnout for this year's survey, saying it gives Air Force

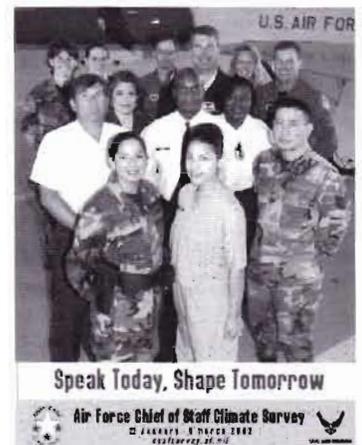
people an opportunity to "speak today, shape tomorrow."

"Sustaining the world's pre-eminent air and space force requires excellence in the work environment," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper.

"This survey will provide valuable information to all Air Force leaders to achieve that goal."

As the Air Force strives to shape itself for the 21st century, the input from the survey will be a crucial tool, said Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche.

"In an era which readiness, retention, education and training issues loom larger than ever, the voices of our airmen



must be heard," he said. "Leadership must be made aware of what's really going on out there."

The survey can be found at: <http://csafsurvey.af.mil/>

Take the time and fill one out.

Research shows spies have been “insiders.”

by Special Agent Kevin H. Jacobson
AFOSI

Espionage is the act of spying to obtain intelligence information.

To borrow a phrase from the former comic strip character, Pogo, “We have found the enemy, and he is us.”

Research has shown that the overwhelming number of Americans arrested for spying in the past 20 years have been volunteers or “insiders.”

How do we look for “insider” spies?

One of the things counterintelligence specialists look for is irregular or suspicious behavior. Some common personality characteristics include arrogance, greed, and jealousy.

However, any lifestyle activity that is inconsistent with commonly acceptable behavior should be questioned.

For example, unexplained wealth; purchases of high value items; frequent domestic or foreign travel for no apparent purpose; excessive use of classified computers; or questionable visits by friends or family from foreign countries.

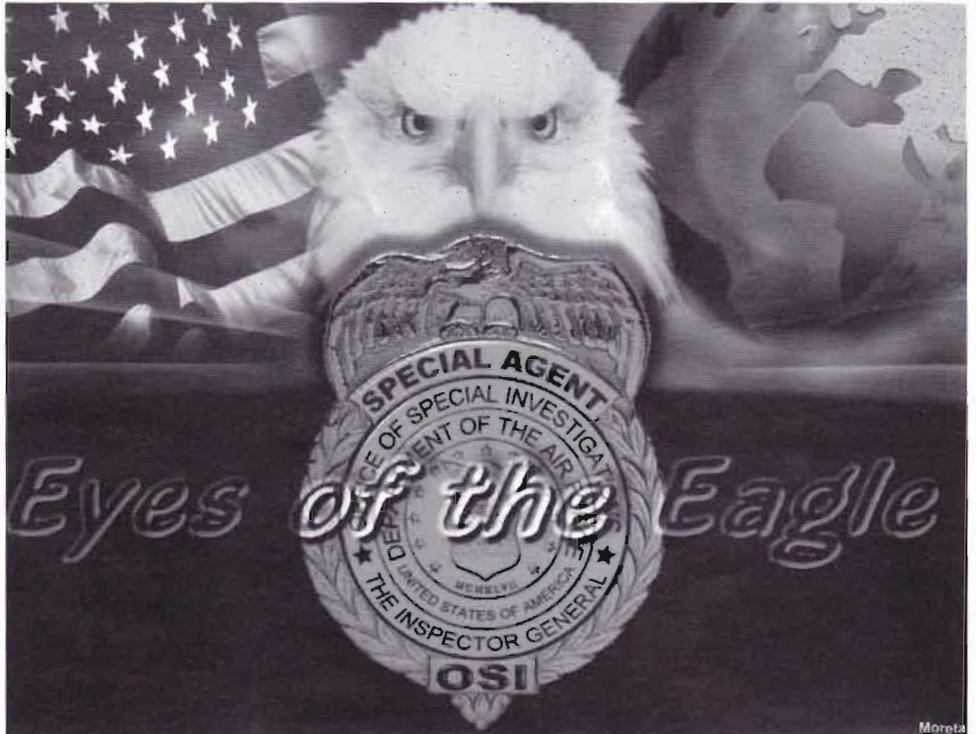
Any of these examples should raise our security awareness.

Counterintelligence specialists look for irregular patterns of behavior because spying or the intelligence collection activities of our enemy is frequently revealed by their unusual or irregular behavior.

Too often the unusual behavior pattern of the spy is only identified after the spy is caught in his illegal activity.

Unfortunately, the “insider” threat within the Air Force is real and we do not really know how widespread the problem behavior is.

What is reported to security and law enforcement appears to be only the



tip of the iceberg.

It is important to remember that opportunity equals temptation, and that personal acquaintances and co-workers might very well be the next “insider threat.”

Early detection of irregularities through the recognition of unusual behavior patterns of people can help counterintelligence specialists identify spies and espionage activities directed against our national security.

The detection of irregularities or unusual behavior patterns is every citizen's responsibility.

Early detection of questionable lifestyle practices that are inconsistent with the norm will aid in the neutralization of espionage efforts directed against the United States.

All Americans bear the responsibility to report suspicious behavior to security or law enforcement authorities. The key elements in fighting the

insider threat are security awareness and reporting the threat.

Security awareness requires that we make an effort to identify peculiar or unusual situations or behavior. The threshold for reporting suspicious behavior or activity is low.

Therefore, when in doubt, report the unusual behavior or activity to your supervisor, local security, or Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

You can contact AFOSI and remain anonymous if you desire. If necessary, our special agents will protect your identity.

Remember, to counter the espionage threat, it is important that we be aware of our surroundings, and that we report anything “irregular” or out of the ordinary to AFOSI or other law enforcement authorities.

For more questions or to report suspicious incidents, please call (612) 713-1077.

Aerial porters use humanitarian missions to keep trained

by SrA. Nick Olson
staff writer

Two local reserve organizations are involved in a humanitarian endeavor which ultimately improves living conditions in Third World countries.

The 27th Aerial Port Squadron prepares humanitarian cargo for shipment and loads it aboard aircraft; and the 96th Airlift Squadron transports the cargo on the first leg of its eventual delivery to an approved country.

Most recently, the 27th APS built 25 pallets of medical supplies and equipment, weighing more than 70,000 pounds, for Mano A Mano Medical Resources of Minnesota.

The 96th AS transported nine of the pallets on a space-available basis to the East Coast on two separate, regularly scheduled missions. Leaving the Twins Cities Jan. 19 and 20, it's ultimate destination was LaPaz, Bolivia.

The aircrew on Jan. 19 included: Lt.Col. Mike Huttner, aircraft commander; Maj. Tom O'Reilly, co-pilot; Maj. Richard Larson, navigator; MSgt. Mark Hartnett, flight engineer; and TSgts. Tom Kim and Eric Schraeder, loadmasters.

The aircrew on Jan. 19 included: Maj. Bob Fleming, aircraft commander; Maj. Jim Majors, co-pilot; Maj. Kelly Bankole, navigator; SMSgt. John Skarhus, flight engineer; and Schraeder, loadmaster.

Since 1992, the 27th APS has helped prepare



On the cover

TSgt. Eric Cullum, SrA. Bradley Taplick, SrA. Carlos Varela, SSgt. Neil Koenig, and AIC Andrew McLean, 27th Aerial Port Squadron, pose just prior to loading four pallets of humanitarian cargo onto one of the 934th Airlift Wing C-130s. An aircrew from the 96th Airlift Squadron transported the space available cargo to the East Coast, for eventual shipment to South America.

pallets and rolling stock for military airlift of humanitarian cargo, which is donated by groups involved in the Denton Amendment.

The amendment accommodates people or groups wanting to transport humanitarian cargo on a space available basis.

The shipments are carried at no cost to the donor and use already scheduled military flights.

The cargo, which is approved by the US Aid Agency and the Pentagon prior to being transported, goes to countries in need of things such as medical supplies, building materials, and food.

The program, which was originally intended to aid only Central America, has seen additions since its inception. Today, the Denton Amendment allows for shipments not only to Central America but throughout the world.

One benefit to the 27th APS is the additional training.

"Building the pallets, manifesting and load-planning the cargo, and then actually loading various types of aircraft allow for squadron members to train in their respective fields while helping in these

humanitarian aid efforts," explained CMSgt. Mike Dressen, air transportation superintendent for the 27th APS.

"If we weren't doing this we would have to simulate some of our local training," said Dressen.

Since 1994, the 27th APS has been responsible for preparing 132 aircraft missions, loading over 4 million pounds of cargo, for countries in need.

Working with local charity organizations such as Wisconsin Nicaragua Partners and Mano a Mano, the 27th APS has shipped everything from x-ray machines and ambulances to school buses and fire trucks.

The program uses available aircraft, not necessarily those belonging to the 934th Airlift Wing, to ship the pallets and rolling stock to the receiving country.

The 96th AS has flown many airlift missions to assist the 27th APS in moving some of this cargo off station.

"We've prepared shipments for places such as Belize, Paraguay, Ukraine, Mongolia, and various countries in Africa," said Dressen.

"One of our heaviest work periods was while shipping hundreds of thousands of pounds of food stuffs out of Gulfport, Miss. to Honduras, following the Hurricane Mitch disaster of 1988."

As for the experience, the squadron has been grateful for the opportunity and does not mind the workload, explained Dressen.

"I'm a big supporter of the Denton program," said Dressen. "I like it because it is doing good for others and usually provides good publicity for the Air Force."

Locally, the 27th APS coordinates with the donor to set up a date for delivery of the cargo to the 934th.

Denton Ops then coordinates with one of many flying squadrons nationwide to schedule a date for loading here, explained Dressen.

The 27th APS handles the majority of the cargo from the five-state area, including Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, and Wisconsin.

"The 27th APS is ranked close to the top as being the most active reserve aerial port involved in this program," said Dressen.

Finance tries to stay on top of changing pay issues

Mobilizations, aerospace expeditionary force deployments and other military duties, along with new pay-affecting programs, are raising a number of questions for Flying Viking reservists, which local finance specialists are trying to stay on top of and get answers to.

"Most of the time the answers to your inquiries are readily available," said Mike Burgess, comptroller for the 934th Airlift Wing.

"Finance's civilian employees, ARTs (air reserve technicians) and traditional reservists strive to relay the information in a timely and accurate manner. However, on rare occasions, complete and timely guidance from our headquarters and other offices outside the office doesn't always get to us."

That was the case over the past couple of months, he said, concerning the new Family Serviceman's Group Life Insurance.

"It seems we had more questions and problems than answers and solutions," Burgess said.

"As with any customer service environment, it doesn't seem to matter the reason why, it only matters that the answers are incomplete or unsatisfying to the customer."

He emphasized that customers have finance's word they will stay on top of these new programs and spend



the time necessary to learn the latest information.

They have learned that the Defense Finance and Accounting Service in Denver is working on the problem of refunding Family SGLI to those persons who declined coverage by the Dec. 31 deadline.

"Single and divorced people who were charged erroneously will also get their money refunded," he said, "Although the date of the refunds for all persons is still unknown."

The DFAS is testing a program fix in the pay system, but no date has been established for the refunds.

"We will make this information public as soon as we hear from our finance counterparts at HQ AFRC," said Burgess. "We will also let you know what actions, if any, will be necessary to get your money back."

The local comptroller also said

reservists may have noticed a new item started showing up on their leave and earnings statements last month.

Thrift Savings Plan deductions started for those persons who filled out a form and either submitted it to finance, or enrolled through the Employee/Member Self-Service (E/MSS) web site before Dec. 31.

Those who elected to start TSP after Dec. 31 will see TSP contributions show up on their first LES in February or March, depending on when they signed up.

The initial open season ended on Jan. 31 and the next open season is May 15 - July 31.

PIN numbers will arrive in the mail from the Thrift Savings Plan offices, Burgess said, and reminds participants to not throw them away.

"Once you have your PIN you can go to: www.TSP.gov (the website) and decide how your deductions will be distributed between the various funds."

"If you have established your PIN in the E/MSS and started TSP, you should be able to see your contribution percentage."

For information on establishing an E/MSS account, go to www.dfas.mil and go to Money Matters/E/MSS.

Individuals with any finance question can visit them Monday through Friday, or on UTA weekends.

W-2s mailed; reservists urged to check for accuracy

Reservists who spent time in a newly recognized combat zone area during the last part of the year should carefully review their W-2, and they might need to wait for a corrected form W-2C to arrive, finance officials advise.

W-2 forms were mailed Jan. 15.

Individuals entitled to combat zone tax exclusion during the final four months of 2001 should carefully review their W-2, officials said. If they feel there are errors, they recommend a delay in filing a tax return until the local finance office has been contacted and it's determined whether or not a corrected W-2 is needed.

The determination of CZTE and personnel system problems caused many pay records to update late, said officials at the accounting and finance center in Denver.

The Internal Revenue Service established a toll-free telephone number for military people or their families to call with any tax questions that may arise. Callers will not be limited to asking combat zone-related tax questions. The number is (866) 562-5227.

A recent letter sent out by the IRS to about 50,000 military people caused confusion about CZTE.

"The primary purpose of the letter was to update IRS records to ensure that certain extensions are allowed and that other types of actions are not taken against members who are serving in a combat zone," officials said.

Although the IRS is drafting a follow-up letter that will be sent to try to clear up any confusion, the best advice is to simply disregard the original letter, they added.

Reservists can call (612) 713-1407/1411 if they want to know CZTE designated areas. (Air Force Print News contributed to this story).

2002 Reserve Pay for Four Drills

| Pay Grade | Years of Service | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | Under 2 | Over 2 | Over 3 | Over 4 | Over 6 | Over 8 | Over 10 | Over 12 | Over 14 | Over 16 | Over 18 | Over 20 | Over 22 | Over 24 | Over 26 |
| O-7 <u>2</u> | 795.52 | 849.56 | 849.56 | 855.76 | 887.72 | 912.04 | 940.16 | 968.24 | 996.36 | 1084.68 | 1159.32 | 1159.32 | 1159.32 | 1159.32 | 1165.16 |
| O-6 <u>2</u> | 589.60 | 647.72 | 690.24 | 690.24 | 692.88 | 722.52 | 726.48 | 726.48 | 750.48 | 840.76 | 883.60 | 926.44 | 950.80 | 975.48 | 1023.36 |
| O-5 <u>2</u> | 471.60 | 553.68 | 592.04 | 599.24 | 623.08 | 623.08 | 641.80 | 676.44 | 721.80 | 767.44 | 789.20 | 810.64 | 835.04 | 835.04 | 835.04 |
| O-4 <u>2</u> | 403.16 | 490.92 | 523.68 | 531.00 | 561.40 | 586.12 | 626.16 | 657.36 | 679.00 | 700.76 | 708.08 | 708.08 | 708.08 | 708.08 | 708.08 |
| O-3 <u>2</u> | 372.88 | 422.72 | 456.24 | 493.16 | 516.76 | 542.68 | 564.32 | 592.16 | 606.60 | 606.60 | 606.60 | 606.60 | 606.60 | 606.60 | 606.60 |
| O-2 <u>2</u> | 322.16 | 366.92 | 422.60 | 436.84 | 445.88 | 445.88 | 445.88 | 445.88 | 445.88 | 445.88 | 445.88 | 445.88 | 445.88 | 445.88 | 445.88 |
| O-1 <u>2</u> | 279.68 | 291.08 | 351.80 | 351.80 | 351.80 | 351.80 | 351.80 | 351.80 | 351.80 | 351.80 | 351.80 | 351.80 | 351.80 | 351.80 | 351.80 |
| O-3E <u>2,3</u> | | | | 493.16 | 516.76 | 542.68 | 564.32 | 592.16 | 615.60 | 629.00 | 647.36 | 647.36 | 647.36 | 647.36 | 647.36 |
| O-2E <u>2,3</u> | | | | 436.84 | 445.88 | 460.04 | 484.00 | 502.52 | 516.32 | 516.32 | 516.32 | 516.32 | 516.32 | 516.32 | 516.32 |
| O-1E <u>2,3</u> | | | | 351.80 | 375.76 | 389.64 | 403.80 | 417.76 | 436.84 | 436.84 | 436.84 | 436.84 | 436.84 | 436.84 | 436.84 |
| E-9 <u>1</u> | | | | | | | 456.52 | 466.84 | 479.92 | 495.28 | 510.72 | 525.88 | 546.44 | 566.84 | 595.60 |
| E-8 <u>1</u> | | | | | | | 381.08 | 392.08 | 402.36 | 414.68 | 428.04 | 441.96 | 456.04 | 476.40 | 525.04 |
| E-7 <u>1</u> | 264.92 | 289.20 | 300.20 | 311.00 | 322.32 | 341.72 | 352.68 | 363.52 | 374.40 | 385.68 | 396.68 | 407.64 | 426.72 | 439.04 | 470.24 |
| E-6 <u>1</u> | 226.80 | 249.44 | 260.48 | 271.16 | 282.32 | 300.60 | 311.64 | 322.32 | 333.24 | 341.08 | 347.04 | 347.04 | 347.04 | 347.04 | 347.04 |
| E-5 <u>1</u> | 208.20 | 222.04 | 232.76 | 243.80 | 255.04 | 270.68 | 281.36 | 292.44 | 292.44 | 292.44 | 292.44 | 292.44 | 292.44 | 292.44 | 292.44 |
| E-4 <u>1</u> | 192.48 | 202.36 | 213.28 | 224.04 | 233.64 | 233.64 | 233.64 | 233.64 | 233.64 | 233.64 | 233.64 | 233.64 | 233.64 | 233.64 | 233.64 |
| E-3 <u>1</u> | 173.80 | 184.72 | 195.80 | 195.80 | 195.80 | 195.80 | 195.80 | 195.80 | 195.80 | 195.80 | 195.80 | 195.80 | 195.80 | 195.80 | 195.80 |
| E-2 <u>1</u> | 165.24 | 165.24 | 165.24 | 165.24 | 165.24 | 165.24 | 165.24 | 165.24 | 165.24 | 165.24 | 165.24 | 165.24 | 165.24 | 165.24 | 165.24 |
| E-1>4 <u>1</u> | 147.40 | 147.40 | 147.40 | 147.40 | 147.40 | 147.40 | 147.40 | 147.40 | 147.40 | 147.40 | 147.40 | 147.40 | 147.40 | 147.40 | 147.40 |
| E-1<4 <u>1</u> | 136.36 | 136.36 | 136.36 | 136.36 | 136.36 | 136.36 | 136.36 | 136.36 | 136.36 | 136.36 | 136.36 | 136.36 | 136.36 | 136.36 | 136.36 |

New pay chart effective Jan. 1. Normally, reservists receive credit for four drill pay periods during one weekend unit training assembly.

Notes: See following explanations for the underlined numbers located to the right of the various pay grade designations in column one.

1. While serving as JCS/Vice JCS, CNO, CMC, Army/Air Force CS, basic pay is \$13,598.10 (see note 2).

2. Basic pay for an O-7 to O-10 is limited by Level III of the Executive Schedule, which is \$11,516.70. Basic pay for O-6 and below is limited by Level V of the Executive Schedule, which is \$10,133.40.

3. Applicable to O-1 to O-3 with at least 4 years and 1 day of active duty as a warrant officer and/or enlisted member.

Defense bill authorizes beefier pay hike, more bennies

The largest military pay raise in 20 years, along with new benefits for reservists, are among the provisions of the fiscal year 2002 National Defense Authorization Act.

Signed into law Dec. 28 by President George W. Bush, the act authorizes across-the-board and targeted pay raises ranging from five to 10 percent with a minimum six-percent pay hike for enlisted personnel and a minimum five percent for officers.

The FY 2002 defense bill also approved personnel increases in three major categories in Air Force Reserve Command. The authorized end-strength climbed to 74,700, the number of full-time reservists went to 1,437, and air reserve technicians jumped to 2,818.

This year's bill permits federal agencies to pay the employee and government portions of Federal Em-

ployee Health Benefit Program premiums, so families of called-up reservists continue to receive affordable medical care.

To stimulate participation in funeral honors duty, Congress extended to reservists the same rights, benefits and protections received for performing inactive-duty for training. Federal employees gained the option of using military leave to perform funeral duty as reservists, and retirees may serve as members of funeral honors details and receive payment.

Some benefits offered by defense bills are not immediate because DOD and Air Force must implement policies and programs before these benefits are delivered to service members. In some cases, Congress issues additional clarification in later defense bills.

Each year Congress renews one-year extensions of bonuses and special

pay. This year's extensions through Dec. 31, 2002, include:

- Special pay for health care professionals who serve in the Selected Reserve in critically short wartime specialties;
- Selected Reserve affiliation, enlistment and reenlistment bonuses;
- Special pay for enlisted members of the Selected Reserve assigned to certain high-priority units;
- Ready Reserve enlistment and reenlistment bonuses; and
- Prior-service enlistment bonus until Dec. 31, 2002.

Another perk allows federal employees of the executive branch, military members and their family members to retain for personal use promotional items received as a result of using travel or transportation services paid for by the executive branch. (AFRC News Service)

934th Communications Flight

934th Communications Flight members have been busy completing the last Aerospace Expeditionary Force taskings.

TSgt Heidi Schmidt received 99 percent in course: 3AO31 (Information management).

Submitted by SrA. Chris Krug, unit public affairs representative, (612) 713-1626.

934th Mission Support Flight

Several offices from the headquarters section have deployed since November, and continue to support AEF taskings.

MSgt. Greg Johnson and SSgt. Jodie Eversman deployed to Morón AB Spain and performed duties as command post controllers. They were directly involved in coordinating a high-volume of aircraft and personnel to forward locations in Central and Southwest Asia.

Chaplain (Capt.) Derek Lauer and TSgt. Jan Wills, a chaplain's assistant, deployed to Morón AB, Spain.

SMSGts. Tim Donnay and Dave Fischer (who went twice), MSgts. Paul Burnett and Gary Door, and SSgt. Julie Reichenberger, all finance reservists, deployed for 15-20 day tours to Morón AB Spain. They provided check-cashing services, foreign currency exchanges, and provided customer service to the TDY community. Local finance reservists were there Jan. 1 when Spain converted to the Euro-dollar, and will leave in mid-February.

Finance reservists are also deployed to Incirlik AB, Turkey through March, where their comptrollers are providing customer service to active duty, reserve, and ANG members. They include Dorr, TSgts. Mike Finstrom, Paul McCann and Patrick McCullough, and SSgts. Melissa Cogar and Todd Littfin.

SSgt. Jeff Williams from Public Affairs was in Kuwait from Jan. 12-28.

McCann successfully completed the Financial Management and Comp-

troller Craftsman course at Sheppard AFB, Tex., in November.

Capt. Paul Hanten from finance was mobilized at HQ AFRC, providing budget assistance to the headquarters staff.

Submitted by MSgt. Dave Fisher, (612) 713-1417.

934th Services Squadron

The 934th Services Squadron 20-Year Club hosted their holiday celebration Saturday night of the January unit training activity.

SSgt. James Rutz received the Air Force Commendation Medal for supporting the orderly room during the transition between air reserve technicians.

Several unit members were congratulated on their recent promotions. They included MSgt. Lonnie Gillespie, and TSgts. Erica Twardy and Michael Gangl.

The unit's port mortuary team was recognized with a remembrance plaque; engraved in wood are the incidents and the names of those volunteers who supported the incidents.

The plaque was presented to Col. Paul Groskreutz, 934th Support Group commander, and will hang in the 934th Airlift Wing Hall of Fame, which will be located in building 760 once remodeling is completed.

Submitted by SrA. Kristen Maloney, unit public affairs representative, (612) 713-1636.

934 Civil Engineering Squadron

SSgt. Robert Rice, Structures shop, and TSgt. Dean Andersen, Supply shop, both completed seven-level school within the last month.

TSgt. Tom Whiteford, Utilities shop, was selected as this month's Superior Performer and was presented with a unit coin for his work with updating the unit's safety binders.

Time was spent during the January UTA on Building 716 (old lodging building), which had a water sprinkler mishap that caused a lot of damage. Several CE work centers will be assisting with the cleanup and repair of the building. Cleanup started just

before the January UTA when SSgt Bobby Reese helped move furniture out of the building.

The Equipment shop worked on providing sand around the various buildings on base. The shop also works on clearing snow from base parking lots each Friday of the winter season prior to the UTA.

The Engineering shop spent part of the UTA camp surveying at Camp Parsons in Watertown, Minn. The shop also will be participating in surveyor equipment training at a local training source within the next month.

Many unit members spent part of the January UTA completing the new web-based health questionnaire. The web-based product appears to be more user friendly than the old version of having to complete a long drawn-out form by hand.

This month's "Chief's Challenge" winner was TSgt. Tony Feigum from the fire department.

The Chief's Challenge is a current affairs-type contest where the CE Chief, CMSgt. Dave Angerman, picks a unit member and quizzes the member to see if they have reviewed the information the Chief posts on the unit bulletin board.

If the person chosen successfully answers the Chief's Challenge, they win a unit coin presented by the Chief.

Submitted by TSgt. Mike McGuire, unit public affairs representative, (612) 713-1281.

934th Logistics Support Squadron

The 934th Logistics Support Squadron Supply section spent the January UTA preparing individuals for AEF commitments.

Three squadron members were deployed to Sembach AB, Germany from Dec. 28 to Jan. 16, while another three individuals will be going there Jan. 13- Feb. 1.

SMSGt. Michael King was awarded the American Legion Outstanding Air Force Reserve Enlisted Person of the Year award for 2001.

Submitted by MSgt. Craig Molm, unit public affairs representative, (612) 713-1351.

Bush pledges pay raise, more money for defense

Several members of the 934th Airlift Wing were in Washington when President Bush told about 1,500 members of the Reserve Officers Association the United States "will not cut corners" when it comes to national defense.

Col. Dean J. Despinoy, former 934th AW commander; Col. Gary L. Cook, 934th AW commander; Col. Paul Groskreutz, 934th Support group commander; Lt. Col. Jay Pittman, 96th Airlift Squadron; Maj. Mike Maza, 934th Mission Support Flight; and Maj. Eric Sutliff, 27th Aerial Port Squadron, were in the audience when the commander in chief addressed attendees of ROA's Mid-Winter Conference.

"The tools of modern warfare are effective," the president said. "They are expensive and in order to win this war against terror, they are essential," he said.

"Whatever it takes, whatever it costs, this patient, this resolved nation will win the first war of the 21st century."

The president said the military takes top priority in the 2003 budget he

presented to Congress, including more than \$48 billion in new defense spending, and another pay raise for the military.

"This will be the largest increase in defense spending in 20 years," Bush said.

The nation asks much of its men and women in uniform and in return, they deserve every resource, every weapon needed to achieve a full and final victory, the president said.

"Today, the Reserve and Guard are fighting a two-front war, one in Central Asia and one here at home," Bush told the military crowd.

"The Air Force alone has flown 3,000 sorties over Afghanistan, and more than 800 sorties to protect American cities."

Afghanistan's Taliban "is now out of business," he said.

"There was no doubt in my mind that when I unleashed our great military, that our men and women would perform bravely. They have not let us down," he said.

The military has been relentless in

its pursuit of the terrorists, he said.

"No matter how long it takes, no matter where we have to look, our United States military will patiently and surely hunt down the murderers and killers and terrorists.

"The war began in Afghanistan, but it is not going to end there," he said. "The United States still faces "a shadowy enemy" and "danger and sacrifices lie ahead," he noted.

"We will not tire until every terrorist group of global reach has been found, has been stopped and has been defeated," he said. "The terrorists, the evil ones who targeted America, are learning something. They picked the wrong enemy."

The Reserve Officers Association presented its Minuteman of the Year award to the President. It recognizes those who personify the ideals of the Minuteman, courage, love of country and selfless service. Bush was cited for providing steadfast leadership during a time of crisis and rallying the nation to defend freedom and democracy wherever they are threatened.

Commander's Coins

TSgt. Mike Cleveland, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron.

TSgt. Bob Braesch, 934 Maintenance Squadron.

Mr. George Leppanen, 934th Airlift Wing.

Mr. Phil Winkles, civil engineering.

MSgt. Mike Ginapp, 934th Mission Support Flight.

MSgt. Brad Hegge, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron.

CMSgt. Dave Angerman, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron.

TSgt. Jan Wills, 934th Airlift Wing.

TSgt. Jon Juliot, 27th Aerial Port Squadron.

SSgt. Tom Theis, 934th Security Forces Squadron.

SrA. Howard Glockzin, 27th Aerial Port Squadron.

MSgt. Sherri Kennedy, 934th Logistics Support Squadron.

SSgt. Scott Johnston, 27th Aerial Port Squadron.

MSgt. Greg Nordwall, 27th Aerial Port Squadron.

MSgt. Bernadette Blackwell, 96th Airlift Squadron.

MSgt. Mark Hartnett, 96th Airlift Squadron.

TSgt. Alan McCann, 934th Maintenance Squadron.

SrA. Todd Besser, 934th Security Forces Squadron.

Maj. Mo Banavige, 934 Logistics Group.

MSgt. Elizabeth Betsy Johnston, 934th Maintenance Squadron.

Mr. Steve Smith, 934th Logistics Support Squadron.

TSgt. Louis Herbes, 934th Mission Support Flight.

SrA. Christopher L. Jones, 934th Communications Flight.

MSgt. Suzanne Grant, 934th Mission Support Flight.

SSgt. Charles D. Shuppan, 934th Communications Flight.

SSgt. William Liberatore, 934th Mission Support Flight.

SSgt. Jeffrey S. Teschendorf, 934th Communications Flight.

TSgt. Allen C. Williams, 934th Communications Flight.

MSgt. Al Eakle, 934th Airlift Wing.

Mr. Mike Dukek, 934th Operations Group.

SSgt. Barbara Ostler, 934th Logistics Support Squadron.

TSgt. Michelle Szydel, 934th Logistics Support Squadron.

TSgt. Steven Orwig, 934th Logistics Support Squadron.

MSgt. Scott LeClair, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron.

SSgt. Ryan Schwieger, 934th Communications Flight.

TSgt. Jon Schmidt, 934th Communications Flight.

Mr. Terry Hansen, 934th Security Forces Squadron.

SSgt. Reno Stradiotto, 934th Maintenance Squadron.

Mr. Allen J. Scherff, Rothe.

Mr. Gaylon R. Holmes, Rothe.

Mr. Aaron S. Dornon, Rothe.

Mr. John H. Murdock, Rothe.

Mr. Brady C. Randolph, Rothe.

Mr. William G. Fauver, Rothe.

SMSgt. Sonja Fisher, 934th Communications Flight.

Correction to story

The January issue of the Viking Flyer misspelled the last name of the 934th Airlift Wing's Company Grade Officer of the Year.

The staff would like to apologize for any embarrassment our error caused him, and again congratulate **Capt. Donald C. Brock**, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron.

Volunteers needed for fundraiser

To honor all of the efforts Maj. Dan Anderson did for the 934th Airlift Wing and the Reserve Officer's Association, a fundraiser will be held to support the Freedom Fund, an education fund for ROA members and AFROTC cadets.

"Dan started and firmly believed in the fund, said Maj. Mo Banivage, 934th Logistics Group.

"He had a goal of raising awareness and membership for professional military organizations like ROA and the Air Force Sergeants Association. The fundraising event is a great way to honor his goals."

Local volunteers will be running a Metrodome hotdog booth on Saturday, Feb. 16. The event will run from 4:30-10:30 p.m.

For each person who volunteers, we will earn \$60 toward the Freedom Fund," said Banivage.

Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Banivage before Feb. 11. She said volunteers need to wear black pants, a lightweight shirt and comfortable shoes.

Those unable to attend, but who would like to donate to the fund, please contact Banivage at (612) 713-3452.

Rodeo postponed until 2003

The war on terrorism and other missions have forced the postponement of an Air Mobility Command tradition.

Air Mobility Rodeo, the command's biennial international readiness competition, was canceled for this year due to current operations tempo, Gen. John W. Handy, AMC commander, announced Jan. 2.

Rodeo 2003 is scheduled for June 21 to 28 at McChord Air Force Base, Wash.

"Rodeo is an important air mobility tradition, and one we will not abandon," Handy said. "However, our current OPTEMPO is likely to preclude meeting mission requirements while preparing a first class Rodeo event. Many people worked hard to make Rodeo happen. Your efforts are not in vain, and will be reflected in our next Rodeo, which will be the best ever."

The competition showcases airdrops, air refueling, aeromedical evacuation, security forces, assault landings and related ground operations. More than 100 teams and 2,500 people compete from more than 300 active-duty Air Force, Air Force Reserve Command, Air National Guard, U.S. Army units and from various allied nations.

Planning for the next competition has not stopped, said Maj. Steve Janeczko, Rodeo 2003 command project officer.

"We are still working on getting everything ready for Rodeo," Janeczko said. "Postponing it until June 2003 just ensures that we make it the best Rodeo ever. The McChord host-base and AMC staff are still committed to this great event."

Volant Rodeo began in 1962 as a combat airdrop skills competition designed to develop and improve techniques and procedures while enhancing air mobility operations, and promoting esprit de corps. In 1979 Rodeo expanded to include international air mobility partners. Air Refueling events were added in 1993.

Specific information about Rodeo 2003 can be found on the Rodeo Web site. (Courtesy of AMC News Service)

Program offers commission

The Military Equal Opportunity Office (MEO) has an officer vacancy that will be filled through the Deserving Airman Program.

The board to select from potential candidates will be held during the March UTA.

Officer candidate packages must be completed before Feb 28 and submitted to MSgt. Mike Ginapp/DPMS, Bldg 852, room 110, ext 1509. He can provide assistance and answer questions regarding the officer application process.

Questions regarding the duties of the position and career field should be addressed to the Chief, MEO, Lt. Col. Carolyn Lohman at (612) 713-1221.

Interested members must be able to attend Officer Training within the next year. Attendance at two technical schools are required to become fully qualified in the career field.

Firing range off limits

The 934th Airlift Wing firing range, located on Fort Snelling grounds, is off-limits to unauthorized people. Trespassing is illegal and dangerous.

For additional information, contact the 934th Security Forces Squadron, 760 Military highway, Minneapolis, MN 55450-2000 or call MSgt. Steven Anderson at (612) 713-1815.

AFSA chapter to elect officers

Chapter 858 of the Air Force Sergeants Association will be electing a new President, Vice President, and Trustees at their February meeting.

Elections will be held Feb. 9 at 10 a.m. in the Bloomington American Legion Post 550, corner of 94th Street and Lyndale Avenue South.

For more information contact Acting Chapter President Mark Davidson, at (952) 884-6077.


Medals
Air Force Commendation Medal

MSgt. Robert J. Arkulary, 96th Airlift Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

SSgt. James M. Rutz, 934th Service Squadron

Air Force Achievement Medal

Maj. Gary A. Bray, 96th Airlift Squadron (fifth oak leaf cluster)

SMSgt. Michael L. Gilbert, 96th Airlift Squadron (third oak leaf cluster)

MSgt. John L. Parenteau, 27th Aerial Port Squadron (third oak leaf cluster)

TSgt. James R. Regner, 934th Maintenance Squadron (third oak leaf cluster)

TSgt. Earl C. Robinson, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (third oak leaf cluster)

Lt. Col. Richard Gabe, 96th Airlift Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

Maj. Kelly A. Bankole, 96th Airlift Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

Maj. Anthony F. Determan, 96th Airlift Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

Maj. Michael E. Erickson, 96th Airlift Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

Maj. Thomas J. O'Reilly, 96th Airlift Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

Capt. Bruce D. Wiskus, 96th Airlift Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

SMSgt. Bradley R. Binion, 96th Airlift Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

MSgt. Robert J. Arkulary, 96th Airlift Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

SSgt. Albert W. Anderson III, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (second oak leaf cluster)

Lt. Col. Michael J. Bladel, 96th Airlift Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

Lt. Col. John A. Lawver, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

Maj. Howard S. Bell, 96th Airlift Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

Maj. Drew A. Hansen, 96th Airlift Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

Maj. James P. Hayes, 96th Airlift Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

Maj. Richard A. Larson, 96th Airlift Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

Maj. Anne C. Jones, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

Maj. Caleb F. Merriman, 96th Airlift Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

Maj. Donald L. Petros, 96th Airlift

Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

Maj. Patricia Rautiola, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

Maj. Kenneth C. Rogers, 96th Airlift Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

Maj. Craig A. Trammell, 96th Airlift Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

Capt. Michael S. Johnson, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

Capt. Leslie A. Kirkpatrick, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

CMSgt. Thomas L. Foss, 96th Airlift Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

SMSgt. John L. Skarhus, 96th Airlift Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

SMSgt. Clarence C. Super, Jr., 934th Civil Engineering Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

TSgt. Thomas L. Kim, 96th Airlift Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

TSgt. Shane A. Lohmann, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

TSgt. Robert S. Mattern, 96th Airlift Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

TSgt. Ryan R. Pomeroy, 96th Airlift Squadron (first oak leaf cluster)

Lt. Col. James L. Alexander, 96th Airlift Squadron

Lt. Col. Cleo L. Bonham, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

Lt. Col. Marilyn M. Chambers, 934th Operations Group

Lt. Col. David J. Gerken, 934th Operational Support Flight

Lt. Col. Michael E. Murzyn, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Lt. Col. Timothy W. Purcell, 96th Airlift Squadron

Lt. Col. Douglas D. Trogstad, 96th Airlift Squadron

Lt. Col. Grelon B. Williams, 96th Airlift Squadron

Maj. Melanie L. Benter, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

Maj. David A. Gerda, 96th Airlift Squadron

Maj. James J. Jirele, 96th Airlift Squadron

Maj. James C. Majors, 934th Airlift Wing

Maj. David G. Tank, 96th Airlift Squadron

Capt. Caroline C. Campbell, 96th Airlift Squadron

Capt. Todd A. Kay, 96th Airlift Squadron

Capt. Deborah K. Maestri, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

Capt. Mark R. Vonberge, 96th Airlift

Squadron

1 Lt. David W. Bloomquist, 96th Airlift Squadron

1 Lt. Robert T. Rettig, 96th Airlift Squadron

CMSgt. Marc L. Gilbertson, 96th Airlift Squadron

CMSgt. Donald A. Hohn, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

SMSgt. Ann M. Hawkins, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

MSgt. Jean R. Hohn, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

MSgt. Terry A. Preusse, 96th Airlift Squadron

MSgt. William D. Rudgers, 96th Airlift Squadron

MSgt. Chris J. Vandenberg, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

TSgt. Christopher S. Rieland, 96th Airlift Squadron

TSgt. Thomas J. Reinardy, 96th Airlift Squadron

TSgt. Denise R. Sanders, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

TSgt. Andrew L. Thomas, 96th Airlift Squadron

TSgt. Michael P. Thrasher, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

SSgt. Daniel D. Fitzmaurice, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron

SSgt. Angela M.F. House, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

SSgt. Tracy I. Meyer, 96th Airlift Squadron

SSgt. Eric J. Schraeder, 96th Airlift Squadron

SSgt. Jill M. Shepard, 96th Airlift Squadron

SSgt. Joseph A. Sunde, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

SSgt. Raymond W. Whitehead, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

SSgt. Thomas G. Wiese, 96th Airlift Squadron

SrA. Katy A. Carroll, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

Twin Cities Base Exchange

Monday- Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Military Clothing Sales Store

Tuesday - Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday and Monday Closed

Royal Hot Plate

Monday- Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sun. Closed

Barber Shop

Monday- Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday Closed

Promotions

The following individuals were promoted to the grade indicated Jan. 1:

Chief Master Sergeant Luis Garridogodoy, 934th Maintenance Squadron.

Senior Master Sergeant Richard G. Dunn, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron.

Master Sergeant Gary W. Dorr, 934th Airlift Wing.
Lonnie Gillespie, 934th Services Squadron.
Roy A. Goins, 934th Maintenance Squadron.
Jeffrey A. Kellington, 27th Aerial Port Squadron.

Technical Sergeant Kevin S. Converse, 934th Maintenance Squadron.

William R. Cox, 934th Security Forces Squadron.
Deborah L. Edwall, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron.
Angela M.F. House, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron.
Robert M. Larson, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron.

Alisa M. Malszycki, 27th Aerial Port Squadron
Paul J. McCann, 934th Airlift Wing.
Jill M. Shepard, 96th Airlift Squadron.
Kenneth J. Stang, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron.

Staff Sergeant James J. Bandelow,

934th Security Forces Squadron.
Scott J. Flaherty, 934th Security Forces Squadron.

Scott D. Inwards, 934th Communications Flight.
Barton D. Inks, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron.
Paul R. Long, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron.
Daniel J. Moldenhauer, 934th Maintenance Squadron.
Jason Rohman, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron.
Troy Teff, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron.
David L. Witherspoon, 934th Maintenance Squadron.
Mark Witte, 934th Security Forces Squadron.
Brian Wollak, 934th Security Forces Squadron.

Senior Airman Wade C. Asher, 934th Security Forces Squadron.
Paul Bargas, 934th Communications Flight.
Salina Bargas, 934th Communications Flight.
John L. Brown, 934th Airlift Wing.
Kayla A. Bultinck, 27th Aerial Port Squadron.
Christopher T. Guthrie, 934th Communications Flight.

Newcomers

The following individuals are joining the units indicated in February:
Maj. Robert J. Hockman, 96th Airlift Squadron, from McGuire AFB, N.J.
Maj. Paul D. Peterson, 96th Airlift Squadron, from the Individual Mobilization Augmentee

program.
Capt. Jason A. Buns, 934th Airlift Wing, from the Air Reserve Personnel Center.
TSgt. Scott R. Hellzen, 96th Airlift Squadron, from the Army National Guard.
TSgt. Allen A. Marshall, 934th Airlift Wing, from Keesler AFB, Miss.
SrA. Anthony G. Blume, 934th Communications Flight, from the Air Reserve Personnel Center.
SrA. Jamie M. Christenson, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, from the Air Reserve Personnel Center.
SrA. Ronald A. Holbeck, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, from the Air Reserve Personnel Center.

Reenlistments/Extensions

The following individuals reenlisted or extended in January:

Reenlisted MSgt. John G. Johnson, 934th Airlift Wing.
MSgt. Eugene E. Kirk, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron.
MSgt. Gene T. Olsen, 934th Maintenance Squadron.
MSgt. Roy A. Schwegel, 934th Maintenance Squadron.
MSgt. Maomi J. Williams, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron.
TSgt. Eric R. Baumer, 934th Mission Support Flight.

TSgt. Eugene C. Eberhardt, 96th Airlift Squadron.
TSgt. Lee A. Hansen, 934th Maintenance Squadron.
TSgt. Steven J. Robinson, 934th Mission Support Flight.
TSgt. Denise R. Sanders, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.
SSgt. Wayne L. Elo, 27th Aerial Port Squadron.
SSgt. Charles A. Klinker, 934th Logistics Support Squadron.
SSgt. Roger P. Latreirell, 934th Civil Engineering Squadron.

Extended SMSgt. James D. Jansen, 934th Airlift Wing.
MSgt. Chester M. Gronewold, 27th Aerial Port Squadron.
MSgt. Stephen J. Taylor, 96th Airlift Squadron.
TSgt. Fredrick H. Carlson, 27th Aerial Port Squadron.
TSgt. Michael A. Salmon, 934th Logistics Support Squadron.
SSgt. John W. Adams III, 96th Airlift Squadron.
SrA. Anthony C. Haider, 934th Maintenance Squadron.
SrA. Kenneth C. McIntosh II, 934th Maintenance Squadron.
SrA. Joshua A. Nelson, 934th Maintenance Squadron.
SrA. Aaron D. Ross, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron.

Officers 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.

Bar menu available from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Sundays: Closed.

Mondays: Dining room closed. Lounge open from 4-11 p.m., and closed Feb. 18

Tuesdays: Special in the dining room. Closed Feb. 19. Membership night Feb. 26. Free buffet dinner for club members.

Wednesdays: Daily special in the dining room is pasta. Reservations required for Gourmet Night Feb. 26

Thursdays: Stir Fry Night in the dining room. Valentines Day special (reservations required) Feb. 14.

Fridays: Different seafood special in the dining room. Reservations required.

Saturdays: Prime rib for two in the dining room.

Feb. 3: Super Bowl XXXVI party at the Officers Club beginning at 3 p.m. Open to all Officers and Enlisted Club members and their guests. Prices, special drinks and New Orleans-style food will be available at half-time.

Feb. 14: Valentines Day special dinner will be served from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Menu includes filet and shrimp scampi at \$14.75 per person. Reservations are required. Phone (612) 713-3678.

Feb. 20- Gourmet



Margo Leslie, chief of services (left), and her daughter Shaun Olson, pose with the torch Olson used to carry the Olympic flame as it passed through Omaha Jan. 10 on it's way to Salt Lake City. She was one of 11,000 people picked from 230,000 nominees who had the chance-of-a-lifetime to carry the flame on a four-block run. (Courtesy photo)

dining. Membership and reservations required. 40 person limit. Reservations start Feb. 5.

Feb. 26: Membership Night for both Officer and Enlisted Club members will be held at the Officers Club beginning at 5:30 p.m. A free buffet dinner will be offered to club members, with guests paying \$5.95.

Enlisted

Breakfast: Monday-Friday from 6:30-9:30 a.m.

Lunch: Monday-Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dinner: Friday-Saturday from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Open to 9 p.m. on UTA weekends.

Fitness/recreation

Lounge: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00-9:30 p.m.; Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Friday-Saturday from 3 p.m. to midnight.

Sunday: Closed

Monday: Chefs special for lunch in the dining room. Monday Night football, with chili, hot dogs and pizza available in the lounge.

Tuesday: Different specials for lunch in the dining room

Wednesday: Different specials for lunch in the dining room

Thursday: Different All-You-Can-Eat buffets for lunch in the dining room

Friday: Different specials for lunch and dinner in the dining room.

Saturdays: Closed for lunch except Feb. 9 and 23. Different dinner specials in the dining room.

The volleyball winners in January were Services and Finance. Games scheduled for the February UTA are Services vs Finance at 5 p.m. and the logistics support squadron vs maintenance at 6 p.m. The championship game will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday.

Sign ups continue for the March bowling event, which costs \$15 per person.

There will be a three-on-three basketball tournament in April.

For UTA activities contact SSgt. Debra Hanson at (612)-713-1496.

The 2002 Annual Pig-Out Fitness Challenge

concluded Jan. 5 with Rachael Dingle of the U.S. Marine Corps finishing in first place.

Air Force retiree Gerald Fuhrman and Eric Kerber of the 133rd Airlift Wing tied for second place. Air Force retiree's Leon Jones and Jim Donohue, and Stanley Walton of the 88th RSC Army Reserve, round out the top six winners.

Noon and evening basketball tournaments begin in February and continue through March. Contact Bill Garside at (612) 713-1496 for more information.

Fitness Center hours of operation have changed to 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekends. They are closed on Federal holidays.

A number of Air Force websites are available to help people plan their winter vacation. These include: www.aftravelonline.com; www.rockymountainblue.com and www.afvclub.com.

OWC

The Officer's Wives Club meets for bridge several times during the month.

Individuals interested in playing on the second and third Tuesday at 10 a.m. should contact Germaine Reuter Dahl at (952) 881-0107. Individuals interested in playing on the first and third Wednesday should call either Toberta Gronemann at (763) 494-3517 or Inez Gugisberg at (651) 481-1983.

Dignitaries gather to officially open new lodging facility

With the ground-breaking nearly two years behind, dignitaries gathered at the Minneapolis-St Paul IAP Air Reserve Station's North Country Inn to officially open two phases of the state-of-the-art lodging facility Jan. 14.

Members of Minnesota's congressional delegation were instrumental in getting funding for the new facility, and were either present or represented by members of their staff during the morning's ceremony.

Also on hand were the 22nd Air Force commander, members of the Air Force Reserve Command Service's staff, as well as two former 934th Airlift Wing commanders involved in the initial planning of the facility.

Col. Dean J. Despinoy, 934th Airlift Wing commander, thanked the Minnesota delegation for their involvement and support in funding the project in his opening remarks.

In remarks to the dignitaries and base employees present, Congressman Martin Sabo, D-Minn, said he was happy to back the project and thanked the members of the Armed

Forces for the sacrifices they make.

Maj. Gen. James Bankers, 22nd AF commander, praised the members of his command for the outstanding job they are doing.

Also in attendance were Doug Altrichter, military liaison assistant to Congressman Gil Gutknecht, R-Minn.; Barb Johnson, MLA for Sen. Mark Dayton, D-Minn.; and Olin Moore, MLA for Congressman Sabo.

On hand to help with the official ribbon cutting were Brig. Gen. Michael Gjede and Col. Richard Moss, former 934th AW commanders; Mr. Robert Bemis and Ms Lynda Mikanowicz from Hq AFRC Services; and Col. Paul Groskreutz, 934th Support Group commander.

The ribbon cutting marked the official opening of the first two phases of the new facility, with 127 rooms available for occupancy.

Originally funded for \$21 million, it was split into four phases, boosting the cost up to \$24 million. When finally complete, the new lodging will boast 311 rooms; 302 visiting quarter rooms;



Col. Dean J. Despinoy (center), 934th Airlift Wing commander, cuts the ribbon officially opening the new lodging facility. On hand to assist were (from left to right) former 934th Airlift Wing Commanders Col. Richard Moss and Brig. Gen. Michael Gjede; Congressman Martin Sabo, D-Mn; Maj. Gen. James Bankers, 22nd Air Force commander; Colonel Despinoy; Col. Paul Groskreutz, 934th Support Group commander; Tammy Davis, lodging manager; and Margo Leslie, chief of Services. (USAF Photo)

and nine suites.

It's the first lodging facility built which meets new Air Force standards both in room size and bath.

"The VQs are 250 square feet and the suites are 400 square feet," said Tammy Davis, lodging manager. All rooms have queen-size beds, private bath and keyless entry."

Additionally, each room is equipped with a refrigerator and microwave oven, and has full cable television.

An energy-saving computer was also installed in the new facility.

"The desk can control energy," said Davis, "by

letting the computer system know whether or not a particular room is occupied. Guests can control temperatures as well."

Reservists, guardsmen, their active duty counterparts, retirees and other authorized guests will benefit from the new facility, which gradually will replace facilities built in the 1940s.

Bids for the third phase go out in March or April, with construction of an additional 151 rooms expected to take a year.

"On a typical UTA weekend for the 934th AW, we accommodate nearly 300 people either on or off base," said Davis.

"There isn't a weekend where either reservists or guardsmen aren't drilling and using our facilities."

A substantial number of people are forced to stay off-base as well as fill on-base facilities on drill weekends.

Costs for lodging will be cut in half when the final two phases are complete because everyone should be housed on base.

What do you like most about the new lodging facility?



"Really quiet and great for crew rest."
Maj. Scott Wesolaski
96th Airlift Squadron



"Not having to share a latrine."
SSgt. James Bandelow
934th Security Forces Squadron



"Private, new, clean and like a hotel room."
TSgt. Eric Bergdahl
27th Aerial Port Squadron



"Absence of mice."
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Interviews by Whitney Warren

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