

Use of DoD travel card mandated

Many questions have been brought up on the mandatory use of the Government Travel Card.

Up until now, the Department of Defense had not provided guidance to the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998, which congressionally mandates the use of the GTC for all service members and DoD employees.

The Government Services Administration requires that all employees must use the GTC for expenses incurred from official travel after Feb. 29.

The most common examples of expenses paid with the GTC will be airline tickets (purchased through the contracted travel office), lodging and rental car charges. Meals and incidentals may be paid with any source (cash, check, GTC, etc.).

If you do not have a card or the card was suspended, contact your unit Agency Program Coordinator to satisfy the requirement of having GTC in order to comply with congressional law. It's at the commander's discretion as to whether or not an individual is issued a card.

For members with questionable records, the commander has access to the Electronic Account Government Ledger System software, which sets guidelines for the use of GTC. A benefit to the member for using the GTC is the ability for split disbursement. When filing a travel voucher, members can allocate an amount to directly pay Bank of America for their GTC bill.

For information, call the 437th Comptroller Squadron. Points of contact are 1st Lt. Delfrieda Hudson at 963-3723 or Tech. Sgt. Patrick Schultz at 963-3704. **(Information submitted by the 437 CPTS)**

Celebrating Black History Month

AAHC spotlights deputy surgeon general

By Staff Sgt. Charlie Battle

437 AW Military Equal Opportunity

The African American Heritage Council spotlight features another proud offering to salute the African-American culture and the substantial contributions facilitated through their efforts. This week's AAHC spotlight is on Maj. Gen. Leonard Randolph, Jr.

Randolph is deputy Surgeon General, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Bolling Air Force Base, D.C. As chief operating officer, he directs all operations of the Air Force Medical Service, a \$4.6 billion, 46,000-person integrated health care delivery system.

The system serves 2.5 million beneficiaries at 77 military treatment facilities worldwide. Simultaneously, he oversees the functions of the Air Force Surgeon General's Office, comprised of five directorates with offices in Washington, D.C., San Antonio, Texas, and Fort Detrick, Md.

Included in these functions are clinical quality management, strategic management, readiness planning and doctrine and training. He also oversees the strategic management process, coordinating the Mission Support Plan, Air Force Medical Service strategic initiatives and related readiness and health care programs, resources, efforts and metrics.

Randolph coordinates the Air Force Medical Service efforts among major air command surgeons, Army and Navy agencies, Department of Defense Health Affairs and other agencies to

include the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The general is also executive agent for the Department of Defense's TRICARE Infrastructure Management Project. As deputy, he acts in the Air Force Surgeon General's stead, and serves as the Air Force principal liaison to the American College of Surgeons and American College of Physician Executives.

Randolph is board-certified in general surgery and medical management, and is a certified physician executive and chief flight surgeon.

Like Randolph, we each have the ability to be a positive influence within our units. It's up to us to unlock the potential benefits of diversity by accepting our differences and increasing our understanding in an effort to effectively accomplish the mission.

Genral Randolph will visit the 437th Medical Group March 15-16 to present the Surgeon General's mission and vision for the Air Force Medical Service



**Maj. Gen.
Leonard Randolph Jr.**