

ASP baton offers security forces troops alternate deterrent to fight crime

By Staff Sgt. Pamela Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

The 437th Security Forces Squadron has gotten in step with civilian police departments when it comes to training. They have stepped away from using the gun as their sole deterrent and protection against criminals and are using the Armament Systems Procedures baton.

The ASP is a collapsible tactical baton that can become a defense weapon in a matter of seconds. The lightweight baton is only eight inches when strapped onto the patrol belts of the security forces troops, but with one flick of the hand, the object stretches to twenty-one inches and can take down an aggressor in one swing.

"It's a low maintenance weapon and easy to carry," said Tech Sgt. William Cline, 437 SFS Training Flight NCOIC, "but it also has the ability to cause serious damage."

"SFS members have been carrying the ASP for almost two years and are required to attend annual training on proper use," said Staff Sgt. Patrick Rodgers, also of the SFS training flight.

The airmen attend an eight-hour course before being allowed to handle the



Staff Sgt. Pamela Smith

Staff Sgt. Kenneth Mayhew (left), 437th Security Forces Squadron, prepares to defend himself against an aggressor (Staff Sgt. Patrick Rodgers) during his annual ASP training.

weapon. "We then have an hour-long demonstration where we show the correct places to aim when swinging the ASP," said Rodgers. "Students are taught to hit in mass areas, like the thigh or arm."

After the test and demonstration, students participate in the dynamic proficiency exam where they have two minutes to demonstrate what they're taught. They face off against an instructor in a padded suit who acts as an aggressor. The trainee uses a specially designed padded ASP and simulates a real world situation by going after the instructor aiming for the

mass areas and using the techniques taught during the class and the demonstration.

The training is required for everyone in the security forces squadron.

"There are some members who are hesitant about using the ASP at first," said Rodgers. "But it doesn't take long for them to get used to it."

Cline sees the weapon as beneficial, especially for 18 and 19-year-old airman. "The ASP is one step below a firearm and it gives younger troops the opportunity to handle an out-of-control situation without using deadly force."

PDO goes paperless

With the October closure of the Base Publication Distribution Office came changes in the way Charleston AFB receives forms and publications. Anyone who has access to a base network computer can view/download Air Force forms and publications from their desktop.

By going to www.afpubs.hq.af.mil customers can access all Air Force forms and publications from one web site. If the form/publication is not available electronically, call your Squadron Customer Account Representative.

Other services available:

Base Publishing posts a weekly bulletin on the Information Management web page. To access the base bulletin, type <http://globemaster/437sptg/437cs/index.htm>. This will take you to the 437th Communication Squadron Home Page. The Base Bulletin is in the publishing folder under the IM link. CAFB and AMC forms and publications can be found there also. These products are also available through Outlook under all public folders, 437 AW.

Time running out on expired stickers

Drivers on base having a blue 1999 sticker on their vehicle have until Feb. 1 to re-register.

Beginning Feb 1, all 1999 stickers will be scraped off at the gate and drivers will be required to re-register their vehicles. Anyone coming on base a second time without a current year sticker will be issued a traffic ticket.

To avoid any unnecessary delays, be prepared when re-registering vehicles. Those needing a new year sticker will have to provide a military identification card, valid driver's license, current proof of insurance, current decal number and current state reg-

istration for each vehicle.

Drivers can register their vehicles at the Dorchester Gate/Visitor Center or Pass and Registration office located in Bldg. 254.

The Dorchester Gate/Visitor Center is open from 7 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Pass and Registration office is open from 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Pass and Registration office will be open Jan. 22 from 8-11 a.m. and noon-1 p.m. for those who can't make it during duty hours.

For more information, call 963-3626. (Submitted by the 437 SFS)

2000 Charleston Basic Allowance for Housing rates

Without dependents

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|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|
| E-1 | \$548 | E-9 | \$620 | O3E | \$625 |
| E-2 | \$548 | W-1 | \$612 | O-1 | \$610 |
| E-3 | \$548 | W-2 | \$618 | O-2 | \$615 |
| E-4 | \$548 | W-3 | \$621 | O-3 | \$622 |
| E-5 | \$589 | W-4 | \$645 | O-4 | \$715 |
| E-6 | \$610 | W-5 | \$726 | O-5 | \$769 |
| E-7 | \$613 | O1E | \$616 | O-6 | \$852 |
| E-8 | \$618 | O2E | \$620 | O-7 | \$869 |

With dependents

| | | | | | |
|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|
| E-1 | \$610 | E-9 | \$869 | O3E | \$879 |
| E-2 | \$610 | W-1 | \$626 | O-1 | \$617 |
| E-3 | \$610 | W-2 | \$743 | O-2 | \$625 |
| E-4 | \$612 | W-3 | \$852 | O-3 | \$848 |
| E-5 | \$616 | W-4 | \$875 | O-4 | \$913 |
| E-6 | \$625 | W-5 | \$902 | O-5 | \$957 |
| E-7 | \$706 | O1E | \$724 | O-6 | \$965 |
| E-8 | \$796 | O2E | \$835 | O-7 | \$977 |



Courtesy photo

Going long

Hall of fame quarterback Terry Bradshaw goes long to Secretary Cohen on a Charleston-based USO tour. Bradshaw and more than a dozen other celebrities joined Secretary Cohen's annual holiday tour Dec. 20-24. The group, including recording artist Ruth Pointer, Shane Minor, John Carroll, Mary Ann Singleary, soccer star Marco Etchevery, and the Dallas Cowboys' Steve Young, visited Macedonia and Italy. The trip also included Model Christie Brinkley and veejay Julie Brown.

en on a Charleston-based the USO to become part of r Mary Chapin Carpenter, l Royal, football great Mike e stops in Bosnia, Kosovo, and Sean Kanan, and MTV