

DISPATCH



A I R L I F T

Inside

- ▶ Class 43D / 3
- ▶ Commentary / 8
- ▶ Nurses / 11
- ▶ Air Expo run / 15

Vol. 40, No. 17

437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, May 4, 2001

Starfighters to perform at Air Expo 2001

By Master Sgt. Dan Murphy
437 AW Public Affairs

Crowds attending Air Expo 2001 May 19 can expect to see the first appearance of the F-104 Starfighters at Charleston AFB.

Starfighters are the only fully operational, civilian-owned supersonic jet team on the U.S. air show circuit, according to the Starfighters Web site.

Billed as "the world's fastest flight demonstration team," and known for the loudness of their engines, the F-104s aim to please the crowds.

"People want both speed and noise at an air show," said Rick Svetkoff, owner and lead pilot. "We have both. Our two planes will make as much noise as the six Blue Angel F-18s.

"People love air shows, and they are getting more and more popular," Svetkoff continued. "We have a following of people much like NASCAR. We see many of the same people throughout the air show season."

See Expo, page 3



Photo by Master Sgt. Dan Murphy

Riding high

Airman 1st Class Christopher Williams and Ben Dennis, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron, use a High-Reach Condor Lift to put a rudder safety lock on a C-17, to prepare it for painting of the new Charleston tailflash.

Portable hydration devices may be harmful to your health

Portable hydration devices may do more harm than good when used in industrial areas where chemicals or hazardous materials are present.

When working in hot or stuffy climates, a time-tested method of having an ample supply of water is "to take it with you." Many people today often use portable, backpack-type devices.

Some workers, however, are using these portable hydrating devices in industrial areas to keep a ready supply of water at hand, but they could unknowingly be exposing themselves to health hazards, said Lt. Col. Robert Gargiulo, Air Force Materiel Command's chief occupational health engineer, following an April 20 assessment of potential dangers to people using these portable devices in areas where food

and drink are prohibited.

While the popular devices, such as the "Camelbak," are useful in hot, arid climates or on flightlines and in the field, Gargiulo said portable hydrating devices can cause problems for those working in areas where painting, sanding, metal grinding, and mixing chemicals and pesticides occur, or wherever vapors or particles may be ingested.

"Many industrial areas use chemicals or materials which present a health hazard if swallowed or ingested," Gargiulo said. "Since hydration devices have a rubber-end mouthpiece that has to be chewed or bit open, there is a significant chance for transferring the chemicals to the mouth.

"Additionally, dusts can collect on the mouthpiece and chemical vapors

can absorb into the rubber. You don't want to swallow these materials or you could get sick."

Current Occupational Safety and Health Administration and Air Force regulations prohibit food and drink in areas where potential ingestion hazards exist, Gargiulo said. Also, workers should wash their hands before eating, drinking or smoking after working in an area with ingestion hazards.

"That's why people need to coordinate with their base safety and bioenvironmental engineering offices before using [portable hydrating devices]," said Gargiulo.

"We have designated areas for eating, drinking and smoking for a reason," said Tech. Sgt. David Hayes, 437th Bioenvironmental Engineering

Flight noncommissioned officer in charge. "All of the precautions we want people to take are to protect them.

"By only allowing eating, drinking and smoking in certain areas, we limit the amount of exposure to potentially dangerous chemicals," Hayes continued. "If people take one of these devices into an area where hazards exist, all of those precautions don't mean anything. They probably don't even know they're exposing themselves to these agents."

For more information, contact bioenvironmental engineering at 963-6289.

(AFMC News Service. Senior Airman Melanie Streeter, 437 AW Public Affairs also contributed to this article.)

IN THE NEWS

Education office holds graduation for 102 today

The Community Education Center will host the annual Community College of the Air Force graduation today, 2:30 p.m., in the Charleston Club Ballroom with a reception immediately following.

The 102 graduates will receive their Associate of Applied Science degrees in their respective Air Force specialties.

Several people will assist with the graduation ceremony. Master Sgt. Matt Harless, wing career assistance advisor, will emcee the ceremony. Col. Karl Young, 437th Airlift Wing vice commander, assisted by Chief Master Sgt. Harvey Hampton, 437 AW command chief master sergeant, will present the diplomas. This year's graduation guest speaker will be Senior Master Sgt. James Moody, 437th Operations Group superintendent.

Hampton will also present the Eagle Grant Award winners with a \$400 scholarship. Each year the Aerospace Education Foundation awards scholarships to CCAF graduates who are pursuing their bachelor's degrees. Three winners will be announced

at the ceremony today.

The following individuals will be receiving diplomas (*ranks and units listed were submitted by the education office at actual time of the individuals' graduation, and may not reflect current ranks and units*):

437th Airlift Wing: Staff Sgt. Edgar A. Aquino, Staff Sgt. James W. Brown, Master Sgt. Sadina M. Gibbs, Master Sgt. Leon Q Murray, Master Sgt. Larry D. Wallace

437th Aerial Port Squadron: Staff Sgt. David Anderson, Senior Airman Anthony Barto, Master Sgt. Steven Cathey, Staff Sgt. Brian Charlebois, Staff Sgt. Victoria Hopkins, Tech. Sgt. Sherri Kirk, Senior Master Sgt. Roger McMillan, Tech. Sgt. Edward Pinnell, Senior Airman Christopher Saldana, Staff Sgt. Alan Tally

437th Aircraft Generation Squadron: Staff Sgt. Gregory Crosby, Master Sgt. Stephen Denzik, Master Sgt. Roger Feitlin, Tech. Sgt. Thomas Moore, Senior Airman Lauren Presnell, Senior Airman Larry Saylor, Master Sgt. Daniel Surprenant, Tech. Sgt. James Trodgen, Master Sgt. Robert

VanLinden, Senior Airman Todd Westhaver

437th Medical Group: Staff Sgt. William Anderson, Staff Sgt. Russell Lang, Tech. Sgt. Megan Kaminski, Staff Sgt. John Masters, Master Sgt. Michael Olmstead

437th Security Forces Squadron: Senior Airman Michele Bacon, Staff Sgt. Robert Goslee, Staff Sgt. Dennis Jones, Staff Sgt. Mary Laurenzi, Tech. Sgt. James Scott, Senior Airman Joshua Terry

437th Maintenance Squadron: Senior Airman Shawn Barbour, Staff Sgt. Gregory Bicknell, Senior Airman Kenneth Borrer, Senior Airman David Crane, Master Sgt. Stephen Dent, Senior Airman Ronnie Evans, Senior Airman Matthew Hudson, Senior Airman Bryan Hutchens, Senior Airman Gerald Kemp, Master Sgt. Theodis Pickett, Senior Master Sgt. Jeffrey Pinckney, Senior Airman Peter Waibel

437th Mission Support Squadron: Master Sgt. Laurence Brooks, Master Sgt. Otto Giron, Master Sgt. Steven Harris

437th Operations Group:

Staff Sgt. Bernadette Campbell

17th Airlift Squadron: Staff Sgt. Howard Capps

437th Supply Squadron: Master Sgt. Clayton Coffey, Staff Sgt. Marty Marion

437th Communications Squadron: Senior Airman Rachel Collins, Staff Sgt. Shawn Derrick, Tech. Sgt. Michael Heckendorn, Tech Sgt. Steven Herzog, Master Sgt. John Kannegaard, Master Sgt. Douglas Wagman, Master Sgt. Robert Yawn, Tech. Sgt. Daniel Zabrowski

373rd Training Squadron Detachment 5: Master Sgt. Randy DeBerry, Tech. Sgt. Shannon Easdale, Staff Sgt. Joseph Grunditz, Tech. Sgt. Deewayne Lackey, Staff Sgt. Michael Mohn, Master Sgt. Kevin Mrozinski, Tech. Sgt. Fredrick Smith, Tech. Sgt. Richard Stone, Tech. Sgt. Anthony Williams

437th Logistics Support Squadron: Tech. Sgt. Thomas Fiori, Staff Sgt. James Herriott, Staff Sgt. Michael Kretser, Tech. Sgt. Carol Poindexter, Master Sgt. Robert Reaves, Tech. Sgt. Jessica Wilson

1st Combat Camera

Squadron: Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Hare, Senior Airman Betty Leonard, Tech Sgt. Darrin Newman, Staff Sgt. David Underwood, Master Sgt. Jeffrey Unger, Staff Sgt. Lisa Zunzanyika

Headquarters Security Forces Center Detachment 3: Staff Sgt. Yon Dugger

437th Comptroller Squadron: Senior Airman Robert Florio

437th Operations Support Squadron: Staff Sgt. Timothy Gonzales, Tech. Sgt. Alfred Gregg, Senior Airman Eric Knappenberger

437th Civil Engineer Squadron: Master Sgt. Christopher Floyd, Airman 1st Class Scott Rakieski, Tech. Sgt. Tracy Worsley

15th Airlift Squadron: Master Sgt. Tony Helton

16th Airlift Squadron: Staff Sgt. Charles March, Senior Master Sgt. Gale Rickert

14th Airlift Squadron: Staff Sgt. Daryl Hillman, Staff Sgt. William Pace

437th Transportation Squadron: Master Sgt. Janet Osborne

Air Force Combat Climatology Center: Staff Sgt. Richard Wright

Air Expo 2001 base shuttle bus schedule

The 437th Transportation Squadron will be providing shuttle-bus service for Air Expo 2001 May 19, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The service for on base residents will be as follows:

Bus Route 1-Bus 1 will start running at 8:30 a.m., and run every 15 minutes until 11 a.m. From 11 a.m.-3 p.m., the bus will run every hour. After 3 p.m., there will be three buses running from the flightline back to base housing until the flightline is clear. The stops are as follows:

- Alaska Avenue and Kansas Avenue (both ends)
- Colorado Avenue and Alaska Avenue
- Colorado Avenue and Georgia Avenue
- Commissary parking lot
- Batson Drive and Hodge Avenue
- Batson Drive and Richardson Drive
- Batson Drive and Gross Avenue
- Parking lot of Bldg. 164 (passenger terminal-drop off)

Bus Route 2-Bus will start running at 8:30 a.m., and run every 30 minutes until 11 a.m. From 11 a.m.-3 p.m., the bus will run every hour. After 3 p.m., there will be two buses running from the flightline back to base housing until the flightline is clear. The bus stops are as follows:

- West James Avenue and West Jackson Drive
- West Jackson Drive and West Rhodes Avenue
- East Jackson Drive and East Frick Avenue
- East Jackson Drive and East James Avenue
- Parking lot of Bldg. 164 (passenger terminal-drop off)

CHARLESTON AIR FORCE BASE



Delta Eagle pilot recalls WWII combat experiences

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi
437 AW Public Affairs

Pilot training class 43D, nicknamed the Delta Eagles, held their 18th annual reunion in Charleston and visited the base April 26.

The "43" stands for 1943, and the "D" stands for April. Class 43D was the largest group of pilots to graduate during World War II. Beginning with 11,000 students, a total of 5,293 pilots graduated from the class, including 18 Tuskegee Airmen. Of that number, approximately 40 percent were wartime casualties.

Almost 90 former classmates and their families had a chance to tour a C-17 and meet informally with pilots from the base's three flying squadrons to share "war stories" during a social at the Charleston Club.

The most unusual war story told by members of the Delta Eagles was that of retired Lt. Col. Charlie Brown.

Brown was on his second mission and first as an aircraft commander in a B-17 on his way to bomb an FW190 aircraft manufacturing plant near Bremen, Germany, Dec. 20, 1943. Brown, then 21 years old, was assigned to the 379th Bomb Group, Kimbolton, England.

The aircraft was hit by flak, knocking off the nose of the aircraft, taking out two of his engines and leaving two turning, but only one could be controlled. The formation he was flying with pulled away and left him to fend for himself. Eight German fighters attacked the aircraft and, according to Brown, they took a bad beating. Brown remembers his crew shooting down two of the attacking aircraft.

The tail-gunner was dead, three of the 10-person crew were seriously injured, the left stabilizer and rudder were blown off, large, gaping holes were in the right wing and on the waist of the fuselage, and there were only a few working guns left on the B-17. Four 20 mm shells had blown up in the radio room, knocking out all communications. Brown also had a bullet wound in his right shoulder.

"The last thing I remember was

looking up at the ground as I was on my back inverted. The next conscious memory was that I was pulling up over the trees," Brown said. The aircraft had plummeted five miles. The Germans broke off their initial attack because they thought they had destroyed the aircraft after it spiraled out of control.

After setting his course for the North Sea, a German Me-109 appeared shortly after Brown crossed a German airfield. In a 1990 meeting with the Me-109 pilot, Franz Stigler, Brown learned Stigler had actually come up to get his third B-17 kill for the day after rearming, but chose not to shoot down the plane when he saw how badly damaged it was. "It took me five years to track down this pilot, who now lives in British Columbia, and we are the best of friends today," Brown said.

A picture of that encounter, signed by the German pilot and Brown, hangs in the Daedalian Room of the Charleston Club. The picture was placed there in April 1992 during another Delta Eagles reunion in Charleston.

"He flew behind the aircraft and could see how badly the plane was shot up," Brown said. "He then moved to a few feet off my right wing and waved at me. I closed my eyes and shook my head and hoped he would go away, he didn't. I nodded my head. I knew he wanted me to land from his hand gestures. I sent one of my guys up to the top turret, not to shoot back, but maybe hoping that it would scare him away. He was looking intently at our airplane. He gave a wave, a salute, rolled over and left, just as we turned toward England."

Brown recalls from his later meeting that Stigler was actually trying to get him to go to Sweden, which was only 30 minutes away. "Franz had said it was the most badly damaged B-17 he had ever seen that was still flying," Brown said. "He was 27 years old and a very experienced pilot, but he didn't shoot us down because it would be just like shooting down a man in a parachute."

"I barely made it into England and did not want to land in the North Sea,"

Brown continued. "I was down to about 250 feet off the ground and two 'jugs' (P-47s) flew by me and scared the living hell out of me. They began to circle and led me to the runway which was about 10 degrees off my heading."

A little later, Brown was met by the commanding officer who asked why he had not bailed out. "I explained that I had three people on board who could not bail out," said Brown. "The CO told me he was going to submit me for our nation's highest award, but it never happened. He was rebuked when he tried to submit the package, because they did not want word to get out that a German fighter had let a B-17 get away. There was nothing in American records about the German pilot incident, and the report was classified. I never told the story again because nobody would have believed it."

"That same night, two German fighters raided the airfield which contained a new shipment of B-24s," continued Brown. "That was their way of welcoming them. I was a psycho case at this point, and I ran into a hangar." Later that evening, Brown and five crewmembers had left on an OB-17 aircraft that had a "no-lights take-off" because of the earlier attack. "We had lost both left-side engines, and that was the only time I had ever rode in the nose of a B-17. It crashed upon

takeoff." They chose to go back to their unit by car the next day.

"I finally got back to my room and they had given my bunk to another crewmember because I was assumed to be dead," said Brown. "I was tired, and this person would not leave. I pulled out my .45. The guy, as he left, said he thought there was something wrong with me."

"On every day that I flew with the 8th Air Force, we averaged about 235 casualties," Brown said. "Out of my pilot training class, 11 of us went into this bomb group, and every one of us was shot down. I went down twice and made two single engine landings in England. When we started bombing Germany, which was when I began, it became a whole different war and we began to take heavy casualties."

Col. Rusty Findley, 437th Airlift Wing commander, thanked the reunion attendees for their sacrifices. "Thanks for setting such a great legacy for us to follow," Findley said. "There is no doubt in my mind that you are the greatest generation."

Many of the graduates of 43D class achieved great distinction, to include three Medal of Honor recipients, an astronaut, two noted actors, many doctors, lawyers and general officers.



Photo by Lt. Col. Ed Memi

Retired Lt. Col. Charlie Brown stands by an autographed picture of his B-17s encounter with a German fighter during World War II.

Expo

continued from page 1

Svetkoff, a commercial pilot from Tampa, Fla., began his search for an F-104 Starfighter in the fall of 1988. Talks of F-104s being shipped to the U.S. gave him hope, however, it was not until early 1995 that he purchased his first F-104.

In 1997, in its first season, Starfighters took the air show industry by storm with participation in 12 of the largest air show events in the country. Currently, Starfighters has two aircraft in operation and a third almost ready to fly. In just over four years and at least 50 successful air shows

a year, Starfighters is quickly becoming the most sought-after air performance team on the air show circuit. Their stop in Charleston will be their first of this air show season.

Svetkoff's career in aviation began in 1971 flying air-charter, corporate and commuter flights. In 1978 he started flying A-4s, carrier-based attack fighters, for the U.S. Navy. After leaving the Navy in 1984, Svetkoff joined Continental Airlines where he has flown as the captain of an MD-80 for the past 13 years. Svetkoff adds to his 26-year, 17,500-hour flying career with his participation in the air show industry. For the past four years, he has

been a part of the air show circuit and has cultivated his dream of assembling an F-104 team.

The man flying the second F-104 is Tom "Sharkbait" Delashaw. Delashaw's illustrious career as a fighter pilot began more than 40 years ago. One of only two active F-104 pilots to graduate from the U.S. Air Force's Fighter Weapons School, also known as the USAF's "Top Gun," he served as a special projects pilot and flew a variety of high-speed, classified performance projects. Delashaw set the unit speed record of 1,600 mph and the altitude record of 92,000 feet, in the F-104.

His nickname, "Sharkbait," is derived from the call sign of his F-4 squadron in Southeast Asia.

Air combat, or "dogfighting," is one of Delashaw's favorite pastimes. He is a designated formation instructor for the Civilian Warbird community and an air combat instructor at Texas Air Aces in Houston, Texas. Delashaw fly's the wing position at demonstrations, and is the team's instructor pilot.

Some of the other flying acts will include Charleston's own C-17 Globemaster III, the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, the Air Command F-16 Fighting Falcon demonstration team and the B-1B Lancer Bomber.

Other acts scheduled to appear are the U.S. Army Parachute Team Golden Knights and the U.S. Air Force Academy Wings of Blue Parachute Team. There will also be the Air Force Experience F-16 simulator, Stepping Stones to Aviation, with pedal-driven aircraft and a military working dog demonstration for the younger crowd.

Air Expo 2001 is sponsored by Sprint, Sprint PCS, USAA, Rick Hendrick BMW, Boeing, Heritage Trust Federal Credit Union, Passport International, and the Post and Courier. For more information, see the Air Expo link at www.charleston.af.mil.

NEWS BRIEFS

Charleston Profile



Photo by Senior Airman Donald Church

Stuart Hurd

Charleston AFB Crossing Guard

When traveling down Hill Boulevard during the school year, you may notice a man dressed in orange escorting children across the busy street. That man is Stuart Hurd of Summerville.

Employed by the Charleston County Sheriff's Office, Hurd is one of over 120 men and women who ensure Lowcountry children safely cross busy streets between home and school. Hurd has been a crossing guard for over five years.

Originally from West Farmington, Ohio, Hurd grew up on a farm with his 17 brothers and sisters. He served in the Navy during World War II and was assigned to a minesweeper based out of Boston, Mass. In 1940, while he was in Charleston teaching local Navy crews minesweeping techniques, his ship's boiler exploded and required several months to repair at the Naval shipyard. During that delay he met his wife on Thanksgiving Day and married a month later. They are still married after more than 60 years.

Hurd works three to four hours each day assisting CAFB children with their walk to and from school and is paid minimum wage for 40 hours every two weeks.

"I don't do it for the money," said Hurd, "because it isn't enough to eat on. I do it because it helps me out of bed in the morning and gives me reason to be out of the house, not to mention being around the kids. I worked over on Midland Drive as a guard for several years, and I have to say I enjoy how much nicer and better behaved the children on base are, compared to others. It's almost like another world once you get within the gates."

Although 81 years old, Hurd admits to not having any thoughts of slowing down anytime soon. When not stopping traffic with a smile and giving children a hand, Hurd can be found at his home tending his 100+ acre homestead or reading about the outdoors.

Consignment: The base Consignment Shop is open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., and the first Saturday of each month, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The shop is also looking for a paid, part-time bookkeeper. Apply in person. The shop is located in Bldg. 203 on Graves Avenue. For more information, call 963-3294.

Officers needed: The Officer Accessions recruiting office needs field-grade officers to volunteer as Officer Training School candidate interviewing officials. Volunteers will interview prospective OTS candidates who have been prescreened by recruiters. The number of applicants will probably not exceed 25 per year. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Perry Anderson at 569-6956.

TMO: The peak season for shipments of personal property is here. Personnel should report to the TMO office as soon as they receive their orders. Because of current volume, three-four weeks are needed to confirm requested move dates. For more information, call 963-2255, or visit www.charleston.af.mil/CHAS/437AW/OG/TMO/index.htm.

BX: The BX has extended its check cashing services to all registers. Customers may cash a personal check up to \$300, or a two-party check of up to \$100, at any register. Other checks, up to \$500, may be cashed at customer service. Starter checks are limited to \$100 per day at any register. Military star card payments and layaway payments are also accepted at any register.

Also, social security numbers are no longer required to cash a check. The new procedure requires the cashier to enter the SSN of the person presenting the check, not the sponsor. The cashier takes the number from the presenter's ID card and enters it into the register for authorization. Other basic data, such as the presenter's name, address and military unit must still be printed or written on the check.

Family Support Center

Hearts Apart: Hearts Apart is an ongoing program for spouses of deployed service members. The program offers such services as e-mail, morale calls, videophone calls and free oil changes. For information, call 963-5630.

Pre-Deployment Briefings: Monday, May 14 and 21, 8 a.m., and Thursday, May 17, 24, and 31, 4 p.m.

Investing A-Z I: Monday, 9-11:30 a.m.

Resume I: Tuesday, 9 a.m.-noon. Educational Opportunities Assistance: Tuesday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Investing A-Z II: May 14, 9-11:30 a.m.

Positive Parenting: May 15, 9-11 a.m.

Spotlight:

Award: Lt. Col. (Dr.) Frank Budd, 437th Behavioral Sciences Flight commander, was recently named Psychologist of the Year for South Carolina by the South Carolina Psychological Association. The award was based on the extensive prevention mission and community education initiatives of Budd and his behavioral sciences team.

Around the base

Delays: Due to the 437th Airlift Wing's major accident response exercise Wednesday, customers may experience delays in service at various base agencies. Normal operations will resume Thursday.

Reveille: The 437th Security Forces Squadron is hosting a National Police Week Reveille and Wreath Ceremony May 14, 7 a.m., at the base flagpole. The ceremony is open to all 437th and 315th Airlift Wing personnel, and all local police departments. For more information contact Master Sgt. Richard Graves at 963-3621.

Chiefs' Group: The Charleston AFB Chiefs' Group will hold its monthly meeting May 17, 11 a.m., at the Charleston Club. Representatives

from Heritage Trust Federal Credit Union will address the group and lunch will be provided. All Chiefs (active duty, Reserve and retired) may attend.

Parenting class: The Behavioral Sciences Flight is offering a free, six-session class for Charleston AFB parents of teenagers. The evening classes will start May 22 and meet for six consecutive Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information and to register, call Jim Hernandez at 963-6504.

Survey: The Air Force Community Action Information Board is sponsoring a Web-based survey to determine the scope and depth of financial hardship among active-duty members. A random sampling of junior enlisted members will be notified by e-mail and asked to complete the survey. The information from the survey will help the CAIB formulate future policy actions.

AEF scholarship: The Aerospace Education Foundation is taking applications for the annual Jodi Callahan Memorial Graduate Scholarship. Applications must be post-marked before July 1.

Applicants must be enrolled in the

current or upcoming semester with a minimum of 3 credit hours, 3.0 GPA and verification of Air Force Association membership. The scholarship is for those working toward a master's degree.

For more information, send an e-mail to AEFstaff@aef.org or visit their Web site at www.aef.org/scholars/callahan.html.

Parking: There are many recreational vehicles on Charleston AFB parked in unauthorized locations. The only authorized area for recreational vehicles is the fenced area on Stewart Avenue across from Bldg. 637 and is for base residents only.

Prior to parking, the owner of the vehicle must register through the 437th Services Squadron. The housing office may also authorize short-term parking for new base housing residents, but appropriate paperwork must be completed.

Recreational vehicles parked in any other location are subject to impoundment at the owner's expense. For more information, call 963-3605.

Road closed: Aviation Road will be closed May 17, 11:25 a.m. to 4 p.m., May 18, 1:30-4 p.m. and May 19, 1:30-4 p.m. to accommodate the U.S. Navy Blue Angels Demonstration Team.

COMMENTARY

WWII aviators reminisce with Team Charleston

About the paper

AIRLIFT Dispatch

Published by Diggle Publishing, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 437th Airlift Wing. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military service.

Contents of the *Airlift Dispatch* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the DOD, Air Force, or Diggle Publishing, Inc., of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. All photos are Air Force photos unless identified otherwise.

Deadlines

The deadline for submitting stories for space-available publication is noon Friday, preceding the desired publication date. The *Airlift Dispatch* reserves the right to edit all copy submitted for publication.

Advertising

Classified advertisements may be referred to Diggle Publishing, Inc., P.O. Box 2014, Mount Pleasant, S.C., 29465, Phone: (843) 849-1778 or e-mailed to sales@islandpapers.com. Classified advertisements are free, with the exception of personal business ads, for active duty military members and their spouses, retirees and Reservists.

Address/Numbers

Editorial content is prepared by the 437th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 1600, Rm. 223.

Phone: (843) 963-5608

Fax: (843) 963-5604.

Mail to: 437 AW PAI

102 East Hill Blvd.

Charleston AFB, SC 29404-5154

or send to:

dispatch@charleston.af.mil

Editorial Staff

437 AW Commander
Col. Vern M. "Rusty"
Findley II

Chief, Public Affairs
Lt. Col. Edmund Memei

Editor
Senior Airman Jason Smith

Staff Writer
Senior Airman Melanie Streeter

Photo Support
Base Visual Information Center

By Col. Rusty Findley
437 AW commander

It was a pleasure to host about 90 members of Pilot Class 43D, who had their 18th annual reunion in Charleston April 26. Class 43D, which graduated in April 1943, was the largest class to graduate from pilot training. It was a great opportunity for our aircrews to learn about what it was like to fly combat missions during World War II. See the story on page 3 for a good example of one of those war stories. The group held a special chapel service to remember those who perished in the war. They also toured a C-17. It was truly an honor for me to welcome members of America's "Greatest Generation" to Charleston AFB, whose accomplishments were well documented in a book with the same name, by NBC anchor, Tom Brokaw.

Our visit from Air Marshal G. E. Stirrup, deputy commander-in-chief, Strike Command, U.K. Royal Air Force, last week was a resounding success. He toured a C-17 static display, the 15th Airlift Squadron, the 373rd Training Squadron Field Training Detachment 5 and flew in the Boeing

simulator. This was a great opportunity for him to gain a better appreciation of the C-17 up close, from the operator and maintainer perspectives. He had nothing but praise for what he saw and heard during his visit. It took a lot of hard work by our project officer, 1st Lt. Dave Thompson, deputy flight commander, 99th Squadron, RAF, and our always top-notch protocol staff.

Brig. Gen. Dean Fox, director of Civil Engineering, Air Mobility Command headquarters and members of his staff visited for our periodic CE line item review April 25. We went over some salient issues related to many of the on-going construction projects here. Gen. Fox sees all the facilities across the command and has repeatedly said that Charleston has come a long way. These discussions highlighted the fact that we are making good progress toward establishing world-class facilities for our world-class professionals. A special thanks to our project officer, 2nd Lt. Jason Wyen, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron, for his arrangements.

It was an honor to recognize our Diamond Sharp award winners for May on Tuesday.

Impressing their first sergeants with their outstanding performance were: Senior Airman April Johnson, 437 CE; Airman 1st Class Joshua Morgan, 437th Maintenance Squadron; Airman 1st Class Fred Furches, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron; and Airman Johanna Barona, 437th Communications Squadron.

The 2001 Federal Employees of the Year for the

Greater Charleston Area Banquet was held Thursday at the Charleston Club. As of press time, it was too late to get the results into the paper. Awards were presented in eight different categories. Congratulations to the following CAFB nominees, all finalists in their respective categories: Darrie Ross, 437th Services Squadron, Outstanding Managerial/Executive; James Clayton, 437 MXS, Outstanding Trade/Craft Employee; Catherine Hallett, 437th Medical Group, Outstanding Scientific/Professional; Gregory Vitalis, 315th Operations Support Squadron, Outstanding Supervisor; Senior Airman Robert Florio, 437th Comptroller, Outstanding Technician/Assistant; Kathleen Perry, 437th Mission Support Squadron, Outstanding Clerical/Administrative Employee; and the 437th Behavioral Sciences Flight for the Team Award.

Congratulations to the many graduates of the Community College of the Air Force. Good on you for continuing your education. See page 2 for a complete listing of the graduates.

On Saturday, many of our best will be honored at the annual South Carolina Air Force Association awards luncheon and banquet. Winning top honors state-wide from Team Charleston were: Outstanding Guard/Reserve Enlisted Person, Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Givens, 315 AW; Outstanding Guard/Reserve Wing, 315 AW; Outstanding Active Duty Logistics Unit, 437th Logistics Group; Outstanding Active Duty Officer, 1st Lt. Grant Meadows, 437 MXS; and the Outstanding Active Duty Enlisted Person, Staff Sgt. Jackie Dent, 437th Contracting Squadron.

Col. Karl Young, 437 AW vice commander, will attend the luncheon events since I will be out of town, but I hope to be back in time for the evening events.

We are hoping our local Air Force Association chapter will gain some momentum and become more active in the local area. It is a great tool to

better support our Air Force family. The AFA is searching for someone now to take over the reigns. If you know of someone willing to reinvigorate the local AFA chapter (preferably someone who plans to stay in the local area for a while), please contact the state AFA president, Roger Rucker, at (803) 359-1171.

As part of the annual nationwide observance of "Days of Remembrance," we hosted a Holocaust commemoration service Wednesday at noon in the base chapel.

Nazi concentration camp survivors Pincus Kolender and Joe Engel were our guest speakers for the service. They were just teenagers when they were sent to Auschwitz in 1943 and 1942 respectively and were there until they were liberated by American and Russian forces in 1945.

Approximately 11 million people were persecuted by the Nazis, of which 6 million were Jews. The Nazis had 27 registered "death camps" or concentration camps from 1939 to 1945. This year's theme of the observance is "remembering the past for the sake of the future."

I would like to give a special thanks to Lori Roop for her arrangements in organizing this year's ceremony.

I was at Phoenix Rally at Scott AFB, Ill., for most of this week. Rally is a chance for the commanders in Air Mobility Command to meet and discuss issues that affect us all. I look forward to the opportunity to highlight our people's accomplishments. We also received a number of briefings about the command, and I will have plenty to share with you when I return.

I will not be back very long, because I will head out Sunday for a weeklong Senior Information Officer Warfare course at Maxwell AFB, Ala., following the Phoenix Rally conference. While I am gone, I know you will give Col. Young your full support and continue to show the world where the premier airlift wing on the face of the planet resides! Keep charging forward.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Andrew Rodier

Col. Rusty Findley, 437th Airlift Wing commander and Air Marshall G. E. Stirrup, deputy commander-in-chief, Strike Command, U.K. Royal Air Force, are greeted by Sgt. Martin Kemp, RAF.

FEATURE

Nurses' Week offers chance to reflect and remember heroic profession

By Col. Regina Aune
437 MDG commander

Nurses' Week is celebrated annually in May to honor men and women who chose nursing as their life-long profession. The week ends May 12 on the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing.

Many people throughout the world recognize Florence Nightingale as the "Lady with the Lamp," but few recognize the historical link nursing has with the military. The nursing profession, as it is known today, originated and developed because of the Crimean War.

The heroine of the Crimean War was not a soldier, but a nurse. It was due to the skill, determination and influence of Nightingale that the health of the Army improved, both during the war and following it, and nursing itself became a respected profession.

Nightingale was born May 12, 1820, in Florence, Italy, and named for the city of her birth. Tutored at home by her father, Nightingale received a classical education in languages, mathematics, philosophy and religion. She excelled in her studies and particularly liked mathematics. In addition to English, she was fluent in German, French, Italian, Greek, Latin and Hebrew.

Nightingale wanted to be a nurse, a choice that horrified her family, since no "respectable"

woman would choose that profession. She made visits to the homes of the sick in the local villages, and began to investigate hospitals and nursing. In 1849, she traveled abroad to study the European hospital system and continued on to Alexandria, Egypt, to begin training as a nurse at the Institute of St. Vincent de Paul.

In 1853, Nightingale was appointed superintendent of the Hospital for Invalid Gentlewomen in London; an unpaid position.

In March 1854, England, Turkey and France declared war on Russia, beginning the Crimean War. William Howard Russell, a correspondent for the London Times, wrote about the appalling conditions and lack of care provided to the British soldiers at the barracks hospital in Scutari, Turkey. Stirred by these reports of inadequate care, Nightingale sent a letter to Sir Sidney Herbert volunteering her services in the Crimean War. Unbeknownst to her, Herbert had proposed Nightingale direct all nursing activities at the war front as a means of alleviating the crisis. Accompanied by 38 nurses, she arrived at Scutari Nov. 4, 1854. The hospital wards were dirty and smelled. There were no nurses, soap, towels, clothes or utensils. The soldiers arrived from the battlefields suffering from extreme weakness, emaciation, frostbite and dysentery, only to be exposed to cholera and typhus epidemics. At Scutari, the monthly rate of mortality

reached 42 percent. Had it continued at that rate, the British Army would have been wiped out by disease within a year.

Nightingale made careful observations, collected data, systematized record-keeping, and improved conditions and hygiene among the soldiers. Within 18 months, she was able to reduce the mortality rate to two percent, clearly demonstrating that much of the Army's suffering was unnecessary. Additionally, she arranged a method whereby the soldiers' wages could be sent to their families, set up reading rooms, wrote letters for them, obtained games, newspapers, and writing materials for their use during their convalescence, and comforted them while they were dying, making note of any last requests. Her kindness and care was much appreciated by the soldiers who referred to her as a "ministering angel" as she moved along each corridor with her Turkish candle lamp in hand.

As a tribute to her unselfish service during the war, the British public raised a considerable sum of money, which she used to establish the Nightingale School and Home for Nurses at St. Thomas' Hospital in London. This marked the beginning of professional education specifically for nursing.

Nightingale was the first woman to be awarded the Order of Merit of the British Empire. Her accomplishments also earned her the German Cross of Merit, French Secours aux Blesses Militaires, and a spot on the British 10-pound

note.

On Nov. 4, 1864, 10 years to the day after Nightingale arrived at the Scutari Barracks, Anita Newcomb McGee was born in Washington, D.C. The daughter of an astronomer at the U.S. Naval Academy, McGee received her medical degree from the George Washington University in 1892. At the outbreak of the Spanish American War in 1898, she proposed the establishment of a hospital corps and drafted legislation creating the Army Nurse Corps. Commissioned as assistant surgeon general, McGee selected nurses to serve in the Army Nurse Corps. There were few military doctors, scarce medical supplies and rampant typhoid fever among the wounded. Over 1,700 nurses served under McGee's direction during the Spanish American War.

In 1901, Congress established the Army Nurse Corps as an auxiliary to the Army. The Navy Nurse Corps was established in 1908. It was not until World War I that women were seriously considered for military service. During the war, more than 30,000 women served, mostly in the Army and Navy Nurse Corps. Nurses served in Belgium, Italy, England, on troop trains and transport ships. At least three Army nurses were awarded the Distinguished Service Medal and over 20 were

See Nurses, page 12



Army photo

Army nurses conduct training during Operation Long Horn at Fort Hood, Texas, in 1942.



Army photo

An Army nurse provides care to an enemy prisoner of war in 1945.



Courtesy photo

Florence Nightingale was a pioneer in the field of nursing. Nurses' Week ends on May 12, her birthday.

Nurses

continued from page 11

awarded the French Croix de Guerre. Some nurses were wounded; several died and are buried in military cemeteries overseas. Their service was instrumental in President Woodrow Wilson's support for passage of the 19th Amendment, which gave all American women the right to vote.

Nurses were not given the same benefits as their male counterparts. They were given relative rank, received only 50 percent of the pay given to males of equal rank, had no formal military training and were addressed as "miss" rather than by their rank. Resistance to women in the military continued into the beginning of World War II. Nevertheless, over 59,000 nurses served in the Army and Navy Nurse Corps during the war.

In November 1942, the Army Air Corps School of Air Evacuation was started at Bowman Field, Ky. Training emphasized crash procedures, field survival in ocean, jungle, desert and arctic environments, and the effects of high altitude on various types of patients. Five hundred Army flight nurses served as members of 31 medical air evacuation transport squadrons operating worldwide. Of the 1,176,048 patients transported by air evacuation, only 46 died

enroute.

Eleven Navy and 66 Army nurses were POWs in Santo Tomas Prison, Philippines, for 37 months. Seventeen flight nurses died during WWII. The Army Nurse Corps took the heaviest casualties during the war, losing 201. Their service was no less valorous than their male counterparts; 1,600 received medals for their bravery. Among the medals were the Distinguished Flying Cross, Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star, the Soldier's Medal, the Air Medal, the Bronze Star, the Legion of Merit, the Purple Heart and the Commendation Medal.

Military nurses continued to serve with honor and valor in the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf and the Balkans. Anywhere the military is called to serve, military nurses are there.

More than 140 years ago, in a filthy military barrack in Scutari, Nightingale not only revolutionized military health care but also determined the path of today's nursing profession. Her concepts of health teaching, sick nursing and the education of nurses are still relevant today. Her legacy has influenced nursing throughout the world, and in no small measure, the practice of nursing within the military.

The week of May 6-12 is the time to celebrate the feats of a visionary woman and the day-to-day work of nurses everywhere.



Courtesy photo

Flying Panchito

Air Expo 2001 will include an immaculately restored North American B-25 Mitchell. The B-25 is the same type of aircraft launched off an aircraft carrier for the first Tokyo raid April 18, 1942, by Gen. James H. Doolittle. The B-25J, named Panchito after one of the "Three Caballeros" in the famous World War II-era Disney cartoon, is restored and painted to represent an aircraft of the 396th Bomb Squadron, 41st Bomb Group, 7th Air Force, stationed in the Central Pacific in 1945. Gates for the May 19 event open at 9 a.m.

Chapel schedule



107 Arthur Drive

Office hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Phone: 963-2536. After duty hours, call the command post at 963-2531 for emergencies only.

Catholic Services

Saturday -- 4 p.m. Reconciliation, 5 p.m. Mass.

Sunday -- 9:30 a.m. Mass, 9:30 a.m. Children's Church.

Weekdays -- 11:30 a.m. Mass, Sacrament of Baptism pre-baptismal classes are held the first Sunday of each month at 11 a.m. in the Chapel Annex. For Sacrament of Marriage, call the Catholic chaplain six months prior to the wedding.

Protestant Services

Sunday -- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School in Bldg. 245, 11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service, 11 a.m. Children's Church.

Thursday -- 7 p.m. Praise and Worship contemporary service.

Buddhist: Columbia Shambhala Meditation Center, Suite 109, Columbia, S.C. 29405.

Orthodox: Holy Trinity, Greek Orthodox Church, 30 Race St., Charleston, S.C. Phone: 577-2063.

Jewish: Call Jewish Lay Leader: Senior Airman David Winner at 963-2102.

Islamic: Al-Jami Ar-Rasheed, 1998 Hugo Ave., Charleston Heights, S.C. Phone: 554-1773.

Movie schedule

Admission prices:

Adults/Children -- 99 cents

Any child under 17 years of age requires a parent or adult guardian (21 years old) to purchase admission ticket for the minor child to view R-rated movies. The ticket office opens 30 minutes prior to start of movie, unless otherwise noted.

Movie schedules are provided by AAFES. Patrons should call 963-3333 to verify movie titles, running times and start times, which are subject to change.

Today, 7:30 p.m.

"Just Visiting" – Christina Applegate

Count Thibault and his servant, Andre, are accidentally transported from the 12th century to modern-day Chicago as a result of the wizard's flawed position. Confused, lost and overwhelmed, they unexpectedly meet Thibault's descendant, Julia, and soon become involved in her life. **(PG-13) 88 minutes.**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

"Exit Wounds" – Steven Seagal

Orin is a tough cop in an inner-city precinct who discovers a web of dirty cops and corruption. That's his cue to kick butt and take names. **(R) 117 minutes**

May 11, 7:30 p.m.

"The Brothers" – Morris Chestnut

Jackson, Brian, Derrick and Terry are lifelong friends. Amidst the career track, basketball and bar hopping, they love women, as many as possible, but shocking revelations test the foursome's friendship and change their dating habits forever. **(R) 97 minutes**

May 12, 7:30 p.m.

"Heartbreakers" – Sigourney Weaver

Fitness & Sports

Sports line

Fishing tournament: Short Stay Navy Outdoor Recreation Area is hosting the 2001 Battling Bass Open tournament Saturday at Lake Moultrie. The tournament is open to the public and will include cash prizes, a cookout, door prizes, a Big Fish Pool and trophies. The entry fee is \$120 per two-person team. Lodging reservations will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. Participants should tell the reservation clerk they are fishing in the tournament. For entry forms, lodging reservations or more information call Short Stay at 743-5608 in Charleston; 761-8353 in Moncks Corner; or toll free at (800) 447-2178. Entry forms are also available at the Naval Weapons Station Morale Welfare Recreation Department in Goose Creek at 764-7601.

Golf tournament: The Charleston chapter of the National Defense Transportation Association is sponsoring the 9th Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament May 11 at Miler Country Club, Summerville, S.C. The tournament will be a captain's choice format and will begin at 1 p.m. The cost, \$35 per player, includes green fees, cart rental, beverages, lunch and a donation to the scholarship fund. Prizes will be awarded to first-, second- and third-place teams, and for longest drive and closest to the pin. A putting contest will be held before tee time, and many other prizes will be given away. For more information, call Glenn McNeil at 963-3183.

Golf tournament: The Top 3 Association is hosting a golf tournament May 11, 9 a.m., at Wrenwoods Golf Course. Registration for the captain's choice tournament begins at 7 a.m. Proceeds from the \$15 entry fee will go toward the junior enlisted block party. Green and cart fees also apply. Prizes will be awarded to first- through third-place teams. For more information, call Master Sgt. William Schroeder at 963-4196 or Master Sgt. Kevin Newcomb at 963-4239.

Air Expo 5K Run and Fitness Walk on CAFB flightline slated for May 12

**By Senior Airman
Melanie Streeter**
437 AW Public Affairs

The annual race on the runway at Charleston Air Force Base will take place May 12, 2001, 8:30 a.m.

The event is open to the public and there will be over \$4,000 in cash and prizes awarded.

Last year 277 people participated in the event. The first man to cross the finish line was Ben Vaughn of Charleston with a time of 17:10, averaging 5:32 a mile. The first woman to finish was Shawn Baldy, with a time of 20:10, averaging 6:29 a mile.

Prize divisions are the top three male/female overall, masters (40 or older), top three military teams and male/female age group finishers; 14 and under, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, and 60 and up. There will be no duplication of awards.

Registration is \$10 for the run and \$7 for the fitness walk. Late registration is \$15 for the run and \$12 for the walk. T-shirts will be available while supplies last. Packet pickup is at the Fitness and Sports Center May 11. Late registration

will be the day of the race, 7-8 a.m. Early registration entries must be postmarked by today. All fees are non-refundable.

Each military organization or branch of service may enter unlimited four-person teams. All personnel must be active duty, reserve or DoD civilian; and they can only compete for the military squadron, company or unit to which they are assigned. Each team member's application must list all other names for the team on back of each registration form. Team results will be based on cross-country scoring. Individuals entering with teams will also be eligible for awards in their respective age groups.

The course is a USA Track and Field certified race. Mile markers with split timers will be located at each mile point. Water will be available at the halfway point and at the finish. Walkers will use the same course. Children and strollers are welcome for walkers, but no pets will be allowed. The scoring is by Action Carolina. Results will be available at www.437Services.com or www.geocities.com/actioncarolina.

5K Run and 5K Walk entry form

Saturday, May 12, 2001

(Please Print Clearly)

Last Name _____

First Name _____ MI _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Age _____ Sex (M / F) _____

Day Phone Number _____

Emergency Contact _____

Phone Number _____

DoD Organization/Team Name _____

(Print Team Members on Back of Entry Form)

Circle Event Entered: 5K Run 5K Fitness Fun Walk

Shirt Size Adult: L XL XXL

Waiver: In consideration of acceptance of this entry, I hereby waive all Claims for myself and my heirs against officials or sponsors of the 2001 Air Expo 5K Run/ 5K Fitness Walk for injury or illness that may result from my participation in this run or walk. I further state that I am in proper physical condition to participate in this event. I understand and agree that any Charleston AFB organization may subsequently use for publicity and promotional purposes my name and/or pictures of me participating in this event without any obligation or liability to me. I further understand and agree that my entry fee is non-refundable.

Signature of Participant _____

Date _____

Signature of Parent if under 18 _____

Date _____

Make checks or money order payable to: CAFB Fitness Center
Mail to:

CAFB Fitness Center C/O 5K Run & Fun Walk
P.O. Box 4525, Charleston AFB, SC 29404-4525



Photo by Senior Airman Melanie Streeter

And they're off ...

Devon Scott, 437th Medical Group (left), Matt Harless, 437th Airlift Wing career assistance advisor, and Catherine Barker, 437 AW Manpower and Organization Office, launch from the starting line of the 5K Fun Run Tuesday. The run kicked off the "Spring Into Fitness" challenge, designed to encourage health and fitness activities.

HAWC says 'yes,' to new nutrition class

By Senior Airman Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

Members of Charleston AFB have asked the Health and Wellness Center for a specialized nutrition class, and the HAWC has delivered.

Nutrition for Sports Performance will be held May 14, noon, in the fitness center classroom at the Sports and Fitness Center.

"People want the medical facts about supplements from professionals," said Jason Ham, HAWC exercise physiologist. "There are over 29,000 supplements out there, and we're going to address which ones actually work."

Ham said the class will last about an hour, followed by an hour of questions and answers for those who want to stay.

"A lot of people may be wondering what types of products Air Force members aren't supposed to be taking," said Ham. "We'll gladly answer specific questions after the class."

Nutrition for Sports Performance is open to all Team Charleston members. For more information, call 963-4007.