

DISPATCH



A I R L I F T

Spring ahead, Fall back... Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday. Don't forget to set clocks ahead.

Vol. 41, No. 13

437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, April 5, 2002



Senior Alrmen Tim Bertrand (foreground) and Edward Meredith, both of the 437th Security Forces Squadron, prepare to load empty sandbags with their equipment for an upcoming deployment.

SFS 'moving out' again

Squadron's high deployment rate continues; augmentees from around CAFB help man gates, supplement decreased manning

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

The United States is still at war against terrorism, and it's apparent around the 437th Security Forces Squadron.

With the squadron at bare minimum already, 437 SFS is preparing to deploy another team to an undisclosed location as part of a Tanker/Airlift Control Element.

According to Master Sgt. Richard Graves, 437 SFS Training and Resources superintendent and team leader, the team will be tasked to provide security for a small number of military members who are already at the location.

"We're supposed to come back in less than two months," said Graves, "but the people we're going to replace have been there since January."

Graves said some of the security forces members going on this deployment have been to this specific area before, and that may work to the team's advantage because

they'll already know the terrain.

According to Graves, the team is composed of top-notch troops who are raring to go, but the deployment came at a time when manning is already a chief concern.

"We will survive," said Graves. "AMC (Air Mobility Command) gave us a number (of people) that we need to have here. We're already below that number. We can't really be tasked for another deployment until some of our people get back."

Since Sept. 11, 62 percent of the security forces squadron has been deployed at one time or another, according to Staff Sgt. John Welch, 437 SFS unit deployment manager. Welch pointed out the number of deployments is actually higher than the percentage of people who have deployed.

"The number in a percentage is a bit deceiving due to the fact that some individuals have deployed twice, like myself," said Welch. "In addi-

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CAFB recognized for creative disposal of debris

By Master Sgt. Dan Murphy
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston AFB was awarded the Coastal America Partnership Award during the National Defense Industries Symposium at the Charleston Area Convention Center Tuesday.

The award was for a project donating 12,000 tons of old concrete, asphalt and steel to create two artificial reefs off the coast of South Carolina in the summer of 2000.

Raymond DuBois, deputy undersecretary of defense for installations and environment, presented several Team Charleston members with a plaque and a signed letter from

President George W. Bush.

"This is the kind of partnership that gives us all a good name," said DuBois. "It's a win for the environment, it's a win for the services, it's a win for natural resources and most of all a win for the public."

The team award was presented to Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley, 437th Airlift Wing commander.

"Charleston AFB was lucky enough to lead this great team," said Findley. "This project used innovative and creative means to maximize the resources we have out there. This is a great recognition for a great team

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Debris from Charleston AFB construction projects is loaded onto a barge. The debris was later used to create reefs off the coast of South Carolina.

Photo by Capt. Tracy Velino

IN THE NEWS

Daedalian national president asks for member input

Order of military pilots established March 1934 by World War I pilots

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi
437 AW Public Affairs

The Order of Daedalians is on the lookout for ideas to improve, while hoping to increase membership from the other military services said the order's national president, retired Lt. Gen. Thomas Baker, during a luncheon speech here March 27.

Baker made his comments to the Swamp Fox Flight in the Charleston Club while on the road to seek feedback on the strengths and weaknesses of the order from its members.

He assumed his present position in June and has made a special effort for all the members of the board to get out and meet rank and file members.

Baker said America's premier fraternal organization of military pilots has no plans to change its membership criteria, based on its past his-

tory. Membership is open to pilots who were commissioned, warrant officers and flight officers.

"The order is fiscally sound and is in great health with more than 50 percent of our members as lifetime members," said Baker of the historically significant organization. "Unfortunately, we have a service imbalance where about 90 percent of our members are from the Air Force, and most of our active chapters are near military bases."

He added the organization's population has started to age, and it needs to attract younger people to ensure its future viability.

Baker said field grade pilots are the core of the order's strength.

The Order of Daedalians was organized March 26, 1934, by a representative group of American World War I pilots to

perpetuate the spirit of patriotism, love of country, and high ideals of sacrifice, which place service to the nation above personal safety or position.

The order today is dedicated to ensuring America will always be preeminent in air and space, the encouragement of flight safety, fostering an esprit de corps in the military air forces, promoting the adoption of military service as a career and aiding deserving young individuals in specialized higher education through the establishment of scholarships.

"We want to attract young Americans to take up the profession of arms as aviators," explained Baker. "Second, we want to retain them to do that."

He described the scholarship and awards programs used to retain pilots and attract new ones.

The Swamp Fox Daedalian Flight provides two annual

scholarships of \$750 (with the potential of matching funds from the national organization) to men and women pursuing a career in military aviation.

Col. Robert "Dice" Allardice, flight captain of the Swamp Fox chapter and 437th Operations Group commander, introduced Baker to several of the wing's warriors who flew combat missions in and out of Afghanistan. He presented Baker with a gift and a yellow Humanitarian Daily Ration signed by several of the pilots and commanders who helped deliver them via airdrop.

The order's magazine, *Daedalus Flyer*, was recently expanded by four pages and is widely read, according to Baker.

"A lot of people subscribe to the magazine and like it," Baker said. He described the magazine as having plenty of

war stories and said the organization is making it more meaningful in regards to military aviation.

The Daedalians are also looking to establish conventions to attract more members and provide an informative atmosphere where members can learn more about military aviation. Charleston AFB will send a Year of the Warrior Spirit team led by Lt. Col. Steve Groenheim, 14th Airlift Squadron, to the Airpower Symposium, held during the national convention in San Antonio, Texas, May 24-26.

"We're trying to expand the convention to include an array of fighter, tanker, and airlift pilots who have participated in operations in Afghanistan," Baker said of the convention. "It will be a big eye opener by showing what can be done with our military capability."

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effort."

The project team was made up of 48 people from a variety of agencies including the Air Force, Navy, South Carolina Army National Guard, the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Stevens Towing Co.

Prior to the arrival of the C-17 Globemaster III at Charleston, crews pulled up the parking apron to get ready for the aircraft. The material was placed out of the way until it could be disposed of.

The job of disposal was given to Al Urrutia, 437th Airlift Wing chief of environmental planning and programs.

"We looked at placing it all in a landfill at first," said Urrutia. "The cost to do that would have been prohibitive. I saw an article in a magazine about an Army unit helping to build a reef with old equipment and it gave me the idea."

A team was formed with Urrutia and others handling the logistics.

"It was a very long process," said Urrutia. "It was not a real high-tech deal, just some barges and bulldozers, but it was a coordination challenge."

The debris was loaded on barges, which were towed to the Charleston Nearshore Reef and the Lowcountry Anglers Reef as directed by the DNR, where they were pushed off into the water.

The debris came to rest on the sea floor, making a natural habitat for small organisms such as algae and barnacles, according to a Coastal America release.

New vehicle maintenance facility opens March 22

Photo and story by
Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter
437 AW Public Affairs

The newly remodeled Refueling Vehicle Maintenance Facility opened officially March 22 with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

The \$700,000 upgrade increased the shop's working area to 3,000 square feet and moved maintainers in from the elements, according to 1st Lt. Iven King, 437th Transportation Squadron vehicle maintenance officer.

"They were working outside under a tarp for over a year during the building upgrade," King said.

Problems with the old facility really came to a head when the base acquired the R-11 refueling vehicles. The R-11s were too big to fit inside the old facility.

"It's a whole new world," said Tech. Sgt. Edwin Barthold, 315th Aircraft Generation Squadron on loan to the shop to supplement manning. "We went from two bays where you couldn't even walk around the truck to four large work bays. You physically had to climb through the cab the truck or crawl under the truck to get to the doors in the old building."

Other new features make the maintenance building a more safe, user-friendly environment.

According to King, new roof and wall panels now meet base archi-

tectural standards. Lighting, heating and ventilation systems were also upgraded. A new oil and water separator and new heating system boiler improve environmental compliance.

"This shop has much better lighting," Barthold said. "Ventilation in the old shop was almost non-existent, there was no heat, and we had to manually open the doors by chain."

Also installed during the remodel were a fire alarm and suppression

system, paved areas were resurfaced and vehicle parking spaces increased, according to King.

Maintainers appreciate the new facility.

"We were working outside when I got here," said Airman 1st Class Stanley Russell, 437 TRANS. "It's a lot better than working outside. You don't have to worry about wind and rain, you can shut the doors, and you don't have to crawl around in water all day."



Senior Airman Ronald Trujillo, 437th Transportation Squadron, works on a refueling vehicle's brakes in the renovated Refueling Vehicle Maintenance Facility.

Seminar encourages women business owners

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi
437 AW Public Affairs

Women-owned businesses can succeed in a world dominated by men in the construction and services industries with a little networking and by reaching out to the local base contracting office.

This was the key theme of the one-day seminar held here March 27.

The first-ever seminar focused on encouraging women business owners to meet and network with various southeastern area government purchasers. More specifically, the conference was designed to locate more women-owned businesses in the fields of base services (custodial and food services), construction and General Services Administration services requirements, and to provide these companies the opportunity to learn of future requirements from government purchasers.

Joseph Diamond, director of the Air Force Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization program, was a guest speaker.

"This is a special women-owned business outreach effort," Diamond said. "What we're trying to do is to bring various categories of disadvantaged businesses on board with the government to establish contracts. We want to ensure women-owned businesses are a part of our industrialized base, which is essential to our national security.

"We are providing them with the essential tools to do business with the government and to provide them with a sense of what the requirements are from many locations in the southeast region," Diamond continued.

He added they would provide some one-on-one counseling with the small business directors to help them.

In 1997, roughly \$227 million went to women-owned businesses Air Force-wide. In 2001, women-owned businesses were awarded \$628 million out of a total obligation authority of \$36 billion.

"Events like these conferences have resulted in \$628 million in contracts to women-owned businesses," Diamond said. "That is the highest level of dollars going to women-owned businesses that we have ever achieved. Charleston AFB has proven to be an outstanding resource for women owned businesses.

To qualify as a woman-owned business, a woman must own at least 51 percent.

Approximately 12.3 percent of the contracts totaling about \$11 million (from October 1 to February 28) on Charleston were awarded to women-owned businesses, added Donna Barber, director of small business development, 437th Contracting Squadron. She added Charleston had about 13 percent of the \$27 million in Fiscal 2001 awarded to women-owned businesses. Most of those contracts were construction and some GSA schedules.

Carolyn Stradley, president of C & S Paving located in Marietta, Ga., spoke about her successes in competing for government contracts, and recently completed an airfield-paving project near the aero club and a parking lot. Today, she runs a multi-million dollar construction business, with about 25 percent of her income from the federal government. She has been in business for about 23 years.

"Whatever your needs are, you take

responsibility for them," Stradley said. "Today, we must as individuals take responsibility. It is not your government's responsibility to take care of you," she told the crowd of women business owners. Stradley struggled to survive in the construction business and said it took a lot of hard work to get ahead. To do so, she often had to be better than her male competitors.

Stradley described three life lessons that have served her well in business.

"You must look for the good in each situation, you must take responsibility for yourself and whenever you have losses, you always look at what you have left," she said.

She learned from conferences in 1986 about the importance of networking.

"As a result of going to a luncheon and networking, through open and competitive bidding, we were awarded the largest single contract ever awarded to a female-owned firm in the United States Air Force at that time," said Stradley.

She suggested that they set priorities and be prepared to make sacrifices.

"My kids thought that I owned stock in McDonalds since we ate there so often," she explained about her long work hours. "Keep trying and focus on your goals. You need to know what they need.

"Women receive less than 3 percent of all federal contracts. The federal government understands that we are a natural resource. We've got to get out and introduce ourselves to the contracting officers," she continued.

Women-owned businesses can contact Barber at 963-3328 for more information.

April is ...

Alcohol Awareness Month
Animal Cruelty Prevention Month
Child Abuse Prevention Month
Fresh Florida Tomato Month
Holy Humor Month
International Amateur Radio Month
International Legacy Month
International Twit Award Month
International Work Life Enrichment Month
Keep America Beautiful Month
Mathematics Education Month
Month of the Young Child
National Autism Awareness Month
National Grilled Cheese Sandwich Month
National Humor Month
National Knuckles Down Month
National Lawn and Garden Month
National Pecan Month
National Pet First Aid Awareness Month
National Prepare to Buy a Home Month
National Sexually Transmitted Diseases Education and Awareness Month
National Soft Pretzel Month
National Youth Sports Safety Month
School Library Media Month
Straw Hat Month
World Habitat Awareness Month
Zoo and Aquarium Month

SFS

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tion, some people are going out on their third deployments as well."

With the deployment of the latest team, the remaining troops will be forced to go into a four-days-on and two-days-off schedule. They will continue to work 12-hour shifts, but Chief Master Sgt. Larry Brazil, 437 SFS manager, said 12-hour shifts for cops are actually a lot longer.

"By the time you account for arming up and attending guardmount before your shift, you're easily at 13.5 or 14 hours," said Brazil. "Our people are stressed, but they're still performing at amazing levels. They always get the job done."

The squadron will be calling on some its "back office" personnel to work posts with flight members while all the deployments continue. Brazil said all the key customer service positions will remain

filled, but some offices will be doing more with a lot less.

"Staffing is very limited," said Brazil. "We have some offices that really require more than one person running with just one person.

We're still getting the job done, but I would ask that people be understanding and cooperative."

Security forces has been manning many additional posts since the implementation of Force Protection Condition Charlie and the downgrade into FPCON Bravo, and they recently had to give up the

help of Team Charleston augmentees.

"We had to return our augmentees to their respective units because their commanders needed them," said Brazil. "They came out and

did a great job for us, but we knew they would eventually have to go back to their units. They showed up for their shifts every time and worked the long days without any complaints. I can't say enough

good things about how well they performed when called upon."

One post that ready augmentees will still man is the Common is s a r y Gate. A different unit from the base supplies the augmentees on a weekly basis to run the gate Monday-Friday, 6:30-8 a.m. The Common is s a r y Gate is only for use by

military ID cardholders with DOD stickers on their vehicles, but it still saves everyone a lot of time, according to Tech. Sgt. Tim Moore, 437 SFS Force Protection manager.

"When we surveyed base members coming from Summerville with the gate closed, it was taking them between 45 minutes and an hour and 15 minutes to get here," said Moore. "Now, it's taking people between 20 and 30 minutes. Thanks to the ready augmentees, Charleston AFB members aren't only saving time, but anyone who uses Dorchester Road is."

Currently, more than 60 security forces members are deployed to locations worldwide.

Counting active-duty personnel, active reservists and Individual Mobilization Augmentees, the unit has slightly more than 300 members to cover deployments, all their posts on base and all office jobs.



Staff Sgt. David Rich, 437th Security Forces Squadron, prepares a medical bag to take on an upcoming deployment as part of a Tanker/Airlift Control Element. Rich will serve as a fire-team leader and as the team's emergency medical technician.

NEWS BRIEFS

Around the base

Parenting: The 437th Behavioral Sciences Flight is offering a free, "Parenting Your Teenager" class for parents of teenagers. The class will start Monday and meet for six consecutive Mondays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, call Jim Hernandez at 963-6504.

Stepfamily: The Base Clinic is offering a "Strengthening your Stepfamily" Class beginning Tuesday. The class will run for five consecutive Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. The class will teach skills to help make stepfamilies work. For more information, call Jim Hernandez at 963-6504.

NDTA: The National Defense/Transportation Association is holding a luncheon Wednesday, 11:30 a.m., at North Towne Grill. Commander Gary Merrick of the U.S. Coast Guard will be the guest speaker. The cost for the lunch buffet is \$9.30. For more information, call 963-3240.

AFSA: More than 155,000 active duty and retired Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve enlisted people of all grades belong to the Air Force Sergeants Association. AFSA's mission is to advocate improved quality of life and economic fairness to support the well being of Air Force enlisted personnel and their families. AFSA meetings are held at 4 p.m., the second Tuesday of every month, in the Daedalian Room at the Charleston Club. For more information about AFSA, and to learn about members-only services, go to www.AFSAHQ.org.

OSA/ESC: The Officers' Spouses' Association and Enlisted Support Club will hold a combined Scholarship Awards Coffee April 16, at the Charleston Club. Social begins at 6:30 p.m., with the program scheduled for 7 p.m. Dessert, coffee and tea will be served. Cost is \$6.50 for club members and \$9.50 for non-members. RSVP by April 14. OSA members with last names A-M contact Angela Rosenmeier at 875-2505, and last names N-Z contact Robin Newman at 207-7379. ESC members contact Marcia Lytton at 760-6892.

Chiefs' Group: The Charleston AFB Chiefs' Group will hold its monthly meeting April 18, 11 a.m. in the Charleston Club. All chiefs and chief selects are eligible to attend.

YOWS: There will be a Year of the Warrior Spirit Warrior Run April 18, 11:30 a.m., at McCombs Way track. At 3 p.m., there will be a YOWS briefing at the Charleston Club. For more information, call 1st Lt. Catherine Barker at 963-3385.

Charleston Warrior of the Week

Judy Butler

Family Support Center

Judy Butler is a volunteer at the Family Support Center. Butler, a native of Farmville, N.C., began volunteering as a young officer's wife in 1973. Although her husband is now retired from the AF and flying for a commercial airline, she still volunteers on base two-three days a week, sometimes more.

"My husband is still gone flying a lot, so volunteering gives me the flexibility to stay busy and help others while he is gone, but then be home more when he returns," said Butler.

Her efforts focus on keeping the Airmen's Attic running, but Butler also helps stock the emergency food closet and helps members PCSing to and from Charleston AFB. She checks out videos about perspective bases to families and loans them temporary household goods for just before or after a family PCS'. She said not many people know that they can check out bedding, pots and pans and much more to use while they await their own household goods or departure from the base.

"I enjoy doing whatever I can to help people, especially when they are moving," said Butler. "Being a prior military family helps a lot. I have been to quite a few bases and maybe something I learned at those places will help someone else."

This is Butler's third time living in Charleston and she is very happy to be back.

"This is my favorite place we have ever lived, and I always wanted to come back," said Butler. "I really enjoy volunteering here and look forward to coming to work. Everyday is something different and new."

In her free time, Butler enjoys stamping and visiting her son, who is stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C., and daughter, who is a military spouse living in Italy. She also drives to N.C. once a month to visit her mother.



Photo by Jessica Kaleina

Blood Drive: The next Charleston AFB Blood Drive will be held on April 22, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Education Center Auditorium. All blood types are urgently needed. For more information, call Capt. Paul Brown at 963-4678 or contact your squadron representative.

Days of Remembrance: Charleston AFB will observe Days of Remembrance, a time to honor and remember the victims of the Holocaust, April 23. A service and guest speaker, from the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., are planned for 10 a.m. at the Chapel. The local Jewish Service Center has other events planned throughout the month and can be contacted at 571-6565. The Base Library will also display a variety of books for viewing during the observance. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Michael Breedlove at 963-4927.

SIU: Southern Illinois University is holding open summer registration for its one-year Workforce Education and Development program now through May 1. Classes will begin May 4 and conclude April 2003. For more information, call 552-7320.

Change of command: Lt. Col. James Barr will take command of the 437th Operations Support Squad-

ron from Lt. Col. John Norton in a ceremony April 16, 9 a.m., at the Charleston Club. For more information, call 2nd Lt. Ron'Dell Harley at 963-5578.

Golf tournament: Charleston AFB's Top 3 will hold its annual golf tournament May 3 at Wrenwoods Golf Course. Check-in for the captain's choice tournament begins at 11:30 a.m., with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. Entry fees are \$15 and include range balls and beverages. Prizes will be awarded for first-, second- and third-place teams, and for longest drive and closest to pin. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Matt Harless at 963-8004 or sign up at the Wrenwoods Golf Course Pro Shop.

Yard Sale: Tables are now on sale at the Consignment Shop for the Basewide Yard Sale May 11, 8 a.m.-noon, at the base picnic grounds. The Consignment Shop is also looking for consigners. According to the shop's staff, furniture is a very hot item right now. The shop is located in Bldg. 203 on Graves Street. For more information, call 963-3294.

Scholarship: The Order of Daedalians is sponsoring two flight scholarships in the amount of \$750 each, with the potential of matching funds from their national headquarters. The scholarships are for

prospective and enrolled college students who demonstrate the desire and potential to become commissioned military pilots. Further scholarship guidelines are available at www.daedalians.org. For more information, call 1st Lt. Joel Eppley at 963-2150.

Family Support Center

Pre-Deployment Briefing: Monday, April 15, 22 and 29, 8 a.m., and Thursday, April 18 and 25, 4 p.m.

Educational Opportunity Counseling: Tuesday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Children and Self Esteem: Wednesday, 1-2:30 p.m.

Managing Stress through Interpersonal Communication: April 17, 10 a.m.-noon.

Sponsor Training: April 17, 3:30 p.m.

Troops to Teachers: April 22, 10-11 a.m.

Resume II: April 23, 9-10:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Base School Committee: April 23, 7 p.m.

Smooth Move: April 25, 8:30 a.m.-noon.

Interview Techniques: 1-4 p.m.

Car Buying: April 30, 1-3 p.m.

Smart Women Finish Rich: April 30, 6-8 p.m.

All workshops are held at the FSC unless otherwise noted. For more information or to register, call the Family Support Center at 963-4406.

COMMENTARY

Base award winners recognized

By Col. Karl Young
437 AW vice commander

This was a great week for Charleston AFB as we had the chance to recognize a lot of award winners and nominees from many areas around the base.

At staff meeting Monday we presented Staff Sgt. **Brian Sharman**, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron, a wing coin for his selection as the Air Mobility Command Outstanding Airman of the Year. We wish him luck as he goes to compete Air Force-wide for the final honors.

We received notification on more AMC winners, including **Esther Harman**, 437th Mission Support Squadron, named AMC's 2001 Outstanding Civilian Personnel Specialist and Staff Sgt. **Jeremy Lilly**, 437th Operations Support Squadron, as AMC's 2001 Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape Airman of the Year. The 437 OSS also brought home AMC's Large Team Aircrew Life Support Team of the Year award. We look forward to hearing how they all do as they compete at the Air Force level.

The 2001 Public Affairs Awards were announced and our own PA office won the honor of the Air Force's Director's Excellence Award, Large Wing Category. Great job!

We also recognized the 437th Airlift Wing nominees for the General Robert "Dutch" Huyser Award, Capt. **William Spangenthal**, 15th Airlift Squadron, and Tech. Sgt. **Rene DeLaRosa**, 17th Airlift Squadron, and winner for the General P.K. Carlton Award for Valor, Lt. Col. **Michael Thayne**, 14th Airlift Squadron. We know they will be strong competitors at 21st Air Force.

We forwarded the following nominees for the 2001 South Carolina Air Force Association Annual Awards: Outstanding Wing - 437th Airlift Wing; Outstanding Group - 437 OG; Outstanding Squadron - 437 CES; Outstanding Logistics Unit - 437 Logistics Group; Outstanding Officer of the Year - Capt. **Brad Cochran**, 15 AS; Outstanding Enlisted of the Year - Staff Sgt. **Brian Sharman**, 437 CES; and Outstanding Civilian of the Year - **Gary Wood**, 437th Aerial Port Squadron. We also nominated the base chapel to compete at AMC for the 2001 Outstanding Chapel Team Award.

We recognized this month's Diamond Sharp winners Tuesday at the Charleston Club. Congratulations to Staff Sgt. **Amanda Gravely**, 437th Comptroller Squadron; Staff Sgt. **John Welch**, 437th Security Forces Squadron; Airman 1st Class **Richard Etterling**, 437th Services Squadron; and Airman **Frederick Burton**, 437th Communications Squadron.

Wow! What a great place CAFB is, and what great people!

I'd like to congratulate the commanders and government travel card monitors for their significant progress this month. 1st Lt. **Andy Grab**, 437 CPTS wing government travel card agency program coordinator, did a great job of organizing efforts to bring down the total number of accounts with payments past due. At the beginning of March we had 221 delinquent accounts, and by the end of the month it was down to 19. This information is collected and compared to other bases around the command, and the drastic drop will definitely help our standing across AMC.

During this month we will observe Child Abuse Prevention Month. See page 11 for more information about the Family Advocacy Program and its work to prevent child abuse.

April also marks the annual observance of the Holocaust Days of Remembrance. This year marks the 22nd annual observance of the Holocaust. The Nazis, who had 27 concentration camps from 1939-1945, persecuted more than 6 million Jews and millions others. For information about events during this observance contact Tech. Sgt. **Michael Breedlove** at 963-4927.

We are looking forward to a visit from comedian Bill Cosby on Sunday. Cosby and his pilot will be coming to the flightline for a tour of a C-17, and then fly the C-17 simulator. Military members in uniform with a flightline badge can come and meet Cosby on the flightline at 1 p.m. Look for a basewide e-mail with more details.

I hope many of you had the chance to take some time off during this spring break week to spend time with your families, whether it was at Disney World or visiting grandma. You have all been working very hard, and I am glad to see a good number of people got a chance to relax and spend some time catching up with family and enjoying some leave.

Have a safe and enjoyable weekend!

Force protection not always taken seriously

Charleston AFB personnel need to remain alert, remember 'We are a nation at war'

By Tech. Sgt. Timothy Moore
437 SFS Force Protection manager

"Force protection is something we can never take lightly," said Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley, 437th Airlift Wing commander. "It is something that each and every one of us must factor into all we do to keep the U.S. Air Force at the leading edge of preserving the peace in our world.

"We've made great improvements in our awareness and our procedures over the past few years, but vigilance is the over-riding sentiment that still must dominate our thoughts and actions as we set forth to do our duty in this expeditionary era," continued Findley.

These strong words sound all too familiar considering recent world events, but Findley made this statement long before Sept. 11. Reading his words makes me pause and reflect on what actions we take and what we do to remain vigilant.

When I attended force protection school, the theme our instructors kept

hammering upon us was the fact that we are all hard targets. To protect against this vulnerability, make yourself and your actions random. We remain in Force Protection Condition Bravo and probably will for some time. Yet as I travel the base, I see people taking things in stride. We are a nation at war and can never take things in stride. Force protection is serious business, and your very life and those around you may depend on you being a hard target.

Many countries, including our own, have been pouring billions of dollars each year into both antiterrorism and force protection. We are slowly coming to realize that money alone will not solve this problem. The solution lies in constant and pervasive awareness and education focusing on the actual existing threat and what can be done to defend against it. Every unit on the installation is required to conduct a walk around of their facilities at the beginning and end of the duty day, as well as randomly throughout the day. Ask yourself, "Is this is being done?"

When a visitor or stranger walks through your building, do you ask to help them or let them pass by? Never mind this is common courtesy and the polite thing to do, but if they are an adversary, you will prevent them from gaining access to your facility. A would-be adversary or terrorist looks for a weakness to exploit. By remaining vigilant and conducting a walk around as required, you send a clear message to those gathering intelligence that we are not a soft target, but an installation that takes force protection very seriously.

Bobby Sands, a member of the Irish Republican Army, once said, "When it comes to terrorism, you have to be lucky all the time. I (a terrorist) only have to be lucky once." So again, I ask, are you a hard target?

Remain focused, vigilant and aware. Should you observe something out of the ordinary or suspicious, report it immediately by calling 911. If you have any questions or concerns about force protection, please contact the force protection office at 963-6146.

About the paper

AI RLIFT Dispatch

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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.

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Spirit, excitement of new airmen contagious to old hat

By Lt. Col. Chris King

315 AW Public Affairs

When you have been around the Air Force for more than 30 years, you tend to get just a little complacent with doing “things.” Everything seems to run together, to be less exciting than it once was. Sometimes it takes talking to young airmen to get that feeling again—the feeling that made you love this job in the first place.

Recently I departed on a mission to cover the activities of Reserve members involved in Operation Enduring Freedom. To be honest, I didn’t look forward to the long briefings, longer flights, bad billeting and days away from my family—not to mention lugging the 17 bags our three-man public affairs team brought on the trip.

As part of the job, and to kill time on the first flight, I thought I would do a few interviews to get started. Those interviews changed my outlook and gave this “thing” a fresh new start thanks to two young airmen.

When I got on the flight in Charleston, I noticed we had a group of maintainers going. I recognized several of the reservists, but there were two young faces in the group I had not seen before. I decided they would be my first interview.

One of these airmen was Airman 1st Class Andrew Graff, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron.

Graff, who graduated high school in June 2000 and entered the Air Force, is proud he has been in the service for one-and-a-half years as a C-17 mechanic—he thinks it is the greatest aircraft in the world! It brought back memories of an earlier day, when I was a young airman and thought the C-124 and C-141 were the greatest aircraft in the world.

When asked what he thought about being mobilized, he spoke with an enthusiasm refreshing to see.

“Well, sir, this is my first deployment, and I am really excited,” he said. “I’ll admit I am a little nervous. I talked to my folks before I left and told them how I felt. Now, I think my family is more nervous than I am.”

In addition to his mother and father, the Wisconsin native has two older brothers—neither of them has been in the service, but they were proud of him and what he is doing.

By now, so was I.

“I’ve seen the operation from Charleston and now I will be able to see it from the other side,” he said. “I really feel that I am serving my country doing what I’m doing.”

For Graff, the events of Sept. 11 changed his life forever.

“I was asleep on my day off,” he said. “A friend woke me up and told me what was happening. I couldn’t believe it—someone had attacked my country. I don’t think I will ever be the same.

“I know that we have to do something to fight the people who did that,” he continued. “When I was in high school I used to think things would just take care of themselves. Now I know we have to do something to make those changes.”

When he spoke he had a force, a conviction that shined through his personality. He was proud to be an American and serving in the United States Air Force.

The other young airman, Airman 1st Class Kenneth Wickland, 437th Maintenance Squadron Aerospace Ground Equipment Flight, also had that enthusiasm for what he was about to do.

“Sir, I’m really psyched about this assignment,” he said. “I think it will be a great experience. Not many people will ever get the chance to do something like this. I feel it’s an honor to be given the chance to serve my country.”

Although Wickland was more than ready for the deployment, he said his family was worried about him going on this deployment—his mom was “freaking out,” but his dad had given him some good advice.

“He told me to keep my head down. I’m going to do that.

“I’m really proud to be in the service and to have this opportunity to help my country,” he said. “I want to see what I can do.”

I felt he could do most anything he wanted to do.

Talking to these two young airmen has given this old airman a new sense of pride. We have done something right in this country. These two are good examples of that.

If this is what the Air Force is becoming, I am happy just to be along for the ride.

I’m now looking forward to the rest of this trip. I want to talk to more young men and women who make me proud to be an American.

Let’s Roll!

FEATURE

10 Things You Can Do Now To Prevent Child Abuse

1. Volunteer your time. Get involved with other parents in your community. Help vulnerable children and their families. Start a playgroup.

2. Discipline your children thoughtfully. Never discipline your child when you are upset. Use privileges to encourage good behavior and time-outs to help your child regain control.

3. Examine your behavior. Abuse is not just physical. Both words and actions can inflict deep, lasting wounds. Be a nurturing parent. Use your actions to show children and other adults that conflicts can be settled without hitting or yelling.

4. Educate yourself and others. After-school activities, parent education classes, mentoring programs, and respite care are some of the many ways to keep children safe from harm.

5. Teach children their rights. When children are taught they are special and have the right to be safe, they are less likely to think abuse is their fault, and more likely to report an offender.

6. Support prevention programs. Too often, intervention occurs only after abuse is reported. Greater investments are needed in programs that have been proven to stop the abuse before it occurs — such as family counseling and home visits by nurses who provide assistance for newborns and their parents.

7. Know what child abuse is. Physical and sexual abuse clearly constitute maltreatment, but so does neglect, or failure of parents or other caregivers to provide a child with needed food, clothing, and care. Children can also be emotionally abused when they are rejected, berated, or continuously isolated.

8. Know the signs. Unexplained injuries aren't the only signs of abuse-depression. Fear of a certain adult, difficulty trusting others or making friends, sudden changes in eating or sleeping patterns, inappropriate sexual behavior, poor hygiene, secrecy, and hostility are often signs of family problems and may indicate a child is being abused.

9. Report abuse. If you witness a child being harmed or see evidence of abuse, or if a child tells you about abuse, make a report to your state's child protective services department or local police.

10. Invest in Kids. Encourage leaders in the community to be supportive of children and families. Ask your local and national lawmakers to support legislation to better protect our children.

Suggestions from the Child Welfare League of America.

Preventing abuse is top priority for CAFB Family Advocacy Program

By Capt. Beth Szucs
437 AW Public Affairs

More than three million children are reported as abused or neglected in the U.S. each year and every day three children die from these inhumane acts.

This statistic, according to a Prevent Child Abuse America study, highlights the need to take measures to try and turn this trend around and prevent future abuse.

Although military families are among those involved in these national statistics, the DOD rate of child abuse is distinctly lower than its counterparts in the U.S. civilian population, according to a report by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Resources.

One way the Air Force works to keep its members from being involved in abuse incidences is through base Family Advocacy Programs.

"The Family Advocacy Program is a prevention program. We are here for the prevention of maltreatment," said Capt. Patricia Finckenberg, Family Advocacy Program chief.

Finckenberg said the primary mission of the 437th Family Advocacy Program is to ensure that military members are mission ready.

"If a member has a problem in their home, whether it is themselves or another family member, it is very stressful, and it makes it very difficult for them to focus on their task at hand," said Finckenberg.

"The family advocacy program is there to keep families stable, intact and fully functioning, so that the mission isn't impacted."

Finckenberg explained that they do this through a variety of programs, including pregnancy and parenting classes, the Exceptional Family Member Program and a maltreatment program.

When identifying situations involving maltreatment, Finckenberg and staff look into child physical, emotional, sexual and neglect abuse and spouse physical and emotional abuse. For spouses, sexual abuse and neglect fall into the category of emotional abuse.

"When dealing with these situations, we work with military members and their immediate family," Finckenberg said. "There has to be a family dynamic, whether it be a member and their

Family Advocacy Outreach Programs

Prenatal Orientation Class: A two and a half hour class for parents who have just found out they are pregnant. Offers information about physical changes, nutrition, and medical issues.

"Building Blocks for Baby" Class: A six-week class for mothers and fathers-to-be who are within five months of delivery. Its content is a combination of educational, experiential and emotional support.

Breastfeeding Class: A class for all pregnant women and their support person to learn about the benefits of breastfeeding and how to do it correctly.

"Baby Steps" Support Group: A voluntary new parent program offered to all postpartum families of active duty AF members, as well as to members with a child newborn to one year of age. Its goals are to increase parent knowledge of child growth and development, to enhance family member role adaptation and more.

New Parent Support Program: An on-going program designed to help new and expectant parents meet the challenging roles of parenthood.

"Common Sense Parenting" Class: Parents are taught skills that help them encourage positive behavior in their children, discourage negative behavior and teach alternatives to problem behavior.

"S.T.E.P.-Teen" Parenting Class: Offers parents increased understanding, practical encouragement skills, helpful ways to communicate and effective alternatives for providing discipline and problem-solving with their teenagers.

Anger Management Workshop: A two-session educational class for anyone interested in discovering more about their anger patterns and wishing to learn new techniques for controlling it.

Marriage Enhancement Seminar: A research-based approach to teaching couples how to communicate effectively, work as a team to solve problems and more.

"Strengthening Your Stepfamily" Class: A course to help stepfamily members begin building the satisfying relationships they really want.

(Information provided by the Family Advocacy Program)

spouse, or a single member with children, for us to be involved."

As Finckenberg mentioned, their programs are designed to prevent maltreatment. If an incident occurs though, FAP has a system in place to assess the situation and then call a Family Maltreatment Case Management Team. The FMCMT is a team of military members taken from around the base who are specifically trained to investigate the incident, make the determination of whether or not the incident fit the criteria for maltreatment, and if it does, make a recommendation for treatment, said Finckenberg.

Some form of that treatment usually involves counseling, according to Finckenberg. While military members are provided counseling by the social workers at family advocacy, family members, including children, who need treatment are seen by providers off base.

Charleston AFB saw a decrease in the total number of maltreatment referrals in fiscal year 2001, according to their annual maltreatment statistical summary. There were 104 maltreatment referrals in fy 2001, compared to

136 in fy 2000, and 121 in fy 1999. The same report showed that the number of substantiated spouse abuse cases at CAFB was lower in fy 2001, 42 cases compared to 65 in fy 2000, but the number of substantiated child abuse cases was about the same, 23 in fy 2001 and 22 in fy 2000.

A different way that the FAP helps AF families is through the Exceptional Family Member Program. The program is designed to support families who have a member with special needs, whether that is special education, psychological services or specialist medical care, according to information provided by the FAP.

EFMP helps families find needed services in the AF and the local community and helps work duty assignments to locations that can handle the necessary treatment for the family member.

Whether it is through classroom instruction, counseling or the EFMP, the FAP has ways to help military families through stressful times and avoid maltreatment in the home.

For more information or a schedule of classes call the Family Advocacy Program office at 963-6972.

437 AGS airman earns Levitow Award

Senior Airman Diamond Cookson, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron, earned the Sgt John L. Levitow Award during Airman Leadership School class 02-B and was presented with these honors during a graduation ceremony on March 28 at the Airman Leadership School.

Senior Airman Angela Shaw, 437th Comptroller Squadron, received the Academic Achievement and Distinguished Graduate Awards. Senior Airmen Chris Ruzon, 15th Airlift Squadron; Davidna Rossington, 437th Medical Group; and Jimmy Blevins, 437th Security Forces Squadron, also received Distinguished Graduate Awards.

Rossington also earned the Leadership Award.

Graduates from the course also include the following senior airmen:

15 AS: Jennifer Crippin, Chris Fowler, Christopher Manee

437th Aeromedical Dental Squadron: Brenda Barnhart, Damien Tymes

437 AGS: James McBath III, Matthew Samson, Cerie Sessions

437th Airlift Wing: Cindy Perry

437th Aerial Port Squadron: Manuel Chavez, Anthony Morgam, Virginia Poole, Timothy Stawski, Seth Soine, Mitchell Sorrells, Ryan Wilson, Brian Woodley

437th Civil Engineer Squadron: John Fuschich Jr., John Herron Jr., Scott Schwede

1st Combat Camera Squadron: D. Myles Cullen

437th Logistics Support Squadron: Renee Hennagir

437th Operations Support Squadron: Michael Gillian

437th Mission Support Squadron: Shawna Keith

437th Maintenance Squadron: Christopher Stitely, Richard Schoonmaker, Ephraim Thomas

437 SFS: Eric Ingram

437th Supply Squadron: David Fullmuth

437th Services Squadron: Jonathan Blout, Jermaine Ireland

437th Transportation Squadron: James Hurst

(Article submitted by the Charleston AFB Airman Leadership School.)



Photo by Ed Kelly

Earth Day

Jim Elliot, South Carolina Center for Birds of Prey, gives a demonstration to local students, at Charleston AFB for Earth Day. About 1,100 students participated in the event, hosted by the 437th Civil Engineer Squadron.

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. Phone: (803) 254-9048.

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 963-2676.

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 an 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.

Tonight, 7:30 p.m.

"Hart's War" – Bruce Willis

Set within the Nazi concentration camp, Stalag Luft 13, Lt. Tommy Hart, a Harvard law student before enlisting, must defend a Tuskegee airman accused of murder in a camp trial held by his fellow American prisoners. **(R) 125 minutes**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

"John Q" – Denzel Washington

When John Q. Archibald's son Michael falls seriously ill and needs an emergency heart transplant operation that John Q can't afford and his health insurance won't cover, he vows to do whatever it takes to keep his son alive. **(PG-13) 118 minutes**

April 12, 7:30 p.m.

"Queen of the Damned" – Stuart Townsend, Aaliyah

The Vampire Lestat has become a rock star, and it's his music that awakens the 6,000-year-old Egyptian vampire, Akasha. She soon sets out on a plan of revenge against many of the male vampires that followed her. **(G) 72 minutes**

April 13 and 20, 2 p.m.

"Return to Never Land" – Animated

Fitness & Sports



Edward Lawler, MXS, jumps over two defenders for a one-handed leaning jump shot. MXS went on to win the championship.

MXS beats out APS twice to repeat as base intramural basketball champions

**Story and photos by
Staff Sgt. Melanie Streater**
437 AW Public Affairs

MXS emerged from the loser's bracket as the Base Intramural Basketball Champions Tuesday, beating APS twice, 56-44 and 53-49.

Earlier in the playoffs, APS defeated MXS to place them in the loser's bracket, requiring MXS to beat APS twice for the title.

"It was the same thing last year," said Michael Brandon, team member. "We lost to supply and had to fight back and beat them twice."

Brandon said the second game ended with about four or five seconds left, when referees called the game after several APS technical fouls.

"The competition was good, but I think next year they need better refs," said Billy Graham, APS. "We had a good team."

In the first game, Marcus Freeman was the top MXS scorer with 22 points. Edward Lawler had 15 points, while Jerome Aubert had six.

For APS, top scorer in game one was Graham, with 12 points. Raul Matos had eight points.

In the second game, Aubert was the top MXS scorer with 17 points. Lawler had 14 and Freeman had seven.

Denny Garrison was the leader for APS in game two, with 17 points. Graham had seven.



MXS and APS wrestle for the ball after a missed MXS shot. The teams played two games Tuesday in the intramural championship.