

DISPATCH

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437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, Jan. 18, 2002

CAFB, 437 CES welcome Curtin Award evaluators

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi
437 AW Public Affairs

Four evaluators will determine if Team Charleston wins the prestigious Air Force Outstanding Civil Engineer Unit Award in the large base category.

The four headquarters evaluators arrived Thursday and will conduct a one-day look today to choose whether Charleston or Holloman AFB, N.M., receives the top Air Force honor.

The Society of Military Engineers awards the winner of the Air Force honor with the Curtin Award. The Curtin Award is named for the former director of Air Force Civil Engineering, Maj. Gen. Robert Curtin. The last time Charleston AFB won the Curtin award was in 1995, and base leaders say it's time for the 437th Civil Engineer Squadron to win again.

"With everyone pitching in, there is no doubt that Team Charleston will

See CURTIN, page 2



Photo by Master Sgt. Dan Murphy

Senior Airman Karreem Gethers, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron heavy equipment operator, dumps another load into a dump truck with a Bobcat loader while putting the finishing touches on the parking lot around Bldg. 426. Team Charleston pulled together to get the base in top shape Wednesday, preparing for the arrival of the Curtin team.

Team Charleston aircrews deliver supplies, equipment to Cuba

Deliveries help Navy Seabees construct facilities for battlefield detainees at Guantanamo NAS

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Mary Hinson
315 AW Public Affairs

C-17 aircrews from Charleston AFB delivered



Tech. Sgt. James Phelps, 317th Airlift Squadron loadmaster, directs loading of a C-17 with supplies for construction in Cuba.

equipment to Guantanamo Bay Naval Air Station, Cuba last week that was used in the construction of the prison that is housing Taliban and al-Qaida detainees.

Delivery of the equipment began Jan. 5 with 21 missions completed as of Tuesday. All of the missions originated at CAFB and flew to either Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, N.C., or to Gulfport, Miss, where the cargo was picked up. The aircrews transported 1.2 million pounds of cargo, including vehicles, lumber and construction supplies.

The equipment was used to construct the bare-bones facility, said Navy Equipment Operator 1st Class Ricky Burkhart, 20th Naval Construction

Regiment, Gulfport.

The prison was built to hold up to 2,000 hard-core terrorists who have demonstrated their determination to kill themselves, others or escape, according to an Air Force Reserve Command press release.

Prisoners will sleep on mats in cells made of wood and chain-linked fence, said Navy Lt. Scott McInay, Joint Information Bureau at Guantanamo Bay.

"For the back-end crew, the mission is pretty routine. There is really no difference in the cargo," said Senior Master Sgt. Evelyn Irwin, 317th Airlift Squadron loadmaster.

"This is what we do," said Burkhart, of the Navy's participation. "It's the real thing."

For the pilots, the mission is anything but routine. Due

to special procedures, pilots flying into Guantanamo have to be certified once a year, said Maj. Jeff Meyers, 317 AS standardization and evaluation.

"Since you can't fly in Cuban air space, there is a tight corridor to the runway," he added.

Another C-17 pilot explained the certification procedure in more detail.

"To get qualified you have to observe a runway 10 approach during the daylight," said Maj. Brad Barnett, chief of 437th Operations Support Squadron Current Operations. "To maintain qualification, you must return to Gitmo within 12 months."

At times, pilots have to "hug" the fence line, which offers little room between Guantanamo Bay NAS and

Cuban airspace.

"But the C-17 is so maneuverable...it's a great equalizer and well-suited for this," Meyers said.

Despite the challenges of the mission, Charleston aircrews are volunteering in numbers to help with the efforts.

"In a very small part, we are giving the American people a sense of achieving objectives. We are seeing the results of the war in Afghanistan," said Meyers of the mission.

Irwin said, "Whether it is flying to Cuba or Afghanistan, we are ready to do what it takes to get the mission done. I have the best job, and I can't imagine doing anything else."

(Staff Sgt. Pamela Smith, 437 AW Public Affairs, also contributed to this article.)

IN THE NEWS

Air Force legal offices prepare for 2002 tax season

Air Force legal offices are gearing up for the 2002 tax season, which experts said will present only a few subtle changes to last year's laws. What will not change, they said, is the traditional system of support provided at Air Force bases around the world.

Air Force legal offices, in conjunction with the Internal Revenue Service and volunteers from the military community, annually set up tax centers and recruit and train volunteer unit tax advisers, providing bluesuiters with a convenient process for filing their yearly returns.

"The Air Force tax program saved the military community more than \$12 million in tax preparation fees in 2001," said Capt. Jennifer Hyzer, tax program manager for the Air Force Legal Assistance Division at the Pentagon. "The quality of life for our people is greatly enhanced by the services of volunteers at bases around the world, and such initiatives as electronic filing."

Electronic filing improves the quality-of-life for people enabling them to receive their income tax refunds in a fraction of the time it takes to process a paper return, all without paying an electronic filing fee, Hyzer said.

"Electronic income tax filing services for Air Force members were

introduced as part of the 'People First' initiative, a quality-of-life program announced by the secretary of the Air Force in 1994," she said. "More than 129,000 federal income tax returns were electronically filed in 2001."

A few changes in the tax law may affect the returns of Air Force people in 2002. Each tax bracket over 15 percent has been cut by 0.5 percent. The new 2001 rates for the top four tax rates will be 39.1 percent, 35.5 percent, 30.5 percent, and 27.5 percent. The lower rates — 10 percent and 15 percent — will not change. Most Air Force people fall in the 15- and 27.5-percent tax brackets, Hyzer said.

Additionally, first time filers and those who did not owe any taxes for 2000 will receive a rate reduction credit on their 2001 returns. Hyzer said many taxpayers have already taken advantage of the credit, in the form of a refund mailed out last year.

"The Treasury Department mailed out checks last July for many people," she said. "For those who did not already receive the refund, married couples will save up to \$600, single parents up to \$500, and singles up to \$300."

Finally, the tax credit for each child younger than 17 increases from \$500 to \$600 this year. The maximum income amount to qualify for the credit

will remain the same — \$110,000 for married couples. People can contact their local base legal office for more

information on this year's tax laws, and for the locations of the nearest Air Force tax center. (AFPN)

Charleston AFB 2002 tax office information

Location: Bldg. 246, room 106

Hours: 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. by appointment only beginning Jan. 31

Phone: 963-1040 or 963-TAXS

E-mail: 437 AW Tax Center on global address list

Special information:

- Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 will be 1040EZ-only days, primarily focusing on dormitory residents
- Spouses of deployed members who left a General Power of Attorney or Special Power of Attorney for taxes with their spouse will be able to file taxes

Needed documentation:

- W-2s
- ID card
- Social Security cards for spouse and all dependants
- End of year bank statements for any accounts earning interest, dividends, etc.
- Power of Attorney if married and spouse not available
- Day care information
- Tuition receipts
- Record of any other income
- Copy of last year's taxes if available

Combat Zone taxpayers:

Anyone serving in a combat zone who received correspondence from the IRS requesting evidence of such service, contact the 437th Airlift Wing Legal Office at 963-5502.

CURTIN

continued from page 1

win this award," predicted Col. Dave Snodgrass, 437th Support Group commander.

Winning the award, according to Snodgrass, would be a positive reflection on the entire base.

"Although 437 CES would be receiving the award, the

Curtin Award is really a base-wide award since we are all one team working together to meet our mission," he said.

The Curtin Team evaluators, who have narrowed the field to just two bases, will closely examine several areas to include expeditionary engineering, installation engineering, environmental leadership, housing excellence and emergency services. 437 CES and base personnel have been busy preparing for the evaluation team after conducting a base-wide pride day Wednesday.

"The team will examine our resource management and how well we have used our people. They are looking at how well we execute our programs," said Capt. Elwood Henry, chief of maintenance engineering and project officer for the visit.

The team will tour the dining hall, Environmental Compliance Management Program, chemical

warfare training, Hunley Park housing area, steam plant, explosive ordnance disposal flight, CE customer service and will also receive several briefings during their short stay.

Some of the squadron's accomplishments include directing 12,000 tons of debris to build an offshore reef in South Carolina, saving \$500,000 in disposal costs; achieving a 98 percent on-time completion rate for more than 6,900 job orders in Military Family Housing; and saving money on energy costs. The squadron replaced 940 heat pumps with more efficient geothermal units and the new demand-limiting system implemented over the summer saved the base \$80,000.

The base firefighters responded to more than 700 emergency calls in 2001 and forged a strong relationship with local agencies, as described in the award package.

The base civil engineers have aggressively worked to reduce the base's solid waste by establishing an active recycling program.

"Charleston AFB's recycling program had one of its

best quarters to date, recycling more than 8,700 tons of solid waste, saving the Air Force more than \$280,000 in just three months," said Nicole Shope, 437 CES chief of environmental quality.

Some of the items team Charleston AFB recycled or reused included paper, cardboard, plastic, glass, aluminum, scrap metal, C-17 and automobile tires, yard waste, concrete, asphalt, fluorescent bulbs, batteries, used oil, wooden pallets and JP-8. Shope added that everyone should do their part to preserve the environment and natural resources.

Dale Cook, environmental manager for the 437th Logistics Group, says the 437 CES support has been outstanding for the past year and that they deserve to win.

"We have a fantastic relationship between the civil engineers and our group. I can't say enough great things about this tremendously productive partnership," said Cook. "They will always come out and lend a hand if we have any questions."

During a recent no-notice inspection by the South Carolina Department of Health and

Environmental Control, the team found no write-ups on the base, a truly extraordinary accomplishment that reflects CE's total commitment to excellence.

"We took them to five different shops and they found nothing wrong. The base has not had a fine since November 1972," Cook added.

The 437th Services Squadron relies on their 23 different facilities to be in top shape to take care of their customer's needs from the flight kitchen to the childcare center.

"We have so many facilities that we couldn't provide the level of support that we do without the outstanding support of our civil engineers," said Nancy Corbin, 437 SVS deputy chief. She added that their facilities are kept in excellent shape and attributed that to twice-a-month meetings to discuss repairs and requirements.

Curtin Evaluation Team members are Col. Bruce Barthold, Bruce Leighton, Chief Master Sgt. Michael Doris and Captain Aaron Benson. All are from the Air Staff or separate civil engineer headquarters agencies.



Photo by Master Sgt. Dan Murphy
Staff Sgt. Robert Skiff, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron, uses topsoil to level the shoulder of an intersection.

CAFB to commemorate MLK with unity walk, service: Event to honor life of Nobel Peace Prize-winning civil rights

By 2nd Lt.
Jennifer Andrews
437 AW Public Affairs

In the early 60s, civil rights were on the minds of people around the country. Violence against this movement was widespread. For civil rights activists, it was a long, difficult road to travel for equality. One person who spearheaded the civil rights movement was Martin Luther King Jr.

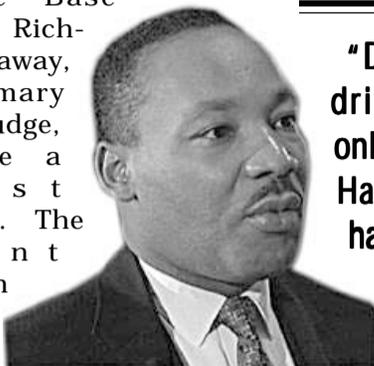
To honor King and the civil rights movement, Charleston AFB is hosting a Martin Luther King Jr. unity walk and commemorative service Jan. 21 at 10 a.m. starting at the Charleston Club.

"The unity walk promotes King's legacy," said Senior

Master Sgt. Joseph Romeo, 437th Services Squadron. "It's a people's legacy. We can overcome anything if we want to."

In addition to the walk and service, scheduled to be held in the Base Chapel, Richard Ganaway, a summary court judge, will be a guest speaker. The Mount Moriah church choir and some military members are scheduled to sing.

"We're also planning a litany reading in which children will give a cross-refer-



ence of different cultures," Romeo said.

This will be the second year the unity walk is held. Last year, hundreds of people attended, but Romeo doesn't ex-

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

pect that many this year.

"We're hoping to get as many people as we did last year, but with the heightened security postures, we're un-

sure of how many people will show up," Romeo said.

However, Romeo said he is confident that no matter how many people attend, it will still bring a positive effect to the surrounding communities.

"When we hold an event like this it says a lot. The military's cultural diversity is at the forefront of promoting some of King's values," Romeo said. "We're taking the lead and sending a strong message to the public that diversity is good."

Martin Luther King Jr., a civil rights activist born in Atlanta, Ga., served as a leading force behind the withdrawal of segregation laws in the 60s.

In 1948, he graduated from

high school and chose to pursue a career in ministry, like his father. By 1955, he received a doctorate degree from a Boston graduate school.

While at seminary, King became acquainted with Mohandas Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolent protest. King used this method to achieve civil-rights reform and was awarded the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts.

On April 4, 1968, James Earl Ray shot King while he was standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tenn. He was 39 at the time of his death.

For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Joseph Romeo at 963-2120

437 SUPS first in AF to use new fueling vehicles

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter
437 AW Public Affairs

The 437th Supply Squadron Fuels Flight recently received the first two of the Air Force's newest hydrant-type fueling vehicles.

According to Tech. Sgt. Steven Beasley, mobile distribution supervisor, Charleston AFB is the first base to receive the R-12 Hydrant Servicing Vehicles, manufactured by Kovatch.

"Kovatch has been building and manufacturing refuelers for a long time, but this is their first attempt at a hydrant servicing vehicle," Beasley said.

To fuel an aircraft, several different types of trucks may be used, according to Beasley. One option is to fill a large, 6,000-gallon capacity tanker-type truck, drive it to the flightline, pump the fuel into the aircraft until the tanker is empty, then drive back to where the truck can be refilled, drive back to the flightline and finish refueling. For bases with large frame aircraft such as Charleston, this can be a time-consuming procedure.

To lessen the need for tanker-type refuelers, CAFB, and other bases, are equipped with a hydrant fuel system. Hydrant servicing trucks connect to one of the many hydrant outlets on the flightline and pump fuel directly from hydrant fuel tanks to the aircraft. This provides for an unlimited supply of fuel to the aircraft, eliminating using more than one vehicle to support the fuel request. This also allows personnel to handle other mission requirements.

Many of Charleston's hydrant-servicing vehicles were manufactured in the 1980s and are capable of refueling and defueling aircraft, according to Staff Sgt. Craig Baker, fuels

maintenance supervisor. Besides falling victim to the regular maintenance woes of older vehicles, the truck's piping system calls for reconfiguration for the truck to go from fueling to defueling.

This reconfiguration is both time consuming and tedious, so until now, the flight kept one truck configured strictly for defueling, according to Beasley.

"It's a real pain to change all those strainers," Baker said. "This new truck is capable of going from refuel to defuel without changing the system at all; all you do is turn the selector switch from refuel to defuel."

The ability to switch without changing strainers lies in the design of the strainers in the new truck, according to Baker. The new strainers are non-collapsible and can handle flow pressure from both directions.

According to Baker, another time-saving capability of this new truck is the operation of the automatic sump. During refueling, pressure surges from the system increases

fuel pressure at the single-point receptacle. To equalize this pressure, fuel bleeds off into a sump tank located on the vehicle.

"When the sump tank fills due to excess pressure during fueling, it might take 10 buckets to empty, and 15-20 minutes to drain each time," Baker said of the older models. "The new trucks automatically pump the excess back into the system. If for some reason it doesn't do it automatically, you just push the manual pump button."

Baker said with the new automatic sump, fuel never leaves the contained system, whereas with the older trucks, each bucket of fuel emptied from the sump had to be poured into a bowser and returned to the system manually.

Operators have noticed an increase in speed when both fueling and defueling, according to Baker. The newer trucks regulate fuel flow during fueling operations to 750 gallons per minute.

The older trucks, while rated at 1,200 gallons per minute, actually

operated at around 400 gallons per minute, according to Baker. During defueling, the new trucks defuel at 300 gallons per minute, while Baker said, "the older models probably did the same procedure at a maximum of 200 gallons per minute, usually less".

"When pumping, it's so smooth you can't even hear it," Baker said, "If the truck wasn't running, you wouldn't even know it was pumping."

Air-actuated valves are another feature of the new vehicles, according to Baker. In the older model trucks, the operator had to manually open the valves associated with that particular operation and close those valves not needed. When an operator removes a hose from the new vehicle, air pressure causes the related valves, and only the related valves to open.

"These new trucks aren't so much easier, they're more efficient," said Airman 1st Class Jacob Kayl, fuels flight. "I know when I go out in that truck, it's going to do what I need it to do."



Older model trucks

- Manually controlled valves
- Had to reconfigure for defuel
- Sump drained manually
- Lift function removed
- Slower pumping

New trucks

- Air actuated valves
- No reconfiguration necessary
- Automatic sump drainage
- Operating lift function
- Pumps at regulated 750 gpm



NEWS BRIEFS

Spotlight

Awards banquet: The 437th Airlift Wing Annual Awards Banquet is scheduled for Jan. 29, 6 p.m., at the Charleston Club. This year's theme is "Celebrating the American Spirit," and the guest speaker will be former Vietnam prisoner of war, retired Col. Willard Gideon. Valet parking will be available, and donations will be accepted. Tickets are available from first sergeants and cost \$19 for club members and \$22 for non-members.

Induction ceremony: The 2002 Chiefs' Induction Ceremony will be held Feb. 2, 6 p.m., at the Charleston Club. All chief master sergeant selectees for 2002 will be honored. Chiefs and squadron commanders are invited, and spouses are welcome. Attendees may invite as many guests as desired. Cost is \$20 per person. Dress for the evening is mess dress or semi-formal. For more information or to RSVP, call Staff Sgt. Julie Buie at 963-5497.

Around the base

Unity walk: Charleston AFB's African American Heritage Counsel is hosting a Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Walk today, 10 a.m., in the Charleston Club parking lot. A commemorative service will immediately follow at the Base Chapel. For more information, call Master Sgt. James Jarmon at 963-4706 or Senior Master Sgt. Joseph Romeo at 963-2120.

OSA: The Officers' Spouses' Asso-

ciation will play BUNKO Tuesday at the Charleston Club. Social begins at 6 p.m., with game time at 6:30 p.m. Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served. Cost is \$11 for club members and \$14 for non-members. For reservations, last names A-M call 875-2505, and last names N-Z call 207-7379 no later than Sunday.

Hunters: Due to increased security, the hunting program at North Auxiliary Air Field has been suspended until further notice. Individuals who purchased hunting permits for this program are eligible to have their permit fees refunded. For more information, call the 437th Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Office at 963-4976, or visit the office on the first floor of Bldg. 247.

Medical training: Beginning Jan. 28, the 437th Medical Group Family Practice Clinic will initiate a Red Cross Medical Assistant Training Program for family members of active duty and retired personnel. The program is similar to the dental assistant program conducted in the base dental clinic, but will offer training oriented toward a medical practice. In addition to standard medical training, such as recording vital signs and interviewing patients, students will learn to assist during various invasive outpatient procedures. The program will last six months and requires attendance five days per week, eight hours per day. During the course of instruction, students will be CPR certified, receive the hepatitis B vac-

ination series and an HIV screening. Upon graduation, students will be awarded a certificate of completion, an American Red Cross certificate and letters of recommendation. Applications are available now at the Family Practice Clinic. For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Karen Smith or Master Sgt. Noble Lisenbee at 963-6780.

Pay: Airmen who are having pay problems they are unable to solve with local military personnel flights or finance offices can contact the Air Force Personnel Center Contact Center at Randolph AFB, Texas. Customers can e-mail issues to the center at afpc.dpsfm@afpc.randolph.af.mil or call (800) 558-1404 or DSN 665-2949. Operating hours are Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. CST. After hours, a phone message can be left for an agent to follow up the next day.

AFSA: The Air Force Sergeants Association's mission is to advocate improved quality-of-life and economic fairness that will support the well being of Air Force enlisted personnel and their families. Over 155,000 people belong to AFSA. Charleston AFB AFSA holds a meeting the second Tuesday of every month, 4:30 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Everyone is invited to attend the meeting. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Tundra Gatewood at 963-6901.

Pet policy: Military Family Housing residents are required to register their dogs and cats within 10

days of arrival at the Veterinary Treatment Facility. Registration consists of initiating a medical record and verifying vaccination and heartworm disease status. Pets that are not current on vaccinations can receive these services at the Veterinary Treatment Facility. Pet owners are also reminded that base instructions limit the number of dogs and cats in family housing to two animals per family unit. The Veterinary Treatment Facility is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., and is closed on all federal holidays. Animals arriving at the facility need to be on a leash or in a carrier. For a complete list of services provided by the facility, call 963-4264.

TRICARE: The Beneficiary Counseling and Assistance Coordinator is a congressionally mandated initiative, implemented by the TRICARE Management Activity to improve customer service and satisfaction, enhance beneficiary education and help reduce the volume of congressional inquiries from beneficiaries. BCACs act as a preventative mechanism for troubleshooting TRICARE and Military Health System issues and concerns. For more information, contact the 437th Medical Group TRICARE Flight at 963-6710.

TRICARE: The position of Debt Collection Assistance Officer was established at all military treatment facilities worldwide to help customers understand and get assistance with debt collection problems. Anyone receiving a notice from a collection agency or a negative credit report because of a medical or dental bill should contact the 437th Medical Group TRICARE Flight at 963-6710.

Supply: The 437th Supply Squadron Customer Service Center is the point of contact for unit supply needs. The center researches national stock numbers, issues SATS cards and checks the status of particular items. For more information, call 963-4826.

DRMO: The Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office can help meet mission requirements. All Department of Defense organizations can screen free, excess assets at www.drms.dla.mil. For more information, call 963-4826.

Family Support Center

Investing A-Z part 2: Today, 8-11 a.m.

Resume II: Tuesday, 9-10:30 a.m., or 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Homecoming - Making the Transition: Wednesday, 1-2:30 p.m.

Interview Techniques: Thursday, 1-4 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.

Charleston Profile



Photo by Capt. Beth Szucs

Staff Sgt. David Walters**373rd Training Squadron, Detachment 5**

Staff Sgt. David Walters works at the 373rd Training Squadron, Detachment 5, as an aircraft maintenance instructor. He is a former flying crew chief who now teaches servicing and operation of C-17 aircraft systems.

The Dallas native has been at Charleston for 13 years, spending the past three at the detachment. Taking a teaching job allowed him to spend more time with his wife, Cathleen, daughter, Nicole, 14, and son, Micah, 11.

In his free time Walters likes to volunteer, lift weights and hunt.

In July he headed a 10-person church group on a trip to Honduras where they rebuilt a bridge destroyed during Hurricane Mitch.

"It really teaches you to appreciate what you have when you see the people there going to the river every day to wash their clothes," said Walter.

He was awarded the Military Outstanding Volunteer Medal because of that trip and all of his other efforts through his church, 1st Assembly of God.

His other hobby, weightlifting, has led to recognition also. Ten years of training paid off in December when Walters won first place in the Air Education and Training Command power lifting competition at Sheppard AFB, Texas.

He isn't stopping there, though. Walters is back in training for the Air Force championship in May at Little Rock AFB, Ark.

COMMENTARY

About the paper

AIRLIFT
Dispatch

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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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CAFB establishes another deployed squadron

By Col. Karl Young
437 AW vice commander

Team Charleston came together again this past weekend, deploying the command elements to form a second C-17 Expeditionary Aerospace Squadron. We deployed more than 40 people who will be led by Lt. Col. Pete Hirneise, 17th Airlift Squadron commander. We simply added a command element to a previously established stage operation at a deployed location. Everyone worked very hard to get them deployed on time, and it is a strong testament to our procedures and processes to deploy personnel and aircraft anywhere, anytime. A special thanks to everyone for their outstanding support of the war effort.

If you were on the flightline this week, you would have seen a commercial Boeing 767 parked on our ramp. The 315th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron practiced loading patients onto this aircraft as part of an Air Mobility Command 10-day exercise. Several AMC bases were participating in the exercise. The exercise was designed to test our ability to use a reconfigured commercial aircraft as part of the Civil Reserve Air Fleet.

Selected aircraft from U.S. airlines, contractually committed to CRAF, support Department of Defense airlift requirements in emergencies when the need for airlift exceeds the capability of military aircraft. The CRAF has three main segments: international, national and aeromedical evacuation.

The aeromedical evacuation segment assists in the evacuation of casualties from operational theaters to hospitals in the continental United States. These aircraft are also used to return medical supplies and medical crews to the theater of operations. Kits containing litter stanchions, litters and other aeromedical equipment are used to convert civil B-767 passenger aircraft into air ambulances.

We hosted two very important staff assistance visits for the wing. Brig. Gen. James Swanson, AMC's Staff Judge Advocate, Col. Charles Hasskamp, 21st Air Force SJA and two members of their staff spent Tuesday and Wednesday examining the many key base legal programs. The visit went well, and they learned a lot about our outstanding SJA office. They also met with the Area Defense Counsel, toured the Consolidated Charleston Navy Brig and attended a Crisis Action Team meeting.

Likewise, Brig. Gen. Charles Green, Command Surgeon of U.S. Transportation Command and Headquarters Air Mobility Command, and Chief Master Sgt. James O'Brien, Command Surgeon Senior Enlisted representative, visited the base Thursday and today. They spent most of their time meeting with the 437th Medical Group staff, but did get a chance to tour a C-17 and the Gaylor Dining Facility. This marks Gen. Green's first visit to the base as the command surgeon, and as part of his orientation, he is visiting several bases in the command.

We are confident that the Curtin Evaluation Team will choose Team Charleston over Holloman AFB, N.M., for the best CE squadron in the Air Force. The team will spend all day today examining our base facilities. We have a 50-50 chance of winning, but we have better odds

because of the super people who have provided that extra effort to make the base look its best for the evaluation team. See the article on page one. I appreciate all the hard work everyone did in preparing for this important evaluation. I am sure we impressed the team with our efforts.

I want to pass on my thanks to the base civil engineers and the 437th Logistics Group who walked away without a single write-up from a surprise, no-notice hazardous waste inspection by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. The three inspectors visited five hazardous waste accumulation points and the temporary storage disposal facility. They also did a comprehensive review of our permits, manifests and training records, as well as reviewed our facility response and contingency plans. It was phenomenal to do so well, and that is strong proof we are doing our jobs well while also protecting the environment. A special thanks to **Julie Schoen, Dale Cook and Nicole Shope** for their fantastic job. It doesn't get much better than this!

I encourage everyone to attend the Martin Luther King Jr. brunch at the Charleston Club Sunday, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. We have a special performance during brunch by the Jubilee Choir from the Mount Moriah Baptist Church. Everyone is also invited to participate in the MLK Unity Walk Monday, 10 a.m. The walk will begin from the Charleston Club parking lot. A commemorative service will immediately follow the unity walk at the base chapel. I hope to see you there.

Because of the effort to team people from each base more effectively under Aerospace Expeditionary Force cycle 3, there have been many changes to AEF taskings, creating the need to realign individuals from the old to the new AEF taskings. Moving individuals from one AEF to another normally requires MAJCOM/CV approval, but due to the large number of changes this realignment may require, the authority to move individuals to different AEFs has been delegated a single time to the wing commander. We are working very hard to minimize the impact of these changes on our people and can safely state that the overall impact will be minimal. However, in some cases, a few individuals might be required to deploy earlier than they originally anticipated.

Col. **Bob Allardice**, 437th Operations Group commander, announced at staff meeting this week that Lt. Col. **James Barr** will assume command of the 437th Operations Support Squadron. Lt. Col. **John Norton** will move up to become a deputy commander for the 437 OG and Maj. **Tom Griffin** will move into the 437 OSS operations officer position. The moves are expected to occur sometime in April.

If you look beside this column, you'll see a box listing recent award recipients. The list is simply amazing, and it is good proof that our people are doing outstanding things for our Air Force. Congratulations on your achievements.

We will honor our base quarterly award recipients at a luncheon Wednesday at 11 a.m. in the Charleston Club. Please come out and cheer on your respective group members. Close on the heels of this quarterly awards luncheon will be our annual awards banquet Jan. 29 at 6 p.m. in the Charleston Club. I encourage everyone to come out and show their support to these outstanding individuals.

Keep up the good work and keep charging forward.

Team Charleston award winners

2001 AMC Maintenance Effectiveness Award Winner in the Communications-Electronics (Small unit category):
437th Communications Squadron

2001 AMC/FM Comptroller Awards Winners:

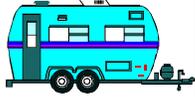
Financial Analysis Civilian of the Year (GS11 & above): Joy Delk
Financial Analysis Civilian of the Year (GS-10 & below): Holly Mehringer
Financial Management NCO of the Year: Staff Sgt. Carolyn Brandt
Financial Management Airman of the Year: Senior Airman Jason Brena
Special Acts & Services Award: 437th Comptroller Squadron Financial Management

2001 Safety Award Winners:

USAF Flight Safety Plaque for Meritorious Achievement in Mishap Prevention
USAF Weapons Safety Plaque for Meritorious Achievement in Mishap Prevention
Aero Club Safety Certificate for Outstanding Flight Safety Accomplishment
AMC Ground Safety NCO (Additional Duty) of the Year: Tech. Sgt. Shea Saul, 437th Maintenance Squadron
AMC Weapons Safety NCO (Additional Duty) of the Year: Staff Sgt. Kevin Swiecicki, 437th Security Forces Squadron
AMC Runner-Up Ground Safety NCO of the Year: Staff Sgt. Bart Craven, 437th Airlift Wing Safety

21st Air Force Winners

2001 Logistics Plans Unit of the Year: 437 AW Logistics Plans
2001 Mackay Trophy: Lt. Col. William Changose, 14th Airlift Squadron; Maj. Donald Himebaugh and crew, 15th Airlift Squadron; Maj. Stan Davis and crew, 15 AS
2001 Daedalian Exceptional Pilot Award: Capt. David McDonald, 14 AS



Off duty--Around town



Sports:

Stingrays: Tonight, 7:30 p.m., vs. Pee Dee. For more information, call 554-6060.

Lowgators: Saturday, 7:30 p.m., vs. Mobile. For more information, call 764-4013 or 416-1162.

Laura Griffin Run/Walk: The annual 5K memorial run/walk to benefit scholarships and a fellowship in Laura Griffin's name is scheduled for Saturday, 8 a.m., at the corner of Meeting Street and Burns Lane. Griffin, former Director of the Office of Substance Abuse Prevention at the College of Charleston and avid believer in healthy lifestyles, died January 22, 1996 as a result of a hit-and-run accident on the Battery. Register at the College of Charleston's Physical Education Center, at any Bi-Lo Grocery store or at www.cofc.edu/lauragriffinrun.

Entertainment:

Open mike night: Sing a song, read a poem, play an instrument or watch and listen tonight, 8 p.m., at Barnes & Noble, 1812 Sam Rittenberg Blvd. The event is free. For more information, call 556-6561.

Comedy: The Have Nots! perform improv comedy Jan. 25 and 26, 8 p.m., at Theatre 99, 30 Cumberland St. Tickets are \$10. For more information, call 853-6687 or go to www.etix.com.

Theater: "Apartment 3A," a comedy by Jeff Daniels, will be performed tonight-Sunday, 8 p.m., at Theatre 99, 30 Cumberland St. Tickets cost \$12. For more information, call 853-6687.

Theater: Footlight Players present "Master Class," Terrence McNalley's

Tony Award-winning play, tonight, Saturday and Jan. 25, 26, 31, Feb. 1 and 2, 8 p.m. There will also be a show Jan. 27 at 3 p.m. Performances take place in the Footlight Players Theatre at 20 Queen St. Call 722-4487 for tickets.

Live music: Sam Bush, with special guest The Biscuit Boys, performs at the Music Farm tonight, 10 p.m. Tickets are \$10. For more information, call 722-8904.

Live music: Ekoostik Hookah, with special guest Doublestack, perform Saturday, 10 p.m., at the Music Farm. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 the day of the show. For more information, call 722-8904.

Events:

Aquarium: To show its appreciation to the community, the aquarium is offering \$1 admission through Jan. 21. The South Carolina Aquarium is located at the foot of Calhoun Street, past East Bay Street. For more information, call 579-8600.

Sensational Saturday: A hands-on family program called Looking at Landscapes with activities including an art lesson, games, stories and refreshments takes place Saturday, 10 a.m.-noon, at Gibbes Museum, 135 Meeting St. Cost is \$1 for member's child; \$3 nonmember's child.

African-American symposium: A two-day symposium, "African-American Arts: Preserving a Cultural Legacy," discussing the culture reflected in the work of African-American artists, writers, and performers is scheduled for Jan. 25 and 26 at Gibbes Museum, 135 Meeting St. Space is limited, and registration is required. Call 722-2706, Ext. 23 for more information.

Listings are published on a space-available basis at the discretion of the editor of the Airlift Dispatch. Events listed are subject to change without notice. To submit an event for Off duty, send a fax with all pertinent information and a call-back number to 963-5604.

FEATURE

CAFB to transfer homes, land to city, state

Story and photos by
Lt. Col. Ed Memi
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston AFB may shrink a little in size because of a planned turnover of approximately 24 acres of land and 22 former base housing homes located off Remount Road to the state of South Carolina and city of North Charleston.

The North Charleston military family housing units were last occupied in September 1997 and were declared as excess when the base received 500 Hunley Park military housing units in 1996

In addition, the cost associated with maintaining such a small housing area geographically separated from the main base was not economically feasible according to 437th Civil Engineer Squadron officials. Cost was a factor in why the old housing area was declared excess in July 1998 under the Stewart B. McKinley Homeless Assistance Act.

The 2002 National Defense Authorization Act, passed by Congress and signed by the President recently, authorized the excess property to be transferred to North Charleston to house homeless or low-income people.

Some portions of land will also be transferred to the South Carolina Department of Transportation to be used for a potential redesign of Interstate 26 entrance and exit ramps at Remount Road.

Sen. Fritz Hollings, D-S.C., was instrumental in getting authorization language added to the NDAA for the property to be transferred. No date for actual transfer of the property has been set.

"We don't actually handle the transfer of the property at the local



The 2002 National Defense Authorization Act allowed property and 22 homes, formerly serving Charleston AFB, to be transferred for use by homeless and low-income families currently living on the former Navy base. The homes were last occupied in September 1997 and were declared as excess shortly after the base received the Hunley Park housing area in 1996. Though the houses may have a rough outer appearance, they were remodeled inside in 1990 and 1991, and are still in "very good shape," according to Debbie Skovinski, assistant base housing officer.

level," said Cindy Hughes, real property officer in the 437 CES. "It is something that the Air Staff will work with the GSA or the Army Corps of Engineers to transfer it. Right now, we're so new into the process that we don't even have a timeline for the transfer."

The old housing area has street names like Vector and Radar, dating from its heritage when an

Air Defense Command radar control squadron was located adjacent to the housing area. Many of the structures from the old radar squadron are still located next to this property.

Of the 22 homes, five homes had 1,433 square feet with a 345 square foot carport, fifteen houses had 1,265 square feet with a

353 square foot carport, one home had 1,445 square feet with a 346 square foot carport and one had 1,545 square feet with a 345 square foot carport. Besides the 22 homes, the land includes a small park and some wooded areas. The playground equipment had been removed a long time ago and was relocated elsewhere.

The base has been maintaining the property by cutting the grass, and personnel boarded up the homes to prevent damage to the units from vandals since the area is not secured.

Most of the infrastructure in the area such as utilities, gas lines and sewer lines would need replacement to bring the homes up to current standards.

"We had to board the homes because of the liability of the community not being gated," Hughes said.

Hughes said the homes were built in 1960 and were at one time a part of North Charleston AFB, which later became the Charleston Naval Annex.

"The homes were used to house the people from the radar site at one time," Hughes said. "We temporarily used the area to house people from the main base too after the radar unit left in the 1980s."

Debbie Skovinski, assistant base

housing officer, said most of the detached homes were three bedroom units. The last renovations to the homes were in 1990 and 1991, and included interior renovations such as new kitchen cabinets and appliances. These were not whole house renovations like in Hunley Park.

"Internally, almost all of the homes are in very good shape," Skovinski said. "One or two of the homes have been used by local law enforcement for training purposes. There may be some minor damage to the homes from that training."

The housing was used for junior enlisted members.

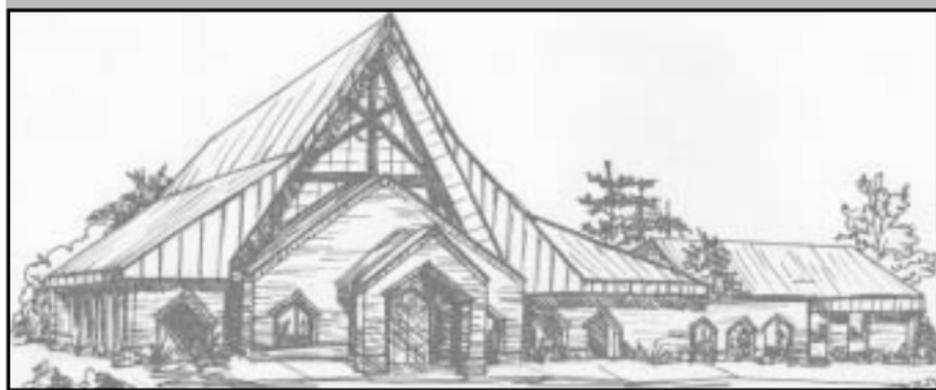
"Some people wanted to live out here and some people didn't," said Skovinski. "Most of the homes featured larger yards, all of them were single units, and that was a big selling point. They liked them because they did not have to be on the main base and they were a little bit larger than the duplexes on the base. People could come and go as they wanted, and of course, the old radar club was a popular place for people, and it was within walking distance."

Once the property is transferred, the base will have no land left from the old North Charleston AFB. The Navy now owns the old radar club and the rest of the remaining property.



Cindy Hughes, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron real property officer (left) and Debbie Skovinski, assistant base housing officer, stand in front of one of the 22 former base homes slated to be transferred to North Charleston.

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.

Friday, 7:30 p.m.

"Not Another Teen Movie" – Chyler Leigh

In this parody of teen movies, at John Hughes High things perk up at the year-end prom. Jake, the all-American football star, makes a foolish bet to turn Janey, the school outcast, into a prom queen. **(R) 88 minutes**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 25, 7:30 p.m.

"Behind Enemy Lines" – Gene Hackman

A Navy pilot is shot down over enemy territory and struggles to survive the pursuit of a ruthless secret police enforcer, a deadly tracker and hostile troops. With time running out, the injured pilot's commander goes against orders to carry out a desperate rescue mission. **(PG-13) 106 minutes**

Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m.

"Ocean's Eleven" – George Clooney

Dapper Danny Ocean is a man of action. Less than 24 hours into his parole from a New Jersey penitentiary, he rolls out his next plan. Following three rules – don't hurt anybody, don't steal from anyone who doesn't deserve it and play the game like you've got nothing to lose – he orchestrates the most elaborate casino heist in history. **(PG-13) 116 minutes**

Fitness & Sports

Ingold wins another Swami Cup, ponders retirement

Walker, Fuqua, 'Triple H' win final three weeks of Swami action; Anderson finishes season in No. 2 spot

By The Swami
Pigskin prognosticator

Dennis "Aldo the Greek" Ingold earned the honor of being named the Swami Cup champion for the second consecutive year.

Ingold beat out runner-up Travis Anderson who could not make the last minute comeback. Ingold was in the driver's seat almost all year. Although he never won a week, he maintained consistency throughout the season.

The last three weeks juggled the Swami's top 10 list, with a few people who were in the top 10 dropping off the charts. The Swami was the only one who moved up the list, finishing fourth. The biggest drop happened to the Lovegod, who went from fourth to twelfth. The Swami's fans can see the top 10 list below.

During the holidays, there were three weeks of Swami action. Week 15 went to Todd Walker with a 13-2 record, edging out Anthony Komara by having a better tiebreaker score.

Someone named "Triple H" won week 16, pounding everyone by going 13-2. The Swami thinks something funny went on that week because nobody was even close to "Triple H." The runner-up's record was 9-6.

The final week went to J.J. Fuqua. Fuqua has been a consistent loser all year but finally got



Photo illustration by Tech. Sgt. Brian Jones and Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter

Dennis "Aldo the Greek" Ingold, Swami Cup winner for the second year in a row, considers his weekly picks, with a little help from his Joe Paterno beanle buddy. The Swami used his powers of almost-invisibility to spy on Ingold, not believing what the champ said about Paterno whispering the winning picks into his ear. Though Ingold didn't win a single week, the consistency of his picks made him a true "pigskin prognosticator."

his lucky break, beating the Swami and Anthony Komara by the tiebreaker score. Fuqua was elated and said it was the first time he has ever won anything since winning a potato sack race when he was seven years old.

The Swami sat down with Aldo the Greek last week to talk some football. During this in-depth discussion, the Swami had a few questions for Aldo. The Swami asked him how it felt to win another year.

Aldo replied, "I think the second Swami Cup is even sweeter than the first because it shows that I am the king of all pigskin prognosticators, not merely a one-hit wonder."

The Swami also wanted to know how he made (or guessed) at his

picks.

"A few weeks into the season it becomes apparent which teams are hot and which ones stink out loud," Aldo proclaimed. "I have a mad science as to how I figure this.

"For instance, picking the Rams, Steelers, Bears and 49ers every week resulted in a record of 52-12," he elaborated. "Likewise, going against the sorry Panthers, Lions and Bills netted a record of 42-6. I then factor in home field advantage, who's hot, key injuries and which team needs the game the most.

"Finally, for the close games that could go either way," he continued, "I place my Joe Paterno Beenie Buddy on my shoulder, and when no one is looking, he actually whispers the winners into my ear."

Aldo also added that he is contemplating retirement to afford other Team Charleston members a chance to hoist the Swami Cup.

The Swami contacted Travis Anderson who finished second to find out how it felt to finish as the number two man.

"Second place is the same as losing, so I guess you can consider me a loser like my beloved Cowboys," Anderson grumbled.

Speaking of losers, the worst

picker of the year award goes to Dutch. Dutch took the title of "Chump of the Year" from Speedy by one game. Congratulations! The Swami suggests Dutch try his hand at bowling because he has

"Second place is the same as losing, so I guess you can consider me a loser like my beloved Cowboys."

-Travis Anderson

Swami's Top Ten 2002

1. Aldo the Greek665
2. Travis Anderson658
3. Scott Bartley648
4. Swami637
5. Dale Robinson..... .637
6. Maharishi635
7. Anthony Komara633
8. Triple H631
9. George Thompson629
10. Dave Linqvist629

no clue about football.

This will be the final Swami story until next football season. The Swami is sure everyone is wondering whom the Swami is picking to win the Superbowl. The Swami and Aldo the Greek are picking the Rams over the surprising Patriots.

The Swami would like to thank all his loyal fans for playing: 157 people participated this year. There was only one repeat weekly winner, the Swami, of course. There were no perfect weeks. In addition, The Swami and the Airlift Dispatch send a special thank you to the 437th Services Squadron for their help with the weekly prizes.