



News Release

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

437th AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
102 East Hill Blvd., Rm. 223, Charleston AFB, S.C. 29404-5154
Phone: (843) 963-5608, 5588 or 5589 Fax (843) 963-5604

PAO email: public.affairs@charleston.af.mil
After duty hours, call the base operator or
command post (963-2531) & ask for a PA rep

Date: Sept. 23, 2003
Release No. 09-08

INCIDENT LEADS TO JOINT EFFORT WITH LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

CHARLESTON AIR FORCE BASE, S.C. -- A retired military member was apprehended at approximately 3:45 p.m. today at Midland Parkway in Charleston after a car chase involving Charleston Air Force Base security forces that took place on and off base.

William R. Hancock Jr. was taken into custody by local law enforcement authorities after the chase and subsequent crash with a security forces vehicle. He was transported by ambulance to the Medical University of South Carolina.

Response to the incident was conducted by the 437th Security Forces Squadron and local law enforcement agencies.

Security forces involvement began when a base commissary employee informed a security patrolman of a suspected theft, said Maj. Paul Stang, commander of 437th Security Forces Squadron. The employee gave a description of the individual and his vehicle.

In response to the report, security forces implemented a lookout for the described individual and immediately began inspecting all vehicles exiting the base in an effort to protect all base personnel and resources.

-- MORE --

INCIDENT

2-2-2

The suspect vehicle was identified and security forces intended to stop him when the suspect began to flee and crashed through a gate on Arthur Dr. One security forces vehicle pursued the fleeing vehicle in order to maintain contact until local law enforcement joined the chase. After a short pursuit off-base, the suspect began to head back toward the Air Force base. In order to protect pedestrians and resources in accordance with base security procedures, a security forces vehicle struck the suspect's vehicle in order to stop the chase. The security forces patrolman was not injured, but both vehicles were damaged.

The incident is under investigation.