

Did you know?

During WWII, merchants reminded the public to shop and mail gifts early so troops stationed overseas would get them on time - thus the protracted shopping season was born.

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Charleston AFB, SC

Charleston facts



The Charleston AFB pharmacy filled 137,000 prescriptions in 1998.

Charleston steps up force protection

By Staff Sgt. Pamela Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

Members of the 437th Security Forces Squadron reinforced Charleston AFB's stance on force protection when they finished installing a concrete barrier wall around the flightline perimeter boundary on Dec. 2.

The concrete barricades replaced the rope that used to surround the flightline restricted area.

"The concentric layers of defense around the base will deter terrorist activity and channel bad guys," said Tech. Sgt. William Dunlap, noncommissioned officer in charge of Installation Physical Security.

"Prior to the barrier emplacement, it was easy to penetrate the restricted area through the weak rope barrier," he said. "Now, the concrete barriers limit the areas a terrorist can get at our resources with a troop or munitions-laden vehicle. My commander likes to tie the Force Protection concept to the "Swimmers in shark-infested waters" analogy!! "The slowest swimmer will be

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Staff Sgt. Andrew Rodier

Senior Airman Karly Derosena, 437th Security Forces Squadron, removes the cable from one of the concrete barriers that was placed around the flightline perimeter. The new barriers, which will enhance force protection on the base, took more than a month to place.

Renovated Hunley Park homes reopen to rave reviews

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi
437 AW Public Affairs

For Airman Jose Torres, 437th Supply Squadron, last Friday was entirely different from any he's experienced before.

For the first time in his two-month career, he shook hands and met a two-star and one star general and moved into a newly renovated home in Hunley Park.

Torres and his wife, Bettina, and their daughter cut the ribbon to officially open 74 renovated homes in Hunley Park with Maj. Gen. John D. Hopper Jr., 21st Air Force commander, and Brig. Gen. Robert D. Bishop Jr., 437th Airlift Wing commander, looked on. As one of the homes newest residents, Torres and his family moved into one of 32 homes currently occupied, with the remaining ones to be filled shortly.

"They're very spacious," said Torres of the new 3-bedroom home. "Everything is very clean. It's like moving into a brand new home. This is our first time ever living away from Texas."

His wife said they both come from large families and they really like the kitchen and all the room. "I'm just an airmen and this home helps me out a lot. It's a very nice house with a carport, two bathrooms, and we have a park right

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Congressional staffers get first look at Team Charleston

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi
437 AW Public Affairs

Team Charleston hosts 12 congressional chiefs of staff and the Air Mobility Command Vice Ccommander, Lt. Gen. Walter Hogle, during a C-17 orientation flight and base visit today.

The congressional chiefs of staffs represent congressmen who serve on several powerful committees and sub-committees such as appropriations, armed services, military construction, personnel, veterans affairs, and military readiness that consider projects important to the command's mission.

The chiefs of staffs represent congressmen and senators from Alabama, California, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, North Carolina and Virginia.

The staffers will be flown on a C-17 from Andrews AFB, Md., with a refueling training mission on the way to Charleston. They will then be flown to North Auxiliary Airfield and observe a High Altitude Low Opening airdrop of six combat controllers, followed by a Container Delivery System drop. Then the staffers will be off-loaded

to watch a C-17 capabilities demonstration.

"The whole point of the visit is to learn about AMC by showing them a typical direct delivery sortie where the aircraft takes off from one location with beans, bullets or troops," said Maj. Kermit Getz, project officer for the staffers visit from the 15th Airlift Squadron. "We can haul everything to the final destination without a lot of outside support."

He added that aircrews would get a lot of valuable training while demonstrating the unique capabilities of the C-17. "We'll demonstrate how quickly we can combat off-load 6 pallets of cargo in about 10 minutes. The C-17 can offload without outside support and we have long range capabilities through air refueling that don't require us to stop."

Several Team Charleston members will join the staffers for lunch in the Charleston Club followed by an Air Mobility 101 briefing by the AMC vice commander. Staffers will also get a walking tour of a C-17 flying squadron followed by a briefing on Air Mobility's role in the world today by Brig. Gen. Rod Bishop Jr., 437th Airlift Wing

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Senior Airman Corey Clements

Senior Airman Lynn Scholl (right), 437th Supply Squadron, discusses the floor plans of a renovated three-bedroom Hunley Park home with Airman Jose Torres and Torres' wife, Bettina, during the reception following the ribbon-cutting ceremony.