

# Charleston AFB ranks high except on NCO promotions

By Brig. Gen. Robert D. Bishop, Jr.  
437 AW commander

On the day that I am writing this article, the wing has just received an outbrief from the Department of Defense Vulnerability Assessment Team. Although the team gave us lots to work on, they were also quick to praise many of the good programs in security awareness that we already have in place. Given the many kudos and strengths that the team highlighted, we were told we rank at the top of the list of DoD installations in security forces programs.

That's one list and here are a few others where Charleston ranks at or near the top:

- The list of bases that Air Mobility Command turns to execute fall-out funding. They know we're ready!
- The list of bases with the best Y2K programs.
- The list of bases that takes care of its people. (For example, notice how quickly you were repaid if you evacuated for Hurricane Floyd.)
- The very short list of bases that have won the Secretary of Defense and Air Force Chief of Staff Team Excellence awards, two years in a row.
- The list of bases the Tanker Airlift Control Center turns to when they have a tough mission that they know needs to get done.
- The list of the lead wings for Air Mobility Command.
- The list of bases with the best Services and Comptroller Squadrons in the Air Force.
- The list of bases with a maintenance squadron, 437<sup>th</sup> Equipment Maintenance Squadron, that received the Air Force Maintenance Effectiveness Award.
- The list of bases with the most officers selected to become squadron commander candidates.
- The list of bases with highest officer promotion rates.
- The list of bases that has the greatest number of people

who have accomplished their annual cycle ergometry test.

■ The list of bases with the highest number of Anthrax shots accomplished to date.

I could go on and on, but you get the point. Unfortunately though, there's one list that you won't find Team Charleston appearing on – the list of bases with the highest promotion rates to staff sergeant. Now, there may be many reasons why this is so. Our operations tempo has been high and deployments have been up.

Having spent nearly seven months on the road myself, I know it is extremely difficult to get things done when on the road. With that said, all of us know our NCO corps is the backbone of the Air Force as we so often hear. We must give our assistance to ensure these fine airmen are appropriately recognized by an increase in rank for the service and dedication they give to their country.

I ask all commanders, chiefs and supervisors to join me in bringing the focus in this wing to raising the percentage of NCO promotees. We have set a goal for every NCO promotion rate at Charleston to be ten percentage points higher than either the command or Air Force average, whichever is higher.

Help us reach that goal by emphasizing studying (the key to success here) at commander's calls and by ensuring your people have the time to study, and know their individual responsibilities when it comes to studying and testing for promotion. Command Chief Master Sergeant Kevin Bruch is currently working with the Air Force Personnel Center for a promotion brief emphasizing how much control the individual has over their promotion. The briefing will be available for commanders and supervisors.

Help me make FY 2000 the year with the best-enlisted promotion rates in the history of Charleston Air Force Base! I am sure we all want to see our base on that list!

## Combined Federal Campaign continues

By Maj. Paul LaVigne  
1999 CFC Project Officer

Many base newspaper readers are aware of the current Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) and know that it's a way to help people right here where we live, work and raise our families.

Last year, due to your generosity, a significant amount was donated to the Youth Center right here on base! The needs of this year's campaign are no different than those of the past. Your selfless donations, no matter how large, make it possible for charities to help those in need.

You can make a difference! Through easy, convenient, monthly payroll deduction, \$12 a month provides a month of after-school child care for one school-age child; \$16 a month delivers two months of free meals to a homebound senior; and \$20 a month provides a day of

emergency shelter and counseling for five children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse, neglect, or violence.

These are just a few examples of what happens to your donations. Every bit helps!

Some of the many organizations that have spoken on base recently have been: the American Cancer Society, Crisis Ministries, Hospice of Charleston, Ronald McDonald House, Boy Scouts, Charleston Speech and Hearing, My Sister's House, Alzheimer's Association, and MUSC Children's Hospital. There are also various nationwide and international organizations that need your help.

Please take a moment and consider donating to a charity of your choice. The reward you receive is a sense of satisfaction knowing that you have made a difference in someone's life.

For all who have helped, I offer my sincerest thanks.

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## Action Line



Charlie Wall

Brig. Gen. Robert D. Bishop Jr., 437 AW commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Bruch, 437 AW command chief master sergeant, make their contributions to the Combined Federal Campaign as Maj. Paul LaVigne, CFC project officer, looks on.

The Commander's Action line is your direct link to me. It's your opportunity to make Charleston Air Force Base a better place to live, work and play. First give the appropriate base agency a chance to solve the problem, but if you don't get a satisfactory answer, call me at 963-5581 or send an e-mail to [action@charleston.af.mil](mailto:action@charleston.af.mil)

### Dogs Running Free

I want to know the status of dogs on base. What is the policy for the base concerning dogs running free in housing.

I have found feces in my yard and I don't have a dog. I have children and don't want them exposed to this while playing in the yard. I have also seen dogs running free in a federal facility (Outdoor Recreation). What is the policy on this?

Pets in the housing area will be leashed, chained or in a fencedX area when outside. Owners must ensure cleanliness of their pet's area to control and prevent vermin infestation. Feces will be picked up daily. If you walk your pet on common areas, you are responsible to pick up feces immediately after deposit. Children play in these areas. Do not let your pet become a neighborhood nuisance because of excessive barking and invading the privacy of others.

Stray pets should be reported to the North Charleston Police Animal Control Dispatcher at 554-5700. If they cannot respond, call Security Police at 963-3600.

Here are some commonly used phone numbers:

Security Forces .....	963-3600
Base Exchange.....	552-5000
Commissary.....	963-5695
Housing Office.....	963-3860
Medical Group Information .....	963-6700
Family Support Center .....	963-4406

## Airlift DISPATCH

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