

# AIRLIFT Dispatch

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437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, April 7, 2000

## Dorchester Gate to close for sewer line repairs

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi  
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston commuters can expect traffic delays on Dorchester Road when Charleston AFB will close one of the two base access gates on Dorchester Road, beginning Monday, for repairs to a sewer line.

The gate will close to all incoming and outgoing traffic between 9 and 9:30 a.m. Monday when construction should begin.

The Dorchester Gate will be closed for approximately two to three weeks. During that period, the gate located next to the base commissary will remain open. Visitors can use the Commissary or Rivers gates.

437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron members will operate the visitor control center out of a tent at the base commissary gate and contractor passes will be distributed from Bldg. 254, Pass and Registration section. The SFS is working with local law enforcement officials to ease expected congestion on Dorchester Road and at the Commissary gate.

"Traffic will be backed up entering and leaving from the Commissary gate. You just can't shove four lanes of traffic into two lanes and not feel a significant impact," said Maj. Matt Eatman, 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron commander. "Consideration should be given to staggering work hours for folks to alleviate this traffic."

The repair work will consist of replacing an 8-inch clay sanitary sewer main and steel casing with a new 10-

inch, poly-lined ductile iron pipe and couplings. To replace the line, a contractor may have to dig a 70-foot-long by 20-foot-deep trench along Hill Blvd., closing the road by the Dorchester Gate. The trench will also be about 20 feet wide at the end of the street. The crosswalk at the intersection of Hill and O'Neal will remain unaffected by the construction work.

The Summerville-based contractor will have to dig out the old pipe because previous attempts to repair the pipe in January had failed. "The previous contractor was attempting to do what we call pipe bursting and tried to break up the old line and replace it with a larger pipe by pulling new larger pipe through the existing old pipe. It didn't work, so now we have to dig up the pipe using a large trench, which will force us to close the road," said Ron Wiggins, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineering Squadron infrastructure superintendent. "We won't make final decisions with the contractor on the best way to repair the line until they dig around it and we examine the line."

"It's possible the repair could be shorter, but we won't know for sure until we start digging. In the worst case scenario, the road won't be closed for more than three weeks," Wiggins said. He stressed that base members should make plans to use the other gates during this period.

The sewer line provides service for homes along Lawson road and the

see Closure, page 3



Staff Sgt. Pamela Smith

### Making preparations

Paul Thorsten, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron, prepares a chiller unit prior to installing chill water lines behind the base theater. The chill water lines are part of a new air conditioning unit that's been installed in the theater. The new air conditioning should be fully operational by the end of April.

## 2000 Census important for service members, families

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi  
437 AW Public Affairs

The deadline for base military members to complete the Census 2000 questionnaires has come and gone, but base members on leave or TDY have until May 1<sup>st</sup> to complete the questionnaire.

Military members were required to complete two census questionnaires, one from their personal residence and another from their workplace. For those not TDY or on leave, the workplace forms were turned in Thursday. For those members on TDY or leave past May 1, their respective unit or supervisor will



complete the form.

"We've had a lot of calls from people asking why do they have to complete the census form if they have done so already at their off-base residence," said Capt. Rick Erredge, base Census 2000 project officer and chief of customer support in the Military Personnel Flight. "The

bottom line answer is that they have to complete the form again since the census folks want to be sure that all military members complete the forms. Distributing the form to everyone on base in their workplace is the only way to guarantee that everyone will be counted."

Armed forces personnel living in con-

see Census, page 2

## Power outage to affect Hunley Park

There will be a power outage Monday from 1-5 p.m.

All residents of newly renovated homes in Hunley Park Phase I will be affected (Michigan, Mississippi, New York and South Carolina Avenues).

If power is not restored by 5 p.m. Monday, call Ann Manross at 552-1171 or Robert Murphy at 963-4974.