

JUSTICE FILES

Misuse of government credit card, e-mail means trouble

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(Editor's note: The 437th Judge Advocate Office reported the following actions for November-December 1999).

Courts-martial

There were no courts-martial in the months of November and December 1999.

Article 15 actions

A senior airman misused his Nations Bank Government Visa Charge Card by making three miscellaneous cash advances totaling \$504.50. He was also 60 days delinquent in paying the balance of his card.

His punishment was reduction to the airman first class and a reprimand.

An airman first class failed to obey a written order from his commander to avoid any type of contact with a civilian wife of another member of his squadron (he had received numerous oral orders prior to the written order to cease contact). The individual continued to have contact with the woman via e-mail and written correspondences.

His punishment was reduction to airman basic, 14 days restriction to Charleston Air Force Base and 14 days extra duty.

An airman first class made a false official statement to her first sergeant concerning her hurricane evacuation plans. The individual later filed a false claim for mileage and lodging costs during the hurricane evacuation.

Her punishment was suspended reduction to airman basic, 45 days extra duty and a reprimand.

Two airmen first class wrongfully viewed and transmitted offensive materials using their government e-mail accounts and computers. In addition, one of the individuals viewed and printed a large amount of offen-

sive material to his superintendent's printer.

Their punishment was suspended reduction to airman, 45 days extra duty and a reprimand.

An airman first class wrote six bad checks to AAFES totaling \$224.

Punishment was suspended reduction to airman and 14 days extra duty.

An airman first class misused his Nations Bank Government Visa Charge Card by making four cash advances totaling \$503.90.

The airman's punishment was suspended reduction to airman and 14 days extra duty.

An airman first class failed to report to his first sergeant's office on two consecutive occasions. The individual also failed to vacate his military family housing unit after being directed to do so.

His punishment was suspended reduction to airman, 30 days restriction to base and 45 days extra duty.

An airman first class failed to report to duty on time on three separate occasions. He had a history of failing to report to duty on time.

Punishment was reduction to airman and 30 days extra duty.

An airman first class disobeyed an order not to drive a motor vehicle on Charleston AFB. He was caught driving on base five days after receiving the written order.

The airman's punishment was suspended reduction to airman, 30 days restriction to base and 30 days extra duty.

An airman first class had an acquaintance sign a blank check for him so that he could retrieve his vehicle from an auto dealership. The dealership would not accept the check

unless the individual who wrote the check was present. The airman then had his acquaintance go to the dealership and write a new check for the amount with the idea/plan that after the accused retrieved his vehicle from the dealership, his acquaintance would then cancel the check. The airman knew the acquaintance did not have sufficient funds in her account to cover the check.

The airman then used the first blank check to pay for his car insurance, instead of giving the check back to his acquaintance. The airman repaid her for the amount of the first check, and after doing so, he made harassing and threatening phone calls to her.

His punishment was suspended reduction to airman, 14 days restriction to base and 14 days extra duty.

An airman first class wrongfully viewed and transmitted obscene and offensive material using his government e-mail account and computer.

For that, he received suspended reduction to airman basic, 30-day restriction to base and a reprimand.

Vacation actions

An airman first class received an Article 15 for failing to report to duty on time. His punishment was a suspended reduction to the grade of airman. His suspended reduction was later vacated for again failing to report to duty.

An airman first class received an Article 15 for wrongfully viewing, downloading, and transmitting a large amount of obscene and offensive material on a government computer. His punishment was a suspended reduction to airman, which was later vacated for failing to report to duty

and for downloading and viewing explicit material from the internet on a government computer while he was serving his extra duty from the original Article 15 punishment.

Administrative discharges

An airman basic was discharged for drug abuse. He was court-martialed for use of LSD. As the court-martial did not impose a bad-conduct discharge, he was separated administratively with a general discharge.

An airman was separated for failure in the Weight and Body Fat Management Program. The individual was separated with an honorable discharge.

An airman first class was discharged for unsatisfactory duty performance. He received two traffic tickets for operating an uninsured vehicle. Additionally, he had numerous financial problems, and failed to show to a number of appointments and a commander's call.

The individual also received an Article 15 for misuse of his Nations Bank Visa Government Charge Card in the amount of \$1,007.67. He was separated with a general discharge.

An airman first class was separated with an entry-level (i.e. first 180 days of Air Force service) separation for homosexual conduct.

An airman first class was separated for unsatisfactory performance. He received four letters of counseling for reporting late to duty, sleeping on duty, for writing a check for \$450.00 to AAFES without having sufficient funds to cover the check and for reporting to duty 45 minutes late. The individual also received six letters of reprimand for various offenses. He was separated with a general discharge.

A senior airman was separated for failure in the Weight and Body Fat Management Program. He was separated with an honorable discharge.



Y2K

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"Everything worked just fine. At midnight, we sent a team out to a C-17 aircraft and they ran every test and verified everything rolled over okay and worked well. We didn't check out the C-141s since McGuire AFB had been tasked by the command to check them out," Kaan said. He added the command tasked the various bases to evaluate different weapons systems.

As soon as the date rollover occurred at Guam, YAT members closely followed the information that was posted on the Air Force Fusion Center web site at Gunter Annex, Maxwell AFB, Ala. "Whenever they posted a problem, we would look at it here and see if we had a similar problem," Kaan said. "Our minor problems were also posted on their web site."

Air Mobility Command gave the base special funds to renovate or make preparations for Y2K. "We received money to renovate or make contin-

gencies that totaled about \$1.1 million. We estimate that we purchased a minimum of about 200 computers, estimated at about \$1,500 a piece and that brings the total up to almost \$1.4 million, and that doesn't include the manpower costs," said 2nd Lt. Adam Wright, 437th Communications Squadron Support Flight commander and the Y2K coordinator.

"In spending the money in preparing for Y2K, there is a good news story in that we able to replace much needed systems," Kaan said. "In the past, we had trouble getting money for these systems since they were not ranked high enough on the priority list to get funded. "We got a new giant voice system on base which is basically a basewide Public Address system that allows us to make announcements in preparation of a hurricane or when the flightline heat index rises to an unsafe level."

The base also replaced an aging land mobile radio system, which now allows a more reliable backup capability to base communications systems should they ever fail. "The benefit of the Y2K upgrades is that we now have more capable sys-

tems for future use," Kaan said.

"We basically got spun up around January 1998 when the Tiger team was formed in its early state," Wright said.

The base checked more than 40,000 items to be Y2K compliant prior to the actual rollover date. Items included computers, fire panel control systems, and anything that uses a microchip. "Older systems such as fire alarm panels don't rely on dates to do their job properly, but we had to test them ahead of time to be sure," Wright added.

The base assigned 33 people whose primary focus was to work issues related to Y2K.

"The men and women assigned as Y2K project personnel and Team Charleston as a whole have performed superbly over the past year in preparation for Y2K events," Kaan said. "I greatly appreciate their dedication to the task and positive attitude during the meetings, preparations, exercises, and actual rollover events. We have one more event to watch carefully on the leap year rollover but you can certainly take credit for a successful start to the new millennium."