

DISPATCH



AIRLIFT

Inside

- ▶ Virus/ 3
- ▶ Critical Days/ 5
- ▶ Holiday/ 11
- ▶ New ball park/ 17

Vol. 39, No. 21

437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, June 2, 2000

Leadership changes in 437th Operations Group

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi
437 AW Public Affairs

Members of Team Charleston welcomed Col. Robert R. Allardice as he assumed command of the 437th Operations Group from Col. Ronald Richardson in a flightline ceremony May 26 in the C-17 Nosedock.

Allardice commands one of the busiest groups in the Air Force with responsibility for scheduling and flying the base's fleet of 40 C-17s and 9 C-141s. The group has been at the forefront of numerous contingencies from Operation Just Cause in Panama to restoring freedom in Kuwait in Operation Desert Shield and Storm. The group has also been involved with operations in Haiti, Rwanda, Somalia and saw expanded use of the C-17 during Allied Force, that successfully ended Serbian aggression.

Col. Rusty Findley II, 437th Airlift Wing commander presided over the change of command ceremony, which he described as a day of reflection, thanks and a melancholy day. "A day of reflection because of all the great things Ron and Kit Richardson have done for this wing. A day of thanks for bringing us Bob and Susan Allardice to continue in his (Richardson) great steps. A melancholy day because its always tough to say goodbye, but it always nice to say hello to new folks."

Findley talked about an acronym that he learned from retired Lt. Gen. John Sams and its significance to the

"One of the most important elements of teamwork is trust. Trust is the glue that binds us together."

-Col. Robert Allardice
Commander, 437th Operations Group

wing when commenting about some F-16s that landed during the ceremony. "What you see in front of you are two great airplanes (C-141 and C-17) that embodies what 'TFWU' means. It means Try Fighting Without Us. You've done a magnificent job in making that statement become true in its very essence and you have delivered each and every time."

Born in North Hollywood, Calif., Allardice has experience in the C-141 and C-5 aircraft and most recently served as the chief of the Expeditionary Air Force Implementation at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. "To a military officer, there is no greater honor, no greater challenge, no greater responsibility than command," he said.

Allardice graduated from the Air Force Academy in May 1980 and following pilot training, flew the C-141B with the 60th Military Airlift Wing at Travis AFB, Calif.

His subsequent assignments included tours as a C-141B and C-5 airlift instructor and flight examiner. He served in the Pentagon as an Air Staff Training officer and at Headquarters, United States European see **Commander**, page 3



Helping hands

Senior Airman Gordon Criswell (center), Staff Sgt. "Mudge" Tamietti (right) and Senior Airman Scott Eilrich of the 437th Aerial Port Squadron replace a suspension sling on an aerial delivery platform.

Staff Sgt. Michael Dube

Never forget: Holocaust survivors speak on base

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi
437 AW Public Affairs

To witness unspeakable cruelty, starvation, severe cold, disease and numerous other injustices and to prevent it from ever happening again is part of the message by two Nazi concentration camp survivors who spoke with base members during a Holocaust commemoration service Wednesday in the chapel.

Pincus Kolender and Joe Engel were just teenagers when they were sent to Auschwitz in "cattle cars" in 1943 and 1942 respectively until they were liberated by American and Russian forces in 1945. They along with several chaplains and two base airmen asked the audience to imagine the circumstances under which 6 million Jews were systematically tortured and killed.

The ceremony included a portion where seven candles were lit for the six million Jews killed and a seventh candle for the others. Susanna Sonnenberg played the viola, choosing a Jewish composer to help remember those killed. The ceremony also include several readings about the Holocaust by Capt. Robert Sonnenberg, 437th Staff Judge Advocate Office and Airman 1st Class David Winner, 437th Communications Squadron, Chaplain (Capt.) Avrohom Horovitz from Fort Stewart, Ga., gave the invocation. Besides Engel and Kolender, three other holocaust survivors were present for the service.

Joe Engel grew up under Nazi oppression in Poland. In 1942, at the age of 15, he was ripped from his family and sent to Auschwitz. Engel is one of three who survived out of his family of 19.

see **Holocaust**, page 2

CAFB to host Town Hall Meeting Tuesday

A town hall meeting is scheduled for Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Charleston Club main ballroom.

Issues to be discussed include family housing, future and on-going construction projects, safety on base, family support, a base crime update and more. Free child care will be available for children two years old and above. Door prizes will include gift certificates, movie passes, Commissary gifts, dinner passes and more.

An organizational fair preceding the town hall meeting begins at 6 p.m. It will include representatives from AAFES, Tricare, the Education Office, the South Carolina Aquarium, the Post and Courier, Heritage Trust Federal Credit Union, McGruff the Crime Dog and more. All members of the base are invited to attend.