

CAFB to receive newest version of C-17 Thursday

Block 12 changes bring new systems, software modifications, extended-range fuel tanks

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston AFB is scheduled to receive its newest C-17 Thursday, 5 p.m., with a brief ceremony at the Nosedock.

This newest aircraft, production model P-75, is a Block 12 version of the aircraft, with new, state-of-the-art technology, according to Maj. Paul Dorcey, a pilot with the 14th Airlift Squadron.

"I think the major (changes) are the software upgrade, which is going to give some additional functionality, particularly for the airdrop and the low level missions," said Dorcey.

"The Global Air Traffic Management, GATM, that's pretty big," Dorcey continued. "What's happening is that airspace around the world is becoming congested; air travel is becoming more popular. So what they're trying to do is fit more airplanes into the same amount of airspace."

According to Dorcey, this is a major

factor in transoceanic crossings, where both civilian and military aircraft want to use the same optimal routes for speed and fuel economy.

"In order for everybody to be there you have to have more precise navigation, communication and surveillance," said Dorcey. "ATC (air traffic control) has to have a better idea of where you are. It's just tighter tolerances all the way around. This Global Air Traffic Management upgrade is going to ensure we're not excluded from that airspace and that we can continue to fulfill our worldwide mission."

Dorcey explained that older-model C-17s won't be excluded from the system, as retrofitting of the GATM system is planned.

Extended range fuel tanks are the third big change, according to Dorcey.

"These are internal tanks, unlike some airplanes where they hang them from the wings externally, the C-130 for example," Dorcey said.

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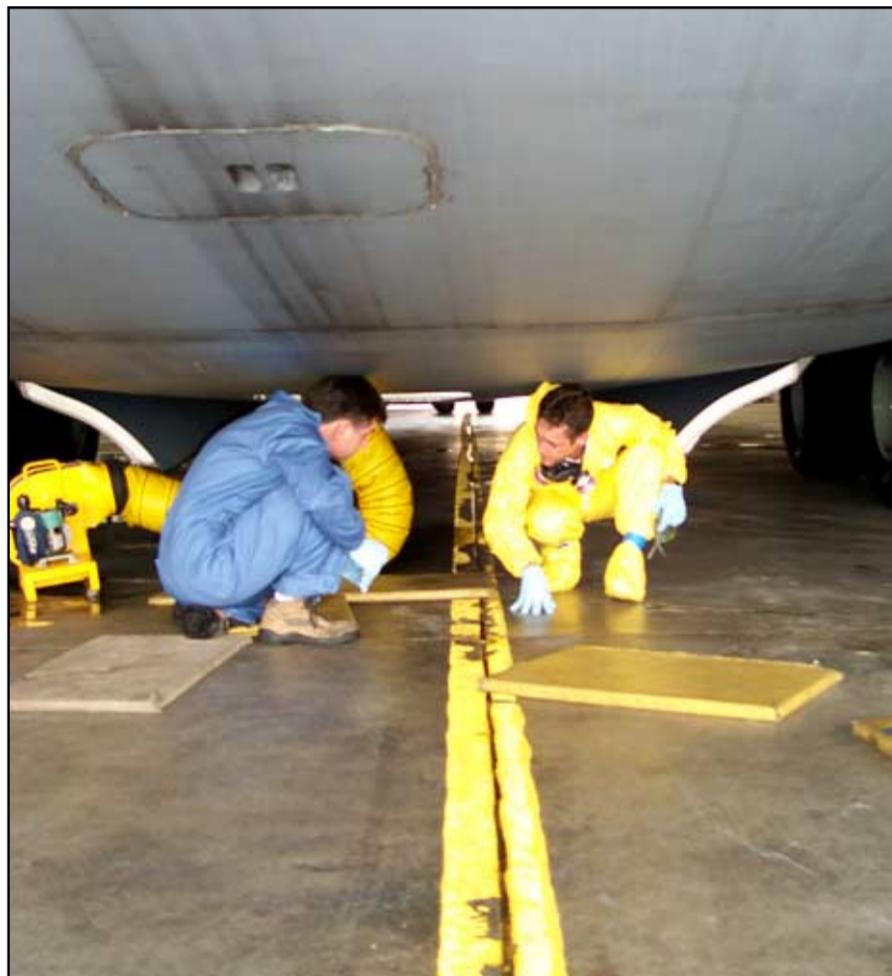


Photo by Master Sgt. Dan Murphy

Gettin' down

Charles Strowd (left), Boeing Recovery and Modification Services, looks on as Paul Adam, also Boeing RAMS, dons protective gear and prepares to enter the underbelly of a C-17 to inspect the aircraft for contaminants.

SGLI benefits to expand coverage: Members may pay to enroll spouses for up to \$100K, dependent children insured without charge

By Senior Airman Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston AFB members with families may notice a few less dollars in their paychecks starting Nov. 1.

The Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance will be extended to provide coverage to family members at a premium, according to an AFPN news release.

The maximum \$100,000 coverage will be automatically applied to members' spouses as long as the member has at

least \$100,000 coverage. Any lesser amount requested must be divisible by \$10,000, said Maj. Jeffrey Keef, chief of Air Force military estate and special pays policy, in the release. Children will be covered automatically for \$10,000, and no premium will be charged.

The premium rate for spouse coverage will be charged based on the spouse's age. The price will range from 9-55 cents per \$1,000 of coverage. For example, \$100,000 of coverage on a spouse less than 35 years old would be \$9 per month, according to the release. On the more expensive side of the scale, spouse coverage could cost as much as \$55 per month.

Since enrollment in the new SGLI is automatic, those not wanting the extra coverage must decline it in writing.

According to 437th Mission Support Squadron Military Personnel Flight officials, CAFB is waiting for exact guidance on the format needed to decline the coverage. Officials say they will release more information as it becomes available.

The new coverage has supporters and disapprovers. Senior Airman Renee Musselman, 437th Logistics Support Squadron, said her husband already has insurance, and they're happy with his current coverage.

"My husband actually has two policies already," said

Musselman. "We don't need any more. I shouldn't have to go out of my way to say 'no.' It's very inconvenient."

The reason members have to fill out a form to deny the coverage is due to a mandate by Congress. According to 437 MSS MPF officials, when it was mandatory to fill out paperwork to make changes, some military members died before they were able to increase their coverage, and family members suffered financially. In response to complaints from surviving family members, Congress mandated that future increase in coverage be automatic.

MPF has confirmed the coverage will definitely be effective on Nov. 1, but they are not positive that CAFB

member's November Leave and Earnings Statements will show the deduction.

Should a spouse or child die, benefits will be paid to the insuring member, according to the release. If the military member passes away before payment can be paid, the amount will be sent to the people named as the member's beneficiaries.

"The Air Force sees this as a good deal for its members," said Keef in the release. "By allowing members who have elected coverage only under SGLI to opt for family member coverage, we are putting them on equal ground with civilians who might obtain family coverage as a rider to their master civilian life insurance policies."

For more information, call Master Sgt. Ronnie Cullum, 437 MSS MPF, at 963-4545.

IN THE NEWS

Threats to the nation's resources can come at any time, day or night. Those who protect these resources have to be prepared to face anything, anywhere, no matter the hour. That's why the men and women of the 437 SFS Arming Group A are taking ...

A shot in the dark

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter
437 AW Public Affairs

Members of the 437th Security Forces Squadron assigned to Arming Group A recently participated in the Specialty Rifle Course, firing weapons while wearing a gas mask and in low-light conditions.

Staff Sgt. Barbara Gilmore, 437SFS combat arms instructor, said the course allows security forces to become accustomed to firing in difficult situations.

"During the day portion of the course, members fire with their gas masks on," Gilmore said. "During the night phase, they practice low-light firing and firing three round bursts, so they know what they're capable of in adverse situations."

In addition to firing with gas masks on and in very little light, 437 SFS members have a chance to become pro-

ficient in firing with night vision goggles, according to Gilmore.

In conjunction with the NVGs, security forces personnel use an infrared laser aiming system called PAC-4. To use the laser, a button at-

tached to the hand guards is pressed. The light beam can only be seen with the NVGs.

SRC is a 200 round course consisting of six phases, according to Master Sgt. Richard Graves, 437SFS superintendent of training and re-

sources. The phases include daytime rapid fire, gas mask, nighttime fire, nighttime rapid fire and NVG familiarization.

To qualify during the daytime rapid fire and gas mask phases, personnel must en-

gage five out of six silhouettes, Graves said. For nighttime fire and rapid fire, course participants must engage a green silhouette with at least 50 percent of the shots they fire. Because the NVG phase is strictly for familiarization, SRC students fire 10 rounds with no qualification standard.

The combat arms instructors teach about 10 classes of 20 people during the training window, according to Gilmore.

"Sometimes, of course, the classes aren't full, but other times, like tonight, we have 23 people," said Gilmore.

437 SFS members complete the training once a year, usually between July and December, said Gilmore. It is difficult to ensure everyone gets the training, with deployments and TDYs, but Gilmore said typically everyone completes it on time.

"It's good that we have a six-month time frame to complete the training, because deployments are three months, so we can generally catch everyone," Gilmore said. "We do sometimes have a last minute class in December, but most of the training is completed between July and September."



Senior Airman Jimmy Blevins uses night vision goggles and a special infrared-laser sighting system during the nighttime portion of the Specialty Rifle Course. Blevins used the time to practice for his upcoming trip to train for the Air Mobility Command Defender Challenge team.

Airman gets out, goes Reserve, comes back active, earns OTS slot

By Senior Airman Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

A prior active-duty airman, who became a reservist and then went back on active duty, received notification Sept. 24 that he was selected for Officer's Training School.

Senior Airman Edward Bunce, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron liquid fuels maintenance specialist, enlisted in 1988. Shortly after his duty in the Persian Gulf, Bunce left the service in 1992.

"I thought the grass would be greener on the other side," said Bunce. "I was a local truck driver in Atlanta (Ga.). I guess I really got out because I was stuck at Loring (AFB, Maine), and I wanted to get away."

Bunce became friends with some reservists from Dobbins AFB, Ga. He said one of them worked for the military personnel flight and often suggested Bunce come back in the Air Force.

"He was always sticking notes on my car window about how the Air Force really needed liquid fuels people," said Bunce. "I finally joined the Reserve in 1999."

After being in the Reserve for a short time, Bunce said he decided he wanted to be an officer. He looked forward to the challenge, and wanted a career with unlimited potential to grow professionally. Bunce started hitting the books.

In March 2000, with support from his wife, Lisa, and two sons, Alec, 6, and Austin, 2, Bunce came back in the Air Force full time and was assigned to Charleston AFB.

With 47 credits under his belt, Bunce immediately started his schooling again at Embry-Riddle Aeronautic University. He averaged two classes per accelerated semester. He also made time in his schedule to do volunteer work at the Jenkins Orphanage.

"I got involved helping out at the orphanage also," said Bunce. "They needed a new sewer line, so I got the materials donated and planned everything out. When everything was ready, other members of CE (437 CES) went and did the work. It was a team effort."

"Right now, I'm working on rebuilding their bathroom," Bunce continued. "I'm just waiting for Lowes to

supply the material. I already have lots of volunteers from the squadron who are eager to help out."

Initiative like Bunce's doesn't go unnoticed. Tech. Sgt. Terry Stollar, 437 CES Liquid Fuels Maintenance shop foreman and Bunce's supervisor, said he wishes he had a whole shop full of Bunces.

"He has lots of initiative, he's smart, he knows his job and it doesn't take him long to catch on," said Stollar. "He goes above and beyond what is expected of him. I think he's going to make a great officer."

Between work, his family and his volunteer work, Bunce managed to find time to put together a package for OTS.

"The Community Education Center helped me out a lot," said Bunce. "It's a lot of leg work though. You have to be committed. It took me a couple of weeks to get everything together. There's a lot of paperwork to track down. You have to have ambition. Make the initial phone call, find out what you have to do and do it."

Bunce applied for the straight OTS program that requires applicants to be within nine credit hours of their

bachelor's degree. After months of waiting, he received verbal confirmation that he made the cut.

"My family was so relieved," said Bunce. "I'm going to go as far as I can with this. I'll try to be a fast burner. I think my understanding of the enlisted structure will be a big help. I'm definitely making it a career."

While Bunce is waiting for his orders to OTS, which he said he hopes come soon, he is preparing for the training. He has already talked with others who've recently went through the training, updated his laptop computer to take with him and made plans for his family while he's gone. He said he's looking forward to the challenges OTS will offer, and he plans on doing very well in his new career, whatever it may be.

"I've got motivation and drive to finish tasks that I start," said Bunce. "I think my enlisted experience will pay off, especially after I get commissioned."

**For more information, call the
Community Education Office at
963-4575.**

Time running out to purchase tickets for AF birthday bash

Charleston AFB will host the Air Force Ball Sept. 14, 6 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Ticket prices are: E-1 through E-4-\$10; E-5 and E6-\$18; E-7 and above and all officers-\$22.

More information and tickets are available through squadron POCs as follows:

437th Aerial Port Squadron – 1st Lt. Zabrina Robinson at 963-3070; Master Sgt. William Brown at 963-2266; Master Sgt. Oscar Thompson at 963-3357; and Staff Sgt. Kelly Burgess at 963-3238

437th Aeromedical Dental Squadron – Capt. William Reynolds at 963-6173; Capt. Elaine Washington at 963-6747

437th Airlift Wing – Master Sgt. Larry Wallace at 963-5580

437th Civil Engineer Squadron – Staff Sgt. Jeffery Smith at 963-5262

437th Communications Squadron – Capt. Jon Bakonyi at 963-2935

437th Logistics Group – Capt. Robert Whetzel at 963-2395

437th Medical Operations Squadron – Master Sgt. Frank Lisenbee at 963-6780

437th Medical Support Squadron – Airman 1st Class Brian Thompson at 963-6898

437th Mission Support Squadron – Master Sgt. James Brady at 963-4410

437th Operations Support Squadron – 2nd Lt. Michael Morrison at 963-5625

437th Security Forces Squadron – 2nd Lt. Sara Fisher at 963-3612

437th Services Squadron – 2nd Lt. Veronica Parnell at 963-6257

14th Airlift Squadron – Joyce Anchors at 963-2158

15th Airlift Squadron – 2nd Lt. Eric McUmbert at 963-2266

17th Airlift Squadron – 1st Lt. Lance Hofer at 963-2914



315 AW announces officer promotions for September

The 315th Airlift Wing announces officer promotions. **(Submitted by 315 AW Public Affairs.)**

Edward Dotson
Doug Hetzel
Johnathan Holmes
Ronald Mature

To captain:

300th Airlift Squadron
Richard Freeman IV
Michael Lineberger

317th Airlift Squadron
David Cowan Jr.
Lionel Trujillo
Paul Wittsack

317th Airlift Squadron
Edward Baldrige
Thomas Moore, IV
Don Thigpen, II

701st Airlift Squadron
Russell Catanach
Jerry Davidson

315th Aircraft Generation Squadron
Keith Eubanks
Morris Willis

315th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron
Verna Britton
Richard Dempsey

To lieutenant colonel:

315th Aerospace Medical Squadron
Samuel Byrd

315th Airlift Control Flight
Frank Taylor

81st Aerial Port Squadron
Jerry Bishop

315th Operations Support Flight
Keith Guillotte
Allan Swartzmiller

53rd Aerial Port Squadron
Ronald D. Powell

300th Airlift Squadron
Patrick Cannon

84th Aerial Port Squadron
Gregory Vaughn

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“They’re not going to cause any more drag. You won’t be able to tell the difference from looking at the airplane. It is going to have additional fuel capacity. For instance, with a 90,000-pound payload it will get you 600 more nautical miles.”

With air refueling, all C-17s have global range, but the fuel tanks will give additional range without air refueling, said Dorcey.

Other features new to the Block 12 aircraft include Air Force Mission Planning System software, multifunctional display redesign, thermal electrical refrigerator, electrical engine control backup power, electrical system control panel redesign, and electronic engine out software upgrade.

The Air Force Mission Planning System software automates mission planning and upload to the aircraft, eliminating a 15-30 minute delay in launch time for typical missions, which is good for the crews, according to Dorcey.

In past models of the C-17, the multifunctional display could only handle a certain amount of data at once, said Dorcey. The new display doesn’t have the same limitations, allowing more area for display and providing more

information at one time.

The thermal electrical refrigerator incorporates CFC-free refrigerant, making it more environmentally safe, and has a greater operational reliability.

Important to the safety of aircraft and crew, the engine control backup power provides continued engine operations if an engine driven permanent magnet alternator fails.

Another significant safety enhancement is the electrical system control panel redesign, according to Dorcey. The redesigned panel eliminates the possibility of a single point electrical failure.

The electronic engine out software upgrade makes the enhanced engine out compensation system, which compensates for engine failure during take off and helps eliminate directional control problems, more reliable, said Dorcey.

Block 12 changes affect both operations personnel and maintainers.

“There is a lot of new technology, mostly in the comnav (communication and navigation) and avionics aspects,” said Capt. Steve Dean, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron Gator Sortie Generation Flight commander. “There are about five brand new LRUs (line replaceable units), the black boxes, and a

software change to another 10-15 boxes, so it’s quite extensive. How those work together and the different types of faults and problems that we’ll have with those boxes is all new. It’s not anything that we can’t handle, it’s just getting the experience with it.”

To gain experience before P-75 arrives, a team of seven CAFB maintainers from the 437 AGS traveled to Boeing’s Long Beach, Calif., facility as the maintenance acceptance team, Dean said.

Comprised of Staff Sgt. John Carter, the dedicated crew chief; Airman 1st Class Charles Long, assistant dedicated crew chief; Airman 1st Class Wallace Willoughby, a

communication-navigation technician; Airman 1st Class Jason McClure, an avionics technician; and John Rosentrom, an electrical-environmental technician, the team has spent one and a half months with Boeing technicians, Dean said. The team had the opportunity to see real time faults and failures, while also ensuring the aircraft is what the Air Force ordered.

“They’re going nose to tail through the aircraft, ensuring what Boeing signed up to give us is what we’re getting,” Dean said. “It’s a lot easier to get things like that fixed while they’re out there, at the production plant. It’s

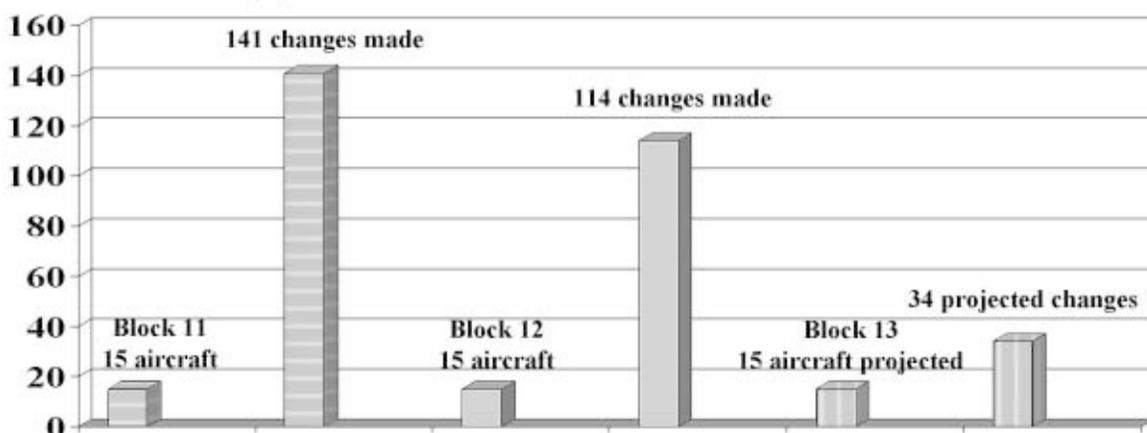
like buying a car, once you say ‘It’s mine,’ you’re responsible for doing the majority of the fixing.”

Dean said training sessions are planned for both the pilots and maintainers of the upgraded aircraft.

Col. Rusty Findley, 437th Airlift Wing commander is scheduled to speak at the arrival ceremony, as well as Lt. Gen. Charles Heflebower, 7th Air Force commander, who will accompany the aircraft from Long Beach, Calif., to CAFB.

According to Dorcey, the ceremony should be brief and is open to the base community. The aircraft will be on static display for tours following the ceremony.

Block 12 major changes
Global air traffic management
Air Force Mission Planning System
Extended range
Multi functional display redesign
Thermal electrical refrigerator
Electrical control backup power



NEWS BRIEFS

Spotlight

Retirement: The 437th Medical Group is hosting a retirement ceremony for Tech. Sgt. Christina Rogers Sept. 14, 3 p.m., in the Bldg. 1000 classroom. For more information, contact Capt. Beth Fair at 963-6741.

Retirement: The 437th Logistics Support Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Junior Mathis, Oct. 1, 10 a.m., at the Community Education Center. For more information, call Richard Hutchinson at 963-5980.

Around the base

Commissary: The Charleston AFB Commissary is holding a case lot sale today and Saturday.

Road closure: Davis Drive will be closed from north of the dining hall to Stewart Avenue Saturday, 7 a.m.-midnight, and from Military Clothing Sales to the dining hall Sunday, 7 a.m.-midnight, for road maintenance.

PWOC: The Protestant Women of the Chapel invites all women, active duty and spouses, to a special one-day retreat Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Base Chapel. No fee or pre-registration is required, and lunch and refreshments will be provided. For more information, call Ruth King at 207-9686.

A/TA: The quarterly Airlift Tanker Association meeting will be Tuesday, noon-1:30 p.m., at the Charleston Club. There will be buffet lunch at noon, followed by the meeting. Those planning on attending the A/TA convention need to be at the meeting. The deadline for signing up for the lunch is today. For more information, call Jan Fuquea at 740-7541.

Chiefs' group: The Charleston AFB Chiefs' Group will hold their monthly meeting Sept. 20, 11 a.m., at the Charleston Club. Representatives from Bank of America will address the group, and lunch will be provided. All chiefs and chief selectees are invited and encouraged to attend.

Hispanic Heritage Month: Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 15-Oct. 15, kicks off Sept. 15 with a pinata party at the Youth Center, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. RSVP by Sept. 14 for the luncheon Sept. 18, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Charleston Club. A Hispanic Film Festival is scheduled for Sept. 20, in the 14th Airlift Squadron's Valor Hall, noon-6 p.m. Oct. 13 brings a banquet dinner and Latin dance night at the Charleston Club. For more information concerning Hispanic Heritage Month events and issues, call Master Sgt. Edison Velez Jr. at 963-2519 or Mario Acevedo at 963-2405.

Dining out: The 14th Airlift Squadron's Order of the Pelican is

holding a dining out, Nov. 9, at the Charleston Club. All present and former Pelicans are invited to attend. For ticket information, call Capt. Eric VonTrotha at 963-2980 or 1st Lt. Cassius Bentley at 963-4767.

Scholarship: The Aerospace Education Foundation is offering a scholarship for Air Force spouses. Applications are accepted until Nov. 1. The \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded in early January. Applicants must be the spouse of an Air Force active-duty, Reserve or Guard member. Applications are available at the Community Education Center. For more information, call 1-800-291-8480.

Fraud: The British Ministry of Defense Police and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations are currently conducting an investigation into a company that rents vehicles to U.S. and other authorized personnel in and around the RAF Lakenheath, Alconbury and Mildenhall areas within the United Kingdom. This company allegedly may have charged for damage to rental vehicles, which did not occur. US personnel may also have been deceived into paying other fraudulent charges for vehicles. This scheme was cleverly disguised so those who have been defrauded may not know they paid unnecessary or unlawful fees. Those who feel they may have been subject to fraud committed by this company should con-

tact a local AFOSI unit. For more information, call Special Agent Michael Lewis, AFOSI Detachment 310, at 963-3248.

AFSA: The Air Force Sergeants Association has more than 155,000 active-duty, retired, Guard and Reserve members. The mission of AFSA is to advocate improved quality-of-life and economic fairness to support the well being of enlisted personnel and their families. The Charleston AFB AFSA meets on the second Tuesday of every month, 4:30 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Tundra Gatewood at 963-6901.

College: The City Colleges of Chicago is now offering Intro to Computers and Accounting classes at the Community Education Center. The college would also like to know what other classes students are interested in. The college will form classes to meet students' needs as long as eight people sign up. For more information, call 552-5959.

Overpricing: The Zero Overpricing Program's goal is to eliminate overpricing incidents where the Air Force pays more for an item than it's worth. Monetary awards are also available through the Air Force IDEA Program when an overpricing incident is identified and approved. To report an instance where an item's price isn't

fair and reasonable, contact the Wing Zero Overpricing Monitor at 963-4826.

Reunion: Members of the 435th Organizational Maintenance Squadron are having a reunion for members assigned from 1975-1985. The reunion will be held Oct. 12-14 at Myrtle Beach. For more information, call Stanley Miller at (910) 867-6508, or e-mail him at flymiller@mindspring.com.

Family Support Center

Pre-Deployment Briefing: Monday, Sept. 17 and 24, 8-9 a.m., and Thursday, Sept. 20 and 27, 4-5 p.m.

Investment Fundamentals: Monday, 2-4:30 p.m.

Resume I: Tuesday, 9 a.m.-noon.

Educational Opportunity Assistance: Tuesday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Sip-n-Chat: Sept. 17, 6 p.m.

Sponsorship Training: Sept. 19, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Mini Job Fair: Sept. 20, 2-4 p.m.

Troops-to-Teachers: Sept. 24, 10-11 a.m.

Home Buying Workshop: Sept. 24, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Resume II: Sept. 25, 9-10:30 a.m., and 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Smooth Move: Sept. 27, 8:30 a.m.-noon.

Children and Self Esteem: Sept. 27, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

All workshops are held at the FSC unless otherwise noted. For more information or to register, call the Family Support Center at 963-4406.

Charleston Profile

Airman 1st Class Paul Guenther
17th Airlift Squadron

Airman 1st Class Paul Guenther is a loadmaster with the 17th Airlift Squadron.

The Bristol, Tenn., native, has been in the Air Force since July 1999.

Guenther's dream has always been to be a pilot.

"When I came in, I talked to the recruiter, and he told me to come in and finish up school," said Guenther. "I told him with my dream of being a pilot, I wouldn't come in unless I could have a job flying. I chose loadmaster."

His duties include pre-flighting and safely loading the aircraft, including taking care of the passengers.

"We handle emergency procedures that may happen during the flight," said Guenther.

Guenther, who attended college for two years prior to joining, is currently pursuing his degree towards his ultimate goal. He expects to apply for a commissioning program in the near future.

Guenther is single and enjoys seeing places and doing things he never dreamed of.

"I recently ended up in Rome, Italy and Frankfurt, Germany, in support of the president," said Guenther. "I didn't get to meet him but we parked behind him. I also got to see Hawaii."

His hobbies include going to school and playing intramural sports.

"I just started up with football, and I was on the softball team that got the base championship," said Guenther.

Guenther is a recent Diamond Sharp winner and the current airman of the quarter for the 17 AS.



Photo by Master Sgt. Dan Murphy

COMMENTARY

About the paper

AIRLIFT
Dispatch

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The deadline for submitting stories for space-available publication is noon Friday, preceding the desired publication date. The *Airlift Dispatch* reserves the right to edit all copy submitted for publication.

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Address/Numbers

Editorial content is prepared by the 437th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 1600, Rm. 223.

Phone: (843) 963-5608

Fax: (843) 963-5604.

Mail to: 437 AW PAI

102 East Hill Blvd.

Charleston AFB, SC 29404-5154

or send to:

dispatch@charleston.af.mil

Editorial Staff

437 AW Commander
Col. Vern M. "Rusty"
Findley II

Chief, Public Affairs
Lt. Col. Edmund Memi

Editor
Senior Airman Jason Smith

Staff Writer
Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter

Photo Support
Base Visual Information Center

Basewide power outage goes smoothly, ends early

437 CES personnel work with Santee Cooper to finish repairs ahead of schedule

By Col. Rusty Findley
437 AW commander

A special thanks to everyone in the 437th Civil Engineer Squadron who worked hard all week to prepare for the power outage Aug. 31, 6 a.m.-12:30 p.m. It was necessary maintenance and will avoid unplanned power outages in the future. It took tremendous teamwork between the base and Santee Cooper, the local power company, to make it happen so seamlessly.

Kudos to the 45 military members and 12 Santee Cooper technicians for their hard work. A special thanks to the 437 CES Electrical, Power Production and Horizontal shops for getting the job done an hour and a half earlier than expected. The 437 CES Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning shop also worked long hours after the outage to turn on all the air conditioners throughout the base. It is impressive that our people worked so efficiently and safely, especially when you consider they were working on power lines that carry about 7,200 volts. It is obvious that their pride, professionalism and passion were on display for all to see. Thanks for what you do.

Everyone is getting pumped up for the Air Force Birthday Ball Sept. 14, 6 p.m. It promises to be an exciting event, as our keynote speaker is retired Col. Gail Halvorsen, the famed candy bomber from the Berlin Airlift. We also have the Air Force Strolling Strings slated to perform. I hope to see many of you there for what promises to be the event of the year.

In July 1948, Halvorsen volunteered for the recently initiated Operation Vittles, or more commonly known as the Berlin Airlift. During that operation, he flew C-54 aircraft, delivering essential food, coal and other supplies to the Soviet blockaded city of Berlin. It was during this period that Halvorsen, then a lieutenant, became affectionately known as the "Candy Bomber," after he started dropping small candy-laden parachutes to the children of Berlin. This self-initiated act of kindness, on behalf of the starving children of Berlin, blossomed into a unique activity within the "Big Lift" and was called Operation Little Vittles. By January 1949, Halvorsen had air dropped more than 250,000 parachutes loaded with candy on the city of Berlin bringing a little joy to the nearly 100,000 children of Berlin during the Russian blockade.

A three-person Air Expeditionary Force team from Langley AFB, Va., will brief all military members in the base theater Sept. 12, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. The briefings are open to everyone, including retirees and family members. A separate briefing is scheduled for Air Force reservists Sept. 16, 2 p.m., as part of the 315th Airlift Wing Commander's Call in the base theater. The briefings are expected to last about an hour, which includes a question and answer session.

The briefing team from the AEF Center will spread the word on improvements in AEF Cycle 3, answer questions and get ideas from Air Force people on improvements to the AEF process. I encourage everyone to come out and

learn how AEF will affect you.

We sent about 100 people to Pope AFB, N.C., to participate in Large Package Week Monday-Sunday. Col. **Bob Allardice**, 437th Operations Group commander, and Lt. Col. **William Changose**, 14th Airlift Squadron commander, are responsible for this large-scale training with the 82nd Airborne Division. Command of LPW airlift rotates among Air Mobility Command units, and it's a challenge to oversee the nine C-17s, five C-130s, one AC-130 and one C-130 Jackpot participating in this exercise.

LPW is a joint Army and Air Force training exercise held several times a year to practice large-scale (Army brigade) airdrop missions for personnel and equipment training requirements. In this LPW, we are going one step further by deploying the Army's Immediate Ready Company from Fort Stewart, Ga., to a dirt and paved airstrip near Pope AFB. This will be great training for the Army and Air Force as we perform this realistic scenario.

Today marks a change of leadership in the 437th Contracting Squadron as Maj. **David Rowland** assumes command. We welcome Dave and his wife, Lydia, to Team Charleston. We do not really get to bid farewell to Lt. Col. **Paul and Kathy Braunbeck** as he moves up to become the new 437th Airlift Wing director of wing staff. Congratulations!

I will head to AMC headquarters Sept. 12 with 437th Operations Group and Logistics Group members to brief on a number of initiatives taken to enhance C-17 maintenance procedures and aircrew training for the wing. We will brief some of the two-letter divisions and staff functional heads at AMC. We have some great ideas from some young folks and wanted to share these initiatives with our headquarters.

We will welcome one of our newest C-17s to Charleston Thursday, around 5 p.m. Lt. Gen. Charles R. Heflebower, commander, 7th Air Force, Pacific Air Forces, Osan AB, South Korea, will fly in P-75, our first new C-17 delivery since April 1999. It is great to get Gen. Heflebower here to serve as the delivery official. The aircraft will be flown here from the Boeing assembly plant at Long Beach, Calif.

We have planned a short ceremony in the C-17 nose dock (Bldg. 512) to accept our first block 12 version of the C-17, which has many improvements over earlier versions. See the article on page 1 for more details on this amazing new aircraft.

If you are like me, you follow the weather closely, and it may be easy to become complacent since we have not had a major hurricane come our way. September marks the busiest period for hurricanes, and forecasters say the next two weeks could bring several significant storms as the Atlantic hurricane season, which passed its halfway point this past weekend, heads toward its peak. The season does not end until Nov. 30.

Though it has been relatively slow so far, and none of the four tropical storms to date count as major, forecasters are sticking by their predictions for an above-average hurricane season. We need to keep our guard up and remain prepared should a hurricane approach the South Carolina coast. Be prepared for the worst, and let us keep hoping for the best.

We just concluded our 101 Critical Days of Summer Monday, and we had one of our best years in recent memory. I thank everyone for their vigilance in getting us through this critical period when off-duty injuries and deaths often rise as people enjoy the outdoors during the summer. We still need to keep safety at the forefront of everything we do, especially as the holidays approach. Keep applying the principles of Operational Risk Management in everything we do. Keep up the good work and let us make 2001 our safest ever!

I hope to see many of you at the Air Force Ball and P-75 delivery ceremony. It is great to be at the premier airlift wing on the face of the planet!

Action Line

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.

To ensure you receive a response to your concerns, please leave your name and the information needed to contact you.





Off duty--Around town



Sports:

Battery: Saturday, 7:30 p.m., vs. Nashville. For more information, call 971-GOAL.

Summerville Speedway: NASCAR Super Trucks Series plus four NASCAR divisions and a special appearance by the Hobby Town USA Remote Control Racers Saturday, 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 871-8331.

Triathlon: Kiawah Island Triathlon Sunday, 8 a.m. The triathlon consists of swimming, biking and running. Entry fees are \$50 for an individual and \$70 for a relay team. For more information, call 853-9987.

Tickets for sports events, as well as many other attractions in the area, may be available at a discount price for active-duty military, reservists, military retirees, Department of Defense civilians and their dependents from the Outdoor Recreation Center. For more information and for prices, call the Information, Tickets and Tours Program at 963-5271.

Entertainment:

Party at the Point: See The Cigar Store Indians perform tonight, 5-9 p.m., at Party at the Point, Charleston Harbor Hilton, Patriot's Point. Food and drink tents are available. Admission is \$5 and parking is free. For more information, call 884-2543.

Moonlight mixer: Dance under the stars to oldies and beach music tonight, 7-11 p.m., at the Folly Beach Fishing Pier. Tickets are \$10 for Charleston County residents, \$15 for nonresidents and include hors d'oeuvres and soft drinks. For more information, call 795-4FUN.

Theatre: The Charleston Stage Company performs "Fiddler on the Roof" tonight and Saturday, and Sept. 14, 15, 21 and 22, 8 p.m., and Sunday and Sept. 16, 3 p.m. Performances are at the Dock Street Theatre. For more

information, call 965-4032.

Live music: The Elms perform Christian rock music Saturday, 7:30 p.m., at Charleston Southern University's Lightsey Chapel. Tickets are \$7 at the door. For more information, call 863-7040.

Live music: Dr. Gerre Hancock performs live organ music Sunday, 7 p.m., at Stella Maris Catholic Church, 1204 Middle St., Sullivan's Island. The event is free. For more information, call 883-3108.

Events:

Bonsai festival: The Summerville Bonsai Festival IV is scheduled for today-Sunday at the Holiday Inn Express, 1-26 and Highway 17A, Summerville. This year's activities include free demonstrations, exhibits of bonsai, a special vendor sales area and more. For more information contact Ron Martin at 875-6567. Ron and his wife, Col. Barbara Martin, are both former Charleston AFB reservists.

Festival Hispano: Savor Latino sights, sounds and smells with live music, authentic food and craft items Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at North Charleston's Wannamaker County Park. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$1 for children 3-12. For more information, call 795-4FUN.

Second Saturday: The Charleston Museum presents an archaeological extravaganza featuring a mock dig site, cave painting, and more Saturday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Admission is \$4 for children and \$8 for adults. For more information, call 722-2996.

Dog Daze: Enter the family dog in the smallest, biggest, ugliest, best costume, owner look-alike or best stupid trick contest Sunday, 4:30-9 p.m., at Vickery's, 15 Beaufain St. For more information, call 795-1110.

Listings are published on a space-available basis at the discretion of the editor of the Airlift Dispatch. Events listed are subject to change without notice. Those interested in attending an event should call ahead to confirm the date and time. To submit an event for Off duty, send a fax with all pertinent information and a call-back number to 963-5604.

FEATURE



STU cookout serves up home-style cooking

Dorm residents say dinners are welcome change

**Story and photos by
Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter**
437 AW Public Affairs

The smells of barbecue filled the air in the dormitory complex Aug. 28, as dorm managers and Base Chapel personnel put on a cookout for this month's Stripes to Uniforms dinner.

"Probably about 75 people came out," said Tech. Sgt. Carmen Taylor, 437th Operations Group dorm manager. "I think dorm residents were pleasantly surprised to see dorm managers and senior NCOs cooking for them."

The Stripes to Uniforms program gives E-4s and below an opportunity to have their stripes sewn on free of charge by the chapel, said Airman Erin Prall, 437th Airlift Wing chaplain's assistant. Dinners take place monthly, usually the third or fourth Tuesday of the month.

The event used to be held at the chapel, but the dorm managers decided to hold it closer to the people it impacts, according to Taylor.

gives first sergeants time with their troops," Prall said.

The Stripes to Uniforms program is not religion based, said Prall. It is open for everyone.

One airman attending the cookout was happy about the location.

"It's convenient and a nice change from the dining hall," said Airman 1st Class Antonio Waller, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron.

Another cookout attendee said he's attended several Stripes to Uniforms dinners.

"It makes me think of home: barbecuing and good food," said Airman 1st Class Brandon Chinn, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron.

It wasn't all about the food, though.

"I like this," said Airman Roselyn Asare-Boatening, 437th Supply Squadron. "It's interesting to see other people and mingle with everyone. Some people work different shifts, but they come out for this. The food is good, too."

Taylor encourages squadrons to get involved.

Ryan says promising skies ahead

Chief of Staff bids farewell, offers bright hopes for future

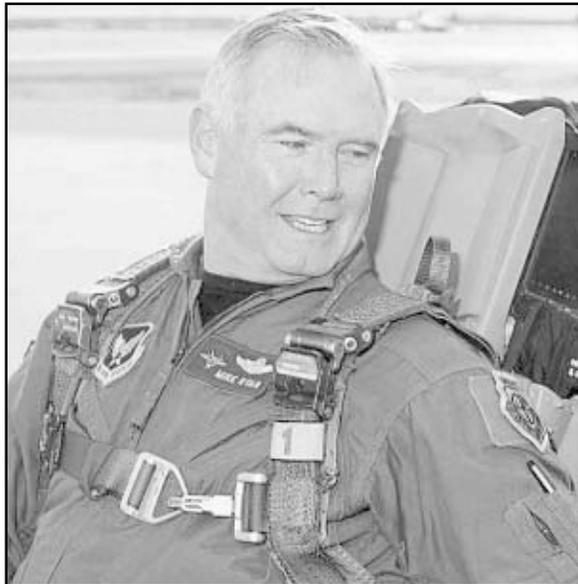
By Gen. Michael Ryan
Air Force Chief of Staff

From my perch, as I wrap-up my final tour, I see promising skies ahead for our Air Force ... and it's because of you and your efforts.

Despite tight budgets, you've arrested a stubborn four-year readiness decline. You've made our transition to an Expeditionary Aerospace Force work, enhancing

stability in the lives of Air Force members everywhere. Your direct feedback helped win Congressional support for many of our retention initiatives and the reestablishment of a full-benefit retirement system. Your voices have been heard and answered with across the board pay raises and targeted bonuses. You have made the personal choices to continue serving our nation, ensuring we're ready to protect America's interests around the world. Your choices, your efforts, your dedication, your sacrifices continue to build the premier aerospace power this world has ever known. My family and I have been proud to serve with you.

As General Jumper assumes the office, he brings the deepest commitment to continued improvements in capability and quality of life for all our people. Together, he and Secretary Roche, will provide superb leadership for America's Air Force in the years ahead. Thank you for your selfless service ... it's the reason no one comes close!



Air Force photo

Gen. Michael Ryan stepped down as Chief of Staff Thursday, ending a career that began in 1965, and hands the reins to Gen. John Jumper.

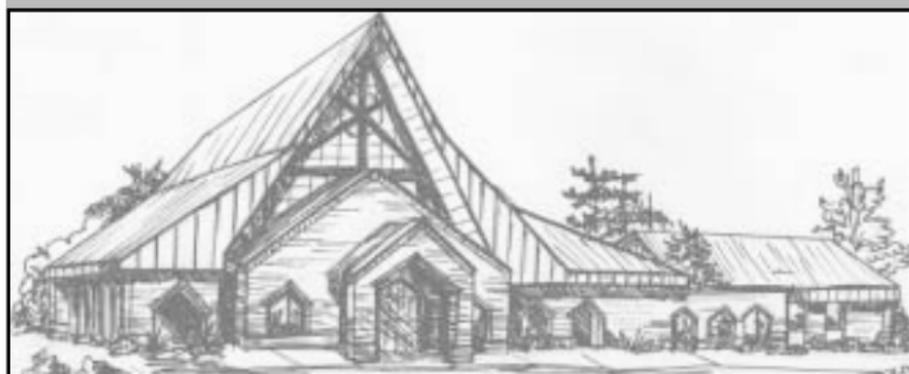


Photo by Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter

It's electric

Senior Airman Wayne Dingle (left), and Airman 1st Class Brandon Alexander, both from the 437th Civil Engineer Squadron, work to replace electrical components during the scheduled basewide power outage Aug. 31.

Chapel schedule



107 Arthur Drive

Office hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Phone: 963-2536. After duty hours, call the command post at 963-2531 for emergencies only.

Catholic Services

Saturday -- 4 p.m. Reconciliation, 5 p.m. Mass.

Sunday -- 9:30 a.m. Mass, 9:30 a.m. Children's Church.

Weekdays -- 11:30 a.m. Mass, Sacrament of Baptism pre-baptismal classes are held the first Sunday of each month at 11 a.m. in the Chapel Annex. For Sacrament of Marriage, call the Catholic chaplain six months prior to the wedding.

Protestant Services

Sunday -- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School in Bldg. 245, 11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service, 11 a.m. Children's Church.

Thursday -- 7 p.m. Praise and Worship contemporary service.

Buddhist: Columbia Shambhala Meditation Center, Suite 109, Columbia, S.C. 29405. Phone: (803) 254-9048.

Orthodox: Holy Trinity, Greek Orthodox Church, 30 Race St., Charleston, S.C. Phone: 577-2063.

Jewish: Call Jewish Lay Leader: Senior Airman David Winner at 963-8041.

Islamic: Al-Jami Ar-Rasheed, 1998 Hugo Ave., Charleston Heights, S.C. Phone: 554-1773.

Movie schedule

Admission prices:

Adults/Children -- 99 cents

Any child under 17 years of age requires a parent or adult guardian (21 years old) to purchase an admission ticket for the minor child to view R-rated movies. The ticket office opens 30 minutes prior to start of movie, unless otherwise noted.



Movie schedules are provided by AAFES. Patrons should call 963-3333 to verify movie titles, running times and start times, which are subject to change.

Today, 7:30 p.m.

"America's Sweethearts" – Julia Roberts

For an awkward, self-conscious girl like Kiki, being the personal assistant to a beautiful mega-star like Gwen isn't easy. But when she dutifully accepts the task of helping Gwen and her estranged mega-star husband Eddie make it through one last public appearance masterminded by legendary press agent Lee Phillips, forever devoted Kiki finds that her job is about to get even harder. **(PG-13) 100 minutes**

Saturday, 2 and 7:30 p.m.

"Jurassic Park 3" – Sam Neill

Dr. Alan Grant was personally shaken by his encounter with live dinosaurs, but he remains determined to study them. Desperate to fund research for a new theory, he's particularly vulnerable when the wealthy Kirbys approach him, offering money for his presence on an aerial tour of Isla Sorna, adjacent to Isla Nublar, the site of Grant's nightmarish experiences. Once fate causes them to crash on the island, he learns that it was a scam to get an experienced guide to help them find and rescue their son, who disappeared while vacationing. Marooned in a savage land, they have to struggle to escape from all sorts of new creatures with their lives. **(PG-13) 92 minutes**

Fitness & Sports

Swami picks week two; week one not even played yet

By the Swami

Pigskin Prognosticator

Well, look here; the Swami has week two picks in the paper, and week one hasn't even been played yet. The Swami has been told by his followers that some of you are laughing at his picks. The Swami promises he will have the last laugh. The streets will flow with the blood of the non-believers.

The Swami is eagerly awaiting kickoff this Sunday. There should not be too many surprises. Everyone knows the Swami will be sitting pretty after week one results are compiled, so look ahead to week two.

The Swami has been gracious enough to give you a detailed synopsis of week two match ups.

Arizona at Washington: Arizona who? Skins win.

Buffalo at Miami: Miami's defense too much for Bills.

Cincinnati at Tennessee: Eddie George runs over Bengals. Watch for Tennessee to run over a lot of

teams this year.

Dallas at Detroit: No, the Cowboys can't even beat the Lions.

Denver at Indianapolis: Greise can't hang with Manning.

Green Bay at NY Giants: No cheeseheads allowed in Jersey. Giants win.

New England at Carolina: Carolina in its fifth "rebuilding year." Pats roll.

Philadelphia at Tampa Bay: Eagles are for real this season.

San Francisco at New Orleans: Saints looking good this year.

Atlanta at St. Louis: Rams playing like the 1999 team.

Jacksonville at Chicago: Jaguars are tougher than Bears.

NY Jets at Oakland: Gannon has a cannon—Raiders romp.

Kansas City at Seattle: Don't bother watching. Chiefs squeak by.

Cleveland at Pittsburgh: Browns still stink. Steelers manage to take this one.

Monday Night:

Minnesota at Baltimore: Ravens can't fly with Vikes—Pepper and Moss can.

Week Two

Name/Phone #: _____

Comments: _____



"The streets will flow with the blood of the non-believers."

--The Swami

Sunday, Sep. 16

Arizona @ **Washington**

Buffalo @ **Miami**

Cincinnati @ **Tennessee**

Dallas @ **Detroit**

Denver @ **Indianapolis**

Green Bay @ **New York Giants**

New England @ Carolina

Philadelphia @ Tampa Bay

San Francisco @ **New Orleans**

Atlanta @ **St. Louis**

Jacksonville @ Chicago

New York Jets @ **Oakland**

Kansas City @ Seattle

Cleveland @ **Pittsburgh**

Monday, Sep. 17

Minnesota @ Baltimore

Monday night total points: _____

Swami's Monday night points: 47

Swami's picks are in bold and underlined.

Send your picks to: Swami@charleston.af.mil

Picks may be dropped at the Public Affairs office in Bldg. 1600, Room 224.

****Picks must be submitted by Friday, Sep. 14, 4 p.m.****