

UCI wraps up Tuesday

'Team Charleston has much to be proud of'

By AIRMAN STEPHANIE HAMMER
437 AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Air Mobility Command Inspector General wrapped up the Unit Compliance Inspection here Tuesday after an eight-day inspection of common core compliance areas to ensure compliance with Department of Defense and Air Force directives, requirements, and standards of performance.

The 437th Airlift Wing finished the UCI, conducted Jan. 7-14, with an overall grade of excellent.

"Team Charleston has much to be proud of," said Col. Thomas Stickford, AMC Inspector General. "You've done a marvelous job here of taking care of business, and (your) business is vitally important, as you well know, to the defense of our nation."

After receiving an AMC coin himself, Col. Brooks Bash, 437 AW

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Photo by Airman 1st Class Tyrone Pearsall

Fill 'er up

Staff Sgt. Brian Johnson, 437th Logistics Readiness Squadron Fuels Flight assistant NCOIC of fuels preventative maintenance, performs preventative maintenance on a Kovatch R-12 refueling vehicle Tuesday.

Air Force implements smallpox vaccination program

The Air Force chief of staff has directed the immediate implementation of the smallpox vaccination program.

In a Jan. 6 policy memorandum to major command commanders, Gen. John Jumper outlined details of the commanders' force protection program against the deadly biological warfare agent.

Charleston AFB has established a smallpox vaccination program development team to implement the Air Force plan locally. "At this

point we've just had our initial meeting, and have as many questions as we do answers," said Lt. Col. Brad Barnett, 437 AW Plans chief and leader of the implementation team. "As we hammer out the details, we will be keeping commanders informed so they can pass the word along to their people."

The team includes representatives from operational units, personnel, public affairs, legal, and medical fields.

The first Air Force people to be vaccinated

will be medical people and designated forces that constitute specific mission-critical capabilities. The identified medics include Smallpox Epidemiological Response Team members at Brooks City-Base, Texas, those responsible for administering the vaccine to other airmen, and base-level smallpox medical team members (medics who have been selected to treat anyone who contracts the disease).

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COMMENTARY

Commander's Comments

By COL. BROOKS BASH
437 AW COMMANDER

In the months since Operation Enduring Freedom began, a high operations tempo is the Team Charleston norm, and we expect an even higher tempo in the next few months. Now, more than ever, we must all focus on the mission, preparing to deploy on short notice, regardless of the Aerospace Expeditionary Force "bucket" you are in.

Congratulations to the 437th Airlift Wing for an "Excellent" performance during the unit compliance inspection. I appreciate the effort that went into preparing the wing for the UCI. Inspections are very helpful in guiding us to focus on areas where we may not fully understand our compliance requirements or areas we may have overlooked due to personnel changes. The goal is to help the wing improve. The inspection results reaffirm the excellence of what everyone does here at Charleston AFB every day. Use what you learned in the inspection to make Charleston even better.

Awards

Congratulations to the 437th Civil Engineer Operations Flight, named best in Air Force for fiscal year 2002. The 437 CES Environmental Flight was named runner-up in Air Force-level competition. Additionally, Lt. Col. Maria Dowling was runner-up in the civil engineer manager of the year category, and Glenn Easterby was runner-up in the senior civilian manager category. Great work!

Today we recognize the base's best at the quarterly awards luncheon. I look forward to seeing you there, supporting your unit's nominee. Congratulations to all the nominees—you can be very proud of your accomplishments.

New C-17 arrival

For those of you keeping score, the wing took delivery of its 48th C-17 this week. Special thanks to the people of the 437th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron who perform the acceptance inspection, conduct an inventory, check records to ensure we received everything we are supposed to receive and configure the various equipment—such as tie-



Photo by Britt Lock
Chief Master Sgt. James Roy, 437th Airlift Wing command chief, and Col. Brooks Bash, 437 AW commander, cook-out after the Unit Compliance Inspection out-briefing Tuesday. Charleston AFB finished the UCI with an overall grade of excellent.

downs and covers—necessary for operational missions. Quality Assurance also verifies weight and balance on the new planes. Thanks to these folks, our new planes are ready to take on operational taskings within 72 hours of delivery—no small feat!

MLK Walk

I invite you to join me in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Walk and commemorative service beginning Monday at 9:45 a.m. in the Charleston Club parking lot. The walk will conclude at the base chapel, with a service including readings and musical selections.

Commander's calls

Next week I am conducting a series of commander's calls, where I look forward to sharing my thoughts with you. I will take the opportunity to give updates on current issues and also hear what is on your mind.

This is a busy time, and the wing is working hard, accomplishing the mission. Keep safety paramount as you continue to carry out your duties. Thank you for all your hard work. The 437 AW is simply the best!

Action Line addresses base theatre, Hunley Park fencing

Q: I live off base, and my yard backs up against Hunley Park. During Hurricane Floyd a tree from Hunley Park demolished the upper part of my fence and my garage. The fence between me and Hunley Park still lies in disrepair. I have 5 dogs, which are my companions, friends and protectors. On Nov. 30 the dogs barked at children through the fence and someone felt the need to spray the dogs in my yard. I am sure any children living in Hunley would not like to have dogs barking at them, and now I don't feel comfortable letting my dogs out in my back yard. Please consider erecting a privacy fence that would be beneficial to Hunley Park residents and would

The Commander's Action Line is your direct link to me. It's your opportunity to make Charleston AFB 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.

give me peace of mind.

A: Thank you for bringing this issue to my attention. We are designing a privacy fence that will separate the back yards of Constellation Drive and the housing units in Hunley Park. The privacy fence will run the length of the housing units, and a chain link fence will continue into the

this situation?

A: Thank you for your patronage of the base theater. We do apologize for any discomfort you may have experienced. The base civil engineers switched the heating and air conditioning system to winter mode, but found a problem with one of the heat controls. They have received and installed the required part. A computer-controlled time clock turns the system on prior to scheduled movies. We have adjusted this to bring the heat on sooner to ensure the theater's temperature is comfortable for our moviegoers. The building manager, Mr. Rick Baker, at 963-5271, is committed to keeping the theater comfortable for all our patrons.

**— Col. Brooks Bash
437 AW commander**

wooded area. We expect the construction of the fence to start mid FY03 to early FY04. This fence will provide privacy to both you and our housing residents. Again, thank you for your concern.

Q: I go to the base theater every weekend, and the building is freezing. Can something be done about

Logistics Readiness

Going where no one has gone before

By MAJ. JERI ERGINKARA
437 LRS COMMANDER

Greetings from the Air Force's newest squadron! I've had several people stop and ask me how the squadron's shaping up, so thought I'd let you know how we're doing and what we're doing for you.

The reorganization was a little over three months ago and frankly I thought it would be a very painful experience. However, due to the hard work of some exceptional NCOs, SNCOs, junior officers and civilians, the reorganization went very well.

Orderly rooms merged, as did unit control centers. This gave us the chance to compare and take the best practices from each section. Additionally, the new LRS template had six flights, allowing us to put more people into leadership positions. But to my mind, the brass ring is that we have the opportunity to look at the way we do business and use the

worth repeating

... when people ask me how's it going, I usually say it's fast, furious and never boring ... we have a great squadron with incredible people ...

—Maj. JERI ERGINKARA
437th Logistics Readiness Squadron commander

synergy of the new squadron to improve processes and set the standard for the rest of the Air Force.

The master plan behind the LRS was to put all the deployment and support functions necessary to mobilize a wing under one commander. The new concept merged the logistics plans, fuels, supply, ground transportation and traffic management functions into the LRS.

While this increases the span of control significantly, it allows many of the previous issues that had to be dealt with across squadron and group boundaries to now be resolved within a single squadron. That makes

fixing problems much easier.

However, on the flip side, that means most of the problems affecting mobility are within one squadron. So while it may be easier to identify and fix problems, it may take longer to get to them, as they are no longer spread out among different agencies.

The last two mobility exercises revealed several areas for improvement. We tackled those issues and revised our processes. The new Installation Deployment Plan is now out on the street, giving better and more concise guidance for deploying the wing. The Expeditionary Support Plan is in the

final stages. Aircrews now have room for their bags in the buses, thanks to a suggestion from the 437th Operations Group to remove a few seats in the back.

Our new mobility complex should be completed in April, providing one-stop deployment service to outbound personnel. No longer will you have to be shuttled from one stop to the next while hauling your personal gear.

Soon, you'll be picked up from your squadron and dropped off at the complex, get your briefing, process through the line, receive your mobility bags and weapons, and then leave them at the door so they can be palletized. What more can a Charleston Warrior ask for?

So when people ask me how's it going, I usually say it's fast, furious and never boring. But the truth is, we have a great squadron with incredible people – it truly doesn't get any better than this!

Airlift Dispatch staff seeks writers, ideas

Do you have your finger on the pulse of life in your squadron? Are you an avid fan of intramural sports? Do you like to write?

If you said yes to any of the above, the *Airlift Dispatch* needs you. We are always looking for people who can help us tell the Charleston AFB story.

If you're the one who is always "in the know" about squadron activities, you can help by passing along story ideas to the newspaper's editor. You could be the key in getting your

unit's people the recognition they deserve.

Sports fans who always dreamed of a position on Sportscenter can help us report the games they attend. Even if you don't like to write, you can pass along game information and statistics to the rest of the CAFB community by passing it on to the *Airlift Dispatch* staff.

For those of you who are always asking questions and like to write, the opportunity to get your articles published is there. Just

give the editor your idea for a story about CAFB's people and mission, and go from there.

Seeing your name in print can be very rewarding. Your articles can be something that you can cut out and send home to your family or give to your supervisor the next time you're asked for EPR information.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter at 963-2917 or Airman Stephanie Hammer at 963-5571.

AIRLIFT Dispatch

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'Once a pelican, always a pelican. You know where you started, and you know where your home is, and we appreciate you all. Thanks for what you've done in the past, and thanks for what you're doing right now ...'

Entire 14 AS deploys in support of OEF

By AIRMAN STEPHANIE HAMMER
437 AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Team Charleston deployed the entire 14th Airlift Squadron to Germany this month in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

This is the first time Charleston AFB has deployed an entire squadron in a fighter-squadron-like Aerospace Expeditionary Force rotation to maintain the ground-crew operations for missions going in and out of Afghanistan from Germany.

What makes this deployment unique is that the 14 AS's sister squadron, the 16th Airlift Squadron, will take responsibility for in-house training of the 14 AS crews remaining at CAFB.

"It's a pretty regular thing that happens," said Lt. Col. Steven Groenheim, 14 AS commander. "This is a planned deployment.

"But, the (unique thing about

this deployment) is that we're essentially moving all the active-duty staying behind over to our sister squadron so that they can do the day-to-day operations," he continued. "But we don't need the overhead back here at the squadron, so we can generate more aircrews to actually fly the missions."

With the "pelican" squadron facing longer deployments now than usual, Tricia Groenheim addressed the needs of the squadron's families and friends in a commander's call here Jan. 10.

"You guys are part of the family to us, and I lift you up daily," said Tricia Groenheim. "This is how we do business now, plain and simple. It's going to change tomorrow, it's going to change the day after, so there's no set rule, there's no set way that we'll continue doing it.

"Be prepared for change, be adaptable to what's going on," she continued. "The deployments in the past are going to be com-

pletely different from what happens tomorrow because everything changes in our lives. Every feeling that you have is valid, every emotion that you roll through is a valid emotion."

The briefing was a chance for the squadron and their families to get together and learn what the base has to offer them while their loved ones are deployed.

They received information from the Family Support Center and learned about morale calls, free child care and free oil changes.

Chaplain (Capt.) Mark Nevius, 437th Airlift Wing senior protestant chaplain, who just returned from a 90-day deployment himself, prayed with the squadron for a job well done and a safe return home.

Many members of the "pelican" family will have to learn to adjust to the way the squadron is going to be handling deployments, like Kara Todd, wife of 2nd Lt. Sam Todd, 14

AS pilot, who just arrived at CAFB in October.

"There are some fears," said Kara Todd. "Fears of being alone for a long time, but we're excited to be here."

Sam Todd agreed with his wife and added, "It's our job, and it's a privilege to be able to support the United States at this time."

Tricia Groenheim went on to emphasize the need for family members to lean on one another.

"How you deal with the stress, the anxiety and potential depression is what's important to us ... how you're going to deal with it, and how we're going to help you deal with it," she said.

The 14 AS commander agreed with his wife and added, "Once a pelican always a pelican. You know where you started, and you know where your home is, and we appreciate you all. Thanks for what you've done in the past, and thanks for what you're doing right now."

UCI

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commander, added, "I couldn't be more proud of Team Charleston. What you're doing is defending our nation, that's why we have the uniform on.

"We earned more outstanding ratings than any other wing in some sub-areas," he told crowd at the inspection outbriefing, noting that up to 25 percent of Team Charleston has been deployed on any given day in the past year. "You need to be proud of what you're doing."

The inspectors evaluated the wing's performance in 17 Common Core Compliance Areas, to include four by-law compliance areas: intelligence oversight, transition assistance, voter assistance, and sexual harassment education and prevention and 13 missions areas: aircrew protection, civil engineering, contracting, financial management, munitions, plans and programs, supply, communications and information, disaster response, installation security, personnel, services and transportation., according to Maj. Dan Wilkie, 437 AW Inspections and Evaluations chief.

AMC Unit Compliance Inspection Award Winners

Team recognition

- Anti-terrorism/Force Protection Flight Team, 437th Security Forces Squadron
- Civil Engineer Fire Protection Flight Team, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron
- Comptroller Customer Support Team, 437th Comptroller Squadron
- Fitness Center Team, 437th Services Squadron
- Government Purchase Card Team, 437th Contracting Squadron
- Military Equal Opportunity Team, 437th Airlift Wing
- Installation Security Program Management Team, 437 SFS
- Services Readiness Team, 437 SVS
- Traffic Management Team, 437 Logistics Readiness Squadron
- Transition Assistance Team, 437 Mission Support Squadron
- Vehicle Operations Management Team, 437 LRS

Individual recognition

- 1st Lt. Mark Ellis, 437th Operations Support

Squadron

- Master Sgt. Juan Santiago, 437th CES
- Tech. Sgt. Keith Collins, 437th SFS
- Tech. Sgt. Jeffery Jones, 437 CES
- Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Wagner, 437 SFS
- Staff Sgt. Tony Newbern, 437 CES
- Airman 1st Class Crystal Merritt, 437th Aerial Port Squadron
- Cynthia Hughes, 437 CES

Coin recipients

- Capt. Jeffrey Jackson, 437th OSS
- 2nd Lt. James Cohn, 437th CPTS
- Master Sgt. Barry Harvey, 437th Medical Support Squadron
- Tech. Sgt. Shawn Davis, 437 LRS
- Tech. Sgt. Robert James, 437 LRS
- Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Manigault, 437 LRS
- Staff Sgt. Julie Buie, 437 CPTS
- Staff Sgt. Daniel Colon, 437 LRS
- Senior Airmen Amos Hoskins, 437th Communications Squadron
- Patricia Frick, 437 APS
- Kathleen Perry, 437 MSS
- Denise Ritchings, 437 CPTS

Naval Hospital holding health survey Jan. 27-31

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Inspector General will conduct a joint accreditation survey of Naval Hospital Charleston, S.C., Jan. 27-31.

The purpose of the survey is to evaluate the organization's compliance with nationally established Joint Commission and United States Navy standards.

Anyone with pertinent and valid information about quality of care issues may request a public interview with the Joint Commission's field representatives.

Requests for public information interviews with JCAHO must be made in writing and should be sent to the Joint Commission no later than five working days before the survey begins. The request must also indicate the nature of the information to be provided at the interview. Send requests to:

**Division of Accreditation Operations
Joint Commission on Accreditation of
Healthcare Organizations
One Renaissance Boulevard
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181**

The Joint Commission will acknowledge requests in writing or by telephone and will inform the organization of the request for any interview. The organization will, in turn, notify the interviewee of the date, time and place of the meeting.

Concerns may also be brought to the attention of the Medical Inspector General by calling 1-800-637-6175.

SMALLPOX

Continued from page 1

According to the Air Force smallpox vaccination implementation plan, some civilian employees and contractors will also be vaccinated.

Other U.S. forces will be vaccinated depending upon circumstances.

Although vaccinations will begin immediately, the program's director said airmen would be vaccinated in stages.

"It is expected that up to 30 percent of the people receiving the vaccine will have minor reactions that result in the loss of one or more duty days," said Brig. Gen. Robert L. Smolen, director of nuclear and counterproliferation.

According to medical officials, the smallpox vaccine is a "live virus" vaccine that uses vaccinia virus. People cannot contract smallpox from the vaccine.

"Smallpox vaccine has some well-recognized side effects," said Lt. Col. (Dr.) Kelly Woodward, chief of preventive medicine at the Air Force Medical Operations Agency. "Many people can expect to have minor side effects, such as feeling achy, low-grade fever, headache and itching at the injection site.

In rare cases, Woodward said, the virus may erupt widely over the body instead of remaining confined to the vaccination site.

Public education is one of the plan's major components. Recipients must be informed about the vaccine and its contraindications before inoculation.

People getting the vaccine will receive a briefing on expected reactions, adverse events, and

how to access health care for medical concerns.

"Education of commanders, individuals and families is imperative to ensure the success of this program," Jumper wrote in the memo.

According to the plan, recipients will be screened before inoculation. The screening form is available under the "Forms" icon at the DOD smallpox Web site at www.vaccines.army.mil.

Anyone who answers "yes" or "unsure" to a question on the form will not receive the vaccine until they have received further medical evaluation.

The Air Force is taking the extra screening precautions because the smallpox vaccine has unique contraindications, or reasons to avoid it, Woodward said.

"Contraindications in either the individual receiving the vaccine or the person's household contacts will preclude a non-emergency vaccination," he said. "It's important that people receiving the vaccine take the time to consider the medical condition of others in their household as they go through the screening process."

While the plan calls for people to be vaccinated before deploying to high-threat areas, non-vaccination does not necessarily preclude mobilization, Smolen said, since the vaccine may be successfully administered up to four days after exposure.

Smallpox vaccinations are given in a single dose, usually in the nondominant deltoid muscle (left upper arm for right-handed people, and vice versa). Revaccination is recommended every 10 years.

(Air Force Print News and Capt. Linda Pepin, 437 AW Public Affairs, contributed to this article.)

Labor relations professor addresses CAFB gathering Says, 'We must use hands, head and heart of the American worker'

By CAPT. LINDA PEPIN
437 AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In a nation where the job has become the central economic focus, a healthy labor-management relationship based on mutual respect and open communication is vital to the success of an organization.

That is the message Dr. Dan Kruger, professor emeritus at Michigan State University's School of Labor and Industrial Relations, delivered at a luncheon here last month.

"The kind of society we have in this great nation of ours depends on how we manage a nation of employees," he said, noting that 93 percent of American workers are employees.

"A good-paying job provides the first line of defense against the hazards of living," Kruger continued.

Good jobs provide benefit packages that include life insurance, health insurance and pension plans,

he said, adding that only 40 percent of Americans have pensions.

"You're lucky," he said, referring to the benefits of government civil service jobs.

Kruger, who has served under three presidents on the Federal Service Impasses Panel to defuse labor relations crises, said there are three important contracts in labor-management relations: a collective bargaining agreement; a regulatory employment contract-legislation impacting the worker, such as employment insurance and workman's compensation; and a psychological contract.

Kruger emphasized the importance of the psychological contract- "the sum total of expectations and perceptions of what we want out of our jobs."

He challenged the audience to write their own psychological contract by making a list of what they

want out of their job, then separating the list into the economic and non-economic items.

"Most of what we want is non-economic," he said. "My criticism is that we use employees' hands and not their hearts. We must use the hands and the head and the heart of the American worker."

The professor also emphasized the importance of ongoing education, praising the opportunities available at Charleston AFB.

"We're operating in a complex system of change, and we have to figure out how to deal with this onslaught of change," he said. "I think one way to do this is to emphasize education and training. Without this, you condemn employees to an economic graveyard."

Former American Federation of Government Employees Local 1869 President Trudy Pendergast credits open communication with changing

CAFB's labor-management relationship for the better in the past several years, with zero formally filed Unfair Labor Practices in her tenure.

Pendergast began the policy of notifying the 437th Mission Support Group commander of potential ULPs, affording him the opportunity to address the problem locally prior to filing formally with the Federal Labor Relations Authority.

"We have begun to build confidence and trust," said Pendergast. "Everyone benefits, especially the bargaining unit, when we communicate."

Kenneth Battle, AFGE Local 1869 president, said he plans to continue the open dialog Pendergast initiated, and said he is proud to serve bargaining unit employees.

"I want to give them a sense of security, make the climate better and make Charleston AFB a great place to work," said Battle.

AROUND THE AIR FORCE

Some airlines waive ticket-exchange fees

Some U.S. airlines are adjusting their rules so service members will not have to pay penalties if they need to alter ticket reservations because of military duty.

AirTran Airways, Delta Airlines and Hawaiian Airlines now waive ticket-change fees for servicemembers on military deployment orders, while ticketing changes on Southwest Airlines are already free, according to Jean Marie Ward of the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for personnel and readiness.

According to General Service Administration officials, a number of other airlines will waive ticket-change penalties if servicemembers present copies of their military orders or a letter from their commanders, Ward said. The waiver procedures are official company policy for some carriers, she said, but not all reservation or check-in people may know that. She suggested travelers call their airline for waiver information before going to the airport. **(American Forces Press Service)**

Iraq declaration 'deliberate effort to deceive'

After a month of reviewing Iraq's declaration to the U.N. Security Council, U.S. officials feel the document is "a deliberate attempt to deceive by material omissions."

U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations John Negroponte told reporters at U.N. headquarters in New York that the Iraqi declaration of Dec. 7 constitutes "a further material breach" of Security Council Resolution 1441.

Resolution 1441, passed by unanimous vote Nov. 8, 2002, was intended to be Iraq's last chance to disarm peacefully. U.S. and international leaders have repeatedly urged Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein to disarm to prevent military action against his regime.

Iraq declared in the 12,000-page document that it has no such weapons. American officials maintain this is false. Negroponte said Jan. 9 that the report fails to answer "numerous outstanding questions."

Previous U.N. inspectors left Iraq in 1998 after years of noncompliance with various Security Council resolutions on Iraq's part. At the time they reported Iraq had enough supplies and equipment to produce 26,000 liters of anthrax and more than 38,000 liters of botulinum toxin, another biological agent that can be fatal within days of exposure.

"The declaration, regrettably, has not helped very much to clarify any question marks of the past," Chief U.N. Weapons Inspector Hans Blix said in New York today.

Iraqi government officials have been actively telling international media representatives that they are cooperating with inspectors and pointing out that no weapons of mass destruction have been found in the country. **(American Forces Press Service)**

American soldier loses foot in mine explosion

An American soldier lost his right foot Jan. 9 when he stepped on a land mine at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, outside the capital city of Kabul.

A U.S. military spokesman at Bagram said the soldier was participating in a mine-clearing operation at about 9 a.m. local time when he stepped into an uncleared area and tripped the mine.

U.S. officials reported the soldier is in stable condition and en route to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany. A Polish soldier was also injured in the explosion, but no details were available on the extent of his injuries or his condition.

An Afghan contract worker also was injured seriously Jan. 9 in a separate mine explosion at the air base. He underwent surgery at the U.S. Army hospital on Bagram and is listed currently in critical condition. **(American Forces Press Service)**

Air Force need for blood donations grows in

With a smaller pool of eligible military donors and a recently decreased stock of frozen blood, the Air Force assistant vice chief of staff is calling on servicemembers and their families to donate blood.

In a recent memo to the field, Lt. Gen. Joseph Wehrle asked airmen worldwide to support the January observance of National Volunteer Blood Donor Month by rolling up their sleeves and giving the gift of life.

"Blood safety and availability are inseparable requirements for ensuring optimal care of our active-duty troops, retirees, military spouses and children," he said. "Unfortunately, current federal regulations barring donations from (people) who have served time in Europe have resulted in a 25-percent drop in eligible donors on Air Force bases."

Besides fewer donors, the frozen blood supply took a hit recently when the Armed Services Blood Program Office asked the military to withdraw frozen blood supplies donated during last summer's West Nile virus epidemic to avoid transmitting the potentially fatal disease to recipients.

Those factors, combined with a historical trend of fewer blood donations in the winter months, would make the need for blood more urgent in any year. That need is even more urgent today, taking into consideration current world events including a possible war with Iraq. **(American Forces Press Service)**

Combat Camera Photo of the Week



Photo by Staff Sgt. Matthew Hannen, 1CTCS

Good morning

A C-130 Hercules takes a sunrise flight near a tent city at a deployed location supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. The Pentagon announced Jan. 8 that thousands of American servicemembers are deploying to the U.S. Central Command area of operations.

NEWS BRIEFS

Spotlight

Chiefs: The 2003 Chiefs' Induction Ceremony will be held Feb. 1, 6 p.m., at the Charleston Club. All chief master sergeant selects for 2003 will be honored. Chiefs, squadron commanders and spouses are invited and may invite as many guests as they desire. The cost is \$20 per person and dress will be mess dress or semi-formal for military and business for civilians. For more information or to make reservations, call Tech. Sgt. Kim Carreno at 963-5497, or e-mail kim.carreno@charleston.af.mil.

Around the base

Closure: The 437th Logistics Readiness Squadron will be closed today, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., for a squadron picnic. Vehicle dispatch, the Fuels Control Center and the Aircraft Parts store will remain open. In the event of a mission-critical emergency, contact the LRS 24-hour contact at 963-5079.

Unity walk: A Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Walk and Commemorative Service will be held Monday, 10 a.m., starting at the Charleston Club parking lot and ending at the Base Chapel. Dress will be civilian attire. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Denese Bellamy at 963-2262.

Commissary: The Charleston AFB Commissary will be open Tuesday during the observance of the Martin Luther King Holiday.

Marriage: The medical group will offer a marriage enrichment class Jan. 21, meeting for six consecutive Tuesdays, 6-8:30 p.m. The seminar is free for base personnel and their spouses. For more information or to register, call Jim Hernandez at 963-6504.

OSA: The Officers' Spouses Association will host their January event at Miyabi's Japanese Steak House on Jan. 23, 6:30 p.m. Come out and enjoy having dinner cooked at the table by a Japanese chef. For more information, or to reserve a seat, call Donna Baker at 207-0401 by Jan. 19, 5 p.m.

Study skills: There will be a study skills seminar at the Community

Charleston Warrior of the Week

Tech Sergeant Troy Jarrell

437th Mission Support Squadron

Technical Sergeant Troy Jarrell is the NCOIC of promotions and special actions at the 437th Mission Support Squadron Military Personnel Flight.

Jarrell's job deals mainly with promotions, weight management and unfavorable information files.

Jarrell remembers one instance where an airman first class was en route to Germany, but wasn't receiving her A1C pay.

"I called down to the Air Force Personnel Center to get her pay changed before she left," Jarrell said. "I like helping people like that."

Jarrell also helps people outside out work too. He coaches soccer, t-ball and basketball for 4- to 6-year-olds and has also coached the men's varsity team here.

It is his second time at Charleston AFB. He was here from 1988 to 1996, then came back in March 2001.

"I did base of preference to come back here," Jarrell said. "I love Charleston."

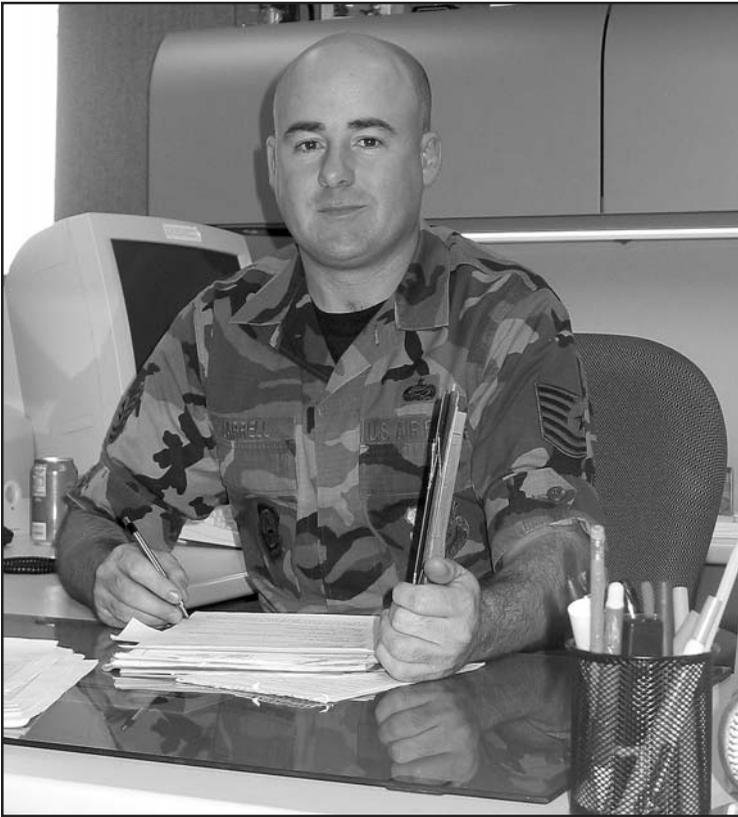


Photo by 2nd Lt. Jennifer Andrews

Education Center Jan. 23, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., and is open to all personnel. For more information or to reserve a seat, please call 963-4575 no later than Jan. 21.

Medical training: Classes for the Red Cross Medical Assistance Training Program will begin in the Family Practice Clinic Jan. 27. The program is open to family members of active duty and retired personnel. The program will last six months and requires attendance five days per week, eight hours per day. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Karen Smith at 963-6743, or Staff Sgt. Christina Marx at 963-6969.

Blood Drive: The next Charleston AFB blood drive will be held Jan. 28, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Charleston Club. All blood types are needed and appointments or walk-ins are available. For more information, call Capt. Paul Brown at 963-4678.

ESC: The next Enlisted Support Club meeting will be Jan. 28,

6:30 p.m., at the Family Support Center. This month will be a stamping social. Please bring \$2 to cover the supplies. For more information, call Marcia Lytton at 760-6892.

Supply: The 437th Logistics

Readiness Squadron Customer Service Center is the point of contact for unit supply needs. The center researches national stock numbers, issues SATS cards and checks the status of particular items. For more information, call 963-4826.

Pharmacy makes policy changes

Beginning Feb. 1, the 437th Medical Group Pharmacy will no longer release prescriptions to any person representing a patient for pick-up without the following items:

- Valid self-photo identification card
- The patient's photo identification card or a copy of the front and back of the ID card
- A signed statement from the patient authorizing the representative to act on his or her behalf for this purpose

There is no requirement for the signed statement to be notarized. However, the patient may choose to use a medical power of attorney. Patient representatives may include spouses, parents, legal guardians and friends.

Patient representatives of dependent children other than the parent or legal guardian must present the following for prescription pick-up:

- Valid self-photo ID card
- Dependent child's ID card or photocopy
- A signed authorization statement from the dependent child's parents or legal guardian

(Submitted by the 437 MDG Diagnostics and Therapeutics Flight.)

FEATURE

SFS secretary retires after 35 years of service at CAFB

By 2ND LT. SHALOMA MCGOVERN
437 AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Typewriters are the newest technology and computers are only for the elite. Gas costs under \$1 and Volkswagen bugs are all the rage. It's 1974, and it's Ruth "Criquet" Parker's first day on the job as a civil service employee at Charleston AFB.

The last 35 years has seen huge leaps in technology, and Parker was witness to many of these before retiring from civil service Jan. 3.

Parker moved to South Carolina to be close to her friends. Before long, she was hired as a temporary employee for the 315th Airlift Wing during the C-5's five-year testing program. When the program ended, the Air Force offered her a move to Altus AFB, Okla., which she declined. She opted instead for a downgrade in pay to take a permanent position as an administrative assistant with the security forces squadron.

Parker recalls her early days on the job.

"At times, you had to redo all of the paperwork if it appeared unprofessional," she said. "As time progressed, we color-coded the carbon copies for file, re-file, distribution ... etcetera.

"When a mistake was made, we would erase the mistake, and have to erase it on all of the copies as well," Parker continued. "It was very time consuming. Accuracy was a must."

During her time as the security forces commander's secretary, she worked for approximately 15 different commanders. The last commander she worked for was Maj. Jeffrey Hunt, 437 SFS commander.

"She was a wealth of knowledge and experience," said Hunt. "I don't think I've worked



Photo by Airman 1st Class Jason Bailey

Ruth Parker, 437th Security Forces Squadron commander's secretary, says good-bye to Charleston AFB after 35 years with the support of her husband and sister at her retirement ceremony Jan. 3.

with anyone who has that kind of experience in any one unit. She made my transition as a commander really easy. She taught me, instead of me teaching her."

Commanders weren't the only ones who valued Parker's knowledge.

"She was my one person to go to for everything," said Master Sgt. Sheryl Oulton, 437 SFS first sergeant. "She knew all the ins and outs of the squadron."

Parker has also seen women's work roles grow through the years. When she began working here, she was the only woman in security forces. Now, 22 women are part of the unit.

During her tenure at the base, Parker has witnessed the base's complete "facelift" with the arrival of the C-17; multiple reorganizations, including the combination of separate security police and law enforcement functions into one security forces unit, and personnel downsizing on more than one occasion.

Amidst all the changes she's seen, Parker's aspirations remained constant. From high school to the present, being a secretary was always her first choice of professions.

"I fulfilled my dream of what I always wanted to do," she said. "Here at Charleston, once a civilian comes aboard, they stay."

*Through
the years
with
Criquet*



Courtesy photos



Safety Office passes on product recalls

Speakers

In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Madrigal Audio Laboratories, Inc., of Middletown, Conn., is voluntarily recalling about 1,300 subwoofer speakers. A screw inside of the subwoofer can cause a high voltage short, which could cause a severe injury to consumers through an electric shock.

Madrigal has received one report of electric shock, and no injuries have been reported.

The recalled Revel B-15 subwoofers have an outer cabinet with a black or gray speaker grill on the front and are about 20 inches in width, height, and depth. The brand name Revel is printed on the bottom left of the rear panel.

Consumers should immediately contact the dealer from whom the subwoofer was purchased or Madrigal at 1-800-424-8043, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., to receive a free repair and new computer software. Consumers also can visit the company's Web site at www.revelspeakers.com.

Camping stoves

In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Century Tool and Manufacturing Co. Inc., of Cherry Valley, Ill., is voluntarily recalling about 6,300 propane-powered camping stoves. The burner assembly in the stoves can restrict the flow of gas, which can cause a leak. The leaking gas can ignite and weaken the hose, causing it to separate from the stove and pose a fire hazard to consumers.

Century Tool and Manufacturing has received eight reports of hoses separating from the stove, causing one minor injury.

Consumers should stop using the recalled stoves immediately and call Century at 1-800-435-4525 Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., to receive information on replacing their stove. Consumers can also write to Century Tool and Mfg. Company, P.O. Box 188, Cherry Valley, Ill., 61016, or visit the company's Web site at www.centurytoolmfg.com.

Electric fans

In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Brooklyn Lollipop Imports & Exports, Inc. of Brooklyn, NY, is voluntarily recalling about 22,000 electric fans. These electric fans have undersized wiring, use a power plug that is not polarized, have an improperly sized grill, and overheat, all of which could cause electrocution, electric shock, fire, and finger entrapment hazards to consumers.

CPSC and Brooklyn Lollipop have not received any reports of incidents. This recall is being conducted to prevent the possibility of injuries.

The recalled electric fans, which have the brand name Lollipop printed on the fan blade cover, have model numbers V1185, V1186, V1865 and V1783, which can be found on the motor housing. The V1185, V1186, and V1865 models have labels that read, "Hi Velocity Lol-

lipop Air Circular." The three-speed, four-position fans are either floor mounted or table top units. The model V1783 has a clip-on base. These fans were manufactured in China.

For more information, call Brooklyn Lollipop collect at 1-718-388-9526 Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Wooden vehicles

In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Kmart Corp., of Troy, Mich., is voluntarily recalling about 50,000 wooden vehicles that are filled with candy. These products may be given to children as toys. The wheels on the wooden toys may break off into small parts, which may pose a choking hazard to young children.

Kmart has not received any reports of incidents. This recall is being conducted to prevent the possibility of injuries. Kmart stores nationwide sold these wooden vehicles from November 2002 through December 2002 for about \$5.

Consumers should take them away from children immediately and return them to any Kmart store for a full refund. For additional information, consumers can contact Kmart at 1-800-63KMART anytime, or log on to the company's Web site at www.kmart.com.

Bicycles

In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Sun Rise Bicycle Industrial Co. Ltd. of Taiwan and Raleigh America Inc., of Kent, Wash., are voluntarily recalling about 2,800 bicycles. The frames on these bicycles can break, which can cause riders to lose control and crash.

Consumers should immediately stop using these bicycles and return them to an authorized Diamondback dealer to receive a free replacement frame. For more information or for the name of the nearest authorized Diamondback dealer, consumers can call Raleigh America at 1-888-805-6396 Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-5 p.m., or go to the Web site at www.diamondback.com.

Soap-making kits

In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Pace Products Inc., of Apopka, Fla., is voluntarily recalling about 145,000 children's soap making kits. The soap may get too hot when heated in the microwave oven and leak from the tray mold posing a burn hazard to children.

CPSC has received three reports of burn injuries from the heated soap, including a 6-year-old girl who received burns to her hand.

The soap kits were sold under the name "Soap Making for Kids." The kits include a plastic mold tray, three bars of glycerine, string and an instruction book.

Consumers should take these soap kits away from children immediately and contact Pace Products at 1-800-541-7670 Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., to receive instructions on returning the soap kits for a refund. Consumers also can visit the firm's Web site at www.paceplace.com.

Chapel schedule



107 Arthur Drive
Office: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

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.

Protestant Services: Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Sunday School in Bldg. 245, 11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service and 11 a.m. Children's Church. Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in Bldg. 217 (old Chapel).

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: Synagogue Emanu-El, 5 Windsor Dr., Charleston, S.C. Phone: 571-3264.

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

Movie schedule

Admission: 99 cents for adults and children.

Any person under 17 years of age requires a parent or adult guardian (a minimum of 21 years old) to purchase an admission ticket for the minor 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.

Tonight, 7:30 p.m.

"Analyze That" — Robert De Niro

Paul is let out of prison and hooks up again with a therapist who may need more psychological help than his mobster patient. **(R) 95 minutes**

Saturday, 2 p.m.

"Treasure Planet" — Animated

Fifteen-year-old Jim Hawkins joins the crew of an intergalactic expedition as a cabin boy aboard a glittering space galleon. Befriended by the ship's cook, a charismatic cyborg named John Silver, Jim blossoms under his guidance and shows the makings of a fine "spacer" as he and the alien crew battle supernovas. **(PG) 96 minutes**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

"Die Another Day" — Pierce Brosnan

Bond is on the trail of new villains - the deadly megalomaniac Gustav Graves and his ruthless right-hand man, the North Korean Zao. **(R) 120 minutes**

SPORTS & FITNESS



Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Clements

Chillin' with the 'Rays

Chief Master Sgt. Michael Michaud, 437th Aerial Port Squadron Mobility Flight superintendent, waves a hockey stick signed by Stingrays players and presented in appreciation of his support for the team at a Stingray's game Jan. 10. The Stingrays are holding a military appreciation night, Feb. 8, offering \$7 tickets for military members and free parking at the North Charleston Coliseum. The game begins at 7:30 p.m. against the Roanoke Express. Tickets are available at Outdoor Recreation, or at the Coliseum box office window. Groups of 10 or more may book seats at the special price by calling Jason Oates, 744-2248, ext. 1205.