

AIRLIFT Dispatch

Vol. 42, No. 5

437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, February 7, 2003



In the news

Tech. Sgt. Brian Jones, 437th Logistics Readiness Squadron assistant NCOIC war readiness, and other members of the mobility processing line were under the media spotlight Jan. 30 when all three local television stations and other regional media covered a group of Charleston AFB airmen processing for deployment to an undisclosed location. Airmen can expect longer deployments under a new Air Force plan. See page 7 for more information.

SECURITY

Guard comes to CAFB to help man gates

see page 10

RECRUITERS

RAPTOR recruiting vehicle visits local area

see page 15

SERVICES

Dining facility spices it up then dishes it out

see page 16

FITNESS

Troops offered more than clean towels

see page 18

Team Charleston: One family, one mission, one fight!

COMMENTARY

Commander's Comments

By Col. Brooks Bash
437AWcommander

This has been a week of good news for the people of CAFB. We have 10 newly-selected lieutenant colonels on base, and a new captain in our legal office. Congratulations to our promotees. Check page 10 for a list of names.

Awards

Our wing earned the 2002 Air Mobility Command distinguished ground safety award, adding to a long list of safety awards this year. Special thanks to **David Luttrell, Chris Anderson, Senior Master Sgt. Chris Bidmead,** and **Staff Sgt. James Brown** in the 437 AW Safety Office for making the program a success. Safety is a top priority for Team Charleston, and it takes everyone's effort, so we can all be proud of our contribution to this recognition.

Additionally, **Airman Stephanie Hammer**, 437 AW Public Affairs, earned three separate AMC awards for her newspaper writing, and **Airman 1st Class Amy Perry** took first place honors in AMC for her stand-alone photo of last year's Native American heritage month picnic. Way to go!

We also recognized Diamond Sharp winners: **Airman 1st Class Cederick Moody**, 437th Security Forces Squadron; **Staff Sgt. Patrick A. Clancy**, 437th Services Squadron; **Airman Alicia L. Raschke**, 437th Maintenance Squadron; and **Senior Airman Nicholas R. Mizzoni III**, 437th Aerial Port Squadron.

Additionally, I gave coins to **Master Sgt. Scott Hollabaugh**, 437 Contracting Squadron; **Staff Sgt. Nancy Willingham**, 437 Maintenance Operations Squadron; and **Senior Airman Christie Skiles**, 437th Comptroller Squadron, for managing Government Travel Card programs that had zero delinquencies for July through December.

Most significantly, congratulations are also in order for our annual award winners. Look for details in next week's *Airlift Dispatch*. No doubt about it—Team Charleston has many truly outstanding airmen doing great things for the mission.

National Prayer Luncheon

We expect to see a good crowd at the National Prayer Luncheon at the Charleston Club today, 11:30 a.m. Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) Charles Baldwin, deputy chief of the Air Force chaplain service, and a rescue helicopter pilot



Col. Brooks Bash, 437th Airlift Wing commander, smiles as he congratulates Team Charleston's newest chief master sergeants Feb. 1. Photo by Airman 1st Class Jason Bailey

in Vietnam, is the guest speaker.

Military appreciation night

Tomorrow we have a great opportunity to unwind together at Military Appreciation night with the Stingrays at the North Charleston Coliseum. Show military identification at the box office window to get a discounted ticket. In a two-for-one hockey extravaganza, our base hockey team will be facing off against the Navy team on the ice at 4:30 p.m., followed by the Stingrays game at 7:30p.m. Parking is free.

Operations tempo

Our operations tempo, and that of our deployed personnel, has increased dramatically over the past weeks. For example, in January, C-17 crews at the Rhein Main AB, Germany, stage flew more than 400 missions down-range, nearly double the previous high. We are also running a stage operation here, with McChord planes and people coming through here to be ready to assist in carrying people and cargo to forward locations. Just in this past three weeks, we launched more than 100 missions in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Thank you, to all of you—active duty, Reserves, civilians and volunteers—for the exceptional job you are doing in getting the mission done safely. Keep up the great work!

Action line addresses using loading zone as drop-off point

Q: This morning the Security Forces airman at the Lamb's School gate told me I could no longer drop off my daughter in the loading zone. I find it hard to believe that using the loading zone is unacceptable but stopping in the middle of the road and blocking all traffic is. Is it possible to put a parking lot where the houses used to stand? That way the two lanes of the road can be utilized more efficiently, one for stopping (for those who just let the children jump out) and one for continuous traffic.

A: Thank you for looking out for the

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.

safety of our children at the drop-off area by the Lambs School gate. The striped areas of the roads adjacent to the Lamb's school gate allow parents to safely drop off and pick up their children. These striped areas are not meant for vehicle

parking, but are simply an area for parents who are present in their vehicle to load/unload children. Leaving vehicles unattended in this area would create a traffic hazard. The Security Forces member at the time noticed a traffic hazard that was

occurring and asked for your vehicle to be moved. Additional training has been provided to our security personnel to ensure they are aware of the authorized drop off point and the procedures.

In the long term, the FY05 family housing military construction project provides for a school drop off/pick up area on South O'Neal, adjacent to the Lambs Elementary school gate. Thank you for voicing your concern, and we encourage you to keep focused on safety, particularly at this busy portion of our base.

— Col. Brooks Bash
437th Airlift Wing commander

There is no 'I' in TEAM Charleston

By Lt. Col. Charles Capps
437 MSS commander

When I arrived here in July 2001, I knew I'd lucked into something very special. Here at Charleston AFB, there's an atmosphere of team and success that pervades virtually everything we do. It begins with our wing commanders and extends throughout the ranks of officers, enlisted, civilians and even our volunteers and retirees. When you're part of something special, everybody wants to get into the act.

Throughout December and January, at our Wednesday morning stand-ups, I watched names of individuals and teams bringing home the steel from 21st Air Force, Air Mobility Command, and Air Force annual award competitions appear on slides. The list was incredibly long and covered every group and just about every squadron here on base. Our mission reliability and mission capability rates are superb and reflect tremendous pride and dedication.

When AMC and Air Force evaluation teams come here to look at our squadrons, we pull together and make concerted effort to spiff-up the inside and outside of our buildings. Why do we do this? Because we're all part of the same team; when one of us wins, we all win.

All of this is even more important because we're sitting on the eve of another possible contingency. You're probably already feeling the increase in ops tempo, but we're going to be asked to do even more...a lot more. And I know we're going to respond with a true team effort.

Our C-17 is unquestionably the leading strategic asset in getting troops and equipment to the fight in a hurry. The Air Force and our sister services will be calling on us to fill a large share of the airlift requirements.

They know whatever they ask, we're going to take the reins and deliver on time.

We're human and we've been working hard for a long time. So, we're wondering how in the world we're going to do more, while our deployment taskings are increasing. Who is going to get the job done here? How many hours a day and how many days a week will we be working? Does anybody care about the people in the trenches who do the work?

I'm not going to try and fool you; these questions are difficult to answer. Guaranteeing success, while keeping the force healthy and morale high, requires the right doses of

vision and action planning. But, if our Commander-in-Chief calls, we're going to get it done because of who we are as a team.

When it comes to going to war, there is no insignificant role or person on this base. We depend on everyone to play

their part flawlessly. Folks in BDUs and civilian attire makeup the cogs in an incredibly complex but entirely effective wheel. That's you, Team Charleston!

Lately, when I'm at the ballpark, church, or a restaurant, friends are asking lots of questions about what looms on the horizon. Despite my ability to provide concise answers, they still offer the same response. "We're with you and we're praying for you!"

Since Sep 11, 2001 I've received more nice comments about my service than during all the other 17 previous years put together. I hope you've been privy to the same. I also hope you swell with pride when citizens tell you how thankful they are that you are here right now.

They've grown accustomed to their base and their troops winning in and out of battle. We'll keep that record going. Every time you see one of those big C-17s launching, be assured we're all in this together...one family, one mission, one fight!

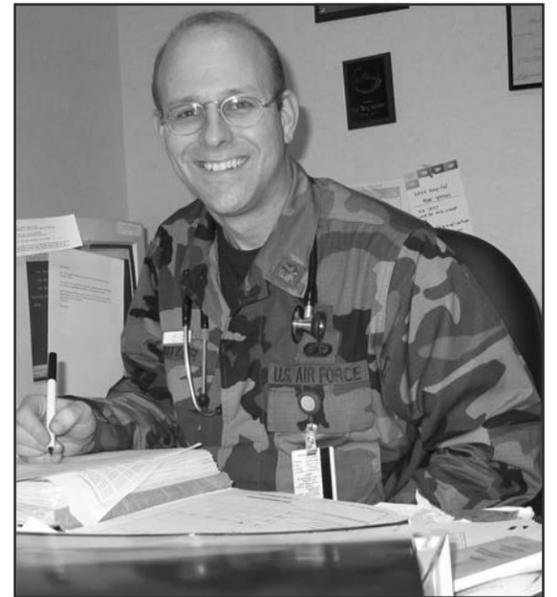
worth repeating

"Here at Charleston AFB, there's an atmosphere of team and success that pervades virtually everything we do ... When you're part of something special, everybody wants to get into the act.

-Lt. Col. Charles Capps

437th Mission Support Squadron commander

The DOC spot



Maj. Greg Sweitzer
437th MDG Family Practice physician

Education: A graduate from Pennsylvania State University, Sweitzer has a bachelor's degree in science and applied math with a minor in physics. After spending six years in the Air Force Space Command as a satellite orbital analyst, he went to the Uniform Services University of the Health Sciences for four years and earned his doctorate.

He has been here since July after completing a three-year residency at Andrews AFB, Md.

Best part of job: Trying to make people better, one patient at a time.

Biggest challenge: He works late a lot of nights and doesn't get to see his kids as much as he would like. "Do I like patient care? Absolutely, but it is very demanding on the family."

Sound medical advice:

"Take responsibility for your body. A lot of things I have to treat are preventable, from smoking and unhealthy eating habits to not wearing seatbelts."

AIRLIFT Dispatch

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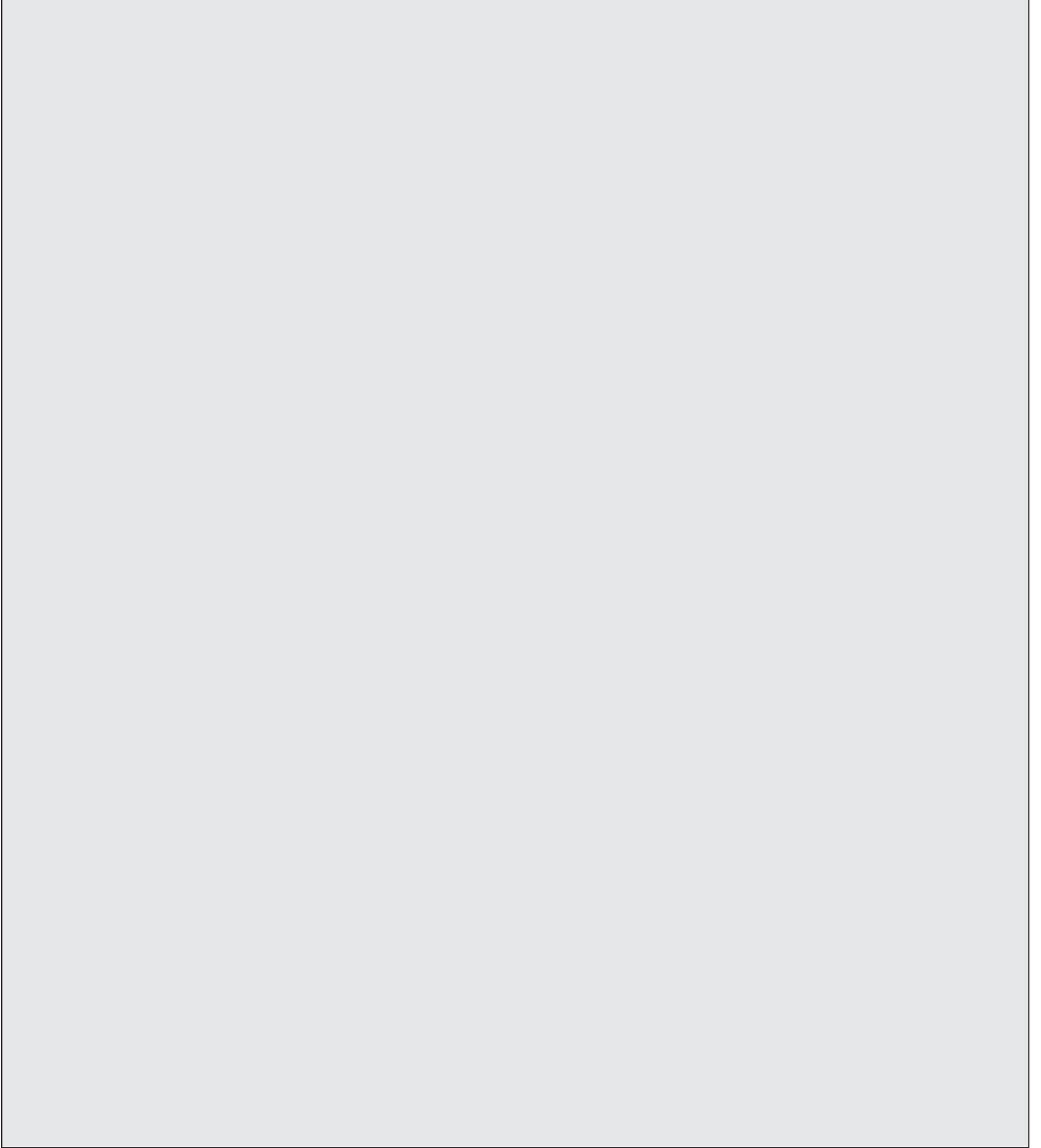
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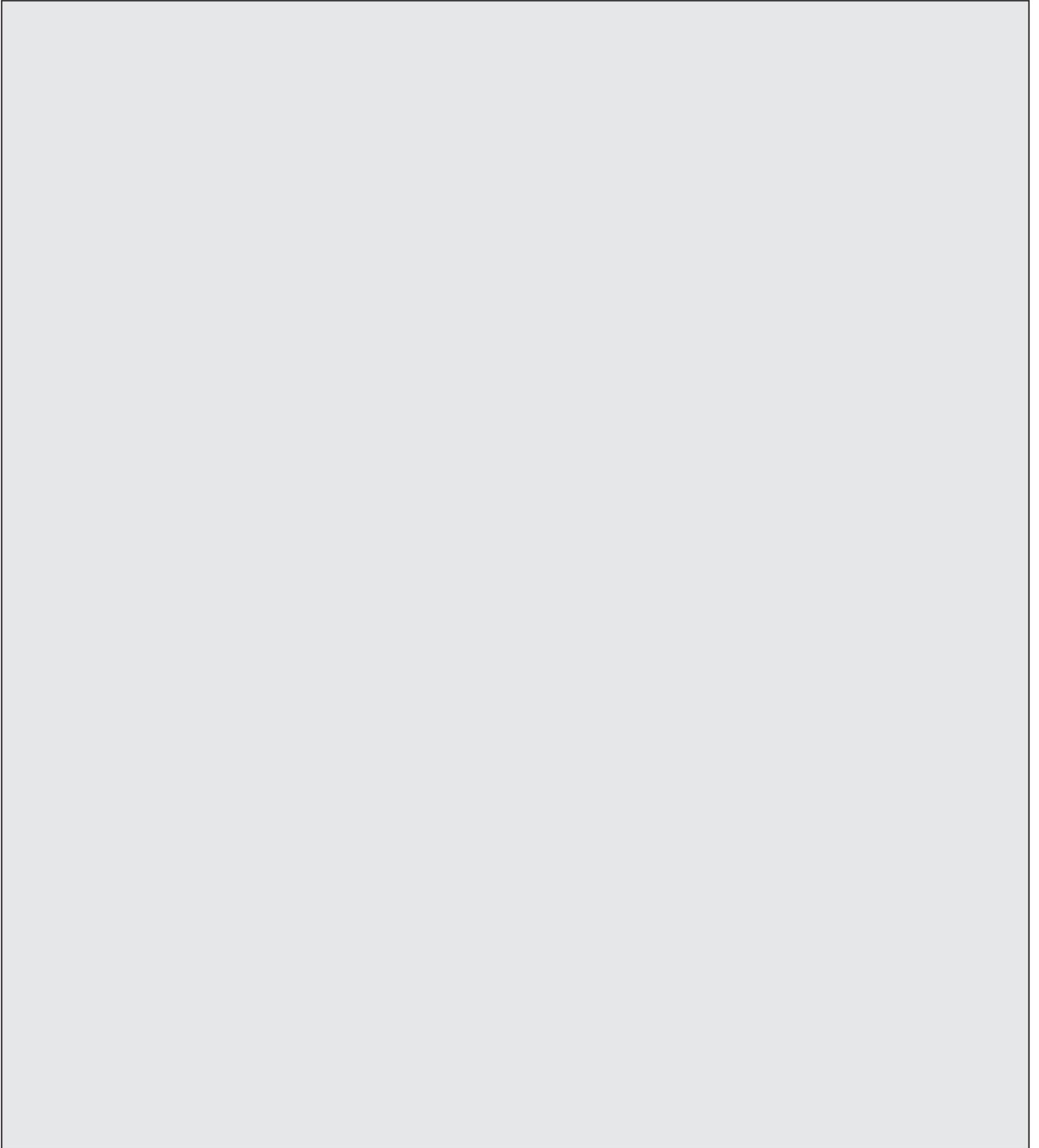
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NEWS

AF changes tattoo, body-piercing regulations

Policy sets physical appearance modification standards for military members on and off duty

By Capt. Krista Carlos
437 AW Public Affairs

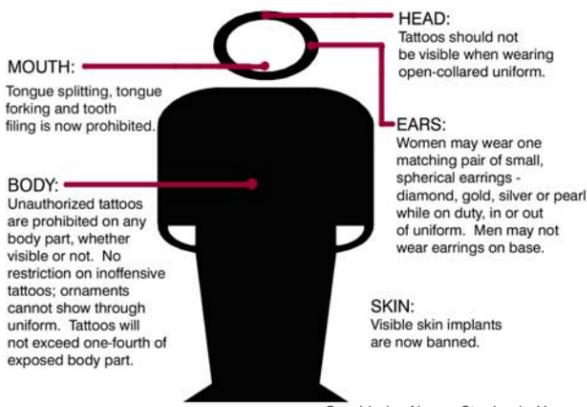
A metal rod pierced into the middle of a tongue or a coiled snake tattooed down the entire length a forearm are just a few examples of body alterations that are prohibited in the updated Sept. 2002 AFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel*.

The revised policy sets airmen's physical appearance modification standards in line with the rest of the military branches in the DoD.

"The Air Force wants every airman to present a professional appearance to the public," said 1st Lt. John Pak, 437th Airlift Wing assistant staff judge advocate. "It is important to maintain strict standards for good order and discipline and these standards prohibit unauthorized or inappropriate tattoos and piercings."

According to the new instruction, prohibited tattoos fall into two categories: unauthorized and inappropriate. Unauthorized tattoos are obscene or advocate sexual, racial, ethnic or religious discrimination. These tattoos are prohibited anywhere on the body, regardless

Body Modification Guidelines



Graphic by Airman Stephanie Hammer

of the fact that they can be covered up by uniform items. In this category, tattoos must be removed at the individual's expense.

Inappropriate tattoos are tattoos above the collarbone and are visible when wearing an open-collar uniform, or exceed one-fourth of the exposed body part while in uniform. They must be either covered by the uniform or removed. Depending on the circumstances, commanders may allow Air Force medical support for voluntary tattoo removal.

"People have to realize that they are in the military and these types of things are not permitted," said Master Sgt. Gregory Brown, 437th

Mission Support Squadron first sergeant. "Airmen need to be smart because even out of uniform you need to be professional."

Additionally, airmen are prohibited from attaching or displaying jewelry or objects through the ear, nose, tongue or other exposed body part when wearing a military uniform, performing an official duty in civilian attire, or wearing civilian clothes on a military installation, said Pak.

"Just getting (men) to stop wearing earrings around the base is hard," said Brown. "You have to be professional even if you're walking around base because there are always retirees and generals that go to the BX and commissary. Airmen should present a professional image to everyone."

Women are allowed to wear one pair of small, spherical, conservative, pierced or clip earrings that are diamond, gold, white pearl or silver while on duty in uniform or civilian clothes. The instruction allows for women to wear sensible, conservative earrings off duty on a military installation.

"This policy is important because once it is set and the public is informed, every airman is accountable," said Pak. "Commanders use this as guidance, and noncompliance could result in administrative or non-judicial punishment."

VFW adopts APS

The Tech. Sgt. Walter Fulda Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3433 has adopted the 437th Aerial Port Squadron through the VFW's Military Assistance Program. The adoption was approved by the post membership and the squadron commander.

The Military Assistance Program is part of the VFW's never-ending obligation to assist active duty, National Guard and Reserve members, their families and recently discharged veterans. While MAP strives to ease the transition from military to civilian life, it also offers tangible benefits to enhance the quality of life for active service members and their families. At a time when troops are asked to do more with less, MAP hopes to help guide the way.

Membership in the VFW is open to all active duty or discharged veterans who have received any of the following medals: Armed Forces Expeditionary, Marine Corps Expeditionary, Navy Expeditionary, Combat Action, Kosovo Campaign, China Service, Korean Service, Vietnam Service, or Southwest Asia.

Recently changes in law make Hostile Fire Pay and Imminent Danger Pay recipients now eligible. For more information, call Dave Mellert at 871-2407. (Courtesy of VFW Post 3433.)

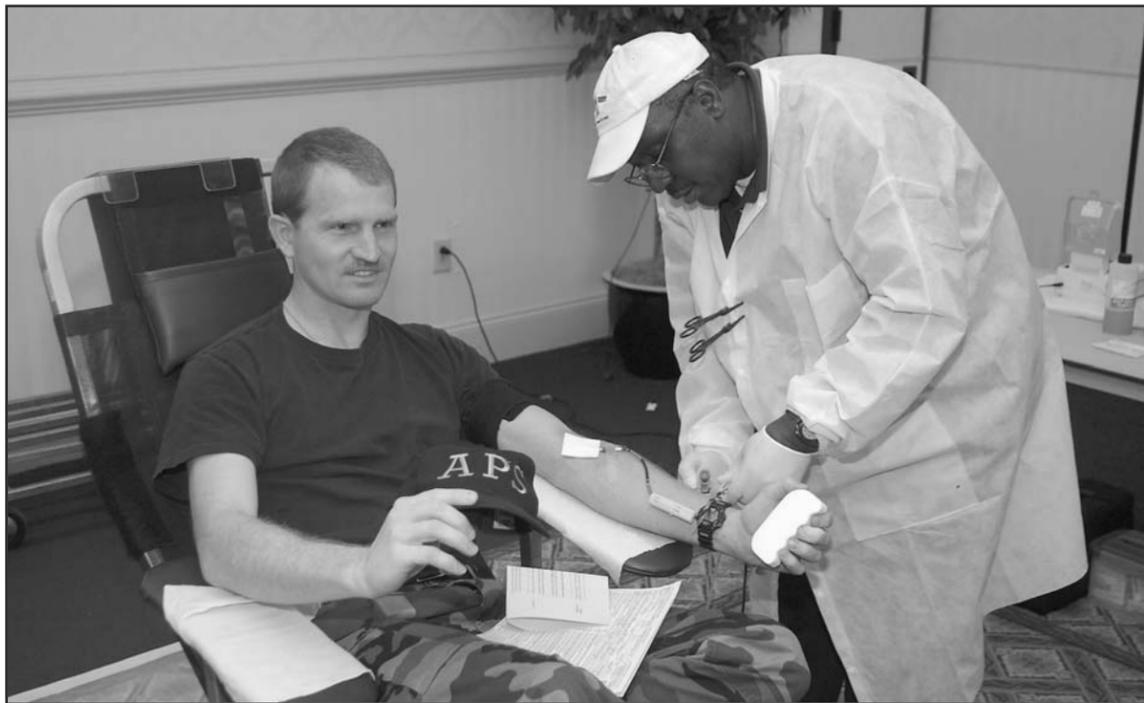


Photo by Airman 1st Class Jason Bailey

Giving 'til it hurts

Staff Sgt. Walter Worthington, 437th Aerial Port Squadron Mobility Flight NCO, gives blood during Charleston AFB's blood drive at the Charleston Club Jan. 28. With a smaller pool of eligible military donors and a recently decreased stock of blood, the Air Force assistant vice chief of staff recently called on servicemembers and their families to donate blood. The next blood drive is March 26.

Air Force extends current, upcoming deployments

Jumper says changes made to meet needs of combatant commanders



Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Clements
Airman 1st Class Ronald Howze, 437th Aerial Port Squadron, checks the expiration date on the chemical gas mask canister he was issued during the mobility processing line here Jan. 30. Howze is deploying to a forward location as part of the American troop build-up.

Currently-and-soon-to-be deployed airmen will remain deployed longer than the previously targeted three-month rotation, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper announced Jan. 28. The change was made to meet the needs of combatant commanders.

Specifically, active-duty and mobilized reserve component airmen deployed with Air and Space Expeditionary Forces 7 and 8, and those deploying as part of new taskings ordered by Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld Dec. 24, should anticipate remaining in place until further notice, Jumper said in the message.

The need for additional forces is part of a buildup of air power in Southwest Asia, ready to achieve national security objectives if directed by the president.

"We must interrupt our normal three-month AEF rotation cycle because the resources in a single AEF pair can no longer satisfy the needs of our combatant commands," Jumper said.

The general said that the change would likely increase the amount of time many airmen are forward deployed.

"I know this is a lot to ask, and I am confident that every airman understands we have been called upon once again by our nation," he said. "Our success as an Air Force depends on how we prepare for and execute operations."

Jumper's words echoed those in a message sent by Rumsfeld the same day to people in the

Department of Defense.

"In recent weeks and months, the president has called the world's attention to Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq," Rumsfeld said. "He has rallied the United Nations to enforce its resolutions calling for the regime's disarmament."

Jumper said every effort will be made to relieve those deployed in a way that accommodates mission requirements.

"I assure you that we will continue to assess the evolving situation and develop rotation plans which seek to relieve our forces in the most equitable fashion while still meeting combatant commanders' warfighting requirements," he said.

Although rotation plans are intended to provide airmen and their families with a predictable schedule for deployments, resulting in a more normal lifestyle, an implicit understanding is that increased operations tempo changes everything, Jumper said. It is a national

security matter, one in which the efforts of the entire Air Force team will be needed.

"I have never been (more proud) of our Air Force and of the great men and women who bring America's resolve to the doorsteps of those who would seek to inflict harm upon us and our allies," he continued. "I know you are all equal to the task, and I look forward to seeing our great Air Force continue to successfully defend American values and freedoms."

(Air Force Print News)

worth repeating

"I have never been (more proud) of our Air Force and of the great men and women who bring America's resolve to the doorsteps of those who would seek to inflict harm upon us and our allies."

—Gen. John Jumper
Air Force chief of staff

Mayors get up-close look at Charleston AFB mission

By 2nd Lt. Jennifer Andrews
437AWPublicAffairs

Mayors from Charleston, Hanahan, Isle of Palms, James Island, Kiawah Island, Lincolnville, St. Stephen and Summerville visited Charleston Air Force Base Jan. 31 to meet base leaders and gain knowledge of the base's mission. This collective gathering of mayors at Charleston AFB is the first event of its kind.

"This kind of event allows us to show appreciation to the local communities and get the word out about what we are doing at Charleston Air Force Base," said Col. Brooks Bash, 437th Airlift Wing commander. "It also gives us a chance to highlight our troops and the great things they

do."

The mayors began the day by eating lunch at the Charleston Club. During the meal, Bash briefed the mayors about the base's mission, current operations, upcoming air show, Eagle Eyes program and the base's involvement with surrounding communities. The 315th Airlift Wing public affairs office also briefed the mayors about the Reservist mission.

"I'm glad I came," said William Wert, mayor of Kiawah Island. "How would anyone learn anything if they didn't go check it out?"

In addition to the lunch and briefings, the mayors were treated to a C-17 load demonstration.

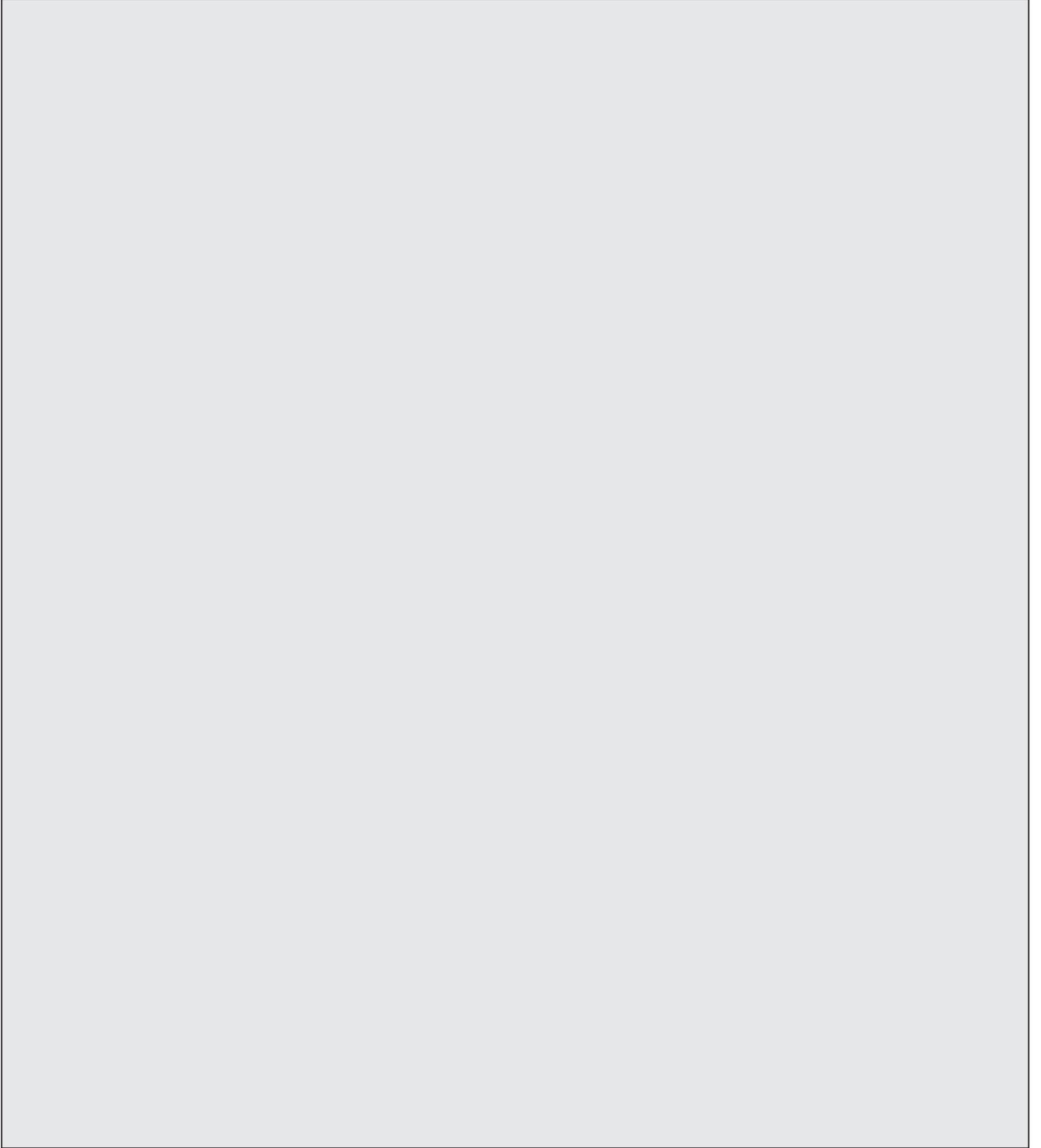
"I always say a prayer when I hear

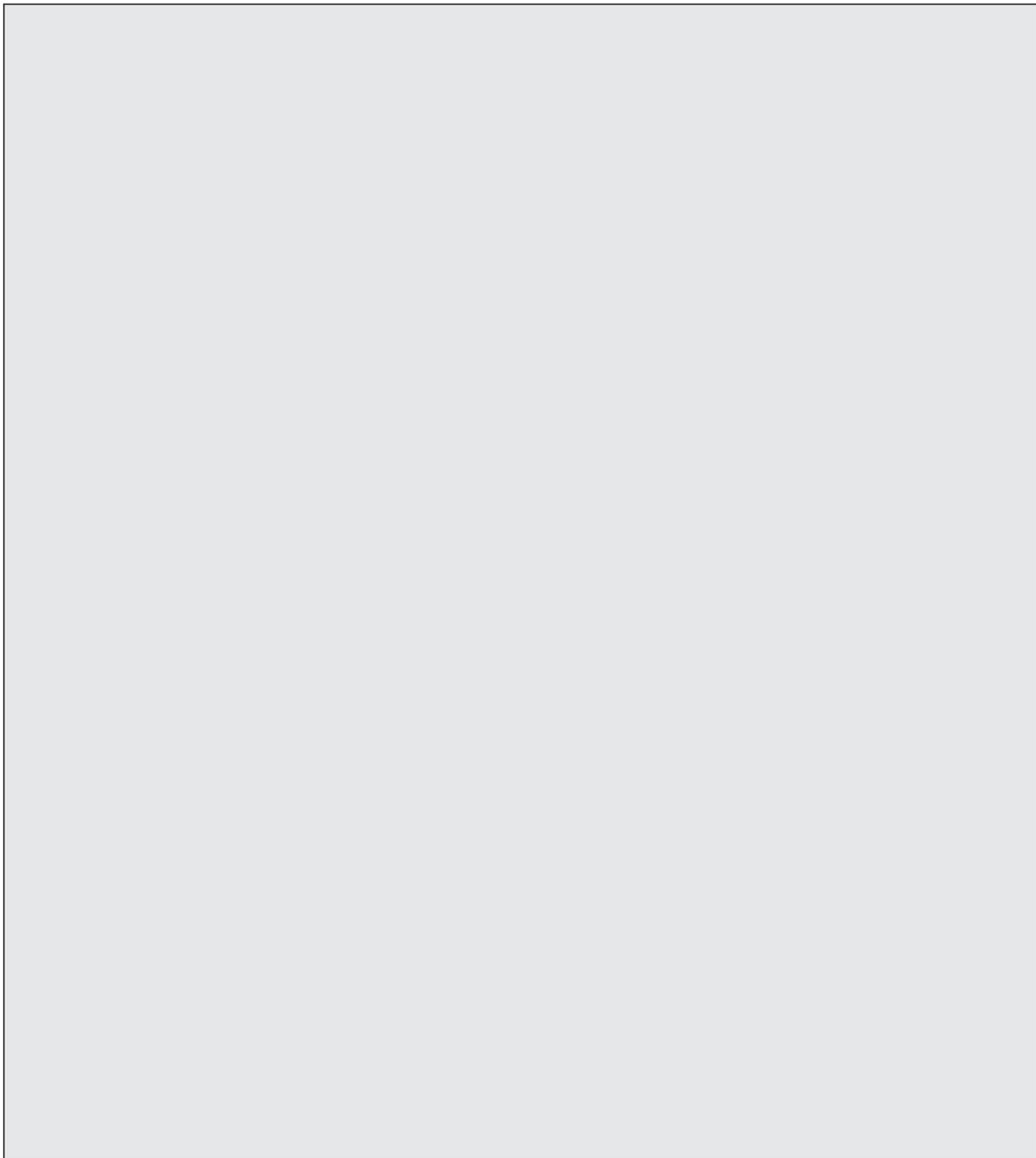


Photo by Airman 1st Class Jason Bailey
Left to right: Mayor Michael Sottile, Isle of Palms; Mayor H. Bruce Buckheiser, Town of North; Lt. Col. Steven Dye, 15th Airlift Squadron; and Mayor William Wert, Kiawah Island, watch a pallet-loading demonstration on a C-17 Globemaster III. The mayors took part in the base's Mayors' Appreciation Day Jan. 31.

a plane go by," said Mary Clark, mayor of James Island. "Now I know who I'm praying for."

Wert agreed and added, "I'll sleep better now that I know what you do. It's tremendous."





NEWS

Guard to help augment SFS

By Capt. Krista Carlos
437th AW Public Affairs

CAFB members shouldn't be surprised when they see guard soldiers assisting at the base gates this month.

During the next few weeks, approximately 90 Army National Guard and Reserve soldiers will arrive to help provide security here.

The Department of Defense announced Nov. 7 its plans to mobilize up to 10,000 Army National Guard and Reserve soldiers to replace Air National Guard and Air Force Reservists on 163 state-side bases and 11 overseas installations.

"We are leveraging all of our active and reserve assets, in the spirit of joint operations and inter-service cooperation," said Thomas Hall, assistant secretary of

defense for reserve affairs. "We intend to ensure that our Guard and Reserve are assigned the right missions, fully integrated within the active component and deployed in the right numbers required to deter adversaries and help fight and win any conflict."

The soldiers will receive eight days of training upon arrival, said Maj. Jeff Hunt, 437th Security Forces Squadron commander. They will learn security procedures for the base and perform everything except "police-related duties."

The Army will augment force protection at Air Force installations worldwide for up to two years while the Air Force phases in permanent solutions," said Hall. "Mobilization figures for both services will fluctuate in the upcoming months as the mobilization transition and demobilizations occur."

Air Force selects 11 officers at Charleston AFB for promotion

Officials at the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph AFB, Texas, announced the results of several promotion boards. Ten Team Charleston majors were promoted to lieutenant colonel and one JAG lieutenant to captain.

Air Force-wide selection rates in the promotion zone for line lieutenant colonels was 71.7 percent. Charleston's overall selection rate was 72.7 percent. All JAG lieutenants considered were promoted.

Lieutenant Colonels:

David Baldessari

437th Operations Group

Michael Bettner

437th Airlift Wing

Robert Blue

437th Comptroller Squadron

Charles Ciuzio

14th Airlift Squadron

Jeri Erginkara

437th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Gerald Frederick Jr.

437th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

John Hokaj

437th Operations Support Squadron

William Rupp

437th Maintenance Squadron

Michael Russel

76th Airlift Wing

Jesse Strickland

437 OSS

Captain:

John Pak

437 AW

'Computer store' streamlines IT purchases

By Airman Stephanie Hammer
437 AW Public Affairs

The use of the Web site Air Force Way (AFWay) was initiated at Charleston AFB Oct. 1 for Fiscal Year 2003 and has made ordering and buying new information technology products a straightforward process.

AFWay has helped simplify the buying and managing process and eliminated the paperwork involved in buying IT products such as desktop computers, according to Master Sgt. Ron Goble, 437th Communications Squadron base equipment control officer.

AFWay provides the average customer with a user-friendly Web site to search, evaluate, select and purchase approved IT hardware. According to Goble, there are several advantages to using AFWay:

-Channels customers directly to competing General Services Administration schedules that meet Air Mobility Command standards

-Has bulk-buy options to further reduce prices when 25 or more identical systems are purchased

-Reduces manual workload, to include automating the Systems Requirement document, AF 3215, while enforcing the appropriate financial and contracting coordination

-Provides a catalog of products that meet or exceed the Chief Information Officer's established standards

-Users are able to comparatively shop all op-

tions on a single Web site and place best-value orders with a Government Purchase Card

-All AFWay-purchased "reportable" items are added to the ADPE database automatically, eliminating the need for an "Add ADPE" worksheet, and ensuring accountability

The 437 CS commander, working in conjunction with the 437th Contracting Squadron, will be the primary administrator for use of AFWay on Charleston AFB

AFWay can be accessed at <https://afway.af.mil>. The registration process is simple. However, users will need some basic information from their WGM and the ADPE office to complete the form. After registering, users will be able to find price quotes on: Computers, network equipment, printers, software, accessories, and services to include; back-up and imaging, maintenance and training.

"The Web site streamlines computer and software procurement, putting the buying power and selection process at the customers fingertips," said Master Sgt. Wayne Snyder, 437 CS planning and implementation officer. Although there are many benefits of using AFWay, Staff Sgt. Eric Cicogna, 437 CS alternate equipment control officer said there are a few minor problems.

"Not everything out there is going to be available to you through AFWay," said Cicogna. "If you are unable to find what you're looking for, you will still have to submit an AF Form 3215." "All-in-all," he continued, "it's a user-friendly process."

Commissary opening slated to open in May

By Capt. Linda Pepin
437 AW Public Affairs

A grand opening for the new CAFB commissary is tentatively slated for May 1, according to Eddie Williams, store director and commissary officer.

Originally scheduled to open in December, construction was delayed when workers encountered buried pipes and infrastructure not marked on a map, Williams said. Wet winter months also hampered construction efforts, he added.

The new commissary will be larger than the existing one, carrying "upwards of 21,000 line items," Williams said. The existing commissary stocks approximately 19,000 items.

Commissary personnel will take occupancy of the new building March 31, and will have 16 days to move out of the old building and into the new, Williams said.

The old commissary will be torn down and the area paved over to form the parking lot for the new facility. The parking lot is scheduled for completion this summer, but Williams expects parking may be tight in the interim

"We'll use the existing parking lots, with additional overflow in the current employee parking lot," he said.

Williams noted some silver lining in the cloud of high operations tempo: "With the number of people deployed, parking shouldn't be a problem."

AROUND THE AIR FORCE

Five officer specialties receiving bonus

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas — More than 6,000 officers in five critical skill career fields are now eligible to receive a retention bonus of up to \$40,000—\$10,000 per year for up to four years — as a result of the Air Force's Critical Skills Retention Bonus Program.

The people who may qualify are scientists, developmental engineers, acquisition program managers, civil engineers, and communications and information officers with four to 13 years of commissioned service who are willing to commit to serving up to four more years.

For more information, call the Air Force Contact Center toll free at 1-866-229-7074 or DSN 665-5000. **(Air Force Personnel Center News Service)**

Sergeant gets six years confinement for theft

MACDILL AFB, Fla. — An Air Force staff sergeant will spend six years in confinement, be demoted to airman basic and be dishonorably discharged for stealing four laptop computers and two personal data assistant devices from U.S. Central Command last year.

A military judge sentenced Staff Sgt. Sheridan Ferrell II on Jan. 30 to seven years on two charges of larceny and two charges of dereliction of duty. The sentence was reduced to six years because Ferrell had a pre-trial agreement with prosecutors in exchange for his guilty plea. The sentence is subject to approval from the convening authority, who is Maj. Gen. George Williams, 21st Air Force commander.

Ferrell pleaded guilty Jan. 29 to stealing four laptops and two PDAs containing sensitive information from CENTCOM last summer. An additional charge of stealing a computer hard drive was dropped in exchange for his guilty plea. **(Air Force Print News)**

Officials test ration-drop improvements on C-130s

POPE AFB, N.C. — Air Mobility Command officials completed tests

here Jan. 22 and 24 on how to improve one of the most effective methods of airdropping humanitarian supplies.

Thirty-two units of the extended version of the Tri-Wall Aerial Delivery System, or TRIADS, were successfully dropped from C-130E Hercules over nearby Fort Bragg's Nijmegen Drop Zone as part of efforts to develop a universal system that can be used on both C-17 Globemaster IIIs and C-130s.

The TRIADS uses cardboard boxes that are cut and contained in such a way that when released from an aircraft the boxes disintegrate in mid air and scatter their contents over a large area. The system was key to the C-17 airdrop of more than 2.4 million humanitarian daily rations over Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom. **(Air Force Print News)**

Postal service unveiling stamp at museum

DAYTON, Ohio — U.S. Postal Service officials announced Jan. 24 that the U.S. Air Force Museum

will be the venue for a ceremonial first-day issue of the 100th Anniversary of Powered Flight Commemorative Stamp in May. **(Air Force Print News)**

DOD tests stateside space-A travel

SCOTT AFB, Ill. — Defense transportation officials recently announced a one-year test to expand space-available travel privileges to family members traveling within the continental United States. The test will begin April 1 and continue through March 31.

Dependents of active-duty and retired military people will soon be able to travel "Space A" aboard military flights when accompanied by their sponsors, according to John Lundebey from the Air Mobility Command passenger policy branch.

The only change is that family members can now fly on flights within the United States under the same eligibility category as their sponsor, he said.

Lundebey explained that in December 2000, the commander of U.S. Transportation Command outlined the proposal as a way to improve quality-of-life benefits for military service people and their families. After review, Defense officials approved a one-year test.

"Current regulations prohibit dependents from flying space available within the CONUS," said Lundebey. "This privilege was available only to active-duty and retired military people. During the test period, dependents can accompany them." Retirees may sign up for this program 60 days in advance but not before the test officially begins April 1. To register for space-available travel, active-duty sponsors must be on leave or a pass and remain in the status while awaiting travel and through the entire travel period.

Additional Space-A travel and sign-up information is available through AMC's public Web site at <http://public.scott.af.mil/index.html>. **(Air Mobility Command News Service)**

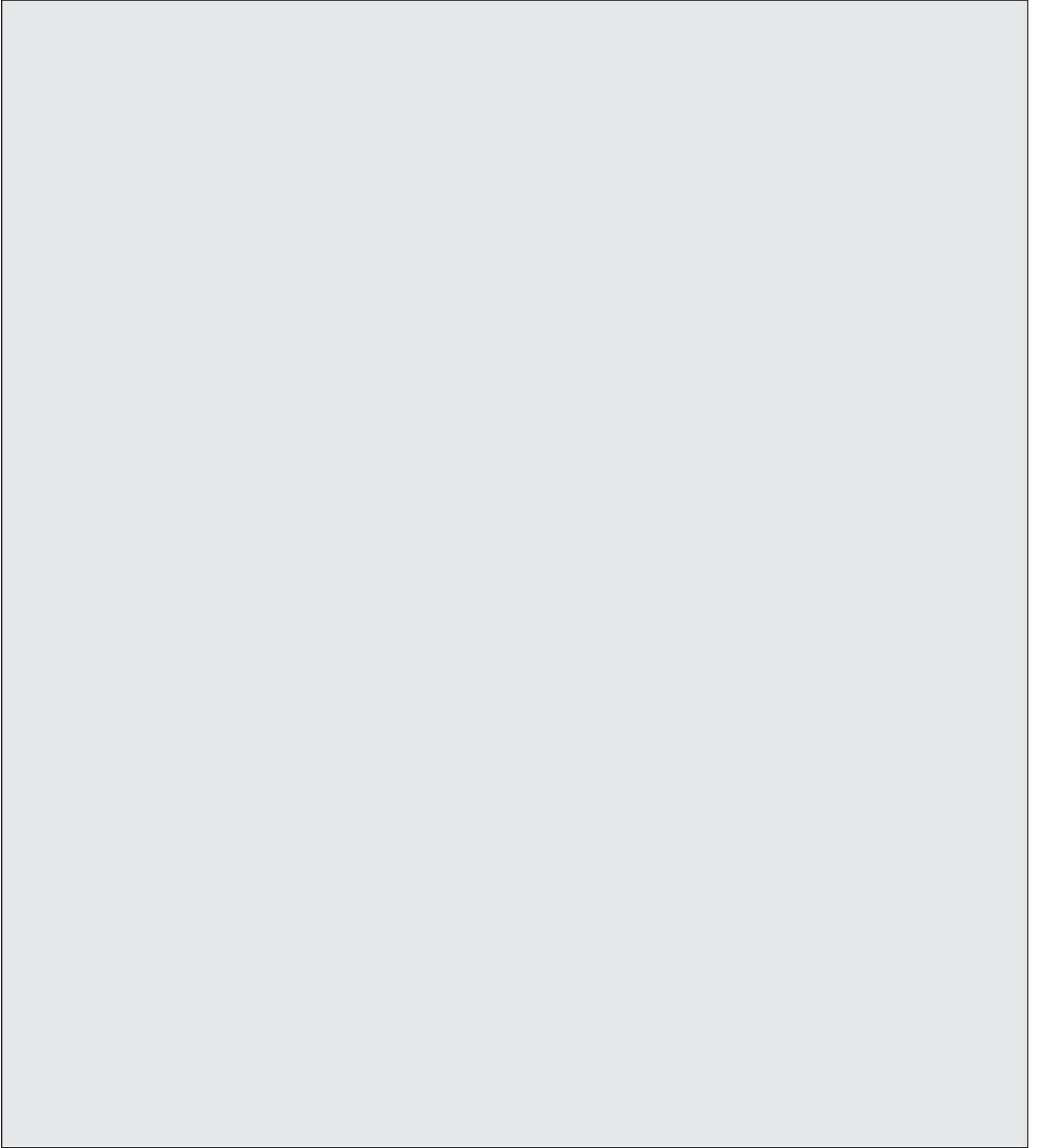
Combat Camera Photo of the Week



Photo by Staff Sgt. Cherie Thurlby, 1 CTCS

Waiting

An Afghan boy from the village of Aroki Province of Kapisa, Afghanistan, waits in line to be seen by U.S. military medics Jan. 21. Soldiers from the 48th Combat Support Hospital, along side airmen from the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing and the 924th Korean Medical hospital, gathered together in the village to conduct a Medical, Dental Veterinarian Civil Action Program to help bring health and wellness to the Afghan people.



NEWS BRIEFS

Spotlight

Retirement: The 437th Maintenance Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Senior Master Sgt. Timothy Statement Feb. 21, 11 a.m., at Bldg. 60 in the 315th Reserve Auditorium. For more information, call Capt. Amanda Zumbrunnen at 963-4498.

Around the base

Youth sports: Youth baseball and softball registration will be held at the Naval Weapons Station Youth Center until Feb. 28. The registration fee is \$35 and \$40 after Saturday. For more information, call Glenn Cox at 764-7530.

Dental assistants: The 437th Dental Flight is accepting applications for the next Red Cross Dental Assisting class in March. This program includes a short academic phase and hands-on dental assisting training with a qualified dental assistant. The program lasts approximately six months with a 40-hour workweek, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., with holidays off. Pick up an application by today at the dental clinic's reception desk. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Linda Lee at 963-6842.

CAFB members asked to wait to update emergency data cards online

The new Web-based 'emergency data card' is now online, but Team Charleston will have to wait a couple months to begin using the system.

Called the Virtual Record of Emergency Data, or vRED, the form provides the Air Force with information needed to contact family members if an airman suffers a serious illness or injury, or dies while on active duty.

"Charleston implementation is scheduled for April 28 to May 4," said Kathleen Perry, 437th Mission Support Squadron Military Personnel Flight casualty assistance representative.

"We ask that service members be patient and wait until the April 28 date to update their emergency information on-line," she continued. "However, if emergency contact information must be updated immediately, members are authorized to go on-line before the implementation date."

The vRED replaces the Department of Defense Form 93, Record of Emergency Data.

For more information, call Kathleen Perry at 963-6334, or e-mail at kathleen.perry@charleston.af.mil. (**Air Force Print News, 437th Mission Support Squadron**)

Charleston Warrior of the Week



Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Clements

Senior Airman Vijay Coleman 437th Comptroller Squadron

Senior Airman Vijay Coleman is a customer support technician in the 437th Comptroller Squadron. On a daily basis, she is responsible for processing travel vouchers and auditing them for military pay entitlements.

"The one thing I like best about my job is that I can see that it impacts the members of this base," said Coleman.

Coleman has lived in Charleston for a little more than two years and loves the climate and atmosphere.

"I lived in Alaska for a while and I'm happy to not deal with the snow and cold anymore," said Coleman. "I love the downtown area along with the historic sites."

Coleman plans on making the Air Force a career and already has her Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and Management.

"I joined the Air Force because it was something I have always wanted to do," said Coleman. "I am currently pursuing a commission and I plan on pursuing my Master's Degree at Webster University."

Hockey: Saturday is Military Appreciation Night at the Stingray's hockey game, 7:30 p.m., at the North Charleston Coliseum. The cost for active duty and retired military members and their families is \$7 with a valid ID card. The base hockey

team will face the Navy team on the ice at 4:30 p.m and parking is free.

Tickets can be purchased at the North Charleston Coliseum. For more information, call Jason Oates at 744-2248, extension 1205.

Commissary: The Commissary will be open Monday in observance of President's Day, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., and closed on Tuesday due to formal inventory.

AAHC: The African-American Heritage Council is hosting a barbeque buffet Wednesday, Feb. 19 and 26, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Admission is free. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Steven Beasley at 963-5082.

Flowers: The Wing Staff Booster Club is having a fundraising flower sale on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14. This event is open to all personnel on base. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Jonathan Mathe at 963-2536.

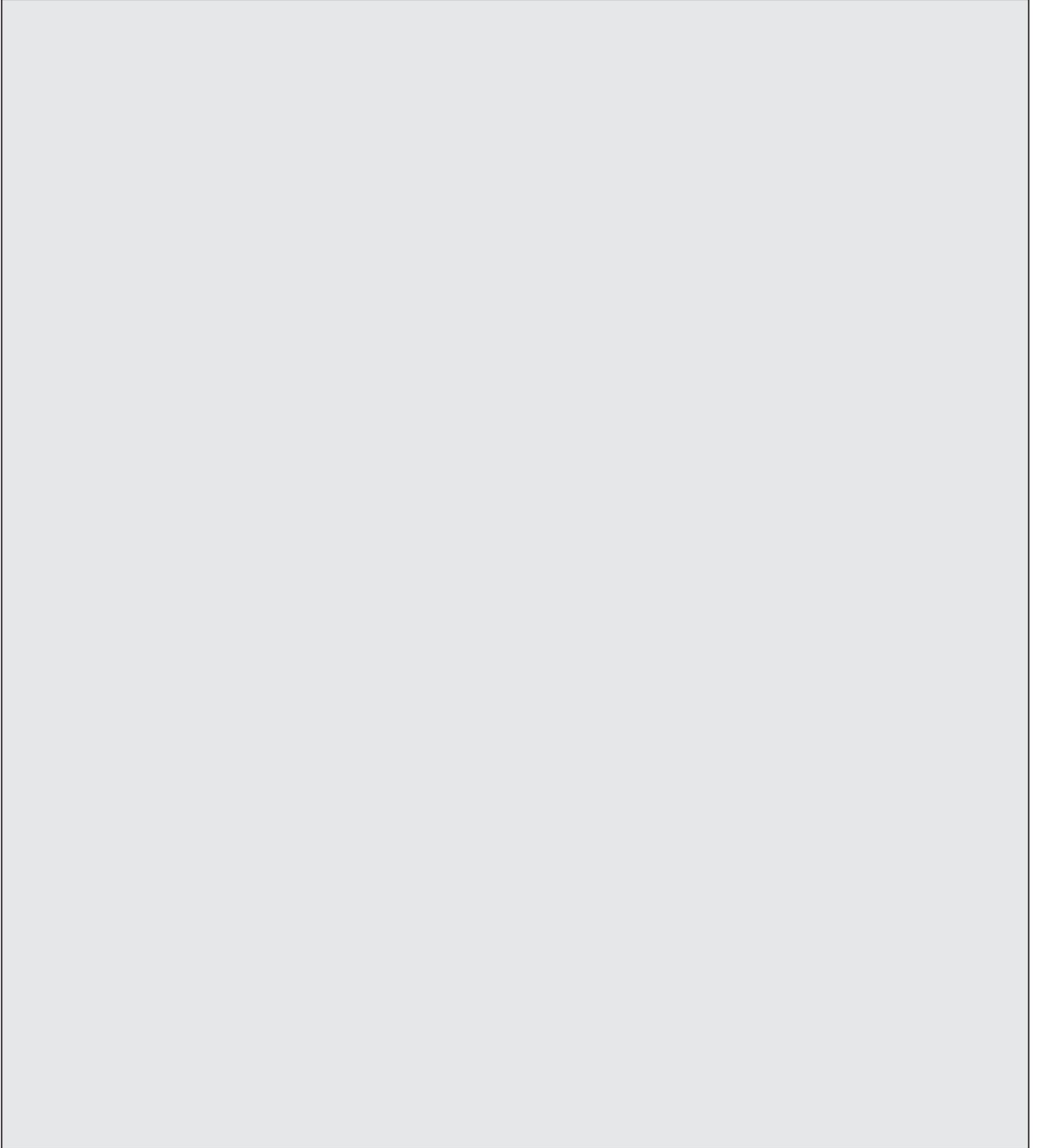
OSA: The Officers Spouses' Association is hosting Bunko night and Mexican buffet dinner Feb.

20, 6 p.m., at the Charleston Club. For more information or to make reservations, call Donna Baker at 207-0401 by Feb. 16.

CCoC: The City Colleges of Chicago class schedule for Term IV is now available at the Community Education Center. Registration is open Feb. 24 for classes that start March 24. For more information, call the education office at 552-5959.

Shots: The Immunization Clinic changed their hours to accommodate smallpox vaccinations. During the following hours, the clinic will be closed for all other immunizations: Monday-Saturday, 8-9 a.m., and Monday-Friday, 3-4 p.m. Other than these reserved hours, the clinic will maintain its normal hours of operation.

Scholarships: The Officers Spouses' Association is offering Silver Wings Scholastic Scholarship Assistance Awards to qualifying Air Force spouses and dependents for the 2003-2004 academic year. Applications are available at the Family Support Center. For more information, call Bryn Brown at 875-6009.



FEATURE



Tech Sgt. Joseph Ringold Jr., 336th Recruiting Squadron, prepares the RAPTOR, a 2003 GMC Yukon XL, for a display at Berkeley High School. The Air Force's newest recruiting tool is designed to appeal to the target demographic, men and women 16-24 years old.



2,600 watts of sound

RAPTOR Rocks

AF newest recruiting tool hits local streets

Story and photos by
Master Sgt. Angel Newman
437AWPublicAffairs

Four 10-inch sub woofers, two 6.5-inch, mid-range speakers, four 2-inch, high-end tweeters and two amps featuring 2,600 watts of sound—heart pounding, radiate-through-the-body sound.

It's the stuff that makes 18-year-olds drool and 48-year-olds cover their ears. Tack on a FLATRON 42-inch plasma TV, roll the entire multi-media system into a decked-out 2003 GMC Yukon XL, and customize the paint job, featuring the "Cross into the Blue" logo and Air Force symbol, and you've got the hottest new recruiting tool—the RAPTOR.

Reaching America's Public to Optimize Recruiting, or RAPTOR, is the name given to the Air Force's three-piece exhibit consisting of the sport utility vehicle, F/A-22 mini-jet and trailer. The 336th Recruiting Squadron, Moody AFB, Ga., received one of the Air Force Recruiting Service's 31 RAPTOR vehicles in October. The 336 RS covers the Charleston area, and Tech. Sgt. Joseph Ringold Jr., squadron marketing NCO, recently brought the vehicle to Berkeley High School in Moncks Corner to support local recruiting efforts.

"Our job is to help raise Air Force awareness out in the communities," said Ringold. "If recruiters have a venue, we make every effort to support them with this exhibit."

North Charleston recruiter, Tech. Sgt. Brad Newman, is responsible for Berkeley High and wanted to use the RAPTOR to help raise interest in Air Force opportunities.

"We work with the latest technology everyday," said Newman. "To be able to give the students a glimpse of the Air Force mission in a high-tech, multi-media environment is great."

Young people appear to be uncontrollably drawn to the RAPTOR. As the class change bell rang at Berkeley, scores of students

crowded around the back of the SUV. Comments ranged from, "Cool," to "How much did this thing cost," to "Do I get one of these if I join the Air Force?" Many were comparing the sound system to their personal ones, while other were captivated by the "Cross into the Blue" video, showcasing today's Air Force.

"This is a good way to get young people to think about the Air Force and to ask questions," added Newman. "There are so many opportunities. Whether it's education, training or a career these students are looking for, the Air Force has it. And the RAPTOR sure beats a brochure for presentation."

Even though the RAPTOR has only been in the squadron a few months, Ringold has taken the vehicle to a number of events including local festivals and the Gator Bowl.

Later this month he'll be at the Daytona 500.

"My goal is to get this vehicle out as much as possible," said Ringold. "It not just about recruiting. It's about retention as well, and letting the people know what Air Force recruiting is doing to get new people in to help with their jobs."

Ringold said the RAPTOR is available for squadron level functions, and units can contact him at joseph.ringold@rs.af.mil.



Tech Sgt. Brad Newman, 336th Recruiting Squadron, talks with students during a RAPTOR visit to Berkeley High School. More than 600 students got a chance to see the Air Force's high-tech Sport Utility Vehicle.

FEATURE

Gaylor Dining Facility feeds warrior appetites



Photo by Airman 1st Class Tyrone Pearsall

By 2nd Lt. Jennifer Andrews
437 AW Public Affairs

Food, shelter, water: the basic necessities of life. The 437th Services Squadron ensures that one of those needs will be fulfilled for airmen here.

"Charleston's services squadron is among the most customer-oriented and mission-ready squadrons in the Air Force," said Maj. Tracy O'Grady-Walsh, 437 SVS commander. "The dining facility sets our pace for pride and perfection."

On an average day, the Gaylor Dining Facility feeds about 800 people a day, excluding ROTC cadets and transient crews. However, on a Unit Training Assembly weekend, the dining facility can feed up to 800 per meal.

With that kind of tempo, training can be challenging.

"We're open seven days a week, 365 days a year ... we don't close for holidays or down days and we can't close early for training days, so it's pretty demanding to get the proper training," said TSgt. Luke Bell, 437 SVS Gaylor Dining Facility manager. "But we do it and we provide the best quality food and customer service for that reason."

However, the Charleston Services team doesn't just help the airmen here. They also deploy.

"Ask anyone who is critical in the hearts and minds of airmen when they deploy: Services and Civil Engineering," said O'Grady-Walsh. "Think about it, what makes deployments bearable? Decent food and a place to sleep. The well-oiled machine of a deployed group can only happen if everyone's head is in the game. And that can't happen without Services."



Reaching for his tools of the trade, Staff Sgt. Harvey Greenwood, 437 SVS, gets the noon meal underway.

Above: Staff Sgt. Jermod Pharr, 437th Services Squadron, prepares for lunch. More than 800 people eat at the Gaylor Dining Facility on any given day.



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.

"Two Weeks Notice" – Sandra Bullock

George doesn't make a move without Lucy, his chief counsel at Wade Corp. It's not the job that's getting to her. It's George. After five years of calling the shots on everything from his clothes to his divorce settlements, Lucy is calling it quits. Is it ever too late to say, "I love you?" **(PG 13) 101 minutes**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

"Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers" – Elijah Wood

The second in the Tolkien trilogy: Frodo the hobbit braves terrible dangers in the attempt to have the evil ring destroyed. **(R) 179 minutes**

Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m.

"Antwone Fisher" – Denzel Washington

Antwone is ordered to see a Navy psychiatrist to learn to control the anger impulses that cause him to fight with shipmates. His therapy inspires him to seek out the family that abandoned him as a child. **(PG-13) 113 minutes**

SPORTS & FITNESS



Eric Williams, Naval Weapons Station, gets one-on-one training time with T.J. Wilson, 437th Services Squadron recreation aide. All workers at the fitness center are trained to provide patrons with advice on successful and safe work-out programs to achieve maximum fitness levels. Photo by Airman 1st Class Jason Bailey

Biomechanics, physiology, nutrition, knowledge

Don't play games with wellness

By Master Sgt. Angel Newman
437 AW Public Affairs

Okay Jeopardy fans, the category is Charleston AFB facilities.

The answer is: A staff trained in biomechanics, human and exercise physiology and nutrition, ready to share their knowledge for free.

If you didn't respond with, "What is the base Fitness Center," then it probably has been a while since you've taken advantage of this benefit.

"We provide a wide variety of options for our customers to enhance their level of health and fitness," said Staff Sgt. Margo Ham, 437th Services Squadron Fitness and Sports Center NCOIC.

One of the options is a well-trained staff ready to help people get started on the road to fitness or chart a new course for a current program. This training begins at the Services Academy at Lackland AFB, Texas. The in-residence and mobile Fitness Specialist

Course trains all Air Force fitness center personnel. Ham said the curriculum covers everything from human and exercise physiology to nutrition and biomechanics with hands-on equipment and exercise training. A portion of the Charleston staff has already completed this training and the remainder will go through it at the end of this month.

Understanding how all this knowledge translates to the average airman working on the flightline or the finance office is simple. Warriors need to be ready to go to war—both mentally and physically.

"We provide the means for our Air Force members to be as fit as possible, especially with the rising demand for mission readiness," said Ham. "Working with the Health and Wellness Center, we are making strides to ensure our staff is trained and further educated in their jobs to offer even better service to our customers."

Gone are the days of staff members sitting behind the counter and handing out towels and basketballs. A trip through the Charles-

ton center will find T. J. Wilson, 437 SVS recreation aide, helping a patron with the proper form for abdominal exercises or techniques for using weight machines.

"My background is in physical therapy and working with patients in rehabilitation," said Wilson. "I cross those skills to the fitness side and help people get started, or continue on a solid workout program."

Senior Airman Jessica Fruth, 437 SVS fitness specialist, is pursuing a personal trainer certification and recently began a class tailored for women interested in weight training, W.O.W-Women on Weights. She teaches beginners how to use the weight machines and the progress to free weights.

Ham said every person in the Fitness Center brings a special talent and is eager to serve their customers.

"All people have to do is ask us for guidance," she said. "Our job is to help everyone achieve their maximum level of health and fitness through safe and effective workouts."

