

NEWS BRIEFS

C-141 mission coming to an end at Charleston

The end of an era arrives July 15 as Charleston AFB bids farewell to the C-141 Starlifter and the 16th Airlift Squadron with a ceremony at 9 a.m. on the flight line.

At one time, Charleston had as many as 58 C-141s parked on its ramp and the aircraft and crews earned the reputation as "workhorse of AMC."

Farewell events:

July 14 - C-141 farewell golf tournament, a social event at the Charleston Club and a special flag retreat ceremony with a C-141 flyover.

July 15 - All former C-141 aircrew and maintainers, or anyone else associated with the C-141, are invited to attend the squadron's closing ceremonies in the C-17 Nosedock (Bldg. 519).

Anyone interested in attending these events should contact 1st Lt. Robby Hanovich at 963-2129 or email robert.hanovich@charleston.af.mil no later than June 30.

Charleston Profile

Staff Sgt. Barb Gilmore
437th Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sgt. Barb Gilmore is a combat arms training and maintenance specialist. She trains airmen on a variety of weapons in the security forces squadron inventory, including the M-60 machine gun, M-9 pistol, 12-gauge shotgun and M-16 rifle. Gilmore's section is also responsible for maintenance and repair of these weapons.

Gilmore's duties also include coordinating with units on base to schedule combat arms training for its members.

A native of Virden, Ill., Gilmore joined the Air Force in July 1992 to take advantage of the educational benefits. She's been assigned to Charleston AFB since July 1996.

In January, Gilmore successfully completed the Phoenix Raven training course at Fort Dix, N.J.

Ravens are security forces members who travel with aircrews to locations that may not have adequate security and provide protection for U.S. personnel and resources. The course is mentally and physically challenging and those who try out to be a Raven must have a spotless military record, with nothing below a five on enlisted performance reports. Gilmore is the only female Raven at Charleston AFB.

"It was tough," she recalled. "We trained on not only how to do our job as a Raven, but a lot of it was physical, like using the ASP (armament systems procedures) baton. We would be in the classroom half a day, then the rest of the day we would work on fighting technique."

Gilmore also recently completed a five-week level two ground combat skills school at Camp Bullis, Texas (near Lackland AFB), where she earned the physical fitness award. She graduated May 1.



Staff Sgt. Michael Duhe

Gilmore's goals are to complete her Community College of the Air Force degree and to make technical sergeant the first time she tests for it. "I'll be working on it, especially during the Raven missions," she said. "Hopefully I'll have time to study on the plane."

Gilmore's husband, Craig, is a member of the 437th Aerial Port Squadron. They have two children - Cole, two years old; and Ashley, a one year old.

In her spare time, Gilmore enjoys playing softball. She said she intends on trying out for the base's women's softball team. She also enjoys golf and reading.

The best thing about Charleston is the camaraderie, according to Gilmore. "When I first got here, people welcomed me and I felt like I knew everyone," she said. "I didn't feel like an outcast. It was great."

Prepare early to PCS

The peak season for moving personal property is now. During this busy time, TMO Personal Property section is asking for help. As soon as you have orders, come by Bldg. 330 and set up your move. The office will make every effort to accommodate your wishes, if given enough time.

Currently, because of volume, it takes anywhere from three to four weeks to actually confirm the requested dates.



For information,
call 963-2255.

Spotlight

NCOA class 00-4: **Tech. Sgt. Mark Voorhis**, 437th Airlift Wing, was named distinguished graduate during the Noncommissioned Officer Academy Class 0-04 graduation May 18 at Warner Robins AFB, Ga.

The following technical sergeants also graduated from the class: **Edward Blakeley**, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron; **Michael Wooden**, 437th Comptroller Squadron; **David Beirs**, 14th Airlift Squadron; **Patricia Clark**, 437th Aero Medical Squadron; **William Daniel**, 437th Civil Engineer

Squadron; **Thomas Harrison**, 17th Airlift Squadron; **Michael Crawford**, 437th Aerial Port Squadron; **Jeffery Elliott**, 437th Logistics Group; **Anna McRae-Lewis**, 16th Airlift Squadron; **Douglas Edmonds**, 437 AGS; **Shannon Easdale**, 373rd Training Squadron; **William Harmon**, 437th Logistics Support Squadron.

Farewell: There will be a going-away party for Maj. Brian Blankenship, 437th Services Squadron Commander, June 1 at 5:30 p.m. at the old Charleston Club.

Dinner will include steak with all the trimmings. Cost is \$10 and dress is any 437 SVS T-shirt. Call 963-3809 if you don't have one. To RSVP, call 963-3820.

Retirement ceremony: The 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Senior Master Sgt. William Ridler June 2 at 10 a.m. at the Charleston Club. Everyone is invited to attend.

Around the base

Closure: The Commissary will be

closed Tuesday in observance of Memorial Day.

Seminar: The 437th Medical Group will offer a marriage enrichment class beginning Tuesday and meeting for six consecutive Tuesdays from 6-8:30 p.m. For information and to register, call Jim Hernandez at 963-6504.

Volunteers needed

Public Affairs: The 437th Public Affairs office is looking for people who are interested in giving base tours and speaking at off-base engagements. Volunteers can contact Tech. Sgt. Brian Jones at 963-5657

Pharmacy: The 437th Medical Group Pharmacy is seeking volunteers who can devote at least one-half day per week. Anyone interested can call Maj. Royce Terry at 963-6809.

Family Support Center: Volunteers are needed to work in Family Services. You can volunteer either a few hours per week or an entire day. If you're interested in giving some of your time to help others, call 963-4408.

Education office

Scholarship: A scholarship opportunity is available for personnel

pursuing a non-technical master's degree. The Aerospace Education Foundation is accepting applications for the Jodi Callahan Memorial Graduate Scholarship.

Applications must be postmarked no later than June 30. This \$1,000 scholarship is being offered to active duty, full-time Air National Guard or Reserve Air Force personnel (officer and enlisted) who are pursuing a non-technical master's degree.

For information or an application, call Master Sgt. Laurence Brooks at 963-4575.

Family Support Center

Newcomer's Tour, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursday.

Small Business Seminar, 9-11 a.m., Thursday.

How to Become a Government Contractor, 1-3 p.m., Thursday. Learn how to find a contracted job position and explain the contractor registration procedure.

Financial Independence for Today's Woman, 6-8 p.m., Thursday.

Pre-Deployment Briefings, 8 a.m., June 5, 12, 19 and 26; 4 p.m., Thursday and June 8, 15, 22 and 29.

Educational Opportunities Specialist, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., June 6.

