



THE PATRIOT



439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING
WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MASSACHUSETTS

Vol. II, No. 2

March, 1975



ONE FOR THE SCRAPBOOK . . . The quick succession of storms left Westover looking like a picture postcard during February. Although most of us don't enjoy working or traveling in the white stuff, everyone seems to appreciate the resulting sights. 439CSG photographer Tom Hill captured this winter scene at the main gate.

THE BUCK STOPS HERE



By Lt. Col. Jack P. Ferguson
Commander, 439th CSG

Lately, we have all felt the increasing and devastating effects of our country's current economic slump. Attempting to balance the family checkbook each month is proving to be an exceedingly difficult task as incomes are failing to keep pace with expenses.

We are not alone in this dilemma. "Uncle Sam" has the same problem. Only his financial woes are extremely more complicated and his deficit spending is now running into the billions of dollars.

In a small, but very important way, each one of us can help reduce the present inflationary spiral. Everyone must help eliminate inefficient government spending. The beneficial end result: increased purchasing power for both the government and yourself.

Westover's efforts will center around the Air Force Resource Conservation Program (RECON). It is designed to produce substantial federal savings through economical allocation of scarce and costly resources. The wing's goal of an annual savings of \$300,000 has not been reached, although the halfway point in achieving that figure is rapidly approaching.

In the next few months, the revitalized project, consisting of a wing RECON task force and program managers, will begin concentrated efforts to locate and report areas and methods for possible savings. As further plans are developed, all personnel will be kept informed and become an integral part of the RECON team.

With the positive attitude you have exhibited in the past, I am confident that Westover's efforts will again meet with unqualified success. More importantly, the money you save will be your own.

RESTRICTED ACCESS TO EXCESS AREAS . . .

Maj. Daniel M. Wheatley, commander of the 4040th Air Base Squadron (SAC), reports that recent incidents of vandalism and theft in the excess portions of the base have made it necessary to impose restrictions on access to these areas. A series of signs and barriers have been posted at strategic entrances to these off limits streets and structures.

Unauthorized personnel apprehended in the restricted area will be interviewed by the 4040 ABSq commander and/or referred to their unit commanders for disciplinary action, as appropriate.

Entrance to the restricted excess areas will be controlled by a special pass. Base security police have been alerted to the requirement for anyone found in these areas to have such a pass in his possession.

1975 UTA SCHEDULE

March 8, 9
April 12, 13
May 17, 18
June 14, 15
July 12, 13
August 9, 10
September 13, 14
October 18, 19
November 8, 9
December 13, 14

SUMMER ENCAMPMENT

20 September . . . 4 October

THE PATRIOT is an Official Class II U.S. Air Force newspaper published monthly for the personnel of the 439th Tactical Airlift Wing (AFRES) at Westover AFB, MA 01022. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the U.S. Air Force.

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Wing Commander's Message



By Col. Billy M. Knowles

Saturday and Sunday (8-9 Feb) I looked out upon retreat at Westover AFB, as I have every UTA since my arrival last September, and noted as usual the two civilian security police correctly retiring the colors; retiring the colors and standing retreat while over 1500 reservists are in duty status. It was then that I nearly smiled realizing that never again will they stand a solitary retreat during a UTA because beginning in March, units will be selected to rotate that privilege each UTA. Class A uniforms, including garrison hats, will be the uniform. Unit-selected individuals will be properly notified in advance so that all appropriate honors will be paid "Old Glory." It's called General Military Training (GMT).

By now, we all know what an enormous effort is being expended to man all units to their 100% authorized strength by June 30, 1975. It is equally understood that recruits will predominantly be non-prior service. What you may not know is that under the new deferred enlistment program, we are going into area high schools and talking to seniors and signing them up now. They can participate in unit paid drills while still in high school and upon graduation enter basic military training (BMT) and then the whole bit as with all non-priors. You should be excited about this program. But you must be prepared to receive him, uniform him, orient him, pre-BMT train him, etc. While still in high school, he becomes the greatest salesman for the reserves you will ever see. Remember he is very young and impressionable; so receive him and treat him accordingly. Ask TSgt. LaFrance how he is handling such a young man in the 901st APF.

We shall have commander's calls each Sunday of each UTA for the regulatory reasons and because it is the best vehicle available to recognize individual performances of merit and to communicate. In this regard, you and I have witnessed and participated in one such meeting that lacked somewhat in preparation and demeanor. Suffice it to say, all future commander's calls will meet required standards. I expect responsible OPRs and each unit commander to see to it.

WESTOVER RADAR IN OPERATION

By SSgt. Vincent L. Morelli, 1917 Comm. Sq.



Several months ago, the Westover secondary radar (IFF/SIF) became unusable, and a new antenna was ordered. When the replacement arrived damaged in shipment, it appeared the base would continue to operate without IFF/SIF for some time.

However, Northern Comm Area Logistics, Griffiss AFB, NY, located another antenna, but routine transportation would delay its delivery for some time. In a fine example of cooperation, the 439th TAW offered to transport the antenna. SSgt. Neil Moody, radar maintenance work center supervisor for the 1917CS, departed with a crew aboard a C-130 to retrieve the antenna at K.I. Sawyer AFB, Mich. After careful unloading, Sergeant Moody and crew were on their return trip to Westover within a few hours.

It appeared all problems were solved except one . . . how do you raise a 25-foot long, 700 pound antenna 40 feet in the air? Instead of waiting for maintenance assistance from Griffiss AFB, Sergeant Moody devised a means of using a cherry picker, supplied by the base, to lift the antenna. With the help of the radar maintenance personnel from his section, the task was completed in minimum time.

Thanks to the combined efforts of Sergeant Moody and his crew and the 439th personnel, air traffic control operations returned to normal, using the IFF/SIF antenna.

RECRUITING: EVERY

"One hundred percent manning by June 30th" .. that's the directive issued by 439th commander, Colonel Knowles to Westover's nine full-time recruiters. If the past ten months of operation are any indication, and with everyone's continued assistance, their chances of success are very high indeed.

With responsibility for all of New England and even parts of New York, a large portion of the working day for the 439th recruiters is spent traveling. Scheduled day trips within a 100 mile radius from Westover is the rule rather than the exception.

From high schools in northern Vermont to shopping centers in Connecticut, the recruiters' efforts center around a conscious attempt to go out and meet with prospective reservists .. wherever that candidate is likely to be.

Going with the Action

Recruiters are invited to visit area high schools and meet with interested students. A newly instituted program permits seniors to enlist while still in school. The students immediately begin attending scheduled UTAs with their unit, but postpone their required basic training commitment up to 60 days past their high school graduation.

Explaining the advantage of an AFRES career to shopping mall audiences has also been very popular. During the past year, exhibits manned by Westover's recruiting team were featured in Meriden, Connecticut, and neighboring Fairfield Mall. The displays attract the attention of those who might not have been aware of a reserve career.

Similar exhibits have been a part of Westover's open house activities in May and November, 1974. The attractive and complimentary literature was eagerly scooped up as quickly as it was placed in the racks. The appetite of many a wide-eyed youngster was firmly whetted on those two days.

The recruiters' work should pay off in future enlistees.

Other promotional efforts have been designed to arouse, inform and motivate possible new reservists. Certainly one of the most enjoyable assignments was sponsoring a local resident, Miss Valarie Janulewicz, as Miss Air Force Reserve/Westover Air Force Base in the Miss Agawam Scholarship Pageant and other events.

The recruiting "pitch" has not been limited to a one-to-one approach. Last November, a 7 p.m. to midnight telethon on radio station WMAS, sponsored by the 439th recruiters, helped answer the questions of its many listeners.

Gaining the Expertise

The staff's work has recently been enhanced with the addition of two new senior recruiters. SMSgt. Robert Xanders assumed responsibility for organization and management of the office. SMSgt. James McLaughlin, well known at Westover from his recent assignment with SAC, is the liaison with separate active duty Air Force recruiting specialists.

Additionally, staff members have been attending the Air Force Reserve Recruiting School (Lackland AFB, Texas). A1C Sara Miller, SSgt. William Rose, SSgt. Douglas MacDonald, and TSgt. Sherman Williams completed the intensive four-week course in "salesmanship" in July.

The other 439th recruiters, MSgt. Charles Ward, MSgt. Richard White, TSgt. Thomas Provost, and SSgt. Nathan Writesel, are also graduates and now busily at work.

The past year has been a very busy and productive one. Since the unit's formation in April, 1974, the recruiting team has prompted over 280 swearing-in ceremonies.

Everyone's a Recruiter

The recruiters' jobs, however, are far from over. Vacancies still exist in many of Westover's units. "Presently, the greatest need is for more air cargo, aeromedical evacuation and administrative specialists, cooks, firemen, and loadmasters," according to recruiter TSgt. Sherman Williams. "Everyone could, and should help us find and attract new reservists. By informing relatives and friends of the available openings in his section, everyone could be a potential recruiter and help us obtain a fully assigned UDL," he emphasizes.

The selling of the reserve program has been made easier with the recent implementation of new employment benefits. In addition to the latest pay increases, during 1974 life insurance coverage was extended to full protection throughout the month. BX privileges were also liberalized.

This year likewise appears to be another banner year. Legislation creating a tuition assistance program is now being considered by Congress. If enacted, it will reimburse reservists, up to 75% to nonobligated, or 60% to obligated reservists, of their higher education bills.

The advantages of an Air Force Reserve enlistment are constantly increasing, and could easily sell the program to prospective members .. once contact with such candidates is made.

If every member of the 439th shows the same initiative and desire our recruiters already displayed, the units' rosters will soon be complete. In doing so, mission effectiveness will increase substantially and another 439th goal will be fulfilled successfully.

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ANYONE'S BUSINESS



ENLISTED LAST WEEK was Sarah White, being shown a brochure on the advantages of a career in the Air Force Reserve by SSgt. Nathan Writesel, left, as SSgt. William Rose looks on. Sarah, a 1972 graduate of Tourtellotte High School in Thompson, Conn., has been assigned to the 439CSG as a graphics specialist.



THE FIRST STEP . . . SSgt. Nathan Writesel, 439th recruiting office, explains the reserve program to Donald G. Twarkins of Glastonbury, Conn. Sgt. Writesel obviously did it right, because on January 29, Donald enlisted in the Air Force Reserve for duty with the 439th. He will go to Shepard AFB in April for air cargo specialist training following basic military training at Lackland AFB. In July he will return to assume his duties with the 58 APSq.

439 TAG CAREER DAY

The 439th recruiting task force committee will hold a career day on Saturday, April 12, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. The task force hopes to attract young men and women to visit the unit and let them observe work actually being done by reservists on a UTA. Unit commanders who have vacancies identified by the committee will be tasked to provide tour guides to explain the work in progress in the selected areas.

The program was started with a luncheon at the consolidated open mess on March 3, where Colonel Knowles and members of his staff gave a briefing to area superintendents of schools. Between this date and Career Day, the task force and various manning specialists will have visited local high schools whose principals or guidance counselors have authorized a slide presentation to be given to interested seniors. Those indicating interest will be invited to Career Day at the base.

RESERVISTS TO BE HONORED

The Chicopee Chapter of the Air Force Association will honor a junior officer and an airman of the year at its Spring awards banquet. Squadron commanders have been asked to submit nominations by letter to either the Junior Officers Council or the Enlisted Advisory Council, as appropriate, the first day of the March UTA.

In the nomination, the individual's accomplishments should be cited. For example, how have his actions affected the Reserves and our mission at Westover AFB; how has he contributed to community programs, either in the Westover area or in the home-town area; how has the individual helped to foster the equal employment opportunity program. Any other pertinent facts to help the councils in their selection should be spelled out.

Each council is requested to forward the name of its selectee to 439CSG/CC by the end of the March UTA.



MORE THAN A PIECE OF PAPER was the award presented by Colonel Knowles to John Tankis. His suggestion for a simple device to tie down aircraft results in an estimated yearly saving of \$12,916. The tangible benefits to the Air Force brought John a cash award of \$625.



THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL for outstanding service was awarded to Lt. Co. Jack P. Ferguson, base commander (right) by Colonel Knowles during the commander's call on Feb. 8. The citation was in recognition of Colonel Ferguson's performance as Eastern Air Force Reserve Region operations and training officer from Aug. 7, 1970 through Aug. 8, 1974.



OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN LOGISTICS has been recognized as a result of efforts put forth during the recent management effectiveness inspections. Every man in these sections was congratulated in a letter from Maj. Gen. Alfred Verhulst, commander of the region. Special recognition in the form of an EAFRR pen/pencil combination was awarded to the section supervisors. Shown after presentation by Colonel Knowles are, from left, MSgt. Bill Lucia, production analysis; MSgt. Richard E. Babineau, survival equipment shop; and TSgt. Barnard P. McCormack, environmental shop.



EAFRR CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT for outstanding performance from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1974 were presented by Colonel Knowles to TSgt. Calvin Dallas, 439 FMS corrosion control shop supervisor; SSgt. Robert C. Barnikow, crew chief on a C-130; and SMSgt. Richard Barney, who accepted the certificate on behalf of the avionics shop. Also receiving the region citation was TSgt. John Tankis, crew chief on a C-123.

BASE DOCUMENTATION MANAGEMENT:

Doctor "D" 's Cure-All

An important part of Central Base Administration is the documentation management section which is headed by MSgt. Alfred Freitas of the 439th CSG who is fast becoming known as Doctor "D".

Late last fall MSgt. Freitas helped Doctor "D" off the drawing board by distributing calling cards to all areas of the base. His purpose in doing this was to let all base duty sections know where to go for assistance in maintaining their records.

In order to help inform all organizations about various aspects of documentation regulations, Doctor D holds classes on the Saturday morning of every UTA at 11:00 a.m. Both new regulations and common violations of existing regulations concerning documentation management are explained and discussed. In addition to these classes, common problems are diagnosed in fliers published by Doctor D with his prescription (Rx) for a cure.

Assistance can also be obtained from Doctor D in the areas of publications management, forms management, and staging area procedures.

Doctor D notifies all areas of what publications are available and can be obtained by calling the section. All Air Force and subordinate organizations' forms are available through Doctor D. Just call him for assistance.

Information on staging area procedures is another service provided by Doctor D. He informs all sections on the storage of retained records; he and his staff maintain, transfer, or destroy records as applicable.

The area of documentation management is an extremely important one to all sections on base. The documentation management system must be properly maintained and constantly updated to comply with new regulations. It is for these reasons that everyone is encouraged to avail himself of Doctor D's services and directives.

Call him at ext. 2891 or stop in to see him in building 1408.



DOCTOR D checks a visitor's files maintenance and disposition plan. The form is the life blood of a proper set of files.



MEMBERS OF THE RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (Massachusetts Department) combined their department council meeting with a tour of Westover and a dinner dance at the consolidated open mess on Feb. 8. 439th officers, Col. John A. Luongo, an ROA vice-president, and Maj. Jack Pitman, acted as hosts. Maj. Arthur Sorenson (above, center) conducts the special guests on a walk-through of a C-130.



V.I.P. VISIT AND PRESENTATION:

The newly designated vice-commander of the 21st A.F., Brig. Gen. Theodore P. Crichton, toured Westover's facilities on Feb. 8 and attended a series of special briefings and demonstrations of the 439th's capabilities. During the command briefing and luncheon, General Crichton (left) awarded the Joint Service Commendation Medal to Col. Kenneth L. Charpiloz (center), 439th senior advisor. The presentation honored Colonel Charpiloz's successful efforts to maintain a high level of preparedness required by national nuclear readiness to test program while he was commander of Johnson Atoll from Aug. 2, 1973 to Aug. 1, 1974. After the ceremony, Colonel Dunn offers his congratulations and helps inspect the prestigious medal.



BEFORE LEAVING OFFICE, Governor Francis W. Sargent inducted Col. Ronald C. Dunn, 439th TAW deputy commander/operations, into the Order of the Paul Revere Patriots. On behalf of the Massachusetts chief executive, 439th TAW/OI Maj. Rudolph J. Diluzio (left), former aide-de-camp to the governor, presented the scroll to Colonel Dunn. Among other honors now enjoyed by Colonel Dunn as a Paul Revere Patriot, he may now dump tea into Boston harbor, ride a horse in Boston, and graze his sheep on the Common.



COLLAPSING PARACHUTES create interesting forms as a CDS drop makes impact in Westover's drop zone. The bundle, released during a demonstration of 439th capabilities given to visiting General Crichton, missed the center of the bull's-eye by only four feet. (Photo by SSgt. Robin Ketcherside)

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