



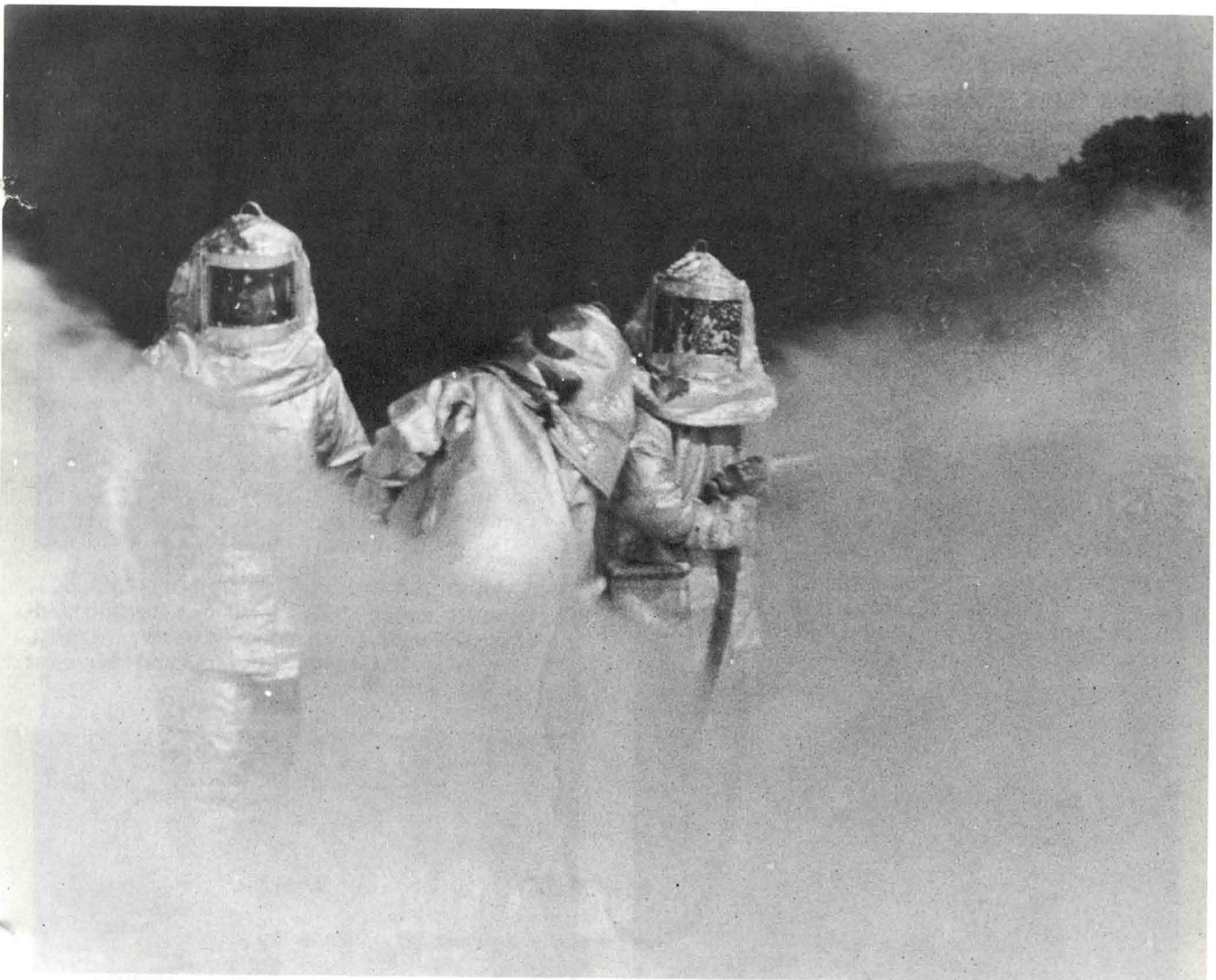
# THE PATRIOT



439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING  
WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MASSACHUSETTS

Vol. II, No. 9

October 1975



**WALKING ON CLOUDS.....901st CEF Firefighters, (left to right) Mr. Glen VanValkenburg, crew chief; A1C Guy Sico and SSgt. Richard Griffin, firefighters, aggressively, yet cautiously thread their way to the center of a training exercise fire while spraying a liberal coat of extinguishing foam. (See story on their new mission on page 7.)**

# 439th TAW DINING - OUT: OCTOBER 4, 1975 WESTOVER



**A HEAD TABLE TOAST . . .** Dais dignitaries (left to right), Col. and Mrs. Billy Knowles, CMSgt. Thomas Barnes, CMSgt. Eugene Longfield, Amn. Faith Dragone, Maj. Gen. Alfred Verhulst and Lt. Col. Jack Ferguson.



**MADAM VICE, MSgt. Marthur B. Bumgardner offers a toast, "To the Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force."**



**THE OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD . . .** MSgt. Frank K. Hopper, first sergeant, accepts a trophy on behalf of the 905th Civil Engineering Flight from CMSgt. Thomas Barnes and Col. Billy Knowles.



**A PRESTIGIOUS AWARD AND WORDS OF PRAISE . . .** MSgt. Paul T. Babin, 905th CF receives the Outstanding Enlisted Person Of The Year award, from CMSgt. Thomas Barnes. Colonel Knowles and Sergeant Bumgardner watch.



**A TROPHY AND THANKS** from Colonel Knowles to SMSgt. Francis Babin, 439th CSG, food service supervisor. The mess hall was named the 439 TAW Outstanding Work Center Of The Year.





# A GALA EVENING

## AFB CONSOLIDATED OPEN MESS



**NEW CITIZEN . . .** CMSgt. Eugene Longfield, president of the mess, presents Chief Barnes with "honorary citizenship" to the New England states at the affair's conclusion. Amn. Faith Dragone looks on.



**ADMIRING THEIR PLAQUES** Maj. Gen. Alfred Verhulst, commander of the Eastern Air Force Reserve Region (left) and Lt. Col. Donald A. Carlson (right), congratulate (left to right) SMSgt. Vincent Viglione, accepting for the C-130 flight line as "Maintenance Shop of the Year"; TSgt. Richard E. Stula, C-123 Crew Chief of the Year; TSgt. William A. MacLaughlin, C-130 Crew Chief of the Year; Sgt. Stephen O. Howe, Maintenance Man of the Year; and MSgt. Leon Nicolliello, Safety Support Person of the Year.



**WINNING SMILES AND WINNING AWARDS** are (left to right) CMSgt. Eugene Longfield, president of the mess; TSgt. Clifford Turcotte, Medical Technician of the Year; SSgt. Richard H. Hurst, Outstanding Supply Technician of the Year; SSgt. Charles H. Scott, Support Technician of the Year; TSgt. Ira A. Simmons, Training Support Person of the Year; MSgt. Richard A. Rehnberg, Outstanding Enlisted Aircrew Member; and TSgt. Raymond DesRoches, Well Done Aircrew Member Award recipient.



**439th PERSONNEL**, new experts in parade marching, show off a different step.



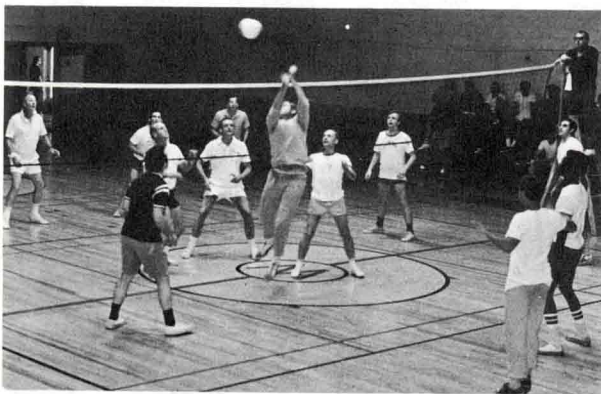


Col. Kenneth L. Charpilloz (right) 439th TAW senior advisor and acting CCE inspector, listens to the crew briefing conducted by Maj. Philip F. Boivin, (left) aircraft commander, to TSgt. Robert A. Whitman, flight engineer and Maj. Ronald C. Wortelboer, navigator. 337th TAS crews flew four C-130 aircraft in formation on an "Echo Charlie" tactical mission. Each aircraft dropped a CDS package and simulated a personnel drop at Westover's drop zone.

## CCE Judges 439th Satisfactory

During the September UTA, the 439th TAW underwent its annual Combat Capability Evaluation (CCE). Under the direction of Lt. Col. Robert McMullen, deputy commander for operations and CCE team chief, inspectors from Rickenbacker AFB, Ohio, Langley AFB, Va., Dobbins AFB, Ga. and Pope AFB, N.C. evaluated all the major units on base.

The exercise in its entirety and the accompanying administration inspections were rated by the group of inspectors as satisfactory. Lt. Col. Donald Carlson, deputy commander for logistics and deputy CCE team chief, said, "We are very impressed with the CCE and the team's findings. We expect to use the summer encampment to correct those few areas that were found to be deficient."



Thought volleyball team named Wing  
"CSG would get the sting."  
But, two out of three,  
Group won handily,  
"It was Wing who got the zing!"

## Wing Commander's Message

By Col. Billy M. Knowles

All full-time reservists (ART) as well as the Base support full-time civilian work force (non-reserve) look forward throughout the year to that time when all or most of the part-time reservists come together for the annual encampment. It's only then that everything makes sense. You're what it's all about.

And as you can imagine, things really happened between Sunday morning 21 September 1975 and Sunday noon 5 October 1975. Two-day UTAs being so terribly limited, the encampment offers the only opportunity for units to measure their accomplishments in terms of completed actions. Every phase of mission readiness was enhanced and evaluated for each unit within the Combat Support Group and the Tactical Airlift Wing. Next year's encampment, (15-29 August), although a long way off, is already being planned for and looked forward to.

As for the Oct. 18-19 UTA, between 40 and 50 personnel will be conducting a staff assistance visit IAW AFR 45-1. They are a cohesive team whose membership come from Eastern AFRR Hq, Hq 21st AF, and the 317th Tactical Airlift Wing. While their purpose is to assist and advise, ours will be to perform our normal and routine functions. It would be well, however, to present the proper image throughout; i.e., appearance, grooming, courtesy, professionalism. You and I would certainly expect them to depart with the indelible impression that the 439th Tactical Airlift Wing is ready to perform its mission in the manner for which we exist.

## UTA SCHEDULE

18 - 19 Oct.	12 - 13 Jun.
8 - 9 Nov.	10 - 11 July
13 - 14 Dec.	13 - 14 Aug. (Fri-one period 1900-2300)
10 - 11 Jan.	15 - 29 Aug. <b>TWO WEEK ENCAMPMENT</b>
7 - 8 Feb.	10 Sept. (Fri-one period 1900-2300)
13 - 14 Mar.	11 - 12 Sept.
10 - 11 Apr.	16 - 17 Oct.
15 - 16 May	13 - 14 Nov.
	11 - 12 Dec.

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.

Commander, 439th TAW Col. Billy M. Knowles	Editor TSgt. Lawrence H. Lentz
Base Commander Lt. Col. Jack P. Ferguson	Staff SSgt. Steven P. Vandermark Sgt. Philip W. Lane
Base Information Officer Miss Betty O'Connell	A1C Deborah A. Studebaker Amn. Dean M. Mauro Amn. Carroll R. Chase
Wing Information Officers Maj. Robert D. Hafner Maj. Rudolph G. DiLuzio	Photographers SSgt. Robin Ketcherside Sgt. Barry W. Brightman Sgt. James Langley



## Command Promotions Announced

Two Westover officers occupy different desks as the result of administrative promotions made during the September UTA.

Lt. Col. Charles R. Parrott is the new 439th TAW Vice-Commander. He was the Commander of the 731st TAS. Lt. Col. Robert Heyner leaves his position as chief of the wing's operations center to assume Colonel Parrott's former job.

As Vice-Commander, Colonel Parrott acts as commander in the event of Colonel Knowles' absence. He is a 23 year veteran of the military including 15 years in the reserves. He came to Westover with the 901st TAG's relocation. As a civilian, Colonel Parrott is an attorney in Boston.

Colonel Heyner is in command of the 150 member 731st and also life support personnel. He has spent three years on active duty and 19 years in the reserves, including the 901st TAG. In civilian life, Colonel Heyner is director of command control communications for a Burlington, Mass. engineering firm.



**OFF WE GO . . . .** Colonel Parrott (left) presents a C-123 model to the new 731st TAS Commander, Colonel Heyner.



**THE NATIONAL PASTIME . . . . .** Reserve vs. active duty personnel do battle on the playing field as a team of 901st/905th WSSF opposed 1917th CS representatives during the base's softball tournament.

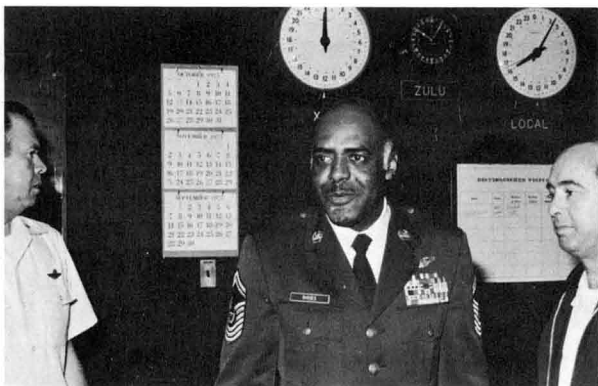


**"I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU SERGEANT AND WAF" . . . . .** Debra R. Huckins enlists in the U.S. Air Force Reserve and joins her husband, Kenneth (center), a sergeant in the 905th CAMS, in the 439th TAW. The new airman will attend Lackland AFB and later Lowry AFB for specialization in inventory management. She joined the 901st MOBSFit in order to share her husband's many experiences in the reserve program. Maj. Edward J. Seilius, CBPO chief, performed the "ceremony" while TSgt. Thomas A. Provost acted as "witness."



Both military and civilian personnel were involved in the disaster preparedness exercise on Oct. 3. Mr. Louis Howie, civilian personnel employee relations and development specialist and a disaster preparedness evaluator, observes the procedures of SSgt. Robert Chunyk (left) and Sgt. Robert Nugent as they take samples of simulated toxic gas during the chemical warfare phase of the exercise.





**TOURING WESTOVER . . .** CMSgt. Thomas N. Barnes, chief master sergeant of the Air Force, stops by the 439th Wing Operations Center Command Post during his visit. Lt. Col. Charles K. Meeker Jr. (left) greets Sergeant Barnes and his guide, CMSgt. Alcide F. Patenaude (right). Sergeant Barnes is the advisor to both the Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

## Patriot Staff Needs Your News

You've heard of the bump, you've heard of the hustle, but have you heard of the beat?

No, it's not the latest dance and it's not "breaking, entering and auto theft." It's the newly paved path of the PATRIOT staff in their never ending quest for news-worthy stories.

From an ORI to a deranged cat on top of the control tower, staff members are seeking new ways to expand the PATRIOT's scope of news stories.

SSgt. Steve Vandermark has been snooping around headquarters building, the 337TAS, 905CEFLT, 905MOBSF and Procurement in hopes of a tasty tidbit.

Our back door man, Amn. Dean Mauro, has been sliding in and out of the 901 and 905 CAMS, not neglecting his other sly doings at the 731 TAS, 901 COMMFLT and 58 APS.

Pretty AIC Debbie Studebaker has been using her charm to extract newsworthy items from the medical clinic and training office, and her smile at the 74AES, 901 CEFLT, 901MOBSF, and the 901 and 905 WSSFLTs.

Usually on the run, Sgt. Phil Lane stops in to talk with the people at the 901 and 905 APF and Recruiting. Finance and supply persons better watch out; sometimes Phil's right hand doesn't know what the left one is doing.

Always siding with the underdog is Amn. Caroll Chase checking out Base Operations, Transportation and the dining hall. Don't forget her other dealings with the CBPO, 59APS, 905 COMMFLT and her own 439CSG.

Of course we won't leave out the man who drove his staff to wander (among other things), TSgt. Larry Lentz, trusty PATRIOT editor.

The staff will continue to do their "thing" and now you can too! Snap your fingers and then contact (Ext. 2072) the reporter covering your squadron or office with the latest activities of your unit and personnel.

So hustle when you can, and bump where you should, but don't forget to do the beat!

## Base Commander's Message

By Lt. Col. Jack P. Ferguson

A house is not a home—but we're trying! After months of preparation, planning and processing, the first changes in the base barracks have become realities.

New beds, bureaus and arm chairs, costing \$60,000, have replaced or augmented furniture in all rooms in the five barracks.

These new additions are only the first step. All areas are slated for new drapes, screens, storm windows and a fresh coat of paint. Dayrooms will also receive our attention and get a face-lifting. Improvements in the plumbing and lighting will continue. Our contract with civilian maid service will remain in effect.

Each squadron has now been given their own specific group of rooms and unit personnel permanently assigned a room. This arrangement will facilitate everyone's monthly quarters in-processing and help insure more responsible housekeeping practices.

We welcome your suggestions and continued personal involvement in making your barracks as comfortable and appealing as possible.

**TWO OTHER NOTES:** Arrangements opening the base movie theatre on Saturday nights of the UTAs are being finalized. Watch the theatre's marquee for further details.

Westover bowling lanes should be back in operation by our next summer encampment.



**LAYING DOWN ON THE JOB . . .** Sgt. Michael E. Smith, 905 MOBSFit, does his part at the recent base blood drive on October 1.



## 901st CEF: From Hard Hats to Helmets

The 901st Civil Engineering Flight (CEF) has now gone into firefighting! A total of 46 men started cross-training in April and concluded during their summer encampment at Westover, Aug. 23 thru Sept. 6. All those who took the end of course test passed and are skilled in all areas of firefighting and now wear the USAF Fire Protection badge.

Before any "new" firefighter can actually lend a helping hand in any daily duties or emergency situations, he must have had Proficiency Training in all firefighting operations. The minimum training requirements include aircraft familiarization, firefighting techniques for explosives, breathing equipment, live training fires, aircraft egress (hands-on-rescue techniques), familiarization and



**CLASS ROOM SESSION —** Mr. Roger R. Hemond (center), assistant chief of operations, conducts a pre-briefing on a live training fire exercise for reserve firefighters. Mr. Maurice Jiggetts (left), crew chief and SMSgt. Al Aniello, 439th fire chief, assist.

operation of assigned equipment, runway foaming and on-scene resupply, on and off-base crash response, use of specialized rescue tools, command and control, fire department communications, forcible entry-ventilation-and salvage, fire effects on building materials and fire confinement, prefire planning, emergency first aid, tactics and strategy, pump operations, base water distribution, and installed fire protection systems.

Cross-trainees and people just coming into the firefighting field are not the only ones who must take proficiency training. Every firefighter must re-familiarize himself with all aspects of the job throughout the year. Special training exercises are divided quarterly and semi-annually.

### BASE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Presently there are four fire departments at Westover — the 901st CEF, the 905th CEF, the 439th CSG, and the Base Fire Department. Every department has its own orderly room, but only the base fire department has a fire station. "The combined strength of the four fire departments is about 150 men," commented TSgt. Ira A. Simmons, the 901st CEF firefighters assistant crew chief.

The fire departments all work together, but they all have their own missions. The base fire department handles fires, accidents, emergencies or any situation where

and when they are needed and also provides training support for the Air Force Reserve firefighting organizations. "They also have a mutual aid agreement with the surrounding communities. When extra man power and more firefighting vehicles or equipment is needed, Westover personnel go to their aid. Other departments would reciprocate, if ever needed on base," said MSgt. John Diana, deputy chief.

### MISSIONS

The 901st and 905th firefighters can relocate immediately anywhere in the world and help set up a new or temporary base and fire station. Upon arrival, one of four-15 man teams, acts as that base's main fire protection team until the permanent unit arrives.

"Just recently we received a new P-10 rescue vehicle," explained Roger R. Hemond, assistant chief of operations. "We also have three P-2 crash trucks, two P-4 crash trucks, two pumpers and two water tankers. In the case of a crash emergency all firefighting vehicles would go to the scene, but during a structural emergency, such as a building fire, only the pumpers would go to the scene."

One of the quarterly proficiency training exercises is "live training fires." The exercise, which is held at the fire training area on base, simulates an aircraft crash. Contaminated fuel is spilled on the ground in a specific area and set afire. A team of firefighters then must extinguish the blaze within a minimum amount of time.

Sergeant Simmons specified, "Mixing a detergent-like substance, called aqueous film-forming foam, with the water produces a foam spray. Since this is lighter than fuel, it floats on top of the fuel smothering the burning vapors thus putting out the fire within a matter of seconds.

"The 901st firefighters have been busy in the last few months in their transition from hard hats to fire helmets," said Sergeant Simmons, the group's trainer. "The received intensified training enabling them to take positive steps in fulfilling their combat ready requirements. Also, the group quickly accepted this retraining thus they're well on their way to becoming a highly proficient Air Force fire protection element."



**READY TO ROLL —** TSgt. Ira A. Simmons, 901st CEF firefighters assistant crew chief, inspects the firefighting equipment used by the base and reserve firefighters.



## Training the Trainers

"The course was great. I really didn't think I was going to learn anything. But now I'm glad I went. Before it took me a couple of hours to fill out the necessary forms. Now, I can polish it off in a few minutes," proudly boasts SSgt. Anthony Symasko, 439th CSG.

He is only one of the 80 members of the 439th to attend and graduate from the OJT course, officially listed as 4AJF75000-15 OJT Trainee/Supervisor Orientation Course (Air Reserve Forces), given during the summer encampment. Responses from others indicate Sergeant Symasko is not alone in his reaction.

The overwhelming approval has been attributed to one factor — the infectious concern and evident expertise of the course's instructor — SSgt. Joseph Hughes, the 439th's new



**"WHAT DOES THE MANUAL SAY?" . . . . SSgt. Joseph Hughes, 439 OJT Advisor, tosses a question on proper documentation back to the class for their investigation and solution.**

OJT advisor from Field Training Detachment 210 at Plattsburgh AFB, N.Y. Arrangements for his visit were handled by CMSgt. Eugene Longfield, 439th training officer and MSgt. Clay Gallant, assistant training superintendent.

Additional OJT administrators, who heard about the classes and anxious to improve their skills, volunteered for the two-day long programs. By the completion of the second course the remaining two were quickly over subscribed.

Sergeant Hughes' presentation in the course was geared to anyone in a supervisory position, both officers and enlisted personnel and civilians. "The classes are for everyone responsible in getting their personnel fully qualified in their job," says Sergeant Hughes. "Achieving that potential is the biggest problem in the Air Force today."

The OJT classes, totaling 15 hours, concentrate on three primary areas — job proficiency training, qualification training and career knowledge. As subordinates gain greater competence in their job, the classes demonstrate how supervisors can adequately insure continued, effective career field training.

Consequently, the course is more than instruction in filling out "proper forms-properly." While correct documentation is required and covered, class discussion on the "psychology of learning," "principles and techniques of job instruction" and "Air Force classification" are also heavily emphasized.

### No Fire Policy

In civilian occupations, if no other recourse is available, a poorly performing employee can be fired. The military does not follow a similar policy. Rather, if the individual has conscientiously applied himself, but still cannot progress, he will be given the opportunity for more intensive OJT. If the situation warrants, personnel may be cross-trained into another career field using the same OJT techniques. The Air Force does not give up on its personnel.

Lately, private companies have realized that the arbitrary loss of its most valuable assets — its employees — seriously decreases the organization's ability to conduct business. Now, companies, such as "Sears Roebuck" and "Montgomery Ward," are implementing the same training principles used by the Air Force for years. These programs are often taught by retired or former Air Force personnel.

Similarly other employees leave a company out of frustration and boredom because of repetitive, non-challenging, dead-end jobs. This dilemma may also be resolved by proper OJT administration.

### Of Critical Importance

The Air Force's commitment to its training program is evident. "No other area is analyzed as thoroughly as a unit's training program by inspectors from Air Force on down," states Sergeant Hughes. "I've seen too many commanders, at all levels, make or break an inspection because of their training programs. Don't forget, your monthly, two day meeting is called a Unit Training Assembly. And that's what it's all about."

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## CIVILIANS MAY CHECK 971s

(AFNS) A new regulation, covering supervisor's records, provides for a major change in Air Force policy. Civilian employees may now review their Air Force Form 971, "Supervisor's Record of Employee." Officials say the forms will now be available on request of the employee.

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## Aircraft Accident at Westover by Col. Billy M. Knowles

This is the first opportunity to apprise the members of the 439th TAW of the fact we experienced a major aircraft accident on Sept. 9, 1975.

The accident occurred during a routine training mission at Westover. A C-130 left main gear failed upon termination landing, ultimately collapsing with major damage to that wheel well, the number one propeller and engine and also minor damage to the left wing tip.

The individual performances of the aircrew were timely and correct and limited the ultimate damage to the aircraft.

In the interest of flying safety and accident prevention this accident like all USAF accidents is being minutely investigated to preclude recurrence.

No one wants an aircraft accident. But in my mind, if one is to occur let it be without injury and let it be due to material failure rather than personnel error.



## Hospitalized Children Steal 439th's Hearts

55 of the cutest, most adorable patients ever to have the misfortune to stay in a hospital bed were entertained, and in turn, entertained 25 visitors from the 439th on Thursday, Sept. 25 at the Shrine Hospital for Crippled Children.

The yearly 905thTAG trip to the Springfield facility has become a 439th tradition.

Mess hall personnel prepared hot dogs, hamburgers, watermelon, ice cream and three of the largest cakes seen in the hospital since the last reserve visit. All the supplies were purchased by donations received by 439th personnel.

By the end of the evening, it was difficult to determine who had enjoyed themselves more — the children or their visitors.

## MOVING IN UP OUT

### ENLISTED

SSgt. William R. Brewster  
SSgt. Stuart E. DeGray  
SSgt. Glenn M. Lungarini  
SSgt. George E. Morton  
Sgt. David A. Canney  
Sgt. Robert A. Dinatale  
Sgt. Robert G. Erhardt  
Sgt. Theodore H. Erhardt Jr.  
Sgt. Jack Fernandes Jr.  
Sgt. David C. Mee  
A1C Roy R. Brosseau  
A1C Joseph S. DeCaro  
A1C Frank S. Lupa  
AB John D. Bell  
AB Greta M. Charette  
AB Michael A. Clare  
AB Michael V. Critelli  
AB Brenda L. Gavin  
AB Roxann J. Henry  
AB Nathaniel L. Herbert  
AB Patricia A. Miller  
AB Steven A. Nelson  
AB Nancy A. Othouse  
AB Athenia L. Simpson  
AB Steven Spratt  
AB Denise P. Steeley  
AB Joseph G. Virgilio  
AB Jeffrey A. Weber  
AB Debra L. Wiernasz  
AB Marlene B. Wilson

### REENLISTED

MSgt. Paul A. Bergeron  
MSgt. Thomas R. Templeman  
TSgt. Laverne Cholewa  
TSgt. Lawrence B. Lose  
SSgt. Richard A. Demello  
SSgt. Thomas L. Lotherington  
SSgt. Robert J. Rock  
SSgt. John P. Sambor  
A1C Dennis P. Fountain  
A1C James F. Mara  
A1C James P. O'Toole

### PROMOTIONS

Maj. James L. Shohet  
Capt. Graydon Causey  
Capt. Gerald K. Holtorf  
Capt. Ronald A. Michalski  
CMSgt. Eugene M. Longfield Jr.  
MSgt. Richard J. A. Lajoie  
MSgt. Howard A. Nolan  
TSgt. Clifford C. Carson  
TSgt. Michael K. Doyle  
TSgt. Richard F. Eaton  
TSgt. Floyd A. Minnick  
TSgt. William A. Murdza  
TSgt. Joseph A. Orzolek  
TSgt. Gerry J. Pardee  
TSgt. Edward F. Potyrala  
TSgt. Frank S. Rys  
TSgt. Donald H. Stearns  
TSgt. John F. Valli  
SSgt. Steven Q. Bethke  
SSgt. William J. Cichaski  
SSgt. Richard E. Emery  
SSgt. Theodore R. Geaffrey  
SSgt. Margaret A. George  
SSgt. Theodore T. Grace  
SSgt. Albert D. Guzzo  
SSgt. Robert P. Hensel  
SSgt. David D. Lapa  
SSgt. Dennis R. Lendzioszek  
SSgt. Richard B. Parrow  
SSgt. Kenneth E. Schworm  
SSgt. Robert T. Taylor  
SSgt. Michael E. Wzorek  
Sgt. Ruby E. Bosinske  
Sgt. Steven C. Pratte  
Sgt. Mark F. Washburn  
AMN Mary A. Devore  
AMN Lynard L. Dixon  
AMN Nancy Olszewski  
AMN Charlene B. Weaver



"TIME" FOR GOOD BYES . . . . TSgt. Milton Matthews, (left) aircraft maintenance material control supervisor, receives a watch and words of praise and thanks on his retirement by Capt. Joseph E. Butler on behalf of all 439th maintenance personnel. The occasion marked Sergeant Matthew's 34 years in the military including 17 years with the 905th CAMS.

### REASSIGNMENT

Capt. Graydon G. Causey  
Capt. Edward C. Custer Jr.  
Capt. Bernard J. Ferro III  
Capt. Richard B. Hawkins  
Capt. Catherine R. Wilkalis  
MSgt. Allen R. Hanson  
MSgt. Charles W. Smith  
TSgt. George W. Beal  
TSgt. Alton L. Moore  
TSgt. Ernest Stryer  
SSgt. Roger P. Bienvenu  
SSgt. Robert J. Cavagni  
SSgt. Joseph C. C. Guignard  
SSgt. Robert G. Johnson  
SSgt. Robert N. Knutson  
SSgt. Louis J. Luchini Jr.  
SSgt. George M. McMahon  
SSgt. John H. Misiaszek  
SSgt. John E. Murray  
SSgt. Roger W. Schaffner  
SSgt. Gary D. Smith  
SSgt. Marvin D. Strand  
Sgt. Russell G. Alvarez  
Sgt. David H. Axton  
Sgt. Robert F. Cartier  
Sgt. Thomas N. Clark  
Sgt. James J. Cote  
Sgt. Dennis G. Flood  
Sgt. Henry Grace  
Sgt. James F. Hannafin

Sgt. Philip R. Howe  
Sgt. Paul A. Kent  
Sgt. Carroll L. Norton  
Sgt. Randall L. Norton Jr.  
Sgt. Bruce P. Richards  
Sgt. Robert A. Roberts  
Sgt. John D. Stevens  
Sgt. Richard C. Stockwell  
Sgt. Martin C. Turner  
Sgt. Dennis F. Woodard  
A1C Judith M. Ashcraft  
A1C Michael D. Jones  
A1C Edwin G. Ross  
A1C Michael B. Stuart  
A1C Lawrence T. Rudolph  
A1C Frederick J. Vautour

### DISCHARGE

SSgt. Dale C. Messenger  
SSgt. Stephen G. Seaburg  
SSgt. Robert W. Thorley  
Sgt. David A. Bean  
Sgt. Lawrence J. Bernat  
Sgt. Kenneth L. Burton  
Sgt. Joseph R. Curtis  
Sgt. David A. Koziol  
Sgt. David P. Lawrence  
Sgt. Bryan L. Sierpinski  
Sgt. Craig R. Snyder  
AMN Luis A. Mercado

**SINCERE CONDOLENCES  
TO THE FAMILY OF  
Henry McDonald, Jr., 48  
439CSGDOB Aircraft Dispatcher**



# MEDIA "REPS" TOUR PANAMA CANAL

Newspaper and television station representatives from the Holyoke and Northampton, Mass., Pittsburgh, Penn. and Columbus, Ohio areas were the guests of the 439th and the U.S. Air Forces Southern Command for a three day visit to Howard AFB and the Panama Canal. Their trip permitted them an opportunity to observe America's involvement in the area as well as learn about AFRES participation in that command's mission. The reporters made the trip aboard a 439th C-130.

The crew for their flight was headed by Lt. Col. Theodore H. Beck, first pilot, and included Maj. Robert McCoy, co-pilot; Maj. George Warburton, navigator; SMSgt. William Mahoney, instructor loadmaster; TSgt. Joseph Giuca, flight engineer; and Sgt. Raymond Thurston, loadmaster.

Year round, reserve crews from the 439th, the 302nd TAW from Rickenbacker AFB, Ohio and the 911 TAG from Pittsburgh IAP, Penn. spend two weeks on rotational duty in the Canal Zone—usually as their annual two week active duty commitment.

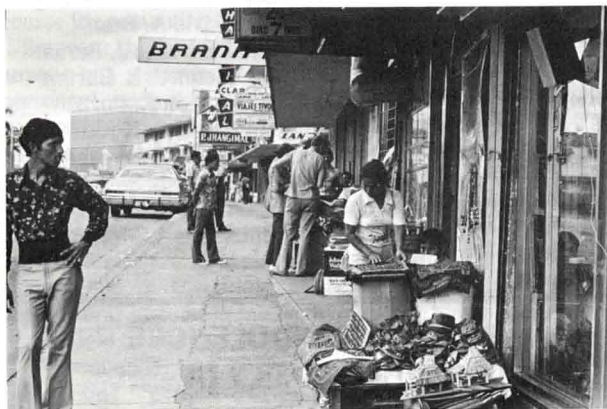
Initially the guests received a briefing from Col. Whitney N. Tomlin, vice commander, U.S. Air Force Southern Command. His orientation explained the reserve role in the zone which extends from the Panama Canal to Antarctica to the Indian Ocean.

Reservists fly three C-123s which are permanently assigned to Howard AFB. Routine missions include paratroop drop training and ferrying supplies. Also, the Provider's inflight stability allows for accurate aerial photography used in mapping surveys.

## HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS

The reporters were also told of the many emergency flights the reservists have handled with skill and dispatch.

Recently, a flight turned into two life saving situations. After assisting in the rescue of injured sailors from a burning ship off Panama's coast, the C-123 crew located the wreckage of a Panamanian DC-6 and helped coordinate the survivors' rescue. Both these incidents occurred on the same day.



Local tradesmen in the shopping district of Panama City display their wares on the sidewalks, tempting the passerby to stop and browse.

Immediately after the Honduran earthquake, reserve crews were one of the first relief workers into the devastated area. The C-123s' ideal configuration brought in greatly needed water purification units and other medical supplies. On their return trip to Howard, victims were airlifted to safety and hospitalization.



Lt. Col. Theodore Beck, first pilot, briefly explains some of his C-130 controls to Nancy L. Smith, Holyoke Transcript-Telegram assistant city editor.

Equally important is the C-123's spray mission. Spraying various jungle areas for mosquitos carrying Eastern-Equine Encephalitis is exclusively carried out by the C-123s. If contacted by man, the disease is usually fatal. Additionally, Mediterranean fruit flies are also attacked. These insects destroy valuable citrus crops.

The crews' diligence has earned them the respect and admiration of their active duty counterparts. During his briefing to the media representatives, Col. William E. Roth, 24 Composite Group commander, was quick to point out the reservists' abilities and invaluable contributions. "The reserve crews are professionals in every sense of the word. We have nothing but praise for them."

## SIGHTSEEING TOO

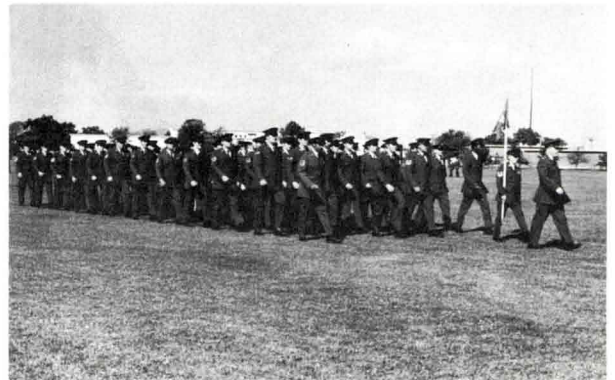
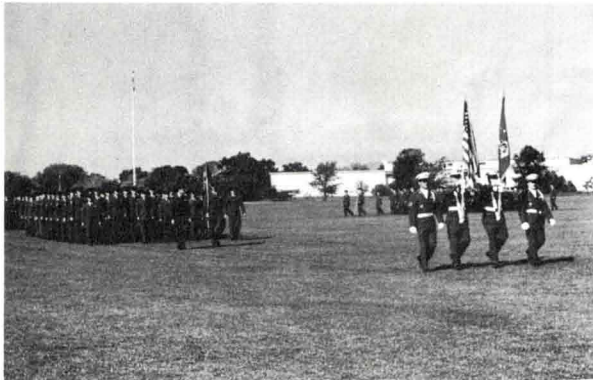
The reporters' time was not confined to official amenities. In addition to ample sightseeing opportunities in Panama City, the reporters were the guests on the Panama Canal Company's launch. Their water tour of the canal included a visit to the Miraflores Locks where ships traveling from one ocean to the other are raised or lowered 81 feet.

Area journalists who made the trip are Nancy L. Smith and Marshall Hathaway from the Holyoke Transcript-Telegram; John Caldwell of WBGY-TV and Paul Craig and Robert Antil from the Hampshire County Illustrated.

Their experiences, investigations and favorable reactions have been very complimentary to the reserve forces. A lengthy four part series in the Holyoke Transcript highlighted the 439th's and Westover active participation in America's military posture.



# 439th TAW'S FIRST PARADE OCTOBER 4, 1975



**THE LONG BLUE LINE . . .** 439th squadrons begin their pass in review under ideal weather conditions on Westover's ellipse.



**PRESENT ARMS . . .** invited guests and dignitaries (left to right) Lt. Col. Roger D. Haneline, MAC advisor; Lt. Col. Robert McMullen, deputy commander for operations; Col. Kenneth L. Charpillouz, MAC senior advisor; SMSgt. Henry Scott, base sergeant major; and CMSgt. Thomas N. Barnes, chief master sergeant of the Air Force, join family and friends of the 439th as the AFRES Band plays the Star Spangled Banner.

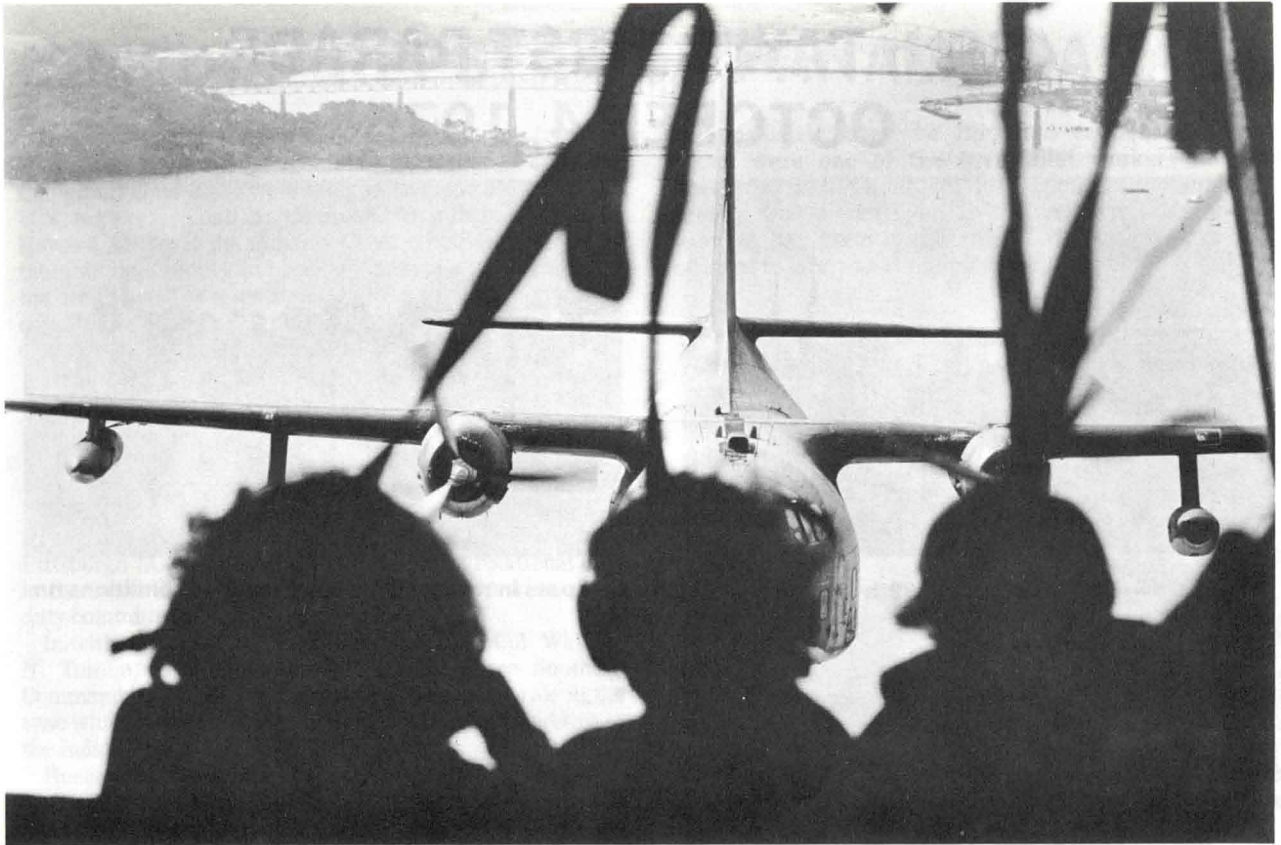


**EYES RIGHT AND UP . . .** Reviewing stand participants watch the cargo drops of three C-123s and three C-130s.



**FOUR AFRES CAREERS** were highlighted as retirement ceremonies honored (left to right) Col. Robert A. Payne, Maj. Sheila H. Miltner, MSgt. Charles Jakaitis and TSgt. Milton Matthews. Colonel Knowles presented retirement certificates.





**A C-123 POSES FOR ITS PICTURE . . .** Moving into position over the Panama Canal's Pacific entrance and the Thatcher Ferry Bridge, a C-123 permits guest reporters to take some dramatic photos through the ramp opening of another aircraft. (See story on the 439th's invitation to media representatives on page 10.)



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