



# THE PATRIOT



439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING

WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MASSACHUSETTS

Vol. III, No. 4

April 1976



## Thunderbirds Are Coming To Westover April 25 Open House

(Story on Page 2)

## 337TH'S DEBRA WIERNASZ CHOSEN MISS WESTOVER

The ballroom of the consolidated open mess was the setting March 7 for a "first" at the base—the Miss Westover Beauty Pageant.

A capacity crowd witnessed Base Commander Lt. Col. Jack P. Ferguson crown Amn. Debra Lee Wiernasz, chosen from a field of 28 contestants. Debbie is assigned to the 337th TAS as an air operations specialist.

Airman Wiernasz, who in civilian life works at the Valley Bank, lives in Holyoke, Mass. She was chosen with a court of four other girls who had some affiliation with the base. Amn. Ammon of Boston, formerly of Holyoke, a clerk with the 439th CBPO, is also a clerk with the First National Bank of Boston.

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THE QUEEN AND HER COURT—Miss Westover, Amn. Debra Wiernasz, right, with the other finalists, from left, Amn. Linda J. Ammon, Amn. Reba F. Yates, Miss Debra S. Maurice and Miss Mary F. Reardon.



## Thunderbirds

Although Sunday, April 25 is not a UTA weekend, Westover will be anything but quiet. The roar of jet engines, band music and the "oohs" and "aahs" of an expected 50,000 people will fill the air during Westover's annual open house. There will be enough going on (from 10 to 4) to justify its impressive official title, "Westover Bicentennial Armed Forces Day Open House."

Lt. Col. Charles K. Collins, Westover Bicentennial Council chairman, invites everyone to come on out that day. "Bring your family out," said Colonel Collins, "for not only will they have an enjoyable day, but you can show them some of what goes on during your training periods."

Topping the bill are the United States Air Force Thunderbirds. They'll be demonstrating their precision flying skills. The famed Thunderbirds fly the T-38 Talon, a supersonic jet trainer which held 12 world aviation records. They're scheduled to arrive at 11 a.m. and put on a short initial show. A full program featuring precision aerial maneuvers begins at 2:30 p.m.

Keeping busy between shows will be no problem for Westover's guests. In the early afternoon, the 439th's own flying units, the 731st TAS and 337th TAS, will hold center stage. Their C-123s and C-130s will demonstrate a variety of air drops, assault takeoffs and landings.

If a visitor's neck gets stiff from looking up, there is plenty of action on the ground. Westover's life support units will display a wide assortment of survival equipment, including parachutes and a 20-man life raft. An aircraft engine will be set up in a hangar to provide a close view of what makes planes go. Westover's fire fighters will demonstrate their abilities by fighting a training exercise fire. All military services will have booths.

On the flight line, visitors may inspect aircraft flown by other Air Force Reserve units, by other commands, and by the Air Guard. New England National Guard units will exhibit their helicopters.

Guests will not only be able to see many exciting events, but will be able to delight their taste buds with food provided by area Boy Scouts, and to listen to pleasant band music.

It will be a day for all Westover personnel, families and friends to join with the public in a friendly outdoor celebration highlighting Westover's ongoing defense involvement.

## EAC UPDATE :

## 901ST CF MEI FINDING: SATISFACTORY

A two day management effectiveness inspection (MEI) of the 901st Communications Flight (CF) was conducted during March's UTA. The results echo similar MEI findings at Westover as the unit was accorded "satisfactory" in all major areas.

"We're all very pleased and proud with the inspection's outcome," commented Capt. Alan M. Salus, 901st CF commander. "Satisfactory means that our people can perform their mission anywhere at any time. The I.G. team took a critical, hard look at all the squadron's activities and came away quite impressed."

The four inspection team members, from Air Force Communications Service Headquarters, Richards-Gebaur AFB, Mo., were Capt. Charles D. McRae, team chief; and inspectors, MSgts. Earl E. Van Horn and John A. Goines and TSgt. Robert G. Hoesser.

"We check to see if they perform their mission as effectively as they can," said Sergeant Goines. "We evaluated the 901st on their management, operations, maintenance, security, safety and training readiness."



**INSPECTING EFFICIENCY . . . . MSgt. John Goines, MEI inspector, right, checks out SSgt. Donald F. Mofford, 901st CF radio maintenance technician, center, on the operation of the KW 2 MA transceiver used for ground-to-radio communication. Sgt. John Lipscomb, 901st CF quality control monitor, watches and awaits his turn.**

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Brig. Gen. Billy M. Knowles  
**Base Commander**  
Lt. Col. Jack P. Ferguson  
**Base Information Officer**  
Betty O'Connell  
**Wing Information Officers**  
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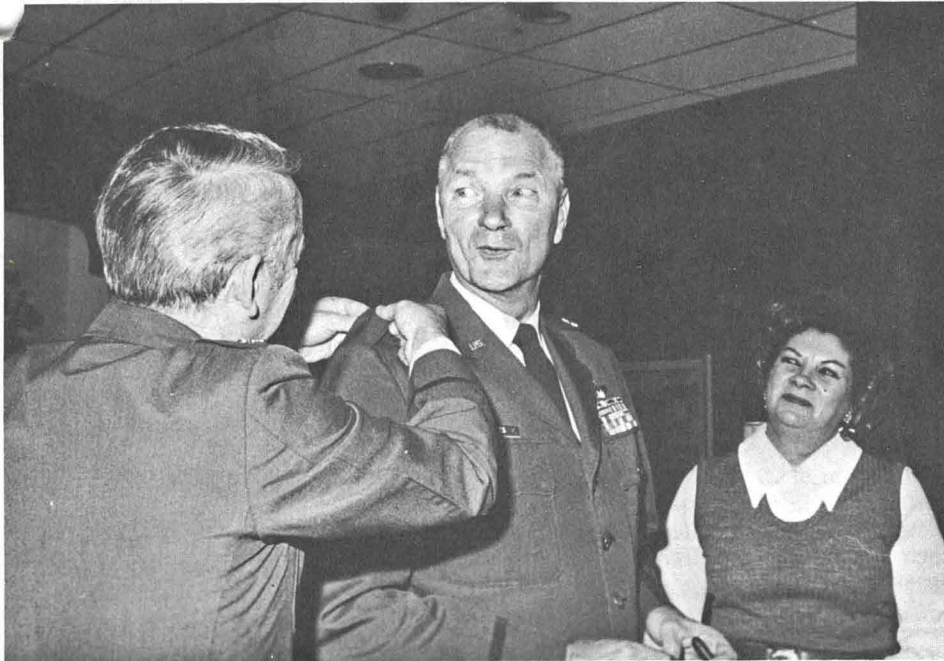
These recent actions have been implemented due, in part, to the efforts of the 439th TAW Enlisted Advisory Council:

- Billeting procedures will be determined by each unit's first sergeant. Requests from an individual for his assigned room will not be honored by the

billeting office after 6 p.m. on Saturday.

- Individual drinking cups will be placed in all barracks rooms.
- All base contact with Sentry Cleaners has been reestablished. They will handle all authorized alterations on reservists' military uniforms.





**THE STARS OF A GENERAL OFFICER** now shine from the shoulders of newly promoted Brig. Gen. Billy M. Knowles. Lt. Col. Jack Ferguson pins on the stars worn by the late Maj. Gen. Alfred Verhulst as Mrs. Verhulst smiles her approval. The insignia were given to General Knowles by Mrs. Verhulst. Word of the Senate confirmation reached Westover on March 11 in time for wing and group personnel to surprise the 439th commander at the base club.

# BRIEFS

**HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A 500 POUND BIRTHDAY CAKE????** If you haven't, you're going to get a chance on July 3rd when Westover has its Independence Day celebration. But first, we need your help. SSgt. Bill Rose is looking for everyone on base to donate one of the following: One or more boxes of white cake mix, one or more boxes of vanilla frosting mix, or a small money donation to help defray the cost of added ingredients (e.g., 50 to 100 dozen eggs.) If you're willing to donate one or more of the above, please bring it to the Reserve Recruiting Office in building 1310. Just think—if everyone donates just a little, come July 3rd we can have our cake and eat it too.

### DISCHARGED

- SSgt. Gary J. Goslee
- SSgt. Daniel P. Leng
- SSgt. Robert A. Mihaliak
- SSgt. William K. Navratil
- Sgt. Stephen L. Crocker
- Sgt. Stephen M. Delaney
- Sgt. Walter J. Gawel
- Sgt. Alan A. Reed
- Sgt. Robert C. Rosa
- Sgt. John P. Simeone
- Sgt. Allan L. Trelli
- Sgt. Jan B. Waszkiewicz

### REASSIGNED

- Capt. Rick A. Cherye
- TSgt. Herbert Feder
- TSgt. Thomas F. Provost
- SSgt. Robert E. Irving
- A1C Richard P. Greenwood
- AMN Denise P. Steeley

## T-Bird Background

Hundreds of years ago, when thunder cracked and lightning brightened the sky, North American Indians would raise their heads in search of the Thunderbird. A bird of legend and with many super-powers, it could decide wars or grant long life.

In 1953, at Luke Air Force Base near Phoenix, Arizona, North Americans once again raised their heads in search of the Thunderbirds. The United States Air Force Thunderbirds, the Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron, were performing for the first time.

Since that day 23 years ago, the Thunderbirds have appeared before more than 113,000,000 spectators including one 1959 show in Chicago that drew more than two million people. Since their beginning, the Thunderbirds have flown seven different aircraft models, starting with the subsonic F-84G Thunderjet, and progressing to today's T-38 Talon.

The T-38 is an advanced supersonic jet pilot trainer capable of traveling 830 miles per hour (mach. 1.23) and climbing 30,000 feet per minute. The Talon, the Air Force's first supersonic trainer, was first flown in April of 1959. It can fly as high as 50,000 feet, has a range of over 1,000 miles, and a ceiling of 50,000 feet. The takeoff speed of the jet is 178 miles per hour at a maximum takeoff weight of 12,000 pounds.

The Thunderbird team, composed of 75 officers and enlisted personnel, demonstrates the professionalism, versatility and flexibility of Air Force personnel and equipment.



**PARACHUTE PACKING IN PREPARATION** for the upcoming ORI is supervised by TSgt. John Nagy, left. Fellow 905th APF members, SSgt. Thomas Dawnikus, Edward Portier and Robert Adams, carefully follow the necessary steps.



## Wing Commander's Message



By Brig. Gen. Billy M. Knowles

Operational Readiness and Management Effectiveness Inspections are preceded by a warning order issued 30 days prior. Not having received such a warning for our 10-11 April UTA, we will proceed with Plan A.

Plan A is to practice the full exercise during the April UTA in anticipation that the actual inspection will occur during the May UTA. The April UTA has five 4-hour training periods; Friday night the 9th from 1830 until 2230 local hours and all day Saturday and Sunday (10-11 April).

Our newest unit, the 914th Tactical Airlift Group at Niagara Falls, NY, will provide a team of 25 experts to evaluate our performance in April. They have just completed a most satisfactory inspection of their own and know "from whence they speak."

The 439th Tactical Airlift Wing is riding a crest just now; i.e., the successful 914th TAG ORI/MEI in January; likewise the 905th Communications Flight's MEI in February, the 901st Communications Flight's MEI in March and the 1917th Communications Squadron's MEI in March. NOW for the BIGGY.

The largest "show and tell" of all is the complex operations-maintenance-security-mobility scenario the 439th TAW demonstrates during its ORI/MEI. That one is compounded with two weapon systems (C-123 & C-130B) and their speed-mix, two simultaneous security exercises and two mobility packages. All with single wing command and control and mobility control centers.

Let's prepare well and practice hard in April so that we can be certain to excel in May.

## Miss Westover . . .

(Continued from page 1)

Miss Maurice, a student at Classical High School in Springfield, is the daughter of retired MSgt. Robert Maurice. Miss Reardon, a medical records technician student at Holyoke Community College, is the daughter of Mrs. Mary M. and the late Raymond T. Reardon, who was a PO 1.C. with the U.S. Navy. Mrs. Reardon is a member of the Gold Star Wives.

Amn. Yates is about to enter basic training at Lackland AFB and to be assigned to the 74th AES. Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Napoleon Yates, Sr., of Bridgeport, Conn., Reba works for Sikorsky Aircraft.

Two days after the pageant, a member of the court acquired yet another honor. Miss Maurice was named Miss American Beauty, representing the Connecticut Valley Flower Show at Bay State West in Springfield.

The pageant, sponsored by the Pioneer Valley Chapter of the Retired Officers Association, Inc., owes its success to the work of several people who volunteered their time, but particularly to Mrs. Marilyn Callahan, bicentennial women's committee chairman, who with her committee, Mrs. Nancy Newell, Mrs. Natalie Harmon, Miss Janet LeMieux and Mrs. Mary Sullivan arranged a most enjoyable evening.

Judges for the contest were Carol Russell of the Carol Russell School of Charm and Modeling, who offered a scholarship to her school for the winner; Bob Charest, program director for WHYN radio and television; and Dick Norman, reporter for WWLP Television. Mrs. Francis (Bonnie) Baker was commentator. She is well known in the Holyoke area for the role she plays each year as "Colleen Mother."

The winner also received a studio portrait to be taken by Stefan Borcea (MSgt., USAF, retired), professional photographer of Chicopee.

Escorting the girls to the ramp for the judging were the members of the West-

over Color Guard, TSgt. Sherman Williams, TSgt. Nathan Writesel, SSgt. Paul Couture and SSgt. William Rose.

Miss Westover will represent the base at all bicentennial events during the coming year.



**NEW SENIOR ADVISOR NAMED:** Col. Jack Newell, left, is the 439th's new Senior Advisor (MAC). He replaces Col. Kenneth L. Charpiloz, right, who will be retiring in June.

A Minnesota native, Colonel Newell was commissioned in 1952 and has served in various units throughout the United States and Japan. Previously, he was the executive officer for the director of aerospace safety, and deputy commander for operations and wing vice commander for the 314th TAW. Colonel Newell's 10,000 hours of flying time were in the C-119, C-47, T-29, C-131, C-54, C-118 and includes 3,400 hours in the C-130.

As liaison between the 439th and 21st Air Force, Colonel Newell will coordinate policy and procedures in operations and maintenance areas between the two units.



# BRIEFS



**94TH MAW TO HOLD REUNION:** All members of the former 94th Military Air-lift Wing are invited to a unit reunion on Saturday, June 12 at 6 p.m. at the Hanscom AFB Officers' Club. The gathering is sponsored by the Minuteman Air Force Association Chapter and Wing Reserve Officers Association Chapter. There'll be free refreshments and visual displays on the wing's history. Contact CMSgt. Arthur Snow at (617) 655-6100, ext. 282.

\* \* \*

**WESTOVER TO HOST 911TH TAG.** The 911th TAG, based at the Greater Pittsburgh International Airport, will conduct their summer encampment training, July 19 to Aug. 1 at Westover AFB.

\* \* \*

**NEW CAMPING CLUB FORMED:** Reservists, active duty, retired military and base civilians interested in participating in Westover's newly created Camping Club are urged to attend an organizational meeting, Saturday, April 10 (UTA) at 7 p.m. at the base drivers' school, Hangar 5. For more information, call Mr. James Oster at extension 3583.

\* \* \*

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** The Westover Color Guard is looking for volunteers to form a supplemental color guard to share in the many events scheduled for this year. Contact SSgt. Bill Rose at the recruiting office or call him at 3923 or 2125.

\* \* \*

*The following letter was received from Kathy Wolfendon, Sunshine Village Friends of the Retarded*

Again this year, as in the past few years, I was authorized to conduct a small fund-raising drive at Westover for the benefit of the little retarded and handicapped folks at Sunshine Village. The drive consisted of the sale of emblematic shamrocks and leprechauns to coincide with St. Pat's Day.

The affair was a success, but the point I would like to make is the extreme courtesy and consideration accorded me while making these sales at the Westover Open Mess. It is very apparent that the club members are a fine group of ladies and gentlemen.

On behalf of Sunshine Village and the Friends of the Retarded, I thank all Westover personnel, active, reserve and retired, for their generosity and courtesy.

## The Inquiring Photographer

**SSgt. Marshall Hathaway**

General Knowles and Colonel Ferguson are very much concerned with community involvement programs, but they would like all reservists informed and participating. During the February UTA, I made the rounds in quest of the general feeling pertaining to this aspect of Air Force life.

The most enthusiastic response came from Lt. Col. Theodore Beck of Agawam, a pilot and a career counsellor with the 337th TAS. "Real good . . . without doubt community involvement is beneficial to both the 439th and the surrounding communities." Colonel Beck suggested we could possibly sponsor more speaker programs and cited we have qualified people who are "excellent in education with young people" and those who could offer enlightenment on "different interesting occupations", meaning certain military jobs with which the average civilian would be unfamiliar. He summarized, "We should have contact with the surrounding cities and towns to provide a better understanding of the standard makeup of the Reserves."



MSgt. Peter McCavick of Holyoke, and the 337th's first sergeant, agreed wholeheartedly with the colonel, and told of an upcoming program. Officials of Boy Scout Troop 670 at Grace United Church in Holyoke, for which Pete is a committeeman, had approached Colonel Ferguson on the possibility of an encampment at Westover. A councilwide Jamboree, with 1500 scouts from all over Hampden County, will be held here on the first weekend of May. The scouts will be pitching their tents in the vicinity of the golf course.



A stop was made at the Army Reserve Center for thoughts from the USAR. Sgt. 1. C. Richard Perron of Chicopee, assigned to the 444th Medical Co., answered, "We're definitely working on that as a high priority." Dick added that Army units have been volunteering in blood pressure clinics held in various locations such as the Fairfield Mall and the Eastern States Exposition. "We are getting our people out in the field doing volunteer work. Wherever we go, the response gets bigger. It's a definite asset to recruiting, too. People see their reservist friends and neighbors working out in the field and get interested."



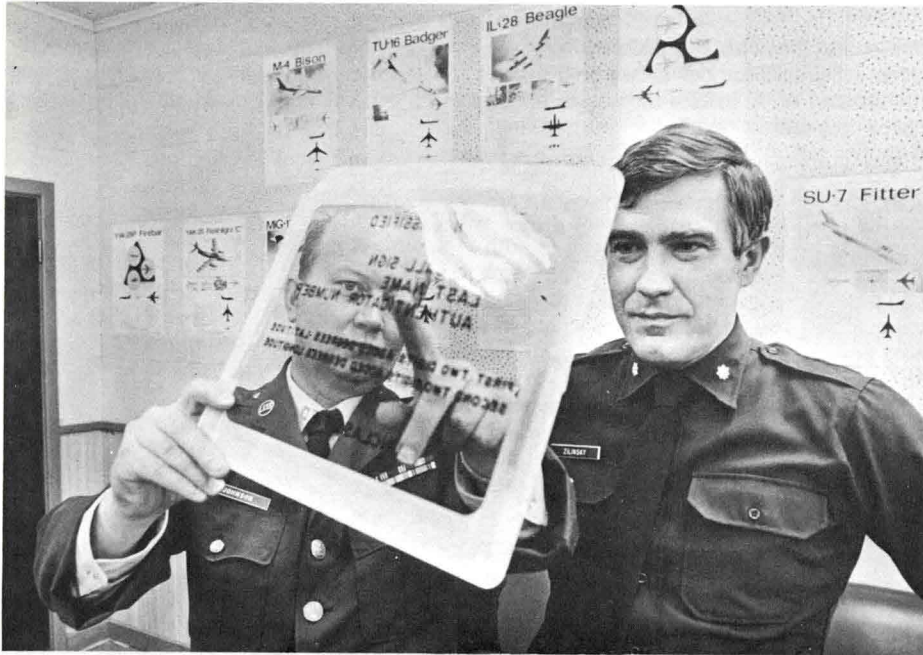
TSgt. Michael Doyle of Easthampton, assigned to the 901st Instrument Shop, indicated the need for involvement in his community. He revealed that an acquaintance in Easthampton asked if Westover was open and there were any aircraft "out there." Sergeant Doyle commented, "I don't think people are picking up on what's going on and I don't know what you have to do to make it work." Mike thought that we should strive to have the best possible open houses with "good, interesting programs."

Amn. Linda Ammon of Boston, seemed to be extremely well informed of Westover's programs. A clerk with the 439th CBPO, Linda rattled off a list of past programs that she was aware of, including time donated to fire departments and Boy Scouts (training, demonstrations, etc.), donations by reservists to many charitable causes, base support of local business by purchasing merchandise and using services from merchants in the local area. One of Airman Ammon's comments sums up the general impression conveyed to me in the course of my inquiries—"I think these programs are very good. We live in the community; we should be involved in it."





## 439th Intelligence Office—The "Spook" Shop of Intrigue and Involvement



**PREBRIEFING PLANNING . . . . MSgt. Philip Johnson and Maj. Anthony Zilinsky check the suitability of an overhead projector transparency.**

Like other offices in the 439th TAW, the wing intelligence office is filled with the usual assortment of desks, chairs and filing cabinets. Like other offices, the walls are covered with pictures of military aircraft—planes in flight, in formation, or on the ground. But there the similarity ends. Whereas other work centers proudly display posters of the wing's C-123s and C-130s, the intelligence office's gallery also features the latest in military aircraft flown by foreign countries. Also, various charts and photos of ships, submarines and aircraft markings from other nations circle the office.

The posters serve as more than mere decoration. Rather, they play an important part in the office's functioning. The eight assigned reservists must maintain complete, up-to-date files on all foreign countries—both friendly and potentially hostile. Documents are regularly received from various government organizations such as the Defense Intelligence Agency and the Military Airlift Command. This information ranges from the type and number of aircraft flown to the model of the rifle their soldiers carry. Other data describe the country's economic, political and social characteristics. The office would use this material to fully explain important conditions 439th members would encounter if activated against or deployed to a foreign country.

On higher organizational levels, intelligence operations are playing an ever increasing role in the country's defense posture. "With the signing of the SALT agreements between the Soviet Union and

the United States, the means to accurately verify Russian compliance is essential," says Capt. Thomas Costello, 439th intelligence officer. "With further ratification in SALT II a possibility, even more elaborate intelligence capabilities will be required."

### Other Duties

The office also keeps personnel authenticator cards completed by the unit's flying personnel. Information pertinent only to

the specific individual, a set of his fingerprints and his photo are kept on file. Search and rescue teams would compare the answers given by a downed airman before their rescue operations begin. Inaccurate responses would indicate an enemy signal attempting to lure potential rescuers to the position.

Intelligence personnel "man" the in-processing line during mobilization exercises. Called-up reservists receive deployment briefings highlighting certain aspects of the country they're destined for.

The aircrew's pre-mission briefing has a different intent. It concentrates on the crew's journey and what they can expect, militarily, such as where enemy resistance could be encountered.

The same crews would be debriefed after their return, by intelligence representatives. Pilots' observations from recently flown missions are vitally important to crews preparing a similar journey. For instance, radio signals jammed by foreign action could indicate the enemy's presence. Reporting the interference and the location would alert other fliers and could initiate a counter-offensive.

### Diverse Civilian Abilities

Many reservists bring civilian experience and expertise to their military specialties. For example, a commercial airline pilot changes uniforms and flies for the 731st TAS. Intelligence personnel usually don't have that opportunity. At the 439th, they bring a wide variety of backgrounds but receive comprehensive theoretical and on-the-job-training.

(Continued on page 7)



**SECURITY SCRUTINY . . . . Intelligence office files are examined for completeness and timeliness by, from left, SSgt. Thomas Carroll, Sgt. Jackie Anderson and Capt. Thomas Costello.**



## Base Commander's Message

By Lt. Col. Jack P. Ferguson



This month I'd like to present my case in defense of Integrity. Each of us, no matter what our status at Westover, is a taxpayer. And these days we're all looking for ways to ease that taxpayer's burden.

It shouldn't be too much to ask for a day's work for a day's pay. That's just common sense. We just have to "make do" with what manpower and money has been given to us to run this base. And that means each of us making sure we do the work that is expected of us and for which we're paid.

When it comes to money, it's no secret that each year we get less for our dollar, but conversely we get less dollars to work with. So that means we must be even more careful of the way we spend our funds, conservative in use of supplies, cautious to turn off lights and heat when not needed, and above all, cater to government equipment as though it were our own. And really—isn't it?

### Intelligence Office . . .

(Continued from page 6)

"Intelligence officers and ranking NCOs receive nine months of intensive training at the Armed Forces Air Intelligence School at Lowry AFB, Colorado," explains Captain Costello. "It's a joint services school and covers subjects like intelligence briefing, photo reconnaissance and interpretation, enemy military capabilities and the United States security system."

Every intelligence member must also possess qualifications which will allow them to be granted a clearance for access to Secret information.

Maj. Anthony Zilensky heads the unit. As a civilian, he conducts his own financial

consulting business in Canton, Conn. Captain Costello travels to Westover from his Rockville Centre, Long Island position on the legal staff with AMBAC Corporation.

MSgt. Phillip Johnson is assigned to the office from the 901st MOBSFIt as an intelligence technician. He's an engineering assistant with the Factory Mutual Research Corporation in Norwood. MSgt. Edward Buchas holds a similar reserve position for the 905th MOBSFIt. When not in uniform, he's a cost accounting supervisor for Connecticut General Life Insurance's printing department. SSgt. Edward Gunther wears three hats. In addition to his administrative intelligence duties, he's a teacher and the police commissioner in Madison, Conn.

Other enlisted personnel include SSgt. Thomas Carroll from Putney, Vt. Sergeant Carroll is an IRS computer programmer. Working for Shop-Rite Stores in Chicopee is A1C Jackie Anderson. Both are intelligence specialists. Handling the remaining, obligatory administrative functions is Sgt. Joyce Gubich, a housewife living at Westover.

Like others, the intelligence personnel foster an unmistakable pride in their work. Yet due to the very nature of the office, many of their responsibilities must go undiscussed, and therefore unheralded, with nonappropriate colleagues.

While in inactive status, they remain content to "keep a low profile," continuously update all important briefing files and participate in mobility training exercises. Expert and complete preparation will be essential if the unit is ever activated. Intelligence personnel realize that perhaps one day their fellow reservists will depend greatly on the office's collective ability, guidance and intelligence.



### PROMOTIONS

Brig. Gen. Billy M. Knowles  
Lt. Col. Paul E. Huffman  
Lt. Col. Robert G. McCoy  
Maj. Charles S. Joslin, Jr.  
Capt. Raymond L. Brisson, Jr.  
Capt. Robert F. Finnegan, Jr.  
CMSgt. Richard Dupre  
MSgt. James B. Rothwell  
TSgt. Alfred L. Burrier  
TSgt. Thomas F. Kudla

TSgt. William F. Kusmik  
TSgt. Joseph M. Norton  
SSgt. Bruce L. Bornstein  
SSgt. Steven J. Budleski  
SSgt. Richard M. Cayer  
SSgt. Robert B. Fetherston  
SSgt. Hassell A. Frye, Jr.  
SSgt. Stanley I. Parkinson  
SSgt. Daniel E. Williams  
Sgt. Jackie R. Anderson  
Sgt. Michael J. Burke  
Sgt. John A. Duke  
Sgt. Freddy E. Mis  
Sgt. Allen B. Misner  
Sgt. Robert H. Shipman  
Sgt. William J. Siska  
Sgt. John W. Strong, Jr.  
Sgt. Deborah A. Studebaker  
Sgt. Claude W. Thompson  
A1C Patricia C. Brooks  
A1C Diana Clark  
A1C Barry S. Ford  
A1C Christopher J. Menard  
A1C Denise L. Quinn  
A1C Betsy V. Rainville  
A1C Kent W. Ranney  
A1C Robert H. Ricard  
A1C Alan P. Riopelli  
A1C Sarah F. White  
AMN Russell C. Bailey  
AMN Kenneth D. Cornell

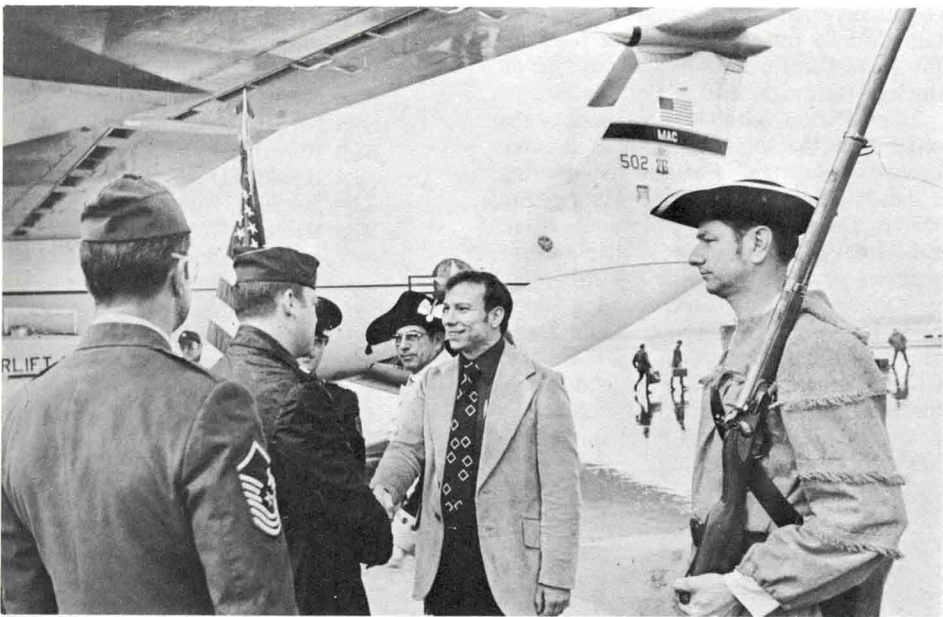
### REENLISTED

TSgt. Christopher A. Lee

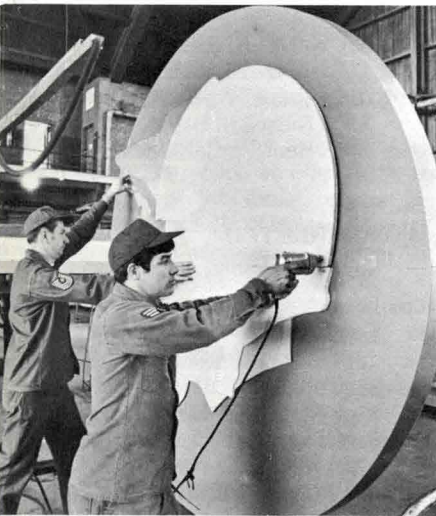
### ENLISTED

TSgt. Basil S. Bocynsky  
SSgt. Stephen E. Donahue  
SSgt. Richard E. Gingras, Jr.  
SSgt. Frank S. Godek  
SSgt. William E. Timmons  
Sgt. Robert A. Bosak  
Sgt. Ronald C. Capaldo  
Sgt. Peter E. Dahowski  
Sgt. Gregory P. Granger  
Sgt. John L. Hoagland  
Sgt. Gaylord W. Perez  
Sgt. John J. Speidel  
Sgt. George W. Washington  
A1C Peter A. Carminati  
A1C Mark B. Hughes  
A1C Geoffrey P. Slater  
A1C Thomas P. Valley  
AB Lisa J. Ammon  
AB Thomas A. Avezzie, III  
AB Jill A. Baker  
AB Carol A. Carter  
AB William D. Cram  
AB Roger Gomes  
AB Daniel G. Hogan  
AB Heidi M. Kniupis  
AB Cynthia J. Lapa  
AB Timothy O'Neil  
AB Angiolina M. Recchia  
AB Eva M. Riley  
AB Marilyn K. Shoemaker  
AB Nicholas B. Staszko, III





**AMERICA'S FIRST PRESIDENT BECOMES WESTOVER'S NEWEST RE-SERVIST** as a new recruit, George Washington, center, of Torrington, Conn., enlists in the 59th APS. The date selected was Sunday, February 22—the "original's" birthday. The swearing-in ceremony was held on the base's flight line by Lt. Col. Kenneth Stetson, 59th commander. Also participating were, from left, SMSgt. Robert Xanders, recruiting chief; TSgt. Nathan Writesel, 439th CSG (partially hidden); MSgt. Howard J. Leonard, 58th APS and MSgt. William G. Davidson, 905th CAMS. Sergeants Leonard and Davidson are members of the Westover militia and wore their company's revolutionary uniforms in honor of the unique bicentennial event. A C-141 from McGuire AFB with tail number 502 "76" and special red, white and blue decoration completes the scene.



**A NEW AFSC? . . . Float builders, MSgt. William G. Davidson, 905th CAMS and SSgt. Stanley Parkinson, 901st MOBS FLT help construct Westover's entry in Holyoke's St. Patrick's Day Parade. The 26 foot long float depicts "The Spirit of '76" and will be used during the base's other bicentennial year activities.**

## Commanders' Call Congratulations

The following were cited at the wing and group commanders' calls on Sunday, March 14th:

- Cpts. John Chase, Robert Dean and Richard Orpheus—Lockheed 2,000 hour pin and certificate.
- Cpts. Roger Peltier and Paul Torpey; 1st. Lts. Daniel Nichols and Kenneth Ryngala; SMSgt. Leo J. Bourret and William E. Mahoney; TSgts. Joseph Gaudet, Joseph Giuca, William Kusmik and Raymond Laurin; SSgt. Charles Lexius—Lockheed 1,000 hour pin and certificate.
- Brig. Gen. Billy M. Knowles—EAFRR Certificate of Recognition for the base's outstanding contribution to the AF Resources Conservation program (RECON).
- Capt. George Caldwell—Outstanding contribution to RECON.
- Capt. Benjamin Goff—Social Actions Office runnerup for EAFRR.
- Capt. Ronald Frederickson—Accepted letter of appreciation for 439TAW/LGM from 302nd TAW commander.
- SMSgt. Robert Xanders—For Westover's recruiters achieving 100% of their unit assigned recruiting quota.
- MSgt. Acquillino Lucia and Nicholas Perfido—Distinguished service during MAC-ORI, Dec. 13-17, 1974 and AFRES MSET June 12-18, 1975.
- MSgt. Vincent Mento—Accepting for C-123 Scheduled Inspection Dock as Outstanding Shop of the Year.
- TSgt. Lawrence H. Lentz—EAFRR Information Specialist of the Year.
- TSgt. William A. McLaughlin—EAFRR C-130 crew chief of the year runnerup.
- TSgt. Richard E. Stula—EAFRR C-123 crew chief of the year runnerup.
- SSgt. Ernest R. DeSalvatore—Outstanding maintenance man of the quarter.
- SSgt. Alfred R. Wood—Safety man of the quarter.
- TSgt. Sherman Williams and Nathan Writesel and SSgt. Paul Couture and William Rose—For their organization and frequent appearances of the Westover Color Guard.

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