



"Happy Thanksgiving"



THE PATRIOT



439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING

WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MASS.

Vol. IV, No. 11

November, 1977

FIRST-OF-A-KIND ORI

439th Personnel and Equipment Participate in Unique Exercise During Operational Readiness Inspection

Realistic evaluation of unit operational readiness took a giant step forward during the 439th Tactical Airlift Wing's October ORI. It included actual deployment of airmen, equipment and aircraft.

The 731 TAS' 16 C-123 aircraft deployed to Gulfport, Miss., and the 337 TAS' eight C-130s flew to Savannah, Ga. Westover aircraft were supplemented by seven C-130s from Niagara IAP, N.Y., a C-130 from Kelly AFB, Tex., a C-130 from New Orleans and a C-123 from Rickenbacker AFB, Ohio.

It all added up to proof that the 439th could successfully deploy to forward operating bases.

Instrumental in the deployment were members of the 58th and 59th Aerial Port Squadrons. As individual units delivered their loads to the marshalling area, members of the six load crews on duty inspected and accepted the goods (at which point they became "air cargo.") After temporary holding, the same crews, three from the 58th and three from the 59th, carried the cargo to waiting aircraft.

The 59th helped the Air Terminal Operations Center by augmenting the load planning section and offering the services of its own squadron quality control section to verify paperwork.

(continued on page 6)



EARLY RISERS 901 WSSF and 901 CAMS members are the first to take off for points south during the unit's ORI mobilization on Saturday, Oct. 22. The early morning flight was courtesy of a C-130 from the 459th TAW at Andrews AFB, Md.

**PROMOTED**

Maj. George J. Bourque, II
 Maj. Robert J. McMillan
 MSgt. Joseph E. Gaudet
 MSgt. Arthur LaPorte
 TSgt. Robert E. Begley
 TSgt. Richard A. Emond
 TSgt. Richard E. Gingras
 TSgt. Edward R. Guenther
 TSgt. William McGuirk
 SSgt. Henri M. Drenthe
 SSgt. Sidney H. Jones
 SSgt. Norman E. Joubert
 SSgt. Bruce C. MacCrae
 SSgt. Francis P. McElwee
 SSgt. Richard J. Thureson
 SrA Margaret A. Comeau
 SrA Kerry J. Connor
 SrA Raymond F. J. Dupuis

SrA Joan I. Elliott
 SrA Rucolph Galleguillos
 SrA Larry Jones
 SrA Paul M. Krow, Jr.
 SrA Richard A. Lotko
 SrA Vincent Lupo
 SrA Frank S. Lupa
 SrA Karen M. Peery
 SrA Alan P. Riopelli
 SrA Robert D. Williams
 SrA Marlene B. Wilson
 A1C Pamela S. Arthur
 A1C Karen S. Bowman
 A1C Gary J. Broughman
 A1C Bryan J. Capello
 A1C Marilu Depaolo
 A1C Laura J. Frank
 A1C Janet E. Marsh
 A1C Barbara J. Moores
 A1C Robert H. Odell
 A1C Donna Thomas

ENLISTMENTS

SSgt. Merrill W. Archambault,
 SSgt. Richard R. Berryman
 SSgt. Antonio G. Bertrand, Jr.
 SSgt. Richard Lee Codfa
 SSgt. Eugene M. Csiki
 SSgt. Leo P. Cyr
 SSgt. Stephen C. Dutily

SSgt. Bryan T. Eukers
 SSgt. Andrew M. Giglio
 SSgt. Raymond P. Lakota
 SSgt. Eugene A. Morey
 SSgt. David M. Pirog
 SSgt. Michael J. Regan
 SSgt. Joseph E. Stoddart
 Sgt. David J. Allen
 Sgt. Joseph H. Barbosa
 Sgt. Raymond C. Davies, Jr.
 Sgt. Calvin D. Jones
 SrA Donald G. Bascom
 SrA George W. Caulton
 SrA Larry R. Flynn
 SrA Mary R. Michaud
 SrA Quincy Stephens
 TSgt. John J. Gamble
 TSgt. David P. Hagan
 SrA Dianne M. Wise
 A1C Christine A. Banasik
 A1C Warren M. Goughlin
 A1C Roger A. Laverdiere
 A1C Stanley E. Lavine
 A1C Daniel F. McDonnell
 A1C Brian J. Sullivan
 AB James J. Cubetus, II
 AB Adolf E. Ellert
 AB Brendan J. Finn
 AB Richard E. Heath
 AB Todd M. Hebert

AB Marcia M. Keddy
 AB Steven A. Lavelle
 AB Patrick P. Massarella
 AB Mary L. Simoneau
 AB Teresa A. Sutton

DISCHARGED

TSgt. Joseph E. Giuca
 SSgt. Kevin L. Dick
 SSgt. John T. Driscoll
 SSgt. Thomas H. Helenski
 SSgt. Donald C. Ratti
 SSgt. Stephen M. Roberto
 Sgt. Christian J. Dansereau
 Sgt. Lucien P. Rajotte
 Sgt. Stephen W. Sheldon
 A1C Dennis Goodrich
 A1C Stephen D. Ray
 A1C Danuta W. Weismiller

TO STANDBY RESERVE

Lt. Col. Maurice E. Bilodeau
 TSgt. Lenny N. St. Germain
 Sgt. Fred J. Rickcliffe, Jr.
 Sgt. Gary J. Surozenski
 SrA Lawrence J. Clairmont, Sr.
 A1C Susan M. Desormier
 A1C William L. Frazer

59APS Breaks Dover Record

59th Aerial Port Squadron (APS) members went to Dover Air Force Base for training with the 436 APS between Aug. 14 and 28. While they received instruction, they also did some teaching. They showed their active duty counterparts how productive a Reserve unit could be. In doing so, they established a new standard for Dover personnel.

A 58th cargo processing and warehousing crew, SSgt. Theodore Grace, SSgt. Paul Petersante, SSgt. Stephen Garlo, Sgt. James Hniedziejko and A1C Robert O'Dell, processed 65 pallets of cargo weighing 81.2 tons in a seven hour shift. The previous record was 58 pallets.

"They were assisted by Sgt. John Schuster, who had to keep changing

forklifts because the workload and warehouse temperatures caused engines to overheat, and by Amn. Barbara Morris, who kept burning out pencils doing cargo documentation," claims MSgt. Bryce Wilson, Jr.

The influence of all the unit's personnel was equally felt. "We were sent there to move cargo and move cargo we did. We moved 4,141 tons of cargo and either built up, tore down, loaded or unloaded 2,325 pallets," boasts SSgt. Kenneth Dojan. "The two section NCOIC's, SMSgt. John McHugh and MSgt. Thomas Crameri, received praise on the skill level, desire and professionalism of their troops."

Robert Edwards, assistant air terminal manager, expressed his appreciation. "We could not operate this terminal without the reservists. We would have had cargo spread all over the runways if we didn't have the 59th to help us during our peak season."

At the end of the tour, the "Top Three" NCO Airman of the Year selectees were named. SMSgt. James McHugh was designated Senior NCO of the Year, SSgt. Janice Shine was named the NCO of the Year, while Amn. Barbara Morris is the Airman of the Year. It was the first time two women were so honored in the same year.

1978 UTA SCHEDULE

Jan	*13-14	Jul	15-16
Feb	11-12	Aug	*11-12
Mar	11-12	Sep	*8-9-10
Apr	8-9	Oct	14-15
May	6-7	Nov	18-19
June	10-11	Dec	9-10

Aug 13-27 Annual Tour
 *Friday evening

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Base Commander

Col. J. Frank Moore

Base Information Officer

Betty O'Connell

Wing Information Officers

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Maj. Rudolph G. DiLuzio

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A1C Wanda Wood

A1C Paul Cheslofska

AB Patricia Joyce

Photographer

SSgt. Donald Bryant

Three Airmen Lost—Found (as) Officers

Gold bars of a second lieutenant went to three deserving airmen during the September UTA. However, it took many years of work, education and persistence along with being in the right spot for the right slot.

The 439SG's TSgt. LaVerne Cholewa, personnel technician, quality force, is now Lieutenant Cholewa and the new OIC of Personal Affairs.

Formerly a 439CSG base career advisor, SSgt. Armand P. Tourangeau, is the wing training officer and Lieutenant Tourangeau.

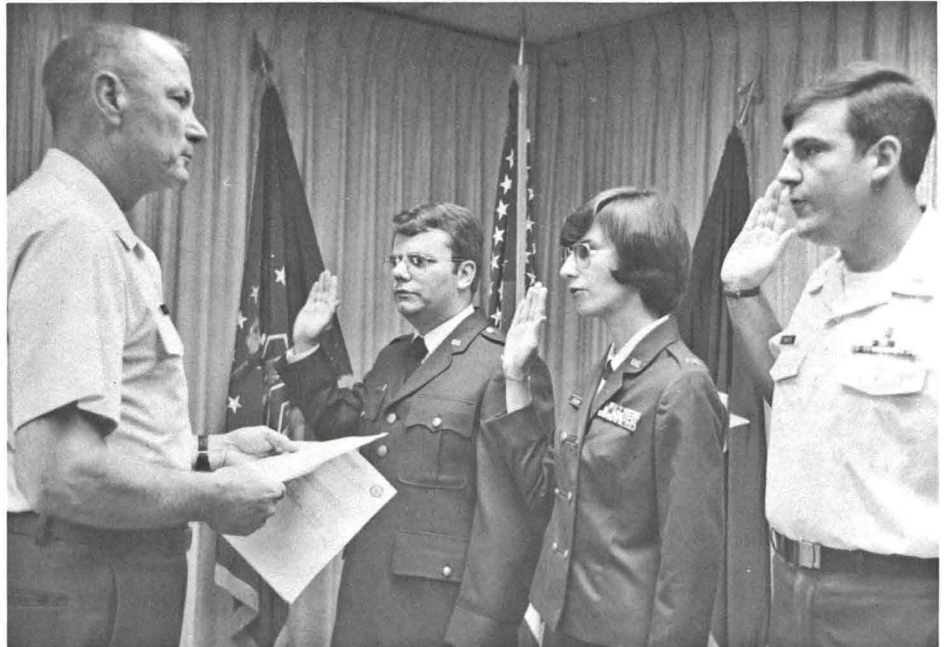
The 74AES lost TSgt. Clifford W. Turcotte, flight examiner medical technician (FEMT), and gained him as Lieutenant Turcotte, flight nurse and manual control/standard-evaluation officer.

Lieutenants Cholewa and Tourangeau obtained their commissions through the Deserving Airmen Commissioning Program. The lieutenants completed and passed the six volume Officers Preparatory Course, the Air Force Officer Qualification Test, and the extensive Officers Commissioning Physical Examination. Having finished these necessary steps, they were interviewed by the base commander and with his approval, went before the wing commander for an in-depth interviewing session. All this occurred before the essential paperwork could be sent to higher headquarters for final approval and commissioning.

Persistence was the key for Lieutenant Turcotte; it got him his long-worked-for direct commission. The lieutenant began his nursing career as a 1st Class Hospital Corpsman with the Navy Reserve in 1967. Next he earned his RN Certificate from Holyoke Community College in 1973. Unfortunately, at that time the college was not approved by the National League of Nursing (NLN). Upon enlisting in the Air Force in 1973 his initial commission request was denied. NLN approved school certificates are part of the Air Force's nurse commission criteria.

Being persistent, Lieutenant Turcotte resumed his education in nursing and won a Bachelor of Science Degree (BS) in Nursing from the University of Massachusetts in January 1977. The Air Force then finally approved his commissioning request.

Lieutenant Turcotte also has obtained an Associate Degree in Business Administration and he is presently working on a Masters Degree in Health Care Systems Management at the Hartford Graduate Center, a branch of the Rensselaer Polytechnical Institute of Troy, N.Y.



"OLD" SERGEANTS BECOME NEW LIEUTENANTS Wing Commander Brig. Gen. Billy M. Knowles administers the oath of office to the 439th's new 2nd. Lts., from left, Armand P. Tourangeau, LaVerne Cholewa and Clifford W. Turcotte. All three have already been called on to officiate at swearing-in of the unit's enlisted personnel.

Flight Nurse, Lieutenant Turcotte will be attending Medical Officer Orientation School at Sheppard AFB, Tex. in November and Flight Nurse School at Brooks AFB, Tex. in January. As a civilian, the lieutenant is a nursing supervisor at the Bay State Medical Center in Springfield.

Lieutenant Cholewa works for Anna Maria College, Paxton, Mass., as the Director of the Alumni Office. The lieutenant began at the college in 1976 as an administrative assistant for the Anna Maria Department of Education. She earned her BS in Sociology in 1975 from Worcester State College and received a Masters of Arts Degree (MA) in Counseling

Psychology in May from Anna Maria College. The lieutenant is now studying for her Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in Counseling, also at Anna Maria.

The other new lieutenant, Armand P. Tourangeau, is a junior high school language teacher at St. Joseph/St. Thomas School in Springfield. Lieutenant Tourangeau earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Modern Languages in 1969 from St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia, Canada. A year later he received his MA in French from the University of Montreal. The lieutenant will be graduating in May 1978 from Westfield State College with a Masters Degree in Secondary Education.

Fire Prevention Week Recognized By Base

Westover's Fire Prevention Week, October 9-15, was celebrated in many different ways.

Posters and literature were distributed, and lectures and demonstrations were held during the week, publicizing the theme "Learn Not to Burn."

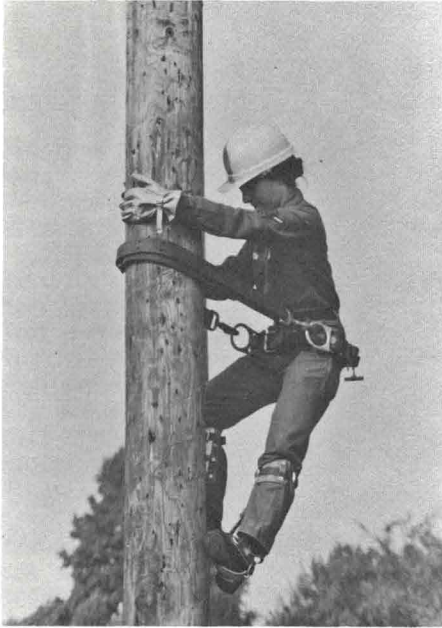
Other activities sponsored by the Base Fire Protection Branch included a parade, a babysitters' fire prevention seminar, live

fire training, building evacuation and emergency first aid rescue techniques.

The main event was the fire prevention display contest between all assigned units. The 1917th Communications Squadron came in first and the Base Exchange was awarded second place. Judges were Col. J. Frank Moore, base commander; and Victor J. Petrolati, base fire marshal.

Annual Tours Performed Away From Home

901 CF Get High Marks



UP AND AWAY. AIC Donna Haugen, 901CF, inches her way up a 30-foot telephone utility pole to become another "439th First".
(photo by TSgt. Harold Crapo, 901CF)

Members of the 901st Communications Flight (CF) were at new heights during their training at Langley Air Force Base between August 14 and 28.

AIC Donna Haugen, a telephone maintenance specialist, claims a double distinction. She's the first female from the 901st and the first female to be cer-

tified at Langley as a telephone pole climber when she reached the top of a 30-foot pole.

Later, Airman Haugen joined SMSgt. Robert Bohn and TSgt. Walter Feller in a Tactical Airlift Command (TAC) C-135 Airborne Command Post flight. The trio watched the aircraft's personnel and communications equipment participate in a routine mission.

While the others of the 901st didn't leave the ground, they too were setting high standards.

Many worked alongside Langley's 1913th Communications Squadron personnel inside TAC's headquarters. They operated the command's tactical switchboard and the base switchboard and the equipment of the Military Affiliate Radio System.

Others were stationed at the Communications Center, the largest of its type in the Air Force. They gained experience in handling the three types of communication traffic - administration, data and narrative carried by keypunch cards or typewritten.

"Our two weeks gave us realistic hands-on training in a high volume center," believes Sergeant Bohn. "We left with many invaluable experiences — experiences unavailable at Westover. We also left with a standing invitation by the 1913th commander, Maj. Stencil Dilda, to return anytime."

The invitation was offered and the 901st accepted. The unit will travel to the Virginia base for training during the December UIA.

905th Firefighters Cool it at Chanute

By Lt. Col. Jerry Pelletier, 905CEF

Several members of the 905th Civil Engineers (Firefighters) participated in the Fire Training Program at Chanute Air Force Base, Ill. between July 9 and 22.

The Chanute Fire Fighting Training Facility is recognized as the most complete in the Air Force. Its program includes classroom lectures, demonstrations and hands-on training.

MSgt. Peter Wysocki, TSgt. Thomas Ruchala, Sgt. Leon Mason, SrA Donald Brinkmand and A1C Frank Oullette were called upon to extinguish a simulated fire in a simulated KC-135 which was filled with smoke. The crew was equipped with Scott Air Packs and Silver Coated Bunker Clothing and used the Triple-A-FFF foam.

"Neither the KC-135 or the fire looked simulated, and the heat didn't feel simulated," remarked Sergeant Wysocki.

The Westover delegation also trained in first aid, aircraft egress, handling missile propellants and the newest fire fighting techniques. Lt. Col. Fred Marek, 905CE Commander, also attended the school. He wanted to evaluate, for himself, the school's training and learn the new procedures as well.

* * * * *

Congratulations to LT. COL. GERARD PELLETIER, 905CEF. He won the City of Holyoke Parks and Recreation Singles Tennis Championship. Not bad for a 50-year old!

Westover Medics Help at Pease Hospital

The USAF Hospital, Pease, at Pease AFB provides complete medical treatment for the base's active duty personnel and dependents as well as the area's retirees and their dependents. Because of its scope of services and accessibility to Westover, 36 members of the 439th Tactical Hospital spent all or part of their two weeks of active duty there between August 14 and 28.

The 439th augmented the active duty staff in many hospital services gaining experiences not available at their home station.

Westover's physicians and technicians gave medical exams to flight crews, air traffic controllers, private pilots and military academy applicants and answered the medical needs during sick

call and in the emergency room for 200 patients.

Some medical technicians were assigned to a variety of clinics or wards. SSgt. Joanna Davidson and SrA Louise Young worked in the Special Care Unit. They cared for patients and became familiar with the new patient equipment such as ventilators and cardiac monitoring equipment. SrA Denise Quinn participated in the delivery and care of new borns in the OB and nursery area. Others received special instruction on isolation procedure and medication administration as they treated medical ward patients.

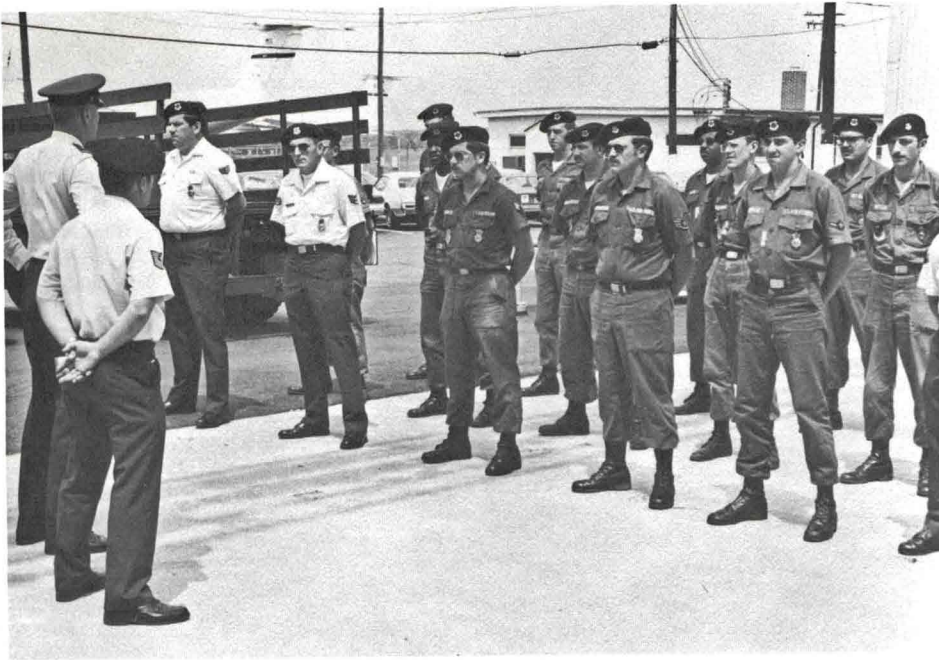
Four technicians integrated with the hospital's operating room staff. They rotated from surgery to Central Sterile Supply to the Surgical Clinic and Ward.

Dental care is also an integral part of the hospital's activities. Here two 439th dental technicians, SrA Diane Rivest and SSgt. Donna Schroder gained experience in restorative dentistry, periodontics, endodontics and x-ray.

Some reservists weren't assigned to direct patient care. Their expertise lies in areas such as medical supply, administration, equipment repair and radiology.

Lt. Col. Harry Stoliker, SrA Diana Clark and AB Diana Brand had other patients — the four legged variety. Working in veterinary medicine, their training included inspection of military dog facilities, records and military intelligence administration and communicable disease prevention procedures.

901st WSSF Pulls Security Tour at Dover



SECURITY POLICE FORMATION General Knowles commends 901 WSSF members on their proficiency and training accomplishments during his stopover at Dover AFB.

by MSgt. Ludwig Schwechheimer

Twenty members of the 901st Weapons Systems Security Flight went to Dover AFB on August 14 for our two week encampment with their new commander, Capt. Fred Fletcher. We were welcomed by members of the 436th Security Police Squadron, received a short briefing and toured the base facilities and a C-5.

During the first week, we received training in many areas of the security police field, seven hours of riot control training, mandatory for all reserve security police, and qualification with the M-16 and .38 caliber revolver.

Then we were divided into two flights and joined the 436 personnel on the swing and midnight shifts. Our training included communication and plotter patrol, entry controllers and sentry duties.

While this was his first encampment, as a reservist and as commander, Captain Fletcher's trip was actually a reunion, as he once again worked with many colleagues he served with while on active duty.

We returned August 28 eager to put into practice the new knowledge and experiences.

914 Goes to Germany

The 914th Tactical Airlift Group, part of the 439th TAW, is the only C130A unit flying overseas missions.

The 914th transports Army Special Forces troops from Ft. Devens to drop zones in Germany and then brings another group back.

Usually the C-130s go from their home base, the Niagara Falls International Airport, to Westover, where they pick up 12 Army troops for the trip to Europe. From Westover the C-130s are off on the longest leg of the journey ... to Lajes Field, in the Azores. From there they proceed to a drop zone outside of Munich, Germany.

On the return trip, a day and a half later, the aircraft carries another group of Special Forces who have spent 30 days in Germany. This trip includes stops at Keflavic, Iceland and an overnight stay at Goose AB, Newfoundland. At Westover the troops and crew clear customs before the aircraft continues home to Niagara Falls.

The C-130A crew consists of three pilots, two navigators, two loadmasters, and two crew chiefs.



REGAL REENLISTMENT Maj. Gen. William Lyon, AFRES commander, officiated at the swearing-in ceremony of MSgt. Thomas Crameri and SSgt. Gregory Swanson. The ceremony marked Sergeant Crameri's last reenlistment as he has completed 26 years of military service. It was Sergeant Swanson's first "re-up." General Lyons, on his way to Europe via Dover AFB, stopped by the 59 APS to do the swearing-in.

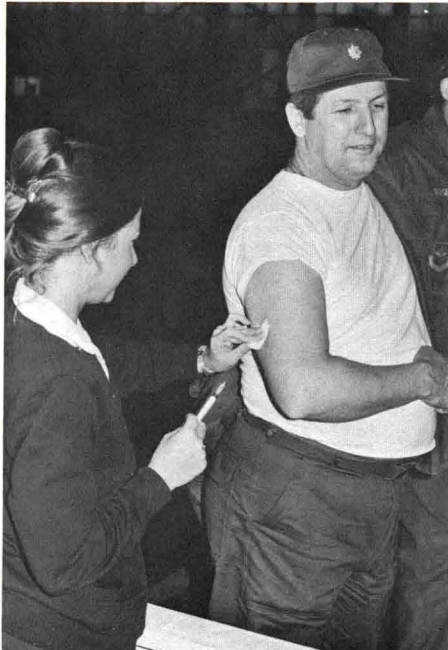
MOBILITY WAS THE WORD

(continued)

The 58th and 59th
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Terminal Operations
Ron Michalski, air te
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ready for the mobil
tion. Stories on the
BOLD EAGLE will
The Patriot.



BIG SHOT Maj. Charles Dickens' shot record was not up to date. It should have been. When he reached the first stop on the mobility line, 1st. Lt. Marlene Segall, 74AES nurse, gets the point across.



BATTENING DOWN SSgt. Don Poudrier, 58 APS, cargo specialist, adjusts netting of palettized cargo prior to deployment.



POST HASTE Sgt. Peter Carminati, 58 APS cargo specialist, posts up-to-date aircraft schedules on the air terminal operations center processing board.



ALL THRU THE NIGHT 58APS personnel and forklifts assemble the vast quantities of cargo deployed.



ANTI-HIJACK P
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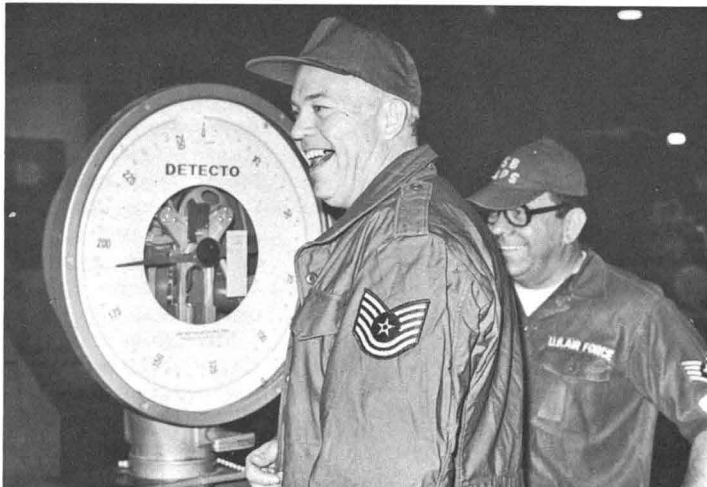
AND WE PROVED WE HAVE IT

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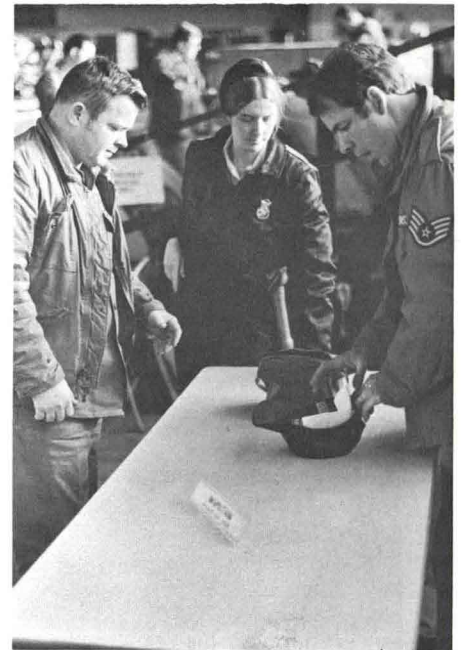
helped pack and ship and 15,000 pounds of and, 332 people trans-essing lines, boarded south.

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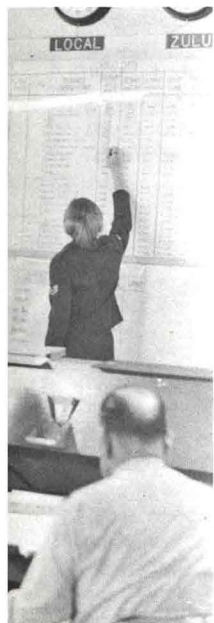
the ORI were not press, but the photo-show some of the ac-our personnel made portion of the inspec-ORI, the move and e in the next issue of



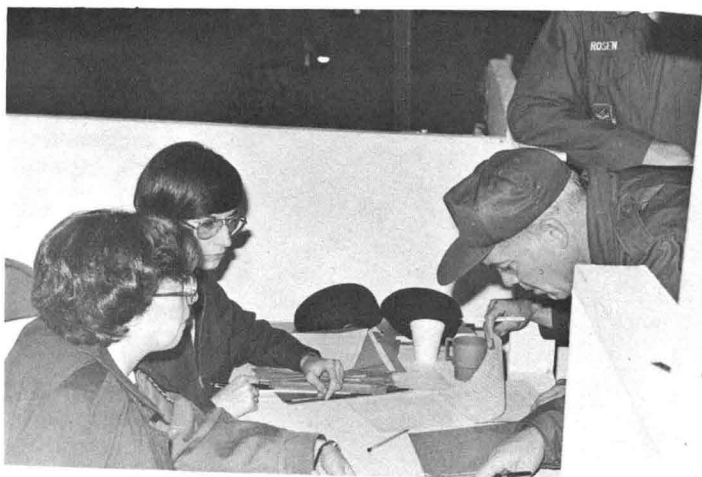
WHERE THERE'S A WILL TSgt. Edwin Gunther, on the scale, finds something to laugh about. SSgt. John Sheehan, peeking over his shoulder, evidently agrees.



MOVIN' ON Capt. George Caldwell, wing mobility officer, left; SSgt. Joyce Gubich, administrative assistant, center; and Maj. Edward Seilius, personnel development coordinator, right; work in the Mobility Control Center.



PROCEDURES con-roc- ing require-ldron, center, and ight, check the be- liam Hubbard, be-aircraft.



RECORDS CHECK SrA Kathleen Ritter, left, personnel specialist; and 2nd Lt. LaVerne Cholewa, center, personal affairs officer, check TSgt. Edwin Gunther's records during the mobility processing.



WEIGHT WATCHER Maj. Richard Doucette weighs in and the findings are noted by SSgt. John E. Sheehan for the manifest.

Jordanian Airman Trains at Westover

By SSgt. Marshall R. Hathaway

Westover has a visitor, and according to Col. J. Frank Moore, possibly another Westover first. He is Sergeant Major Deeb Saleh Al-Mugrabi - pronounced DEEB AHL-EH AHL MOO-GRAH-BEE, from Amman, the capital of Jordan, and may be the first foreign military troop to receive training at the base under the Military Assistance Program.

Known to his many Westover friends as "Sam," Sergeant Mugrabi is a member of an inflight maintenance group of the 3rd Transportation Wing, Royal Jordanian Air Force. His squadron flies C-130Bs, the same as those of the 337TAS. Sam has been assigned to train with the 901CAMS Com/Nav Shop performing his OJT with electronic navigational gear and high frequency communications equipment.

Having completed basic electronics courses in Jordan, his experience at Westover began with a familiarization visit beginning the first of August. After a month, he departed for Keesler AFB for specialized electronic study. Sam returned to Westover in September. He's scheduled to remain on OJT with the 901st through November when he will return to his duties in Jordan.

Training in Jordan is available, but Sam explained that instructors and workers in

the field are more experienced here. Asked how he was getting along alone in a completely foreign environment, Sam said, "There is no problem to me at all." He states that his training here is effective. Sam feels comfortable in his base quarters and refers to the Westover community as being gentle and helpful. "I can't describe the people. Here I feel at home — really I feel at home. If I have any problem, many people try to solve it."

The Military Assistance Program is part of the Congressional National Aid Bill. It provides training, assistance, and advice to foreign students by the U.S. military. Many foreign countries have a military assistance program and request this aid through the U.S. State Department.

In Sam's case, the original request emanated from the Jordanian government to the military liaison office there. In conjunction, the State Department contacted AFRES headquarters to make a training determination. AFRES then asked Westover if we had the capability to handle Sam's OJT. Capt. Ronald T. Fredrickson, chief of maintenance, informed AFRES that we indeed did, and Sam was on his way — to expert 439th training.

Gallant Crew Unharmmed: C-123 Crash Lands at Westover

A 439th C-123, during a local flying mission emergency landed at Westover on Tuesday, Oct. 11 after experiencing both internal and external inflight fire. Its crew were Maj. Gale French, pilot; Capt. Richard Gavin, co-pilot and SSgt. Gary Miller, flight engineer. Moments before the landing, Sergeant Miller made a parachute jump. All three were unharmmed but were admitted to the Baystate Medical Center, Springfield, for overnight observation.

Firefighter Earl Root was hospitalized for smoke inhalation after he and other firefighters extinguished the flames.

The fire developed shortly after level off at 5,000 feet. After fighting the fire in the rear of the aircraft and then losing communication with the cockpit, Sergeant Miller bailed out. He landed in farmland in nearby Granby and was driven back to the base by a motorist.

Major French and Captain Gavin were credited with heroically and skillfully landing and then controlling the aircraft as it skidded for 3,000 feet down the center of the runway. "Their courageous and expert handling of the plane, while in the air and on the ground, was a superb piece of airmanship," remarked Lt. Col. Robert Heyner, 731st commander about his unit's officers. "It's the same type of skill which established our 20 years and over 80,000 hours of accident-free flying."

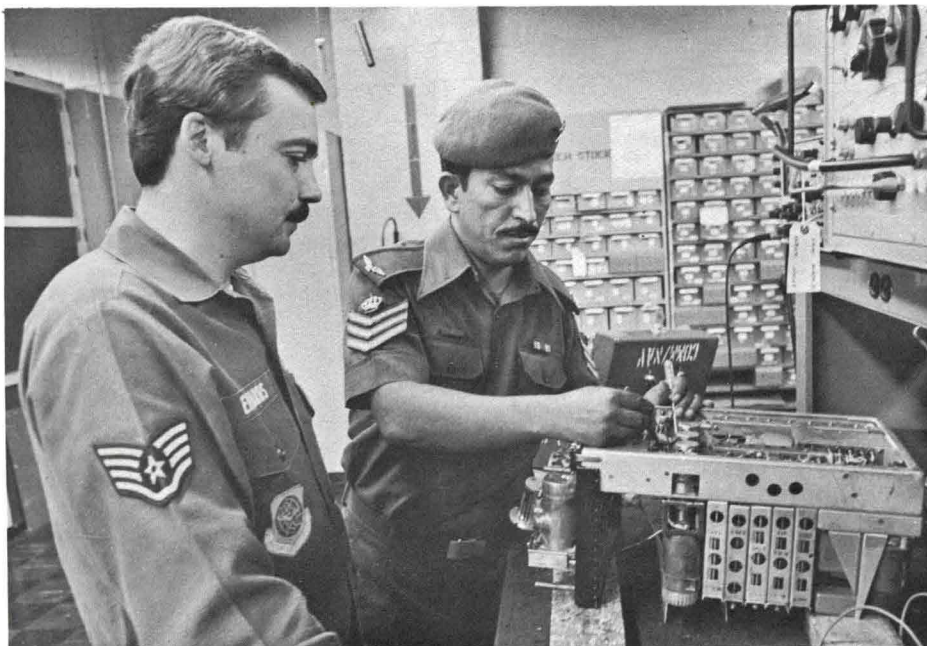
Children's Gifts Are Needed

"No toys for your Christmas, kid."

Hopefully this won't be the attitude of Westover reservists to this year's annual appeal to buy toys for handicapped kids.

Westover first sergeants are now collecting money to brighten Christmas for youngsters at the Shrine Hospital for Crippled Children in Springfield, and the Newington (Conn.) Hospital for Crippled Children. Westover volunteers will bring the toys to the hospital patients during December.

If, instead of cash, you would like to donate toys (either new or used so long as they're in good condition) please leave them at the Wing Information Office in Hangar 3.



OJT FOR "SAM" — Sergeant Major Deeb Saleh Al-Mugrabi of the Royal Jordanian Air Force traces a circuit in a piece of high frequency communications gear under the watchful eye of SSgt. Donald Edwards, 901 CAMS.

901st Firefighters Train at Charleston, McGuire

"I wanted to go to Charleston, (Charleston AFB, S.C.) because of the training," explains SSgt. Roger Beaulieu, a 901st Civil Engineer Flight (CEF) firefighter. "We could thread our way through a C-123 or C-130 blindfolded. Now, I wanted the same familiarity with the C-141. Summer camp with the 437 CES gave us that opportunity."

Sergeant Beaulieu and thirteen others were one of the 901 CEF teams traveling to other Air Force bases for active duty training. Besides the 14 to 28 August tour at Charleston, two groups from Westover worked with the 438 CES (McGuire AFB, N.J.) between July 17 and 31, and July 31 and August 14.

At both locations, the firefighters joined their active duty counterparts in schedules and work assignments. By taking regular shifts, the reservists experienced the same conditions and worked on the same aircraft as if they were mobilized. The added manpower, especially during the summer months, allowed for leave time for some regulars without a decrease to below manpower minimums.

Besides their work responsibilities, the 901st personnel helped prepare for the base's Command Facilities Inspection, the primary MAC command inspection. They also received orientation classes on the C-5A at Charleston and a visiting Imperial Iranian Air Force 747 at McGuire.

Not unexpectedly, the response to Westover's assistance was totally



VIP VISIT 901CE (FF) greet General Knowles on his visit to Charleston AFB, S.C. The 439th commander asked about the unit's training, accommodations and recreational opportunities. Giving enthusiastic responses are, left to right, SSgt. Roger Beaulieu, Jr., Amn. David Valego, Amn. Lonnie Talley, Amn. James Dupuis, SSgt. Gerhard Kohler, SSgt. Albert Grenda, SSgt. Richard Garceau, Sgt. Philip Handy and SSgt. Richard Hayes.

favorable. "We received praise and letters of commendation from McGuire and Charleston commanders," reports Maj. George F. Dillon, 901CEF com-

mander. "Based on our performance, they are anxious to have us back. Based on the cooperation and training we received, we're as anxious to return."

BRIEFS

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — Secretary of Defense Harold Brown announced that the President has reallocated 12 percent of the Oct. 1, 1977 military basic pay increase to the basic allowance for quarters (BAQ) element of military compensation. The military pay raise is 7.05 percent applied equally to basic pay, BAQ and subsistence allowance (BAS). Under the reallocation, the basic pay increase will be 6.20 percent.

The BAQ increase will range from 10.28 percent to 14.24 percent, depending on grade. BAS will increase 7.05 percent.

OFFICERS' DINING OUT will be held at 7 p.m. on December 10 at the Consolidated Open Mess. Dress is black mess dress or tuxedo for the gentlemen, and evening dress for the ladies. Tickets, available at your unit during the UTA, are \$12.50 per person or \$25 per couple.

The **AIR COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE** Associate Seminar course IE will begin at Hanscom AFB in early December, 1977. Majors, major selectees, captains with seven years PLS/TFCS, and civilians GS-11 or higher, may participate.

Military environment and command and management subject areas will be addressed in 22 weekly two-hour classes. Sessions consist of discussions as well as practical writing and speaking exercises. Students completing IE and follow-on course IF, will fulfill the entire Air Command and Staff College curriculum in less than one year. More information and applications are available from Capt. Ralph Tomlinson, Autovon 478-2105 or Capt. Joy B. J. Garland at (617) 685-3637.

The **JANUARY UTA** will be Friday, Jan. 13, from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., and Saturday the 14th, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday drill requirements will be completed with the Friday night meetings in October and January.

Capt. JOY B. J. GARLAND, 439 Tactical Hospital, began duty as the only female liaison officer in northeastern Massachusetts for the United States Air Force Academy. Captain Garland will assist in counselling and screening prospective applicants for the academy.

Westover's Disaster Preparedness Emergency Team participated in the Emergency Expo '77 on the Quadrangle at Springfield Technical Community College in September. Civilian team members, **JAMES DUNN, BARBARA HURST, JANET LEMIEUX AND RALPH NUGENT**, took part in the day's activities. Capt. Charles Hannaford, base disaster preparedness augmentee officer, was also at the demonstration. The base disaster preparedness emergency vehicles and response equipment were displayed along with other emergency vehicles and equipment brought by fire, emergency medical technician and disaster preparedness units from throughout Western Massachusetts.

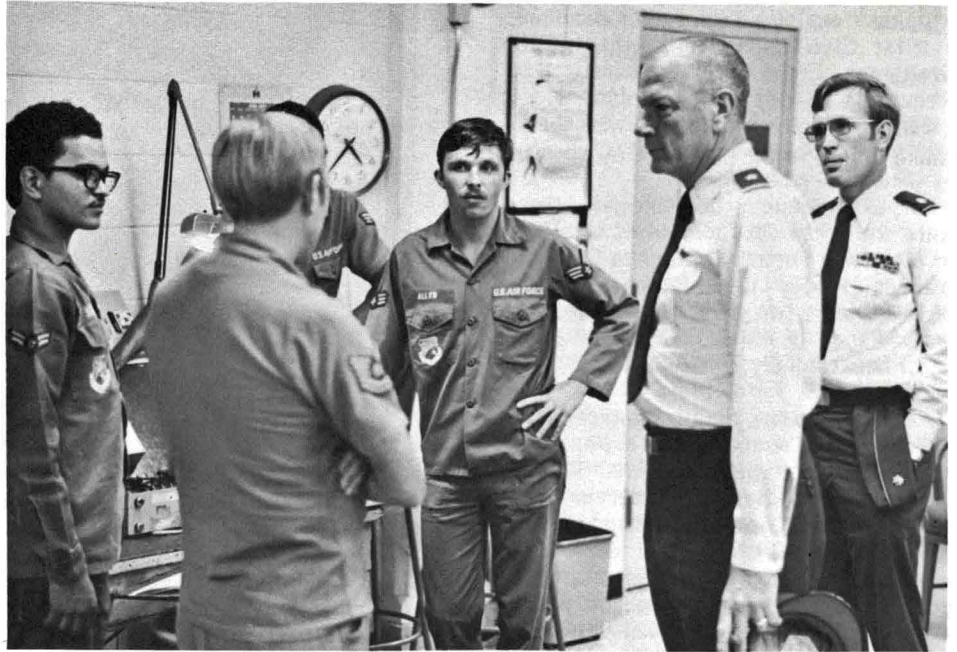
905CF Learns Latest in Communications As They Train in Ohio

"We can't receive the training at Westover as we did at Wright-Patterson. Not only does that base have the latest communications equipment, but the staff were ideal advisors," claims Maj. Alvin Burge, 905th Communications Flight (CF) commander, about his unit's two week encampment with the 2046 Communications Group between Aug. 14 and 28.

"Because Westover's telephone equipment is maintained by A.T.T., the 905th's personnel can't put their expertise into practice. Not so at Wright-Patterson where 'inside plant telephone repairman' had ample opportunity to trouble shoot and repair the complex equipment."

The unit's communications section specialists also worked on a new system, operating on a trial basis in the Air Force, Optical Character Recognition Equipment. Located in the Air Force Logistics Command Center, it saves time and labor by eliminating the present requirement of mechanically transforming messages into punch cards or tape prior to transmission. 905th personnel watched as typewritten messages were 'read' by the machinery and instantaneously transmitted.

"Wright-Patterson offered new equipment and excellent instructors. We can't say enough for the support and guidance given us by everyone," says Major Burge. "Because they advise six Guard and



COMMUNICATING Brig. Gen. Billy M. Knowles, second from right, asks active duty personnel from the 2046CG how they feel about working with the Reservists. Listening in are Sgt. David Allen, center, and Maj. Alvin Burge, right, both from Westover's 905CF.

Reserve units, they knew exactly the type of training and support we needed — in our AFSCs and in our additional duty assignments. I think they were impressed

with us as we assisted them in their daily assignments. The 905th went to Ohio with a positive attitude. It paid off. Both units benefited from the experience."



THIS IS A K-LOADER 58APS members gave as well as received training during their encampment. SSgt. Janice Shine, right, instructs members of the 64 APS from Treasure Island, Calif., who were also at Dover AFB for their active duty training.

FLASH!!!

HQ AFRES News Service Release . . .

The 439th Tactical Airlift Wing is the Air Force Reserve Energy Conservation winner for fiscal year 1977. The unit was 41.4 percent below its base line and contributed to the AFRES command savings of 15 percent reduction in funds budgeted for utilities. During FY 78, the Air Force Reserve saved some 245,000 million BTUs from the amount used during the base year of FY 75.

* * * * *

EVELYN CATTER, who has worked 28 years as a cashier at the Consolidated Open Mess, was honored by fellow employees, friends and club members at a surprise retirement party on Oct. 11. Col. J. Frank Moore, base commander, presented Mrs. Catter with a plaque in appreciation for her many years of service. Since 1949, Mrs. Catter has held both the hostess and dining room supervisor titles at the former officers' club. She still plans to work weekends at the club.

C-123 is Pushed to the Limit

By TSgt. Thomas Brucia

The mission was simple: press a C-123 to its performance limits and demonstrate its ability to get to Europe in wartime.

Brig. Gen. Billy M. Knowles picked C-123 number 592 — an aircraft with no less than 1,925 hours on one engine and 1,250 on the other, not a "creampuff" craft. To make things difficult the aircraft was loaded with twin Benson auxiliary fuel tanks and ballast to simulate a regular mission.

On a typical flight one could expect head winds as well as tail winds, and some trips might range up to 2,100 miles. So the test was planned to go the limit on distances and to include flying at least one leg with adverse wind.

To make matters harder yet number 592 was not going to stop for oil top-ups. It was fitted with an inflight engine oil replacement system (i.e. a 55-gallon drum of oil, a hand pump, and a hose to carry the oil to the engine).

A crew of volunteers signed on for 592's endurance test. Line chief CMSgt. Charles "Charlie" Fusco, sometimes known as "Mother Hen," said that if General Knowles was going he was

going. MSgt. Richard Lajoie from the prop shop (and reciprocating engines) said he wouldn't let them go without him. Maj. Clinton Brown went along as navigator; he wanted to run the fuel charts. Capt. James Pickett was able to get on as the instructor pilot (the regs say a general must have an IP!) Capt. Stephen Morrison went along as co-pilot to augment and relieve the weary.

The flight mechanics, two more volunteers, were SMSgt. Peter "Pete" Fontana and SSgt. Gary Miller.

September 26, the first scheduled day for the flight was rainy, with weather all up and down the East Coast. The flight was delayed 24 hours.

The next day, despite winds of 45 knots, they made it off the Westover runway, leaving ground at 3 p.m.

It took nine and one-half hours to reach Gulfport, Mississippi. The plane turned 180 degrees and headed for Westover. For a while it looked as though it would make it — but an absence of anticipated tailwinds killed that hope. The plane landed at Navy Norfolk, Va.

It had been up for 15 hours and had covered 1,900 miles.

The fuel for the feat had included some 6,000 pounds carried in the two Benson tanks located in the cargo bay. These auxiliary tanks come with electronic fuel pumps which remove the liquid — all but the last 300 pounds or so.

As the flight wore on, the question was asked, "How can we get those last 300 pounds into the main nacelle tanks?"

Sergeants Fusco and Lajoie improvised. They unbuckled the tanks at one end, and with a load strap up-tilted each tank in turn to drain them to the last drop.

That was what it took to fly 1,900 miles in 15 non-stop flying hours: imagination and determination.

"The crew and the plane performed magnificently," commented the general. "We demonstrated again — we re-proved — that the C-123 can deploy, with or without winds, anywhere on a self-sufficient basis. This plane does exactly what it is advertised as being able to do.

"We have proved again that without any special preparations the C-123 is fully capable of performing its wartime mission," he concluded. "We again have answered those who underestimate this aircraft!"

905 Cops Learn Base Defense at McGuire

Learning the latest in camoflogue techniques, qualifying with the M-203 grenade launcher, practicing assault dismountings and learning to drive the M-131 armor personnel carrier — sounds like the training for an acute Army commando team. It's not. Rather, it's part of an 18-hour Air Base Ground Defense exercise completed by 18 members of the 905 Weapons Systems Security Flight (WSSF) during the encampment, August 14 through 28 at McGuire AFB, N.J.

The exercise familiarizes the security specialists with the procedures and techniques they would use to assist Alert Force in the defense of an Air Force installation from hostile forces. It also includes classroom instruction and field experiences in search and seizure, building search, map reading and the use of the M-60 machine gun.

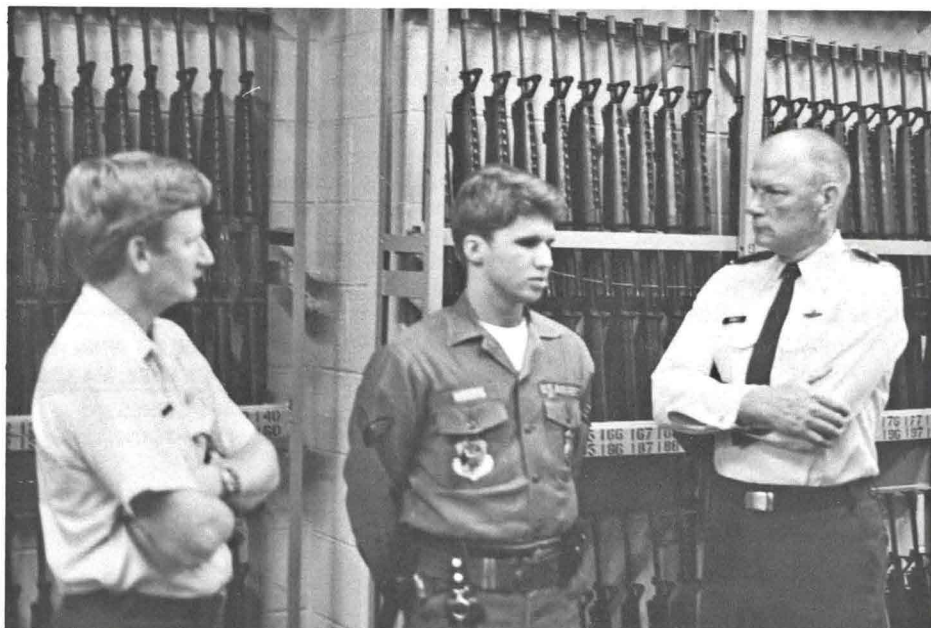
"The base's training people put on quite a program for us. It was more than we expected," says Capt. Frank McCormack, 905th commander. "But everyone was very enthusiastic and met the challenges as the experts they are."

The program was only one aspect of the 905th's training and it was accomplished during their 'middle weekend.'

During their two weeks, they trained

with the 438 Security Police. The reservists, divided into two flights, worked the 4 p.m. to midnight and the midnight to 8

a.m. shifts. They helped maintain flight line security for the base's priority aircraft, including C-141s and C-5s.



DURING SUMMER CAMP ... SrA James A. Norris, 905th WSSF, explains his McGuire AFB armory job to Brig. Gen. Billy Knowles and Capt. Frank McCormack, 905th commander.

Guard and Reserve Alignment Announced

(AFNS) Seven units of the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve will be realigned during fiscal year 1978. The changes involve tactical, air defense and strategic refueling missions.

Approximately 1,018 positions will be affected by the changes. These include 45 active duty, 781 ANG and AFRES and 192 civilian personnel positions.

The Air Force has completed an environmental review of the tactical and air defense changes. Officials say there will be no significant environmental impact.

The 926th Tactical Airlift Group (AFRES), New Orleans NAS, La., will convert from C-130 tactical airlift to A-37 fighter aircraft. It will be redesignated the 926th Tactical Fighter Group.

The 193rd Tactical Electronic Warfare Group (ANG), Harrisburg/Olmstead IAP, will exchange its C-121s and EC-121s for C-130s early next summer. The mission will remain unchanged.

The 181st Air Refueling Sq. (ANG), Dallas NAS, Tex., will exchange its KC-97 tankers for C-130 transports. Its parent unit at Dallas NAS will be redesignated a tactical airlift wing.

The 158th Defense Systems Evaluation Group (ANG), Burlington IAP, Vt., will increase its strength from 9 to 16 EB-57 aircraft. This action will consolidate all ANG EB-57 operations at one location.

Environmental assessment is still underway for proposed changes in strategic refueling missions. Tentative plans call for the transfer of more KC-135 tankers from the active force to the Guard and Reserve forces during the coming year.

Under the proposed changes, the 46th Tactical Fighter Squadron (AFRES), Griesom AFB, Ind., will exchange its A-37 fighters for KC-135 tankers. The unit is to be redesignated the 72nd Air Refueling Squadron.

The 190th Defense Systems Evaluation Group (ANG), Forbes Field, Kans., will convert to KC-135s. The unit will be redesignated the 190th Air Refueling Group. Its EB-57s will transfer to Burlington IAP.

The 151st Air Refueling Group (ANG) at Salt Lake City IAP, Utah, will convert from its KC-97 tankers to the more modern KC-135s. If completed, this modernization will phase out the last of the KC-97 tanker aircraft from the inventory.

Westover's participation in the mobility exercise and the ORI at Savannah and Gulfport, and coverage of the BOLD EAGLE exercise, will receive expanded coverage in the December issue of The Patriot.

Civilians Receive Citations, Cash For Suggestions

Several Westover civilians were presented monetary awards at a civilian commander's call on September 28. Topping the list of award winners was Frank Ludwig, military personnel, who collected \$1,235 for his suggestion.

Others receiving awards were Wilfred Mathieu, \$250; Kenneth Willette, \$50; Arthur Flynn and Douglas Say, \$100 shared jointly; and Rodney Walker, \$25.

Ludwig's suggestion concerned changing an Air Force regulation that would add the immunization record to the personnel records of an airman leaving the active force for the reserves. The estimated savings to the Air Force would be \$26,250.

Mathieu's suggestion conserved 36,000 gallons of surplus diesel fuel which was mixed with number one fuel oil and used for heating purposes.

Flynn and Douglas jointly submitted five suggestions.

Walker suggested the installation of wire mesh over stairway railings to eliminate a safety hazard.

In other presentations at the commander's call, Edward Loughman received a letter of commendation for providing aid to a woman at the Consolidated Open Mess who appeared to be choking on food.

John Bostic, Elwin J. Bushior, Raymond M. Desroches and Joseph Strouse were given Sustained Superior Performance Awards.

Thirty-year Certificates of Service went to Ramona Delworth, Charles Larose, Eugene Picard, Theophil J. Wilczek and Juliet Kennedy.

Twenty-year Certificates of Service went to Charlotte Bousquet, Walter Collins, Raymond Gelinas, Clement Lepine, Mary McCullough, Jack L. Tyn-dall and Vincent Viglione.

Ten-year service certificates were awarded to Mary Austin, Ronald E. Gough, Inger Jackson, Frank Ludwig, Gloria Raffa, Blanche Schwartz, Franklin Surette, John M. Budenas and Thomas A. Smith.

Five-year certificates went to Michael McNicholas, Charles Stanfill and Anthony Fortunato.

Raymond Boidleau, Harvey Cook and Donald MacGillivray received the Special Act Service Award, a group award for the highest reliability rates on their two assigned aircraft. This consisted of the most flying time, least aborts and the least amount of ground time per flying hour.

Slow Pitch Tournament Champs

Detachment 5, 1st Aerospace Comm. Gp's team "B" defeated Det. 5's team "A", 10-5, on Sept. 30, to clinch first place in the championship game of the Westover Slow Pitch Softball League.

The final records for the two top teams in the 10-member league were team "B" closing the season with a 19 and one and second place team "A" finishing with 16 victories and one loss.

Members of the Det. 5 winning team "B" are TSgt. Ron Rybolt (Mgr.), SrA Ken Lockney (coach), A1C Keith Aubele, SrA Tony Jimenez, SSgt. Tom Knowing, SrA Bill Mazzaresse, SSgt. Terry Newlon, Sgt. Mike Alexander, SSgt. Dan Perry, Sgt. Jim Pakla, Sgt. Paul Benson and Don Vernon.

Other teams participating in the tournament were 439th CSG, 439th CAMS, 439th CSG/CBPO, Westover AFB dependents, Fire Dept., Navy and Marine Corps, Army Guard and the Recruiters.

Enlisted Dining Out

The 439th's Enlisted Dining Out was commended in a letter of thanks to General Knowles by Mrs. Antonia Handler Chayes, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower, Reserve Affairs and Installations. It "provided me a chance to get a feel for the goals and problems of the personnel in the field," said Mrs. Chayes. It was an "informative and delightful visit," she added.

HQ 439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING (AFRES)
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