



THE PATRIOT



439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING

WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MASS.

Vol. IV, No. 6

June, 1978

OPERATION REDOUBT

439th Demonstrates, Exceeds Alert Capabilities

There was no doubt about it. From the first alert phone calls to reservists across New England on Friday, May 5, through the final processing and deployment of selected units, OPERATION REDOUBT—PHASE II proved the ability of 439th personnel to report quickly and efficiently for duty at a distant location with minimum advance notice.

The wing's members joined 20,000 reservists from 245 units throughout the United States in the largest test mobilization ever conducted. In addition, over 1,000 reservists and 500,000 pounds of equipment were deployed to other bases as part of the exercise.

"At Westover, the REDOUBT notice which ordered the mobilization was received at the base message center at 2:25 p.m.," reports Capt. John MacIntyre, 731 TAS navigator working in the Command Post. "Within moments, the Command Post notified the wing's Crisis Action Team (CAT) which includes the wing and base commanders, deputy commanders for operations maintenance and resources, the chiefs of all principal staff agencies, and other key personnel. They, in turn, notified the 439th's 20 unit commanders at Westover and the 2nd ALC. Thus, the alert pyramid of telephone calls began. Within 12 hours, the 439th was ready to begin the next phase of the exercise."

Starting at 7 a.m. on Saturday morning, they began processing. Also, as a partial test of the unit's capabilities, over 200 members from the 731 TAS (with supplemental airlift support from the 337 TAS), the 901 CAMS and the 901 MOBSF, and more than 34,000 pounds of cargo were deployed overnight to McGuire AFB, N.J., on six C-123s and four C-130s.

Besides Westover's deployment of troops to McGuire, it hosted the 910 TAG from Youngstown IAP, Ohio. Personnel at



READY TO MOVE SMSgt. Joseph Malinguaggio conducts the mobility briefing, the first stop on the OPERATION REDOUBT line.

other bases were also standing on the mobility lines during the weekend. Unit members at Bergstrom AFB, Dobbins AFB and Kelly AFB were sent to Richards-Gebaur AFB and to Charleston AFB. Reservists mobilized only at Homestead and Elgin AFBs, but did not deploy.

"The exercise convincingly proved the 439th could meet and even exceed its readiness criteria," says Lt. Col. Arthur Sorenson, assistant deputy commander for operations. "We'll be able to get to the target and on time."

Wing planners did learn some lessons and changes will be made to further in-

crease the alert response time. One such example is a new wallet-size alert roster. It will have only the names and phone numbers of those the alerters must contact. Thus, unnecessary delays while they return home or to the office for the master list, will be eliminated.

"Reservists must be able to meet their obligations by always being available for recall. They must be a working part of that pyramid alert system," Colonel Sorenson continued. Our efforts have paid off. Our people are meeting that challenge and demonstrating we are truly modern day minutemen."

UTA and ANNUAL TOUR CHANGES

The annual tour in August runs from the 12th to the 26th.

There will be no UTA for those on encampment in August. Instead, they will participate in two UTAs in September—the 9th and 10th and the 16th and 17th.

For those scheduled to perform their annual tour at any other time, the normal UTAs will be Aug. 12th and 13th and Sept. 9th and 10th.

905th PRIME BEEF Lauded at Texas Deployment

by SSgt. Marshall Hathaway

The 90th Civil Engineering Flight (PRIME BEEF) received an Outstanding Award plaque from the commander of the 7th CE Squadron, Carswell AFB, Texas, at the conclusion of their annual active duty tour at that Texas Strategic Air Command base April 8 - 22, 1978. About 40 members of the 905th participated.

According to Maj. Richard Cosgrove, 905CEF commander, all his personnel agreed the mission was a very rewarding experience. The scope of work associated with three major base projects, afforded an opportunity to utilize career field skills of personnel in actual work projects.

Work assigned and supervised by CMSgt. Alfred Aniello included initiating the conversion of a two story dormitory into a contemporary building housing 28 offices, and a complete modernization of the base photo lab. The latter project entailed complete replumbing and extensive electrical work. Major Cosgrove claims that the lab is now one of the most efficient photo processing facilities in the Air Force.

The PRIME BEEF Roads and Ground and Site Development crews also remedied a severe drainage problem adjacent to a runway by installing 146 feet of 24 inch underground conduit.

In presenting the plaque to the Westover unit, Col. Bobby Yow, 7CES commander, expressed his appreciation for major contributions to Carswell. The Texas-shaped plaque is now a permanent fixture at the CEF office.

IN MEMORIAM
LILLIAM LUNDQUIST
1917CS

Major Lincoln New 731 TAS Commander

Maj. Edward F. Lincoln has been named commander of the 731st Tactical Airlift Squadron. He replaces recently promoted Col. Franklin R. Heyner, who is now assigned to the 439 TAW.

"I would like to see the 731st continue to improve in its pride and professionalism and become the number one flying unit in the Air Force," said the new commander.

Major Lincoln, a Cornell University alumnus, was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air Force in 1958. During his five years on active duty at Travis AFB, Calif., he became a flight examiner and C-124 aircraft commander.

He joined the Reserve's 94th Military Airlift Wing at Hanscom AFB, Mass. in 1959 and served as an aircraft commander,

instructor pilot, flight examiner and standardization pilot.

Later, Major Lincoln upgraded to C-124 aircraft commander and was the 901 TAG's flying safety officer until the unit integrated into the 439th.

Prior to his present assignment, Major Lincoln had acted as the 731st flight commander, standardization officer and flying safety officer, and has logged more than 6,500 hours in military aircraft.

He is also "up in the air" over his civilian career. Major Lincoln joined Trans World Airlines in 1963 as a Constellation flight engineer. He upgraded to a Boeing 707 Captain and now is a Boeing 747 First Officer of international flights. In these positions, he has flown another 8,900 hours.



TEXAS AWARD 905CEF members pose upon return from their annual encampment with their latest honor, a plaque of appreciation from the 7CES, Carswell AFB, Texas. (Photo by Capt. William R. Garrity)

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.

439 TAW Commander

Brig. Gen. Billy M. Knowles

Base Commander

Col. J. Frank Moore

Wing Information Officers

Maj. Robert D. Hafner
Maj. Rudolph G. DiLuzio

Editor

MSgt. Lawrence H. Lentz

Base Information Officer

Miss Betty O'Connell

Staff

SSgt. Marshall Hathaway
SrA Dean M. Mauro

Ann. Deborah Elliot
Ann. Patricia Joyce

Defense Preparedness Association Meets at Westover

Westover hosted 150 members of the Hartford—Western Massachusetts Chapter of the American Defense Preparedness Association on Friday, April 28, 1978.

The ADPA's members are local business and professional people and concerned citizens dedicated to promoting industrial preparedness and an adequate national defense.

While at the base, they were given a tour of the Air Force Reserve facilities and

maintenance shops. They witnessed the wing's C-123s and C-130s as they airdropped both small delivery bundles and heavy equipment. In conjunction with their normal training, the aircraft performed assault landings and maximum effort takeoffs.

Two Air Force busses and one borrowed from the Mass. Army National Guard, driven by 439th Reservists, transported the visitors around the base. They saw the

base's fire department practice a firefighter scramble and toured one of each of the wing's aircraft.

Following the tour, ADPA members had dinner at the Consolidated Open Mess. Guest speaker for the evening was Wing Commander Brig. Gen. Billy Knowles, who talked to the attendees on the role of the Air Force Reserve. They presented him a plaque in appreciation of his cooperation with the ADPA.

Three Retirees Leave 439th

Westover says goodbye to three long time reservists. SMSgt. James Sullivan, 59th APS, and MSgt. James P. Dunn, 905th WSSF, will both retire in May, while SMSgt. John A. Waterhouse, 439 CSG/OTM, retires in June.

Sergeant Sullivan will leave after over 24 years of service. He began his military career with a two and one-half year stretch with the Navy as an aviation ordnance specialist. After staying out of the military for a while, Sergeant Sullivan reupped as

an air policeman in the reserves stationed in Worcester, Mass. He served as first sergeant with the 905th CSG and travelled to Bradley Field and Grenier AFB, N.H., with the 905th, before coming to Westover in 1966. Sergeant Sullivan is currently a transportation specialist with the 59th Aerial Port Sq.

As a civilian, Sergeant Sullivan is a police captain in Worcester. Sergeant Dunn, a member of the same Worcester police force, is the NCOIC of Westover's 905th WSSF and retires after 30 years of duty.

Sergeant Dunn started out in the active duty Navy as a quartermaster. Later he

joined the Navy Reserve.

Switching services in 1956, he instructed Air Force security policemen at Worcester. He came to Westover from Bradley Field in 1966.

Sergeant Waterhouse's Westover career began as a reservist in 1948 with the base's 2108th Air Weather Group. In the 1960s, he was with the 8334th Base Support Group and then the 21st Medical Service Squadron. After various tours elsewhere, Sergeant Waterhouse is back at Westover as NCOIC of base operations.

Sergeant Waterhouse is a middle school English teacher in Madison, Conn.

Women Swingers Wanted

It's finally happened, ladies. Westover is forming an AFRES Women's Softball team, just like the men's.

A meeting held during the May UTA in the base gym got the ball rolling and the bat swinging.

Already, several women have shown an interest, and the meeting was successful. There is still time for the rest of you vivacious ladies to get in on the action.

The first practice will be held on Saturday of the June UTA from 5 to 7 p.m. on the base diamond.

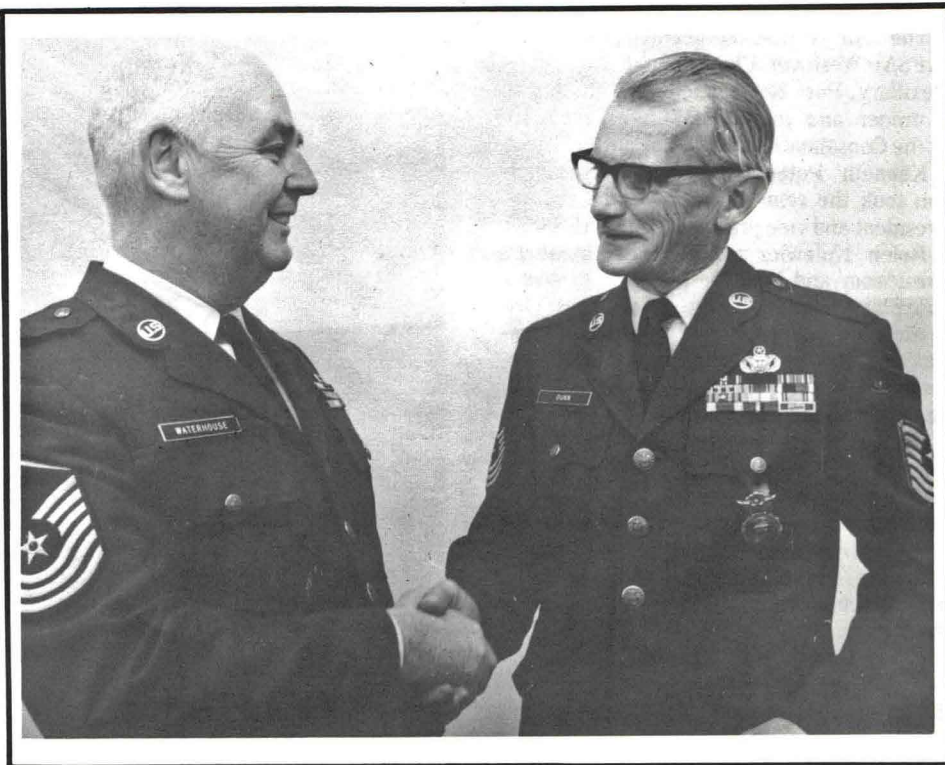
All active duty, reservists, and DoD employees are eligible. Sorry, no dependents this time.

Once the team is established, practices will be during the July UTA and the August encampment when a tournament will be played.

Uniforms and equipment, excluding gloves, will be provided by the base gym.

For additional information, call Ann Dougherty, (413) 557-3874, or Pat Lougher, (413) 534-7211 or 557-3921.

This is just one more first for Westover's women. Don't be shy—give the team a try.



LAST GOODBYES SMSgt. John A. Waterhouse, 439CSG and NCOIC of Base Operations, left, says farewell to MSgt. James P. Dunn, NCOIC of 905 WSSF, as both left the Air Force Reserves recently.

Employers Must Grant Leave Time

A reminder that reservists cannot be forced to use their vacation time to fulfill their annual active duty military obligation.

An employer is bound by federal law to grant the necessary leave to an employee so he may perform his duty as a reservist or guardsman.

Capt. King, 439 CSG legal office, said that reservists should inform their civilian employers in advance of their encampment dates. Some firms prefer that the notice be made in writing. A reservist might also wish to attach a copy of his orders with the request.

Captain King said that if a reservist does have any problem with an employer, he should report it to the nearest U. S. Department of Labor office.

The law *does not* require an employer to pay a reservist during the active duty. It is strictly a matter of company policy whether or not a reservist or guardsman receives his regular wages or a portion thereof on active duty.

Air Force Sergeants Association Elects Officers

The Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA) Westover Chapter and the Ladies Auxiliary, Post 209, elected new officers at a dinner and joint installation ceremony at the Consolidated Open Mess on April 4.

Kenneth Poteete and William Danielson took the reins once again this year as president and vice president of the AFSA.

Helen Kulewicz accepted the auxiliary presidency and took the platform to give a short acceptance speech. Elected as vice president was Anda McCarthy. She replaced Ann-Marie Batchelor. Leita Poteete and Shirley Campbell remained secretary and treasurer.

Louise Young was elected AFSA inter-service attache, and Glen VanValkenburg was elected trustee.

Cecile Peltier, outgoing president of the auxiliary, thanked members for their enthusiasm and support of the organization and presented gifts to her fellow officers.

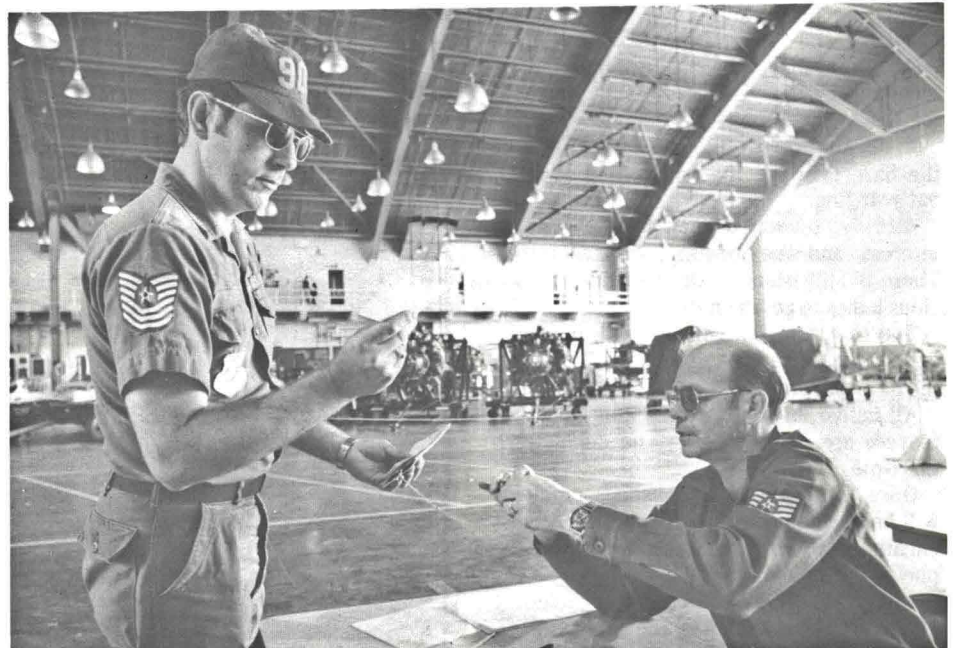
PROMOTION PARTY

Wing Reservists are invited to a cocktail party at the Open Mess at 6:30 p.m., Sat. June 10, to honor General Knowles on the occasion of his last UTA. Party is being hosted by all officers promoted in past 18 months.

CARDS AND TAGS



SSgt. Kathy Ritter and MSgt. Frank Ludwig, left, check TSgt. Ken Green's dog tags and "ID."



TSgt. Jim Freer, seated, does the same thing for MSgt. Acquillino "Bill" Lucia.



TIE DOWN Aerial Port members secure baggage to a pallet for the flight to McGuire AFB.



SEARCH SSgt. Frank Brown, 439DE, left, makes an anti-hijacking search as A1C Ken Cornell and Sgt. Carol Pelletier, 901CAMS, bare their bags.



SHOT A1C Cindy Lapa gives a vaccination to MSgt. Frank Notturmo.



LOADING Driving a 10K fork lift, SSgt. Bruce MacRae, 58APS, eases a wing jack towards the open hatch of a 731 TAS bird.



MANIFESTING SSgts. Gordon Hunt and Virginia Thomas prepare flight manifests for those mobilized.

New Retention Program Aimed at Recruits

Retention, where should it begin? According to Brig. Gen. Billy M. Knowles, it's too late to start when a reservist's enlistment is about to end.

The time to start, the general says, is as soon as someone enters the reserves.

Since last year General Knowles had begun that process by individually talking to recruits and letting them know how important they are even before they head for basic training and tech school. When General Knowles is unable to meet a new recruit, Col. J. Frank Moore or Col. Billie Parker takes his place.

"Because we're getting the cream of the crop of America's youth and because they're joining the finest organization in the Air Force," General Knowles explained, "training isn't enough, they must come back and be productive. We want them to remember someone is waiting for them to become a productive part of a vital team."

Basic training is usually the first experience for most out of home or school. To help the new airmen adjust, Westover provides post cards for the reservists' use to stay in contact with Westover.

The concern for the new enlistee is just the first link in the retention process, General Knowles says. It must continue when the now not-so-green reservist returns from active duty training, he said.

BRIEFS

Westover contributed \$2,773.55 to the Air Force Assistance Fund drive that ended on base in April. It was the first time the fund solicited donations from reserve forces. Nation wide, the reserve forces gave more than \$2.7 million. The total was 109 per cent of its \$2.5 million goal. At Westover, reservists chipped in \$818.55; retired, \$1,791.50; and civilians, \$163.50. The 1917 Communications Squadron, an active duty unit at Westover, took in \$146 to nearly double its assigned goal of \$86.

RUNNING STRONG . . . MSgt. James Boudreau, 439CSG, successfully completed the Boston Athletic Association's Boston Marathon on Monday, April 17. It was the third time in the past four years the 56-

year old sergeant ran the 26 mile, 385 yard course. Sergeant Boudreau broke the four-hour barrier, travelling the distance in three hours and 55 minutes. "I finished in the top 3,000," Sergeant Boudreau jokingly boasted.

Tickets for the NCO and Airman Dining Out on August 12 are available from unit first sergeants or from the chairman, SMSgt. Dick Haskins at the 74AES. The guest speaker is to be CMSgt. Don Harlow, former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force. Tickets are \$20 per couple, or \$10 for an individual.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 439TH COMBAT SUPPORT GROUP (AFRES)
WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MASSACHUSETTS 01022



10 April 1978

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: Senior Enlisted Advisor/CMSgt Murdock

SUBJECT: Productive Utilization of Reserve Personnel

TO: 439 TAW/CC
439 CSG/CC
All Squadron/Flight Commanders

1. Throughout 439 TAW, we have learned from observation and direct communication with our members, that many are not being productively utilized. This is a serious problem. If a member of the Reserve does not feel a sense of contribution, a purpose of belonging, and results of accomplishment, HIS/HER loss within the near future is assured.
2. Units do not think and feel, people do. People react to their environment - negatively, passively, or positively; the need to belong is basic to all people. The needs of people are the major factor in an individual's motivation to become an integral part of a Reserve unit and to make the Air Force Reserve a career. Unfortunately, the unanimous conclusion of the Career Advisor and the Senior Enlisted Advisor is that the lack of a meaningful job is the most frequently registered complaint during retention interviews and the single most important contributing factor to our losses.
3. Leadership solves people problems and we have a people problem which is solvable. First level supervisors must develop, schedule and direct the accomplishment of meaningful duty assignments. They must recognize achievement and reward the individual with at least a "thank you" for a task well done.
4. Also, supervisors must aid, guide, motivate, and replace (where necessary) subordinate supervisors who fail in their primary leadership task — managing people.
5. Commanders must be visible in the work centers to see for themselves where meaningful training is not happening and take immediate steps to correct the situation. A sense of belonging is strongly reinforced by a simple "Hello, how are you doing?" from Wing, Group, Squadron or Flight Commanders. This will produce astonishing results, with very little effort. If you have a retention problem; if your unit is below 50%; you have a "sense of belonging" problem.



Jack W. Murdock
JACK W. MURDOCK, CMS, USAFR
Senior Enlisted Advisor, 439 TAW

Wing Parade June 10, 1978

Uniform:

Male — Combination 4, dark blue trousers, light blue short-sleeve shirt and black shoes. Blue service (visor) cap will be worn.

Female — Combination 2, blue shirt, light blue overblouse and oxfords. Beret will be worn.

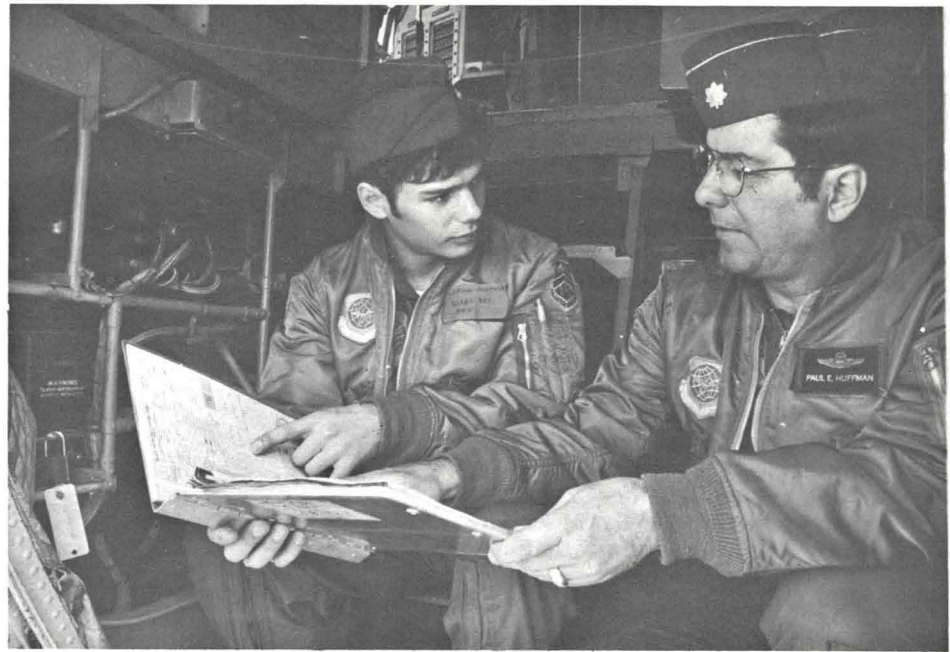
ALL personal will have rain-coat available.

337th Father and Son Team Flies to Germany

The July, 1977 *Patriot* featured a new father and son combination in the 337 Tactical Airlift Squadron, as Maj. Paul Huffman introduced his son, Larry, to his unit on the occasion of his enlistment.

A year later, it is now Lieutenant Colonel Huffman and Airman Huffman, a fully qualified loadmaster. They completed their first overseas trip together on May 19. The two, part of a 337th crew, ferried a consolidated aircraft maintenance flight from Barksdale AFB to Bitburg, Germany. They then went on to Frankfurt, Germany; Aviano, Italy and the Azores before returning to Westover with a cargo shipment.

Colonel Huffman flies with United Airlines and Amn. Huffman plans to return to school for higher education.



LIKE FATHER . . . LIKE SON, REVISITED Amn. Larry Huffman, left, and his father, Lt. Col. Paul Huffman, check out the aircraft weight and balance forms prior to their European trip.



PROMOTED

Maj. Robert C. Dean
 Capt. Penny F. Pierce
 Capt. Herbert J. Sagendorf
 Capt. Robert P. Szatrowski
 SMSgt. George W. Schwager
 MSgt. Michael E. Flarida
 MSgt. Raymond C. Hitchcock, Jr.
 TSgt. Mark W. Andrews
 TSgt. Donald F. Moran
 TSgt. John E. Sheehan
 SSgt. Raymond O. Bolden
 SSgt. John M. Budenas
 SSgt. Eugene P. Butler
 SSgt. Joseph S. DeCaro
 SSgt. Edward F. Hart
 SSgt. Harry J. Ledbury
 SSgt. Peter M. Matta, Jr.
 SSgt. Juan L. Rodriguez Navarro
 SSgt. Kathleen M. Ritter
 SSgt. Joseph C. Skladzien
 SSgt. Sidney C. Visbeck
 SrA Cheryl M. Babbitt
 SrA Gary J. Brougham

SrA Lynn M. Desmarais
 SrA Matthew W. Dooney
 SrA Lawrence L. Edwards
 SrA Lillian T. Goodale
 SrA Gayle A. Gordon
 SrA Celio G. Hernandez
 SrA Robert H. Hughes
 SrA Neal A. Jason
 SrA Rene R. LaFrance
 SrA Cynthia J. Lapa
 SrA Robert H. Odell
 SrA Joanne M. Pacella
 SrA Theresa L. Patenaude
 SrA Keith J. Provost
 SrA Michael A. Spano
 SrA Brian J. Sullivan
 SrA Bruce W. Szepelak
 SrA Donna Thomas
 SrA Gary N. Vickers
 SrA Kenneth M. Ware
 A1C Nataleau Andrews
 A1C James F. Buonopane
 A1C Jeanna L. Eberhart
 A1C Carol E. Firestone
 A1C Claire L. Gaudreau
 A1C Helen M. Hillman
 A1C Stephen H. Rehm
 A1C Eddie A. Sheats
 A1C David J. Valego
 A1C Marcelina T. Warren
 Amn. Kelly L. McClelland
 Amn. Hector J. Suarez

ENLISTED

Sgt. Richard W. Esselen

SrA Michael J. Lee
 A1C Donald T. Lynch
 AB Beverly Graham
 AB Candice J. Jackson
 AB Ronald M. Kapinos
 AB Kevin W. Kelley
 AB Zigmund D. Skawski
 AB Pamela A. Surrette
 AB Jeffery W. Urbank

REENLISTED

SMSgt. Robert W. Ross
 MSgt. Michael A. Arminio
 MSgt. Joseph H. Juaine
 MSgt. Nicholas F. Perfido
 MSgt. Robert F. Rose
 MSgt. Ira A. Simmons
 TSgt. Richard A. Emond
 TSgt. Walter F. Feller
 TSgt. Paul J. Pacheco
 TSgt. Paul J. Worian
 SSgt. Richard E. Alix
 SSgt. Paul H. Chappelle
 SSgt. Kent B. Fisher
 SSgt. Peter M. Matta
 SSgt. Francis P. McElvee
 SSgt. Willie Simmons
 Sgt. Daniel L. Nev
 Sgt. Carol J. Pelletier
 Sgt. Alan P. Rogers
 Sgt. Christopher Sears
 SrA Joan I. Elliott
 SrA Ronald B. Galuagni
 SrA Louise M. Young
 A1C William M. Carroll, Jr.

REASSIGNED

Capt. David A. Crowther
 Capt. Rowland R. Wilson
 MSgt. James A. Crocker
 SrA Pat A. Spencer
 A1C Henry W. Douglas
 A1C George M. Proulx
 A1C Harold E. Sivard, Jr.
 AB Thomas J. Roe

STANDBY RESERVE

1st Lt. Donald E. Staszko
 SMSgt. John Bostic
 TSgt. Michael Gallagher
 TSgt. John W. Jones
 TSgt. Garfield H. Tardy
 TSgt. Richard A. Turnberg
 SSgt. David A. Anderson
 SSgt. Allen W. Chalmers
 SSgt. Robert Gallant
 SSgt. Frank S. Kaniecki
 Sgt. George R. Cahill
 Sgt. Richard Fritsch
 Sgt. Richard A. Mattern
 Sgt. Raymond V. Redder
 Sgt. Deborah A. Studebaker
 SrA Judith A. Driscoll
 A1C Joseph G. Mahoney
 AB Kenneth M. Scott

DISCHARGED

SSgt. James P. Batchelor
 SSgt. Janice M. Shine
 Sgt. Dave R. Miller

Retired Officers Donate Plaque on Westover's History

WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE

4,269 acres acquired in 1939 by eminent domain for \$2,100,000
 Named Westover Field Dec. 1, 1939
 in Honor of Maj. Gen. Oscar Westover
 Dedicated April 6, 1940
 First unit assigned
 10th Signal Platoon, June 6, 1940
 Served as Air Training Base until 1946
 Air Transport Command - 1946
 Military Air Transport Service - 1948
 Strategic Air Command - 1955
 Air Force Reserve - 1974
 Staging Area for 1948 Berlin Air Lift
 Site of Large Port of Embarkation
 1946 to 1955

Sponsored by Regional Veterans
 Retired Officers Association
 Reserve Officers Association
 Air Force Sergeants Association



HISTORICAL MOMENT Reading the inscription on the memorial plaque are, from left, U.S. Congressmen Silvio O. Conte and Edward P. Boland; Col. (USA, Retd.) George M. Hargreaves and Col. (USA, Retd.) Richardson L. Greene.

A bronze plaque, commemorating Westover's history and placed on a large boulder, was given to the base by the Pioneer Valley Chapter of The Retired Officers Association (TROA). In addition to Westover and Association representatives at the May 6 ceremony, U.S. Congressmen Edward P. Boland and Silvio O. Conte were present.

Plans for a lasting remembrance and gift were initiated by Col. Richardson L. Greene, U.S. Army (Retired). Along with the TROA, he contacted Col. J. Frank Moore, base commander. He, in turn, requested and received Air Force Reserve Headquarters approval to accept the gift purchased by TROA, the Reserve Officers Association and the Air Force Sergeants Association.

A suitable boulder, located in Belcher-town, was donated by the town's Board of Selectmen. Westover's Motor Vehicle Maintenance Section and Ted Buckhout, transportation officer, retrieved it and set it in near the ellipse's flag pole.

Congressman Boland praised Westover's ongoing contribution to the nation's defense. "It has served incredibly, nobly, over the past 40 years," from its days as the Army Air Corps' Northeast Air Base to its vital role in Operation Vittles. Westover was the principal staging area during the Berlin airlift—the largest military airlift in the history of mankind.

During the Korean conflict, over 2,500 casualties were treated at the base hospital in one month alone, he reported. Later, "community residents heard the roar of the B-52 bombers and they got used to it.

For it was the roar of liberty, the sound of security. Today, while the Air Force presence has been reduced in this area, it is a necessity and should be maintained."

He was followed by Congressman Conte. He spoke of "the poet Robert Frost, who used to reside up the road in Amherst, who once wrote that 'good fences make good neighbors.' Here in Western Massachusetts, for almost four decades, good defenses have made good neighbors. The airmen, the officers and their families who have inhabited this base and our surrounding communities have been welcomed additions to our ranks here in the Pioneer Valley. Now, the Air Force Reservists, who use this facility, are carrying on in the same tradition.

"Today we are reminded of Westover Field's first assignments—to train our com-

bat troops for service in the European theatre in World War II. In 1942 alone, Westover trained and activated 52 fighting units. In 1943, 29 units were sent into the war from Westover.

"At the same time, Westover fulfilled a second mission. Known as 'the Guardian of the Northeast Coast,' Westover kept a vigilant eye on our seaward border on the Atlantic."

The Congressman later concluded his remarks, "This plaque, then, outlines a history that we can be proud of, a history that continues today. I have always been proud of the men at Westover, of the way they did their job. I think that others should be just as proud as we are today. I know that when people see this plaque—and read it—and reflect, as I have, on the story it tells—they will be."

HQ 439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING (AFRES)
 WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MA. 01022

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
 PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300



THIRD CLASS-BULK RATE