



THE PATRIOT



439TH TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING

WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MASS.

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Will Barnes Jets Come to Westover?

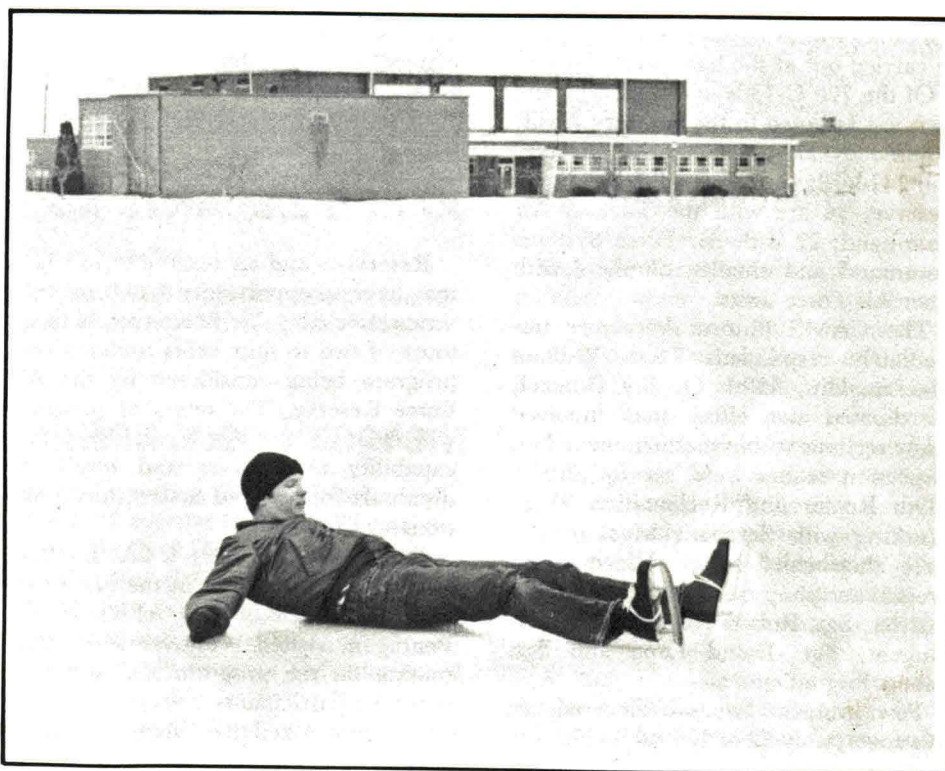
Eighteen A-10 jet fighters stationed at Westover? That's the possibility if an Air Force staff team recommends the relocation of the Massachusetts National Guard's 104 Tactical Fighter Group from Barnes Air Field, Westfield, Mass. Their favorable decision would then begin a series of similar procedures on both the state and federal levels before any transfer would take place.

The survey team, comprised of members of the Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve, Tactical Airlift Command, the Air Force air staff, the 104 TFG and the 439 TAW, "explored the feasibility of relocating the 104th to Westover during a survey of Westover's facilities on Jan. 8 and 9," explains Col. J. Frank Moore, base commander. "The National Guard's search for a possible new site was prompted by two reasons. Communities surrounding Barnes have threatened litigation because of the jets' noise. Also, federal policy favors the location of federal organizations on federal property rather than on private or municipal airfields."

If the team decides that Westover is indeed suitable, another meeting will take place with these representatives and Mrs. Antonia Handler Chayes, the assistant secretary of the Air Force for reserve affairs, manpower and installations.

Then Massachusetts Governor Edward King also must concur.

Even after the decision process is
(continued on page 3)



Slip Sliding Away goes A1C. Pat McMahon, 1917 CS, after successfully using the frozen base ellipse as his own private skating rink. (Photo by TSgt. Marshall Hathaway)

Bowling Alley to Open, Base Improvements Set

The sounds of strikes will soon be heard at Westover. Not on the baseball field nor on the picket line. Air Force Reserve headquarters has approved the expenditure of \$110,000 to reopen the base bowling alley by this July.

In addition to eight bowling lanes, the sports complex will include an indoor tennis court, two indoor platform tennis courts and a snack bar. Additional lanes and courts would be added later.

The new facility is only one of a series

of changes or alterations planned or now underway at Westover.

Base exchange customers soon will be able to purchase eyeglasses at reduced rates at the new Optical Service Center.

Meanwhile, work continues on the base runways. Ninety-three percent of the \$1,000,000 resurfacing project is complete. Most of the base's building exteriors also will get a new surface—of paint.

(continued on page 3)

Westover's C-130s First to Fly Again

by SrA. Dean Mauro

Westover's C-130 Hercules were the first to return to flying status after the Air Force grounded all similar aircraft.

The Dec. 11, 1978 restriction followed the crash of a Little Rock AFB, Ark. C-130 near Fort Campbell Army Airfield the day before. The C-130 crashed three miles short of the runway as it prepared to land. A faulty throttle cable was the apparent cause.

Air Force Logistics Command issued a time compliance technical order which required inspection of the throttle control cables within 10 days of the order, to be carried out at the base level.

Of the 700 C-130s involved, 311 aircraft are assigned to the Military Airlift Command; 179 are with the Air National Guard; 148 assigned to Air Force Reserve; 34 are with the Tactical Air Command; 22 with Air Force Systems Command and smaller numbers with other Air Force units.

The CAMS unit at Westover immediately responded. TSgt. William MacLaughlin, 439th Quality Control, coordinated the effort that involved many sections within maintenance. Two inspection teams were set up in the 439th Repair and Reclamation Shop. Working with Sergeant MacLaughlin were shop chief MSgt. Vincent Andreozzi and shop members TSgt. Alfred Burrier, Sgt. Robert Rock, Sgt. Robert Nugent, Sgt. David Lapa and Sgt. Albert Frigugliette.

Few problems were discovered. At Westover, only 22 of 320 cables had any discrepancies. The majority were on two aircraft, one of which, recently assigned, had not yet gone through isochronal inspection. Even though the cables were safe and the discrepancies minor, the

team replaced them. By Dec. 17, seven Westover aircraft were flying, the only ones in the Air Force.

Some bases had to replace up to 300 cables on their unit's aircraft.

All maintenance personnel give careful attention to the cable system during inspections because under certain flight conditions, throttle cable failure results in loss of control of the engine, Sergeant MacLaughlin said. However, Westover took the inspection process a step further, he explained.

In September 1976, 439th maintenance personnel went beyond the requirements in the "tech" data and began a program of changing original throttle cables. Even though no other

unit in the Air Force then replaced original cables, unless defective, 439th personnel felt the advanced age of the C-130 and importance of the system justified replacement, Sergeant MacLaughlin said. The original cables were changed whenever found by Westover workers.

"New inspection requirements and an Air Force wide cable replacement program will bring the rest of the units up to standard," Sergeant MacLaughlin explains. "439th personnel should note with pride, however, just whose initiative set that standard."

"We felt our work not only got the C-130s into the air sooner, but more importantly, we may have saved lives."

AFRES and ARTs May Convert to Active Duty

Reservists and air reserve technicians may have an opportunity to become full-time active duty Air Force members for tours of two to four years under a new program being considered by the Air Force Reserve. The one-year program will evaluate the Air Force Reserve's capability to "attract and hire" individuals for selected active duty positions.

During the February UTA, Lt. Col. Michael C. Turoff, from the Plans and Policies Branch of HQ AFRE in the Pentagon, visited Westover with information on the program and surveyed potential participants

He emphasized that "there is no decision or interest at this time in the elimination of the ART program." Involvement, as well as a permanent change of station, if necessary, would be strictly voluntary.

Selected wing personnel completed a five-page survey that measured their "interest, or lack thereof, in the proposed program."

Mobility Announcement

A mini mobility exercise is scheduled for Sunday of the March UTA. The 731 and 337 TAS will process through the mobility line. Since this is just a preparation for the forthcoming base-wide ORI, no troops will deploy.

All those processed must have military identification cards, dog tags and shot records. The 439 Tactical Hospital technicians will administer any shots necessary to update shot records.

OFFICERS DINING OUT

The Officers Dining Out will be held on Saturday evening, Apr. 28, at the Consolidated Open Mess. Tickets will be available during the March UTA through unit commanders. Dress for the affair is evening dress or black mess dress uniform for the ladies, and black mess dress uniform or black tuxedo for the gentlemen.

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439 TAW Commander
Brig. Gen. Donald E. Haugen

Base Commander
Col. J. Frank Moore

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

Editor
MSgt. Lawrence H. Lentz

Base Information Officer
Miss Betty O'Connell

Staff

TSgt. Marshall Hathaway
SrA. Dean M. Mauro

SrA. Patricia Joyce
A1C. Deborah Elliot



SSgt. Steve Budleski, left, and AB. Dennis Scott, 901 CAMS propeller shop personnel, perform an inspection on a C-123K engine, as part of the new Scheduled Maintenance Enhancement Program.

Westover Starts New Maintenance Program

In November 1978, 14AF(R) chose Westover as the trial site for a new concept in aircraft maintenance inspections. The program is called SMEP—Scheduled Maintenance Enhancement Program.

The 439th was selected, according to 14th officials, because it is unique with its C-123 and C-130 aircraft. Also, Westover's maintenance organization has demonstrated a "can do" attitude over the past years.

SMEP's objectives are two-fold—first, the length of an aircraft isochronal inspection. The second objective seeks a time reduction in fly-to-fly dates. This is the time from the last date an aircraft has flown to the next date flown after its isochronal inspection.

The first such inspection completed at Westover was on a C-123 in December. Maintenance personnel completed a

major inspection in 15 calendar days. The 1978 average had been 23 calendar days. The fly-to-fly days were 20, versus the previous 1978 average of 47 days.

SMEP was developed by 14AF(R) personnel with the assistance of unit personnel. It will increase the number of aircraft available for flying by decreasing the time they are down for maintenance.

Estimates indicate increased flying by 4,028 hours per year without adding an aircraft to 14AF(R) units, if isochronal inspections are reduced by 50 percent.

That first SMEP netted the maintenance section a message from Maj. Gen. Edward Dillon, 14AF(R) commander. It read in part, "This was a super job and deserves special recognition. You are setting a fine track record for other units to follow. Keep up the good work."

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Answer to Question on Page 8: SSgt. Ted is on the right—we think. The twins were asked to confirm who's who. They kept changing their answer.

New Name The Base Procurement Office is now designated the **Base Contracting Division**.

* * * * *

Jets to Westover? . . .

(continued from page 1)

completed, the Guard wouldn't move to Westover until construction of new facilities and the alteration of existing ones are completed. That process could take up to two years.

Also, an environmental impact assessment must be undertaken and approved by the Air Force.

Ironically, the investigations have delayed work projects scheduled by the 439th. The base civil engineers were to move to base supply. If the Guardsmen relocate, they will occupy that building, and the engineers would be housed in a new facility. Modifications in the avionics and the vehicle transportation buildings also have been suspended until the final decision is announced.

Base Improvements . . .

(continued from page 1)

Col. J. Frank Moore, base commander, other base personnel and representatives from Chicopee continue their deliberations on Westover's excess property. City security guards will operate the original gate houses and patrol specified excess housing and industrial areas. They will also open the Sheridan Gate during the day.

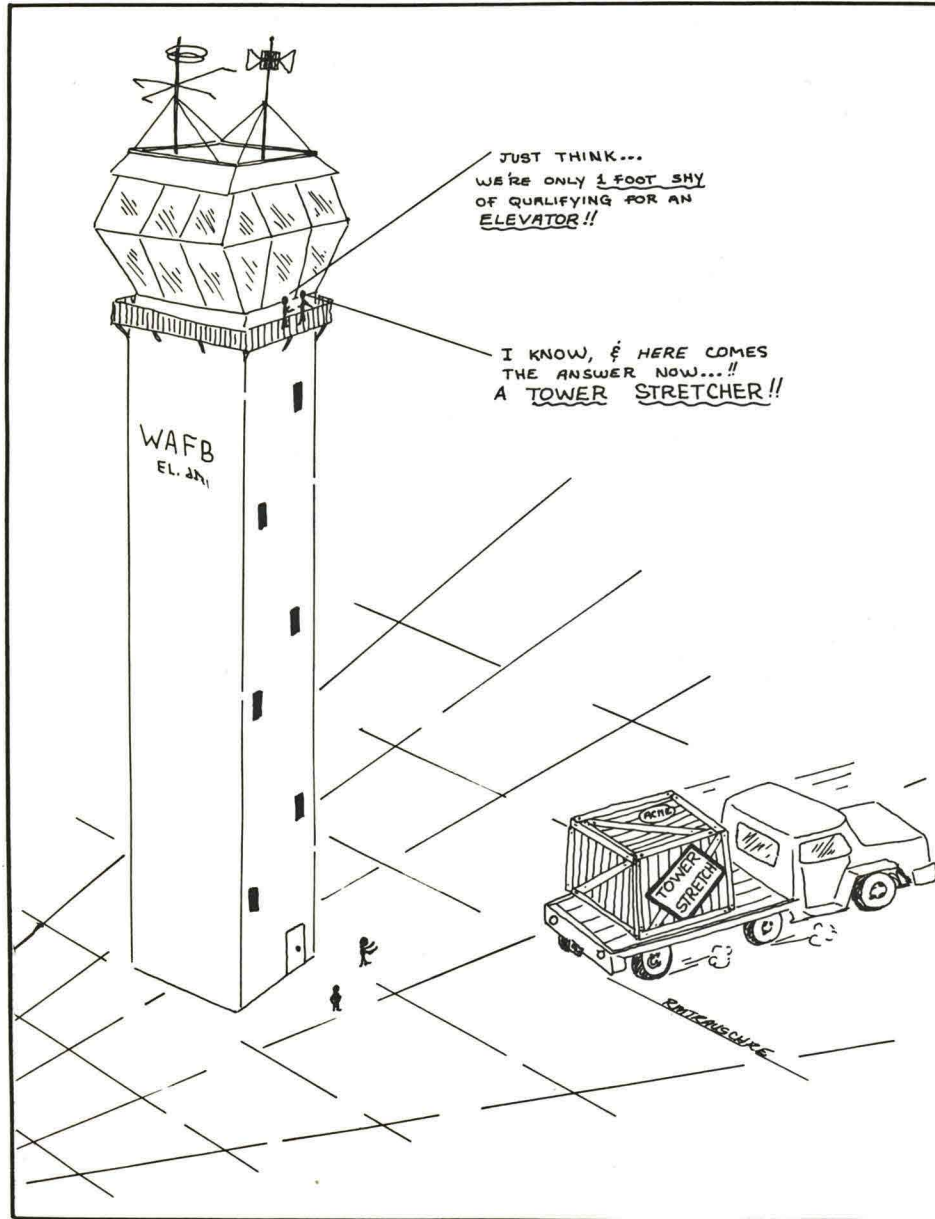
The recently completed gate houses mark the base's new boundaries. They will be manned by Department of Defense and Air Force security personnel.

A study is underway for the consolidation of all wing and base offices in the existing Combat Support Group building (1850), the building next to it (1875) and a to-be-constructed connecting structure.

The 74 Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, presently in Building 1850, will go to Hangar One after an \$80,000 modification project is completed in that building.

HQ AFRES is finalizing plans for the base FAMCAMP, or family camp ground. It is scheduled for completion by the Spring of 1980.

Perhaps the plans which will make the biggest splash call for the construction of an indoor pool as part of the base recreation building. Colonel Moore, Mike McNicholas, recreation director and AFRES personnel have drafted a "concept package." If approved, work should begin in the Summer of 1980.



58 APS Completes Germany Training

Two detachments of the 58 Aerial Port Squadron performed their active duty training at Rhein Main AB in Germany. One group trained from Nov. 18 to Dec. 2; the other from Dec. 2 through 16.

Three shifts, working 24 hours a day, built and broke down pallets, and loaded and unloaded C-5A, DC-8, C-9, DC-10, C-118, C-130 and C-141 aircraft.

Several members, during their tour, qualified as materials handling equipment operators on such equipment as warehouse tugs, 4K, 6K, 10K and 40K loaders.

The first group under the command of 2d. Lt. Benjamin J. Pagoni and Field First Sergeant SMSgt. Leonard Dube, held two mobility exercises and maintained their heavy work load. Twenty-four airmen serviced 165 aircraft, loaded and unloaded 1,096 pallets and accommodated 4,535 passengers. The total weight handled was 3,765,673 lbs.

Capt. Raymond L. Brisson, Jr., and SMSgt. Thomas H. Straight headed up the 25-person Det. 2 which included a representative from the 901st and 905th APF, and a 59 APS administrative specialist. Their experience was nearly the same as Det. 1's. However, their work load was increased because of the Iranian evacuation. They serviced 297 aircraft, loaded and unloaded 2,036 pallets and 10,324 passengers, for a total weight handled of 4,119,114 lbs.

Staff Assistants Visit 58 and 59 APS During February

by A1C Deborah Elliot

Wouldn't it be nice to have someone visit you periodically, for the sole purpose of assisting you? During the February UTA, the 58th and 59th Aerial Port Squadrons had such visitors—it was in preparation for the two units' management effective inspections, due before the end of this year.

"Let me make one thing clear," said MSgt. Mary Sanford, a 14 Air Force (Reserve) team member, "This is an assistance visit, not an inspection. We ask the unit if they have any special problems they would like to correct before we begin and assist them in any way

we can."

The two units' competency in material handling equipment, safety, administration, academic, Air Force standards and general military training (for example, weight checks, human relations testing, etc.) were scrutinized.

As to whether these visits are worthwhile—TSgt. Thomas Costley, a 21 Air Force team member assisting in the areas of material handling equipment and hazardous cargo, said, "The 59th APS went from a management effectiveness inspection rating of unsatisfactory in 1973 to an excellent in 1977. We like to feel that the improvement in these

ratings was due in part to these staff assistance visits."

MSgt. Sanford added, "Whether the units benefit from these visits is entirely up to them. If they allow us to help them by using our report as a self-inspection tool, then our purpose was well fulfilled."

According to Lt. Col. Don Williams, 58 APS commander, the unit does use the report extensively. "We have already been going over our own checklist in preparation for this visit. We will definitely use the staff assistance report in preparation for the coming management effectiveness inspection."

BRIEFS

901 CF Goes to Langley

Two members of Westover's Vehicle Maintenance Section, **Mr. Robert Piazza** and **Mr. Richard Herman**, travelled to Chicago in response to a call for support from the 928 TAG at Chicago-O'Hare International Airport. The severe winter conditions caused a maintenance backlog in the workload, thus mechanics with expertise were sorely needed to repair heavy snow removal equipment. The 928th requested aid through AFRES who in turn looked to Westover for the required support. The two mechanics performed the duty Jan. 18-23, which included an engine change on a snow plow. Asked why Westover was called upon, **Mr. Nicholas "Red" Demino**, shop foreman replied, "We've got the best mechanics in the Air Force."

* * * * *

On Sunday of the January UTA, **SMSgt. Edward N. Birkel** became the 439 Tactical Hospital's first chief master sergeant. In a laudatory ceremony held before the entire hospital staff, **Col. Alan Fleckner**, commander, presented Chief Birkel his first set of chief's chevrons.

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Westover Reservists to Travel for Training

by A1C Pat Joyce

The months ahead will see several Westover units cross state lines and even countries' boundaries to fulfill their annual active duty training tour.

This is the time that tests the effectiveness of the monthly training. This is also a time for expansion, development and refinement of abilities of the individual units. The advantages of leaving Westover to train on unfamiliar different soil offers a new dimension to training.

The first group to head out will be the 905 Civil Engineering Flight. Approximately 55 reservists will go to Lakenheath AB, England. Their main project will be to assist in construction of revetments (protective partitions for aircraft).

Half of the 100 901 CES members will join the 905 CEF in Lakenheath.



TSgt. Steven Leib, 901 CF training NCO, foreground; a member of the 1913 Comm. Sq., center; and **Sgt. James Dester**, also with the 901 CF, operate a KWM-2A transceiver at Langley AFB, Va.

Langley AFB, Va. has become a home away from home for the members of Westover's 901 Communications Flight.

Approximately 30 members of the 901 CF spend every third or fourth UTA at the Virginia base rather than at Westover. They use its wider range of communications equipment to enhance training.

"The telephone and radio facilities are taken care of by civilians at Westover," **SSgt. Elaine Crapo**, 901st telecommunications specialist explained. "At Langley, we keep up with the latest communications equipment and train a lot of people."

The remainder will go to Mildenhall, England and assist in both construction and fire protection.

Patrick AFB, Fla. will be the destination of the 905 Communications Flight on March 31. They will use a wider range of communications equipment and facilities than those available at Westover.

The 439th Tactical Hospital crew will augment the hospital staff at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, in June. A hospital routine will expose reservists to

The 901 CF has travelled to Langley on a regular basis since the summer of 1977, when it made a good impression on the 1913 Communications Squadron commander.

"The 1913th was impressed with how well we worked and invited us to keep coming down," **Sergeant Crapo** said. "We're two units that really blend right in. There's no slowdown in traffic."

The 901st, in appreciation of the help received from the 1913 CS, presented its Virginia friends with a plaque several months ago.

"The people there put a lot of effort into training us, and that training is invaluable."

activities not possible at Westover.

It's overseas to Rhein Main AB, Germany for the 901 and 905 Weapons Systems Security Flights in April and May. Training exercises to improve field skills and fire maneuver techniques will be conducted as well as classroom instruction.

It's a two-way exchange as the visitors and hosts share their particular expertise. The visitors also supplement the active duty personnel, especially at times when the active duty forces take leave.

Unit Information Officers Offer Communications Pipeline

by Maj. Rudolph G. DiLuzio

Three weeks before a UTA, a member of your unit rescues two people from a burning automobile. While training away from Westover, your unit supports the host base in a major humanitarian effort. While these are hypothetical cases, they are representative of significant events which do occur. Do other members of the 439th and their families want to know about them? Yes, most do. You, in fact, want to get the story told, but where do you start? Well, how about your unit information officer?

Unit information officers act as the eyes and ears of the Wing/Base Information Office and its PATRIOT staff. The unit information officer could arrange for the recognition and publication of that organization's and individual's newsworthy accomplishments. This is especially important when a unit is away from Westover. The unit IO is the key to the coverage required for good news reporting.

The unit IOs, however, cannot do it all on their own. The position is, after all, an additional duty. An effective unit information program therefore requires a cooperative effort. You can support the program. Do you have a story or know of a specific event which has news potential? Then get together with your unit IO.

If you're not sure who that is, here they are. Now let's hear from you!

337 TAS, Maj. Richard Orpheus
731 TAS, Capt. Peter Eiche
439 Tac Hosp, Capt. Anthony Famiglietti
74 AES, Maj. Yvonne Snow
901 APF, Sgt. Lionel Paul
905 APF, SSgt. Gary Gladu
901 CES, TSgt. Richard Germana
905 CEF, Lt. Col. Gerard Pelletier
901 CAMS, Maj. Joseph Butler
905 CAMS, TSgt. Joseph Forgione
901 WSSF, MSgt. Ludwig Schwecheimer
905 WSSF, TSgt. Gerard Farrell
901 CF, SSgt. Elaine Crapo
905 CF, SrA. Galen LaFrancis
901 MOBSF, MSgt. Philip Johnson
905 MOBSF, SSgt. David Burden
58 APS, Capt. Ronald Lawler
59 APS, CMSgt. Lucien Charette
1917 CS, SSgt. Daniel Samis
Det 5, 1ACOMMGp, SSgt. Jose Picart



The Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, Robert D. Gaylor, addresses members of Det. 5, 1 ACOMMGp; the 1917 Communications Sq., and the 439 TAW during his visit to Westover on Jan 11.

BRIEFS

We were saddened to hear of the deaths of three former members of our Air Force Reserve family. **Col. Russell DiMattio** passed away on Jan. 21. As a reservist, Colonel DiMattio served at Hanscom, at Westover and on the staff of the Mass. National Guard as liaison office for Disaster Preparedness, until his retirement in August 1978.

Capt. John Papalia was a former commander of the 901 Aerial Port Flight when it was stationed at Hanscom AFB. **MSgt. Joseph Duegaw** who died in January, was formerly with the 2nd. ALC at Fort Drum, N.Y. The veteran of 34 years retired on Dec. 31, 1978.

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Col. J. Frank Moore, 439 CSG commander, presented a diploma from the Air War College to **Lt. Col. Edward Sullivan**, 439th Judge Advocate during the January UTA. The training represents the highest level Air Force military education course. The school prepares senior officers for high command and staff positions, and includes National and World Environment, National Decision Making and Defense Management, Military Capabilities and Strategy and National Security Strategy and Issues.

Lt. Col. (Col. Selectee) James P. Thomas has been appointed the 439th's new deputy commander for operations. He replaces **Lt. Col. Robert G. McCoy**, who has been transferred to the 914 TAG at Niagara. Colonel Thomas was the deputy commander for operations at McGuire AFB's 514 MAW (Assoc.)

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Two former members of the 439 TAW received key appointments in the Air Force Reserve. **Col. Billie Parker**, former deputy commander for operations, is the new commander of the 919 Special Operations Group, Eglin Auxiliary (Duke) Field, Fla. **Lt. Col. Howard Mangin**, former 439th director of operations, was named commander of the 934 TAG at Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.

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The **914 TAG**, Niagara Falls IAP, N.Y., was awarded the National Safety Award by the National Safety Council in January. The 914th was selected because within two years they reduced 55 percent of ground and industrial accidents on the job. The awardee is selected from either an industrial or military organization.

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Air Force Begins New Physical Fitness Test

Washington (AFNS) After a thorough review of its physical fitness program, the Air Force will increase its emphasis on regular conditioning and use a three-mile walk as the annual test for members 35 years of age and over.

The changes follow the recommendations of a recent study group which concluded that regular exercise and conditioning are keys to maintaining the stamina required to deal with the physical and psychological stresses of

military life. The positive aspects of the program—look good, feel good—must be emphasized and each member motivated to participate voluntarily.

The change to a three-mile walk as the only test for personnel 35 and over is based on experience which shows that people in this category are more prone to heart problems, especially those who may not have fully prepared themselves for the test. Personnel under the age of 35 will continue to have the option of

testing by the one and a half mile run, three-mile walk, or timed running in place.

The annual physical fitness test is designed to insure that all Air Force members meet and maintain minimum standards. Preconditioning, in the form of a steady, progressive, personalized exercise program is the best way to prepare for the annual test, officials said.



ENLISTMENTS

- TSgt. William A. Billings, Jr.
- TSgt. Alfred H. Graveline
- Tsgt. George T. Liard
- TSgt. Gary B. Palmer
- SSgt. Winfred Dailey
- SSgt. Manuel Zamacoma
- Sgt. Francis L. Allen
- Sgt. Jeffrey Cellana
- Sgt. Miner L. Flyer
- Sgt. Walter C. Hahn
- Sgt. Richard G. Russo, Sr.
- Sgt. Thomas V. Rhodes
- Sgt. John C. Taylor
- SrA. Michelle Bougie-Scofield
- SrA. Kathy G. Gasway
- SrA. Edward Peter Kaminski
- SrA. Lee B. Pearsall
- SrA. Sherlene Phillips
- SrA. John E. Stone
- A1C. Peter F. Nuzzi
- Amn. Mark S. Twining
- AB Doris E. Butler
- AB Donald B. Croteau
- AB Deborah A. Gallagher
- AB Julius Nero
- AB Lori J. Seppala
- AB David Smith
- AB Diane M. Spenard
- AB Henry K. Statkiewicz, Jr.
- AB Bryan P. Stewart
- AB Mark C. Sullivan
- AB John L. Taylor
- AB Monica J. Williams

REENLISTMENTS

- SMSgt. Michael A. Sicuranza
- MSgt. Michael Gallagher
- MSgt. Charles S. Maligno
- MSgt. William J. Poe
- MSgt. Richard A. Rehnberg
- MSgt. Jim P. Thornhill
- TSgt. James H. Alexander
- TSgt. Paul A. Bailey
- TSgt. Rudolph G. Benard
- TSgt. Francis J. Coffey
- TSgt. Frank S. Godek
- TSgt. Kenneth C. Green
- TSgt. James T. Harrelson
- TSgt. Edward T. McDermott
- TSgt. Victor C. Park
- TSgt. William E. Timmons
- SSgt. Donald M. Beaulieu
- SSgt. James Bross
- SSgt. Elton B. Caudle
- SSgt. James I. Faye
- SSgt. Norman R. Fioroni
- SSgt. Mark S. Gilyard
- SSgt. Robert P. Hensel
- SSgt. Vincent G. Lingley
- SSgt. Victor M. Marden
- SSgt. Francis J. Moran
- SSgt. James R. Noonan
- SSgt. Michael E. Noonan
- SSgt. George Perrault
- SSgt. Larry W. Raines
- SSgt. John J. Speidel
- SSgt. Joseph R. Strouse
- SSgt. John A. Sudol
- Sgt. Jill A. Baker
- Sgt. Lester H. Eldridge
- Sgt. Denise L. Quinn
- SrA. Ronald M. McNeil
- SrA. Robert H. Odell

PROMOTIONS

- Lt. Col. Melvin R. Lakutis
- Maj. George W. Caldwell
- Capt. Rock A. Desilets
- Capt. William G. Roessel, Jr.
- Capt. Philip R. Weber

- Capt. Kevin M. Wentworth
- CMSgt. Edward N. Birkel
- SMSgt. Ira A. Simmons
- MSgt. Laurent L. Barbeau
- MSgt. Grete M. Bohannon
- MSgt. Herve J. Couture**
- MSgt. Raymond M. Desroches
- MSgt. Thomas G. Durkin
- MSgt. Donald R. Gendron
- MSgt. Clarence Jackson
- MSgt. Russell B. Markwith
- MSgt. Paul J. Norian
- MSgt. Donald H. Stearns
- MSgt. Stanley C. Svec
- MSgt. Garfield N. Tardy
- MSgt. Carlo S. Torre
- MSgt. Jack L. Tyndall
- MSgt. Randolph W. Whaples
- TSgt. Terry A. Allen
- TSgt. Roger J. Bunk
- TSgt. Martin T. Condon
- TSgt. Vincent P. Depillo
- TSgt. William MacLaughlin
- TSgt. Edward Thompson
- SSgt. Robert F. Bieniek
- SSgt. William E. Bowker
- SSgt. Elton B. Claude
- SSgt. Andrew F. Goodwin
- SSgt. David F. Hawkins
- SSgt. Joaquim Henriques
- SSgt. James P. Lapsertis
- SSgt. Kevin M. Murphy
- SSgt. Stella L. Nine
- SSgt. Michael E. Noonan
- SSgt. Betsy V. Rainville
- SSgt. Frederick Sullivan
- Sgt. Walter R. Dixon
- Sgt. Arnold L. Martin, Jr.
- Sgt. Mary R. Michaud
- Sgt. Kevin M. Murphy
- Sgt. Denise L. Quinn
- Sgt. Betsy V. Rainville
- Sgt. Nicholas B. Staszko
- Sgt. Edward J. Vail
- Sgt. Augusta M. Weldon
- SrA. Nataleau Andrews

- SrA. Edward A. Bigwood
- SrA. Daniel J. Donofrio
- SrA. Lester H. Eldridge
- SrA. Claire L. Gaudreau
- SrA. Manuel Gomes
- SrA. Helen M. Hillman
- SrA. Stephen W. Houghton
- SrA. Joseph E. Krajnak
- SrA. Gary C. Kwasnik
- SrA. Charmaine Parkins
- SrA. Stephen A. Rehm
- SrA. Paula E. Scott
- SrA. Eddie A. Sheats
- SrA. David J. Valego
- SrA. Marcelina T. Warren
- A1C. Dennis A. Cierpial
- A1C. Brendan J. Finn
- A1C. Marcia M. Keddy
- A1C. Steven A. LaVelle
- A1C. Howard H. Robinson

REASSIGNED

- Capt. John D. MacIntyre
- MSgt. Stanley A. Rusin
- TSgt. Charles D. Arvin, Jr.
- TSgt. James C. Avery
- SSgt. Peter C. Comer
- SSgt. Robert S. Coniski
- SSgt. Clinton A. Gibbs, Jr.
- SSgt. Christopher R. Michalik
- SSgt. Gerald F. Noreault
- SSgt. Robert D. Renaud
- SSgt. Kevin M. Stuart
- Sgt. Salvatore C. Buttaro
- Sgt. Gary J. Howe
- SrA. Robert J. Duval
- A1C. Cari Courtney

DISCHARGED

- MSgt. Raymond E. Beauregard
- MSgt. Richard E. Rowell
- TSgt. Robert P. Lester
- SSgt. Donald C. Elliott, Jr.
- SSgt. Arthur H. Mahler
- SSgt. Robert H. Shipman
- SrA. Ronnie Whetstone
- Amn. John J. Junta

*Bursting a Bubble!***Exposing the 439th's Double Trouble**

by MSgt. Larry Lentz

Who does twice the work of anyone at Westover? Who can be in two places at once? And who gets double pay?

The Erhardt twins, that's who! Or did you know the Sergeant Erhardt you saw a few minutes ago at the base gym is **not** the same Sergeant Erhardt now at the dining hall?

One is SSgt. Ted Erhardt. He's assigned to the 439 CSG's Consolidated Base Personnel Office. The other is his identical twin, SSgt. Bob Erhardt, the 905 CEF's administration supervisor. "If you like, you can call us womb mates," jokes Sergeant Erhardt. Sergeant Ted Erhardt, that is.

You wouldn't have been the first, nor probably the last, to be fooled by the Erhardts. And if their physical similarities aren't enough, then their occasional playful antics will do you in. If they haven't already. "Sometimes we don't tell who is who. And we don't immediately straighten out the confusion," confesses Ted.

Take for example the episode the Erhardts recently put MSgt. Charles Maligno through.

Sergeant Maligno had given Bob, wearing his 1A dress uniform, some papers. Bob immediately realized the paperwork was actually intended for Ted, but accepted it without comment. A few moments later, in another section of the security police building, Sergeant Maligno bumps into Ted, wearing fatigues and exclaims, "How did you change so quickly!"

"We find it very humorous to watch the expressions of friends when they figure out that who they were talking to wasn't who they thought they were talking to," Bob continues.

The confusion that 439th members must grin and endure by the Erhardts has been an Air Force problem since 1954.

The two, together, of course, and on their birthday, joined the Army Air Corps. Soon, they were stationed, together, of course, at McConnell Air Base, Kans.

The Nov. 11, 1955 edition of McConnell's base newspaper reports of the Erhardts' escapades. Part of this story: "Major ("Chappie") James began speaking to the airborne pilot over the radio set. 'Lieutenant Caldwell, who's



You decide. Is SSgt. Ted Erhardt on the right? Is SSgt. Bob Erhardt on the left? Answer elsewhere in the Patriot.

up there with ya?' The lieutenant radioed back, 'Ted Erhardt!' 'Impossible,' bellowed Major James, 'Ted's with me!' 'Well, this certainly looks like him,' replied Lieutenant Caldwell. 'Sure!' snapped the major, 'it's his twin, Bob!'

The Erhardts left active duty in Oct. 1957. Yes, together. Eighteen years later, Ted joined the 439th. Bob waited a year. "We wanted to join a reserve unit close to home," explains Ted. "So we waited for one to come to us." When the 439th was activated, Ted became a member of the 439th's Security Police before transferring to the personnel office in Jan., 1979. Bob was assigned to the 439 Civil Engineers. Now, he is with the 905 CEF.

Those in Air Force blue are not the

only ones in uniform doing the Erhardt double-take. The twins are Chicopee police officers. They had patrolled together during the midnight to eight shift. Now, Ted is assigned to the chief's office.

The Erhardts went to Holyoke Community College. Later, Bob graduated from the University of Massachusetts. Ted has a degree from Western New England College and now studies in the criminal justice masters' program.

While the Erhardts' physical similarities and quiet humor have created a lot of stares and confusion over the years, the twins can't understand why everyone can't figure out who's who. "I have no trouble telling us apart," teases Ted.

Or was it Bob?

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