

WINGSPREAD

Randolph men, women join in national mourning of former U.S. president

Randolph men and women join Americans across the country today in honoring former commander-in-chief and 40th President of the United States, Ronald Reagan, who passed away Saturday.

President George W. Bush issued the executive order earlier this week proclaiming today as a national day of mourning to honor the memory of the former president.

In observance, all federal offices are closed, with the exception of those organizations that need to stay open because of national security, defense or essential public business.

President Reagan possessed "an unshakable faith in the values of our country and the character of our people" and "renewed America's confidence and restored our nation," President Bush proclaimed on Sunday, when he issued the executive order.

President Reagan's "optimism, strength and humility," President Bush pointed out, "epitomized the American spirit."

His "courage and determination," the president said, had "enhanced America's security and advanced the spread of peace, liberty and democracy to millions of people who had lived in darkness and oppression."



President Ronald Reagan

See Reagan on page 5

Moment of silence

The nation recently lost an inspirational leader and a proud American with the passing of President Ronald Reagan.

Today, during retreat, I ask that each member of Team Randolph pause for a moment of reflection on the memory of our former commander-in-chief.

Col. John Hesterman

12th Flying Training Wing commander



(Left) Maj. Gen. James Sandstrom, 19th Air Force commander, poses with Capt. Brent Brockinton, 19th AF, in front of a Randolph T-38 before the general's fini flight June 1. (Below) Jeannie Sandstrom pours champagne on her husband Maj. Gen. James Sandstrom, 19th Air Force commander, after his fini flight. (Photos by Javier Garcia)



19th AF commander to relinquish guidon

By Bob Hieronymus
Wingspread staff writer

Maj. Gen. James Sandstrom, 19th Air Force commander, relinquishes command of the organization to Maj. Gen. Edward Ellis in a ceremony at 9 a.m. today at Randolph Base Operations.

Following the change of command ceremony, General Sandstrom will retire from a career spanning 33 years of active Air Force duty.

As commander of the 19th AF the last two and a half years, General Sandstrom was responsible for the day-to-day training of U.S. and allied flight training students in 25 units throughout the United States.

Under his guidance, the 19th AF provided undergraduate and helicopter flying training, joint navigator training, special operations support, survival, search and rescue training, as well as

specialized training for enlisted flight engineers, refueling boom operators and loadmasters. The organization is composed of more than 31,000 assigned personnel and 1,800 aircraft.

Under General Sandstrom's leadership, the 19th AF consistently earned "Outstanding" and "Excellent" ratings in major command and numbered air force inspections.

The general was commissioned through the Air Force Academy in 1971 and immediately went on to complete a master's degree in aeronautics and astronautics at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind. Later assignments took him to Squadron Officers School, Air Command and Staff College, Industrial College of the Armed Forces and the National Security Leadership Course.

See Commander on page 5

Standard AEF deployment length stretches to 120 days

By Staff Sgt. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON – Most Airmen scheduled to deploy in upcoming air and space expeditionary force packages will see their orders extend from 90 to 120 days.

The change in deployment length begins with AEF cycle 5 in September. Those who deploy as part of AEF 1 and 2 should prepare for a 120-day deployment.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper announced the change in his "Sight Picture" on June 4. The reason for the change is that the requirement for deployable forces is not expected to decrease in the foreseeable future, he said.

"Simply put, the demands on our deployable forces have not diminished and are not expected to decline for some

time," the general wrote. "Further, the Air Force component commander in the central command area of operations has asked us to deploy people for longer tour lengths to allow greater continuity for expeditionary commanders in the field."

To help extend tour lengths to 120 days, the entire AEF cycle was adjusted. The new cycle, now 20 months in length, allows for a four-month eligibility window and a 16-month training window.

General Jumper also said he intends to increase the pool of Airmen eligible for deployment. Currently, the Air Force has about 272,000 Airmen earmarked as deployment-eligible.

"I have asked all of our major commands to aggressively review the assumptions upon which they exclude Airmen from our AEFs and take immediate steps to maximize those

postured (for deployment)," the general said.

The changes to the AEF cycle, while possibly difficult for some, should be considered by all Airmen as part of their commitment to the Air Force, General Jumper said.

"Let me be perfectly clear – in our Air Force, every Airman is expeditionary, every Airman will know (his or her) place in the AEF system, and every Airman will be prepared to support the combatant commander, whether deployed, in (the continental United States) via reachback, or employed at home station," General Jumper said.

Airmen currently deployed as part of AEF 7 and 8 and AEF 9 and 10 will still be held to the 90-day deployment schedule.

See page 2 for General Jumper's complete Sight Picture.

12th FLYING TRAINING WING TRAINING TIMELINE

As of Monday			Navigator, EWO training			Wing Sortie Scoreboard			
Pilot Instructor Training			562nd FTS			Aircraft Required Flown Annual			
Squadron	Senior Class	Overall							
99th FTS	1.2	1.1	Air Force	256	Undergraduate	T-1A	2,871	2,971	4,383
558th FTS	-2.2	0.4	Navy	69	International	T-6A	6,381	6,577	9,103
559th FTS	-1.6	1.1	International	4	EWC Course	T-37B	5,352	5,126	7,508
560th FTS	0.1	0.2	NIFT	52	Fundamentals	T-38A	5,933	5,662	5,949
						T-38C	685	609	3,612
						T-43A	792	828	1,160

Numbers reflect days ahead or behind for senior pilot instructor training class and an average for all PIT classes currently in training.

Numbers reflect students currently in training. The 562nd shows source of navigator students. Air Force students include Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard. The 563rd indicates students in specific courses.

The required and flown numbers reflect sorties since Oct. 1, 2003. The annual numbers are the current fiscal year target.

Index

Commentary.....	2
News.....	4
Community.....	NA
Services.....	NA
Sports & Fitness.....	9



AIR AND SPACE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

As of Monday, 143 Team Randolph members are deployed in support of military operations around the globe.

The Randolph

WINGSPREAD

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Articles for the newspaper should be submitted by noon Thursday the week prior to the desired publication date. Items can be dropped off on a PC- or Macintosh-formatted disk at the Wingspread office in room 110 of Building 100.

Articles may also be sent by e-mail to wingspread@randolph.af.mil or by fax at 652-5412 or base ext. 7-5412.

For more information about submissions, call 652-5760 or base ext. 7-5760.

Commander's Action Line

Call 652-5149 or e-mail
randolph.actionline@randolph.af.mil



While our goal is to provide the best programs, products and services to our customers, there will be instances when people believe we could have served them better.

In those cases, I ask the individual to first contact the responsible organization to allow the unit commander or manager an opportunity to ensure professional and impartial treatment.

When those officials are unable to provide satisfaction, the individual may contact me through the Action Line. I will ensure each Action Line call is looked into and a reply is given by telephone or in writing. I ask callers to include their name and telephone number so we may send a personal response.

Col. John Hesterman
12th Flying Training Wing commander

Adapting the AEF More Airmen to deploy, undergo longer cycles

By **Gen. John Jumper**
Air Force Chief of Staff

For the past 12 years, our Air Force has adapted to the demands of a changing world. Beginning in the early 1990s, we developed composite wings, expeditionary organizations and crisis-response packages that allowed us to rapidly deliver combat capability to combatant commanders. In 1998, we formalized the structure into ten air expeditionary force packages. These responsive air and space capabilities allow us to present forces in a consistent manner and conduct military operations across the spectrum of conflict.

Throughout the late 1990s, our AEF concept of operations has proven itself time and again. Even with the high demands of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, our AEFs surged to support the combatant commanders' warfighting and deterrence missions, employing nearly eight AEFs of combat forces.

When major air and space operations diminished last year, we began the process of reestablishing the AEF battle rhythm. Our reconstitution target was March of this year, but the continued demands of global operations, additional contingencies in other theaters, and a tasking to support Army operations with 2,000 of our expeditionary combat support forces required us to reassess our planning assumptions, and to adjust our AEFs to a new mission set.

Simply put, the demands on our deployable forces have not diminished and are not expected to decline for some time. We have a new rotational requirement for nearly 20,000 Airmen – about three times the demand prior to Sept. 11, 2001. Furthermore, the Air Force component commander in the central command area of operations has asked us to deploy people for longer tour lengths to allow greater continuity for expeditionary commanders in the field. To adapt to this new set of circumstances, I've directed a change to the AEF rotational cycle and have asked our major commands to expand the pool of deployable Airmen in each AEF.

Beginning with AEF Cycle 5 in September 2004, the baseline deployment will be 120 days vice 90, and the AEF cycle changes from a 15-month rotational cycle to a 20-month cycle. We will continue to expect that each Airman deploy only

"... the Air Force component commander in the central command area of operations has asked us to deploy people for longer tour lengths to allow greater continuity for expeditionary commanders in the field. To adapt to this new set of circumstances, I've directed a change to the (Air Expeditionary Force) rotational cycle and have asked our major commands to expand the pool of deployable Airmen in each AEF."



Gen. John Jumper
Air Force Chief of Staff

once during each cycle, although some stressed specialties will deploy longer, and in greater frequency, until manpower levels are adjusted or the theater requirements diminish. For those already deployed in AEFs 7/8 (March to May) and those deploying in AEF 9/10 (June to August), it is our intent to stick to our 90-day deployment cycle. For those identified to deploy in AEF 1/2 (September to November), you should prepare to be gone a minimum of four months. This evolution of the AEF is not a temporary adjustment. More appropriately, it is recognition of new demands around the world for air and space power.

It is important to remember several fundamental principles regarding our AEF concept of operations. First, we are not changing the basic composition of each AEF; each will continue to provide about five Air Expeditionary Wings and six Air Expeditionary Groups of capability during each vulnerability period. Our low density/high demand units will continue to follow Department of Defense-approved deployment guidelines. Finally, Air Force global mobility forces will continue to follow our AEF presence policy, with

mobility aviation units postured in multiple AEFs to support the U.S. Transportation Command mission and other combatant commander needs.

The 20-month cycle will continue to provide commanders and Airmen the ability to plan ahead, allowing a sense of predictability while providing greater continuity to the in-theater commander. Still, I recognize longer deployments present challenges to our reserve component, possibly affecting the number of ARC volunteers, and requiring selected use of presidential mobilization authority. We will manage these matters very carefully, ensuring equity and fairness across the total force.

In addition to extending tour lengths, it is my intent to expand our pool of deployable Airmen from our current level of about 272,000. I have asked all of our major commands to aggressively review the assumptions upon which they exclude Airmen from our AEFs and take immediate steps to maximize those postured in the Air Force worldwide unit task code system and our AEF libraries. The MAJCOMs will posture the maximum number of manpower authorizations into standard UTCs, and if required, we will develop new ones to provide additional expeditionary capabilities. Residual authorizations will be postured into associated UTCs and coded to support AEF requirements across the range of military operations.

Let me be perfectly clear – in our Air Force, every Airman is expeditionary, every Airman will know his/her place in the AEF system, and every Airman will be prepared to support the combatant commander, whether deployed, in the continental United States via reachback, or employed at home station. If you are wearing the uniform of the United States Air Force, you are a part of the AEF.

We are at war today, and remain engaged around the globe against a brutal and resilient enemy. Every Airman – active, guard, reserve, and civilian – must be focused on our national commitment to the Global War on Terrorism. Our job is to deploy and deal with terrorists wherever they are in the world so we never again have to deal with them on our own soil. You will be the difference between our success and failure in this vital cause. Once again, I want to thank each and every one of you for your dedication, professionalism, and service to our nation.

Agency contact numbers

Security Forces	652-5509
Services	652-5971
Civil Engineers	652-2401
Transportation	652-4314
Military Pay	652-1851
Civilian Pay	652-6480
Safety Office	652-2224
Housing Maintenance	652-1856
12th FTW IG	652-2727
Equal Opportunity	652-4376
FW&A Hotline	652-3665
EEO Complaints	652-3749
Randolph Clinic	652-2933
Base Exchange	674-8917
Commissary	652-5102
Straight Talk	652-7469

Congratulations Retirees

Today

Maj. Gen. James Sandstrom
19th Air Force

Today

Master Sgt. Gregory Dvorak
Electronics Systems Center

Today

Chief Master Sgt. Dale Gilmore
Air Force Personnel Center

Retirement announcements should be submitted to the Wingspread office by noon Friday two weeks prior to the desired date of publication. E-mail announcements to randolph.retiree.messages@randolph.af.mil or fax them to 652-5412. For more information, call the Wingspread office at 652-5760.

Readiness – Not just a buzzword

By Maj. Mary Boucher
12th Mission Support Squadron commander

Each of us has a responsibility to be prepared for deployment, even if we are not currently assigned to a mobility tasking. We live in a volatile world, and everything can change at a moment's notice.

Let me tell you about an Air Force member who was deployed to Saudi Arabia with me several years ago.

As the squadron section commander for the 4401st Asset Reconstitution Squadron, Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia, I got to know almost everyone in the squadron. And since there weren't too many women over there, we tended to stick together and take care of each other.

One of the women in the squadron was a master sergeant working in maintenance – for privacy's sake I'll call her Kathy. Kathy had been in the Air Force long enough to know how important it was to have all her affairs in order before going on a deployment. Although she wasn't married, she took the time to make sure all her legal and financial paperwork was in order.

Like me, she deployed just before Christmas, so she made a special effort to spend time with her parents and brother before leaving. This was not Kathy's first deployment, but her mother was especially worried because the Middle East had been so unstable. Kathy assured her mom that things were quiet in Saudi Arabia and that nothing was going to happen. But still, her mother worried that she would never see her daughter again – sadly, she was right.

On April 19, 1995, we received the shocking news that the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City had been bombed. Initially suspecting Arab terrorists, the base was locked down tight and everyone was glued to the news – especially Kathy. You see, Kathy was from Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., and her mother and brother both worked in the Murrah Federal Building. After several frantic phone calls back to the States, we learned her brother had been at a dental appointment that morning and was safe. However, there was no sign of her mother.

Kathy's mother's office was at the front of the Murrah

“You owe it to yourself and your family to keep your personal affairs in order at all times, regardless of mobility or non-mobility, regardless of whether you are military or civilian.”

Maj. Mary Boucher
12th Mission Support Squadron commander

building, toward the center – her body was never recovered.

As I sat on the couch in Kathy's villa holding her hand, she just kept repeating, “Mom was always so worried about me, but I never thought anything would happen to her.”

This is a true story. I'm telling it because I hope you'll understand how very fragile we all are and how fast things can happen. You owe it to yourself and your family to keep your personal affairs in order at all times, regardless of mobility or non-mobility, regardless of whether you are military or civilian.

Do you have a will? Is your emergency locator information up-to-date? Does your spouse/parent know what bank accounts you have and where your family savings are? Are your legal documents easily accessible to your family?

Don't make the mistake of thinking tragedy can't happen to you or your family. Whether you're 18, 28 or 88, you are not going to live forever. Be responsible. Make “readiness” more than just a buzzword. Make a list for your family stating which shoebox contains the birth certificates and which shoebox has the mortgage paperwork. Write down the names and phone numbers of all your brothers, sisters, aunts and uncles (even if you haven't talked to them in the last 5 years) and put it someplace where anyone could find it.

The bottom line is you need to think about all the things your spouse or parents would need if you died, and then make those things happen.

Sergeant learns first core value at early age

By Staff Sgt. Nolan Hildebrand
52nd Operations Support Squadron

SPANGDAHLEM AIR BASE, Germany – When we think about the classrooms in life, I'm sure the bathroom is not at the top of the list, but the bathroom just happens to be where I learned my first core value.

I was taught “Excellence In All We Do” by my father. My father isn't a retired chief. He didn't serve in the Air Force; he wasn't even in the military. But through his daily actions, and his shaving mug, I learned an important life lesson. See, my father's shaving mug had a motto inscribed on it, “What Is Worth Doing Is Worth Doing Well.”

As a young boy, I would frequently eyeball that shaving mug in hopes of one day putting the lather on my face and sliding the razor across my soon-to-be whiskers. As a boy, I paid little attention to the motto. Now, as a man, I look back and realize that even though I didn't think about the motto, I internalized it as a core value.

I've been guided by that simple, yet powerful motto every day of my life. I strive to do my best with every task entrusted to me and take pride in the successful completion of the job.

As Air Force members, we should all feel pride in our jobs. From fuels to finance, from the post office to the pharmacy, we all have important tasks that are critical to Air Force mission accomplishment.

We should treat each and every task as mission essential, because the Air Force core value “Excellence In All We Do” doesn't afford us an option of when to give 100 percent. It demands that we give our very best, every day, in everything we do.

While not everyone has a shaving mug to remind them that “What Is Worth Doing Is Worth Doing Well,” what we do have is the core value internalized and displayed by the “blue suit” we wear. Our actions and attitudes must represent “Excellence In All We Do” and shine as a beacon of light to the entire world.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Claims office announces changes to some procedures

Under the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claim Act, Randolph personnel filing claims for loss or damage to property transported or stored at government expense are no longer required to first file a claim against their private insurers when pursuing a claim against the Air Force.

This policy change is limited to

those PCS claims involving loss or damage to household goods or vehicles shipped or stored under government contract. The Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard have also made this same recent policy change.

However, Randolph members should be aware that there are two exceptions to the new policy change. These exceptions are:

- The policy change only applies to those claims involving moves made pursuant to a government contract and does not apply to any move arranged by claimants, even if the government will later reimburse them for the cost of the move.

- The policy does not eliminate the requirement that claimants first file a claim directly against

their moving company if they have purchased full replacement value insurance.

While claimants are no longer required to file with their insurance company, they may not receive full compensation on a claim from both the Air Force and another source of recovery, which includes but is not limited to, the contractor who moved their

goods, a negligent third party, an insurance company, or any other individual or entity that will compensate a claimant for their loss.

For more information regarding this new policy, call the 12th Flying Training Wing Claims Office at 652-3110.

(Courtesy of the 12th FTW Claims Office)



Officials remind Airmen to vote

General elections are approaching and Air Force voting officials at the Air Force Personnel Center are reminding everyone to register to vote.

Department of Defense officials recently announced they have worked out a plan with the U.S. Postal Service to get absentee ballots to servicemembers overseas faster, but registering to vote is the first step to getting a ballot.

“Getting registered to vote is not a difficult process, it's just a matter of making it a priority,” said Lt. Col. Lee Shick, an Air Force voting action officer.

Deadlines and state-specific rules on voter registration can be found on the Federal Voting Assistance Program Web site at www.fvap.gov.

The site includes a list of 10 things to do to ensure a person's vote counts.

“Our goal is 100-percent contact with every Airman by a voting representative,” Colonel Shick said. “The opportunity to vote has been emphasized as a command responsibility and our installation voting officers play a key role.”

“We want to make sure each individual gets the word about voting and that they have the tools and information to apply for an absentee ballot and vote,” he said. “If Airmen can't get registered online, installation voting officers will have a supply of federal postcard applications.”

For contact information for base voting officers, call Capt. Andrea Justice at 652-6170.

Randolph teen recognized as Youth of the Year

By Jennifer Valentin
Wingspread staff writer

The base youth center recently announced its selection for the 2004 Randolph Youth of the Year award.

Emily Blauvelt, daughter of Nicole and Master Sgt. Edward Blauvelt, 19th Air Force, was selected for the award based on her outstanding contributions to the local community and for her scholastic achievements.

"I am very happy about being named the Youth of the Year," said Emily. "It is such a great honor to be recognized."

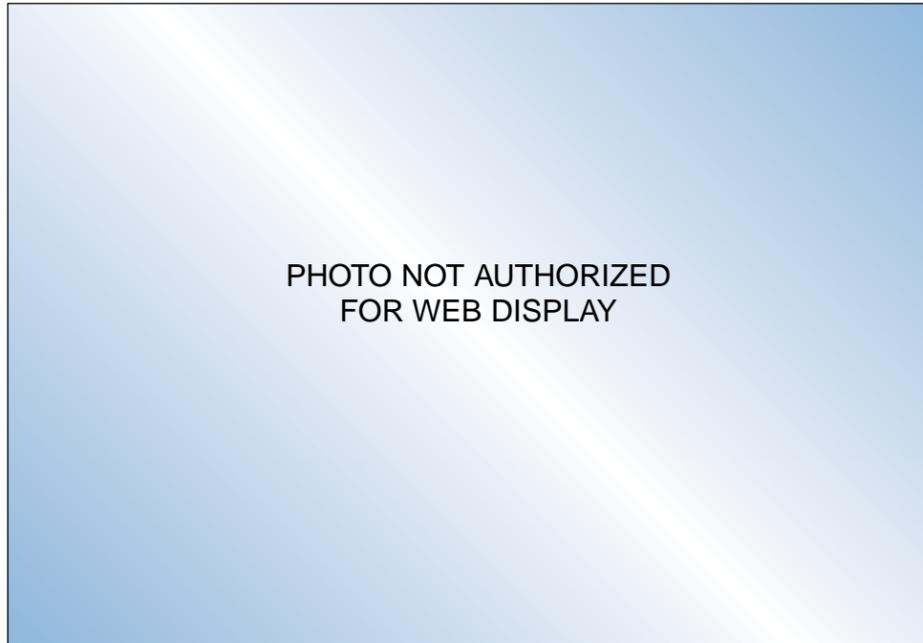
During the past year, Emily spent a lot of time volunteering with different organizations across Randolph and working with other youth.

"As a Senior Girl Scout on base, I was working with the Junior Girl Scouts to get their Silver Award, which is the second highest award they can receive," said Emily.

Having already earned the Silver Award herself, Emily is now working on her Gold Award, the highest award to be earned by a Girl Scout.

The 16 year old also volunteers her time as a substitute Sunday school teacher for pre-school and kindergarten classes at the base chapel and with the Christian Youth of the Chapel classes.

In addition, she spends time during the Christmas season helping with the base



Emily Blauvelt, right, the 2004 Randolph Youth of the Year award winner, reads to Jasmine Bryant at the youth center. (Photo by Jennifer Valentin)

chapel's Angel Tree project. Emily also spends a lot of her free time assisting the counselors with the before and after school program.

"I really enjoy volunteering," said Emily. "I am glad I have the chance to give my time to others."

Emily's parents said they are both very happy for her.

"I am very proud of Emily," said Sergeant Blauvelt. "She is unselfish of her time, and deserves to be recognized."

Emily said she takes after her mother when it comes to her volunteer work.

"My mother is my role model - she gives her time to a lot of different organizations on base, and I am proud to follow her example," said Emily.

Emily's mother said her daughter is very passionate about volunteering.

"I am very proud of the work Emily does," said her mother. "I have seen her with the children at the youth center, and I can tell she loves every minute of her volunteer work."

Emily's mother added that her daughter has also done well academically. Currently she holds a 3.6 grade point average. In addition, the base youth of the year is also a member of the Randolph High School varsity track team and plays the clarinet in the band, which has attended the state band competition twice since she's been a member of it.

In order to be considered for the Randolph Youth of the Year award, Emily had to first fill out a lengthy package covering any scholarship activities, volunteer opportunities and school activities she participated in. In addition, she was required to submit several letters of recommendation.

"The program looks for well-rounded individuals that are proactive in their community and their school," said John Myers, youth center director. "Emily is both."

The high school junior also represented Randolph in the Boys and Girls Club of America Southwest Region contest recently and was recognized as a nominee with a trophy.

Emily travels to Washington, D.C. later this month to be recognized in a ceremony with other base youth of the year winners.

PCS orders process streamlined for civilian employees

By Master Sgt. Randy Mitchell
Air Force Personnel Center

Permanent change-of-station orders for Air Force civilians moving under the career program are now being prepared by Air Force Personnel Center officials in an effort to simplify and streamline the process for getting orders to the employees.

The majority of moves funded by the central PCS account are for career program positions; but the account also pays for moving senior executive service employees and returnees from overseas assignments.

"The preparation of all centrally funded

PCS orders ... is just the first step in a continuous effort to streamline and consolidate the process," said Elinor Gonzales, AFPC civilian career management deputy director.

By eliminating extra steps in the process, AFPC officials have shortened the time for an employee to get his or her orders. There are also steps that managers and employees can take to expedite orders.

Quickly negotiating a realistic reporting date and returning information forms promptly will help ensure employees have their orders in time for a successful move, Ms. Gonzales said.

For more information, call the civilian personnel flight at 652-2223.

Randolph Airmen re-enlist

Thirty-one Team Randolph members re-enlisted last month.

The re-enlistees are:

12th Communications Squadron
Master Sgt. Jaime Larasantos

12th Logistics Readiness Squadron
Tech. Sgt. Teresa Matthews
Tech. Sgt. Chad Wittnebel

12th Medical Support Squadron
Senior Airman Chester Tech

12th Mission Support Squadron
Senior Airman Francisco Cambron
Master Sgt. Todd Remington
Master Sgt. Bobby Ross

332nd Airlift Flight
Tech. Sgt. John Weatherford

560th Flying Training Squadron
Tech. Sgt. Michael Sanders

Air Education and Training Command
Tech. Sgt. Shelly Barton
Tech. Sgt. Julie Berry
Staff Sgt. Leticia Diaz
Chief Master Sgt. Miguel Flores
Master Sgt. Amy Rancier
Tech. Sgt. Richard Rendon

Master Sgt. John Renninger
Tech. Sgt. Carla Townsend
Master Sgt. Edsel Walker

Air Force Personnel Center
Tech. Sgt. Debra Campbell
Senior Master Sgt. Charles Cole
Master Sgt. Robert Cronin Jr.
Master Sgt. Timothy Hardin
Tech. Sgt. Patrick McDonald
Tech. Sgt. Christine Stingley
Senior Airman Danna Sullivan

Air Force Occupational Measurement Squadron
Tech. Sgt. Ruben Perez Jr.

Air Force Personnel Operations Agency
Master Sgt. Carlos Bracamonte

Air Force ROTC Detachment 805
Staff Sgt. Charles Mikeska Jr.

Air Force Senior Leader Management Office
Tech. Sgt. Tracy Anthony

Air Force Services Agency
Master Sgt. William Moulder

Defense Finance and Accounting Service
Senior Airman Frank Opalinski

Battle of the Groups

The following is the status for the 12th Flying Training Wing's Battle of the Groups summer safety competition as of Monday:

12th Maintenance Directorate	9.0	12th Mission Support Group	9.2764
12th Medical Group	0.0	12th Operations Group	0.0

NEWS BRIEFS

12th CPTS change of command ceremony

Maj. Samuel Grable takes command of the 12th Comptroller Squadron from Lt. Col. Thomas Carter during a ceremony at the officers' club at 9 a.m. Thursday. The 12th CPTS will be closed from 8:30 to 11 a.m. for the ceremony.

Phase II Force Shaping separation briefings

The 12th Mission Support Squadron Military Personnel Flight Separation and Retirements element holds initial Phase II Force Shaping retirement and separation briefings Monday through Friday at 11 a.m. in the MPF conference room. Although there is no announced end date for accepting Force Shaping applications, this series of briefings ends July 1.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Jenaro Jackson at 652-3978 or Master Sgt. Vic Basal at 652-2808.

Finance questions

The 12th Comptroller Squadron has instituted a new e-mail address for finance queries. Customers can now e-mail queries to finance.callcenter@randolph.af.mil. The new address is also listed under the global as Randolph Finance Call Center.

New testing window for senior master sergeants

Beginning with the 05E8 senior master sergeant cycle, all promotion eligible master sergeants test for promotion to senior master sergeant Dec. 6 to 17 (previously, the testing cycle was during January). This change does not affect promotion announcements or the months during which promotions are made for the cycle.

Moving the testing cycle allows more time for out-of-

cycle testing prior to promotion release; which helps accommodate more eligibles impacted by Air Expeditionary Force deployments.

For more information, call the promotion testing office at 652-7533.

Online civilian resume writer to be unavailable

People will be unable to complete or update online resumes for Air Force civilian employment June 18 to 26 due to a computer system upgrade.

New job vacancies will not be posted during this time and deadlines for those already posted are extended. People will also not be able to self-nominate for jobs during this period.

For more information, call the Air Force Customer Service Center at 1-800-616-3775, option 3 for employment opportunities and verification.

Uniform wear test sparks positive, negative feedback



Tech. Sgt. Jose Reyes, 56th Medical Group dental technician, makes porcelain teeth June 2 at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. Sergeant Reyes is one of about 100 Luke members wear-testing the new Air Force utility uniform prototype. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Christopher Hummel)

By Senior Airman Susan Stout
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

LUKE AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. – More than 100 men and women at Luke are currently wear-testing the new blue, green and gray tiger stripe utility uniform.

The wear test, which is scheduled to last through September, will help officials determine if the prototype uniform can endure the rigors of Air Force life.

Participants in the wear test must maintain a log documenting such things as how often the uniform is washed, what type of detergent is used, how the uniform looks after drying, how comfortable it is in work environments and whether or not it fades after washing.

Officials are looking for comments from test participants as well as those not wearing the uniform. Opinions have varied, but some say they really like it.

“There is no doubt this uniform gives us a more modern look,” said Staff Sgt. Jerry Diveney, 56th Communications Squadron radar maintenance technician. “The look brings tomorrow’s Air Force into today.”

The material, which is designed to be more breathable, softer and lighter, is easier to maintain, according to test participants.

“I like that it’s wash and wear,” said Airman 1st Class Amanda Baker, 56th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron weapons journeyman.

However, not everyone likes the new prototype.

“Opinions seem to be about 50/50,” Sergeant Diveney said. “I think everyone likes the uniform material and

design, but the ones who don’t like it just don’t like the color.”

Many have commented on the blue not being an effective camouflage. Officials said preliminary tests with infrared goggles suggest the new uniform camouflages even better than the current BDU pattern.

More extensive tests will be conducted to determine its effectiveness in several environments.

“Our intent is to create a uniform that is distinctive, practical, easy to maintain, comfortable, and most important, a uniform you will be proud to wear,” said Gen. John Jumper, Air Force Chief of Staff. “I ask that you take an objective look at the new uniform. It will be a distinctive Air Force uniform designed to fit well, look sharp and require much less maintenance than the current uniform.”

Although costs have not been determined yet for the new uniform, Air Force officials said the upkeep of the uniform will be less than the old uniform since it will not require dry cleaning or starching.

Another measure to cut costs with the uniform is the removal of organizational patches on the uniform. Officials hope this will make it more affordable and versatile because adding, removing or changing patches when moving to different units can be expensive.

In order to determine the positive and negative aspects of the uniform, Air Force officials are currently developing a Web site for feedback.

(Courtesy of Air Education and Training Command News Service)

Reagan

Continued from page 1

President Bush asked the American people “to pay homage to the memory of President Reagan” on June 11, adding that he invites “the people of the world who share our grief to join us in this solemn observance.”

President Reagan’s leadership as chief executive “has left us stronger and better,” President Bush declared, noting the former president “has left us for a better place, the shining city that awaits him.”

President Reagan’s political career began in 1966, when he was elected Governor of California by a margin of a million votes; he was re-elected in 1970.

He then won the Republican Presidential nomination in 1980 and chose as his running mate former Texas Congressman and United Nations Ambassador George Bush. Voters troubled by inflation and by the year-long confinement of Americans in Iran swept the Republican ticket into office. President Reagan won 489 electoral votes to 49 for President Jimmy Carter.

On Jan. 20, 1981, President Reagan took office. Only 69 days later he was shot by a would-be assassin, but quickly recovered and returned to duty. His grace and wit during the dangerous incident caused his popularity to soar.

Dealing skillfully with Congress, President Reagan obtained legislation to stimulate economic growth, curb inflation, increase employment, and strengthen national defense. He embarked upon a course of cutting taxes and government expenditures, refusing to deviate from it when the strengthening of defense forces led to a large deficit.



American flags, flowers and posters left by citizens create a memorial set up for former President Ronald Reagan at the gate of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Center for Public Affairs. Reagan, who served as president from 1981-1988, passed away Saturday in Santa Monica, Calif. (Photo by Journalist 2nd Class Brian Bannon)

A renewal of national self-confidence by 1984 helped Presidents Reagan and Bush win a second term with an unprecedented number of electoral votes. Their victory turned away Democratic challengers Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro.

In 1986 President Reagan obtained an overhaul of the income tax code, which eliminated many deductions and exempted millions of people with low incomes. At the end of his administration, the Nation was enjoying its longest recorded period of peacetime prosperity without recession or depression.

In foreign policy, President Reagan sought to achieve “peace through strength.” During his two terms he increased defense spending 35 percent, but sought to improve relations with the Soviet Union. In dramatic meetings with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, he negotiated a treaty that

would eliminate intermediate-range nuclear missiles. President Reagan declared war against international terrorism, sending American bombers against Libya after evidence came out that Libya was involved in an attack on American soldiers in a West Berlin nightclub.

By ordering naval escorts in the Persian Gulf, he maintained the free flow of oil during the Iran-Iraq war. In keeping with the Reagan Doctrine, he gave support to anti-Communist insurgencies in Central America, Asia and Africa.

Overall, the Reagan years saw a restoration of prosperity, and the goal of peace through strength seemed to be within grasp.

(Gerry Gilmore, American Forces Press Service, contributed to this article. All biographical information was obtained from www.whitehouse.gov.)

Commander

Continued from page 1

During his career, General Sandstrom logged more than 3,400 flight hours in T-37, T-38, F-4, F-104, OV-10, F-16 and C-130 aircraft.

He commanded a fighter squadron, a fighter wing and two

composite wings. He held a variety of staff positions at major and unified commands, and at Air Staff and Secretary of the Air Force levels. In these senior staff positions, he worked extensively with theater air defense and command and control issues. He also served as deputy for operations and chief of staff, U.S. Central Command.

General Ellis, who is assuming command in Friday’s ceremony, comes to Randolph from an assignment as Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations, Headquarters Allied Air Forces Southern Europe, North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Naples, Italy.

Pharmacy takes steps to ensure accuracy, speed

By Jennifer Valentin
Wingspread staff writer

The Randolph Pharmacy takes many different steps when filling prescriptions to ensure customers receive the right medication as timely as possible.



Tech. Sgt. Gabriel Castillo, NCO in charge of the refill pharmacy, fills a prescription. (Photo by Jennifer Valentin)

"Patient safety is our number one priority," said Capt. Kay Lacis, deputy director of pharmacy services. "We work hard to make sure they are taken care of every day."

A patient's prescription process begins when he or she first checks into the pharmacy.

"We do not fill any medication until the patient arrives, so we can ask the patient about any allergy and drug interaction conflicts he or she may have," said Captain Lacis. "This step is very important in order to protect our patients' health."

According to the captain, there are three types of prescriptions the section fills: provider order entry prescriptions, handwritten civilian prescriptions and refills.

Provider order entries are new prescriptions that have been typed into the computer system for a patient during a doctor visit or telephone consult with a provider. Handwritten civilian prescriptions are those brought in by the patient or faxed in by a doctor's office. Refills are those additional fills authorized on an original prescription.

Each type of prescription requires a patient to go to a particular window in the pharmacy, said the captain.

If the prescription is a POE, or a handwritten civilian prescription, the patient must check in at the in-window of the main pharmacy to activate it. Once activated, the patient can either wait in the lobby until his or her name is called, or he or she can come back to the out-window within five duty days to pick it up. Members with refill prescriptions should visit the refill pharmacy located near the flight records section and the immunizations clinic to pick up their medication. Patients must call in refills at 652-3525. It takes two duty days to fill a refill prescription.

Captain Lacis emphasized that all prescriptions within the

base pharmacy are checked for accuracy, before being distributed to patients.

"A pharmacy staff member is responsible for doing a last look at the prescription to make sure the quantities are correct and that the necessary drug information is with the prescription," said Captain Lacis. "We want to make sure we have every part of the prescription accurate."

Once a prescription is deemed ready for pick-up, it is then placed near the out-window, where a volunteer or pharmacy staff member calls out the patient's name. The patient or representative must then come to the out-window with his or her military ID card. The volunteer or pharmacy staff member checks to make sure the correct person is picking up the prescription by checking for patient authorization and identification. Once the person is properly identified, he or she must then sign the signature pad verifying receipt of the medication.

After the patient or representative signs for the prescription, the prescription is dispensed from the computer system, completing the prescription process.

Captain Lacis added that when visiting providers at other bases, patients should inform them that they would like to pick-up their prescription at Randolph. The provider can then type the prescription in for pick-up at Randolph after checking to ensure that Randolph carries the medications they want.

If this information is not specified, the provider will most likely type in the prescription for the Department of Defense pharmacy nearest to them, not the patient, said Captain Lacis.

For more information about pharmacy services, call 652-4127.

DoD begins TRICARE retail pharmacy

WASHINGTON – Department of Defense officials recently announced that the new TRICARE Retail Pharmacy contract is now in effect for TRICARE beneficiaries located in the 50 United States, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam.

The contract has about 53,000 civilian pharmacies in the nationwide network. In the past, the TRICARE regional contractors provided retail pharmacy services.

Most beneficiaries should not notice the change in services with the new contract, officials said. To use the new retail pharmacy program, as with all other DOD health programs, beneficiaries must be eligible and enrolled in the defense enrollment eligibility reporting system.

The program has many new enhancements.

Pharmacy claims processing is now centralized, and beneficiaries no longer have to mail claims to multiple sites for processing or call various telephone numbers to get assistance filling a prescription when using the retail network. Patient safety has also been enhanced by the pharmacy data transaction service that processes all claims, including paper claims.

For a single co-payment of \$3 for a generic or \$9 for a brand-name prescription, eligible beneficiaries may continue to receive a 30-day supply of their prescription medication from the new network of retail pharmacies. To use this benefit, a written pharmacy prescription and a uniformed services identification card are required. TRICARE beneficiaries who used a retail pharmacy in

2003 will receive, by mail, a pharmacy identification card, a TRICARE Retail Pharmacy benefit guide and a letter listing the 12 network pharmacies closest to their home.

The benefit is now portable. Beneficiaries traveling outside of their designated TRICARE region who need to fill a prescription are no longer required to pay the full prescription price or file a TRICARE claim to get reimbursed for their out-of-pocket expenses when they use a TRICARE retail network pharmacy. Pharmacy co-payments are the same in every location where the retail pharmacy is available.

To locate a network pharmacy, beneficiaries may use the TRICARE pharmacy locator service available online at



www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE, or they may call (866) 363-8779.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

49 YEARS AGO

in the Wingspread

☆ Four hundred and fifty Civil Air Patrol cadets reported to Randolph for a 10-day encampment.

☆ A new per-diem rate for temporary duty personnel took effect on July 1. When government quarters and dining facilities were available, officers received \$6 a day and Airmen received \$1 a day.

☆ A new enlisted promotion system went into effect that month. Squadron commanders were delegated authority to promote to airmen third, second and first class; group commanders to promote to staff sergeant and wing commanders to promote to technical and master sergeant. Promotions were limited to assigned quotas for each unit. Ratings were defined in three categories: exceptionally well qualified, qualified beyond a doubt or not yet qualified.

☆ The 3511th Training Aids completed work on the first B-57 cockpit ground procedures trainer. The project cost approximately \$10,000, but saved the Air Force \$40,000 over the expected cost of a civilian-built trainer.

☆ Golfer Evelyn Gray was reported to have made the first ever hole-in-one for a woman on Randolph's course. She used her lucky seven-iron on the 120-yard seventh hole.

NAVY NEWS

Baltic Operations 2004 sets sail

Maritime exercise promotes multinational integration, inter-service coordination among thirteen countries

By Journalist 1st Class Eric Brown
USS San Jacinto Public Affairs

USS SAN JACINTO – Flags flying from the masts of 39 ships from 13 countries presented a colorful array in the Polish harbor of Gdynia Monday, as Baltic Operations 2004 began.

The 32nd annual maritime exercise includes more than 5,000 personnel and continues through June 19.

Speaking at a conference among BALTOPS '04 representatives in Gdynia Saturday, Rear Adm. Thomas Kilcline, Carrier Group 2 and BALTOPS '04 commander, emphasized the exercise's mission.

"To promote mutual understanding, confidence, cooperation and interoperability among forces and personnel of participating nations and to support national, unit and staff training objectives by conducting a series of robust exercises," he said. "The bottom line is multinational integration and inter-service coordination. The key to BALTOPS training opportunities in today's environment is coalition and joint operations. I think this will be the best BALTOPS yet."

Rear Admiral Kilcline oversees the exercise from his command ship, USS San Jacinto (CG 56), which is joined by USS Oscar Austin (DDG 79), both homeported in Norfolk, Va.

In addition to the United States, other participants include Canada, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russia and Sweden.

During BALTOPS '04, sea, air and land forces practice surface warfare and air defense gunnery exercises, replenishment at sea, undersea warfare, radar tracking, mine countermeasures, seamanship and maritime

interdiction operations.

"My priority in leading this group of ships and people is safety," Kilcline said. "Engagement is my second priority, and it is to make sure that we have this opportunity to engage with NATO, our Partnership for Peace countries, and other neutral nations that make up the Baltics, and other exercise players. We need to focus on missions that support the global war on terrorism, and last, set the stage for innovation. My sense is that as we go forward, innovation is what helps us succeed."

"The teamwork and mutual understanding that we develop here will support peace and serve as an effective deterrent against those forces of instability that are in our world today," he added.

For the second year, a ground force element conducts interoperability exercises to include combined Russian, Polish, Lithuanian, German, Danish and U.S. security operations. The land portion includes an amphibious landing and a simulated evacuation of non-combatants by both sea and air.

(Courtesy of the Navy News Stand)

Navy Hospital announces new phase in Vietnam head injuries study

By Journalist 3rd Class
Erica Mater
National Naval Medical Center
Public Affairs

BETHESDA, Md. – National Naval Medical Center leaders announced last month that the hospital is the site for a 30-year post-injury follow-up study to determine the long-term effects of traumatic brain injuries sustained in combat in Vietnam veterans.

The Vietnam Head Injury Study Phase

III is being used to determine the long-term effects of head injuries on general cognition, memory and long-term neurological, psychological and social functioning.

Experts hope the study will help establish how memory and cognition may decline in an aging head-injured population. Doctors also expect to better examine the role of the frontal lobes of the brain in social cognition and complex thinking, such as reasoning and planning.

"The VHIS has, in some cases, single-

handedly been the reason for better care and benefits for veterans," said Jordan Grafman, Ph.D., the principal investigator for VHIS and chief of cognitive neuroscience at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md.

The distinguishing factor between this new study and other head injury studies is that all registrants for VHIS were healthy and employed pre-injury. All participants have Armed Forces Qualifications Test scores, which indicate prior levels of intelligence and functioning.

"As long as there are conflicts, (head injuries) will be an issue, and if what we do can help future generations of veterans, then we have accomplished one of our major goals," said Grafman.

According to Grafman, VHIS is one of the longest-running neurobehavioral studies ever to be conducted. The study began with a Phase I in 1974 and included more than 1,000 participants.

The current Phase III study will be conducted over the next three years. (Courtesy of the Navy News Stand)

Air Force officials lead effort to combat sexual assaults

By Staff Sgt. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON – The Air Force director of manpower and reserve affairs testified June 3 before Congress during a hearing on sexual-assault prevention and response within the armed forces.

Michael Dominguez told members of the House Armed Service Committee total force subcommittee about efforts the service had made to solve the problem of sexual assault within the Air Force.

"Air Force leaders have been working this problem hard for the last 18 months," Mr. Dominguez said. "Our efforts began in January 2003 (when Secretary of the Air Force, Dr. James Roche received) an e-mail from an Air Force Academy cadet victim. Air Force leaders moved decisively ... to correct problems at our academy through the 'Agenda for Change.'"

The directives embodied in the Agenda for Change, which began in late March 2003, were designed to ensure the academy is a safe, secure environment for cadets. The directives came in the wake of a series of reports of sexual assault at the Colorado Springs, Colo., institution.

Mr. Dominguez also told committee members the service had launched an Air Force-wide investigation into its sexual-assault policies, practices and programs.

"Air Force assessment teams visited 85 installations including (those in) Southwest Asia," Mr. Dominguez said. "We reached out to over 100,000 personnel through interviews, surveys and focus groups. Even before our assessment was complete, Secretary Roche and (Air Force Chief of Staff) Gen. John Jumper reacted to correct discovered deficiencies."

One of the efforts initiated by the Air Force's two most senior leaders was the establishment of improved procedures to coordinate support and assistance for sexual-assault victims. Those improvements, Mr. Dominguez said, were modeled off a program already in

place at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.

He said the results of the assessment were consistent with the findings of a task force led by Ellen Embrey, deputy assistant secretary of defense for force health protection and readiness, and with data from research sponsored by the Department of Justice.

Mr. Dominguez highlighted for committee members key findings from the Air Force assessment.

"Sexual assault covers a broader range of behaviors than rape," he said. "Violent assault by strangers does occur, but the larger sexual-assault problem involves young people who know each other. Alcohol is frequently a factor."

One committee member suggested the combination of alcohol and young servicemembers with "raging hormones" allowed for potentially "explosive" situations.

There was agreement at the hearing among service witnesses and legislators that education was key to creating a culture change within the services that would bring about a solution to sexual assaults in the military.

Mr. Dominguez told committee members that commanders would be central to such a culture change.

"Our attack on sexual assault must be a broad-spectrum campaign aimed at changing or eliminating attitudes, behaviors and beliefs that can be exploited by sexual offenders," Mr. Dominguez said. "Changing culture will require a long-term sustained effort by all of us. In the armed forces, commanders are, will and must be at the center of the change effort."

Mr. Dominguez also said the assessment indicated there are sometimes complex circumstances that make it very difficult to prove and prosecute sexual offenders.

"Perpetrators often don't meet society's stereotypes and are therefore difficult to detect," Mr. Dominguez said. "Finally, barriers to the reporting of crimes by the victims are substantial."

Also central to the hearing was discussion about the Uniform Code of Military Justice. One congresswoman

referred to the code's Article 120, titled "Rape and Carnal Knowledge," as "anachronistic," saying it was no longer adequate.

The momentum for discussing the effectiveness of the UCMJ in regard to sexual assault is a bill that aims to amend Article 120 with the intent of bringing military sexual-assault crimes into parallel with federal sexual-assault crimes. The bill, titled the "Military Sexual Assault Crimes Revision Act of 2004," was introduced in the House on April 1 by Rep. Loretta Sanchez of California.

Despite claims the UCMJ may be inadequate in providing prosecutors the muscle needed to bring justice to bear upon sexual offenders, Mr. Dominguez told committee members there are law enforcers who believe the code is even more powerful than what is available to some civilian authorities.

He cited a case in Wichita Falls, Texas, the community surrounding Sheppard AFB, where law enforcement favors sexual offenders being prosecuted under the military justice system over prosecution in the civil courts.

"The sheriff of Wichita Falls... knows the UCMJ provides our commanders a richer menu of tools to be able to deal out justice than he has available to him," Mr. Dominguez said.

Also discussed in the hearing were the resources available to sexual-assault victims in deployed locations, which include information about the availability of rape counseling services, abortion services for rape victims, "rape kits" for collecting crucial DNA evidence for use in the prosecution of sexual offenders and "emergency birth control."

Rep. John McHugh of New York, the subcommittee chairman, told service witnesses he believed the military had reached a crucial point in the process of eliminating sexual assaults within the services.

"We are at a crisis point here, at a juncture," said Rep. McHugh. "I think we are in real danger of losing the faith and trust of the female contingent of the U.S. military. That would be a catastrophe. We must have in our hearts the intent to do the right thing."

WWII flight nurses

Angels of mercy 'heaven sent' for wounded GI's

By 2nd Lt. Amber Millerchip

Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs

Many Americans commemorated the 60th anniversary of D-Day Sunday, watching and remembering those World War II veterans who stormed the beaches of Normandy. Often forgotten are the flight nurses who served behind the scenes ensuring the men who fought that day lived to talk about it.

Flight nurses evacuated the wounded from battle field hospitals to make room for the steady stream of incoming patients, said retired Air Force Capt. Lillian Kinkela Keil, a WWII flight nurse who participated in the Normandy and Battle of the Bulge evacuations. To survive, the critically wounded needed rapid evacuation to the nearest major military hospital.

"We did everything we could to keep the wounded alive, comfortable and see them out of danger," Captain Keil said.

Captain Keil is thought to be the most decorated woman veteran in American history, said Dr. Bruce Ashcroft, Air Education and Training Command historian.

Five hundred Army nurses served as members of 31 medical air evacuation transport squadrons activated during the war. More than one million patients were evacuated and only 46 were lost enroute, Dr. Ashcroft said. The record for any single day during WWII, was 4,707 patients evacuated, with only five deaths in flight per 100,000 patients transported.

Prior to World War II, no care was provided to wounded soldiers during evacuation flights, Captain Keil said. Although the role of the flight surgeon was developed in World War I, it wasn't until November 1942 when the School of Air Evacuation opened at Bowman Field, Ky., that the flight surgeon's counterpart – the flight nurse – became a member of the medical flight team. Captain Keil was among the school's first graduating class of flight nurses.

Due to the rigors of the job, flight nurse training demanded physically fit nurses. To pass the course, the nurses were required to successfully navigate an obstacle course, sliding on their stomachs beneath a live wire and swimming under ignited gasoline.

"This was important training in the event the nurses crashed somewhere," Captain Keil said, "so that no matter where we landed, we could take care of ourselves."

During WWII, although women performed many roles in the U.S. military, only nurses were allowed in combat zones, said Jeff Duford, Air Force Museum research historian.

Upon graduation, 2nd Lt. Keil and other 810th Medical Air Evacuation Squadron members sailed with the largest convoy of troops across the Atlantic Ocean at that time. There were 88 ships. Throughout the journey the ships had to continuously cut their engines due to submarine activity.



(Above) Retired Capt. Lillian Keil, World War II flight nurse, shows off her military medals. (Photo by Robin Weiner) (Above right) World War II flight nurses practice attending to patients. (U.S. Air Force photo)

"Even before D-Day we were picking up wounded from all over: England, Scotland, Iceland and the Azores," Captain Keil said. "We took them wherever they needed to go. We also had to deal with the German Junker 88s that flew over head on their way to buzz bomb London."

Another flight nurse, retired Air Force Capt. Clara Murphy from the 802nd Medical Air Evacuation Squadron, was sent to North Africa prior to the Normandy invasion.

"We were always halfway between the front and back lines," Captain Murphy said. "Going forward had top priority. We would fly forward in the morning with supplies and then fly back with patients to Oran (Algeria)."

Right after D-Day began, fully loaded glider planes flew to the front lines with supplies, Captain Keil said. The flight nurses soon followed on Douglas C-47s, landing in the fields of France, as close to Omaha beach as possible.

Because the C-47s were also filled with military supplies, the



aircraft didn't carry Red Cross markings, which meant no protection from enemy fire.

"We brought over gasoline, oil, guns, medical equipment, blankets and anything it took to keep the fighting man going," Captain Keil said.

Each plane carried 24 litters similar to an emergency hospital ward, but with only one nurse and one technician to care for the wounded. Oftentimes the patients arrived wearing a piece of paper, listing their name, rank, serial number and the field doctor's notes, said Captain Keil.

"We never left empty and nothing ever surprised me," Captain Keil said. "The boys were dirty. Full of mud from the foxholes and caked with dried blood. The mud was a real problem because any dirt around the wound was susceptible to infection."

Morphine was given to the patients to help them with the trip, Captain Keil said. Although many were still suffering a lot, they didn't seem to care.

"Even when wounded badly, they would look up, see the nurse and feel extremely relieved because they knew they would get good care and were flying away from where they were wounded," Captain Keil said.

All passengers were amazed and just so happy to talk to an American woman, said Captain Murphy. The soldiers would talk about their sisters, mothers, wives and girlfriends to the nurses. They also shared their fears about flying and worry about having to go back to the battlefield.

According to Captain Keil, each patient was memorable.

"I had to make each patient feel he was the only one on the plane I was caring for yet I was taking care of 23 others," Captain Keil said. "This made them feel very important and they loved that."

Transporting prisoners of war was also a challenge, Captain Keil said. On one flight, German POWs were on one side of the plane and American soldiers on the other.

They should never have been together, Captain Keil said, who had to calm down the Americans.

"I was very stern and talked roughly to (the Americans) explaining how the Germans were POWs, wounded like themselves and deserved the treatment they would want if they were captured by the Germans," Captain Keil said.

The captain flew 250 air evacuations throughout Europe and 25 transatlantic crossings. She also flew 175 missions during the Korean War.

"I loved and enjoyed every flight," Captain Keil said. "It was fantastic because I was a nurse doing what I wanted to do: helping with the war effort and flying."

Pets: *Keeping cool in south Texas heat essential for four-legged friends*

By Jennifer Valentin

Wingspread staff writer

With temperatures rising, keeping cool in the heat is not only important for people but for animals as well.

Unlike humans, pets don't have sweat glands to cool themselves off, so the summer heat can be harmful or even deadly to pets if their owners aren't careful, said Randolph Veterinary Clinic officials.

To help keep four-legged loved ones safe from the summer sun, clinic officials offer the following tips:

✓ Don't walk animals between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. when the sun is hottest. The best times are in the early morning or late evening hours.

✓ Make sure pets have plenty of water throughout the day whether inside or outside. If the pet is outside, owners might also consider using a small child's pool filled with water, for the pets to cool off in.

✓ Never leave pets in a car with no air conditioning. Temperatures inside a car rapidly climb to more than 100 degrees and can cause death in as little as 10 minutes.

✓ Provide outdoor animals with shade to keep cool.

✓ Protect animals against heartworms, fleas and ticks, which can be a common problem during the hot summer months.

Heartworms are parasites transmitted by mosquitoes that



Donna Bothe, vet clinic receptionist, helps a dog cool off by applying a cool, wet cloth to his feet. (Photo by Jennifer Valentin)

can be fatal to dogs or cats, said Army Sgt. Carol Hebert, NCO in charge of the veterinary clinic. Both dogs and cats should be tested for heartworms by their veterinarian, and owners should ask about heartworm preventatives.

"Pets are not safe from heartworm disease just because they spend little or no time outdoors," said Sergeant Hebert. "We encourage all pet owners to get their animals checked."

With fleas, it is possible to have a problem although pets

have only a few or no fleas on them, the sergeant said. The egg and larval stages can survive in a home all year and in a yard from spring through late fall, and all year in warmer climates.

Biting and scratching on the lower back, tail and abdomen are the most common signs of flea infestation and a rash will often appear in these areas, said Sergeant Hebert. Flea control involves treatment of the pet and the environment by using shampoo, spray, dip, spot treatment, powders, oral medications and flea collars.

Veterinarians can recommend the best flea prevention and treatment program for a pet, said Sergeant Hebert.

Ticks can also be a nuisance to pets during the summer, and can transmit several diseases such as Lyme disease, babesiosis and ehrlichiosis. Many flea prevention and treatment products can also help with the control of ticks, said the sergeant.

Veterinarians can help pet owners with the right way of removing ticks, she added. Also, owners whose dogs have substantial exposure to ticks, such as sporting dogs, dogs that go camping, and those that spend time in forest preserves or wooded areas, should also ask a veterinarian's advice about vaccinations for Lyme disease.

"Pets are just as sensitive to the heat and the outdoors as we are, so it is the owner's responsibility to make sure their pets are taken care of," said Sergeant Hebert.

For more information on pet safety and care, call 652-3190.

SPORTS SHORTS

Passport to fitness, health

The fitness center's passport to fitness and health program is now underway.

During the event, participants are given 30 days to visit 32 different "countries" located at the fitness center, complete the fitness and health related task at each location, get a stamp of the country to show they have completed the mission, and return to "America" (the front desk) to get a prize.

For more information, call 652-5316.

Push-up competition

The fitness center hosts a push-up competition from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday.

For more information, call 652-5316.

Cardiovascular health workshop

The next cardiovascular health workshop is at 11 a.m. Monday at the health and wellness center.

During the course, participants are given nutrition and exercise information teaching them how to reduce their risk for heart disease as well as undergo a behavior

modification session to help them exchange their old lifestyle for a healthier one.

To sign up, call 652-2300.

Golf tournament

Fathers and their sons or daughters can now sign up to participate in the father son/daughter golf tournament June 19 at the Randolph Oaks Golf Course. Tee times are noon to 1 p.m.

For more information, call 652-4570.

Junior golf clinic

The Randolph Oaks Golf Course hosts a junior golf clinic June 21 to 25. Classes run from 8 to 9:30 a.m. Monday through Friday. The cost is \$60 for children who need clubs and \$30 for those who have their own.

For more information, call 652-4653.

Dog jog

The fitness center hosts a dog jog at 9 a.m. June 26 at Eberle Park. Joggers do not have to have a dog to participate in the 1.5-mile run. All dogs must be on a leash.

Participants with dogs must also provide their own pooper-scooper.

For more information, call 652-5316.

Discounted golf

Now through Sept. 30, base golfers receive \$4 off the Randolph Oaks Golf Course regular rates and \$2 off its "twi-lite" rates. Also, those members who have annual fee cards that are good through this timeframe receive a two-month extension on the expiration date (Dec. 31 through Feb. 28) at no extra charge.

The discounts are due to inconveniences customers may experience during this time due to course renovations.

For more information, call 652-4653.

Aerobic classes available

The fitness center offers a variety of aerobic classes Monday through Friday. Classes begin at 6 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m., noon, 4:45 p.m. and 5:45 p.m.

Classes include step/variety, basic step, cardio/sculpt, sports conditioning, power yoga, kick boxing and more.

For more information, call 652-5316.

Fit to fight

In an effort to recognize Team Randolph members who achieve an "excellent" rating on the Air Force Fitness Test, which is a 90 percent or above, the *Wingspread* has implemented this "Fit to Fight" column, in which the names of these individuals and their unit are featured. Scores are divided into two categories – those who score 100 percent and those who score between a 90 and 99.95 percent.

The following are members who recently earned this benchmark score:

100s:

100th Flying Training Squadron

Maj. Debbie Pharris

90s and above:

100th FTS

Maj. Brad Apostolo

Maj. William Hutchinson

Maj. Jim Joyce

Maj. Lee Morris

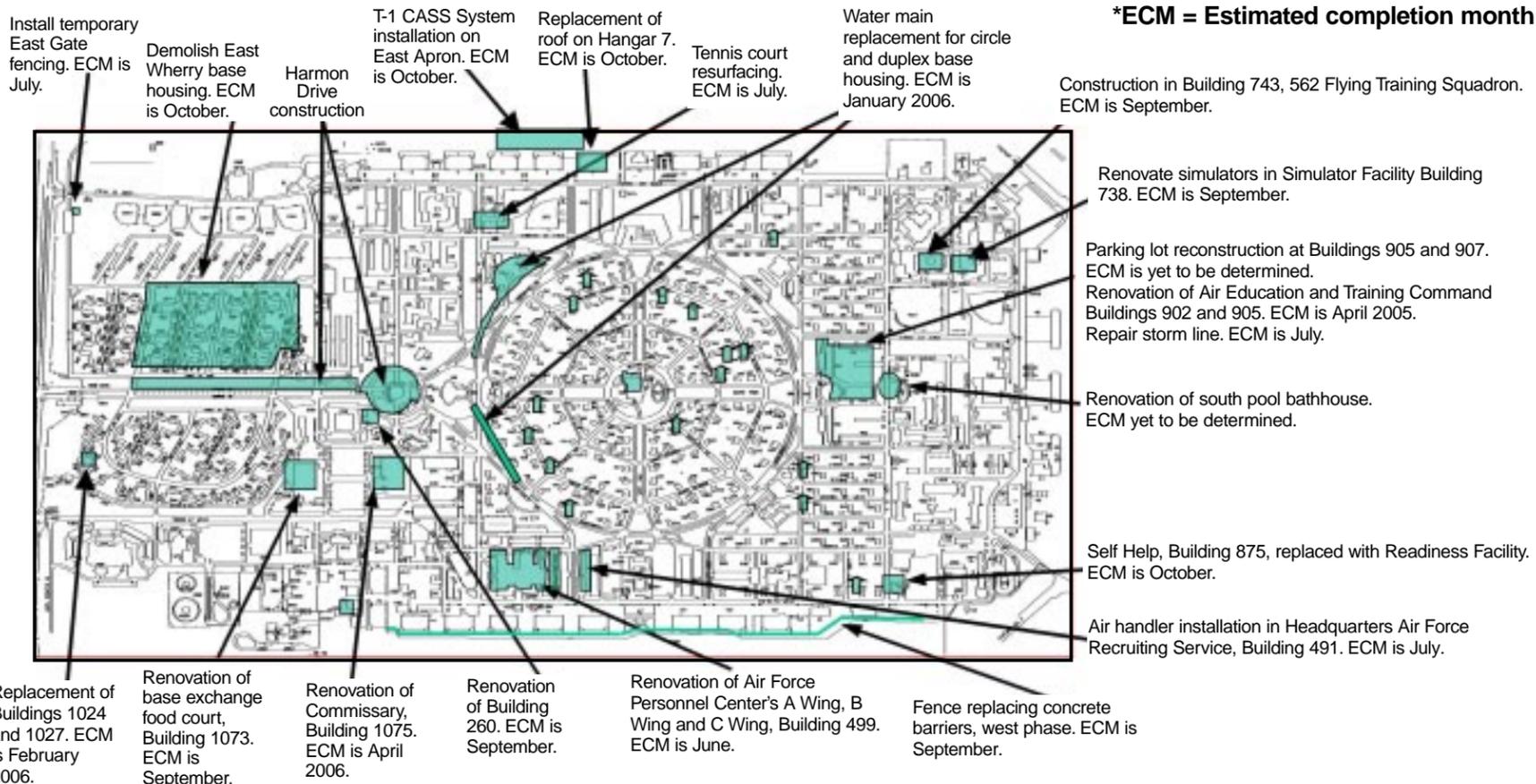
Maj. Jeff Nicks

Lt. Col. Robert Wittman

Maj. Dave Youngdale

CONSTRUCTION

ORNER



*ECM = Estimated completion month

Special Note: Renovation of Harmon Drive to include Washington Circle is in progress. There is inbound traffic only in the mornings and outbound traffic only in the afternoons.

Additional renovation: Phase 1 of 3 of the reconstruction of Lower Seguin Road is in progress. This phase includes the closing of Woman Hollering Creek Bridge. The South Gate remains accessible by way of Loop 1604. This project should be complete this fall.

Military Family Housing: Exterior Painting/Roof Repair/Interior Repair/Foundation Repair in progress; notices will be sent to tenants. (Circle & Duplex) Repairs will continue through July 2004.

LOWER SEGUIN ROAD CONSTRUCTION

The first phase of reconstruction of Lower Seguin Road is in progress. This phase includes the closing of Woman Hollering Creek Bridge with access from FM 1518 blocked. The South Gate remains accessible by way of Loop 1604. This phase of the project should be complete this fall.

GATE HOURS DURING HARMON DRIVE CONSTRUCTION

MAIN GATE/HARMON DRIVE

- Monday through Friday two lanes inbound from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Monday through Friday two lanes outbound from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- Closed all other times including weekends and holidays

SOUTH GATE (Two way traffic)

- Monday through Friday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Closed weekends and holidays

EAST GATE (Two way traffic)

- Monday through Friday 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Saturday 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Sunday and holidays 9:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

WEST GATE (Two way traffic)

- 24-hour operations, seven days a week
- Commercial vehicle entrance

HIGH SCHOOL GATE

- Closed

HOMETOWN NEWS RELEASES

Let your family read or hear about your good news. Fill out a Department of Defense Form 2266 and bring it in to the public affairs office in the "Taj Mahal," Building 100. For more information, call Master Sgt. Lee Roberts at 652-4410.