

# WINGSPREAD

READINESS ♦ STEWARDSHIP ♦ TRANSFORMATION

Randolph AFB, Texas ♦ 58th Year, No. 19 ♦ May 14, 2004

## One final hoorah!



Left: Maj. Gen. James "Sandy" Sandstrom, 19th Air Force commander, gives a thumbs up that he's ready to go before his fini flight in a Luke Air Force Base F-16 Tuesday on the east flight line. Below: General Sandstrom gets hosed down by family, friends and coworkers as he climbs out of an F-16 after his fini flight. The general relinquishes command of the 19th AF to Maj. Gen. Edward Ellis during a ceremony at 9 a.m. on June 11 in front of base operations. General Sandstrom's retirement ceremony will immediately precede the change of command. (Photos by Javier Garcia)



## Randolph sergeant named Headquarters AF NCO of the Year

By Bob Hieronymus  
Wingspread staff writer

A services craftsman assigned to Headquarters Air Force Services Agency, was recently named a Headquarters Air Force NCO of the Year.

Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Gideon is currently the manager of plans and force management in the AFSVA, a headquarters field operating agency and a tenant organization on Randolph. In this capacity, Sergeant Gideon has been involved in detailed planning for deploying services people and programs to support troops at more than 30 locations related to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

His previous experience and expertise in bare base operations garnered him a place at the table when the Air Force Chief of Staff needed to plan for extended expeditionary force deployments. He developed much of the training course for services personnel subject to deployment and then provided update briefings to more than 500 people supporting Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

The check lists he developed enabled staffs at 15 headquarters and more than 100 units to identify any weaknesses and improve their combat readiness. He then

*"I am truly honored to have been chosen by my organization. It is a humbling experience to represent the NCO corps in this competition."*



Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Gideon  
Air Force Services Agency

assisted in the creation of Air Force Handbook 10-247, a pocket-sized Services Contingency Planner's Guide, used by more than 8,000 active and reserve services personnel around the world.

In addition to this heavy-duty schedule, Sergeant Gideon earned his Community College of the Air Force degree in Fitness, Recreation and Services Management and continued to work toward a bachelor's degree in business administration. He is also an assistant basketball coach and special events cook at his church, as well as active in his local parent teachers association.

"I am truly honored to have been chosen by my organization," said Sergeant Gideon. "It is a humbling experience to represent the NCO corps in this competition."

Sergeant Gideon is representing the AFSVA and Headquarters AF Staff in the 12 Air Force Outstanding Airmen of the Year competition later this year. As a field operating agency of the Air Force, personnel of the Services Agency are assigned to the 11th Wing at Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D.C.

The Agency has almost 7,700 people postured for possible deployment and provides guidance or management for 122 fitness centers, 283 dining facilities, 76 community centers, and 97 lodging operations. In addition, they work with 107 libraries, 26 aero clubs that have a fleet of some 300 aircraft, and a host of other operations including honor guards and mortuary programs.

### 12th FLYING TRAINING WING TRAINING TIMELINE

As of Monday			Navigator, EWO training			Wing Sortie Scoreboard			
Pilot Instructor Training			562nd FTS	563rd FTS		Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
Squadron	Senior Class	Overall	Air Force	222 Undergraduate	54	T-1A	2,544	2,657	4,040
99th FTS	-6.0	-0.6	Navy	61 International	0	T-6A	5,637	5,822	9,103
558th FTS	1.2	1.1	International	2 EWC Course	0	T-37B	4,806	4,533	7,171
559th FTS	-3.0	-2.1	NIFT	59 Fundamentals	19	T-38A	5,522	5,289	5,674
560th FTS	3.8	1.6				T-38C	252	275	3,740
						T-43A	687	721	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.

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## AIR AND SPACE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

As of Monday, 109 Team Randolph members are deployed in support of military operations around the globe.

### The Randolph WINGSPREAD

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Articles may also be sent by e-mail to [wingspread@randolph.af.mil](mailto: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](mailto: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. Mark Graper**

12th Flying Training Wing commander

### 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

## Secretary, chief send Armed Forces Day message

By **Dr. James Roche**  
Secretary of the Air Force  
and **Gen. John Jumper**  
Air Force Chief of Staff

WASHINGTON – Since 1949, America has paid tribute to its men and women in uniform by celebrating Armed Forces Day on the third Saturday in May. Grateful Americans in every state will hold parades and fly Old Glory to honor those who have worn the uniform either as a Soldier, Sailor, Airman or Marine.

It is indeed an important time to be a

member of our nation's Armed Forces and especially to be an Airman. America needs your service today as much, if not more, than any other time in our country's history. America's security is a global issue as we continue the fight in the war on terrorism. Our country needs your steadfast devotion to protecting the freedoms we enjoy.

Today, we serve a grateful nation. From shore to shore, Americans are proud of your professional competence, combat capabilities and unwavering courage to defend our country. They have seen firsthand your efforts in the mountains of

Afghanistan and the skies over Iraq and your steadfastness in protecting our homeland. They have reveled with us in your triumphs and cried with us when we lose brothers and sisters in battle.

You represent the pride and patriotism of the United States. You are the standard for sacrifice, devotion and bravery. We are proud to serve with you. On this Armed Forces Day, let's remember those who came before us and those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. May God bless all of you and our great nation.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

## Wing reorganization

### A time to look back, into future

By **Col. Mark W. Graper**  
12th Flying Training Wing  
commander

On Tuesday the members of the 12th Flying Training Wing will close a chapter of the wing's, base's and Air Force's proud history when we inactivate the 12th Logistics Group and redesignate the 12th Support Group as the 12th Mission Support Group, the last of the traditional support and logistics groups Air Force wide.

While this will be a low key event, it will be conducted with a simple elegance as we pay tribute to these two outstanding units and the Airmen who have served them so professionally throughout the years.

Historically, both the logistics and support groups have rich traditions. With a lineage dating back to 1950, the 12th Maintenance and Supply Group (the 12th Logistics Group since 1991) and the 12th Air Base Group (designated the 12th Support Group in 1991) have been committed to supporting our wing's mission... producing the world's finest aviators.

For decades the men and women assigned to these organizations have performed superbly. During my tenure as commander, I have witnessed the pride, professionalism and high performance of the people assigned to both the

logistics and support groups. I salute them for being great stewards of both people and resources in pursuit of the fly, fix and support mission.

While our wing's mission and the high level of performance of Team Randolph members will continue on as before, the organizational structure of the wing is being transformed to better reflect the Air Force's commitment to an Air and Space Expeditionary Force.

We go about making these organizational changes now for two reasons. First and probably most importantly, this realignment into the Air Force's new combat wing concept better postures the wing to meet in garrison requirements and enhances our ability to deploy in support of worldwide missions.

Second, while each operational wing throughout the Air Force has already made these changes, we delayed the realignment as we worked through the base's strategic sourcing initiatives. Now that our strategic sourcing review has been completed and our manpower levels have been addressed, we are better prepared to manage these organizational changes.

In 2002, Secretary of the Air Force, James Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper presented the new combat wing concept designed

to realign wings with the Air Force's core competencies. Those core competencies – to operate air and space weapons systems; to maintain these complex weapons systems; and enhance direct mission support of expeditionary, rapid reaction, contingency-based Air Force – were aligned to an operational organizational structure. As a result, each Air Force wing reorganized into four groups: operations, maintenance, mission support, and medical.

These changes were initiated in response to a changing world and to enhance the Air Force's ability to meet these new demands. In the wake of the 911 terrorist attacks, the Air Force is dealing with increased operational requirements. Resources that were once tied to standard wing structures were needed to support and Air Force leadership recognized the need for transformation.

General Jumper stated in 2002 that the reorganization was required to further the Air Force's ability to sustain home station operations and rapidly deploy for worldwide operations.

Although we are just now making the official changes to our wing structure, as reflective in our mission statement, "Professionals, producing the world's finest aviators while maintaining

superior deployment readiness and proudly supporting our community," the 12th is already focused on accomplishing both the mission at home and supporting our fair share of contingency requirements.

The completion of the wing's strategic sourcing initiatives in 2003 was the last piece of the puzzle to fall in place. Now we have the right people in the right place to ensure we continue to produce the world's finest aviators and maximize our base operational support capabilities, while at the same time, posturing forward to answer the call for world wide deployments.

Yes, we'll be making history on Monday as the last traditional support and logistics groups in the Air Force are redesignated and inactivated respectively, but we'll also be creating a consistent structure that allows us to meet our flying training mission here while supporting the ever-increasing complex Air Force missions of the future.

This is a unique time in our history as we take a moment to moment to reflect on our past while we set our sights on a challenging future. We can and should be proud of what the logistics and support groups have achieved but we should also be excited about the role we accept as members of an expeditionary air force.

# Paid in full

## The price exacted for our days

By Perry Jenifer  
81st Training Wing Public Affairs

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. – So you're having a bad day.

It stormed last night, knocking out the power, and your electric alarm clock didn't go off this morning.

In your haste to get ready, you nicked your upper lip shaving, or you left the cap off your only tube of lipstick and now it resembles a stick of colored chalk.

The dog missed the newspaper on the kitchen floor during the night and you stepped in it barefooted.

Traffic was backed up for three blocks at the gate. When you finally got to the office, the coffee pot was empty and so was the can sitting next to it.

When you have days like this, do you think, "Why me?" Me, too. Then, I catch myself.

I think instead of Staff Sgt. Patrick Griffin, who graduated from the aerospace control and warning systems course in the 334th Training Squadron in August 2001.

On May 8, 2003, Sergeant Griffin was riding in a convoy going to Baghdad from Kuwait.

The convoy was attacked, and he was killed.

I regret I never knew Sergeant Griffin or if he had a family.

I also think of Airman 1st Class Antoine Holt, a graduate of the same course in December 2001. Airman Holt deployed to Balad Air Base, Iraq, in November. On April 10, a mortar round exploded in his tent. He was killed.

More regret. I didn't know Airman Holt either. The report from Balad said he was 20 and had a wife and child.

I think of the hundreds of service men and women I never knew who've died in Afghanistan and Iraq since we sent them to those battlefields halfway around the world. I think of how they've given up all of their tomorrows so I can have my bad days. And my good days.

I regret I didn't know any of them personally. Still, I shudder at the enormity of their sacrifice. I grieve for our collective, incalculable loss. There are times I wonder if they'd think I'm worth it.

But enough about me. What was that you were saying about having a bad day?

(Courtesy of Air Education and Training Command News Service)

# Great people build great units

By Lt. Col. John Specht  
23rd Fighter Squadron

SPANGDAHLEM AIR BASE, Germany – Not all organizations are created equal. Some units have something special. Their members seem remarkably happy, the mission always gets accomplished and their names are heard whenever the very best are mentioned.

In 17 years of service, I've noticed a few qualities that are common to many of the outstanding units I have either observed or been fortunate enough to have been a part of. People. Great organizations are always composed of great people. There is no shortage of great people within the Air Force family, yet great organizations have a way of grooming, attracting and keeping quality people.

One of the best ways to make somebody great in his or her profession is by providing the absolute best training available. In the very best units, people are provided with the right training at the right time and are given the right tools to complete the mission.

It doesn't really matter if the training is formal or informal, initial or follow up, one-time or continuous. The bottom line is that people will never be competent and self-confident unless they've been given the proper training. Their proficiency and confidence enhances their performance and reflects well on the organization. They look good and the unit looks good.

When highly trained people become the trademark of the unit, the unit quickly gets a reputation for being one of the best in the business. Great units are full of people who display loyalty and pride.

It is sometimes difficult to determine if loyalty and pride create great units, or if great units promote loyalty and pride. Suffice it to say, loyalty and pride are contagious attributes, and great organizations have little trouble attracting and developing great folks who display these qualities.

The best units also understand the importance of effective communication. Think about the myriad of ways effective communication enhances a unit.

Good units establish goals and ensure their people know what these goals are and how they'll be accomplished. Good units ensure that everyone understands the mission and where the unit is trying to go.

They make it a point to recognize their folks, both formally and informally, to ensure people get the credit they deserve. They provide formal and informal feedback and ensure people understand their strengths and weaknesses. People are aware of how to improve their performance and contributions to the unit.

Good units also provide their folks with the best information available on deployments, work schedules and contingencies. This enhances long-range planning and creates stability at home and in the workplace.

If you are fortunate enough to be part of a great organization, congratulations. If not, see what you can contribute to your unit to start moving it in the right direction.

People should get the training they deserve, and ensure those who work with and for them do the same. Know how to do the job well, and continue to get the training and experience needed to continually improve.

Know what it is that the unit is trying to accomplish. Understand your role, no matter how seemingly insignificant, in accomplishing the mission.

Promote and demand long-range planning and stability. Be willing to compliment and reward those who do a great job. Expect and provide feedback.

And finally, be proud and be loyal. Your organization is just that – it's yours! It is a reflection of you and of those who work with you. Be willing to make it better. Be willing to make it great.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

E-mail Wingspread submissions to  
wingspread@randolph.af.mil

## Forty-six Airmen re-enlist

Forty-six Team Randolph members re-enlisted last month. The re-enlistees are:

### 12th Flying Training Wing

Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Davis  
Master Sgt. Lee Roberts  
Staff Sgt. Vanessa Trujillo

### 12th Civil Engineer Squadron

Senior Airman Ashontay Owens

### 12th Communications Squadron

Master Sgt. Danny Kippes

### 12th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Senior Airman Jose Hernandez  
Staff Sgt. Derek Molins  
Senior Airman Mark Teem

### 12th Security Forces Squadron

Master Sgt. Curtis Rayl  
Staff Sgt. Scott Schlosser

Master Sgt. William Stokes

### 12th Medical Support Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Karen Haynes  
Staff Sgt. Maria Soria

### 12th Mission Support Squadron

Staff Sgt. James Cantu

### Air Education and Training Command

Chief Master Sgt. Kenneth Cunningham

Master Sgt. Anthony Ervin

Master Sgt. Barney Johnson

Tech. Sgt. Alton Lilly Jr.

Master Sgt. Richard Morice

Master Sgt. James Paisley

Chief Master Sgt. Geoffrey Preudhomme

Master Sgt. Daniel Sherrard

Tech. Sgt. Amye Talbott

Senior Master Sgt. Andrew Walls

Senior Master Sgt. Timothy White

### Air Force Personnel Center

Tech. Sgt. William Fullwood

Master Sgt. Guy Herron

Staff Sgt. Rosa Lara

Senior Airman Sheila Johnson

Master Sgt. Robert Neumuller

Tech. Sgt. Jose Pizana

Master Sgt. Luis Raygoza

Staff Sgt. Eddie Valdez

Master Sgt. Ronnie Wallace

Master Sgt. Joseph Weber

### Air Force Recruiting Service

Tech. Sgt. Kirk Clement

Chief Master Sgt. Douglas Sikat

### Air Force Occupational Measurement Squadron

Master Sgt. Eartrey Jones

### Joint Personal Property Shipping Office

Tech. Sgt. Troy Belyeu

Staff Sgt. Kathy Pitre

### Defense Finance and Accounting Service

Tech. Sgt. Angelo Gonzalez

Master Sgt. Mark Stephens

### Electronic Systems Center

Staff Sgt. Kevin Jones

Tech. Sgt. Richard Longobardi

Master Sgt. Jesse Wilson

### 332nd Airlift Flight

Senior Airman Ria Sonny

## — 50 YEARS — AGO — in the Wingspread

Fifty years ago this week, the Randolph *Wingspread* reported:

☆ The United States Air Force was reported to be at an all-time high peacetime strength with 926,000 personnel in 115 wings around the world. The force was in the process of converting to jet aircraft, with the new B-52, then undergoing operational tests.

☆ The Navy launched its first nuclear-powered submarine, the Nautilus, and the second, the Sea Wolf, was under construction.

☆ Safety was a front-page story. From Jan. 1 through April 30, 1954, five Randolph members were killed in traffic accidents and 33 seriously injured. In addition, 136 persons were arrested for traffic law violations during the same period. A survey taken of base drivers showed that 90 percent of them "pay little or no attention to speed limits, caution signs, no-passing zones, and stop signs."

☆ A local automobile repair shop advertised a complete 8-cylinder engine overhaul at \$69.95.

# On to OTS:

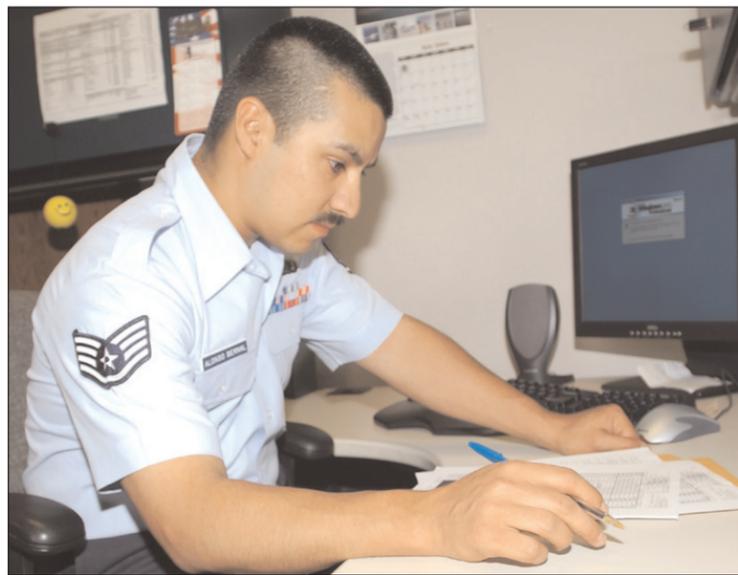
## Two sergeants from Randolph selected for Officer Training School

By Bob Hieronymus  
Wingspread staff writer

Two Randolph sergeants recently received word that they

had been selected for Officer Training School.

Tech. Sgt. Eddie Mendezllovet, 12th Communications Squadron, and Staff Sgt. Edgar Alonso-



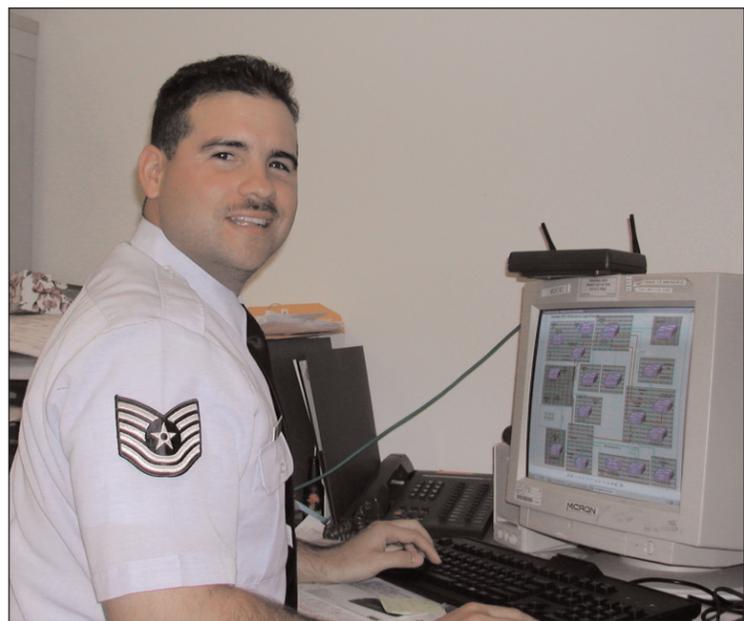
Staff Sgt. Edgar Alonso-Bernal, 12th Comptroller Squadron, solves the paperwork mysteries in a customer's financial records. (Photo by Senior Airman Lindsey Maurice)

Bernal, 12th Comptroller Squadron, were among the 256 individuals selected by the recent OTS Selection Board. They are both awaiting news about their reporting dates, but both are excited about what the change in their careers will hold for them.

Sergeant Mendezllovet has ten years of enlisted service behind him and is on the master sergeant select list, but this new opportunity has been his goal since he entered the Air Force. He completed technical training at Keesler AFB, Miss., and has always worked in base-level communications. He expects to continue to work in the communications field after commissioning.

Sergeant Mendezllovet completed his bachelor's degree in management information systems at Park College through Air Force education programs. He had another strong incentive to work toward his goal; his wife, Laura, is a 1st Lieutenant, now stationed at Brooks City Base. He has two children, an eight-year-old daughter and a one-month-old son.

Lt. Col. Terry Parrott, 12th CS commander, said that Sergeant Mendezllovet "can do whatever he wants to do. If he can make the master sergeant list in ten years, he has what it takes to be successful. He has been an excellent NCO. He'll make an



Tech. Sgt. Eddie Mendezllovet, 12th Communications Squadron, takes time away from managing the flow of information supporting base communications systems. (Photo by Bob Hieronymus)

excellent officer!"

Sergeant Alonso-Bernal is another American success story. He was born in Mexico City and completed two years of college at the Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon in Monterrey, Mexico, before he enlisted in the Air Force at Eagle Pass, Texas. He completed his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration at Wayland Baptist University last year through an Air Force education program, and began the paperwork to apply for OTS.

A customer service technician

at the base finance office, Sergeant Alonso-Bernal expects to be assigned as a contracting officer after commissioning. He and his wife are expecting their second child in about six months. He also has a unique reason to stay in the race for his goal; his brother Eric is attending OTS now. Sergeant Alonso-Bernal said that his mother couldn't be more proud of her two sons.

"If you really put your mind and your heart into it, you can reach your goals," Sergeant Alonso-Bernal said. The important thing is to not give up."

# E-Cop

## New security forces program streamlines reporting

By Jennifer Valentin  
Wingspread staff writer

The 12th Security Forces Squadron is in the process of implementing a new program for people on base who get involved in minor vehicle accidents, or lose their property due to theft.

This program, entitled E-Cop, allows base members to file a report about the accident or theft through a computer system, instead of having a security forces member respond to the scene and write the report. The program starts June 1.

"E-Cop was made to help the security forces personnel in times of minimal manning," said Master Sgt. Robert Vickers, 12th SFS operations superintendent. "So far we are the only base to implement this process."

E-Cop is designed for people who are involved in a minor vehicle accident on base with no injuries, where the vehicles are moveable, and the total damage is estimated to be less than \$10,000, said the sergeant.

The program is also designed for those people on base who have recently had a piece of property stolen, with no suspects involved.

"The amount of time that patrols are being kept off the road for incidents such as these is high," said Sergeant Vickers, "because of this, I came up with the idea of E-Cop as a way to facilitate the needs of the public in reporting those crimes which are important to them, but that take

security forces personnel away from their primary responsibility of base security."

In cases where there is no suspect, said the sergeant, the crime may not get solved, but that doesn't mean that the victim does not want to be reimbursed for property damage or theft.

"Many insurance companies require a police report for a claim," said the sergeant. "E-Cop was partially founded to be the answer to this problem."

Once the parties involved call the 12th SFS office to report the incident, security forces members will decide if those involved need to file a report at that time, or if they can use E-Cop. If a security forces member decides the matter can be issued through E-Cop, he or she will give the party or parties involved an E-Cop card, which has all of the information they need.

E-Cop is available online, from any base computer. A computer will also be set up in the 12th SFS' building lobby, Building 235, for use.

People can log on through the Randolph Intranet Web site, click on the 12th SFS link, and then click on the E-Cop system link.

"The directions are very easy to follow," said Sergeant Vickers. "The program takes members step by step through the system. We do ask that people report their incident within 72 hours of it happening, this way the information can be processed in a timely manner."

Once a victim files an E-Cop report, the information is sent to the 12th SFS and reviewed.

"Even though people are using the computer to process their information, we still must review it," said the sergeant.

Sergeant Vickers added that once the E-Cop program is in place, emergency response incidents such as crimes in progress will no longer be delayed, due to patrols accomplishing minor incident reports behind a desk. Instead, security forces members can more actively patrol the streets," he said.

"Since Sept. 11, the security forces mission of protecting personnel and property from criminal and terrorist threats has increased greatly," added the sergeant. "Many of the security forces members seen at the gate were once on patrol. Since we need them for the gates, however, less members are on patrol, which is why E-Cop is so important."

"Because of E-Cop, patrols will have the chance to be active in other duties as well, such as traffic enforcement, community policing and exercises," said Sergeant Vickers. "The new system is also beneficial to the base members, because by using E-Cop, they can complete the report at their convenience."

"Ultimately, E-Cop is a win-win situation for everyone - it is more convenient for base members and helps ease the load for the security forces members on duty."

For more information, call 652-5509.

# Active-duty Airmen will test for HIV every two years

By G.W. Pomeroy  
Air Force Surgeon General Public Affairs

BOLLING AIR FORCE BASE, D.C. - Beginning June 1, all active-duty Airmen will be required to complete routine human immunodeficiency virus testing every two years. This is a Defense Department policy change geared toward standardizing testing across the services, officials said.

The policy, recommended by members of the Armed Forces Epidemiological Board, will also require Reserve and Guard Airmen called to active duty for 30 or more days to have a current HIV test within two years of the date called.

Since the Defense Department began testing in the mid-1980s, each military service has had its own HIV-testing program. Testing intervals varied by service - from one to

five years - and procedures were inconsistent, board officials said.

The two-year interval provides the best protection from the hazards associated with military service for HIV-infected servicemembers, board officials said.

HIV testing identifies servicemembers who are infected as early as possible so military health-care providers can treat them to reduce transmission. The screenings also preclude deployment overseas and other risks that may be associated with military service for those who are infected.

Within the Air Force, screenings preferably will occur during an Airman's preventive health assessments, said Maj. (Dr.) Mylene Huynh, a preventive medicine officer at Air Force Medical Service headquarters here.

Routine interval testing does not preclude HIV screening for reasons such as testing before drug or alcohol treatment,

incarceration, occupational exposure clinical indications or at an Airman's requests, Dr. Huynh said.

She also said that HIV testing will remain available for all servicemembers upon request without inquiring as to the reason for the test.

Under the policy, active-duty Airmen are no longer required to undergo an HIV test before moving overseas or within 12 months of a consecutive overseas tour, Dr. Huynh said.

In 2003, there were 43 HIV-positive cases identified among 335,000 tests on Airmen, said officials at the Air Force Institute for Operational Health at Brooks City-Base, Texas. This included 26 among 259,000 active-duty, 10 of 35,000 Reserve and 7 of 41,000 Guard Airmen tested.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

# Twelve Airmen to graduate from ALS

By Senior Airman  
Lindsey Maurice  
12th Flying Training Wing  
Public Affairs

Twelve Randolph senior airmen take another step toward becoming better leaders, as they graduate from Airman Leadership School today at the enlisted club.

Before making it to this point, each Airman had to first complete a 24 duty-day academic course, which included 192 hours of instruction on three curriculum areas: leadership and management, communication skills and profession of arms.

During their time in ALS, the students also held a fundraiser selling sausages to base personnel to earn money for a local animal shelter. The class raised about \$300.

Chief Master Sgt. Kent Uphoff, Air Education and Training Command Readiness chief enlisted member, and Master Sgt. Michael Mitchell, 12th Security Forces Squadron first sergeant, mentored the students during the course. As mentors, the senior NCOs shared experiences and professional guidance to help the students develop the knowledge and skills necessary for becoming effective leaders, said base ALS officials.

Airman Leadership School is affiliated with the Community College of the Air Force through the College for Enlisted Professional Military Education. Each graduate was

awarded nine semester hours toward a CCAF degree.

Chief Master Sgt. Bill Milligan, former AETC command chief, is the guest speaker at the graduation ceremony.

Four awards will be presented to top students for accomplishments during the course at the graduation ceremony.

The awards are:

• **The John L. Levitow Award**, which is sponsored by the Randolph First Sergeants' Group, is presented to the student finishing at the top of the class.

• **The Academic Award**, which is sponsored by the Non-commissioned Officer's Association, is presented to the student who excelled academically on both the performance evaluations and objective phase tests.

• **The Leadership Award**, which is sponsored by the Randolph Chief's Group, is presented to the student who best exemplified the characteristics and traits of a leader while attending ALS.

• **The Distinguished Graduate Award**, which is sponsored by the Air Force Sergeants' Association, is presented to students who continued to maintain the highest standards in the areas of dress and appearance, customs and courtesies, academics, practical application, team development and leadership skills. It is awarded to the top ten percent of the class.

The winners will be announced in next week's edition of the Wingspread.



Senior Airman  
Spencer Duclos



Senior Airman  
Daniel Finkenstadt



Senior Airman  
Leah Francisco



Senior Airman  
Samuel Johnson



Senior Airman  
Tasha Klotzman



Senior Airman  
Tanya Mathias



Senior Airman  
Song Moon



Senior Airman  
Stephen Morgan



Senior Airman  
Sean O'Hara



Senior Airman  
Maria Teresa Pineda



Senior Airman  
Dianna Smith



Senior Airman  
Keith Williams

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Wing reorganization ceremony

A special ceremony marking the inactivation of the 12th Logistics Group and the redesignation of the 12th Support Group as the 12th Mission Support Group takes place Tuesday at 9 p.m. in Hangar 4.

### ID Card appointments for active duty personnel

Beginning Saturday, all active duty Randolph personnel may schedule an appointment with the military personnel flight customer service office to obtain ID cards for themselves and their dependents.

Appointments begin June 1 and are offered on a first come, first served basis. To schedule an appointment, members must e-mail the customer service office at 12mss.customerservice@randolph.af.mil (global account: 12 MSS Customer Service).

At the time of the request, members must provide the number of ID cards required and a telephone number to be contacted. Requests for appointments are responded to within 24 hours and must be made at least 24 hours in advance. Military sponsors must be present during appointments for their family members, as their signatures are required on the ID card applications.

For more information, call 652-1845.

### Lower Seguin Road closing

The Texas Department of Transportation announced that construction on Lower Seguin Road begins Thursday. The road and bridge over Woman Hollering Creek will be closed for upgrading, which means that there is no access to the south gate from FM 1518 until the project is complete sometime this fall. However, Lower Seguin Road from Loop 1604 to the south gate will remain open.

### 12th Comptroller Squadron offices notice

The 12th Comptroller Squadron offices will be minimally manned on May 21 due to an official function.

### AFPC to convert to new telephone system

The Air Force Personnel Center phone system is being upgraded. Starting Monday, individuals calling AFPC from on or off base will be required to dial the full seven-digit extension, instead of the abbreviated five-digits beginning with "5", due to the new system's configuration.

### Leave and earnings statements

Officials of the 12th Comptroller Squadron

encourage all military and civilian members wanting to view their leave and earnings statements to use myPay at [www.dfas.mil](http://www.dfas.mil). Current information is normally available about five days before a payday.

The squadron's customer service section has the capability of resetting PIN numbers for those who forget their PINs.

Members are also encouraged to use the "turn off hard copy" button for their LES' on the myPay Web site to save the government money from distribution and paper costs. In addition, using the electronic LES also reduces risks associated with receiving financial information via regular mail, said squadron officials.

For more information, call 652-1858.

### Tuskegee Airmen Banquet

The San Antonio Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen Incorporated hosts its 13th Annual Educational Assistance Banquet at 6 p.m. May 22 at the Gateway Club on Lackland. The guest speaker will be the Honorable Ruth Jones McClendon, Texas State Representative.

Tickets for the formal affair are \$30 per person. Proceeds are used for annual scholarship awards.

For tickets or information, call Master Sgt. Marv Abrams at 565-3888, or Maurice Ripley at 696-7505.

## LOWER SEGUIN ROAD CONSTRUCTION

The first phase of reconstruction of Lower Seguin Road begins Thursday. This phase includes the closing of Woman Hollering Creek Bridge with access from FM 1518 blocked. The South Gate will remain accessible by way of Loop 1604. This phase of the project should be completed this fall.

### 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

E-mail Randolph marquee requests to [randolph.marquee@randolph.af.mil](mailto:randolph.marquee@randolph.af.mil)

## Randolph Chiefs' Group inducts wing commander



**Col. Mark Graper, 12th Flying Training Wing commander, looks at his "Chief's Jeep" one last time before returning it to Randolph Chiefs' Group members. (Photo by Bob Hieronymus)**

**By Chief Master Sgt. Jeffrey Sergent**  
12th Flying Training Wing  
Command Chief

The Randolph Chiefs' Group honored Col. Mark Graper, 12th Flying Training Wing commander, recently by inducting him as an honorary chief master sergeant.

Colonel Graper's ceremony was held on April 14 at the Randolph Enlisted Club. Since then, he has been fulfilling his obligations as the 12th FTW's "Jeep Chief."

Honorary Chief induction ceremonies provide the Air Force's top enlisted leaders a way to recognize individuals who have been strong supporters of the enlisted force. The nominating chief prepares a letter of recommendation, highlighting all significant contributions and achievements of the nominee. The letter is presented to all chiefs who, in turn, review the information and vote on the nomination. If the nomination passes, the honorary chief is recognized in a formal ceremony.

Colonel Graper's induction as an honorary Chief recognizes his constant above and beyond support for the enlisted force throughout Randolph. His leadership led to the implementation of countless initiatives that improved the quality of life for enlisted members and their families. The colonel also made it a point to involve enlisted members in the processes of base management.

Following his induction ceremony, Colonel Graper participated in another time-honored tradition – serving as the Jeep Chief. The most recently promoted chief master sergeant in an organization is designated as a Jeep Chief. This designation usually occurs during the promotion ceremony, when fellow chiefs offer congratulations and present the newest chief a jeep to carry for a specified period.

Rules for carrying the jeep vary from one group of chiefs to another; however, there are some universal rules. One of the most important involves the Jeep Chief's responsibility to display the jeep proudly and to safeguard it at all times. This rule leads to good-natured efforts to relieve the chief of the jeep.

During Colonel Graper's tenure as Jeep Chief, there were attempts to take the jeep, but none were successful. The colonel successfully completed his obligation Friday when he returned the jeep to the chiefs in a light-hearted ceremony in his office.

Colonel Graper was all smiles as he handed over the jeep.

"I'm pleased that you all have honored me with this title – and with the responsibility for the chiefs' jeep. You will notice that I defended it in spite of all the efforts to steal it. And it's a pleasure to be relieved of this heavy responsibility," he said.

## Dozens of Airmen face retraining

**Master Sgt. Randy Mitchell**  
Air Force Personnel Center Public  
Affairs

Many Airmen have taken their careers in their own hands by volunteering to change career fields or separate under the initial phase of the Air Force's fiscal year 2004 NCO Retraining Program.

As part of the program's Phase II, Air Force officials have notified 88 Airmen selected as most vulnerable to retrain and asked them to submit their choices of shortage career fields they would most like to retrain into.

If they do not voluntarily apply for retraining by May 24, those without approved retraining or special duty assignments will have another Air Force specialty chosen for them by the Air Force Personnel Center, and their class date scheduled by June 7, said Chief Master Sgt. Alvin Diaz, AFPC skills management branch chief.

"This phase of the retraining program is necessary to help meet the needs of the Air Force by putting Airmen where they are needed most."

Under Phase II, not everyone is guaranteed his or her first choice. Major commands continue to accept volunteer applications and personnel officials encourage all eligible NCOs to also consider special duty assignments that need to be filled such

as recruiting jobs, military training instructors, first sergeant duty or professional military education instructors, officials said. However, the member must be approved prior to the May 24 deadline.

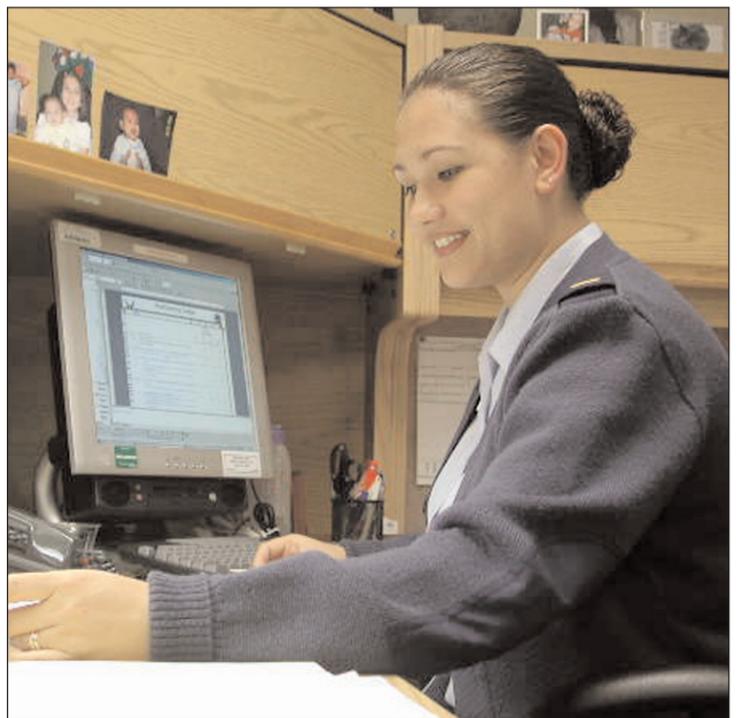
"There's still time for those who have been identified for possible retraining to volunteer," said Chief Diaz. "It's up to each Airman, but if it were me, I'd think having control over my career would be a priority and help reduce the stress of not knowing whether or not I will get that notification asking me to make a selection – I'd volunteer."

The retraining program is designed to help balance the enlisted force by moving NCOs in specialties with surpluses to those with shortages, said Chief Diaz.

"We will work with those who have been selected for retraining, as we would any retraining case, in order to make the transition as smooth as possible for the Airman and his or her family while still meeting the needs of the Air Force," said Tech. Sgt. Derek Hughes, AFPC NCO in charge of Air Force retraining.

Vulnerability listings by grade and Air Force specialty code are posted on the Web and will be updated weekly on the AFPC Web site at <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/enlskills/Retraining/retraining.htm>.

### Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month



**Second Lt. Sabrina Ocampo**  
Air Force Occupational Measurement Squadron  
occupational analyst

*"I moved from the Philippines to the United States when I was 5 years old. Keeping the culture alive in my family, like my mother did while I was growing up in the states, is very important to me. To keep the tradition alive in my home, I make traditional Philippine foods for my family and I also teach my daughter to cook with the flavors of our country. I am very fortunate that my mother lives close to me. She is the foundation to keeping me grounded to my culture." (Photo by Jennifer Valentin)*

# Navigators receive special honors

By Senior Airman Lindsey Maurice  
12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Three lieutenants and two ensigns received special recognition during the Joint Specialized Undergraduate Training graduation ceremony May 7.

Electronic warfare officer 2nd Lt. Anthony Waliser received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Cup and Jack Donovan Award while 2nd Lt. Eric DePriest received the Ira J. Husik Award.

Ensign Matthew Thien earned the Alden C. Markey Award and Ensign Coleen Stephens received the 562nd Academic Excellence Award. Electronic warfare officer 2nd Lt. Jeanette Vertin earned the 563rd EWO Academic Excellence Award.

Members of the graduating class received navigator, naval flight officer and EWO training in the 562nd and 563rd Flying Training Squadrons.



**2nd Lt. Anthony Waliser**  
AETC Commander's Cup,  
Jack Donovan Award



**2nd Lt. Eric DePriest**  
Ira J. Husik Award



**Ensign Matthew Thien**  
Alden C. Markey Award



**Ensign Colleen Stephens**  
562nd Academic Excellence  
Award



**2nd Lt. Jeanette Vertin**  
563rd Electronic Warfare  
Officer Academic Excellence  
Award

# VA reaches out to assist newest combat veterans

WASHINGTON - The Department of Veterans Affairs is expanding its efforts to reach veterans of combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan to ensure they are aware of benefits they have earned.

Anthony Principi, VA secretary, is sending a letter to more than 150,000 veterans of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom who have recently separated from the military to thank them for their service. In the letter, he also reminds them of their eligibility for VA health-care and other benefits.

"I want these men and women to know that we are grateful for their service to our country," Mr. Principi said. "Those who served in Afghanistan, Iraq and other places around the world have risked their lives to make America more secure. One of the ways the nation shows its gratitude is by ensuring veterans receive the benefits they deserve."

Mr. Principi's letter includes brochures and links to the department's Web pages that contain more details about VA benefits, including an opportunity to apply for benefits online.

As the veterans continue to leave active duty, VA officials said they expect to mail about 10,000 letters each month. The first letters were sent Monday.

Department officials also regularly mail information packets to all servicemembers separating from the military to remind them of eligibility for basic benefits, such as VA-guaranteed home loans and education benefits. In addition, there are provisions in these programs for reservists and National Guard members.

The additional outreach to those recently deployed to combat areas alerts them to special eligibility that increases their access to health care for two years after separation from the military for illnesses and injuries that may be the

*"VA has learned many lessons since the Gulf War in 1991 and other conflicts, which will ensure that this newest generation of war veterans receives the health care and assistance they deserve when they return to civilian life."*

**Anthony Principi**  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
Secretary

result of military service. For those medical problems, VA waives copayments for inpatient and outpatient care. The VA focuses special attention on those with service-related disabilities, officials said. The department's goal is a seamless transition from military to VA services, with claims for financial benefits receiving expedited processing.

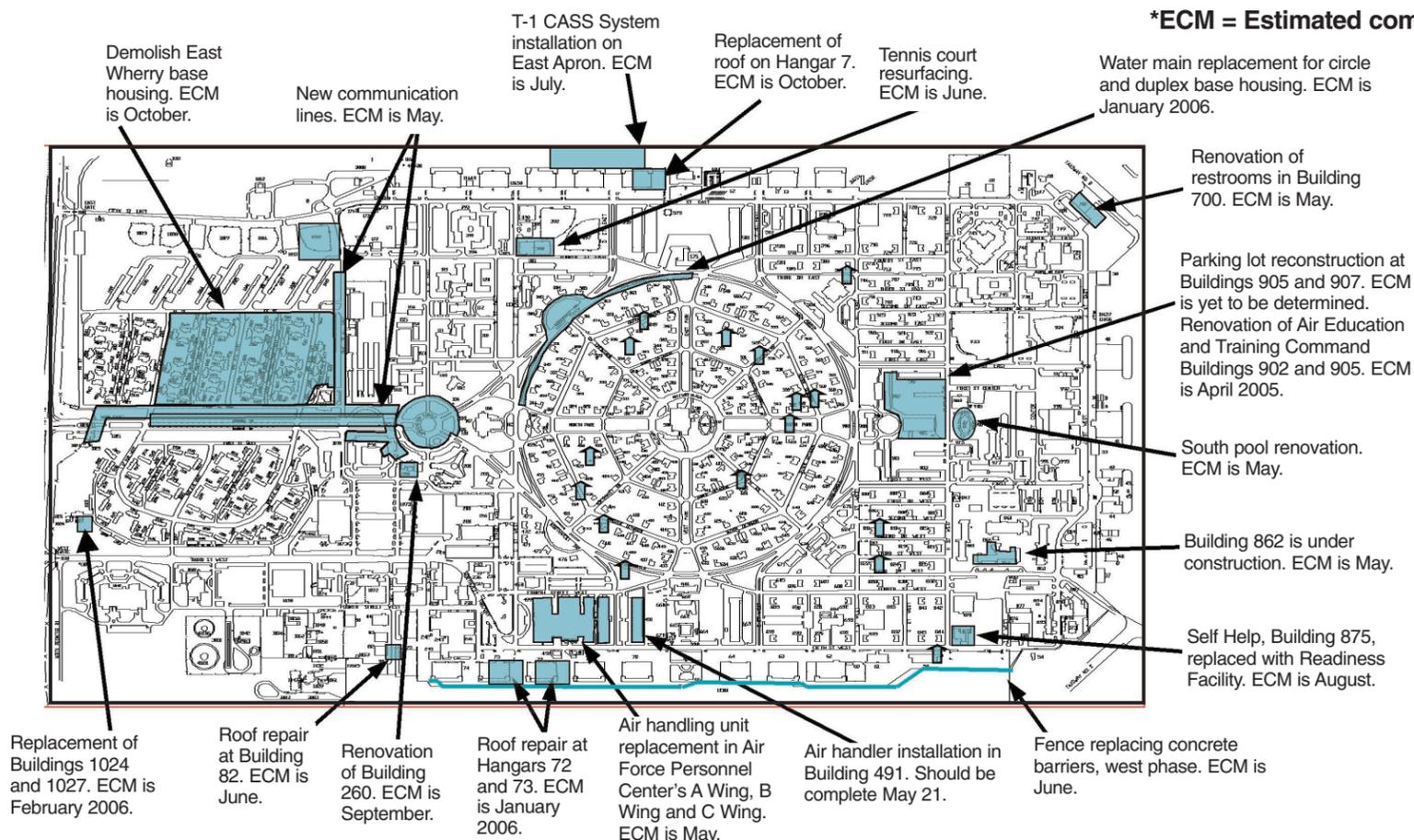
For seriously wounded people, the VA has counselors working at the bedsides of patients in military hospitals with the largest numbers of casualties to begin benefit applications before they leave the military. The department's social service people work at these military facilities to plan health-care coordination as servicemembers move from military to VA care. This helps ensure a smooth transition to a VA hospital or clinic near the veteran's intended residence for continuing medical care, officials said.

"VA has learned many lessons since the Gulf War in 1991 and other conflicts, which will ensure that this newest generation of war veterans receives the health care and assistance they deserve when they return to civilian life," Mr. Principi said.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

# CONSTRUCTION

ORNER



**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 begins May 20. This phase includes the closing of Woman Hollering Creek Bridge. The South Gate will remain accessible by way of Loop 1604. This project should be completed 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.

# Blood donors necessary in war, peace

By Senior Airman Stacia Zachary  
100th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

ROYAL AIR FORCE MILDENHALL, England – It may seem like blood centers are always asking for more. The fact is, there is a constant need for blood.

Technological advances have a lot to do with this continuous need for blood, said Capt. Christine Murphy, the 48th Medical Group executive officer. More and more, there have been scientific breakthroughs that allow a person a chance at life where once there was none. And along with these breakthroughs, a steady supply of blood is

needed.

“Our job, as a medical community, is to save as many lives as we can,” Captain Murphy said. “Technology has grown so we are now able to help people in ways not possible in the past.”

According to the Armed Services Blood Program Web site, trauma victims may use up to 40 units of blood, and that does not include the number of surgical procedures that require blood transfusions.

“It is always important we have enough (blood) on hand,” said 1st Lt. Adam Minnich of the 100th Logistics Readiness Squadron and a blood drive advocate. “The

main purpose of blood drives is to maintain medical readiness. Units of blood are not only used in the immediate vicinity.”

In the current world climate, there are many ongoing operations in hostile environments that require blood donations, Captain Murphy said.

“We still have several operations our military is involved in, and it’s important to keep those blood stores well stocked,” she said. “We are usually at full capacity, but it’s always smart to never let them deplete or we would end up in a critical situation.”

Although war, and the casualties that result from it, are the most high-profile

reasons to give blood, there are several closer-to-home reasons people may need blood.

“We need to take care of our families and civilians, too,” Captain Murphy said. “They are our obligation as well as a large contributor to our blood stores. Remember, blood is always needed – in both war and peace.”

The base members interested in donating, can do so between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Thursday in the Randolph High School gym during the school’s blood drive.

For more information, call 357-2400. (Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

# Relocation assistance center relieves stress of moving

By Jennifer Valentin  
Wingspread staff writer

Whether arriving at or departing from Randolph, the base relocation assistance center offers an array of programs and services to help make the transition as smooth as possible.

“The goal of the relocation assistance team is to help alleviate as much stress as possible for the families, by answering their questions and helping them with problems as they arrive,” said Sandra Nichols, relocation assistance center manager. “Moving brings about its fair share of stress, and we want our families to experience a smooth transition.”

If members are assigned a permanent change of station to another base from Randolph, the center offers a variety of videos, information packets and brochures for different bases worldwide. The materials can be checked out for 48 hours.

In addition, members who are PCSing can also access the Standard Installation Topic Exchange Service, an on-line program that offers up-to-date information on Department of Defense installations and their surrounding communities through the relocation assistance center computers. SITES is updated quarterly, but the relocation assistance center personnel also update it as needed.

SITES information can be found at [www.dmdc.osd.mil](http://www.dmdc.osd.mil) or at [www.afcrossroads.com](http://www.afcrossroads.com), which is the Air Force’s community Web site – Air Force Crossroads. The Web site also offers information on topics such as volunteer opportunities, education and medical and dental assistance.

Ms. Nichols added that the stress of moving to a new location can have an effect on the entire family, which is why the center offers smooth move and jr. smooth move briefings to Randolph families. These briefings offer informational topics such as TRICARE, claims, veterinarian services, finance and behavioral health. Spouses are encouraged to attend and childcare is offered.

The next smooth move briefing is from 9 to 11 a.m. Wednesday in Hangar 62, in the 12th Civil Engineer Squadron’s second floor conference room.

The jr. smooth move briefing is specifically designed for youth ages 6 to 12 and is offered in the evening with pizza and soda available.

“Because moving can take its toll on the children as well, we offer a smooth move program for them, to offer advice on adjusting to a new community,” said Ms. Nichols.

The relocation center also offers a wealth of information and programs to those new to the base, said Ms. Nichols. The loan locker program provides basic household items, such as dishes, irons and futons to families who are waiting for their items to arrive. The items can be borrowed for up to 30 days. Members on orders have priority when borrowing items. Computers are also available for members to use.

“If they have not received their household computer yet, they are welcome to come by the center and check their e-mail or look up information,” said Ms. Nichols.

The center also offers a box referral program, a service for those needing boxes for packing, or for those who have boxes and wish to donate them. The names and

phone numbers of participating individuals are exchanged so that arrangements can be made on their own.

“Boxes can be very expensive, so this program helps families save money,” said Ms. Nichols.

When moving with small children who are not yet in school, child care can also come in handy, said the center manager. The center offers up to 20 hours of child care per child, through the family day care program on base. To be eligible, the family has to be within 60 days of their move, whether coming or going.

“The intent of this program is to relieve some of the stress and allow families time to pack or unpack, house hunt or job hunt without worrying about their children,” said Ms. Nichols.

The airmen’s attic also provides help to families new to Randolph with free household, clothing and furniture items to senior airmen and below every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and to staff sergeants and above the last Tuesday of every month.

“This is a great recycling program for the military!” said Ms. Nichols. “All we ask is that people not leave their donations outside, but instead wait until business hours to drop them off.”

“Anyone who is relocating to or from Randolph should come check out the programs and services that we offer,” said Ms. Nichols. “The relocation assistance center offers a lot for our members.”

For more information on any of the programs, call 652-3060.

# Youth selected for teen aviation camp

By Jennifer Valentin  
Wingspread staff writer

One Randolph Youth Center member’s dreams will literally reach the sky this summer as he attends the Air Force Services Teen Aviation Camp which runs June 5 to 11.

Jesse Lind, son of Col. Orville and Lt. Col. Bonnie Lind, Air Education and Training Command, participates in the week-long camp at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.

“Jesse is the first teenager from Randolph to be selected for this prestigious event,” said John Myers, youth center director. “This is quite an honor for him as well as for Randolph.”

Jesse will be a junior in the 2004-2005 school year at Randolph High School.

“In the future, I would like to attend the Academy and join the Air Force,” said Jesse. “Having grown up in a military family, I’ve seen the excellent opportunities offered, such as being a pilot and traveling around the world on assignments.”

Jesse was selected along with 35 other participants from around the world to attend the event, which includes everything from classroom activities, to bowling and swimming, and aircraft tours. The students also participate in activities such as fitness tests, rope challenge courses, horseback riding, and they visit the planetarium and aerodynamics lab.

“Probably the most exciting event during the week for the

PHOTO NOT  
AUTHORIZED FOR  
WEB DISPLAY

**Jesse Lind, a sophomore at Randolph High School, will be attending the Air Force Services Teen Aviation Camp at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., from June 5 to 11. (Photo by Jennifer Valentin)**

students is the tour of the flightline and the individual flights they will be given,” said Mr. Myers. “This gives the students the actual feeling and experience of flying.”

“I feel honored to be selected for this opportunity to attend the camp,” said Jesse. “While I’m there, I hope to learn about Academy life from the student’s point of view; where they live, eat, attend classes, and what activities they do.”

Jesse’s father is very proud and happy that his son was selected to go to the aviation camp.

“The Air Force is fortunate to have outstanding family member programs sponsored by the Air Force Services Agency such as the aviation camp,” said Colonel Lind. “This is a great way for teenagers of Air Force families to experience what the Air Force Academy offers in terms of education and activities.”

Jesse’s mother said she is also proud of their son.

“I am very pleased that Jesse will have a chance to see how impressive the Academy campus is and get to experience some of the opportunities that are available to Academy students,” she said. “I imagine this will be an unforgettable week for him.”

The Air Force Services Teen Aviation Camp is held annually for students who will be sophomores or juniors in high school during the following academic school year.

Each teenager who wants to attend the camp completes an application to include his or her grade point average, extracurricular activities, honors received and community service. The applicant is then interviewed by his or her youth center director and another staff member using a questionnaire provided by the Air Force Services Agency. The completed package is sent to the major command and services agency. The agency reviews all of the applicants’ packages Air Force wide and picks 36 to attend the camp. This year there were 162 applicants.

“The participants that go to the camp are all interested in attending the Air Force Academy, or in making the Air Force a career,” said Mr. Myers. “This is a great opportunity for them to see what Air Force life is like, first hand.”

