

Sortie scoreboard

as of Tuesday

	Goal	Flown	+/-
13th Fighter Squadron	163	23	+7
14th Fighter Squadron	337	38	+8

source: 35th Operations Support Squadron's scheduling office

Inside

Whew! Base's unseasonably hot weather breaks 45-plus-year records / 3



Misawa DUI hitboard

Total driving under the influence incidents at Misawa Air Base this year

13

Number of days since the last DUI at Misawa Air Base:

4

Last Misawa unit with a DUI: 35th Civil Engineer Squadron, July 31 source: 35th FW safety

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Aug. 6, 1999



photo by Staff Sgt. Brian Orban

From left, Staff Sgt. Gerald Byrdson, Kazuhiko Hashimoto and Tadakatsu Kumagai take a break after helping fight a fire that broke out in a maintenance warehouse near the main base gas station. Damage to the building was estimated at \$5,000, according to investigators.

Electrical short linked to Sunday's warehouse fire

A short in an electrical power strip was deemed the cause of a fire that caused minor damage to a maintenance warehouse near the base gas station Sunday afternoon.

According to investigators, the fire started on the floor behind a desk in the warehouse's administration office area but was beginning to extend to the structure's wall.

The fire was quickly extinguished, although firefighters faced heavy black smoke when they forced their way into the building, said Chief Master Sgt. Mark Giuliano, base fire chief.

"There were two obstacles firefighters had to overcome ... ventilating the facility so fire-

fighters could see and simply staying cool," the chief added. The structure is constructed of rubber and has no windows, which made temperatures inside the building much warmer than the 90-plus weather outside.

Also, the fire had damaged the warehouse's electrical system, which delayed fire fighters from electrically opening the structure's overhead rolling doors. Eventually, the team was able to manually open the doors to clear the dense smoke inside.

"Extinguishing the blaze was the easy part; keeping the firefighters cool under such hot and humid temperatures was the greater challenge," said

Master Sgt. Robert Ward, assistant fire chief. "Work rest cycles are very important in maintaining the health and safety of the firefighters. Extremely hot and humid temperatures, coupled with heavy and hot protective clothing, can quickly dehydrate a firefighter. That makes fighting a fire that much more difficult."

The building's fire detection system saved it from extensive damage, Giuliano said.

"Just last year, a fire inspector ... identified the office as not having a fire detection system. He initiated a work order to correct the deficiency, which in this case undoubtedly saved the building." Information courtesy of the base fire department.

Water quality remains safe across base

Increased lead levels discovered during recent testing at child center, water piping in facility suspected

Misawa's water quality continues to remain safe to drink despite a recent spike in lead levels found during water testing at the Yoiko Child Development Center.

In tests conducted in June, seven of the 30 water samples taken from various drinking water fountains and taps at the center showed lead levels which exceeded Environmental Protection Agency and Japan Environmental Governing Standard levels of 15 parts per billion, said Lt. Col. David Rhodes, the Hospital's chief of flight medicine.

"Consequently, all water fountains affected were immediately turned off, and efforts were made to confirm any elevations and isolate the source," Rhodes added.

U.S. and Japanese environmental protection agencies set the restrictions to limit people's exposure to lead. Excessive amounts of lead in the human body can affect the brain, kidney, nervous system and red blood cells.

"We have no reason to believe that there is any problem with the base water supply as previous sampling throughout the base has shown lead levels to be well within the EPA limit," the colonel added. "It's suspected that piping at the taps or within the fountains themselves [at the Yoiko] were the source of the lead content in the water."

Repeat testing at the center's affected water sources showed the levels had returned to within the set standards. However, to ensure people's safety, affected water fountains at the center remain shut off until all of the facility's piping is thoroughly checked. Bioenvironmental engineering officials with the 35th Medical Group will continue to monitor the center's water supply.

Rhodes added the elevated lead levels that showed up in the first set of tests posed a negligible risk to children attending the center.

"Out of the seven samples that were elevated, only three were from fountains that children had access to," the colonel added. "Furthermore, the levels found in accessible drinking fountains were still within the FDA's [Food and Drug Administration's] recommended total daily lead intake for children ages 1 to 5, assuming an intake of about a quart per day.

Lead continued on Page 3

A note of thanks

Brig. Gen. Steve Wood, 35th Fighter Wing commander, recently received the following message and wanted to share it with the men and women of the wing, especially those currently deployed to southwest Asia.

Dear Brig. Gen. Steve Wood

Please pass my deep appreciation to the entire 35 FW [35th Fighter Wing] for the outstanding work they are doing in SWA [southwest Asia]. That includes the Misawa teams who deployed as well as the men and women who remain behind and pull double duty. Your efforts have been first rate.

Hat's off to the 35th Fighter Wing. We join the families who wish for continued safe operations and a speedy return.

— Gen. Patrick Gamble
Pacific Air Forces commander

These places are terrible.

The older homes in the "800" and "200" housing areas are horrible. They're at least 40 years old, and they have problems with bugs and rats. These places should be labeled as substandard. Why are we forced to pay the full basic allowance for housing while living in these places?

I agree. These places are not up to the standard that we would like. We've been working hard to keep them livable until we can replace them with the modern units currently being

built in the main base housing area, and it's been a tough battle. The good news is that we should have all of this aging housing replaced over the next several years.

Regarding your question on labeling these places as substandard, unfortunately our hands are tied on this one. A mandate is established

that prohibits us from classifying homes like these as substandard. However, we're checking with people in the Pacific Air Forces civil engineer directorate to see if there's anything we can do to fix this problem.

We will continue to improve our 800 and 200 housing. We are committed to you.

Mentors: They're everywhere

by Lt. Col. Chris Hale
3rd Space Surveillance Squadron
commander

Recently, I walked into a fast food restaurant and caught the tail end of a conversation between one of the workers behind the counter and his shift leader. I heard the worker say, "Well, I guess the lesson learned here is don't make fun of fat people." The shift leader responded, "No, the lesson learned here should be don't make fun of anyone." This was mentoring in its simplest form.

When we think of mentors, we think in terms of Webster's definition: "a wise advisor; a trusted teacher and counselor." But really, mentors are all around us. They're all ranks, all shapes, ages and sizes from all walks of life. The restaurant shift leader was mentoring the worker and anyone within earshot. Was "trusted leader and counselor" part of his job description? Probably not. He was simply passing on his values to the younger member in hopes he would adopt those values as his own.

We receive lessons like this every day. What we do with them contributes to our success as mentors. We spend our whole life recording information, and based upon our own set of core values, we adopt some and reject others — it's sort of a collection of useful tools. When we come upon a situation that needs repair, we pull out one of those tools

and go to work. When we have the opportunity to guide others, we share those tools with them so they, in turn, can add them to their tool kit for future use.

I've had the opportunity in my career to be around some really great mentors. Perhaps I recognized them as mentors because I was willing to listen to their ideas, realized how universal those ideas were, and adopted them as my own. I've always been a "B" student. That means at any one time, 20 percent of the world's population is consistently smarter than I. If you think about it, that's a whole lot of mentors. Certainly that's a good reason for me to listen.

One of my mentors once told me, "never walk past a mistake; if you do you set a new standard." I found this simple phrase can apply in countless situations, from the most insignificant act, like picking up a piece of discarded trash, to stepping in and resolving a bureaucratic snafu others had continued to accept as "that's life in the military." Effective mentors don't go through life accepting "the way it's always been." They're doers. They see something wrong, they evaluate how to right the wrong, then they step in and do the right thing.

Many years ago, while serving as a wing exec, I walked into the vice's office with a dilemma involving a conflict between two competing factions at the wing. I laid out some of the alternatives to him and asked

him what I ought to do. He just looked at me, smiled and said, "what's the right thing to do?"

It was some of the best advice I've ever had. I was being mentored and didn't know it. He didn't tell me what to do. He just reminded me to call up my core values, pit them against the alternatives and make a decision. Yes, I did the right thing.

"Doing the right thing" is the active ingredient in one of the Air Force's core values — integrity. It's how we display integrity to the outside world. It can be as simple as following established procedures, perhaps a checklist or an operating instruction.

I remember some Army training I got during jump school — 40 years of experience compressed into 2 ½ weeks of "this is how you survive the landing." My mentors, known as "black hats" taught me to look straight ahead once I passed below the tree line. On my third jump, I got cocky and decided to look down as I approached the ground. I did a perfect three-point landing — feet, knees and forehead. I chose not to do the right thing, and it hurt. Maybe it was the concussion, but I've been a firm believer in following procedures ever since.

Sometimes doing the right thing is more complex, involving moral issues as well. You might have to examine a difficult problem from all sides, weigh the pros and cons, evaluate the ramifications of the options, ignore personal bias,

remove subjectivity, seek advice and finally select a course of action that will withstand public scrutiny.

The first time I handed out an Article 15, I agonized over the punishment. But I did my homework and consulted with my first sergeant, other commanders and my mentors. Then I did "the right thing." I realized my decision was going to mentor not only the recipient but also every member of my squadron and wing, including other commanders who might have to make similar decisions. My decision would certainly come under keen scrutiny as everyone weighed the punishment against the crime and bounced it off their set of core values.

The Air Force does a pretty good job of growing mentors. They start early in basic training and continue throughout one's career. I recently went to an NCO academy graduation where I met a whole class full of mentors. Their motto was, "make it better." Those are great words to live by. They were pumped, ready to go back out into their work centers and make a difference. It made you proud to be an American.

As we go through life, we have so many opportunities to affect the lives of those around us. I am constantly amazed at the collective wisdom of the people around me. That's probably why I often ask, "what do you think we ought to do." I'm looking for the future mentors of tomorrow. I know they're out there, but you have to listen.

Commander's Action Line (226-3700) Please Use It



The Action Line provides "direct communication" between you and me. This valuable open channel has but one purpose — to make our community better. Your input of ideas, concerns, highlighting problems and suggested solutions are the lifeblood to building a stronger foundation where our families thrive and our mission succeeds. There are many dedicated professionals at Misawa — officer, non-commissioned officer and civilian — who are experts in their respective fields. Please offer them the opportunity to answer your question in concert with your unit chain of command. They share the same vision for Misawa as I do. However, those concerns that do come to the Action Line have my personal attention.

Stephen G. Wood

Brig. Gen. Stephen G. Wood
Misawa Air Base installation commander

Who to call

Base exchange manager	222-7410	Hospital	226-3506
Commissary manager	226-3823	Law enforcement desk	226-4358
Family Support Center	226-4735	35th Security Forces Squadron	226-3397
American Forces Network	226-3219	35th Services Squadron	226-3008
AFN pager	172-236	Housing manager	226-2394
Fraud, waste and abuse hotline	226-4444	Chaplain	226-4630

WHEW!

Misawa Air Base's unseasonably high temperatures topple long-standing records

by Staff Sgt. Brian Orban
35th Fighter Wing public affairs

Searing temperatures Sunday and Monday shattered records that have stood for decades in the base's weather history.

Sunday's high temperature of 94 degrees scorched a 93-degree record set in 1955 while a 93 degree high Monday singed a record temperature of 92 degrees set that day in 1955, said 2nd Lt. Flaherty, weather officer with the 35th Operations Support Squadron.

Over the past two and a half weeks, the heat wave has flirted with breaking other record highs but often fell a degree or two short. A high temperature of 93 degrees July 28 missed tying a record of 94 degrees set in 1953 while a 91-degree high July 26 missed tying a record set in 1952 by two degrees, Flaherty added.

The temperatures over the past two weeks are the hottest Misawa has seen in more than 40 years, he added. The highest recorded temperature for July was set July 31, 1953, when the thermometer topped 97 degrees. The highest recorded temperature in August was also 97 degrees.

As the heat continues, high humidity blowing into the Misawa area from the south over the past several days sent the local heat index to blistering levels, Flaherty added. The daytime high July 28, combined with the day's 91 percent relative humidity, made it feel like it was 130 degrees across the base.

"We were scorching," the lieutenant added.

According to officials from the 35th Medical Group, heat-related injuries were minor, mainly dehydration. Officials stressed the need for people to take it easy when the heat index reaches uncomfortable levels by taking frequent breaks and drinking plenty of water throughout the day.

The record-approaching temperatures were fueled by a mostly stationary weather front hovering north of the island of Hokkaido with a high pressure system holding position to the east of northern Japan. This allowed moist air to flow in from southern Japan while keeping the skies mostly clear. The unseasonably hot weather started pumping into the base around July 22



photo by Staff Sgt. Thomas Fischer

Seven-year-old Ashleigh Hagadorn takes a dip in her wading pool to keep cool as temperatures soared to record highs earlier this week.

with daytime highs cracking 85 and 88 degrees initially.

Flaherty said this type of weather is typical of what people at Misawa may see around this time of year although August is normally the time when the temperatures will crack the high 80s and low 90s. He added the base has been fortunate up to now since May to July is usually punctuated with heavy sea fog rolling across the local area from the east.

"We can expect to see more of this hot weath-

er over the next few weeks," the lieutenant added.

Misawa received a reprieve from the hot weather as the stationary front shifted temporarily to the south the evening of July 29 bringing overnight showers which continued into July 30.

The base's weather channel, currently located on base cable Channel 4, highlights current heat index levels and what people should do when these levels reach extreme levels.

Lead: Hospital plans forum to discuss water quality

Continued from Page 1

"Since the repeat lead level readings were normal, we feel that it's highly unlikely that anyone drinking from these fountains could have received an excessive amount of lead. Therefore, we are not current-

ly recommending any blood lead level tests on children who attend the center," the colonel said.

Misawa Air Base has always been in compliance with the EPA's National Drinking Water Regulations for lead and copper, Rhodes added. From 1995 to 1997 alone,

lead and copper levels on base were well within EPA and Japanese standards.

"The bottom line: Our water is safe to drink," the colonel said.

The Hospital plans to hold an open question and answer session for people who have questions

regarding base water quality. Dates and times are still being finalized.

For more information on base water quality, people may also call the 35th MDG's bioenvironmental engineering office at 226-6107. *Information courtesy of the 35th Medical Group.*

Northern Light

Editorial staff

35th Fighter Wing commander Brig. Gen. Steve Wood
Public Affairs chief Capt. Claudia Foss
Northern Light editor Staff Sgt. Brian Orban
Photography 35th Communications Squadron visual information flight

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Got a story idea for the Northern Light? Call 226-3814 or e-mail 35FW_PA@gw5.misawa.af.mil
Visit the Northern Light online at <http://www.misawa.af.mil/orgs/pa/nl-intro/index.htm>

Smile, Misawa!

The Northern Light is published each Friday for people like Staff Sgt. Lisa Gunning, 14th Fighter Squadron. "She's tasked with the ensuring the squadron's maintainers have the training necessary to do their jobs, and she handles it with outstanding professionalism," said Tech. Sgt. Doug Thomas, 14th FS.



Gunning

Briefly

Teen town hall meeting begins

Misawa's teens and young adults will address their needs, ideas and concerns during a young adult town hall meeting, which starts at noon Saturday at the Richard Bong Theater.

The meeting gives base teens an open dialogue with the base's senior leadership in a non-bias setting, according to Lt. Col. Arthur Anderson, 35th Support Group deputy commander.

Representatives from different base programs and facilities, including the Family Support Center, family advocacy and the youth and teen centers, will attend the meeting to help answer some of the questions and issues on the spot.

To attend the forum, people must first pick up tickets at the Lunney Youth Center or Teen Center. For more information about the forum, call the Teen Center at 226-2170 or the Lunney Youth Center at 226-3220.

610th ACF command changes

Maj. Jerry Rose assumed command of the 610th Air Control Flight from Maj. Randy Reynolds during a ceremony July 30.

Rose comes to Misawa from the 607th Combat Plans Squadron at Osan Air base, Republic of Korea, where he was the chief of the squadron's battle staff training office. Reynolds remains at Misawa to become the director of operations for the 35th Operations Support Squadron.

AF ball tickets available

Tickets are now available for the annual Air Force ball, which starts at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 18 at the Tohoku Enlisted Club. Tickets cost \$12 for members in the E-1 to E-4 pay grades, \$17 for those in the E-5 to E-9 pay grades, and \$22 for all officers.

People may buy tickets by calling the following representatives:

- 35th Fighter Wing -- Capt. Barry Cole, 226-3669
- 35th Operations Group -- Master Sgt. Doug Olson, 226-1704
- 35th Support Group -- Staff Sgt. Glen Armand, 226-4245
- 35th Logistics Group -- Master Sgt. David Marlow, 226-1582
- 35th Medical Group -- Airman 1st Class Shanta Cameron, 226-8750
- Security Hill agencies -- Senior Airman Bobbie Dutko, 226-4166

For more information, call Maj. Doug Frank at 226-6040.

Recognition program continues

Army and Air Force Exchange Service customers may highlight outstanding store employees for exceptional performance and customer service through the exchange's associate recognition program.

To recognize an employee, people pick up special tokens from the exchange's branch and general manager. Customers then hand the token to the employee, who in turn receives special recognition from the exchange.

For more information, call the AAFES general manager's office at 222-7410.

Clarification

Ronardo Reeves was misidentified in a photo which appeared on Page 8 of the July 30 issue of the *Northern Light*.



photos by Staff Sgt. Brian Orban

Tanabata time

(Above) Dressed in traditional Japanese kimonos, students from the Misawa City area mug for the camera during the city's annual Tanabata Festival, which ran from July 30 to Sunday. Thousands of people from Misawa Air Base and surrounding communities packed the city's streets to take part in the celebration, which featured brightly-colored decorations suspended across the streets near the base.

(Right) Base youngsters go for a cruise around part of the 35th Contracting Squadron's parking lot. Kiddie cars and other children's attractions rounded out the food, fun and entertainment available for people of all ages during the festival.

**Drills stress tower evacuation**

As a way to test Misawa Air Base's response against possible emergencies or terrorist threats, response forces here recently started the first in a series of drills to see how fast they could evacuate people from the base's high-rise apartment towers.

People must know how to safely get out of their homes in these nine-story buildings in the event of a fire or major earthquake, according to Chief Master Sgt. Giuliano, base fire chief.

During a evacuation drill July 9, the base took the next logical step in this plan -- how to get these people out of the towers during a terrorist incident.

Attacks aimed at U.S. service members, like the Khobar Towers bombing in 1996, coupled with the overall increase in terrorist attacks against U.S. government facilities overseas, prompted base officials to review current security plans and make needed changes, according to Giuliano.

To better protect military members and civilian employees on base, Misawa's senior leaders tasked the force protection working group to develop and test a new tower evacuation plan, which it would use during the unlikely event of a terrorist threat directed towards these apart-

ments, Giuliano said.

The plan features two objectives. "First and foremost, we want to quickly and safely evacuate tower residents and off-base residents living in close proximity to a tower from any potential terrorist threat," the chief added.

Once the residents are safe, response teams would then move in to eliminate any potential threats.

The force protection working group, which includes representatives from the 35th Security Forces Squadron, 35th Civil Engineer Squadron and 35th Transportation Squadron, said last month's exercise was a big success.

Officials added they plan to hold these exercises about once every three months. To ensure the plan works as expected, officials are unable to give tower residents prior warning since this would detract from the realism these drills stress, according to the chief.

"During any emergency or training situation, it's important for members of the base populace to fully cooperate and show patience and understanding while emergency responders take the necessary and appropriate actions to mitigate a situation," Giuliano said. *Information courtesy of the 35th Civil Engineer Squadron.*

U.S., Japanese students share cultures during this year's homestay programs

From staff reports

Misawa's teens and young adults are broadening their understanding of the local culture while making friends with their Japanese neighbors during various "homestay" programs held over the past several days.

A variety of base agencies use the summer season to host the programs in which Japanese teens spend a weekend with American families on and off base. Meanwhile, Japanese families are opening their doors for Misawa youth and teens.

Earlier this week, Edgren High School students left for Aomori City as part of the school's Nebuta Festival homestay program. Besides attending the festival, which draws roughly 3.8 million people each year, the students will dance and sing in the event's parade. As part of the experience, the teens will stay with Japanese families in the city.

"It is important not just to study and see the Nebuta Festival but to experience and participate in it first hand," said Hirotohi Mikami,



photo courtesy of the Family Support Center

As part of this year's homestay program festivities, the Family Support Center hosted a barbecue Saturday to give American and Japanese families a chance to meet for food, fun and games.

Edgren's host nation studies teacher. "It is very important that the students experience sleeping, eating and cooking as their hosts do and not just read about it from a text book. In order to learn about Japanese life, you must experience it. These students are going to gain more knowledge about the culture and customs of Japanese homes in just two days that would equal to a textbook written on the subject."

Meanwhile, the Family Support Center finished its annual homestay program Saturday. Over the last two weeks, American families took in 27 Japanese students from the local area while nine base teens

stayed a weekend with families in the Misawa City area.

Eleven-year-old Dorothy Stern, one of the homestay participants, said the event was a great cultural experience and something she had looked forward to getting involved in.

"It was a once-in-a-lifetime thing," she said.

Dorothy added it was challenging at first in bridging the language barrier, but it got easier and a lot of fun as the weekend continued.

Tiffany Thone, who just arrived at Misawa with her family June 18, said she wanted to take advantage of this "good learning experience."

She admitted there were some minor but unique differences between American and Japanese families, like the ways the homes are arranged and the types of foods they eat. However, Tiffany added the adventure was definitely something she'd try again.

Dorothy added there were other cultural differences that were a lot of fun. For example, she had a chance to sleep on futons on the floor, which was a lot like camping out. Also, she discovered that many traditional Japanese breakfast foods differ greatly from the cereal and toast that many American children are used to.

The reasons why people get involved in the homestay program differ. People like Hidekazu Baba, who hosted two American students in his home last month, said he got interested because his older daughter was interested in learning English. She got her wish to stay with a family on base, and he wanted to return this act of kindness by allowing others to visit his home.

Baba added the homestay program is something he'd like to see expand to allow more U.S. and Japanese children to get involved. *Nichole Finklea, Petty Officer 3rd Class Richard Etolen and Airman 1st Class Stephanie Newhall contributed to this story.*

Work remains to integrate women into military

by Staff Sgt. Brian Orban
35th Fighter Wing public affairs

Although the U.S. military has made great progress in integrating women into jobs once held exclusively by men, there is still a lot of work ahead to ensure the military continues this positive trend, according to the leader of the group looking at issues regarding women in the military.

Mary Walmsley, chairwoman for the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services, or DACOWITS, said the main obstacle affecting military women today is changing the attitudes and "archaic thinking" of some service members.

"The thinking that military women in the service today face is the attitude of people who are unwilling to think that the best qualified, most knowledgeable and most skilled person for the job might be a woman," Walmsley said during her team's stop here last week. She added the military must eliminate the "good old boys network" that inhibits women from entering certain career fields.

"By and large, it goes back to getting past our own bias and just recognize the best person for the job," she said.

Misawa was the last stop in the group's tour of the Pacific, which included stops in Korea and other bases in Japan. During its tours at each Pacific base, the committee held focus groups to hear what's on the minds of military women and

'By and large, it goes back to getting past our own bias and just recognize the best person for the job.'

— Mary Walmsley

men. Discussion topics covered issues ranging from equal opportunity, military force development and quality of life.

DACOWITS uses information gained during these visits to make recommendations to the secretary of defense to help change laws and policies regarding military women.

For example, the committee is currently exploring the difference in promotion rates for female Army officers and senior noncommissioned officers, the Navy's policies to prohibit women from serving on mine sweepers and submarines, and how to improve the DoD's Tricare Prime health care program.

In talking with military women, Walmsley said the push to integrate females into various career fields stems from the fact these people are fully capable of tackling the challenges that come with the job.

"What we hear is women pilots saying 'I'm a qualified Blackhawk helicopter pilot. Why can't I fly into combat?' or 'I'd really like to be able to have the prestige and experience that comes

with being with the artillery,'" she said.

In short, DACOWITS goes to the military services and asks them why women can't do these jobs and tasks the services to provide suitable explanations, Walmsley said. If there's no reasonable explanation or rationale for those fields to be closed to women, the committee recommends changing or eliminating these restrictions.

Over the past 25 years, Walmsley has seen many similarities between the military and civilian organizations when it came to allowing women to fill certain roles. When she considered a military career in 1974, her only option in the service was to do "a woman's job," she said. So she decided to look elsewhere and eventually found a police department in Lakewood, Colo., willing to accept someone who didn't fit the established height and gender other police departments demanded.

Being part of DACOWITS gave Walmsley a unique opportunity to see the progress the military has made to integrate women into its ranks.

"I've been astonished of the things women have accomplished, whether it's being the commander of a shuttle mission, leading a company in Panama or being the captain of a combatant vessel. Those things are astonishing."

Despite these advances, Walmsley added there's still a lot of work ahead.

"We cannot continue to exist as the finest society ever without the contribution of women."

Misawa warrior of the week**Airman 1st Class Micah Clark**

Unit and occupation: Mental health technician with the 35th Medical Group's mental health clinic

Hometown: Lufkin, Texas

Time in Air Force: 14 months

Time at Misawa: Two and a half months

Hobbies: Travel, camping, reading and exercising

How does Airman 1st Class Micah Clark exemplify the Air Force's core values? "This Airman epitomizes the term 'service before self.' In less than three months at the mental health clinic, her dedication to duty and tireless efforts have markedly added to the quality of our mental health services."

— Maj. Bradley Grinage, chief of mental health services



photo by Staff Sgt. Milo Ware

As part of her on-the-job training program, Airman 1st Class Micah Clark practices interview techniques with co-worker Staff Sgt. John Rhodes.

Peters confirmed as SECAF

WASHINGTON -- F. Whit-ten Peters was confirmed by Congress late last month as the new secretary of the Air Force.

During his confirmation hearings July 21, Peters testified before the Senate Armed Services Committee on a broad range of subjects including the F-22, recruitment, retention and the expeditionary aerospace force. He now sheds the title of acting secretary that he's carried for the past 20 months.

"I greatly appreciate the confidence and trust the President, Secretary [William]

Cohen and the Senate have placed upon me to lead our nation's Air Force into the 21st Century," said Peters.

"The 20 months I've been part of the Air Force team have been challenging and extremely rewarding. General [Michael] Ryan and I have formed a strong leadership team and will continue to remain focused on taking care of our outstanding people and laying the foundation for the expeditionary aerospace force that will meet the challenges of the new millennium. I look forward to continuing that effort

in partnership with our Total Force -- active duty, Guard, Reserve and civilians.

"I look forward to serving our nation with the same sense of pride, dedication and commitment demonstrated by our outstanding Air Force men and women. They serve proudly, with great professionalism and make enormous sacrifices on behalf of our great nation. It is truly a privilege to be a part of the Air Force family."

Peters is the 19th confirmed secretary of the Air Force. There have been six acting Air Force secretaries. (AFP)

Y2K plan on schedule, officials say

by Petty Officer 3rd Class Rich Etolen
American Forces Network Misawa

Misawa continues to proceed on schedule to prepare itself for the end of the year and for possible situations caused by the Year 2000 computer problem.

"Right now, the base is doing really well," Senior Master Sgt. Michael Hashberger, 35th Fighter Wing Year 2000, or Y2K, program manager. "We've taken a look at just about everything that we know to look at and assessed it. For the most part, the base is Y2K compliant."

However, the task force looking at how the computer problem could affect Misawa is still urging people to be prepared, "so they aren't fearful of Y2K," Hashberger added. "We don't expect anything to happen, but we're prepared just in case it does."

Power loss remains the primary concern when it comes to Y2K, the sergeant said. However, plans are in place so an extended power outage won't halt the base's day-to-day mission.

"Work would still continue although it may be a bit slower," he said. "Base agencies will still be able to function in a worst-case scenario."

When it comes to people's households, the sergeant again stressed the need for people to check their emergency survival kits to ensure they have enough supplies to keep them comfortable for three to five days. Blankets, spare batteries, flashlights, radios and plenty of non-perishable food and water packed into an emergency kit are already a must at Misawa due to the possibility of the base being hit by a major earthquake or typhoon. Since Y2K problems may knock utilities off line temporarily, it makes sense to check these kits again before the end of the year.

For more information on Y2K at Misawa, call 226-2312.

SQUASHING the Y2K bug

**Misawa salutes ...**

Senior Airman Jesse Childers, 35th Fighter Wing, for being selected as the wing command post's superior performer of the month.

Misawa Air Base's yard of the month winners:

Junior enlisted main base category -- **Petty Officer 1st Class Daniel Wedeking**, Naval Air Facility Misawa

Junior enlisted north area category -- **Staff Sgt. Martin Chapman**, Detachment 15, 372nd Training Squadron

Senior noncommissioned officer main base category -- **Chief Master Sgt. James Harper**, 35th Supply Squadron

Senior NCO north area category -- **Senior Master Sgt. Bryan Brown**, 35th Maintenance Squadron

Officer main base category -- **Martina Smith**, Army and Air Force Exchange Service

Officer north area category -- **Capt. Anthony Lapoint**, 750th Military Intelligence Detachment

Members from the 35th Operations Support Squadron who recently received the following medals:

Meritorious Service Medal -- **Maj. Gregory Dzoba**

Air Force Commendation Medal -- **Capt. Richard Armstrong** and **Staff Sgt. Derrick Clark**

Air Force Achievement Medal -- **Capt. Gregory Soukoup** and **Senior Airman William Bender Jr.**

'Heir Born'

The following children were recently born at the Misawa Air Base Hospital.

CURTIS -- Chief Petty Officer Dennis and Bobbi Curtis, a son, Jeremiah Robert, June 24.

RUSSIN -- Staff Sgt. Dennis and Robin Russin, a boy, July 17.

For more information about this column, call the Northern Light office at 226-3814.

Time to CERL: 88 days

Evaluators from Headquarters Pacific Air Forces are scheduled to test the 35th Fighter Wing's wartime skills during a combat employment readiness inspection starting Nov. 1. To help people prepare, the 35th FW's inspector general's office reminds people to not be afraid to refer to their Ability to Survive and Operate guide just because an evaluator is watching them.

"You were given those books for a good reason," said Senior Master Sgt. Bruce Harayda, the wing's deputy inspector general. "On the other hand, you do need to be familiar enough with the guide to quickly find the information you need. A major command inspector isn't going to be impressed with someone thumbing through their ATSO guide for 15 minutes looking for correct self aid and buddy care procedures. By that time, their buddy is probably already dead."

Today

Theater -- "Wild, Wild West" (PG-13) Will Smith and Kevin Kline, 7 and 9:30 p.m.

Youth Center -- A summer barbecue runs from 5 to 8 p.m. The cost is \$1 per person.

Teen Center -- A teen lock-in starts at 7 p.m.

Saturday

Theater -- "Wild, Wild West" (PG-13), 1:30, 7 and 9:30 p.m.

Youth Center -- Castle Maze family fun runs from 1 to 3 p.m.

Teen Center -- Teens wash cars starting at noon to help raise money for the center's August tours. A teen dance runs from 7 to 11 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation -- Outdoor Recreation's new batting cage opens from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. featuring free batting and prizes. A bay fishing trip runs from 5:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Sunday

Theater -- "Twin Dragons" (PG-13) Jackie Chan and Maggie Cheung, 7 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation -- An equalizer three-person paintball tournament and lunch runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Monday

Theater -- "Doug's First Movie" (G) animated, 10 a.m. "Twin Dragons" (PG-13), 7 p.m.

Family Support Center -- A Mexican cooking class begins at 10 a.m.

Youth Center -- An air hockey tournament starts at 5 p.m.

Teen Center -- The center's "Job Ready" program begins at 2 p.m. at the Teen Center.

Outdoor Recreation -- Outdoor Recreation holds a beginner's scuba class.

Tuesday

Theater -- "Trippin'" (R) Deon Richmond and Maia Campbell, 7 p.m.

Family Support Center -- Japanese culture classes start at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. A simple sweets cooking class begins at 10 a.m.

Teen Center -- Open microphone and pizza night begins at 5 p.m. The cost is \$1 per person.

Wednesday

Theater -- "Election" (R) Matthew Broderick and Reese Witherspoon, 7 p.m.

Family Support Center -- A "Making Ends Meet and Dreams Come True" class begins at 8 a.m. An Italian cooking class starts at 10 a.m.

Outdoor Recreation -- Outdoor Recreation hosts a teen hike to the Hakkoda Mountains. A bay fishing trip runs from 5:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Thursday

Theater -- "Election" (R), 7 p.m.

Family Support Center -- Japanese survival classes for beginners starts at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. The Spouses Together and Ready and Ombudsman Galaxy groups meet at 6:30 p.m.

Teen Center -- The base's Big Brother and Big Sister group meets at 6 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation -- A teen beach day runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and features free high-speed boat and bumper boats rides as well as volleyball and Frisbee tournaments.

Entertainment

■ **Nebuta festival** -- Nebuta festival organizers need base members to dance during the event Wednesday in Aomori City. The festival includes free costumes for all participants. Applications are available at the Mokuteki Community Center. For more information, call the center at 226-4128.

Teen and youth events

■ **Youth center events** -- The Lunney Youth Center offers a variety of activities in August. The center's "What's Up? I'm Outta Here" workshop for people in grades four to six who have recently arrived here or are preparing to leave the base runs from 6 to 10 p.m. Aug. 13. A dance runs from 8 to 10 p.m. that evening and costs \$2 per person. The center also holds a trip to Fucuchi Water Park from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 12. The cost is \$20 per person. A back-to-school dance for children in grades one to three runs from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Aug. 20. A back-to-school dance for children in grades four to six runs from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Aug. 27. For more information on these and other events, call the youth center at 226-3220.

■ **Teen center events** -- The Teen Center offers a variety of events in August. A club house party runs from 7 to 11 p.m. Aug. 13. Admission is free for members and \$1 for non-members. A job ready workshop starts at 2 p.m. Aug. 16. A "got skillz?" basketball tournament starts at 6 p.m. Aug. 20. A trip to Yomiuri Land runs from Aug. 24 to 26. The cost is \$100 per person. For more information on these and other events, call the center at 226-2170.

Travel

■ **FSC tours** -- The Family Support Center offers a tour of Komaki resort at 9 a.m. Aug. 13 and a train tour of Hachinohe City at 8 a.m. Aug. 14. For more information or to sign up, call the center at 226-4735.

Classes and education

■ **Upcoming FSC classes** -- The Family Support Center offers a variety of classes in August. A back-to-school transition assistance program workshop starts at 8 a.m. Aug. 17. An adult and children's sign language class begins at 4 p.m. Aug. 18. A kimono dressing class starts at 5:30 p.m. Aug. 25. The two-day seminar "7 Habits of Highly Effective Families" starts at 5 p.m. Aug. 30 and 31. The center also offers its survival language and Japanese and American culture program for beginners the first and second Thursday of each month and an advanced class the third and fourth Thursday of each month. Japanese culture classes start the first and second Tuesday of each month, while American culture class for foreign-born spouses begin the third and fourth Tuesday each month. For more information on these and other classes, call the center at 226-4735.

This 'n' that

■ **IG posters available** -- The 35th Fighter Wing inspector general office has new posters outlining its policies and who to contact with IG-related issues. People should replace existing posters with the new, blue poster dated June 4, 1999. For more information, call the IG office at 226-3692.

■ **Red Feather cookbooks** -- The base's Red Feather committee is accepting recipes for use in its new cookbook, which it will sell copies of during its annual campaign. People may submit recipes for their favorite appetizers, beverages, dips,

soups, salads, main dishes, Japanese cuisine, desserts and more. People may submit recipes via e-mail to gjmoran@heronet.ne.jp or sathers@heronet.ne.jp. The book will feature 150 to 200 recipes from people across the base. People may also reserve copies of the book by calling Staff Sgt. Birk Stathers at 226-3271 or 222-6461.

■ **Yosakoi Soran festival begins** -- The local Yosakoi Soran, which features traditional Japanese dance and music festival, runs from Wednesday next to the giant ferris wheel at Shimoda Mall in nearby Shimoda City. Performances run from 1 to 2 p.m. and again from 3 to 4 p.m. that afternoon. People from the base are invited to be a part of the festival or to watch the activities. For more information in English, call the mall's information counter at 0178-50-3210.

■ **Popeye's hours change** -- Popeye's restaurant now opens from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. every day. For more information, call the restaurant at 222-7772.

■ **Home educators meet** -- Misawa's home educators group meets at 6 p.m. Monday in the Overstreet Memorial Library conference room. The meeting is open to all base families that home school their children. The group also hosts a welcome tea at 6 p.m. Aug. 23 in the Tower 118 recreation room. The meeting is geared for families interested in educating their children at home. For more information, call Terre Zamzow at 222-8024.

■ **Senior NCO induction ceremony** -- The Misawa Top III group hosts this year's senior noncommissioned officer induction ceremony, which starts at 6 p.m. today at the Tohoku Enlisted Club. The ceremony welcomes newly-promoted master sergeants into the top three enlisted pay grades. People may sign up in their unit orderly rooms.

■ **School bus registration** -- Parents may register their children for bus transportation for the 1999 to 2000 school year and have their child's bus pass printed by stopping at the bus office in Bldg. 1310 weekdays through Aug. 13. For more information, call 226-9119.

■ **Mutsu family barbecue** -- The Shimokita International Friendship Association hosts a family barbecue from noon to 2:30 p.m. Aug. 22 in Suigenchi Park in Mutsu City. The event is located north of Misawa Air Base off Route 338. Maps are available. The cost is 500 yen for people ages 13 and up and 300 yen for those up to age 12. To sign up or for more information, call 0175-22-1111, extension 224, or 0175-23-5178.

Chapel

■ **Fellowship picnic** -- The base's Catholic parish holds an outdoor Mass and fellowship picnic starting at 10:30 a.m. Aug. 15 at Leftwich Park. The event moves to the Edgren High School cafeteria in the event of inclement weather. For more information, call Bob Stern at 222-7709 or the Chapel at 226-4630.

Catholic Masses

Monday through Thursday — Noon

Saturday — 5 p.m.

Sunday — 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Protestant services

All services are held Sunday unless noted

Liturgical — 8 a.m.

General service — 11 a.m.

Inspirational service — 2 p.m.

Praise and worship — 4:15 p.m.

Jewish Services

From 7 to 9 p.m. first and third Friday every month

Islamic services

From 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fridays

Time out

Intramural softball		
East Division		
Team	W	L
35th SUPS A	6	0
Spy Guys	12	1
35th CES	10	2
Scrub	9	1
Rowdies	9	2
VP-47	6	4
35th SVS	4	4
DeCA	4	5
Daze	4	5
35th MDG	5	8
Marines	4	7
Baker	3	7
NAF	2	7
AFN	2	11

Charlie A	4	1	2
Dawg 2	4	1	0
35th CS	3	1	1
35th CES C	1	3	1
NSGA 2	1	3	1
Ammo	1	2	1
35th TRANS	1	2	0
Marines	1	4	0
Daze	0	3	2
301st IS	0	2	0

Upcoming games (Field 2)
Today
 5:30 p.m. - 35th SUPS A vs. 35th CES
 6:40 p.m. - 35th OG vs. 35th SVS
 7:50 p.m. - Marines vs. DeCA
 9 p.m. - Charlie vs. Dawg
 End of regular season

West Division		
Team	W	L
Ammo	12	2
Charlie	9	1
35th MXS	9	3
Patwing One	9	3
3rd SPSS	8	4
35th SFS	7	4
NAF Ops	7	5
35th TRANS	7	7
35th CPTF	7	6
35th CS A	6	8
Dawg	5	8
AAFES	4	10
NSGA	3	10
35th SUPS B	1	11
FISC	1	11

Upcoming games (Field 4)
Today
 5:30 p.m. - FISC vs. Charlie
 6:40 p.m. - Patwing One vs. 3rd SPSS
 7:50 p.m. - NAF Ops vs. 35th MXS
 End of regular season

**East and West Division
 playoff schedule**
Saturday (Field 2)
 10 a.m. - Charlie vs. 3rd SPSS
 11 a.m. - 35th OG vs. Daze
 Noon - 35th SUPS B vs. 35th SFS
 1 p.m. - 35th SFS vs. Patwing One
 2 p.m. - Patwing One vs. 35th SUPS B
 3 p.m. - NSGA vs. FISC

Women's Division		
Team	W	L
35th SUPS	8	0
Daze	5	3
35th SVS	5	3
13th FS	4	3
35th MXS	4	3
35th MSS	4	4
Spy Girls	2	5
Charlie	1	5

Playoff results
Monday
 35th MSS 1, 35th SVS 0 due to forfeit
 35th MXS 1, 13th FS 0 due to forfeit
 Daze 0, Spy Girls 0 due to double forfeit
 35th SUPS 1, Charlie 0 due to forfeit
Tuesday
 35th MSS 16, 35th MXS 2
 35th SVS 15, 35th MXS 1
Wednesday
 35th MSS 17, 35th SUPS 12
 35th SVS 15, 35th SUPS 0

Intramural soccer		
Team	W	L
35th OG	6	0
35th MXS	3	0
35th CES	4	1
301st IS	2	1
35th CS	3	3
NSGA	1	4
NAF	1	4
35th TRANS	1	5
35th SUPS	1	5
35th MSS	forfeited	

Intramural golf			
Team	W	L	T
35th CES A	4	0	1
14th FS	3	1	0
NAF 2	3	1	0
35th SUPS	3	1	0
Daze 1	2	2	1
3rd SPSS	1	2	0
35th SFS	1	3	0
Dawg 1	1	3	0
35th MDG	1	3	0
NSGA 3	0	3	0

Wednesday League			
Team	W	L	T
35th MSS	4	0	2
35th MXS	5	1	0
Charlie B	5	1	0
Able	3	1	1
35th OSS	2	1	2
35th SVS	2	2	1
35th CPTF	2	3	0
35th CES B	2	3	1
NSGA 1	2	5	0
Patwing One	1	2	0
Daze	1	4	1
MDMAU 12	0	6	0

Thursday League			
Team	W	L	T
NAF 1	6	0	0

Varsity soccer

July 29 game result
 Misawa Jets 5, Yabentoe 1



Youth baseball and softball

Minor League			
Team	W	L	T
Blue Jays	3	1	0
Devil Rays	4	1	1
Reds	3	3	1
Mets	1	4	0

July 26 game result
 Devil Rays 15, Mets 14
July 29 game result
 Reds 6, Blue Jays 4
Saturday's game results
 Reds 7, Mets 4
 Blue Jays 7, Devil Rays 6

Major League			
Team	W	L	T
White Sox	3	2	0
Marlins	2	2	0
Reds	2	2	0
Indians	3	3	0
Brewers	2	3	0

July 26 game result
 White Sox 6, Brewers 5
July 27 game result
 White Sox 13, Marlins 7
July 28 game result
 White Sox 12, Indians 11
July 29 game result
 Brewers 5, Indians 4
Saturday game results
 Marlins 19, Indians 3
 Reds 5, White Sox 3

Softball League			
Team	W	L	T
Royals	5	0	0
Expos	2	2	0
Phillies	1	2	0
Pirates	0	4	0

July 26 game result
 Royals 13, Phillies 9
July 28 game result
 Royals 18, Pirates 16
July 30 game result
 Royals 14, Expos 8
Saturday's game results
 Phillies 20, Expos 10
 Phillies 15, Royals 0



Youth summer basketball

Team	W	L	T
Outlaws	2	0	0
No Limit Allstars	1	1	0
Thundercats	1	1	0
Lakers	0	2	0

Saturday's game results
 Bulldogs 36, Lakers 32
 Outlaws 50, Thundercats 36
Tuesday's game results
 Outlaws 40, No Limit Allstars 37
 Thundercats 32, Lakers 15

Upcoming games
Tuesday
 6 p.m. - No Limit Allstars vs. Lakers
 7:15 p.m. - Outlaws vs. Thundercats
Aug. 13
 6 p.m. - Outlaws vs. No Limit Allstars
 7:15 p.m. - Thundercats vs. Lakers

For more information about the base's intramural and youth sports programs, call the Potter Fitness Center at 226-3662 or the Lurney Youth Center at 226-3882.

Scheduled games are subject to change without notice.



photo by Senior Airman Marcel Mercier

Keep away

Misawa Jets' Heath Jennings tangles up with a player from the Misawa City Yabentoe during city league action July 29. The Jets improved to 1-1 after they crushed the city team 5-1. The Jets look to extend their winning record as they take on Tamakeri at 7:20 p.m. today at First Junior High School.

Navy Ops swats in eleven, slips past space squad

This column is compiled from information supplied by varsity, intramural, high school and youth sports coaches and team publicists. For more information on how to submit game results, call the Northern Light office at 226-3814.

Intramural softball

NAF Ops 11, 3rd SPSS 10

Down by six going into the sixth inning, the Navy Operations squad swatted in seven runs to slip past the 3rd Space Surveillance Squadron 11-10 July 26.

"After we scored in the first inning, the 3rd started hitting and stopped every chance we had to score another run," said Navy coach Shawn Voges.

Chuck Moore scored the Navy's last run to clinch its sixth inning comeback.

"Going into the last inning while we had the lead, the whole team made some outstanding plays," Voges said. "We kept our defense strong and didn't allow our win to slip from our hands."

"The whole NAF Ops team played an outstanding game and got a well-deserved win. We have had a couple of games [over the past weeks] that we shouldn't have lost, and this win helped make us feel a lot better."

Youth baseball and softball

Devil Rays 8, Reds 8

Trailing by six runs, Sean Austin got the Devil Rays back into the game while Angel Jimenez hit a key homerun to allow the Rays to knot the score at 8 against the Reds July 24.

"Even though our team was down by six runs, we still had a positive and winning attitude," said Rays' assistant coach Robert Stolt. "Most of all, we had good defense and smart playing from the whole team."

Stolt also applauded the parents and fans who packed the bleachers. "It really helped us keep our spirits up and kept us charging."

Devil Rays 15, Mets 14

Devil Rays' pitcher Samantha "Ace" Monette shut out the Mets in their last at bat at the top

of the last inning to set the stage for the Rays' 11-run rally to squeak past the Mets 15-14 July 28.

Coming back from a 4-14 deficit, the win marked the second comeback win for the Rays in less than a week.

"It took the whole team to stay focused to score those runs," said Rays' coach Robert Cabral. "It also proved to those watching [the game] that the game isn't lost until the game is over."

Reds 5, White Sox 3

Randy Johnson blasted a grand slam home-run deep into center field as the Reds beat the White Sox 5-3 Saturday afternoon.

Despite fielding only eight players, Sox pitcher George Foss held the Reds at bay for three straight innings.

Reds' outfielders Johnathan Johnson, Randy Johnson, Kyle Moore and J.R. Dunbar combined in the field to keep the Sox off base, according to Reds' coach Chuck Moore. "Our defense was stellar with two double plays, a pick off at third base and a tag out in a pickle. The Reds backed each other up beautifully. Someone was always there on time and in the right place."

Facing two outs with bases loaded late in the game, Reds' pitcher Andy Crawshaw went the distance by striking out the last Sox batter to keep the Reds ahead.

"The game was never out of reach for either team, and despite the heat, it was a very exciting and enjoyable game," Moore said.

Marlins 9, Reds 4

Down by seven runs, the Reds rallied in their last at bat, but fell short as the Marlins stayed ahead of the Reds 9-4 Monday evening.

"We gave up five runs in the first and played catch up the whole game," said Reds' coach Chuck Moore.

The Marlins pitching crew gave up only two hits and three walks. Despite the pressure, Andy Crawshaw and Kyle Moore each drew a walk then stole their way home as the Reds manufactured runs with only two hits.

Brad Stieger, Randy Johnson and Johnathan Johnson pulled together to reinforce the Reds defense in the field.