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May 2000

934th Airlift Wing,
Air Force Reserve Command,
Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport
Air Reserve Station, Minn.

VIKING FLYER



Staff Sgt. Stephanie Robinson

Civil engineers
successfully complete
their first aerospace
expeditionary force tour

Tent town in Turkey

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On the cover

Master Sgt.
Troy Ranum,
934th Civil
Engineer
Squadron,
deployed to Turkey
on the unit's first
aerospace
expeditionary force
tasking. For more
on the tour, see
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Staff Sgt. Stephanie Robinson

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News on the run ...

- May lunch entrees:
Not available at press time.
- UTAs: June 3-4, July 8-9,
Aug. 5-6, Sept. 9-10.
- Fiscal 2001 schedule not finalized.
- May UTA pay date: May 15.

Commentary

Good deeds, done legally

Community service projects must clear well-defined hurdles

Col. Dean Despinoy
Wing Commander

Reservists take great pride in their ability to help the community by using the skills they have learned in the Air Force Reserve.

Various events and organizations have enjoyed the fruits of reservists' hard work and knowledge over the years. Generally, the "good deed" involves minimal logistical support and is done for nonfederal and nonprofit organizations. Performing these "duties" in status, however, can be somewhat of a slippery slope.

Performing any function in a pay status must be with the approval of your commander. Remember, any time you are in status, with rare exceptions, you are in uniform. When in uniform, you represent the Air Force, Air Force Reserve and the 934th Air Lift Wing.

Your commander must make several determinations before allowing you to perform a service or deed for the community:

- Support must not interfere with the performance of official duties and must in no way detract from readiness.
- Both community relations and military training interests are served by the support.
- It is appropriate for the military to be associated with the event.
- The event or project benefits the local community.
- The unit is willing to provide the same support to comparable organizations and events.
- No admission fees, beyond what will cover the reasonable costs of sponsoring the event, will be charged.

Additionally, the good deed must meet the definition of "Civil-Military Innovative Readiness Training." When providing civic and community assistance, it will be through IRT activities. Primarily people from the areas of health care, services, transportation and civil engineering

accomplish these activities.

There is now one more major consideration that must be taken into consideration. The IRT activities must not be in competition with any private-sector sources. We must be very careful not to take work away from a private contractor. If the capability exists that a private contractor only perceives possible work is being taken away through IRT activities, it is generally enough for the activity to be disapproved.

No matter how pure the intentions, a unit can find itself on thin ice on this issue. Therefore, the approval level for IRT activities is at a very high level. The squadron commander must write a complete description of the proposed activities to me. I then forward the request with my recommendation for approval all the way to the Secretary of the Air Force level.

The issue of taking work from the private sector and the regulation concerning this issue is new. Therefore, if your squadron is taking part in IRT activities, you must take a new look and make sure you are not in violation of the new directives. Having done something for years is not a good acid test to know if it is legal now or in the future.

Remember, all of the restrictions apply only to performing activities in status. Reservists may volunteer their own time for many activities in their civilian capacity. Your status as a member of the Reserve does not preclude you from being a good citizen on a voluntary basis when not on duty.

(I would like to thank the 22nd Air Force judge advocate for providing information for this article through his paper, "How To Ensure That A 'Good Deed' Does Go Unpunished.")



Despinoy

Deputy secretary sworn in

Rudy de Leon was sworn in as the 27th deputy secretary of defense March 31.

In his most recent position, de Leon served as the under secretary of defense, personnel and readiness, assuming those duties in August 1997. *(Air Force Print News)*

C-5 pilot submits resignation

The Air Force has accepted a resignation request submitted by a C-5 pilot who disobeyed an order from a superior officer to receive the Department of Defense mandated anthrax vaccine. The request came in lieu of further discharge proceedings.

Maj. Sonnie Bates, Dover Air Force Base, Del., received an under honorable conditions (general) discharge. He exercised his option to submit his resignation request in response to administrative discharge action being initiated by his wing vice commander. Bates had previously accepted nonjudicial punishment under Article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. *(AFPN)*

Base Exchange news

Randolph, Eglin selected as 'best in world'

For the second straight year, the Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, Army and Air Force Exchange Service was named best in the world for customer satisfaction, tying with Eglin AFB, Fla., in winning the Commander's Award for Excellence in Customer Service. *(AFPN)*

Gas prices ride roller coaster

Not exempt from excise taxes or market trends, AAFES is taking it on the chin at the gas pump. A sharp rise in gasoline prices worldwide has seen the U.S. average price for a gallon of unleaded reach \$1.54. This has driven the

AAFES-wide average price to \$1.45.

"AAFES prices its gasoline equal to or less than the lowest price in each grade as surveyed in an installation's surrounding local market," said **John Owen**, senior business manager for auto service. "Our cost price is market-driven, and our fuel is subject to all federal and most state taxes."

AAFES policy is to conduct gasoline price surveys weekly, but in times of high price fluctuation and unstable markets, prices are surveyed daily. *(AFPN)*

Book of the quarter selected

The Air Force chief of staff's reading program, started in 1997, is designed to promote personal professional development for all Air Force members, military and civilian. Each quarter, one of the books from the reading list is spotlighted as the book of the quarter, and all members are encouraged to read the featured title.

This quarter's featured book is "They Also Flew: The Enlisted Pilot Legacy, 1912-1942," by Lee Arbon.

□ For more information on this book and others on the list, visit the Website at:

<http://www.af.mil/readinglist>
(AFPN, "must run")

Leaders take new commands

Three Air Force Reserve Command leaders will be assuming new commands this spring.

Brig. Gen. James Bankers, assistant vice commander, Headquarters AFRC, will assume command of 22nd Air Force, Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., effective May 7. He replaces **Maj. Gen. John Bathie Jr.**, who will transfer to a joint service assignment in Germany.

(BRIEFS IN BLUE, continued on next page)

Air Force honor

Viking Flyer achieves highest award in its 22-year history

The 934th Airlift Wing magazine, the *Viking Flyer*, won second place funded newspaper, magazine format, in the 44th Annual Air Force Print and Broadcast Media Contest for 1999, announced in late March. This is the highest honor earned in its 22-year history.

Cherie Huntington has edited the magazine since 1992. Significant contributors recognized were **Tech. Sgt. Janet Byerly**, who left the Reserve in January; **Tech. Sgt. Larry Dean**; and **Staff Sgts.**

Suzanne Runtsch and **Jeffrey Williams**.

"I dedicate this honor to the memory of **Master Sgt. Tim Turner**," Huntington said. Turner, former editor and top feature writer for the paper for nearly 20 years, died with cancer in December. "Things just aren't the same without him."

The first place Air Force magazine was the *American Defender*, Air National Guard, Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. In third place was the *Leading Edge*, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

In earlier Reserve competition, the *Viking Flyer* won first place magazine and second place, command overall. First place, command overall, went to the *Associate Press*, McChord AFB, Wash., which competes in the small, funded newspaper division. The second place magazine was the *Starlifter*, Andrews AFB, Md.; and third place, the *Mohawk*, Whiteman AFB, Mo.

Huntington also edits the *Northstar Guardian*, the local ANG newspaper, which has been No. 1 in the Guard for four of the last five years, with a second place in 1996. □

Test flight: New symbol enters test phase; guidelines provided on use

Air Force officials announced guidelines outlining appropriate uses for the new Air Force symbol.

The symbol, which is being tested by Air Force leaders, will be used in a variety of ways, including outreach communication and advertising to promote recruiting, retention and general public awareness of the Air Force and its value to the nation.

The guidelines represent the latest step in the testing of a new program to tell the Air Force story to airmen already in service, to young people considering military service, and to people who influence retention and recruiting decisions. Several versions of the design and the guidelines are available to the military and public on the World Wide Web at:

www.af.mil/airforcestory

"We're excited to be able to make the design available to everyone and, based on the questions we've already received, I think we'll be seeing a lot of it," said **Brig. Gen. Ron Rand**, Air Force director of public affairs.

The new symbol, which was introduced in January, is an update of the classic Hap Arnold Army Air Corps wings, which were reintroduced in 1994. Looking both like a bird of prey and a medal, the new symbol can now



U.S. AIR FORCE

be used on "perishable" items such as stationery, presentation slides, hats, T-shirts and coins, officials said. The symbol should not be applied at this time to "nonperishable" uses such as aircraft, vehicles, buildings and base entrance gates.

"This symbol is one part of an effort to more effectively tell the Air Force story and present a consistent Air Force image," Rand said.

"Eventually, when someone sees this symbol, they should immediately identify it with the Air Force.

"The design has many possibilities for use in a variety of settings," he continued. "There's a white-on-black version, a white-on-blue version, a metallic version suitable for pins and a version which incorporates our existing major command emblems."

The symbol is also available in several different formats, including versions that can be downloaded by anyone inside or outside the military. It can also be used with just about any type of software.

"This symbol doesn't replace any we've used in the past," Rand explained.

"And this initiative is much more than a new symbol or advertising slogan," he said. "It's part of a comprehensive effort to improve recruiting and retention, both of which are serious problems that directly affect our readiness and ability to accomplish our mission.

"We recognize that change causes turbulence, and if this symbol is eventually adopted formally, the long-term cultural change we envision will take years," he continued.

"Meanwhile, we'll continue to test it... and we'll pay close attention to the feedback we get."

People can send comments and feedback to:

afstory@pentagon.af.mil

"The new symbol is a great combination of our history and our future," Rand said. "It will be the most visible part of our plan to make sure everyone in and out of uniform knows what it means to be an airman."

Briefs in blue ...

(Continued from previous page)

Col. Freddie Hegler, director of reserve affairs for U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Ramstein Air Base, Germany, will become commander of the 913th Airlift Wing, Willow Grove Air Reserve Station, Pa., at a date not yet set.

Col. Oral Carper, commander of the 939th Operations Group, Portland International Airport, Ore., will take command of the 932nd AW, Scott AFB, Ill., on or about June 18. (AFRC News Service)

for purchase of government office supplies. The store is located upstairs in the supply facility, Bldg. 801.

Store hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

For more information, call (612) 970-4010 or 1011.

Membership drive starts

The Air Force Sergeants Association annual membership drive runs through the June unit training assembly. Unit orderly rooms and first sergeants have AFSA application forms. Membership in professional military organizations is widely encouraged.

For more information, write or call AFSA Chapter 858, 10007 Harriet Ave. S., Bloomington MN 55420-4726, (952) 884-6077. Also, see the AFSA Web site at:

<http://www.afsahq.org/> □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Local

New supply store opens

The new base supply store, operated by Associated Industries for the Blind, is now open

Anthrax answers

Fighting myths, misinformation can prove worse than shot

Partial truths, misinformation and misinterpretation about the anthrax immunization are driving some people to make career-altering decisions based on fear, rather than fact.

Just the facts, Jack

To help people understand the facts, here are answers to a few of the most commonly-asked questions.

How do you know this vaccine is safe?

Anthrax vaccine has been proven safe during more than 29 years of use. The Food and Drug Administration, which has the strictest quality criteria of any industrialized country, has repeatedly verified that anthrax vaccine is safe and effective.

Every vaccine lot is tested for sterility, safety, purity and potency before distribution.

In her written congressional testimony, **Dr. Kathryn Zoon**, director of the FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research stated, "We believe anthrax vaccine is a safe and effective vaccine for the prevention of anthrax disease – an often-fatal disease.

"Our confidence in this vaccine, like all vaccines, is based upon four components: first, the clinical trials and subsequent clinical laboratory experience with the vaccine; second, ongoing inspections of the manufacturing facility; third, our lot release requirements; and fourth, our ongoing collection of adverse event reports.

"We will continue our efforts in all four of these areas, with the anthrax vaccine and all vaccines, to assure that only safe products are on the market."

Rumors say the vaccine stockpile is contaminated; how do you know this isn't true?

No valid scientific or even circumstantial evidence exists to

support those rumors. Every lot is inspected and evaluated for sterility, safety, purity and potency. Testing is done at the manufacturer and sometimes the FDA as well. At the defense department's request, additional testing with independent verification started in January 1998 on all stockpiled vaccine lots. Aren't a lot of people having serious adverse reactions to the vaccine?

Although one Air Force base is reporting a larger number of possible reactions than expected, across the Department of Defense, the number of side effects is very small and mostly very minor.

The intense focus and increased media coverage makes the number seem much higher than it is. Any vaccine can cause some people to have adverse reactions. Even vaccines we give our children produce some adverse reactions.

This vaccine is no different, but the numbers are smaller than most other vaccines and very few serious reactions have occurred.

The FDA has a reporting system to track unexpected adverse reaction and rapidly recall vaccines. This Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System is a nationwide system, not a military one.

Providers or patients may access this system to report reactions directly to the FDA. Although never intended to report all reactions, it works as an early warning system.

A team of civilian medical experts reviews these reports every four to six weeks, looking for trends or any indication that a vaccine may be causing an unexpected or severe reaction.

As of Oct. 20, only 362 adverse reaction reports have been filed on almost 1.2 million shots given to more than 350,000 people. Of the 98 serious reactions – loss of duty greater than 24 hours or

hospitalizations – only 64 have been judged by the expert panel to most probably be due to the vaccine. This is a rate of well less than .1 percent.

Anthrax in a nutshell

Anthrax is a vaccine, just like other vaccines. It protects against a bacteria just like typhoid, tetanus, diphtheria and many other vaccines. It just happens to be a bacterium that not only occurs naturally but also can be concentrated and used as a biological warfare agent.

All vaccines have some side effects. Usually these reactions are local and mild inflammatory reactions. Sometimes they are allergic, and rarely are they severe. When looking at the reaction statistics for other vaccines, it becomes clear that anthrax has very low rates of reaction.

For example, re-immunization with injectable typhoid vaccine causes tenderness in 98 percent of those immunized, feverish feeling in 4 percent of those vaccinated, malaise – a generalized feeling of illness – in 24 percent, headache in 11 percent and some type of pain in 56 percent.

These rates are much higher rates than anthrax, yet we take it willingly. DPT, a vaccine most people routinely give their children, causes a certain small percentage of those immunized to have reactions ranging from fever to severe neurological disease and behavioral changes. We take vaccines and we give them to our children because the risks from vaccination are minor compared to the risks from the disease.

The bottom line: Anthrax kills. The anthrax vaccine protects, and it's much safer than many routine immunizations. That's why medics, commanders, senior leaders and others who have researched the scientific facts have lined up to take this shot. (*Air Force Reserve Command, "must run"*)

Recruiting recruiters

Reserve looks within enlisted force to fill staff shortages

Pamela Nault

Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

While Air Force Reserve Command recruiters work to fill vacancies in a variety of career fields, they must also work to fill shortages within their own ranks. A program called "Recruit the Recruiter" aims to locate future recruiters from within the command's enlisted corps.

"Recruiting experience is not a prerequisite," said **Maj. Scott Ostrow**, chief of the command's recruiting training branch. "We're looking for enthusiastic enlisted members with five-level training in their career field, who are interested in an Active Guard and Reserve

renewable tour in recruiting."

A full-time AGR assignment in recruiting, according to Ostrow, includes full pay and allowances, \$375 per month special duty pay and great promotion potential. "We'll provide the required training," he said.

Potential applicants should visit their unit's senior recruiter for an initial interview and to complete an application. Accepted applicants travel to command headquarters for further evaluation. Then it's on to five weeks of recruiting training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

□ For more information on becoming a Reserve recruiter, call **Senior Master Sgt. Kay Martin**, wing senior recruiter, Ext. 1454. (AFRC News Service) □

When Frannie met Andy

Wing enlists another 'balloon buddy' to spread good word about Reserve service



Staff Sgt. Stephanie Robinson

Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Williams
Public Affairs

The green flight suit lent a rather flattering olive tint to the major's latte-colored skin. Nearby palm leaves and camouflage netting provided a bit of combat-style mystique.

Flightsuit Frannie, the wing's newest "recruiter," made her debut recently before thousands at the Government on Display Expo at the Mall of America, Bloomington, Minn.

Like her counterpart, Airman Andy, Frannie is a 10-foot tall, inflatable-suit mascot made out of a durable blend of plastic and nylon.

"We had complete say in rank and gender," said **Senior Master Sgt. Kay Martin**, senior recruiter, discussing Frannie's purchase. "We also determined the hair, eye and skin colors."

She said Airman Andy, purchased last year, is a master sergeant molded in a "Caucasian" image.

"They compliment each other so well," Martin said. "We gave Frannie dark hair and her skin a darker tint ...

□ A potential recruit poses with Frannie (left) and Andy.

She slightly resembles an African-American, yet she also slightly resembles a Hispanic. We chose an aircrew major complete with the 96th Airlift Squadron and 934th Airlift Wing patches."

While fewer than 50 percent of Air Force Reserve Command units have these mascots, Martin said the 934th is only the second to have more than one. The 439th Airlift Wing at Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass., also has both Airman Andy and Flightsuit Frannie.

"Westover is a difficult recruiting area historically, which is why they have both," she said. "We don't have that problem here, so we look at it as an insurance policy against future manpower shortages."

Martin said requests have already come from AFRC units at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., and Milwaukee, Wis., to borrow the mascots. Wing members who wish to borrow one for local events may do so on a case-by-case basis.

"We are only limited by manpower and manday costs," Martin said. "We are always looking for volunteers to man them. Unit members can have a lot of fun."

□ For further information, contact the recruiting office at (612) 713-JOBS or 5627. □

Tent, sweet tent



Tech. Sgt. John Kline

The engineers lived in tent homes, protected with sandbag walls and offset with a homey touch: decorated doors.

Civil engineers take on tent life on first aerospace expeditionary force tour

Tech. Sgt. Larry Dean
Public Affairs

The 934th Civil Engineer Squadron logged a first with their aerospace expeditionary force deployment of 10 people to Turkey in February.

The deployment was the base's first AEF assignment, and the engineers were part of the first CES deployment to meet the tasking with 100 percent manning.

"We were tasked by headquarters to provide support to the Operation Northern Watch forces who have been in place for a number of years at Incirlik Air Base to monitor the no-fly zone between Iran and Iraq," said **Master Sgt. Dennis Geyen**, heating, ventilation and air conditioning section.

Tech Sgt. Mark Anderson, power production section, said the deployment provided a great opportunity to put past training to work.

"This was a great deployment to give us the chance to work directly with all of the equipment we've trained for and to provide real-world maintenance support for a 350-tent city," said Anderson. "The city is on a Turkish owned and operated base, which meant deploying and following Turkish laws during our stay. There are no American flags on the base, and all equipment belongs to the Turkish military when Operation Northern Watch eventually ends. Americans can't put up anything permanent."

Master Sgt. Troy Ranum, structural shop, said, "We were responsible for maintaining the tent city power supplies, heating and cooling for tents, boilers for heating

water, installation of 'Kline Avenue' [nicknamed after **Tech. Sgt. John Kline Jr.**, air reserve technician working in production control on the tour] and basic ongoing repairs and maintenance to a fully accommodated tent city."

He added that the living conditions were first class, despite what many envision when they hear they are going to stay in a tent city.

"The tent city included a full concrete floor, so tents were warm and dry," Ranum said, "and four to five people shared a tent. There were refrigerators, televisions and laundry facilities in the tents, so it was a fairly comfortable assignment — even more comfortable than staying in billeting at some bases."

Other engineers who deployed included **Senior Master Sgt. Jeff Gustafson**, **Master Sgts. Bob Senst** and **Bob Swartout**; **Tech Sgt. Tom Schutz**; and **Staff Sgts. Bob Rice** and **Anthony Osborne**. □



Tech. Sgt. John Kline

Tech. Sgt. Mark Anderson maintained and monitored the power plant in "tent city."



Staff Sgt. Stephanie Robinson

Staff Sgt. Anthony Osborne worked in the utilities shop at the base.

May mobility exercise

Cherie Huntington
Public Affairs

The wing's semiannual mobility exercise set for Saturday, May 6, represents a "very large lab experiment," according to **Capt. William Short**, wing plans director.

The experiment centers on using a different personnel processing center and a new way of managing unit type codes, or UTCs.

"We've eliminated the air passenger terminal and minimized wait times," Short said. "People will go from processing and briefings straight to the airplanes."

Considering the smaller size of

Day's events test deployment process

typical deployments under the aerospace expeditionary force structure, focused on UTC needs, conducting processing in an aircraft hangar is no longer necessary, explained Short. People and cargo will be processed in Bldg. 813, a small facility that used to be a paint shop, located behind mobility storage, Bldg. 803.

Approximately 300 people and 38 increments of cargo will be involved. Each person must process with both a personal readiness folder and personal bag packed with required military clothing for deployment.

Two cargo loads and passengers will be put on aircraft. The wing exercise assistance team will evaluate the day's events.

"We haven't done this in a year," said **Master Sgt. Anthony "Zack" Zacheretti**, logistics plans craftsman, "so this should help people get in that mode and hopefully reacquaint themselves with the unit deployment manager. People should use this as a positive learning experience."

A few people are required to report early, such as those staffing work centers or processing on the first "chalks," or aircraft loads. Most activities are expected to be complete by the end of the normal duty day. □

Changing face of deployments, inspections

Aerospace expeditionary force processes smooth out as taskings are filled

Tech Sgt. Larry Dean
Public Affairs

The aerospace expeditionary force is alive and well here and has at least one successful deployment under its belt—the recent civil engineer deployment to Turkey (see story, previous page).

Capt. William Short, wing plans director, said AEF packages include not only aircraft, crews and maintenance members but expeditionary combat support—such as security forces, civil engineering and services—to support them during contingencies anywhere in the world.

"AEF brings us a new readiness process with some areas to smooth out," Short said, "but it will be a much better way of handling the operations and contingencies that the military will face in the new millennium."

AEF tasking is based on unit type code rather than unit, he explained. Many units throughout the active-duty and reserve forces will contribute to UTCs to build an AEF "rainbow" package to accomplish the mission.

Short said the AEF is designed around a 15-month rotation schedule. Each UTC is tasked on this schedule, planned to cover known hot spots for the next five years.

"Some of those hot spots include Southwest Asia, Europe in support of Bosnia and Kosovo missions, and drug interdiction contingencies in South America," he said.

Ten AEF packages serve every 15-month cycle. Odd-numbered AEFs are assigned to Southwest Asia; even-numbered, to Europe. Two are always deployed to their

respective theaters. Two additional AEFs remain stateside, alternating on and off alert status for contingencies.

While the active-duty force meets a single 15-month UTC rotation, multiple Reserve and Guard units may make up a 15-month rotation to fulfill a UTC commitment.

"We have four AEF deployments on the schedule through the end of this calendar year," Short said. "Those would be our scheduled rotations for Coronet Oak to Puerto Rico twice, Joint Guardian in Europe and a couple of people tasked for AEF 7."

A new process has started for readiness testing as well—expeditionary operational readiness inspections, or EORIs.

"The inspector general can review a unit's readiness by inspecting them while they are participating in a real-world contingency," said Short. "The IG has just stated that a team will not visit units to inspect mobility processing unless it's a deployment involving a large number of people, around 100–150."

Short said inspectors can be invited to score UTCs involved in any major deployment. Otherwise, inspection requirements may be met via IG exercises, or IGXs, at four combat readiness training locations: Volk Field, Wis., Alpena, Mich.; Gulfport, Miss.; and Savannah, Ga. UTCs must be inspected every five years.

"The military is adjusting to this AEF concept and will continue to do so," said Short. "But AEF is here to stay and will make the Air Force even better equipped to handle the hot spots around the globe and meet the Air Force mission." □

Mobility in action

Rodeo officials prepare for 'best ever' competition

Rodeo 2000, Air Mobility Command's premier airmobility competition, promises to be the best ever, said Rodeo officials.

"It's going to be full-force mobility in action," said **Maj. Gen. Si Johnson**, this year's Rodeo commander and commander of the Air Mobility Warfare Center, Fort Dix, N.J. "We're talking active duty, Guard, Reserve and international teams competing to be the best of the best."

From May 6-13, more than 80 aircraft representing more than 100 teams from 17 countries will bring in about 3,500 competitors, observers, umpires and support people to Pope Air Force Base, N.C.

Teams from will compete in areas including airdrop, aerial refueling, aircraft navigation, special tactics, short-field landings, cargo loading, engine running onload/off-load, aeromedical evacuation and security forces operations.

Seventy-eight total "best" trophies and awards will be presented this year to both teams and individuals.

"In past Rodeos, we usually handed out all the awards on the last day," said Johnson, "but this year, we're going to give out the individual awards every day during the week."

Closing ceremonies will feature the remaining 34 major team awards. □

RODEO 2000 7i6

Wing teams head to air mobility contest

Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Williams
Public Affairs

The 934th Airlift Wing team plans to continue a winning tradition in Rodeo 2000, the worldwide airmobility competition at Pope Air Force Base, N.C., May 6-13.

The wing won "Best C-130 Airdrop" in its last Rodeo in 1994.

"This year we are bringing a whole new crew," said **Maj. Mark Vijums**, 96th Airlift Squadron and Rodeo aircraft commander. "We're going back to defend our title."

Vijums said the airlift competition consists of a heavy drop of a vehicle or artillery piece; a container delivery system drop, resembling a small pallet; a personnel drop, comprised of troops from the U.S. Army; and an

ERO, or engine running off-load/on-load, along with a short-field landing with pinpoint accuracy.

In the ERO, the goal is to load a Humvee and a pallet within seven minutes. "Right now, we are just under eight minutes in our practices," Vijums said.

Teams from the 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, 934th Maintenance Squadron and 27th Aerial Port Squadron will also compete in the weeklong competition.

"The judges look at the nuts and bolts of the aircraft for maintenance rating," Vijums said. "We will give it a good spit-shine before we go."

The advice he gives is simple and direct. "The biggest thing is to have fun out there," he said. "Then on May 13, we'll come home with the trophy." □



Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz

Field fixin's

This year's Readiness Challenge team members from the 934th Services Squadron, including Staff Sgt. Mary Miller-Huff, right, practiced setting up back-to-back mobile kitchen trailers during the April drill, serving a hot lunch for their families in appreciation for their support. This year's competition is set for April 29-May 5, at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.

27th Aerial Port Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Mark Pierson

An eight-member team deployed in March to Aviano Air Base, Italy, our first annual tour there. Members will work under the direction of Air Mobility Command, facilitating their aerial port operations. At home station, the squadron is preparing for the 22nd Air Force staff assistance visit in June, and our Rodeo team is gearing up for competition at Pope Air Force Base, N.C., in May.

934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

Staff Sgt. Shana Strozewski

The unit performed a local training mission during the April drill, providing important training for our flyers and ground support members. We also welcomed home unit members from exercises in Hawaii and Germany.

934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Staff Sgt. Gino Marchetti

No report.

96th Airlift Squadron

Senior Airman Jess Lind

No report.

934th Civil Engineer Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Randy Matthews

Eleven firefighters returned from their annual tour at Yokota Air Base, Japan. Fifty percent of the unit completed their annual fitness walk, and 75 percent completed chemical warfare refresher training. Eighteen members completed M-16 firing and qualification. The engineering section

Wing roundup



Staff Sgt. Suzanne Runtsch

surveyed the clinic in preparation for contractor bidding for their new mezzanine storage area. **Senior Master Sgt. David Halverson** attended Rodeo training in New Mexico.

934th Communications Flight

Staff Sgt. Stephanie Robinson

Master Sgt. Sonja Fisher will attend the Senior Noncommissioned Officer Leadership Course, Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, N.Y., April 29-30. **Master Sgt. Edward Johnson** and **Senior Master Sgt. Karen Wilson** developed a slide-show presentation on the unit's performance indicators.

934th Logistics Support Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Tom Stratton

The supply section spent the April drill preparing for the May mobility exercise. The entire squadron is gearing up for the June staff assistance visit.

934th Maintenance Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Steven Lerbakken

The squadron said goodbye to **Maj. Chris Lewis** and welcomed **Maj. Toby Hammer** as the new

commander. We also said goodbye to two retirees, **Master Sgt. Mike Gough** and **Tech. Sgt. Gordy Stransky**. Post-inspection operational checks were completed on aircraft 7852. Ancillary training tasks, such as the rifle range and three-mile walk, were performed.

934th Operations Support Flight

Master Sgt. Cara Utecht

No report.

934th Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sgt. Tom Theis

Unit members participated in training for traffic stops, response force, handcuffing and searching. **Master Sgt. Dave Hardy** and **Tech. Sgt. Ken Olson** both passed the physical training pretest for the Air Force Phoenix Raven course in May. Ravens are the elite security forces team deploying with aircraft to provide security in high-terrorist, high-crime locations.

934th Services Squadron

Senior Airman Kristen Maloney

The Readiness Challenge team heads to Barksdale Air Force Base, La., April 21, for



Wing around the world: May

27th APS: California, Italy, Georgia, New Jersey

934th AES: Illinois, Texas

96th AS: No report

934th ASTS: No report

934th AW HQ/MSF:

No report

934th CES: Japan,

New Mexico, Texas

934th CF: Georgia,

New York

934th LSS: Missouri

934th MXS: Delaware,

Florida, Georgia,

Hawaii, North Carolina,

Turkey

934th OSF: No report

934th SFS: Colorado,

Florida, Texas

934th SVS: Florida,

Louisiana

This list shows official travel destinations for wing members, via commercial or military transportation. Call the 96th Airlift Squadron, Ext. 1741, or the local Air National Guard wing, Ext. 2450, for space available travel information. □

a week of intensive training. They then depart for Tyndall AFB, Fla., for competition (see photo, Page 9).

Wing Headquarters/ 934th Mission Support Flight

Staff Sgt. Linda Jimenez

No report. □

Promotions

The following individuals were promoted under the Promotion Enhancement Program for outstanding performers:

Tech. Sgt. Melinda Koukol, AW
 Master Sgt. Curtis Nelson, MXS
 Master Sgt. David Nelson, CES
 Tech. Sgt. Robert Payne, CES
 Tech. Sgt. Roxanna Steffen, SVS

Newcomers

- Airman 1st Class David Barrett, MXS, *non-prior service*
- Maj. Dennis Brown, ASTS, *Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.*
- Staff Sgt. Robert Butterfield II, AW, *Air Reserve Personnel Center, Denver*
- Maj. Anthony Determan, AS, *McChord AFB, Wash.*
- Senior Airman Chad Johnson, MXS, *Luke AFB, Ariz.*
- Master Sgt. Wanda Kauffman, ASTS, *ARPC*
- Staff Sgt. Karl Maier, APS, *prior service Army National Guard*
- Staff Sgt. Tanny Wochnick, SVS, *Individual Mobilization Augmentee*

Air reserve technicians

- 1st Lt. Robert Rettig, AS, *from local traditional position*

Civilians

- Barry Tudor, SGPB, *Army Corps of Engineers, safety and occupational health, Tulsa, Okla.*

Extensions/reenlistments

Airman 1st Class Jennifer Brooks, LSS
 Staff Sgt. Kathy Carter, APS
 Master Sgt. James Dalton III, APS
 Senior Master Sgt. Michael Dressen, APS
 Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Engle, SVS
 Staff Sgt. Shawn Fischer, AES
 Staff Sgt. Patrick Fruzyn, MXS
 Tech. Sgt. Roy Goins, MXS
 Senior Master Sgt. Clark Johnson, CES
 Tech. Sgt. Douglas Johnson, SVS
 Master Sgt. Stephen Korolenko, ASTS
 Staff Sgt. Laura Kruse, APS
 Staff Sgt. Roger Latterell, CES
 Staff Sgt. Glenn Lemmerman, APS
 Senior Airman Charity Lusteck, CF
 Staff Sgt. Thomas Niedzielski Jr., SVS

Master Sgt. Mark Olson, MXS
 Staff Sgt. Randy Schmidt, MXS
 Staff Sgt. Holly Thiede, LSS

Commander's coins

Commander's coins are presented by the wing commander to deserving members following recommendation by unit commanders and chiefs. The coins recognize outstanding professionalism and dedication. Members recognized in April include:

Staff Sgt. Michael Allen, CF
 Tech. Sgt. Crealeo Alverio, APS
 Tech. Sgt. David Anderson, ASTS
 Master Sgt. Timothy Atchley, ASTS
 Tech. Sgt. Samuel Baty, MXS
 Capt. Richard Crespo, AES
 Senior Airman Cory DeMuth, CF
 Tech. Sgt. William Doty, APS
 Master Sgt. Ruth Duffy, SVS
 Staff Sgt. David Dudash, MXS
 Staff Sgt. James Endres, CES
 Master Sgt. Paul Fisher, ASTS
 Capt. James Frame, ASTS
 Capt. Carol Freerks, AES
 Staff Sgt. Kathleen Gottschalk, ASTS
 Master Sgt. Michael Gough, MXS
 Senior Master Sgt. James Gustafson, ASTS
 Staff Sgt. Brent Haynes, AES
 Staff Sgt. Brian Iverson, LSS
 Staff Sgt. Gregory Kuhn, APS
 1st Lt. Robert Levy, AES
 Staff Sgt. Scott Lindell, APS
 Staff Sgt. Kent Long, APS
 Master Sgt. Curtis Nelson, MXS
 Staff Sgt. Cherie Penn, APS
 Tech. Sgt. Dean Plank, MXS
 Chief Master Sgt. David Skirka, CES
 Staff Sgt. Thomas Theis, SFS
 Master Sgt. Jason Velasquez, OSF

Education

- **Staff Sgt. Steve Hawkins**, CES, scored 90 percent on his end-of-course exam.
- **Senior Airman Thomas Keough Jr.** and **Tech. Sgt. Josef Kniesz**, APS, each scored 90 percent on their three-skill level career development courses.
- **Tech. Sgt. Scott Wilson**, MXS, scored 94 percent on his end-of-course exam.

Achievements

- **Tech. Sgt. Charles Colstrom**, LSS, received a certificate of appreciation from the mission commander of Coronet Oak in Puerto Rico for the rotation ending March 11.
- **Master Sgt. Ruth Duffy**, SVS, received a letter of appreciation for her temporary duty in Saudi Arabia.
- **Staff Sgt. Len Haagenson**, LSS, was selected as the Unit Service Contributor of the Quarter.
- **Senior Master Sgt. Dennis McLean**, SVS, received a letter of appreciation for his work in February's Government on Display at the Mall of America, Bloomington, Minn.
- **Airman 1st Class Daniel Mellesmoen**, SFS, was selected as the Security Forces Member of the Quarter for January through March.

• The 934th Communications Flight selected members for its Look Sharp Award for the past three months:

January

Senior Airman Cory DeMuth
 Senior Airman Russell Robertson
 Senior Airman Mark Schmidt
 Staff Sgt. Robert Zak

February

Senior Airman Thu-mai Christian
 Senior Airman John Herrick
 Staff Sgt. Jeffery Teschendorf

March

Senior Airman Mark Schmidt

Births

Eric Ortiz, CF, and his wife, **Leah**, have a new daughter, **Sienna Lei**, born Feb. 22, weighing 7 pounds, 8 ounces.

Retirements

Joan Bolesworth, SCB, 29 years
 Master Sgt. Michael Gough, MXS, 23 years
 Tech. Sgt. Gordon Stransky, MXS, 20 years

Helmer Printing
PAID
U.S. Postage
Bulk Rate

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
934TH AIRLIFT WING/PA
760 MILITARY HIGHWAY
MINNEAPOLIS MN 55450-2100



Window on the world

Master Sgt. Pete DeSanctis, avionics guidance control systems craftsman in the 934th Maintenance Squadron, captured a glimpse of Greenland from a wing C-130 during a mission to Sweden. Wing members provided scientific research support flights in November to Kiruna, Sweden, for NASA.

(Got some Reserve travel photos you'd like to share? Call Cherie Huntington, editor, Ext. 1213, for submission details.)

Master Sgt. Pete DeSanctis