

the Gateway

The Gateway to Europe

Vol. 61, No. 04, Feb. 28, 2003, Rhein-Main AB, Germany

News Briefs

Rocket gate open

The gate near the Rocket Sports Lounge is now open for base entry from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday. This gate should be used by all USAREUR-plated vehicles, GOV rental cars, small vans and crew buses. The Main Gate is primarily for large and oversized vehicles and non-USAREUR-plated vehicles.

What's the frequency Kenneth?

The Rhein-Main Community Channel has changed frequency to 61.25 MHz. This change was made so every resident of Gateway Gardens can receive the channel, even those without cable. To receive the channel, residents will have to reprogram their channel or television to the proper frequency. Residents can also view the Kaiserslautern Community Channel on frequency 67.25 MHz without cable.

Award winners

Congratulations to the 726th Air Mobility Squadron Logistics Flight and Supply Section.

The logistics flight captured the 21st Air Force Small Unit Maintenance Effectiveness Award and the supply section won the Air Mobility Command Supply Effectiveness Award in the satellite category.

The squadron generated 2,690 Operation Enduring Freedom missions and moved more than 102,000 short tons of cargo and 328,000 passengers in 2002. Look for more on this story in the next *Gateway*.



Photo by Senior Airman Marie Cassetty

Working together

Airman 1st Class Donald Shaut, 469th Air Base Group Security Forces member, helps Obergefreiter Andreas Auer examine an ID card at the main gate Feb. 20. The 3rd Squadron Air Force Light Infantry Division, Fighter-Bomber Wing 31, "Boelko" from Kerpen, Germany, arrived at Rhein-Main on Feb. 19. They will assist security forces in manning base entry.

Relief for READYs

By 2nd Lt. Uriah Orland
Public Affairs

Rhein-Main security forces can now shift their forces and focus from base entry to other missions after the arrival of German troops from Kerpen, Germany, near Köln. But many enlisted troops are asking, "What about READYs?"

Naturally, the answer is — it depends on force protection needs.

"Force protection conditions and security forces requirements may necessitate other READY augmentation and training," said Master Sgt. J. Abdur-Rahim Saafir,

469th Air Base Group Ready Program Coordinator. "However, currently all READY troops are released from duty with the exception of two, one each for B and D shifts."

In the event that force protection levels change, the READY program will be implemented and a significant number of augmentees may be activated for an unknown period of time.

"Some flights may rotate personnel due to mission requirements," Saafir said. "However, for continuity, the majority of personnel will be assigned for the entire

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CMSAF speaks out:

People remain AF's strongest asset

WASHINGTON — As units throughout our Air Force deploy, posture for deployment, or ramp up for accelerated operations at home, it's important to know that senior leaders are aware of how hard each of you is working, and that they are grateful for your dedication to the mission.

Nowhere is that appreciation more evident than in the President's 2004 budget proposal, which was unveiled recently. In that proposal, the largest chunk of Air Force money is focused on you — our greatest asset. People and quality-of-life initiatives make up 34 percent of the \$93.5 billion in Air Force money.

The most tangible part of that budget for most of us is the proposed pay raise, which ranges from 2 percent for our E-1s to 6.25 percent for our most senior NCOs. I want to take a moment and explain the "why's" behind this proposal, and what it means to you as an enlisted airman.

We have enjoyed several targeted pay raises in the past four years in a concerted effort to bring our military pay into a comparable scale with that of our private sector counterparts with the same level of education and experience.

We have been very successful in doing that for the majority of our junior ranks — the compensation for an airman entering the Air Force out of high school is better than 85 percent of their former classmates who chose to

go to work in the private sector.

That does not take into consideration enlistment bonuses, or other special and incentive pays the Air Force provides to some skills.

However, the gap between civilian and military pay widens at the NCO and Senior NCO ranks, with our senior NCOs in some cases earning only half of what their civilian counterparts with the same skills, education and experience level earn.



By Chief Master Sgt. Gerald Murray
Chief Master Sgt.
of the Air Force

The 2004 targeted pay raise proposal will continue to address that gap, giving an average pay raise of 4.6 — 4.8 percent to NCOs, and between 5 percent to 6.25 percent for senior NCOs.

Another factor considered in setting this proposal was the time a person spends in a particular grade.

E-1s are in a transitional phase of their career. By the time an airman completes basic training and technical

school, most are already E-2s and E-3s.

The high promotion rates of the past few years have also driven average sew-on times down; the average time for promotion to staff sergeant is now 4.6 years, significantly less than years past. Those same E-1s coming in now with a 2 percent pay raise will enjoy the benefits of the NCO targeted pay raises much sooner than in the past.

While we know we can never pay you enough for the sacrifices you and your families make for our country, targeted pay raises are a good way for

More than just money

The 2004 budget also provides for an increased standard of living for many military members by:

— Reducing out-of-pocket housing costs from 7.5 percent to 3.5 percent for personnel living in private housing. These costs are scheduled to drop to zero in FY 2005.

— Keeping the DoD on track to eliminate inadequate family housing by 2007 — except for four stateside Air Force installations (complete in 2008) and overseas Air Force installations (complete in 2009).

— Providing \$15.3 billion for the Defense Health Program (\$500 million above FY 2003.)



us to reward the skill and experience of our retention-based force while giving our young airmen motivation to advance as they look up the pay scale.

In today's environment of high operations tempo, deployments and demanding missions, every member of our force is an integral part of the team, and we will continue to seek adequate pay and compensation for all you do.

The Air Force needs each one of you to understand the immense value you are to the organization and to continue to carry your weight every day.

Thank you for your dedicated service, and what you do for our Great Nation.

the **Galeway**

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*The deadline for the Mar. 14
edition of the Gateway is
4 p.m., Mar. 6.*

Planes, troops flood through Rhein-Main

726th AMS sets several command records; every airman pitches in to get mission done

By Louis Aranas-Barradas
Air Force Print News

Before Sept. 11, 2001, the 726th Air Mobility Squadron turned nearly a dozen aircraft a day. Currently, the average is 40 aircraft with about 2,200 people transiting the base during what is now considered a "normal" day.

Squadron airmen are responsible for terminal operations. The number of aircraft and people they deal with each day has pegged their overflow meter for several months. Ninety percent of the aircraft are military transports, 75 percent of which are C-17 Globemaster IIIs. The rest are commercial airliners and freighters.

The mission has never been busier, said 1st Lt. Eric McGreevy, officer in charge of the 726th AMS passenger terminal.

"This is the most hours I've worked in my 13 years in the Air Force," he said. "And most of the airmen here are working like two people."

Working like they are "in a zone," McGreevy said, to keep up with the massive airflow. The squadron had its busiest day last week when its troops met and quick-turned a record 104 aircraft and more than 3,700 passengers, he added.

"Everyone dropped what they were doing to help," McGreevy said. The squadron commander, admin troops, director of operations and even the staff judge advocate pitched in.

It is a lot more work than New Jersey reservist Tech. Sgt. "Wild Bill" Ciarrocchi ever imagined when he signed up for a six-month tour at this base near Frankfurt.

The work tempo is much busier than back home in New Jersey, where Ciarrocchi — a Vietnam War veteran — is a member of the 88th Aerial Port Squadron at McGuire Air Force Base, N.J.

"Most days I don't even have time to grab breakfast or lunch," Ciarrocchi said. "So you adjust."

The unit would be even busier if all the aircraft deposited or picked up cargo at Rhein-Main, but most of the cargo does not come off the airplanes. It stays on board while the troops file into a reception area to wait for ground crews to service the aircraft before the final leg of its journey to Kuwait or some other base in the Middle East.

After a nine-hour flight across the Atlantic, the troops are ready for a break. Inside, tables piled high with baked goods, cookies, coffee and soft drinks — all courtesy of the United Services Organization and base volunteers — await them. Last week, Girl Scouts donated cookies to arriving troops.



Photo by Master Sgt. Keith Reed

Airman 1st Class Trapper Green, 726th Air Mobility Squadron, directs soldiers bound for Kuwait onto a commercial airliner at Rhein-Main.

"It's nice to see people go out of their way to support us," Staff Sgt. Audier Irizarry said. The Brooklyn Marine Corps reservist was bound for Kuwait with a planeload of fellow Marines and sailors. "I bet this is the last bit of hospitality we'll get for a while."

When Air Force transports or commercial airliners full of troops stop at Rhein-Main, Ciarrocchi — a spry 55-year-old — and the much younger airmen he works with meet them. It is a job they sweat around the clock to do if they want to keep a leg up on the massive airflow. Sixteen-hour days are common and days off uncommon.

Ciarrocchi's sidekick, Senior Airman John Young, does quality assurance checks on arriving airliners. It is his job to ensure airlines adhere to their contracts with the military, and with the Air Force's Civilian Air Reserve Fleet now on line to help the Air Force, he has more work to do.

Last week, Young wrote up several airlines for minor infractions. He takes his job seriously and likes to ensure the troops have clean airplanes and plenty of good food.

"I like knowing I play a role, even if it's a small one, in what's going on in the world right now," Young said.

Working with their Reserve and Guard helpers, the Rhein-Main squadron handles more aircraft and passengers than any U.S. military base in Europe, McGreevy said.



Photo by Master Sgt. Keith Reed

The 726th Air Mobility Squadron works night and day to greet and launch more than 40 aircraft and more than 2,000 troops each day. The squadron processed 3,700 passengers to set a one-day record Feb. 7.

Airmen get piercings, more than bargained for in return

A Rhein-Main airman went downtown recently, had her tongue pierced and came back to a nightmarish evening.

While piercing her tongue, a vein was broken and began to bleed continuously. Over the next several hours, the airman's discomfort grew, causing her to remove the post in her tongue. Instantly, more blood came out of her wound and she fainted.

Responding paramedics sent her to the hospital for medical attention and she spent the night recovering from her mistake.

Another airman, who is stationed at Ramstein Air Base, recently had her tongue pierced. She made the mistake of drinking a beer before her tongue had fully healed.

The yeast in the beer infected the wound, causing her tongue to swell and block her ability to breathe. She was rushed to the hospital for medical treatment before she choked on her own tongue.

Both of these incidents caused the

Consider this ...

The Air Force has revised personal appearance guidelines in response to a trend involving extreme body modification and mutilation that is becoming common among a small, yet growing segment of the population, according to personnel officials. One of the more popular modifications is forking or splitting of the tongue.

This change is in Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel. It prohibits airmen from intentionally altering or modifying their bodies in order to achieve a visible effect that disfigures, deforms or otherwise detracts from a professional military image, said Lt. Col. Frank Pombar, chief of the Air Force quality of life programs and uniform branch at the Pentagon.

airmen great physical pain and put them in real danger.

What both airmen did not realize is that they were also violating the Uniform Code of Military Justice while wearing these piercings on a military installation.

Air Force Instruction 36-2903 states that Air Force members cannot wear a tongue piercing while on a military installation, whether on duty or off, in uniform or civilian clothing.

Anytime an Air Force member steps on a military installation, he or she cannot wear a piercing through the nose, tongue, or upper ear — regardless of what business they have on the installation.

Rhein-Main residents should keep in mind that Gateway Gardens is part of a military installation as well. Air Force members have little opportunities to wear a tongue, nose, or upper ear piercing.

If these two airmen had followed Air Force policy, they probably would have avoided a great deal of medical problems.

In addition, these airmen face administrative consequences and will most likely have to pay the bill for their medical services.

(Courtesy of 469th Air Base Group Legal Office.)

READY, from page 1

time because they understand and know the duties and tasks."

The augmentees must undergo six hours of specific training by security forces. This training includes topics such as use of force, vehicle searches, ID validation, authority and jurisdiction, base entry procedures, and random anti-terrorism measures. They also receive M-16 weapons training.

After training, augmentees are qualified and may be called into service at a moment's notice for support of base needs. When on duty augmentees are paired with security forces personnel and are considered members of security forces as well.

"I emphasize this a great deal as the security forces flight trainer that security forces personnel should treat READYs as SF members," said Tech. Sgt. Michael Vidaurri, READY program trainer. "They certainly have the same authorizations on duty as SF members have, however they still need guidance sometimes due to working less in the capacity as an SF member."

The Rhein-Main community respects them as security forces too.

"I have not heard negative feedback in regards to the treatment of READY personnel," said Tech. Sgt. Victor Odom, shift element leader. "People respect them and treat them the same as regular security forces members."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Matt Summers

Tech. Sgt. Michael Vidaurri, 469th Air Base Group Security Forces member, demonstrates the proper way to apply handcuffs for Staff Sgt. Dale Martin, (right) Det. 1 Air Postal Squadron, during READY training recently.

Currently there are 89 personnel in the READY pool.

"Force protection is everyone's responsibility," Saafir said.

READY troops currently assigned are from the 469th Air Base Group, 64th Replacement Company, Det. 1, Air Postal Squadron and the 726th Air Mobility Squadron.

AMC improves customer service

Patriot Express flights to have increased amenities; reserved seating now available

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — Upgraded meals, movie snacks and reserved seating are a few of the customer service improvements that passengers aboard Air Mobility Command Patriot Express flights can now look forward to.

“We are trying to get away from the old ‘cattle car’ image,” said Cindy Rothenbach of AMC’s Passenger Policy Branch.

“This all began about two years when Gen. (Tony) Robertson (then commander in chief of U.S. Transportation Command) established a commander’s focus group in partnership with the commercial charter carriers. The group looked at ways to improve overall quality of service as a means to enhance quality-of-life benefits for Patriot Express passengers,” said Rothenbach.

“Meals have been upgraded from economy or coach class to business class, with improvements in both quality and quantity,” said Rothenbach.

Special meals are also available, including vegetarian, kosher, diabetic selections and children’s meals. Meals can be requested through the local transportation office or passenger reservation center no later than 24 hours before departure. And snacks, including chips, cookies and candy bars are now available to passengers while they view in-flight movies.

“Another improvement this year is the change in our reserved-seating policy. Where before you couldn’t get a seat assignment until you checked in for the mis-

sion, passengers can now reserve their seat 90 to 120 days prior to departure,” said Rothenbach. “We hope to have the reserved seating system fully online in March.”

Fun kits for youngsters are another bonus for those flying on the Patriot Express. Children 12 years and younger can get a fun kit to help relieve the monotony of long flights. Kits are provided in cases or backpacks and include game books, puzzles, crayons and other child-oriented activities.

“This is really popular with some of the kids,” said Rothenbach. “They really appreciate them.”

“We are developing a brochure that will be available at passenger terminals and transportation offices which (is) designed to inform the passengers on what to expect when traveling on Patriot Express missions,” said Lt. Col. Darcy Lilley, chief of the Passenger Policy Branch. “We want people to know what to expect during delayed missions as well as the many amenities they can expect aboard AMC contract flights.”

When a flight is delayed at Rhein-Main, quality assurance evaluators ensure the carriers are giving the services that they are required to in accordance with the fiscal

year 2003 Airlift Contract (billeting, transportation, meals, etc.). Passenger service agents from the 726th Air Mobility Squadron are required to keep customers informed on the status of the delay and the terminal services available to them during the delay, according to Tech. Sgt. Robert Ezell, 726th AMS.

These services include the United Services Organization, a shoppette open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and a cafeteria open from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Passengers traveling with pets are allowed to see their pets if delays are more than two hours and the carriers are required to check on pets every 30 minutes during delays of less than two hours.

AMC continues to work aggressively with charter airlines and its customers to improve travel experiences for all DOD passengers, according to Lilley.

“We have a passenger feed-

back form on all contract flights that we rely on to let us know if we are serving our customers well,” said Lilley. “We carefully look at each and every one. We compile that information quarterly and use it to gauge how we are doing, and look for ways to improve our service.”

(Courtesy of AMC Public Affairs)

What it means to Rhein-Main

Rhein-Main currently offers specialty meals for passengers. To receive a special meal the passenger should contact the traffic management office or the passenger reservation center no later than 24 hours prior to the flight departure to have the request submitted to the contracted carrier.

Preassigned seating for Space-A required passengers is already in use. However, many SatoTravel offices are not complying yet, because it’s not in their contract, according to Tech. Sgt. Robert Ezell, 726th AMS. Contracts are in the process of being amended. To reserve a seat passengers must request it at the time of booking with TMO or Sato. TMO outbound assignments will preassign seats.

“We want our customers to expect overall quality service from the time they walk into the terminal until they reach their final destination,” said Ezell.

Rhein-Main Force Protection—Your life depends on it

Terrorists also depend on you. A dynamic threat environment demands our utmost vigilance and discipline.

The following tips will help provide security at home:

- Brief family members on your residential security and safety procedures. Ensure family members learn a duress word and keep it on file in your office.

- Advise associates or family members of your destination

and anticipated time of arrival.

- Don’t open the door to anyone until you know who it is.

- Ensure sufficient illumination exists around your residence.

- Be alert to strangers who are on government property for no apparent reason. Refuse to meet with strangers outside your work place. *(Courtesy of 469th Air Base Group Security Forces.)*

Spotlight on Rhein-Main

Staff Sgt. Leigh Bellinger, Air Force Television News, interviews Staff Sgt. Matthew Carman, 437th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron from Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., on the Rhein-Main flightline Feb. 20 for a story about Rhein-Main's role in Operation Enduring Freedom. The base has received increased media attention in recent months and has hosted several television and radio stations from the United States and Germany.



Photo by Senior Airman Marie Cassetty

CSAF briefs Senate on 2004 outlook

By Master Sgt. Scott Elliott
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper joined the other service chiefs Tuesday to give the Senate Armed Services Committee his view of how fiscal 2004 is shaping up.

Jumper testified on areas ranging from manpower shortages and concerns about aging aircraft to the promises of future aircraft currently in development.

The general addressed the increased operations tempo under which the Air Force worked throughout 2002 and into 2003. According to Jumper, more than 25,000 airmen have deployed during operations Enduring Freedom, and Northern and Southern Watch, launching nearly 80,000 sorties. In addition, more than 25,000 sorties have covered American skies as part of Operation Noble Eagle. And, airmen also participated in several humanitarian missions worldwide.

"Our (operations) tempo has been high and our people have been sprinting for a long time, but they never failed to answer the call," Jumper said.

One of the ways the Air Force has worked to relieve the stress in deployment schedules is to make more people available for deployment. A secretary-of-defense mandate called for the services to examine the jobs done by

military members to see if civilian employees could do them.

"If you take those tasks that do not need to be done by people in uniform and slip those people back over to uniformed slots, we can relieve the tension on our deployed forces," Jumper said. "In the Air Force alone, we found 12,000 people doing what we think didn't have to be done by people in uniform.

"So it's not just a matter of adding end-strength. It's a matter of making efficiencies of what you (have)," he said.

Another point of institutional stress facing the service is the cost of maintaining an increasingly geriatric aircraft fleet, Jumper said.

"Our average aircraft is 23 years old — the oldest we've ever had to deal with," Jumper said.

"We're facing corrosion and fatigue problems we've never seen before."

The cost of maintaining the aging fleet is increasing at a rate of about 10 percent per year, Jumper said. In addition, maintainers are working about 200,000 extra man-hours

per year to inspect engines.

On the plus side, the general praised the potential of the F/A-22 Raptor and the Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System aircraft.

"The F/A-22 will give us 24-hour stealth capability for the first time," he said. "It's

already got the qualities of the best air-to-air fighter in the world, but its main focus will be on what it can do air-to-ground.

"The Joint STARS is magnificent sensing device that we join with ground forces to give them moving target indications on the ground," he said.

Those additions to the fleet, along with a "total force" cadre of active duty, Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard and civilian men

and women who are the "best in the world," makes today's Air Force more ready than ever to answer the call.

"The Air Force has never not been ready," Jumper said. "We're ready for anything the president asks."



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jim Varhegyi

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper joined the other service chiefs Tuesday to give the Senate Armed Services Committee his view of how fiscal 2004 is shaping up.

Air Force Assistance Fund campaign underway

Local drive set to start in March; 100 percent of contributions to charities

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The Air Force Assistance Fund “Commitment to Caring” campaign starts this week. Officials ask airmen to contribute to one or more of four Air Force-related charities through cash, check or payroll deduction.

The charities benefit active-duty, Reserve, Guard and retired Air Force people, surviving spouses, and families. Charities receive 100 percent of AFAF contributions. This is the 30th year of the fund drive.

“Requests for assistance are up more than 13 percent since Sept. 11, 2001, while the investments that fund 70 percent of our programs are down 20 percent,” said Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Mike McGinty, Air Force Aid society’s chief

executive officer. “In 2002, we helped 34,000 people with \$24.1 million of assistance. That’s a lot of help.”

Charities under the AFAF umbrella include:

— The Air Force Aid Society, the official charitable organization of the Air Force. It provides airmen and their families with worldwide emergency financial assistance, education assistance and an array of base level community-enhancement programs. Local family support centers have full details on programs and eligibility requirements. Information is also available online at <http://www.afas.org>.

— The Air Force Enlisted Foundation at Fort Walton Beach, Fla., providing rent subsidy and other support to indigent widows and widowers of retired enlisted people 55 and older. More information is available at <http://www.afenlistedwidows.org>.

— The Air Force Village Indigent Widow’s Fund in San Antonio, a life-care community for retired officers, spouses,

widows or widowers and family members; includes indigent widows fund for widows and widowers of Air Force officers. The Air Force Villages Web site is at <http://www.airforcevillages.com>.

— The General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation, providing rent and financial assistance to indigent widows and widowers of officers and enlisted people in their own homes and communities. The LeMay Foundation Web site is at <http://www.info@lemayfoundation.org>.

Contributions to the AFAF are tax deductible as an itemized federal deduction. For more information on the AFAF campaign, visit the Air Force Personnel Center’s voting and fundraising Web site at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/votefund>.

The secretary and chief of staff of the Air Force announced a \$4.8 million goal for 2003. Last year Air Force people gave more than \$5.1 million.

(Courtesy of AFPC News Service)



The way to a Navy heart ...

(Right) Petty Officer 3rd Class Bradford Smith, a Navy Seabee from Lakehurst, N.J., from, enjoys a free meal at the Rhein-Main base chapel Tuesday. (Above) The chapel staff treated several dozen airmen and sailors to an “authentic” German meal of bratwurst and potato salad. The staff also delivered food to workers on the flightline and in the 726th Air Mobility Squadron passenger terminal. The chapel sponsors a free morale meal each Tuesday from 5 - 7 p.m. The chapel is in need of food and drink donations for each meal. Call 330-7501 for more information.



Photos by 2nd Lt. Uriah Orland

Service is our middle name

Pfc. Justin Skulicz, 64th Replacement Company cook, serves lunch to a Marine officer at the company's dining facility in Bldg. 370. The facility recently began offering theme lunches on Thursdays and Fridays. Soul food is available on Thursdays and steak and shrimp on Fridays. The facility is open to permanent party, temporary duty members and civilians. Lunch hours are 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday - Friday and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on weekends. Standard cost for lunch is \$3.25.



Photo by Senior Airman Marie Cassetty

Is it Black History or African-American History Month?

By Rudi Williams

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Some people call February Black History Month. Others call it African-American History Month.

That's not a problem, because the names are interchangeable, according to Barbara Dunn of the Association for the Study of African-American Life and History in Silver Spring, Md.

"We don't have a problem with either," said Dunn, executive assistant to association Director Irena Webster. "We call it Black History Month, and we have a committee that decides on the theme every year. This year, we selected 'The Souls of Black Folks: Centennial Reflections.'"

The theme ties with the 100th anniversary of the 1903 book, "The Souls of Black Folk: Essays and Sketches," by William Edward Burghardt Du Bois (Feb. 23, 1868 - Aug. 27, 1963). More widely known as W.E.B. Du Bois, he was an African-American educator, sociologist, author and a founder of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People — NAACP — in 1910.

"What is really powerful about the book is that he wrote about the African-American experience through songs. He talked

about how powerful the Negro spirituals are — the slave songs," Dunn said. "They're the singular spiritual heritage of the nation. It's one of the greatest gifts Negro people ever gave to the world."

Many other things have evolved out of Negro spirituals, she noted. "When you look at those songs, the lines, the feeling, the crying from those songs had a human expression that has transcended everything we do in society," Dunn said. "So when Dr. Du Bois put 'The Souls of Black Folks' together, he took a Negro spiritual and put it with a poem written by a white writer. This was the first time black and white were brought together in such a unique way.

"Music has always been something that can bring people together, and he did that in 'The Souls of Black Folks,'" she said.

Dunn said Du Bois often worked with Carter Woodson, the "Father of Black History," who started Black History Week in 1926. She noted that Woodson (1875-1950), an author, editor, publisher and historian, published works by people who couldn't otherwise get published.

Woodson chose the second week of February because two persons he felt had dramatically affected the lives of black Americans, Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, were born during the month. The observance became a month-long event in 1976.

"Initiating Negro History Week was probably the most powerful thing that has ever been done by one person to help people come together," Dunn said. "Dr. Woodson's whole idea was not just bringing attention to one race. He felt that bringing

attention to Negro and American history would help people who had a problem with race relations see the significance of what we as a people have contributed to American history. Then it would help them to stop seeing us as unequal."

Dunn said the Rev. Jesse Jackson in the 1980s introduced the term "African-American" because it connected blacks to the continent of Africa just as Chinese Americans are connected with China. Jackson, founder and president of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, is one of America's foremost civil rights, religious and political figures.

Download the book

The "Souls of Black Folk" can be downloaded from the University of Virginia Library's Electronic Text Center at <http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/DubSoul.html>.

A stitch in time

American Red Cross afghans a blend of history, art

By Staff Sgt. Matt Summers
Public Affairs

A salute to all ...

Those who risked their tomorrows for our todays, and those who continue to preserve our freedoms.

These simple, yet poignant words are stitched into each commemorative afghan purchased from the American Red Cross office at Rhein-Main.

Designed to capture the history of the base for generations to share, the afghans were the idea of Caryn Modawell, Rhein-Main ARC assistant station manager.

In April of 2001 she talked with colleagues who had undertaken a similar project at an Army installation in Germany. After researching the base's history, Modawell gathered pictures and decided what she felt would best represent Rhein-Main from its beginnings to the present day mission.

During a five-month span, she worked with a company in the United States and its art department to come up with a design.

"A design layout was conceived that would work with the looms and also

fulfill my hopes to present a lasting remembrance of Rhein-Main," said Modawell.

The afghans depict C-47 and C-54 aircraft taking off and landing during airlift operations, representing the base's role during the Berlin Airlift. A "Gateway to Europe" arch depicts the base's role as the hub of operations in the European theater.

The base's former air traffic control tower was chosen for its role in providing communication between ground support personnel and aircraft until its closure in 1995. Three birds, representatives of the Berlin Airlift Memorial stained-glass window in the base chapel, soar over an old and new Frankfurt skyline to represent the harmony of our two communities.



Photo by Senior Airman Marie Cassetty

Mona Vines, American Red Cross reserve station manager, checks out the highlights of the Rhein-Main ARC commemorative afghan.

The first 150 afghans were delivered in February of 2002 and to date the station has sold more than 200. A shipment of 50 arrived earlier this month and are currently on sale for \$55 each, plus shipping if sent by regular mail. All proceeds go to the ARC.

For more information, call the Rhein-Main ARC office at 330-7514.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Matt Summers

Cookie monster!

(From foreground) Katelyn Masters, Cailee Stark and Rebecca Stimson, students in Katie Bowker's third-grade class at Halvorsen-Tunner Elementary School, keep a hungry soldier from taking more than his fair share of cookies at the passenger terminal Feb. 13. The class passed out several hundred cookies to airmen, soldiers and Marines traveling through Rhein-Main. The school has several more visits to the terminal planned to help support the troops.

To be a winner —

All you need to give is all you have

“Quitters never win and winners never quit” was pounded into my head by my coach some decades ago.

Today, I see its truthfulness played out in a myriad of competitive fields: the gridiron, the office and life. I also haven’t met a person yet that did not want to be a winner — the difference has always been how much they were willing to expend. The same can be said of today’s warrior.

For some, the term “warrior” conjures an image of an army of courageous individuals or a single super-human able to overcome daunting challenges, defeating the evil adversary, all the while upholding admirable human traits like truth and honor.

For others, a warrior could be a Hollywood “legend” created to help inspire the unmotivated doubter overcome their earthly limitations.

For me the truth is that our real-life warrior “legends” — with all their faults and shortcomings — were just regular men fighting for the cause they believed to be just. But does that make their contribution any less respectable?

On the whole, our warrior legends were not blessed with great skills. They

were great because they believed they could do great things. The operative words are “believe” and “do.” As a member of the Air Force — both leader and follower — we need to understand that transformation from mediocrity to greatness is a magical, attainable event — especially today.



By Lt. Col.
David Rodriguez
726th Air Mobility
Squadron commander

For in today’s electron-paced, globally connected, fast food world, we need believers and doers, not just wanters and wishers. As the poster advertises “To be a winner... all you need to give is all you have.” We can’t succeed on images and dreams. We also have to realize that success does not come over night and quitting when the “gettin’ gets hard” is not an option.

Maybe some of us hold back out of doubt; fearful, trying not to make a mistake. As the American author Elbert Hubbard once penned, “The greatest mistake you can make in this life is to be continually fearing you will make one.”

So do you go on living a “safe” life, never giving more than what is expected, never expecting your dreams to come true? And if so, when that life is over what do you have? As a wise sage once wrote, “Life is what you make of it.”

We have been given a precious gift by

being born in a “free country” — the ability to choose. Our forefathers fought for it and it’s our heritage. As military members we should accept that responsibility and run with it.

Today our country is in the continuance of a just cause. We at Rhein-Main are making history carrying out our country’s mission. This conflict may take longer than our generation has seen in the recent past, but that is where our beliefs will sustain us. For we are regular people with regular joys and hardships who will be tomorrow’s legends if we just believe.

Now some have adopted the diluted notion that if you are not at the “tip of the spear” making the mission happen that you are not worthy of lofty dreams. Well, did you ever think that “tip” is only a hunk of metal without the shaft that takes it to its appointed destiny?

As the entrepreneur Anita Roddick once quoted, “If you think you’re too small to make a difference, you haven’t been in bed with a mosquito.”

We have assumed the soldier’s charge. We have not laid aside our citizenship; we are living examples of it. We serve because we want to. We choose to be warriors.

We are winners because to be otherwise would be disastrous for us and our nation. We just have to believe it and then go live it! For quitters never were “warriors” because warriors never quit.

Start your morning right with breakfast at the club

It’s been said breakfast is the most important meal of the day. The staff at the Zeppelinhaus Consolidated Club agrees. They offer a wide selection of breakfast foods to satisfy nearly any appetite.

Customers can choose from a full breakfast of eggs, omelets, pancakes or French toast with all the trimmings to lighter meals of freshly brewed coffee, orange juice, tea, biscuits, cereal and other single breakfast items.

For the cost-conscious customers, the price of a meal can be reduced. Club members receive a \$1 discount off any meal of \$4 or more. You can save even more by using one of the many discount meal coupons provided to members each month in the club member mail coupon program.

But the product isn’t complete without quality customer service.

“Great people make the difference,” said Phil Jackson, 469th Services Division marketing office. “No matter what resources the club has to create a satisfying meal, without the human touch a hot meal can seem very cold.

“Dedicated, caring employees make the meal a much more pleasurable experience,” he added. “From the cook to the cashier, all the way up to the manager, our employees make the difference.”

The Z-Haus is open for breakfast from 6:30 to 9:00 a.m. Monday through Friday.

(Courtesy of 469th ABG Services Division)

Rhein-Main 'Rockettes'

(Left to right) John Airis and Richard Valdez kick their way into shape during a step-aerobics class Tuesday at the base fitness center. The fitness center offers several new free aerobics classes Monday - Saturday. Classes include: Variety Pack from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Saturdays, 12:15 - 1 p.m. Mondays and 6 - 7 p.m. Tuesdays; Cardio Crunch and Munch from 12:15 - 1 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays; Spinning from 6 - 7 p.m. Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays; Kickboxing from 6 - 7 p.m. Wednesdays; Core Ball from 7 - 7:30 p.m. Thursdays; Core Training from 7 - 7:30 p.m. Mondays; and Yogilates from 7 - 8 p.m. Tuesdays.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Uriah Orland

Rockets look for small units repeat

By Staff Sgt. Matt Summers
Public Affairs

The Rhein-Main Rockets grueling schedule will soon pay off as the team attempts to repeat as champions in the U.S. Air Forces in Europe small-unit basketball championship set for Mar. 4 -9 in Vogelweh.

The men's varsity basketball team is seeded first in the tournament by virtue of their 89-88 win over Naples in the 2002 tourney at Rhein-Main.

According to Donald Reynolds, men's

varsity basketball coach, the stiff competition the Rockets faced in the U.S. Army in Europe large unit community basketball league will pay dividends when tournament time rolls around.

"Playing against this type of competition helped us develop our skills and competitiveness," he said. "Morale is high because we know we have the ability to come back when we're down and we can score against anybody."

One member's whose mind is on repeating is forward Kenny Bean, who looks to end a five-year stint at Rhein-Main by

going out in style — as a champion.

"We are very positive right now," he said with a wry smile. "We're going to take the ball down to Vogelweh and repeat."

Bean plans to end his 20-year competitive basketball stint, seven of those in military competition, after the championship game.

The Rockets have one more primer before the season-ending tourney as they travel to Wiesbaden for a game at 3 p.m. Saturday.

Rhein-Main was runner-up in the 2001 USAFE tournament, losing to Keflavik.

The 469th Air Base Group safety challenge!

In an effort to increase safety awareness at Rhein-Main the safety office created the safety challenge. At press time there were no winners of the safety challenge published in the Feb. 14 *Gateway*.

Look for the next safety challenge in the Mar. 14 edition of the *Gateway*.

Following are the answers from last issues
Winter Storm Safety word search:

1. blizzard, indoors, cold, heart;
2. dress, layers, clothes;
3. Overheated, furnace, fires;
4. trapped, storm, few, shelter;
5. disoriented, blowing; 6. melt, lower;
7. dig, overexposure, weather, risk;
8. frostbite, hypothermia, mild, quickly, limb; 9. shivering, urge, body, armpits; 10. warm, dry; 11. chill, wind, skin; 12. battery, food; 13. increases.



FSC calendar

If you would like to have the Rhein-Main Family Support Center monthly event calendar e-mailed to you, call the FSC at 330-7992 or send an e-mail to family.support@rheinmain.af.mil.

Loan closet

The Family Support Center Loan Locker will move Monday to the FSC annex, "Our House," in Apartment B2, Bldg. 627. Any kits currently on loan can be returned to the new location.

For more details, call 330-7992 or 330-7913.

German-American meeting

The German-American Club Buchschlag will host their next get-together at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Haus-Falltorweg in Dreieich-Buchschlag, approximately 10 minutes from base. Shuttle service to and from the base is available.

The club is designed for members to exchange interests and discuss customs and cultures.

Call Hans-Peter Muntz at 06103-68738 for more information.

Egg market

The FSC invites the Rhein-Main community to take a trip to the 8th International Rheingau Easter Egg Market Mar. 15.

Participants will travel to the Kloster Eberbach monastery in Eltville along the Rhein River. The group will meet at noon in shoppette parking lot and return no later than 5 p.m.

Cost of admission and transportation is 10 Euros for adults and 5 Euros for children under 14.

Mission Spotlight

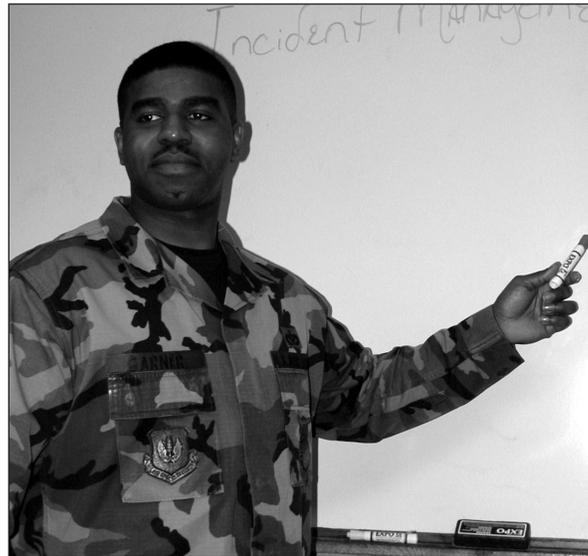


Photo by Airman 1st Class Andrew Rouleau

Staff Sgt. Clifton Garner, assistant chief of training for the Rhein-Main Fire Department, instructs a class on incident management. His duties include overseeing training for hazardous materials and emergency medical services. Garner has been at Rhein-Main for nearly three years, and has been in the Air Force for 12 years. The Roanoke Rapids, N. C., native is here with his wife, Michelle, and their four children. Garner enjoys weightlifting, jazz, poetry and reading when he is not busy keeping the base safe.

To sign up, call the FSC at 330-7992.

Soccer match

The Rhein-Main community is invited to attend the Spring Fever Soccer Hail and Farewell at 3:30 p.m. Mar. 7 at the youth ball fields near Community Connections.

The soccer game will feature German soldiers vs. the Rhein-Main varsity team.

Call 330-7804 for more information.

Free movie, food

Join the family support center, Air Force Aid Society and Rhein-Main Services Division for a free showing of Star Wars

Episode II: Attack of the Clones at 10:30 a.m. Mar. 8 at the base theater with a cookout to follow.

Free tickets are available at the support center in Room 30 Bldg. 347.

Call 330-7993 for more details.

Time for Tots

The Time for Tots program is available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Friday at Bldg. 627 in Gateway Gardens.

For more information call 330-7992.

Clinic hours

The 469th Air Base Group clinic will be closed from noon to 4:30 p.m. the second

Movies

Tonight - "Biker Boyz," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

Saturday - "Solaris," (PG-13), 5 p.m., and "Hot Chick," (PG-13), 7:30 p.m.

Sunday - "Adam Sandler's Eight Crazy Nights," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

Wednesday - "Daredevil," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

Mar. 7 - "Empire," (R), 7 p.m.

Mar. 8 - "Drumline," (PG-13), 5 p.m., and "The Recruit," (PG-13), 7:30 p.m.

Mar. 9 - "Star Trek: Nemesis," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

Mar. 12 - "Old School," (R), 7 p.m.

Movies and times are subject to change.

Wednesday of each month for training.

Benefits briefing

A Veterans' benefits briefing is scheduled for 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Mar. 11 in room 24 of Bldg. 347.

Call 330-7992 to sign up.

Job opening

The Halverson-Turner Elementary School has a position open in the cafeteria.

Stop by the cafeteria or call 069-6970-4228 for more information.

St. Patrick's Day

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day early at the Zeppelin Haus Family Night set for 5 - 8 p.m. Mar. 12.

Cost is \$7, children under 12 eat free.

The menu is Irish. People who wear green will be automatically entered to win a door prize.