

Diligentia et Accuratio DESERT EAGLE

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Photo by Capt. Mae-Li Allison

Calling all carts

SOUTHWEST ASIA - Master Sgt Carlos Marrero, airfield manager at a deployed location, calls the tower to close a taxiway so maintenance crews can remove aerospace ground equipment. Sergeant Marrero's job requires that he do daily airfield inspections to ensure the safety of all who use it. He is deployed from MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. For more information on base operations and the air traffic control tower, see Pages 5 and 6.

Hope, awareness keys to suicide prevention

By Staff Sgt. Vann Miller
379th AEW Public Affairs

Problems come unexpectedly, and things like deployments and family troubles can be big stressors for many service members. But one thing care providers want to get across is that suicide is not the right answer.

More than two dozen Airmen Air Force wide have committed suicide this year, and though leadership has implemented programs to help identify Airmen in distress, officials agree that even one loss is one too many.

There are many people who have misconceptions about suicide, according

to Capt. (Dr.) Lisa Blackman, 379th Expeditionary Medical Group chief of life skills.

"Interestingly, suicide rates do not go up during the holiday season," she said. "In fact, they go down."

Though people report being subjected to an increase in stress during the holidays, people are less likely to express suicidal behavior because they generally have more contact with others, she explained. Also, suicidal thoughts are not as uncommon or alarming as some people may believe.

"About 50 percent of people will have suicidal thoughts at one time in their life," Captain Blackman said. "Suicidal thoughts are part of being human."

She added that there is an increased

concern when an individual begins to plan to go through with the idea of suicide, and this is when outside intervention is most important.

So, what are signs leaders and fellow coworkers should look for in their troops? While there is rarely a single gauge that can highlight a person at risk, officials say there are some things that members can look for that can serve as indicators. These indicators include:

- ◆ Marital or relationship problems
- ◆ Major life transitions such as separations or retirement
- ◆ Pending legal or administrative action

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Shipping home for the holidays, see Page 4



Falcon painter, see Page 7



What has a 3,000-gallon bladder and flies? See Pages 8-10

Remember those you will leave behind

By Col. Theresa Carter
42d MSG Commander

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. (AFPN) — Sept. 2, 1985. I remember the day like it was yesterday. It was Labor Day and my second day on active duty. I was filled with excitement, nervousness and anticipation as I started my Air Force career at Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma.

After several hours looking for an apartment, I returned to lodging and noticed the message light on my phone was flashing. The clerk at the front desk told me to call home immediately. Fearing the worst, I dialed the number in Albuquerque. After a few rings, my dad answered. He asked me if I was sitting down and told me my younger sister had committed suicide that morning.

Shock, guilt, anger, sadness and a

thousand other emotions went through me as I slumped to the floor. How could this be? She was only 21. I just had dinner with her two days ago. She didn't seem sad or depressed, didn't say she was thinking of killing herself. Was I to blame?

If anyone should have seen this coming, it was me. We shared a room growing up and did everything together. We played on the same high school sports teams and had the same friends. How could she be so selfish? Didn't she know how much she meant to me, my family and to others? Didn't she realize how empty our lives would be without her?

Each time I hear that a member of our Air Force family has committed suicide, I think of my sister. I then wonder why he or she made that decision and how we could have prevented it.

The Air Force suicide prevention and awareness program is one of the most

aggressive programs around.

Commanders, first sergeants and supervisors as well as medical personnel and chaplains invest countless hours educating our Airmen and supporting them through difficult circumstances. We brief everyone annually how to spot those who may be at risk and where to turn for help. We pull out all stops to provide counseling and intervene in crisis situations. Yet, despite our best efforts, some still decide that suicide is their only option. I shake my head and wonder why.

I'm convinced that in that moment of truth, that instant when an individual chooses to live or die, those that choose to live think of those they will leave behind — family, friends and co-workers — rather than themselves. Instead of thinking about their own pain or difficulties, they think about how their

See **REMEMBER**, on Page 3

Commander's Action Line

The Action Line is a direct link to the commander for complaints, suggestions or comments. When normal chain of command channels haven't been able to resolve your concerns, call 437-2702 or e-mail 379th AEW/PA at action.line@auab.aorcentaf.af.mil.



Q: With the completion of the gazebos in the 40000 billets, all of them have automatically been turned into smoke pits. Signs are posted within 25 feet of the gazebos indicating the "designated smoke area." However, some persons have taken it upon themselves and placed butt cans, chairs and tables right in the gazebo and forced the non-smokers out of the area, namely the area in between 47000 and 47200. Can civil engineering post signs or color-coordinate the gazebos that are designated non-smoking areas?

A: Thank you for bringing the designated smoking area issue to our attention. Civil engineering has posted smoking and non-smoking signs in the gazebos near the 40,000 series dorms. The specific gazebo you referenced is a non-smoking area gazebo. Common courtesy should prevail in these situations. If people continue to smoke in non-smoking gazebos, after the signs are posted, please politely ask them to stop or report the incident to your first sergeant.

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Vann Miller

Sign on the dotted line

First Lt. Brian West, base Combined Federal Campaign officer, shows Airman 1st Class Ana Gaul where to sign on her CFC campaign form. The CFC goal this year for the wing is make 100-percent contact. Although this goal reflects only permanent party participation, anyone may donate during this base's drive. For more information, people should call their unit commander support staff.

PREVENT, from Page 1

- ◆ Academic or other life failures
- ◆ Serious medical/psychological problems
- ◆ Financial problems
- ◆ Extreme mood swings
- ◆ Withdrawal from friends, family or social activities
- ◆ Preoccupation with death or dying
- ◆ Increased alcohol use or abuse
- ◆ Distracted at work or poor work performance
- ◆ Feelings of being trapped and hopelessness
- ◆ No reason for living or no purpose

Some of the programs offered to troops whether deployed or at their home station come from the counsel and guidance of the base chapel or the life-skills clinic.

"The objective is to help a person see that there is hope," said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Charles Peters, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing Chaplain. "I believe that if a person has hope there is a good chance the person will not follow through (with the suicide)."

The chaplain has the privilege of offering complete confidentiality if troops need to talk without fear of reprisal. This offers comfort to those needing to talk, said Chaplain Peters.

"Confidentiality is taken seriously within the clergy," Chaplain Peters said. "A chaplain could be relieved of duty for breaking this confidence."

Pastors at the base chapel may be bound with confidentiality and have training in counseling, but they are just part of the equation in caring for the mental state of troops experiencing depression and thoughts of suicide.

There is a certain level of confidentiality that exists in the life-skills clinic, also.

"When a person comes to us as a self-referral (not command directed by the unit commander), they can expect to have their privacy of information respected by a mental health care provider," Captain Blackman said. "The information that a healthcare provider is required to report involves imminent danger to self or others, child abuse or family violence cases, criminal activity, drug and alcohol abuse, or criminal activity."

Ultimately, treatment is the goal, whether a person visits with the base chaplain or the life-skills clinic, said Chaplain Peters.

Captain Blackman believes her job is to help people come up with a plan that helps them manage their stress and prevent depression.

"What we are going to sit down and look for is a plan to make you better," Captain Blackman said. "There is always something out there to help someone reconnect to life."

Commander shares kudos, focus areas

Colonel Gregory Feest, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing commander, held commander's calls for rotational and permanent party Airmen and addressed the following issues:

◆ Kudos

This rotation has been impressive so far; keep up the good work.

◆ Focus

Our motto here is "Mission First." We are "One Team, One Fight."

◆ PT gear

Starting Nov. 1, conservative sweatsuits will be authorized for wear as part of "PT gear" to accommodate cooler weather.

◆ Safety

People need to monitor their speed and park in designated parking areas.

Keep taking care of one another. We do this by respecting each another not tolerating sexual harassment or discrimination.

◆ Miscellaneous

There will be a Halloween party Oct. 31. Costumes will be authorized for wear between 2000 and 0400 that night.

REMEMBER, from Page 2

death would hurt and sadden their loved ones. They think about opportunities lost, celebrations that would be less festive without their participation and burdens that would be more difficult for their family to bear without them.

Not a day goes by that I don't think about my sister and wish she were here to share the highs and lows, joys and sorrows I've experienced the last 18 and a half years.

So if you have friends, family members or co-workers who are having a tough time dealing with stress and the demands of everyday life, take time to remind them how important they are. Let them know they are not alone and that no situation is so hopeless that suicide is the only answer.

But, most of all, simply ask them to remember those they will leave behind.

Getting mail home in time for holidays

By Staff Sgt. Vann Miller
379th AEW Public Affairs

The base postmaster staff members here offers words of advice to help service members get gifts to loved ones and alleviate the stress of the last-minute dash.

There are some unique rules involving mail at this location that are going to be unfamiliar to many customers. For example, pornography, swimsuit issue magazines and non-Muslim religious material are some items that will be confiscated if mailed into the area of responsibility, according to postmaster Master Sgt. Rafael Stronza. Customers are required to have their parcels inspected by a post office clerk before they are sealed and shipped. Due to this requirement, the post office will be providing additional work area where customers will be able to do their gift wrapping prior to mailing.

Other problems folks run into are not allowing for increased mail delivery times, and incorrect packaging or labeling.

"Mail volumes double or triple during the holiday mailing season," Sergeant Stronza said.

People should allow for 10 days for priority mail and up to 28 days for space-available parcels. They can avoid long lines by visiting the post office during times



Photo by Staff Sgt. Vann Miller

Senior Airman Tasha Carpenter, processes and handles registered and official mail for deployed units in Southwest Asia.

in the day that are not as busy, such as early morning.

Proper packaging may make the difference for packages to survive a long trip, said the postmaster. Also, customers should use appropriate taping material to secure a package and select a container able to withstand heavy items being placed atop of it without collapsing.

For more information, call 437-8717.

Post office tips

- ◆ Customer service hours are: weekdays, 0800 – 1700 and Saturday, 0800 – 1600.
- ◆ Customs forms can be picked up at the post office and should be pre-filled and signed before arriving with the parcel
- ◆ The post office can only accept cash for postage payment; have enough funds available to pay for transactions
- ◆ Up to \$100 a day per individual is authorized for mailing non-U.S. merchandise without being subject to a U.S. import duty

Network 15

Network 15 is a group for E-1s through E-5s and meets Tuesdays at 1700 at the base theater.

Take home DCUs

People are reminded to take back any and all uniform parts and pieces when they rotate home. Do not throw away uniforms.

Gov't workplace is no place for politics

The federal workplace is no place for politics.

Placing campaign literature in the workplace, encouraging co-workers to vote for a particular candidate, e-mailing, or otherwise using government resources to disseminate political messages violates the law.

A military member in the AOR recently sent a partisan political e-mail to his squadron members and was given a letter of reprimand for that message. Also, two government employees, including an Air Force employee, recently had U.S. Office of Special Counsel file complaints against them alleging Hatch Act violations. The act prohibits federal executive branch employees from engaging in political activity while on duty.

In one of the civilian cases, the employee sent a picture of a candidate and

actress Jane Fonda, along with a number of negative statements, to 15 of her co-workers. In the Air Force civilian case, the employee sent an e-mail accusing the candidate of incompetence and malfeasance, asking more than 70 recipients to send the e-mail to "every voter you know." Both employees now face disciplinary action that could include reprimand, suspension, or removal.

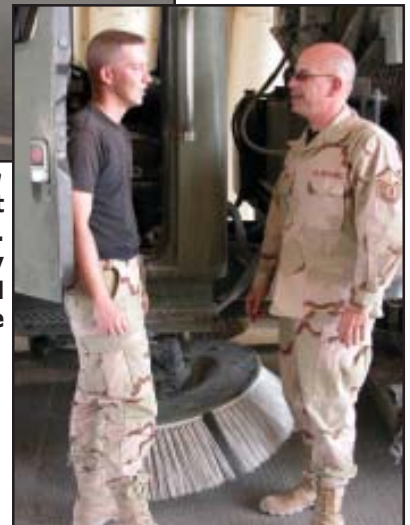
Exercising the right to vote, as well as the right to express one's opinion about a candidate, is essential to a healthy democracy. However, it is inappropriate and possibly unlawful to exercise those rights in the federal workplace.

Politics and e-mail don't mix when the e-mail originates from a government computer. For more information, call Lt. Col. Mark Teskey or Maj. Darrell Fun at 437-2707.



Photos by Capt. Mae-Li Allison

(Above) Airman 1st Class Tomas Mascumana, a pavement and heavy equipment operator, drives "the sweeper" in an airfield in Southwest Asia to pick up debris. (At right) Airman 1st Class Gregory Winter (left), a pavement and heavy equipment operator, talks with Master Sgt. Carlos Marrero, chief of airfield management, about where to operate "the sweeper" to pick up debris on the runway and taxiways of an airfield in Southwest Asia.



Base Operations

They don't just file flight plans

By Capt. Mae-Li Allison
379th AEW Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA – When asked about the role of base operations, many people would say that its role is to make sure flight plans are filed and sent to the air traffic control center. However, base operations – referred at one particular forward deployed location as airfield management operations – does much more than provide the connection between flight planning and the flight crew stepping to the aircraft.

Airfield management at one airbase in Southwest Asia serves as a link between the smooth and efficient movement of aircraft in the AOR and safety on the ground.

"Our motto here at airfield management is 'my airfield, my domain,'" said Master Sgt. Carlos Marrero, chief of airfield management, deployed from MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. "We are responsible for the safety of people, vehicles and aircraft on and near the airfield."

Sergeant Marrero and his staff accomplish this by performing periodic checks of the airfield during the day. As the airfield manager, Sergeant Marrero is required to perform one thorough airfield inspection a day.

"I'll drive on the runways and taxiways checking them for cracks, the presence of foreign object debris, blown over signs, rubber deposits, lights and unauthorized objects on the sides of the taxiways, such as aerospace ground equipment," he said. "We also work closely with civil engineering to sweep FOD off of and fix problem areas on the airfield."

At the office, two people on Sergeant Marrero's staff primarily coordinate transient aircraft parking, as well as receive and transmit flight plans to the host nation's air traffic control center.

Sergeant Marrero keeps busy filing work orders to both fix existing problems and expand the current airfield.

"In the month I've been here, I've submitted about more than a dozen work orders," he said. "One of the work orders is for expanding the transient aircraft

parking area and another is for applying Enviroatch-50 or "rhino snot" to the sides of all the runways and taxiways."

According to Sergeant Marrero, "rhino snot" is a sticky liquid sprayed on the rocky and dusty areas throughout the airfield to keep FOD in its place and away from damaging the aircraft.

As can be expected, the few people working in airfield management have been quite busy. In addition, because of his depth of responsibility for the airfield, Sergeant Marrero has not had one day off yet, but his and his crew's hard work has not gone unnoticed.

"Sergeant Marrero works his tail off every day of the week resolving the never-ending list of challenges on the airfield, said Capt. Clint McCommon, Sergeant Marrero's supervisor and airfield operations flight commander at the deployed location. "He and his team at base operations do a marvelous job of balancing a long list of daily duties requiring coordination with numerous agencies not only from the host nation, but throughout the AOR, Europe and the United States."



Photo by Capt. Mae-Li Allison

Technical Sgt. Dennis Conley, a watch supervisor in the tower, scans a runway at an airfield in Southwest Asia. According to Sergeant Conley, scanning the runway before every take off and landing is everybody's job in the tower. They especially look for vehicles and animals on the runway and birds in the vicinity that would effect flight safety. As an aircraft lands, they also look for full extension of the landing gear and landing lights.

Room with a View

Intense workload doesn't shake resolve of base's air traffic controllers

By Capt. Mae-Li Allison
379th AEW Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA – Despite working in one of the busiest airfields in Southwest Asia with about half of the number of controllers at a typical Air Force base, air traffic controllers at one deployed location still maintain their excitement for their professions and marvel in having “the best view on base.”

“We have a perfect mixture of working in an environment where you get a great view of what’s happening outside without being confined to a cubicle,” said Staff Sgt. Albert Moody, an air traffic controller deployed from Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

Normally, a team of three people – a ground controller, a local controller and a watch supervisor – works together in a glass-enclosed tower near the flightline. Their primary responsibility is to direct the safe takeoff and landing of aircraft with

minimum delay and minimum separation. Sergeant Moody says that his time deployed at this particular forward-deployed location has been eye opening. He says he and his crew have learned a lot about how to work with other air traffic controllers of the host nation.

“It took a little time to figure out the best way to route information between the host nation, base operations here and us,” said Sergeant Moody. “We also had to get used to speaking with people who had a new type of accent and differences in phraseology.”

English is the language all air traffic controllers use, and the protocols followed by all traffic controllers are standardized between nations. The equipment the Air Force air traffic controllers are using at the deployed location, however, is not quite the same as that which the crew is used to in the United States.

“At home, we use a touch screen interface to talk with different people,” said Sergeant Moody. “Here, there will be times you’re on two separate phones talking with the host nation’s air traffic control center and base operations, on a

microphone with the aircrew, and asking someone trying to talk with you on the ground to stand by on their radio.”

Airman 1st Class Curtis Harper, an air traffic controller deployed from Tinker AFB, Okla., says he loves these different challenges associated with being an air traffic controller.

“I wouldn’t want to do any other job,” he said. “It’s exciting, challenging and satisfying when you know you’ve done your job well.”

Airman Harper remembers one particular day when stress levels soared, but so did the relief and pride in their job when it was over.

“We had eight fighters and two cargo planes to control, some in the air and some on the ground,” he said. “At the same time, two of the fighter jets had ground emergencies, so we had to direct all the traffic around them – and we directed all that successfully.”

Airman Harper and his fellow air traffic controllers agree that they love being close to where the action begins on a combat sortie.

“Plus,” he said, “we’ve got the best view on base.”



Photo by Staff Sgt. Vann Miller

An artist in our midst

F-16 crew chief leaves her squadron's mark on ramp

By Staff Sgt. Vann Miller
379th AEW Public Affairs

Technical Sgt. Karen "Lisa" Dean is not only a crew chief for one of the Air Force's most highly maneuverable fighter aircraft, but she has a unique way of brightening up her work center. She has found a way to follow her favorite hobby and participate in a peculiar tradition all with one stroke – painting on the concrete barriers around the flight line at her deployed location.

Lisa's career has taken her to various theaters in the area of responsibility and through it all there have been two constants, her jet and her art. Her co-workers all say she is soft spoken, but she has managed to make a lasting impression with the amazing works she contributes to her squadron.

"I have been drawing for as long as

I can remember," Lisa said. "My parents encouraged me to go to college and study art, but I didn't want to go into commercial art – you know, with everyone telling you what to do."

Like her aircraft, Lisa has been a member of the 187th Fighter Wing, Ala. for the past 16 years. During that time, she has worked on the F-16 Fighting Falcon.

Surprisingly, serving in the Air Force was not going to be her first choice, she said. Lisa says she almost followed in her father's footsteps.

"I told my mother I was going to join the Navy, but she suggested I join the Guard first," Lisa said. "That was when I fell in love with the F-16. My base got their first F-16 the year I got in."

And it has been career broadening experience for her since. Being assigned to the same unit for so many years has been a good experience for her, she said.

"I have been fortunate enough to

work with a bunch of good guys," she added.

Long before the 187 FW arrived on station, units from all over have been leaving tell tale signs of serving in the AOR, a tradition Lisa plans to continue.

"All the units that have been here have contributed to the concrete barrier on the flight line," Lisa explained. "I am just trying to represent my unit, and let everyone know we were here."

Lisa said she believes the art helps with troop morale and allows the unit to stand out so the people will be proud of themselves.

The painting that she leaves behind is an original work she created. It depicts the fierce fight between a dangerous viper, the mascot of her home unit, in the mighty grip of a ravenous dog, one of her favorite animals. Though the picture expresses a conflicted struggle, Lisa proves through commitment to duty and pride in her unit that she is a vital part in the operations in the AOR.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Bryan Bouchard

Senior Airman Pete Kaplan attaches a three-inch hose to an R-11 fuel truck at a forward deployed location so he and his partner, Staff Sgt. Chris Cooper can offload close to 3,000 gallons of fuel.

Bladder Bird

POL troops help turn C-130 into flying gas station to fuel AOR

By Staff Sgt. Bryan Bouchard
379th AEW Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA – For Staff Sgt. Chris Cooper and Senior Airman Pete Kaplan, being fuels specialists is what they enlisted into the Air Force to do. But when the two petroleum, oil and lubricant experts from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska joined, neither one of them had any idea that within a few years they'd be donning body armor and flying a 3,000-gallon fuel bladder around the desert, refueling much-needed resources for remote locations.

"I love it," Airman Kaplan said. "You get to get away from the normal job. Not everyone gets to fly to forward locations and see exciting things."

A four-person team from Elmendorf,

including Sergeant Cooper and Airman Kaplan, has spent the last 30 days in Southwest Asia preparing for and flying missions with the aerial bulk fuel delivery system. The ABFDS turns cargo aircraft into mobile gas stations, capable of delivering fuel to any location in the AOR.

"Some types of fuel aren't readily available in some countries," said Tech. Sgt. Mitchell Peacock, a fuels specialist deployed to the 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron at Balad Air Base, Iraq.

"If the fuel isn't available in-country, we have to have it shipped in," he added.

Once higher headquarters identifies a need like Sergeant Peacock's, Sergeant Cooper and Airman Kaplan start working.

Mission-day minus two: 1700 hours

A couple days out from each mission, the two began preparations and called the 745th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron to get mission numbers and show times. The people at the airlift squadron make sure both fuel and fuel specialists reach their location, download the fuel and get home safely.

At the same time, they have to make sure their equipment is ready. To do this, they rely on a highly trained staff of fuels maintenance Airmen who work day and night to make sure all the equipment will work when it hits the ground. Sergeant Cooper explained that the mission requires a lot of teamwork to get the job done successfully.

His flying partner also has a huge impact on his accomplishing the mission.



Staff Sgt. Chris Cooper and Senior Airman Pete Kaplan tighten straps on the 3,000 gallon fuel bladder before off-loading fuel at a forward deployed location.



Staff Sgt. Chris Cooper catches his breath after loading the aerial bulk fuel delivery system aboard a C-130.

“Airman Kaplan and I work very well together, and we know that we can trust each other to get the job done without problems,” he said.

Mission-day: 1300 hours

The day of one particular mission, the two fuels specialists, normally adorned in traditional desert camouflage uniforms, arrived to work in flight suits. Following crew-rest, the two accomplished some administrative

tasks at their squadron to include drawing M-9s and fitting body armor. Fuels superintendent, Chief Master Sgt. Mel French, wished them a safe flight and told them to be careful, then Sergeant Cooper and Airman Kaplan were on their way.

Mission-day: 1630 hours

They met their crew at a pre-flight briefing about two-and-a-half hours before the scheduled mission-launch.

During the briefing, the C-130 crew immediately assumed the two POL troops were security forces’ fly-away-cops called Ravens. Few of the crew had even heard of the “bladder bird,” the nickname the fuels troops have given their mission.

“Most of the aircrews don’t know what we do when they first meet us,” Sergeant Cooper said. “So it’s important for us to get a good connection with them when we first meet. We always have good crews, which is good. It is their plane after all and having a good connection with them allows us to do our job better.”

Mission-day: 1700 hours

After a quick explanation and an intelligence briefing, the crew was satisfied and started mission planning; Sergeant Cooper and Airman Kaplan then head to the marshalling yard to watch the aerial porters load their equipment onto a K-loader before

delivery to the C-130.

Mission-day: 1830 hours

Thirty minutes to take-off, the 3,000-gallon bladder was loaded onto the C-130 and filled from a fuel truck – it was then time to depart.

Mission-day: 2100 hours

Airman Kaplan, who flew his fifth mission ever this week, is getting used to the idea of traveling the AOR providing much-needed resources to other locations. Despite his increased comfort with the missions, a look of concern on his face veiled his excitement toward the end of the first leg of the trip.

“I just hope everything goes smoothly and we don’t get attacked,” he said during the flight. “I want things to go well so I can get back to my family.”

Mission-day: 2230 hours

After flying for a few hours, the C-130 approached the air base; the lights in the aircraft dimmed and the two loadmasters, clad in body armor, manned the troop doors with night-vision goggles, keeping an eye out for any rocket or anti-aircraft artillery fire – something which is more common than not in many locations.

But before anyone had time to be concerned with this sobering measure, the plane landed and taxied to a predetermined location where the crew awaited a fuel truck to download its treasure of black gold.

As the crew disembarked the C-130, the smell of burning trash and smoke from near the former Iraqi air base filled the cavities of their sinuses.

Mission-day; 2300 hours

Within minutes, a fuel truck rolled up to the plane. After guiding the fuel truck into place, Sergeant Cooper and Airman Kaplan jumped into high gear – the less time spent on the ground, the better, they both agreed.

After exchanging a minimal of pleasantries with those waiting on the ground, Airman Kaplan attached a three-inch hose to an R-11 refueling truck and gave a thumb’s up to Sergeant Cooper.

Sergeant Cooper was manning the pumping module in the back of the C-130, and started unloading the “bladder bird.”

See **FUEL**, on Page 10



Technical Sergeant Mitchell Peacock, a fuels specialist assigned to the 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron, helps wrap up a three-inch fuel hose after accepting nearly 3,000 gallons of fuel from a crew manning the aerial bulk fuel delivery system. The crew fills fuel needs for several locations in the AOR.



Staff Sgt. Chris Cooper unbuckles tie-downs to access a three-inch hose to off-load fuel. Sergeant Cooper and Airman Kaplan are two of four Airmen deployed from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska who are trained to fly missions with the aerial bulk fuel delivery system. The ABFDS provides for the delivery of fuel all over the AOR.

fuel bladder.

Mission-day plus 1: 0230 hours

Once back on the ground, Sergeant Cooper said his job represents the pinnacle of his service in the Air Force. When asked why he elects to put himself into harm's way he replied, "knowing I am helping the folks out downrange so they can do their jobs" makes it worthwhile.

Mission accomplished

The ABFDS is not the only mobile fuel delivery process on the Air Force. Forward Area Refueling Points are also used. FARP, or wet-wing defueling, is when an aircraft lands at a forward location and fuel is pumped from the aircraft itself, like a blood donation, according to Staff Sgt. Emmett Rittenour, deployed from Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C. He worked the FARP program for a year-and-a-half while stationed at Kadena Air Base, Japan. Soon he and others may join the four Airmen from Elmendorf to assist on missions.

All Airmen assigned to ABFDS have to attend a two-week course on the system, according to Sergeant Cooper. For the crews from Elmendorf, a mobile training team from the 18th LRS at Kadena traveled to Elmendorf to teach the class to a hand-selected group of Airmen. The course, along with M9 training and a trip to the altitude chamber is what qualifies fuels troops to be a part of a ABFDS team.

FUEL, from Page 9

That day, Sergeant Peacock and the rest of the Airmen of the 332 ELRS were the proud recipients of nearly 3,000 gallons of much-needed fuel.

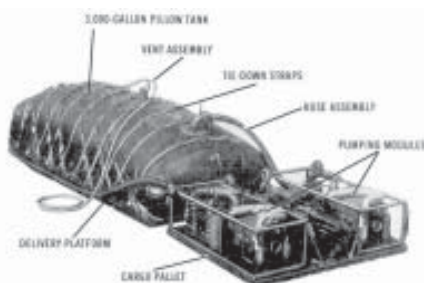
Within minutes, the 300 gallon-per-minute-machine downloaded its payload, the crew wrapped up the hose and it was time to head home.

"And we're done," Airman Kaplan said. "Not bad for a day's work."

Mission-day plus 1:0000 hours

By this time, the duty day for the fuels crew had reached its twelfth hour and they were ready for some much-needed down time.

While Airman Kaplan napped on the jump seats in the C-130, Sergeant Cooper stretched out on the top of the now-empty



Air Force image

As depicted in the image above, the aerial bulk fuel delivery system is a large, 3,000-gallon fuel bladder coupled with a pumping module, which when used can distribute fuel up to 300 gallons-per-minute. The system allows fuels troops can deliver fuel to austere locations.

Thrift Savings Plan open season begins

Desert Eagle Staff Report

Civilian and military employees can sign up for, or change, their Thrift Savings Plan contribution amounts during the upcoming "open season," which runs through Dec. 31.

"TSP is a long-term retirement savings plan, which everyone should consider adding to their portfolio of investment option," said Maj David Peeler, 379th Expeditionary Comptroller Squadron commander, adding that, "TSP can be a great supplement to both military and civilian retirement plans. There is a hierarchy to savings and investment plans with respect to tax implications. TSP is among that hierarchy and should be considered a viable portfolio option."

TSP offers investors the chance for

lower taxes in each year they contribute, while not having to pay taxes on earnings until they reach retirement. For those deployed, the contributions made in combat zone tax exclusion status are also tax exempt. All contributions in this status should reflect on your LES in the TSP set of blocks under the heading "exempt."

Investment money is deposited directly from each paycheck before you get it, "so after the initial contributions you never miss the money from your pay." Peeler said. "This makes it easy to 'pay yourself first' while reserving the ability to choose the amount appropriate during each open season."

The maximum percentage of base pay you can contribute to TSP goes up from 9 to 10 percent Jan. 1. Therefore, to take full advantage of the 10-percent tax deferred amount for 2005, people should change their percentage through their

MyPay account before then.

With TSP, people have a choice of five investment funds into which they may contribute. Peeler emphasized, "Where you put your money is up to you. Some folks are more risk adverse than others and gravitate to more stable investments, while others takes more risk with historically volatile funds. With TSP, the choice is yours."

The five TSP funds are: the Government Securities Investment (G) Fund; the Common Stock Index Investment (C) Fund; the Fixed Income Index Investment (F) Fund; the Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment (S) Fund; and the International Stock Index Investment (I) Fund. To elect or change contribution allocations to any of these funds, people must establish/access their TSP account at www.tsp.gov, which also has a information on all aspect of the TSP program.

Air Force goes for second try with new uniforms

By Tech. Sgt. David Jablonski
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Based on feedback from the six-month wear test, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper decided to expand the current test program to include a pixelated tiger-striped pattern in a new color scheme on the proposed utility uniform.

The expansion does not involve a full test; instead, there will be a limited production to test pattern and color, said Senior Master Sgt. Jacqueline Dean, the uniform board superintendent.

"The color scheme is only one of many improvements we are testing," Sergeant Dean said.

A small, select group of testers will wear the newest pattern. The solid tiger-striped pattern with its dominant blue overtones is gone. The latest pixelated test pattern has a more subdued color scheme and is not nearly as distinctive as the one unveiled at the start in August 2003; yet it provides the distinctiveness Airmen have requested, officials said.

"We have sufficient input from Airmen throughout the Air Force to ensure that our uniform decisions are on target with regard to wear, ease of maintenance and fit," Sergeant Dean said. "We kept hearing throughout the test that Airmen loved the wash-and-wear feature and the fit. The design of the uniform will essentially stay the same, with minor modifications based [on] the wear-testers' recommendations."

General Jumper will announce the final decisions regarding the new utility uniform once the test data are analyzed and presented. Determination is expected within the next two months,



Photo by Master Sgt. Keith Reed

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — Master Sgt. Dana Athnos tries on one of the gray no-polish boots being wear-tested.

officials said.

The new design represents a uniform that could be universally worn in all environments, Sergeant Dean said. The unique fit and design will remain the same, as Air Force officials said they want a distinctive uniform for Airmen that fits better and is easier and less expensive to maintain.

"There really wasn't much that Airmen didn't like about the design of the uniform," she said, basing her comment on the large volume of feedback the board received via e-mail, surveys, focus groups and online questionnaires. "We really did capture what they needed and what they wanted."

"The chief of staff listened to the Airmen," Sergeant Dean said. "We asked what they wanted in a uniform, what they needed in a uniform and, as a result, this is exactly what we're getting."

Services Happenings

GYM = Gymnasium
DEL = Desert Eagle Lounge
AR = Aerobics Room
WR = Weight Room
MP = Memorial Plaza
CAC = Community Activities Center
RHP = Red Horse Pad

Today

- 0100 — Rummy (CAC)
- 0100 — **Virus** (CAC)
- 0400 — **Planes, Trains, and Automobiles** (CAC)
- 0700 — **Showtime** (CAC)
- 0900 — Spades (CAC)
- 0915 — Bar Bingo (DEL)
- 1000 — 9-Ball (DEL)
- 1000 — **Scream** (CAC)
- 1300 — **Virus** (CAC)
- 1330 — Ping Pong (CAC)
- 1600 — **Planes, Trains, and Automobiles** (CAC)
- 1715 — Bar Bingo (DEL)
- 1900 — **Showtime** (CAC)
- 2030 — Billards (CAC)
- 2200 — **Scream** (CAC)

Monday

- 0100 — 9-Ball (CAC)
- 0100 — **Rambo: First Blood** (CAC)
- 0200 — Bingo (CAC)
- 0400 — **Deep Blue Sea** (CAC)
- 0700 — **Young Frankenstein** (CAC)
- 0900 — Euchre (CAC)
- 0915 — Bar Bingo (DEL)
- 1000 — 8- Ball (DEL)
- 1000 — **When Trumpets Fade** (CAC)
- 1300 — **Rambo: First Blood** (CAC)
- 1330 — Blackjack (CAC)
- 1600 — **Deep Blue Sea** (CAC)
- 1800 — Marine Corps Martial Arts (AR)
- 1900 — **Young Frankenstein** (CAC)
- 1915 — Bar Bingo (DEL)
- 1930 — Stability Ball (AR)
- 2000 — COUNTRY MUSIC (MP)
- 2000 — Cardio Kickboxing (AR)
- 2030 — Hearts (CAC)
- 2200 — **When Trumpets Fade** (CAC)
- 2330 — Tai Bo (AR)

Tuesday

- 0100 — Bid Whist (CAC)
- 0100 — **Godzilla** (CAC)
- 0100 — 3 Point Shootout (GYM)
- 0400 — **A Gun, A Car, A Blonde** (CAC)
- 0600 — Fabulous Abs (AR)
- 0700 — **I Am Sam** (CAC)
- 0900 — Poker (CAC)
- 0915 — Bar Bingo (DEL)
- 1000 — Cut Throat Pool (DEL)
- 1000 — **The Gambler** (CAC)
- 1230 — Fabulous Abs (AR)
- 1300 — **Godzilla** (CAC)
- 1330 — Tiger Woods 2005 on PS2 (CAC)
- 1400 — 3 Point Shootout (GYM)
- 1600 — **A Gun, A Car, A Blonde** (CAC)
- 1715 — Bar Bingo (DEL)
- 1730 — Salsa (AR)
- 1800 — Honor Guard Practice SVS CC Sec
- 1830 — Combat Aerobics (RHP)
- 1900 — **I Am Sam** (CAC)
- 2000 — KARAOKE (MP)
- 2030 — Pictionary (Pool)
- 2030 — Yoga (AR)

2200 — **The Gambler** (CAC)

Wednesday

- 0100 — Spades (CAC)
- 0100 — **Chicago** (CAC)
- 0400 — **City Hall** (CAC)
- 0700 — **Airplane!** (CAC)
- 0900 — Hearts (CAC)
- 0915 — Bar Bingo (DEL)
- 1000 — Random Pick Pool Tourney (DEL)
- 1000 — **The Evil Dead** (CAC)
- 1300 — **Chicago** (CAC)
- 1330 — Rummy (CAC)
- 1600 — **City Hall** (CAC)
- 1800 — Marine Corp Martial Arts (AR)
- 1800 — Honor Guard Practice SVS CC Sec
- 1900 — **Airplane!** (CAC)
- 1915 — Bar Bingo (DEL)
- 1930 — Stability Ball (AR)
- 2000 — ROCK MUSIC (MP)
- 2000 — Cardio Kickboxing (AR)
- 2030 — Chess (CAC)
- 2200 — **The Evil Dead** (CAC)
- 2330 — Tai-Bo (AR)

Thursday

- 0100 — Billards (CAC)
- 0100 — **Dark City** (CAC)
- 0400 — **The Bachelor** (CAC)
- 0600 — Fabulous Abs (AR)
- 0700 — **Arlington Raid** (CAC)
- 0900 — 9-Ball (CAC)
- 0915 — Bar Bingo (DEL)
- 1000 — 8- Ball (DEL)
- 1000 — **The Contender** (CAC)
- 1230 — Fabulous Abs (AR)
- 1300 — **Dark City** (CAC)
- 1330 — Madden 2005 on PS2 (CAC)
- 1600 — **The Bachelor** (CAC)
- 1715 — Bar Bingo (DEL)
- 1800 — Hip Hop Class (AR)
- 1830 — Combat Aerobics (RHP)
- 1900 — Aerobic Stepper (AR)
- 1900 — **Arlington Road** (CAC)
- 2000 — Step Aerobics (AR)
- 2000 — LATIN MUSIC (MP)
- 2030 — Dominoes (POOL)
- 2200 — **The Contender** (CAC)

Friday

- 0100 — Checkers (CAC)
- 0100 — **Enter The Dragon** (CAC)
- 0400 — **Michael** (CAC)
- 0700 — **Battlefield Earth** (CAC)
- 0900 — Chess (CAC)
- 0915 — Bar Bingo (DEL)
- 1000 — 9-Ball (DEL)
- 1000 — **Casablanca** (CAC)
- 1300 — **Enter The Dragon** (CAC)
- 1330 — Pictionary (CAC)
- 1600 — **Michael** (CAC)
- 1800 — Marine Corps Martial Arts (AR)
- 1900 — **Battlefield Earth** (CAC)
- 1915 — Bar Bingo (DEL)
- 1930 — Stability Class (AR)
- 2000 — BINGO (MP)
- 2000 — Cardio Kickboxing (AR)
- 2200 — **Casablanca** (CAC)
- 2200 — Euchre (CAC)
- 2330 — Tai-Bo (AR)

Saturday

- 0100 — Poker (CAC)
- 0100 — **Clash of the Titans** (CAC)
- 0400 — **From Hell** (CAC)
- 0600 — Yoga (AR)
- 0700 — **Double Jeopardy** (CAC)

- 0900 — UNO (CAC)
- 0915 — Bar Bingo (DEL)
- 1000 — Winners Game Pool Tourney (DEL)
- 1000 — **Bad Lieutenant** (CAC)
- 1200 — **Two Brothers PG** (THE)
- 1230 — Fabulous Abs (AR)
- 1300 — **Clash Of The Titans** (CAC)
- 1330 — Monopoly (CAC)
- 1600 — **From Hell** (CAC)
- 1715 — Bar Bingo (DEL)
- 1800 — Step Aerobics (AR)
- 1830 — Combat Aerobics (RHP)
- 1900 — **Double Jeopardy** (CAC)
- 1910 — Step Aerobics (AR)
- 1930 — Salsa (Advance) (AR)
- 2000 — R&B MUSIC (MP)
- 2030 — MVP WORLD SERIES TOURNAMENT ON XBOX (CAC)
- 2030 — Yoga (AR)
- 2200 — The Man Show Marathon (CAC)
- 2200 — **Bad Lieutenant** (CAC)

Olympic schedule

F - female; M - Male

Today

- 0600 — 100 Yard Dash (F) (GYM)
- 0700 — 100 Yard Dash (M) (GYM)
- 1000 — Biathlon (GYM)
- 1300 — Tug-O-War (GYM)
- 1500 — 5 On 5 Basketball (GYM)
- 2000 — Dodgeball (GYM)

Monday

- 0600 — 5K Run (GYM)
- 0900 — Dodgeball (GYM)
- 1300 — 200M Relay
- 1400 — Bench Press (WR)
- 1700 — Deadlift (WR)
- 2000 — 5 On 5 Basketball (GYM)

Tuesday

- 1000 — Biathlon (GYM)
- 1300 — Tug-O-War (GYM)
- 1700 — 5K Run (GYM)
- 1800 — 100 Yard Dash (F) (GYM)
- 1900 — 100 Yard Dash (M) (GYM)
- 1900 — Volleyball (GYM)

Wednesday

- 0600 — 100 Yard Dash (F) (GYM)
- 0700 — 100 Yard Dash (M) (GYM)
- 1300 — 200 Meter Relay (GYM)
- 1500 — Bench Press (WR)
- 1700 — Deadlift (WR)
- 2000 — Dodgeball (GYM)

Thursday

- 0600 — 5K Run (GYM)
- 1000 — Tug-O-War (GYM)
- 1300 — 5 On 5 Basketball (GYM)
- 1900 — Volleyball (GYM)

Friday

- 0700 — 100Yard Medal Round (F) (GYM)
- 0800 — 100 Yard Medal Round (M) (GYM)
- 1000 — Biathlon (GYM)
- 1400 — Tug-O-War (GYM)
- 2000 — Dodgeball Championship Game (GYM)

Saturday

- 0600 — 17K Relay (GYM)
- 1400 — 200M Relay Medal Round (GYM)
- 1500 — Bench Press (WR)
- 1900 — 5 On 5 Basketball (GYM)

Dining menu

Sunday

Lunch: Baked Chicken, Cajun Meat Loaf, Steamed Rice, Cottage Fried Potatoes, Broccoli, Carrots, Chicken Gravy, Chicken Noodle Soup
Dinner: Roast Turkey, Baked Ham, Corn Bread Dressing, Mashed Potatoes, Herbed Green Beans, Succotash, Chicken Gravy, Chicken Noodle Soup **Snackline item:** Cannonball Sandwich, Chicken Nuggets, Burritos, Chicken Breast, Fries **Salad Bar:** Macaroni Salad

Monday

Lunch: Onion Lemon Baked Fish, Yakisoba, Pea & Pepper Rice, O'Brien Potatoes, Spinach, Peas & Carrots, Brown Gravy, Cream of Mushroom Soup **Dinner:** BBQ Beef Cubes, Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Steamed Rice, Mustard Greens, Mixed Vegetables, Brown Gravy, Cream of Mushroom Soup **Snackline item:** Cheese Fishwich, Pizza, Burritos, Chicken Breast, Potato Wedges **Salad Bar:** Fruit Salad

Tuesday

Lunch: Lasagna, Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce, Mashed Potatoes, Garlic Bread, Broccoli Polonaise, Cauliflower, Vegetable Gravy, Italian Garden Soup **Dinner:** Pork Chop Suey, Chinese five spice Chicken, Egg Rolls, Filipino Rice, Tempura Vegetable, Fried Cabbage, Brown Gravy, Egg Drop Soup **Snackline item:** Taco, Steak and Cheese Sub, Burritos, Chicken Breast, Onion Rings **Salad bar:** Italian salad

Wednesday

Lunch: Grilled Steak, Fried Shrimp, Pasta (Rigatoni), Baked Potatoes, Carrots, Corn on the Cob, Brown Gravy, Tomato Soup **Dinner:** Beef Stew, BBQ Chicken, Steamed Rice, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Okra & Tomato Gumbo, Brown Gravy, Tomato Soup **Snackline item:** Cheese Sticks, Buffalo Wings, Burritos, Chicken Breast, Fries **Salad bar:** Three bean salad

Thursday

Lunch: Pasta w/Shrimp Sauce, Beef/Broccoli Stir Fry, Shrimp Fried Rice, Spaghetti Noodles, Green Beans, Cauliflower, Brown Gravy, Cream of Broccoli Soup **Dinner:** Grilled Ham Steaks, Roast Turkey, Steamed Rice, Paprika Buttered Potatoes, Asparagus, Peas & Carrots, Brown Gravy, Cream of Broccoli Soup **Snackline item:** Sloppy Joes, Nachos, Burritos, Chicken Breast, Onion Ring **Salad bar:** Cucumber and onion salad

Friday

Lunch: Chicken Parmesan, Salisbury Steak, Steamed Pasta, Mashed Potatoes, Lima Beans, Glazed Carrots, Brown Gravy, Beef Noodle Soup **Dinner:** Sweet & Sour Chicken, Yankee Pot Roast, Steamed Rice, Macaroni w/Cheese, Cauliflower Combo, Southern Style Greens, Brown Gravy, Beef Noodle Soup **Snackline item:** Chicken Nuggets, Calzones, Burritos, Chicken Breast, Potato Wedges **Salad bar:** Potato salad

Saturday

Lunch: Roast Beef, Fried Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Cottage Fried Potatoes, Broccoli Combo, Wax Beans, Brown Gravy, Chicken Noodle Soup **Dinner:** Bratwurst w/sauerkraut, Pepper Steak, Baked Potatoes, Lyonnaise Rice, Mixed Vegetables, Asparagus, Brown Gravy, Chicken Noodle Soup **Snackline item:** Jalapeño Poppers, Pizza, Burritos, Chicken Breast, Fries **Salad bar:** Coleslaw

At the theater

The following is a schedule of movies featured in the base theater located in Coalition Compound.

Today

1200 — **Spiderman 2**
 1500 — **Spiderman 2**
 1900 — **Spiderman 2**
 2200 — **Spiderman**

Monday

0200 — **The Hulk**
 0900 — **Spiderman**
 1200 — **League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen**
 1500 — **Hellboy**
 1900 — **Punisher**
 2200 — **X-Men**

Tuesday

0200 — **Suspect Zero**
 0900 — **Spiderman 2**
 1200 — **The Presidents Daughter**
 1500 — **Punisher**
 1900 — **Along Came Poly**
 2200 — **Mystic River**

Wednesday

0200 — **Alamo**
 0900 — **Punisher**
 1200 — **Spiderman 2**

This list is subject to change. For the latest list of films, please check the list posted outside the theater door.

Wed. continued

1500 — **Suspect Zero**
 1900 — **The President's Daughter**
 2200 — **Dawn Of The Dead**

Thursday

0200 — **Van Helsing**
 0900 — **Last Man Standing**
 1200 — **Two Brothers**
 1900 — **Suspect Zero**
 2200 — **Spiderman 2**

Friday

0200 — **Twisted**
 1200 — **Taking Lives**
 1500 — **Two Brothers**
 1900 — **The President's Daughter**
 2200 — **Suspect Zero**

Saturday

0200 — **Spiderman 2**
 0900 — **Dodgeball**
 1500 — **Alamo**
 1900 — **Alien vs. Predator**
 2200 — **The President's Daughter**

Base Chapel Services

All services are held in the base chapel, unless noted otherwise. Office hours for the base chapel are daily, from 0730-1700.

Catholic Services

Weekday

1130 and 1800 — Daily Mass

Saturday

1900 — Weekend Mass
 1830 — Confession (or upon request)

Sunday

0800 and 1800 — Weekend Mass
 1030 — Weekend Mass (CAOC 2 Flr Conf Rm)

Monday

2000 — Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Thursday

1900 — Catholic Discussion Group

Protestant Services

Sunday

0900 — Christian Orthodox Prayer (MPR)
 0930 — Contemporary Service
 0930 — Service (CAOC 2 Flr Conf. Rm)
 1300 — LDS
 1600 — General Protestant traditional svc
 1930 — Inspirational Worship

Tuesday — 2000 — Christian prayer and praise

Saturday — 1100 — Seventh Day Adventist

Other Services

Sunday — 1100 — Church of Christ (MPR)

Tuesday — 1700 — Earth Based Religion (MPR)

Friday

1300 — Muslim Prayer (MPR)
 1800 -- Jewish Sabbath (MPR)
 z2000 — Earth Based Religion (MPR)

Choir Practices

Monday — 1830 — Inspirational Choir (Sanc.)

Thursday

1830 — Inspirational Choir (Sanc.)

2000 — Catholic Choir Practice (Sanc.)

Friday — 1730 — Contemporary Choir (Sanc.)

Saturday — 2030 — Cont. Choir (Sanc.)

Sunday — 1800 — Inspir. Choir (Sanc.)

Bible Studies

Sunday

1400 — LDS Sunday School (MPR)

1700 — Women's Video Study (Conf. Rm)

Monday

2000 — Bible Study at the Pool

2000 — Desert Disciples (Sanc.)

Tuesday

0800 — Women's Bible Study (MPR)

1900 — David, a man after God's own heart

1900 — Revisiting the Old Testament (MPR)

Wednesday

1900 — Song of Solomon (Sanc.)

1900 — LDS Activity Night (Conf. Rm)

2000 — 40 Days of Purpose (Sanc.)

Thursday

0930 — I Corinthians study (Conf. Rm)

1730 — Galatians study (CAOC Conf. Rm 1)

1900 — Catholic Faith Updates (Conf. Rm)

2000 — Warriors of the Word (Sanc)

Friday

1900 — "World May Know" Bible Study (Sanc.)

2000 — Men of Integrity (Sanc.)

Saturday — 2000 — Prayer Warriors (Conf. Rm)

Other Programs

Wed./Thurs. — 1600 — Inspirational Service Worship Dance Team (Sanc.)

Mon./Wed./Fri. — 2000 — Alcoholics Anonymous (Conf. Rm)

Saturdays — 1400 — Addictions: A Banquet in the Grave (Conf. Rm)

Warrior of the Week



Staff Sgt. Armida Johnson

What is your home station? Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, 317th Air Mobility Control Center

Days in the AOR: 41

What are your personal goals for this deployment? Learn as much as I can about my job here at the AOR and concentrate on my promotion fitness examination studies.

What's the best part of this deployment? Getting to know a lot of people from all over the base.

Hobbies: Listening to music, watching movies, and calligraphy.

What is your best Air Force memory? Being selected as 51st Fighter Wing Staff NCO of the Year in 2002



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bryan Bouchard



This section of the Desert Eagle is designed to help people better understand and appreciate the culture and history of our hosts here

Hospitality

Arabs are generous and value generosity in others. Hospitality toward guests is essential for a good reputation. Arab hospitality requires that refreshments must always be offered to guests. To an Arab, it is considered polite being a guest to decline at least twice before accepting, and for the host to offer at least three times before finally accepting a guest's negative response.

Briefs

Gas mask inspections

People are reminded to inspect their gas masks weekly. For more information, people may refer to their Airman's Manual or go to their unit's full-spectrum threat response representative.

New parking arrangement

The back corner of Coalition Compound will be closed except for emergency vehicles because the contractor will be pouring asphalt through Oct. 29. The temporary parking lots will be removed. People should park in the parking lot behind the BX storage tent.

First Sergeant Tip of the Week

Staff car salute

People should remember to follow proper customs and courtesies such as saluting staff cars when appropriate. People should pay particular attention to military customs and courtesies while walking in uniform.



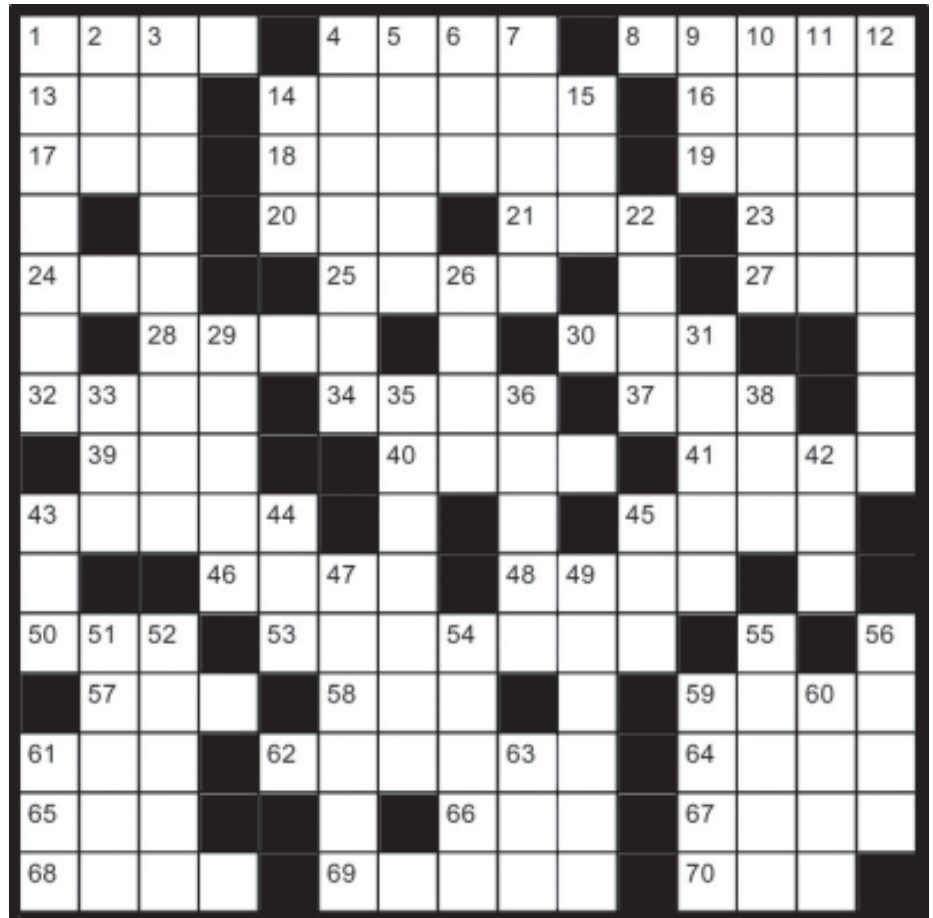
Happy Birthday, U.S. Navy

ACROSS

- 1. Amphibian
- 4. Bathroom on Navy ship
- 8. Reef, sandbar, or shoal
- 13. Sphere
- 14. Bank robbery?
- 16. Continent
- 17. Duty status of some military personnel
- 18. Navy P-3s
- 19. Former Russian ruler
- 20. Terminate
- 21. What sailor does in mess
- 23. Make mistake
- 24. Burn residue
- 25. Snakelike fish
- 27. Fed. organization concerned with national security
- 28. Part of old Navy sailing ships
- 30. On ship, to rear
- 32. Toboggan
- 34. Navy vessel
- 37. Small amount or degree
- 39. Conjunction
- 40. A Guthrie
- 41. Type of moss
- 43. Crib sheets
- 45. On ship, place to steer ship
- 46. On ship, a level
- 48. Fish
- 50. Knight's address
- 53. Warm air, rising
- 57. Space
- 58. Affirmative expression from sailor
- 59. To tease (someone) good-humoredly
- 61. Model Carol
- 62. Actress Blethyn
- 64. Norway capital
- 65. Mil. orders that govern action with enemy
- 66. Commander's area of concern, in brief
- 67. UH-1 helicopter, informally
- 68. Maximum
- 69. Dinner starter?
- 70. Compass dir.

DOWN

- 1. Navy F-14s
- 2. USAF inspection
- 3. Shame
- 4. Navy F-18s
- 5. To omit or slur over
- 6. Bother
- 7. Desert windrows



By 1st Lt. Tony Wickman

- 9. Head covering
- 10. German city
- 11. Fibbers
- 12. Civil War hero Admiral David G. _____
- 14. Garden tool
- 15. Helpful commercial, in brief
- 22. 27th president
- 26. Den
- 29. Computed
- 31. Dubbed
- 33. Member of people inhabiting Mekong River area
- 35. Navy E-2
- 36. Material forming cells or tissue
- 38. Marina __ Rey
- 42. Guitar player need
- 43. Navy equivalent to AFB
- 44. Place
- 45. *2001: A Space Odyssey* computer
- 47. Necessities to steer ship
- 49. U.S. Navy hero Oliver __ Perry
- 51. Alaska home?
- 52. Navy equivalents to AFSCs
- 54. Relating to or in region of kidneys

- 55. Petty officer in charge of ship's crew, anchors and cables
- 56. On ship, call to another ship?
- 59. U.S. Navy hero __ Paul Jones
- 60. Dispatched
- 61. Appendage
- 63. Morgue status?





Photo by Airman 1st Class Aaron Trujillo

British band Top Cat performs for a crowd at Memorial Plaza Monday. The show featured music, comedy and dancing.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bryan Bouchard

Airman 1st Class James Elliott rekeys a radio Monday. The land-mobile radio section is in the process of upgrading the base's LMR system to digital, which will increase clarity. Airman Elliott works at the 379th Expeditionary Communications Squadron and is deployed from Charleston Air Force Base, S.C.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bryan Bouchard

Staff Sgt. Francisco Diaz, from the 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron calls in to his control center about a malfunctioning air conditioning unit. Sergeant Diaz is deployed from Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C.