

ALAMO WING

Volume 55, Number 3, March 2007

U.S. Air Force Reserve Command

433rd Airlift Wing, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas

**Every Airman
gets inspected**
Page 2

**Recruiter comes
full circle**
Page 5

**Alarm
Blue?**
Page 7

Alamo Wing Airmen feed Iraq war machine

By Senior Airman Candace Romano
— 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing

The drone of forklifts moving pallets breaks the smoke-filled haze as members of the 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron Aerial Port Flight work against the clock to expedite critical hub-and-spoke missions.

Whether it's aircraft parts and ammunition, or fire trucks and heavily armored vehicles, essential supplies for war fighters are palletized, loaded on aircraft and sent downrange.

"Balad is the aerial port hub for all of Iraq and the busiest cargo aerial port in the Department of Defense," said Maj. Preston McFarren, Aerial Port Flight commander. "We run a huge operation for cargo movement in-theater. The CONUS (Continental United States) super-ports only move half the tonnage and passengers we move at any given time here."

During their tour, the flight expects to move about 6,955 cargo missions and process more than 73,900 passengers, according to Staff Sgt. Thomas Roberts, NCO in charge of data records.

As the busiest aerial port flight in DoD, they average about 50 percent more tons than the busiest Air Mobility Command ports in CONUS, said Major McFarren, a reservist deployed from the 433rd Airlift Wing's 26th Aerial Port Squadron at Lackland AFB.



Photo by Senior Airman Candace Romano 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing.

From right: Maj. Preston McFarren, Aerial Port Flight commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Steven Saxon, superintendent, are at the cargo yard at Balad AB, Iraq. Major McFarren and Chief Saxon are assigned to the 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Squadron with the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing. They are deployed here from the 433rd Airlift Wing's 26th Aerial Port Squadron at Lackland AFB, Texas. Balad Air Base is the aerial port hub for all of Iraq and the busiest cargo aerial port in the Department of Defense.

The 'Port Dawgs' control the core of all aerial logistics in Iraq using the hub-and-spoke concept, a method of intra-theater airlift conceived by commercial air cargo companies. As a result, tactical airlift streamlined the process and provided a safer means of moving personnel and cargo.

"The more cargo we can put in the air, the more we can reduce the size and frequency of convoys out on the road," said Chief Master Sgt. Steven Saxon, 332nd APF superintendent, also

deployed from the 433rd AW at Lackland. "If it can go by air, we send it that way."

Their mission is saving time, getting supplies to war fighters, and potentially saving lives.

"Our purpose is to keep them off of the ground," said Senior Airman Michael Olsen, an air transportation journeyman deployed from Little Rock AFB, Ark. "During this rotation, it is estimated we will have prevented

(See Machine Feed, 3)

Alamo Wing

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ORI tests every wing member

Col. Howard Seid

Vice Wing Commander



Every member of our wing is under inspection during the Inspector General's Operational Readiness Inspection and during the fly-away to

Volk Field. It isn't just the few who were tasked to participate who get the grade. Yes, they are the ones to show their stuff in person, but it is your whole section that carries the mark they earn.

Since all of us get the grade, it is up to us all to make sure our chosen participants have everything they need, and know everything they need to know, in order to show the capabilities the Alamo Wing brings to the fight.

If you are a supervisor, do you know if your folks know in what order they administer atropine injectors? Do they know how to use the tools of their trade while wearing the protective gear of Mission Oriented Protective Posture four? Do they have all of the pieces of the MOPP gear and do they all fit well? Have they had a chance to practice wearing it while trying to tie down cargo, turn a wrench or type on the keyboard of their laptop? Can they actually drink from the canteen in full MOPP gear?

Above PAR: *continued from Back Page*

"The PAR team will be looking for UXO's and any damage to buildings, vehicles etc," said Sergeant Goth. "This is reported to the shelter manager and further up until the command section can evaluate it."

"The PAR teams are an integral part of getting the base back to operational capabilities because they ensure there is no damage to the facility and if there is

If you are a coworker have you quizzed your friends on the information in the Airman's Manual? Have you looked at the Air Mobility Command Inspector General web page under your functional area and studied the best practices to share with those who are going to represent you?

All of those seem like minor issues. But each ill-fitting over boot or missing glove has the power to derail the most skilled Airman and sideline their ability to survive and operate.

It takes practice, with all the tools in the war fighter's kit to get past the awkwardness of even the easiest task when under pressure and suited up.

To get one person ready to deploy, it takes a group of wingmen. It is up to each of us to make sure our team is in top form when it comes time to test. If you are not the one tasked to go, be the one who coaches, quizzes and motivates.

Help set the mind set that the exercise is a deployment and foster a culture that projects the sense of urgency inspectors are looking for. Give the inspection the full attitude and attention it deserves during practice. Create a culture for this experience that removes the 'fog of war' and replaces it with planned actions and confident responses.

Everyone should be involved in getting ready because every one of us will carry the grade earned by our team.

An Outstanding rating is so much lighter to carry than a Marginal. 

damage they let everybody know," said Sergeant Goth.

What the teams report determines the next actions and when the 'all-clear' can be given. And though each Airman practices the ability to not only survive, but to operate under attack conditions, a rapid return to normal operations is the desired end result. 

Machine Feed: *continued from page 1*

more than 190 convoys and saved over 10,000 soldiers from being placed in harm's way on Iraqi roads. I'm very proud of the job we're doing, and the impact we're having is rewarding."

Each pallet can hold up to 10,000 pounds of cargo, and roughly four pallets equals a truckload. The C-130 Hercules can carry six pallets. By increasing the number of pallets put on an aircraft instead of on a truck in a convoy, the flight reduces the number of vehicles required, according to Major McFarren.

Cargo processors build up and break down pallets for travel, and the flight's load planners check weight and balance requirements for supplies and equipment scheduled for airlift. The Air Terminal Operations Center, the aerial port command cell, provides coordination for the flight.

Special handling involves processing hazardous and valuable materials and registered mail. They also handle precious cargo – the remains of service members who made the ultimate sacrifice – when airlift missions dedicated solely to this purpose take flight.

"Seeing a fallen comrade going home makes us comprehend the realities of war," said Airman 1st Class Luther Franklin, an air transportation journeyman deployed from Charleston AFB, S.C. "It puts things in perspective ... it's hard to see, but it's an honor for us to do it."

The Airmen learned to quickly deal with challenges in a deployed environment. The 96 'Port Dawgs' assigned to the 332nd ELRS and their 24/7 operations, do the work of 400 Airmen assigned to some of AMC's largest ports.

"The Airmen move a tremendous amount of cargo and passengers, getting the job done through hard work and a whole lot of willpower," said Major McFarren. "As busy as this flight is, and in spite of the reduced manpower we're working with, what's being accomplished here is a real testament to the abilities of the Airmen and NCOs. The work they're doing is absolutely phenomenal."

The 'Port Dawgs' are also loading an assortment of aircraft in about half the time they're used to at home.

"By reducing time on the ground

for air and ground crews and operating on expedited ground time, we make sure the maximum number of missions go out every day," said Major McFarren, who said his deployment here was a first in a hostile environment. "It's a huge challenge to load cargo in half the time we're used to back home – we're always re-adapting load plans and changing gears to meet mission requirements, and there's no room for error."

Despite the high-paced environment, one Airman feels relief and affirmation after a completed mission and successful delivery.

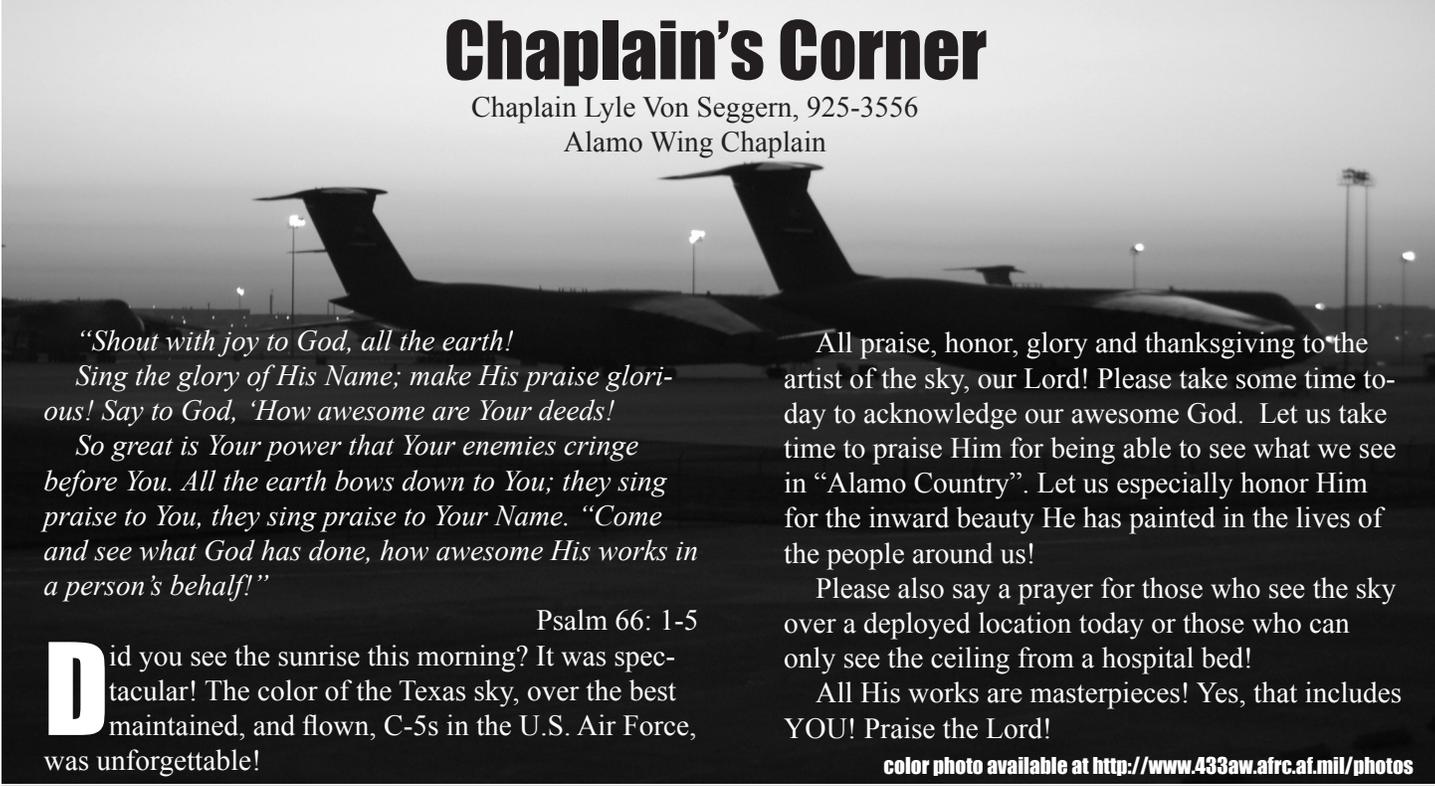
"When we see armor kits and water going downrange, we know it's keeping coalition forces alive and possibly easing the stress of their deployment," said Airman Franklin, who is deployed for the first time.

Members of the Aerial Port Flight may be "behind the scenes," but they're making the war possible.

"Our Airmen are putting assets on target," said Chief Saxon. "We're delivering pallets, supplies and equipment to the war machine." 

Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain Lyle Von Seggern, 925-3556
Alamo Wing Chaplain



*"Shout with joy to God, all the earth!
Sing the glory of His Name; make His praise glorious!
Say to God, 'How awesome are Your deeds!
So great is Your power that Your enemies cringe before You.
All the earth bows down to You; they sing praise to You,
they sing praise to Your Name. 'Come and see what God has done,
how awesome His works in a person's behalf!'"*

Psalm 66: 1-5

Did you see the sunrise this morning? It was spectacular! The color of the Texas sky, over the best maintained, and flown, C-5s in the U.S. Air Force, was unforgettable!

All praise, honor, glory and thanksgiving to the artist of the sky, our Lord! Please take some time today to acknowledge our awesome God. Let us take time to praise Him for being able to see what we see in "Alamo Country". Let us especially honor Him for the inward beauty He has painted in the lives of the people around us!

Please also say a prayer for those who see the sky over a deployed location today or those who can only see the ceiling from a hospital bed!

All His works are masterpieces! Yes, that includes YOU! Praise the Lord!

color photo available at <http://www.433aw.afrc.af.mil/photos>

Note Worthy

Promotions



Michael Anders, 556th RHS
Gary Avants, 556th RHS
Davis Cameron, MXS
Heath Conrad, MSS
Vickie Davis, 556th RHS
Joe Nichols, 68th AS
Enrique Trevino, OSS



Scott Devora, 26th APS
Tamma Notaro, 26th APS
George Palmer IV, LRS
Michael Shedrock, CES
Eric Sotello, 26th APS



John Castillo Jr., AMDS
Rueben Castillo, 26th APS
Jose Cortez, 556th RHS
Mark Gomez, ASTS
Ruben Torres, AMXS



Daniel Bermudez, 556th RHS
Joenath Chincarini, 556th RHS
Joe Gonzalez, 26th APS
Jorge Hernandez, MXS



Rene Isarraras, 556th RHS



Brandi Garner, 556th RHS
Amesha Harris, AES
Shannon Harris, AMDS
Jerry Henderson Jr., LG
Maurice Lathan, CES
Justin Woolverton, MXS

Reenlistments

Chief Master Sergeant

Theodore Williams, MXS

Senior Master Sergeant

Rodolfo Gomez Jr., 74th APS
Rodrigo Morin Jr. MXS

Master Sergeant

Roberto Aldana, 26th APS
Edward Gutierrez, MXS
Pamela Hernandez, 68th AS
James Murry, TRS
Rebecca Ortiz, 26th APS
Jared Pittsenbargar, 26th APS
Samuel Saldana Jr., 68th AS
Antonio Zepeda Jr., MXS

Technical Sergeant

Daniel Cardenas, 74th APS
Jose Castro, 556th RH
Shana Cullum, TRS
Gregory Duncan, MXS
Mark Fresquez, MXS
Modesto Guevara, 26th APS
Ronald Guzowski, MOS
Rosemarie Morales, MXS
Kathleen Sullivan, CF

Staff Sergeant

Robert Andron, MXS
Domingo Delafuente, MOS
Michael Galvan, MDS
Edward Gomez, MSS
Eli Lozano, MXS
Ernest Mcdonald Jr., MXS
Craig Miller, AMDS
Jason Pena, 556th RH
Eric Reiningger, LRS
John Swasey, 556th RHS
Gilbert Torrez, MOS
Eduardo Valerio 26th APS

Senior Airman

Veronica Aguilera, AMDS
Dawn Dye, 74th APS
Rhonda Garza, SVF
Perry Hallmark Jr., CES
Sara Hodgen, AMDS
Veronica Johnson, OSS
Gerassimos Kosmetatos, MXS
Earnest Mcmillan, AMXS
Noe Saldana, CES

Airman First Class

Christopher Rawley, 556th RHS

Awards

Technical School Top Performers

Senior Airman Edwards Ellsworth IV, MXS Aircraft Fuels Systems, Final Grade 94

Airman Elisa Hernandez, AMDS Optometry, Final Grade 93

Airman First Class Christopher Johnson, 556th RHS, Naval Construction Training Center, Honor Student

Staff Sgt. Jason Frescas, 556th RHS, Fort Leonard Wood, Distinguished Graduate

Staff Sgt. Adrian Martinez, AMXS Aircraft Electrical & Environmental Systems, Final Grade 94

Airman First Class La Chryle Nisby, AMXS, Communication / Navigation Mission Systems, Final Grade 91

Airman Hansel Orozco, AMDS Optometry, Final Grade 90

Senior Airman Terrence Patrick, MXS, Aerospace Maintenance, Final Grade 93

Airman Robert Payne, AMXS Aircraft Electrical & Environmental Systems, Distinguished Graduate, Final Grade 98

Senior Airman J R Riosvega, SFS Security Forces Apprentice, Distinguished Graduate Final Grade 93

Airman Basic Lorraine Sparacino, 26th APS, Air Transportation Apprentice, Distinguished Graduate, Final Grade 96

Staff Sgt. Ramon Torres, SFS, Security Forces Apprentice, Final Grade 91

Jubilee Award Winners

The following members of the Maintenance Group were recently recognized by their peers as the best in their respective work centers.

Master Sgt. Forist David Jr.
Tech. Sgt. Tina Gomez
Tech. Sgt. Leroy Beck III
Tech. Sgt. Song Kim
Tech. Sgt. Martin Salas
Tech. Sgt. Marco Vidaurri
Tech. Sgt. Paul Garcia
Tech. Sgt. James Cavazos Jr.
Tech. Sgt. Larry Gallo
Tech. Sgt. Alma Ramirez
Tech. Sgt. Michael McQueen
Tech. Sgt. Gary Wadkins Jr.
Tech. Sgt. Eugenio Chavarria
Tech. Sgt. Kevin Lillo
Tech. Sgt. Fidencio Ramon
Tech. Sgt. Adrian Rodriguez
Tech. Sgt. John DeLaGarza
Tech. Sgt. David Cameron
Tech. Sgt. Gilbert Aguilar
Tech. Sgt. Albert Hopkins
Tech. Sgt. Edward Hernandez
Staff Sgt. Jesse Cantu Jr.
Staff Sgt. John Retzer
Staff Sgt. Gerard Ontiveros
Staff Sgt. Annette Reyes
Staff Sgt. Chad Evans
Staff Sgt. Tashawna Todman
Staff Sgt. Maria Sparks

Staff Sgt. Daniel Troutman
Staff Sgt. Scott Campbell
Staff Sgt. Jeremy Tate
Staff Sgt. Christopher Mouton
Senior Airman Richard Carrell
Senior Airman Alonzo Arce Jr.
Senior Airman Colby McCune
Senior Airman Jason Nero
Senior Airman Ruben Garcia III
Senior Airman Jessica Wheat
Senior Airman Edward Dabbert
Senior Airman Reynaldo Sanchez
Senior Airman Michael Ochoa
Senior Airman Bertha Torres
Senior Airman Michael Ricci Jr.
Senior Airman Crystal LaFleur
Senior Airman Brandon LaFleur
Senior Airman Joe Mauricio Jr.
Senior Airman Hilario Chapa Jr.
Senior Airman Matthis Herrera
Senior Airman Shelli Hoover
Senior Airman Sean Balyeat
Senior Airman Martin Alvarez Jr.
Senior Airman Michael Phillips Jr.
Senior Airman Sarah O'Donnell
Senior Airman Jose Fernandez Jr.
Senior Airman Charles Stokes II
Airman First Class Mike Brooks

Recruiting takes Airmen through full circle

By Staff Sgt. Carlos Treviño

Wing Public Affairs

Life is a circle as 433rd recruiter Tech. Sgt. Michael Barnes discovered when he signed a prize recruit.

That recruit was Robert Caldera, a traffic officer with the San Antonio Police Department. Last year, Caldera started to think about joining the military - again. The first time he served nine years in the Army. This time he wanted something different.

This time he chose the Air Force Reserve. His sister was in the Air Force and he talked to fellow SAPD officers who were also Air Force Reservists. They all spoke highly of the Air Force Reserve.

Their recommendations, along with travel opportunities, job training, retirement benefits and camaraderie, convinced him to reenlist, this time in the Air Force Reserve. Caldera talked to a recruiter earlier that year, but

wasn't swayed. At first Caldera was interested in reentering the intelligence field as a Reserve Individual Mobilization Augmentee.

"It took nine years to figure out" that the Air Force Reserve was for him he said.

Nine years and a recruiter he knew from his Army days.

The two friends, whose careers crossed paths numerous times in the past 17 years, were recently reunited last December when Caldera decided to call the Air Force Reserve Recruiting office one more time. Sergeant Barnes answered that call.

The voice on the other end of the line sounded familiar. Expecting to talk to a young recruit with no experience, Sergeant Barnes' first question, after asking the caller's name, was if he was prior service. When he said yes, and that he had been in the Army, Sergeant Barnes asked him what career field.

"Nine years in the intelligence field," the caller responded.

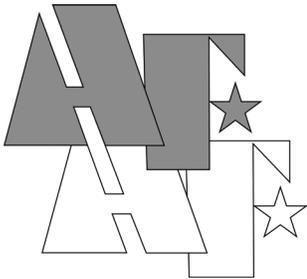
"Do you know who this is?" the excited Barnes asked. "It's Michael Barnes," he told him.

In 1990 both men had started in the intelligence career field in the Army at Ft. George G. Meade, Md. A few years later, they were both sent for Non-Commissioned Officer training at Ft. Huachuca, AZ. Then in 1995, both trained at Ft. Sam Houston in the medical field. Caldera got out of the Army in 1997.

As the two became reacquainted, Barnes found Caldera an opening in Air Transportation, something different than his civilian job of "handling accidents and writing tickets," Caldera said.

"Things happen for a reason, this was unique," Sergeant Barnes said. "It goes to show you that it is a small world. This is a complete circle; it was the icing on the cake." 

April Events to Remember



The Air Force Assistance Fund annual contribution campaign is under way. Those interested in donating or getting more information may contact their unit representatives or the Wing coordinators. Wing representatives, 1st. Lt. Clayton Lawrence and Senior Master Sgt. John Hinshaw, both from the 433rd Training Squadron, may be reached at 671-2410 or 671-2059.



The Federal Income Tax filing deadline is April 17. For information on tax issues of military service

go to <http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=97273,00.html>

The Alamo Wing Remembers

Ninety-three members of the 32nd Aeromedical Evacuation Group began their first Unit Training Assembly at Kelly AFB in April of 1976.

"There are people who, instead of listening to what is being said to them, are already listening to what they are going to say themselves.."

Albert Guinon
(1863 - 1923)

Who's Who in the...



Alamo Wing

Right: Tech. Sgt. Robert Calmes is a heavy mobile mechanic with the 556th RED HORSE Squadron. Members of his unit depend on his skill to keep the heavy machinery, like backhoes, bulldozers and trucks, in good working order. Currently, pieces of the equipment Sergeant Calmes works on are in use in Guatemala building a three-room school for a small mountain village.



Photo by Master Sgt. Colleen McGee



Photo by Master Sgt. Colleen McGee

Senior Airmen Phillip Jones, left, and Brandon LaFleur, both maintainers with the 433rd Aerospace Ground Equipment Flight, work on a Self Generating Nitrogen Cart. The cart is used on the C-5 Galaxy to inflate aircraft tires and landing gear struts.



Photo by Master Sgt. Colleen McGee

Senior Airman Aaron Johnson, a maintainer with the 433rd Aerospace Ground Equipment Flight, is working on an aircraft jack used to raise a C-5 Galaxy aircraft off its wheels. It takes six jacks and nine people to safely lift a C-5 to perform a functional check of the landing gear systems.



News Bites...

ARPC CUSTOMER SERVICE

Since March 2006, the Air Reserve Personnel Center's contact center has offered customer service support on the first weekend of each month from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mountain Time. Airmen can always request assistance 24/7/365 by logging onto virtual Personnel Center Guard and Reserve, the customer service Web portal for personnel support, online at <http://arpc.af.mil/vPC-GR>.

BLUE SUIT WINNERS

The Alamo Chapter of the Air Force Association is combined the military and civilian awards, traditionally known as the Joe Kellogg Blue Suit and the Charlotte and Carlton Loos Awards Banquets. The Banquet was held on March 28, at Mitchell Hall, Lackland AFB. This was the 21st year for the event. Over 90 outstanding Air Force civilian and military members from 14 major organizations in the San Antonio area were recognized including the following from the 433rd Airlift Wing.

Nelda Perez and Thomas Smith Jr. both from the 433rd Operations Group and Frederick Woods from the 433rd Mission Support Squadron, were awarded the Charlotte and Carlton Loos Award for 2007 in their respective categories.

The Joe Kellogg Blue Suit Award for 2007 was awarded to Senior Airman Ruben Torres from the Aeromedical Staging Squadron, Tech. Sgt. Alan Brinkerhoff from the Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Master Sgt. Dionicio 'Nicho' Gutierrez from the Chaplain Services, Senior Master Sgt. Juan Villarreal, the First Sgt. from ASTS and Capt. Warner Tse from the Medical Squadron.

Master Sgt. Christopher Spence, 433rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, was selected as the AFA Airman of the Year.

AFIT OFFERS DISTANCE LEARNING DEGREE PROGRAM

Military members, DOD civilians and government contractors across the country can now earn a master's degree in systems engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology without moving to Ohio or leaving their current assignments.

Prospective students interested in learning more about the distance learning programs offered by AFIT's Graduate School of Engineering and Management can visit their Web site at www.afit.edu/en/dl.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123044412>.

'E-MAIL FOR LIFE' INITIATIVE LAUNCHED

E-Mail for Life, or E4L, is a new program to consolidate the service's multiple e-mail systems and provide senior leaders the capability to e-mail every Air Force member directly. The new addresses are not base specific but will have the extension @us.af.mil. Every Air Force user -- active-duty, Guard, Reserve, civilian or contractor -- will keep that address for as long as they're associated with the Air Force.

While this new address will be active when they receive the notification e-mail, it will not affect current e-mail address, and any items sent to the E4L address will be forwarded to the current address. Also, the E4L address will not show on the Global Access List until mid-summer when the initiative reaches full operating capability.

For more information, read the News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123046048>.

UTA SCHEDULE

April
A UTA April 14-15
B UTA April 21-22

May
A UTA May 5-6
B UTA May 19-20

June
A UTA June 2-3
B UTA June 23-24

Alarm Blue?

You've gotten to your new base and there seems to be something totally different here. Your base has just gone from Alarm Yellow to Alarm Blue.

There are blue flags all over the place and the giant voice announcement speaker keeps shouting "Alarm Blue, Alarm Blue, Alarm Blue!" You know you aren't color blind and your hearing is fine so what is going on?

The answer is simple. You are in Korea and Alarm Blue is the same as Alarm Red in every other location.

PAR teams train to be well above par

By Staff Sgt. Bethaney Watson
And Master Sgt. Colleen McGee

Wing Public Affairs

After the mortars stop and the echoes of explosions die, two or three people wait for a signal to leave the safety of their shelter to ensure the rest can start working on top of the desks instead of under them. These few are members of the Post Attack Reconnaissance teams.

Each shelter has a team trained and ready to recon the area to advise the commander on the damage, respond to injuries and gather information to determine what extra protection we might need. They aren't a special operations group. They are our wingmen.

Members of the team can be from any career field and come from every work center. But there are considerations when choosing PAR team members. The ability to observe, process and act on what is seen is important.

"It can be anybody that has normal color vision, because they are looking for colors on the M-8 paper, and has the ability to perform self aid buddy care, because they may come across an injured person," said Tech. Sgt.

Carter Goth, from the 433rd Readiness office.

PAR teams also get additional training because of the increased responsibility the job requires.

"Anyone can take PAR team training as long as they take the training seriously because other lives may depend on them," said Sergeant Goth.

During the training, team members learn what to look for and how to report their findings.

"For Post Attack Reconnaissance there are several different things we look for such as, is there damage to the building, are there any casualties or unexploded ordinances," said Sergeant Goth. "They (PAR Team members) are taught to set up routes using Liquid Detection Points, what to look for on the LDP's, what to do if they find a UXO, how to report what they find just to name a few."

The color vision comes into play with the use of M-8 paper.

"The PAR team members need to see the different colors and report them, for example, 'M-8 on LDP # 6 shows heavy concentration of green' would indicate to the NBC (Nuclear,



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bethaney Watson

A Post Attack Reconnaissance team inspects a liquid chemical detection point for signs of contamination after an attack.

Biological and Chemical) cell that there is a large amount of a V-Series agent present at that LDP," said Sergeant Goth, who likens PAR teams to lifelines within shelters.

(See Above PAR, 2)



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