

# ALAMO WING

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U.S. Air Force Reserve Command

433<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Wing, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas

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## Alamo Wing Awarded AF Outstanding Unit ribbon

By Master Sgt. Collen McGee


*Wing Public Affairs*

**E**ver wonder what it feels like to be part of a winning team? Take stock right now because every member of the 433<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Wing is on a winning team. Our team was awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. Every member of the wing is entitled to wear the corresponding ribbon provided they were assigned to the unit during the coverage period.

The award covers the period from September 1, 2004 through August 31, 2006. During that time, the units within the Alamo Wing faced some of the biggest challenges on earth.

We responded to natural disasters like the Tsunami Relief in Southeast Asia, Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma and an earthquake in Pakistan.

The 12,500 flying hours were more than any other C-5 unit in the Air Force. But it took more than flying time to make this wing a winner.

“Even if a member didn’t deploy, didn’t prepare war material for shipment to the AOR, didn’t take it to the AOR and didn’t go to the Gulf Coast, they helped those that did,” said Col. Del Lewis, 433<sup>rd</sup> Operations Group Commander. “Wear your ribbon with pride, you certainly earned it.” 

## Year began with end in sight

By Master Sgt. Collen McGee

*Wing Public Affairs*

**T**he first Unit Training Assembly of 2007 started with the last UTA in mind. The weekend was filled with an exercise in mobility to pre-identify any problems in deployment processing long before the Operational Readiness Inspection scheduled for December.

“Part of the reason for the exercise was to get our ‘machine’ and the 37<sup>th</sup>’s ‘machine’ working together and planning together,” said Maj. Jon Hodge, 433<sup>rd</sup> Logistics Readiness Squadron Commander. “As we move forward to April’s flyaway to Volk Field, we will know each other better. Better planning and more coordination will take

place.”

For members of the 433<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Wing, deploying isn’t new but the way we usually deploy to contingency tours is not the same process as an ORI deployment. For contingency deployments, there are fewer people and they are staggered throughout an entire month. With an ORI, the group is much larger and it departs on a much tighter schedule.

“Deploying in the real world is different from deploying for an ORI and we must be able to do it like we would during an ORI,” said Major Hodge.

Besides being able to get a large group of people out the door for the upcoming ORI, there is another reason

*(See END, 8)*



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bethaney Watson

Airman First Class Amy Marques and Staff Sgt. Juan Rodriguez, from the 26<sup>th</sup> APS, are securing cargo on a pallet in preparation for loading the aircraft during a recent Operational Readiness practice exercise. Wearing their chemical protective gear gives them experience with the ability to survive and operate.

## Alamo Wing

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# Core values seen everyday

Col. Howard Seid

*Vice Wing Commander*

**O**ur country commemorated the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a great civil rights leader, on 15 January 2007. Dr. King was a pivotal figure in the civil rights movement. His determination and integrity brought significant, positive changes to the American way of life.

This month, we recognize the contributions to our nation's heritage made by many African American's.

Our Air Force is a leader in equality and regard for others. We continue to lead the Nation in living Dr. King's vision placing our Integrity First.

As we begin yet another fast-paced year, wing leadership must take an active roll in the safety of personnel, and their families.

Continue to stress cold weather injury prevention and other seasonal, high-risk issues including, safe driving. Encourage both Airman and civilian employees to use the Operation Risk Management process (ORM). It is a proven and viable accident prevention tool.

Not only does the program give solid

info to the user, it provides a built-in opportunity for the first-line supervisor to personally engage as an unrivaled wingman. This is a low pain, high gain initiative conforming to the principle of Service Before Self.

I encourage each of you to use off time, to enjoy some well-deserved rest and relaxation with family and friends and to recharge your batteries.

During that off time and when you return to the job, continue to remain vigilant in your efforts to ensure your safety and the well-being of your fellow Airman.

Your personal involvement and genuine concern for your fellow Airman makes a difference and saves our most precious resource, our people. We need each of you back healthy and ready to continue in the defense of our great Nation in a manner consistent with Excellence in All We Do.

*Editor's Note: Brig. Gen. John Fobian, 433<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Wing Commander is currently deployed in support of contingency operations. Colonel Seid is available during his absence.*

## Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain Lyle Von Seggern, 925-3556

433<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Wing Alamo Wing Chaplain


*"Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, Your faithfulness to the skies. Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, Your justice like the great deep. O Lord, You preserve both man and beast. How priceless is Your unfailing love!"*

- Psalm 36: 5-7

**I**sn't it wonderful that the Lord cares about the Air Force! In fact, the Holy Scriptures say so! God's love reaches to the "heavens" and His faithfulness to the "skies"! Isn't it fantastic that no matter how fast, or far, or high you fly, the Lord's love can reach you!

His love can reach you sitting or standing right where you are now! Also, His love not only reaches out to you, it is reaching out to your pets: "He preserves both man and beast." That too is a wonderful thought!

Just how can the Lord love you today? Do you need righteousness, justice, healing, encouragement or salvation? Does someone in your family have a need that seems impossible? God's love contains a whole catalog of impossibilities.

God's love will reach out to you today, wherever you are. God bless you for reaching out to Him. 

One Reservist's love could be...

## Revealed in the cards

By Capt. Carla Gleason

*Wing Public Affairs*

**A**lamo Wing members are all business in their boots and BDUs. But catch a glimpse of them outside the military world, and sometimes it's a different ball game.

At least one member of the 433<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Wing, has a passion for the New York Yankees baseball team that has him seeing stars, and may prove profitable if he plays his collected cards right.

Staff Sgt. Mike Wagner, from the 433<sup>rd</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron, collects autographs, mostly of famous baseball players, and it's a personal dream that has developed into a real-world business of sorts.

"I grew up in West Hempstead, New York, and so of course I was a big Yankees fan," said Sergeant Wagner, who became interested in autographs when he saw a friend's collection in 1967. "So I wrote to Joe DiMaggio--or rather the stadium because I didn't have his address--and low and behold it worked. He sent me my first autograph."

From that point on, Sergeant Wagner was hooked. While he traveled around the world with various active-duty Air Force assignments, he began gathering autographs through the mail, at card shows, at training camps, outside of movie premiers and other places where stars frequented.

"It was nice to have more than one of the same autograph--you know--in case something happened to the first," said Sergeant Wagner, and by the early 1980s he amassed 10 to 12 thousand autographs.

"It was a hobby, and still is," Sergeant Wagner said with an enthusiastic grin, "but it's a pastime I realized others enjoy as well."

Sergeant Wagner settled into the

433<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Wing as a reservist in 1992. While he spends his Reserve days working in utilities and as the unit historian, Sergeant Wagner devotes his off time to collecting and selling autographs.

But not all of them have a price.

"Abraham Lincoln's autograph is my favorite piece in the collection," he said, and his eyes light up. He purchased the Lincoln autograph for \$1,400 twenty years ago. Now its worth twice that. "It was a Christmas present to myself back in 82'. Some heroes you never sell."

Other notables in the collection include Mickey Mantle, Lauren Bacall, Fred Astaire and, of course, a huge line up of Yankee baseball stars, past and present.

In fact, Sergeant Wagner got to take his pastime one step further in November when he attended the New York Yankees Baseball Fantasy Camp in Tampa, Fla.

"I always wanted to be a baseball player," he said, delving in to his camp experience. "You know they treated you like a real Yankee player for a week, with trainers and everything." And, of course, he scored lots of autographs. "It was like a dream come true. In my neighborhood, all the kids grew up wishing we were these guys, so it was like meeting old friends; even though we'd never met."


Although the participants played baseball everyday, even including a couple of innings with current Yankees players, Sergeant Wagner wasn't there just for fun and games.

"I'm writing a book about

the 1973-1975 Yankee stadium renovations," he explains. "I was there during that time and I have a bunch of pictures of the project, and now I am compiling research to finish the project."

The research, which could fill a small filing cabinet, resides in a cardboard box and includes photos, articles, letters, not to mention video taped interviews he conducted with players, architects and others. "I've been gathering information for about three years now," said Sergeant Wagner. "Life gets in the way, but it's a fascinating project."

He has some advice for newbies.

"Collect what you love, not what you think will sell," said Sergeant Wagner. "That way it will always bring you enjoyment." 



*Best to Mike  
Spanky McFarlan*

Photo courtesy Staff Sgt. Mike Wagner

Staff Sgt. Mike Wagner, a member of the 433<sup>rd</sup> Civil Engineering Squadron is seen here with one of his many autograph grantors, Spanky McFarlan of *The Little Rascals*. Sergeant Wagner's collection includes entertainers, athletes and notable leaders like Abraham Lincoln. He started his hobby in 1967 with the autograph of Joe DiMaggio.



# Note Worthy



## Promotions



Johnnie Almon, 710<sup>th</sup> IOF  
Juan Barrientos, CES  
Daniel Gremes, 556<sup>th</sup> RHS



Augustin Lopez, 26<sup>th</sup> APS  
Aida Villa, AMDS



William Thurman, 556<sup>th</sup> RHS



Hugo Gamarra, TRS  
Margarita Lopez, CF



Georgios Athanatos, LRS  
Bryan Boyd, AMXS

Danielle Dumes, AMDS  
Rodolfo Gomez, 74<sup>th</sup> APS  
Herrera Hernandez, MDS  
Steven Potter, CES  
Jeremy Tate, MXS  
Eric Wilson, 26<sup>th</sup> APS



Maria Berzoza, MDS  
Alberto Cisneros, MXS  
Angela Cisneros, 74<sup>th</sup> APS  
Jarrett Easley, 556<sup>th</sup> RHS  
Dementia Henderson, LRS  
Jenifer Mulhollen, OSS  
David Pritzker, 556<sup>th</sup> RHS  
Rex Rencher, 556<sup>th</sup> RHS  
Michael Ricci, MXS  
Rebecca Sanchez, 74<sup>th</sup> APS  
Daniel Sturdevant, MDS  
Joshua Treadwell, AMXS  
Jose Trevino, 556<sup>th</sup> RHS



Jennifer Bewley, AMDS  
Miles Hart, AMXS  
Jessica Martinez, AMXS  
Fernando Razo, 556<sup>th</sup> RHS



Marissa Barnardt, 26<sup>th</sup> APS  
Jessica Joseph, MSS  
Casaundra Stockstill, AMXS  
Pablo Trevino, 556<sup>th</sup> RHS

## Reenlistments

### Senior Master Sergeant

David Abildgaard, CES  
Michael Mendoza, MXS  
Jaime Santillan, OG

### Master Sergeant

Ray Garza, CES  
Willie Hernandez Jr., MXS  
Bruce Loudon, CES  
Xavier Mireles, AMXS  
Cristina Moore, 26<sup>th</sup> APS  
Gene Peterson, LRS  
Joe Ramirez, MOS  
Daniel Saucedo, CES  
Estella Uherhewar, MXS

### Technical Sergeant

Enrique Galindo, MXS  
Esther Martinez, 74<sup>th</sup> APS  
Randy Perfecto, SFS  
Magdaleno, Salinas AMXS  
Beth Self, ASTS  
Jonathan Starner, AW

### Staff Sergeant

Rodney Cortez, 556<sup>th</sup> RH  
Marc Flores, MSS  
Diana Hernandez, LRS  
Tanya Leeheneke, CES  
Jeffery Parks, AES  
Tammy Reedy, ASTS  
Jorge Saucedo Jr., MXS  
Marshall Taggat, CF  
Jason Utley, AMXS

### Senior Airman

Alan Akana, 68<sup>th</sup> AS  
Lauren Brady, AMDS  
Jeffrey Rupert, CES

## Awards



# The 433<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Wing Awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Ribbon



Staff Sergeant Carlos Yip, 68<sup>th</sup> AS

## Annual Award Winners

Brig. Gen. John C. Fobian, Alamo Wing Commander, announced the 433<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Wing Airman, Non-commissioned Officer, Senior Non-commissioned Officer, First Sergeant and Honor Guard Members of the year.

Congratulations to all.

Senior Airman Sean Balyeat MXS

Tech. Sgt. Dwight Stewart MXS

Master Sgt. Robert Kusterer 68<sup>th</sup> AS

Master Sgt. Bruce Scott MSS (First Sergeant)

Tech. Sgt. Johnny Rodriguez (Honor Guard)

# New Income Tax rules could mean refunds

By Master Sgt. Collen McGee

*Wing Public Affairs*

Every year at tax time, the IRS has new tax codes that affect the final numbers on the bottom line of your income tax return. This year, there are some positive benefits in those new tax codes.

The first is a refund of all long distance telephone federal sales taxes for 41 months. This refund includes collect calls received from TDY locations, Voice over internet Protocol and wireless services.

According to the IRS web site, IRS.gov, the refund is not automatic. Taxpayers must request the refund on their 2006 Tax Return forms.

There are two ways to claim this refund. When filing, taxpayers may elect to take a general deduction based on the number of dependants claimed, or to collect the actual amount, plus interest, based on 41 months of actual phone bills.

To find out specifics on how to file for this refund visit the IRS web site and look for Tax Topic #612 at the following link. <http://www.irs.gov/tax-topics/tc612.html>

State and local sales tax deductions aren't a new tax deduction, but many people still don't know that if they itemize their deductions, they can claim an exemption based on the amount of state and local taxes they

paid.

This deduction also has two ways it can be claimed. Either with actual receipts showing the amount or by looking up the standard deduction rate based on income.

IRS Publication 600, <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p600.pdf>, gives instructions on how to complete the worksheet on claiming state and local sales tax exemptions.


Check out the IRS web site to locate beneficial information by topic.

According to an article from the 37<sup>th</sup> Comptroller Squadron, military members can also take advantage of the free help available through the Tax Center here at Lackland.

The tax center is in a new location this year on the training side of Lackland in the Carswell Administration Building, Bldg. 9050, Suite 3700. The building is directly behind clothing sales at 1700 Carswell Ave.

The tax center opens Feb. 5. The hours of operation are Monday through Thursday, from 8-11 a.m. and 1- 3 p.m. The tax center will be closed on Fridays.

Appointments are required for all, with exception for basic trainees and technical school students. They may be seen on a walk-in basis.

Individuals may begin calling for appointments Jan. 29 at 671-7983, 671-7984 or 671-7985. 

## Tiny Tax Tidbits

Members may qualify for a deferral of taxes owed if they can show their ability to pay was affected by military service. The Service members Civil Relief Act provides this benefit.

The deferral is not automatic. A taxpayer must apply for it. When applying, the taxpayer must show how the military service affected the taxpayer's ability to pay.

A taxpayer must also have received a notice of tax due or have an installment agreement with the IRS before applying for the deferral. The deferral does not extend the deadline for filing any tax returns.

*(Courtesy of the Tax Center.)*

*Source: Lackland Talespinner, January 5, 2007, page 2*

## Interesting Fact

*According to statistics posted on the Internal Revenue Service's web page, in 2005, Texas rated second in the nation for the total amount paid out by the IRS on individual tax refunds. California was first and New York came in third.*

## Remember the Alamo Wing

*From 1942 through 1946, nine hundred and ninety-four pilots graduated at Tuskegee Alabama Air Field, receiving commissions and pilot wings. Of the original Tuskegee Airmen, 450 served overseas during WWII*

*If you think you can, you can.  
And if you think you can't, you're right.*

————— Henry Ford

# Who's Who in the...



Photo by Maj. Elena Milford

Staff Sgt. Mike Sanchez, from the 433<sup>rd</sup> Maintenance Squadron's hydraulics shop, tests the operability of a new part.



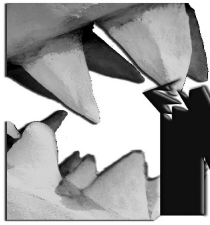
Photo by Staff Sgt. Bethaney Watson

Master Sgt. Tamara Brown, a medical technician with the 433<sup>rd</sup> Aerospace Medicine Squadron, updates Senior Airman Jerry Conde's immunization record. Airman Conde is also a medical technician but serves with the 433<sup>rd</sup> Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bethaney Watson

Maj. Joe Sucich, a pilot with the 356<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, a part of the C-5 Formal Training Unit, practices simulated emergencies in the flight simulator for his proficiency training.



# News Bites...

## LACKLAND TRAFFIC FLOW CHANGES

There are two changes in traffic procedure effecting Lackland AFB and Kelly USA.

First, the speed limit for 36<sup>th</sup> Street on Kelly USA changed from 30 to 40 miles per hour. This is the street parallel to the Kelly Field Annex.

The second change is due to traffic congestion at the intersection of Berquist Road and the Wilford Hall Medical Center Loop. This intersection will become a 3-Way stop, with inbound traffic having the right-of-way, similar to the intersection of Kenly and Selfridge near the commissary. The change is effective 12 January 2007. Drive defensively and keep a look out for the other guy. (Courtesy of the Base Traffic Safety Working Group)

## NEW RESERVE COMMAND CHIEF

A reservist stationed at the Pentagon will become Air Force Reserve Command's command chief master sergeant March 8, 2007. AFRC commander Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley selected Chief Master Sgt. Troy J. McIntosh from among 10 nominees for the position. Air Force reservists from all categories - traditional reservists, individual mobilization augmentees, air reserve technicians and Active Guard Reserve members - applied for the command's top enlisted position.

Chief McIntosh has been the superintendent of the AGR Management Office in the Pentagon since April 2005. He will be the fifth command chief that AFRC has had since it became a major command in 1997 and the 13<sup>th</sup> person to hold the job in the Air Force Reserve since March 1973.

He will succeed Chief Master Sgt. Jackson A. Winsett, who has served as the AFRC command chief master

sergeant since November 2004. Chief Winsett plans to retire from the Air Force Reserve in March 2007.

## AF RESERVE ANNOUNCES NEW C-5 ISO INSPECTION SITES

Air Force Reserve Command announced on Dec. 13 that Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass., will perform C-5 cargo aircraft isochronal (ISO) inspections in the future, a consolidation of AFRC locations at Lackland AFB, Texas, and Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

According to Air Mobility Command officials at Scott AFB, Ill., the Air Force is reducing C-5 ISO inspection sites from eight to three to increase the availability of C-5 aircraft and reduce supporting costs.

Dover AFB, Del., will be the active-duty base that performs ISO inspections. A third site, at an Air National Guard base, will be announced at a later date.

Each of the three ISO sites will service active, Reserve and National Guard components. ISO inspections are thorough examinations of the entire aircraft. During these inspections, aircraft maintainers look for and repair problems in every system, from nose to tail and wingtip to wingtip.

Command officials selected the New England C-5 base because of its facilities, maintenance support, base support, manpower requirements and other supporting data.

The 433<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Wing, though loosing positions, does not anticipate any reduction in actual personnel as there are new job openings in other

maintenance areas.

## AIMPOINT OF AN UNRIVALED WINGMAN

To remain operational in peace and war, Air Force Reserve Command will seek to enhance and enable its key attributes. It is a fact that the Air Force now has more missions than the active component can support. As such, the Reserve can no longer be defined as solely operational or strategic—we are now committed to being a variable force.

To accomplish this, some people and units will be engaged while others will be held in reserve. Volunteerism will remain the hallmark of the Air Force Reserve. The command will facilitate reservists' participation while protecting the integrity of their civilian commitment. Tomorrow's Reserve forces will provide significant and sustained operational support to the Air Force on a daily and ongoing basis.

## The four Rs of Unexploded Ordnance

- ◆ Recognize - Identify as a Hazard Remember Features; size, shape, color, condition (intact or leaking)
- ◆ Record - Mark location, DO NOT MOVE CLOSER. Use standard mine markers or whatever is available.
- ◆ Retreat - Evacuate all personnel and equipment, go the same way you came in or via a clear, well-travelled path. If retreat is not possible - isolate and barricade the area.
- ◆ Report - If reporting by radio, ensure a min. distance of 25 feet for hand helds and 100 feet for vehicle radios. Radio signals may detonate UXOs or some Improvised Explosive Devices.

# END: ... continued from Page 1

to prepare deployments for larger groups of Airmen.

“Currently, reserve deployments are managed on an individual basis,” reads a recent DOD press release. “In the future, deployments will be managed on a unit basis, allowing for greater unit cohesion and predictability for training and deployments.”

Though there are no specific details available yet on how the new Reserve Forces Management Plan may affect future Air Force Reserve deployments, already having the ability to successfully deploy on a larger scale could help during more than an inspection.

The mobility exercise gave 433rd Airlift Wing planners an opportunity to plan and to practice the mass deployment procedure.

“It provided valuable experience from the process owners down to the unit level with something we haven’t done (from the exercise/ORI perspective) since 1997,” said Major Hodge.

The practice gave the wing logisticians some valuable feedback even before the actual exercise began.

Though, at the time of the interview, Major Hodge was still working to finalize the write-ups and his exercise hot wash, he did observe some issues needing attention that every Airman can and should fix for themselves.

“The two main issues from the wing point of view, (as opposed to the process) were medical, people sent through the line without being pre-screened, and cargo issues,” said Major Hodge.


Major Hodge said most of that was due to incorrect paperwork that each Airman can, and should, review continually not just in the days before a deployment or exercise and because individuals and units didn’t all get advanced help preparing their cargo.

One other area each Airman is responsible for is personal knowledge. Know the career specifics well and study the Airman’s Manuel so that when the alarm goes off, you know which alarm, how to react and what is expected of you.

“Don’t assume because your unit has deployed a million times to the

theater or in support of an AEF, that your unit can assume away its ORI preparations,” said Major Hodge. “Get in the books and start practicing now for April (the next practice exercise at Volk Field) and beyond.”

Another way to test deployment knowledge is through a new on-line training tool titled *Ready for Combat!* This interactive, knowledge-based game is designed for use by expeditionary Airman to prepare for contingencies and deployments.

The game is styled after TV game shows and allows one or two players to compete for high scores. There are opportunities during two rounds of play, to earn a double or nothing bonus or to lose points if infected by surprise unconventional warfare tactics. To test your Ability to Survive and Operate knowledge by going to <https://golearn.csd.disa.mil/>, click on Course List on the left side, Key word search for Ready for Combat! Click on the Ready for Combat! Program. Begin just like the training year began, with the end in mind. 



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