

# 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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## Doc makes house call to developing nations

By Tech. Sgt. Kat Bailey

*Wing Public Affairs*

**A**s an Air Force doctor, he ran into a group of 433<sup>rd</sup> reservists at Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany. There was no way to know that the chance meeting in 1998 would later affect the lives of thousands of people in developing countries.

It took awhile for Dr. (Lt. Col.) Josef Schmid, 433<sup>rd</sup> Medical Squadron, to get into such a position.

“I was working in the clinic when a medical team from the 433<sup>rd</sup> showed up,” he said. “I didn’t even know they were reservists until someone said something; they were so professional and competent.”

After two weeks, the Lackland team went home and Dr. Schmid continued on, but he would see those faces again.

After leaving the active duty, Dr. Schmid moved to Houston, Texas, to work at the Johnson Space Center. He wanted to continue military service while in residency so he joined the Air Force Reserve. “It was a quirk of fate to find out my unit was the 433<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Wing,” he said with a grin. “It was Dr. Jaso [Dr. (Col.) Rene Jaso, 433<sup>rd</sup> MDS Commander] who talked to me in Germany about traveling around the world, improving my skills and helping build that bridge between countries.”

Dr. Schmid must have listened well

to that message because he recently returned from a trip to Central Africa where he and his team taught hands-on surgical skills to their Rwandan counterparts. For many of the students, it was their first time with hands-on procedures.

“The whole point of these types of expeditions is to train the trainer,” Dr. Schmid said. “I could go by myself and see some of their patients,” he explained, “but I can amplify my effectiveness by teaching three or four more local medical personnel ... who in turn can teach



**Dr. (Lt. Col.) Josef Schmid, with the 433<sup>rd</sup> Medical Squadron, teaches Rwandan medical practitioners skills needed to treat their people. Dr. Schmid has traveled as a representative of the 433<sup>rd</sup> AW and the U.S. to nations like Mexico, Sierra Leone and Nepal with a team of American physicians.**

**(See ... HOUSE CALLS, Pg. 4)**

## Alamo Wing

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# Readiness

## Well worth the effort

By Col. John Fobian

Wing Commander

**T**he dedicated and determined effort of each and every member of the Alamo Wing over the course of the last few years is amazing. Balancing the contingency operations of Enduring Freedom, Noble Eagle, Iraqi Freedom and accomplishing normal unit training activities is a very difficult task. You've had a full plate of activity for quite a while now and you faced each challenge successfully.

A common thread to everything you've done or will do in the future is Readiness. That's the name of the game.

Each individual has to be prepared mentally and physically to do his or her part. Preparation includes taking care of your personal and family needs. Notify your employer or school about your military duty obligations. When the time comes, thorough preparation will allow

you to concentrate on doing your job safely and effectively.

Each unit has to be prepared to work together as part of a bigger team to accomplish the mission. Effective communication and close coordination are key factors to success. We use our normal daily operations and Wing exercises to practice and improve on this teamwork concept.

Our turn in the Air Expeditionary Force bucket is in AEF 1/2 this year. We can expect taskings to fill these AEF requirements, especially in the combat support specialties.

The ops tempo will remain high to support the Global War on Terrorism. Your professionalism, commitment and expertise contribute directly to accomplishing the Wing's mission and the fulfillment of vital national objectives.

As Citizen Airmen, you stand ready to do your part. Thanks for a job well done and for your continued support. 🏠

## Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain Lyle Von Seggern

Alamo Wing Chaplain

*Look to my right and see;  
no one is concerned for me.  
I have no refuge;  
no one cares for my life.*

Psalm 142: 4

Good morale is mission essential for the Alamo Wing. One of the factors contributing to good morale is showing an attitude of concern for those around us. If someone feels like no one cares about him or her, they can become very depressed. Depression can produce other feelings and emotions that can continue to erode morale. Let us give thanks to God for those who are con-

cerned about their teammates and the families of their teammates.

God is concerned about you. He will always be concerned about you. He is our "refuge and our strength."

Not only does God care about you and your life, He cares about everything that concerns you. When you feel discouraged, when you feel like giving in and giving up, please remember God and His love. If you need a word of encouragement or have questions about God's concern, please call us at 925-3556. God bless you and your family with more love and concern today.

# Troops can now borrow more in VA home loans

By Leo Shane III,

*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — Troops can now borrow up to \$417,000 in a no-down-payment home loan through the Department of Veterans Affairs, which boosted its loan maximum by 16 percent this month.

Previously the largest loan available through the program was \$359,650.

Two years ago servicemembers could only borrow up to \$240,000 for home purchases.

Keith Pedigo, director of the department's loan guaranty service, said that in 2004 Congress linked the low-interest military loan program to the current conventional loan limits set by federal loan backers, to better reflect the actual cost of owning a home.

That resulted in the \$177,000 jump in the loan maximums over the last two years. Pedigo said under the previous limits many servicemembers were priced out of expensive housing

markets such as San Diego and New York.

Linda Johnson, spokeswoman for the National Association of Realtors, said officials there see the increases as an important boost for veterans and troops.

Many homes in major metropolitan areas would not be affordable to those buyers without the VA loan increase, since housing prices in those expensive markets are already at that \$400,000-plus price tag, she said.

The loan program allows the department to provide a financial guarantee to lenders on a military buyer's behalf, which in turn allows the mortgage company to offer lower interest rates on the loan, even without a down payment.

Most veterans, active-duty troops and reservists are eligible for the loans, Pedigo said.

Pedigo said in the nine months following last year's increase, the department issued 11,900 loans between the old \$240,000 and then-

maximum \$359,650.

"That's clear evidence the increase was needed," he said.

"That's 11,900 families who probably could not have made that purchase without the loan increase."

For more information:

[www.homeloans.va.gov](http://www.homeloans.va.gov)



## Free stuff for reservists and family members on the web

For more information on each free program, log onto the webpage.

SAT/ACT Prep program  
[www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil](http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil)

TurboTax online  
[www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com)

Financial counselor education for military spouses  
[www.nmfa.org](http://www.nmfa.org)

# Medals approved for hurricane relief efforts

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** — The director of the Joint Staff approved awarding the Humanitarian Service Medal and the Armed Forces Service Medal for U.S. military personnel; and the Armed Forces Civilian Service Medal for Defense Department civilians engaged in relief efforts for hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

To qualify for the HSM, service members must have provided direct support to immediate relief operations for at least one day in the area of eligibility - east of and including Houston, Texas, designated as 96

degrees longitude, Alabama, Louisiana or Mississippi - from Aug. 29 to Oct. 13, 2005.

Service members eligible to receive the AFSM must have provided direct support to relief operations for 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days in the continental United States from Aug. 27, 2005 to Feb. 27, 2006, minus the specific area and time-period used to qualify for the HSM.

If a member receives an HSM for Katrina relief operations, the member cannot receive a second HSM for Rita. The same applies for the AFSM;

however, people who receive the HSM may later qualify for the AFSM if their direct support does not include the dates and actions used in their qualifications for the HSM.

To qualify for the AFCSM, civilians must have provided direct support to relief operations for 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days in the same area of eligibility and period as the AFSM.

Eligible Air Force personnel must provide proof of entitlement to their servicing military personnel flight or civilian personnel office. Supporting documentation

may consist of assignment orders, temporary duty orders or travel vouchers, a decoration citation, an enlisted or officer performance report reflecting participation, or other official documentation that verifies participation.

Any colonel in a command billet or civilian equivalent can approve the awarding of these medals if supporting documentation is not available.

Once verified, the servicing MPF or CPF will update individual records. For more information, contact the local MPF or CPF.

## Activities, Air Force Issues, ways to ...

# GET INVOLVED

### ESGR AWARDS

The 2006 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award nomination season is now. Air Force Reservists and family members are encouraged to nominate civilian employers for the national award from the Department of Defense. The nomination season opened January 9<sup>th</sup> and concludes February 28<sup>th</sup>. Visit the ESGR website at [www.esgr.mil](http://www.esgr.mil) to nominate an employer.

### LIFEGUARD CERTIFICATION

The Lackland Pool Program is offering Lifeguard Certification Course March 11-13. The course is open to anyone, age 16 and older, interested in

becoming lifeguard certified. Classes are held at the Skylark Indoor Pool, Building 6482, next to the Skylark Bowling Center on Luke Blvd. Cost is \$80.00 per person and includes two course books. Those interested must register no later than March 6. Call 671-2413 to register or for more information.

Class Schedule

CPR/First Aid

Sat., March 11, 9 am – 1 p.m.

Water Rescues

Sun., March 12, 9 am – 1 p.m.

Mon., March 13, 11 am – 1 p.m. Test

*NOTE: Civilian Personnel will be accepting summer lifeguard applications in February from students*

enrolled in college or high school. For more information on applying for summer hire positions, call 671-4118 or visit [www.usajobs.opm.gov](http://www.usajobs.opm.gov).

### COMMUNITY BUILDING

Habitat for Humanity can not take any more people as part of the Airmen's Voice build day on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Those who still want to participate in volunteering with Habitat building projects on other days, may do so by contacting Ms. Sandy Redmond at Habitat for Humanity directly. Volunteers are always needed. Ms. Redmond can be reached via email, [sandyredmond@habitatsa.org](mailto:sandyredmond@habitatsa.org), or by phone (210) 223-5203.

## House Calls ...

three or four more and so on down the line." The end result is a bridge between nations and thousands of people receiving medical care where none existed before.

That bridge starts with the military forces of two nations collaborating on medical training.

"Medical issues are universal," Dr. Schmid said. "Once you get militaries talking ... that can lead to further cooperation, which can lead to mutual security and provide a foothold for our defense operations. My dad was an Army medic who did the exact same type of thing in Thailand and Vietnam. It's really neat to be able to continue what he started."

The training done on his trip to Rwanda and previous visits to Nepal, Mexico City and Sierra Leone parallels that of both his Reserve and civilian careers. As the Chief of Professional Services for the 433<sup>rd</sup> MDS, Dr. Schmid makes sure the wing's doctors

### *continued from page 1*

are deployable and prepared for war. For NASA, he teaches medical and diagnostic procedures to flight surgeons, astronaut physicians and biomedical engineers with the space shuttle and the international space station programs.

In the developing countries, the doctors on his team teach the first responders - medical technicians, physicians and surgeons, who have little or no practical experience with traumatic war injuries, basic emergency medical technician procedures, extrication, triage, initial stabilization and life-saving field surgical care.

As with many teaching positions, the learning goes both ways.

"We often have civilian burn and trauma surgeons join us, bringing skills from their civilian practices, but using them under austere conditions," Dr. Schmid said. "That hones their skills and they realize their own potential use in disaster-relief or humanitarian

situations back in America."

The opportunity also gives the civilian practitioners a close-up look and a chance to serve. For some it introduces the Air Force Reserve as an option.

"There are a lot of doctors out there, looking for something more, looking for some way to serve their country," Dr. Schmid said.

His enthusiasm for helping other physicians expand their horizons is what earned him the Col. Thomas M. McNish Physician Recruiting Excellence Award in 2005.

The award recognizes the top Air Force or Air Force Reserve medical officer, who, in partnership with Air Force Reserve health professions recruiters, gets the most doctors to join.

"What better way to serve your country and your profession than by using your skills in the Air Force Reserve?" Dr. Schmid said. 

# Maximize reach of education benefits

By Tech. Sgt. Collen McGee

*Wing Public Affairs*

One of the top reasons people choose military life is the many benefits. One of the best known benefits is education funding. But money is only one of the educational perks available to reservists. The dollar amounts received through tuition assistance programs and the GI bill can be stretched to accomplish an educational goal.

A benefit with a sticker price is the ability to take written tests for college credit. The tests can cost anywhere from \$35 to \$75 each at a college or civilian education center for non-military students. The Defense Activity for Non-traditional Education Support and the College Level Examination Program tests are both available to reservists at no charge. A drilling reservist is not the only one who can take advantage of CLEP or DANTES tests.

“The Reserve allows (free testing) for spouses and reserve civilian employees, provided they test at a reserve center,” said Senior Master Sgt. Victoria Lamfers, 433<sup>rd</sup> Mission Support Squadron education and training superintendent. “The reserve member can go elsewhere.”

In fact, a reservist may go anywhere and take any CLEP or DANTES test for free. Many can be scheduled and taken right here at the 433<sup>rd</sup> MSS education and training office.

“Paper based tests are available through the 433<sup>rd</sup> Education and Training Office,” said Sergeant Lamfers. “Others are computer based and available at the Lackland Education Office located in Bldg. 5725 on the training side of Lackland.”

What happens if you don’t pass a test? Failing a test doesn’t mean the end of the free education path. There are several versions of many of the

tests or, six months later, the same test can be retaken. There is nothing to lose by trying and a lot to gain.

Though the student can’t earn a complete degree by testing alone, they can help check the blocks for several classes needed to qualify for the Community College of the Air Force associates degree program and classes required for bachelor’s and master’s degree programs. Those blocks, once checked, free up financial aid resources for remaining courses.

“Not every school will accept every CLEP test,” said Mr. Florentino Gonzales an education and training specialist with the 433<sup>rd</sup> MSS education and training office. According to Mr. Gonzales, some schools are more apt to recognize CLEP and DANTES examinations for military students than others because of agreements between the school and the services that acknowledge the military student’s career experience.

Mr. Gonzales works to find schools with the best deal for each student and to match those programs up with an education plan that can include funding options.

There are programs to help reservists with the cost of tuition. One is the Montgomery G.I. Bill which gives reservists \$297 per month for full-time enrollment toward a degree-granting program. There is also a new, post 9/11 supplement to the Montgomery GI Bill. Those who served a minimum of 90 days on active duty for contingency support are eligibl for 40-percent of the Chapter 30, active-duty GI Bill. The more time served on active duty and the number of classes determines the benefit amount. Those who served one year are eligible for 60-percent. A third source of educational funding is the Reserve Tuition Assistance program, which pays all undergraduate tuition up to \$4,500 per year. Beginning in 2005, it also pays up to \$4,500 reimbursement toward graduate

tuition.

Because none of the entitlements will fund an entire college degree program, testing through CLEP and DANTES can be crucial to those who can’t afford to be full time students.

Affordability isn’t always the only limiting factor. Just getting to classes is sometimes an effort too monumental to fit into the triad of civilian job, family and reserve commitments. By successfully testing, a reservist not only frees money for more difficult courses, but shortens the amount of overall time needed to complete a degree program.

Time for testing at the 433<sup>rd</sup> education and training office is a simple matter of making the call to get an appointment.

“Right now we are flexible – based on when the individual is available and when I’m available,” said Sergeant Lamfers, who will order and schedule any paper based test.

To find out what tests are available, call Sergeant Lamfers at the education and training office at 925-3870. For more information on strategically using your reserve education benefits, call Mr. Gonzales at 925-4922. 

## Web Resources

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

[www.dantes.doded.mil](http://www.dantes.doded.mil)

[www.getcollegetcredit.com](http://www.getcollegetcredit.com)

To track the progress of your CCAF degree or to view test scores, log on to the Air Force Portal at <https://www.my.af.mil>

# An educational view through AF portal

## Airmen may now apply for TA via the Air Force Portal

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Airmen are only a few mouse clicks away from financial support for their college education, thanks to the tuition assistance feature on the Air Force's virtual education center.

Online since early 2003, the center helps active-duty, Guard and reserve Airmen pursue their off-duty education from a computer.

"It's a continual process to make [the site] a one-stop shop for an Airman's educational needs," said Kendall McAree, the Air Force's education systems manager at the Pentagon. "We're very excited to be able to now make tuition assistance available online."

Air Force tuition assistance is a quality of life program that provides tuition assistance and fees for college courses taken by active duty Airmen during off-duty hours. It's capped at \$250 per semester hour — \$166 per quarter hour — and is one of the most frequent reasons Airmen give for enlisting and reenlisting in the Air Force, according to the Web site.

Now that all application paperwork is online, Mrs. McAree hopes more Airmen will take advantage of the program.

"Airmen can now access the information anywhere at any time, whether they are at home or deployed somewhere," she said. "With the online signature, all the paperwork can be routed through the appropriate channels faster and more efficiently."

That means Airmen do not visit an education center, which is good,

"because some Airmen are in places where there are no education centers," she said.

Mrs. McAree said the new online capability also frees up education center workers, who spent a lot of time doing the paperwork involved with tuition assistance. Now they can devote more time to face-to-face counseling and assisting customers, she said.

Along with tuition assistance, Airmen can use the Web site to check their Community College of the Air Force progress, request transcript and civilian course conversion tables, distance learning information, DANTES and CLEP test results and more.

The Air Force Virtual Education Center link is available through the Air Force Portal at [www.my.af.mil](http://www.my.af.mil)

*(Air Force Print News)*

## Tax tips and money matters

### Web resources

**IRS military tax information:** <http://www.irs.gov/individuals/military/index.html>

**IRS home page:** <http://www.irs.gov/>



### Tax Tips: Earned Income Credit

The maximum amount of income you can earn and still get the Earned Income Tax Credit is higher for 2005 than it was for 2004. You may be able to take the credit for 2005 if:

- You have more than one qualifying child and you earn less than \$35,263 (\$37,263 if married filing jointly),
- You have one qualifying child and you earn less than \$31,030 (\$33,030 if married filing jointly), or
- You do not have a qualifying child and you earn less than \$11,750 (\$13,750 if married filing jointly).

The maximum amount of adjusted gross income (AGI) you can have and still get the credit has also increased. You may be able to take the credit if your AGI is less than the amount in the above list that applies to you.

### Money Matters

Military and civilian pay charts are now available at the following web links

2006 Military Pay Rates: <http://www.dod.mil/dfas/money/milpay/pay/>

2006 GS Civilian Pay Rates: <http://www.opm.gov/oca/06tables/html/RUS.asp>

**Keep watching for the IRS logo in upcoming issues of the Alamo Wing. As the April 15th tax deadline approaches, the Alamo Wing will continue to print tips that could save you money.**

# Wynne: AF future more integrated ops

By 1st Lt. Elizabeth Culbertson  
— USAFE Public Affairs

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — The secretary of the Air Force said the service is headed toward more integrated operations.

Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne stopped at this airlift base Dec. 23 after trips to bases in Southwest Asia and Germany. He talked about the importance of force integration, new weapons platforms and Air Force people.

“We used to talk about the future total force. I think we need to stop that. The total force is now,” he said.

Secretary Wynne said he noticed during his trip that units of active duty, Guard and Reserve Airmen were fully integrated to complete the mission — whether at Balad Air Base in Iraq or at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany.

“It is an amalgamated force that we’re fighting with today,” he said. “It was hard to tell who was a reservist, who was an active and who was a National Guardsman.”

The total force concept aims to tap into the inherent strength and experience of all three Air Force components to increase overall combat capability. The secretary said Airmen have only to look to the new F-22A Raptor unit to see the importance of total force.

“It is truly an historic event that we are standing up our finest weapons system, the F-22A, in an associate Guard and active wing. This is where the Air Force is going ... and it’s going there in a hurry,” he said.

Secretary Wynne said the announcement that the F-22A achieved initial operational capability is the “end of a quest” lasting more than 20 years.

“This is a capstone moment, when we finally achieve stealth, speed and precision in one platform,” he said.

The secretary also mentioned the



Air Force Courtesy Photo

**Michael W. Wynne is the Secretary of the Air Force, Washington, D.C. He is responsible for the affairs of the Department of the Air Force, including the organizing, training, equipping and providing for the welfare of its nearly 370,000 men and women on active duty, 180,000 members of the Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve, 160,000 civilians, and their families.**

**Secretary Wynne was sworn in in November of 2005. Prior to joining the Bush Administration, Mr. Wynne was involved in venture capital.**

next fighter platform, the Joint Strike Fighter.

“I want to make sure that (the F-22A) is available to our country until we get another fifth generation fighter — the Joint Strike Fighter — operationally ready,” he said.

Secretary Wynne said no matter what platform it uses, the Air Force’s greatest strength remains its Airmen.

“(The Air Force) has developed incredibly capable, innovative and, I would say, inquisitive Airmen,” he said.

Secretary Wynne described Air Force maintainers in Iraq recruited to up-armor vehicles. Now, he said, the

manufacturer sends these Airmen prototypes to evaluate.

“The innovations that the Airmen bring are our single greatest accomplishment,” he said.

Airmen are also functioning in an increasingly joint environment, the secretary said. They operate with the Navy, Army and Marine Corps in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

“This war is about a joint fight, more than anything else we have seen. It is a remarkable synergy. What Airmen bring to a joint fight is the unique capability and capacity to innovate and understand airpower,” he said.

Secretary Wynne said he hopes to see Airmen embrace the new Air Force mission statement and become more proficient at

delivering sovereign options for America through air, space and cyberspace.

“What I want is to make sure that the Airmen are very knowledgeable and that they are accountable at the end of the day to do what they say and say what they do,” he said. “Master that—become knowledgeable, provide your great innovative and creative ideas on behalf of the joint force and the joint fight, and America will be better off for it, and I think the world will be better off for it.”

*(Courtesy of U.S. Air Forces in Europe News Service)*



# Noteworthy



## Promotions



Juliet Higgins, ASTS



Rudy Adame, 74<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Monica Adamson, MDS  
 Jonathan Alfrido, OSS  
 Frank Barnes Jr. 26<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Roque Fuentes, 74<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Allen Herrington, AMXS  
 Edward Ingle, OSS  
 Samantha Jacks, AMDS  
 Amilda Kyle, 26<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Donald Miller, OSS  
 Abraham Montemayor, MXS  
 Barbara Ray, 74<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Fidella Thompson, ASTS  
 Kathleen Toback, CES  
 Maria Turnier, AMDS



Raul Borrego, MXS  
 Monte Cockrell, AMXS  
 Roger Cuevas, 74<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Anthony Gutierrez, AMXS  
 Kevin Jacobson, 307<sup>th</sup> RHS  
 Cristine Kenner, OSS

Amanda Lockard, AMDS  
 Gloradean Oliver, MDS  
 William Poon, ASTS  
 Hilary Reyes, SVF  
 Anthony Villarreal, AMXS  
 Rigoberto Villarruel, MXS



William Gonzalez, AMXS  
 John Holliday, SFS  
 Michelle Hollingsworth, 74<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Jason Johnson, 307<sup>th</sup> RHS  
 Patricia Rodriguez, MSS  
 Maria Sparks, MOF  
 Crystal Stringer, MDS  
 Travis Wright, 74<sup>th</sup> APS



Ian Armitage, 26<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Charles Banawis, 26<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Anthony Borah, AMDS  
 Travis Brown, CES  
 Joseph Brummett, 74<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Stephanie Calzada, SFS  
 Don Chavis, 26<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Alberto Cortez, CES  
 Edwin Cruz, 26<sup>th</sup>  
 Joshua Garcia, CES  
 Veronica Garza, 26<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Justin Gaskill, 26<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Leopoldo Gomez, 26<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Mykhol Gonzalez, 68<sup>th</sup> AS

Christopher Gregory, CES  
 John Guerra, 74<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Eric Hastings, 710<sup>th</sup> IF  
 Crystal Hernandez, MXS  
 Jessica Hernandez, SVF  
 Christopher Hicks, AMXS  
 David Marotta, 68<sup>th</sup> AS  
 Jayme Miculob, AES  
 Michael Phillips, MXS  
 Travis Potthoff, MXS  
 Jonas Puente, 710IF  
 Arturo Riveraquinones, 307<sup>th</sup> RHS  
 Matthew Ruiz, AMXS  
 David Silva, 26APS  
 Gary Sumpter, AMDS  
 Tiffany Tovar, 26<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Billy Wells, 74<sup>th</sup> APS



Douglas Clifton, 307<sup>th</sup> RHS  
 Jamie Collins, AMXS  
 Tina Kosikowski, MDS  
 Eric Martinez, SVF  
 Ashton Mckinnies, AES  
 Cassandra Rangel, ASTS  
 Lauren Snyder, CES  
 Adriana Verastegui, MDS



Jonathan Alejandro, ASTS  
 Alyssa Bradley, AMDS  
 Jore Hernandez, MXS  
 Stephen Merritt, CES  
 Candice Patek, ASTS

## Reenlistments

### SMSGT

Steve Garza Jr., AMXS  
 Albert Moreno, 68<sup>th</sup> AS  
 Juan Villarreal, ASTS

### MSGT

Patrick Johnson, 74<sup>th</sup> APS  
 Dennis Fryar, MOS  
 Billy Gaines Jr., AMXS

### TSGT

Mark Arzola, AMXS  
 Jimmy Boyer, MOS

Fernando Delagarza, AMDS  
 Raffaele Dickerson, AW  
 William Haines, SFS  
 Jose Landeros, MXS  
 Luis Lopez, MOS  
 Sylvia Mendoza, 68<sup>th</sup> AS  
 Stefen Ramos, CF  
 Gerald Shadwick, MOS  
 Frank Tellez, LRS  
 Arnold Villarreal, AMXS  
 Ronald Wallace, CES

### SSGT

Carlos Yip, 68<sup>th</sup> AS  
 Manuel Camacho Jr., SFS  
 Richard Garcia, OSS  
 Vincent Garcia, OSS  
 Jose Nunez, LRS  
 Felipe Dominguez, 307<sup>th</sup> RH  
 Mark Lewis, AMXS  
 William Gonzalez, AMXS

# Chief makes history, home at 433rd AW

By Staff Sgt. Bethaney Trapp  
Wing Public Affairs

**W**hen I was told that I was the first African American female chief in the 433<sup>rd</sup>, I was proud because I have made a milestone,” said Chief Master Sgt. Laverne Vick, who has been with the wing her entire 28 years in the Air Force Reserve. “I wanted to set an example so I wouldn’t be the last and there would be others to follow.”

Born in Portsmouth, Va., Chief Vick had a desire to do something for her country since the time she graduated from high school. Chief Vick said her mother didn’t approve of her joining the service right after high school. Her mother felt the military was no place for women and was very much against it.

“To honor my mother’s wishes, I started my college education at Norfolk State University in Norfolk, Va., but there was always that desire to contribute,” she said. Chief Vick never gave up on her desire to somehow, even in a small way contribute something to the people around her. In 1977, after moving to San Antonio, Texas, she made the decision to join the Air Force Reserve. She enlisted in November and entered Basic Military Training the following January.

“When I entered basic training, I was 28 years old and was told at that time I



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bethaney Trapp

**Chief Master Sgt. Laverne Vick, 433rd LRS (right), mentors an Airman in the squadron.**

just made it under the wire for the cut-off age. Being 28 and training with 18- and 19-year-olds made me nervous because I was not sure if I could keep up with the younger girls. It turned out they helped me with all the physical training and I helped them to mature and start acting like adults. It was a win-win situation,” Chief Vick said.

Despite going against her mother’s wishes and the nervousness about basic training, Chief Vick’s career ran smoothly.

“Actually, I have been one of the fortunate ones. I haven’t had any obstacles. I completed all of my mandatory training and PME (professional military

education) early in my career and my promotions seemed to fall in line,” she said.

Goal-setting is a contributing factor to her obstacle-free career and she often gives advice to the young Airmen she mentors.

“I think they need to set goals, work to achieve those goals, do the best they can do in all their taskings and responsibilities, find a mentor and stay out of trouble and try to establish themselves as model reservists and leaders, and most of all, earn the respect of their superiors and subordinates,” Chief Vick said.

Chief Vick raised the bar for her fellow colleagues

and Airman who are eager to follow in her footsteps.

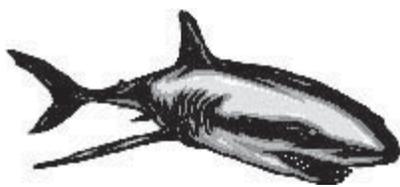
“I was raised to believe in individuals as an individual,” Chief Vick said.

“I was also taught to respect all heritages. Being born to the African-American heritage has not held me back from any goal that I have tried to accomplish. I support equal rights but I don’t feel that there is one heritage that is better than the other. I stand by Martin Luther King’s dream -- that all men are created equal,”

“I’m proud to be an African-American female. I hope that during my career I have passed that on in a positive way to other African-American females and they will also be proud of who they are,” she said.

While Chief Vick hopes she positively affects people in her workplace, she is also looking forward to affecting the people closest to her.

“I’ve already accomplished two goals,” Chief Vick said. “That is my retirement from civil service and in three years I’ll have retirement from the Air Force Reserve. Then my full attention will be with my six grandsons, who, I hope, will follow in my footsteps. I also plan to devote more time to my outside passions of bowling and traveling. Usually I travel in the states. I would like to see the other states and historical sites I haven’t seen yet and possibly take a cruise to Alaska.” 



# News Bites...

## RE-EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

The U.S. Labor Department clarified reemployment rights for Citizen-Airmen. Labor Secretary Elaine Chao announced final rules interpreting the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Act that helps ensure job security for reservists returning to civilian life from military duty.

The new rules explain how the USERRA law protects against discrimination and retaliation because of military service and prevents service members from job setbacks because of performing their military obligations. The law also ensures that reservists have ample time to report back to their civilian jobs after completing their military duty.

## NEW SPACE UNIT

Air Force Reserve Command is going deeper into space with the activation of the Headquarters Reserve National Security Space Institute in Colorado

Springs, Colo., Jan. 7. The RNSSI is a Reserve associate unit to the active force's National Security Space Institute. Col. Susan Rhodes will be the first commandant of the new Reserve unit.

## TRAINING COUNCIL CLASS SCHEDULE

The Human Resources Development Council continually offers classes designed to help improve organization and management skills. All classes are held at the Carswell Administration Building, main Lackland. To schedule or to get more information on any class, call 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Clayton Lawrence, 433<sup>rd</sup> Training Squadron Deputy Commander, at (210) 671-2410. Upcoming classes are as follows:

**FEBRUARY: A UTA** – Saturday, Feb. 4, Focus on Your Highest Priorities, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**B UTA** – Saturday, Feb. 11, Creating Successful Promotion Enhancement Program Packages, 8 a.m. to noon

**MARCH: Friday**, March 3, Effective Feedback/Performance Report/Decoration Writing, 8 a.m. to noon; **A UTA** – Saturday, March 4, Effective Feedback/Performance Report/Decoration Writing, 8 a.m. to noon

**APRIL: Friday+A UTA** March 31 thru April 2, The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; **B UTA** – Saturday, April 22, 4 Lenses Personality Profile Course 8 a.m. to noon

## 2006 PAY CHARTS

Pay charts for military and civilian employees are now available on-line.

Civilians may access the new charts at the Office of Personnel Management web site, [www.OPM.gov](http://www.OPM.gov).

Military may access the drill and active-duty pay charts through the Air Force Portal or MYPAY.

## BASE TAX CENTER

The Tax Center is now open to help Lackland personnel with tax questions and filing state and federal returns.

The tax center is located on the second floor of Bldg. 1530 which is at North Frank Luke Drive, Kelly USA.

The center opened at the end of January and will operate until April 17<sup>th</sup>. The hours of operation are Monday-Thursday, 8-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.

## ON BASE EMERGENCY

When reporting an on-base emergency from a cell phone., do not call 911. Dialing 911 from a cell phone connects to the San Antonio Police Department. The SAPD can't help on base. Call 210-671-0911 if using a cell phone to report an on-base emergency. From base office phones dial 911.

## AUTO CRAFTS CENTER INSPECTIONS

The base Auto Crafts Skill Center at Lackland is now authorized to perform Texas State inspections.

For full information, or an appointment, call 210-671-3549.

# REMEMBER the ALAMO WING

## DID - you - KNOW

**Feb. 17, 1997** - The Air Force Reserve was redesignated Air Force Reserve Command and became the Air Force's ninth major command.

**"He that would make his own liberty secure must guard even his enemy from oppression; for if he violates this duty he establishes a precedent that will reach to himself." - Thomas Paine**

# Who's Who in the... *Alamo Wing*



Photo by Staff Sergeant Bethaney Trapp

**TSgt Juan Arenas, an ART from MXS, removes the hardware from a panel so he can take the panel off the C-5 to inspect it. This is done every time a plane comes into Isochronal Inspection.**



Photo by Staff Sergeant Bethaney Trapp

**TSgt Juan Gamboa removes and replaces the blankets and seals of a pylon apron. The blanket and seals protect the pylon from the heat of the engine.**



Photo by Staff Sergeant Bethaney Trapp

**TSgt Dwight Stewart from MXS checks for cracks in the upper fuselage. This is one of the many steps on the work cards they complete during every phase inspection.**

# 433<sup>rd</sup> AW flightline first with new security

By Senior Airman Jonathan Simmons  
Wing Public Affairs

The flight line of 433<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Wing may soon be even safer. Feb. 2 is the scheduled burn-in of a trial for a brand new application of Doppler Radar technology here.

Lackland's flight line areas at the 433<sup>rd</sup> AW and the Texas Air National Guard's 149<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing will be the first sites in the Air Force to employ, on a trial basis, the new Mobile Detection and Assessment System.

If successful in trials, this new application could help secure areas of all protection levels throughout the Air Force. The MDAS is a USAF Security Forces Center project designed to enhance long and short range force protection levels without costly infrastructure requirements.

"The system is composed of three major components," said Mr. Thomas Yeager, Jr., chief of the Requirements Branch of AFSFC. "The plan is to use three trailer-mounted and one vehicle mounted Perimeter Surveillance Radar

Systems (PSRS), one trailer mounted Advanced Radar Surveillance System (ARSS) and a trailer-mounted Man-Portable Surveillance and Target Acquisition Radar (MSTAR)."

The PSRS provides short-range detection capability with a range equivalent to about 3 football fields, while the MSTAR and ARSS provide long-range capability through about 12 kilometers depending on terrain. Together, these components are expected to provide perimeter intruder alerts and early detection of suspicious ground objects on approach.

"The radars can be programmed to mask out areas of routine activity like nearby highways and high-traffic working areas," said Mr. Yeager.

The main advantages of this system over the current 'cops only' system

are the long-range, early-detection ability and greater ability to detect objects at night.

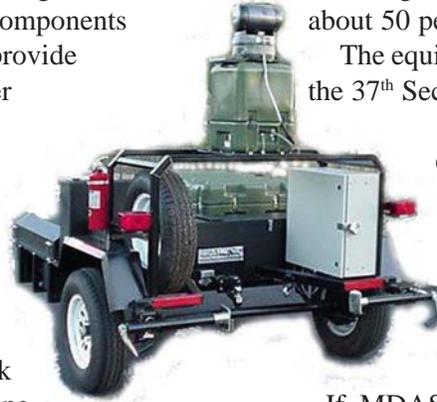
The devices are connected by encrypted radio frequency and no costly hardwiring is required.

"Using radio frequency will save a great deal of money as opposed to breaking ground to place wires and other permanent infrastructure," said Mr. Yeager. "The savings should be about 50 percent."

The equipment will be operated by the 37<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron.

"The trial at Lackland is expected to last about 20 days," said Tech. Sgt. David Hale, 37<sup>th</sup> SFS. "During that time we'll test its sensitivity including how it reacts to aircraft on the ground."

If MDAS performs successfully in the Lackland trial it may undergo regression testing and will undergo formal testing at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., before Air Force-wide implementation. 



## UTA SCHEDULE

### February

A UTA Feb. 4-5

B UTA Feb. 11-12

### March

A UTA March 4-5

B UTA March 18-19

### April

A UTA April 1-2

B UTA April 22-23

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