

ALAMO WING

Volume 56, Number 1, January 2007

U.S. Air Force Reserve Command

433rd Airlift Wing, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas

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Ribbon-cutting brings history home

By Master Sgt. Colleen McGee

Wing Public Affairs

Fifty-five years ago, the 433rd Airlift Wing, then called the 907th Training Wing, had a mission to train pilots at Kelly Field. In recent history, from the same airfield at Lackland AFB, TX, the 433rd AW flew C-5s supporting operations around the globe. And though the mission to support global airlift will continue to send Alamo Wing C-5s around the world, a new additional mission brings the wing's aircrew training history home.

The 433rd AW will once again teach Air Force men and women how to be aircrew, this time on the C-5.

Brigadier General John Fobian, 433rd AW Commander, looked on as Maj. Generals Robert Duignan, 4th Air Force Commander, and Quentin Peterson, Director of Air, Space and Information Operations for Headquarters Air Mobility Command, stepped onto a stage and cut the ribbon dedicating the new C-5 Formal Training Unit Complex at Lackland AFB on November 30th.

"The ceremonial cutting of the ribbon for the schoolhouse is symbolic of the Air Force Reserve Vision: To provide the world's best mutual support to the Air Force and our joint partners. Flying and fighting as an unrivaled Wingman," said General Fobian as he addressed the ceremony audience.



Photo by Master Sgt. Colleen McGee

Major Generals Robert Duignan, 4th Air Force Commander, and Quentin Peterson, Director of Air, Space and Information Operations, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, did the honors at the C-5 Formal Training Unit Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Lackland AFB's Kelly Field. The November 30 ceremony commemorated the beginning of a new era for the Air Force Reserve's 433rd Airlift Wing. When the transition from the former facility at Altus AFB is complete, the schoolhouse at Lackland will be the only C-5 FTU and will supply aircrews to every Air Force C-5 unit -- active duty, Guard and Reserve. Training at the new Kelly Field facility began in October and will reach full capacity in April.

Being a Wingman to C-5 aircrews from every C-5 unit across the unified commands is no easy job. But when the decision was made to move the schoolhouse, the Alamo Wing proved to be the location with the longest continuous C-5 history in the Reserve, has the least crowded air space and also has the highest level of community support.

The 433rd AW was the first Reserve wing to own and operate its own fleet of C-5 aircraft, the airfield was opened

as a training field and San Antonio has long been called Military City USA.

With the graduation of the first three students in October of this year, Col. Del Lewis, the 433rd Operations Group commander told the graduates that older pilots always ask new pilots 'where did you learn that?' Colonel Lewis said that for years the answer was always 'I learned that at Altus AFB, sir,' but from now on the answer will be 'I learned that at Lackland's Kelly field.' 

Responsibility in Readiness

Brig. Gen. John C. Fobian

Wing Commander



The dedicated and determined efforts of each and every member of the 433rd Airlift Wing over the course of the last year were amazing.

Balancing the real world operations of Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, standing up the C-5 schoolhouse and accomplishing normal unit training activities were all very challenging. We had a full plate of activity for quite a while now and we it faced all successfully.

I believe there are four factors that directly impact the success of everything we do: Attitude, Teamwork, Communication and Safety.

The right mental attitude is critical to success. Take what you do seriously. That sense of urgency will save your life in the AOR and the same attitude must be displayed back home during an exercise. Each individual has to be prepared mentally and physically to do his or her part. Preparation includes taking care of personal and family needs and talking with your employer about your military duty.

Each individual must work as part of a bigger team to accomplish the mission. Teamwork goes beyond your work section or your unit. We use our normal daily operations and Wing exercises to practice and improve on this teamwork concept. The Initial Response and Ability To Survive and Operate exercises prepare us for real world contingencies and for the upcoming Air Mobility Command Operational Readiness Inspection.

Communication has to be effective to succeed. It must also be timely. Getting the correct information up and down the chain quickly is criti-

cal. Any inaccuracy can change the intent significantly.

Safety is paramount! You've heard that many times. If you can't do your job safely, you're an accident waiting to happen and you've failed. Effective risk management will help minimize the hazards. Be a good Wingman and watch each other to prevent accidents.

There are only 22 UTA days remaining until the Wing ORI. We have a plan to ensure our readiness as we practice internally and externally with the 403rd Wing. Our mobility exercises are developed towards enhancing the coordination and cooperation with the 37 TRW's deployment process. Moving people and cargo is not an easy task without thorough coordination from the individuals, squadrons, host base and higher headquarters.

We can expect a continued high ops-tempo and further deployments to support the global war on terrorism. Your professionalism, commitment and skill contribute directly every day to accomplishing the Wing's mission and the fulfillment of national objectives. Our Citizen Warriors stand ready to do their part. Thanks for a job well done and for your continued support. 

Alamo Wing

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The Alamo Wing is a funded Air Force Reserve Command newspaper and is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the Alamo Wing are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. The editorial content is edited and prepared by the Public Affairs Office of the 433rd Airlift Wing, Lackland AFB, Texas 78236-0112, (210) 925-5194, DSN: 945-5194

Submissions for print may be emailed to 433aw.pa@lackland.af.mil. Submission deadline is the 15th of each month prior to the publication date.

THIS CAN GO ONE OF TWO WAYS



ONLY Government Travel Expenses

Split Disbursement on the Travel Voucher

Pay the monthly bill in full

Letter of Reprimand

Payroll Deductions

Discharge

USE YOUR GOVERNMENT TRAVEL CARD RESPONSIBLY!

New Year's resolve for tough resolutions

By Staff Sgt. Bethaney Watson

Wing Public Affairs

As 2006 comes to an end, the New Year brings excitement and wonder about what is in store for 2007. For some, a new year means a clean slate, new beginnings and a renewed sense of motivation.

The New Year also encourages people to think about New Year's resolutions, which some members of the 433rd Airlift Wing were asked to do the same.

For the members of the Alamo Wing, the most popular resolutions were in the areas of education, organization and health.

The most popular New Year's resolutions for the rest of America, are to lose weight, pay off debt, save money, get a better job, get fit, eat right, get a better education, drink less alcohol, quit smoking, reduce stress, take a trip and volunteer to help others, according to the web site, www.FirstGov.gov.

Thinking about a New Year's resolution and taking the steps to accomplish one can make the difference

in whether or not the same resolutions are unsuccessfully repeated year after year.

Trying to lose weight? Experts recommend at least three 20 minute sessions of exercise per week. If you are trying to lose a significant amount of weight, five times a week may be what you need, according to the web site, www.FirstGov.gov. Before starting any weight loss or exercise plan, make sure you consult with your doctor first.

Creating a realistic budget by assessing how much income is taken in and how much of it is spent can help someone get started to paying off existing debt, according to the web site, www.ftc.gov.

The web site www.pueblo.gsa.gov has 66 ways to save money on a variety of topics ranging from purchasing food to purchasing a home.

Whatever resolution you have for the coming year, whether personal or work-related, all of the web sites listed in this article advise the same thing, get a plan, find good resources and get started. 

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FROM SOME OF OUR OWN 433RD MEMBERS



"To be a better person and to contribute more to society," said Staff Sgt. Diana Smith, 433rd Aerospace Medicine Squadron.

"My new year's resolution is to become more disciplined this year and to finish more projects that I start," said Tech. Sergeant Hayden Jacob, 26th Aerial Port Squadron.



"To get organized, set bigger goals and accomplish the small ones. Registering for school is the small one and then to finish school," said Senior Airman Deyanira Apolar, from the 433rd Civil Engineering Squadron.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Bethaney Watson

Chaplain's Corner

Full Spectrum Dominance

Chaplain Lyle E. VonSeggern, 925-3556

Alamo Wing Chaplain

"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death!"

I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I

am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.' So he got up and went to his father."

Luke 15: 17-20

Because of the privilege and honor of being a part of the world's greatest Air Force, a person can learn terms like "Full Spectrum Dominance".

We give thanks to God for those who served, are serving and will serve, to protect and defend our Constitution through full spectrum air and space dominance.

Please consider the full spectrum in this scripture passage: The son came to his senses; honestly evaluated his situation; developed a plan of action and carried it out. We salute him because even though he made some poor

choices, he did not let that stand in the way of making some good ones.

What would help you achieve full spectrum blessings in your life? Have you made some poor choices? Do you think it's time for an honest evaluation of what is going on in your life? Have you thought about some good choices but not made the effort to put them into action?

The "Good News" is that the Lord wants to help you with the "full spectrum" of your life. Ask for God's mercy today! The Lord bless you for making good choices and putting them into practice. 



Note Worthy



Reenlistments

Senior Master Sergeant

Gonzalo Acosta Jr., 556th RHS

Master Sergeant

Richard Popp, DET 1 OG
Mario Rodriguez, 74th APS
Conrad Tamez, AMXS

Technical Sergeant

Kelly Bouyelas, MDS
Victor Estrada, AES
Philip Garcia, CES
Fidencio Gonzales, CES
Enrique Guerra, MXS
Clinton Koehler, 26th APS
Carrie Ruby, DET 2 OG
Rebekah Salas, LRS

Staff Sergeant

Rolando Alonzo, 74th APS
Ray Bell, 556th RHS
Angel Flores, 26th APS
Michael Mccoy, 556th RHS
David Plemmons, AMXS
Jose Quintanilla, LRS
Gabriel Salas, MXS
Justin Smith, MXS
Aileen Ybarra, MDS

Senior Airman

Carnell Alford, AES
Sharon Gasiewski, 710th IF
Saul Gatica, MXS

Wing Shines for Radiance Academy

By **Capt. Shane Huff**

Wing Public Affairs

About 100 students in 2nd through 12th grades, from the Radiance Academy and Shekinah Radiance Academy, recently visited the Alamo Wing for the grand tour of a C-5, complete with static load display.

Students watched Senior Airman Greg Cortez, 26th Aerial Port Squadron, drive a one-and-a-half ton truck up the nose ramp and park inside the aircraft. Senior Airman David Fink, a 68th Airlift Squadron loadmaster, showed how aerial porters and aircrew work together to load and secure the truck for flight.

Mr. Daniel Martinez, Principal of Radiance Academy, is also Master Sgt. Martinez of the 26th APS. Sergeant Martinez is the unit joint inspection instructor and has been part of the 433rd Alamo Wing for 21 years. Sergeant Martinez found a way to bring together his civilian career and his Reserve commitment through this tour in hopes of showing his student population that limits placed by circumstance are not necessarily limiting factors in life.

According to Sergeant Martinez, "75 percent of these students are considered at risk due to factors such

as their socio-economic status, coming from single parent homes or having been uprooted by a natural disaster."

For those who were evacuated after Katrina, this was the first time they had seen a C-5 since their lives were uprooted and they landed here.

One such student is Deundra George, a sixth grader from Radiance Academy. Deundra is one of eight children in the George family who relocated to Texas as a result of Hurricane Katrina. When asked what she thought of the trip, she said, "It was an overall good experience and I learned how to put a truck onto a plane."

Deundra's teacher, Ms. Karen Sutherland, said "The behind the scenes tour for the students was most beneficial in helping them to see how airmen operate on a day to day basis."

Principal Martinez said this was an important day for the students as most of them do not have the opportunity to travel or sight-see due to financial hardships. Hearing personal stories from the airmen hosting the tour helped the students understand that it is their own hard work that truly effects where they take their future.

Principal Martinez said the tour leaders gave personal proof that staying in school and doing your best is not only vital to military service but translates to every career.

Remember the Alamo Wing

January 18, 1905
The Wright Brothers opened negotiations with the government for procurement of one airplane.

"Character - the willingness to accept responsibility for one's own life - is the source from which self respect springs."

————— *Joan Didion (1934 -)*
"Slouching Towards Bethlehem"

Insurance companies to pay back GIs for deception

By Elaine Wilson

— American Forces Press Service

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas -- Life insurance companies are being held accountable for their improper sales practices to military members.

Four companies in the past three months have agreed to a multi-state settlement agreement after Texas Department of Insurance investigators uncovered a pattern of deception to young troops.

Under the agreements, the companies will refund more than \$70 million to more than 93,000 consumers, including about 71,000 service members, according to Texas Department of Insurance news releases.

The first settlement, reached Aug. 3, came after a 20-month investigation by Texas and Georgia, together with the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, into the sales practices of three Waco, Texas-based companies:

American-Amicable Life Insurance Company of Texas, Pioneer American Insurance Company and Pioneer Security Life Insurance Company.

State regulators and federal agencies claim the life insurance companies "targeted young recruits and misled them into believing they were buying an investment product." The service members were actually purchasing an expensive term-life product that was coupled with a side fund and called the "Wealth Builder" or "Horizon Life," according to the release.

The second settlement, reached Oct. 17, involves the Boston Mutual Life Insurance Company.

In 2004, TDI investigators learned several Boston Mutual agents were soliciting and selling life insurance to low-ranking Soldiers in the Fort Hood, Texas, area by misrepresenting the insurance as a savings or investment plan, said Jim Hurley, TDI spokesman. The activity led to the multi-state

examination of the company's sales to military members.

The company will refund a total of \$427,529.57 to 1,784 military members who bought life insurance policies between Jan. 1, 2002, and April 30, 2005.

"Service members need to be skeptical and shop around if interested in purchasing life insurance," said Tim Haight, acting chief of the client services division at the Fort Sam Houston Legal Assistance Office. "Educate yourself. The best place to start when considering investments or additional insurance is to get sound advice from a certified financial planner."

The companies are notifying service members with current or lapsed policies affected by the agreements, Mr. Hurley said. Consumers who feel they are affected but have not received notification can call the companies' consumer service center at 800-736-7311.

Commissary patrons urged to pick paper over plastic

FORT LEE, Va. (AFPN)-- Commissaries are hoping shoppers in the United States will say yes to paper bags for bagging their groceries.

The request comes as part of the Defense Commissary Agency's measures to offset recent major cost increases of plastic and paper bags.

"Our customers have a really big role in this latest effort as we try to control costs while continuing to provide a premier commissary benefit.

"They've responded well during previous 'Say no to plastic bags and no to double bagging' campaigns so this is more of a reminder

to continue using paper bags and a call for more customers to join in. The purpose is to control unnecessary costs, not inconvenience customers," said Scott Simpson, DeCA's chief operating officer.

Changing bagging preferences is something most customers have been glad to do when they've been made aware of the cost concerns during previous bagging campaigns.

Commissaries register approximately 100 million customer transactions annually and the agency spent approximately \$20 million on grocery bags last year.

The cost of paper bags

has increased 34 percent in the past three years, while plastic bag costs have risen 84 percent.

Shipping costs offset the difference for overseas commissaries, so the paper bag emphasis isn't applied there, although double bagging is discouraged DeCA-wide.

Commissaries in the United States are trying to reach usage goals of about 70 percent paper and 30 percent plastic, and customers will be hearing the question "Is paper okay?" more frequently during their commissary visits.

Here are some ways customers are helping:

-- They're using paper bags in the U.S. commissaries.

-- They're bringing and using their own mesh or canvas tote bags.

-- They're bringing and reusing paper or plastic bags.

Customers may bring paper or plastic bags back to the commissary to use for their own grocery order, but commissaries are not able to recycle bags due to health concerns.

Baggers may also refuse to use recycled bags if they appear to be damaged or contaminated.

(Courtesy of Defense Commissary Agency)

Who's Who in the... Alamo Wing



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Troy Pearson, 433rd AMXS

Senior Airman Jessica Wheat reconnects a relief crew compartment air conditioning valve after replacement. That valve, along with many other valves are located in the environmental or air conditioning compartment on the C-5 Galaxy aircraft.



Photo by Master Sgt. Collen McGee

Tech. Sergeant Dwight Stewart, an aircraft structural mechanic with the 433rd Maintenance Squadron knows safety always comes first and grabs his protective eyewear before a repair task.



Photo by Capt. Shane Huff

Air Force Reservist Senior Airman David Fink, from the 433rd Airlift Wing, shows students from Radiance Academy how to load cargo on a C-5 Galaxy. For more photos of this tour check out the 433rd Airlift Wing public web site at <http://www.433aw.afrc.af.mil/>.



News Bites...

TWO WAYS TO GET CARE PACKAGES TO AIRMEN

People who wish to support Airmen can send mail to www.AnyAirman.com. Volunteers, made up of deployed Airmen, distribute the letters and care packages to other Airmen.

To volunteer, sign up on-line. Those wishing to participate can follow the guidelines on the site to mail a letter or package in care of the volunteer with "Attn: Any Airman" written under the volunteer's name.

Operation Homefront also launched an online service to send care packages to deployed troops and their families.

Service members and families can register on www.ecarepackage.org. Visitors can adopt them based on common interests. Then visitors select items for a customized package to their chosen service member or family. For more information, read the Air Force Print News story.

AWARDS AND DECS EASIER

Reserve Airmen can now submit awards and decorations requests online through the virtual Personnel Center Guard and Reserve rather than visiting their servicing Military Personnel Flights.

When Airmen return from an air and space expeditionary force deployment, they can log onto the vPC-GR and attach their paid travel voucher to update their awards.

With the new process, Air Force Reserve Command units can electronically nominate and approve a variety of medals. To access the system, log on at <https://arpc.afrc.af.mil/vPC-GR>.

DECA SCHOLARSHIPS

The Scholarships for Military Children Program applications, sponsored by the Defense Commissary Agency, are available for 2007. Applications for \$1,500 scholarships are available at commissaries worldwide, or can be downloaded at www.commissaries.com, www.militaryscholar.org or www.dodea.edu.

Applications must be turned in at a commissary by close of business Feb. 21, 2007. The program is open to unmarried children under age 21 (23 if enrolled in school) of military active-duty, Reserve, Guard and retired personnel. Eligibility is determined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System. The applicant must plan to attend, or already attend, an accredited college or university full-time

in the 2007 fall term, or be enrolled in a program designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story.

DEFENSE BILL HIGHLIGHTS

Starting Oct. 1, 2007, drilling reservists can enroll in the new TRICARE Standard for Selected Reserve health plan. The plan replaces the current three-tier TRICARE Reserve Select system.

A new benefit of the 2007 National Defense Authorization Act helps reservists without dependents who were mobilized for 139 or more

days in support of contingency operations. It permits a second housing allowance in lieu of per diem if reservists are ordered to serve at a location too far from home to commute.

The authorization act also extended the

maximum number of days reservists can be called to active duty from 270 to 365 days. Information on the authorization act is available on-line at <http://arpc.afrc.af.mil/> under the Policy Integration Directorate's information page.

ALAMO WING CHANGE

The Alamo Wing newspaper, the 433rd Airlift Wing official publication, is changing. Beginning this month, the Alamo Wing will reduce in size to 8 pages.

In February, mail-out will stop. Printed copies will be available at each unit.

Those not able to get a printed copy may still get it online at <http://www.433aw.afrc.af.mil/>.

Information is the key

Know exactly where to look for what you need to succeed

When it comes to Self-aid and Buddy Care, think outside the box, literally. Just because an item didn't come with the first aid kit, doesn't mean it can't be a useful life-saving tool.

BDU belts, shoe laces, toilet paper rolls, magazines, canteen cups and plywood can all serve as everything from dressings and splints to improvised patient litters.

The back of your Airman's manual has an extra section full of quick reference lists for everything from eye injuries to clearing jammed weapon.

ORI Stack Your Deck

Thinking outside the box, off the roll

By Master Sgt. Colleen McGee

Wing Public Affairs

Operational Readiness Inspections, contingencies and emergencies all require quick thinking, and responses that are sometimes unorthodox when the worst happens.

In his recent class on Self Aid and Buddy Care, Master Sgt. Rob Kuster from the 68th Airlift Squadron said first responder trauma treatment materials are all around us every day.

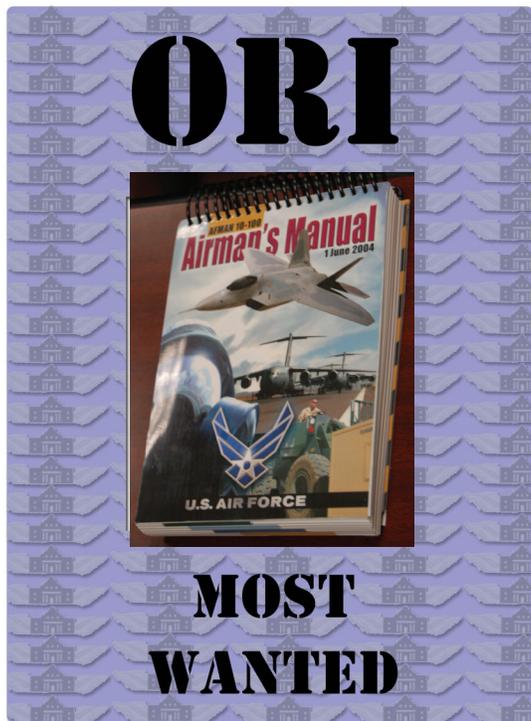
He illustrated the point by showing how a roll of toilet paper or a box of facial tissue can become extra dressing material.

In the field, clothing can become extra bandages, duct tape can splint a broken leg to an uninjured one, a canteen cup can cover a wounded eye with protruding object and a pen can stop bleeding when used to tighten a tourniquet.



Photo by Master Sgt. Colleen McGee

Master Sgt. Rob Kusterer shows how items from within a standard first aid kit and everyday items like a roll of toilet paper or a pen, can stretch the contents of your kit when you need more.



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