

The Flying Badger

440th Airlift Wing, General Mitchell ARS, Milwaukee Wisconsin

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photo by Staff Sgt. Pat Kuminecz
Members of the 440th Airlift Wing Honor Guard present the colors at the dedication of a 440th C-130H to the city of Green Bay during Armed Forces Week 2005.

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Celebrate Flag Day on June 14

by Col. Jane Kitchen
Commander, 440 MXG

It is a beautiful fall afternoon and that special 10-year-old of yours is about to take to the field for a game of peewee football. But, before the game begins, three Boy Scouts march onto the field, the one in the center carrying a large American flag that gently flaps in the wind. The crowd stands and the national anthem plays. As you listen to the words and watch the flag you can't help but get a chill within you.

That is your flag, this is your country and the freedom to be on that field is why you serve your nation in the United States Air Force Reserve.

Flag Day is particularly special to this wing this year. Every squadron in the wing has had people mobilized to deploy or support those who have deployed. This is what we have trained our entire careers to do - support our nation.

The flag represents that commitment and is not a commitment that should be taken

lightly because the sacrifices are great.

Most citizens of our country understand the ultimate sacrifice but the general public cannot begin to understand the daily sacrifices that our members and their families endure.

Yes, your neighbors noticed that you were not here for the birthday party in your back yard but they have no idea how difficult it was to say goodbye to your family one more time. They don't see the detailed planning that most members must go through to make ends meet on active duty pay that is far less than their civilian pay.

They don't sit alone in a far off place hoping the car holds out just one more year or wondering if their spouse is holding up under the pressure of separation.

They also don't know the pride you feel when you see our flag flying in a hot, dusty, place so far away from the green grass we know and love.

They don't come to the base every day seeing the flag that reminds you what you do impacts so many



AFRC Photo

Col. Jane Kitchen

lives in significant ways.

People who are not connected with the military may not think that the flag is more than colored cloth. They do not understand that it represents our nation, our beliefs and our way of life.

Once you have seen that flag flying high in a deployed location you will never look at it the way same again. It truly represents all we know and love. Guard it, respect it and cherish it.

Air Force Reserve adopts new recruiting logo

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – Air Force Reserve Command has a new advertising logo that more closely aligns it with the active force while touting the command as a high-tech, professional fighting force.

Sleek and simple, the AFRC logo features the Air Force's new logo alongside the words "Air Force Reserve" in a stylish, modern typeface.

AFRC recruiting officials began working with Blaine Warren Advertising in January to develop the new logo. It replaces the "Above and Beyond" logo featured in Reserve recruiting and advertising products since 1998.

Lt. Col. Jerry Herbel, chief of Headquarters AFRC Recruiting Service's advertising and information systems division here, said the time was right for a new advertising logo.

"We wanted a logo that captured the spirit of Air Force Reserve Command but also conveyed the message that we are a part of the

overall Air Force," he said. "We went through a number of different designs and got input from focus groups of recruitable people. This was the design that best conveyed the message we were trying to get out."

AFRC senior leaders approved the new logo in May. They were involved in the development process from the beginning and are excited to see the new logo in the Reserve's upcoming advertising and recruiting products.

"This new logo will give a streamlined and modern look to our advertising products, and it emphasizes the word 'Reserve,'" said Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, chief of Air Force Reserve and AFRC commander. "Since the Air Force adopted its new symbol last spring, we wanted to incorporate that symbol into our advertising logo. This will help us brand the Air Force Reserve as a proud part of the world's greatest Air Force."

Col. Francis Mungavin, AFRC Recruiting Service commander, said the new logo is appropriate for the command during its transformation into the 21st century.

"The young folks entering AFRC really like the new logo," he said. "Their feedback to us (from focus groups) has been that it's modern, high-tech and cool looking."

Maj. Gen. Mark Rosenker, mobilization assistant to General Bradley in his role as commander, helped develop the new logo as the leader of a cross-functional AFRC team that looks at command branding and marketing.

"I think everyone in AFRC will be pleased and very proud of the new logo," he said. "It's simple, elegant and powerful, and it clearly brings us into the 21st century. The logo's progressive typeface, combined with the new effective Air Force logo, sends a strong message to the audiences we are trying to reach."

(AFRC News Service from *Citizen Airman* magazine)

440th CC on proposed BRAC list

Wing mission, safety still our priority

by Col. Merle D. Hart
440th Airlift Wing Commander

Being put on the BRAC list for base closure and unit movement on May 13 was not something I thought would occur.

The BRAC process is underway and the final result is not yet certain. The process will take a few twists and turns before becoming the law of the land, so until that time, do not worry about events that you cannot control.

The Department of Defense is trying to secure money for force modernization and transformation. Converting from a Cold War posture to the current war on terrorism and preparing for the future will not be painless. Change is coming to every branch of the Armed Forces.

Once again we find ourselves and our wing destined for uncharted territory. Some are frightened, bewildered and angry. For many, the closure of this base and the movement of our wing will mean fundamental changes in family lifestyles and may require moving to another part of the country to find work and security. This is not time to panic. We need to keep focused and remain calm.

Your years of hard work have made this unit the best at what we do. Our work ethic is something that outsiders cannot understand and many times do not appreciate. Be proud of yourselves and your accomplishments and be proud of those you lead. No matter what happens we can hold our heads high because we did our parents, our families and our community proud.

The future of the 440th now sits in the hands

of the BRAC commission, the president and the congressional delegations. Through your accomplishments you have given them a vast array of success stories to tell. We must not rest on the past but continue to do our jobs as we have always done. Safety is key to our mission success so remain focused on your job and do not become distracted by the flurry of moment. All things work for good, and opportunity always follows change.

The history of our forefathers is replete with examples of how they overcame insurmountable odds to be successful. Our abilities to survive and flourish when others floundered are legendary. The results of the BRAC process will require a stalwart attitude for those affected to remain successful.

The future is uncertain, so focus on what remains certain; the first being the responsibility to those we lead. First and foremost we must continue to take care of our people.

I will keep you informed as facts are confirmed. I will not sit around and speculate on what may, might, should, could, will or will not happen. I encourage all of you to do the same. We are heavily involved with deployments and the business of the GWOT so **DO NOT** lose perspective. Each of you plays a vital role in our nation's defense. Our country is at war and we are the warriors. The 440th's history of success will ensure that no matter what happens or wherever we end up, we will be successful.

You are great people and we have an outstanding unit with credentials to prove it, keep your heads up, work hard, work safe, and the future, though uncertain, will be bright.

Commander's Action Line: Focus on BRAC

I am scheduled for duty on the next AEF cycle. Should I still plan on going?

Yes. AEF cycles will continue as scheduled throughout the BRAC process.

When will we find out if the base is closing or not?

A final decision will not be made for some months yet. The BRAC timeline can be found in the story on pages 8 and 9.

I know someone who wants to join the Air Force Reserve, are we still recruiting?

Yes. The 440th Airlift Wing will continue to recruit new members. For more information on recruiting opportunities, contact Recruiting at (414) 482-5135.

I want to contact my congressional representative and senators about BRAC. Can I do this?

Yes. However, this can not be done in a military capacity. Any lobbying of congressional delegates must be done in a civilian capacity and can not be presented as an official statement from the 440th Airlift Wing.

Does being on the potential BRAC list mean I should start looking for another job?

Decisions regarding personal career choices should not be based solely on the preliminary BRAC list, nor should they be based on the opinion of any one member of the 440th Airlift Wing.

Additional questions?

Is there something that you want to know about the proposed BRAC list? Additional information can be obtained from the Air Force and Air Force Reserve Command Web sites.

Air Force-www.af.mil

Air Force Reserve Command-www.afrc.af.mil

U.S. Department of Defense-www.defenselink.mil

Headquarters releases information regarding new Air Force fitness uniform

Air Force reservists will have to wait a while longer to receive the new Air Force fitness uniform. Fiscal constraints will require the Air Force Reserve to phase-in the uniform over the next five fiscal years.

The Air Force PT uniform is now being sent to forward operating unit active duty personnel on a priority basis. Once the deployed units' requirements are met some military clothing sales store are expected to receive uniforms on a limited basis.

Reserve enlisted members will be furnished PT uniforms or provided a cash allowance to purchase the uniform beginning Oct. 1. Uniforms will be distributed as follows: personnel deployed in an AOR location where the uniform is available, followed by people activated in support of contingency operations to any overseas location, and then members projected for deployment to the AOR overseas, and finally all remaining enlisted reservists. Air Force Reserve officers will be required to purchase new PT gear.

While no mandatory wear date has been set, until the phase-in period is completed, Reserve enlisted members that have not been furnished the PT uniform are exempt from the Air Force PT uniform wear policy, including enlisted Reserve members in deployed locations where supplies are available. After the phase-in period is completed, all members must comply with the Air Force wear policy, as well as any AOR specific policies for deployed members.

Enlisted reservists may purchase the uniform if available at any AAFES outlet and still receive the uniform at the appropriate phase-in point; however they will not be reimbursed for the expense.

The unisex uniform is comprised of four pieces, a grey T-shirt, a pair of shorts and a two-piece nylon running suit in navy blue. Key features of the uniform include reflective material to ensure wearers are visible from any direction; two pockets in the shorts; one for a military identification card and one for a key; zippers on the running pants to make it easier to slip them on over a pair of shoes, zippers on the running jacket to aid in ventilation; and a hood in the collar of the jacket. The cost of the new uniform is about \$125.

Reservists can see PT uniform wear guidelines at www.af.mil/news/wear_policy.pdf. (Photo and story details from AF Link)



LACKLAND AFB, Texas — First Lt. Megan Schafer (from left), Staff Sgt. Antwain Wright and Master Sgt. Scott Wagers show off different combinations of the new physical training uniform while jogging here during the wear-test phase. The new uniform will be issued to Airmen serving in Southwest Asia first and phased into the rest of the force over the next three years. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Efrain Gonzalez)

Operation Lighten the Load Unit Statistics on Weight Loss

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Total Weight Loss</u>
Services	143 pounds
ALCF	74 pounds
34th APS	378 pounds
LRS	194 pounds
OSF	69 pounds
SFS	229 pounds
95 AS	235 pounds
MOF	126 pounds
AMXS	160 pounds
MSG	96 pounds
CES	173 pounds
MDS	287 pounds
MXS	376 pounds
AW/OG	25 pounds
CF	43 pounds
Wing Total	2608 pounds

440th AW hosts town hall meeting for Guard, Reserve with DoD visiting official

by SrA Deanne Perez

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, Mr. Craig Duehring held a town hall meeting in Heritage Hall on May 16 as part of Armed Forces Week.

In matters of Reserve affairs, Mr. Duehring is well-versed. As the senior deputy to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, Thomas Hall, Mr. Duehring assists with policy development and overall supervision of Reserve forces of the U.S. Armed Forces. Mr. Duehring is the chief advisor to Secretary Hall for all functional areas and responsibilities assigned to the office.

Of particular importance to the office is the continued support of employers for the nation's citizen soldiers.

"We have to give predictability not only when our people are going to be gone, but also when they are coming home, and we have to stick to that," Mr. Duehring said. "I've heard this time and time again from employers and that's the biggest problem they face. It's just not knowing how long they'll be without that individual."

"We need to continue to be honest and up front with employers, to be transparent about what we intend to do in the future," Mr. Duehring continued, "to make sure they [employers] understand, perhaps through ESGR, exactly what their rights are."

"Most people can accommodate that, it's when they get the wrong information or they don't have enough information that problems pop up. We need to be proactive," Mr. Duehring said.



Mr. Craig Duehring

To facilitate benefits and communications with the types of employers that are hiring members of the National Guard and Reserve, the civilian employer index (CEI) was implemented. More commonly referred to as the employer database, the CEI is intended to track employer types to assist in determining what employer programs are viable.

"We have a lot of well intended proposals from time to time that deal with our employers. This could come in the form of legislation, it could come in the form of policy, or just for decisions on our own information to know how to best work with our employers," Mr. Duehring stated. He also added that programs like ESGR can maximize their budgets when they know exactly what kind of employers they are working with.

"For example, if the legislature proposed that we give tax relief to employers, we know this does no good for the self-employed," Mr. Duehring spoke to the benefits of the CEI. "To do something for the self-employed, a logical question is: how many people does that involve? If the government is to pay employees portion of the Federal Health Benefit program for a period of time, how big a bill is that? We don't know because we don't know how many of our people qualify." And these benefits and communications become additionally important as Reserve forces continue to be accessed.

"I think they are going to be full partners with the active duty," Mr. Duehring said regarding the Reserves. "Rather than a strategic reserve, you're going to see them more like an expansion force as needed, wherever needed."

And while he foresees a full collaborative reserve force, Mr. Duehring cited awareness of the special needs of Reservists.

"We have to remember that Guardsmen and reservists are not active. They are different and their needs are different, so they can't be used the same way," Mr. Duehring said and added that while different, the training and equipment of the Reserves needs to be at the same level of active duty.

"If we really expect to integrate the National Guard and Reserves into the operations around the world on a continuing basis, they are going to have to have the equipment they need to train on, and we're addressing that," Mr. Duehring indicated. "The department is doing a good job but it's still very, very challenging."

His office is also examining the processes that are in place for Airmen who want to volunteer.

"We have people who are willing and able to give more than 39 days per year, but our system doesn't always accommodate their wishes and availability," Mr. Duehring said. "We need to make some very decisive moves towards a continuum of service... Over the years, we have built up some barriers, usually well intended, but done in isolation and not fully understanding the effects that it has on other programs."

"This is a very complicated maze; we're trying to cut our way through and just streamline this process." Mr. Duehring continued, "just to make it easier for a Guardsman or reservist to go on or go off of active duty and to be taken care of when they are on active duty."



Principal Deputy Assistant for of Defense for Reserve Affairs Craig Duehring addresses members of the 440th Airlift Wing during a town hal meeting held on May 16.

Two 440th ALCF members participate in NATO exercise Clean Hunter

by Staff Sgt. Denise Quasius

Two 440th Airlift Control Flight members recently supported exercise Clean Hunter, a live annual NATO exercise that focuses on coordinated, allied air operations over Western Europe.

Master Sgt. Sue Lang, command post superintendent and Staff Sgt. Mark Grepo, command and control technician, were part of an eight-member team tasked by headquarters Air Material Command to perform site and airfield surveys at Krzesiny AB, Poland in support of Clean Hunter. The team consisted of U.S. Air Force personnel from throughout the European theatre, to include members from specialist services, security forces, civil engineering, maintenance and operations from throughout the European theatre.

An airfield survey is a full blown evaluation of an airfield and its support facilities. An airfield survey looks at airfield construction, dimensions, obstacles and lighting. A site survey reviews base services, warehouses, water supplies and health risks to find out if the area is safe enough for the operation of U.S. Air Force assets.

Poland is a member of NATO and Krzesiny has been used by other countries as a landing site for NATO exercises for several years. The U.S. is still in the process of evaluating the site and surveys, like those conducted by Sergeants Lang and Grepo, which will aid in the process of determining the safety of the area.

“Our mission was clear from the beginning, assess the airfield and local area, gather facts and report back to AMC headquarters,” said Staff Sgt. Mark Grepo.

A project such as this requires coordination with many agencies. Sergeants Lang and Grepo communicated with 22nd Air Force, AMC, NATO exercise planners and the American Embassy in Warsaw to accomplish their mission. They met with members of the Polish Air Force and the local community to



The historic town square of a nearby Polish village.



Master Sgt. Sue Lang (second from left), and SSgt. Mark Grepo (third from left), are pictured here with Polish Air Force officers.

gather information also.

“One of the amazing things about the exercise was the opportunity to work together with other countries and multi-national fighting forces,” said Sgt. Grepo. “Language was at times a barrier, but we overcame the obstacle and met our objectives.”

While in Poland, Sergeants Lang and Grepo had the unique chance to observe the reaction of the Polish citizens to the death of Pope John Paul II.

“The Pope had spoken in the town square of one of the villages we visited,” said Grepo. “The

townspeople had created a candle memorial in the shape of a heart on the spot where the Pope had been. Almost every store front had a picture of the Pope and many people gathered in the town square to pray.”

photos submitted by MSgt. Sue Lang and SSgt. Mark Grepo

Reservist's employer earns top state award

by Maj. Ann Peru Knabe

For the second year in a row, the employer of a 440th reservist earned top honors from the Wisconsin Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. Master Sgt. Tom Gudex's employer, Milwaukee Electric Tool, earned ESGR's Above and Beyond award, given out by ESGR's Wisconsin chairman.

"I know my employer is a phenomenal supporter of its citizen soldiers and airmen," said Sergeant Gudex. "But they never expected this honor and award."

The 440th Logistics Readiness Squadron reservist found out first hand how his employer reacts to activated employees when he was called to serve in Iraq last year.

The company provides differential pay to its activated employees, helping make up any lost income. In addition, Milwaukee Electric Tool continues health insurance and all related family benefits throughout an employee's activation.

"These benefits are terrific," said Sergeant Gudex. "But it's the company's personal touch that makes an even greater difference."

Supervisors and human resource management frequently checked in with Sergeant Gudex's family when he was deployed to Iraq.

"It was reassuring that the company kept in contact with them when I was gone," he said. "This let me concentrate on the mission, and not worry as much about them back home." When he was activated, Gudex served in a combat position supporting the U.S., providing security for convoys traveling throughout Iraq. The dangerous duty was stressful, so knowing his family was taken care of back home helped him focus on his job in the desert.

"They didn't miss a holiday," said Sergeant Gudex, referring Milwaukee Electric Tool human resources staff. "Right before Thanksgiving, they called my family to see when they could deliver a turkey."

The company also sent emails, care packages and personal items to Gudex when he was deployed. The largest donation was a shipment of \$25,000 worth of tools, donated to troops who were short on supplies.

"All of the care packages were greatly appreciated," he said. "We were in a remote location, without a base exchange, and the gifts were a terrific surprise and morale boost to our unit."

Milwaukee Electric Tool also demonstrated



photo by Gene Knabe

Master Sgt. Tom Gudex joined Dan Perry, Milwaukee Electric Tool president and CEO, and Col. Merle D. Hart, 440th Airlift Wing commander, at the state ESGR awards ceremony.

its commitment to Wisconsin troops in a Statement of Support signing ceremony, which was covered by Milwaukee media. Company President Dan Perry praised his military employees during the ceremony, thanking them and their families for their sacrifices.

Reservists who are interested in nominating

their employers for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve awards can do so by logging onto www.esgr.org and submitting a Patriot Award nomination electronically.

If reservists include descriptive information in the narrative section, their employers are considered for higher awards.

Is your employer deserving of a high level award and recognition?

Log onto the ESGR website (www.esgr.org) and nominate your employer for a Patriot Award.

440th Airlift Wing Armed Forces Week 2005

A Grateful Nation Salutes Its Defenders



Top left: President George W. Bush waves to the crowd as he departs from General Mitchell Air Reserve Station on May 19. President Bush was in Milwaukee to speak at the Milwaukee County Art Museum about Social Security.

Top right: Members of Southern Aire, a performing combo of the USAF Band of the Reserve perform at the Armed Forces Week Civic Dinner Dance held in a fuel cell hangar of the 440th Airlift Wing.

Left: Wisconsin Club Dinner attendees were treated to a performance by Full Spectrum, a jazz combo of the USAF Band of the Reserve. The event was held at the Wisconsin Club on May 16.

photos by Staff Sgt. Patrick Kuminecz

ARMED FORCES WEEK



Left: Green Bay news media gather around 440th C-130, 88-4402 to photograph the newly unveiled city of Green Bay logo. This is the fifth 440th C-130H dedicated to a local community. Aircraft 4406 to St. Francis; 4405 to South Milwaukee; 4404 Oak Creek and 4403 is dedicated to Cudahy.

photo by Ann Skarban



Above: 440th Commander, Col. Merle D. Hart dances with Jane Sijan, mother of Capt. Lance P. Sijan, during the Wisconsin Club Dinner, held on May 16.

Left: Former Wisconsin Governor Tommy G. Thompson, delivers a speech to the 400 people that attended the 25th Annual Civic Dinner Dance, held in Hangar 302 on May 19.

photos by Staff Sgt. Patrick Kuminecz

General Mitchell Air Reserve Station listed on DoD's proposed BRAC list

General Mitchell Air Reserve Station, home of the 440th Airlift Wing, Wisconsin's only Air Force Reserve unit is one of the military installations that is on the proposed Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) list that was released by the Department of Defense on May 13.

The BRAC list recommends the closure of General Mitchell Air Reserve Station. Four of the units eight C-130 Hercules aircraft are to be sent to the 94th Airlift Wing at Dobbins ARB, Ga., and the other four C-130s would be sent to the 314th Airlift Wing at Little Rock AFB, Ark. The Air Force will realign the 440th Airlift Wing's operations, maintenance and expeditionary combat support manpower to Pope AFB, N.C.

The BRAC list is DoD's recommendations for closure and realignment. A nine-person independent BRAC commission will now review the list and forward their recommendations to

the president by Sept. 8. The commission has the authority to change the Department's recommendations. The commission will hold regional meetings to solicit public input before making its final recommendations.

The President will accept or reject the recommendations on an all or nothing basis and forward the recommendations to Congress by Sept. 23.

Once the President forwards the recommendations to Congress, Congress will have 45 legislative days to enact a joint resolution rejecting all the recommendations or they become binding on DoD.

The BRAC list that was released by Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld is intended to make the most efficient and effective use of DoD's resources, improve operational efficiency, save taxpayer dollars, advance the transformation of the armed services and enhance their combat

effectiveness to meet 21st Century threats.

Commission members are: Anthony J. Principi, Commission Chairman and former Secretary of Veterans Affairs; James H. Bilbray of Nevada, Philip Coyle of California, Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr., USN (Ret.) of Virginia, James V. Hansen of Utah, General James T. Hill, USA (Ret.) of Florida, General Lloyd W. "Fig" Newton, USAF (Ret.) of Connecticut, Samuel Knox Skinner of Illinois and Brig. Gen. Sue Ellen Turner, USAF (Ret.) of Texas.

The Air Reserve station has been a part of General Mitchell since 1954. The 440th Airlift Wing was formed in 1943 as the 440th Troop Carrier Group. The unit's first operational mission was the D-Day airdrops over Normandy, France, on June 6, 1944. The wing was briefly headquartered in Minneapolis after the war and moved to Milwaukee in 1957.

BRAC timeline announced

What's scheduled and when will it happen?

May 16, 2005 **Secretary of Defense recommendations**

Not later than this date, the Secretary must publish in the Federal Registrar and transmit to the congressional defense committees and the Commission, a list of the military installations that the Secretary recommends for closure or realignment.

July 1, 2005 **Comptroller General analysis**

Not later than this date, the Comptroller General shall transmit to the congressional defense committees, a report containing a detailed analysis of the Secretary's recommendations and selection process.

Sept. 8, 2005 **Commission's recommendations**

Not later than this date, the Commission must transmit to the President "a report containing its findings and conclusions based on a review and analysis of the Secretary's recommendations."

Sept. 23, 2005 **President's approval or disapproval of Commission recommendations**

Not later than this date, the President shall transmit to the Commission and to the Congress "a report containing the President's approval or disapproval of the Commission's recommendations." If the President approves the recommendations, the recommendations are binding 45 "legislative" days after the Presidential transmission or adjournment sine die, unless Congress enacts a joint resolution of disapproval.

Oct. 20, 2005 **Commission's revised recommendations**

If the President disapproves the Commission's initial recommendations, the Commission must submit revised recommendations to the President no later than this date.

Nov. 7, 2005 **President's approval or disapproval of revised recommendations**

The President must approve the revised recommendations and transmit approval to Congress by this date or the process ends. The recommendations become binding 45 "legislative" days after the Presidential transmission of adjournment sine die, unless Congress enacts joint resolution of disapproval.

Now that the preliminary BRAC list has been released, what's happening to other AFRC C-130 bases?

If put into law, Air Force Reserve Command will close three installations and move people from a dozen locations to two dozen sites throughout the United States.

Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Carswell Air Reserve Station, Texas – AFRC's 301st Fighter Wing gains nine F-16C's from AFRC's 419th FW, Hill AFB, Utah. The move is part of an effort to consolidate F-16 units. The 301st FW's F-110 engine intermediate maintenance function at Carswell ARS moves to a centralized intermediate repair facility at Hill AFB.

Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga. – AFRC's 94th Airlift Wing gains four C-130H2s from AFRC's 440th Airlift Wing, Gen. Mitchell International Airport Air Reserve Station. The move is part of a larger effort to create more effectively sized squadrons throughout the Air Force.

General Mitchell International Airport Air Reserve Station, Wis. – The Air Reserve station closes. AFRC's 440th Airlift Wing transfers four C-130H2s to AFRC's 94th AW, Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., and four C-130H2s to the active force's 314th AW, Little Rock AFB, Ark. Two hundred thirty full-time and 1,164 traditional reservist manpower authorizations move to Pope AFB/Fort Bragg, N.C., to form an AFRC unit-equipped C-130 unit. These moves are part of a larger effort throughout the Air Force to create squadrons of more effective size and to adjust the balance of C-130s among active and reserve components. The Air National Guard's 128th Air Refueling Wing at General Mitchell Air Guard Station is not affected by actions at General Mitchell ARS.

Maxwell AFB, Ala. – AFRC's 908th Airlift Wing gains four C-130H2s and 120 traditional reservist authorizations from the Air National Guard's 179th AW at Mansfield Lahm Municipal Airport, Ohio. The move is part of a larger effort to create more effectively sized squadrons throughout the Air Force.

Minneapolis/St. Paul-No action proposed.

Niagara Falls International Airport Air Reserve Station, N.Y. – The installation closes. AFRC's 914th Airlift Wing transfers its eight C-130H3 aircraft to the active force's 314th AW, Little Rock AFB, Ark. Eighty-five full-time and 259 traditional reservist positions from the 914th AW's expeditionary combat support go to AFRC's 310th Space Group at Schriever AFB, Colo., to bolster its role in the space program and provide manpower to form a space wing. Two full-time and 89 traditional reservist positions from the 914th AW's civil engineer squadron move to Lackland AFB, Texas. Thirty full-time and 60 traditional reservist authorizations from the 914th AW headquarters staff transfer to Langley AFB, Va., to support a command and control mission.

Pittsburgh International Airport Air Reserve Station, Penn. – The installation closes. AFRC's 911th Airlift Wing transfers eight C-130H2 aircraft to Pope AFB/Fort Bragg, N.C., to form a unit-equipped Reserve C-130 unit along with an active associate unit. This action is part of the effort to consolidate aircraft locations. The 911th AW's aeromedical unit relocates eight full-time and 210 traditional reservist slots to AFRC's 910th AW, Youngstown ARS, Ohio, because of the flying mission and proximity to a large recruiting population. One hundred fourteen full-time and 590 traditional reservist manpower authorizations from the Pennsylvania unit transfer to Offutt AFB, Neb., to form a new Reserve wing.

Pope AFB/Fort Bragg, N.C. – AFRC's 440th AW, Gen. Mitchell International Airport Air Reserve Station, transfers 100 full-time and 753 traditional reservist authorizations to form part of a new AFRC wing and 130 full-time and 411 traditional reservist authorizations for AFRC C-130 operations and maintenance. AFRC's 911th Airlift Wing, Pittsburgh International Airport Air Reserve Station, Pa., transfers eight C-130H2s and the Air National Guard's 130th AW, Yeager Air Guard Station, W. Va., transfers eight C-130H2s to Pope AFB/Fort Bragg to equip the AFRC airlift wing. The active force establishes an active associate C-130 unit to give Airmen an opportunity to work with experienced reservists.

Willow Grove Air Reserve Station, Penn. – Naval Air Station Willow Grove closes resulting in the realignment of AFRC's 913th Airlift Wing. The Reserve wing retires its eight C-130E aircraft as part of the Air Force's modernization and consolidation of C-130 aircraft. The 913th AW transfers 94 full-time and 585 traditional reservist authorizations to Eglin AFB, Fla., to form part of a new AFRC wing.

Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Ohio – AFRC's 910th Airlift Wing gains eight full-time and 210 traditional reservist authorizations when AFRC's 911th AW aeromedical evacuation unit relocates from Pittsburgh International Airport ARS, Penn. The move permits the aeromedical evacuation unit to continue its flying mission and offers proximity to a large recruiting population. (AFRC News Service)

USAF Band of the Reserve

Band Strike Package held in Wisconsin during Armed Forces Week 2005



photo by Ann Skarban

Col. Jay Flournoy, 440th Airlift Wing Operations Group commander introduces the USAF Band of the Reserve Concert Band at their final concert at South Milwaukee High School's performing arts center on May 20.

Strike up the band

The Band of the USAF Reserve from Robins AFB, GA., performed in over 34 venues throughout the Milwaukee and Green Bay area during the week of May 16th through the 20th. Thousands of students and community members had the opportunity to listen to band concerts and participate in band clinics throughout Milwaukee, Green Bay and Oconto Falls during their concert series.



Above: The USAF Band of the Reserve Brass Quintet performed at the 440th's C-130 dedication ceremony held at Austin Straubel International Airport in Green Bay on May 17.

Left: Master Sgt. Scott Gunn, bagpiper with Southern Aire entertains the attendees of the Armed Forces Week Civic Dinner Dance on May 19.



photos by Staff Sgt. Patrick Kuminecz

440 Security Forces Squadron is seeking candidates for the position of first sergeant.

Eligibility criteria

- Technical sergeant eligible for promotion to Master Sgt. per AFI 36-8001 and have completed NCO Academy resident course or by correspondence
- MSgt/E-7 – SMSgt/E-8
- Must attend the AFRC First Sergeant Academy not later than one year from the date of assignment

Application procedures

· Submit a resume to Military Personnel Employment by July 1, to be considered by the first sergeants board. Questions or concerns can be directed to Master Sgt. Terry Harmon (440 MSS/DPMSAU). Personnel Employment has a first sergeants package, which has the requirements to become a first sergeant and a series of questions, to be answered. This is required along with the resume.

For more information contact:

Master Sgt. Terry Harmon, MSS/DPM, ext. 5338 or Command Chief Master Sgt. Mark Biedenbender, AW/CCC, ext. 5402

440th Civil Engineer Squadron welcomes new commander

by SrA Deanne Perez



Major Gwen Sheppard assumed the duties of 440 Civil Engineer Squadron commander on April 1.

As she steps into her new role, Major Sheppard recognizes the challenges reservists face and hopes to convey a message of continual

preparedness.

"It's being prepared," she said and added that there is a lot of personal responsibility that comes with that. Maj. Sheppard also stated that senior leaders and NCO's should ensure subordinates are prepared to meet the mission.

"It's not just upgrading, get your physicals, take care of your Bank of America card," Major Sheppard stated. "It's the little things also."

She also emphasizes the importance of continuing education, not only in her own career, but in others as well.

"Always continue education in some fashion," she said. Acting as an example, she continues with traditional continuing education courses to leadership development. "You never stop learning, no matter what."

SGLI coverage Increase available

by SrA Deanne Perez

On May 11, President Bush signed the \$82 billion supplemental legislation into law that affects Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance according to a release by American Forces Press Service.

This law that will increase SGLI coverage to \$400,000 will take effect September 1, and payouts of up to \$100,000 for servicemembers with traumatic injuries, on Dec. 1, 2005.

Both benefits will be retroactive to Oct. 7, 2001 for troops who have died or received injuries during Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom.

An increase in premiums for those enrolled in the SGLI program will occur with the onset of the traumatic SGLI benefit resulting in about an additional \$1 each month.

Monthly premiums will remain 6.5 cents for every \$1,000 worth of coverage. Those opting for coverage of the new \$400,000 maximum will pay a monthly premium of \$26. Beginning Sept. 1, SGLI will be available in \$50,000 increments, versus \$10,000 increments as it is now offered.

Final details will be offered as the program roll-out occurs. To view the original version of this release, visit www.defenselink.mil/news/May2005 and click on "New Law to Affect SGLI Payments, Premiums"



Heartlink Spouse orientation program

Family Support is holding a spouse orientation program on July 17, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. in Heritage Hall, building 102.

This program is an opportunity for the spouses of Air Force reservists to get together to learn

more about the Air Force Reserve while networking with other spouses.

Call Family Support at (414) 482-5424 or (800) 224-2744 by June 17 to reserve a space.

Identity theft-How you can protect yourself

by Maj. Marie I. Jules
440th Judge Advocate Office

The problem of identity theft has become an increasingly serious problem during the last five years. Just what is identity theft and what can you do about it?

The Department of Justice defines identity theft as "all types of crime in which someone wrongfully obtains and uses another person's personal data in some way that involves fraud or deception, typically for economic gain."

Prevention

The first step in prevention is knowing some of the more common ways identities are stolen and how to become less of a target. High tech methods like computer spyware and fraudulent computer sites are designed to get sensitive personal information like Social Security numbers, credit card numbers and bank account information. A number of low-tech methods are also widely used. The following is a list of some of the more common ways that identity theft takes place, as well as what you can do to reduce the risk.

Ways to minimize risk

Computers spyware programs are placed on a computer to record the different sites that are visited, as well as the passwords used. Personal information is also shared online by the establishment of fraudulently established Web sites and e-mails.

Computer hackers are also another way that information is distributed. These individuals, or groups compromise computers, including both corporate and government-owned computers use various tactics to obtain personal information.

Stealing wallets, purses or briefcases containing ID, credit cards and checkbooks, as well as stealing mail from the recipient's mailbox and filing a change of address form with the post office are ways that thieves fraudulently obtain information. Sometime thieves even obtain personal information from a trash can, or by "shoulder surfing" (watching someone enter a pin number at an ATM, etc.)

Tools to help you protect yourself

Use anti-spyware software on your computer. Keep this software updated and perform a virus scan on your computer regularly. Some anti-spyware software can even be obtained at no charge.

Before entering personal information into a Web-site or e-mail, contact the credit card company or the bank that is requesting the information to determine if it is a legitimate request.

Don't use electronic links to sites that ask for personal information. Instead, type in the online address you know to be correct.

Be sure to use secure sites when providing bank or credit card information while shopping and paying on-line. Demonstrate your concerns about security by asking how information is stored.

Ask about security and the merchant's policy on sharing information.

Carry only the ID and credit cards you need while traveling or shopping.

Always leave valuables in a secure location. Don't leave mail in your mailbox longer than necessary

Contact the Post Office and stop mail delivery if you won't be able to receive it. Ask at the Post Office if you see a sudden unexplained drop in mail volume.

Shred sensitive documents before placing them

in the trash. Know the environment. Be willing to walk away from an ATM if it seems the circumstances warrant it

Responding to identity theft

If you do become a victim, the sooner you respond to identity theft, the easier it is to recover from it. Review credit card and banking statements monthly. If you become a victim of identity theft, take these four steps:

1. File a police report and keep a copy
2. Place a fraud alert on your credit report by contacting one of the three major credit bureaus listed here:

TransUnion
P.O. Box 6790
Fullerton, CA 92834
(800) 680-7289

Equifax
P.O. Box 740241
Atlanta, GA 30374
(800) 525-6285

Experian
P.O. Box 9532
Allen, TX 75013
(888) 397-3742

3. Close affected accounts; both your own and any you find that were opened fraudulently
- a. Get any needed forms to dispute fraudulent charges

- b. Change pin number as required
4. File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission. The commission will try to catch the person as well as refer you to other agencies. The FTC can be reached at (877) 438-4338

440th Airlift Wing DoD Marrow Donor registration drive announced

A bone marrow registration drive will be held on Saturday, August 20, and Sunday, August 21 from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Active duty military and their immediate family, Department of Defense Civil Service employees and members of the Coast Guard, National Guard or Reserve are encouraged to register.

By giving a small blood sample and filling out a consent form, participants are then part of the National Marrow Donor Registry. For more information about this event, contact Maj. Jean Pyzyk at (414) 482-5540 or (414) 482-5545, the C.W. Bill Young/DoD Marrow Donor Program at 1 (800) MARROW-3 or visit www.dodmarrow.com.

May newcomers

A1C Melissa L. Dirnbauer 34 APS
A1C Joshua L. Smith 440 CES
SrA Juanelle L. Winters 34 APS

Retirements

SMSgt. Lawrence K. Lewens 440 AW/SE

Official Employer's Day Application

Friday, July 15, 2005

(time will be determined by operational scheduling)

(Please type or print clearly – if it's illegible-no invite)

Employer's full name and title:
(please circle/highlight one) Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr. Other: _____

Employer's company/agency name: _____

Employer's mailing address: _____

Employer's daytime phone
number: _____

Reservist's name, rank, unit (office symbol): _____

Reservist's daytime phone
number: _____

Note: A schedule of events will be in the information mailed to you and your employer.

Day will include:

- Registration/refreshments
- Welcome by the wing commander
- Base tour and orientation flight in a C-130
- Lunch
- Optional tour of your (reservist) workplace

The flight is subject to cancellation for weather or operational reasons.

Note: This event is open ONLY to employers of 440th reservists.

Return this form by June 10 to:

440th AW/PA (rm. 111, bldg. 102)
300 E. College Ave.
General Mitchell ARS, WI 53207
Fax: (414) 482-5913
Phone: (414) 482-5481
E-mail: 440AW.PA@generalmitchell.af.mil

Powered by diversity

The diversity subcommittee of the Human Resource Development Council is looking for members interested in defining and shaping how diversity can and does impact the wing's mission and quality of life. No prior experience is required.

Contact Capt. Keith Leistekow in building 102, room 122, or call 482-5481 during the April UTA for information

TRICARE points of contact

The 440th Airlift Wing's TRICARE points of contact are Maj. Tom Collins (482-5729) and Master Sgt. Dan Skopp (482-5251). Reservists with questions about TRICARE procedures should contact these two representatives.

Photography Wanted

Photography showcasing unit members in action are needed for the AFRC's headquarters building at Robins AFB, Ga. All photography needs to be high resolution, digital images (300 dpi or more at 12 inches by nine inches, horizontal format) or hardcopy prints that can be scanned and returned to members. For more information about how to submit photography for consideration, contact Capt. Keith Leistekow in the Public Affairs Office, building 102, room 122 for more details.

Sweet Treats dessert contest

The Annual "Sweet Treats" dessert contest will be held August 20 during the Family Day Celebration. Judging will begin at 1 p.m. and the winner will be announced at 2:30. Contact the 440th Family Support Office at (414) 482-5424 or (800) 224-2477 for more information.

Reservists may now skip the 12-month waiting period for full family dental benefits after retirement

Some Reserve members can now skip the 12-month waiting period for full family dental benefits when they retire, as long as they enroll in the TRICARE Retiree Dental Plan (TRDP) within 120 days of their retirement date. The 12-month waiver offer became effective as of Feb. 1 and is retroactive to Feb. 1, 2004.

A reservist member who retired on Feb. 1, 2004 and enrolled in TRDP within 120 days of their retirement date, for example, may provide a copy of their retirement orders showing that their TRDP enrollment was within the first 120 days of their retirement effective date. Once the documentation has been submitted, they may submit claims for any additional covered dental services provided to eligible family members during the waived period.

Additional TRDP benefits available for both adults and children during the 12-month period covered by the waiver include cast crowns, cast

restorations, bridges, dentures and orthodontics. Diagnostic and preventive services, basic restorative services, periodontics, endodontics, oral surgery, dental emergencies and a separate dental accident benefit were already available to newly retired Reserve members without a waiting period.

Retroactive waiver requests require a copy of the beneficiary's retirement orders be sent to Delta Dental of California, Federal Services, P.O. Box 537007, Sacramento, Calif. 95853-7007.

Gray-area retired reservists who are entitled to retiree pay but will not receive it until age 60 are also eligible to receive full dental benefits early. They must submit the waiver within 120 days of their retirement effective date, not the date that they turn 60.

For more information and customer assistance, visit the TRDP Web site at www.trdp.org or call, toll-free, 1-888-838-8737.

HRDC meeting

The 440th Airlift Wing Human Resources Development Council will meet at 10 a.m., Sunday, June 5 in Heritage Hall, building 102. All members of the wing are being invited to attend by the HRDC.

Personnel center stops mailing point credit summary

DENVER - The Air Reserve Personnel Center here no longer mails Air Force Form 526, Air National Guard/Air Force Reserve Point Credit Summary, to Air Force reservists.

Guard and Reserve members had been receiving the form annually since October 1972. They must now use the virtual Military Personnel Flight to print a copy of their point credit information.

In addition, the Air Force is eliminating the form itself and will no longer place it on microfilm.

As a result, point credit information will reside in data form in the Military Personnel Data System where personnel specialists will obtain it by pulling products from the system. They will use these products to verify reservists' service.

Reservists should print their summary of points using the vMPF and maintain copies in their personal files in the same manner as leave and earnings statements and other important documents.

This change promotes the use of the vMPF and self-service by reservists. Both actions are transformation goals. Whether at home, at work or while deployed, reservists have the means to access their point credit information.

They may call Headquarters ARPC/DPPK toll free at 1-800-525-0102 for questions and concerns about credit of points. (Air Force Reserve Command News Service)

Passports needed everywhere

A change in proof of citizenship requirements while traveling goes into effect on Dec. 31, 2005. All U.S. citizens leaving and returning to the U.S. must have a valid passport. Previously, birth certificates and government photo IDs were all that was necessary to cross into Canada and Mexico.

Bundles for babies

The 440th Airlift Wing Family Support Office is hosting a program for reservists and their spouses who are expecting or had a baby in the last three months from 9:30 to 11 a.m., Aug. 20 in the XXXXX. The program will offer information on infant care and handling, child development and safe sleep. Parents will receive a "baby bundle" containing blankets, crib sheet, hooded towel, wash mitts, print diapers, sleep and play outfits and an Air Force Aid Society tote bag. Contact the Family Support Office at (414) 482-5424 or (800) 224-2477 for details.

Three ROA \$1000 scholarships available for 440th Airlift Wing enlisted members

Reserve Officers Association Chapter #45 will give out three \$1,000 scholarships to enlisted 440th Airlift Wing. One \$1,000 Col. Nasiruddin Rana Academic Scholarship is given to a 440th member pursuing an undergraduate college degree at a four year accredited college or university. The scholarship donation is a living legacy given out annually by Dr. Rana, who retired as the commander of the 440th Medical Squadron in 2003. Dr. Rana Scholarship applicants need to fill out the official scholarship form, write a one page essay titled "The Importance of Core Values in my Air Force Career," and provide all school transcripts and proof of full-time enrollment in a bachelor's degree program.

Two \$1,000 Senior Airman Samuel I. Keene scholarships will be awarded to 440th enlisted reservists. The Keene scholarship honors Airman Keene, who died in a C-130 plane crash in 1995. This year the Keene family is donating \$1,500 toward the memorial scholarships and Chapter #45 is donating the remaining \$500.

"While his untimely death may have ended his dreams, Sam's spirit lives on in the hearts and minds of our family and the 440th Airlift Wing," said Steve Keene, Samuel's brother.

Keene Memorial Scholarship applicants need to fill out the official scholarship form, write a one page essay titled "How the 440th Airlift Wing and My Military Experience have Helped me Develop as a Person and Grow Professionally," and provide all school transcripts and proof of full-time enrollment in a bachelor's degree program.

To be considered for the scholarship, enlisted reservists must submit complete packages to Maj. Ann Peru Knabe in the Public Affairs Office no later than August 1.

Reserve Officers Association Chapter #45 is the only ROA chapter to offer local scholarships of \$1000. The chapter began the scholarship program four years ago after starting a fundraising initiative at Miller Park.

Reserve Family Picnic Day Fast Approaching

The annual 440th Airlift Wing Reserve Family Picnic Day will be held on August 20, beginning at 11 a.m. The picnic will be held behind the Services building on base. There will be games for children (with prizes for all), food, music and fun. Food will be served throughout the afternoon. The menu includes bratwurst, hamburgers, hotdogs, pasta salad, potato salad, chips and more. There will also be watermelon, ice cream treats, snowcones and popcorn for hungry family members and reservists.

440th Airlift Wing
Office of Public Affairs
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