



The Liberty Press



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ON THE COVER: Col. Ronald A. Rutland, 512th Airlift Wing commander and his honorary commander's wife, Kathy Still, closed the Honorary Commander's Induction Ceremony Jan. 26 by singing the Air Force song with Dover Mayor Stephen Speed and Col. John I. Pray Jr., 436th AW commander. (Photo by Dee Marvin)

Recognizing reservists, families is important

Col. Ronald A. Rutland
512th AW commander

Hoah! I'm extremely proud to present our new annual award winners, found in this issue. It's a pleasure and an honor to work beside these extraordinary Airmen, who continue to reflect the best of the best.

They are a part of the reason our wing has such a remarkable reputation for 'setting the standard.' I encourage you to seek them out and give them your heartfelt thanks for a job well done.

One of my greatest privileges as a commander, is recognizing people for the professionals they are. Our 512th folks are constantly winning awards at the wing, numbered Air Force and command levels. This is a reflection of their dedication to duty and why I'm honored to wear the uniform beside them.

As we all continue to set the standard and raise the bar, our focus is still geared towards the Global War on Terrorism, and we'll continue to do so for as long as it takes.

As our mobilized members and volunteers begin to deactivate, each and every member should reflect on their active service with great pride.



You heeded your country's call to duty, and you did it with distinction. I personally thank you for that.

While our mission continues to evolve, many of our senior NCOs are retiring. As they do so, they're passing that 'standard of excellence' to each one of you to carry on.

Our mission also forges on with the help of the hundreds of Liberty Wing Airmen, who have volunteered to keep fighting the war on terrorism. Every single individual is incredibly important in completing this mission.

The 512th AW has worked hard to support and defend our call to arms; and, at the same time, I've asked you to polish our standards as we approach the Initial Response inspection in April. I'm very much aware of the hard work and sacrifices made every day

to accomplish the mission.

Your dedication to the 512th AW, the 436th AW and Team Dover is absolutely remarkable. Your can-do attitude makes our wings the best in both the Air Mobility Command and throughout Air Force Reserve Command.

I'm extremely honored to be a part of your wing. You are what distinguishes the 512th from all the rest. Each and every one of us understands what it takes to be the best. 'The best can never rest.'

While we are thanking those who've been activated, who are currently deploying and those who are retiring, it's important to thank another group of people dedicated to the success of the 512th—our families. I can tell you this: Most of us couldn't accomplish our jobs without their support.

I want each and every one of you to tell your families that their support to you is important to me, this wing and our country. Help us raise the standard of our family services like never before.

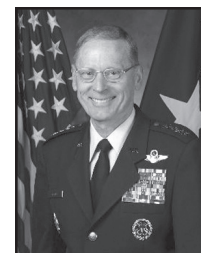
Let me close by saying everybody in the 512th AW is extremely important. Each of you bring an unbelievable amount of dedication to duty and honor to country; and, the Liberty Wing leadership thanks you and salutes you.

AMC commander announces retirement

Gen. John W. Handy, the commander of U.S. Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command, is slated to retire Oct. 1, according to AMC officials.

General Handy will retire with more than 37 years of service to the Air Force. The general took command of AMC in November 2001. He is a command pilot with more than 5,000 hours in aircraft including the C-130, C-141, C-17, C-7A, C-9, C-37 and KC-10.

A change of command date will be announced at a later date, and the general's replacement has not been named. (Courtesy AMC)



Wing pulls together, prepares for inspection

Story and photo by
Tech. Sgt. Veronica A. Aceveda
Editor

The 512th Airlift Wing has been hard at work preparing for an inspection in April, when the wing will be graded on its war-fighting capability.

More than 20 evaluators will grade the 512th AW on one of four phases of the Air Mobility Command Inspector General's Expeditionary Operational Readiness Inspection. The Liberty Wing will be tested on the first phase – Initial Response.

Maj. Ken Slater, IR project officer from the 326th Airlift Squadron, said the IR portion includes notifying and processing about 350 personnel and ensuring those members are qualified for the deployment. Some of the inspectable items include dog tags, ID cards and specific uniform requirements.

"We'll also be graded on processing at least 17 tons of cargo; they may even direct us to actually load the cargo onto an aircraft and have it ready to fly - all the way up to engine start," said Major Slater.

During an exercise here six months ago, several key areas were identified as needing improvement.

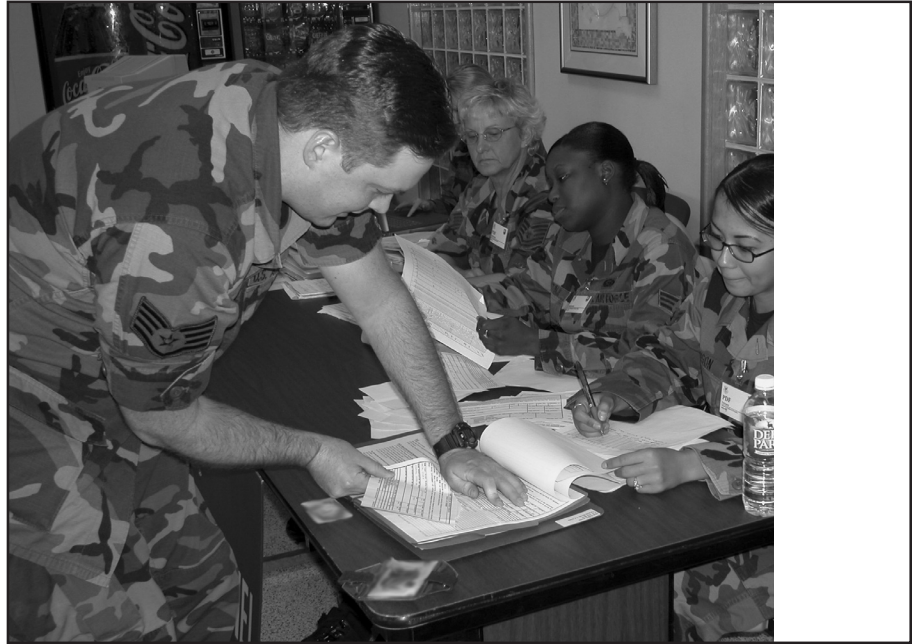
"The biggest areas which needed to be tackled were gas-mask fit tests, M-16 qualifications and dental exams," said Major Slater. "Since that time, it's been a total wing effort in correcting those areas.

"Out of the pool of reservists we're hoping to draw from, we're currently at 100 percent qualified for those three main areas," he said.

Reservists

"I cannot emphasize enough how much the individual reservist has done to get ready," said Major Slater.

Numerous reservists have rescheduled UTAs to coincide with available training dates. Some members have even taken time off from their civilian jobs to take care of training during



The 512th Airlift Wing has conducted several mobility processing lines in preparation for the Initial Response Inspection next month. Staff Sgt. Kyle Smith(left), 46th Aerial Port Squadron, processed through one held at the Passenger Terminal last fall.

the work week.

Unit Deployment Managers

"The UDMs' persistence with their members has played a key part in our progress," said Major Slater.

Master Sgt. Matt Sirkis, 512th Equipment Maintenance Squadron unit deployment manager, said his job is to make people aware of what's in their records.

"We let them know what type of paperwork is involved and when adjustments or corrections are made to that paperwork," said Sergeant Sirkis, who's responsible for maintaining more than 150 mobility folders.

The responsibility of ensuring certain qualifications don't expire within 45 days after the IR deployment date also falls on the UDM, which is a time-consuming task, according to Major Slater.

Security Forces Squadron

Due to weather and a scheduling backlog, Major Slater said weapons training was the biggest challenge.

He specifically named Master Sgts. Antoine Ford and Ron McCoy and Tech. Sgt. Jeff Crouser as some of the instrumental security forces members helping the Liberty Wing reach 100 percent compliance for the potential IR participants.

"We've been working both the A and B Team UTAs, making sure everybody gets qualified," said Sergeant Crouser, 512th SFS

combat arms instructor.

Aerospace Medicine Squadron

Chief Master Sgt. Brenda Barry and Tech. Sgt. Peggy Altman have been reviewing the medical and dental records of wing reservists since last fall.

"We're checking to make sure each member has current health and dental exams as well as current HIV and DNA tests," said Chief Barry.

Bio-Environmental

Tech. Sgt. Cheryl Hawkins is credited with performing more than 100 protective mask fit-tests over one UTA weekend.

Major Slater said she coordinated with the Eagle Wing to ensure there were enough machines available for Reserve use and did so in addition to her normal daily duties.

With the wing's weakest areas now up to par, Major Slater said the focus has now turned to "attention to detail."

"This is not an exercise; if someone asks you a question from the Airmen's Manual, use a sense of real-world urgency when looking up the answer," he said.

And although Major Slater said he feels the wing deserves an "outstanding" because of the hard work he's witnessed in preparing for the week-long event, he firmly believes there's one particular item that's going to put the 512th AW over the top.

He said, "The difference between us getting an 'Excellent' and an 'Outstanding' is going to be our positive attitude toward the evaluation."

Liberty Wing plays part in presidential inauguration

Tech. Sgt. Veronica A. Aceveda
Editor

The 512th Airlift Wing initiated a Presidential Inauguration Support Committee Jan. 11 to support all Air Force Reserve Command Airmen, who were selected to participate in inauguration activities Jan. 18 to 21.

The 14-person team was charged with coordinating logistical issues for about 200 incoming reservists from various states. The Airmen were either honorees or guests slated to attend the Presidential Gala, Parade and Ball.

The committee set up operations in the wing commander's conference room, complete with computers, phone lines and other administrative equipment. Some of their duties included

assisting with military orders preparation; compiling information packets; arranging lodging; and providing transportation to and from the events in Washington D.C.

"Dover was chosen as a staging area to help offset the cost of bringing these Airmen to the event," said Maj. Joy Mann, 512th AW committee leader. "It's my understanding that most lodging in (Washington) D.C., was unavailable and the ones that were available, the cost was extremely high."

Another major benefit of the committee was each Airman didn't have to coordinate individual preparations she said.

Some of the committee members were also rewarded for their efforts by unexpectedly being able to participate in some of the presidential activities themselves.

"The best thing I saw was the president sitting amongst the troops," said Tech. Sgt. Alicia Malone, a committee member from the 512th Misson Support Squadron, who was given the opportunity to attend the Presidential Gala Jan. 18. "And, it was great to have all the services together."

Although Sergeant Malone enjoyed the gala herself, she said her true reward was being a part of the team, which made it possible for all the Reserve Airmen to attend the events.

The 512th Airlift Wing provided support to hundreds of Air Force Reserve Command reservists who were selected to participate in presidential inauguration activities in Washington D.C., Jan. 18 to 21. LEFT TO RIGHT: Master Sgt. Moyra Molina, Debra Larregui and Terese Kahline are preparing information letters, which were mailed to each of the AFRC guests.

(Photo by Tech. Sgt. Veronica A. Aceveda)



Vice commander returns to Dover

Tech. Sgt. Veronica A. Aceveda
Editor

The 512th Airlift Wing's vice commander is drilling in Dover again after a four-month deployment to Rhein Main Air Base, Germany.

Col. Rick Carter left last September to assume command of the 362nd Air Expeditionary Group. It included the 726th Expeditionary Air Mobility Squadron, a maintenance, aero port and command and control unit; the 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, a C-17 unit tasked with flying missions in and out of Iraq and other areas of responsibility; and, the 791st Expeditionary Air Evacuation Squadron, an aeromedical-specialty unit.

"We ensured the 'beans and

bullets' were being delivered to our men and women, fighting the war on terrorism," Colonel Carter said.

Some of those missions included flights into Iran, Afghanistan, Kyrgystan and Qatar. Other missions included transporting wounded troops out of harm's way and into Germany and the United States, so they could receive medical attention.

Out of the entire deployment, Colonel Carter said it's the aerovac missions that he remembers most.

"To witness the outstanding care given by our medical professionals mixed with seeing how the injured troops were more concerned about their comrades than their own physical injuries was an eye-opener," he said.

See **Vice commander**...page 8



Submitted photo

Col. Rick Carter

Dover Team welcomes new honorary commanders

Susan Walls

436th AW Public Affairs

More than 50 civic leaders were inducted as honorary commanders in a ceremony at The Landings Club on Dover Air Force Base Jan. 26.

The honorary commanders program first began at Dover AFB in 1992 and has been a success from its inception.

Civic leaders are matched with military commanders (active duty and Reserve) for a one-year period. Individuals are chosen from across the First State, from professions ranging from politicians and school teachers to bankers and business owners.

“This program was initiated to extend a cross-flow of information and an exchange of ideas between our military personnel and local civic leaders,” said Col. John I. Pray Jr., 436th Airlift Wing commander. “Nowhere in my 24 years in the Air Force have I seen such a great partnership with the community, as I have here at Dover.”

Military commanders are encouraged to invite their civilian counterpart to unit functions including awards ceremonies, commander’s calls, change of commands and social functions, while honorary commanders are encouraged to invite their respective commander to interact with their profession in turn.

For the new and returning honorary commanders, 2005 promises to be a year of learning



Photo by Dee Marvin

Betsy Cooper (left) is inducted as the 512th Security Forces Squadron honorary commander by Master Sgt. Ron McCoy, 512th SFS, in a ceremony Jan. 26. As of early March, Mrs. Cooper had already attended around five military events.

experiences and opportunities for the exchange of information between the military and civilian commanders.

An orientation flight is projected for the Spring, as well as a golf tournament in April and a Air Tattoo in May.

“One of the most critical assets our community has is its military and a large percentage of that is our citizen Airmen, Soldier, Sailors and Marines,” said Col. Ronald A. Rutland, 512th AW commander. “The support our citizens give is extremely critical, and in my 30 plus years of service, the community of Dover is one of the best I’ve ever seen. The Honorary Commander Program is the key that unlocks that bridge of understanding.”

512th AW Honorary Commanders

512th AW/CC: Senator John C. Still, Delaware State Senator
 512th AW/CCC: Judith Diogo, Chamber of Commerce
 512th AW/SE: Secretary David B. Mitchell, Delaware Department of Safety and Homeland Security
 512th AW/HC: Rev. Bob Kirby III, Calvary United Methodist Church
 512th AMDS: Lori James, U.S. Senator Tom Carper staffer
 512th OG: Al Johnson, Agricultural cropduster
 709th AS: Bob Harra, Wilmington Trust Company
 326th AS: Dan Tjaden, Delaware City police chief
 512th ALCF: Honorable Joe Booth, Delaware State Representative
 512th OSF: Don Keister, Caravel Academy
 512th MXG: Buzz Matthews, Central Delaware YMCA
 512th AMXS: Carolyn Fredricks, Modern Maturity Center
 512th CMS: Kevin Gills, Chase Manhattan Bank
 512th EMS: Hon. Gene Price, Harrington mayor
 512th MOF: Dr. Tony Armstrong, Wesley College
 512th MSG: Alan McClements Jr, Del. Emergency Management Agency
 46th APS: J. William Andrew, Delaware Electric Cooperative
 512th CES: Ray Stevens, Delaware Firemen’s Association
 512th MAS: Tom Trader, Trader Funeral Home
 512th MSS: Alan Kovitz, Elevations Unlimited
 512th SFS: Betsy Cooper, Dover Downs
 * Duane Lawson, Golds Gym, was inducted as the honorary commander for the 512th LRF but has since passed away

Liberty Wing honors African-American month

Senior Airman David Younce
Staff writer

More than 120 Airmen from the 512th Airlift Wing and their family members attended the Black History Month Luncheon at The Landings Club Feb. 5.

The 512th AW Human Resource Development Council sponsored the luncheon to honor the many contributions African-Americans have made to America, both past and present.

The master of ceremonies, Col. Willie W. Cooper II, 512th Maintenance Group commander, introduced the guest speaker Nettye Handy Evans, a Delaware State University educator, who speaks often on African-American history.

She spoke of several African-American achievements and how society has sometimes forgotten to record these accomplishments throughout history.

Mrs. Evans also highlighted the lives of Booker T. Washington and



Ron Whittington, a University of Delaware professor, tells the story of the hardships that "colored" soldiers had to endure during the Civil War at the wing's Black History Month Luncheon Feb. 5.



Photos by Senior Airman David Younce

Nettye Handy Evans, guest speaker at the annual Liberty Wing Black History Month Luncheon, shares her knowledge on African-American history with the Airmen and family members of the 512th Airlift Wing at the Landings Club Feb. 5. She's a life member of the Tuskegee Airmen Organization and is the vice president of the John H. Porter Chapter, Tuskegee Airmen International.

George Washington Carver, showing how these two African-Americans were able to overcome slavery and the Civil War to go on and become heroes and mentors to many.

On display at the event, she featured two half-dollar pieces commemorating Carver and Washington's contributions to America.

In her closing remarks, Mrs. Evans said she hopes we rejoice in knowing that we live in a diverse society where one man carries his brother on his shoulders.

"Diversity can bring us together, rather than separate us," Mrs. Evans said. "It gives us a reason to reflect upon the past as we approach the future."

Ron Whittington, a University of Delaware professor, brought the past to life when he reenacted what a

"colored soldier" from Delaware experienced during their effort to fight in the Civil War.

Dressed in a union soldier's uniform, he expressed some of the hardships endured while trying to join the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry.

Mr. Whittington also highlighted some of the prejudices African-American soldiers faced during the Civil War, including a misperception that African-American soldiers would not be loyal in battle.

After a buffet lunch catered by the club, a speech by Mrs. Evans and a Civil War presentation, Col. Ronald A. Rutland, 512th AW commander, summed up the luncheon when he said different histories and cultures contribute greatly to the 512th AW.

"It's one of our greatest strengths - our diversity," he said.

"Diversity can bring us together, rather than separate us."

Nettye Handy Evans

512th Airlift Wing annual award winners



SrA Edward Rorie
512th MAS
Airman of the Year



TSgt Corey Pennypacker
326th AS
NCO of the Year



MSgt Leon Edwards
512th MAS
SNCO of the Year



1st Lt Tanaka Dunn
512th MXG
Officer of the Year



Mike Primo
512th AW
Civilian of the Year



MSgt John Bouchard
326th AS
First Sergeant of the Year



MSgt Jeremy Smolarek
512th AMXS
Crew Chief of the Year

Local pastor experiences Air Force culture

Senior Airman Jennie Morrison
Staff writer

The assignment was to immerse your self in another culture for two weeks. When faced with the opportunity to study another culture, other students in the Cross Cultural Emersion class at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., traveled to far away places like South America and Africa. But Rev. Bob Kirby, a seminary student and pastor of Calvary United Methodist Church in Milford, thought of Dover Air Force Base and the U.S. Air Force.

Reverend Kirby said he thought of the 512th Airlift Wing Chaplain's Office after receiving an invitation last year to Clergy Day, a Reserve event inviting community pastors to tour the base for a day. While Reverend Kirby couldn't attend, he thought of Chaplain (Lt. Col.) John Groth, 512th AW chaplain, when planning for his assignment. After receiving approval from the seminary and the base, Rev. Kirby joined the chaplain's office Jan. 3.

Reverend Kirby said he chose to study the military because he has never really experienced

military culture firsthand.

"I find it all very interesting—the uniform, the difference between the active-duty and Reserve members and trying to understand the insignia on the sleeves and on the collar," he said.

Reverend Kirby shadowed Chaplain Groth, attending staff meetings and ministry outings. He also met with Airmen in

different units of the wing. He commented on how polite everyone was, and how eager everyone was to help with whatever was needed.

"Everyone seems to have a customer service mentality, like they want to provide you with the best customer service you've ever had," said Reverend Kirby.

He had the opportunity to see the base mortuary and talk to the

chaplain about Dover's unique mission.

"What I think is special is the way servicemembers are treated when they make the ultimate sacrifice," he said. "It was so moving to hear the chaplain talk about the way the military take care of the fallen, with dignity and prayer."

Chaplain Groth said it's interesting to have an outsider's point of view on ministering to military members.

"He said one thing he noticed that was different was that a lot of people have shoe shine kits in their offices," said Chaplain Groth. "That's something I might not have noticed."

Reverend Kirby will write a paper detailing his experiences here for his class at the seminary. He said he enjoyed the chance to learn about military culture and found a personal significance as well.

His father, a World War II veteran, was discharged from the Army Air Corps 60 years ago. He celebrated his 85th birthday while Reverend Kirby was at Dover Air Force Base. Reverend Kirby said he was proud that his father had served in the military, and he felt that spending his father's 85th birthday in the midst of the Air Force was very special to him.



Photo by Chaplain (Lt. Col.) John Groth

Rev. Bob Kirby, a local pastor from Milford, tries out a C-5 Galaxy's pilot seat in January. Reverend Kirby spent two weeks on the base, shadowing a Reserve chaplain as part of a seminary school assignment. He's also participating in the wing's Honorary Commander's Program this year.

Vice commander from page 4

He specifically recalled an incident with a Marine being airlifted out of Fallujah.

"(The Marine) had taken a bullet through the arm and another through the shoulder," Colonel Carter said. "He asked the flight nurse for pain medicine, but when he realized she was busy responding to a more severely injured patient, you could tell he understood. He even added, 'I should go last'."

What the Marine sergeant did next is what Colonel Carter says made him so proud to be a member of the military family.

"I watched this person, who was in pain himself, turn to the passenger sitting beside him; and, I saw him help that person put their seatbelt on. That person needed

assistance since he had taken a bullet through the hand," Colonel Carter said. "It's that type of camaraderie you'll never forget."

Out of Colonel Carter's entire Air Force career, he says this deployment along with two other recent tours in Oman have become the highlights of his nearly 30-year career.

And, although the Liberty Wing's vice commander only recently returned to the unit this January, he plans to retire in June, but he also plans to go out with a bang.

The Liberty Wing's vice commander has taken on the goal to ensure the Dover Team excels at the Air Mobility Inspector General Expeditionary Operational Readiness Inspection in April, when the wing will be tested on its war-fighting skills.

Braving the cold for a good cause

Polar Bear Plunge



512th Operations Group

Submitted photos



Faith McCoy...pre-plunge



Faith...post-plunge

Faith McCoy, 12, daughter of Master Sgt. Ronald McCoy, 512th Security Forces Squadron, participated in the annual Polar Bear Plunge with her dad for the fourth time.



Staff Sgt. John Greene



Liberty Wing members, friends and family participated in the Polar Bear Plunge Feb. 6 in support of the Delaware Special Olympics.

The temperature of the ocean was at about 36 degrees when participants plunged in the water.

"The key is to have warm, loose fitting clothes; so, when you need to put them back on, you can do it quickly," said Staff Sgt. John Greene, a member of the 512th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, who marked his third trip into the icy waters for Special Olympics.

Supporters, pictured on this page alone, raised nearly \$4,500 for the cause.

6th Annual 10K Ruck March

Nearly 20,000 allied troops completed a 6-day, 27-mile journey through the snow and bitterly cold temperatures during the Korean War's Battle of the Chosin Reservoir in 1950 and left nobody behind. The Dover Team honored Korean War veterans, including those who made the grueling march more than 50 years ago, by competing in the 6th Annual 10K Ruck March Jan. 22. RIGHT: A four-person team, comprised of all female chiefs, donned their ruck sacks for the event. Team members included (left to right) Chief Master Sgts. Suzy Talyor, Brenda Barry, Caroline Vennell and Angela Williamson (not shown).



Photo by Col. Willie W. Cooper II

Airmen assisting Airmen, AF Assistance Fund underway

The Air Force Assistance Fund "Commitment to Caring" campaign for the 512th Airlift Wing is underway until April 24. Contributions can be made to any of four Air Force-related charities by cash, check or money order. Payroll deduction is not authorized for Air Force reservists or air reserve technicians.

The four Air Force charities are: Air Force Aid Society, Air Force Enlisted Villages in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund in San Antonio, Texas, and the General and Mrs. Curtis LeMay Foundation.

The charities benefit active-duty, Reserve, Guard, retired Air Force members, surviving spouses and families. This is the 32nd year of the fund drive. Charities receive 100 percent of designated contributions.

"Last year the Air Force Aid Society helped 30,000 Airmen with over \$22.6 million in assistance - that's a lot of help!" said retired Lt. Gen. Mike McGinty, Air Force Aid Society chief executive officer.

The 512th AW goal is 100 percent contact with all members assigned.

Contributions to the AFAF are tax deductible. For more information on AFAF for the charitable organizations, visit www.afassistancefund.org.

The Liberty Wing project officer is Master Sgt. Greg Brownawell at 677-5472, and the alternate is Capt. Cathy Anderson at 677-3524. Unit POCs are listed to the right.

The squadron keyworker has more information on how Airmen can help. (Courtesy Master Sgt. Brownawell, 512th AW AFAF project officer, from an AFPC news release)

Unit Pocs for AF Assistance Fund

512th Maintenance Group

1Lt Tanaka Dunn	MXG	677-5507
SMSgt Steve Smith	MXS	677-5343
MSgt Susan Brown	CMS	677-5750
SSgt Ricardo Lucas	EMS	677-6205
TSgt Angie Davis	MOF	677-5650

512th Mission Support Group

TSgt Pat Hilton	46 APS	677-4555
MSgt Cornell Jolley	CES	677-6800
Maj Jack Hayes	MAS	677-3689
SSgt Gina Huth	MSS	677-3537
MSgt Della Sue Billings	SFS	677-6073
MSgt Darin Pusker	LRF	677-3530
MSgt Cathy Valenti	71 APS	DSN 575-3530
1Lt Thomas Downs	622 CF	DSN 574-7344

512th Operations Group

MSgt Thomas Vernon	326 AS	677-3830
2Lt Gene Pasker	709 AS	677-3768
MSgt Betty Harvath	OSF	677-3816

Guidance issued for expired vehicle decals

Pass and Registration is currently out of renewal year stickers for vehicles registered for access to base. Because of the shortage, any vehicle with an expired year sticker will be allowed access until the new decals arrive. The 436th Security Forces Squadron will inform the base when the decals arrive. (Courtesy 436th SFS)

Anytime access to TSP accounts enroute

Defense Department civilians and servicemembers building tax-free retirement accounts through the Thrift Savings Plan will soon be able to change their investment options at any time instead of

just twice a year.

For the complete story log onto www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123009859 (Courtesy AFPN)

Base exchange matches prices

In order to save customers money everyday, AAFES' policy is to honor a competitor's lower price.

If the difference is less than five dollars, AAFES will take a customer's word for it and give the savings on the spot.

If the difference is more than five dollars, just bring in the ad and AAFES will make the adjustment. (Courtesy AAFES)

Chief bids farewell

Chief Master Sgt. Brenda Barry, 512th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, transfers to Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., in April 2005.

Wing commander's call set for June

The next wing commander's call is scheduled for June 12 at the base theater. Members need to be seated by 7 a.m. The Community College of the Air Force Graduation will also take place at this time.

Civilian employees required to switch to myPay

Civilian employees of the Air Force will be required to use the myPay system to access their leave and earning statements beginning March 31.

Hard-copy statements will no longer be mailed.

The myPay system can be found at www.dfas.mil/mypay. New users will need to establish a personal identification number. (Courtesy AFPN)

Events

April 15: Bluesuiter's Golf Tournament, POC is Sue Walls at 677-3355.

May 6 to 8: Old Dover Days

May 12: Team Dover Honorary Commanders' Flight

May 20: Air Tattoo

June 11: 512th AW Spouses Flight

June 4 to 5: NASCAR

June 12: 512th AW Commander's Call

* For more information on these events, call the 512th Public Affairs Office at 677-3485

President asks for more money, fewer reservists

The president's proposed defense budget for next year seeks \$3.9 billion in funding for Air Force Reserve Command and an end-strength of 74,000 reservists.

The fiscal 2006 request covers the fiscal year starting Oct. 1. It asks for 2,100 fewer Air Force reservists than the 76,100 authorized in fiscal 2005.

Senior Department of Defense officials announced the overall defense budget request of \$419.3 billion. The Air Force is to get \$127.5 billion.

In the president's budget, the Air Force Reserve requests funding for three separate appropriations – operation and

maintenance, reserve personnel, and military construction.

Most of the AFRC portion of the fiscal year 2006 President's Budget request – \$2.5 billion – is for O & M funds to train, organize and administer the command. The Reserve received \$2.24 billion in O & M funds in fiscal 2005.

In 2006, another \$1.31 billion goes to the Reserve personnel appropriation for military personnel participation and training requirements. This funding includes a military pay raise of 3.5 percent and the addition of 390 full-time Active Guard and Reserve people. The requested Reserve personnel

appropriation represents a \$155.2 million decrease compared to that received for the fiscal 2005 Reserve personnel appropriation.

Requested funding for military construction in fiscal year 2006 is \$79.3 million. These funds would pay for 14 major projects in eight states. In this fiscal 2005, the Reserve is getting \$124 million for military construction, which includes major and minor projects, and planning and design. In his fiscal 2005 budget request, the president had recommended \$84.6 million, but Congress added \$39.4 million more to fund seven additional projects.

Finally, Congress added

another \$281 million to help the Reserve in fiscal 2005 – \$40 million in the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Appropriation and \$241 million in aircraft procurement with the active-duty Air Force.

Congress uses the president's budget as a blueprint to draft appropriations legislation. After both houses of Congress approve their version of the bill, the two versions go to a joint conference committee to resolve differences in the two bills. After both houses of Congress approve the reconciled version of the bill, it goes to the president to be signed into law. *(Courtesy AFRC)*

Review new civilian personnel system regulations online

The regulations, governing how the new National Security Personnel System will operate, can now be viewed at www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps.

Navy Secretary Gordon England said following the public comment period, which ended March 16, the officials would confer with the various federal employee unions and then give all comments "fair and full consideration." Secretary England serves as the Department of Defense senior executive overseeing the system.

"Our plan, then, is to begin the implementation this summer," he said. "We'll learn through doing, we'll do this in phases, and we will progressively add more and more employees (and) learn as we go until completion at the end of 2008."

The publication marks the end of the first phase of implementing the new personnel system. The system, enacted by Congress in 2003, will allow DOD officials to better manage civilian personnel, they said. Once in place, DOD officials will be able to shift people among jobs, hire faster

and reward good workers.

The system will focus on performance, flexibility and accountability, the secretary said.

Dan Blair, the Office of Personnel Management's acting director, said the new rules will not change merit-system protections, whistle-blower protections, veterans preference, benefits, rules against prohibited practices or leave and work schedules.

The system will change the general-schedule system and job-classification standards. It will give managers more flexibility in reassigning employees to fulfill critical needs and more flexibility in where employees will work.

Mr. Blair said that with NSPS, the entire federal government personnel system has "reached a tipping point." DOD, the Department of Homeland Security and a number of other federal agencies' employees will be covered under new, more responsive personnel rules. *(Courtesy Air Force Print News)*

Reserve vacancies at Dover

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Aerospace Maintenance
Aerospace Propulsion
Aerospace Ground Equipment
Aircraft Fuel Systems
Aircraft Hydraulic Systems
Aircraft Electrical and
Environmental Maintenance

Aircraft Metals Technology
Aircraft Structural Maintenance
Fuels
Air Transportation
Special Purpose Vehicle and
Equipment Maintenance
Munitions Systems
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Electrical Power Production
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* For more information, call 677-6912.

OIF two years later: Progress continues on all fronts

On March 18, 2003, the clock was ticking on President Bush's ultimatum for Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein and his sons to leave Iraq within 48 hours.

The next day, two days after the president's televised ultimatum, coalition forces launched operations to disarm Iraq.

On my orders, coalition forces have begun striking selected targets of military importance to undermine Saddam Hussein's ability to wage war," President Bush said.

He said the coalition, which consisted of 35 nations at the time but has since grown to 72, was moving to disarm Saddam and put an end to his bloody regime.

"Every nation in this coalition has chosen to bear the duty and share the honor of sharing in our common defense," President Bush said.

Two years later, Iraq is on a new course. The dictator who held the country with a firm grip for 35 years is behind bars.

More than 8 million Iraqis exercised their right to choose their new government Jan. 30. And on March 16, Iraq's new transitional national assembly was seated. The assembly will write Iraq's new national constitution, to be ratified in October, followed by national elections in December, officials said.

President Bush called the progress being made "positive signs that have taken place in the development of the Iraqi security forces," but acknowledged "there's still work to be done" — something he said U.S. allies understand.

Also in Iraq, hundreds of reconstruction projects are under way, providing essential services like electricity and water throughout the country that are considered vital not only to quality of life, but to security in Iraq, officials said.

"(Coalition forces) are the backbone of everything that has been successful in Iraqi Freedom as well as Enduring Freedom (in Afghanistan)," said Brig. Gen. Doug Raaberg, CENTCOM's deputy director of operations. Their support, General Raaberg said, has been "just tremendous."

CENTCOM officials acknowledged that while progress continues in

Iraq on many fronts, there is still work ahead.

When he announced the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom two years ago, President Bush stressed that the job would not be finished overnight and vowed that the United States and coalition forces would remain in Iraq no longer than absolutely necessary.

"The peace of a troubled world and the hopes of an oppressed people now depend on you," he said in announcing Operation Iraqi Freedom. "That trust is well-placed. The enemies you confront will soon know your skill and bravery. The people you will liberate will witness the honorable and decent spirit of the American military." (Courtesy AFPS)



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mike Buytas

Staff Sgt. Kyle Luker talks with three boys at a school during a dismounted patrol near Balad Air Base, Iraq, on Feb. 13. Sergeant Luker is attached to Task Force 1041 which is comprised mostly of Airmen from the 820th Security Forces Group and has been performing patrols, searches, and engaging anti-Iraqi forces. This is the first time Air Force security forces personnel have performed such missions since the Vietnam War.

Voting assistance program kicks off slogan contest

Federal Voting Assistance Program officials are accepting entries until July 10 for the program's latest slogan contest.

The winning slogan will be featured in the program's 2006-2007 media campaign, which will focus on increasing voter awareness among U.S. citizens worldwide and encouraging them to participate in the democratic process, officials said.

Submitted slogans should address the importance of voting or inspire someone to vote, and people may enter as many times as they like, but contest officials request that each entry be submitted separately. A panel of independent judges will choose the winning slogan based on originality and motivational value, officials said. The contest winners and runners-up will receive a certificate signed by Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld.

People may submit their slogan by e-mail, fax or mail. It should include their full name, their service (if military), mailing address, daytime telephone number, fax number and

e-mail address.

E-mail entries should be sent to slogan@fvap.ncr.gov and should be text only, one slogan per e-mail, with contact information on each e-mail. Enter "Voting Slogan Contest" on the subject line. Because of security concerns, any e-mail message with an attachment will be deleted, officials said.

Slogans can be faxed to (703) 696-1352 or DSN 426-1352. The program's Web site, www.fvap.gov, has toll-free fax numbers from 51 countries. Submit a separate page for each slogan with contact information on each page. No cover sheet is necessary.

People may also mail their entries to Federal Voting Assistance Program, Department of Defense, Attn: Voting Slogan Contest, 1155 Defense Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20301-1155. If submitting by mail, type or print legibly on regular 8 1/2 by 11 inch paper, with one slogan per page and contact information on each page. (Courtesy AFPS)

Health officials recommend changes to fitness program

Air Force health officials recommended seven changes to the fitness program during the program's first annual review.

In the interest of fostering the positive trend, officials said they are considering the following changes to better the program.

— Award full points on the body composition component of the test if the body mass index is within a healthy range. The Air Force is adding height and weight back into the standard to accommodate Airmen unable to obtain the minimum abdominal circumference

but are still at a normal weight for their height. National Institutes of Health officials define an index of less than 25 as a normal or healthy weight.

— Move the waist-circumference measurement to a controlled area for people rated poor or marginal and are being retested to reduce inconsistencies.

— Lengthen run times for tests conducted at higher elevations.

— Retest Airmen who are rated "marginal" at 90 days instead of 180 days.

— Promote nutrition as an important aspect of education and intervention.

— Emphasize regular physical training rather than test results.

— Reinforce commanders' accountability.

A proposed change to weighing the programs components at 60-20-10-10 instead of the current 50-30-10-10 was rejected. The weighted areas, expressed in percentages, correspond to the run, waist measurement, crunches and pushups.

Two smaller changes will be made to the assessment criteria. Values for females aged 50 to 54 were not consistent with all other age categories, so officials will adjust the criteria according to American College of Sports Medicine standards. A category was also added for people older than 60.

The program changes are expected to be implemented in June, officials said.

(*Courtesy AFPS*)

Air Force Portal provides reduced sign-on to myPay

Airmen have one less password to remember thanks to a new link between the Air Force Portal and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service myPay Web site.

Airmen can now have the portal remember their login name and password for myPay, the DFAS online site for pay information, leave and earnings statements, tax forms and allotments. The change makes it easier for Airmen to access their

information online, and is another example of how the portal is making life easier for Airmen to get the information they need, said Richard Gustafson, Air Force financial management chief information officer.

To take advantage of the new feature, portal users must already have an active myPay account.

After logging on to the portal, users can click "Applications" on the right side of the screen and then scroll down to "myPay (E/

MSS)." When they click the myPay link, the portal will create a dialogue box to help guide them through the setup process.

Setup requires entering the user's login ID and PIN for myPay. Once set up, users need only log into the portal and click the myPay link to get instant access to their pay information.

Having to remember many user passwords is one of the reasons the portal was created. The idea is called "reduced sign-

on" and the portal does it for myriad Air Force information applications and Web sites.

Reduced sign-on is beneficial because it eliminates the need for multiple passwords and login names, and it provides a single and consistent login interface and deters the most common threat to network security — users writing down their passwords, Mr. Gustafson said. Visit the Air Force Portal at <http://my.af.mil>. (*Courtesy AFPS*)

Teets submits resignation

Peter B. Teets, who's been serving as the acting secretary of the Air Force since Jan. 18, resigns March 25.

"I'm honored to have served the president, the secretary of defense and with the dedicated Airmen of America's Air Force and the men and women of the National Reconnaissance Office over the past three years," Mr. Teets said.

Mr. Teets submitted his letter of resignation voluntarily and leaves the Air Force to return to private life. (*Courtesy Air Force Print News*)



Predator fleet to expand

Air Force officials plan to expand the current Predator Unmanned Aerial Vehicle fleet to as many as 15 squadrons.

This increase is in response to the escalating demand for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capability in the war on terrorism. The plans are intended to ensure an increased number of Predators are available in U.S. Central Command's area of responsibility as well as for new opportunities, officials said.

Future Total Force initiatives will establish three Air National Guard Predator units in Texas, Arizona and New York.

Besides the ANG Predator units, the Air Force currently has three operational, active-duty Predator squadrons located at Nellis Air Force Base and Indian Springs Air Force Auxiliary Field in Nevada. Air Force Special Operations Command and Air Force Reserve Command Airmen also will operate Predators out of Indian Springs. (*Courtesy AFPN*)

Promotions

To Senior Master Sgt.
Leon Edwards, 512th MAS
David Townson, 512th AMDS

To Master Sgt.
Sean Dial, 512th AMDS
James Fry, 512th EMS
Eric Guzman, 512th MAS
Janice Hill, 512th MAS
Tonya Washington, 512th MSS
Curtis Waters, 512th CES

To Tech. Sgt.
Steven Benson, 512th AMXS
Robere Brunson, 512th AMXS
Sheila Jones, 512th AMDS
Joseph Kelley Jr., 512th AMXS
Bryan Kahler, 46 APS
Thomas Laccorn, 46 APS
Patrick Laster, 46 APS
Tammy Rouse, 512th AMXS
Hilaire Vallee Jr., 512th CES

To Staff Sgt.
Angela Carpenter, 512th MSS
Jean Everly, 512th AMXS
John Fitzgerald IV, 512th AMXS
Mable Justice, 512th MAS
Paul Knight, 326th AS
Mateen Moore, 512th AMDS
Lynn Woods, 512th AMXS

To Senior Airman
Sonia Addison, 512th AMXS
Katherine Blanchfield, 512th MSS
Isiah Copeland, 512th LRF
Jonnie Fields, 512th SFS
Joel Griffith, 512th AMXS
Hiecee Monson, 512th MSS
Rebecca Perez, 512th AMXS
Rodney Rodriguez, 512th CES
Chaz Smith, 512th LRF
Blake Taylor, 512th OSF
Joshua Wilson, 512th CES

To Airman 1st Class
Steven Irvine, 512th CES
Hernan Rodriguez, 326th AS
Chantelle Ruddock, 512th OSF

**Promotions effective March 1*

Around the 512th



Congratulations to the wing's new colonel selects!

Joseph Fagan
326th Airlift Squadron

David McGuire
512th Maintenance Group

Brenda Reynolds
46th Aerial Port Squadron

David Wuest
709th Airlift Squadron

Kudos to **Staff Sgt. Robert Balling**, 512th Security Forces Squadron. He was recognized at a wing staff meeting for processing more than 400 security clearance packages for the wing.

Master Sgt. Bryan Ford, 512th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, is the recipient of the Pitsenbarger Award. It's bestowed upon selected enlisted Reserve members, graduating from the Community College of the Air Force. He receives a \$500 grant towards a baccalaureate degree.



The **Liberty Press** publication takes home a piece of the pie, after placing third in the Air Force Reserve Command's 2004 Media Contest for Best Publication - Magazine Format.

Way to go! **Senior Airman Jennie Morrison** places second in the Best New Writer category of AFRC's 2004 Media Contest.

E-mail personal or professional achievements to:
liberty.press@dover.af.mil

TOP: From left to right are 512th Operations Group members Lt. Col. Joseph Fagan, Tech. Sgt. Jorge DeJesus, Chief Master Sgt. Don Pommell and Master Sgt. John Bouchard. Sergeant DeJesus graduated from the NCO Academy at Gunter Air Force Base, Ala., Feb. 15. He's a flight engineer with the 326th Airlift Squadron.



BOTTOM: From left to right are 512th Airlift Wing members Chief Master Sgts. Caroline Vennell and Gary Auld, Tech. Sgt. Vincent Dvorak, Lt. Col. Dave Wuest and Col. Don Sloan. Sergeant Dvorak graduated from the NCO Academy at Tyndal AFB, Fla., Feb. 10. He's a flight engineer with the 709th Airlift Squadron.



Submitted photos

March retirements

CMSgt Robert Gates
 CMSgt Douglas Weinman
 MSgt William Allen
 MSgt Kevin Eason
 MSgt Marvin Foley
 MSgt Kenneth Morris
 TSgt Scott Hardesty
 TSgt Glenn Harper
 TSgt William Jennings
 TSgt Michael Robinson
 TSgt Michael Smith

Graduates

Air Command, Staff College

Maj Mark Babione
 Maj Eduard Grimes
 Maj Timothy Shohfi

Squadron Officer School

Capt Kenneth Treat

Senior NCO Academy

MSgt Angelo Caraballo
 MSgt Donna Dial
 MSgt Joseph Donitzen
 MSgt Barry Hanlon
 MSgt Angela Simmons

NCO Academy

TSgt Jorge DeJesus
 TSgt Vincent Dvorak
 TSgt Bryan Hooper

Airman Leadership School

SSgt Angela Carpenter
 SrA Corey Diluzio
 SrA Enid Ellis
 SrA Christopher Gordon
 SrA Terezie Jones
 SrA Paul Knight
 SrA Joseph Pullifrone
 SrA George Roache Jr
 SrA Richard Stuhmer
 SrA Joseph Sutton
 SrA Michael Uriah

Liberty Wing snapshot



Submitted photo

Col. Willie W. Cooper II (middle), explains some maintenance group processes to Okesa Neiman, who was one of five Dover High School students who participated in the annual Shadow Day program. Okesa has an interest in pursuing a maintenance-related career field and shadowed Colonel Cooper for most of the day Feb. 2. Senior Airman Teleah Adkins (right), 512th Component Maintenance Squadron, assisted with a tour of her work area.

Newcomers

512th AW:

Capt Barry Ball
 SSgt Shannon Stauffer

512th AMDS:

Capt Dorothy Burton
 MSgt Snadra Dent
 A1C Todd Lewis

326th AS:

Capt Bethany Miller
709th AS:

Capt Lauren Myers

512th AMXS:

Capt Connie Williams
 SSgt Timothy Engle
 SSgt Andrew Holbrook
 SSgt Ryan Moore

SrA Adam Ferguson

SrA Brian Scher

A1C Andrew Pingitore

A1C Jason Walls

512th CMS:

SrA Thomas McDonnell IV

512th EMS:

SSgt James Duff Jr
 SrA Audrey McQueen
 A1C Danny McCain

512th MOF:

SSgt Thowana Weeks

46th APS:

SrA Thomas Rice Jr
 SrA Tara Zulkowski
 A1C Michael Ruggles

512th CES:

TSgt Stacey Rykard
 SSgt Hilaire Vallee Jr
 A1C Corey Barnes
 A1C Anthony Butcher
 A1C Lindsay Fritz
 A1C Rodney Rodriguez
 Amn Joshua Beverly

512th MAS:

SrA Tracey Wilson
 Amn James McNeil III

512th MSS:

Amn Amanda Malone

512th SFS:

SrA Dennis Pettit
 A1C James Black

512th LRF:

SrA Sylvester Rickards
 A1C Isiah Copeland

Medals

Air Medal

Maj Gary Kraus
 Maj Timothy Lyon
 Capt Lonnie Schmidt
 MSgt Jacob Fairburn Jr

Aerial Achievement

Maj Gary Kraus
 Maj Erik Oliger
 Maj Erik Sant
 Maj Eric Savage
 Maj Douglas Schreiber
 1st Lt Lonnie Schmidt
 SMSgt Louis Robinson Jr
 MSgt Marlowe Barnes
 MSgt Dennis Moore
 TSgt Troy Heller
 SSgt Freddy Brito Jr
 SrA Gabriel Bonk
 SrA Alvin Coleman
 SrA Sean Hanlon

Meritorious Service

Maj Dawn Crews-Seams
 CMSgt Edward Perkowski
 MSgt Marlowe Barnes
 MSgt Lorie Bellamy
 MSgt Charles Cordivano
 MSgt Kevin Greene

Commendation

TSgt Carl Croney
 TSgt William Downing
 TSgt Sue Olszewski
 TSgt Douglas Roberts
 TSgt Keith Whitney

Achievement

MSgt Joseph Haney
 TSgt Jennifer League
 SSgt Sandra Raphael



Photo by Staff Sgt. Dawn M. Bolen

Airmen test Kevlar shorts

Second Lt. Wendell Morgan wears protective Kevlar shorts being tested by the Air Force. The shorts minimize fragment damage from the waistline to the knees. Lieutenant Morgan is a flight officer with the 1st Security Forces Squadron, Langley Air Force Base, Va. The 8-pound shorts are made from 28 layers of Kevlar and provide level-three protection, making them able to shield against the effects of a 9 mm bullet. The shorts also have fabric fastener on the sides of the legs for adjustment, helping ensure proper fit. The full story can be found at www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123009971.

Numbers to Know

512th Airlift Wing

Command Section	(888) 512 - 5120
Inspector General	(302) 677 - 5126
Judge Advocate	(302) 677 - 4431
Military Pay	(302) 677 - 3494
Finance (TDY travel vouchers)	(302) 677 - 4449
Chaplain	(302) 677 - 4770
Military Equal Opportunity	(302) 677 - 3903
Public Affairs	(888) 677 - 3485
Safety Office	(302) 677 - 3812
Recruiting	(302) 677 - 6912
Customer Service	(302) 677 - 3522
Family Readiness	(888) 677 - 3566
Computer Help Desk	(302) 677 - 3535
Operations center (24 Hours)	(888) 512 - 3800
UTA Lodging reservations	(866) 677 - 7098
Childcare reservations	(302) 677 - 3712
Base reporting information	(302) 677 - BASE
512th reporting information	(302) 677 - 3007

UTA Schedule

Fiscal year 2005:

	A Team	B Team
APR	2-3	23-24
MAY	14-15	21-22
JUN	11-12	25-26
JUL	9-10	23-24
AUG	6-7	20-21
SEP	10-11	17-18

April
UTA
paydates

A-Team
pays
April 13

B-Team
pays
May 4

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