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512th Airlift Wing, Dover Air Force Base, Del.

Leaders call operational Reserve 'a new DoD efficiency'

The new role and future direction of the Department of Defense's Reserve components was the focus of the Reserve Officer Association gathering attended by more than 600 people in Washington, D.C., Jan. 29 - Feb. 2.

Senior DOD leaders discussed how the Reserve programs have evolved to the point that they are critical to daily operations and are seen as efficient and cost-effective manning solutions during tight financial times.

"Ideas about the Reserve components have changed," said Dennis M. McCarthy, assistant secretary of defense for Reserve

affairs. "No longer is the 'strategic Reserve' used only once in a lifetime."

Since 9/11 and nearly 10 years of combat, reservists have played an ever-increasing role in ongoing military operations around the globe. This increased reliance on reservists is called the "operational Reserve" while the traditional role of the "strategic Reserve" can still be seen during surges such as those in Iraq in 2007 and Afghanistan in 2010.

"There is a change underway. There is a need to rebalance the force and the important roles that all three components

play," said Lt. Gen. Charles E. Stenner Jr., chief of the Air Force Reserve at the Pentagon, and the commander of Air Force Reserve Command headquartered at Robins Air Force Base, Ga. "This is being discussed at the absolute highest levels today."

In the next five years, Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates has tasked the Armed Services to find more than \$100 billion in overhead savings. The Air Force's share is \$34 billion.

For the full story, go to <http://www.afrc.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123241026>.



Photo by Master Sgt. Veronica A. Aceveda

Col. Randal L. Bright, 512th Airlift Wing commander, recognizes Sharon M. Scott, 512th Mission Support Group, for 10 years of civilian service to the Air Force during a Jan. 26, staff meeting at Dover Air Force Base, Del. Colonel Bright typically kicks off his weekly staff meetings with some type of recognition. For the Jan. 26 meeting in the Bldg. 201 Conference Room, Ms. Scott was in the spotlight. The wing is authorized 1,700 personnel - 12 percent officers; 88 percent enlisted; and a support staff of about 35 civilians.

Liberty Wing first AFRC unit to implement DTS

The 512th Airlift Wing is scheduled to become the first wing in Air Force Reserve Command to implement the Defense Travel System Feb. 14.

The 1,800-person unit is slated to begin using the Department of Defense-wide electronic travel voucher system Feb. 14, following several mass training sessions held Feb. 5-6 during the unit training assembly.

Members are welcome to familiarize themselves with the DTS website at <http://www.defensetravel.osd.mil/dts/site/index/jsp>. Both the DTS and e-Finance programs are accessible by the Common Access Card.

Team Dover meets new 436th AW commander

Col. Mark Camerer assumed command of the 436th Airlift Wing from Col. Manson O. Morris during a change of command ceremony here Jan. 27. Colonel Morris moves on to become the Military Assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics at the Pentagon.

Entries accepted for voting program contests

For the first time, Federal Voting Assistance Program officials are opening the program's biennial voting poster and slogan contests to all U.S. citizens worldwide using Challenge.gov to facilitate the process.

The FVAP Slogan Contest challenge asks for slogan ideas that inspire members of the military, their families and U.S. citizens residing overseas to start or continue to participate in elections while away from home and can be found at FVAP.gov or <http://challenge.gov/DoD/115-absentee-voting-slogan-contest>. There is no limit to the number of entries an individual may submit for either contest

All entries must be received by April 8.