



Out on a limb
See Page 1B

NEWS

YOU CAN USE

Some allowed to accrue more annual leave

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – Some active-duty airmen will be allowed to accumulate more than 60 days of annual leave after the fiscal year ends, according to Air Force Personnel Center officials here.

The airmen must have been unable to take leave because they were supporting contingency operations. Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve airmen who performed full-time training or other full-time duty for more than 29 days are also eligible.

Those affected can retain up to 90 days of leave until the end of fiscal 2004.

“This program is meant to enable people to take (the) leave they’ve earned,” said Master Sgt. Don Taylor, the customer support operations superintendent at the center. “In order for the program to work as planned, though, those affected need to take not only the leave they are carrying over now, but also the leave they will earn during the next fiscal year, or they may lose leave next year.”

For more information, contact customer service at the local military personnel flight.

— Courtesy of AFPC News Service

Russell Parkway Gate road work begins today

Due to road construction, the Russell Parkway Gate/Gate 14 will be one lane in each direction from 6 p.m., today through Sunday and from 6 p.m., July 25 to July 27.

Personnel should consider using the Main Gate/Gate 2 during these hours.

For questions or concerns, contact the 78th Security Forces Squadron at 926-2186 or 926-2187.

— From staff reports

BX parking lot closes Monday

The BX parking lot will be closed for asphalt sealing Monday through Aug. 4.

The closure is needed to allow the contractor to restripe parking lot. Emergency vehicles will have access if needed, and privately owned vehicles will have partial access until the project is completed.

For more information, contact Master Sgt. Paul A. Zink at the 78th Civil Engineer Squadron at 926-5820 ext.607.

— From staff reports

Almost home

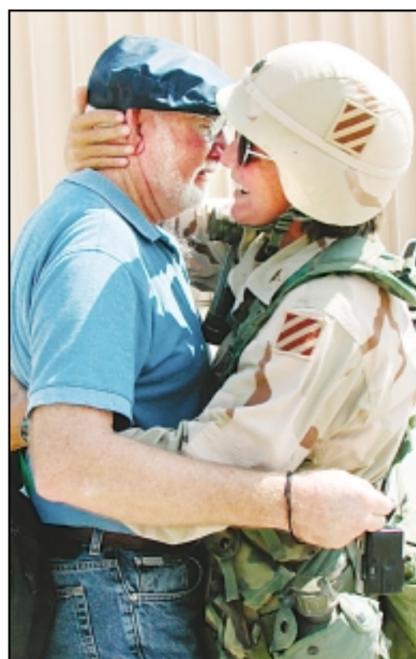


U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp

Members of the Army's 3rd Infantry Division stop by Robins on their way home from a deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom July 10. The troops came through Robins on their way to the Middle East in January.



Above, Staff Sgt. Francis Warren, 78th Security Forces Squadron, and Rexo check for explosives in the soldiers' duffel bags. Right, John Bruno greets his wife Lt. Col. Robin Bruno, a dental surgeon deployed with the Division. The 3rd Infantry Division is made up of four separate brigades. It includes the first and second brigades out of Fort Stewart, the third brigade out of Fort Benning and the Aviation brigade out of Hunter Army Air Field, Savannah. By the end of the month, 3,500 soldiers are expected to return.



5th gets light with SLICE

■ New package provides basic communications with a smaller footprint

By Staff Sgt. Adam Stump
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Airmen fielded a new communications package that provided field commanders a “light and lean,” first-response element during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Small, Light, Initial Communications Element, or SLICE, is a “small package to support a small Air Force contingent,” according to Billy Keith, 5th Combat Communications Support Squadron communications and electronics engineer. The package provides basic communications – telephones, Internet capability and

Please see **SLICE, 2A**

Lean targets precision attack shop

By Lisa Mathews
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Workers in the Precision Attack Radar/Gyro Branch's LANTIRN shop are finding more and more ways to make their shop Leaner.

LANTIRN, which stands for Low Altitude Navigation and Targeting Infrared for Night, is a system used on fighter aircraft, allowing them to fly at low altitudes at night. The LANTIRN shop workers are no strangers to the lean process. In fact, they keep coming back for more.

First-line supervisor Phillip Pritchard was a technician during the first Lean event in the shop.

“At first, I was skeptical,” he said of going Lean. “I had a process down that I thought was the best way to do things. I found out a lot of improvements could be made.”

Pritchard explained that prior to the first event, two shops actually shared the same floor space.

“Workers from the two areas had to walk around one another to have access to what they needed,” he said. “Things were not structured the way they needed to be, and the technicians at that time didn't realize it was not in the order it should be.”

The Lean process involved dividing the two shops so that all workers of each shop were located together with their shop mates.

“The LANTIRN floor was totally reconfigured,” Pritchard said. “We got rid of excess materials and things we never used. Then we

Please see **LEAN, 3A**

Volunteer program offers practical experience

By Lanorris Askew
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Fourteen-year-old Melody Malone's dream of becoming a neurologist may be a few years off, but that hasn't stopped her from getting a head start on learning skills that will help her achieve her dreams.

As a member of the American Red Cross Volunteer program, Malone and 23 other teenagers have

been given the opportunity to gain job experience in various career fields on base.

The teens are allowed to work only 20 hours a week, but gain skills and experience that will last a lifetime.

Malone spends her hours in the flight medicine clinic's administration room where she checks and re-files medical records on a computer. “It's a pretty rewarding experi-

ence considering the fact that it's medicine, and that's what I'm hoping to go into,” she said. “I'm learning how to deal with people as well as how to be patient and kind.”

Mary Jennings, Houston-Middle Georgia Chapter Red Cross Emergency Services director, said the program allows teenagers age 14 to 19 a chance to gain work

Please see **VOLUNTEER, 2A**



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Melody Malone volunteers in the records area of the flight medicine clinic.

Robins 3-day forecast
Courtesy of 78th OSS/OSW

Today
Mostly to partly cloudy and hot



95/71

Saturday
Mostly to partly cloudy and hot



94/72

Sunday
Mostly cloudy with chance of p.m. storm



92/71

What's inside

Fire safety review and tips **3A**
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KC-135R Flight Simulator prepares pilots **5A**
Air Force ROTC internship program comes to Robins **3B**



U.S. Air Force courtesy photo

Staff Sgt. Chad Schmidt, 52nd Combat Communications Squadron satellite, wideband and telemetry systems craftsman, plugs a power cable into a low-noise amplifier. Schmidt was on a SLICE team that deployed to more than a half dozen countries in Southwest Asia.

SLICE

Continued from 1A

more-with a smaller footprint than larger, follow-on equipment, which is designed for longer use by more people.

Air Combat Command communications officials approved the new package just two weeks before Operation Iraqi Freedom started, according to Keith. He said once approved, Central Air Forces bought most of the larger equipment and the 5th also bought some. Also, the satellite terminals were leased.

"We started from scratch with all equipment," Keith said. "We bought, leased or scrounged all equipment needed to build three teams and did all this in only eight days."

The three five-member teams-two from the 5th Combat Communications Group here and one from the 3rd Combat Communications Group at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla.-had about one week to start assembling the complete kit. All SLICE members trained at Robins

before leaving. The teams were composed of a communications officer, a communications and computers systems controller, a satellite technician, a power production specialist and a communications and computer systems operator.

Each team had to be self-sufficient, with enough food, fuel and water for four days, Keith said. Once they deployed, the team had to have their own working and living facilities and be able to provide network and voice communications for a small contingent of troops. They had to pack everything on three pallets and also took a generator.

Capt. Joseph Hurd, 52nd Combat Communications Squadron network systems flight commander and officer in charge of one of the SLICE teams, said the small package was critical to getting communications up and running at Tallil Air Base, Iraq.

"We were the first combat comm unit in Iraq," Hurd said. "There was no comm to that point. The A-10 operators were very happy to see us. We helped get intelligence

for their flying mission which enabled them to destroy Iraqi forces in Baghdad."

In addition to meeting mission demands-a hefty order because Hurd's team consecutively deployed to six different locations in Southwest Asia and the other 5th team, led by Capt. Michael Dee, traveled to several also-Hurd's team also found time to provide a helping hand.

"Tech. Sgt. Charles Smith dedicated the entire SLICE facility to more than 300 battle-hardened Marines for two consecutive nights to make morale calls and send e-mails home," Hurd said. "It was a force-multiplier for people who hadn't been in contact with loved ones in months."

According to one commander, the system was a total success.

"SLICE was a success story because our trained, professional people put this together quickly to meet CENTAF's immediate needs," Col. David Cotton, 5th Combat Communications Group commander, said. "It's a classic example of combat comm in action."

Parking rules defined

By Senior Master Sgt.
Charles R. Trim

78th Security Forces Squadron

Parking at Robins can be a chaotic experience at times.

There are more than 25,600 base personnel including military, civilians, contractors, vendors, and other visitors who travel the base daily.

With that amount of people in the community, parking can be a challenge when it comes to completing everyday business.

The information presented here provides general rules for base parking.

Knowing the rules can help in selecting a parking space and can prevent enforcement action from being taken.

■ Park vehicles in designated parking lots and spaces. Parking is on a first-come first-serve basis.

■ Park all vehicles within designated spaces. Do not park in seeded areas or areas not specifically designated for parking.

■ Base housing occupants should park in their designated driveways or spaces. Do not park on lawns or other areas not specif-

ically designated for parking.

■ For special consideration contact Police Services at extension 926-2118, for special functions, distinguished visitors, safety, and security. Typically parking spaces approved and designated for these functions are temporarily identified by cones ropes, or signs.

■ Park motorcycles in open triangular marked spaces at the ends of parking lanes unless lined out for safety or security.

■ Do not park in reserved or handicap spaces unless authorized. Unauthorized vehicles parked in these areas are subject to being sited for illegal parking and may be towed at the owner's expense. Handicap placards must be clearly displayed when occupying a handicap slot.

The bottom line is: When in doubt, don't park vehicles in areas not specifically authorized. Violations could lead to suspension of base driving privileges; vehicles could be towed at the owner's expense or both. Be courteous to people who have been granted reserved parking. Reserved parking is granted for legitimate needs and must be honored.

VOLUNTEER

Continued from 1A

experience in the medical, legal and civil engineering fields among others.

In its second year, the program has tripled in number of volunteers.

"Last year there were only eight volunteers, and this year we have 24," she said.

In order to decide on a number of volunteers, she said a notice is sent out to each of the units on base asking how many they need and what age.

"We do a Red Cross orientation and then they have an orientation in the area they will work in," she said. "The application process includes a six-page written (form) which requires a counselor's or teacher's recommendation, and an interview."

"It is very seldom that anyone who makes it to the interview is deemed ineligible because of everything they have to go through in the application

process," Jennings added.

"They're all very motivated and appreciate the opportunity."

The Red Cross works with the Youth Employment Skills program - another teen volunteer program which awards scholarship money through the Air Force Aid Society.

All teens are eligible to participate in the YES program, however, teens whose sponsors are still active duty Air Force can receive a \$1,000 scholarship after accumulating 250 hours.

"It teaches the teenagers the skills they need to make it in a work environment," she said. "It teaches them responsibility, and it is also becoming a regulation with the schools that they do so much community service. This can be counted toward that."

Jennings added that with the current ops tempo, this has allowed the kids to come in and help out with some of the excess work.

"I hope to gain people skills and learn to do things around the office so if I ever need a job like that I'll know how to do it and can do my best in it," Malone said.

Jennings said she

What to know

For more information on the Volunteer program, contact Mary Jennings at 923-6332

believes the success of the program is owed to the parental support system.

"They really stand behind the program, and they're trying to teach their kids the right way to do things," she said.

"These children are our future. They're going to be the ones who command our nation and our jobs."

Staff Sgt. Tramisa Moses, noncommissioned officer in charge of flight medicine administration, said their volunteers have been a huge help.

"They came on at the right time because we had so many people coming back from deployment," she said. "There was a lot of paperwork to handle."

Jennings said at the end of the summer, a letter detailing how much they would have made earning minimum wage and how much was saved by the Air Force will be given to their school principal and the Center commander.

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LEAN

Continued from 1A

rearranged the floor so there was a better flow of work through the shop. Now everything is located with its shop."

That includes units awaiting work and units waiting for parts that were stored in separate locations out of the shop area before.

"This gives us a better tracking of what needs to be done," Pritchard said. "When you know what's out there, you definitely know what you need to be doing."

Other changes brought about by the initial event included a system by which the shop could track tools.

Pritchard explained that technicians on the shop floor can "check out" tools from toolboxes on the floor using a chit system.

Each technician has chits, similar to dog tags.

Each time the technician takes a tool from the toolbox, he leaves his chit in the spot for that tool.

The toolboxes have the shapes of each tool cut out so, at a glance, a tool inventory can be done and where the tool is located verified.

Abe Banks, a Lean agent in the Avionics Division, describes these changes in the shop as visual management. "You are able to see how things are lined up rather than having to guess."

He further described Lean itself as being mostly common sense.

"Nothing about it is Ph.D. stuff," he said. "It's a cell flow to separate various functions. You have a place where it goes in, moves around and a place where it comes out. There are several different ways to design a cell concept."

Another part of the Lean process that

Each technician has chits, similar to dog tags.

Each time the technician takes a tool, he leaves his chit in the tool's spot.



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp

Brandon Baugh, electronics mechanic, works on a Low Altitude Navigation and Targeting Infrared for Night pod device. The Precision Attack Radar/Gyro Branch's LANTIRN shop's floor was reconfigured to provide for better flow of work.

Pritchard is excited about is the cross training of technicians.

"In a lot of areas people have a tendency of working one specific job exclusively," he said. "But when you get into the mindset of Lean, you see you have time to do other things besides one job. It's a mindset of going from doing this one specific thing to knowing you're capable of doing many different things."

Pritchard said that with cross training, work will not have to stop if someone is on leave. The new system will allow for backup support if someone is out.

"One of the great things about Lean is the empowerment it gives to the per-

son working on the bench so they are able to make change occur, Pritchard said. "Everybody from the lowest man on the totem pole to the top of management gets involved. When the worker sees their ideas put into practice and their opinions heard, they become better workers."

One technician who works in Pritchard's area agrees with him.

"When we went into (the Lean process) we thought our process was as good as it could be but we found out there were a lot of things we could do," Adam Saunders said. "We think we can improve production about 30 to 40 percent and we certainly think this is an achievable goal."

Fire safety review

By Tommy K. Kennedy
Assistant Fire Chief, Fire Prevention

Fire prevention safety tips

Am I fire safe?

That's a question we should ask ourselves each day. Lives are lost every year and thousands of injuries occur due to fire. And that's why we should exert every effort to eliminate all possible fire hazards to ensure our homes and work areas are fire safe.

Improper use and storage of gasoline and other flammable materials account for a large portion of reported accidents. Knowledgeable characteristics of gasoline, proper storage, and handling procedures can decrease the number of injuries from these accidents.

Gasoline should never be stored or used in basements, garages or utility rooms where sources of ignition, such as water heaters, furnaces and clothes dryers are present.

Gasoline and other flammable materials should be stored in UL/Factory Mutual Approved safety cans or containers and should be stored away from other combustible materials.

All containers should be clearly labeled to identify the contents.

Cans that contain flammables must be handled with extreme caution and care.

Never use gasoline for cleaning purposes. Many injuries and deaths have occurred with the use of gasoline as a cleaning product.

Now, to answer the question "Am I Fire Safe?" first of all, conduct a self-inspection of your home and work environment today.

A facility manager's checklist is available in the Robins Air Force Base Instruction 32-2001, Fire Protection Operations and Fire Prevention Program. This checklist will help and

Know the fire reporting number 911 or in some Robins facilities 9-911.

Be familiar with the facility fire extinguishers.

Store flammables and other combustibles properly; making sure the containers are UL Listed or Factory Mutual Approved for that use. Never store flammables near any ignition source.

Never smoke around flammables and never smoke in bed.

Make sure extension cords are UL Listed or Factory Mutual Approved. Do not use extension cords as permanent wiring. Make sure the extension cord is of sufficient gauge for the applicable use. Do not use extension cords with splices or frayed or exposed wiring. Never hang extension cords over nails, rafters, or in any manner that will constitute a fire hazard.

Check clothes dryers for lint accumulation after each use.

guide you as you walk through your work area. This checklist can also be used by housing occupants to help ensure their homes are fire safe. By making a self-inspection, utilizing the facility manager's checklist and using good sound fire prevention measures, a safer home and work environment can be accomplished.

Your local fire department or fire prevention section is always available and willing to assist you with questions regarding fire issues in your home or work environment. So, let's continue to make Robins a safe place to work and live.

armed forces
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Taking care of the troops

Reservists put deployed members in touch with home

By Capt. Anita Pavey
Air Force Reserve Command
Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - Trading New York's spring chill for sweltering Southwest Asia heat wasn't a shock to reservists from the 914th Airlift Wing, even though they had left the frigid Northeast only a few days before.

The shock of Operation Iraqi Freedom came when they arrived at their deployed location and learned there was a ban on morale calls, no e-mail capability for the general base populace and no standard mail service.

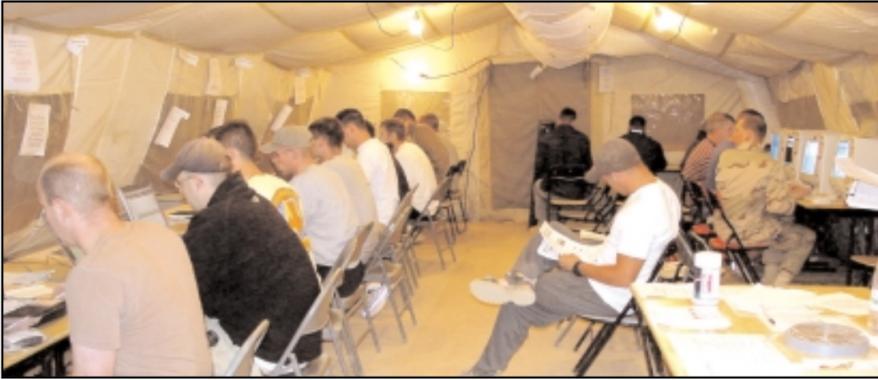
Arriving at a "bare bones" base, the deployed members from Niagara Falls International Airport Air Reserve Station, N.Y., knew they needed to put some awe back into their mission because the base population would soon swell to 4,000.

The reservists got together with members from other Air Force Reserve Command, Air National Guard and active-duty units to come up with a plan.

"I coordinated with civil engineering, services and maintenance to construct a morale tent for the purposes of official and morale e-mail and Internet accessibility," said Master Sgt. William Conta, deployed work group manager.

He also enlisted the aid of Master Sgt. William Caldwell, organizational computer manager.

"As soon as Col. Walter Gordon (328th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron commander) signed the memo designating me as the computer control



U.S. Air Force courtesy photos

U.S. servicemembers at Tabuk Air Base, Saudi Arabia, use morale tent computers to e-mail family and friends back home. People waited up to three hours for a chance to send e-mails.

officer and deployed work group manager, the process was under way," Conta said.

Conta and a team of volunteers went to work. From his deployment experience, he knew Internet capability would be a must to keep morale up. In less than a day, Niagara maintainers built a tent capable of protecting computers from the daily assault of swirling sand.

Once word got around that the tent would be for morale, volunteers appeared from nowhere to help. After running cable to the tent, Conta and Caldwell went from tent to tent asking for computers from people who brought them to the desert.

They ended up with 10 computers. They set them up, ran cable, configured the network switch, got volunteers to man the tent and brought 24-hour e-mail access to more than 3,700 people.

"One man told me I saved his marriage," Conta said.

"I believe (Conta) found himself in his environment when we arrived in Tabuk,"

said Chief Master Sgt. Keith Coffey, 914th AW maintenance superintendent. "What a great idea it was."

The morale tent was so popular that lines were sometimes two to three hours long. Eventually, 20-25 computers were up and running, bringing about 750 people through the tent every day with 22,000 log-ons in one month.

"I would rise at 2 a.m., make my way over to the tent, and my three daughters and wife would fire messages back and forth almost like instant messaging," Coffey said.

The morale tent proved itself in other ways, too. Staff members went to work helping install and repair computer systems for maintenance, services, administration and the C-130 flying mission.

"This kind of response speaks volumes to the integrated total force," Conta said. "The volunteers and staff simply did what needed to be done. All of us in theater worked hard, in whatever capacity we could, to obtain mission objectives."

The operation was so successful it had to be moved to a larger location - the California tent.

"The morale tent was a fine example of taking care of your troops," said Lt. Gen. T. Michael Mosely, commander of U.S. Central Command Air Forces.

For Caldwell, it was an opportunity to see people at their best.

"My work in the morale tent was among the most rewarding tasks of my career," he said.

Master Sgt. William Conta, deployed 914th Airlift Wing work group manager at Tabuk Air Base, Saudi Arabia.



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Testing the limits

KC-135R Flight Simulator Center prepares pilots for whatever the mission may bring

Other KC-135 flight simulators throughout the U.S. Air Force

Fairchild Air Force Base, Calif.

March Air Reserve Base, Calif.

McConnell Air Force Base, Kan.

Mildenhall Royal Air Force Base, England

Pease Air National Guard Base, N.H.

Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

Grand Forks Air Force Base, Okla.

Grissom Air Reserve Base, Ind.

Kadena Air Base, Japan

MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp
From left to right, 99th Air Refueling Squadron pilots Capt. Mack Erwin and 1st Lt. Christine Stanaback and Paul Ciaccia, flight simulator instructor, go over the flight plan for their training exercise. Below, Erwin checks gauges in the simulator cockpit.

A different perspective

Flight that's out of sight

Visually impaired reporter learns the thrill of flight without leaving the ground

By Holly J. Logan
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

While I may never know the exhilaration of speeding down a four-lane highway, I now have the experience of soaring through the open sky in a KC-135R - in a flight simulator anyway.

Sitting at the KC-135 cockpit controls with my faithful four-legged guide on the floor behind me, and flight instructor, Paul Ciaccia, at my side, I felt like a pilot, if only for a moment.

My trusted canine seemed excited by the sights and sounds around her. But judging from her hesitant step, she was more nervous to trust the one who has trusted her for so long.

I sat at the controls of a 332,500-pound tanker aircraft (virtual reality, of course) attempting to fly an aircraft, when I could barely see the dials in front of me, much less the runway ahead.

"See that light up ahead?" asked Ciaccia. "That is where you need to go. Think you can do it?"

All I kept thinking was how awesome it was to feel the thrust of the throttles and how thankful I am that it was only a test, as I strained to get a glimpse of the view with my limited sight.

The first time was smooth sailing - especially with Ciaccia at the controls. But when the time came for a solo flight, I quickly realized why being a pilot was not my mission in life.

As the "tanker" drifted off to the right of the runway, I found myself having flashbacks of crashing racecars in an arcade driving simulation game. After that day, there was no doubt about it - my flying days were meant to remain in my dreams.



Logan

By Holly J. Logan
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

The place for a pilot to learn how to deal with an in-flight emergency is not at 30,000 feet.

Capt. John Kruczynski, 99th Air Refueling Squadron flight safety officer, said having the KC-135 Simulator, often referred to as "the dark box," helps members sharpen their flight skills in managing emergency situations.

"It gives us a chance to push buttons and throw switches in scenarios that could happen in a real flight," he said. "That way we can learn how to respond in these situations and be ready, no matter what happens."

Although Kruczynski hasn't experienced this situation firsthand, the pilot said he's confident he is capable.

"Fortunately, I haven't had one," he said. "But my experience in the flight simulator has given me the necessary skills to handle anything that could come my way."

The center, managed by the 19th Operational Support Squadron, opened in Building 2088 June 1990. It moved to Building 2083, in August.

All pilots that use the simulator are required to train at least seven times a year.

Paul Ciaccia, one of two KC-135R simulator instructors for Flight Safety Services at Robins, said the simulator's cockpit, internal components and realistic sky view make the training more life-like.

Ciaccia programs the KC-135 Simulator. Often referred to as "the dark box," the simulator allows instructors to program real flight scenarios, testing pilots emergency management skills.



"This equipment, with its modern technologies, enables us to do things that are structurally impossible in the plane itself," he said. "This training is important for protecting the safety of our aircrew and Air Force assets."

Although the Stratotanker's latest modification - the Roll-on Beyond Line of Sight

Enhancement equipment - which allows the aircraft to relay vital information during air refueling missions - may not reach Robins' tankers for

some time, it is due to become part of the simulator as late as early fall.

In addition, the simulator will begin its aero and motion modification near the end of this month.

Robins' simulator is one of 13 global simulator sites used to train more than 80 pilots and maintainers, locally and from other bases like Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C., on more than 200 missions a year.

"The most important thing about my job is preparing these men and women to do the mission," said Ciaccia, stationed at Robins in the later part of his 28-year Air Force career. "One of the best things is to see the aircrew in action, and allowing them to learn from my experience."

With a history that stretches as far back as the first flight simulator created in Binghamton, N.Y., Les Odum, project officer and quality assurance representative for the 19th Air Refueling Group, said the KC-135R Flight Simulator remains one of the best training mechanisms for pilots to date.

Ciaccia, who has been in the tanker business since 1972, agreed.

"We have one of the best safety records," he said. "It's been almost five years since we've had a Class A mishap, involving a fatality or aircraft loss."

What to know

Military members Defense Department-wide come to Robins for training on the KC-135R Flight Simulator. The Flight Simulator Center operates 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, in Building 2083.

"It gives us a chance to push buttons and throw switches in scenarios that could happen in a real flight. That way we can learn how to respond in these situations and be ready, no matter what happens."

Capt. John Kruczynski, 99th Air Refueling Squadron, flight safety officer

KC-135 adds communications-relay capability

By Maj. Rich Curry
507th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. — While mostly known as a "flying gas station," the KC-135 Stratotanker has served in many mission roles throughout its 45-plus years of service.

The aircraft has been a flying command post, an observation platform for the Open Skies Treaty, a zero-gravity simulator and a fly-

ing hospital.

Soon, this workhorse will add communications relay station to its capability list.

With the installation of ROBE, or Roll-on Beyond Line of Sight Enhancement equipment, the Stratotanker will be able to relay critical data while conducting air refueling.

"One of the goals for Air Force transformation is the better integration of military assets," said Lt. Gen. John R. Baker, Air Mobility Command

vice commander.

"The 'smart tanker concept,' which expands the air-refueling mission by including an additional role as a communications platform, is a perfect fit.

"We directed this transformation effort to increase the use and effectiveness of our tankers because they are always in the area of operations refueling fighters, bombers and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance assets," Baker said.

The ROBE system is roughly the size of the 2-foot-by-4-foot galley already in the tanker and is strapped to the floor of the aircraft like a pallet.

It is the first in a family of terminals that will be used aboard tankers, said officials at the Air Force Command and Control and Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Center at Langley Air Force Base, Va.

The terminals could also be used on unmanned and

ground- or sea-based vehicles, they said.

Initially ROBE will connect battle directors in an air and space operations center with those en route to or in a theater of operations.

"If you're doing any combat operations, guess who's always going to be there? Our tankers," Baker said. "If we put a ROBE system on our tankers, knowing they will always be there, it will provide that over-the-horizon capability we need. The ROBE system

will boost a signal to and from every friendly force in the theater ... without using a satellite."

However, the tanker's primary mission is still refueling, Baker said.

"It will only be tasked to do refueling," he said. "All the discussion regarding ROBE is that it will have zero impact on our refueling missions. Our refueling aircraft are too valuable to park out there (in orbit) and only use as a relay platform."

Making great financial strides

By Carolyn Walker-Kimbro
Director, Comptroller Directorate

The Bank of America Government Travel Card program has made major strides over the last decade and continues to evolve as the needs of the work force shape this program. Use of the card has achieved virtual global acceptance and has brought government travel into the modern age of business.



Walker-Kimbro

The foundation for the GTC program was the enactment of the Travel and Transportation Act of 1998. The act required that all federal employees and military personnel use the GTC for all official travel. Program eligibility is open to all military and DoD civilians employees. However, due to the infrequency that certain individuals traveled, many were eventually waived from the requirement to obtain the GTC if they traveled two or less times annually-they were termed as "infrequent travelers". This modification cut program maintenance costs and decreased the oversight requirements levied upon Unit level Agency Program Coordinators. Working with their organization's travel monitor, APCs identify infrequent travelers and assist in determining if a GTC is appropriate for new card applicants.

The use of the government travel card is authorized for official travel and official travel related expenses while away from the official duty station. Authorized uses include lodging, transportation, rental car, meals, ATM advances, and other reimbursable expenses (e.g. laundry/dry cleaning; parking; taxi fares, etc.). It's not proper to use the card for personal, family or household purposes-doing so may result in permanent loss of card privileges and possible administrative action by the organization or agency.

The application process for the Bank of America Government Travel Card is easy. The travel card application is available on the Web at www.gcsuthd.bankofamerica.com. Once completed, the APC will fax the application to BoA. Applications are usually processed within three business days, and cards are usually

received within seven to 10 days. If the card needs to be expedited to the traveler, the processing time is three business days, BoA will charge a \$20 fee that is charged to the card account.

To facilitate the timely payment of the BoA government travel card bill, split disbursement is a preferred option. Split disbursement is defined as a traveler-indicated amount on the travel settlement voucher that is sent directly to BoA to cover charges. The DD-1351-2 (travel voucher) has been updated to include a block at the top to select Split Disbursement and the designated dollar amount to be paid to BoA. Thousands of DoD travelers are taking advantage of this convenient option on a voluntary basis. However, recent legislation has made this mandatory. Public Law 107-314, the Bob Stump National Defense Authorization Act 2003, recently enacted a mandatory travel voucher split disbursement provision for all Military Department and Defense Agency personnel. The Air Force implementation procedures currently apply only to military members-civilian travelers are not affected at this time. However, whether it's currently mandatory or not, split disbursement is a convenient service for all cardholders as it eliminates the task of mailing a separate payment to BoA and reduces the potential of a delinquent payment.

The GTC program is in a constant state of change to keep abreast of new laws, regulatory requirements, and incorporating new service opportunities while meeting the needs of the DoD traveler. The following are a few of the most current changes, service enhancements, and general information related to the program:

■ Credit and cash limits are \$5,000 credit/\$500 cash per billing cycle for the standard card accounts. These limits can be raised on a single trip basis through a request to your directorate APC and BoA approval. Overseas travel is the primary example where standard limits may not cover your TDY and an extension of the limits may be applicable. A review by BoA concluded the majority of official government travel would be covered under the new limits.

■ Transaction fees for ATM cash withdrawals are a minimum of \$2 or 3 percent of the amount withdrawn, whichever is greater. Be aware that there may also be an ATM fee or use fee charged

by any bank for using their ATM machines. These usually range between \$1 and \$3-these fees are not charged when withdrawals are made at BoA institutions. Make every effort to use the card to charge meals and official incidental expenses to keep down the amount of cash needed for the trip. BoA reports that the average cash withdrawal is \$200. With VISA Card accepted by virtually all merchants, the need to keep large sums of cash on hand should be non-existent. But remember, these fees are reimbursable, so make a quick check to ensure it has been itemized in Reimbursable Expense Block of the settlement voucher.

■ The GTC bill is due upon receipt. Individuals can be assessed a \$29 late fee when payments are not remitted in full within two billing cycles plus 15 days past the statement closing date (75 days past due). Additional late fees will be assessed for each billing cycle until the payment is made in full, which includes the late fee charges. Late fees are not reimbursable.

■ Infrequent travelers who are required to travel will be granted travel advances from the Customer Service Office in the form of an Electronic Funds Transfer to their personal bank account. In order to ensure the EFT is accomplished prior to official travel, individuals must request the travel advance no less than three business days prior to departure. Cash advances will not be issued in lieu of an EFT.

Other initiative within the Customer Service Office include:

■ Customer Service e-mail address: The new e-mail address for customer service military pay and travel inquiries and questions is Wralc.fmfc.milpay@robins.af.mil. Responses and status are provided within 24 hours.

■ E-mail of Travel Vouchers: Use Version July 2002 of the DD Form 1351-2, Travel Voucher. This version incorporates a block for your e-mail address. All travel settlement vouchers copies are being sent to the traveler by e-mail-a new initiative implemented in April 2003. The feedback has been great, especially since there is no delay in mailing time.

■ Accrual Travel Vouchers: Individuals whose official travel extends beyond 45 days may come to the Customer Service Office to fill out a travel accrual worksheet or access the work-

sheet via Virtual MPF. A visit to Customer Service is not necessary to begin accrual payments. Per diem and lodging will be paid to their BoA government travel card account by split disbursement every 30 days, or the traveler can elect to have the funds sent EFT to their bank account. When coming in to apply for accrual payments, it's helpful to know your daily lodging rate and have a copy of your official travel orders. Payments will be made automatically every 30 days until the TDY ends or until notified by the individual to do otherwise.

■ Bank information for travel EFTs: For military members only, the travel computation system was updated by system interface to reflect the current EFT information on file in Military Pay. One request form for an EFT change filed in Customer Service will update both the member's pay record as well as the travel record. For members who have established two separate bank accounts, one for military pay and one for travel reimbursements, a separate EFT form must be submitted for travel to reflect the alternate bank information. All future changes to the member's travel EFT account are the burden of the member and will require separate EFT forms for each system. Separate EFT forms are required for all civilians since the civilian pay system cannot automatically pass EFT updates to Travel.

■ Through these numerous changes, a more efficient system is coming together, the Defense Travel System. DTS is being tested now at other Air Force bases and is scheduled for implementation at Robins in July 2005. The system will automate a labor intensive and cumbersome process. It will improve the timeliness and quality of travel pay and will allow the DoD to save manpower. These savings will allow more of the DoD dollar to be allotted to the mission of supporting our troops around the globe.

Our office stands ready to provide guidance on all official travel entitlements as well as questions concerning travel card usage for both civil service and military personnel. If you have any questions concerning the GTC, please contact the Base Agency Program Coordinator, Jackie Spann at 926-5201. Any questions concerning travel entitlements can be addressed to our Customer Service Branch Chief, Annette Hankins at 926-4022.

A warm welcome goes a long way

By Maj. Mike Pierson
Director of Public Affairs

I've learned to hate cardboard. It took the movers two trucks and an extra crew to deliver our 15 crates of furniture, clothing and Polish pottery from Germany to Georgia a few days ago. Then, with a precision built from the experience of eight moves, my wife and children and I are quickly turning yet another house into a home.



Pierson

I just can't wait to get rid of all the boxes. It seems like they're multiplying. As fast as we unpack one, we find two more.

One of the attractions of military life - the recruiters tell you - is the opportunity to see the world. We certainly have done just that; from the Pueblo Indian communities of northern New Mexico to the Leaning Tower of Pisa. The price we pay for this adventure is that every couple of years I get to rekindle my hatred of corrugated paper, bubble wrap and packing tape.

I know I'm not alone. Every day thousands of military families are on the move, ripping up roots they planted in one location and putting them down in another. New addresses, new schools and new neighbors are all a part of the great cycle of military life.

Maybe I'm just getting older, but each move seems a little more difficult than the last. It has been three weeks and I'm still using crib notes to remember my three new phone numbers.

Through it all, I've learned to appreciate how much a warm welcome means to a family in transit. I once read that moving is one of the most stressful event in a person's life, behind the death of a spouse or child. From the ladies at the front desk at the Pine Oaks Lodge to the retired sergeant who sold us a refrigerator in town, we've been buoyed by the genuine welcomes we have received here in Warner Robins.

The next time you have the chance to touch the life of a newcomer, offer up a warm welcome. It will mean a lot.

You'll know who we are. We're the ones who smell like cardboard and can't remember our phone number.

Action Line is an open door program for Robins Air Force Base personnel to ask questions, make suggestions or give kudos to make Robins a better place to work and live.

Please remember that the most efficient and effective way to resolve a problem or complaint is to directly contact the organization responsible. This gives the organization a chance to help you, as well as a chance to improve their processes. To contact the Action Line, call 926-2886 day or night, or for quickest response e-mail to one of the following



Col. Tom Smoot, Jr.
Commander,
78th Air Base Wing

Commanders' Action Line

Maj. Gen. Donald Wetekam
Commander,
Warner Robins
Air Logistics Center



addresses: If sending from a military e-mail system select, Robins Commanders Action Line from the Global Address List. If sending from a commercial e-mail account (AOL, AT+T, CompuServe, Earthlink, etc.), use action.line@robins.af.mil. Readers can also access Action Line by visiting the Robins AFB homepage. Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct response. Action Line items of general interest to the Robins community will be printed in the Rev-Up. Anonymous Action Lines will not be processed.

Robins Housing Office offers home buying and selling assistance

I am getting ready to PCS to Langley Air Force Base, Va. I called the housing office at Langley and asked if they had a listing of houses for sale in the local area. I was asked how big a house I wanted and how much I wanted to pay. Within 15 minutes they faxed me a list of all of the houses in the Langley area that met my specifications. Many of the houses were listed with realtors and many were for sale by owner. This is a fantastic service and I assumed this service was Air Force wide. I have a house to sell before I PCS, so I called the Robins hous-

ing office. I was told that they would only list houses for sale by owners because they didn't have a system capable of handling houses listed by realtors. I had already signed a contract with a realtor before learning of the rule. Do we plan to upgrade the system at Robins so as to provide the level of service offered at other AF bases? Because of a short notice PCS, I stand to loose my shirt if I can't sell my house quickly.

Col. Smoot replies: I would like to thank you for your comments and suggestions. Our staff is here to help everyone accomplish their PCS moves as stress free as possible. Instead of putting the sales/rental listings in the computer that are listed by a realtor, we provide copies of the numerous magazines

and papers in the housing office. When you list your home with a realtor, they publish that listing in several magazines and in the newspaper to help sell your home. The housing office has welcome packages that are given to each newcomer to help them in their search for a new home. Each newcomer package contains these magazines. We are helping to sell and rent these homes by providing the advertising material to everyone. If you would like to prepare a single page flyer advertising your home, we will add it to our information that is available for our customers. We would like to wish you success in selling your home and if there is anything that we can do to help you please call the Family Housing Office at 926-3776.



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Out on a limb

By Geoff Janes
geoff.janes@robins.af.mil

Robins Air Force Base had an unexpected guest Monday afternoon when a black bear found itself out on a limb near Building 396 on Warner Robins Street.

The event was rare according to Dr. Bob Sargent, wildlife biologist and conservation team chief for Robins' Environmental Management Directorate.

"We normally get one, and sometimes two, reports of bears a year," he said. "When people think of Robins, airplanes and mission support activities come to mind. Most probably don't realize that the base also contains a broad diversity of natural habitats which support many species of wildlife."



Sargent

Ken Grahl, regional supervisor for game management with the Wildlife Resources Division of the Department of Natural Resources out of Fort Valley, agreed and said the bear's dilemma was likely an honest mistake.

"It probably just wandered into an area it didn't want to come into," he said. "We rarely get one on the base, but this is breeding season, so it's the most active time of the year. I've been in this office for 26 years and did a study 20 years ago - my experience is that if the bear sees you first, you won't see him - he's going to be gone."

Grahl went on to say that although black bears aren't notoriously dangerous, care should be taken if encountered.

"The best thing to do is back off, give the bear some room and then he'll move on off to a situation more to his liking," he said.

Sargent agreed.

"People need to understand that wild animals are potentially dangerous," he said. "They can, and in some instances do, carry diseases that can be transmitted to people. I especially want to stress that people shouldn't feed, approach, harass or try to capture any wild animals. It's primarily a matter of ensuring public safety, but it's also a legal issue. Many species of wildlife are protected by state or federal law.

"If people see a raccoon acting strange, a bear in a tree or a deer on the flightline," he continued, "for any of those types of instances they should call EM at 926-1197, extension 119 or 113.

The bear drew a small crowd before members of the 78th Security Forces blocked the roadway and asked people to leave.

"The most important thing we could do was keep people away so we didn't upset it," Sargent said.

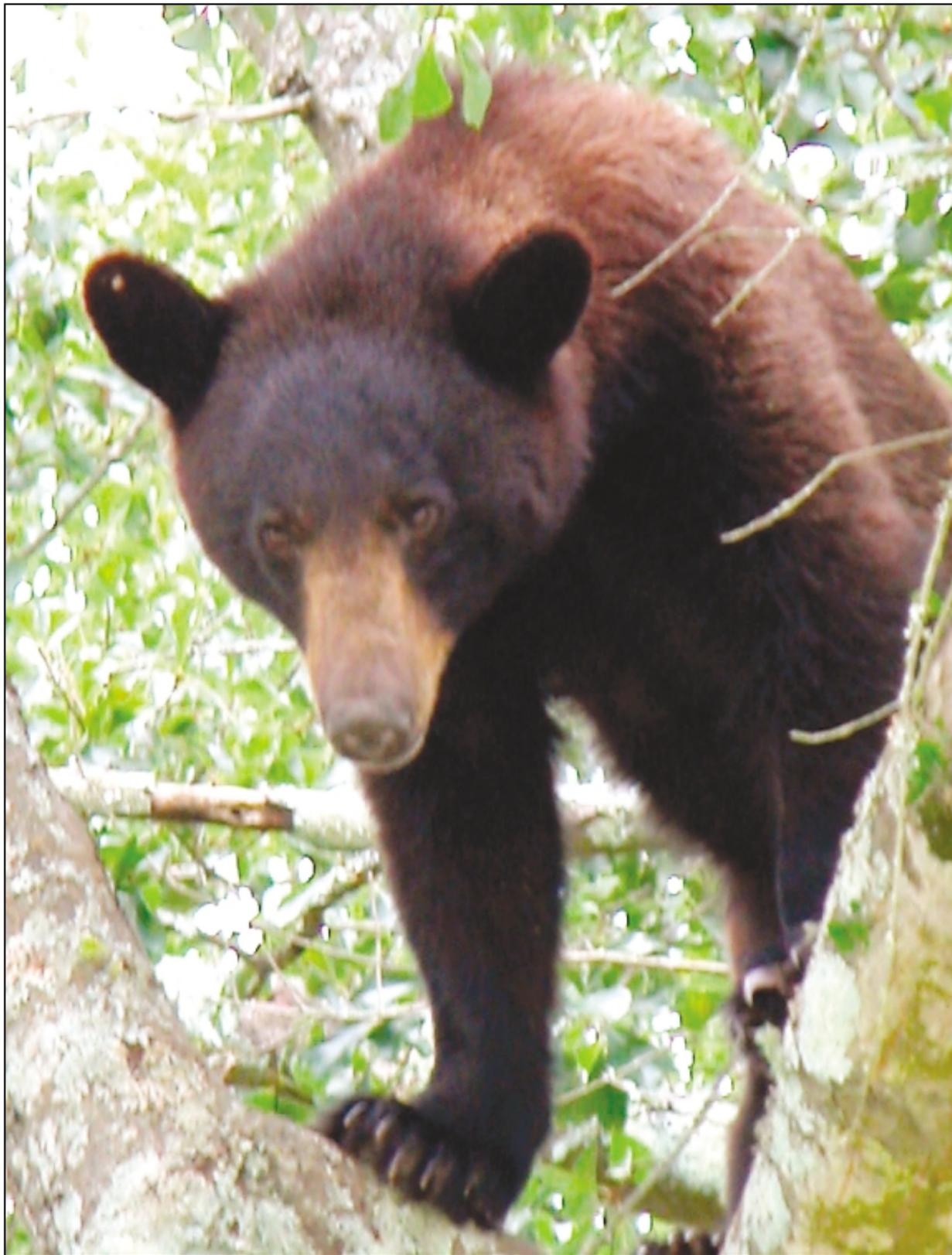
Members of the DNR tranquilized the bear and removed it from the tree with the help of a cherry picker provided by the 78th Civil Engineer Group.

"The tranquilizer put the bear to sleep in about 10 minutes," Sargent said. "The animal managed to wedge itself in the crotch of the tree and went to sleep, instead of coming down the tree as they often do when struck by a tranquilizer dart. The DNR biologist pulled the animal into the cherry picker bucket with him."

The bear wasn't injured and was most likely a sub-adult female weighing about 100 pounds, Sargent said.

According to Grahl, some may think tranquilizing a bear and moving it to a new locale is an easy task, but it's not.

"If a bear's up a tree and you dart him,



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp

Above, a black bear wanders onto base and climbs up a tree near Building 396 on Warner Robins Street Monday. Below, Lt. Col. Mark Papen, commander 78th Security Forces Squadron, and Master Sgt. Kermit Mack, 78th Security Forces Squadron, discuss methods they may have to use to capture and relocate the bear.

there's always the chance that he could fall," he said. "Then you've got an injured bear on your hands. They also have an intense homing instinct. Instances have been reported in Georgia and in other states of bears that have been moved more than 250 (kilometers) away and two weeks later they're right back at the same place."

The DNR collected hair and tissue for DNA analysis, placed a radio collar around the animal's neck, put a tattoo on its upper inner lip, attached colored ear tags, took standard body measurements, removed a premolar to be used for age analysis (the tooth is sent to a lab to be cross sectioned, and the rings -- cementum annuli -- are counted much like you would count tree rings), and gave the bear an antibiotic.

"She was taken to Oaky Woods Wildlife Management Area, owned by the Weyerhaeuser Corp. and managed for wildlife by DNR, a few miles south of here near Kathleen," Sargent said. "She is the 18th bear captured and collared by DNR as a part of their new study designed to better understand population characteristics, habitat use, movements, and other features and needs of black bears in Georgia."



What to know

Wild animals are potentially dangerous. They can, and in some instances do, carry diseases that can be transmitted to people. Base residents and employees shouldn't feed, approach, harass or try to capture any wild animals. For occurrences pertaining to local wildlife, contact Environmental Management at 926-1197, extension 119 or 113.



From left to right, Lt. Col. Mark Papen, Steve Coyle, Environmental Management director, and Tech. Sgt. Aaron Hughes decide to clear the area of spectators.

To see this story in streaming video, go to <http://www.robins.af.mil/pa/stream/index.htm>

LEAVE/ TRANSFER

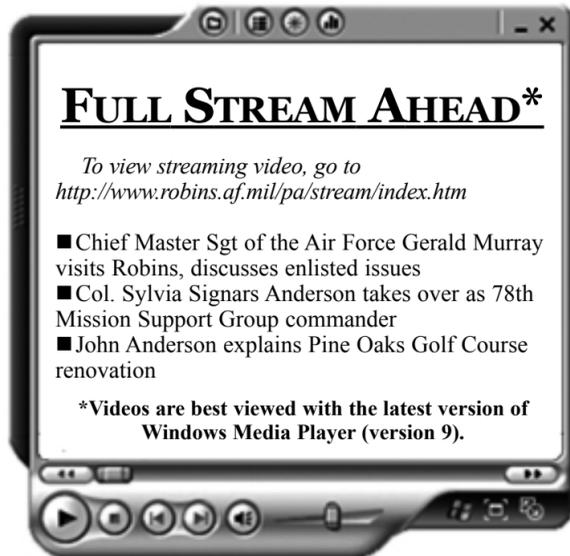
The following person has been approved as a participant in the leave transfer program.

■ Sharon R. Kornegay, WR-ALC/LSANI. The point of contact is Betty Henderson at 926-6033.

■ Cathie Swartzlander, WR-ALC/LJLDM. The point of contact is Teresa Matkey at 926-7700 ext. 4132.

Employee-relations specialists at 926-5307 or 926-5802 have information and instructions concerning requests to receive or donate annual leave. To have an approved leave recipient printed in the Rev-Up, directorates should send information to Angela Trunzo by fax at 926-9597, or e-mail at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil. Submissions run for two weeks.

STREAMING VIDEO



ROBINS REPORT

News from around base — Watson and Cox Channel 15

Friday — 8 p.m.

Sunday — 1:30 p.m.

Monday — Noon

CHAPEL SERVICES

Catholic Masses are celebrated at the chapel each Saturday at 5:30 p.m., Sunday at 9:30 a.m., and on Holy Days of Obligation at noon and 5 p.m. and Monday through Friday at noon. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is on Saturday from 4:30-5:15 p.m.

Protestant General Services take place every Sunday at 11 a.m. This service includes some traditional and contemporary worship styles in music and in format. **Protestant Inspirational Services** take place every Sunday at 8 a.m. **Protestant Contemporary Services** take place 11 a.m. each Sunday at the Base Theater. This service is very informal, with a praise team assisting in singing and includes both traditional and contemporary styles of music and worship.

Jewish service time is each Friday at 6:15 p.m. at the synagogue in Macon.

Islamic Friday Prayer (Jumua) is each Friday at 1:30 p.m. in the chapel annex Rooms 1 and 2.

The chapel helps with any spiritual needs that arise. For further information, call the chapel at 926-2821.

"It's Time to Praise Him!"

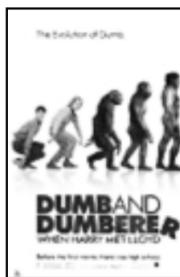
The Bolling Air Force Base gospel choir will perform traditional and contemporary favorites July 26, 7:30 p.m., at the Robins Air Force Base Chapel. Admission is free.

MOVIE SCHEDULE

Friday
7:30 p.m. — **Down with Love** — Ewan McGregor, Renee Zellweger

This is the story, set in New York City in 1963, of a budding romance between womanizing journalist and playboy Catcher Block (McGregor), cleverly described as a "man's man, ladies' man, man about town", and a strident feminist advice columnist, Barbara Novak (Zellweger), who finds her own rules of love contradicted by her attraction to the cad.

Rated PG-13 (sexual humor and dialogue) 94 minutes



Saturday
2 p.m. — **Dumb and Dumber** — Eric Christian Olsen, Derek Richardson
It's the first day of high school and Harry, who previously has been home schooled by his mother, needs someone to show him the ropes. Lloyd, who conveniently lives in the school's basement with his adoptive dad/school custodian Ray, turns out to be just the guy.
Rated PG-13 (crude and sex-related humor, and language) 79 minutes

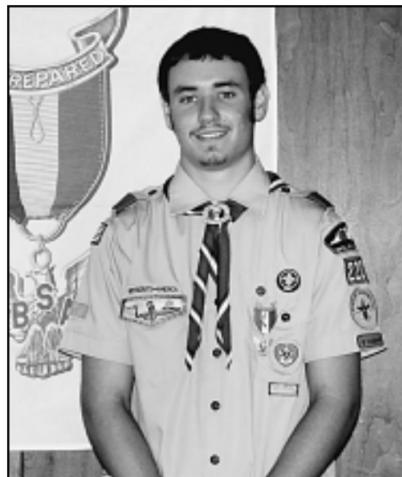
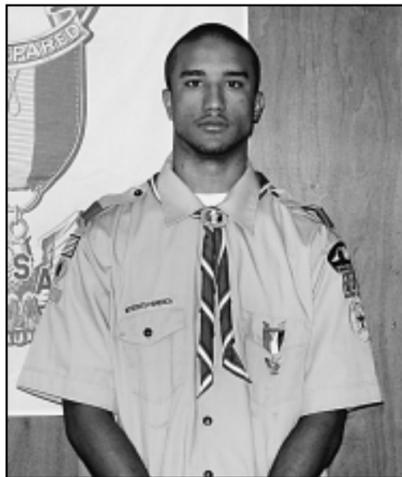
7:30 p.m. — 2 Fast 2 Furious — Paul Walker, Tyrese Gibson

Former cop Brian O'Conner teams up with his ex-con pal Roman Pearce to transport a shipment of "dirty" money for shady Miami-based import-export dealer Carter Verone, while actually working with undercover agent Monica Clemente to bring Verone down.

Rated PG-13 (racing, violence, language and some sexuality) 137 minutes



Eagle scouts pinned



Submitted photos

Brian James Wheeler, left, was ceremoniously pinned Eagle Scout for his project at Robins Elementary School July 8. The school needed permanent computer and printer stations with shelving. Brian was able to construct exactly what the school needed, making it easily accessible for the elementary children to use the stations. **Christopher Stephen Rydzewski**, right, became the latest scout to be pinned Eagle July 12. His project was planting more than 1,000 trees delivered by the Forestry Commission to Robins to create a tree farm. Chris and his crew were successful and saved the base hundreds of dollars making the tree farm as an Eagle Scout project. Troop 220 is chartered by the 116th Operations Group and is the Scout Troop on Robins Air Force Base. Making Eagle Scout is the greatest achievement in the Scouting world. Nationally, only 4 percent of scouts ever graduate with that high award. Robins Troop 220 has accomplished this role. With about 95 percent of Robins scouts reaching this goal before their 18th birthday. Troop 220 meets every Tuesday on base. For more information, call Dennis Collier, scoutmaster, at 953-8124 or 327-6010.

DEPLOYED SPOUSES' RESOURCES

Morale Call Program

Families of deployed and remote tour members can call from Robins to the deployed/remote location free of charge. This service is offered through the base operator and eligible members are allowed one call per week for 15 minutes each call.

Video cameras

Family Readiness has three video cameras that may be borrowed for up to 48 hours to tape a special event or private message to send to the military member. Some restrictions apply.

Car Care Because We Care

Sponsored by the Air Force Aid Society, the program provides a one-

time preventive maintenance and safety inspection for one family vehicle if the military member is TDY 30 days or longer or on a remote assignment. Eligible members must get a voucher from the Family Support Center to set up an appointment with the base Service Station.

Video Phone

The FSC has video-telephone capability to many installations around the world. Call 926-1256 to make an appointment.

Pillowcases

Either the military member or the family member may bring a few pictures of his or her family to the FSC either on a floppy disc, CD, or hard

copy. The FSC will create and produce the pillowcase for free. (If you prefer a T-shirt, bring in your own and that can be arranged.)

E-mail for spouses

If you do not have e-mail capability from home and your spouse is on a TDY or remote assignment, don't fret. Just give us a call and we'll make an appointment to set up a free e-mail account for you in our computer resource library.

Letter writing kits

If you are separated from a family member due to deployment, come by and get a letter writing kit that includes stationary, post cards, greeting cards, stamps and note cards.

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

Family Support Center sponsored classes, workshops, and seminars are open to all Team Robins personnel and their eligible family members. The FSC is located on Ninth Street in Building 794. For additional information, or to make a reservation, call 926-1256.

Sponsorship training

The Center's Relocation Assistance Program will offer training for both beginner and experienced sponsors Tuesday, 2 - 3:30 p.m., Building 945, FSC annex.

Federal job class

Federal employment uses a different hiring system than the civilian sector. The "How to Apply for a Federal Job" class helps to increase hiring possibility

by educating personnel about the variety of federal jobs, the qualifications and the classification process, and the steps involved in applying for these jobs. The next federal jobs class is Wednesday, 9 - 11 a.m., in Building 905.

The spouse's connection

The Center's Relocation Assistance Program offers the Spouse's Connection Wednesday, 9-11 a.m., in Building 945, FSC annex.

Jr. Smooth move

The Center's Relocation Assistance Program has a workshop for kids of military and DoD civilians on the move. Children ages 6-12 will learn about their new assignment location through the use of games, maps and activities appropriate for their age. The workshop will be

held Thursday, 4 - 5:30 p.m., in Building 945, FSC annex. Space is limited so early registration is required.

Resume construction workshop

The Transition Assistance program is offering a workshop on Resume Construction, July 25, 8:30-11:30 a.m., Building 945, FSC annex. To attend this workshop participants must have attended the resume research and writing class.

Financial workshop

The Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Middle Georgia, a non-profit organization funded by the United Way, will conduct a free "Money and Credit Management" workshop July 25, 1 - 4 p.m., Building 905, Room 127.

SERVICES BRIEFS

Smith Community Center 926-2105

"Let's Celebrate" Summer Bash will be held Aug. 9 from 4 - 9 p.m. at Robins Park. Activities will include a petting zoo, two 24-foot rock climbing walls, giant slide, merry-go-round, spinout ride, mini passenger train, carnival games and entertainment. A grand prize package will include a trip to Kissimmee/St. Cloud, Fla. for two adults. Other prizes will include a retreat with two tickets to the High Museum of Art and one-night hotel accommodation at the Westin Hotel in Atlanta, T-shirts, Sandy the Dog and Robby the Robin beanie animals, portable DVD player, Centennial of Flight patches, backpacks, Xboxes with a game and Game Boy Advances with a game. Visitors at the event with base IDs, 18 years and older, will have a chance to win prizes by completing entry forms at Summer Bash. A \$4 wristband gives Summer Bash visitors access to all games and amusements.

"Entertainment will certainly be a highlight of the event," said Cheryl

Dollard, Smith Community Center director. "Vocalists will include Beth Fransiolo, Arianne McLean and Southern Charm. The ever-popular AFRC Reserve Generation band will perform from 5 - 5:30 and from 6 - 6:30 p.m. A large variety of carnival-style food and snacks will be sold by base private organizations."

For a complete listing of Summer Bash rules go to the Services Web site at www.robins.af.mil/services.

Enlisted Club 926-4515

■ Take a bite out of crime and let McGruff and Staff Sgt. McCleskey fingerprint your kids July 28 at 5 p.m. in the Enlisted Club. Also enjoy family night dinner from 5 - 7 p.m. with five free game credits in TechWorld. Member kids eat free, 13 years old to adult, \$4.95, nonmember kids, \$2.95 and nonmember adults, \$6.95.

■ The Drifters will be making an appearance Aug. 23 at 9 p.m. Listen to timeless hits like Under the Boardwalk, Sand in My Shoes and many more. Advance tickets are mem-

bers \$10, nonmembers \$15 and night of the entertainment \$15 at the door. Light hors d'oeuvre will be served.

Civilian Recreation 922-4415

Civilian Recreation and the Health and Wellness Center will host a Lunch and Learn lecture at the Smith Community Center, Aug. 6 at 11:30 a.m. James G. Martin, Exercise Physiologist, will speak on "Starting an Exercise Program." Cost for lecture is \$5 per person and includes lunch. Registration must be made by the previous Monday by calling Civilian Recreation, 922-4415.

Outdoor Adventure 926-6527

Outdoor Adventure will set sea Sept. 4 - 6 on a deep sea fishing trip at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. Cost is \$205 per person includes trip, fishing and lodging. Transportation departs Sept. 4 at noon and returns Sept. 6. Register at equipment rental by Aug. 21. For more information call 926-6527.

MUSEUM FILMS

The Museum of Aviation will be showing patriotic films each day at 11 a.m. in the Vistascope Theater.

Bataan, today and Saturday

Robert Taylor and Desi Arnaz star in this grim but exciting motion picture that realistically portrays the darkest days of World War II.

Bombers B-52, July 20-26

A suspenseful, aerial drama, set during the Cold War-era, centers on a grizzled airplane mechanic (Karl Malden), a hotshot pilot (Efrem Zimbalist Jr.), and a sergeant's daughter (Natalie Wood).

Twelve O'clock High, July 27-Aug. 1

Brig. Gen. Savage (Gregory Peck) is commandeered to boost the shattered moral of a bomber group in England toward the end of 1942.

For more information, contact Alicia Kennon, at the Museum of Aviation at 926-6870.

Air Force ROTC internship program comes to Robins

By the
Engineering Directorate

Some of the participants in a new Secretary of the Air Force-directed internship program have begun work at Robins.

The Air Force Officer Accession and Training Schools Summer Technical Recruiting Internship Program selects 50 college students in high-need majors to work as GS-04 interns at Air Force laboratories during the summer.

Upon completion of the program, many of these interns will be offered a \$15,000 per year scholarship to participate in the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Program.

The interns working at Robins this summer include: Melissa Mata and Melody Bruce, who are both aerospace engineering majors from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, Ariz., and Phillip T. Doughty, who is an electrical engineering major from Louisiana Tech University.

Mata works in the Engineering Directorate's Structural Analysis Branch, Bruce works in the C-130 Airframe Team, and Doughty works in the



U.S. Air Force photo by Jamie Cook

From left to right, Melody Bruce, Melissa Mata and Phillip T. Doughty are participants of the Air Force Officer Accession and Training Schools Summer Technical Recruiting Internship Program.

Special Operations Forces Operational Flight Program Branch.

The interns are at Robins for a nine-week period. During this time, they are given engineering tasks exposing them to the type of work expected of an Air Logistics Center engineer.

In addition, they are also given tours of other areas on base to broaden their understanding of the mission.

They have recently completed tours of the F-15 maintenance area of the flightline, the Hybrid Microelectronics Facility and the F-15 Avionics

Repair area in Building 640.

Since they will possibly become ROTC cadets upon completion of their internship, EN has assigned Maj. Kevin Gilbert and Capt. Dan Cornelius as mentors to provide insight into the life of an engineer as an active duty military member.

At the end of the nine-week period, the program will be assessed for its success in recruiting new ROTC cadets.

Depending on the success of this trial effort, the program is anticipated to grow to 250 interns in 2004.

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2003 Open House and Air show seeks entertainers

Volunteer entertainers from surrounding communities are being sought for the Robins Air Force Base Open House and Air Show Sept. 6 and 7.

The program includes military and civilian aerial demonstrations, static displays, exhibits, and ground demonstrations. The highlight of the show will be the aerial demonstration of the

United States Air Force Thunderbirds.

If you would like to participate, contact Burl Jimmerson at 926-1449. Applicants will be asked to complete a questionnaire by Aug. 1 so an audition may be set up.

There will be no monetary compensation for entertainers.

— From staff reports

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Marathon adds two features to annual event

By Patrick Reilly
Air Force Marathon Office

What to know

The Air Force Marathon will be Sept. 20 at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Deadline to enter is Sept. 4. The race will feature a 13.1-mile half-marathon and a 5K — or 3.1-mile — race in addition to the full marathon and marathon relay team races. For more information, visit the marathon's Web site at <http://afmarathon.wpafb.af.mil>.

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — This year's Air Force Marathon here will feature a 13.1-mile half-marathon and a 5K — or 3.1-mile — race in addition to the full marathon and marathon relay team races during the Sept. 20 event.

The half-marathon race will be on a 13.1-mile loop-back course that will share the start and finish lines with the full marathon, according to Bob Brodess, Air Force Marathon director. Half-marathon and marathon relay participants will race alongside one another until the turn-around point just outside of Gate 15A, then the half-marathoners head back toward the finish line near the Air Force Museum.

Brodess said the half-marathon is geared toward those who have some road racing experience or those who have been conditioning for shorter races and want a new challenge. The marathon and half-marathon courses will feature aid stations at every mile that provide water, electrolyte replenishment,

fruit, water-soaked sponges and first aid.

"Because the full and half-marathons are on the same course, the half-marathon racers will be able to use many of the same aid stations and enjoy the same festive atmosphere that the full marathoners do," said Cheryl Blom, Air Force Marathon volunteer coordinator.

The 5k race is the first of its kind in the history of the Air Force Marathon, Brodess said. He emphasized that marathon officials have received several applications for the 5k and many more are expected in the weeks to come.

"The 5k (race) is going to generate a lot of interest with runners who don't necessarily want to run the full 26.2-mile or 13.1-mile courses," said Brodess. "We're affectionate-

ly calling it our 'fun run.'"

Brodess also said this race will interest those who might not have had a chance to train rigorously enough to complete the half or full marathons, but still want to participate in the festivities. He added that the 5k would also be a great introduction to the world of competitive road racing.

Though the 5k participants won't receive a medal, their entry fee will get them a runner packet Brodess said is almost identical to the full and half marathons, and relay team members. The packet includes an official Air Force Marathon T-shirt, patch and several coupons to local restaurants and businesses.

Packets have been well received by marathon participants in years past according to Brodess.

"The marathoners have always really loved the things that we typically include in the goodie bags, and we don't expect much of a change in the bags' contents or the racers' approval," he said.

The 5k's course will be separate from the marathon races, but will still share the start and finish line with the other races. The exact path the race will follow hasn't yet been determined, but it will be contained entirely within the base's Area B. Brodess said final approval for the course is expected within the month, and a course description will be posted on the marathon's Web site soon after.

A sports and fitness exposition, which will be open to the public, will be Sept. 18 and 19 at the Hope Hotel here. Participants will pick up their race packets there, which include their timing chip, race T-shirts, numbered bibs, race patch, informational materials and more.

Brodess said race participants and other expo attendees can then visit vendor booths that will showcase running and fitness related items and services. Expo exhibitors from previous years include repre-

sentatives from sunglass specialty shops, therapeutic muscle massage item vendors, running shoe and clothing retailers.

The marathon staff has already received dozens of applications for the new events and continues to take applications for both, as well as the full marathon and relay teams. Deadline to enter is Sept. 4.

The entry fee is \$50 for the marathon, \$35 for the half-marathon, \$180 for a marathon relay team and \$15 for the 5k fun run.

Brodess said there are still

plenty of spots available for the full marathon, half marathon and 5k races, but slots for the marathon relay teams are dwindling fast.

Participants can also pay an additional \$10 for a ticket to the pasta dinner Sept. 19. Seating times for the dinner are 4 p.m. 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

For more information, contact the marathon office at DSN 787-4350, toll free at 1-800-467-1823 or commercial 937-257-4350; or visit the marathon's Web site at <http://afmarathon.wpafb.af.mil>.

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ROBINS BULLETIN BOARD

Hail and Farewell

The next Hail and Farewell is today at 4 p.m. at the Officers' Club Ballroom.

AFRC golf tournament

The Air Force Reserve Command will be hosting a fund raising golf tournament Saturday at the Landings Golf Club. Format is 4-person scramble with a 1 p.m. shotgun start. Cost is \$45 per person, which includes green fees, cart, range balls, lunch, and two beverage tickets. Lunch will be served at noon. Proceeds from the tournament will be used to fund the annual AFRC Family Day event. For more information, or to sign up, contact Master Sgt. Jeff Swartwood at 327-2184.

Tuskegee Airmen, Incorporated general membership meeting

The Tuskegee Airmen, Incorporated, Maj. Gen. Joseph A. McNeil Chapter, general membership meeting will be Thursday, 11:30 a.m., in the Base Restaurant private dining room. For more information, contact Albert Rogers at 926-1986 or by e-mail at piper79@cox.net.

Office closing

The 78th Medical Group will close at 2 p.m. July 30 for an official change of command function.

ROA golf tournament

The Reserve Officers Association, Chapter 36,

annual golf tournament will be Aug. 22 at the Waterford Golf Club. Lunch is set for 12:30 with a shotgun start at 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$35 per person with the proceeds to benefit the local Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps. Prizes will be awarded to the top teams. Everyone is invited to play. Contact Maj. Wright at 327-1092 to sign up teams. Slots are limited.

OSA bowling league

The Officers' Spouses

Club fall bowling league will start Sept. 2. To join the OSC bowling league as a regular or a substitute member, contact Mary Ann Cotton at 975-0764. The league bowls at 9:30 Tuesday mornings at Robins Lanes. More information will be available at the OSC Activities Coffee Aug. 28 at the Officers' Club.

OSA luncheons

The Officers' Spouses Club luncheons will resume in August. For more informa-

tion, contact Aimee Henson at 987-1964.

Firing range reminders

Robins Firing Ranges are located next to the horse stables and considered off limits to all personnel, unless scheduled for training or official business. Weapons firing is conducted every day of the week and on all Air Force Reserve and Guard weekends. The range areas are clearly marked with signs, and red flags and streamers fly when

weapons fire is in progress. July through December is scheduled for the 78th Security Forces Squadron night fire training. Night fire training is usually conducted once a week from 3 to 11:30 p.m. If there are any questions, contact the Combat Arms Section at 926-5031.

Elementary school registration

Parents may register their children in Robins Elementary School from 8

a.m. to 3:30 p.m. during the summer. To be eligible for kindergarten, a child must be five years old on or before Sept. 1 of the current year. For first grade, a child must be six years old on or before Sept. 1 of the current year. The base school also has a pre-kindergarten program for four-year-olds. To be eligible, a student must be four on or before Sept. 1 of the current year. School starts Aug. 8. For more information, call the school at 926-5003.

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All in a day's work



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

■ Jack Roberson ■ Contractor with NAMI of Central Georgia

“We go all over this base and in front of the base on Highway 247 picking up litter. I’ve been doing this job for two years and four months. It’s a full time job, seven days a week. Rain, cold or whatever, it doesn’t matter; we’re out here. For a base this size and all the traffic it’s not really too bad, although some days are worse than others. I like the job. It’s good exercise. It’s a lot of walking, but you get used to it even in this heat. And it’s hot now. It’s just a day’s work.”

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