



'Bare base in reverse'
See Page 1B

NEWS
YOU CAN USE

Dryer fire causes minor damage at fitness center

Due to the quick response of the base Fire Department, a minor fire was quickly put out in the base fitness center Monday night.

Although no serious damages occurred, Airman first Class Latasha Nash, a reservist from Dover Air Force Base, Del., was transported to Houston Medical Center, treated for smoke inhalation and released.

"The specific cause of the fire is uncertain," Roger Braner, fitness center director, said. "One of the dryers started smoking and caught on fire."

Braner said the damage was slight.

"The dryer was destroyed," he said. "We may have to replace a few tiles, but aside from a lingering smell from the smoke, most customers wouldn't even know anything happened."

Braner said the dryer, which is part of a contract, will be replaced and there will be towels on hand for the center's customers.

- Geoff Janes

Conn., N.C. Air Guard opportunities

The 263rd Combat Communications Squadron in the North Carolina Air National Guard is looking for members who are interested in joining our unit.

The following AFSCs are available: 2E1X1, 3COX1, 2E2X1, 3C2X1, and 3E0X2. The mission for this squadron is changing to more commercial applications.

This would provide more skills and training for civilian opportunities.

If anyone is interested, contact us at 1(800) 354-6933.

The Connecticut Air National Guard has Palace Chase, Palace Front and Early Out openings.

If you are considering applying for one of these programs and have a desire to pursue a full or part-time education while still fulfilling your obligation with the military, the Connecticut Air National Guard may be the answer.

Tuition is free for any state college or university in Connecticut.

For more information, contact Master Sgt. Rogers at DSN 795-2905 or 1-800-582-5509.

103rd Air Control Squadron, Orange, Conn., vacancies:

Enlisted: 1C5X1, 2A6X2, 2E0X1, 2E1X3, 2T3X4, 2T3X5

Officer: 14NXX, 13BXX

- From staff reports

ROBINS RevUp



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Friday, December 12, 2003

Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

Wetekam nomination announced

Center commander up for third star, reassignment



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp
Maj. Gen. Don Wetekam announces Wednesday his nomination for reassignment to the Pentagon and promotion to lieutenant general.

By Lanorris Askew

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The Air Force announced Wednesday the presidential nomination of Maj. Gen. Don Wetekam, Center commander, for the position of Air Force deputy chief of staff for Installations and Logistics and promotion to the grade of lieutenant general.

"I need to emphasize this is only a nomination that still has to be confirmed by the Senate," said Wetekam. "Therefore, my focus remains on doing the very best job I can for Robins Air Force Base."

If confirmed, Wetekam would replace the current deputy chief, Lt. Gen. Michael E. Zettler at the Pentagon.

While Wetekam isn't sure when the nomination will be confirmed, he anticipates being around for a while and promises business as usual.

What to know

If confirmed by the Senate, Maj. Gen. Don Wetekam's new position will make him responsible to the chief of staff for leadership, management and integration of Air Force civil engineering, communications operations, services, supply, transportation, maintenance and munitions policies, and resourcing to enhance productivity and combat readiness while improving quality of life for Air Force people.

The Center commander is most proud of the support Robins provided to the war fighter, particularly during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Wetekam heaped praise upon all Robins members who have deployed and the base workers who have provided vital support to the deployed forces.

He said Robins has developed a growing reputation as a leader in Lean, process and product improvement.

"It really is gratifying when you go to places outside of Middle Georgia and you talk to people in the Department of Defense and in industry and hear them speak about Robins - and hear the great reputation that this place is developing. I am certainly proud of what everybody here at the Center has done in that area."

Wetekam gives credit to those who make Robins a top-notch installation.

"If I have had any success during my tenure, it's directly linked to our many fine people - from our dedicated, skilled

Please see **WETEKAM, 2A**

Think before you drink



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp
Staff Sgt. Ron Dunn holds the portable breath test analyzer, one of the methods used to determine blood alcohol content.

SF: You drink, you drive, you lose'

By Chris Zdrakas

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Drinking and driving? As the classic Christmas lyrics go, "you better watch out."

The 78th Security Forces Squadron patrols are in town and they will be looking for you.

"Town," of course, is

INSIDE

■ Air Force maintains zero tolerance for drunk drivers

■ Airmen Against Drunk Driving offer free rides

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Robins Air Force Base, and Security Forces will be stepping up patrols to ensure a safe holiday for the 25,600 people who work and live at Robins.

Please see **DRINK, 5A**

59 years later, WWII vet receives Purple Heart

By Lanorris Askew

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Fifty-nine years after a tragic incident that took away his 21-year-old innocence and his best friend, retired Staff Sgt. Curtis Burgess finally got what he deserved - the Purple Heart Medal.

Awarded for injuries sustained during a Japanese bombing raid Nov. 4, 1944, the medal was presented by Maj. Gen. Don Wetekam in a ceremony Tuesday afternoon.

Addressing a room packed with family and friends, Burgess said he was at a loss for

Please see **HEART, 2A**



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp
Retired Staff Sgt. Curtis Burgess, accompanied by his wife Janie, receives the Purple Heart Medal in a ceremony Tuesday.

Robins gets nod for 20 of 24 AF awards

By Chris Zdrakas

chris.zdrakas@robins.af.mil

Robins scored a stunning record in the 2003 competition for the Commander-in-Chief's Installation Excellence Special Recognition Awards, earning 20 of 24 nominations from Air Force Materiel Command.

The 20 nominees, which were among 27 Robins submitted, will compete against nominees from other major commands for special recognition awards to be selected by the Air Force's Installation Excellence Review Committee. There is no command-level award for installation excellence special recognition.

Under the Installation Excellence Awards program, the Air Force chooses one base as its best in the world and up to 100 people, projects and organizations as winners of special recognition awards. The basis for special recognitions is a one-page nomination spelling out how innovative and imaginative thinking led to noteworthy achievements.

Winners receive a certificate signed by the Secretary of Defense and, if the winner is an individual, a recognition ribbon or civilian lapel pin. Winners are usually announced in March or April.

AFMC's nominee for the installation award this year was Hill Air Force Base, Utah. Robins was AFMC's nominee last year, but wasn't selected.

Ten of the 20 Robins nominees are from the 78th Air Base Wing.

The annual Installation Excellence Award encompasses all organizations within Robins' boundaries, making it different from other awards programs. The 78th Air Base Wing's Administrative and Compliance Office manages Robins' program.

The nominees

■ Master Sgt. Michael P. Davis, 78th Communications Squadron

■ Senior Master Sgt. Michael Drumming, 78th Civil Engineer Squadron

■ First Lt. Michelle M. Gill, 778th Civil Engineer Squadron

■ Staff Sgt. Ryan D. Graves, 78th Communications Squadron

■ Master Sgt. Jeffrey J. Kay, 78th Security Forces Squadron

■ Tech. Sgt. Richard Kittle, 78th Communications Squadron

■ Staff Sgt. Anthony C. Knoll, 78th Communications Squadron

■ Capt. Eric A. Queddeng, 78th Civil Engineer Squadron (now at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio)

■ Chief Master Sgt. Rick Singhas, 778th Civil Engineer Squadron (now at Air Force Reserve Command)

■ Capt. Thomas B. Veselka, 78th Civil Engineer Squadron

■ Tech. Sgt. Renee S. Brown, F-15 System Program Office

■ Tech. Sgt. Paul M. Mitchell, Robins NCO Academy

■ Gregory Williams, Directorate of Maintenance

■ Electronic Combat Systems Strategic Sourcing Project, Combat Electronic Systems Directorate

■ Acquisition/Installation of AN/AAQ-24 on MH-53, Special Operations Forces System Program Office

■ Industrial Prime Vendor Team, Directorate of Maintenance

■ Museum of Aviation

■ Pine Oaks Lodging, 78th Services Division

■ 5th Combat Communications Group

■ 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron

WETEKAM

Continued from 1A

Combat Command, Langley Air Force Base, Va.

According to Wetekam, Collings

would be the fourth successive commander out of the ACC Maintenance directors' position to come to

Robins. This would be the third time Collings has succeeded Wetekam.

**Collings**

work force to our strong senior staff to the marvelous support of the entire Middle Georgia community. Sheri and I are truly blessed to be part of this wonderful team. It continues to be my honor to serve as commander of this fine organization."

If confirmed, Wetekam will be replaced by Brig. Gen. Michael A. Collings, current director of Maintenance and Logistics, Headquarters Air

A chain reaction

Wednesday's announcement of Maj. Gen. Don Wetekam's pending presidential nomination to the position of Air Force deputy chief of staff for Installations and Logistics and promotion to the grade of lieutenant general has caused a chain reaction of general officer reassignments and promotions.

If Wetekam is confirmed by the U.S. Senate, he will replace Lt. Gen. Michael E. Zettler, who is slated to retire Jan. 1.

Brig. Gen. Michael A. Collings will assume command of the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center and

relinquish his position as director, Maintenance and Logistics, Headquarters, Air Combat Command, Langley Air Force Base, Va. to Maj. Gen. Elizabeth A. Harrell.

Harrell will relinquish her position as director, Maintenance, deputy chief of staff Installations and Logistics, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, D.C., to Brig. Gen. Patrick D. Gillett Jr.

Gillett comes from Ramstein Air Base, Germany, where he served as the director of logistics for Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe.

—From staff reports

IRS helps military personnel get new law's tax breaks

Center Office of Public Affairs

New legislation is giving some military members and their families a break this tax season.

Military families may benefit from the new tax law, which provides income exclusions for death benefit payments and certain home sales.

Lt. Col. Mark Strickland, deputy staff judge advocate for the Center and 78th Air Base Wing Staff Judge Advocate Office, said the tax break is a way of telling military members thank you.

"In recognition of the contributions and sacrifices of military members, Congress has provided certain tax breaks as relief to military members during tax filing season," he said. "They signify appreciation for the hard work and sacrifices each member provides in the defense of our nation and its allies."

The new law doubles the benefit paid to survivors of deceased servicemembers to \$12,000, makes the entire amount tax-free and makes the changes effective for deaths occurring after Sept. 10, 2001.

Servicemembers on qualified extend-

What to know

Robins Tax Office is located in Building 905, with services offered by appointment only. Contact the office at 926-2635 or 926-2391.

ed duty may also benefit from the new law.

Normally, taxpayers may exclude gain on a home sale, provided they have owned and used the home as a principal residence for two of the five years before the sale. In the military, people often keep ownership of a home while away on duty, but eventually sell it without returning to live in it - perhaps failing the use test completely.

The new law allows military personnel on qualified extended duty to suspend this five-year test period for up to 10 years of such duty time. A taxpayer is on qualified extended duty when at a duty station that is at least 50 miles from the residence sold, or when residing under orders in government housing for more than 90 days or for an indefinite period.

This change applies to home sales after May 6, 1997.

This provision can only be used for one property at a time, and may exclude gain on only one home sale in any two-year period. Although an amended return must usually be filed within three years of the original return's due date, the law gives taxpayers who sold a home before 2001 until Nov. 10, 2004, to file an amended return claiming the exclusion.

Both provisions are retroactive, so some qualifying taxpayers must file amended returns to claim these tax breaks. The IRS asks them to put the words "Military Family Tax Relief Act" in red at the top of such returns to speed processing.

A taxpayer may use Form 4506, "Request for Copy or Transcript of Return," to get an earlier year's tax return. This form and Form 1040X are available on the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov, or by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).

Editor's note: The Internal Revenue Service's public relations department provided information for this article.

Jan. 1: Jacket, pullover require nametags

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Effective Jan. 1, the new metallic nametag must be worn on the wearer's right side of the service dress jacket with the bottom of the nametag level with the bottom of the ribbons, said Air Force Personnel Center officials here. It should be centered between the sleeve seam and the lapel.

If a duty badge is worn on the wearer's right side, men will center the badge a half-

inch below the new nametag; women will center the badge a half-inch above the new nametag.

An exception is when a command insignia is worn by either men or women. It is worn either a half-inch above or below the nametag. Then, the duty badge is worn either a half-inch above or below the command insignia, depending on whether the airman is a current or former commander.

The nametag will also be worn on pullover sweaters on the wearer's right side with the bottom of the nametag level centered between the middle of the sleeve seam and the seam of the neckline. It will not be worn on the cardigan sweater.

For more information, contact Military Personnel Flight at 327-7362 or commanders support staff.

— Courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center News Service



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Maj. Gen. Don Wetekam pins the Purple Heart Medal on retired Staff Sgt. Curtis Burgess Wednesday. Burgess received the medal for injuries sustained during a Japanese bombing raid Nov. 4, 1944.

HEART

Continued from 1A

words.

"This is something that 59 years later I never thought I would be receiving," he said.

Speaking of the ill-fated day that earned him the medal, Burgess said it had to be the worst day he served in the military.

Then a staff sergeant serving as an aircraft mechanic in the 421st Night Fighter Squadron, Burgess recounted how the Japanese attacked the squadron's P-61 aircraft. While he and his best friend were on their way to the mess tent, a bomb dropped 30 to 35 feet to their right, killing his friend instantly.

Sustaining a concussion and suffering from shell shock, Burgess was put in for the medal but only made a conscious effort to retrieve it two or three years ago.

"I thought, 'if I am going to apply for this medal I better do it now,'" he said. "My next birthday I'll be 80 years old."

He said the medal would be passed down to his oldest son Doyle so he can

"I thought, 'if I am going to apply for this medal I better do it now. My next birthday I'll be 80 years old.'"

Retired Staff Sgt. Curtis Burgess
World War II veteran

What to know

Burgess's list of honors includes the Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with four bronze stars, World War II Victory Medal and the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one bronze star.

The Purple Heart was authorized by order of Gen. George Washington in 1782 and is the oldest decoration in current use in the United States military

keep it in the family.

"Not to remember me, but to remember the patriotism of a family that loves this country," he said.

Calling the day a very important occasion, the Center commander said it was his personal honor to award Burgess the medal — albeit 59 years late.

"Ten million strong, men like Burgess went off to war and essentially saved the world," he said. "It's like we are presenting this medal in some small way to an entire generation who did their duty without any fanfare and came home to lead their lives."

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Planning an event? Review entry authority list process first

By Staff Sgt. Stephanie M. McCleskey
78th Security Forces Squadron

Organizations planning on-base events that six or more visitors will be attending are required to provide the 78th Security Forces Squadron an Entry Authority List.

With special holiday events planned in the coming weeks, Security Forces is providing the following review of the EAL process:

1. Two weeks prior to the planned event, provide three copies of the EAL naming visitors (those without base cre-

dentials) to the 78th Security Forces Police Services section.

2. The EAL must include:

■ Start/end time, date, location and name of the event

■ Last name first then first name in alphabetical order of all individuals on the list

■ Name of the individual sponsoring the event along with a contact phone number

3. The sponsor of the event must be the person delivering the EAL to the 78th Security Forces Squadron. Sponsors will need their ID cards so that Security Forces can verify their status.

4. Once a Security Forces representative has reviewed the EAL, it will be turned over to the 78th Mission Support Group commander for an additional review and approval.

If EALs are not turned in within the established two-week suspense, those planning events may be required to sponsor each of guests onto the installation from the Gate 2 visitors' center.

The 78th Security Forces Web page at www.mil.robins.af.mil/SFS has supplied the EAL process information under the section marked "Gate Hours."

Anyone with questions may call Security Forces at 926-2118.

ROBINS BULLETIN BOARD

Communications and Electronics association luncheon

The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association will hold a luncheon today at 11:30 a.m. at the Officer's Club ballroom. The organization will hold elections for open positions and the guest speaker will talk about the 78th Communications Squadron mission and deployment war stories. For more information, call Lt. Col. Paul Reimers at 926-3223.

Tree removal

Byron Street islands between First and Third Streets will be closed off with cones for the removal of dead trees Saturday.

MPF extended hours

The military personnel flight will be open Saturday, 10 a.m. -noon. If a dependent or retiree has an ID card that will expire in the near future this is an excellent opportunity to get information updated in DEERS. For more information, e-mail shondrell.edwards@robins.af.mil or call 327-7361/62/63.

Children's Christmas party

The 116th Air Control Wing children's Christmas party will be Sunday, 2-5 p.m., at the Multi Purpose Hangar. Admission is a plate of cookies to share. Children will be able to chat with Santa and enjoy crafts and games. For more information, contact Debbie Riebling at 328-3349 or Bev Kinney at 929-3982.

ASMC Christmas luncheon

The Christmas luncheon for the American Society of Military Comptrollers Middle

Georgia Chapter will be 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Officers' Club. There will be a pay as you go buffet. Bring a \$10 Christmas gift for a gift exchange and 3-4 canned goods for the canned food drive. Members must R.S.V.P. with a ticket representative by Monday. Tickets can be purchased from Kathy Piper at 327-1410, Amy Minick at 472-0381 and Betty Enge at 926-5485.

OSI briefings

Beginning Dec. 18, OSI will no longer provide country level 1, 2 or country specific briefings on Thursdays at 10 a.m. For further information or to schedule an appointment, contact your unit ATO representative.

Logistics Officers Association meeting

The Middle Georgia Chapter of the Logistics Officers Association will have a membership meeting at 4 p.m. Dec. 19 at the Officers' Club Wellston Room. Current members and interested new members, including military retirees, are encouraged attend. For more information, call Maj Michael Mistretta at 926-4079.

Christmas tree sale

The Chief's Group Christmas tree sale is going on through Dec. 21 outside of the BX. Choose from Virginia Pines, Red Cedars and Leland Cypresses Monday-Friday, noon - 8 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Proceeds will help support Robins' enlisted programs.

Commissary holiday schedule

The commissary will be open Dec. 22, 9 a.m. - 8p.m. The commissary will close at 3 p.m. Dec. 24. The commissary will be closed Dec. 25

and Jan. 1. For more information, Teena P. Standard, store director, at 926-3714.

Holiday recycling pick-up schedule

Holiday recycling pick-up for Turner Park residents will be Dec. 24 and Dec. 31. If you have any questions, call the housing office at 926-3776.

Gate holiday hours

Robins Air Force Base Gates 2 (Main Gate) and Gate 14 (Russell Parkway) will be open Dec. 25 and 26 and Jan. 1 and 2. Gate 2 will be open 24 hours a day; Gate 14 will be open 5 a.m. to 1 a.m.

Holiday vacancy announcement schedule

The closing date for vacancy announcements, which open during the holiday season, will be extended as follows due to energy days and Federal holidays: Christmas - open: Dec. 19 - close: Jan. 5; open: Dec. 26 - close: Jan. 8; and New Year's - open: Jan. 2 - close: Jan. 9. The regular schedule will resume Jan. 9.

Optometry Clinic to limit December appointments

The 78th Medical Group Optometry Clinic will limit dependent and retirement examinations to a space-available basis in December. Call 327-7850 to ask about cancelled appointments.

78th ABW Enlisted Promotion ceremony

The 78th Air Base Wing Enlisted Promotion ceremony, hosted by Col. Marvin T. Smoot Jr., 78th ABW commander, will be Jan. 7 at 3:30 p.m. at the Smith Community Center, main ballroom. Those being recognized will be notified by their respective first

Nugteren scholarship winner



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

From left to right are Maj. Gen. Don Wetekam, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander; retired Maj. Gen. Cornelius Nugteren, former Center commander (1982-88); Benita Washington, 78th Mission Support Squadron; Lianne Nugteren; and Steve Davis, Center executive director. Washington was the recipient of the Maj. Gen. Nugteren \$750 scholarship award.

Check out the Robins Rev-Up online at:
<http://www.robins.af.mil/pa/revup-online/index.htm>

armed
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karate
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sponser
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satterfield
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AADD volunteers give airmen safe ride home

By Chris Zdrakas

chris.zdrakas@robins.af.mil

What to know

Airmen Against Drunk Driving has three cell phone numbers drinking airmen may call: 335-5218, 335-5238 and 335-5236

Staff Sgt. Hugh McFadden's parents had a rule: Don't drink and drive.

He not only listened, but also set into motion a program — Airmen Against Drunk Driving — that offers free rides to airmen who have been drinking so they don't have to drive.

In the past three years, it has served about 500 airmen. In AADD terms, that is referred to as 500 saves.

A chief master sergeant in the 116th Air Control Wing floated the idea of forming a local AADD group about three years ago. McFadden, 24, a native of Satellite Beach, Fla., got the ball rolling with several other members of the 116th. It served 116th airmen for a year before being expanded to include all airmen at Robins. Staff Sgt. Kera Douglas, another member of the 116th, is the new president.

AADD volunteers supplied with cell phones pick up airmen who have been drinking and drive them home. The names of the airmen are not disclosed. McFadden said AADD enlisted the aid of chiefs and squadron commanders to spread the word about the service. The organization has also given out thousands of business cards and nearly 3,500 key chains with AADD phone numbers.

He said the volunteer

group usually numbers about 35, but a surge of 100 volunteers has come forward in recent weeks. AADD responsibilities rotate among the volunteers. The organization has three cell phone numbers drinking airmen may call: 335-5218, 335-5238 and 335-5236.

Money to operate the cell phones comes from a variety of organizations on base, and AADD holds fund raisers like car washes and pizza sales to keep it going.

It's not an easy volunteer job, McFadden said. Most of the calls are in the early morning hours around 2 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. McFadden said he obtains the caller's location and a number at which the caller can be reached so that when he drives up, he can call for the person to come out. Sometimes the rides are just a few miles, but they can be longer, he said. One call took him to north Macon.

"Generally, the airmen we pick up are pretty drunk," he said. "I have seen the gamut, from people who will just sit there to those who are falling asleep, loud or laughing. I



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Staff Sgt. Hugh McFadden is one of many Airmen Against Drunk Driving volunteers giving rides to airmen who have been drinking. In the past three years, the organization has served about 500 airmen.

also have had quite a few rides for airmen who have had two or three beers and just didn't want to take the risk of driving home. That's a very good thing in our view."

When McFadden was seven, his mother spent six months in a wheelchair recovering from an auto accident caused by a drunk driver. "My parents drilled the

warnings about drinking and driving in my head when I was younger," he said. "When I saw the opportunity to be sure others didn't make the mistake, I decided I wanted to make sure others didn't do it. There are so many things in the world that cause harm or death that we can't prevent. This is one of the things we can prevent."

"My parents drilled the warnings about drinking and driving in my head when I was younger. When I saw the opportunity to be sure others didn't make the mistake, I decided I wanted to make sure others didn't do it."

Staff Sgt. Hugh McFadden
Airmen Against Drunk Driving volunteer

Air Force maintains zero tolerance for drunk drivers

By Lt. Col. Mark R. Strickland

Deputy Staff Judge Advocate

The Air Force's zero tolerance drunk driving policy is not a paper tiger. The rule has teeth.

Article 111 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice - the UCMJ - calls for punishment as a court-martial may direct for military members who drive drunk or recklessly operate any motor vehicle, specifically addressing those who:

- Operate or physically control a motor vehicle impaired by drugs, whether legal, illegal or controlled, or
- Operate or are in physical control of a motor vehicle while drunk or with an alcohol concentration in the blood or breath of 0.10 grams of alcohol per 100 milliliters of blood, or 0.10 grams of alcohol per 210 liters of breath.

Recent changes to the UCMJ make the legal blood alcohol limit equivalent to the limit of the state in which the military installation is located.

In Georgia, the legal limit is 0.08 grams of alcohol per 100 milliliters of blood. Essentially, you could be found guilty of DUI if you operate or control a motor vehicle while drunk, impaired or with an alcohol concentration in your blood or breath above the state's legal limit.

The term "physical control" describes your capability and power to direct or regulate the vehicle, either in person or through someone else, regardless of whether the vehicle is actually operated.



U.S. Air Force photo illustration by Sue Sapp

Recent changes to the UCMJ make the legal blood alcohol limit equivalent to the limit of the state in which the military installation is located. In Georgia, the legal limit is 0.08 grams of alcohol per 100 milliliters of blood.

For example, an intoxicated person seated behind the steering wheel with the keys in or near the ignition, but with the engine turned off, could be deemed in actual physical control of that vehicle.

However, a person asleep in the back seat with the keys in his or her pocket would not be deemed in actual physical control.

The terms "drunk" or "impaired" mean any intoxication that is sufficient to impair the rational and full exercise of the mental or physical faculties.

The term drunk is used in relation to intoxication by alcohol. The

term impaired is used in relation to intoxication by drugs, whether legal, illegal or controlled.

Commanders may choose from a variety of tools to handle drunken driving offenses. They may use adverse administrative action (Letter of Reprimand / Unfavorable Information File) or the UCMJ with nonjudicial punishment in the form of an Article 15. They may also prefer charges to a court-martial.

Typically, an on-base DUI will be punished under the UCMJ. Punishment under Article 15 may include loss of rank, pay and liberty. In addition, a General Court-

Martial may impose a maximum sentence of bad-conduct discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, confinement for six months and reduction to the lowest enlisted grade.

The maximum sentence may be increased if the offense results in personal injury or damage to property. In those cases, the penalty may include a dishonorable discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, confinement for 18 months, and reduction to the lowest enlisted grade.

Also, being charged for DUI does not preclude prosecution for other offenses arising from the drunken driving (for example, destruction of property, assault or homicide charges).

Action by the commander does not prohibit action by the state if the DUI occurs off base. Under state law, the maximum punishment for first offenders includes the following: \$1,000 fine, 10 days to 12 months imprisonment, 40 hours of community service and completion of a DUI Alcohol or Drug Use Risk Reduction Program.

Subsequent offenses increase the minimum prison time to a 90-120 day range and also include a clinical evaluation and mandatory probation.

Any DUI conviction, on or off-base, may result in the loss of base driving privileges, as well as the loss of the offender's driver's license.

Although exempt from UCMJ

What to know

On-base DUI

Typically, an on-base DUI will be punished under the UCMJ. Punishment under Article 15 may include:

- loss of rank, pay and liberty
- a maximum sentence of bad-conduct discharge
- forfeiture of all pay and allowances
- confinement for six months
- reduction to the lowest enlisted grade

Off-base DUI

Action by the commander does not prohibit action by the state if the DUI occurs off base. Under state law, the maximum punishment for first offenders includes the following:

- \$1,000 fine
- 10 days to 12 months imprisonment
- 40 hours of community service
- completion of a DUI Alcohol or Drug Use Risk Reduction Program

Subsequent offenses increase the minimum prison time to a 90-120 day range and also include a clinical evaluation and mandatory probation.

punishment, on-base civilian offenders may be prosecuted in the United States Federal District Court with the application of the Georgia DUI laws.

You have to ask yourself this: Is it worth it?

DRINK

Continued from 1A

"We have good reason to be concerned," said Staff Sgt. Jonathan M. Kennedy, a member of the Security Forces' Police Services team. "Unfortunately, the statistics for a zero-tolerance offense are on the rise."

Robins had 13 driving under the influence charges on base and 13 off base since July this year, 10 of them in November.

"You Drink, You Drive, You Lose," is the title of the official awareness and prevention campaign the squadron hopes will put the brakes on driving

under the influence of alcohol, particularly during the holidays. Law enforcement officers will be increasing vigilance and setting up DUI checkpoints to deter and detect driving under the influence of alcohol.

"Drinking and driving don't mix," Kennedy said. "Everyone should think about that before going to a holiday party."

He offered three simple guidelines:

- Never get behind the wheel unless you're completely sober.

- If you're going to drink, use a designated driver or call for a ride.

- Only time will sober you

up. It takes an average of one hour per drink to get the alcohol out of your system. Coffee, cold showers and eating are not going to sober you up.

Think first

"Consider the consequences before driving drunk," Kennedy said. "It is not only your life you may be saving. It is the life of everyone else on the road. Have a plan before you go out and have a good time. Bring a designated driver, call a taxi service, call your supervisor, but don't drink and drive." (A Robins network, Airmen Against Drunk Driving, also offers

rides home. See related story above.)

He suggested that people consider the effects of alcohol on their bodies. Alcohol acts like an anesthetic, dulling areas of the brain that enable people to make sensible decisions. Drinking slows reflexes and hinders coordination. Drivers who can't react quickly are a hazard to themselves and others.

There's more. Drinking may cause drowsiness. When alertness decreases, the chances of having a crash increase. Alcohol can cause double vision and blurring. It also reduces peripheral vision, making it difficult to see vehicles approaching

from the left or right.

Many drinkers don't realize that beer and wine are just as potent as liquor. Twelve ounces of beer, 5 ounces of wine and 1 and one half ounces of 80-proof liquor all contain about the same amount of alcohol.

It isn't pretty

Being nailed for DUI, "just isn't pretty," said Tech. Sgt. Mike Olson, a Warner Robins patrolman called back to active-duty service after Sept. 11, 2001. He's served as a civilian police officer for more than 15 years and handled more than 30 DUIs during his career.

"We see different types of people caught in DUI situations," Olson said. "They think they know enough about law enforcement that they can beat the DUI test. Some think they can talk themselves out of it, and once the handcuffs go on, they sometimes become abusive. Some are cooperative. They know they have messed up and are apologetic."

"I know that I have a job to do, and I know that if I apprehend a DUI on base it will affect a career," he said, "but the most important thing is keeping people safe. We are out to save lives. If I can get someone who is driving while impaired off the street, then I've done my job."

Security Forces: 36 who didn't 'click it' got a ticket

By Chris Zdrakas

chris.zdrakas@robins.af.mil

The 78th Security Forces Squadron had put out the word to drivers: "If you won't buckle up to save your life, then buckle up to save yourself a ticket."

Thirty-six people didn't listen.

The squadron issued that many citations during its two-week "Click It or Ticket" campaign Nov. 17 to 30, as patrolmen manning the gates and on base roads looked for

people who hadn't buckled up.

Lt. Col. Mark Papen, commander of the 78th Security Forces Squadron, said the campaign was successful because the flights in the squadron got behind the effort 100 percent.

"By increasing their vigilance at the gates and on patrol, Security Forces may have saved a life or helped someone avoid an injury," Papen said.

"We're not kidding about the need to buckle up. By

this time, anyone who doesn't know that wearing a seatbelt is the law and saves lives isn't listening."

The Click It or Ticket campaign saw law enforcement officers across the state conducting concentrated patrols and manning checkpoints to increase awareness that seatbelts save lives.

Georgia Office of

Highway Safety Director Bob Dallas has said that buckling up is the most cost-effective way to reduce injuries and deaths on Georgia highways because it's free.

Papen said there's another way to look at it: "Every motor vehicle trip that doesn't begin with the snap of a seatbelt could be the last trip for a driver or passenger."

"You have to ask yourself if the investment of the few seconds it takes to buckle up is worth it," he said.

"And if you decide it isn't, keep in mind that this year nearly 8,000 other Americans will have made the same decision. And by the time the year is over, 8,000 unbuckled Americans will have died in traffic accidents."



The 78th Security Forces Squadron issued 36 citations during its two-week "Click It or Ticket" campaign Nov. 17 - 30.

Holiday notes



U.S. Air Force file photo

The Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve, under the direction of Maj. Alan Clark, will present a holiday concert at the Warner Robins Civic Center Thursday. This year's program is sponsored by the City of Warner Robins, the Middle Georgia Newspaper Group, the Houston Arts Alliance, WMAZ-TV 13, and the Air Force Association. "Holiday Notes at Home" will be the theme of the concert. The show will feature a mixture of traditional holiday carols, contemporary favorites, and a few novelty segments from smaller ensembles within the band. Dixie Express, the Woodwind and Brass Quintets, Jazz Combo, Southern Aire and TubaChristmas will make special appearances to add to the holiday cheer. Showtime is 7 p.m., with doors open at 6 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public; tickets are not required.

- Senior Airman Rebecca L. Collins

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Commander READS



Courtesy photo

Col. Silvia Signars Anderson, 78th Mission Support Group commander, represented Robins as a presenter at the Renew, Empower, Action and Determination Foundation's Girls' Conference at Tabor Middle School recently. Anderson stressed the importance of early planning and discipline. Girls ages 6-18 attended the conference. Anderson, left, introduced guest speaker Erika Tate, right, a Houston County High School and Brown University graduate.

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recycle

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Inspector General – ‘Not just a black hat’

By Col. William R. Saunders
Warner Robins Air Logistics Center
inspector general

We are not just “black hats.” We’re the nice guys on the base. Just like the FBI, security forces and legal – we are your friends, and I mean that.

When most people realize they’re talking with the IG, they immediately change their persona - or at least stop and think - before continuing to engage in candid conversation.



Saunders

My role as the Air Logistics Center/Installation IG is to be your facilitator, your middle-man, your sounding board, your independent and objective fact-finder.

I want you to truly feel this from me and my staff - that we are here to help you resolve your issues, concerns, or complaints. We look at processes and gather facts. We work for the truth regardless of whether you are the complainant or the accused (subject of an allegation).

You can come and see me or my staff at any time. My motto is “Every individual has a right to speak to the IG.”

I must foot stomp this point. Absolutely no one can stop you from coming to see me!

Over the past 18 months, I have spent my time being visible within the Robins community – letting you know that this IG is one of you, that I put on my pants the same way you do – hopefully, one leg at a time (Smile) – and that you can’t be about the business of taking care of people if you don’t understand what they do, how they feel, or the perceptions (real or perceived) they may have of working at Robins Air Force Base.

So with that background informa-

tion, let me take a moment to have a candid conversation with you (senior leadership, managers, supervisors, subordinates, all personnel affiliated with Team Robins) regarding my thoughts on having a relationship with the IG:

First of all and for those of you who know me, I don’t like the word complaint even though the IG system uses the word.

In my opinion, complaint infers a negative connotation, a negative visit to my office and that something major is wrong - in most cases, it is not major at all.

What I do like are the words “issues or concerns” regarding visits to my office - they tend to be a little softer, kinder, gentler and in line with the new Air Force.

What I have seen in the past 18 months and basically my entire career (almost 27 years) is that most people visit an IG office or another grievance channel because of a communication problem.

Therefore, my focus today is on communications.

Simply defined, communications is a prerequisite to understanding. And without understanding, there is no awareness. Without awareness, there is no consensus for change.

Without consensus to change, attitudes, personalities, habits, work ethics, approaches to doing business remain the same.

Things remaining the same leads to frustration, anger, bad work climate and poor working relationships – and oh yes, complaints, issues and concerns.

At this point in the communication’s process, your friendly neighborhood grievance channel representatives usually become involved.

You know who they are, don’t you? Answer: The IG, Office of Special Investigations, Judge Advocate, Security Forces, Military Equal Opportunity Office, Equal Employment Office, the Union, Civilian Personnel, Labor Relations.

It’s important to note that most issues brought to the IG are the

“First of all and for those of you who know me, I don’t like the word complaint even though the IG system uses the word. In my opinion, complaint infers a negative connotation, a negative visit to my office and that something major is wrong – in most cases, it is not major at all. What I do like are the words ‘issues or concerns’ regarding visits to my office – they tend to be a little softer, kinder, gentler and in line with the new Air Force. What I have seen in the past 18 months and basically my entire career (almost 27 years) is that most people visit an IG office or another grievance channel because of a communication problem.”

direct result of misunderstandings, miscommunications, no communication, perceptions, misperceptions and verbal or nonverbal cues.

With that in mind, let me suggest some ideas (not all inclusive) that may help all of us communicate effectively up and down the chain of command:

■ Make sure that you – and I mean all of you, managers and employees alike – are doing everything you can to understand the mission and objective of your organization – that your mission and objective is clear, simple and short.

■ Make sure that you are taking time to increase your awareness level regards professional development avenues available to you – that you are taking the time to read or visit the Internet because just about everything you need to know is written somewhere (every organization has a homepage) – that you are not blaming someone else for things that are within your control-that you are taking the time to educate yourself – that you are keeping up with 21st century technology changes that may or may not render your cur-

rent job obsolete.

■ If you are management, get up from your desk and walk around. Let your folks get to know who you are. Look your folks in the eyes and say “hi.” Don’t just rely on your management chain to provide you with all the facts and answers – note the operative words are all the facts and answers. Every now and then, you need to be your own eyes and ears.

Make sure your employees can come to you with questions, concerns or issues – and oh yeah, complaints.

If your employees are apprehensive about coming to you, that might be indicative of a problem within your chain of command. It may suggest that you are not accessible.

Are your managers truly representing your views or are they embellishing or interpreting your views incorrectly?

The direct result of your employees not being able to come to you is that they come to see me, the IG.

I find it personally rewarding to spend a little time with your employees, scheduled and unsched-

uled, formal and informal. You will be surprised at what you might learn.

Speak from the heart and always be sincere and honest. If you’re not, your people will know immediately.

Don’t just talk to your people because you think you have too, because the regulations say that you must, do it because it’s the right thing to do.

And when you talk, be sincere and honest. If your folks did something nice, tell them so – tell them “Thanks.”

Conversely, if your people did something bad, tell them it was bad. Bad news is bad news and it doesn’t get any better with time.

Take the time to know your people. Knowledge may help you properly interpret the signs of stress-related problems and in many cases prevent future problems from occurring.

Let your people know that you’re human, and given the right set of circumstances, you are prone to make mistakes just like them.

If you make a mistake, own up to it, learn from it and move on. This applies to all equally.

The good news is that visits to the IG concerning complaints and congressional issues are down.

I attribute this to management and employee involvement, visibility of the IG staff and programs – especially in regards to presenting an image that the IG is here for their needs, speaks from the heart, treats all with respect and is totally customer-service oriented.

Let’s continue the downward trend of IG related issues.

My staff and I would like to wish you and yours a very happy holiday.

You have a new friend today in the Center IG. We’re located in Building 215, second floor, Suite 204. You can also visit our Website on the Robins homepage. We’ll continue to make improvements that enhance customer service to you.

Air Force leaders celebrate Centennial of Flight

WASHINGTON (AFP) – The following is a joint message from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper: “It was the most significant 12 seconds of the last 100 years. “On Dec. 17, 1903, two bicycle builders from Ohio, Orville and Wilbur Wright,

launched the world on a path to the heavens when their rudimentary airplane of wire, wood and canvas wings lifted off a windy, grassy hill at Kitty Hawk. “Since their marvelous achievement, aviation has enabled our expansion, enhanced our commerce and expanded our communication.

“Military aviation developed quickly after that first flight. The names and exploits of our airpower pioneers are melded into our nation’s history: Rickenbacker, Mitchell, Doolittle, Davis, Cochran and Yeager, to name just a few. “While our past is storied, our present and future remain as boundless and adventurous

as the Wright Brothers’ dream. Because of our great airmen in today’s Air Force, we have developed, operated, and exploited advanced weapons systems and technologies – from sensors and aircraft to lasers and satellites – enabling us to own the ultimate high ground and dominate any battlespace. “The Centennial of Flight

is as much about our future as it is about our past. We commend you for all that you do every day to promote this heritage and provide our nation with the finest air and space force in the world. “We’re proud to serve alongside you as we continue to discover ways to slip the surly bonds and deliver peace and freedom for our nation.”



Roche

Jumper

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



Commander’s Action Line

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

Col. Tom Smoot
Commander,
78th Air Base Wing



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 at https://www.mil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm. 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.

following addresses: If sending from a military e-mail system select, Robins Commanders Action

Security Forces.....327-3445
Services Division.....926-5491
EEO Office.....926-2131
Employee Relations...926-5802
Military Pay.....926-3777
IDEA.....926-2536
Base hospital.....327-7850
Civil engineering.....926-5657
Public Affairs.....926-2137
Safety Office.....926-6271
Fraud, Waste and Abuse
hotline.....926-2393
Housing Office.....926-3776

Military Personnel Flight kudos

On Nov. 22, a Saturday, your Military Personnel Flight was open to provide services from 10 a.m. - noon. I was one who took advantage of this service. As a retired military member, I am pleased to see a support organization going over and above to support the Air Force mission. The officer in charge

and noncommissioned officer in charge should be commended for this fresh approach and for giving up their personal time. In the future when I go to personnel – I will know this place cares.

Col. Smoot’s replies: Thank you very much for the superb feedback on the military personnel flight initiative. I will pass your compliments on to the flight commander and his cus-

tom service team; I know they will appreciate your comments. The next opportunity for weekend service in the MPF will be Saturday, from 10 a.m. - noon. Services offered will include dependent ID cards, retiree ID cards and DEERS updates only.

The MPF will determine if there is a need for limited weekend service in the future and, if so, will announce the dates in the Rev-Up.



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Family Advocacy offers guidelines for children staying home

By **Mary Hodgkins**
Family Advocacy Officer

Question: *At what age can parents feel comfortable allowing their children to play or stay at home without adult supervision?*

Answer: *It depends on the child.*

Winter break, a special fun time for children, is one of those periods in a year when children begin coaxing parents to allow them some independence.

The 78th Air Base Wing commander has approved guidelines to help parents decide when it's time to allow children to go unsupervised.

The Department of Family and Children's Services and Family Advocacy Program use the guidelines when they are asked to evaluate "home alone" situations.

Parents should know the following:

- Infants and children under 4 should not be left alone.

- Children ages 5 through 8 may walk to school and the youth center. They also can play outside if an adult can see or hear them and checks on them frequently.

- Children ages 9 through 12 may be left alone for a short time if they are responsible and capable.

- Children ages 12 and older may be left in charge of a younger child

- Children 17 years old may be left home alone overnight for a few days if consistently responsible, but adult supervision must be readily available and there must be periodic checks.

A child who demonstrates these traits consistently is probably capable of self-care:

- Completes chores.
- Follows directions.

- Tells problems to parents.

- Uses good judgment.
- Knows how to contact and respond to emergencies like fire, poison and injuries.

- Knows rules of personal safety, including handling phone calls, strangers at the door, sexual assault safety.

- Knows house rules and what is expected from parents, and is aware of guidelines for acceptable behavior.

- Is comfortable being

alone.

- Demonstrates the ability to follow the safety plan and to make decisions that reflect concern for personal safety.

- Knows how to access parent or other responsible adult at all times (including knowing the parent or caretaker's whereabouts and having a telephone number where parent can be reached).

- Adults who are in doubt about leaving a child or chil-

dren alone shouldn't do it. It's always better to be safe than sorry.

In households with children who don't get along, even if they're older, it's wise to have an adult in charge of some arrangements made for the children.

Anyone with questions or anyone who sees a situation in which children seem to be at risk should contact the Family Advocacy Office at 327-8398.

What to know

The 78th Air Base Wing commander has approved guidelines to help parents decide when it's time to allow children to go unsupervised. Adults who are in doubt about leaving a child or children alone shouldn't do it. In households with children who don't get along, even if they are older, it's wise to have an adult in charge of some arrangements made for the children.

Anyone with questions or anyone who sees a situation in which children seem to be at risk should contact the Family Advocacy Office at 327-8398.

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'Bare base in reverse'

Prince Sultan Air Base: What went up came down ... 13 years later

By Chris Zdrakas
chris.zdrakas@robins.af.mil

Civil engineers – the resident experts on developing air bases on barren, often-remote sites – reversed the process in Saudi Arabia, dismantling much of an installation that had been a mainstay of Operation Iraqi Freedom and campaigns before it.

Lt. Col. Joe Ballard, who commanded the squadron that completed the dismantling of Prince Sultan Air Base coalition facilities in Saudi Arabia, dubbed the project “bare base in reverse.”

In the CE world, bare base means just what it says – developing and equipping a working air base from scratch.

Ballard, commander of the 778th Civil Engineer Squadron, arrived home this fall after three months in Saudi Arabia with the 363rd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron. When closure actions began, teams from F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo.; Beale Air Force Base, Calif.; Eglis Air Force Base, Fla. and McChord Air Force Base, Wash., charted a course that resulted in much work being done in six weeks. Teams from Robins; Shaw Air Force Base, S.C.; Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C.; Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas; and Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, were tapped to complete the closure.

Ballard said base closures such as PSAB’s can take up to two years. His squadron tackled the challenge of getting it done in less than four months - and did it ahead of schedule.

“The PSAB motto, ‘One Team, One Fight,’ never became more important,” Ballard said. “The entire base started feverishly packing, crating and shipping as much equipment as possible to other locations.”

Ballard said when he arrived at PSAB, the squadron had gone from 550 to 330 people, the planes were gone and “Maintenance City,” where flight line activity centered, was quickly closing.

Breaking it down

Ballard said his teams broke down the largest contingency power plants in Air Force history and environmentally cleaned the sites for turnover to the Royal Saudi Air Force. Teams also dismantled, discarded or salvaged major water distribution systems.

The engineers recovered and returned to their original states three major fuel storage and distribution areas, the largest contingency fuels farms in the Air Force; cleaned and inspected more than 1,200 base facilities and organized keys to be turned over to the Saudis. The Royal Saudi Air Force plans to use what’s left of the base as its air force academy.

Ballard described as “monumental” the environmental flight’s task of preparing and shipping more than 1,000 drums of hazardous waste valued at \$800,000. Bio-environmental and public health personnel took more than 160 soil samples from every area of the base’s 16,000 acres to ensure all were contamination free.

Among the key people working to beat the clock were 1st Lt. Charles Fletcher, environmental coordinator; 2nd Lt. Allen Smith, engineering staff officer who worked air conditioning and plumbing problems and quickly became synonymous with “mayor;” and 2nd Lt. Eric Morgan,



Photos courtesy of the 778th Civil Engineer Squadron

Above, members from the 363rd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron lower flags in preparation of the site’s turnover to the Royal Saudi Air Force. Below, members of the squadron pose in front of the civil engineer complex toward the end of their mission.

What it entailed

- Empty buildings and move materiel; dismantle power grid and water distribution system
- Pack up 180 tents and 12 general purpose shelters for shipment elsewhere
- Move 12 million pounds of munitions from the Air Force’s largest contingency storage area
- Dismantle biological detection units and distribute \$804 million in nuclear, biological and chemical equipment to other bases.

who was in charge of closing the base’s west ammunition area. Ballard said the latter was called “Viperland” because of its population of snakes, cobras and vipers.

Some like it hot

Fletcher said while his flight had a lot of work to accomplish in a short time, the deployment was “not bad at all...just hot.” Mid-afternoon temperatures could reach 130-plus. During the peak heat, the engineers were allowed to work 20 minutes outside, then had to spend 40 minutes inside.

“It was a challenge because of the time we were allowed outside. We learned to work hard and



smart,” Fletcher said.

Senior Master Sgt. Rick Singhas was chief of operations for the PSAB project, and his primary focus was tearing down the infrastructure and getting it shipped out. It was a deployment he said he enjoyed.

“In our field,” he said, “if you love CE, you stay until the end. If you don’t like it, you are normally gone by the first term. We are a close-knit community. We work hard, and we stick together.”

He said he was “begging to go” on deployment because in the past he was never in the right place at the right time to be shipped overseas.

“Our team as a whole stuck together,” he said. “We did every-

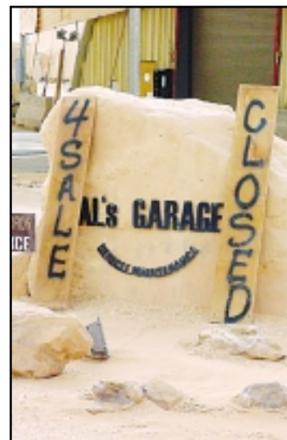
thing quicker than we expected, thanks to a super bunch of people. You mention you needed something done, and they were already on top of it and working it.”

An invitation for tea

He also had a rare opportunity to socialize with Saudi nationals. He and others repaired a water pump and generator on a security site outside the base gates. The site was operated by the Saudis and maintained by the Air Force.

“They didn’t speak English,” he said, “but we got invited for tea. We communicated with hand gestures and smiles.”

Teamwork was a recurring theme



Signs outside of the 363rd Logistics Readiness Squadron vehicle maintenance shop comment on the impending base closure.

‘Life at PSAB was good’

During its 13-year Air Force history, PSAB was home to more than 150,000 Air Force personnel, Lt. Col. Joe Ballard, who commanded the squadron that completed the dismantling of Prince Sultan Air Base coalition facilities in Saudi Arabia, said. The military invested millions for construction on and around the base, giving it what Ballard described as “some of the best facilities in the AOR – area of responsibility – or in the Air Force for that matter.”

The base’s buildup began in 1997 following the Khobar Towers bombing in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. Ballard said PSAB went from an obscure working location for U.S. and coalition forces to the main operating hub for U.S. Central Command.

At the peak of Operation Iraqi Freedom, the base housed more than 10,000 coalition forces in dorms, tents, trailers and pre-engineered buildings. More than 150 aircraft occupied the ramp during the campaign, flying 3,500-plus sorties. Before that, thousands of sorties flew from PSAB in support of Operations Desert Storm, Southern Watch and Enduring Freedom. The Air Force decided to close the base at the official end of OIF.

Built on a remote site about 75 miles south of Riyadh, the base had modern dormitories, a full-sized swimming pool, five major dining facilities, numerous Air Force Army Exchange Service vendors like Burger King and Pizza Hut and a Chinese restaurant.

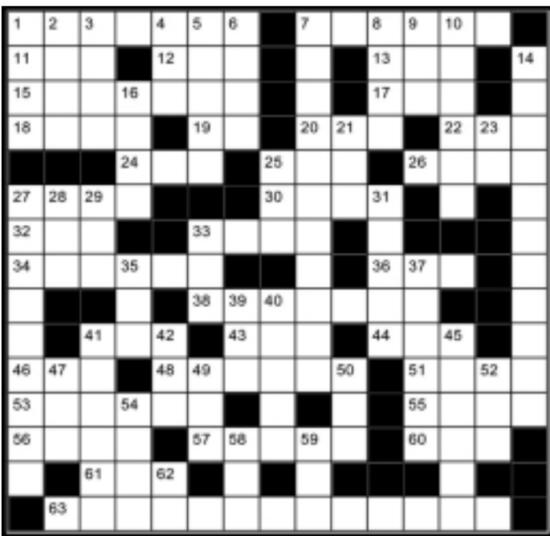
“At the end of OIF, the last major operation supported from PSAB, the base rivaled many main operating bases in the continental United States and Western Europe as far as facilities and infrastructure are concerned,” he said. “Permanent and deployed personnel enjoyed a full-sized swimming pool as nice as any in the states. Life at PSAB was good.”

– Chris Zdrakas

of the Robins contingent.

“I think the entire operation taught all of us a lot about teamwork,” Ballard said. “Many details you don’t tend to think about when you are operating at a base become very important when you are actually closing and leaving for the last time. Normally, when we deploy somewhere, you’ve got people whose creative juices are always flowing to make the place better – add an office here, an air conditioner there, make the gym better. This time, our creative juices were used in the reverse. Our folks were able to meet all the obstacles, and they did so in a totally professional way. I can’t say enough how proud they made Robins.”

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Centennial of Flight

By 1st Lt. Tony Wickman
Alaskan Command Public Affairs

ACROSS

1. Brother who completed first flight on 12/17/1903
7. Brother made last, longest flight on 12/17/1903
11. Anguish
12. Internet provider
13. Three per inning?
15. Forever
17. Picnic pest
18. Bet
19. State home to Offutt AFB (postal abbrev.)
20. Lord
22. Inventor Whitney
24. Navy equivalent to AFB
25. Huhs?
26. Imp
27. Hitch
30. Ford cars
32. Charged particle
33. Comedian Foxworthy
34. Number of seconds first flight lasted
36. St. alternative
38. What 1, 7 ACROSS made prior to planes
41. Smack
43. Military meal?
44. Terminate
46. Drink Yoo-___
48. Presents
51. Org. concerned with atomic power/weapons
53. Come
55. Greenish blue
56. Go
57. Walks through water
60. Military time to go (abbrev.)
61. ___ de cologne; perfume
63. State that was site for first flight on 12/17/1903

3. Swerve
4. Computer connection
5. Debts
6. Fashion magazine
7. Name of first heavier-than-air craft made by 1, 7 ACROSS
8. Cargo
9. Hot dog need
10. States
14. Current location of 7

DOWN

16. Let
21. Rumsfeld's office (abbrev.)
23. State home to Barksdale AFB (postal abbrev.)
25. Tolkien character
27. Location of first flight
28. Immediately
29. Single
31. Old
33. George Bush's brother in FL
35. Zodiac sign
37. Italian city of canals
39. World banking fund (abbrev.)
40. Principle
41. Island in the Malay Archipelago
42. Acronym for military member's car
45. Home to 1, 7 ACROSS
47. Mining goal
49. Limited
50. Sibling
52. Shannon Sharpe pitched dietary supplement company
54. ___-TASS; Russian news agency
58. Part of a circle
59. Piece of corn
62. State home to Hill AFB (postal abbrev.)

For puzzle solution, see Dec. 19 edition of the Rev-Up

Puzzle solution for Dec. 5



LEAVE/TRANSFER

The following people have been approved as participants in the leave transfer program.

- Julie Mae Slocumb**, 78th MSG/DPCCB. Point of contact is Angie Ard at 926-3805, extension 193.
- Linda Jo M. Dupree**, WRALC/LSTPS. Point of contact is William Sheppard at 926-7508.
- Althea Ferguson**, 78th MSG/DPCPA. Point of contact is Lisa Bailey at 926-3805, extension 316.
- Delores Stock**, WR-ALC/LUG0. Point of contact is Mark Dixon at 926-3881.

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 e-mail at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil. Submissions run for two weeks.

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 Macon synagogue.

Islamic Friday Prayer (Jumuah) Fridays at 2 p.m. in the chapel annex Rooms 1 and 2.

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

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.

Bundles for babies & infant care

The Air Force Aid Society will conduct a Bundles For Babies & Infant Care class Wednesday, 8 a.m. - noon, Building 827, (old base gym) HAWC classroom. The course is for all active

duty Air Force families preparing for a new baby.

Community tour

The FSC is sponsoring a community tour for all Team Robins members and their eligible family members, Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. - 1p.m. Meet at the center.

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. Tired of staying home? Need to get out? Want to make new friends? We have just the

thing you are looking for. Let's "Get Together" for conversation, laughter, and a bit of fun and refreshments. Come and learn about the fun things there are to do in Middle Georgia and make a new friend in the process.

Resume and cover letter workshop

Reservations are being accepted for a Resume and Cover Letter Workshop Thursday, 9 - 11 a.m., Building 945, FSC annex. This class is designed to help the beginner get started and provide the more advanced participant the opportunity to improve their product.

STREAMING VIDEO



ROBINS REPORT

News from around the base - Watson and Cox Channel 15
Friday - 8 p.m.
Sunday - 1:30 p.m.
Monday - noon

SERVICES BRIEFS

Aero Club 926-4867

The 2003 "Start Flying" promotion is underway until April 30. Active-duty and retired military, DoD civilian employees and their families who are interested in earning their private pilot's certification are invited to take advantage of the "Start Flying" promotion with introductory flights for \$49. For more information, call 926-4867.

The Aero Club will conduct Christmas light flights Monday through Dec. 24. Qualified commercial pilots will escort families on flights to see area Christmas lights from the sky. Cost is \$60 per half hour or \$100 per hour for up to three people. Reservations are required. For more information, call 926-4867.

Base Restaurant 926-6972

A renovation project to improve the facility will begin at the end of the month. During this period, cafeteria-type meals, fried chicken, deli-bar, salad bar, burger bar and breakfast to order will be offered.

Child Development Centers East and West 926-5805/3080

A holiday cookie project is scheduled for Dec. 19 at 2 p.m. Parents are encouraged to come assist children with decorating holiday cookies and to enjoy the finished products.

Enlisted Club 926-4515

A member's only Children's Christmas party and bingo will be held Dec. 20 featuring a mini buffet and pictures with Santa from noon - 1 p.m. and a kiddies bingo from 1:15 - 2 p.m. Parents must be present for kids 10 years and younger. Stop by the cashier

office to pick up a free ticket by Thursday.

Enjoy a New Year's Eve gala at the enlisted club. Tickets are on sale and club will open at 5 p.m., light hors d'oeuvres, down-home southern breakfast buffet, complimentary champagne and party favors will be offered. There will be sounds from DJ Silk in J.R. Rockers and Conquest in the ballroom beginning at 9 p.m. Cost is \$10 for members and \$15 for guests.

Information, Tickets and Travel 926-0093

Wild Adventure Theme Park season tickets will be available at ITT or Quick Shot Café, Building 16, Monday for \$55. These tickets will be on sale for one day only for ages three and older. Season parking passes will be available for \$21 per car. For more information call 926-2945.

Officers' Club 926-2670

New Year's Eve tickets are on sale for \$30 per person. Featured entertainers will be Tommy West and the Sensations from 8 p.m. - 1 a.m. and Total Sound Productions in the main lounge from 8 p.m. - midnight. There will be a dinner buffet and party favors.

Enjoy the sounds of E.G. Kight Dec. 19 from 6 - 10 p.m. This entertainer has been compared to Phoebe Snow, Bonnie Raitt and k.d lang. She has been called the female Delbert McClinton.

Skills Development Center 926-5282

The skills development center will offer the following classes:

MOVIE SCHEDULE

Friday 7:30 p.m. - Mystic River - Sean Penn and Kevin Bacon

Jimmy, Dave and Sean find themselves thrust back together by the murder of Jimmy's daughter. As the investigation tightens around these three friends, an onimous story unfolds that revolves around friendship, family and innocence. Rated R (language and violence) 137 minutes

Saturday 2 p.m. - Brother Bear - Juaquin Phoenix and Jeremy Suarez

Kenai is killed by a bear. During the young man's attempt to avenge his death by killing the bear, the Great Spirits transform the young man into the thing he detests most - a bear. Rated G 85 minutes

7:30 p.m. - Scary Movie 3 - Anna Farris and Charlie Sheen

Cindy has graduated from college and now works as a local television reporter. While investigating mysterious crop circles at the farm of Tom Logan, she learns that she is "The One" and helps the President of the United States prevent an alien invasion. Rated PG-13 (crude and sexual humor, language, comic violence and drug references) 90 minutes



Acrylic painting: Tuesday, 10 a.m. - noon, cost \$10

Stepping stone (poinsettia): Wednesday, noon - 2 p.m., cost \$12.50

Scrapbooking (holiday): today, 12:30 - 2 p.m., cost \$12.50

Watercolor: Monday, noon - 2 p.m., cost \$10;

Oil painting: Thursday, 10 a.m. - noon, cost \$12.50

Beginning knitting: every Monday, 10 a.m. - noon, cost \$5

Kid's painting: Wednesday, 6 - 7:30 p.m., cost \$12.50

Wood lathe: Thursday, 6 - 8 p.m., cost \$35

Registration and payment is required for all classes. Class space is limited. All classes are subject to change. For more information, call 926-5282.

Smith Community Center 926-2105

The USO is wrapping gifts now through Dec. 19 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the center. For more information, call 926-2105.

The Smith Community Center will be conducting a videotaped talent search for Tops In Blue Jan. 20 in the community center ballroom. Both entertainers and support staff are needed for the talent competition and Tops In Blue.

If interested, call Cheryl Dollard at 926-2105 to set up a recording session.

A six-week class for beginner and intermediate Quilting 101 will start Jan. 7 in the community center ballroom. Cost is \$55. Classes will be held on Wednesdays or Thursdays from 6 - 8 p.m. For more information, call 926-2105.

JSTARS member hits a hole in one

**By Airman 1st Class
Tim Beckham**

116th Air Control Wing
Public Affairs

From the flight line to the fairway, Amy Rongey is right on course.

A first lieutenant and air battle manager for the 16th Airborne Command and Control Squadron, she was recently awarded first place in the Conseil International du Sport Militaire (CISM) World Military Golf Championship in Jacksonville, Fla.

Rongey beat out fellow American, Angela Baskette, and South African native, Karen Watts, in a sudden death playoff hole to claim victory in the 55-military member international tournament.

“Winning the CISM tournament felt awesome, of course, and being interviewed by the Golf Channel was great,” said Rongey. “I also really enjoyed the off-course time spent with the other international players.”

While Rongey was on her championship run she had many great moments, but said one stood out above the rest.

“The defining moment came on the sudden-death hole,” said Rongey. “I was chipping from the bunker and my shot landed on the green about 10 feet from the hole. I was the only one putting for birdie, and when I made the putt, I knew I had won.”

Rongey, who joined the military in 1997, and was commissioned in 2000, has goals for both her golfing and military career.

She said her golfing goals include winning next season’s program and becoming a repeat champion, while her career goals include attending weapons school at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.

Rongey has been playing golf since age 11, and said she and her brother spent the majority of their childhood summers on the golf course.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Tim Beckham

Amy Rongey, 16th Airborne Command and Control Squadron air battle manager, sinks a putt at Pine Oaks Golf Course Dec. 3.

“It’s just something I love to do,” said Rongey. “You get to be outside all day, and it’s a great way to meet new people that you otherwise wouldn’t get to meet.”

Between her father, her coaches and her idols, Rongey has had many positive influences throughout her life.

“I looked up to profession-

al golfer Nancy Lopez, she always had a great attitude even when she was playing bad,” said Rongey. “My college coach, Bill Branch, instilled that same mentality of ‘show no emotion’ in me, and my dad gave me confidence. He (Rongey’s dad) taught me to just be confident and play the game. It doesn’t matter who you’re playing

with or what they play like, but to just play my game.”

Although Rongey doesn’t have the time to play golf as much as she would like, trying to balance both work and family, she still remains dedicated to her military career.

“My military career comes first,” said Rongey. “I have always had a sense of duty to serve in the military. If golf came first to me, I wouldn’t be in the military.”

“Amy’s accomplishment, although an individual one, makes everyone in the 116th proud to call her one of our own,” said Col. Tom Lynn, 116th Air Control Wing commander.

“I appreciate having the opportunity to do these things,” said Rongey. “I spent five years trying to find out about the program. It’s nice that my squadron let me go, and I really appreciate the support they have given me.”

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AFMC cuts command level sports tournaments

By Geoff Janes

geoff.janes@robins.af.mil

Although Air Force Materiel Command will no longer be sponsoring command level intramural sports tournaments, very little is changing in the sports world at Robins.

The command's Nonappropriated Fund Council met at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, in September and decided there isn't funding to conduct yearly tournaments at a host base.

"We were the last (continental United States major command) to still have a tournament," Roger Braner, Robins Fitness Center director, said. "In the past there has been NAF money to support the tournament due to closing a couple of bases. But with that money gone, and just the logistics of flying all of these teams and lodging them, it just couldn't be done."

The AFMC sports program consisted of eight sports that held an annual tournament. The headquarters NAF budget paid approximately \$175,000 for lodging and half the travel, and the installations paid the remaining travel plus appropriated fund items such as uniforms and officials.

While it's true that in past

What to know

Command level intramural sports tournaments will no longer be sponsored by Air Force Materiel Command.

years, AFMC has enjoyed a robust NAF budget due to dollars received from base closures, future requirements are calling for a much tighter budget.

In fiscal 2004, the budget is less than \$650,000 in discretionary spending. As a comparison, there was \$775,000 in fiscal 2001 and \$1.3 million available in fiscal 2002.

The program supports about 650 participants at a cost of \$400 each against cost-sharing projects with installations that can benefit a larger portion of the base community.

Braner said that although the yearly AFMC tournament is going away, Robins can still expect to compete.

"The intramural base program will continue to exist, the varsity program will continue to exist," he said. "Everything will stay the same except at the end of the year instead of a MAJCOM tournament, we will seek



U.S. Air Force file photo

AFMC's Nonappropriated Fund Council determined there isn't funding to conduct yearly tournaments like the Women's softball tournament hosted by Robins in July.

another avenue, and it will probably be with regional bases."

Braner said that for basketball, there is already a southeastern conference, and other sports may be conducted in the same way.

He added that Air Force-level sports have not changed. Lt. Gen. Charles Coolidge,

HQ, AFMC vice commander, said that discontinuing the tournaments doesn't take away from the significance of sports within the command.

"Sports are important throughout the installations, and we need to continue full support of intramurals and push the new Air Force fitness program," he said.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Bowling Center

Kids age 12 and younger bowl for \$1 a game Dec. 22.

Fitness Center

A Jingle Bell fun run will be held Saturday at 9:30 a.m. in front of the Health and Wellness Center.

Information, Tickets and Travel

The Macon Trax hockey team is in town and will be playing against Miami today and Orlando Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$6 for upper seats, \$9 for lower seats and \$12 for glass seats.

Outdoor Recreation

Water aerobics are held in the fitness center indoor pool Monday and Wednesday at 6 a.m.; and Tuesday and Thursday at 4:20 p.m. Cost is \$5 per individual class, and four-week sessions are \$30 per person. Register at Equipment Rental Center, or call 926-4001.

theater
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All in a day's work



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Teresa Gammage – Combat Electronic Systems Directorate Mailroom

“I pick up mail at the main mailroom in Building 301, and then I deliver and pick up mail all over the base. I work with Ed Mitchell, and he's great to work with. We stay busy and it will get even busier now

that it is Christmas time. Without the mailroom you just wouldn't have a complete communications system on base.

“I'm a people person so I like not being tied to a desk. I meet a lot of people, make

a lot of contacts and get to see people in all kinds of different jobs. That's what makes it good. You know you're doing a service, but it's really doing a service to yourself too; to be able to interact with everyone.”

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