

Aeromedical, maintenance win



Photo by Senior Airman Clay Lancaster

Maj. Esther Aubert (left to right), Tech. Sgt. Kristy Wellman, Senior Airman Larry Jones, Capt. Joe Foss, and Master Sgt. Dave Allen, all from the 446th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, discuss evacuation procedures at the aeromedical static configuration event during Air Mobility Command's Rodeo 2007, here July 24. The event measured teams' abilities to perform aeromedical evacuations in a KC-135 and a C-17. Air Mobility Command's Rodeo 2007 is a readiness competition of U.S. and international mobility air forces. It focuses on improving war fighting capabilities and support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Aeromedical team takes title

By Capt. Jennifer Gerhardt
 Wing Public Affairs

MCCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. – To claim the title of best aeromedical evacuation team at Air Mobility Command's 2007 Rodeo, teams were scored in three times events. To get the scores for the big trophy, a team needs communication.

Five Airmen from the 446th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron pooled their talents to come

away with the Aune Paget Trophy for best overall aeromedical evacuation team, as well as the award for Best Contingency Flight Team.

Team members were Maj. Esther Aubert, Capt. Joe Foss, Master Sgt. Dave Allen, Tech. Sgt. Kristy Wellman, and Senior Airman Larry Jones.

The three events the AE team competed in were static configuration, contingency flight and a challenge course.

"The unknown is the hardest part (of the challenge course)," said Airman Jones, one of three medical technicians on the team. "Not knowing what the tasks are going to be until you get to the course was tough. But we stuck together as a team and I think we did really well."

"One of our strongest traits as a team is communication,"

MCCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. – The 446th Airlift Wing came away with three awards from Air Mobility Command's 2007 Rodeo July 23-27 here.

Winning the big trophy was the aeromedical evacuation team, which competed three events to earned the Aune Paget Trophy for Best Aeromedical Evacuation Team. In addition to the Aune Paget trophy, the team won for best aeromedical contingency crew.

Also making an award winning showing at Rodeo was the wing's maintenance team, which for the second Rodeo in a row won the Best C-17 Pre-flight award. The team scored 599 points out of 600 points.

While only two teams came away with trophies, all are winners, according to team chief Lt. Col. Greg Pyke.

"The teams put in hours of hard work and dedication to prepare for the competition," said Colonel Pyke. "And even though we didn't (successfully) defend the best C-17 title, we are proud of all we accomplished during the competition."

Also saddling up in the competition were aircrew, aerial port, and security forces teams.

The aircrew scored best among C-17 teams in the heavy equipment and container delivery system drops. The aerial port team's best event was the 25K Halvorsen driving course, while the security forces scored their best event with the combat tactics. *(446th Airlift Wing staff compiled report)*

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Aug. 24 is the deadline for articles in the September issue of **The 446th Associate Press**.

All articles and photographs must be turned in to the 446th Airlift Wing Public Affairs office, Bldg. 1214, Room 124 by 4 p.m.

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Farewell to the princes, princesses of the wing

By Brig. Gen. Eric Crabtree
Wing commander

As I approach the end of my time as commander of the 446th Airlift Wing, I would like to share some observations.

Beth and I have been very lucky to have had the opportunity to be a part of this organization and the lifestyle that is so much a part of the Pacific Northwest. As I look at the spectrum of experiences we have had, I can't believe so much has occurred in just four years. At the same time, the four years has gone by much too fast and we would love our stay to be another four years.

The first group I would like to thank are the Reservists who take the time to come out on weekends and to deploy regularly to support the national defense requirements of this country.

To see the dedication and self-sacrifice of all of our men and women is awe inspiring. I really don't think the American public as a whole has any idea what patriots their citizen Airmen are. To have carried on the burden of the current conflict for the extended period of time that it has taken so far, is a tribute to an almost superhuman sense of duty.

The second group that has impressed and inspired me are our civilian workers. They have stood shoulder to shoulder with the military members of the team at McChord to keep the mission moving and the airplanes flying. There is no doubt none of our functions would be successful without

this corps of professionals.

I have seen them out on weekends supporting exercises and deployments and performing overtime on UTAs keeping offices open and training going when they could have been at home with their families. They are an unsung group of heroes who quietly provide a strong pillar of national defense and make the Reserve program strong.

The third group of supporters are a combined army of families, employers and community members. This group sacrifices willingly, and mostly behind the scenes, to allow Reservists to come out and perform their military duty, and to deploy all over the globe to provide air mobility support wherever it is needed.

The community here gives us such strong support and gives so much of themselves, that they are an example of what America is meant to be.

The next time you are at one of our family day events or a promotion or retirement ceremony, look around and see the pride on the faces of the people there. They are not only proud of their Reservist friend or relative, they are proud to be connected to such an important endeavor. Children inherit the sense of duty that will keep this country strong from parents, friends and relatives who show them the path through their actions.

Finally, the partnership with the 62nd Airlift Wing has been an example for the whole Air Force to follow as we transition into a Total Force that integrates active and Reserve components.



Brig. Gen. Eric Crabtree

McChord is one of the original associate teams and I see it as the best example of how that Total Force should work. There are certainly rubs now and then about how things are done and differences of opinion about what should be done. The impressive thing is the sense of openness and dialogue that allows us to come to solutions and press on with the best interests of the nation.

In the book "Cider House Rules," author John Irving has a central character, Dr. Wilbur Larch, as the patriarch of an orphanage in Maine. He bids the children good night every night by telling them "Good night you princes of Maine, you kings of New England." I would similarly say good bye you princes and princesses of the Pacific Northwest, you kings and queens of this great country. You are the patriots who keep us safe and strong.

Keep up the good work and thanks again for allowing Beth and I to be a part of your lives and organization for a few years.

Reservists provide Islanders aid

By Sandra Pishner
Wing Public Affairs

MCCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. – On a mission to bring aid and teach sustainable health practices, the 446th Airlift Wing contributed airlift and health professionals to total force effort destined for three Pacific Islands.

In July, an aircrew from the 728th Airlift Squadron provided airlift to and from Kiribati, Nauru and Vanuatu for Reservists from the 446th Aerospace Medicine Squadron and Aero-medical Evacuation Squadron, as well as active-duty Airmen, Soldiers and Sailors to help residents of the three remote islands.

In a span of 96 hours, team members provided care to a total of 1,668 medical patients, trained 1,011 residents, treated 2,650 dental patients, and completed two major civil engineer projects.

The airlift mission displayed the Air Force's ability to quickly deliver relief supplies in the form of medical, dental and civil capabilities to remote areas of the world.

This marked the first time since World War II that there was significant U.S. military presence on those islands, and

the sight of a C-17 brought a host of children onto the flightline as it landed.

"When we landed, children, other citizens and dogs were running all over the runway," said Capt. Laura Wills, aircraft commander on the mission. "They were waving at us like they were so happy to see us and excited that we had arrived.

And arrived they did as the medical and dental teams went to work not only providing treatment to the islands' residents, but also the tools for managing sustainable civic and health programs.

"We looked at our mission in two ways," said Dr. (Col.) Dennis Robertson, a dentist from the 446th AMDS. "First to provide the urgent treatment for any of the children who were in pain, and then we wanted to provide them treatment that would provide them sustainable dental health, such as a fluoride varnish to prevent future cavities and sealants on their molars."

The dental team also provided each child a toothbrush and had enough left over to provide toothbrushes to be kept at the schools.

"We worked with the head masters of each school to set up a school-based dental health program and instructed them



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Chris Vadnais
Maj. C.J. Newhouse, 446th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, conducts emergency airway training for Dr. Jyoti Dubey and Dr. Deepti Datey July 21 in the Republic of Nauru.

on how they could incorporate dental health into their classroom instruction," said Dr. Robertson.

On Vanuatu, team members conducted "train-the-trainer" education for police force, fire department and customs people on basic life support and self-aid buddy care.

Master Sgt. Paul Melkers, a flight medic from the 446th AMDS, used his civilian ties to make life better for the people living on the island of Nauru. A Seattle firefighter in his civilian life, Sergeant Melkers was able to get much-needed equipment to the island.

"Knowing that we donate equipment and gear sometimes – equipment that doesn't meet our standards anymore – I contacted my fire department and asked them if they had equipment," Sergeant Melkers said.

He was able to procure six large bags of fire fighting suits and boots for the island's firefighters – a contribution that was much appreciated by the local fire chief.

"I've been trying desperately to get assistance from

overseas, like international update training, and we haven't had that for quite some time now," said Chief Roy Harris, the local fire chief.

Using their knowledge and training from being flight medics, Sergeant Melkers and fellow squadron member Tech. Sergeant Niki Smith were able to provide that training.

The benefits of this humanitarian mission were not just for the residents of the three islands. Airmen from the 446th Airlift Wing also benefited, both in personal and professional ways.

"This was the best deployment I've been on," said Dr. Robertson. "It was a great experience in sharing friendship and cultures. Interacting with the children was wonderful; they were all so nice and cooperative. On our last day, the teachers hosted a luncheon for us in an open air setting, sharing food with us that really isn't all that plentiful for them. They were very giving."

Giving not only of their food, but their enthusiasm.

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In Memory of Lt. Col. Stu Bomar



The humanitarian mission to the Republic of Nauru was the final salute for one Airman from the 446th Operations Support Flight. Lt. Col. Stu Bomar passed away from natural causes during the trip. Colonel Bomar served 14 years in the 446th Airlift Wing. He last served as the operations officer for the 446th OSF.

McChord takes part in Patriot Hook

446th Reservists exchange lessons with sister services

By Senior Airman Desiree Kiliz
Wing Public Affairs

SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND, Calif.

– Responding to a terrorist event exercise scenario, more than 300 Air Force Reserve, Navy and Army personnel deployed to San Clemente Island, Calif., for Patriot Hook 2007, July 12-16.

Patriot Hook is an Air Force Reserve Command-run exercise designed to provide realistic training to its airlift control flights on setting up an airfield for incoming mission support.

Forty McChord Reservists from the 446th Airlift Wing, participated in the exercise, including 16 people from the 446th Airlift Control Flight,

“This exercise provides a great opportunity to work with our sister (airlift control flights), other units from McChord and customers,” said Maj. Ray Luevanos, 446th ALCF operations officer. “It also provides the chance for all the new Reservists in our unit to get experience with our equipment in the field.”

The scenario set a mock terrorist event and required ALCF units to open and run a forwarding base on San Clemente and two continental U.S. bases at March ARB and



Photo by Senior Airman Desiree Kiliz

A C-5 from Travis AFB, Calif., taxis between C-17 Globemasters from Charleston AFB, S.C., and March ARB, Calif., during the Patriot Hook exercise. More than 300 Air Force Reservists participated July 12-16 in the joint services event.

North Island, Calif.

With aerial port Airmen, and Navy and Army units, the exercise also provides training on uploading and downloading different strategic airlift assets, such as the C-17 and KC-135 aircraft. Additionally, the exercise tested coordination of security, and disaster and medical response operations

among Navy, Army, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and airlift control flights.

Along with the 446th ALCF, 16 Reservists from the 36th Aerial Port Squadron, six Reservists from 446th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and one Reservist from the 446th Operations Group came to support ALCF and their mission at Patriot Hook.

“It was an opportunity for us to work jointly with other services in a deployed setting much like our real world operations,” said Capt. Ernest Wong, 86th APS.

Maintenance helped ensure mission success for the Patriot Hook exercise by conducting preflight and post-flight inspections, and running refueling operations for all aircraft that landed without delay, said Master Sgt. Buddy Lechadores, 446th AMXS.

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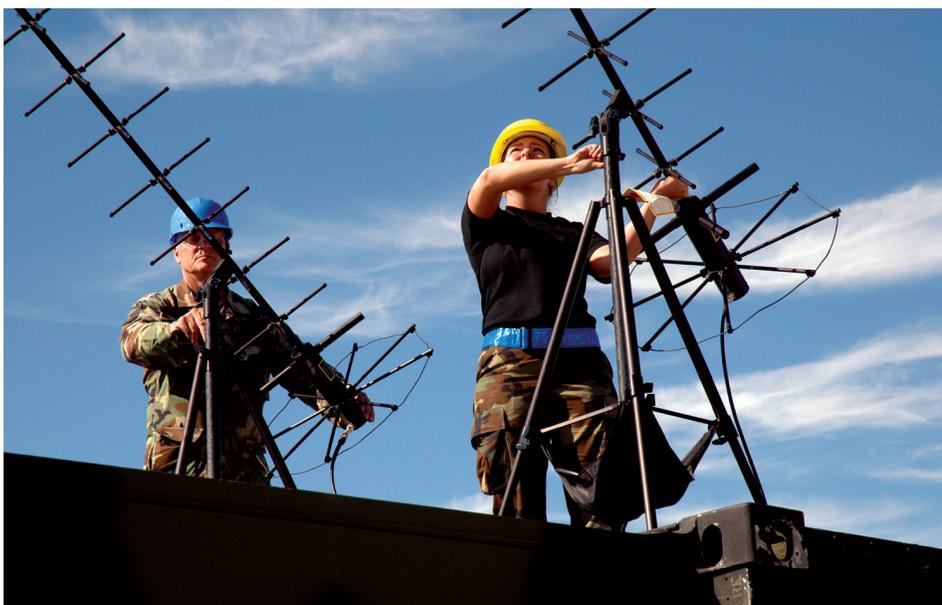


Photo by Senior Airman Desiree Kiliz

Master Sgt. Kevin King, left, and Staff Sgt. Hope Funderburk, 446th Airlift Control Flight, set up satellite communications on top of the Mobile Air Reporting Center. The ALCF uses the MARC while deployed as a temporary communications center until a permanent facility is built.

Latin group honors wing NCO for excellence

By Rob Lazaro

Air Force Public Affairs

CHICAGO – A McChord Air Force Reservist was among three Airmen honored at the largest, oldest Hispanic organization's annual conference here at Navy Pier July 9-14.

Senior Master Sgt. Angelita Thayer, 446th Mission Support Group, received the "Excellence in Military Service Award" during the 78th Annual League of United Latin American Citizens National Convention.

The LULAC convention provides Hispanics and the Air Force a forum to foster mutual understanding as well as to increase awareness of the opportunities and benefits of careers in the military.

LULAC recognized three Airmen with "Excellence in Military Service Awards" for their efforts in the war on terrorism, support for the ideals of duty, honor, country and epitomizing the core values of military service. The other Air Force honorees included Master Sgt. Carlos E. Torres from Patrick AFB, Fla., and Master Sgt. Gary Arturo Flossman from Moffett Federal Airfield, Calif.

"It's nice to be recognized, not only for me but for my family as well," said Sergeant Thayer, who has been involved with LULAC since 2000. "It shows that the work I put in is making a difference."

Above and beyond her military duties, Sergeant Thayer also volunteers countless hours with her local community and schools. She serves as an English tutor for citizenship classes and translator in the Tacoma School District helping teachers and administrators communicate with local Spanish-speaking families.

"Sergeant Thayer, as well as all the military award recipients, were recognized for being extremely giving people," said Maj. Gen. Linda S. Hemminger, deputy joint staff surgeon and director of joint reserve medical readiness operations and affairs. "Her efforts in the Latino community were geared towards helping other people develop and improve, making her recognition well deserved."

General Hemminger, who is also the chair of the Air Force Reserve Command's Human Resources Development Council, expressed that the military's



Photo by Senior Airman Grant Saylor
Senior Master Sgt. Angelita Thayer (left), 446th Mission Support Squadron, mentors a junior enlisted member Aug. 5. Sergeant Thayer received the 2006 Excellence in Military Service Award from the League of United Latin American Citizens for her military duties and volunteer efforts.

participation fits in with the conference's theme of "Empowering Latinos: Building Prosperity through Partnerships."

"All the services and our Total Force are represented here," said General Hemminger. "Our presence shows our support and commitment to human rights and the strength of our military through its diversity."

Created in 1991, the HRDC

is a multi-tiered AFRC initiative designed specifically to focus on the human resource issues facing the command. The HRDC is involved in a variety of activities including establishing Department of Defense partnerships with key civilian minority and female organizations such as LULAC. (*Air Force Reserve Command News Service*)

PATRIOT

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An incentive in the Patriot Hook exercise is the opportunity for Reservists to work with Sailors, Soldiers and Federal Emergency Management Agency and their equipment, which the Air Force does not have or typically use.

The other branches were good at their jobs and definitely knew how to get their equipment on the plane, which saved us time during our engine running on-loads and ultimately made our mission run smoother, said Tech. Sgt. Peter Falcetti, 86th APS and airfreight load team chief for Patriot Hook.

During the exercise, the Reservists worked with units and equipment from

several branches including: Army 9th Civil Engineers; Navy Environmental Preventive Medicine Unit Five; Navy Deep Submergence Unit; Navy Amphibious Construction Battalion One.

Military personnel from the Army and Navy also had the opportunity to learn more about what they need to prepare prior to flying on an Air Force aircraft and the process they will have to go through for future deployment.

"Our unit has never participated in an exercise like this, at least since I have been with it, so it's definitely a learning experience for us to know what we need to do when we deploy," said Petty Officer 1st Class Sara Ferguson, NEPMU 5. The exercise is important for the NEPMU 5 that

scheduled for deployment Oct. 2007.

Although training was the focus at the 2007 Patriot Hook exercise, the 446th ALCF used the experience as a re-evaluation of their operation readiness inspection. With cooperation among the ALCF Airmen, the flight passed and received important feedback for their next exercise.

"The exercise was a training success for command, control and communications with the three ALCFs, mobility and aircraft proficiency for the Air Force personnel, and individuals from our sister services and other specialized government agencies," said Senior Master Sgt. Carl Graap, 446th ALCF Superintendent.

AE

Continued from Page 1

said Sergeant Allen, a medical technician. “We were always talking to each other, keeping us on track and informed of what was going on around us.”

The challenge course involved a quarter mile run, immediately followed up with push-ups, more running, followed by sit-ups, another lap around the track, a medical challenge, then the final sprint around the track.

The medical challenge required the team to assess a mock patient, insert an IV, and then litter carry the patient through a maze of cones to the recovery station. Once the patient was safely delivered to the recovery station, the AE team made one final lap around the track.

“I think what stood out the most about the 446th AES Rodeo team was their dedication to each other and to the squadron to show everyone they truly are the best,” said Col. Jan Moore-Harbert, 446th AES commander. “Their teamwork was truly evident in the AE challenge course when they stayed together as a team and paced each other and came out

Airmen from the 446th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron exit a C-17 at the aeromedical evacuation static configuration event during Air Mobility Rodeo 2007, July 24. The event measured a team’s ability to perform aeromedical evacuations in a KC-135 and a C-17. Air Mobility Command’s Rodeo 2007 is a readiness competition of U.S. and international mobility air forces. It focuses on improving war fighting capabilities and support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Photo by Senior Airman Clay Lancaster



Photo by Capt. Jennifer Gerhardt

The 446th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron team moves a mock patient from the ground to a litter before carrying him through an obstacle course during the AE challenge course at the Rodeo 2007 competition in July. The team won the Aune Paget Trophy for best aeromedical team and also won the Best Aeromedical Contingency Flight award.

totally clean with no write ups. They didn’t win the challenge course, but they showed everyone what true teamwork is.”

The strong teamwork and communication was also integral to the other AE events.

The contingency flight and static configuration events tested the team’s ability to set up medical equipment on an aircraft

- in this competition the C-17, KC-135, and C-130. During the 30-minute configuration flight, the team had to assess and treat patients, as well as navigate obstacles they might encounter while retrieving a wounded patient from the field.

“I think the (competition) flight mirrored the real world because AE crews have to be

universally qualified to provide care in the air anytime or anywhere,” said Colonel Moore-Harbert.

“I had no doubt the 446th AES was going to bring home the best of the best AE. However, I’m really proud we won the best contingency flight because that is truly our business – taking care of our patients.”



Maintainers ace Rodeo C-17 pre-flight

Near perfect score wrangles second Rodeo title in a row

By Senior Airman Desiree Kiliz
 Wing Public Affairs

MCCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. – Long hours, little rest and dirty work paid off for the 446th Airlift Wing’s Rodeo maintenance team, which brought home the Best C-17 Pre-flight award from Air Mobility Command’s Rodeo 2007.

The 10-person maintenance crew competed July 23-27 at McChord AFB in C-17 pre-flight, refueling and post-flight competitions. They were also scored on daily safety observations.

A pre-flight inspection covers all parts of the aircraft. In the Rodeo competition, maintainers must follow a checklist and thoroughly inspect the plane within a prescribed time limit. With a 600 possible points up for grabs, the 446th AW Rodeo maintainers scored 599.

“Our competitions are really about the team. The 10 of us worked really hard and it is more

important to us to come home at the end of the day knowing we worked our hardest,” said Tech. Sgt. Michael Silva, first time Rodeo participant.

Rodeo 2007 brought together nine 446th AMXS air reserve technicians and one 446th Maintenance Squadron ART, who compiled their vast knowledge and personalities for the competition.

Although Rodeo is a competition, the maintenance team doesn’t use that as motivation to do their job, but is humble about the entire experience.

“On a daily basis there are a lot of lives in our hands, so we’ve gotta just put that into perspective and just come in and do our job 100 percent everyday,” said Tech. Sgt. Burke Stott, 446th AMXS.

Team motivation and hard work brought home a trophy for the Reserve team and proved again that McChord is among the best of maintainers in the Air Force.



Photo by Abner Guzman
 Tech. Sgt. Burke Stott, left, and Master. Sgt. Kevin Smith, 446th Airlift Wing maintenance team members, greet it other as they cross paths during Rodeo 2007.



Photo by Abner Guzman
 Members of the 446th Airlift Wing’s Rodeo maintenance team push a cart away from the C-17 during Rodeo 2007. (From left to right) Tech. Sgt. Michael Silva, Master Sgt. Michael Stewart, Tech. Sgt. Thomas Teal and Tech. Sgt. Thomas Timney.

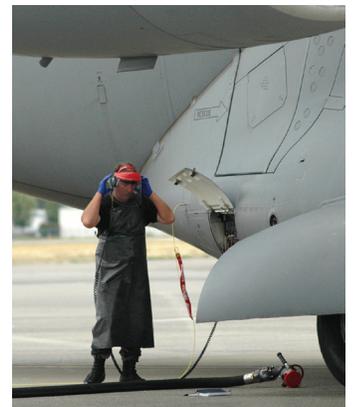


Photo by Senior Airman Desiree Kiliz
 Master Sgt. Michael Stewart prepares to refuel the 446th Airlift Wing Rodeo aircraft during the maintenance team’s refueling competition.



Photo by Senior Airman Desiree Kiliz

The 446th Airlift Wing's aerial port Rodeo team pushes a vehicle onto a pallet during one of the 15 skills tests they performed during the challenge course run. From left to right: Tech. Sgt. Bryan Henderson, Senior Airman Benjamin Thomsen, Master Sgt. Stephanie Place, Staff Sgt. Kathleen Myhre, and Tech Sgt. Josh Warbiany.

Aerial port team hustles at Rodeo



Photo by Sandra Pishner
Master Sgt. Stephanie Place, runs into position to provide direction for the 25K Halvorsen driving challenge.

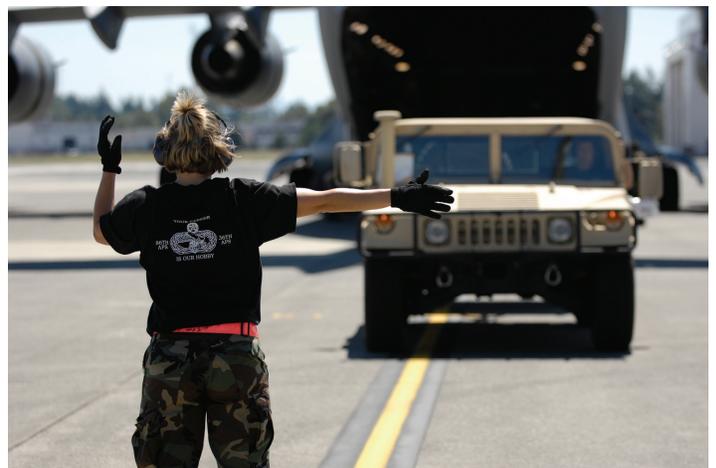


Photo by Master Sgt. Richard Cassidy
Staff Sgt. Kathleen Myhre, 446th Airlift Wing, directs Master Sgt. Stephanie Place, as she off loads a Humvee from a C-130 Hercules during the aerial port engine running on load competition at Air Mobility Command's Rodeo 2007 here July 23-27.



Photo by Capt. Jennifer Gerhardt
(Left to right), Senior Airman Giovanni Garcia, Tech. Sgt. Chris Pierce, and Staff Sgt. David Roberts provide aid during their run at the combat challenge event during Rodeo 2007.

Security forces rides hard, shoots straight



Photo by Abner Guzman



Photo by Sandra Pishner

TOP: Tech. Sgt. Robert Slagle, 62nd Security Forces Squadron, briefs the 446th Airlift Wing security forces Rodeo team about the route and rules of the weapons tactics course at Rodeo 2007.

LEFT: Senior Airman Giovanni Garcia leads the charge, followed closely by Tech. Sgt. Chris Pierce, during the combat challenge course at Rodeo 2007.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Richard Fose
 A pallet flies to the ground after being dropped from a C-17 Globemaster III during the air drop competition for Air Mobility Rodeo 2007 on July 23. Heavy equipment drop, container delivery drop, and a personnel drop were some of events in which the 446th Airlift Wing's Rodeo aircrew competed.

Rodeo aircrew scores on airdrops



Photo by Staff Sgt. Nick Przybyciel
 The 446th Airlift Wing's Rodeo 2007 aircrew were (left to right) Tech. Sgt. Tom Emmert, 728th Airlift Squadron; Tech. Sgt. Eric Olson, 313th AS; Maj. Mark Boyd, 728th AS; Maj. Charles Corrigan, 313th AS, and Maj. Garin Tentschert, 97th AS.

Photo by Senior Airman Jacqueline Kabluyen
 A McChord C-17 proudly shows off its flags upon arrival to McChord July 21, for Rodeo 2007. Air Mobility Command's Rodeo 2007 is a readiness competition of U.S. and international mobility forces. It focuses on improving war fighting capabilities and support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Aerial port saddles up with Belgians

By Capt. Jennifer Gerhardt
Wing Public Affairs

MCCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. – It happened by coincidence. Reservists from the 446th Airlift Wing Rodeo team were supplying the Netherlands team with a humvee and trailer to practice engine running onload. The Belgium team saw this and asked if the McChord team would teach them ERO so they too could compete in the event.

It wasn't smooth sailing at first. According to Belgium Capt. Angel Santiago, the exposure to different techniques, communication, and working together for the first time were initial difficulties.

Another difficulty was the fact that the Belgium team had not practiced ERO before arriving at McChord. For a C-130 ERO, the team has to onload and offload a humvee, trailer and pallet.

Master Sgts. Ron Cargill and Ron. Hinkson, noncompeting members of the Reserve Rodeo team, provided the tools and techniques the Belgium team would need.

"It's hard to do with a C-130 because of the limited space," said Sergeant Cargill. "It's not like the C-17 where we can onload more than one humvee."

After the initial kinks were worked out, the Belgium team practiced repeatedly under the watchful eye of Sergeants Cargill



Photo by Sandra Pishner

Senior Master Sgt. Ron Cargill, 36th Aerial Port Squadron, center, provides some engine running onload tips to the Belgium team July 25. Sergeant Cargill and Master Sgt. Ron Hinkson, 86th APS, helped the Belgium team practice ERO in preparation for their first attempt to compete in the traditional aerial port event at Rodeo 2007.

and Hinkson, and finally competed at the Air Mobility Command's Rodeo 2007.

They scored a 288 out of 1,000.

Even though not many points were earned during the competition, the Rodeo experience provided the team the opportu-

nity to learn in a non threatening environment, which will aid communication and techniques when these two nations meet in joint efforts, said Captain Santiago. (*Senior Airman Desiree Kiliz, 446th Airlift Wing Public Affairs, contributed to this story.*)

Aeromedical staging supports Rodeo event

By Senior Airman Desiree Kiliz
Wing Public Affairs

MCCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. – All it takes is two words "it's here," and in a matter of seconds drinks are set down, goggles pulled up and earplugs inserted.

Reservists from the 446th Aeromedical Staging Squadron saddled up each time they heard those words while support the C-130 contingency flight competition for the Air Mobility Command's Rodeo 2007.

During the competition, the ASTS set up a contingency aeromedical staging facility,

where care and comfort could be provided to the patients from the field. To make the patient scenarios more real world, each is given injuries reflective of those seen during the war.

"The patients here are given profiles of what real combatants have suffered during the war and we must do to properly care for them. For example, 21-year-old male in a truck hit by an IED with injuries to left leg, left arm and abdomen," said Capt. Lorie Robeson, 446th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron flight nurse.

A medical technician from the competing Rodeo team will

look to see what kind of patients there are and what their needs will be during the flight, said Tech. Sgt. Kristy Wellman, a 446th Airlift Wing Rodeo aeromedical team member.

After patients are stabilized, Rodeo wranglers, taught by Airmen from the 446th ASTS on how to properly transport the patients from the CASF, carry the patients' litters onto the waiting aircraft.

Wranglers are all volunteers with non-medical backgrounds that we tell what, when and where to go, which is very similar to real world operations when anyone from any

field helps us carry litters to the plane, said Capt. Regan Ramos, 446th ASTS.

AE teams are judged for the competition based on efficiency, safety and patient care, which makes teamwork with the supporting CASF and wranglers important.

"Rodeo is a great opportunity because we get a chance to work with our aerovac people, who we don't get to work with on a regular basis," said Lt. Col. Beth Drake, 446th ASTS. "It also allows us to get more practice with what it is really like out in the field."

Staff Sergeant



Aug. 15, 1957
 -- Gen. Nathan F. Twining becomes the first U.S. Air Force officer to serve as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Promotions

Lieutenant Colonel

Ernst Coumou, 728th AS
 Richard Dols, 728th AS
 Paul Engeliem, 728th AS
 Jeffrey Furrer, 313th AS
 Kendall James, 97th AS
 Steven Kurpius, 313th AS
 Scott Marckmann, 446th OG
 Montgomery McDaniel, 728th AS
 Ricky Quesnell, 728th AS
 Todd Ray, 313th AS
 Thomas Sexton, 313th AS
 Suchan Slack, 313th AS
 Leo Synoracki, 313th AS
 Laura Theodorson, 728th AS
 Michael Thomas, 313th AS
 Jeffrey Watkins, 728th AS
 Francis Whiting, 728th AS
 Kenneth Winslow, 446th AES

Senior Master Sergeant

James Coley, 446th CES

Master Sergeant

Bernhard Esseln, 446th AMXS
 Rafael Mendez, 446th AMXS

Technical Sergeant

Geoffrey Corey, 446th MXS
 Jayson Householder, 446th MXS
 Andrew Madrid, 446th AMXS
 Patrick Mills, 86th APS
 Mary Sayre, 446th AMXS
 Jesse Schweizer, 446th MXS
 Daniel Skoglund, 446th AMXS
 Aaron Stanke, 446th AMXS

Staff Sergeant

Monica DeWeese, 446th MSS

Kalene Kaplan, 446th MXS
 Koji Machado, 446th AMDS
 George Metteer, 446th MXS

Senior Airman

Olga Fedorovskaya, 86th APS
 Matthew Maronay, 446th AMDS
 Mariah Ryding, 446th AMDS

Airman First Class

Jason Walsh, 97th AS

Airman

Tyler Akers, 86th APS
 Jesse Masters, 728th AS
 Cesar Morales, 86th APS
 Christopher Reyes, 446th AMDS

Newcomers

Major

Daniel Bishop, 313th AS
 Dale French, 446th OSF
 Patricia Jaeckel, 446th ASTS
 Karen Livingstone, 446th OSF

Captain

Michael Jones, 446th ASTS

First Lieutenant

Klinton Gager, 446th LRF

Master Sergeant

Joyce Miller, 446th ASTS
 Scott Pastere, 86th APS
 Robert Shulman, 446th SVF

Technical Sergeant

Jose Alanis, 446th MXS
 Michael Banning, 86th APS
 Scott Grindley, 36th APS

Staff Sergeant

Jason Bjork, 86th APS
 Vincent Cuasay, 446th AMXS
 Brandon Lewis, 728th AS
 Robert Rud, 36th APS
 Michael Shatuck, 86th APS
 Michael Thompson, 446th CES
 Marco Zuber, 86th APS

Senior Airman

Scott Bright, 446th SFS
 Michael Halcomb, 446th MXS
 Paul Hansen, 446th MOF
 Keyshawn McKinley, 446th LRF
 Jack Montez, 446th SFS
 Heather Sattergren, 86th APS
 Bryan Segrist, 446th AMXS
 Cory Short, 446th AMXS
 Paul Stratford, 446th AMDS
 Kathrine Truax, 446th LRF

Airman First Class

Steven Boynton, 446th AMXS
 Trevor Messenger, 97th AS
 Jonathon Vinson, 446th CES

Retirements

Chief Master Sergeant

James Docherty, 446th CES

Senior Master Sergeant

Robert Boyd, 36th APS
 Carole White, 446th ASTS

Master Sergeant

Broderick Gibson, 446th AMXS

Technical Sergeant

Brian Hurlen, 86th APS
 Tom Kuo, 446th LRF

Celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Air Force at a base-wide picnic Sept. 8, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Heritage Hill. Open to all Airmen, retirees, and families, we'll have food booths, live music, children's games, pony rides, adult activities, and more. Come to celebrate our Air Force's history.



Just Briefly

How does your family support your Reserve life?

Family Days!

My family loves family day! I was part of the Portland closure, and now I look forward to my family having more opportunities to come to McChord.



◆ *Maj. Karen Livingstone*
446th Operations Support Flight

Goodie Bags

My family completely supports my Reserve commitment. They even pack me goodie bags for my TDY trips.



◆ *Senior Master Sgt. Jeff Clarke*
97th Airlift Squadron

All In The Family

My wife works at Madigan, my brother is retired Army, and my father and uncles were all military, so they understand the sacrifices involved.



◆ *Tech. Sgt. Marvin Holland*
446th Logistics Readiness Flight

Father & Son

After all these years, they remain supportive. My son joined the Reserve. He's in my unit, in fact! I didn't prod him; it was all his doing. He just re-enlisted.



◆ *Chief Master Sgt. Gordon Swarthout*
86th Aerial Squadron

Annual Military Family Support March is Sept. 8 in Lacey

The Hawk's Prairie Rotary Club hosts its annual Military Family Support March at 8 a.m. Sept. 8 in Lacey. For more information visit www.MilitaryFamilyMarch.com

Wing change of command

Col. William Flanigan will assume command of the 446th Airlift Wing at a change of command ceremony Sept. 9, at 10 a.m., on the flightline in front of Hangar 4. Ceremony dress is short-sleeve blue shirt and dark blue pants. For more information contact Lt. Col. Rick Grayson by e-mail at Richard.Grayson1@mcchord.af.mil or call 982- 4936.

Day care available during duty weekends for Reservists

Day care is available for Reserve weekends. There is no cost for day care, but you must meet the requirements. Contact Shelly Hazes at 982-3186 for more information.

Air Force Ball Sept. 16 marks 60th Anniversary celebration

This year marks the 60th Anniversary of the Air Force and a commemorative ball is slated for Sept. 15 in Hangar 3 at McChord. Dinner includes a choice of London broil or stuffed chicken saltimbocca. Prices are \$17 for E1-E6; \$22 for E7-O3, retirees and guests; and \$27 for O4- above (equivalent GS grades). Entertainment will be provided by the band Aphrodisiac.

Dress is mess dress or semi-formal uniform for servicemembers and appropriate ball attire for guests. Contact Chief Master Sgt. David Marston at 982- 8372 or e-mail at David.Marston@mcchord.af.mil for more information.

Seattle Mariners celebrate Air Force Night on Sept. 16

The Seattle Mariners play the Tampa Bay Devil Rays for Air Force Night at 1:05 p.m. on Sept. 16 at Safeco Field. All Air Force members, retirees, family and friends are invited to the game at discount prices. The game will feature the Air Force with a ceremonial first pitch, national anthem performance, color guard presentation and video recognition. View Reserved Seats are \$10 and Field Level Seats are \$30 and may be ordered and paid for through the 446th Airlift Wing's Public Affairs Office in Bldg. 1214, Room 125. Or you may e-mail: usafgroup@mariners.com, putting "invitation request" in the subject line. For more information contact public affairs at 982-3330.

Employer Orientation Day on schedule for Oct. 20

Reservists interested in bringing their civilian supervisors to the Oct. 20 Employer Orientation Day must turn in their nomination forms by Oct. 1.

Forms are available in the 446th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 1214, Room 125. The orientation day will allow supervisors to see what Reservists need to prepare for deployments and include a ride on an airdrop mission.

Please contact public affairs at 982-3330 for more information.

Maintenance offers quarterly mentoring classes to all

The 446th Maintenance Group hosts a mentoring class once a quarter. The one-hour class provides introduction to the practical application of the processes, procedures and expectations of mentoring. Classes will be held in August and November. The class will be conducted in Bldg. 1142, upstairs, in the Blue auditorium, at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday of the A and B Reserve weekends. Members from all units are welcomed to attend. For more information please contact Master Sgt. Scot Sherbert or Master Sgt. LuCinda Oglesby at 982-1081.

Intramural bowling season begins in early September

The intramural bowling season is scheduled to begin in September. Four-person teams should register by Aug. 31. Those interested may contact Master Sgt. Gerry Avena at gerino.avena@mcchord.af.mil.

Wing quarterly award winners

Quarterly award winners for the wing in the second quarter of 2007 are: Senior Airman Christopher Kaplan, 446th Maintenance Squadron; Tech. Sgt. David Ewbank, 446th Civil Engineer Squadron; and Master Sgt. Jeffrey Sursley, 446th Civil Engineer Squadron.

Volunteers needed to plan Hispanic Heritage celebration

The 446th Mission Support Group staff is looking for volunteers who would like to be involved with Hispanic Heritage Awareness Month, Sept. 15 - Oct. 15. This is a great opportunity to learn more about Hispanic Heritage and to become a part of it. For more information on how to you can help, call 2-2446 on UTA weekends.

Family support offers array of help

By Tech. Sgt. Wendy Beauchaine
Wing Family Support

MCCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. – Reservists and family members alike should be aware the 446th Airlift Wing has a full-time staff to provide personal readiness assistance, as well as a wide variety of information to help both Airmen and their families in any number of situations.

The 446th Mission Support Squadron Family Readiness Office, located in Bldg. 1207, has resources to assist Reservists with deployment readiness, financial counseling, marital counseling, parenting skills, local-area discounts, resume writing, and employment, to name just a few.

Look for the family readiness techni-

cians at the Air Force 60th Anniversary picnic Sept. 8, to discuss other available services at McChord.

The family readiness office's mission is to help Reservists and families adapt to military lifestyle demands, which helps provide commanders with a prepared-to-deploy Airman. The sole reason the family support office exists is to assist Reservists and families with whatever issue and circumstances arise in their lives.

The 446th MSS Family Support Office was created as a result of the Gulf War. During that conflict, many Air Force Reserve Airmen were activated to defend and remove Iraqi forces from Kuwait. At that time, no one was assisting the family during this long separation. Because families were

facing so many issues while their Airman was deployed, the need became clear for a family support offices in Reserve units.

Many of the family support office's programs can be discussed over the phone, but in the office, there is an abundance of literature and packages Reservists can leave with to assist them in a number of personal issues they are dealing with or want to prepare for.

To reach the office by phone, call 253-982-5330 or toll-free at 888-984-6724, or send an e-mail to familysupport@mcchord.af.mil. Otherwise, visit the director or technicians at the picnic, and check out all the available resources.

ISLANDS

Continued from Page 3

"I am not sure if they had heard we were bringing in medical teams to help treat them or if they were just surprised to see such a large aircraft," said Captain Wills. "The children were so sweet. We were able to spend a little time with them, but since we did not speak the same language, it was pretty difficult to communicate. We did a lot of smiling and high fiving."

For the aircrew, the challenge of landing on Kiribati provided some data they hope to use to encourage future missions to the islands.

"I plan to submit airfield imagery and information to the airfield suitability office," said Captain Wills, "in hopes that they can get the airfield equipped with instrument capabilities. I think that would better the chances that these island will see aid in the future." (Tech. Sgt. Chris Vadnais, Air Force News Agency, contributed to this report)

Rodeo 2007 nets Travis plane load of trophies

MCCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. – In a rousing final celebration, Air Mobility Rodeo 2007 awards were announced here July 27.

The "best of the best" included teams from active duty, Reserve, Guard, the Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and international teams.

Rodeo, hosted by Air Mobility Command, is a readiness competition between U.S. and international mobility air forces. It focuses on improving war fighting capabilities and support of the Global War on Terror.

Gen. Duncan J. McNabb, commander Air Mobility Command, presented awards

to the top teams.

The winners are:
Best Air Mobility Team: 60th Air Mobility Wing, Travis AFB, Calif.

Best Airdrop Team: 317th Airlift Group, Dyess AFB, Texas.

Best Airland Team: 60th AMW, Travis AFB, Calif.

Best Tanker Team: 60th AMW, Travis AFB, Calif.

Best KC-135 Team: 97th AMW, Altus AFB, Okla.

Best KC-10 Team: 60th AMW, Travis AFB, Calif.

Best C-17 Team: 60th AMW, Travis AFB, Calif.

Best C-130/C-160 Team: 317th AG Dyess AFB, Texas.

Best C-5 Team: 60th

AMW, Travis AFB, Calif.

Best International Team: German Transport Wing 61, Germany

Best Aerial Refueling Team: 437th/315th Airlift Wings, Charleston AFB, S.C., and 97th AMW, Altus AFB, Okla.

Best Aeromedical Evacuation Team: 446th AW, McChord AFB, Wash.

Best Aerial Port Team: 721st Air Mobility Operations Group, Ramstein AB, Germany

Best Security Forces Team: 62nd AW, McChord AFB, Wash.

Maintenance Knuckle-buster Award: 60th AMW, Travis AFB, Calif.

446th Airlift Wing

Visit our web site for more news and information

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Commander directs wear of uniform

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – When people visit an Air Force Reserve Command unit during the week in the coming months, they are likely to see more people in military uniforms.

The Air Force changed three of its instructions Aug. 7 to require all air reserve technicians to wear military uniforms rather than civilian clothes while working in civilian status. ARTs are full-time civilian employees who serve in the same job as Air Force reservists. They've been wearing uniforms when in military status.

ARTs in some locations are already wearing their uniforms all of the time at work. Others haven't started wearing their uniforms everyday because they have not been required to do so.

"We want our ARTs to be in uniform because we are in-

At A Glance

Effectively immediately, all air reserve technicians, non-bargaining, will be required to wear their uniform while working in civilian status. This applies to officers and enlisted Airmen alike.

tegrating with the Regular Air Force and Air National Guard throughout the Air Force," said Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, AFRC commander. "Total Force Integration is changing how we interact with the rest of the Air Force.

"Even before 9/11, the regular component depended on us to get the job done," he said. "That dependency is growing because we cannot afford to do business as usual. We need to consolidate our forces and capitalize on each other's strengths."

As example of progress, General Bradley cited reservists preparing to fly F-22s with the Regular Air Force in Alaska, reservists flying their own C-17s in California and reservists standing up and managing a C-130 unit in North Carolina with an active associate unit.

"We are able to take on new and challenging missions because of the skills and experience of our air reserve technicians," said Chief Master Sgt. Troy McIntosh, AFRC command chief master sergeant.

"Some technicians have told me they feel this uniform change is calling their military dedication or patriotism into question," said the chief. "That is not at all the case. Our technicians have proved themselves in the past and, I'm confident, they will continue to do so in the future."

General Bradley said the Air Force Reserve is entering a new era, which is vastly different than 1958, the year the air reserve technician program was created.

"I believe wearing uniforms is an important step to being a full partner and an Unrivaled Wingman in today's Air Force," said General Bradley.

The Air Force Reserve has about 1,335 ART officers and 8,400 ART enlisted people. (*Air Force Reserve Command News Service*)

Air Force News

At A Glance

Raptors usher in new era for Reserve

by **Master Sgt. Chance C. Babin**

Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

ELMENDORF AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska – When six F-22 Raptors arrived here Aug. 8 from Langley AFB, Va., they brought a new day for the Air Force Reserve Command.

The command's 477th Fighter Group will associate with the 3rd Wing, becoming the first Air Force Reserve unit to maintain and fly the F-22 Raptor. The group will be comprised of the 302nd Fighter Squadron, 477th Maintenance Squadron and 477th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. www.afrc.af.mil/newsreleases/story.asp?id=123064101

New Jersey F-16 accident report released

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (AFPN) – Air Force officials here July 26 determined that the cause of the forest fire on the Warren Grove Training Range in New Jersey May 15 was pilot error, committed when a F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot deployed countermeasure flares at an altitude that allowed the flares to land on the range while they were still burning.

Maj. Gen. Emmett R. Titshaw, president of the Air Combat

Command Accident Investigation Board that was established to investigate the Air National Guard F-16 training mishap, released his findings at a press conference. www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123062387

Airman missing 28 years comes home

by **J.C. Corcoran**

66th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

HANSCOM AIR FORCE BASE, Mass. (AFPN) – For nearly 30 years, the family of a deceased Airman has been waiting for his return home.

The wait ended July 18 when Staff Sgt. Donald Michaud's remains returned to New England and met by two members of the Patriot Honor Guard from Hanscom Air Force Base accompanied by Logan Airport firefighters and a member of the Massachusetts State Police at Boston's Logan International Airport. www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123062013

Editor's Note: *Air Force News – At A Glance features the top stories on the Air Force News web site recommended by Air Force Leaders as essential reading. For the full story, type the hyper link into your web browser.*

Affordable Tricare open to Reservists

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – Reservists can now sign up for more affordable Tricare Select Reserve health care that starts Oct. 1.

For some, it means they will pay a third of what they are paying today.

“All drilling Reservists, including individual mobilization augmentees, will have access to the health-care benefit at its lowest premium rate,” said Lt. Col. Alexander Alex, Air Force Reserve Command’s health benefits manager. “Interested Reservists, including those who are currently enrolled in Tricare Reserve Select, must fill out a Defense Department Form 2896-1 to take part in this restructured program.”

In the 2007 National Defense Authorization Act, Congress told the Defense Department to restructure the plan’s three-tier payment system, which has been in effect since 2006.

Under the system that ends Sept. 30, only Reservists on or recently returned from a contingency operation qualify for Tier 1 - the lowest cost premium.

Reservists in Tier 3 pay the most each month - \$247 for the Reservist alone and \$767.41 for the reservist and family. They include people who haven’t been in a contingency recently, who are not self-employed, who work for an employer who offers a health care plan, or who do not qualify for unemployment compensation as determined by state law.

That all changes starting Oct. 1. All drilling Reservists will pay the lowest premium, \$81 a month for single coverage. Monthly premiums for Reservists and families will be \$253. Tricare will adjust premiums annually on Jan. 1.

“We’ve been working hard for years to improve health-care benefits for all Reservists, and

this is a big step in that process,” said Maj. Gen. Allan Poulin, AFRC’s vice commander.

The general encourages all Reservists to study the program to see if it meets their needs.

“As a health-care consultant, I have looked at numerous plans,” Colonel Alex said. “And this is a very competitive 80/20 indemnity plan where the government pays 80 percent and the member pays 20 percent of the cost share.

“One of its huge benefits is the pharmacy program,” he said. “If used wisely, members can get a 90-day supply of medicine for \$3 per prescription.”

Another plus to the plan is its \$1,000 catastrophic cap, among the lowest in the industry, according to Colonel Alex.

“Once a member has paid \$1,000 in a fiscal year, Tricare will pay 100 percent of the Tricare allowable cost after that,” he said.

About 11,500 members of the reserve components across all services are enrolled in Tricare Reserve Select. They include some 2,700 Air Force Reservists.

Colonel Alex said these people will be required to re-en-

roll in the program using a DD Form 2896-1 if they want to keep their coverage.

To begin the application process, Reservists should visit the Guard and Reserve Web portal at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/tsa/index.jsp>. DOD officials said they are looking into a simpler application process.

For more specific information, people can go to the Tricare Reserve Select Web site - <http://www.tricare.mil/reserve/reserve-select/> - or contact the Air Reserve Personnel Center toll free at 800-525-0102 or DSN 926-6730. The fax number is commercial 478-327-2215 or DSN 497-2215. Online customer service is available at <https://arpc.afrc.af.mil/vPC-GR/>, then click “New Request.”

All drilling Reservists are qualified for the restructured Tricare Reserve Select program starting Oct. 1 with one major exception: If they are eligible for Federal Employee Health Benefits or are currently covered under FEHB (either under their own eligibility or through



a family member’s eligibility), they are not eligible to purchase Tricare Reserve Select.

“We want Reservists to know that Tricare Reserve Select is something they have earned through their service to their country,” said Colonel Alex. “And it is a benefit that our senior leaders have worked very hard to obtain. We hope all of our Reservists will take a good look at what the program has to offer.”

Colonel Alex encourages all Reservists to visit the Tricare Reserve Select Web site to find out more information.

If Air Force Reservists can’t find more information about Tricare Reserve Select medical coverage, or have general questions about it, they can e-mail Colonel Alex at AFRC/TRICAREreserves@afrc.af.mil. (*Air Force Reserve Command News Service*)

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