

# DISCOVER



The Development of Combat Power and Efficiency

Vol. 25, No. 17 -- Friday, Sept. 14, 2001 -- Brooks AFB, Texas

Through the Many Facets of Aerospace Medicine

## Air Force responds to terrorist attacks

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The Air Force is working around the clock to coordinate relief to victims of terrorist attacks that took place Sept. 11.

Secretary of the Air Force James Roche contacted the Federal Emergency Management Agency immediately following the first reports of these attacks to offer maximum Air Force assets including personnel and equipment.

The Air Force is mobilizing medical critical care units, aeromedical evacuation teams, and critical incident stress management experts and other airlift assets in support of the activation of the National Disaster Medical System.

Expeditionary medical support teams are mobilized in response to the disasters. Teams from Langley Air Force Base, Va.; Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio; Keesler AFB, Miss.; Lackland AFB; and Travis AFB, Calif., are positioned at various staging facilities.

These teams comprise portable hospitals composed of surgical teams, critical care specialists, public health teams, and other specialties.

The Air Force is also distributing blood supplies where they are most needed.

*From our medical professionals who saved lives in the shadow of the Pentagon, to our airmen who launched from alert facilities, we can be proud of our performance.*

*Our job now is to remain ready, to set an example of strength for all America, and to remain alert as we continue our global mission.*

*Carry on.*

*Secretary James Roche*



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jim Varhegyi

A U.S. flag flies outside the Pentagon, which sustained major damage after a hijacked commercial airliner crashed into the building Sept. 11. The suspected terrorist attack on the Pentagon followed similar attacks on the twin towers of the New York World Trade Center in New York City.

## Department of Defense holds press briefing in Pentagon

By Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen Rhem

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — “The Pentagon is functioning” is the message Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld sent by holding a press conference in the building’s briefing room barely eight hours after terrorists allegedly crashed a hijacked commercial jetliner into the national military headquarters.

“It’s an indication that the United States is functioning in the face of this terrible act against our country,” Rumsfeld said. “(The Pentagon) will be in business tomorrow.”

Accompanying Rumsfeld on the press conference podium were several other senior federal officials including Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Army Gen. Henry Shelton, and U.S. Senators John Warner of Virginia and Carl Levin of Michigan.

The secretary told reporters it’s not possible to have solid casualty figures at this time and that the various Defense Department components are working to account for their people.

He said there could be no survivors among the 64 passengers aboard the commercial plane that crashed into the building.

“There is no question but that the attack ... today was a vicious, a well-coordinated, massive attack against the United States of America,” Rumsfeld said. “What words the lawyers will use to characterize it is for them (to decide).”

*“The Pentagon is functioning. It’s an indication that the United States is functioning in the face of this terrible act against our country.”*

Donald Rumsfeld  
U.S. Defense Secretary

Shelton called the events of Sept. 11 “an outrageous act of barbaric terrorism carried out by fanatics.”

He said this was a reminder of the “tragic dangers” that military people face day in and day out.

The chairman refused to discuss what actions the United States would take in retaliation.

“But make no mistake about it,” he said, “your armed forces are ready.”

Levin, chairman of the Senate

Armed Services Committee, called terrorists “the common enemy of the civilized world.”

“Our intense focus on recovering and helping the injured and families of those killed is matched only by our determination to prevent more attacks,” he said.

“This is indeed the most tragic hour in America’s history,” said Warner, former committee chairman and its ranking minority party member. “And yet I think it can be our finest hour as our president and those with him (including) the men and women of the armed forces stand ready not only to defend this nation and our allies against further attack but to take such actions as are directed in the future in retaliation for this ... series of terrorist attacks (that are) unprecedented in world history.”

Warner called upon the entire world to step up and help. “We’re in this together,” he said.

“The United States has borne the brunt, but who can be next. Step forward and let us hold accountable and punish those that have perpetrated this event.”

Asked by reporters about possible retaliation, Rumsfeld called the question premature.

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**DISCOVERY**

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## Secretary Roche says hail and farewell

*“On behalf of the total Air Force team, I bid fond farewell with profound appreciation to Gen. Mike Ryan, and congratulate and welcome Gen. John Jumper, our 17th chief of staff of the Air Force.”*

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The Air Force bade farewell on Sept. 6 to a friend, an exceptional leader, and a champion of Air Force standards and quality of life.

We also hailed on this day a new chief of staff, selected by President Bush and confirmed by the United States Senate, to preside over the total Air Force team as our highest uniformed leader.

Gen. Michael E. Ryan dedicated more than 36 years of his life to our Air Force — he sacrificed much and succeeded at all he did along the way. Our grateful nation and our superb Air Force are the beneficiaries of his exceptional leadership, his focus on improving quality of life for all airmen and their families, his innate sense of excellence, and his dedication to successfully transform us toward a fully expeditionary aerospace force.

His legacy is a bright and promising future for aerospace power and all airmen on the total Air Force team, including our active duty, Air National Guard, Reserve, retirees, veterans, and families. It has been an incredible honor and a pleasure for me to have had the opportunity to serve with Gen. Mike Ryan. To me, he epitomizes the leader's ethic: my mission; my men; and only then, myself.

Gen. John P. Jumper, our new chief of staff of the Air Force, brings an impressive background and broad experience to the job of helping to lead our total Air Force team onward in this new century.

Somewhat like General Ryan's, his family ties to our service extend as far back as the Army Air Corps. His experience transcends both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, with more than 1,400 combat hours in two Southeast Asia tours, and two full assignments in Europe.

Having already proven himself a wise counsel and superlative leader at Air Combat Command, I am truly looking forward to serving with General Jumper in the months and years ahead. Our bright future awaits. Together with everyone else on our team, General Jumper and I will work to pilot the journey that will take us there.

On behalf of the total Air Force team, I bid fond farewell with profound appreciation to Gen. Mike Ryan, and congratulate and welcome Gen. John Jumper, our 17th chief of staff of the Air Force.



**Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper**

Our young men and women in uniform today — (active-duty), Reserve and Guard — are no less committed than any generation of Americans has ever been,” Jumper said.

“They look for leadership, and when you give them that leadership, they perform with all the patriotism and commitment of any generation.”

“I have always been a firm believer in the theory that we recruit the individual, but retain the family,” he said. “We'll work to package the transfer of these benefits in the manner that best meets the needs of our airmen.”

“We approved 19 initiatives, including career assistance advisors, patient advocates, an enhanced spousal employment program and subsidized in-home childcare,” he said.

It is all about improving the lives of bluesuiters and their families around the globe.

Doing that will allow them to better focus on the task at hand — defending the nation.

“Our youngsters out there look only for the opportunity to be a part of something that's bigger than they are,” he said. “We should strive to improve the quality of their lives in every way we can.”

## Great minds think alike

**By Master Sgt. Rick Burnham**

*Air Force Print News*

Washington D.C. — The recent decision by the National Archives and Records Administration to remove the original Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights and the Constitution from public display because of a renovation project really hit home with me.

A new resident of the National Capital Region, I had listed that location as a “must see” during my tour at the Pentagon, along with the Washington Monument and the Jefferson Memorial.

To the average American, these documents provide a glimpse of the brilliance our forefathers demonstrated in laying the blueprint for our country.

That we have become, in a relatively short period of time, the greatest nation in the history of the Earth only serves to validate that brilliance.

But to the bluesuiter, those of us who defend the words of Thomas Jefferson, John Adams and Benjamin Franklin, these documents say so much more. They outline not only the duties and responsibilities we have as Americans, but also the manner in which they are conducted. They guarantee all the rights and privileges associated with being free men and women, but stress that integrity should be the guide in all we do.

Great minds think alike.

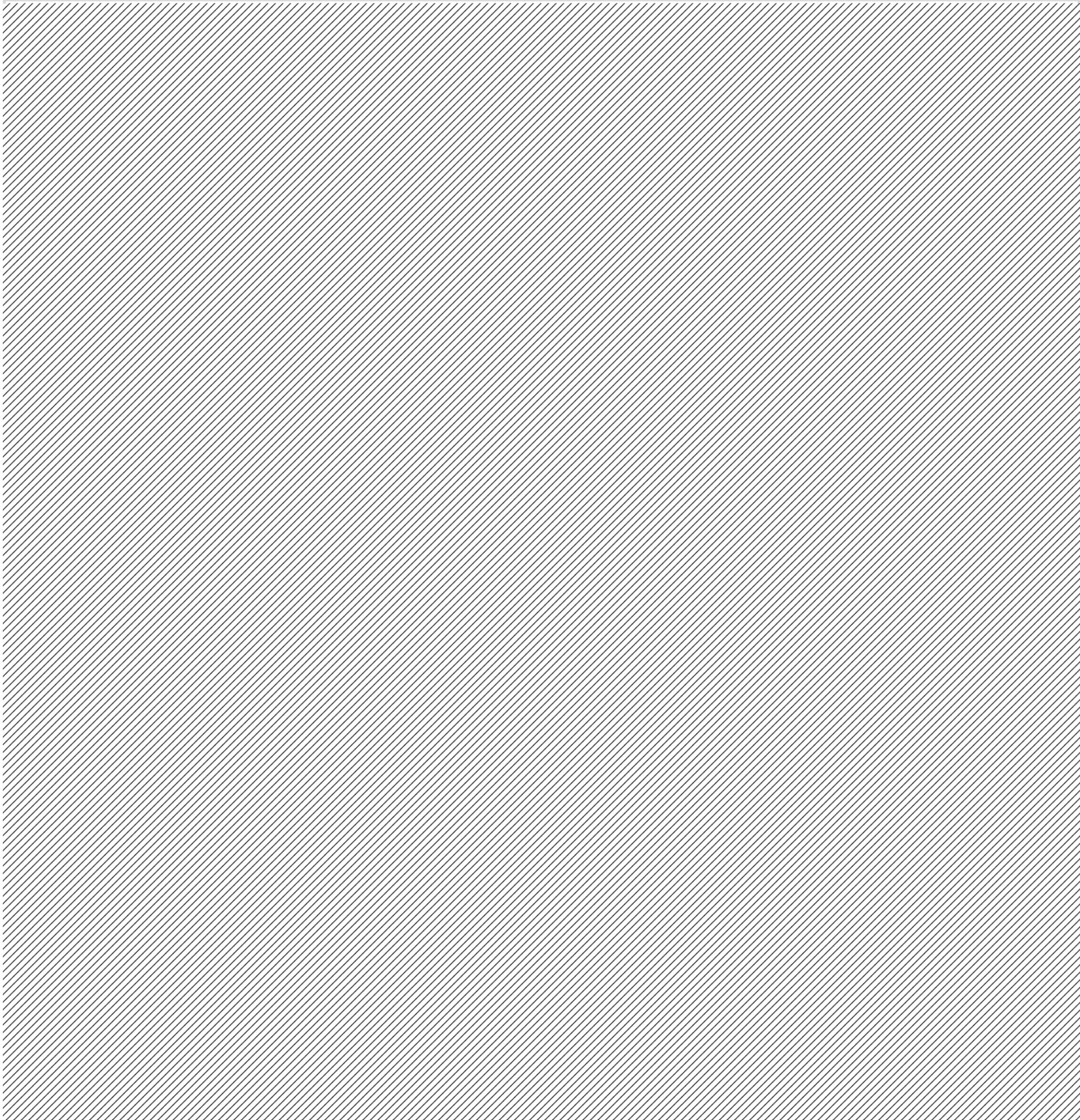
It is unlikely that Jefferson, or Adams, or Franklin could have envisioned a U.S. Air Force of 2001. Stealth technology, air-to-air refueling and the C-17 Globemaster III would have been significant leaps of faith, considering the Wright brothers' historical flight was still more than a century away.

Still, it is truly amazing how the key concepts of today's Air Force — our core values — are laced throughout the Declaration, the Bill of Rights and the Constitution. Although you won't find the words “Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence In All We Do” anywhere in them, the ideas behind them are consistently on display in these documents.

Together, the Constitution, Declaration of Independence and Bill of Rights serve to ensure we live and work in an atmosphere conducive to living our lives to the fullest.

Instead of worrying about whether our personal beliefs will be accepted by those in power, we can concentrate on more important things: our families, our careers, and our dreams. Success, accomplishment, “excellence in all we do.” We can speak our minds without worrying about retribution. We can assemble, and do it with the confidence that we can and will make a difference.

So we owe thanks to Messrs. Jefferson, Adams and Franklin. Thanks for showing us the way. While they couldn't have imagined it then, their forethought helped shape the greatest Air Force in the world, America's Air Force — No one comes close!





## Merger enhances senior leadership options

By Master Sgt. Rick Burnham

*Air Force Print News*

WASHINGTON — On paper, the merging of two major Air Force personnel offices in the Pentagon appears to simply be a matter of combining similar tasks, of streamlining an area in which one unit can do the job of two.

But, Air Force officials said, the combination of the Air Force General Officer Matters Office with the Senior Executive Service Matters Office Sep. 1 will result in much more than just a transparent, organizational shift. The new office will provide the Air Force with an enhanced capability to manage its senior leaders — a better avenue to put the best people in the positions they need to be in.

"The merger of these two offices is a landmark effort," said Col. Richard S. Hassan, chief of AFGOMO. "It will better prepare us to realize the vast potential of our Air Force leaders."

"It will not only allow us to better use our leadership team, but will also allow us to develop that team more deliberately," he said. "This will lay a solid foundation, giving us a bigger pool of talent to meet the challenges of the future."

The new structure will provide a number of different benefits for the Air Force of the 21st century, said Dr. James Roche, secretary of the Air Force. The merger was the vision of Gen. Michael E. Ryan, who retired as Air Force chief of staff Sept. 6.

"This combination will help us realize one of General Ryan's goals as chief of staff — to build an enduring, unified cadre of aerospace leaders," Roche said.

"In today's total Air Force, we simply must identify, develop and motivate talented individuals, military and civilian, to fulfill the missions of our expeditionary aerospace force. By merging our general officer and senior

executive service programs, we will enhance operating efficiencies and reduce costs, while dramatically boosting 'cross-cultural' awareness among officers and senior civilians in the Air Force.

"The development of leaders who understand the requirements of our total force — active-duty military, civilian, Guard, Reserve, and contractor personnel — will serve as yet another tangible hallmark of the tremendous contributions that Mike Ryan has made to his country during his military career," Roche said.

The AFGOMO provided "lifecycle" management of Air Force flag officers, from the time they were selected for promotion to brigadier general until their retirement. That included all assignments, awards, housing and enlisted aide matters - any personnel matter that would involve a general officer.

AFSEMO provides policy guidance and assistance for the management and administration of the SES corps with the civilian personnel flights around the Air Force handling the day-to-day operations.

"This will send a strong message to the force that we definitely consider both general officers and SES civilians as part of the senior leadership of the Air Force," he said. "It also gives us the capability to more effectively use our leaders' various talents. In the future, we will look at certain challenges — jobs — and we'll be better positioned to find the most competent, talented individual to handle the task at hand."

"A baseball team does not need nine pitchers," he said. "It needs shortstops and catchers and right fielders too. Instead of having half the team on one side and the other half on the other side, we're combining the two so that we can better choose the right people for the right jobs. It takes experts at every position to make a great team."



## Brooks Family Support Center activities

Call 536-2444 for information

### Investing series, Bldg. 538

This investment series prepares the beginning investor: basic investment terms, fundamental investment principles, what mutual funds are, how mutual funds operate, how to start investing in a mutual fund, different types of stocks and bonds, types of IRAs, and other aspects of investing.

**Sept. 19 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.** Stocks and Bonds

**Sept. 26 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.** IRA Seminar

### Career status bonus, thrift savings plan, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m., Sept. 25, Bldg. 538

Formerly known as the Military Redux Retirement Plan, career status bonus offers a \$30,000 bonus option for service members who reach their 15th year of service.

Thrift Savings Plan for the Military

is a way for military personnel to save, invest, and prepare for their future.

### Military job fair, 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Sept. 26, Live Oak Civic Center

Employers will be recruiting for all types of jobs. Whether you are seeking employment now or gathering information for future career decisions, make this job fair a part of your transition/job search strategy. The Job Fair is open to all DoD military, active duty and retired, civilian personnel, and family members. A list of employers is available at [www.taonline.com](http://www.taonline.com).

### Bundles for babies, 9 a.m.-noon, Sept. 27, Bldg. 538

Are you expecting a child? If so, this Air Force Aid Society sponsored class is for you. Obtain information about budgeting, basic baby care, infant development, effective parenting, car seat regulations, and much more.

Call 536-2444 for more information.

### Is a PCS move in your future?

The Relocation Assistance Program in the Family Support Center needs your help. Usually, we are able to access information about outbound personnel and send them information on their upcoming move. Due to temporary technical difficulties, we are unable to access accurate PCS information on outbound personnel. If a PCS move is in your future, call 536-2444. We'll appreciate your help, and we think you'll be glad, too.

Call 536-2444 for further information or questions.



# Satellite transmission launches Acquisition Excellence Week

By Jim Garamone  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld kicked off Acquisition and Logistics Excellence Week, Sept. 10 with a live satellite broadcast.

Department of Defense personnel around the world were able to view the address via a live satellite broadcast and as a Webcast.

Also scheduled to speak was Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers, current vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and President Bush's nominee to be the next chairman.

During the ceremony, Pete Aldridge, undersecretary of defense for

acquisition, technology and logistics, presented David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Awards to acquisition teams from the Army, Navy, Air Force-Defense Contract Management Agency, and the Defense Logistics Agency.

The theme for the week was "From Reform to Excellence."

This is a conscious shift.

"When I entered (office), we heard a lot about acquisition reform, and I did not like the word 'reform.' It sounded like, 'I've done something wrong, I must repent,'" Aldridge said during an Aug. 15 meeting with reporters.

"So I've changed the title and the theme from acquisition reform to ac-

quisition excellence."

Aldridge said he would use the week to emphasize the things that the Department of Defense is going to do to improve acquisition processes.

"During the week, services were expected to stand down normal activities, at least for one day, to focus on acquisition and logistics trends that are changing and enhancing the way we acquire and sustain weapon systems to meet our warfighters needs," said Maj. John Jacobson of the 311th Human Systems Wing Acquisition Support Team.

"The goal of this Acquisition and Logistics Excellence Week activity is to increase awareness of how acquisition excellence helps obtain military

weapon systems faster, better, cheaper and smarter, while maintaining quality," Jacobson said.

Sept. 11 was Brooks' designated day to stand down and focus on ways to better support the warfighter's needs. Lt. Gen. Stephen Plummer, principal deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, and military director of the U.S. Air Force Scientific Advisory Board, was scheduled to be the keynote speaker for the one-day event at Brooks.

This was the 6th year for the event, which is intended for participants to stay abreast of the current acquisition reform initiatives and new trends in the way acquisition and logistics business is being done.

## Brooks' Our Lady of Peace Parish welcomes new priest

Brooks Air Force Base Catholics recently bid a tearful farewell to the Rev. James Beegan, Missionaries of the Holy Family, who came to the base September 2, 2000.

Beegan was reassigned as chaplain to the Little Sisters of the Poor in St. Louis, and assumes duties of the resident priest for the nursing home and retirement house there.

"We're going to miss 'Father Jim,'" said Tom Brown, a congregation member, "especially his homilies."

But Brooks' faithful won't miss a single Mass thanks to the help of the Rev. Maury Smith, Order of Friars Minor.

Currently, Smith is the Pastoral Resource person for the Southeast Deanery of the San Antonio Archdiocese. He is responsible for the pastoral support of 14 parishes in the deanery.

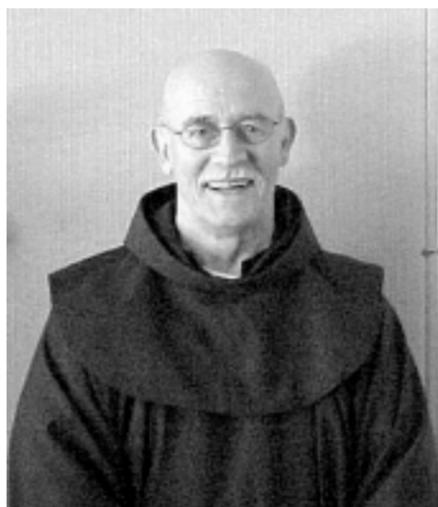
Helping at the Brooks chapel is just out of the kindness of his heart in his "spare time."

Smith was ordained in 1966 as a Franciscan priest. In his 35 years of experience, he has been a pastor, director of retreats, and director of novices for the Franciscan Friars of the Sacred Heart Province.

He has a strong interest in spirituality, and taught spirituality at the Franciscan Institute at Saint Bonaventure University in Olean, N.Y.

Smith has taken a vow of poverty, celibacy and obedience, and any stipend he receives will be donated to the Franciscan community in town, the poor and to the provincial headquarters for the education of new friars and priests.

Recently, at his first Mass at Brooks, Smith per-



Fr. Maury Smith

sonally greeted each member of the congregation.

"I like people, pizza, and movies," he said with a grin.

According to Smith, he looks forward to meeting with all the parishioners and reaching out to others in the Brooks community, especially the United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine students.

Parishioners are invited to attend one of the following services at the Brooks Chapel and meet Fr. Smith.

Sun. Mass 9 a.m.

Wed. Mass 11:30 a.m.

1st Fri. Mass 11:30 a.m.

First Communion/Confirma-

tion starts Sept. 23 for children ages 5 and above.



# 'Dynamic duo' win base's top award

By Rudy Purificato  
311th Human Systems Wing

They can't leap tall buildings in a single bound, but to many on base they are truly superwomen who were recently honored with the base's highest award.

The 311th Services Division's Jan McMahon and Becky Estrada are the latest recipients of the 311th Human Systems Wing's Commander's Award. For only the second time in the award's history has it been presented to a tandem team.

"I was a whole lot shocked because you don't anticipate it," McMahon said about the highest honor she has received in her 19-year Brooks career. Estrada was equally surprised by the recognition, a highlight in the 10 years she's worked on base.

McMahon is a civil service marketing department publicist/writer. Estrada is a Non-Appropriated Fund framing specialist who works at FrameWorks.

Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th HSW commander, selected them for the base's top prize on the strength of their perseverance in fulfilling innumerable responsibilities without a supervisor. One of their major contributions was the planning and staging of the base's annual picnic.

The "dynamic duo," as they have been dubbed by their new boss, Vida Marsh, who nominated them for the award, maintained marketing department operations in the wake of having no director or other help for four months. Among their responsibilities was the promotion of various organizations' events including the grand opening of the re-located FrameWorks in the base exchange mall area, and publishing the monthly "What's Hot" newsletter.

"We just about lived here. We put in a lot of overtime, but we maintained daily operations with a smile," McMahon said.

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pedro Ybanez

Airman 1st Class Andrew Harvey, of the 68th Information Operations Squadron, accepts a check from Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, on behalf of the Brooks Air Force Sergeants Association. The contribution supports AFSA's campaign to raise money for the Air Force Memorial being built in Washington, D.C.

## AFSA raises funds for Air Force Memorial

The Brooks Air Force Association recently received a check from Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, to support their campaign to raise funds for the Air Force Memorial in Washington, D.C.

"This memorial has been way too long in happening," said Dodd. "Our folks deserve this and we should all support it."

The memorial's design centers on the five-point Air Force star, a symbol that graces all Air Force aircraft and missiles, and is central to the rank insignia of every enlisted member of the Air Force.

The campaign, spearheaded by retired Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Paul Airey, hopes to raise the final \$4 million needed to complete the memorial. That's \$9.82 from each active duty, guard, reserve, retiree and veteran of the Air Force.

Brooks AFSA will start a penny jar contribution project at various locations on base so individuals who wish to can contribute. Each unit will also have a campaign leader to accept donations.

The Air Force is the only branch of the armed forces that doesn't have a memorial to honor the men and women who have served.

Questions can be directed to unit campaign leaders or Master Sgt. Linda Miller at 536-8445.

## September Enlisted Promotions

### To Master Sergeant:

**Thomas Miller**  
311th Communications Squadron

**Julius Wilson**

311th CS

**John Bean**

U.S. Air Force School  
of Aerospace Medicine

**Apolinar Bernal**

USAFSAM

**Kristie Robinson**

USAFSAM

### To Technical Sergeant:

**Larry Dotson**

Air Force Medical Support Agency

### To Staff Sergeant:

**Richardo Ramos**

AFMSA

**Isaac Reynaga**

311th Medical Squadron

**Sarah Taylor**

311th Human Systems Wing

**Clay Phipps**

311th MDS

**Bradley Jones**

Air Force Medical Operations Agency

**Gretchen South**

USAFSAM

**Lee Snider**

311th CS

**David Priest**

### 68th Information Operations Squadron

**Keith Mounts**

68th IOS

### To Senior Airman:

**Eric Moore**

311th Air Base Group

**Kevin Jones**

311th Security Forces Squadron

**David King**

311th ABG

**Jennifer O'hara**

311th ABG

### To Airman 1st Class:

**Sumer Montano**

311th MDS

**Stephanie Morgan**

USAFSAM

**Svetlana Chentsova**

USAFSAM

### To Airman:

**Jaziman Chatmon**

USAFSAM

**Lakeisha Smith**

USAFSAM

**Kristy Zentkovich**

USAFSAM

**Meladie Beauchamp**

USAFSAM

**Sirrena Simms**

USAFSAM

**Brooke Blain**

USAFSAM



# ACTION LINE

## 536-2222



**Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd**  
311th Human Systems  
Wing commander

The **COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE** is your opportunity to make Brooks a better place to live, work and play.

**If you have a suggestion for improvement, a complaint or a problem that you have not been able to resolve through normal complaint channels or the chain of command, call the COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE, 536-2222.**

Only items of general interest will be published, so please leave your name and number for a personal response.

311th Security Forces Squadron.....	536-3310
SFS after duty hours.....	536-2851
311th Civil Engineer Squadron.....	536-3861
311th Communications Squadron.....	536-6571
311th Air Base Group Logistics Division.....	536-3541
Safety.....	536-2111
Housing Maintenance.....	536-7000
Housing Office.....	536-1840
311th Services Division.....	536-2545
311th Medical Squadron (Clinic).....	536-4715
Military Personnel.....	536-1845
Civilian Personnel.....	536-3353
Military Pay.....	536-1851
Civilian Pay.....	536-2823
I.G. (FWA).....	536-2358
Military Equal Opportunity.....	536-2584
EEO Complaints.....	536-3702
Base Exchange.....	533-9161
Commissary.....	536-3549

### Base library's operating hours



*I'd like to know the reasoning behind the base library being closed on Friday but open on Sunday? While I see a lot of people who would like to use the library on Fridays, I hardly ever see any attendance on Sundays as I pass through there.*



Thank you for your concern about the Base Library's hours of operation. A decision was made to close the library two days a week, Friday and Saturday, when the library lost two full-time staff members in the Reduction in Force action several years ago.

Air Force standards state that libraries must be open evenings and weekends. We are open four days during the week until 6 :30 p.m., and Sundays to meet, at least partially, the Air Force standard.

We arrived at the decision to close based on our circulation statistics. We found that Friday was our slowest day, as is traditional for libraries everywhere. Lackland Air Force Base's library is also closed on Friday. The Main library and all branches of the San Antonio Public Library System close early on Friday. Monday, on the other hand, is very busy at our library. With this in mind, we decided that in order for our three remaining employees to have two consecutive days off during the work week, we would open Sundays and Mondays.

The 311th Air Base Group leadership is looking at creative ways of increasing manpower to possibly open the library for longer hours. At this time, though, this is the best we can do.

### A quality of life issue



*You can't get tires mounted, balanced, or a flat fixed, and batteries aren't available at the base service station, all because there is no lift for the cars. The manager said one of the electric hydraulic lifts from the closed hobby shop was scheduled to be purchased and used by the BX for the service station. However, there's been some hang-up in the transfer. Could this be looked into?*



AAFES teamed with MWR to relocate a lift from the hobby shop to the service station. The move was completed and the lift is operational.



## Youth Services Center Bldg. 470, 536-2515

Constitution Week helps to educate men and women of the armed forces, military families and civilian employees about the magnificent document that embodies the freedoms they defend.

It also helps to highlight the role of the Armed Forces as guardians of the Constitution itself.

Constitution Week is observed Sept. 17 through 21. The Youth center will celebrate with the following events:

### Sept. 17 - Bells Across America

Bring a bell and join us at the Youth Center Sept. 17. At 4 p.m. we will ring our bells for 200 seconds.

Parents, if your child is attending the Youth Center or Child Development Center, please send a bell with them that morning.

No matter where you are, join the rest of America and ring your bell at 4 p.m.

### Sept. 18 - Air Force Birthday

Join the Youth Center staff for cake and ice cream from 3-5p.m. Let's wish a big Texas "Happy Birthday" to the Air Force.

### Sept. 19 - Patriotic chalk art

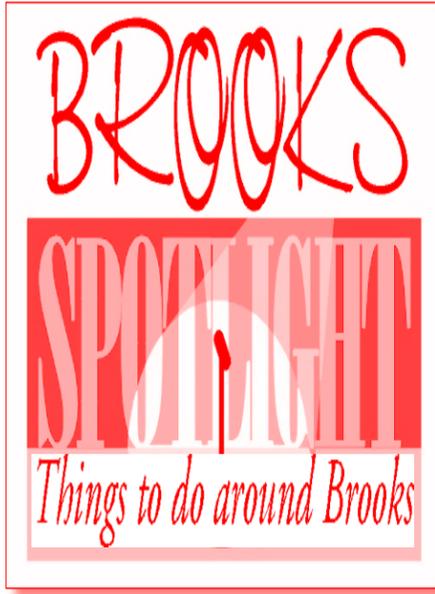
Young and young at heart, when was the last time that you were allowed to draw on the sidewalk and not get into trouble?

We will furnish the chalk to draw murals on the Youth Center patio from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

### Sept. 19 - All American supper

An All American Supper will be held from 5-6 p.m. at the Youth Center.

Parents and adults must be accompanied by a child.



By Jan McMahon  
Brooks Services Marketing Office  
536-5475

The All American menu will consist of hotdogs, beans and apple pie.

Plan to participate in the Patriotic Chalk Art and then attend supper at the center.

### Sept. 20- Flag drawing competition at the Youth Center

Get your ribbon from the Youth Center and wear them Sept. 21 to recognize our former prisoners of war and missing in action personnel.

Children, ages 3-5, at the Child Development Center will participate in drawing posters for Constitution Week.

Posters created by the children will be displayed in the Fitness Center, Bldg. 940.

—Visit your Base Library to pick up

a Constitution Week bookmark. They are located in Bldg. 705.

—How well do you know the Constitution? Pick up a Constitution Trivia sheet from Outdoor Recreation in Bldg. 1154.

—Pick up your Constitution Word Search at the FrameWorks located in the base exchange mall area, Bldg. 704, and see how fast you can find all the words.

## Brooks Club Bldg. 204, 536-3782 Preferred Plus! Program

One lucky AFMC Preferred Plus! member will win \$15,000 just in time for the holidays.

We're giving it away to Preferred Plus members August through October. Each month members can win free rounds of golf and gift certificates good at The FrameWorks, Outdoor Recreation and lunch at the Brooks Club, as well as one year free dues and \$100 in gift certificates.

A command-wide drawing will be held for the \$15,000 grand prize giveaway.

## Golf Course Bldg. 821, 536-2636

There is still time to sign-up for the Golf Course Club Championship scheduled for Sept. 29 and 30. Format will be Low Gross and Low Net. Cost is \$25 per day and includes cart/green fees. Prizes will be determined by number of participants.

No handicap? Sign-up today and be ready for future tournaments. You still have enough time to post enough scores for the golf championship.

Ask for details in the Pro Shop.

## San Antonio military teams up with DoD Marrow Donor Program

By Timothy R. Faloon

C.W. Bill Young / DoD Marrow Donor Program

KENSINGTON, MD - During any given day, more than 3,000 children, youth and adults from around the world - all victims of blood diseases, cancer and other life-threatening illnesses - turn to the National Marrow Donor Program in search of a life saving marrow match. Sadly, some will never find that miracle match.

The C.W. Bill Young / DoD Marrow Donor Program is working to improve the odds of finding a donor during the "Operation Life Torch" registration drives.

The drives are scheduled for Sept. 20-Sept. 22 at various locations in San Antonio, and are scheduled at Brooks during the following times:

**10 a.m. - 2 p.m.** at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine

**8 a.m. - 3 p.m.** at the Brooks Clinic

**7 a.m. - 2 p.m.** at the Fitness Center

It takes only a few minutes to join the marrow registry. Volunteers donate a small tube of blood that is sent to the DoD testing laboratory for typing. Bone marrow is not taken at the drive.

The drive is open to active duty personnel and immediate family members, DoD civilians and drilling Guard or Reservists, ages of 18 and 60 and in good health. There is no easier way to save a life. If you can help, please register.

For more information on the San Antonio Military Community Donor Registration drives, or to volunteer, contact Sherye Thomas (210) 295-4655.

For more information on the C.W. Bill Young / DoD Marrow Donor Program, call 1-800-MARROW-3 or visit our web site at: [www.dodmarrow.com](http://www.dodmarrow.com).

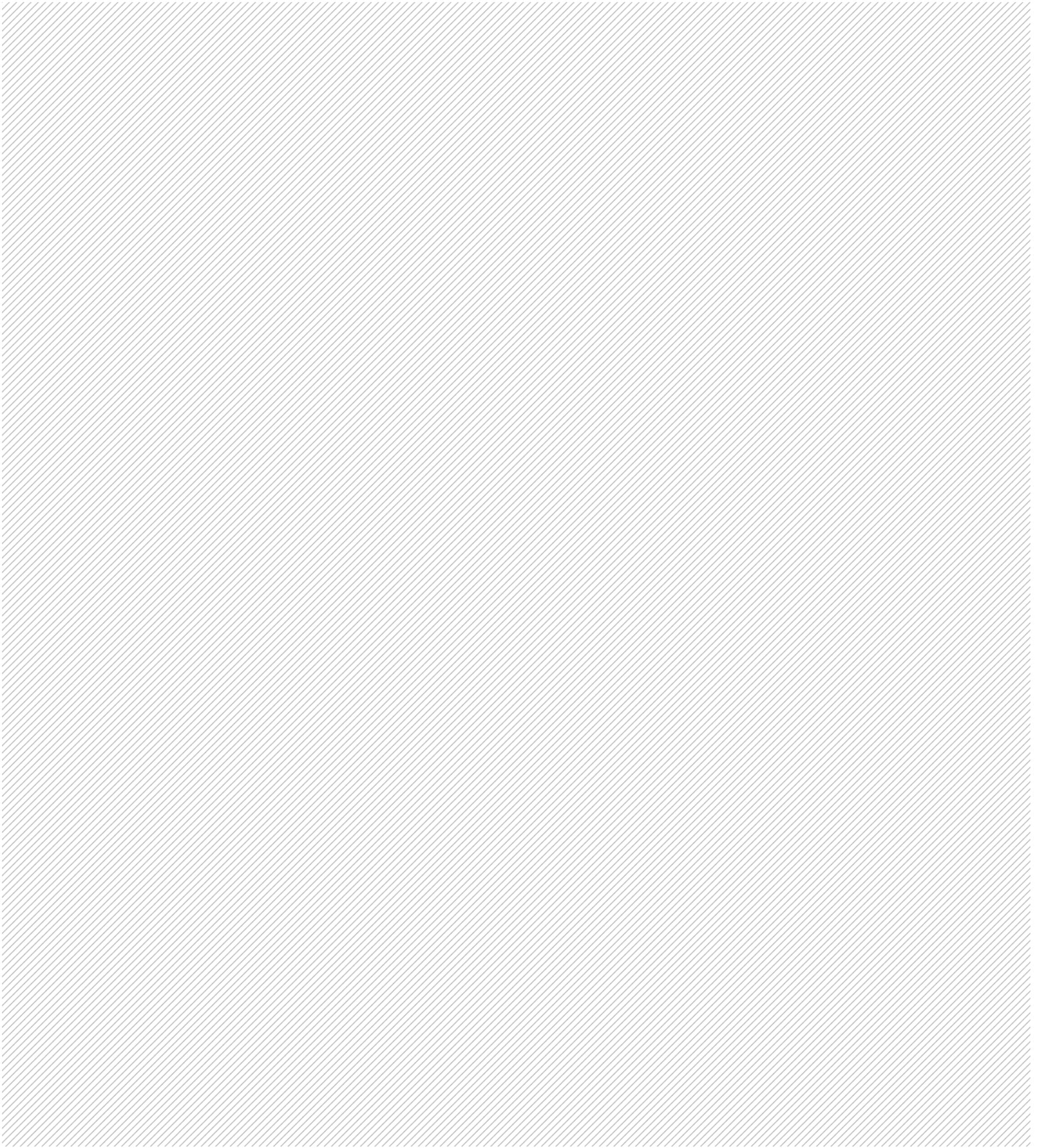


## August Yards of the Month

(Top photo) Senior Airman Agnes Bradt, of the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health Risk Analysis, receives August Yard of the Month honors from Col. Terry Nelsen, 311th Air Base Group commander. Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Mylar, of the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, also won yard of the month honors. Yard of the month winners receive a \$25 gift certificate from Services and a \$10 gift certificate from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service. They also receive a flag and certificate.



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Pedro Ybanez





## Special war-medal action team continues to recognize Korean veterans

By Judy Grojean

AFPC Public Affairs

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER —

Mailing almost 600 medals per day, the Air Force Personnel Center's Special War-Medal Action Team knows there are more than 1.7 million veterans still eligible for the Korean War Service Medal, to include next of kin of deceased veterans.

On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War, the Republic of Korea issued a medal to pay tribute to the U.S. Korean War veterans for their historic endeavors to preserve freedom of the ROK and the free world.

On Aug. 20, 1999, the Department of Defense approved the acceptance and wear of the medal.

"Initially we were inundated with requests," said Master Sgt. Alberto Salinas, chief, awards and decoration section.

"In the first five months, 60,000 letters flooded in. That's a lot of mail. We had so much that you couldn't even walk through the office."

Since then, AFPC has distributed more than 83,000 Korean War Service medals to veterans from every branch of military service.

The initial 750 requests a day has slowed a bit to about 600. The team works busily to catch up on the backlog.

"The veterans have waited fifty years for the medal and we want them to receive it as quickly as possible," said Maj. James Waggle, chief of the recognition branch.

The Air Force provides the medal at no cost, first-come, first-served, to veterans who meet the criteria, and apply with appropriate documentation.

Criteria for award of the Republic of Korea Korean War Service Medal (ROK KWSM) were established by the ROK government.

To qualify for the medal, the veteran must have met the following criteria:

- served in the country of Korea, its territorial waters, or airspace between 25 June 1950 to 27 July 1953 for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days, or:

- served as a crew member of aircraft in aerial flight over Korea participating in actual combat operations, or in support of combat operations.

Veterans who served in Japan, Guam, Okinawa, the Philippines or other countries are not eligible.

"We receive many different types of documentation that veterans provide to help us validate their service in Korea during the war," said Master Sgt. Walter Johnson, superintendent for the team.

"From DD Form 214s to newspaper articles pinpointing the requestor's location during the war — whatever the requestor sends to us, we make every effort to validate and approve the medals for the veterans.

They deserve it.

Veterans only need to send copies of their documents.

"Please don't send money," said Johnson. "The medals are free."

The Korean War medal was initially offered by the Republic of Korea to U.S. Korean War veterans more than 50 years ago, but was never issued because of a law prohibiting the military from wearing medals issued by foreign governments.

Congress changed the law in 1954, but by then most of the service members eligible for the medal had returned home.

Additional information on how to apply for the medal can be found by contacting the Air Force Personnel Center, weekdays, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at (800) 558-1404, or (210) 565-2432. The fax number is (210) 565-3118.

Or visit the AFPC web site at: <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/awards/>

General information on the medal can also be found by writing:

Department of Defense  
50th Anniversary of the Korean War  
Commemoration Committee  
1213 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Crystal Gateway 4, Arlington, VA  
22202

Or on the web site at: <https://korea50.army.mil>



Feature

# Brooks link to Stinson Field 'historic'



Photos by Rudy Purificato

Nearly 100 people attended the recent state historical marker ceremony at the nation's second oldest municipal airport.

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The Brooks Honor Guard added to the base's decades-long connection to historic Stinson Field when it helped dedicate a state historical marker there during a recent ceremony.

Located a few miles west of Brooks, Stinson Field is the second oldest operating municipal airport in the United States.

"It's classified as a general aviation reliever airport. The only municipal airport that has been operating longer than Stinson is the College Park airport in Maryland which opened in 1909," said Stinson Field airport manager Tim O'Krongley.

Prior to its designation as a state historical site, the airport that was once the off-duty home of Brooks Field flying cadet Charles Lindbergh has been part of the San Antonio Missions Historic District, listed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

"It has been a long time coming," said city of San Antonio aviation director Kevin C. Dolliole, referring to the yearlong process needed for state recognition of Stinson's historical significance. "Local historians only recently thought about making it a state historic site," said Dr. Felix D. Almaraz, UTSA history professor who serves as chairman of the Bexar County History Commission's

historical markers committee.

Perhaps waiting longer than anyone to see Stinson Field receive state recognition is 75-year-old Bill Southwell, whose company produces state historical markers. "I was about 9 years old when I attended the dedication of the Stinson terminal building with my dad Wilson in 1935," Southwell said.



The new state historical marker at Stinson Field mentions the Brooks Field connection.

Stinson Field was established on Jan. 18, 1916, by the pioneering aviation family that included Katherine, Marjorie, Eddie and Jack Stinson. Marjorie Stinson, who along with brother Eddie had been trained as pilots by the Wright Brothers, petitioned the San Antonio City Council to lease 500 acres to establish a landing field and flying school.

During World War I, the Stinsons helped train American and Canadian military pilots. In 1917, Eddie Stinson joined the Army Air Corps and served as a Kelly Field flight instructor.

Due to a military ban on civilian flights in 1918, the Stinson flying school was closed. The city of San Antonio took over operations.

In 1924, Lindbergh gave private flying lessons at Stinson Field where he kept his plane. At the time, the future aviation legend was attending primary flying training at Brooks Field.

In 1927, when Lindbergh made his historic Trans-Atlantic flight, Stinson Field was briefly re-named Winburn Field in memory of a San Antonio news reporter who was killed in a plane crash. By 1928, Texas Air Transport (which became American Airlines) began its first San Antonio-based air mail and passenger service there. Eastern Airlines and Braniff Airlines

*"I was about 9 years old when I attended the dedication of the Stinson terminal building with my dad Wilson in 1935."*

Bill Southwell  
Historical Marker Producer

began operations at Stinson in the 1930s.

In 1942, the Army Air Corps took over Stinson Field operations, using it as an Air Training Depot. Pilots trained at Brooks and Kelly Fields spent time perfecting their skills at Stinson. By 1946, commercial passenger service had moved from Stinson to the new San Antonio airport.

Since the 1940s, several Brooks aviation pioneers have been connected to Stinson Field. Among them is the late Col. Carl Crane, a Stinson Field benefactor who also led the campaign to save Hangar 9 at Brooks. In 1965, Crane helped raise the money for and spearheaded the dedication of a Stinson family memorial that he designed. The memorial is located on the north side of the control tower.

Besides the ashes of both Marjorie and Jack Stinson residing there, the spirit of the late Dr. Kent Gillingham is forever linked to Stinson Field. Gillingham, a Brooks scientist and aviation pioneer, was killed at Stinson Field in 1993 when the private plane he was piloting crashed shortly after takeoff. A Brooks street is named in Gillingham's honor for his aviation contributions which include G-force acceleration research and his development and creation of the world's first Advanced Spatial Disorientation Demonstrator.

"The last time I was here was in 1976 when we scattered my grandfather Jack's ashes," said retired Army Lt. Col. John Stinson, who participated in the marker dedication.

The West Point graduate, who retired from the Army in 1999, said most of his family was involved in aviation. "My grandfather (Jack) was kind of eccentric. He was an engineer and a pilot. My mother Isabelle (Fenton) was a W.A.S.P. pilot at Maxwell AFB, [Ala.], where she met my father Edward A. Stinson III, who was an Air Force F-80 pilot during the Korean War," said Stinson, who is also a pilot now living in Alexandria, Va.



# Basic military trainee suffers rare infection

## Airman recovers after joint effort by USAFSAM, WHMC team

By Col. Walter Cayce

U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine

Airman Basic Cindy Gault, completing her fourth week of basic training at Lackland Air Force Base was recently diagnosed with an unusual infection known as necrotizing fasciitis.

Also called "flesh eating strept" in the press, Gault's infection was caused by a particular type of Group A (Hemolytic Streptococcal bacterial infection).

Initially, Gault received standard therapy at Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland, which included antibiotics and surgical removal of the infected or dying flesh.

WHMC physicians became concerned when she failed to respond quickly to standard treatment. Her doctors were worried that if the spread of the infection was not arrested soon she would not recover.

Maj. (Dr.) William Thornton, director of WHMC Intensive Care Units, contacted Col. (Dr.) Robert Bertoldo at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine's Davis Hyperbaric Laboratory (DHL) at Brooks to determine if hyperbaric oxygen therapy could help.

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy has been found to be helpful as an additional treatment in cases of necrotizing fasciitis.

Bertoldo immediately offered the services of the Brooks facility to help Gault.

DHL has three hyperbaric chambers to provide hyperbaric medical therapy. DHL is known as the birthplace of modern hyperbaric medicine and provides care for patients in clinical hyperbaric medicine as well as participating in cutting-edge research.

Gault was quite ill and required the mechanical support of a ventilator to breathe. Her critical medical condition, posed significant risk simply to transfer her to USAFSAM.

WHMC personnel, applying skills learned in the pioneering critical air transport teams, transported the airman to DHL where she received her first hyperbaric treatment.



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Richard Madrid

Respiratory technician Staff Sgt. Dave Supinski, from the 59th Medical Wing, ventilates Airman Basic Cindy Gault manually while descending to depth in the Davis Hyperbaric Laboratory Treatment Chamber. Tech. Sgt. Mario Aberjero from DHL, directly behind the patient's head, is ready to activate the mechanical ventilator once the patient is stabilized at treatment depth.

Gault received her first treatment July 26. This "dive" lasted about two hours. The chamber was pressurized to a depth of 66 feet of seawater equivalent (or about two atmospheres greater than the air pressure we experience at sea-level).

The treatment was followed by additional surgery at WHMC that evening. The airman was treated again the next day with hyperbaric oxygen and received a final treatment July 28. By the third treat-

ment, Gault's condition had markedly improved, with clear signs the infection was under control.

She is now recuperating and is optimistic for a full recovery.

Hyperbaric medicine consists of breathing 100 percent oxygen in a pressurized chamber. Imagine crawling into a large compressed air tank and breathing 100 percent oxygen while the tank is pressurized. This exposes the patient to very high concentrations of oxygen (20 times normal in Gault's case) that improves the body's own defensive system, puts bacteria under oxidative stress and oxygenates hypoxic tissue.

Because of her fragile condition, Gault required the use of a ventilator capable of functioning at the equivalent depth of 66 feet of seawater. (Note: 66-feet of seawater refers to the air pressure required to support or lift the weight of a 66-foot column of seawater).

Not all-available ventilators can be used at depth in a hyperbaric chamber because oxygen under pressure is highly flammable and the mechanical volume of air delivered to the patient under pressure can be unpredictable. The Davis Hyperbaric Laboratory staff, using their own calibrated and tested ventilator, professionally managed this task.

Streptococcal infections have been the bane of military organizations for decades.

During World War II serious adverse outcomes from Streptococcal Disease were as high as 800 per 100,000 personnel per year. All three services currently have programs at recruit training centers to limit the impact of this bacterium. Col. (Dr.) Doug Robb, commander of the 59th AeroDental Group, states that the 59th Medical Wing at WHMC is cooperating closely with the 37th Training Wing at Lackland to prevent any further episodes of Streptococcal Disease in military recruits.

Infectious Disease, Preventive Medicine and Public Health and others from the 59th MDW are all engaged in this effort.

Bertoldo, from DHL, commented, "This case shows how well USAFSAM and WHMC cooperate for the benefit of our patients."

Robb along with others at WHMC are coordinating with USAFSAM to assist WHMC in developing its own hyperbaric medicine service.

More information on hyperbaric medicine can be found on the DHL Web site: [www.brooks.af.mil/web/hyper/](http://www.brooks.af.mil/web/hyper/).

Additional information on WHMC is available at [www.whmc.af.mil](http://www.whmc.af.mil).



Brooks' hyperbaric chambers are used to treat a number of different medical conditions.

“ This case shows how well USAFSAM and WHMC cooperate for the benefit of our patients. ”

— Col. Robert Bertoldo  
U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine's  
Davis Hyperbaric Laboratory



### Air Force Ball cancelled

Due to the national tragedy Sept. 11, officials have cancelled the Air Force Ball this year.

Accordingly, Brooks has also cancelled its celebration, originally scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. tonight at the Brooks club.

### Retiree appreciation day

Brooks holds its third annual Retiree Appreciation Day Sept. 21 in Hangar 9. The event will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Retiree appreciation day is an opportunity to honor retired military members in the local area for their dedication and significant contributions to the country.

In addition to recognizing their patriotism, the event is intended to be a reminder of the Brooks mission and the numerous services that the base has available to the retiree community.

This year Brooks will join in the national POW/MIA Remembrance Day Sept. 21. This commemoration will begin with the laying of a wreath at the flagpole at reveille and will continue with a formal table ceremony in conjunction with the Retiree Appreciation Day in Hangar 9 at 9 a.m.

Afternoon events will include tours of the Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory and a retreat ceremony at 4 p.m. at the main base flagpole.

Representatives from various organizations will be on hand.

They include TRICARE, Army and Air Force Exchange Service, DeCA, Retired Officer Association, Retired Enlisted Association, military personnel flight, Texas Veterans Commission, National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Veterans Administration, Frank Tejada Texas State Veterans Home, Brooks Family Support Center.

Brooks Clinic personnel and members of the base Health and Wellness Center will provide blood pressure and cholesterol screenings, height and weight checks and assessments.

The 311th Security Forces Squadron will conduct window etching in the Hangar 9 parking lot free of charge.

A special lunch will be available in the Brooks Club for all attendees, including those visitors attending the POW/MIA Commemoration Day ceremonies, from noon to 1 p.m. Draw-

## NEWS briefs

ings and special offers will be available to retirees throughout the day.

For more information, contact 2nd Lt. Brian Batson at 536-6977 or retired Chief Master Sgt. Fred Dickinson in the Brooks Retiree Activities Office, at 536-2116.

### Record of emergency data

DD Form 93 Record of Emergency Data continues to be a major obstacle when notifying next-of-kin. The accuracy of this form is critical should you become seriously injured or a casualty.

The following are reoccurring errors noted on DD Form 93:

If the notification address is a post office box or Rural Route number, the member must provide directions to the residence.

If a parent address is listed as unknown or member denies any knowledge or contact with the parent, the member must provide the last known address.

Remember the Air Force is required to notify your next-of-kin.

You are encouraged to contact the Brooks Casualty Office at 536-2447 or come to the Military Personnel Flight, Bldg. 570-B, today to review your DD Form 93.

### Hispanic heritage month volunteers needed

The Brooks Community celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month each year from Sept. 15-Oct. 15. The committee needs volunteers to help make this occasion successful.

Many events have been planned but the workload is great and the workers are few.

Contact Lt. Col. Rosa Mancha for more information at 536-3374.

### Brooks Toastmasters

Toastmasters is a non-profit international organization formed in 1924 with the goal of making effective communication a worldwide reality.

Members practice their public speaking in a relaxed, self-paced learning environment. Brooks Toastmasters meets Wednesday from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Contact Rick Young at 536-4464 or Capt. Juan Ubiera at 536-1953 for more information.

### AFOSI investigation

The British Ministry of Defence Police and the Air Force Office of Special Investigation are conducting an investigation into a company that rents vehicles to U.S. and other authorized personnel in and around the Royal Air Force Lakenheath, Alconbury and Mildenhall areas.

Allegations are that this company may have charged for damage to rental vehicles, which did not occur, and also that U.S. personnel may have been deceived into paying other fraudulent charges.

This scheme was disguised so that those who were defrauded may not know they paid unnecessary or unlawful fees.

To establish if you have been subjected to fraud by this company please contact your local AFOSI unit so they may collect information from you.

### Airman leadership school

Airman Leadership School is looking for a motivated individual to join their team. The instructor will conduct enlisted professional military education as outlined in Air Force directives. Individuals must have a regionally accredited degree/CCAF degree, be a Staff Sgt., have attended ALS, and be able to fulfill a 4-year controlled tour obligation.

For more information contact Master Sgt. Garland Bass at 925-1233.

### Brooks Spouse's Club

The Brooks Spouse's Club's annual welcome reception is scheduled for Sept. 18, beginning at 6 p.m. at the Brooks Club.

Representatives from San Antonio attractions and Brooks offices will be on hand to provide information and to answer questions about their respective services and benefits. There will also be door prizes and an official welcome to new members.

Members will also have an opportunity to sign up for volunteer activities, such as working at the Thrift Shop.

Please RSVP to Terri Ireland, reservations chairperson, at 523-9496 by noon, today.

Membership to the Spouse's Club is open to the spouses of all Brooks employees.

Enlisted, officer and civilian spouses are welcome to attend this or any other function. For more information about the Spouse's Club, call President Joyce Nelsen at 337-5879.

### Dental screenings

The Pediatric Dental Department at Lackland Air Force Base provides drop-in dental screenings for all eligible military medical beneficiaries one day each month.

Children under 14 years of age will be seen at the Skylark Community Center from 8 to 11 a.m. on Sept. 26, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, and Dec. 12.

Children will receive dental exams, opinions about their dental condition and treatment recommendations. Call Airman 1st Class Marnie Thetford at 292-3327 for more information.

### Clinic notes

Cold and Flu season is just around the corner. Please remember that the Brooks clinic has sick call by appointment only.

Since the elimination of walk-in sick call the clinic is providing additional appointments, with the goal of reducing unnecessary wait times.

Call 536-1847 as early as 7 a.m. for sick call appointments.

### Medical records

Where are your Medical Records? It's important to keep all medical records in the clinic in which you are enrolled.

Many patients like to keep their records at home. Unfortunately this puts your PCM team at a great disadvantage.

Your doctor and his team of healthcare professionals need to have access to your records at all times to ensure you are getting the proper care.

If you have your records at home or left them at another Medical Treatment Facility please bring them to Brooks clinic to ensure you get the best care possible.

If you have questions or concerns please call Capt Natalie Sutto at 536-6875.

**Education notes**

By Carolyn Croft-Foster

Brooks Education Services Office  
536-3617

### BSC selects Tech. Sgt. Timothy Ferrell

Congratulations to Tech. Sgt. Timothy Ferrell, of the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, on his selection for a direct commission as a Health Physicist.

Ferrell will attend Commissioned Officer Training at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ga., and then be stationed at Eglin AFB in Florida.

### On-Base registration for Flex 2 semester

Palo Alto College will offer courses at Brooks for the Fall Flex 2 semester beginning Oct. 22 and continuing until Dec. 14.

All courses are applicable to the Community College of the Air Force.

Courses include speech, literature, biology, history, supervision, and computer literacy. Registration for the semester begins Sept. 18.

For more information or to schedule an appointment with a represen-

tative from Palo Alto College, call 536-3617.

### Fall CCAF graduates

The Aerospace Education Foundation's Eagle Grant provides a one-time grant of up to \$400 to selected top enlisted personnel graduating from Community College of the Air Force and planning to pursue a baccalaureate degree.

Eagle Grants are endowed by the Aerospace Education Foundation through corporate contributions and donations from Air Force Association members and their chapters.

Fall graduates who are interested in applying should stop by Education Services for an application if they didn't receive one in the mail.

The following documents should be included when submitting the package: Commander's endorsement, a narrative statement describing extracurricular activities and their significance, appropriate citations and awards representing distinguished

activity, and proof of enrollment or intent to enroll in an accredited program leading to a baccalaureate degree.

Packages are due by midday Oct. 10.

For more information call Education Services at 536-3617.

### Officer training school

Enlisted members who have completed a bachelors degree or are within 270 days of completion are eligible to apply to OTS.

The next deadline for applications is Nov. 13.

For more information, call 536-3617 to schedule an appointment.

### OLLU registration

Our Lady of the Lake University representatives will be available at the Education Center, Bldg. 570-B, Sept. 20 from 9 a.m.-noon.

For information about undergraduate weekend college call 431-3995, or visit the website at: [www.ollusa.edu](http://www.ollusa.edu).

For graduate weekend college call 431-3972.

### VEAP conversion to MGIB

Servicemembers who have VEAP accounts are now eligible to convert to the Montgomery GI Bill.

Education Services is currently contacting members whose names appear on our list of eligibles.

If you believe you are eligible to convert and have not been contacted, contact Education Services in Bldg. 570-C or by calling 536-3617.

For more information, or to attend a conversion briefing call 536-3617.



# Varsity hoopster confident with role as mentor

By Rudy Purificato  
311th Human Systems Wing

Taller opponents with much more athletic ability respect the commitment to basketball that Brooks varsity team's diminutive starting point guard Robert Garcia brings to the game. Unshakeable confidence and a burning passion to win has elevated Garcia to a higher level, despite his slight stature at 5'5" and 126 pounds.

Not even a recent bout with pneumonia has curtailed Garcia's plans to help his team compete for the Air Force Materiel Command championship, a title they have never won despite this firefighter's contributions as a three-time AFMC All-Tourney team point guard. Next month, he will begin his fourth season as the varsity squad's veteran playmaker whose past performance has earned him another invitation to try out for the All-Air Force team.

"I've lost between 12-18 pounds," said Garcia about his illness that has weakened his body, but not his spirit. For it's his spirit, grounded in Christian faith, that motivates him to excel in a game where 'giants' dwell. Garcia has been an inspiration to several teammates who he has mentored based on his belief that no obstacle is insurmountable with God's help.

"The credit for anything I accomplish goes to Him (Jesus Christ), who is the pillar of my (inner) strength. I'm not the most talented player in the world, but I have gotten a lot out of my God-given ability," Garcia said. He is relentless in trying to help teammates who seek his advice get the most out of their abilities.

He explains, "I've always had a good rapport with my teammates. I've become very passionate about winning. I always envision us winning. I've been hard on them (teammates) at times because I want them to succeed."

Last season, Garcia mentored the varsity's rookie dynamic duo: point guard Colby Benjamin and forward Junell Dumes. "I worked a lot with Junell. I tried to provoke aggressiveness to bring out the fire in him. We worked together a lot with one-on-one full-court drills. He has a lot of God-given ability, but he needs to become a 'presence' on the court," Garcia



Photo by Rudy Purificato

Brooks varsity basketball team starting point guard Robert Garcia works at the Brooks fire department.

noted. Meanwhile, Benjamin and Garcia have become kindred spirits. "Colby and I are very similar in that we're very fiery and passionate about the game. I always want to go to battle with someone who doesn't want to lose."

It took Garcia many years to develop the confidence that he exudes today. The son of a Baptist minister, this 24-year-old Fort Worth, Texas, native developed an aggressive, up-tempo style in his freshman and sophomore years at Belair High School

in El Paso, Texas. "I've patterned a lot of my game after Tim Hardaway. That's why I wear #10," he said.

Garcia was first exposed to Hardaway's influence when the NBA star was playing at the University of Texas at El Paso.

"My high school coach Anthony Morgan is Hardaway's friend. Hardaway would visit us at our gym. I also played in an all-star game in which Hardaway was a referee when I participated in UTEP head coach Don Haskins' (basketball) camp."

Garcia has since mimicked Hardaway's trademark crossover dribbles. Years earlier as a youngster performing with the UTEP halftime show's "Miner Mites," Garcia developed some of the skills that has helped him succeed today.

"I learned a lot about ball handling and breaking down the defense," he said.

He eventually progressed as a backup point guard for San Antonio's Holmes High School varsity squad during his junior and senior years.

Garcia later studied sports broadcasting at San Antonio College from 1995-1998, eventually serving as a WOAI Radio intern providing taped NBA highlight feeds for Andy Everett's Spurs Broadcast Central show.

Garcia migrated to Air Force sports when he enlisted in 1998. He arrived at Brooks in time for the basketball season.

"Coach (Larry) Glover recruited me from intramurals. Glover did more for me in my career than any other coach. He instilled a lot of confidence in me. He wouldn't get nervous when I made mistakes. He'd tell me, 'You're a basketball player instead of a short person.' He didn't blame my mistakes on my height," admits Garcia.

What Glover also did was convince Garcia that he could play against anybody, no matter their greater ability or height advantage. "It's such a mental game. Confidence is very important," Garcia noted. Glover's mentorship paid off. Garcia developed into a force to be reckoned with on court with his frenetic, run-and-gun style of play.

Now Garcia is poised for perhaps his final season. He is scheduled to separate from the Air Force in March. "My dream has always been to play at the college level. Glover believed I can play at that level," he confessed. The quick and agile Garcia competed successfully earlier this year during a UTSA scrimmage he was invited to participate in, giving more credence to the old saying "there's dynamite in small packages."

Since 1998, Garcia has dedicated himself to improving upon his God-given abilities while also helping mentor and motivate his teammates.

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil

## 2001 U.S. Air Force Excellence-In-Competition

The 2001 Air Force Excellence-In-Competition rifle match will be held at Camp Bullis, Sept. 25 and 26, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The event will be conducted in accordance with Civilian Marksmanship Program rules, 5th edition, and all Air Force Instructions that govern these events.

The competition is open to all Air Force active duty, Reserve and Air Guard personnel, with priority given to non-distinguished rifle personnel, and is open to all others on a space available basis.

Civilian and other service personnel may compete, but will be required to fill out the CMP affidavit, pay a \$10 fee and provide their own equipment and ammunition. Air Force personnel are not required to pay the fee and weapons and ammunition will be provided. Air Force personnel may provide their own equipment as long as it complies with the CMP rules.

This opportunity is not available at most Air Force installations.

All participants must be in place at Camp Bullis, F range, by 7 a.m. the day they are scheduled to compete.

Each day will consist of firing the National Match course of fire and a variety of challenging scenarios.

Individuals will compete on one of the two days. Contact the event coordinator to schedule your day, provide necessary information and receive all the information about the event.

A complete safety briefing will be provided each day and safety procedures will be enforced throughout the day.

Participants will be given time to eat, but must bring food and water to the range.

Contact Maj. Art Rozier at 652-4406 for more information, or to schedule a time to compete.

The event is sponsored by the Air Force Services Agency, San Antonio Rifle and Pistol Club, 37th Training Wing, 12th Flying Training Wing and Headquarters Air Education and Training Command

American Heart Association



Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke

## 2001 American Heart Walk

Chances are you have a family member or friend who has been affected by heart disease. Perhaps you are one of the thousands of Americans who are diagnosed with this condition.

Now is your chance to make a difference and raise funds for the lifesaving work of the American Heart Association.

The Brooks Health and Wellness Center is coordinating a team to participate in the 2001 American Heart Walk Oct. 6 at Brackenridge Park in San Antonio.

The walk is 3 miles and will begin promptly at 8:45 a.m.

Participants are asked to obtain pledges

for the AHA, and seventy-seven cents from every dollar raised will be spent directly on research and education.

Each of us lead busy lives but take a moment to think of how this condition would affect your life and your loved ones.

A small donation can assist the AHA in research that will strengthen the chain of survival among these patients and educate the public on the signs and symptoms of heart attack and stroke.

If you are interested in participating or making a donation, contact Capt. Risa Riepma at 536-4159 or Capt. Carol Walters at 536-1505.

