

DISCOVERY

Air Force eases more than half of Stop Loss restrictions

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Air Force personnel officials announced May 14 the release of more than half of the Air Force Specialty Codes restricted from retirement or separation May 2 under the Stop Loss program.

Following a review of operational requirements, 31 officer and 20 enlisted career fields were identified for release from Stop Loss, the officials said.

The Air Force announced Stop Loss, a Defense Department program designed to retain members of the armed forces beyond their established dates of separation or retirement, for 99 AFSCs and deployed airmen on March 13. The move was aimed at ensuring personnel levels were adequate to meet upcoming contingencies.

"It was not an action that we took lightly," said Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche. "It was designed to preserve Air Force skills essential to supporting the global war on terrorism and operations in Iraq."

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper pointed out that service officials have always said that they will use Stop Loss only as long as necessary to accomplish the mission.

"We've reevaluated our requirements and are releasing these AFSCs because Stop-Loss is inconsistent with the fundamental principles of voluntary service," Jumper said.

Maj. Teresa Forest, chief of Air

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

A brief overview

Gen. Lester Lyles, Commander, Air Force Materiel Command, accompanied by 311th Human Systems Wing Commander Col. Tom Travis, left, receives a mission brief and demonstration from members of the Air Force Institute for

Operational Health during a recent visit to Brooks. Lyles visited numerous organizations on base, as well spending time with the Brooks Company Grade Officer Council and enlisted troops. See more, Page 5

Lyles visits Brooks, shows support for City-Base, AFMC transformation

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Gen. Lester Lyles praised the contributions being made by City-Base during his May 7-8 visit here that underscored his belief that this Air Force Materiel Command workforce has had a significant impact on enhancing warfighter capabilities that have led to successes during Operation Iraqi Freedom and America's war on terrorism.

Referring to the homeland security model created at Brooks through the technologies and alliances it has developed, the AFMC commander said, "This is a unique point in time where so much potential is just peaking."

He also told a group of civilian and military leaders during a Brooks Club dinner that the base's on-going contributions to national defense and homeland security were enhanced and sustained by the vision and leadership that was needed to create City-Base.

"The last time I was here was for the Brooks City-Base conveyance that kicked off an unprecedented event. It set the tone within DoD," Lyles said.

"The key thing to keep in mind is to ensure that the Air Expeditionary mindset and culture is in everything we do, that we never forget that this culture and mindset supports the warfighters."

Gen. Lester Lyles
Commander, Air Force Materiel Command

While crediting many people for their support that made City-Base a reality, the AFMC commander singled out Dr. Brendan Godfrey, 311th Human Systems Wing's executive director. "Somewhere in the Pentagon they've created a trophy in your honor for base conveyance," Lyles jokingly told Godfrey.

Lyles toured key sites at Brooks tied to a series of information briefings. He was initially briefed by Col. Tom Travis, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, who presented a Brooks mission update that was subsequently followed by Godfrey's update on City-Base.

The tour included visits to the Air Force Institute for Operational Health, the Air Force Research Laboratory's Tejada directed energy facility, the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine's Expeditionary Medical Support field site, and the 311th Human Systems Program Office's Life Sciences Equipment and Materials Laboratories. Lyles also had lunch with enlisted members, culminating with a question and answer period that addressed various enlisted issues.

During a post-tour public affairs interview, Lyles was candid about one of his top priorities: AFMC transformation of four core missions — science and technology, acquisition and development, sustainment and logistics.

"The key thing to keep in mind is to ensure that the Air Expeditionary

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D I S C O V E R Y

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Brooks celebrates Asian American — Pacific Islander Heritage Month

'A salute to liberty'

Capt Sonya Ferreira

Chief, Military Equal Opportunity

It is difficult to define the American spirit that comes in so many different races, cultures and colors. It transcends gender, religious and ethnic boundaries. I have been told, "Diversity is the bedrock of American strength ... each culture has strong attributes that can be melted together to form a culture that is uniquely American."

And so we have come together as a nation to acknowledge the achievements of some local heroes.

In accordance with Presidential Proclamation, Brooks recognizes the month of May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. We salute Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who have sacrificed much in support of freedom at home and abroad.

This year we bring the spotlight to the Brooks military community. Among those represented are Asian Americans from Thai, Filipino, Chinese, and Laotian descent who agreed to share a part of their culture and a piece of themselves with the Brooks community.

Despite their differences, members are proud of their military service and believe their cultural backgrounds enhanced their ability to leverage diversity and understand other people. They enjoy what they do and believe in the nation they serve.

For some, the military has helped them soar to unreachable limits. For others, the military has been a way of life as they remember their grandfather, a decorated World War II veteran and prisoner of war. And still others are second generation military members who watched their parents throughout their career.

Just like most of us, they were influenced to join the military by family and friends. Despite having parents from different countries, they acclimated to the American way of life while maintaining respect for their cultural heritage. All believe their background enhances their ability to perform professionally.

"Growing up with parents from the old world-discipline, duties and respect were part of everyday life. It carries over and helps with military professionalism." Another member stated, "Understanding different cultures is an inherent part



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

Dancers performed at the Brooks Club in celebration of Asian American—Pacific Heritage Month. The event was one of many that recognized their contributions and cultures.

of situational awareness and enhances mission readiness."

These members are proud of the contributions and influences Asian American culture has had on the American people. We see their influence in restaurants, clothing, science advancement, film, sports, and yes here at Brooks. They perform important duties such as visual support, biological science research, and photography. They bring a piece of cultural significance to their environment where they believe "each race and culture should be proud of their heritage but always remember we are all Americans. Race and culture should constructively enhance and contribute alternative viewpoints for the greater good of all America."

And so they have, the presence of Asian Americans have added a unique variety to the mixed salad we call America the Beautiful.

Thank you to all who shared your story.

Remember those who've gone before — A Memorial Day message

By: Dr. James Roche

Secretary of the Air Force

and

Gen. John Jumper

Air Force Chief of Staff

This Memorial Day, as the flag gracefully soars to the top of the flagpole then solemnly lowers to half-staff, the loss of great Americans who have fallen in our country's battles weighs heavily on our hearts.

Memorial Day is our time to salute their sacrifices and remember their dedication to duty. We remember their humanity, dignity, and nobility. We remember their laughter, their tears, and their determination to serve a grateful nation.

This Memorial Day is indeed somber because members of our ranks have recently fallen in battle. They are the mothers and fathers of children who will forever mourn their absence, the sons and daughters of parents who grieve

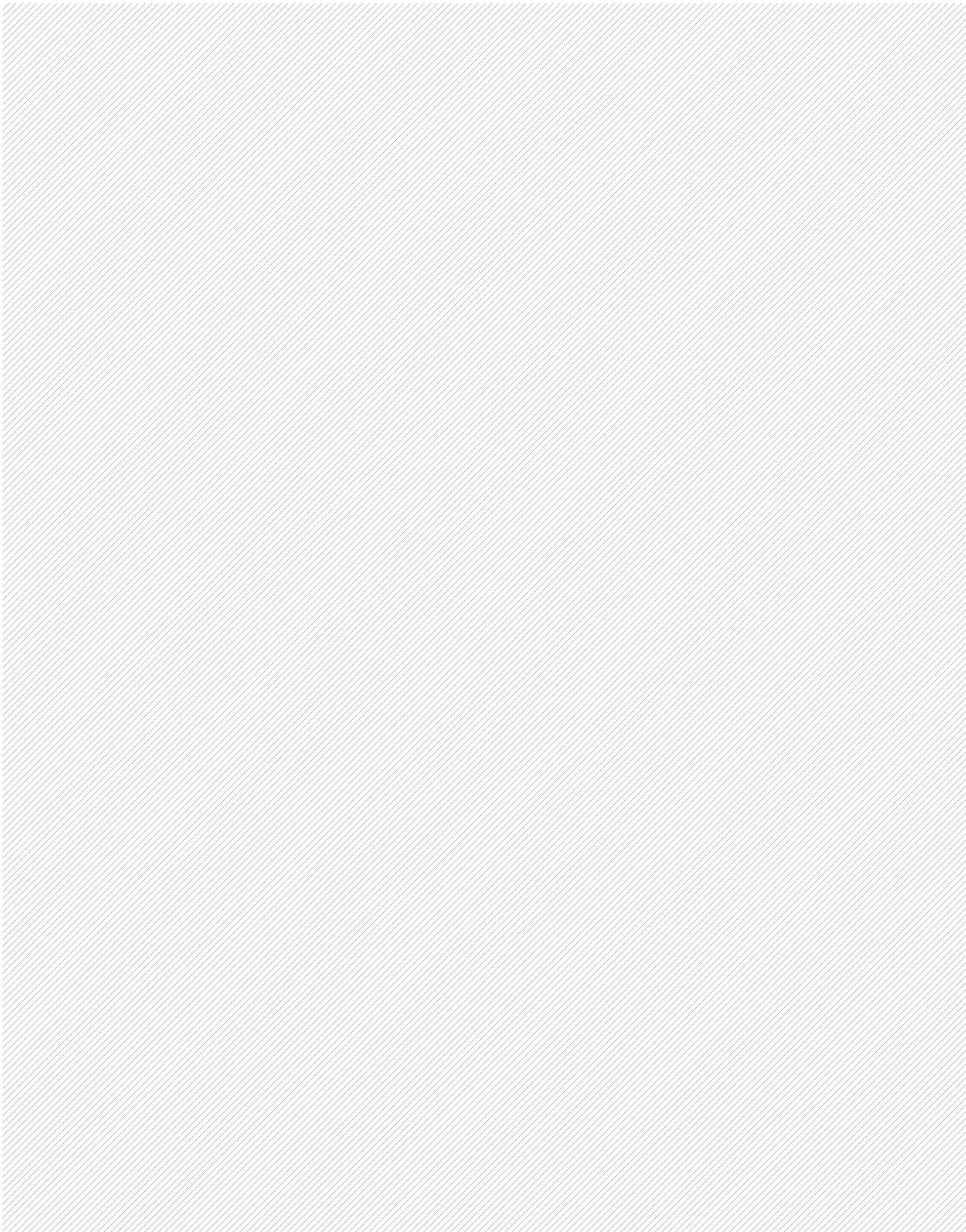
their death, the husbands and wives of spouses who yearned for their return, and heroes to us all. Their sacrifice is fresh in our minds as we pay tribute to their memory. They served valiantly to secure freedom for millions who have never tasted the liberties we enjoy every day. Our nation's humble tribute this Memorial Day is a small measure of our enduring gratitude for their service.

From the Revolutionary War to the ongoing Global War on Terrorism, each generation that has answered our nation's call to arms has served with honor. Those who serve in our military are a part of a long tradition of sacrifice; those who give their lives are the standard-bearers for us all.

As is our earnest obligation, we accept the mantle of responsibility to uphold freedom from our fallen comrades and march forward, forever mindful of their sacrifice. God bless all who have gone before and made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. And may God continue to bless each of you and our great nation.

The *Discovery* is online.

Go to <http://www.brooks.af.mil/HSW/PA/discovery>.





AFMC announces change of command slated for summer

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFMCNS) — Air Force officials announced May 20 that Gen. Lester L. Lyles, Air Force Materiel Command commander, will retire and Gen. Gregory S. Martin will assume command of AFMC in a ceremony this summer at the Air Force Museum.

Lyles has been AFMC commander since April 2000. Before coming to AFMC he served as vice chief of staff of the Air Force in Washington, D.C.

He began his Air Force career in 1968 as a distinguished graduate of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps. He served in a variety of assignments, including program element monitor of the Short-Range Attack Missile, headquarters U.S. Air Force in 1974, and special assistant and aide-de-camp to the commander of Air Force Systems Command in 1978.

In 1981 Lyles was assigned to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base as avionics division chief in the F-16 Systems Program Office. He served as director of tactical aircraft systems at AFSC headquarters and as director of the Medium-Launch Vehicles Program and space-launch systems offices at the Space and Missile Systems Center.

He became AFSC headquarters' assistant deputy chief of staff for requirements in 1989, and deputy chief of staff for requirements in 1990. In 1992 he became vice commander of Ogden Air Logistics Center at Hill Air

Force Base, Utah.

He served as the Ogden ALC commander from 1993 until 1994, then was assigned to command the Space and Missile Systems Center at Los Angeles Air Force Base, Calif., until 1996.

The general became the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization director in the office of the Secretary of Defense in 1996.

Martin is currently commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe; commander, Allied Air Forces Northern Europe; and Air Force Component Commander, U.S. European Command at Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

He entered the Air Force in June 1970 with a commission from the U.S. Air Force Academy. In addition to flying 161 combat missions in Southeast Asia, he commanded the 67th Tactical Fighter Squadron, the 479th Tactical Training Wing, and the 33rd and 1st Fighter Wings. He also served as the Joint Staff's J-8 vice director and the Air Force's director of operational requirements.

Before assuming his current position, he was the principal deputy with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition.

Martin is a command pilot with more than 3,800 flying hours in various aircraft, including the AT-38, F-4 and F-15.

More information on the change of command will be provided as it becomes available.

Transformation

Continued from Page 1

mindset and culture is in everything we do, that we never forget that this culture and mindset supports the warfighters," he said.

Lyles said progress has been made in the four core AFMC missions.

"We've made improvements in logistics in the area of weapons systems maintenance and repair. I feel good about the S&T (Science and Technology) effort where our technology is addressing the needs and capabilities of warfighters. I'm beginning to feel good about testing and evaluation. We've transformed developmental testing to the seamless development of operational testing."

However, the AFMC commander admits that acquisition transformation needs work.

Citing some good examples at Brooks, Lyles said the transformation to best capabilities in support of agile acquisition is currently not universal within AFMC. He believes for agile acquisition to fulfill its potential, there must be an integration of various military programs, primarily developed previously through acquisition reform, to produce multiple capabilities useful to warfighters.

He cited Link 16 as an example of this integration. "Link 16 is capable of transferring data from one (airborne) platform, such as an F-16, to other platforms including F-15s and B-1s, that allows them to communicate with each other," he said.

Concerning City-Base progress, Lyles said, "We need to stick to the game plan to meet the challenges since the conveyance."

One of the challenges he alluded to was the perceived frustration experienced by City-Base advocates and critics involving the lack of major development or huge investment by industry here, to which he advises, "We have to give it time to work."

Lyles said a lot of good things already have been accomplished at Brooks City-Base to include the development of public-private partnerships.

He also praised the workforce's contributions to Operation Iraqi Freedom through research and development, testing and sustainment of various Air Force systems.

"We can't rest on our laurels," Lyles cautioned, adding, "We must continue to work on giving warfighters more capabilities."

Lyles foresees an even greater role for Brooks in the development of new capabilities that enhance human systems performance and survival.

"I see opportunities for growth and involvement that may lead to new missions here," he said, referring to some of the initiatives he witnessed during his visit.

The AFMC commander also credited the 311th Human Systems Wing and the various laboratories here for the many successes achieved in the war on terrorism. He characterized these contributions as a "growth mission" during an era in which American warfighters are being increasingly sent on worldwide threat assignments that will require enhanced support of the fighting force.

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

A gift for education

During his recent visit to Brooks, Gen. Lester Lyles, commander, Air Force Materiel Command, right of check, had lunch with enlisted members where he presented an \$894 check to Master Sgt. Cornell Johnson, who represented the Brooks African American Cultural Association, for the Bernard P. Randolph Scholarship. The scholarship supports college-bound children of Brooks members. Col. Tom Travis, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, far right, and Command Chief Master Sgt. Richard Hollins, standing far left, hosted the luncheon.



Courtesy photo

A visit to the children

Mina Lyles, wife of Air Force Materiel Command Commander Gen. Lester Lyles, reads to children at the Brooks Child Development Center during the Lyles' recent visit to Brooks. Mrs. Lyles insisted on spending a portion of her time here reading to the children.

New highway signs put City-Base on Texas map

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Texas interstate motorists traveling south along IH-37 no longer need to pull off the road seeking directions to Brooks City-Base now that recently installed signs have literally put this base on the Texas map.

Two new green and white Brooks City-Base highway exit signs on IH-37 South and Southwest Military Drive were installed May 12 as part of a major Texas Department of Transportation project that got under way last fall. A third sign is scheduled to be installed soon to replace the last remaining interstate sign that reads Brooks Air Force Base. In early April, three new Brooks City-Base highway signs were installed along IH-37 North.

"This project has been in the mill for three years. We let the contract in October for the refurbishing of all the signs on IH-37 from Fair Avenue south to the Live Oak County line," said Frank Fonseca, engineering specialist for the Texas Department of Transportation's Traffic Engineering Section.

Fonseca estimated that between 100 and 200 signs will be changed when the project is completed later this year.

Fonseca credits the Brooks Development Authority and Grubb & Ellis Management Services for requesting the sign changes in time to meet the project's deadline.

"We hit it just right. We didn't have to pay for them," exclaimed Manny Villarreal, Grubb & Ellis Management Services logistics manager, who admits not knowing in ad-

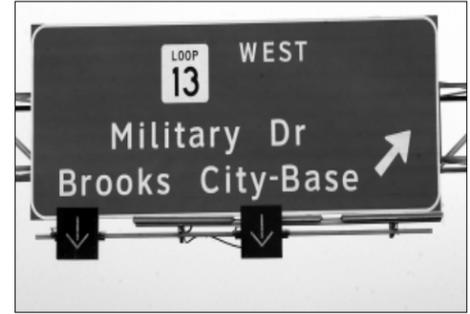


Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

One of several recently replaced highway exit signs on IH-37 leads motorists to Brooks City-Base. Other signs were replaced on Southwest Military Drive. The last sign that reads Brooks Air Force Base is scheduled to be replaced soon.

“ We hit it just right. We didn't have to pay for them (signs). ”

Manny Villarreal
Logistics Manager
Grubb & Ellis
Management Services

vance about the TxDOT project.

"We made a request to change the signs after the (Brooks City-Base) conveyance ceremony to Patrick Irwin, Transportation director, who approved it," explained Villarreal.

The timing could not have been more perfect, Fonseca said, noting that highway signs cost about \$6,000 each. Brooks saved a total of \$36,000, he noted, based on six signs that needed to be changed.

The project, estimated to cost about \$1 million, is being paid for through federal and state highway funds.



Flying high with both feet on the ground

By Rita Boland

Staff Writer

Prevention is the best medicine.

The crew of the altitude chamber, run by the Air Force Research Laboratory on Brooks lives by that motto, working to prevent decompression sickness and hypoxia so the military doesn't need to treat the problem later.

The altitude chamber crew performs studies requested by organizations like U.S. Special Operations Command, NASA and Air Combat Command for specific mission scenarios.

"Almost nothing gets done here unless someone requests it from an operational standpoint," said Capt. Julia Sundstrom, the outgoing chief, altitude and acceleration operations.

Capt. Lance Annicelli takes over the position when Sundstrom departs in June.

The altitude chamber often supports more than one mission at a time, conducting two to three studies simultaneously. To avoid confusion, the chamber staff goes to great lengths to keep everyone on track and informed.

"(The) protocols are vastly different," Sundstrom said. "We brief every morning so everyone understands what's going on."

Each test requires a minimum of six technicians: a Doppler technician, also known as a research assistant, a flight surgeon, an aerospace physiologist, and three aerospace physiology technicians. The three technicians ensure the integrity of the data and the safety of the test subject.

"Safety is always going to be foremost when conducting research here," Sundstrom said.

The tests conducted at the altitude chamber examine the effects of flying at altitude in an unpressurized cabin and/or a space/pressure suit. The scientists study the effects of nitrogen bubbles in the human system, commonly known as "bends", and hypoxia, a lack of oxygen that causes impaired performance.

The high-altitude experiments done at the altitude chamber determine how long people can fly at different altitudes, and the optimal mixture of oxygen and other gasses to ensure flight crew safety and performance. The hypoxia study is designed to determine the effects on aircrew vision and cognitive thinking performance during unpressurized flight at night for extended periods.

"Ideally, aircrew would receive 100 percent, but this is not only practical or even



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Anita Schroeder

Various props are used by volunteer test subjects in the altitude chamber.

feasible," Sundstrom said.

Studies can take two years to complete and 40-50 volunteer subjects participate each year. Volunteers must pass a flight physical then undergo two days of physiological training.

A typical altitude research flight lasts six to eight hours with a volunteer performing applicable tasks while the technicians monitor the subject's heart rate, breathing and other vital signs. The volunteers get to watch television and movies of choice when they aren't actively performing any parts of the experiment. The staff of the altitude chamber praises the subjects for their dedication and enthusiasm. "They could say I'm bored. I want to quit," said Dr. Ulf Balldin, a senior scientist at the chamber. "They never do that."

Though test subjects get an extra \$150 a month in hazardous duty pay, the staff wants to provide the volunteers with something more. Each subject gets a brief on why the study is being conducted and the staff sends a letter and certificate to commanders explaining the study and providing bullets for enlisted or officer performance reports.

Most of the volunteers want to participate in the program to support the aerospace mission of the military, improve aircrew performance and improve flight safety. They also get to experiment with new equipment and strategies.

"They want to be a part of something," Balldin said. "It comes here first, to be tested and evaluated before it can be sent out to our aircrew."

Anyone interested in volunteering for altitude chamber studies can contact Heather Alexander at 536-3440 or by email at: heather.alexander@brooks.af.mil

"We're the only high altitude aerospace research facility in the Department of Defense and our subjects are the ones providing the data to ensure cutting-edge technology gets to our aircrew, so they can maintain a clear advantage in combat," Sundstrom said.

Stop Loss

Continued from Page 1

Force retirements and separation policy at the Pentagon, said this announcement is the result of an in-depth review.

"A number of different factors went into the review process," Forest said. "We had to consider the balance between the active duty and Air Reserve Component, as well as the need to remain responsive to changing events worldwide."

Deployed active duty, Guard and Reserve airmen whose AFSCs are released from Stop Loss will not be allowed to retire or separate until their deployment is completed, Forest said. Air Reserve Component airmen who are mobilized, but not deployed, will be demobilized according to ARC policy.

The actual "termination" of Stop Loss has yet to be determined because the Air Force and the combatant commanders still need certain skills to directly support the war in Iraq, Forest said.

More career fields will likely be released in the future, she said, based on input from different levels around the Air Force. However, if airmen experience a severe hard-

ship caused by Stop Loss, they can apply for a waiver through their chain of command.

"Many families have had to put their plans on hold because of Stop Loss," Forest said. "We will make every effort to balance their needs with our commitment to operational requirements."

The officer career fields released from Stop Loss restrictions are: 11BX, 11EX, 11FX, 11HX, 11KX, 12BX, 12EX, 12FX, 12KX, 12RX, 12TX, 13BX, 13DXA, 13DXB, 32EX, 43EX, 43HX, 43TX, 44EX, 44MX, 45AX, 45BX, 45SX, 46FX, 46MX, 46NXE, 46SX, 48AX, 48GX, 48RX and 51JX.

The enlisted career fields released from Stop Loss restrictions are: 1C2XX, 1C4XX, 1S0XX, 1T1XX, 3E000, 3E0X2, 3E4X1, 3E4X2, 3E5X1, 3E7X1, 3E8X1, 3E9X1, 3H0X1, 3N0XX, 4A1XX, 4A2XX, 4B0XX, 4E0XX, 4H0XX and 5J0X1.

Brooks personnel should contact the Military Personnel Flight at 536-1845 for more information regarding the release of specific AFSC's.



ACTION LINE

536-2222



Col. Tom Travis
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.

The base agencies listed below can be contacted directly:

311th Security Forces Squadron.....	536-2851
SFS after duty hours.....	536-2851
311th Civil Engineer Squadron.....	536-3861
311th Communications Squadron.....	536-6571
311th Mission Support Group Logistics Division.....	536-3541
Safety.....	536-2111
Housing Maintenance.....	533-4100
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.....	536-5778
Civilian Pay.....	536-8370
I.G. (FWA).....	536-2358
Military Equal Opportunity.....	536-2584
EEO Complaints.....	536-3702
BXMarket.....	533-9079
Brooks Development Office.....	536-3372
Brooks City-Base Marketing and Development Office.....	536-5366



**Brooks
Family
Support Center
activities**
Call 536-2444
for information

tend this Air Force Aid Society sponsored class. Get information about budgeting, basic baby care, infant development, effective parenting, car seat regulations and more.

Smooth move

June 12, 12:30 - 3 p.m., Bldg. 537—
PCSing? Hear briefings from travel, legal, the clinic, finance, housing and the Family Support Center and ask your questions. The seminar is open to all active duty members, DoD civilians and spouses.

PCS overseas

June 12, 3 - 4 p.m., Bldg. 537—
Any move can be stressful, but an overseas move has its own set of challenges and opportunities. Learn more about your OCONUS PCS by attending the Smooth Move seminar and staying after for this class.

Extended VA assistance hours

Wednesday, 9-1 p.m., Bldg. 537—
The on-site VA representative now accepts appointments at Brooks every other Friday from 9:30 a.m. - :30 p.m., as well as each Wednesday between 9 a.m.- 1p.m. Schedule an appointment with a VA representative here and receive assistance filling out claims, screening medical records and one-on-one consultations. Bring one original and two copies of medical records.

Consumer credit counseling

Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Bldg. 537—
Have you fallen deep into debt? Are you near your credit limit and considering bankruptcy? You can get out of debt with a debt management plan. Call 536-2444 for an appointment with a credit counselor.

Volunteer meeting

May 27, 9 - 11 a.m., Bldg. 537—
Volunteer coordinators and managers and all volunteers within the Brooks community, whether active duty, civilians, family members or retirees are invited to attend the next meeting. Topics to be discussed include notification of volunteer opportunities, next year's recognition of National Volunteer Week in April, Volunteer Excellence Award worldwide recognition and other volunteer competitions and information that is relevant to volunteers.

Bundles for babies

June 11, 8 a.m. - noon, Bldg. 537—
Active duty Air Force couples with a newborn or expecting a child should plan to at-

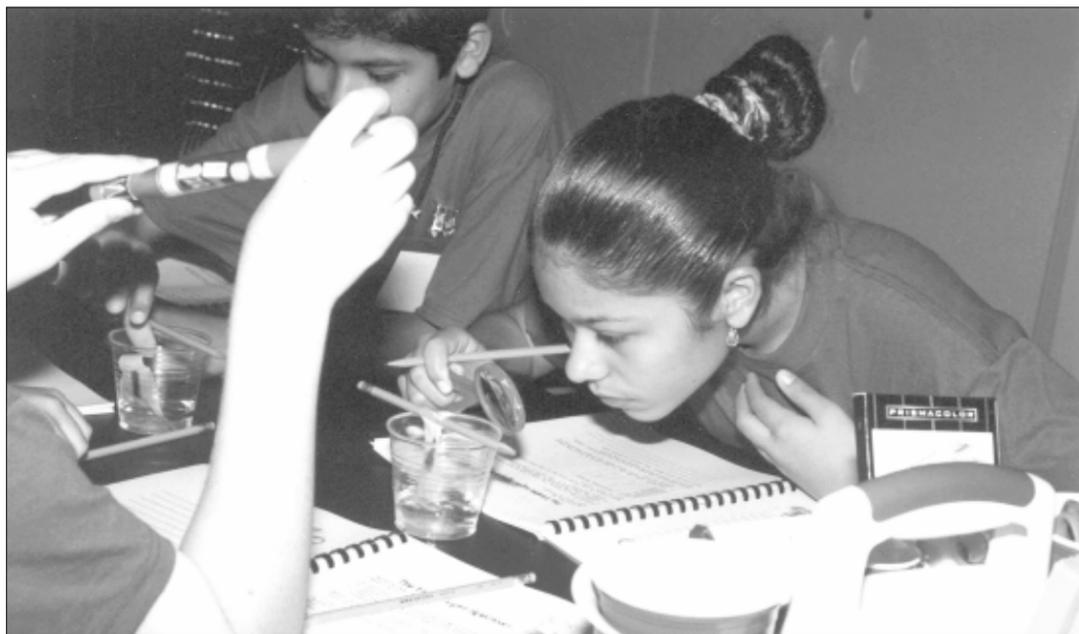


Photo by Rudy Purificato

Space camp participants are engaged in numerous experiments during the one-week Camp Challenger session held primarily at the Challenger Learning Center.

Brooks space camp expanded, out-of-this world changes made

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Space food "cooking" and more realistic biomedical work with bacterial and crystal growth are in store for youngsters who venture into simulated space this summer at Brooks during the second annual series of Challenger Learning Center-based events called Camp Challenger.

Designed for students entering the fifth, sixth or seventh grade this fall, the space camp format has been expanded and improved this year, said Shelia Klein, Brooks Heritage Foundation executive director.

"We've added a fourth one-week session and have included some new activities," Klein said. The camp curriculum now features re-hydrating space food such as dried pudding, making a "cooling suit" that is part of a space suit ensemble, and an improved biomedical station that includes many of the experiments that were conducted by the ill-fated Columbia shuttle crew.

"We're the first Challenger Center to include some of the Columbia experiments," said Klein, crediting on-loan science teacher and Challenger Center commander Jenny Christian for her work on this project.

Other changes include improvements to the third module of the PVC pipe-constructed space station that space campers are required to build, and a field trip to the Witte Museum to participate in a special summer program called "Fantastic Forces." That trip

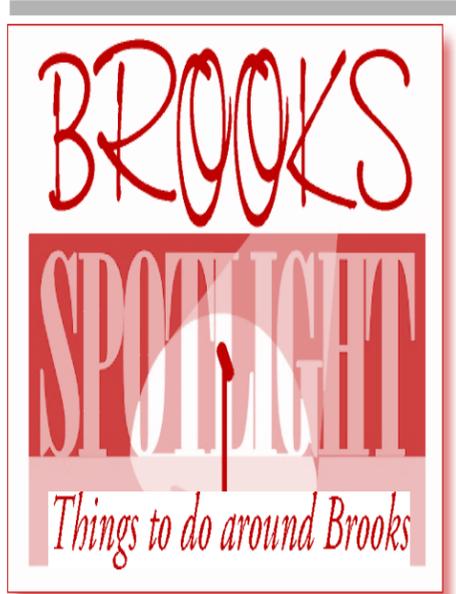
“ We're the first Challenger Center to include some of the Columbia experiments. ”

Shelia Klein
Executive Director
Brooks Heritage Foundation

also coincides with a follow-on trek to Olmos Basin where space campers will launch rockets that they have designed and built.

Space camp counselors this year are Denise Willems, a Northside Independent School District science teacher; and Lista Schwarz, a Schertz-Cibolo Independent School District math and science teacher. They will be assisted by assistant counselor Adrien Ivan, a graduate student at Philadelphia's Temple University who is the son of U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine's Col. Doug Ivan.

Camps are scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. June 9-13, June 23-27, July 7-11 and July 21-25. Each camp is limited to 24 students. The cost is \$300 before May 31 and \$325 after that registration deadline. The camps are open to the public, however, Klein asks that anyone wanting information or registration forms contact her directly instead of calling the Challenger Center. Call Klein at 533-9767.



By Jan McMahon
Brooks Services Marketing Office
536-5475

Check with the staff for more information on this program.

Brooks Club Bldg. 204, 536-3782

Current club members and their family members are eligible to apply for scholarships through the Club Member Scholarship Program.

Applicants must be accepted by or enrolled in an accredited college or university for the fall of 2003 in an undergraduate or graduate curricula.

Entrants must provide an essay of 500 words or less, on "Air Force Clubs-Help Us Make 'Members First'." Essays should focus on club facility, membership programming, food, beverage, entertainment, and customer service. Essays exceeding 500 words will be disqualified. Each nomination package, including personal information and essays should not exceed two pages single-spaced with double spacing between paragraphs in 12-point arial or Times New Roman font. Entrants must provide a single-page summary of their long-term career/life goals and previous accomplishments.

Services commander, division chiefs, deputy commanders, flight chiefs, club managers, assistant club managers, marketing directors, staffs of MAJCOM Services, HQ AFSVA, and HQ USAF/ILV, and family members of these individuals are not eligible to participate in the scholarship program.

Entries must be submitted to the base Services commander/division chief by July 15.

All essays submitted become the property of the Air Force Services Agency and may be used in marketing or publicizing the Club Membership Scholarship Program and club membership.

Scholarships will be awarded in various amounts for first through sixth

place with \$6,000 for first place and \$2,500 for sixth place. Club members and their families are encouraged to take advantage of the special opportunity. Club membership pays! Contact the Club staff for specific details on entry requirements.

Sidneys is now open only Friday evenings from 3 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. The Boar's Head Lounge at the Brooks Club will be open Mondays through Thursdays from 4 to 8:30 p.m. and Fridays from 4 to 10 p.m.

Grand Casino Coushatta trip

Walk, run, don't delay! Sign-up now for the trip scheduled for June 14 to the Grand Casino Coushatta in Kinder, La. The bus departs the Brooks Club parking lot at 4 a.m. and departs the casino at 2 a.m. June 15 for the return trip to Brooks. The cost is \$15 per person and is on a first-come first-serve basis. Guests must be at least 21 years of age to visit the casino. Reservations can be made by telephone but must be paid for by June 2. Call the club staff at 536-3782 to sign-up or for more details.

Premiere Designs

Bldg. 705, 536-2120

Various sizes of pre-cut wood and metal frames are available at great savings. All frames are sold as is. Many have small imperfections that do not distract from their beauty. This is a great opportunity to frame those photos that are just lying in drawers or filed away. Prices vary from \$5 to \$35 so now is the time to purchase several.

Let us print your business cards for you. We offer a one-week turnaround time. Premiere Designs also now prints flyers. Call for more details.

Base Library

Bldg. 705, 536-2634

Take advantage of our new hours of operation. Visit the library Monday through Thursday between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. and Sundays from 1:30 to 6 p.m. The library is closed Friday, Saturday and holidays. Ask about our interlibrary loans.

Salute to military families

General Mills says thank you to the military in San Antonio June 4 and Aug. 23 with reserve seat tickets for military personnel and their families to attend San Antonio Missions baseball games. Each installation will receive tickets for each night and youth military baseball teams will have the opportunity to shadow Missions players during opening ceremonies. Ticket vouchers will be distributed by Services. Special prize drawings will be held in conjunction with Military Appreciation Night. A special desert camouflaged jersey was purchased for the players to wear during the 2003 season. The camo jerseys are a special salute to the military. Twenty of these special collector's jerseys will be given away as part of the prize drawing. Register for prizes by printing your name, address and phone number on the back of Box Tops for Education tops of General Mills products. For more information on Box Tops For Education visit the General Mills Web site at: www.boxtops4education.com.

Entries must be completed by Aug. 1. Registration boxes are located at all Services locations on base and at Wolff Stadium. Enter as many times as you want. The Salute to Military Families was arranged to thank military families for their patronage of base commissaries. Detailed rules for the drawings will be posted at displays around base. No Federal endorsement of the sponsor is intended.



Former Brooks officer wins AFMC award

By Rita Boland
Staff Writer

First Lt. Joann Axt, formerly Lieutenant Kenneally, won the Air Force Materiel Command Distinguished Company Grade Officer of the Year award for her work during 2002.

Axt worked at the 311th Human Systems Program Office before being transferred to Spangdahlen Air Force Base, Germany, earlier this year.

"I would not have received this award without the guidance of Maj. Brian Collins," Axt said.

While at the Program Office, Axt excelled in her job while donating personal time to Air Force functions and civilian charities.

Axt won the Air Force achievement medal for warfighter support, serving as program manager for the Collectively Protected Expeditionary Medical Support. She also served as program

manager for the Remote Casualty Location/Assessment Device. She filled in as the executive officer for the Program Office when they experienced a manpower shortage as well.

"This award acknowledges the importance of the programs at the 311th Human System Program Office at Brooks City-Base," Axt said.

"I want to say thank you to all the folks at Brooks City-Base who taught me how to do my job."

Her community involvement includes serving dinner at the St. Vincent DePaul homeless shelter, serving dinner at Fisher House and visiting Audie Murphey Veteran's Hospital.

She also filled the position of Company Grade Officer Council's president and completed 13 school courses during the year.

Axt goes on to compete at Air Force level.



Midweek mass

Midweek mass at the Brooks Chapel is held Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. Mass is held each first Friday of the month and on

holy days of obligation. Mass is open for the entire base Roman Catholic community. Call 536-3824 for details.

Lifebuilder's series

The Lifebuilder's Luncheon Series continues Wednesdays at noon at the Chapel Annex. Contact the Chapel staff for more information.

Chapel schedule:

Weekdays:

11:30 a.m. — Mass or Eucharistic service

Wednesdays:

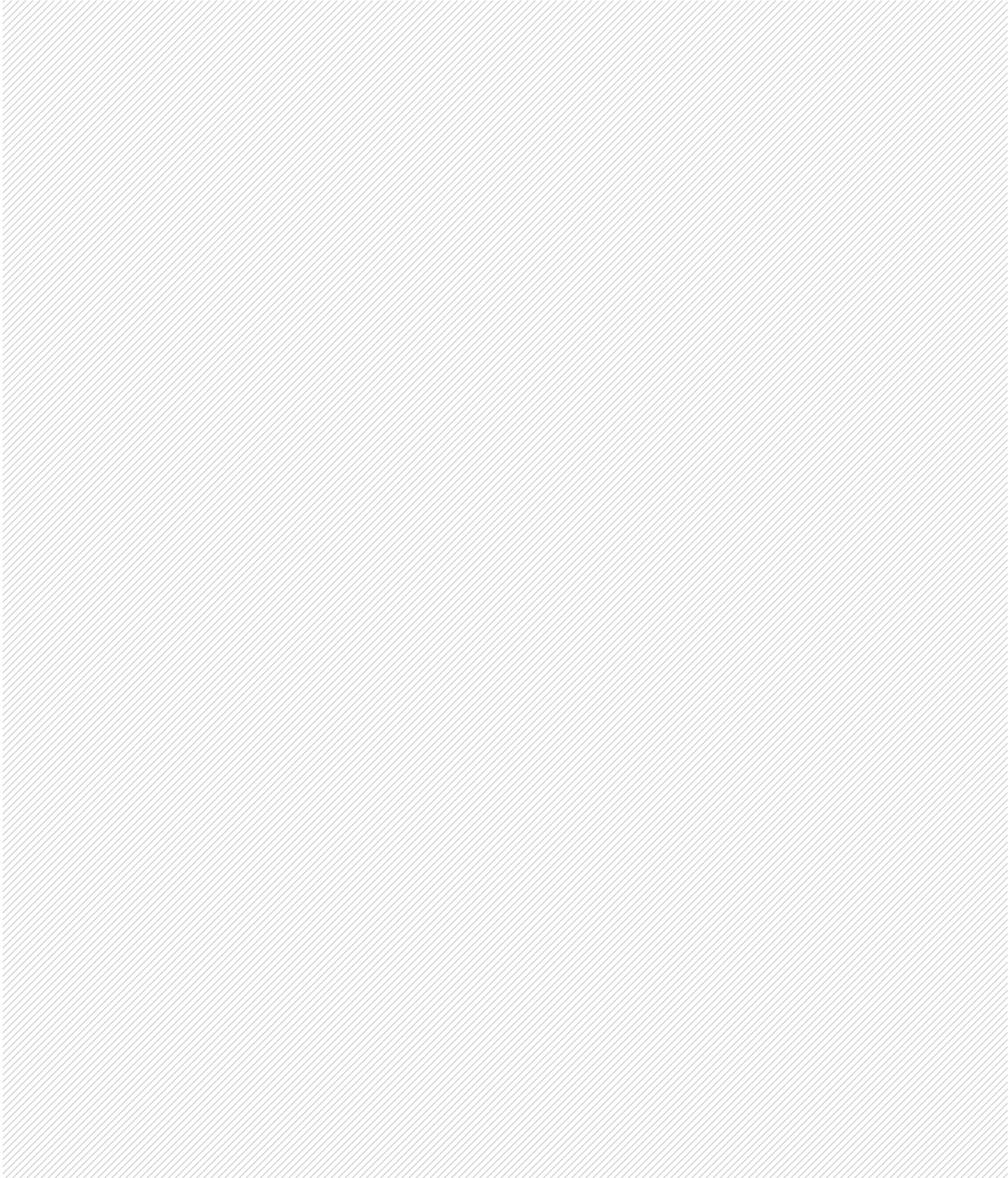
12 p.m. — Lifebuilders luncheon
6 p.m. — Catholic choir rehearsal

Thursdays:

7:30 p.m. Protestant choir rehearsal

Sundays:

9 a.m. — Catholic Mass
10:30 a.m. — Catholic religious education
9 a.m. — Protestant Sunday School, ages 3-adult
10:30 a.m. — Protestant Worship, includes children's church
Contact the Chapel staff at 536-3824 for additional information on specific services and activities.





NEWS briefs

Promotion ceremony

The next Brooks enlisted promotion ceremony is scheduled for May 30 at 3 p.m. in the Brooks Club, Bldg. 204. The ceremony recognizes June promotees and those who missed the last ceremony. Come out and support the newest promotees.

Legal office hours

The Brooks Legal Office closes every Wednesday from 2 to 4 p.m. for training and again Thursdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Urgent legal matters during these times may be addressed by contacting the on-call JAG through the Law Enforcement Desk at 536-2851.

Orthodontic patients needed

The Tri-Service Orthodontic Residency Program at Dunn Dental Clinic at Lackland Air Force Base is seeking 10-18-year-old patients for treatment by the incoming class of residents. Patients need to be eligible active duty family member beneficiaries who are not on the Tricare Dental Plan, United Concordia, or who

have already met their lifetime orthodontic benefit cap. Beneficiaries and family members of retired personnel in the local area are eligible for consideration, and are especially encouraged to come in. The clinic will begin scheduling appointments May 1. Call 292-2579 for an evaluation appointment or more information.

Sleep study subjects

The Chronobiology and Sleep Laboratory at Brooks needs volunteers to participate in a number of ongoing sleep research studies. Interested Air Force and civilian personnel who meet the necessary qualifications are eligible to receive compensation starting at \$10 per hour. Contact Katy Ramsey at 536-3616 for additional information, or visit the Web site at: www.ntiinc.com and link to "studies."

Altitude test subjects

Altitude test subjects needed: Help provide F-22 pilots, high altitude parachute personnel, high altitude reconnaissance pilots and astronauts with adequate equipment and procedures to accomplish their missions without

distraction or hazard resulting from exposure to altitude. Several research protocols are being conducted at the High Altitude Protection Laboratory at Brooks to accomplish this mission. Hypobaric (altitude) chamber test subjects can earn \$150 per month for participating in at least one session per month. Each subject must meet Air Force body fat or height/weight standards, be a non-smoker for at least two years, be between 18 and 50 years of age, and be able to pass an appropriate physical exam. Contact Heather Alexander at 536-3440 or Jim Carlile at 536-3546 for more information.

Centrifuge subjects

The Air Force Research Laboratory Biodynamics and Protection Division is in need of active duty volunteers between the ages of 18 and 50 years, able to pass the equivalent of a flying class exam, to participate in several studies to help in the development of safe life support equipment, protocols and procedures for Air Force aircrew in wartime and peacetime environments. Subjects may earn \$150 hazardous duty pay per month. Contact Suzanne Flores at 536-6258 for details.

'101 critical days' begins Memorial Day

By Master Sgt. Scott Elliott

Air Force Print News

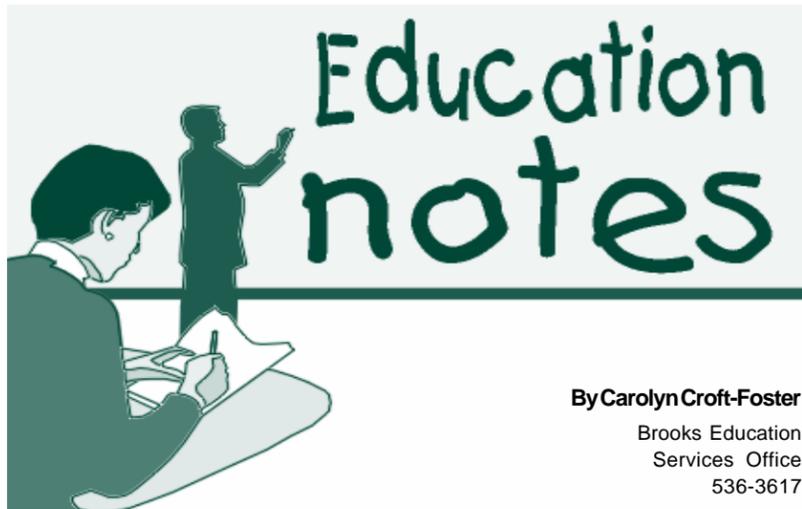
If statistics hold true, 21 airmen will die this summer while having "fun."

The period between Memorial Day and Labor Day is a period of increased off-duty injuries caused by increased activity and risk taking, according to officials for the Air Force Safety Center at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.

"The '101 Critical Days of Summer' safety campaign draws attention to increased safety awareness and risk management during this critical time," said John Russell, the center's chief of ground safety.

The most significant loss of life among Air Force members involves private motor vehicles," he said. "These are tragic and preventable mishaps." Driving while impaired, speeding and fatigue were the leading contributing factors in the fatal motor vehicle mishaps, Russell said.

"Personal safety is the responsibility of each Air Force member, and risk management is a vital part of all activities," Russell said. "We must constantly be vigilant by analyzing risks, making smart decisions and reassessing risks during the activity."



By Carolyn Croft-Foster

Brooks Education
Services Office
536-3617

CCAF graduates receive Pitsenbarger Awards

Two Spring 2003 Community College of the Air Force graduates received the Pitsenbarger Award during the CCAF graduation at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine May 9. Tech. Sgt. John Berry, assigned to the 311th Human Systems Wing command section, and Tech. Sgt. Jimmy Moore, formerly of the 68th Information Operations Squadron, were presented \$400 checks for educational expenses incurred while pursuing their degrees. The award is funded by the Aerospace Education Foundation and the Air Force Association. Congratulations.

Summer 2003 registration

Palo Alto College offer courses on base for the summer semester, which begins June 2 and ends July 8. Courses include: Accounting 1 and 2, Macroeconomics, Intermediate Algebra, and Speech. The representative visits Brooks on Tuesdays. Call 536-3617 to schedule an appointment or for more information.

Evening testing available

Military members can now take CLEP and DSST exams Wednesday evenings at the Brooks Education Services Office. Seating is limited. Call 536-3617 to reserve a seat.

St. Marys University

A graduate school representative will be on base June 19. Individuals interested in pursuing a master's degree can schedule an appointment by calling the Education Center at 536-3617. For additional information, call the St. Mary's representative at 658-4852.

Six CLEP exams retire

The College Board is retiring six CLEP subject paper-based tests in June. The exams are: General Humanities, General Biology, General Chemistry, German, and Western Civilization I and II. These exams must be taken prior to June 30. Call the Education Center for more information or to reserve a seat.

Air Force virtual education center

The Virtual Education Center is on-line. Servicemembers can view information about Air Force Education Centers and the Community College of the Air Force. CCAF students can also order transcripts from the site. To access the AFVEC go to the following Web site and establish an account at: <https://afvec.langley.af.mil>.

Discover on-line

The Discover Program is a career exploration program for individuals searching for a new career. This program can be used by military, civilians, and family members. For more information, please call 536-3617 to schedule an appointment to review the website and get started.



Cunningham

Brooks Personality PROFILE



Time is on his side

Photo by Staff Sgt Alfonso Ramirez, Jr.

Q&A

FULL NAME:

Tech. Sgt. Vurtis Odell Cunningham

DUTY TITLE, ORGANIZATION:

Defense Medical Logistics Standard Support, Staff Systems Analyst, Headquarters Air Force Medical Support Agency

WHAT IS MY JOB?:

Train the 4A1 career field on the DMLSS/Automated Information Systems

BIRTHDAY:

Dec. 12, 1969

HOMETOWN:

Columbus, Miss.

FAMILY STATUS:

Single

MOTTO:

Say what you mean,
mean what you say

INSPIRATIONS:

My family and close friends

HOBBIES:

Training, going to comedy shows,
movies, ball games and hanging out
with family and friends

PET PEEVE:

Being lied to

NICKNAME I CALL MYSELF:

C'ham

BOOK(S) AT BEDSIDE:

King James Bible and
Rich Dad Poor Dad

I JOINED THE MILITARY BECAUSE:

I worked in a factory for two-and-a-half years after high school without any benefits and no chance for promotion or traveling. College wasn't an option for me then, so I turned to the military.

FIVE-YEAR GOAL:

To complete my master's degree in management, computer information systems

ULTIMATE GOAL:

Be an inspiration to others, a role model to my son and make it into heaven when my time is up.

MY FAVORITE MUSIC:

is R&B, old and new hip hop, reggae, blues and jazz.

MY GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT:

is the relationship I have with my son and finally going back to school.

MY MOST PRIZED POSSESSION:

is peace of mind.

By Rita Boland

Staff Writer

Wise people through the ages provided the world with proverbs about the importance of using time wisely and taking time to enjoy life.

Tech. Sgt. Vurtis Cunningham has a saying of his own.

"I think the only fair thing in the world is everyone's given 60 seconds in a minute," Cunningham said. "It's what you do with that time."

One thing Cunningham doesn't do with that time is stress. A very calm person, who possesses the elusive trait of peace of mind, Cunningham knows that stressing doesn't solve problems any faster and he has faith in his ability to handle any situations that come his way.

"It goes back to my demeanor of taking things in stride," he said. "I knock my goals down one by one."

Cunningham projects focus and relaxation. He answers questions carefully, deliberating his response and doesn't stray off-topic, dedicating himself instead to formulating a strong, concise answer. He never appears ruffled, but projects an almost conflicting sense of serenity coupled with action.

"My worries are almost none," he said.

Cunningham's personality benefits his workplace and those who serve with him.

"It helps to keep a cool head," he said. "It keeps the troops calm"

His attitude gives his colleagues faith in his abilities. That faith, in turn, encourages Cunningham to avoid stress.

"I try to live stress free. There's always a way to handle it," he said. "I know my supervisors and co-workers have faith in me."

Cunningham joined the military two-and-a-half years after high

school when he decided working in a factory with few benefits wouldn't result in his fulfillment. Instead he wanted to find something more productive to do with the time he had in this life. He wanted to leave his small town and travel the world, so he made the logical decision to enlist. Since joining the Air Force, he has served tours in Germany, Turkey and Korea.

"I've seen a lot of things in the military, which is what I wanted," he said.

Cunningham chose his career field, medical logistics, because of the job's potential for travel and foreign duty stations.

While stationed in other countries he enjoyed touring the area and the camaraderie between the troops.

"There were no distractions," Cunningham said. "People tend to lean on each other more. The older people look after the younger."

Cunningham said that he makes community an important part of his life. He likes when people work together and rely on each other. He also likes choices and tries to give the troops in his command the support they need and the freedom to make decisions.

"After the training process I give (troops) choices and you choose how you do it," Cunningham said. "Then we discuss it and they get to the better way. They feel like they own it or are a contributor to the process, not just a pawn."

Cunningham is working on his college degrees, taking full advantage of the educational opportunities in the military.

"I like the benefits provided, the educational program," he said. "They pay 100 percent tuition. You can't beat that."

Cunningham credits his education to the birth of his son. He realized once he had a child that he

needed some sort of game plan for the far future.

"There was not a lot of focus," Cunningham said, describing himself when he first entered the Air Force. "Now I have a different focus."

Cunningham wants to have a positive influence on his son. Fortunately for him, he lives a lifestyle conducive to that goal.

"I think positively," he said. "I try to surround myself with positive people."

Cunningham said he thinks people need to be willing to talk to others when they have problem and seek out the support they need.

"Don't try to take it all on yourself," he said.

Cunningham has a large support systems of friends and family for his times of trouble. He has nine siblings and they all keep in contact. They also all try to make the time to visit home twice a year — on Christmas and Mother's Day.

"We all try to come home for Mother's Day, (mom) never knows who will make it," Cunningham said.

He goes home each year he can and even while stationed overseas he made it home at least once a year to celebrate a holiday with his loved ones.

Despite his enjoyment of travel and new places, Cunningham hopes to see his trips decrease in number soon, going on only a couple of TDYs a year. He plans to finish out his career in the Air Force and then pursue a career as in computer information systems. He's focused on his job, his family and his future and he plans to make the most of the time he has, remembering to stop and smell the roses along the way.

Rita.Boland@brooks.af.mil



Former 'Good Morning, Vietnam' DJ visits Brooks on POW/MIA mission

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Adrian Cronauer feels he is doing more today for the families of American servicemen Missing in Action from the Vietnam War than he ever did for the G.I.s who listened to his famous exaggerated radio show introduction "Good Mor...ning, Vietnam!"

Cronauer, Defense POW/MIA Office special assistant in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, visited Brooks March 26-27 during his second annual trip here to meet with analysts and staff at the 311th Human Systems Program Office's Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory. Analysts showed Cronauer the forensic methods they use during their investigations of MIA cases from Southeast Asia, techniques that may yield clues to the disposition of missing Americans who may have been among Cronauer's legions of fans.

Ironically, it was some of his newest fans within the Bush Administration that prompted Cronauer's return to government service on behalf of American military service personnel and their families.

"Right after 9-11, I decided to join the (Bush) administration working in the Pentagon for the (Defense) POW/MIA Office," recalls Cronauer, noting this earlier invitation was based on his voice work as 'Clinton the Liar' for a Bush presidential campaign ad.

"My wife convinced me to take the job when she said I would be making more of a contribution than being in (military) uniform," he explained.

As a presidential appointee, Cronauer serves as a special assistant to Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Jerry Jennings.

"One of the things I do is serve as a liaison for veterans' families, explaining what we are doing on MIA/POW cases," he said.

Cronauer learns about these cases during visits to Brooks as well as to the U.S. Army's Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii and the Armed Forces DNA Laboratory in Maryland.

"The most rewarding part of my job is family updates. We rent hotel ballrooms 10-12 times a year and invite the families of MIAs. We provide them with (data) printouts on their loved ones. Many of these people for decades have not heard anything about their missing relatives. It becomes very emotional for them, while (also) provides them a little bit of closure," he said.

While there remains less than 2,000 MIAs from Vietnam, the total number of Americans missing in action is 88,000.



Photos by Rudy Purificato

Former "Good Morning, Vietnam" Armed Forces Radio disk jockey Adrian Cronauer, seen here in front of a map of southeast Asia, visited Brooks recently as part of a POW/MIA mission.

"We have 600 people worldwide dedicated to providing the fullest possible accounting of our MIAs. They are highly motivated and really care about this issue. There is no country on the face of the earth that has devoted anywhere near the time and resources to account for MIAs."

Invariably, Vietnam veterans who attend these family updates remember Cronauer's earlier work as a zany disc jockey working for Armed Forces Radio in Saigon during the Vietnam War.

Cronauer, reclassified 1-A in 1962, opted to join the Air Force as a radio and television production specialist.

His second assignment at an AFR station on the Greek island of Crete was the beginning of his entertainment legacy that led to the 1987 movie "Good Morning, Vietnam" starring Robin Williams.

Cronauer arrived in Vietnam in 1965 to become AFR's news director, "When I got there the morning man left. I took over the morning show."

While he fought more against apathy than censorship, Cronauer blended his kind of humor and approach to broadcasting to spice up the program.

"I made it sound like a stateside radio show. The troops liked it," he said.

Besides humor, rock and roll music and special effects, Cronauer featured several eccentric characters such as "Boris, the Keeper of the Vault of Dusty Disks."

"Probably our most popular character was the female 'Friendly Thermometer' who did the weather in a soft, seductive voice telling how hot she was."

Cronauer created a sort of cult following with his antics, but said he wasn't the irreverent and

frenetic character portrayed in the movie.

"He was playing me as a character, but he was actually playing Robin Williams," admits Cronauer.

Cronauer left Vietnam in 1966 and shortly thereafter was discharged. By 1979, he had moved to New York City to do voice-overs for commercials. He decided to write a TV treatment for a comedy on his Vietnam experiences, but network officials balked at the idea. Eventually, a Hollywood agent thought his script was a good vehicle for Williams.

Cronauer sold the script, but was barred from the movie set by director Barry Levinson.

"I didn't meet him (Williams) until the night of the movie premiere in New York. Williams said to me, 'I'm glad to meet you.' I said to him, 'I'm glad to meet me too.'"

The two would meet again in 1991 when Cronauer was invited to the comedian's birthday party at his 250-acre Sonoma, California estate.

"I danced with Joan Baez and Bette Midler asked me for my autograph. Not realizing who he was, my wife Jeanne moved Robert DeNiro out of the way to take a

photo of me with actor Bruno Kirby," he said.

Cronauer said he did not dislike what they did to his script, knowing that it was a Hollywood exaggeration rather than an accurate account of his life.

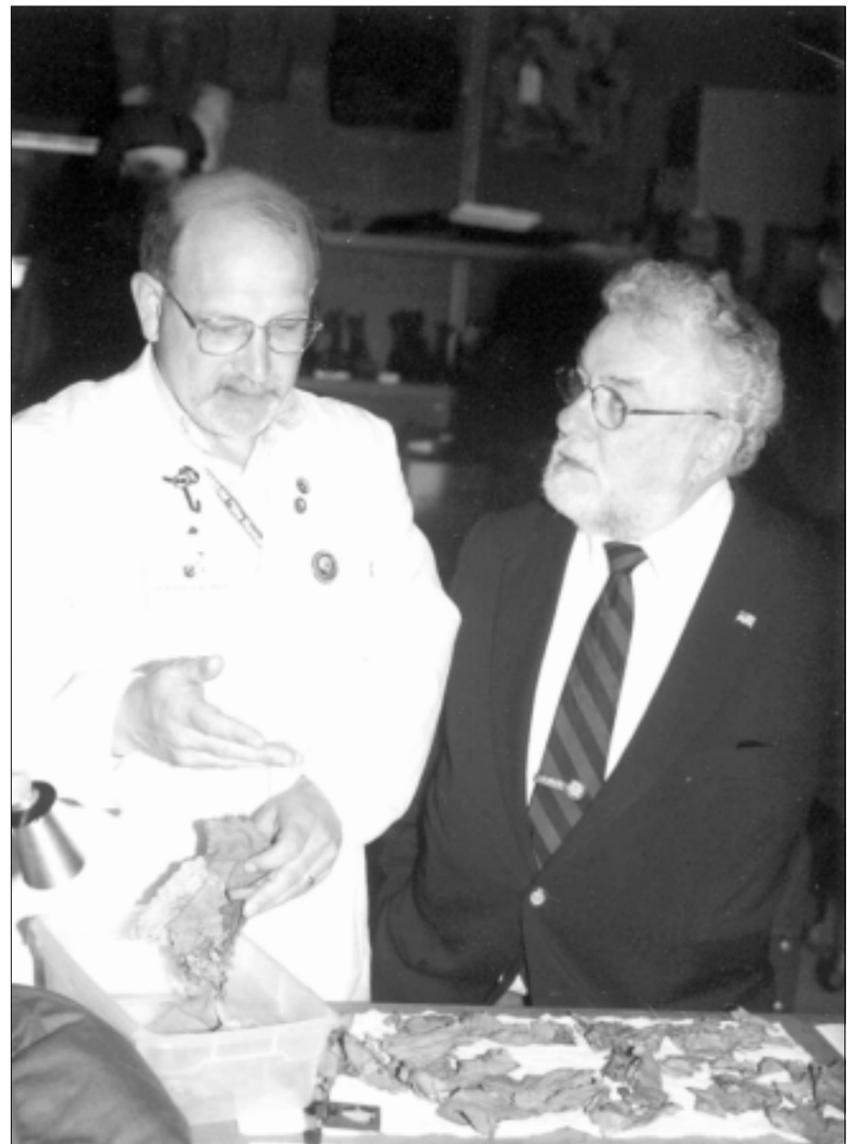
"I'd still be in Leavenworth (federal prison) for all the things I supposedly did in the movie," he quipped.

Born in Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1938, Cronauer was destined for fame. At 12, he was doing orange juice commercials on a local kid's TV show. While in college, he worked part-time for WQED-TV in Pittsburgh as an office boy for "Mr. (Fred) Rogers."

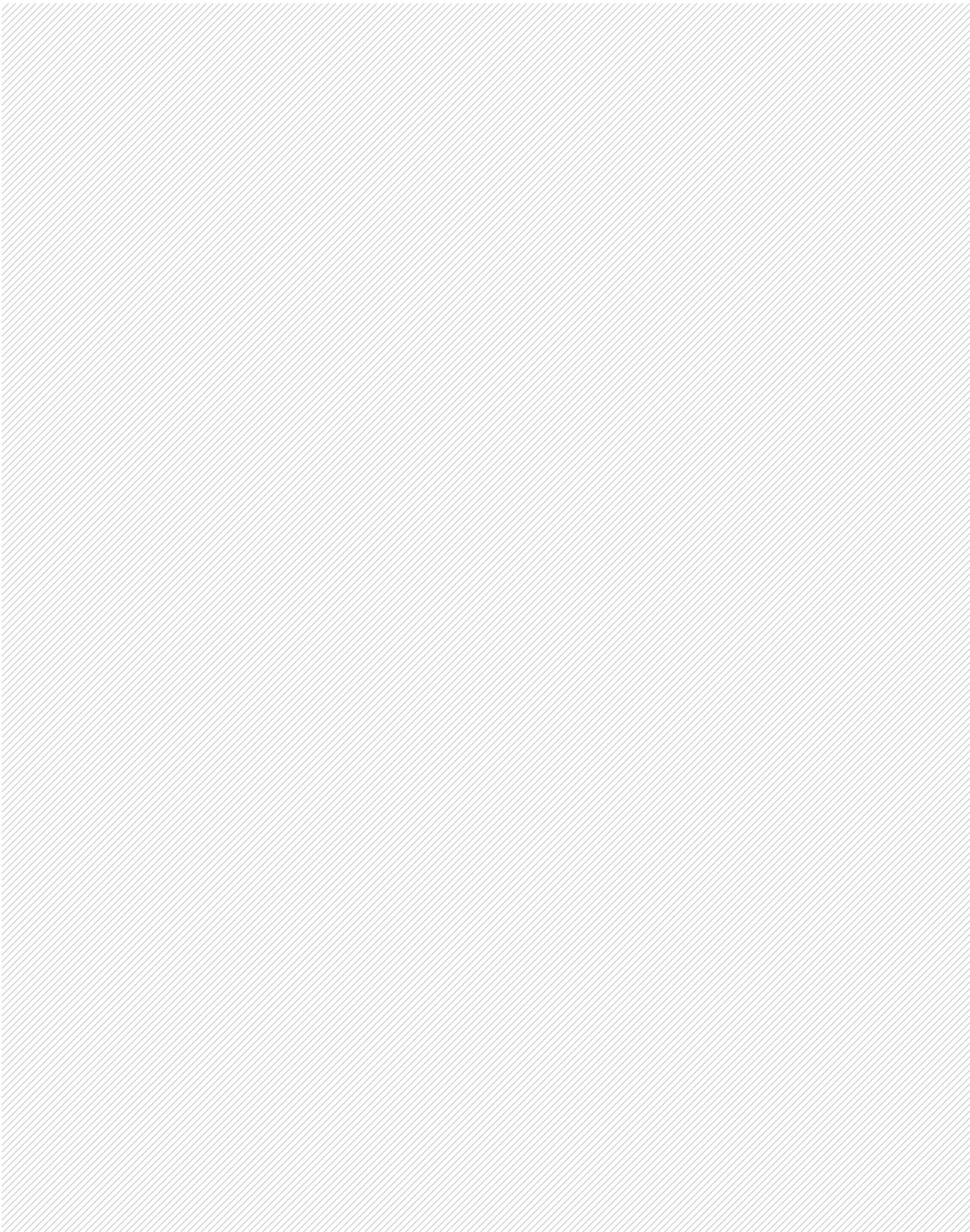
Yet all of his experiences pales in comparison to the contributions he has made in his current job that have positively affected lives. A Vietnam veteran who Cronauer had counseled to get off drugs and seek help walked up to him at a family update session.

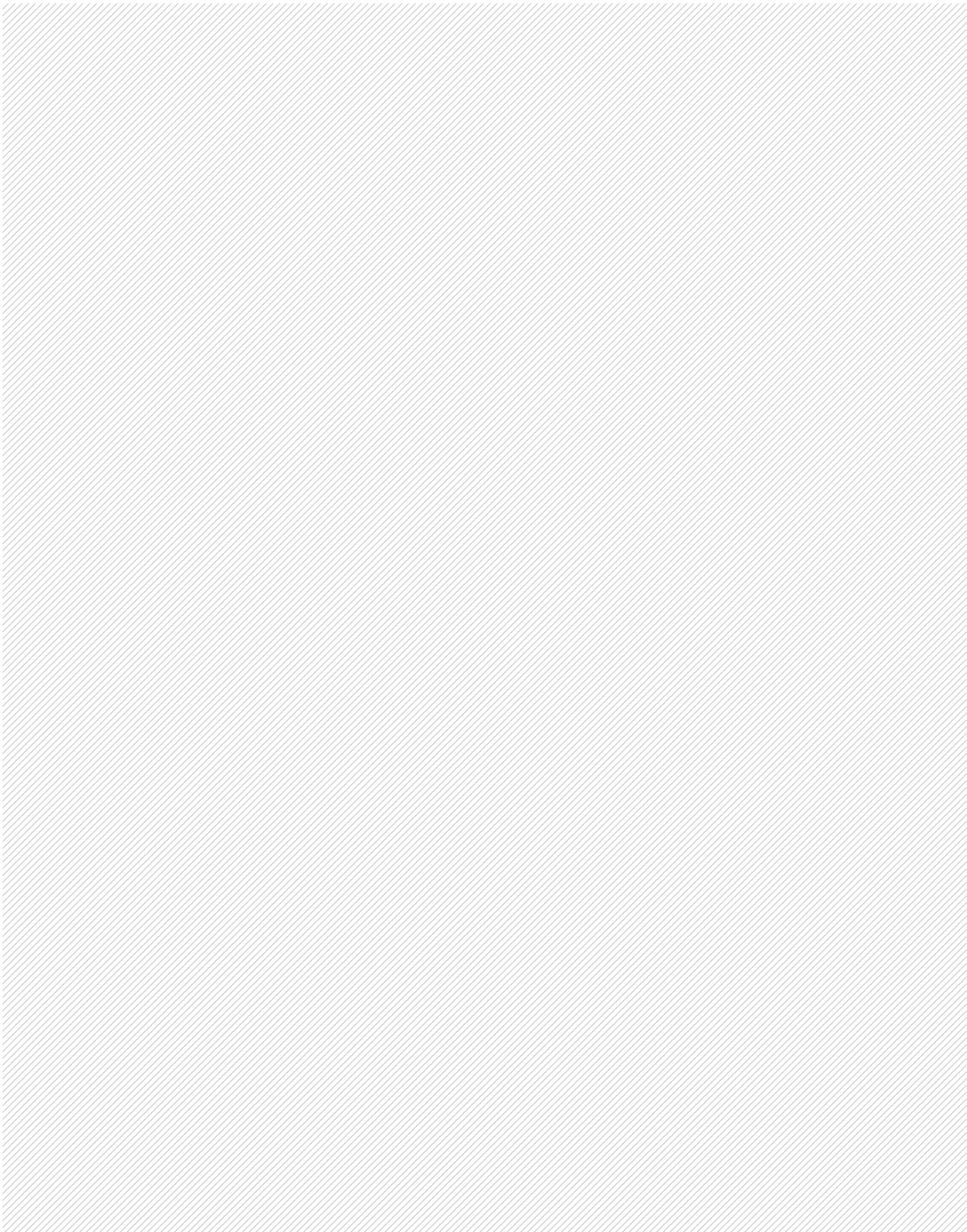
"He told me that I had helped him turn his life around. He then pulled out a photo of his daughter who he named Adrian."

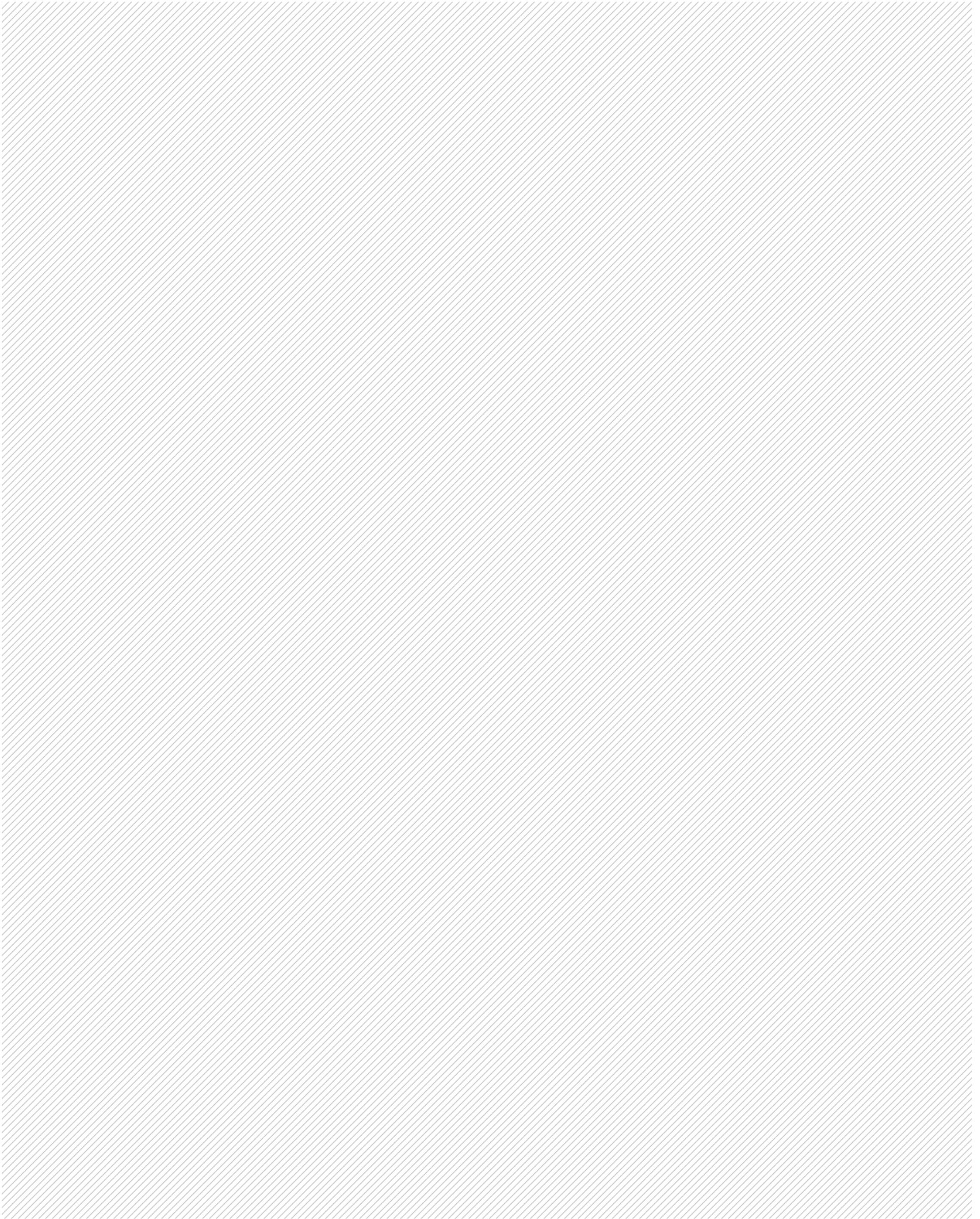
Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil



Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory analyst Dr. Robert Browning, left, shows Adrian Cronauer some Vietnam War life support artifacts. Cronauer, who works for the Secretary of Defense's POW/MIA office, visited the lab in March.









Twelve weeks to a smaller Brooks

By Rita Boland

Staff Writer

Brooks became a whole lot smaller in the last 12 weeks. 692 pounds smaller.

Personnel from various organizations around Brooks participated in the 12-week "Winning the Losing Battle" competition with 13 teams.

To compete, people form teams of not less than four people and set a weight-loss goal. Each week, team members weigh in at the Health and Wellness Center. The team that obtains the highest percentage of its weight loss goal, wins.

"The intent of the competition is to utilize a team approach to motivate and support warriors on their team in their weight loss efforts," said Maj. Deborah Olson, Health Promotion manager at the HAWC.

"It lasts 12 weeks because this is approximately how long it takes to make permanent lifestyle changes," she said.

The team "Bit by Bit" from the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence took first place, obtaining 129 percent of their weight loss goals. Team members include Kathy Carasas, team captain, Kathy Rice, Sharon Shaw and Talisha Robertson.

Each member of the winning team gets a pedometer and a ticket to the Texas Treasure Casino Cruise.

"Pro Ranch Hands" from the Air Force Research Library took second place, reaching 111 percent of their

goal. Team members are Suzanne Bagnato (team captain), Rudy Bagnato, Margaret Becerra, Melissa Esquivel, Henri Flores, Josie Jones, Marcia Luna, Gracie Luna-Medina, Melva Miranda, Julie Robinson and Lydia Sanchez.

Each member of the team gets a pedometer.

The team from the U.S. Army Medical Reserve Detachment, "Battle Buddies", finished in third place. Members include captain Kenya Santos, Bountieng Samsamayvong, Donna Clarkson and Lyon Valo.

"Pro Ranch Hands" won the second part of the contest, the Environmental Change competition. This section of the program judged the manner in which the team incorporated a healthy, fit lifestyle into the workplace.

"The teams were encouraged from the beginning to begin incorporating a healthy lifestyle into the workplace," Olson said. "They sky is really the limit and the teams are encouraged to be as creative as possible. The (Environmental Change) is probably more important."

"Pro Ranch Hands" received a massage chair for six months. The chair will rotate organizations after each "Win the Losing Battle" competition, always going to the winning team's workplace.

The HAWC plans to begin its next competition Sept. 1 and registration begins in August. Another competition is planned for January.

HOT! hot! HOT!

Join the 311th Humans Systems Wing commander

Commander's Run
Thursdays at 6:30 a.m. at
the Fitness Center

Registration open for 2003 USAF marathon

By Susan Murphy

Aeronautical Systems Center Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFP) — Registration is under way for the 2003 U.S. Air Force Marathon scheduled for Sept. 20 at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Runner categories have changed slightly from past years. A 5K fun run and a 1/2 marathon have been added. There will no longer be a marathon team category. The marathon, four-person Ekiden-style relay team and wheelchair categories remain unchanged.

The Air Force Marathon, traditionally held the third Saturday of September, is open to all levels of marathoners, civilians and military, from all around the world. More than 3,200 runners participated, representing nearly every state and six coun-

tries.

The first U.S. Air Force Marathon was held at Wright-Patterson AFB Sept. 20, 1997, to coincide with the Air Force's 50th anniversary. U.S.A. Track and Field, the governing body of long-distance running in the United States, certified the course in 1997. Air Force Marathon officials asked for certification in order to assure participants the course is exactly 26 miles, 385 yards.

Runners will receive a uniquely designed T-shirt and patch. Participants who finish the marathon within the eight-hour time limit will receive a medallion.

Reduced fees for early registration are available until June 30. Registration deadline is Sept. 4. For more information, visit the Web site at <http://afmarathon.wpafb.af.mil>, or call the marathon office at 800-467-1823.