

DISCOVERY

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Vol. 28, No. 4 - Friday, Feb. 20, 2004 -- Brooks City-Base, Texas

Through the Many Facets of Aerospace Medicine

Brooks' Travis nominated for first star

BROOKS CITY-BASE — President Bush has nominated Col. (Dr.) Tom Travis, commander of the 311th Human Systems Wing and also the installation commander for military units at Brooks, for promotion to brigadier general.

"You never aim at being selected for flag rank, or at least I didn't," Colonel Travis said. "I know some who aimed for it their whole careers and were miserable people."

Prior to becoming the 311th HSW commander, Colonel Travis was commander and dean of the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine at Brooks, where he completed residency training in aerospace medicine in 1992 and was board certified in 1993.

"I took every job or opportunity offered to me, including training, and made the most of every one of those opportunities," the colonel said.

Colonel Travis is one of the Air Force's few pilot-physicians. He en-

tered the Air Force in 1976 as a distinguished ROTC graduate with a bachelor's degree in biology from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. He was awarded his pilot wings in 1978. He earned a master's degree in physiology from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1980 and a doctor of medicine degree from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences School of Medicine, in 1986. He was the top Air Force graduate and became a flight surgeon in 1987.

"If you truly love what you do, as I do, the reward is in the job and the people you get to know so well. The promotion is nice, but the road here has been the biggest reward. I look forward to continuing the journey in this great Air Force," he said.

The colonel's nomination for promotion to brigadier general will now go to the Senate for final approval.



Col. Tom Travis



Photo by Staff Sgt. Brandy Bogart

A look inside

In honor of Children's Dental Health Month, children at the Brooks Child Development Center re demonstrations and instructions on proper brushing and dental hygiene from Senior Airman Anya Reichenberg, a dental technician assigned to Brooks.

Responsibility transfer allows center commanders to better focus on mission

By Maj. John Thomas

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFMCNS) — Beginning March 1, most Air Force Materiel Command center commanders will no longer serve as installation commander at their respective bases, allowing them to focus more on their acquisition, sustainment, and test and evaluation missions.

AFMC's installation commander job is being passed to each installation's air base wing commander who oversees the day-to-day operations and manages the infrastructure and people who operate the base and support its tenants. According to Gen. Gregory Martin, AFMC commander, this change is being done for two major reasons.

"First, this will allow the center commanders greater opportunities to focus on their primary missions of delivering war-winning technology, ac-

quisition support, sustainment and expeditionary capabilities to the warfighter," said General Martin.

This is especially important to the command's three product centers, Aeronautical Systems Center at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio; Electronic Systems Center at Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass.; and Air Armament Center at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., where the center commanders are now also program executive officers for the Air Force's aircraft, C2 and armament acquisition programs, respectively.

"Second, AFMC's organizational structure will now look more like those of other Air Force major commands where a wing commander is the installation commander," General Martin said. "This will make AFMC look more familiar to our warfighter customers, thus making it easier to do

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Hospitalized vets' 'spirits' inspire Brooks ambassadors

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Good fortune greeted Brooks Ambassadors at Audie Murphy Veteran's Administration Hospital, on a February day reputed to be the unluckiest - Friday the 13th. The Ambassadors took part in Brooks' long-standing tradition of supporting the Department of Veterans Affairs' annual Salute to Hospitalized Veterans. Aging and ailing veterans courted the attention of their younger generation counterparts.

"It's very moving, especially to hear their stories," said Capt. Melissa Mouchette, a Brooks Ambassador.

"It's very humbling," said Tech. Sgt. Kevin Fulcher, Brooks Ambassador.



Photo by Rudy Purificato

Korean War Air Force veteran Roger Pitts discusses his career as an aircraft mechanic on B-36's with Brooks Ambassadors Capt. Melissa Mouchette, left, and Tech. Sgt. Kevin Fulcher during National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Feb. 13.

Fulcher has captured countless war veterans on film during his career as an Air Force photographer.

The Brooks Ambassadors paused momentarily, along with Lt. Col. Susan Davis, 311th Mission Support Group deputy commander, who accompanied them, to reflect on their visit's effect.

"One of the veterans told me that when he returned from Vietnam,

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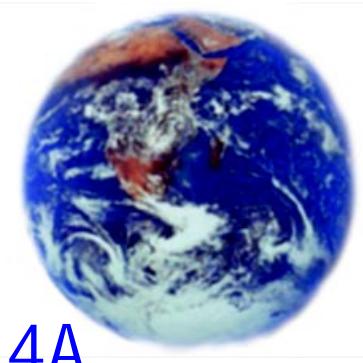
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Aerospace Career Day

March 2-4, 2004

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Force shaping — the right program at the right time

By Col. Thomas Hancock

11th Wing director of personnel

BOLLING AIR FORCE BASE, D.C. (AFPN) — Since the Air Force became its own service in 1947, its mission has continually changed to meet new threats. As the mission of the Air Force has changed, so has the Air Force itself — increasing and decreasing in size, changing its skill structure and the number of airmen in each specialty and reshaping itself in general to meet new challenges. This was the case leading up to the Korean War, the Vietnam Conflict, the lengthy Cold War and the numerous regional conflicts that have followed.

Changing the force has become necessary once again. Due to the threat of terrorism and the current situation in Iraq, the Air Force has exceeded its mandated active duty end strength of 359,000 and must now reduce its size by more than 16,000 people.

As Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. John Jumper explained in his force-shaping sight picture, this is a temporary situation.

"We now need a plan to return to authorized levels," he wrote.

Commentary



Valentine's Day — frozen in time?

By Steve VanWert

Staff writer

Frozen broccoli was on sale, I noticed. Hey, they're packaging frozen peas and carrots in the same bag these days. How clever. And look, boysenberry pie, sold as a glacier - my favorite.

No, I didn't have a sudden desire to peruse the frozen food section of my local supermarket. It was 6 p.m. last Valentine's Day and I was simply the last guy in a line that stretched from the floral department to the deep freeze, exactly where I'd be if I didn't bring flowers home to my long-suffering spouse.

I leaned sideways and counted bodies. Forty-seven — all men. I prayed quietly that the supply of flowers would last until I got to the front of the line. After an alarmingly long time, slumberous seconds stretching into molasses minutes, I was looking at the florist. Her hair was mussed, long strands falling across her blood-shot eyes. She looked at me with what could only be contempt.

"Valentine's?"

I nodded.

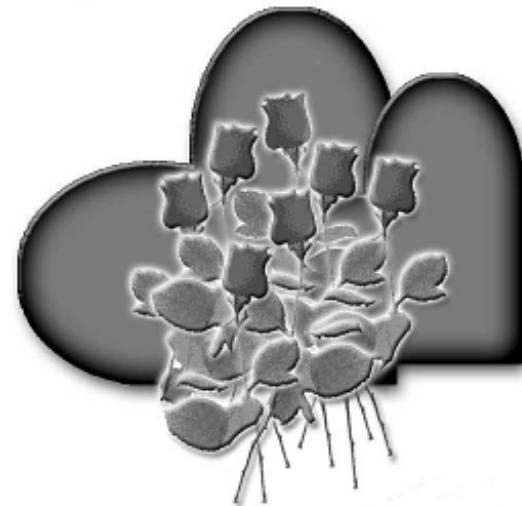
She did, too. She reached beneath the counter and pulled up a potted plant, obviously the last of what was probably hundreds. It had a balloon attached to the foil-wrapped pot with a cartoon of a long-extinct dinosaur. In huge red letters, it said, "Lordy, Lordy, Look Who's Forty."

"It's the thought that counts," she said.

I nodded again. And paid \$42, plus tax.

Why do we men do this to ourselves every year? Here we are, happily tooling down the road on our way home each Feb. 14 when the guy on the radio says something about Valentine's. Or a commercial comes on for diamonds. Diamonds! She'll be happy with flowers, we hope. So

Happy Valentines Day



here we are, in line, one foot on the tile floor and the other in the doghouse.

I submit that it's not our fault - it's genetic. It's simply not in our nature to remember something like Valentine's Day. We have enough trouble with birthdays! And everyone knows that remembering anniversaries is a lost cause. The only way out of the doghouse is to shift the blame to where it really belongs - to our wives. It's their responsibility, after all, to make sure we know about these things in advance. Ask the average Joe what happens on Feb. 14 and he'll say, "Daytona 500."

I rest my case.

Oh by the way, my wife loved the potted plant — minus the balloon. Of course, knowing me as well as she does, she'd already bought the diamond. Happy Valentine's Day, Brooks.

See you in line.

At first glance, it may confuse some people as to why the Air Force needs to reduce its size in the midst of a high-operations tempo. The reason is not only to return to authorized end-strength levels, but also shift airmen from overage specialties to those that are stressed and undermanned.

For those considering leaving active duty, the program provides several opportunities to separate or retire, primarily through the Limited Active Duty Service Commitment waiver and Palace Chase programs. The rules for leaving active duty via Palace Chase to join the Guard or Reserve will be the least restrictive.

Some officers and enlisted members will also have an opportunity to retrain. For officers, details will be forthcoming after completion of a cost-analysis study. For enlisted members, Phase 1 of the fiscal year 2004 noncommissioned officer retraining program was announced Dec. 30 and will end Feb. 23.

Now is the right time for force shaping.

It is the right program, so the Air Force provides taxpayers the best possible return on their investment in the military.

Force shaping is also the right program because it is designed to treat the most valuable Air Force asset — you, our fellow airmen and me — as fairly as possible.

The program rightfully aims to retain quality airmen who want to continue in the Air Force while providing a choice for those who may be considering separating or retiring.

The goal is to get under authorized end strength in such a way that does not adversely impact the mission or morale of the world's greatest air and space force.



Brooks BEP interview training helps job seekers avoid pitfalls

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

While many job seekers may feel as vulnerable as the lad in the horror film "Interview With A Vampire," some Brooks employees now have a less fearful view about interviews thanks to a recent series of job training sessions.

Sponsored by the Brooks City-Base Black Employment Program Committee, the job training sessions were designed to enhance attendees' interviewing and networking skills. The art of the phone interview, that concluded this week, capped the training series that began Jan. 22.

"It's only the second time we've had this kind of training," said Juanita Jasper, Brooks Black Employment Program manager, noting that several years ago it was offered here.

Dozens of Brooks employees attended the sessions that were supported by several organizations, including the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine that provided classrooms for the training.

Military service warrants tax benefits

By Capt. Gabriel Chavez

311th Human Systems Wing and

Mike Rico

IRS Tax Specialist

Taxpayers serving in the military may be entitled to certain tax exclusions and extensions based upon their military service. A brief summary of these benefits is provided below. More detailed information regarding tax benefits available to service members may be obtained by visiting the Armed Forces Tax Benefits section under: www.irs.gov.

The IRS reports that for federal tax purposes, service members are defined to include officers and enlisted personnel in all regular and reserve units controlled by the Secretaries of Defense, and the United States Army, Navy and Air Force. The Coast Guard is also included, but not the U.S. Merchant Marine or the American Red Cross. However, these and other support personnel may qualify for certain tax deadline extensions because of their service in a combat zone.

Armed forces members who serve in a combat zone or qualified hazardous duty area may exclude certain pay from income. They do not have to re-

The base Civilian Personnel Office kicked off the series with a session that showcased job interview tips and techniques. "They learned negotiating skills and how to sell themselves," said Lawanda Roper, a Family Support Center worklife consultant who helped plan the training and assisted with the interview sessions. The CPO session provided a good refresher course for attendees who've not experienced a job interview in years.

That initial session was followed by one-on-one live interviews Jan. 29, three-member panel interviews Feb. 5 and a session on effective networking strategies Feb. 12. Several senior Brooks leaders volunteered as interviewers.

Ms. Roper said the training helped dispel a common misconception shared by both military and civilian attendees. "Their expectations are a lot greater, in terms of pay and benefits, than what the real world has to offer," Ms. Roper said, explaining, "Sometimes you have to go back to the entry level (in accepting a new job) to get your foot in the door."

business with our command. It will also give our wing commanders the full experiences they need to continue to grow into Air Force senior leaders."

To give wing commanders the right tools and people they need to exercise their responsibilities, some functions and offices will move from the center commander's staff to the wing. For example, some elements of several offices, including legal, financial and procurement, will realign to the wings. Also, there will be command chief master sergeant positions at both the centers and wings.

"What we have now is a structure that doesn't provide our air base wing commanders the authority and resources to fully support the people and organizations on their bases," General Martin said.

He said there are some functions now being carried out at the centers that are actually wing-level in nature and will better serve the installation by being placed under the wing commander's authority.

While the new command structure will stand up March 1, each center

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and wing will work with AFMC headquarters to iron out the steps needed to complete all of the organizational restructure and physical relocations by October.

Command officials emphasized that while some jobs will move from centers to wings, they do not anticipate any positions being eliminated as part of the realignment.

Two AFMC center commanders will not be affected by this move. The commander at Arnold Engineering Development Center, Arnold AFB, Tenn., will remain installation commander. The Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Center will remain a tenant on Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., an Air Combat Command installation where the 355th Fighter Wing commander serves as the installation commander.

Command officials said two AFMC bases will see no change because there isn't an AFMC center on the base. The wing commanders at the 377th Air Base Wing at Kirtland AFB, N.M., and 311th Human Systems Wing at Brooks are already designated as installation commanders.

Salute

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people threw rocks at him," Captain Mouchette said.

Most of the stories they heard had a familiar, but constant theme: the bravery and sacrifice of comrades now gone. Some of the tales had a decidedly humorous flavor, such as the one that Santa Anna, Texas, resident D.D. "Tex" Wright told. The former Air Force radio operator said he was glad he had been born in Texas instead of a neighboring state.

"If I had been from Louisiana, they would have called me 'Louise,'" he joked about the military tradition of assigning nicknames to unit members.

The affable demeanor of Army Korean War veteran Harry Brunelle belied the fact that he had suffered for two and half years as a prisoner of war. "I was captured April 1951 just north of Seoul during the Chinese spring offensive. I knew then how Custer must have felt," said Mr. Brunelle, who was the victim of an overwhelming and tenacious enemy.

"We were segregated in camps by rank and by service. I was in a camp with NCOs. During the first two weeks, 1,600 Americans died. We had to bury them," he said, explaining that their captors refused to give them dog

tags of their dead comrades.

A member of the 300th Combat Engineers in Normandy, France, Charles Fuller recalled a decision by he and fellow enlisted members not to heed the order of a major who wanted them to regroup on a bridge they had built in Carentan, a village near their landing site at Utah Beach.

"The major was killed by a direct hit from a German 88 (artillery) after he had yelled to us to join him on the bridge," Mr. Fuller said.

Navy WWII veteran Marcus Breneman from Brenham, Texas, stood up like he was coming to attention when Colonel Davis approached to give him a 311th Mission Support Group's commander's coin. The 85-year-old veteran recalled how it was safer not to stand up on Japanese-infested beaches where he and Navy Seabees tried to retrieve damaged landing craft that he later would repair.

"I saw a lot of brave men die," Mr. Breneman said with a gentle Texas drawl. Among the places where Mr. Breneman saw the ultimate sacrifice for freedom were Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima and Guam.

"What an honor it was to be here," Colonel Davis said quietly.



Military Heroes Day showcases African-American heritage

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

They share a much deeper bond than the relationships conveyed by World War II American infantrymen in the hit HBO mini-series "Band of Brothers." As African-American military veterans, their collective struggle to prove their value as contributors to our national defense was evident to those who spent time honoring them at Brooks during Military Heroes Appreciation Day.

Part of the base's Black History Month commemoration, the Feb. 10 event at Hangar 9 showcased the history of the U.S. Army Cavalry's Buffalo Soldiers, the Army Air Corps' Tuskegee Airmen and African-American combat service in the U.S. Marine Corps.

"This is the fifth year we've had this event, but the first time we've held it at Hangar 9," said Jeri Peterson, event chairperson.

This year's venue featured exhibits by the Buffalo Soldiers Living History & Heritage Association, the San Antonio Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. and Col. Herbert Brewer, the second African-American officer commissioned in the 229-year history of the U.S. Marine Corps.

311th Human Systems Wing Command Chief Master Sgt. Richard Hollins joined fellow Buffalo Soldier reenactors to discuss their heritage with visitors. Their organization traces its lineage to the 9th U.S. Cavalry Regiment, a unit composed of African-American enlisted members. The 9th Cavalry and its sister units,



Photo by Rudy Purificato

During Military Heroes Appreciation Day Feb. 10, members of the Buffalo Soldiers Living History and Heritage Association present retired Marine Corps Col. Herbert Brewer a 19th century replica saber in appreciation of his service and contributions in helping integrate the Marine Corps in 1942.

the 10th U.S. Cavalry Regiment and the 24th and 25th Infantry Regiments, helped protect America's western frontier from 1867 to 1891. Buffalo Soldier exhibitors, dressed in authentic period uniforms, included Hoyet Andrews, Moses Mitchell and John Jones.

The 72-member San Antonio Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen, founded at Randolph Air Force Base in 1987, was well-represented by exhibitors, including 79-year-old Theodore Johnson, an original Tuskegee airman who served during WWII with the 301st Fighter Squadron, 332nd Fighter Group. He was one of 966 African-American aviators trained near Tuskegee, Ala., during WWII.

The Tuskegee Airmen served in Europe and North Africa, completing 1,578 missions with the 12th Tactical U.S. Army Air Corps and the 15th Strategic U.S. Army Air Corps. They earned a reputation from enemy pilots for their tenacity and fearlessness in combat. Called "Schwartz Vogelmenschen" (Black Birdmen) by the Germans, they earned 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses.

The annual event is designed to educate people about the military contributions made by African-American servicemen and women.

Brewer made Marine Corps history during, after WWII

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

He exudes a sincere and abiding appreciation for having served our country during war, despite a period in U.S. military history when America's Armed Forces struggled with integration. More than 60 years after retired Col. Herbert Brewer helped integrate the Marine Corps, he considers the experience one of the highlights of his life.

Colonel Brewer proudly gave out fact sheets featuring prominent African-American Marine Corps veterans during the recent Military Heroes Appreciation Day. The 79-year-old San Antonio native was also the recipient of a gift from the Buffalo Soldiers Living History and Heritage Association presented him with a replica 19th century saber.

"I never regretted joining the Marine Corps," said Colonel Brewer about being among the first enlisted African-Americans to integrate that service, the last branch of America's Armed Forces to do so. "The Marine Corps didn't accept blacks until 1942. The last time there were black Marines was during the Revolutionary War," he said.

Colonel Brewer was inspired to join the Marines after having seen a motion picture about them. "I read in the Pittsburgh Courier, a prominent black newspaper of the time, that the Marines were recruiting blacks," he said. Colonel Brewer, who graduated from Phyllis Wheatley High School in 1941, was a member of the Tuskegee Airmen when he learned about Marine Corps integration.

"The Marine Corps did a good job of selecting people to train us. They were fair and treated us as Marines, not blacks," he said, referring to his drill instructors who were transferred from Parris Island, S.C., to the black Marine training camp at Montford Point, N.C. "We were called Montford Point Marines. They built a camp just for us," he explained. He was one of 198 black Marines to complete Marine Corps boot camp in 1942. He was assigned to the 51st Defense Battalion, an anti-aircraft artillery unit formed

at Montford Point.

The Marine Corps was initially reluctant to deploy the all-black 51st overseas because senior leaders didn't believe the unit was ready for combat, he said. Instead, individual black Marines were assigned overseas to non-combat jobs in depot and ammunition companies. Colonel Brewer recalls a 1943 training incident that demonstrated that black Marines were combat ready. "We were firing at towed targets on Onslow Beach when the Secretary of War saw us hit a target after just 60 seconds," he said. The Marine Corps Commandant remarked to the Secretary of War, "I think they're ready now."

Colonel Brewer's outfit deployed to the Pacific Theater's Ellice Islands in 1944. It was there he met Philadelphian Capt. Frederick Branch who told Colonel Brewer about the Navy's V-12 Education Program, designed to commission enlisted members from all ethnic backgrounds. Captain Branch and Colonel Brewer made history as the first and second black enlisted men to be commissioned Marine Corps officers, respectively. In 1968, Colonel Brewer became the first African-American in Marine Corps Reserve history to attain the rank of colonel.

Colonel Brewer forged a successful career as a civil engineer. He earned undergraduate and advanced civil engineering degrees from Purdue University and the University of Pennsylvania. He worked as a Philadelphia Naval Shipyard architect, as an Army Corps of Engineers structural engineer, and retired as Director of Facilities Planning and Construction for the San Antonio Independent School District.

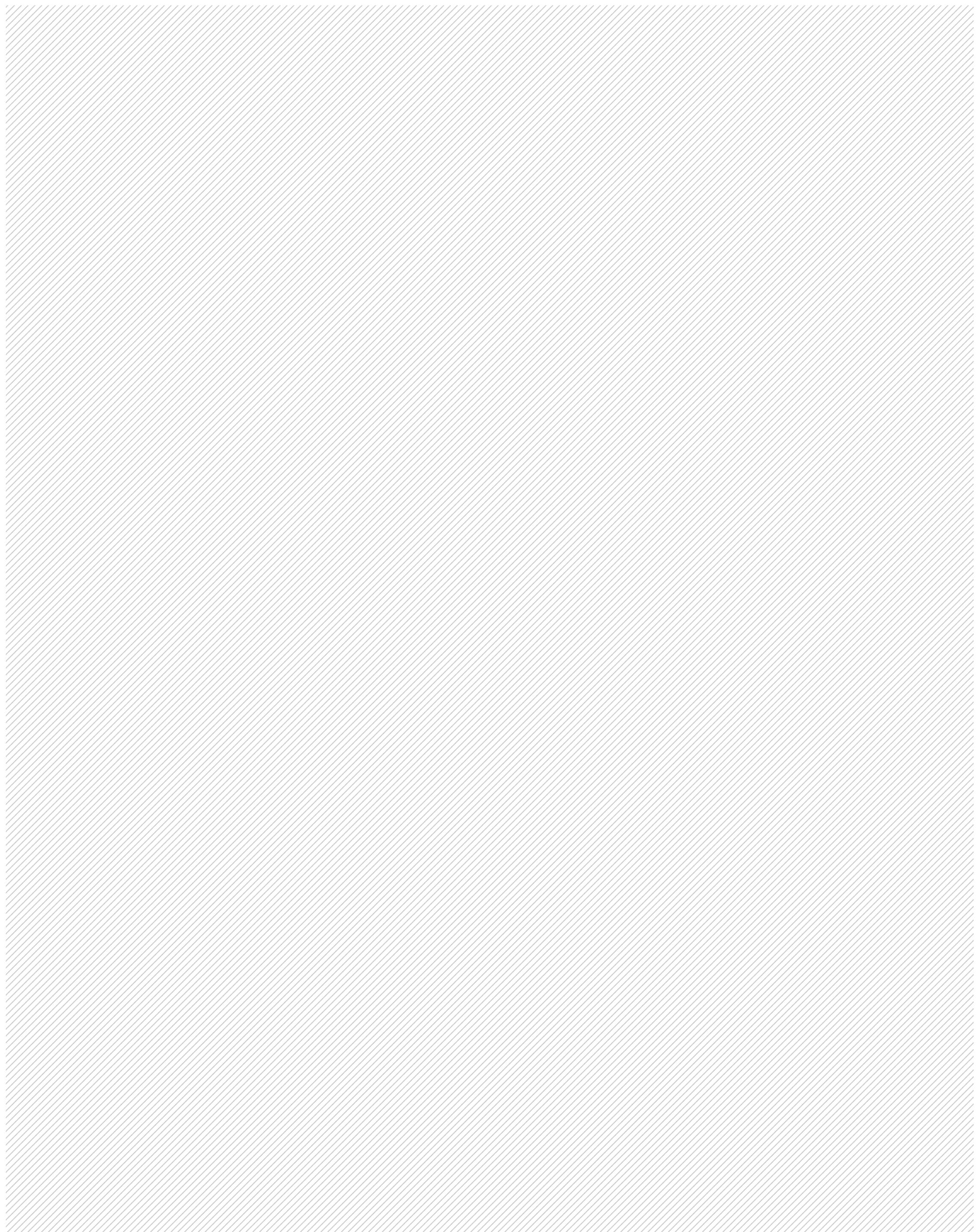
Despite experiencing segregation, Brewer is thankful rather than bitter for what he considers a wonderful 32-year military career. "Some of the things we had to overcome are amusing," he recalled about his days as a Marine.

"I'm glad to see that we're being recognized now," Brewer said of African-American veterans who are honored during Black History Month observances.



DISCOVERY
Feb. 20, 2004

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Former moonwalker 'down to Earth' about faith

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Apollo 16 astronaut Charles Duke was thrilled, but unfulfilled when he became just one of a dozen men in human history to walk on the moon. The retired Air Force Reserve brigadier general admitted at the Feb. 5 National Prayer Breakfast gathering at the Brooks Club that he was much further from God spiritually than he was physically from the Earth while standing on the lunar surface.

"You don't need to go to the moon to find God. I didn't find God in space. I found Him in the front seat of my car on Highway 46 in New Braunfels, Texas, when I opened my heart to Jesus. And my life hasn't been the same since," said General Duke.

The general and his wife participated in the annual observation here at the invitation of the Brooks Chapel as part of a national program inaugurated in 1942 by the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. Called the National Prayer Breakfast since 1970, the event's purpose is to encourage men and women in positions of responsibility to pray for leadership at every level of authority ranging from local government to the nations of the Earth.

Duke, who during his Air Force career had been stationed at Brooks, accepted the Brooks Chapel's invitation to speak as part of he and his wife's Christian ministry. In 1990, they co-authored their first book, titled *Moonwalker*. It chronicles the April 1972 moon mission as well as their marital turmoil that eventually led to reconciliation through his spiritual conversion.

Addressing a capacity crowd, General Duke referred to the words in the Pledge of Allegiance when he asked the audience, "Are you really under God? Do you seek His will, and do your actions reflect a Godly life?" He admitted that if asked that question when he became an astronaut in 1966, he would have said no. "I believed in God, but I was not seeking God's course," said the general, noting that the only course he was seeking at the time was a path to the moon. "Thirty-five astronauts qualified for the (Apollo) program. There were 20 seats to the moon. I was one of the 19 rookies," he said.

A U.S. Naval Academy graduate, Duke earned his wings in 1958 before joining the 526th Fighter Interceptor Squadron as a pilot at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. After earning a master's degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he attended in 1964 the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards AFB, Calif. Two years later he



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Anita Schroeder

Former astronaut retired Brig. Gen. Charles Duke, left, receives a presentation from Col. Tom Travis, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, during the National Prayer Breakfast at the Brooks Club Feb. 5 where General Duke was the guest speaker.

became an astronaut. He joined Navy Capts. John Young and Thomas Mattingly for Apollo 16, the fifth manned moon mission.

Awestruck by his space adventure, General Duke said he didn't appreciate the spiritual significance of his experience until after he had committed his life to Christ. "I didn't read the Bible too much then. After I became a Christian I realized how the Bible had exactly described the Earth from space," he said. Citing the Old Testament's Book of Job, he said, "When God made the Earth, He suspended it upon nothing."

The general spent 72 hours exploring the lunar surface with fellow astronaut Captain Young at a locale near the moon's geological center, about 700-800 miles from where Neil Armstrong made his historic "small step for man, giant leap for mankind" speech.

"I was going to set the high jump record," he said, admitting that by attempting the leap in one-sixth Earth gravity he had chosen a course of action much more dangerous than taking 'a leap of faith.' "I fell backwards on my lifepack. It could have ruptured. I was flat on my back looking at Earth above me. My heart was pounding. John helped me up. Mission Control was not pleased with my 'moon Olympics.'"

While he realized then that he had made a potentially life-ending decision that could have jeopardized the mission and endangered his fellow travelers, General Duke did not understand the consequences of his action from a spiritual perspective until much later. "I was honored to represent the Air Force on the moon, but I wasn't searching for God (there). It wasn't a spiritual experience," he said.

After he experienced the fleeting euphoria of his space accomplishment that was even more fleetingly feted on Earth, General Duke realized that his enormous drive to succeed by fulfilling career goals at all costs was ultimately unrewarding. Referring to the old Peggy Lee song, he asked himself, "Is that all there is to this?"

He said if you seek comfort and fulfillment in worldly or out-of-this-world things, you'll be disappointed. "You can only find peace and contentment in knowing God," he said.



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

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

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Brooks Family Support Center activities

Call 536-2444 for information

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The General Henry R. Arnold Education Grant program awards \$1,500 grants to dependent sons and daughters of:

— Active duty, Title 10 Air National Guard/Reserve personnel on extended active duty, and Title 32 Guard/Reserve performing full-time active duty.

— Members who retired due to length of active duty service or disability, or retired Guard/Reserve with 20-plus qualifying years creditable for retired pay.

— Servicemembers deceased while on active duty or in retired status.

Spouses of active duty and Title 10 Guard/Reservists on extended duty stationed stateside, and surviving spouses of Air Force members who died while on active duty or in retired status are also eligible.

The grant will be awarded to a high school

graduate enrolled or accepted as a full-time undergraduate student in the 2004-2005 academic year. Use of fund is limited to tuition, books and fees, or other direct educational expenses. Contact the Family Support Center for details, or visit the Web site at: www.afas.org.

Application deadline is March 12.

Resume workshop

Feb. 26, 11 a.m.- noon, Bldg. 537—

Learn the different resume styles and how to write and use them effectively to open career opportunities. Learn the do's and don'ts of resume development and how to develop impressive cover and thank you letters.

VA benefits assistance

Wednesdays, 9 a.m.- 1 p.m., Bldg. 537

A Veterans Administration representative sees veterans at Brooks Wednesdays. Call 536-2444 to make an appointment to receive VA assistance in filling out claims, screening medical records or for one-on-one consultations to meet individual needs. Veterans need to bring their original medical records and two copies to appointments. Appointments are required.

Sponsor training

March 16, 10 - 11 a.m., Bldg. 537

In accordance with Air Force Instruction 36-3011, sponsor training is mandatory of all first-time sponsors and those who have not sponsored within one year. Others are more than welcome to attend and earn about tools and resources available for sponsors.



Education notes

By Carolyn Croft-Foster

Brooks Education Services Office
536-3617

CCAF Spring graduation deadline

The deadline for nominations for the Community College of the Air Force Spring 2004 graduation is Feb. 27. All nominations must be received by CCAF at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., by that date. Students who believe they are candidates need to contact Education Services to ensure their nominations have been submitted.

ACCD on-base classes

Registration is underway for Alamo Community College District. Courses offered by Palo Alto College on base begin March 8. Classes include: Speech, English, History and Sociology. The representative visits Brooks Tuesdays.

Upper Iowa University degrees

Register now for Upper Iowa University programs at Brooks. The UIU Spring II schedule includes Business Law and State and Local Government. The courses fulfill requirements for Bachelor of Science Degrees in Public Administration, Business, Social Sciences and Human Services.

Classes meet on base one evening a week for eight weeks. Spring II term dates are March 8-May 7. Online courses are also available. The Upper Iowa office in the Brooks Education Center is open Monday through Friday. For more information, stop by the office or call 536-4033.

Funding of recalled CLEP exams

Beginning Feb. 16, DANTES began up-front funding of the CLEP electronic computer based test examination fee at identified National Test Centers. DANTES funds the \$50 test fee for eligible military and civilian examinees on campus. Examinees are responsible for paying the non-refundable, advance registration fee charged by test centers. Students may test only at "military friendly" or "open" schools, including Northwest Vista, St. Mary's University, San Antonio College, University of Texas at San Antonio, Our Lady of the Lake and the University of the Incarnate Word. Call 536-3617 for information.

St. Mary's Graduate School

St. Mary's University offers a variety of programs in San Antonio: Master of Business Administration, MS in Computer Information Systems, MS in Engineering Systems and teacher certification classes. Recently, St. Mary's Graduate School added on-line programs in Community Counseling and International Relations. For more details on on-line programs visit the Web site at: www.stmarytx.edu. St. Mary's Graduate School awards a tuition grant to active duty and retired military, DoD employees and their spouses, resulting in tuition of \$255 per semester hour. For information, call 536-3617. The St. Mary's representative is at Brooks Wednesdays.

Webster University

Registration is underway for Spring 2 classes. Saturday classes begin March 15; evening classes March 17. Summer registration begins April 12 and classes start May 24. Core areas offered include: business; computer resources and information management; health services management; human

resources development; human resource management; management; counseling; procurement and acquisitions management and public administration. Webster University also offers the MBA.

Texas State University

Texas State University offers a bachelor of applied arts and sciences degree. The BAAS degree provides an excellent opportunity for individuals to capitalize on prior work and training experiences. Students pursuing this degree may transfer semester hours previously earned, individualize the degree plan with major emphasis in an occupational field of choice, and earn semester hour credit for work and life experience and training conducted by business, industry and military. Night classes are available in the San Antonio and San Marcos areas. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 536-3618.

Montgomery GI Bill benefits

Active duty personnel, currently enrolled in the Montgomery GI Bill, have the opportunity to increase Chapter 30 GI Bill benefits by \$5,400, from \$23,400 to \$28,800, for a maximum contribution of \$600. The minimum payment is \$20 per month. Contributions can be started and stopped at any time while on active duty. This is not a pay reduction and not a tax savings. This benefit is only open to personnel who first entered active duty on or after July 1, 1985, and elected to participate in the GI Bill. This feature is not open to Vietnam-Era Chapter 30/34 or VEAP Convertees.

Air Force Virtual Education Center

The Virtual Education Center is online. Servicemembers can view information about Air Force Education Centers and Community College of the Air Force and CCAF students can order transcripts. CLEP practice tests are also available.

Visit the Web site and establish an account: www.afvec.langley.af.mil. or call 536-3617 for more information.

NEWS briefs

Promotion ceremony

The monthly enlisted promotion ceremony is scheduled for Feb. 27 at 3 p.m. at the Brooks Club. The ceremony recognizes Brooks members who will be promoted to the next highest rank in March.

Aerospace Career Day volunteers needed

Several volunteer opportunities are available for Aerospace Career Day 2004. The event, scheduled for March 2-4, contributes to mentoring approximately 1,800 local high school students. Each day nearly 600 students attend various events including a science magic show.

Escorts, lunch workers and logistical support are among the volunteer opportunities. If you would like to be a part of this important aerospace educational service opportunity, respond by email to: alexander.pierce@brooks.af.mil or call 536-1481. Visit the Brooks Web page at: www.brooks.af.mil/

[ACD2004](#) to see highlights from last year and details.

New clinic hours

The Brooks clinic is now open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily to better accommodate patients. Call 536-1847 for an appointment or 536-2087 for more information.

Scholarship luncheon scheduled

The Bernard P. Randolph Scholarship Luncheon is scheduled for 11:15 a.m., Feb. 26 at the Brooks Club. The menu includes shrimp or Creole chicken. Tickets are \$10. Contact Capt. Carla Sizer at 536-2960 or Staff Sgt. Troy Davis at 536-3713 for information or tickets. The scholarship fund supports college-bound seniors or full- and part-time college students in the San Antonio military, civilian or family member community. The scholarships range from \$500-\$1,000.







**Brooks
City-
Base**

Aerospace Career Day

A welcome from the commander

On behalf of the men and women of Brooks City-Base, I want to welcome you to Aerospace Career Day 2004.

This is the sixth year that Aerospace Career Day is totally dedicated to sharing with local students the various aerospace medicine programs at Brooks. This field trip is a great way for you to experience, in person, the exciting work that goes on here everyday.

Our mission at Brooks is aerospace medicine, which is broadly defined as supporting, protecting, and enhancing the human being in relation to his or her environment, whether that environment is combat or occupational.

Toward that end, we conduct research and produce products to enhance human performance and safety. We conduct global surveillance and assess and manage health, safety and environmental risks for the U.S. Air Force and the Department of Defense.

We also educate and train well

over 5,000 people a year in the various aerospace medicine disciplines and serve as the primary aerospace medicine consultation resource for the Air Force, the Department of Defense, and most of the world.

Our bioenvironmental assessment teams can travel anywhere in the world on very short notice to monitor potential health hazards in the realm of biological, chemical, or nuclear risks. We provide 24/7 support for environmental and occupational emergencies globally.

We have been doing aerospace medicine longer than any other place on the planet and we are the Air Force focal point for operational medicine.

Our Aerospace Career Day team has put together a program for you that highlights the science, math, technology, and health-related aspects of our day-to-day work, and shows how these efforts directly support our mission.

This educational experience will



Col. Tom Travis
311th Human Systems Wing
commander

provide a unique glimpse at today's high tech Air Force.

I honestly think you will leave here with a greater understanding of how the Air Force uses science and technology to support our warfighters.

Thank you for your enthusiastic participation in this event and thanks to your schools for their continued support.

Enjoy your time at Brooks.

Aerospace Career Day looks to future by focusing on past

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Looking to the future by honoring America's greatest past achievement in space, the 2004 edition of Aerospace Career Day at Brooks hopes to ignite student interest in future science and engineering careers by commemorating the 35th anniversary of the first moon landing.

The annual event, scheduled for March 2-4, will feature keynote speaker Dr. J. Sebastian Perera, NASA's risk manager from the Johnson Space Center in Houston. Dr. Perera will discuss NASA's contributions to the International Space Station and Mars space missions.

"We're really excited about our program this year," said Lt. Col. Lynn Borland, the event's project officer from the Air Force Institute for Occupational Health.

Colonel Borland explained that President George W. Bush's recent proposal

for NASA to return to the moon by 2015 and to launch a manned mission to Mars after 2020, combined with the numerous science, health, technology and engineering missions at Brooks, has contributed to heightened interest in and excitement from Aerospace Career Day visitors.

That projected excitement and interest will be greeted this year with a significantly modified event. "We've revamped and streamlined our activities," Colonel Borland said, explaining that activities and exhibits will be centralized to three locations on base — the Base Gym, Hangar 9, and the Bldg. 180 auditorium. This streamlined plan replaces the past practice of shuttling students to more than 20 locations on base multiple times a day. Additionally, visitors will be allowed to experience everything being offered this year.

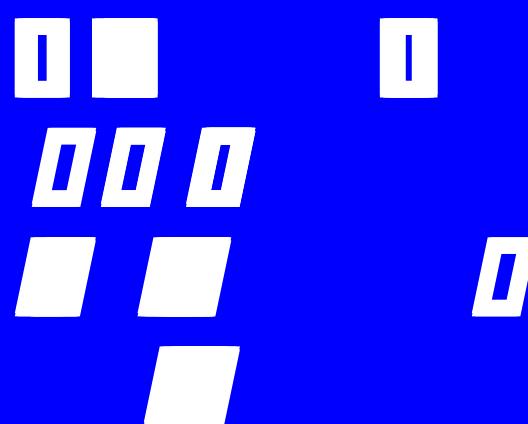
Some of the activities and exhibits are new to Aerospace Career Day, while other popular venues are back by demand.

The band, "Top Flight," from the Air Force Band of the West at Lackland Air Force Base will kick off Career Day each day with performances at the base gym, which may encourage student chaperones to hum "that old space age pop tune, "Fly Me to the Moon." Also new are exhibits such as the Air Force RAPTOR sport utility vehicle and Air Force NASCAR, which will be on display at the Hangar 9 parking lot.

Students will experience a "virtual tour" of the popular centrifuge and altitude chambers and receive a spatial disorientation demonstration in the Barany Chair. Dr. Eric Holwitt, a Brooks chemist, will offer another dazzling performance of the Chemistry Magic Show.

"More than 1,800 students from public and private schools in and around Bexar County and the San Antonio metropolitan area registered to attend this year's event," Colonel Borland said.

March 2- 4, 2004

***Chemistry magic —***

Retired Air Force Maj. (Dr.) Eric Holwitt presents a chemistry magic show consisting of various types of chemical reactions, including oxidations and reductions, single and double displacements, acid-based reactions and clock reactions. Students experience a very visual presentation by Dr. Holwitt, who incorporates exploding balloons, fires, liquid nitrogen, color changes and smoke into the program.



These reactions demonstrate chemical principals such as endothermic and exothermic reactions and chemical kinetics.

Dr. Holwitt learned most of these demonstrations when he taught chemistry and biochemistry at the U.S. Air Force Academy from 1980-1984. This show has been presented around San Antonio, in at least 50 schools, and for groups including the Young Astronauts, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts.

Dr. Holwitt received his bachelor of science degree from Stevens Institute of Technology, which he attended with the aid of an Air Force ROTC scholarship. His graduate work was at Columbia University. He has served at the Armed Force Radiobiology Research Institute in Bethesda, Md., and at the Air Force Research Laboratory.

Top Flight —**Air Force Band of the West**

Yes, Top Flight is the Band of the West's answer to America's popular demand for classic rock 'n' roll and traditional country, as well as the more current tunes of today's music scene. This group was formed in 1991 and performs songs from artists ranging from Shania Twain to Creed and Aretha Franklin to Lonestar. These highly skilled professional musicians are able to reach thousands of young people each year with an important "Stay in School" and "Say No to Drugs" message by performing for schools throughout the Southwest. Top Flight travels more than 30,000 miles annually throughout Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, and Louisiana to support official military events, as well as community relations events.

***Dr. J. Sebastian Perera***

Dr. J. Sebastian Perera is the Risk Manager at the Johnson Space Center in Houston and has been with NASA for almost 15 years. He is responsible for risk management of the space center. He oversees both quantitative and qualitative risk analysis processes at the center and provides technical direction to a team of risk analysts. Perera designed, developed, implemented and improved the International Space Station risk management pro-



cess through a phased approach including providing the necessary supporting tools.

His experience includes many different NASA programs and projects in a variety of space systems and technical fields. These duties have included management responsibility for versions of the primary and back-up flight software for the Space Shuttle and development responsibility for software used aboard Space Shuttle and International Space Station missions.

Dr. Perera has both a Jurisprudence Doctorate (law) and a PhD in Reliability Engineering.

Altitude chamber, centrifuge and Barany chair — a virtual tour

Students attending Aerospace Career Day 2004 will be treated to a special virtual tour of some of the most popular missions at Brooks. Students learn about how Brooks scientists and engineers study the effects of gravitational forces on the human body and how flight crew members learn about the effects of hypoxia during a presentation about the centrifuge and altitude chamber.

Brooks presenters will take a few volunteers from the audience during a spatial disorientation demonstration.

Hypobarics — altitude chamber

The altitude chamber was designed to simulate high altitude and its effect on the human body, such as trapped gas and hypoxia, as well as provide a means of training aircrew on the use of various pieces of aircraft oxygen equipment.

***Centrifuge — physiology of acceleration***

Students learn about the physics and physiological effects of high G maneuvering, loss of consciousness and G-LOC episodes and a description of the training program established to prevent them.

Spatial Disorientation — Barany Chair

The Barany Chair is a 1940s vintage device that was used to increase pilot awareness of the dangers of spatial disorientation during the early years of aviation. The Barany chair is still used to teach about disorientation in the cockpit.

***Air Force RAPTOR —***

The RAPTOR is the newest Air Force Recruiting Service's mobile marketing tool which comprises of a customized sport utility vehicle, F/A-22 Mini-Jet and trailer. This tool, designed to appeal to the target demographic, men and women 16-24 years old, promotes the Air Force "Cross into the Blue" recruiting campaign and collects data on people interested in joining the Air Force.

The SUV is a 2003 GMC Yukon XL which tows a specially designed, high-tech 20-foot RAPTOR trailer, and a scale model F/A-22 - the new Air Force fighter-attack jet. The vehicle's entertainment center features a 42-inch plasma screen, with a 640-by-480 VGA resolution and 160-degree viewing angle. The multi-input head unit has CD, DVD, AM/FM and public address capabilities.

Air Force NASCAR

The Air Force-sponsored Wood Brothers Racing No. 21 NASCAR, seen here getting its tires changed at Daytona Motor Speedway, is focused on victory in 2004.

After spending three months moving to a new home, working with a new crew chief and preparing for several new rules that accompany a new cup series, the Wood Brothers Racing team plans to deliver in 2004. That delivery includes a stop at Brooks for Aerospace Career Day 2004.

**Aerospace Career
Day 2004—
an out of this
world experience**



The history of Brooks Air Force Base, now Brooks City-Base, parallels the history of military aviation and aviation medicine in the United States. After the United States entered World War I, in 1917, the U.S. Army recognized the need for trained flying instructors. San Antonio was chosen for a year-round training site due to its favorable climate, good water supply and convenient transportation facilities.

The Chamber of Commerce assembled an 873-acre tract southeast of the city and offered it as the site for the new aviation field. The site was originally called Gosport Field, a name derived from the flight instruction system used at the new base.

On Dec. 5, 1917, the Army named the site Kelly Field No. 5, and groundbreaking ceremonies were held Dec. 8. On Feb. 4, 1918, the new facility was renamed Brooks Field in honor of Cadet Sidney J. Brooks Jr., a native of San Antonio who died during his final training flight Nov. 13, 1917, when his aircraft turned nose down and crashed at Kelly Field No. 2. He was awarded his wings and commission posthumously.

The base was formally established under the command of Major Henry C. Pratt on Feb. 16, 1918.

Curtiss JN-4D

The first aircraft flown from the new Brooks Field on March 28, 1918, was a Curtiss JN-4D "Jenny" of World War I fame, piloted by Major Leo A. Walton. During its first year of operation, Brooks Field consisted of 16 hangars with extensive support facilities. Of these early buildings, Hangar 9, dedicated to the memory of Edward H. White II is the only structure still in existence.

In May 1919, the pilot instructor school was closed and a Balloon and Airship School was opened for pilots and ground crew members. A huge 91,000-square-foot airship hangar was constructed.

However, a series of mishaps in operating the hydrogen-filled craft led to the transfer of the school from Brooks to Scott Field, Ill., on June 26, 1922. Brooks then became home to the Primary Flying School of the Army Air Corps from September 1922 to July 1931.

More than 1,400 pilots were trained during those years and graduates included such notable aviation figures as Generals Claire L. Chennault, Thomas D. White, Nathan F. Twining, and Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh. During this period, the School of Aviation Medicine moved from Mitchel Field, N.Y., to Brooks.

School of Aviation Medicine

The flying school provided aviation medicine research and, in turn, the School of Aviation Medicine provided a means to screen, examine and upgrade the caliber of cadets being trained. Both organizations were transferred to the newly constructed Randolph Field in October 1931.

On Sept. 28, 1929, Brooks was the site for the first successful mass parachute drop in the world. The concept, conceived and implemented at Brooks, confirmed the practicality of tactical paratrooper warfare.

During the 1930s, Brooks was the center of aerial observation activity and several units were trained in tactical observation.

American Heritage Brooks rich in history

In 1940, Brooks became the site for a special school for combat observers. In 1941, advanced training in piloting single-engine aircraft was conducted with emphasis on aerial observation skills.

Observation training was discontinued in August 1943, when Brooks became the home for training pilots in the "new" B-25 bomber. This remained the mission of the base for the rest of World War II.

Reserve training center

When pilot training at Brooks Field concluded at the end of World War II, the base took on a new mission.

In September 1951 in the midst of the Korean War, the Air Force established a reserve training center at Brooks Air Force Base. The 907th Air Reserve Wing was assigned to the center.

Conceived originally as a troop carrier unit, the 907th ARW did not receive its first planes until the summer of 1952. The planes were T-6 Texans, an indication of the 907th's new mission, pilot training. Almost before it began its new mission, the 907th ARW was replaced by the 8707th Pilot Training Wing (single-engine).

On the first anniversary of its activation, the 8707th had six T-6s and two C-46 Commandos assigned. That changed in April 1953 when the wing acquired five North American T-28s.

In 1954 the wing converted to C-46s and the 8707th was replaced by the 433d Troop Carrier Wing.

In 1956 reservists celebrated their fifth anniversary at Brooks with the arrival of another aircraft, the C-119 transport. Four years later, the 433rd Troop Carrier Wing moved to Kelly AFB. During the late 1950s, Brooks transformed from a flying training center to a center for modern medical research and development and education center.

Aerospace Medical Center

The transition started in the summer of 1959 when the School of Aviation Medicine returned to Brooks from Randolph Air Force Base. Brooks became the headquarters for the Aerospace Medical Center on Oct. 1, 1959.

An era in aviation history ended June 20, 1960, when the last plane

took off from Brooks. The aircraft was a C-131 "Samaritan" piloted by Col. L.B. Matthews, commander of Det. 1, 1st Aeromedical Transport Group.

The Aerospace Medical Center represented the initial step in placing the management of aerospace medical research, education and clinical practice under one command.

In recognition of its participation in the U.S. space program, the school's title was changed to School of Aerospace Medicine in May 1961, and both the school and center were reassigned from Air Training Command to Air Force Systems Command in November 1961. They were assigned to a new organization, the Aerospace Medical Division.

President John F. Kennedy

On Nov. 21, 1963, President John F. Kennedy dedicated four buildings in the complex that housed the Aerospace Medical Division headquarters and the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine (USAFSAM). This was his last official act before his assassination in Dallas the following day.

The aerospace era placed new demands on medical research and education, particularly in space medicine. Research efforts at USAFSAM were instrumental in making manned space flight a reality.

Flight simulation devices, the centrifuge, altitude chambers, lasers and other specially developed equipment, enabled researchers to perform laboratory studies of man's tolerances in the aerospace environment.

Brooks missions

In the early 1980s, other organizations relocated to Brooks including the Air Force Human Resources Laboratory and the U.S. Air Force Occupational and Environmental Health Laboratory.

In addition to the Air Force Office of Medical Support, Brooks became home to the Air Force Drug Testing Laboratory and the Air Force Systems Command's Systems Acquisition School.

A new Schriever Heritage Park, named for General Bernard A. Schriever, first commander of Air Force Systems Command, was dedicated on Oct. 7, 1986. The

The history of Brooks City-Base parallels the history of military aviation and aviation medicine in the United States.

Aerospace Medical Division was redesignated the Human Systems Division on Feb. 6, 1987. In November 1987, Brooks celebrated its 70th anniversary. During the celebration the Sidney J. Brooks Jr. Memorial Park was dedicated.

Air Force super laboratory

In 1991 four of Brooks' laboratories — the Air Force Human Resources Laboratory, the Air Force Drug Testing Laboratory, the Harry G. Armstrong Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory, and the Air Force Occupational and Environmental Health Laboratory, as well as the laboratory function of the USAFSAM — combined to become the Armstrong Laboratory. It was one of four super laboratories in the Air Force.

Also, the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence was formed and located at Brooks. This organization has the monumental task of restoring closing installations to their original state and of ensuring that future installations are environmentally safe.

Consolidations continued in 1992 with the merging of the Air Force Systems Command and the Air Force Logistics Command into a new organization called the Air Force Materiel Command. As a part of the new command, the Human Systems Division at Brooks again changed its name to the Human Systems Center.

In a further effort to streamline facilities, improve quality and cut costs, the Human Systems Center was placed under the command of the Aeronautical Systems Center at Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio. On Oct. 1, 1998, HSC was redesignated the 311th Human Systems Wing.

Brooks Air Force Base became Brooks City-Base after special legislation was passed to allow the Air Force to convey the property to the city of San Antonio through the Brooks Development Authority. The first-of-its-kind conveyance took place July 22, 2002.

