

Kanza SPIRIT

Air Force Reserve's first Associate KC-135 Unit

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Sports update

The 931st ARG softball team had, at press time, won seven of eight games going into the final regular-season game July 14. The team is 7-3 and already assured a spot in McConnell's post-season playoffs. Two of the team's losses were the undefeated, first place team from the 22nd Supply.

The 931st ARG golf team owns a total match play record of 74-46, including forfeits. The best individual record on the team is Lt. Col. Ron Johnston's 11-7 mark.

Memorial news

On Oct. 18, the Women's Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery -- a monument honoring female service and sacrifice in the U.S. Armed Forces -- will be dedicated.

To register yourself or a woman you know or to donate to the memorial, call (800) 472-5883.

To learn about volunteer opportunities check the Web at: www.wimsa.org/pub/wimsa

931st conducts first-ever Safety Day

By Senior Airman Barbara Davis
931st Public Affairs

The members of the 931st Air Refueling Group filled the base theater Sunday, June 8 for their first Safety Day.

The main focus of Safety Day was on the aircrew and maintenance. Chief of Air Force Reser Major Gen. Robert A. McIntosh initiated the Safety Day program to heighten the awareness of safety mishap prevention. The program came about because of the alarming rate of Class A mishaps, which are accidents that cause loss of life or at least \$500,000 worth of damage, in the Air Force Reserve Command. The Reserve Command lost two C-130 and two F-16 last year because of flying safety accidents.

"Our goal is a zero mishap rate," said Col. Vik C. Malling, Commander, 931st ARG, as he accepted the Safety Milestone Award for a year of mishap-free flying. "This is a step in the right direction," he added.

"All too often units tend to look through rose colored glasses at themselves," said Master Sgt. Cody Jr., the 931st's safety superintendent. "This is a chance for us to look at ourselves. We must ask ourselves are we sure this will not happen to us, and then identify those areas where it could happen."

This is the beginning of 101 Days of Summer, a longtime prominent program for the active duty. The reserves in the past have not been involved in programs such as 101 days of summer, but are now starting. Reservists involved in mishaps or accidents, whether on the Unit Training Assembly weekend or not, will be a lost asset to the reserve unit, commented Smith.

"Every one of us brings something to the safety table," commented Col. Terry Edwards, Vice Commander, 931st ARG. It gives you the opportunity to be a teacher and the possibility to save someone's limb or life, added Edwards.

The Reserve Command lost lives and equipment in the past year through Class A accidents. Safety Day was an attempt to heighten the awareness of safety

Despinoy to succeed Malling as 931st ARG commander

Col. Vik C. Malling is leaving the 931st and accepting a position as assistant vice commander for Headquarters 4th Air Force. A change of command ceremony will



Tech Sgt. Brian Bowman

Whether flying, working in the office or on the flight line -- as 931st Tech. Sgt./WG-10 Bryan K. Lawley is here -- safety is always a top priority.

mishap prevention so there will not be a repeat of these tragedies in the coming years.

be held Aug. 10, when Lt. Col. Dean Despinoy will assume command.

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Summer Fun 101

By Maj. Randy Foster
931st Safety Officer

As we pass the half way point of the summer vacation I think it is appropriate to pause and refresh the ideas behind the 101 Critical Days of Summer.

In his policy letter Colonel Malling stated that "we accomplish our mission by cultivating a culture in which each individual is a safety representative." But if we truly "cultivate" a "safety culture", this safety first attitude does not stop when the mission is done. It continues when we get in our cars at the end of the duty day. It extends into our homes and our everyday jobs when we are away from the unit. It encompasses our family vacations and our other leisure activities.

July appendix list:

- *Personnel News you can use
- *Recruiting "Get One" referral sheet

Kanza Spirit

Volume 2, No. 6

Tuesday, July 29 is the deadline for articles in the August 1997 issue of the Kanza Spirit. All articles and photographs must be turned in to the 931st Public Affairs office, Bldg. 1218, Room 221 by 4 p.m.

Group Commander

Col. Vik Malling

Chief, Public Affairs

Vacant

Editor, GS-7, ART, Public Affairs Specialist

Tech. Sgt. Brian Bowman

Public Affairs Specialist

Staff Sgt. David Brumley

Senior Airman Barbara Davis

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All photos are Air Force unless otherwise indicated.

In short, in a safety culture, we consider safety in everything we do.

You may say, "wait a minute Mr. Safety Sissy, this sounds like you're trying to sell that risk management stuff again." You're right! When was the last time you walked across the street without looking both ways first? How many of you use personal protective equipment when working with power tools or lawn and garden equipment? Do you put a floatation device on the kids who can't swim before they jump in the pool? These are all examples of risk management.

Risk management means you try to minimize your exposure to danger or loss so you can live to see another day with all your parts still functioning properly. This is the basic idea behind the 101 Critical Days of Summer and although the program has been around

for years it has never been disguised as risk management.

The safety focus is on summer because there is more exposure to dangerous activities during the summer months. Historically more people are injured in off duty mishaps during this critical period. I think we feel uninhibited and become more reckless. Many activities of summer are high risk and we take more short cuts to maximize our time and enjoyment. That is when we are vulnerable. We push things too far, we make mistakes, and we get hurt.

My advise, don't be the person who's sole purpose in life is to serve as a warning to others. Take it slow, be safe, and enjoy your summer!

INFOBASE simplifies publication headaches

By Tech. Sgt. Scott Fletcher
931st Management Assistant

"TAKE OUT THE PAPER AND THE TRASH"

Chuck Barry's hit song sums up what you can do if you have access to a computer.

The 931st has a working INFOBASE with a direct link to Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command. What does this mean for you? It means a celebration for those people who have to maintain a publications library. No more hours of posting changes, no more making sure you have the most current publication, no more explaining "It's on backorder", and no more trying to find out who took the binder and didn't sign it out!

Even if you never "maintained" a publication library, the benefits of this system for you are amazing. Most publications and forms from DOD, Air Force, AFRC, gaining commands, and even the 931st ARG are just a few clicks of the mouse away. Once you understand the INFOBASE, and with some practice, you can view a publication, fill out a form, cut and past information into a document you

are preparing, create bookmarks and annotations, and many other creative functions to help you do your job quicker and better.

The Information Systems Flight is conducting Orientation Sessions to get everyone connected to the INFOBASE and to give some basic knowledge of its operation. In the future more classes will be conducted to explain its capabilities in more detail. In the mean time if you have questions please stop by Building 1218 Room 103, or call 652-3412.

Some people are reluctant to give up the "old" system—but the computer age is here to stay and grow. Electronic publishing is directed and supported at the highest levels of DOD and if you don't like it, "Yackety-Yak...Don't talk back!"

Editor's note: INFOBASE training is scheduled for 10 to 10:30 a.m. on 19 July and 2 to 2:30 p.m. on 20 July. Call Tech. Sgt. Scott Fletcher (ext. 3412) for more information.

ESGR: Know your employment rights

The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (NCESGR) is a DoD organization that works with employers, reservists, military leadership and 54 volunteer committees to build and maintain a strong base of support for the role of the National Guard and Reserve in our nation's defense.

For example, federal employees have the right to 15 days of paid military leave each fiscal year, but also have the right to use accrued civilian leave or unpaid leave under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA).

Also, you cannot be forced to use earned vacation while performing military service.

You are entitled to earned vacation or leave in addition to time off to perform military service. A rare exception would be a case where there is a standard plant shutdown at a certain time of year and all employees must take their vacations during that period and your period of military service happens to coincide with that period.

You are protected under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. Know the law of your rights and responsibilities.

To find out more, visit the NCESGR home page at www.ncesgr.osd.mil/



Supply: Accountable clothing and your responsibilities

By Master Sgt. Donna Lorenz
931st Supply Liaison

The extreme weather parka and extreme cold weather flight jacket are accountable clothing items. The member obtains and signs for them on an AF Form 538 at 22nd Supply, Individual Equipment Issue.

When a member transfers out of the unit, it is the *members responsibility* to turn the items back in. The items must be dry cleaned and proof of cleaning provided. The good news is that there is a process on base where there is no cost to the member.

If you are a traditional reservist, turn in your items to your supervisor/clothing monitor and they will complete the process for you. The ART's will be expected to apply the process themselves before outprocessing. Outprocessing cannot be completed until all accountable clothing has been turned in.

If your planning to leave and are unsure if you have accountable clothing items, contact Master Sgt. Donna Lorenz, DSN743-6329 or Comm. (316) 652-6329 and leave your last name and last four of your social security number along with a phone number where you can be reached.

Newcomers Ancillary Training

Newcomers Ancillary Training will be held in Building 642, Classroom 2.

Here's the schedule:

Saturday
1300-1315 — UCMJ/Ethics
1315-1345 — C4 SATE — Security Awareness
1345-1400 — Break

1400-1445 — Counter Intel./Intel Oversight/Protections from Terrorism
1445-1500 — Break
1500-1545 — Local Conditions
Sunday
0800-0900 — Core Values
0900-0915 — Break
0915-0945 — Base Populace
0945-1000 — Social Actions Awareness

Actor, reservist Stewart dead at 89

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — At a time when most of its movie war heroes have never seen military service, one of Hollywood's finest passed away. James Maitland Stewart was 89.

Jimmy Stewart, as he was best known to movie fans, flew 20 combat missions in B-17 bombers during World War II and later piloted B-36s in the movies. He was born May 20, 1908, in the town of Indiana in Western Pennsylvania to parents of Scotch-Irish descent. His father was a hardware merchant.

Stewart enlisted in the Army as a private at Moffett Field, Calif., in March 1941. After being commissioned in January 1942, he completed basic and advanced flight training and instructed in AT-9 advanced trainers at Mather Field.

He flew bombers at Bombardier Training School, Kirtland Field, N.M., for six months, and then attended Four-engine Training School at Hobbs, N.M. From Hobbs, he went to Gowen Field in Boise, Idaho, as a B-17 instructor and later operations officer.

Nine months later Stewart transferred to Sioux City, Iowa, and was

made squadron commander in the 445th Bombardment Group, forerunner of today's 445th Airlift Wing, an Air Force Reserve Command unit based at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. In the fall of 1943 he took his squadron to the 445th Station at Tibenham in Northeastern England. In March 1944, he became operations officer for the 453rd Bombardment Group.

From July 1, 1944, to June 14, 1945, he served as chief of staff for the 2nd Combat Wing, 2nd Division, 8th Air Force. During that time he flew 20 combat missions as a command pilot, including 14 wing leads and one division lead. His decorations included the Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf cluster, Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Croix de Guerre with palm, and the Distinguished Service Medal.

After the war, Stewart left active duty as a colonel and returned to Hollywood to give perhaps his greatest movie performance in the holiday classic, "It's a Wonderful Life." In 1940 he received an Academy Award for "The Philadelphia Story."



Capt. Kimberly Thompson

Senior Master Sgt. Steve White, superintendent of the utilities section for the 931st CES, handles a beam during construction of a shoot house at McGregor Range, N.M., earlier this year.

CES to train at Cheney Lake

The 931st Civil Engineering Squadron will work with park and recreation officials at Cheney Lake July 17-20.

Several construction and engineering projects, including road work, are included in the training weekend.

Continue CES page 4

Five Air Force Reserve officers pin on stars

WASHINGTON - Two Air Force Reserve Command unit program generals and three mobilization assistants started summer by pinning on stars.

Maj. Gen. Wallace W. Whaley, 4th Air Force commander at McClellan Air Force Base, Calif., added his second star June 30. His promotion was confirmed three days earlier by the Senate.

The four other AFRC senior officers pinned on their new rank effective July 1. They included Maj. Gen. John J. Batbie Jr., director of plans at Headquarters AFRC, Robins AFB, Ga., and Maj. Gen. Dennis M. Gray, MA to the Air Force judge advocate general, Pentagon, Washington, D.C. New one-star generals are Brig. Gen. Gerald Fitzgerald, MA to the director of plans, Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, Ill., and Brig. Gen. Allan R. Poulin, MA to the 12th Air Force commander, Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.

"This promotion is a great honor," said Whaley, who has commanded 4th Air Force

since July 1993. "I'd like to thank Maj. Gen. (Robert A.) McIntosh, (AFRC commander), for the confidence he has placed upon me, my wife Isabel and my daughters Kathleen and Seaneen for their unwavering support, and the dedicated men and women of the Air Force Reserve whom I've had the distinct privilege to serve. Without them, this would not have been possible."

Under Whaley's command, 4th Air Force is primarily responsible for AFRC's KC-135 air refueling units, and its long-range airlift and KC-10 air refueling units in the Western United States. From February to July 1993, he commanded 14th Air Force (redesignated 22nd Air Force) at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., which was responsible for the same kinds of aircraft in the Eastern United States. His other assignments included deputy to the chief of Air Force Reserve, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, November 1990-February 1993, and commander of the 349th Military Airlift Wing, Travis AFB, Calif., April 1988-November

1990.

During his career, Batbie has commanded a Reserve flying squadron, group and wing, and was commander of the 434th Air Refueling Wing, a KC-135 unit at Grissom Air Reserve Base, Ind., before assuming his current duties in June 1994.

"Everywhere I've been assigned, the people have truly been exceptional," said Batbie, who is responsible for the planning and programming of command units, command manpower management and major equipment requirements for the Reserve. "It's important to remember all these fine folks as very few people really get anywhere without the help of others. This is especially true in my case as I've been blessed to work with, and for, a truly talented group of professionals at all levels and any recognition I receive really belongs to all of them."

Gray, Fitzgerald and Poulin assist the active-duty officers they are MAs to and perform their duties when they are not available.

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Col. Robert T. Edwards, the 931st's vice commander, is also leaving to accept the vice commander's position of the 932nd Airlift Wing at Scott AFB, Ill.

Despinoy is selected for promotion to colonel in September.

In 2 1/2 years, Malling has overseen the unit's startup, growth and first deployment. Portions of the 931st deployed last February to Pisa, Italy as part of Operation Deny Flight and Deliberate Guard in support of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's peace effort in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Malling will be assigned to March Reserve Base in Riverside, Calif. His initial duties will be as part of an advance team for 4th Air Force, which is planning a move from

its current headquarters at McClellan (Calif.) AFB to March Reserve Base.

Lt. Col. Despinoy will come to the 931st from Tinker AFB, near Oklahoma City, where he currently is the operations group commander for the 507th Air Refueling Wing at Tinker.

Col. Robert T. Edwards, the 931st's vice commander since June 1995, has also accepted a new assignment. Edwards will be the vice commander of the 932nd Airlift Wing at Scott AFB, Ill.

Edwards' replacement has not been named.

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Here is a tentative schedule:

17 July (Thursday)

0730 — Advon departs
0930 — Convoy departs
Establish ECP and Command Tent
1100 — Convoy arrival
Lunch (MREs)
Beddown (Camp setup)

18 July (Friday)

Work Party Security
Work Latrines
Handicap Path
Brush Removal
Road Grading

19 July (Saturday)

Same as Friday

20 July (Sunday)

Camp Breakdown
Redeployment to McConnell

REFER A FRIEND !!

There are positions available within the 931st ARG. Help your unit recruit by providing them a name of a friend or have them contact one their area recruiters listed below:

MCCONNELL AFB, KS
MSgt Terry Gosh (316) 652-4358
MSgt Lester Shaw, Jr. (316) 652-3766

TINKER & VANCE AFB, OK
MSgt Al Garza (405) 734-5331
ALTUS AFB, OK & Lawton, OK
MSgt Larry Giles (405) 357-2784
SHEPPARD AFB, TX
MSgt Bob Wright (817) 676-3382

MIDWEST CITY, OK
MSgt Linda Smith
TSgt Erick Gilck
(405) 733-9403

Read the Kanza Spirit

Personnel News You Can Use

Military Personnel Flight Hours

The core hours of operation for the Military Personnel Flight are as follows:

Monday - Friday: 0730-1600

Saturday - UTA: 1000-1600

Sunday - UTA: 1000-1600



Servicemembers Group Life Insurance (SGLI)

Currently, all service members are afforded the opportunity to elect up to \$200,000 coverage under the SGLI. If you are unsure of the coverage you have elected or the beneficiary you have chosen, please contact Customer Service at ext 3593.

931"Airman/NCO of the Quarter

The Airman/NCO of the Quarter board will convene on Saturday, 19 Jul 97 at 1400, in the Group Conference room.

Below is the scheduled dates:

Nomination Quarter:	Due to DPMPE:	Board Date:
Apr - Jun	Jun UTA	Jul UTA
Jul - Sep	Sep UTA	Oct UTA
Oct - Dec	Dec UTA	Jan UTA

PEP PROMOTIONS

Next PEP promotion is effective 1 Oct 97. The following schedule will be adhered to:

<u>Eligibility cut off</u>	30 Jul 97
<u>Packages to DPMPE</u>	11 Jul 97
<u>931 Board Date</u>	Jul UTA
<u>4th AF Board Date</u>	6 Sep 97

PEP board will meet on Sunday, 20 Jul, at 1330 hrs, Group Conf. room. Those individuals meeting this board will report in dress blues (blue coat, pants/skirt, with ribbons).



Speaking of Promotions

How does your education level and PME completion compare with your peers? The Training office can help you get to the next higher level. Stop by and see them in Bldg 1218 or call ext 3673.

About That Professional Military Education (PME)...

Have you completed yours?? If not, now is the time to get started! Below is a listing of what's happening in the PME world. (DPMAT has applications additional information.)

Airman Leadership School:

Required for SRA to make NCO status. We have one quota in class 98-B (10 Nov - 12 Dec 97) for the in-residence course here at McConnell. This is the first of our 3 guaranteed slots for FY '98 classes with the active duty. *Suspense to DPMAT: 1 Oct 97*

Command NCO Academy:

Required to make MSgt. SSgt with 8 years time in service or TSgt may apply. We are expecting class dates and 931st quotas any day!! *Suspense to DPMAT: 1 Sep 97*

Senior NCO Academy:

Required to make SMSgt. HQ AFRC is accepting applications for FY '98 in-residence quotas. They make the selections for these quotas. Class dates available are: 3 Nov-17 Dec 97, 21 Jan - 4 Mar 98, 19 Mar - 29 Apr 98. Members required to send a full length photo (3/4 turn pose with no decorations - tie/tab optional) as well as a current record review rip with the application. *Suspense to DPMAT: 1 Aug 97*

Junior Officer Leadership Dev. Seminar - II (JOLDS-II):

For O1-O3 members and involves two 4-day seminars and home study project. The first seminar will be at Kelly-Lackland AFB, TX from 23-26 Oct 97. The 931st has one quota. *Suspense to DPMAT: 1 Aug 97.*

Senior Service School (SSS):

For Lt Col and above. Class dates are 12 Aug 98 - 18 Jun 99 for the following:

Industrial College of the Armed Forces,

Ft. McNair, in Washington, D.C.

National War College,

Ft. McNair, D.C.

Naval War College,

Newport, RI

Class dates are 1 Aug 98-5 Jun 99 for the following:

Air War College,

Maxwell AFB, AL

Army War College,

Carlisle Barracks, PA

Suspense to DPMAT: 1 Aug 97

ACSC & AWC SEMINARS: At McConnell with the active duty beginning in August. *Suspense to DPMAT: 1 Aug 97.*

ACSC - for Maj. Selects, GS-11, WS-13 and above - 47 weekly 3 hour group study sessions utilizing multimedia CD ROM with 4 end of block exams.

AWC - for Lt Col, GS-13, WS-14 and above - 40 weekly 2 hour group study sessions with 3 end of volume exams, a 15 - 20 page research paper and completion of 2 books from the reference list.

TRAINING TIDBITS

...ALL workcenters are required to have written Master Training Listings (MTLs) for each enlisted AFSC within their section. The new AFI 36-2201 (Apr 97) brought back this requirement. If you need assistance in setting one up, please contact your unit training manager (UTM) or base training. We'll all be happy to help!! Since (623) training documentation is a *Special Interest Item (SII)*, the 4th AF SAV team emphasized the need for us to complete this tasking as soon as possible.

...ALL newly assigned enlisted members need to have their initial evaluation completed and **documented** within 90 days of arrival. This also applies to members returning from technical training or those who have changed duty positions within the squadron. If you've not established a format, your UTM has samples to help you get started.

...Although ARTs may attend some technical training in civilian status, they still must abide by the uniform rules and expectations of the school they are attending. If the school requires a uniform, the member **MUST** be in uniform!! Remember, most technical training *IS* for the military AFSC, not the civilian job series. Be on the "safe side", take and wear your uniforms.



Speaking of Wearing the Uniform...

The MAJCOM patch is worn on the right breast pocket. *The Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC) patch only pertains to AFRC gained units. Do not wear patches on BDUs configured with the aircrew style name patch. This aircrew style patch will be phased out 1 Oct 97 and the USAF and name tapes will be mandatory 1 Oct 97.*

Questions pertaining to the appropriate organizational patch to be worn should be directed to the MPF Customer Service Office for assistance.

Family Care Plan

The Family care program will be implemented on all members who are single parents, dual military couples, and members with civilian spouses who have unique family situations. A Family member is an unmarried child under the age of 19, an unmarried child 19 years of age or older incapable of self care; a parent or another person related by blood or marriage who depends on the member for over half of their support and resides in the household. Family Care is a Commander Program. If you have any questions, please contact your commander or First Sergeant.

DID YOU KNOW...

All personnel will be weighed and if appropriate measured before the following actions: promotions, reenlistment, reassignment actions, all TDYs, school tours. Personnel attending PME courses will be **weighed and measured** not later than 10 days before departure for the course.



Going to a Military Formal School?

All members attending formal military schools away from home station must outprocess through the MPF before departing; and must inprocess upon return. This includes ARTs attending in-resident PME in civilian status. If you have any questions, please contact Msgt Melvin at ext 3637.

Outprocessing

All personnel scheduled to do any of the following items must outprocess through Personnel Relocations:

- TDY for 30 or more days
- Retirement
- Separation
- Assignment
- TDY School Tour

Contact Msgt Melvin at ext 3637 for info.

Update Your Info.!!

If your mailing address changes, notify your unit and the MPF **ASAP**. To update addresses in PC-III, call 946-4511 in Wichita or access the Internet to obtain *zip code + 4*. Have a question? Call Customer Service x3593.

Record of Emergency Data (DD Form 93)

This is the single most important source of information within your personnel record for dependent data and notification of next-of-kin in an emergency. If data is incomplete or incorrect, the Air Force cannot extend dependent benefits, also proper or timely notification cannot be made should you become injured, seriously ill or die while on duty. You are the only one who can keep this document current. Remember there is no such thing as a minor error on this form. Check the form in your mobility folder. If any information is in error or out of date, come by the MPF Customer Service to update the information. Data accuracy is critical. You may be one of the lucky ones who escape injury or illness, but can you afford the alternative?

