

SPIRIT



Photo by Staff Sergeant Tia Schroeder

A B-2 Bomber taxis onto the flightline at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam in support of Exercise Coronet Bugle 49, on Sunday. B-2s deployed to Andersen from Whiteman as part of an Air Combat Command Global Power mission. The missions allow aircrews to train for the long flights from stateside locations to overseas theatres.

Mission accomplished

By 2nd Lt. Mary Olsen
Public Affairs

Whiteman members returned this week from Coronet Bugle 49, a global reach exercise at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam.

The exercise required 509ers to deploy to Andersen and support several long duration sorties. During the weeklong training, B-2s departed from Whiteman, landed at Andersen, the aircrew change and the B-2s continued long duration sorties back to Whiteman.

Crews flew 20-hour missions and B-2 engines ran for over 40 hours while the aircraft spent minimal time on the ground.

Global reach exercises like CB 49 are important for members to demonstrate their ability to perform outside the U.S.

"It is vital to deploy and operate from our forward operating locations," said Lt. Col. Paul Tibbets, 325th Bomb Squadron director of operations and deployment commander. "Understanding and resolving issues ranging from infrastructure to equipment will greatly aid our ability to respond when called."

As Andersen increases its support for Whiteman and the B-2, Colonel Tibbets said it's critical that we think about longer global reach training missions.

"With our limited assets and requirements to support combat mission ready aircrew training, formal training, weapons school and the operational test community, many challenges lie ahead for balancing these areas with a deployment," he said. "Planning is the key."

Members reflected on valuable lessons learned while performing their duties at Andersen.

Capt. Rob Southerland, 393rd Bomb Squadron, said this experience educated him on what it takes to operate the B-2 away from Whiteman.

"Exercises like these get you outside the states and operating the B-2 somewhere you're not as familiar with," he said.

Members also learned the importance of teamwork while operating from a forward location.

Staff Sgt. Tia Schroeder, 509th Communications Squadron, said it's a unique experience to interact so closely with individuals from various specialties and see how each role contributes to the mission.

"This exercise enabled us to work together as one cohesive team as opposed to being isolated within our squadrons," she said.

While at Andersen, members had the opportunity to work with people they usually don't interact with.

"I got to work with security forces, which I don't get to do very often," said Tech. Sgt. Dave Giese, 509th Maintenance Squadron.

Staff Sgt. Scott Ludrick, 509th Security Forces, said this interaction will aide in future deployments.

"It helps develop relationships to work smoothly with other squadrons, which will help in the future," he said.

Senior Airman Chad Alexander, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, said he was pleased by the teamwork displayed during the exercise.

"It helps boost morale to work with others," he said, "to know that you can rely on people even though you don't really know them."

From the pilots, maintainers, enlisted and officer personnel, Colonel Tibbets agreed that teamwork is instrumental in mission accomplishment.

"It takes the entire team to be successful," he said. "The perfect example of this was the last launch from Guam. Ops and maintenance worked together to overcome several challenging issues and launch three aircraft which successfully flew their missions back home."

Red Carpet Rollout

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Jim Flaschenriem
Retired Chief Master Sgt. Turner Bazemore
Retired Chief Master Sgt. Lee Bodenhamer
Retired Chief Master Sgt. Oliver Loudy
Charter Chiefs

FBI NA Executives

News in Brief

Wing commander hosts meetings

Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, hosts two town hall meetings for spouses of base members who are deployed or on a remote assignment. All interested base members are invited to attend.

The meetings begin at 7 p.m. Monday and noon July 28 at Mission's End.

"This will be a great opportunity for folks whose Air Force member is away from home to hear some useful information, and for me to hear first hand of any problems or challenges that we can help resolve," Colonel Miller said.

On-site child care will be available. For more details, call 687-7132.

BCC meets Thursday

The base community council luncheon begins at noon Aug. 5 at Mission's End. The menu is ham and turkey croissant with potato chips. The cost is \$8.50. Base members interested in attending must R.S.V.P. to the public affairs office by noon Tuesday at bcc.rsvp@whiteman.af.mil or 687-6151.

509th CES comments on utility flags

Small utility flags mark the location of buried lines so construction crews know to avoid certain areas so lines aren't cut. Recently, flags in the military family housing area have been disappearing, said Jerry Forste, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron. "Please do not move them. If these utility flags are moved, there's the possibility a utility line can be cut. At the minimum, a cut utility line would result in a loss of utilities for a section of base and at worst could result in someone's death, especially in the case of a cut gas line," Mr. Forste said. Since construction began, one communications line has been cut and getting utilities remarked has caused delays.

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Weather

Saturday		H 75 °
Mostly cloudy		L 58 °
Sunday		H 78 °
Mostly cloudy		L 60 °

Commander's Corner

By Col. Chris Miller
509th Bomb Wing Commander

GOALS — Over the next month, wing leadership will be further developing three 509th Bomb Wing strategic goals.

For this wing to succeed in its mission, we must:

- 1) Develop and nurture Airmen;
- 2) Be prepared to deploy as individuals and units;
- 3) Be prepared to fight while deployed and from home station.

This isn't a "quality Air Force" exercise — it's a way to assess and direct the tremendous work every person and unit does, and to make sure we're achieving the things that matter as efficiently and effectively as we can.

I encourage you to contribute your thoughts as your squadron and group leadership develops operational and tactical

level objectives to reach those strategic goals.

HIGH IMPACT — We all like to "impact" events around us — that's the Whiteman spirit!

But there's another kind of impact that's not so good. Across the base, we're having too many minor accidents with government and private vehicles.

That suggests we're in too much of a hurry and not paying enough attention to the little things.

I'm taking an extra second when I drive to see what's around my vehicle— please do the same!

TEST AHEAD — Next month, we'll have the first of two operational readiness exercises that will help us prepare for our next Operational Readiness Inspection in October. These exercises are important — because the harder we practice, the better we'll perform when it comes time to show

what the 509th can do.

Success will take teamwork, attention to detail, and willingness to identify and improve the things we do as individuals, units, and a wing.

CONGRATULATIONS! — Tonight, the Wing will recognize the next year's master sergeant promotees in a Senior NCO induction ceremony.

These Airmen have taken a huge step as enlisted leaders and it's a privilege to have them on the team as they take on an important role in our Air Force.

SUMMER FUN — My sincere thanks to all who pitched in last week to make the Airmen's Bash a success, and to those volunteers who helped make the Special Olympics softball tournament on Saturday a super event!

Brightening a day for someone else is a great gift and a great example of the Whiteman spirit...well done!

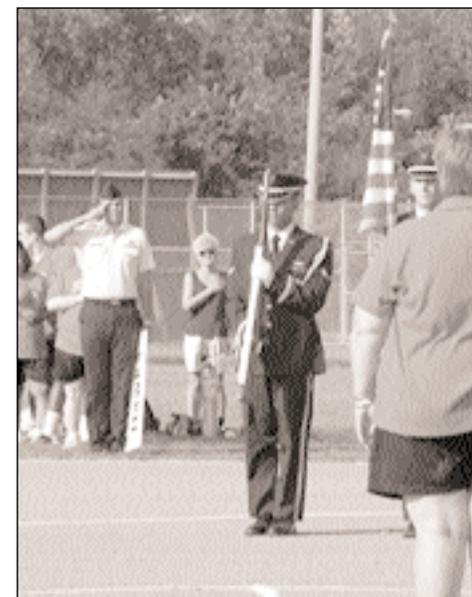


Photo by Senior Airman Nick Martin

More than 160 Whiteman members volunteered to help the Special Olympics Saturday.

Preventive health assessments 'tune-up' fighting machine



Photo by Master Sgt. Dee Ann Poole

Dental technician Senior Airman Jeff Willis looks inside Airman 1st Class Derek Comford's mouth during a routine exam. Airman Willis is a member of the 509th Medical operations Squadron and Airman Comford is a member of the 509th Munitions Squadron.

By Lt. Col. Robert Hontz
509th Medical Operations Squadron Commander

Remember that oil filter commercial on TV where the mechanic said, "You can pay me now or you can pay me later?" Well that not only applies to changing your vehicle's oil filter, but also to completing your annual physical exam. Like most other medical terms we put a fancy name on it, so preventive health assessment was coined.

Recently my compadre and fellow squadron commander Maj. Jeff Johnson, 509th Medical Support Squadron, addressed Preventive Health Assessment and Individual Medical Readiness in this column. My article is the companion to his and goes into more detail on one aspect of PIMR. The PHA is the "P" in Preventive health assessment Individual Medical Readiness.

The PHA improved the old process of getting a complete physical exam every year. Medical research supported the fact that yearly complete physicals were a waste of time, money and energy.

PHAs take into account the military member's age, sex, health risk factors, medical history and occupation. This medical assessment is an annual requirement with increased emphasis on specialized testing every five years.

Starting at age 20 and every five years after, your PHA involves vision testing, blood work, a specialized X-ray and other focused tests. Which test you need depends upon your history of smoking, how much sun exposure you have and whether you are male or female.

Men need testicular exams every three years up to the age of 40 when the risk of that cancer decreases. Women need annual pap smears and when they turn 35, need their first mammogram. This bank of tests is the surest way to detect cancer early and as you can see, each is performed according to your age. The sooner these problems are detected, the easier they are to treat and cure.

One tough thing to fight as a human being is the fact

that as we age we become more susceptible to health issues. The PHA schedule takes this into account and focuses on the issues which occur more frequently as we pass age milestones during our life. For example, colonoscopy is one critically important screening test to have when you reach 50. This exam is the surest way to detect colon cancer and treat it during its early stages.

Your dental exam is another critically important part of your PHA. Each annual cleaning and exam will keep your choppers ready to deploy in a moment's notice. Oral health is rated on a scale of one to four. One means your teeth and gums are going to war ready and no treatment is needed. Four means your oral health is unknown and you are not deployable.

Oral hygiene can be an elusive pursuit when you're worrying about bullets zinging past your face. This stressor, lack of time to care for your teeth and maybe even no running water means you want your teeth in their best shape every time you deploy.

So what is all this PHA hub-bub, Bub? The bottom line is to be sure your health is the best we can determine it to be before you deploy. It's almost a sure thing health care will not be as comprehensive at your deployed location. Being away from home is challenging enough. Throw in a long flight when you're not feeling well and you'll find yourself an unhappy Airman.

Thanks to exquisite cooperation and continuous teamwork, the 509th Bomb Wing boasts a PHA compliance rate of 93 percent. This phenomenally high number helps us maintain a record high 83 percent of our Airmen ready to fly, fight and win. As the Boy Scouts say, "Be prepared" and Whiteman is.

So the next time you get notification you're due for your annual PHA, jump for joy, run to your vehicle and drive over to the medical group. That way when you find yourself far away from home with only your weapon to hug, you can rest assured you're healthy and ready to support the mission.

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edited, prepared and provided by the Office of Public Affairs of the 509th Bomb Wing, Whiteman AFB, Mo. All photos in the *Whiteman Spirit* are official U.S. Air Force photos, unless otherwise noted. The Services Page is a supplement to the *Whiteman Spirit* and is provided by the 509th Services Squadron.

The deadline for article submissions to the Whiteman Spirit is noon Friday. If a holiday falls on Friday, the deadline then becomes 4 p.m. Thursday. Articles will be published on a space-available basis. Submission doesn't guarantee publication.

For more information, call the *Whiteman Spirit* office at 687-6133, fax us at 687-7948, e-mail: whiteman.spirit@whiteman.af.mil or write to us at:

509th BW/PA, 509 Spirit Blvd. Ste. 111
Whiteman AFB, Mo. 65305

MedGp maintains 'excellent,' quality health care

By Master Sgt. Dee Ann Poole
Public Affairs

The 509th Medical Group received full accreditation after a recent short-notice inspection by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organization survey team July 12-16.

JCAHO accreditation is recognized nationwide as a symbol of quality in health care.

During this same time, the Air Force Inspection Agency's Health Services Inspection team surveyed the 509th MedGp and this, too, was a success. HSI agency inspectors look at military-specific areas to ensure mission capability. They can give a unit five possible ratings: Outstanding, Excellent, Satisfactory, Marginal or Unsatisfactory.

The 509th MedGp received an Excellent, the highest rating given by HSI this year. The new inspection process and rating system has made it much tougher to achieve very high scores, yet the MedGp scored higher this time than its previous HSI inspection in December 2002, said Col. Rick Bachmann, 509th MedGp commander.

"The 509th Medical Group provides strong operational support and first-rate healthcare every day, despite the resource limits that everyone faces," Colonel Bachmann said. "We're delighted the

inspectors recognized that."

The 2004 JCAHO inspection gave the 509th MedGp accreditation through 2006, but inspections are no-notice so the teams can return at any time.

"A facility with a strong past performance will be inspected about every three years, but random unannounced surveys are now the standard," Colonel Bachmann said. "We will be judged on our everyday quality, rather than on the results of pre-inspection polish. That ensures we stay sharp all the time."

In addition to performance improvement over the last inspection, the group's medical Personnel Reliability Program and Infection Control Programs were touted by inspectors as the best they had ever seen.

The HSI team chief recognized Tech. Sgt. James Rogers, NCO in charge of dental radiology, as an Outstanding Performer for his contributions to the MedGp mission.

"It was very clear that Whiteman members support us," Colonel Bachmann said. "The base community told JCAHO and HSI members how well the 509th MedGp supports both the mission and their healthcare needs."

The colonel said the survey teams told 509th MedGp members they did extremely well and they should be proud of the scores they received.



Photo by Master Sgt. Dee Ann Poole

Dental technicians Airman 1st Class Yasir Ali and Tech. Sgt. James Rogers review dental records. They are members of the 509th Medical Operations Squadron.

Air Force bids farewell to hero

By 1st Lt. Stacie Shafran
66th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

HANSCOM AIR FORCE BASE, Mass (AFPN) -- The Air Force family bid farewell to a World War II hero July 20.

Retired Maj. Gen. Charles W. Sweeney, the man who flew the historic B-29 Superfortress flight that dropped the second atomic bomb on Japan during World War II, died July 15 in Boston. He was 84.

"He was the best patriot, best father and best friend," said Maj. Elizabeth Sweeney, who received the flag from her father's casket. She serves in the Air National Guard at Pease Air National Guard Base, N.H.

The general's legacy comes from what he and his crew did to end World War II.

In late 1944, Major Sweeney, assigned to Grand Island Field, Neb., as a B-29 pilot instructor, was reassigned to Wendover Field, Utah. It was here that he began work on the "Silver Plate" project, the code name for the training program for the coming World War II atomic missions.

On May 4, 1945, at the age of 25, Major Sweeney became commander of the 393rd Bombardment Squadron. Seven weeks later the B-29 unit flew to a base on Tinian in the Mariana Islands.

On Aug. 9, Major Sweeney, at the controls of the B-29 known as "Bockscar," flew the history-making mission that ended World War II. It was on this mission that the second atomic bomb was dropped on Japan, this time on the city of Nagasaki. On Sept. 2, Japanese officials signed the official surrender.

"As a result of what he did back then, thousands of American GIs are alive and thankful today for what he and his crew did to bring a swift end to the war," said Col. Mark Ellis, mission support group commander for the 102nd Fighter Wing at



Maj. Gen. Charles Sweeney as a major circa 1945

nearby Otis ANGB.

General Sweeney was the former commander of the Massachusetts Air National Guard and a decorated World War II Army Air Corps veteran.

"I met General Sweeney when I was 17 years old and new to the military," said Maj. Gen. George Keefe, adjutant general for the Massachusetts Air National Guard. "He helped me a lot with my future, gave me my commissioning oath and always just looked out for us."

General Sweeney retired Dec. 27, 1979, as a command pilot with more than 5,000 military flying hours.

His decorations include the Silver Star, Air Medal, National Defense Medal, American Theater Service Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Service Medal with two bronze stars, World War II Victory Medal, Occupation of Japan Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Air Force Longevity Medal and the Massachusetts Military Service Medal.



Photo by Senior Airman David Ramos

One more for four

SOUTHWEST ASIA — Lt. Col. Les Martin, 438th Aerospace Expeditionary Group, re-enlists Staff Sgt. Ken Kline, 438th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Flight, July 9 at a deployed location. In addition to the re-enlistment taking place in a combat zone, this is the second time in his career Sergeant Kline was re-enlisted by Colonel Martin. "It's not often an officer gets to re-enlist someone twice in a career and then usually not on different sides of the world," Colonel Martin said. Both men are deployed from Whiteman in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Colonel Martin is the 509th Mission Support Group deputy commander and Sergeant Kline is a member of the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron.

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Air Force members reminded 'exercise your right to vote'

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER — General elections are approaching and Air Force voting officials here are reminding everyone to register to vote.

The Department of Defense recently announced that it has worked out a plan with the U.S. Postal Service to get absentee ballots to overseas members faster, but registering to vote is the first step to acquiring a ballot.

"Getting registered to vote is not a difficult process, it's just a matter of making it a priority," said Lt. Col. Lee Shick, Air Force voting action officer.

Deadlines and state-specific rules on voter registration can be found on the Federal Voting Assistance Program Web site at <http://www.fvap.gov>. The site includes a list of 10 things to do to ensure your vote counts.

"Our goal is 100 percent contact with every Airman by a voting representative," he said. "The opportunity to vote has been emphasized as a command responsibility and our installation voting officers play a key role.

"We want to make sure each individual gets the word about voting and that they have the tools and information to apply for an absentee ballot and vote," Colonel Shick said. "If Airmen can't get registered online, installation voting officers have a supply of federal postcard applications."

Whiteman's voting officers are:

Name	Unit	Duty Phone
2nd Lt. Jennifer Pickett	509th BW	687-3445
1st Lt. Ed Gulick	509th BW	687-6122
MSgt. Christine Fausnight	509th CPTS	687-1154
Gwen Clarence	509th CPTS	687-7910
Capt. Bryan Wicking	509th OSS	687-3549
Capt. Corey Hummel	509th OSS	687-6120
SSgt. Kristy Crespo	509th OSS	687-6134
SSgt. Heather Tegard	509th OSS	687-3101
SrA. Jessica King	509th OSS	687-1704
SrA. Rosemarie Morelli	509th OSS	687-1677
A1C Steve Poettker	509th OSS	687-1677
MSgt. James Sales	393rd BS	687-1761
2nd Lt. James McCue	325th BS	687-3251
A1C Christopher Mills	394th CTS	687-6450
1st Lt. Ryan Baker	509th MXS	687-7113
1st Lt. Eric Jagers	509th AMXS	687-3288
MSgt. Mike Jones	509th MOS	687-2369
MSgt. Troy Sharp	509th MUNS	687-3081
MSgt. Keith Keen	509th MUNS	687-3087
TSgt. David Gillingham	509th MUNS	687-4465
TSgt. Eric Goewey	509th MUNS	687-1217
SSgt. Alfredo Arvizu	509th MUNS	687-2318
TSgt. Eric Lang	509th MUNS	687-3109
Capt. Tyron Wright	509th CS	687-6180
1st Lt. Nathan Hogan	509th CS	687-7085
1st Lt. Andrew Heo	509th CS	687-1841
1st Lt. Brian Wolken	509th CES	687-6036
SMSgt Morgan Spruill	509th CES	687-1996
MSgt. Jeffrey Crannick	509th CES	687-4259
MSgt. Marcus Gray	509th CES	687-6260
MSgt. Michael Fusaro	509th CES	687-6142
MSgt. Charles Hoskins	509th CES	687-4735
TSgt. William St. Peter	509th CES	687-4548
MSgt. Arthur Roy	509th CES	687-1057
TSgt. Robert Waldorf	509th CES	687-3014
TSgt. Glen Simons	509th CES	687-1161
SSgt. Michael Becker	509th CES	687-4223
TSgt. Jeffrey Thomas	509th SVS	687-5470
SSgt. Adrienne Mimms	509th SVS	687-6532
SSgt. James Aselstine	509th SFS	687-6665
A1C Daniel Barrios	509th SFS	687-3888
SSgt. Jeffrey Turner	509th SFS	687-6659
SrA Robert Turner	509th SFS	687-6665
TSgt. Gordon Severs	509th MSS	687-6422
SSgt. James Keeter	509th MSS	687-6090
SrA. Shelton Watson	509th CONS	687-1841
SrA. Travis Register	509th LRS	687-5695
2nd Lt. John Garvey	509th LRS	687-5980
1st Lt. Russ Rumley	509th LRS	687-4194
2nd Lt. Latasha Stricklin	509th LRS	687-4143
1st Lt. Bradford Sturdivan	509th LRS	687-6053
2nd Lt. Rob Wengerter	509th LRS	687-5295
MSgt. Steven Chabotte	509th MDSS	687-2123
TSgt. Rick Miller	509th MDSS	687-5544
SSgt. Monika Perry	509th MDSS	687-1349
SSgt. Erin Winder	509th MDSS	687-4324
TSgt. Kelli Remmert	509th MDOS	687-3937
SSgt. Jesse Stroot	509th MDOS	687-2128
SSgt. Ed Caffrey	509th MDOS	687-2212
SSgt. Ashley Motley	509th MDOS	687-1191
Lt. Col. Roxanne Williams	442nd FW	687-3846
SMSgt. James Horne	Det. 6, 372nd TRS	687-1080
2nd Lt. David Hunter	Det. 12, TRSS	687-2087

Check out the news online at
<http://www.whiteman.af.mil/news.htm>

Operation Blue to Green: departing can Airmen transition to Army

By Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFP) — After they “Cross Into the Blue,” Army officials said they hope Airmen leaving the Air Force will join the “Army of One.”

A new program, Operation Blue to Green, seeks to recruit into the Army Airmen and Sailors leaving their service because of force reductions. The Army is temporarily increasing its ranks.

Plans call for the Air Force to reduce its numbers by 16,000 by the end of 2005, Air Force officials said.

An Army spokesperson called Operation Blue to Green an opportunity that “will definitely benefit the Department of Defense as well as these individuals.”

Details of the program are still being worked out, but an Army Web site says the program tells potential

recruits it “will allow you to continue to serve your country, to maintain the benefits of military service and to expand your horizons by gaining new training and trying new things.”

Candidates for the program are Airmen and Sailors in grades E-5 and below who qualify for an honorable discharge from active duty.

Participation in the program, the Web site says, “is dependent upon your service’s willingness to release you from your current active-duty obligation.” New Soldiers recruited under the program will go through a four-week “warrior transition course” being developed by Army Training and Doctrine Command officials.

“This will further orient them in terms of what it means to be a Soldier in the Army,” the Army spokesperson said.

This new course in basic combat skills will substitute

for the nine-week course currently used to train Airmen, Sailors and Coast Guardsmen enlisting in the Army, according to the Web site.

Bonuses will be offered to recruits for selected military occupational specialties, although details were not yet available.

While Army officials finalize details about the program, they are wasting no time getting the word out to potential candidates. An online information form encourages interested candidates to sign up for more information.

Army Sgt. 1st Class Benjamin Caswell, Warrensburg Army Recruiting office, will help process airmen at Whiteman interested in Operation Blue to Green.

For more details, call Sergeant Caswell at 1-877-427-4487 or visit Army Sgt. First Class Gerald Folk at the Warrensburg Army Recruiting office.

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Photo by Melissa Klinkner

An honor

Whiteman Honor Guard members, Senior Airman Jorge Negrón and Airman 1st Class Brian Banach, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Senior Airman Keyonna Carter, 509th Services Squadron, Tech. Sgt. Gregory Giles, 509th Operations Support Squadron and Senior Airman Brennen Willing, 509th Maintenance Squadron, receive guidance and training from the Air Force Honor Guard July 15. The training included funeral details and various other aspects of honor guard duties.

Civilian Employee of the Week

Bethany Kermick, 509th Mission Support Squadron, was nominated as a civilian employee of the week by Cory Wielert. As a civilian personnel flight secretary, Miss Kermick tracks more than 600 Whiteman employees' daily functions. She has worked for the 509th MSS for more than four years and helps manage the civilian employees at Whiteman. "I've never met a more enthusiastic and helpful person," Mr. Wielert said.



Photo by Melissa Klinkner

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Photo by Senior Airman Nick Martin

Master Sgt. David Morgan visits with other members of the 509th Maintenance Squadron.

1st Sergeant's View

(Editor's note: The 1st Sergeant's View gives Whiteman first sergeants a chance to remind people of correct uniform wear, customs and courtesies, and proper military decorum. Each week, a different first sergeant will share their view.)

By Master Sgt. David Morgan

509th Maintenance Squadron First Sergeant

TEAM WHITEMAN! A few weeks ago, this was not much more than a term used by supervisors and commanders to make their troops feel a part of the team. Since then, a member of my squadron and a team member to all committed suicide. Having witnessed the teamwork in responding to this event and taking care of all that needed to be done, I have an entirely new viewpoint.

There was much confusion that morning, but the command post did an exceptional job in keeping the information up-to-date and reported it to who needed to have it. I can only imagine the phone calls from around the base wondering if this had been another squadron's member — who it was or what had happened.

Command post members always had the information for anything we needed. They were seemingly one step ahead of all we asked. In a matter of hours, Air Combat Command had the information they needed and sent it out by e-mail to other ACC bases.

The base chapel was on the scene in minutes to provide comfort and guidance. The next day, chaplains were in the duty section to provide grief counseling to those who requested it. They've been — and still are — in contact with the family and local civilian friends of the family. It seems there's no limit to what our chaplains will do to ensure these people get what they need.

The life skills section of the 509th Medical Group was also there to meet our needs. They worked side by side with the base chapel ensuring everyone knew where to get assistance when needed.

Many other organizations performed exceptionally well. The casualty affairs office, traffic management office, finance, our elite honor guard and the Whiteman Inn were team players who impressed the family with our stability and willingness to give all we had in assisting them during this difficult time.

Having mentioned some base organizations it would be unfair not to mention the affected duty section. Obviously, these people were hit the hardest, but through their leadership and thoughtfulness it seems life is slowly getting back to normal. This was a time they all pulled together — not only as NCOs, supervisor and leaders — but as real people. The squadron members have endured a very difficult time. I'm proud to be their first sergeant.

On a side note, it was an honor to attend the funeral in Texas. It is a difficult task to take someone on their final trip home. One special moment I witnessed — and will always remember — is when our commander presented the posthumous medal to the father. Both are exceptionally strong men and when the actual exchange took place one could feel the difficulty in having to do something like this.

Of course "Taps" is always played. The finality of a death doesn't hit home until you hear this played for one

Niner Line

Dial 687-3119 or e-mail
9r.Line@whiteman.af.mil

Whiteman's Niner Line provides a communication channel for you to obtain information and assistance in making Whiteman a better place to live and work.

Before calling the Niner Line, try to resolve your particular problem with the responsible base agency.

If you've exhausted all the normal avenues to resolve the situation, then call Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, at 687-3119 or e-mail 9r.Line@whiteman.af.mil.

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Photos by Melissa Klinkner

A blaze of glory

Staff Sgt. Bronson Peters, 509th Civil Engineer Squadron, controls the amount of propane going to the Live Fire Aircraft Propane Trainer July 16. Sergeant Peters and other 509th CES Fire and Emergency Services Flight members train the 124th Wing, Air National Guard from Boise, Id. to put out aircraft fires. The 124th ANG will go through two weeks of training taught by the Whiteman fire and emergency services flight. Whiteman provides hands-on experience for the 124th ANG they can't get from their home base. During their training at Whiteman, members of the 124th ANG provide staffing, allowing Whiteman members a chance to take leave. Whiteman receives two to three reserve teams per year, usually during the months of July and August, to train for two-week time periods. Training consists of live fire training, structural burn facility training, underground confined space rescue training, hazardous material emergency response training and aircraft familiarity with the B-2, where they shut down the aircraft and rescue the crew. Training using the propane trainer occurs seasonally or when the funds are available to buy propane. One hundred to 300 gallons of propane are burned during each training fire. Chief Master Sgt. Vicki Orcutt, 509th Bomb Wing command chief master sergeant, visited the 509th CES Fire and Emergency Services Flight and also participated in the live fire training exercise.

The Whiteman Top 3's 11th Annual Enlisted Luau

- Aug. 27 at Skelton Park.
- Volunteers are still needed for various committees.
- For more details on the luau, call Master Sgt. Keith Keen at 687-3087.

ALOHA!!!

Whiteman spreads its wings



Capt. Tim Beck, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, communicates with airfield management during exercise Coronet Bugle 49 Sunday. Captain Beck was deployed to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam in support of the global reach exercise. B-2 bombers deploy to Andersen as part of Air Combat Command's ongoing Global Power missions. The missions allow aircrews to train for long flights from stateside locations to overseas theatres and give maintainers an opportunity to conduct operations outside of Whiteman.



Senior Airman Chad Alexander, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, marshals a B-2 at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. More than 70 Whiteman members deployed in support of Coronet Bugle 49, an Air Combat Command Global Power mission.



Senior Airman John Key, 509th Security Forces Squadron, guards an entry control point during exercise Coronet Bugle 49 Sunday. Two B-2 crews flew long duration sorties from Whiteman to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. The 20 hour flights were followed by an

engine running crew change resulting in the B-2's engines running for more than 40 hours. The mission, Coronet Bugle 49, gave aircrews experience performing long flights from stateside locations to overseas theaters.



A B-2 Bomber taxis onto the flightline at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam in support of Coronet Bugle 49, on July 15. B-2s departed from Whiteman, landed at Andersen, the aircrew changed and the B-2s continued long duration sorties back to Whiteman.



Maj. Donald Nesbitt, 325th Bomb Squadron B-2 bomber pilot, is interviewed by Jon Anderson with News Talk Radio K57, Guam. Radio Interviews and good media relations are an important part of exercises like Coronet Bugle 49 to increase awareness and and garner support for the United States Air Force. Major Nesbitt was deployed to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam in support of Air Combat Command's ongoing Global Power missions.



Photos by Staff Sergeant Tia Schroeder

Staff Sergeant Mathew Boden, 509th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, communicates with B-2 bomber aircrew members prior to take off during Coronet Bugle 49 July 12. For the exercise Whiteman members deployed to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam to support Air Combat Command's Global Power mission.

Bicycle helmets reduce fatal injuries

By Master Sgt. John Cline
509th Bomb Wing Safety Office

During the summer months, many adults and children enjoy the beautiful weather and increase their physical activity by riding bicycles.

While this is an excellent form of exercise and recreation, it's important to recognize the associated hazards and take steps to minimize the severity of injuries.

Since riding a bicycle normally involves riding in a traffic environment, serious injuries can result from a collision with a motor vehicle.

The leading cause of bicycle related fatalities is due to head injuries.

According to the Bicycle Safety Helmet Institute, approximately 900 people, including more than 200 children, are killed annually in bicycle related accidents nationwide, and about 60 percent of these deaths involve a head injury.



The good news is, research indicates that a helmet can reduce the risk of serious brain injury by 85 percent.

The Air Force also has your best interest in mind; Air Force Instruction 91-207, Para 20, Air Force Traffic Safety Program states "All personnel (including dependents, contractors, retirees, etc.) who ride bicycles on an installation must wear approved (i.e. American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or Snell Memorial Foundation) bicycle helmets."

Be safe this summer and make wearing a bicycle helmet a habit.

Like wearing your seatbelt, it makes good sense. Also, if you have children, set a good example by wearing your helmet and ensure your children are also properly equipped with a bicycle helmet in the event of an accident.

A broken arm can heal, but a head injury can be life threatening. Use your head. Use a helmet.

TEAM, cont. from Page 8

of your own. The graveside service was performed by a detachment from Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas. They endured the heat and west Texas dust and made me very proud of the blue uniform I wear. It reinforces the importance of supporting our local honor guard and the excellent job they do.

I also had the privilege of spending time with his family. They invited us to their home after the services for lunch. We were treated to a huge Texas-size meal attended by plenty of family and friends with whom we talked about years past, things we had in common and things we did not.

For the family to go through the loss of their son, then invite us into their home speaks of the strength in their souls and the family values we witnessed through their son. We left feeling comforted knowing they would get through this and survive.

Having witnessed how Team Whiteman pulled through this challenging time makes me proud to be here. This was a first for me and hopefully the last. But if another tragedy were to occur, I'd willingly volunteer anything I could — I think any of us would. There are many different players on this team and we are all valued and necessary.

So the next time you hear "Team Whiteman," remember your value to a team that is willing to help in anything we're asked to do.

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What's happening

Education

Ed center schedules briefing

A commissioning briefing begins at 1:30 p.m. Aug. 5 at Base Training and Education Services. This briefing is open to enlisted members who are seeking an Air Force commission. For a reservation, call 687-5750.

AFROTC offers scholarships

The Scholarships for Outstanding Airmen to ROTC program offers active duty enlisted members an opportunity to earn a commission while completing their bachelor's degree as an Air Force ROTC cadet. SOAR is open to students in any major and provides a scholarship up to \$15,000 per year, an annual textbook allowance of \$510 and a monthly nontaxable stipend of \$200-\$400. Air Combat Command's quota is 16 for fiscal 2005.

Waivers must be submitted to Headquarters Air Force ROTC by Aug. 15, with completed packages reaching ACC by Oct. 15. For more details, eligibility requirements and application procedures, visit the ROTC Web site at <http://www.afoats.af.mil/AFROTC/EnlistedCommissioning> or call Larry Broudrick, base education and training services office, at 687-2420.

Community

Top 3 schedules enlisted luau

The Whiteman Top 3's 11th Annual Enlisted Luau takes place Aug. 27 at Skelton Park. Volunteers are still needed for various committees. For more details on the luau, call Master Sgt. Keith Keen at 687-3087.

Reserve openings available

The Air Force Reserve offers opportunities to people separating from active duty. The reserve offers most active-duty benefits, pay and retirement. For more details, call Master Sgt. Kim Halstead at 687-6483.

Family Support

Call 687-7132 for details on these events or other family support center activities. Events take place at the FSC.

Pre-separation briefing set

A pre-separation briefing for people separating from the military begins at 9 a.m. Monday. Representatives from the military personnel flight, family support center, Air Force reserve and finance will provide information. The MPF separations and retirements office schedules members for this briefing. For more details, call 687-1500 or 687-6720.

WIC representative visits base

A WIC representative is available beginning at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday. WIC includes nutrition education, health promotion and a supplemental food program to help women, infants and children who have nutritional needs. For more details, call the WIC office in Warrensburg at 747-2012.

Pre-deployment briefing set

A mandatory pre-deployment briefing for people who are deploying or going on a temporary duty assignment for more than 30 days begins at 1 p.m. Wednesday. Spouses are encouraged to attend. This briefing covers information about preparing for deployment and programs available to family members who are left behind.

Class helps with move

A mandatory stateside smooth move seminar for people planning to move in the near future begins at 1 p.m. Thursday. Facilitators will discuss the financial benefits of moving and provide a variety of useful resources. Permanent-change-of-station orders aren't necessary. Spouses are encouraged to attend. Reservations are required.

SERVICES



Services page editor.....Stacey Schindler
509th Services Squadron.....687-4386
*No federal endorsement of mentioned sponsors intended.

Sports & Recreation

Fitness Center 687-5496

SPINNING* across America

Participate in the spinning quarterly incentive program until Sept. 30. Spinning classes are available at 6 a.m., 9 a.m. or 3:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Call the fitness center for more details and to sign up now.

Dodgeball

Participate in a six-person dodgeball tournament 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Aug. 23-26 at the fitness center. Call the fitness center for more details and to sign up now.

Stars and Strikes 687-5114

50-cent days

When the base pool is closed those with pool passes can bowl 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., only 50 cents per game and 50 cents per shoe rental. Offer ends Sept. 6. Call Stars & Strikes for more details.

Free youth bowling

Youth 18 and younger with pool passes can bowl free 1-4 p.m. Wednesdays. Offer ends Sept. 6. Call Stars & Strikes for more details.

Outdoor Recreation 687-5565

Boater safety class

This mandatory class involves classroom and lake activities for the intended use of rental boats with a 15-horsepower motor or more. Two sessions must be completed to qualify to rent a boat from outdoor recreation. Session I class is available 11 a.m.-noon Aug. 5. Session II classes are available 1-4:30 p.m. Aug. 7 or 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Aug. 12. A combined session class is available 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Thursday. Learn Missouri state laws, rules about safety and using equipment. Spaces are limited; sign up early.

Open water scuba orientation

Get qualified to scuba dive on base at an orientation class 5:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesday. Scuba classes take place 5:30-10 p.m. Aug. 16-20 at outdoor recreation and the base pool. The \$190 fee includes instruction, books and use of equipment. Call outdoor recreation for more details and to sign up now.

Pomme De Terre Lake

Bring your families out on Pomme De Terre Lake 8 a.m.-7 p.m. July 31 to learn basic boating skills. The \$12 fee includes transportation and boating gas. Bring a swimsuit and picnic lunch. Call outdoor recreation for more details and to sign up by Wednesday.

Pomme De Terre River canoe trip

Take a seven-mile canoe trip on the Pomme De Terre River 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Aug. 14. The \$8 fee includes transportation, canoe rental, life jackets and paddles. Call outdoor recreation for more details and to sign up by Aug. 11.

Royal Oaks 687-5572

Home & home with Ft. Leonard Wood

Compete in a Whiteman & Ft. Leonard Wood golf tournament 10 a.m. July 31 at Royal Oaks and Aug. 21 at Ft. Leonard Wood. There is a \$15 entry fee plus cart and greens fee at each golf course. Call Royal Oaks Golf Course for more details and to sign up.

Travel & Leisure

Tickets & Travel 687-5643

Start thinking Christmas

It's not too early to start thinking of a Disney World Christmas vacation. Stop by Tickets & Travel and let us help you book your complete vacation: air, car, hotel and more.

Community Activities

Community Center 687-5617

Pop-a-Shot hoops

Children can invite their dad or pal to challenge other teams in shooting hoops at 2 p.m. Saturday at the community center. Prizes will be awarded and refreshments are provided. Call the community center for more information.

Hansel & Gretel auditions

Children kindergarten through 12th grades can audition for the professionally produced musical "Hansel & Gretel" by Missoula Children's Theater at 10 a.m. Aug. 2 at the youth center. Rehearsals take place Aug. 2-6 at the community center. The musical will be performed at 3 and 7 p.m. Aug. 6 at the community center. Call the community center for more details and to sign up by Wednesday. Sponsored in part by Speedway Chevrolet.*

America's kids run

Children ages 5-13 can participate in a safe, fun and interactive run 2:30 p.m. Aug. 1 at Skelton Park, in conjunction with National kids day activities. Call the community center for more details and to sign up for this free event.

Teen Center 687-5819

Tour the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

Teens can tour the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday. View and learn about 20th century art, the African-American struggle for equal rights and other exhibits in this museum. This is a free event; bring a sack lunch and drink. Call the teen center for more details and to sign up by Wednesday.

Meet Mizzou Day

Teens can visit the University of Missouri in Columbia, Mo., to learn about educational opportunities after high school 12:15-5 p.m. Aug 11. The \$3 fee for members and \$5 fee for nonmembers includes transportation. Call the teen center for more details and to sign up by Aug 6.

Operation night hoops

Youth ages 13-18 can enjoy a structured basketball program 6-8 p.m. Aug. 2-5 at the fitness center. The final game is Aug. 6 at the back-to-school lock-in at the youth center. Call the teen center for more details and to sign up by Wednesday for this free event.

Child Development Center 687-5588

Developmental Enrichment Program

The Developmental Enrichment Program is accepting enrollments for fall preschool. It's open to children 3 to 5 years old not requiring full-time care. Children must be 3 years old by July 31.

Drop-in care

The child development center has drop-in care 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m. on a space-available basis. Call for more details.

Veterinary Clinic 687-2667

Play it cool with pets this summer

By following a few summer pet safety tips, you can keep your animal friends healthy and enjoy the months of fun in the sun. Tip of the week: bring your pets indoors on humid days — the humidity interferes with animals' ability to get rid of excess body heat. Keep posted for more tips to come next week, for further questions stop by or call the veterinary clinic.

Library 687-5614

Summer reading program 'finale'

Youth ages 6-18 involved with the discover new trails reading program are invited to the 'finale' at the base library 6:30-8 p.m. July 30. Winners will be announced and refreshments will be provided. Call the library for more details.

Family Child Care 687-5590

Profitable home-based career

Caregivers are needed for evenings, weekends and swing-shifts to care for infants and for mildly-ill children. The Air Force offers a subsidy for providers who are willing to meet these critical needs. Providers who hold a standard license are subsidized \$125 a week per qualifying child.

Youth Center 687-5586

National kids day events

Come out to Skelton Park for an afternoon of family fun 3-6 p.m. Aug. 1. The events that will take place include: paddle boats, dunking booth, jumping castle, volleyball, horseshoes, sack races, tug of war, karaoke and much more! At 4 p.m. enjoy the award winning magic of John Born, followed by exotic animals from

Savanahland Educational Park in Pleasant Hill, Mo. A barbecue dinner and refreshments will be provided at 5 p.m. and finally, the Ribbit Race will begin at 5:30 p.m. Call the youth center for more details and to sign up. Sponsored in part by Blockbuster,* Boys & Girls Club of America* and Speedway Chevrolet.*

Sensational summer snacks class

Kindergarteners through fourth graders can learn how to make snacks and have fun in the kitchen 1-2:30 p.m. Wednesday at the youth center. Call the youth center for more details and to sign up for this free event.

Bowling at Stars & Strikes

Kindergarteners through fourth graders can join us 6:30-9:30 p.m. today at Stars & Strikes for an evening of bowling with your friends. The \$5 fee for members and \$6.50 fee for nonmembers includes shoe rental and bowling. Call the youth center for more details and to sign up now.

Soccer registration

Kindergarteners through ninth graders can register for soccer 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m. now through Aug. 1 at the youth center. The cost is \$30 for members and \$38 for nonmembers. Children must be 5 or older by Aug. 1 to be eligible to register. Call the youth sports director at 687-3199 for more details.

Skills Development Center 687-5691

Framing class

Take a beginners framing class 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday at the skills development center. The \$40 fee includes instruction and supplies. Sign up by today.

Renaissance costume making class

Get ready for the Renaissance Faire by making your costume at the skills development center. Adults can bring your own sewing machine, pattern, notions and fabric to a three-session class 6-9 p.m. Aug. 5, 12 and 19. A \$25 fee includes instruction only. Call skills development center for more details and sign up by Aug. 4.

Food & Fun

Mission's End 687-4422

Karaoke

Enjoy karaoke 8 p.m.-midnight July 30 in the Lavene Lounge at Mission's End.

Steak and chicken buffet

A sirloin steak and chicken buffet is offered 5:30-8 p.m. July 30 at Mission's End. Enjoy sirloin steak, grilled chicken, vegetables, potatoes and dessert. The cost is \$13.95 for members and \$16.95 for nonmembers.

Whiteman Base Theater

Friday

The Terminal 7 p.m. PG-13
Starring - Tom Hanks & Catherine Zeta-Jones

Saturday

Garfield 7 p.m. PG
Starring - Breckin Meyer & Jennifer Love-Hewitt

Sunday

Around the World in 80 Days 5:30 p.m. PG
Starring - Steve Coogan & Jackie Chan

Adults \$3 Youth \$1.50
Movie recording line 687-5110.

Movies are subject to change due to availability.
For current and future movie listings log on to
<http://www.aafes.com/ems/conus/whiteman.htm>



Photos by Senior Airman Nick Martin

Capt. Pagerine Jackson, 509th Medical Support Squadron, sings the national anthem during the opening ceremony of the Special Olympics Saturday. Col. Chris Miller, 509th Bomb Wing commander, addressed the crowd and was awarded a plaque for Whiteman's support of the events by Dianne Briner, Special Olympics area director.



Senior Airman Amber Euman awards Norma Holliday the gold medal in the individual skills category and gives her a hug as members of the 509th Communications Squadron cheer for Ms. Holliday. More than 160

Whiteman members volunteered for the Special Olympics softball tournaments. Eleven teams from around Missouri traveled to Whiteman to participate in the games Saturday.

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