

Heartland

Warrior

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Serving the men and women of the 434th Air Refueling Wing, Grissom ARB, Ind.



Photo by SrA. Roberto Modelo

Diggin' in

Tech Sgt. Dan Knouff, an electrician supervisor with the 434th Civil Engineering Squadron trains on a backhoe loader. The civil engineers performed annual tour days in March to train reservists on a variety of functions, including heavy equipment operations.

Conservation results in base energy savings

By SrA. Roberto Modelo
Public Affairs staff

Did you know that with the flick of a switch or the turn of a knob here on base, you can have an effect on Grissom's budget as well as an effect on the federal governments need for that energy?

Due to the efforts of the Grissom members, the command's goal of reducing energy usage by two percent set for Grissom was topped with a 29 percent reduction between the fiscal years of 2003 and 2006.

"The Air Force Reserve Command has asked us to reduce energy usage," said John Robison, supervisory general engineer with 434th Civil Engineering Squadron. "The overall goal is to meet the presidential order to reduce energy

usage. That goal also drives a financial reduction in theory."

Over the past three years energy usage has gone down. However, the demand for energy has increased which caused each unit of energy to be more expensive.

"This year the units prices have gone up so much that even though we reduced energy usage our overall dollar value consumed went up quite a lot," said Mr. Robison.

"Also the big saver this year has been that it has been a lot warmer than normal," he added. "So consequently we haven't had the heating requirements that we have had in the years past."

The unit prices used by civil engineering for a comparison consist of gas and electric energy used on base

as well as our support units on the aeroplex, even though the actual metering is done by two different companies.

The units are measured in million British thermal units, a measurement widely used by energy companies.

Even though weather played a role in reducing energy used, personnel here can continue to decrease energy usage by practicing a little conservation when they can.

"We want to try to remain vigilant when we are taking care of our buildings," Mr. Robison said. "We need to keep the doors shut when it's blowing cold outside and keep the windows shut when it is air conditioning season."

"Treat it as if you were paying the bill at home," he concluded.

Respect, the tie that binds the NCO corps

By Master Sgt. Mark Haviland
Air Combat Command Public Affairs

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. — The transition to noncommissioned officer, and later, to senior noncommissioned officer can be a daunting experience for any Airman, but Chief Master Sgt. David Popp, Air Combat Command's command chief, has words of advice for those who make the journey.

The key to success, Chief Popp says, is respect — not only earning it and keeping it, but also understanding the fundamentals behind the word itself. It's a message he delivers regularly to new NCOs and SNCOs:

R = responsibility

"Winston Churchill once said, 'The price of greatness is responsibility.' The 'r' in the word 'respect' stands for responsibility. As an NCO in the world's greatest air and space force, we expect you to stand up and step up to your responsibilities," the chief said. "It is your responsibility to ensure the Airmen are housed properly, trained properly, equipped properly and ready to deploy to carry out the mission."

E = example

"What you do speaks so loudly, your Airmen may not hear what you're saying," the chief said. Gen. George S. Patton once said, 'Troops, you're always on parade!'

"You're an example to your fellow Airmen when you're in the shoppette Saturday night when you've got your earring in and are purchasing those three cases of beer. You're an example to your fellow Americans when

you deploy to fight the hurricanes, floods, or forest fires," Chief Popp said. "And you're an example when you wear this uniform overseas, driving that convoy or working at the Camp Bucca Internment Center. To earn respect, you must set the right example."

S = standards

"If you don't stand for something, you will fall for anything! If you don't enforce the standards, then who will? Never, never, never apologize for enforcing our high standards. When we don't enforce the technical orders, the Air Force Instructions, the general orders — equipment gets wrecked, people's lives are placed in jeopardy, and our fight to win the global war on terror gets set back. To earn respect, you must stand up and enforce the standards."

P = performance

"There is no second place in war; you either win or you lose. NCOs are responsible for their individual performance, their team's performance and the overall outcome of the mission. This war on terrorism is much bigger than Iraq or Afghanistan. When you put on our team's jersey, this is a joint fight — that's why it says, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, U.S. Navy and U.S. Marines."

E = evaluate

"How do you evaluate those daily crisis', issues and problems brought to you?"

"I believe every NCO shows up to these fiery situations with a bucket in each hand. In the left is a bucket of

water and in the right is a bucket of gasoline," the chief said. "Which one do you use? The water to extinguish the situation or the gasoline to get it roaring out of control? I challenge NCOs to get the facts before they use either bucket — evaluate the situation before you empty one of those buckets. To earn respect, you must evaluate before you take action."

C = communications

"I have found that Airmen are always down on what they are not up on. How well do you share the 'big picture' with your Airmen? How well do you provide your performance expectations to your Airmen? Do you share: the who, the where, the when and most importantly the why with them? To earn respect, you must keep the lines of communications open."

T = Taking care of Airmen

"Your Airmen do not care how much you know — until they know how much you care about them!"

"If I asked you to tell me about your top three performing Airmen, could you? Could you tell me the: date they arrived on station, their family status, hobbies, goals, their career development course score or their physical training score? Could you tell me what they did last weekend?"

"Sadly, what I routinely find across our Air Force are supervisors who can only tell me these things after a suicide, a fatality, or serious accident has occurred."

"To earn respect, you must know and take care of your Airmen."

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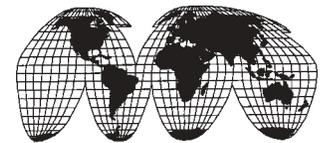
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OSS member dies after car accident

Lt. Col. George Jovanovich died March 9, as a result of injuries he sustained in a car accident March 5.

Colonel Jovanovich, a plans officer with the 434th Operation Support Squadron, was a native of Pennsylvania and a graduate of Pennsylvania State University.



Lt. Col. Jovanovich

He received his Air Force commission in 1982 and served for 24 years.

He was a Master Navigator on the KC-135R Stratotanker. He was a veteran of Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Allied Force, Noble Eagle, and Enduring Freedom.

His military awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Medal, Air Achievement Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with valor and two oak leaf clusters.

He is survived by his wife Phyllis and sons George III, Michael and Samuel.

The family of Lt Col George Jovanovich and all the men and women of the Operations Group would like to offer their heartfelt thanks to the members of the Grissom family for their support during this difficult period. We sincerely appreciate all the time, effort and support that was extended to George and his family.

I know that George would have been touched by the outpouring of support and that Phyllis, George III, Michael and Sam are truly grateful for everything the Grissom family stepped up to do for them during their time of need.

Col. Fritz Linsenmeyer
434th OG commander



Photo by SrA. Roberto Modelo

Paying respect

The 434th Air Refueling Wing's Honor Guard raises the flag at the services complex after it had been flown at half-staff in memory of Lt. Col. George Jovanovich. Colonel Jovanovich died from injuries sustained in a vehicle accident while driving home from a unit training assembly March 5.

Streamers reflect squadron's rich heritage

By Capt. Brian Thompson,
72nd Air Refueling Squadron,

The 72nd Air Refueling Squadron recently honored its history by having all of the unit's earned campaign and award streamers added to its squadron guidon.

The unit's commander, Lt. Col. Laen August, unveiled the flag to his squadron members during the March unit training assembly.

"I've been in the unit for over ten years and knew about all of the squadron's achievements during that time, but I knew virtually nothing about the 72nd's history before that," said Colonel August. "One of my goals as a new commander was to become more familiar with our squadron's legacy and pass that on to the unit's members."

The 72nd ARS traces its lineage back to the 72nd Troop Carrier Squadron which was formed during World War II, flying C-47's.

The unit fought in every major combat action in the European Theatre of Operations including the airborne

assaults for the D-Day Invasion.

Following the WWII victory, the unit returned to the states and flew C-119 "Boxcars" through the 1950's and 1960's.

"The squadron also fought during the air campaigns of the Vietnam War as the 72nd Tactical Airlift Squadron and won battle honors for that conflict as well," Colonel August added.

After a brief stint as a special operations squadron in the mid-1970's flying A-37's, the unit was re-designated in 1977 as the 72nd Air Refueling Squadron, Heavy, flying KC-135 A's. The unit was transferred to the Air Force Reserve in 1978 and ultimately renamed the 72nd Air Refueling Squadron, and remains so today flying KC-135 R's.

During its history the 72nd has earned many award, campaign and battle streamers.

"When I started researching the history of the unit, I was blown away," the commander said. "I thought - I've got to get this information to our folks and let them know what a special organization they are a part of. Coinci-

dently, while I was talking to the Air Force Reserve Command historian about this, he informed me that our squadron had earned all of these battle honors and that the unit was entitled to display these on our flag.

"I couldn't think of a better way to share what I had learned about the squadron's history with our members than to get those streamers and put them on our flag."

Shortly after that conversation, Colonel August procured the streamers for his unit's flag where they now serve as a symbol of the unit's dedication and sacrifice.

In all the 72nd has earned 22 streamers including many from WWII, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Kosovo and the Global War on Terror.

"I don't think you can really know where you're going unless you know where you've been," Colonel August added. "Now, everyone in the 72nd ARS knows a little more about the legacy of our unit and can have pride in the fact that they are part of an elite and historic Air Force flying squadron."

Senior Master Sgt. Sandy Dye, left, and Lt. Col. Laen August display the 72nd Air Refueling Squadron's streamer laden flag. Following a historical research, Colonel August, the commander of the 72nd ARS, updated the flag and presented the updated version to members of his unit during the March unit training assembly.



Photo by SrA. Vicki Cummings



Nick Delaurentis throws a hook to the heavy bag during a training session in his Chicago gym.

Photos by SrA. Roberto Modelo

Airman hopes to KO golden gloves title

By SrA. Roberto Modelo
Public Affairs staff

Defense of this country is something that Airmen here are familiar with. However, fighting back with hooks and jabs isn't necessarily what comes to mind — especially when you add the bright lights, a ring, and a crowd of followers rooting you on.

However, as a boxer Nick Delaurentis, of the 434th Services Flight, is very familiar with that type of atmosphere.

"My dad started me into boxing," the lightweight fighter said. "I was being picked on at school and he wanted to let me know how to defend myself."

The, 5 foot 11 inches 175 pounds, Chicago native has been boxing for approximately five years and doesn't show any signs of slowing down. He's already won the Chicago Lightweight Championship title.

"The lightweight championship was up for grabs so I just entered it," he said.

Delaurentis did not just enter the
April 2006



Speed bag training sharpens reflexes

match without training. The young boxer puts in hours of intense training, four days per week with the help of his trainers Frank and Louie Loneli. He does all this along with making time for his college studies, and serving as a reservist.

So, even on his off time when he is at unit training assemblies, the senior airman trains

"The gym does help," he said. "I go in and run, workout and hit the heavy bags and speed bags a little bit."

As the caliber of competition increases so does the specifics of each bout. As opposed to the lightweight glove weight of 16 ounces, the weight of the gloves decreases as the level of competition increases.

"That means that we will be punching much faster," he said. "The lightweight gloves also mean that it is going to hurt more if we get hit,"

The "orthodox style" boxer's next goal is the Chicago Golden Gloves championship where the glove weight will be 12 ounces and will involve more competition. There, he will be facing boxers from all over the Midwest region and will have to make it through preliminary boxing matches before he gets to the championship.

"I'm most nervous about loosing before I get to the finals," he said.

If the boxer's solid hooks or short right hand punches allow him to win the next few stages, he will go onto the semi-finals, finals and to the Chicago's Golden Gloves championship.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Ben Bloker

Heritage flight

A World War II-era P-47 Thunderbolt and an F-22A Raptor from Langley Air Force Base, Va., fly in formation over Tucson, Ariz., Sunday, March 5, 2006, during the Air Combat Command Heritage Conference at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base. Tom Gregory flew the Thunderbolt and Lt. Col. Michael Shower flew the Raptor.

UTA items

Lodging is open 24 hours a day during the primary unit training assembly and from 6 a.m. - 10 p.m. on alternate UTAs.

The fitness center is open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The dining facility troop feeding hours on Saturday are 6-7:15 a.m. for breakfast; 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. for lunch (12:30 p.m. on the alternate); and 4:30 -5:30 p.m. for dinner.

On Sunday the hours are 5:45-6:45 a.m. for breakfast, and 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. for lunch (12:30 p.m. on alternate).

Box dinners for the Sunday evening meal must be ordered by the Sunday breakfast, and must be picked up by 4:30 p.m. on Sunday.

The 434th Aerospace Medical

Squadron's immunization clinic is open on Saturday from 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m.

434th Security Forces Squadron Pass and ID is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday of the primary UTA.

Upcoming UTAs: Primary UTAs include April 1-2; and May 6-7.

Alternate UTAs are April 22-23; and May 20-21.

Worship services are held in Bldg. 596, Room 116.

During primary unit training assemblies, Protestant services are Sunday at 11 a.m. with Catholic worship services at 12:15 p.m.

Cell phones

A recent change in Department of Defense regulations now prohibit drives from using cellular telephones

while driving on government installations.

The new regulation is designed to enhance driving safety, according to security officials.

Vehicle operators cannot use cell phones unless the vehicle is safely parked, or unless they are using a hands-free device.

The wearing of any other portable headphones, earphones or other listening devices, except for hands-free cellular phones is prohibited.

Government officials state that use of cell phones impairs driving and masks or prevents the recognition of emergency signals, alarms, announcements via giant voice, approach of vehicles and human speech.

For more information regarding the new policy, contact the installation security office at Ext. 3361 or 2582.

Heartland Warrior

Diversity banquet

The Annual Multi-Cultural Banquet is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. May 6 at the Grissom Club.

The theme for this year's event is: Soldier.

Both military and civilian members are invited to attend, and volunteers are needed to help plan the event.

The guest speaker for the banquet is retired Maj. Gen. Joseph McNeil, a graduate of North Carolina A&T University and 37-year Air Force veteran.

General McNeil was a member of the 'Greensboro Four' who sat at a white-only counter at a Woolworth Store in 1960. They went on to be recognized as heroes of the civil rights movement.

The cost is \$3.55 for officers and guests, and free for enlisted members in UTA status. The price includes dinner, in the form of an international buffet, and entertainment.

For more information, or to volunteer for one of many positions, contact Military Equal Opportunity office at Ext. 2408.

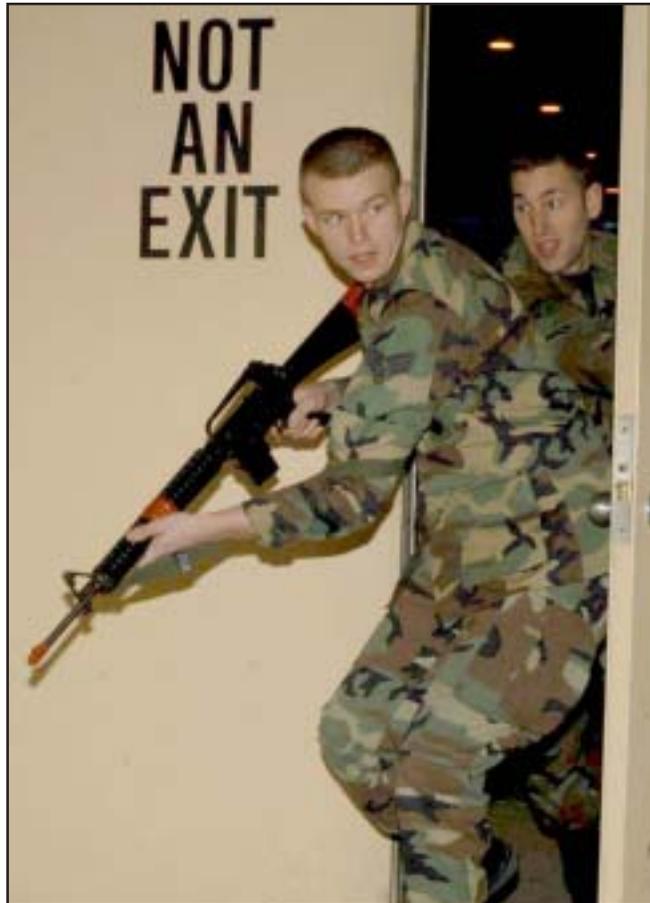


Photo by SrA. Roberto Modelo

Clear!

Senior Airmen Charles Marillia, left, and Jacob Koch, 434th Security Forces fire team members, tactically enter a room filled with "opposing forces." The training, called mount training, was conducted during the March unit training assembly.

In the limelight

Medals

Meritorious Service Medal—Lt. Col. George Jovanovich, 434th Operations Support Squadron; 434 Lt. Col. Gary Lockard, 434th Air Refueling Wing; Master Sgt. Anita Amaro, 434th ARW; Master Sgt. Patrick Ward, 434th Security Forces Squadron; Master Sgt. Malcom Russell, 434th Logistics Readiness Squadron; Maj. David Mitchell, 72nd Air Refueling Squadron; Master Sgt. Fred Carter, 434th Maintenance Squadron; Lt. Col. Edward Dieringer, 72nd ARS; Maj. Lorenza Shaw, 74th Air Refueling Squadron; Maj. Paul Wietbrock, 74th ARS; and Maj. John Pannell, 74th ARS.

Air Force Commendation Medal—Master Sgt. Jeffrey Larkin, 434th MXS; Capt. Anna Ruiz, 434th MXS; and Tech. Sgt. Larry Lynch, 434th ARW.

Air Force Achievement Medal—Tech. Sgt. Vincent Culbreath, 434th Mission Support Flight; Master Sgt. Mark Green, 434th MSF; Tech. Sgt. Deborah Hobson-Sosbey, 434th MSF; Tech. Sgt. Travis Hodges, 434th MSF; Senior Airman Jason Jastrzembksi, 434th MSF; Master Sgt. Daniel Jordan, 434th MSF; Staff Sgt. Brenda Newman, 434th MSF; Master Sgt. Timothy Newell, 434th MSF; Senior Airman Henry Landry, 434th MSF; Staff Sgt. Tanielle Phillips, 434th MSF; Senior Airman James Smith, 434th MSF; Master Sgt. Charles Ramey, 434th MSF; Airman Ashley Rutledge, 434th MSF; Master Sgt. Teresa Williams, 434th MSF; Master Sgt. Douglas Steven, 434th MSF; 1st Lt. Tenna Pershing, 434th MSF; and Senior Airman Katie Deane, 434th MSF.

Promotions

To senior master sergeant—

Kevin Cassidy, 434th MXS; and Jerome Robinson, 434th Civil Engineering Squadron.

To master sergeant—Margaret Wallace, 434th Aerospace Medical Squadron; Lori Wittke, 434th AMDS; Gary Smith, 434th CES; Robert Summers, 74th ARS; James Hambruch, 434th Maintenance Operations Flight; and William Miller, 434th SFS.

To technical sergeant—Mark Ellis, 434th LGS.

To staff sergeant—Robert McCoy, 434th ARW; Takiyah Isham, 434th Services Flight; Mareece McLeod, 434th SVF; Venetia Williams, 434th SVF; Jason Edwin, 434th MXS; James Massie, 434th MXS; Brad Riggle, 434th MXS; Derrick Melrose, 434th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Soyica Hinkle, Civil Engineering Squadron; and Ritchey Moore, 434th CES.

DOD Police handcuff Comm for hoops title

By SrA Jonathan Jones
Public Affairs staff

Ty Spangler scored a game high 24 points to give the Department of Defense Police a 72-52 basketball championship win over the 434th Communications Squadron on Saturday night of the March unit training assembly.

Spangler had help in the backcourt as Ralph Ross drained five 3-pointers and finished with 21 points.

At the end of the first half, the DOD Police had a confident 35-25 lead.

Ross believed there were key aspects to maintaining the halftime lead and winning the game.

“Keep spreading it out like were doing and get the threes if they give them to us, if not will probably have to start putting it inside to our big guys,” said Ross at the half.

Tim Spangler, the coach for DOD Police, felt confident about his team’s effort at the end of the first half.

“I think we’re doing a good overall job, everybody’s working hard and stepping up, we’re kind of the midgets and broken old guys, but were doing alright,” said Coach Spangler.

Rich Percival and Trent Ward scored 17 and 15 points respectively for the communicators.



Photo by SrA. Jonathan Jones

Trent Ward, center, has his shot sandwich blocked by DOD Policemen Benjamin Durr, left, and Tim Spangler during the championship game of the annual basketball tournament at Grissom Air Reserve Base, Ind. tournament to take home the trophy.

At the close of the first half, Rocky Ash, the coach for COMM said “Our guys are doing pretty good, we’re

trying to play a nice clean ball game and tensions get a little tight, but that’s the way it’s been every time we play the DOD Police.”

To win this game, Chris Percival for COMM said “We need to make some 3-pointers and play good defense.”

In the first few minutes of the second-half, COMM began to make a comeback with a pair of threes, but could only pull within seven points of their rival at 45-38 before the cops handcuffed them defensively.

With over seven minutes to play, Ty Spangler began the offensive assault with a 3-pointer for the DOD police. Then Ross added back-to-back long-range bombs with fewer than six minutes to play.

Two more treys by Ross and Ty Spangler secured a victory, making the score 65-48 with less than two minutes to play.

After the game, a winded Ty Spangler, had a big smile on his face because the cops had won the game.

“It felt good, we got in the groove in the second half of that game and everybody was hitting their shots and Ralph was hitting his shots and made our transition a lot easier, running back playing defense putting some pressure on them and everybody got involved in the game and it was fun.”

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