

Heartland

Warrior

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



Photo by SrA. Omar Delacruz

Fill Up

An A-10 Thunderbolt connects to the boom of a KC-135R Stratotanker during a recent aerial refueling mission. Grissom's KC-135R Stratotankers offload millions of pounds of fuel each year to receiver aircraft.

IPTV coming *Internet television replaces cable*

By SrA. Ben Mota
Public Affairs staff

Grissom will be the first of 12 Air Force Reserve Command locations to receive internet protocol television.

IPTV is a system where a digital television service is delivered to subscribing consumers using the Internet Protocol over a broadband connection.

IPTV uses the transport protocol of the internet for delivery and requires either a computer and software media player or an IPTV set-top box to decode the images in real-time.

"IPTV will give Airman the options of watching live news and weather on either a television or networked computer," said Maj. Rebecca Fox, 434th Communications Squadron commander.

Six different channels will be broadcast on the network including the commander's access channel, C-SPAN, Fox News, Headline News, the Weather Channel, and the Pentagon Channel.

These channels were selected from 100 different stations.

The commander's channel will allow local messages to be broadcast, said Lt. Col. Gary Lockard, chief of public affairs. Other details of the channel are still in the concept stages of

Please see IPTV, page 3

Followership: Hone your game

By Col. Michael Haefner
387th AEG commander

Much of our military careers are focused on leadership and for good reason.

But let's take a moment to discuss good followership because without followers there would be no leaders.

Have you ever sat back and watched the NCO, senior NCO or officer who was just run of the mill; the person who sits back and lets life come to them?

How about the person who never offers up information until called upon, and even then it's offered late and in poor format or lacking key data points? You may be that person.

Even if you're a standout, perhaps you still have some

learning to do. Here are a few follower tidbits to guide your professional careers.

— Watch and listen to your supervisor ... but mostly watch.

Keep an eye out for how your supervisor and the supervisor's supervisor conduct themselves.

Then commit those actions to your memory and yes, change your habits accordingly. That is, if you have successful supervisors.

For example, if your supervisor is a stickler for keeping things neat and orderly, then don't test them. Simply pick up your areas and your rubbish.

If your supervisor requires better explanations on staff summary sheets, then include that justification.

It will save you time and yes, your



supervisor will remember.

Also try to emulate your supervisors writing style.

— Always beat the boss to the

“Good, positive visibility is like gold.”

punch. Everyone knows when annual reports are due or when someone is getting ready for a permanent change of station move and a decoration may be in order.

For officer and enlisted performance reports, get good data to your supervisor at least 30 days prior.

Don't wait for the record on individual personnel to show up, and yes, it's OK to try and write the report yourself.

While a supervisor cannot direct you to write your report, it not only provides the supervisor with input on what you've accomplished, but it can also be an effective feedback tool for your writing style.

Then provide the laundry list of items you've accomplished because a

supervisor will look at things differently and reorder or add/subtract items.

And make sure the data is good. Too many times when something comes in late, the quality is very poor.

— Never miss an opportunity to shine. By this I mean get items like professional military and civilian education complete without being told.

There's never any time better than the present to get things done.

The day you are selected for an appropriate rank or meet the eligibility criteria for professional military education, sign up.

Your military career will never get easier nor are you likely to have more free time than you do today.

When a supervisor asks you about your status, you can clearly indicate that you have initiative

and drive.

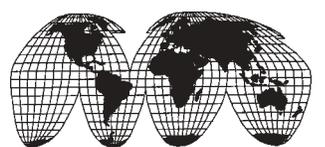
And if you're interested in a particular job or opportunity, regardless of your statistical chance to be selected, go ahead and get your name in front of the boss.

Good, positive visibility is like gold.

— Finally, tactfully make the boss provide you quality feedback. While the supervisor owes feedback, too many times subordinates only receive lip service instead of dedicated feedback sessions.

You should know exactly where you stand in a unit and also understand what it takes to jump to a higher performance plateau.

Try these out, refine your ability to adapt to different leadership styles and success will be yours.

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New commander

Col. Betty Bowen, 434th Mission Support Group commander, addresses the audience at her assumption of command ceremony held during the February unit training assembly. She replaces Col. Doug McHugh. Colonel Bowen's previous assignment was commander of the 440th Mission Support Group at General Mitchell Air Reserve Station in Wisconsin.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Patrick Kuminecz

IPTV, from page 1

development.

Although IPTV is replacing cable television on most areas of the base, it will not replace cable television in the lodging rooms.

IPTV channels, including the commander's, will be aired on televisions in the billeting lobby and at the dining facility.

All of the required equipment to maintain IPTV will be located in the 434th CS.

From there it will be networked to the rest of the base.

The implementation schedule for an AFRC contracting team to visit and install IPTV at Grissom will begin March 19 and should end around the first week of April 2008.

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Photo by SrA. Ben Mota

Senior Airman Alex Folami, a personnel apprentice with the 434th Military Operations Flight, searches through cable channels on a television located in the pass and ID room. These televisions and many more will soon be part of the IPTV network.



Photo by SrA Carl Berry

Senior Airman Anthony Abney, 434th Maintenance Squadron crew chief, inspects the underbelly lights for corrosion, cracks and anything out of the ordinary during an isochronal inspection. It is mandated that every KC-135 receives a full inspection every 15 months.

New MXS program improves fly to fly time

By Senior Airman Carl Berry
Public Affairs staff

Top corporations have been known for their ability to restock shelves on a daily basis so that sales are never missed due to a shortage of products.

The 434th Maintenance Squadron has a similar ability.

Every KC-135R Stratotanker must be inspected every 15 months, resulting in one less flyable aircraft during that time.

However, with a new paperless inspection program the amount of time for aircraft inspections will become less.

“The new paperless ISO program could save up to 30-man hours per aircraft,” said Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Cassidy, 434th MXS maintenance section superintendent.

“In the past for every maintenance

action, we had to manually fill out aircraft forms and also complete them on the computer,” he said. “By switching to the new program we are able to complete the aircraft forms only on the computer during the inspection, which allows us to work more.”

The 434th MXS trained 25 Airmen, with a future goal to train others on the process. The training is a computer based program that is similar to other ancillary training.

“The program is already 200 percent better than what we used to have, and we are able to cut back time on the computer and can be on the aircraft working a lot more,” said Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Snider, 434th MXS hydraulics specialist.

“The Air Force Reserve Command tracks the last time an aircraft was flown before the inspection to when aircraft flies after the inspection, or fly

to fly time,” said Sergeant Cassidy. “The fly to fly time is a good measure because it includes all the squadrons in the Maintenance Group, AMXS, MXS and the MOF. Using the new paperless ISO program we returned a serviceable and flyable aircraft in 25 days, which is among the leaders in AFRC.”

“It is not about stats, for us it’s about having a flyable aircraft available in the shortest amount time possible so that the Grissom mission can be accomplished,” he said.

Four active-duty bases are using this particular program, but Grissom is the first in AFRC to use it.

The current KC-135R undergoing the inspection is the second aircraft to use the new system.

The aircraft was built in 1963 and continues to fly due to these thorough inspections.

Traditional chemical warfare training gets new look

By SrA. Chris Bolen
Public Affairs staff

Grissom personnel are experiencing a drastic change to the Air Force chemical warfare training program.

The Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives refresher course has been split into a two-part program.

In January, the classroom portion of the CBRNE refresher class was discontinued.

In its place is a new on-line training module called CBRNE Defense Awareness Course, with a follow-on, hands on activity known as CBRNE Defense Survival Skills Course.

“The basic theory behind the new format is the use of blended learning,” explains Oakah Hays, Grissom’s Emergency Management Program manager.

This change is expected to improve personnel readiness and skills retention over just a class room refresher as performed in the past Mr. Hays continued.

“Using an online training module, personnel are expected to learn the basic actions needed to perform in a contaminated environment, then demonstrate them,” he said. “This is a step up from previous training because it does a better job of honing skills

through the demonstration and practice of actions.”

“There is no more classroom training for CBRNE Warfare Defense Training,” he explained. “Following completion of the on-line awareness module, individuals will have a time period of just four UTAs in which to complete the second part, the skills demonstration module.”

Currently there is a classroom session where the online module is

Force,” he emphasized. “However, the defense skills module is only required for those either stationed in or susceptible to deployment to medium or high threat areas.”

“Everyone should pay close attention to AFI 10-2501 which spells out the basics for this training and lists the equipment and other requirements,” stated Mr. Hays.

“People should be prepared for the training by keeping their equipment in good shape,”

Mr. Hays continued. “The skills module is good at finding the shortfalls in an individual’s ability to perform the tasks in a contaminated environment.”

When asked about this revised emphasis on CBRNE training and why we train this way, Mr. Hays was emphatic.

“Because it is Air Force doctrine

which sets up the worst case scenario for personnel to perform in,” he said. “Threats change constantly and we have to be able to meet those and any new threats.”

Skills proficiency and performance must be developed over time.

“You cannot spin up everyone overnight,” he said. “By keeping a certain basic level of performance we can stay ready to step up and meet any potential future threats, in accordance with Air Force doctrine.”



Photo by SrA. Chris Bolen

Robert Wydock, an emergency management technician with the 434th Civil Engineers Squadron, assists one of thirty personnel involved in the skills demonstration portion of the new CBRNE Defense Skills course. The activity is the second part of a new Air Force wide approach to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive defense protection.

demonstrated, but this is only temporary because of Advance Distributed Learning Services (ADLS) technical difficulties. After the online module is fully up and running and people are familiarized with it, personnel will come in for the skills demonstration only.

“This will be on a 20 month cycle,” said Mr. Hays.

“It is important to remember that the online awareness course module is required by every member of the Air



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Patrick Kuminecz

Turning the corner

Brian Wright, 434th Logistics Readiness Squadron, makes his move toward the basket against Tony Ayres, Department of Defense Police, during second round action of Grissom's annual basketball tournament. The DOD police advanced with a 51-33 win over the Loggies.

Case lot sale

The Air Force Commissary Service will hold a "case lot" sale at Grissom on March 1.

The Commissary sale will take place at the Marine Corps Reserve facility and run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Since the sale is indoors (with electricity), there will be an expanded line of items to include canned goods, paper products, packaged products, meat and refrigerated foods.

Fire department access

Effective immediately, all persons wishing to enter the fire department must enter at the North double doors and proceed to the administration area for assistance. There are no exceptions.

For further information or assistance call Kenny Hehr, security manager or Chief Barton at Ext. 3353.

Marine muster

Marine Corps Det. 1 Communications Company is conducting an inactive ready reserve muster event on March 15 at the Grissom from 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Approximately 18 organizations will be conducting briefings which will last until 3:30 p.m.

Recycling

Grissom has a robust recycling program that helps the environment and the base.

Grissom members can also bring recyclables in from home.

Items that can be recycled include aluminum cans, bubble wrap, cell phones, compact disks, corrugated boxes, glass, inkjet cartridges, newspaper, packing peanuts, plastics, paper, and scrap metals.

For more information on the recycling program, contact Cory Walters at Ext. 4546 or Dan Miller at Ext. 2798.

Warrior winners

The winners of the Project Warrior Award for the final quarter of 2007 were the 72nd Air Refueling Squadron, 74th ARS, 434th Maintenance Squadron, 434th Operations Support Squad-

Heartland Warrior



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Patrick M. Kuminecz

Big Dig

Civil Engineering Squadron members, Senior Airmen Matt Crummel, Mark Stidham, Shawn Colazzi and Sam Siemons excavate a hole for the new base flag pole located just east of the 434th Air Refueling Wing building during the February 2008 UTA.

ron, 434th Maintenance Operations Flight, 434th Mission Support Flight and the 434th Services Flight.

The award is presented to the units with a "Warrior Factor" of 95 percent on the metrics for the previous quarter.

In recognition of receiving the award, units will receive and display a 'W' on their unit signs and are allowed to sign-out one hour early on the final day of the unit training assembly at their commander's discretion.

Military ball

The 434th Air Refueling Wing is hosting a military ball in celebration of the Air Force Reserve's 60th anniversary.

The event, a Rising Six initiative, is scheduled for April 5, and will be held at Dock 1 beginning with a mixer at 6 p.m. and followed by dinner at 7 p.m.

"The ball will celebrate our traditions, heritage and unity in ranks," said

Chief Master Sgt. Peri Rogowski, 434th Air Refueling Wing command chief. "It is one of many events to come, intended to boost morale and camaraderie at Grissom."

Lt. Gen. John Bradley, chief of the Air Force Reserve and Air Force Reserve commander, will be a guest speaker for this event. Other guests include civic leaders from the local area and throughout the state.

In the limelight

Medals

Joint Service Commendation Medal—Capt. Michael Schaefer, 434th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

Meritorious Service Medal—Master Sgt. Kent Williams, 434th Services Flight; Tech. Sgt. Shayne Deloughary, 434th Maintenance Squadron; Master Sgt. Jeanne Butler, 434th Mission Support Group; Master Sgt. Bernard Kunard, 434th Civil Engineers Squadron; Master Sgt. Chet Nance, 434th Security Forces Squadron; and Senior Master Sgt. Billy Perryman, 434th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

Air Force Commendation Medal—Tech. Sgt. Rocio Resendiz, 434th SVF.

Air Force Achievement Medal—Staff Sgt. Cotey Jordan, 49th Aerial Port Flight; and Senior Airman Mary Struck, 49th APF.



Turning wrenches in maintainer's blood

By SrA. Carl Berry
Public Affairs staff

Walking into Maj. Shane Toomay's office, a maintenance officer for the 434th Maintenance Group, you have to look carefully but there are little signs of what drives him.

There is the picture hanging on the wall behind his desk of his twin brother and him posing, from when they were both serving in the Air National Guard, which entails that he is family oriented.

An interesting fact about the two is the fact that they are technically identical twins but in reality are mirror twins -- opposites of each other, one is left-handed the other right-handed, one parts his hair to the right the other to the left.

The major has been involved with aircraft maintenance and avionics his entire 30-year military career.

He began as a ground support equipment electrician for the Marines in 1977.

He has always loved turning wrenches and now that he does not have the time during the day, he works on muscle cars at night and weekends.

"I began working on muscle cars because the Air Force does not allow officers to work on aircraft as I did as an enlisted Airman."

On his computer desktop he has a picture of his two muscle cars: a 1968 Plymouth Barracuda Fastback and a 1974 Plymouth Duster.

"I have always been a big fan of drag racing. I used to go out to the race track and watch it whenever



Maj. Shane Toomay and his 1968 Barracuda Fastback.

Photo by SrA Carl Berry



Twin Toomays..which one is Grissom's?

Courtesy photo

possible" he said.

The major did not start racing until 2004 when he was stationed at March ARB, Calif., and part of the Air Force Reserves 452nd Air Mobility Wing.

"I had a lot of fun racing so when I came out to Grissom I continued racing," he said.

He hopes to be racing next season at

the nearby Bunker Hill Drag Strip.

"I don't race competitively, but more for the sport of racing," said Major Toomay. "The main reason I race is because I am a big fan and enjoy the sport. In addition, I stay active in all my endeavors, including work, church, and sports because I am easily bored."

At the age of 50 the major wants to encourage people to try new activities and to not be afraid to take on additional duties.

Major Toomay said, he really enjoys working at Grissom

because of the professionalism and the emphasis on family.

Along with drag racing he sings for the Bible Baptist Church of Kokomo choir with his wife Chris, of 15-years, he volunteer's for the Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed (AWANA) children's ministry, and enjoys running and studying theology.