

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

## Grissom transporter earns Bronze Star

*Others get Army Commendation medals*

By Tech. Sgt. Doug Hays  
Public Affairs staff

It's not every day a Bronze Star is handed out...but one was pinned on the chest of Master Sgt. Nathan Moore of the 434<sup>th</sup> Logistics Readiness Squadron in March.

Moore received the Bronze Star for his service as Fifth Platoon Leader, 2632<sup>nd</sup> Air Expeditionary Force Transportation Company in Iraq.

Sergeant Moore wasn't the only person recognized by the Army. Master Sgts. Mike Mooney and David Marks, along with Senior Airman Joshua Stewart each received Army Commendation Medals.

The Grissom transporters supported Army supply convoys and transported cargo. Their company escorted 4,000 vehicles, delivered 50,000 tons of supplies and traveled 250,000 miles while coming under fire more than 50 times.

"We were under fire three times a day every day," Sergeant Mooney said, "every breakfast, lunch and dinner."

The riskiest areas were North of Baghdad, Sergeant Mooney said, near Abu Ghraib and Fallujah where they took small arms fire during their nightly runs.

They were part of a history making Air Force team that was directly tasked by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to fill critical Army shortfalls for Operation Iraqi Freedom. They were the first group of Air Force personnel to serve under Army Command since World War II.

"At the time it was exciting," Sergeant Moore said, "we knew we were making history and there was a feeling what we were doing was special."

Army officials said Sergeant Moore's dedication to the mission made a lasting impact in the coalition's effort to usher a new era of freedom and democracy for Iraqi people. They added that he took on a nearly impossible Army combat mission and guaranteed its joint success.

"As the platoon leader, I tried to take care of people's mental and physical needs," he said, "we tried to lift each other up. It made me a better person and better leader."

Sergeants Mooney and Marks, and Airman Stewart were recognized for their service as motor transport operators. Each was instrumental in accomplishing the mission and distinguished themselves as a dedicated and exceptional Airman operating on the most dangerous roads in Iraq.



*Photo by A1C Mark Orders-Woempner*

**Master Sgt. Nathan Moore talks with Chief Master Sgt. Randy VanLoton, 434<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing's command chief, following a medal presentation ceremony held in March.**

Sergeant Mooney provided gun truck escort and right seat security for 60 fuel tankers.

Sergeant Marks helped provide food and ammunition to the Marines during the battle of Fallujah.

The airfield they were assigned to was one of the busiest, most heavily mortared airfields in the area.

Where we were at, we got rocketed and mortared on the average of four times a day during the daylight hours, and a couple more times at night, Sergeant Marks said.

A fifth transporter will be presented the medal in a future ceremony. Tech. Sgt. Christopher Mills was deployed and unable to attend the ceremony.

Taking care of people

New team helps members learn to deal with stressors

By Col. Kerry Keithcart
434th ARW vice commander

During a recent visit to our communications and civil engineers squadrons, Capt. Terry Thomas, military equal opportunity officer, and I got a chance to discuss the mentoring and the Human Resources Development Council.

The HRDC is all about taking care of people, which we do well, but can always do better. It only enhances our squadrons, groups, wing and Air Force.

To further that practice of taking care of people, we'll be starting a critical incident stress management

team to help us deal with the stressors of daily life.

This outstanding program was developed by firemen who realized that peer counseling proved to be very effective.

A further step of screening and training counselors helps ensure an even healthier outcome.

All of our CISM team members will be trained to help others. We educate people on the fact that they are having a normal reaction to an abnormal situation.

We talk about ways other people have coped with similar situations. We know everyone deals with things

differently but through shared experiences we hope to offer different strategies and different avenues for their support system.

It's all about being a good wingman - and taking care of each other.

We have CISM team members trained in the Family Support, chaplain, fire department and medical areas, and we'll expand those numbers this summer.

If you're interested in receiving the training and have the availability, contact a team member to find out how you can help.

Together, we can take care of each other.

Leaders who show zest for life help mold positive outlook

By Maj. David Carlson
Spangdahlem AB, Germany

Recently, I read an article that rated attitude as the No. 1 trait for success among leaders.

I have observed that the vast majority of leaders and mentors I have known throughout my life, who have helped mold and shape me into the person I am today, radiated a positive attitude.

Each of them may have defined and exemplified success in their lives differently, but what made them so fun, exciting and influential in my life was their positive attitude - their zest for life. In every case, their positive attitudes defied the many challenges that they may have had to face and overcome.

Maintaining a positive attitude, despite life's trials and challenges, is a conscious choice.

To obtain and maintain a positive attitude, the first place you need to start is with your very own thoughts.

In his book, "As a Man Thinketh," Dr. James Allen, the 19th century Englishman and father of the self-help move-

ment said, "You yourself are maker of yourself by virtue of the thoughts which you choose and encourage; that mind is the master weaver, both of the inner garment of character and the outer garment of circumstance, and that, as you my have hitherto woven in ignorance and pain, you may now weave in enlightenment and happiness."

It is important that each and every one of us occasionally accomplishes an attitude check on ourselves.

Ask yourself, "How does my attitude affect my self esteem, my unit, my friends and my family?" or "Am I allowing outside influences, such as the weather, a high ops tempo or a micro-managing supervisor that I have little to no control over to affect my behavior and my attitude?"

Most of the time when I take stock of my attitude, I realize that there is always room for improvement and I try to do better.

Airmen have so much to be thankful for and be positive about.

A positive attitude is the key to winning this conflict and any other challenge we face in life. And a positive attitude starts with you. (AFPN)

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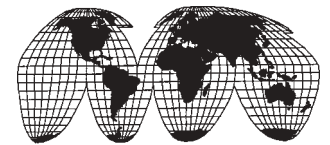
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World Wide Web

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http://www.afrc.af.mil/434arw/

# Personal travel card information lost No evidence of fraud or misuse detected

By **Jim Garamone**  
*American Forces Press Service*

**WASHINGTON**— About 900,000 Defense Department employees may be affected by Bank of America's loss and the possible compromise of government travel card information, Pentagon officials said recently.

The General Services Administration and Bank of America notified DOD officials that "SmartPay" travel cards are affected. Officials said Bank of America has been monitoring the affected accounts, and there has been no evidence of fraud or misuse of the accounts.

Bank of America officials are sending letters to affected employees.

"Information regarding travel card program accounts for individual cardholders has been lost, and it is possible that that information has been compromised, though we don't believe that that is the case," said Teresa McKay, the Defense Department's deputy chief financial officer.

Secret Service agents are conducting the investigation, with help from the Defense Criminal Investigative Service. Officials said that although there has been no evidence of criminal activity, release of details on the circumstances of the loss could jeopardize the investigation.

"Indications right now are that it is an accidental event," Ms. McKay said. "The bank has been monitoring the accounts involved from the onset, and to date there has been no indication of fraudulent activity."

The information is personal cardholder information — names, Social Security numbers, addresses and account numbers — on magnetic tape. The loss occurred in late December. GSA officials notified DOD on Jan. 19. Ms. McKay said the delay was necessary to protect the integrity of the investigation.

"The bank is in the process of notifying cardholders of the situation," she said. "They will be given a special customer service number that has

been set up by the bank specifically for this purpose. If (cardholders) have any questions, they can contact the bank. If they would like, they may request that the bank cancel the card and reissue a card to them."

Ms. McKay said that consumers should always keep an eye on any credit accounts they have.

"It's always prudent for any cardholder to monitor their monthly statements (and) dispute any charges they may question, and also it's important for all of us to get a credit report at least once a year and look at the content of that report," she said.

Bank of America has set up a hotline for those affected. The number is (800) 493-8444. Cardholders who notice irregularities in their accounts should call the Bank of America at the number printed on the back of their cards, Ms. McKay said.

"If you are an affected cardholder, you may contact Bank of America for information on obtaining a free credit report," she said. (AFP)

## Your take: *How do you educate your civilian employer?*



**Maj. Doug Gullion**, 74th Air Refueling Squadron

"The best way to explain what I do is the employer incentive rides. They have no idea what we do until we give them a ride; then they get it. Each of my supervisors understands why my duty is required."



**Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth William Zartman**, 434th Maintenance Squadron

"I have had to explain to them that the active forces have been down sized over the last 10 years, and that places more of a demand on reservists."



**Tech. Sgt. John Rapp**, 434th Security Forces Squadron

"A lot of the owner's family is in the Navy, and so they are very understanding. I try not to give too much detail. I just say, 'I'm a cop.'"



**Senior Airman Ashlee Crow**, 434th Logistics Readiness Squadron "They are very supportive of it. My boss used to be in the Navy, so it makes it easy. I get every Friday off before a UTA."

# Grissom transports Capstone participants

By Tech. Sgt. Rodney Honeycutt  
74<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Squadron

With the advent of roller missions, the 434<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing is no stranger to hauling cargo. But when that cargo is 16 general officers and general officer selectees that is a bit different.

Airmen from the 434<sup>th</sup> ARW recently supported a Capstone program administered by the National Defense University.

The Capstone program is a six-week course designed to promote effective planning and employment of U.S. forces in joint and combined operations.

The students mix case studies and informal discussions with interactions with commanders-in-chief of U.S. unified commands, ambassadors, embassy staffs and political and military leaders of foreign governments.

They examine major issues affecting national security decision making, military strategy, joint/combined doctrine, interoperability and key allied nation issues.

The participants boarded a Grissom KC-135 Stratotanker with six aircrew members, three crew chiefs and a



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Rodney Honeycutt

The view as the KC-135R Stratotanker from Grissom comes in for a landing at Guantanamo Bay Cuba. Grissom aircrews recently transported 16 general officers as part of the Capstone program.

Phoenix Raven team. Over the next 16 days the entourage traveled to Columbia, Uruguay, Mexico, Panama and Cuba.

"The crew was the most competent and professional that I have seen in

many years," said Gen. (ret) Carl Stiner, course participant, "role models of the highest order and superb representatives of the 434<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing and the United States Air Force."

## President asks for more money, fewer Air Force Reservists

WASHINGTON – The president's proposed defense budget for next year seeks \$3.9 billion in funding for Air Force Reserve Command and an end-strength of 74,000 reservists.

The fiscal 2006 request covers the fiscal year starting Oct. 1, 2005. It asks for 2,100 fewer Air Force reservists than the 76,100 authorized in fiscal 2005.

Senior Department of Defense officials announced the overall defense budget request of \$419.3 billion. The Air Force is to get \$127.5 billion.

"This budget represents the latest installment in the president's strong commitment to transforming this department to face the challenges of the 21st century," said Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. "We

continue our transition to a more agile, deployable and lethal force.

Most of the AFRC portion of the FY 2006 President's Budget request – \$2.5 billion – is for O & M funds to train, organize and administer the command. The Reserve received \$2.24 billion in O & M funds in fiscal 2005.

In 2006, another \$1.31 billion goes to the reserve personnel appropriation for military personnel participation and training requirements. This funding includes a military pay raise of 3.5 percent, and the addition of 390 full-time Active Guard and Reserve people. The requested reserve personnel appropriation represents a \$155.2 million decrease compared to that received for the fiscal 2005 reserve

personnel appropriation.

Finally, Congress added another \$281 million to help the Reserve in fiscal 2005 – \$40 million in the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Appropriation and \$241 million in aircraft procurement with the active-duty Air Force.

Congress uses the president's budget as a blueprint to draft appropriations legislation. After both houses of Congress approve their version of the bill, the two versions go to a joint conference committee to resolve differences in the two bills. After both houses of Congress approve the reconciled version of the bill, it goes to the president to be signed into law. (AFRCNS)



Photo by Senior Airman Roberto Modelo

Master Sgt. Andrew McLean, noncommissioned officer in charge of the intelligence division, and Senior Airman Elizabeth Kowalski, intelligence apprentice, review hotspots on a map as part of an exercise during the March unit training assembly.

## Intel office garners performance award

By SrA. Roberto Modelo  
Public Affairs staff

The 434<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron's combat intelligence office recently received an award for outstanding unit performance for their support in the Global War on Terror in 2004.

The award came after the squadron excelled in unit performance, providing significant contributions to intelligence operations, and achieved an outstanding performance in accomplishing demanding tasks.

The unit was activated over a two year period to support the current war on terror. One year was spent supporting Operation Enduring Freedom and

the other spent supporting Operation Iraq Freedom.

After their mobilization was done, the unit found itself back at Grissom, but their tempo from being activated has not let up.

"Despite the fact that we were demobilized, the war did not end for us," said Maj. Greg Schultz, intelligence officer.

Intel members accomplished over 75 pre-deployment briefings for 434<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing personnel deploying to many different overseas locations including Iraq, Kuwait, Italy, Germany, Spain, and Afghanistan.

They also volunteered for more than 90 days in support of Air Force Reserve Command headquarters at

Robins AFB, Ga., said Maj. Schultz.

"It is just another day in the life of our combat intelligence division," said Maj. John Kitchell, chief of combat intelligence.

The intelligence staff also provided significant training support to the 434<sup>th</sup> ARW units with a fluid level of assistance to meet the new challenges the base had to face with the War on Terror, he said.

In addition a training program, developed by Tech. Sgt. Ray Boylan, was adopted by the AMC and used as benchmark for training both the active and reserve Air Force components.

The award will be presented at the AMC Intelligence Conference in June 2005.

## UTA items

**Lodging** is open 24 hours a day during the primary UTA 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 immunization clinic** is open on Saturday from 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m.

**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 2-3; and May 14-15.

Alternate UTAs are April 16-17; and May 21-22.

**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.



Photo by Lt. Col. Gary Lockard

## Pinning eagles

Gary Beebe, 434th Operations Group commander, pins on his new rank of colonel with the help of his wife Jan, and mother Doris during ceremonies held at Grissom recently. Colonel Beebe has been a member of the 434th Air Refueling Wing since 1989.

## ORI website

The 434<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing has activated a website dedicated to the unit's 2005 Operational Readiness Inspection.

The site is linked from the 434<sup>th</sup> ARW Intranet homepage.

The address is: <https://www.mil.afrc.af.mil/434arw/IGX/IGX.htm>

Information released by Headquar-

ters Air Mobility Command's Inspector General team will be posted to the website.

## Racquetball tournament

The Fitness Center will have a double elimination racquetball tournament for the month of May.

Players will have a 48 hour window to play their respective match.

Matches will be the best two out of

## In the limelight

### Medals

**Meritorious Service Medal** – Maj. Richard Heaslip, 434<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron; Maj. William Johnson, 74<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Squadron; Tech. Sgt. Timothy McMahan, 434<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Master Sgt. Thomas Kiel, 434<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron; Maj. Daniel

Harrison, 74<sup>th</sup> ARS; Master Sgt. Robert Sucharski, 434<sup>th</sup> AMXS.

**Air Force Commendation Medal** – Maj. Arthur VanHouten III, 434<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Operations Flight; Senior Airman Dale McKinney, 434<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron; Senior Airman Dustin Schimp, 434<sup>th</sup> SFS; Tech. Sgt. Garold Peacock, 434<sup>th</sup> SFS; Senior

Airman Shaun Bullick, 434<sup>th</sup> SFS; Senior Airman Alicia Grist, 434<sup>th</sup> SFS; Senior Airman Shenika Poindexter, 434<sup>th</sup> SFS; and Tech. Sgt. Richard Demers, 434<sup>th</sup> MXS.

**Air Force Achievement Medal** – Senior Airman Randell Strickland, 434<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing.



*Photo by A1C Mark Orders-Woempner*

### **To the rack**

Arin Thompson, an electric power production apprentice with the 434<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineers Squadron, shoots over defenders during a basketball game at the fitness center.

three games to 15,15, and 11 sudden death with no skunks.

Personnel interested in participating should contact Bruce Canady at Ext. 2000.

### **FSC activities**

April is the Month of the Military Child. To celebrate, the Family Support

Center will sponsor a movie matinee and popcorn for children from 1-3 p.m. April 2.

The matinee does not replace the monthly movie night. It will be held from 7-9 p.m. April 2. Both activities are in Bldg. 431.

Spouses are invited to get together for coffee, refreshments and socializing from 2-4 p.m. April 3 at the FSC.

### **Community council**

The Grissom Community Council's next general membership meeting is 6 p.m. April 2 in Bldg. 668.

The event is sponsored by the 434th Operations Group, and catered by the 434th Services Flight.

Reservations are required and can be made by calling the public affairs office at Ext. 3348.

### **AFAF continues**

The 31<sup>st</sup> annual Air Force Assistance Fund campaign continues through May 7.

Grissom' Family Support Center is spearheading the local campaign and hopes to raise \$2500.

Contributions can be made through cash, check, or money order by dropping off payments at the FSC in Bldg. 431, or to Rokena Patton in wing command section in Bldg. 596.

All funds will go to charities that assist active-duty, Reserve, Guard and retired Air Force people, surviving spouses and families.

For more information, call the FSC at Ext. 4812.

### **Picnic**

Planning for Grissom's Annual Family Appreciation Day and picnic is under way.

The annual event is scheduled for Sept. 10 and will include competitive Olympic-type events between squadrons and groups.

Events may include bench press for men and women, softball throw for women, football throw for men, a one-mile run, one-mile walk, sit up and push up contests and more.

A Gospel concert is being planned for later in the evening, and another commissary case lot sale is in the works.

To manage the expanded activities, more volunteers will be needed.

An initial planning meeting will be held at 2 p.m. April 1 in the auditorium in Bldg. 663.

For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Linda Mason at Ext. 4221, Lt. Col. Dave Marien, Ext. 3949 or Maj. Miles Heaslip at Ext. 2953.



*Photo by A1C Mark Orders-Woempner*

## ***Surviving and operating***

Staff Sgt. James Frier, a NCOIC of information management with the 434<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Group, and Katie Dean, a personnel readiness technician with the 434<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Flight, look in their Airman's Manual to determine what chemical was used on the base in an ability to survive and operate exercise here at Grissom.

434th Air Refueling Wing  
Public Affairs Office  
Grissom ARB, IN 46971-5000

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