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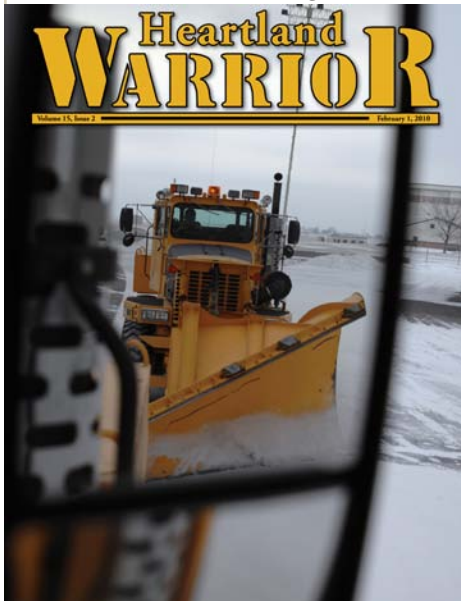
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World Wide Web

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Grissom Home Page



On the cover

Making sure the runway is clear for take-off and landings is essential to the Grissom mission. During snow falls government contractors are asked to work 24-hour shifts. Here contractors operate rollover snow plows and use a staggered method to clear the runway. Their valuable contributions ensure Grissom is able to meet its mission commitments. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Carl Berry)

Awards banquet

Base, community council partner to honor annual award winners

By Staff Sgt. Ben Mota
Public Affairs staff

Grissom's Annual Awards Banquet is scheduled for Saturday of the February alternate unit training assembly.

"The awards banquet will show appreciation for a job well done by members who have displayed true leadership in their area of expertise," said Chief Master Sgt. Larry Brady, 434 Air Refueling Wing command chief.

Approximately 200 people are expected to attend the event, which members of Grissom, both military and civilian personnel, will be recognized for different achievements made throughout the year.

Some of the awards to be presented include: Airman of the year, noncommissioned officer of the year, senior noncommissioned officer of the year, First Sergeant of the year, officer of the year, wage system non-supervisor of the year, civilian supervisor of the year and non-supervisor of the year.

In addition, the Community Council will hold their membership meeting to elect new officials at the banquet. The organization also prepared packages with gift cards and gifts for the winners of the banquet awards.

All military personnel and their spouses are encouraged to attend the event. Either semi-formal or



Chief Brady

mess dress is recommended for Airmen, and semi-formal is recommended for civilian personnel.

"Any time you can bring a group of military and community citizens together to recognize some of our best Airmen and civilian employees then it is a win-win for all," said the Command Chief.

The ticket costs for the event are as followed: \$15.00 for Airmen, \$20.00 for NCOs, and \$25.00 for SNCOs and civilians. Tickets can be purchased from first sergeants or unit representatives.

The event will begin February 20 at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:45 p.m. and the entrees will consist of either roast beef or Cajun fish. The awards ceremony will began at 8:15 p.m.

Social Media Tips for Air Force Reservists

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. -- Thousands of Air Force Reservists are among the 350 million Facebook users. The popular social media site facilitates virtual networking and communication among like-minded individuals who “friend” each other, giving Airmen multiple platforms to engage in conversations about their professional and personal interests.

“Compared to their active duty counterparts, Reservists are even more likely to use Facebook, LinkedIn, blogs and other social media sites on a daily basis,” said Paul Bove, a social media strategist with the Air Force Public Affairs Agency. “Many social media sites aren’t accessible on Air Force networks, but most Reservists have the ability to access these sites in their civilian jobs outside the military. If Reservists mirror society, they are very likely engaged in these new communication platforms.”

Whether Reservists are in an active military status or civilian status, on or off duty, common sense rules still apply when they visit social networking sites. AFPAA recently updated its social media engagement guide, providing useful tips for Airmen who surf social media sites. The following tips can help Reservists avoid problems:

- Don’t give classified info: Operational Security is crucial to the Air Force Reserve Command mission. Reservists should avoid divulging classified, “For Official Use Only” and other sensitive materials.

- Stay in your lane: While Airmen are encouraged to share their Reserve story, they should only talk and post about information with which they are familiar. An aeromedical evacuation nurse can informatively talk about the aeromed mission, but could be out of line talking about legal issues in the Air Force Reserve.

- Don’t lie: Credibility is critical

February 2010

cal the Air Force Reserve. Without credibility, no one cares what we have to say.

- Give your opinion: AFPAA encourages Airmen to join the discussion in social media settings, but reminds them to clearly indicate that their comments are their personal opinion, and not that of the Air Force or AFR.

- Use common sense: Realize your words and images go out to thousands of people around the world. While it’s OK to have fun, keep in mind your actions may reflect upon the Air Force Reserve. Your unit public affairs shops can provide additional advice and guidance on social media interactions.

- Personal information: Be careful about divulging too much personal information online. Personal addresses, phone numbers and birthdates could aid identity thieves or the enemy. Keep OPSEC in mind when deciding what to share.

“Social media offers tremendous opportunity for the Air Force Reserve,” said Lt. Col. Leslie Pratt, AFRC director of public affairs. “It doesn’t replace traditional media relations, community relations and face-to-face communications, but social media lets us leverage our existing relationships and tell the Air Force story to millions more people. Reservists play a special role in sharing our message because they have part of their lives invested in the Air Force, in addition to their families and civilian pursuits. Reserve duty is part of a unique lifestyle. Social media lets them tell their story as well as the Air Force story which translates into a closer relationship with the public.”

For more information about using Social Media and the Air Force, visit <http://www.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-091210-043.pdf> and visit <http://www.af.mil/socialmedia.asp> for links to all Air Force social media sites.



Patient transport

Staff Sgt. Ryan Waddell, a medical services technician with the 434th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, unfolds a litter as he instructs a group of Airmen on the proper techniques of patient transport during a class on the January unit training assembly. (Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Ben Mota)

GRISSOM FIRE DEPARTMENT

Unit makes impact on base, local community

Senior Airman Carl Berry
Public Affairs staff

The Grissom Fire Department stayed busy in 2009 by responding to more than 800 emergencies, becoming more knowledgeable and trained firefighters, training other fire departments, and volunteering in the local community.

The fire department responded to more than 800 incidents, -- 75 percent of those located off base.

The off-base runs are possible due to a mutual aid agreement the fire department has with Miami County.

"This agreement has saved lives," said John Ireland, Grissom's fire chief. "In most medical situations it takes an ambulance about 10 minutes from Peru. Because of our location, we take about five to six minutes."

One of the reasons for their success is the amount of training required before even joining the Grissom fire department.

"Firefighters must complete Firefighter 1 and 2 courses, which include handling hazardous material and becoming a certified emergency medical technician," said Chief Ireland. "Once they join the department we combine their training with real world experiences and more classroom training."

Another reason to their success, in 2009, is the department has maintained a great working relationship with the neighboring fire departments.

"It does not matter if we are the first on scene or the last, there is never any confusion among the firefighters," said Chief Ireland. "We are able to merge smoothly because all of the departments follow the identical incident command system procedures."

An example of this relationship



Grissom's Fire Department responded to this accident in the local community in 2009 -- one of more than 800 emergencies they responded to.



happened during one of the department's most memorable runs of the year.

"The incident involved a two car collision and structural house fire with ammunition going off," said Daniel Wolf, Grissom firefighter. "At the scene were local volunteer firefighters that, except for their patches, seamlessly assisted Grissom firefighters in extinguishing the flames and controlling the

incident."

Not only were Grissom firefighters responding to emergencies and training other fire departments, they were volunteering in the community. One of the volunteer activities the fire department performed, in 2009, was teaching fourth graders basic first aid.

"We taught fourth grade children how to open breathing airways, how and when to call 911, and how to stop bleeding from minor cuts," said Chief Ireland. "This is just another great example of how the firemen here go above and beyond their duties."

Finally, the fire department attributed Grissom personnel for their success in 2009.

"Fire prevention at Grissom was great in 2009, we did not have any serious problems on base, mainly because everyone has been safe and cautious of potential dangers," added Leslie McConnell, Grissom fire protection chief.



Wedding day

Chaplain (Maj.) Obadiah Smith, center, performs his first, and the Grissom Air Reserve Base's first wedding during the January unit training assembly. The newlyweds are Senior Airman James and Donna Chapman. Airman Chapman is a heating, ventilation and air conditioning apprentice with the 434th Civil Engineer Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)

New NSPS transition office announced

Washington D.C. (AFNS -- The Department of Defense announced Jan. 21 the establishment of the National Security Personnel System Transition Office and the selection of John H. James Jr. as the director.

Mr. James will report to the deputy under secretary of defense for civilian personnel policy and lead the NSPSTO in managing the development of the plan to transition employees from NSPS to pre-

NSPS personnel systems. The fiscal 2010 National Defense Authorization Act, Public Law 111-84, repealed authorities for and mandated the transition of NSPS employees to appropriate non-NSPS civilian personnel systems.

He will oversee the design and implementation of an enterprise-wide performance management system, hiring flexibilities, and a DoD Workforce Incentive Fund,

authorities granted to the secretary of defense under NDAA 2010.

Department personnel are committed to proceeding deliberately and cautiously, without unnecessary delay, and with the least disruption to organizations, mission and workforce. Employees will not experience decrease in pay during the transition, according to defense officials.

Promotions

To Airman – Jack Brooks, 434th Maintenance Operations Flight; and Danielle Singleton, 434th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

To Senior Airman – John Fox, 434th LRS; Marissa Martinez, 434th LRS; Kembra Pickel, 434th Security Forces Squadron; and John Sarasien, 434th Communications Squadron.

To staff sergeant – Joshua Arnold, 434th Civil Engineer Squadron; Shannon Cloutier, 434th Aerospace Medicine Squadron; Kalena Everhart, 434th AMDS; Jerod Foley, 434th Air Refueling Wing; John Garrison, 434th AMDS; Caleb Webster, 434th Operations Group; and Brandon Williams, 434th LRS.

To technical sergeant – Daniel

Helms, 434th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Steven Thomas, 434th Maintenance Squadron; and Michael Young, 434th AMXS.

To master sergeant – Christopher Feltis, 434th MOF.

To senior master sergeant – John Somsel, 434th CES; Kevin Johnson, 434th CES; and George Dibattiste, 434th Maintenance Group.

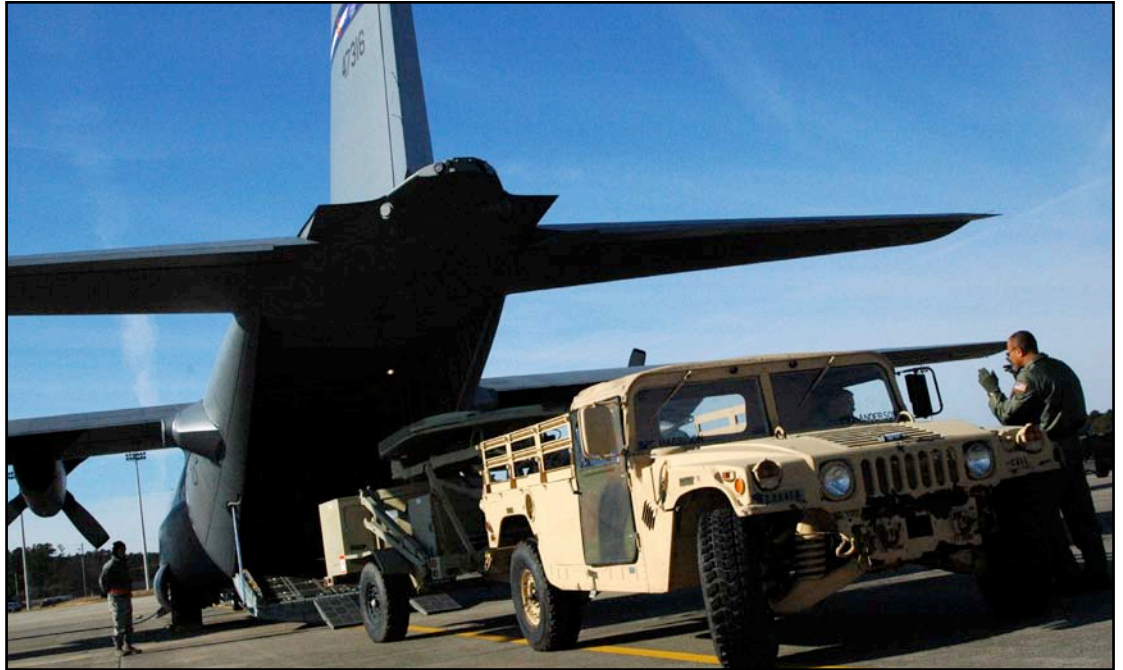
Total Force crew delivers soldiers, communication equipment to Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti -- An Air National Guard aircrew flying an Air Force Reserve C-130 Hercules transported approximately 10 Soldiers of the 82nd Airborne Division and critical satellite communication equipment Jan. 27 to earthquake-ravaged Haiti.

The Minnesota Air National Guard aircrew from the 133rd Airlift Wing and their C-130, operating out of Muniz Air Base, Puerto Rico, flew overnight to Pope Air Force Base, N.C., where they picked up and transported the Soldiers and their vital equipment. The Airborne Soldiers, among other missions, are expected to provide additional airport security for operations here at Haiti's capital of Port-au-Prince.

"I knew the U.S. would have some part in helping and I was excited not only because I've never been to Haiti, but because I would be able to help in any way I could," said Spec. Julian Johnson, a military policeman deploying with the 82nd Airborne's 31st Battalion, 65th Military Police Company. "And I thought, maybe I could save a life or two."

The Soldiers will also be providing various support to cleanup operations that have been taking place. Specialist Johnson, a native of Detroit, said his unit's missions could vary between handing out food and aid at distribution points to providing security for other Army units on the ground to even search and rescue operations for Haitians that may still be trapped under the rubble from one of that



Chief Master Sgt. Byron Todd (far right) guides Army Staff Sgt. Luke Skinner, a Soldier with the Army's 82nd Airborne Division, as he backs a satellite communication uplink trailer into an awaiting Air Force Reserve C-130 Hercules Jan. 27 at Pope Air Force Base, N.C. Sergeant Skinner and more than 10 members of his unit later arrived at Port-au-Prince, Haiti, where they deployed in support of earthquake relief operations. Chief Todd is a loadmaster assigned to the Minnesota Air National Guard's 133rd Airlift Wing in Minneapolis-St. Paul. Both the C-130 and its aircrew are deployed to Muniz Air Base, Puerto Rico, in support of Air Expeditionary Force Coronet Oak, operated by the 35th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Stephen J. Collier)

nation's worst natural disasters in 100 years.

Satellite communication equipment also airlifted to Haiti will be used to provide an additional communication link for the Army to the outside world.

The Soldiers and their equipment were flown into Haiti by deployed Airmen of the 133rd AW.

Those Airmen are part of an approximate group of 50 Airmen deployed from Minnesota to Puerto Rico in support of continued relief operations.

"(Haiti relief) ranks right up as one of the top operations I've supported," said Capt. Jon Deck, a pilot with the 133rd AW. "Most operations [you support] you get some sort of personal reward. Helping out Haiti gives you a great sense of accomplishment knowing you're helping to make a differ-

ence."

Since the Jan. 12 earthquake, both Air Force Reservists and Air National Guardsmen have flown into Haiti delivering needed supplies and airlifting out evacuees in need of medical treatment.

"I am a U.S. Soldier," he said. "I fight for my country when it's needed and will defend everyone in it. But I also have the ability to save lives of others and can be deployed to another country to help its inhabitants rather than be combative towards them. I love my job and I love my country, but most of all I love helping people and I'm glad to be given the opportunity to help the people of Haiti."

(Editor's note: For more information on Operation Unified Response, and the Haiti relief efforts, visit the <http://www.afrc.af.mil/news/haitirelief.asp>)