

UPDATE

HQ Air Reserve Personnel Center, Denver, Colo.

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RCPHAs soaring in

IMA medical compliance rate increases 200 percent

By TSgt. Devin Fisher
Editor

Despite the high operations tempo and the rigors associated with the War on Terrorism, the individual mobilization augmentee (IMA) force has increased its medical requirement compliance rate by 200 percent since January 2003.

Following a dismal 19 percent compliance rate in December, Col. K.C. McClain established a deadline for IMAs to meet their medical and dental currency standards by May or risk denial of participation for pay and points. The IMA force has responded.

"Many members have successfully met the challenge," McClain noted, "and many more have made appointments and will have their (Reserve Component Periodic Health Assessment) completed in the near future."

Citing the recent progress and the high operations tempo, the ARPC commander has extended the "no participation" deadline for failing to meet the annual health assessments until Dec. 31. Although ARPC won't prevent IMAs from participating due to non-compliance, program managers and supervisors may deny participation for those not medically current.

The high operations tempo has had its toll on the military medical community. "Many medical treatment facilities (MTFs) experienced difficulty scheduling members for their RCPHAs because a number of their medical providers were being forward deployed," said Col. Linda McHale, director of health services individual reserve programs.

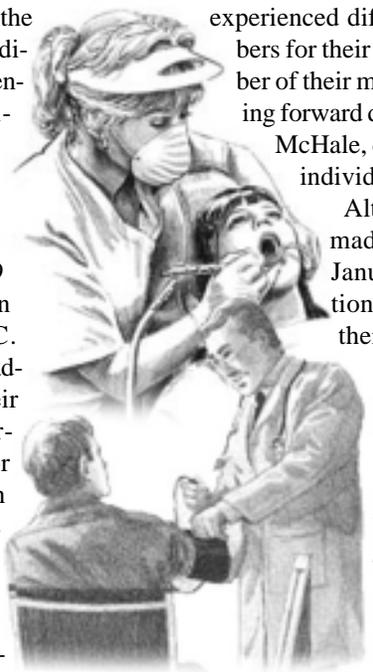
Although the IMA force has made steady progress since January, Col. McClain cautions members not to delay their assessments.

"Sustaining this momentum requires everyone's continued diligence," she noted. "Each month a large number of IMAs will become non-current because their exams expire."

The annual requirement for an RCPHA replaced the five-year physical

Oct. 1, 2001. It needs to be completed one year from the previous exam.. "Please don't let up now," McClain urges, "otherwise we will have a last-minute rush in order to meet the Dec. 31 deadline."

To start the process, RCPHA instructions and forms are available by entering arpc.afrc.af.mil/sgp/forms_pubs.htm. A less direct approach is by entering the ARPC Web site, going to the Main Topics page and clicking on the stethoscope icon. ARPC/SG encourages IMAs to obtain the MTF's fax number so they can provide a copy of the member's last exam.



51 AFSCs released from Stop-Loss

WASHINGTON – In a recent change, some individual reservists will be able to proceed with plans to be transferred, reassigned, retired or discharged.

Air Force personnel officials announced May 14 the release of 31 officer and 20 enlisted Air Force specialty codes restricted from retirement or separation under the Stop-Loss program. A list of the released AFSCs is available on the ARPC Web site at arpc.afrc.af.mil/press/index.htm. The service announced March 13 that it would implement Stop-Loss, a Defense Department program designed to retain members beyond their established dates of separation or retirement.

The Air Reserve Personnel Center, or ARPC, will process requests for voluntary retirements/separations/transfers or reassignments to a lower category of availability for those reservists with released AFSCs in accordance with the current guidance.

There is a waiver process for reservists with unique circumstances who remain under Stop-Loss restrictions. IMAs must submit their requests for waiver through their chain of command, to include their program manager. Program managers will forward requests to ARPC for processing.

Lt. Gen. James Sherrard, chief of Air Force Reserve, recognizes the significant impact Stop-Loss has on people and their families. Consequently, Stop-Loss policy will be reviewed periodically as the dynamics of operational requirements evolve.

For more information, IMAs should contact ARPC customer service at 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71388 or DSN 926-6528/6730.

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Read the *Air Reserve Personnel Update* on the ARPC Web site at arpc.afrc.af.mil

Force development

New vision reshapes training, education, assignments

By Lt. Col. Tom Deall
Director of public affairs

Though often said that the backbone of the force is the enlisted men and women, the true test rests in the evaluation of people who are not associated with the organization.

This holds especially true when the compliments come from people not only outside the organization, but outside the country as well.

In his most recent Chief's Site Picture, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper shares the views of the people outside the Air Force who have witnessed some extraordinary actions by the enlisted force. The following is an excerpt of the April 28 Chief's Sight Picture.

"Our goal is to employ a deliberate process to create and grow leaders capable of taking our Air Force to the next level of excellence — leaders who instinctively understand how to leverage individual skills collectively to accomplish the mission.

In my travels around the world, foreign political and military leaders continually ask how we field such a talented, dedicated, and capable enlisted corps. Our enlisted corps is the envy of the world, and is a major reason we have emerged as the most respected air and space force on the planet. This is no accident.

Over the years, we've invested heavily in our airmen — in training, education, and benefits. We've reaped the rewards of these investments many times over, in war and peace. As we face new challenges, it's imperative we continue to evolve the processes we use to develop airmen. We must ensure our development opportunities produce the skills needed to remain the world's premier enlisted air and space force.

We've already implemented several development initiatives, such as sending qualified enlisted members to our Air Force Insti-

tute of Technology, or AFIT, to earn master's degrees. In the future, more enlisted men and women will attend AFIT.

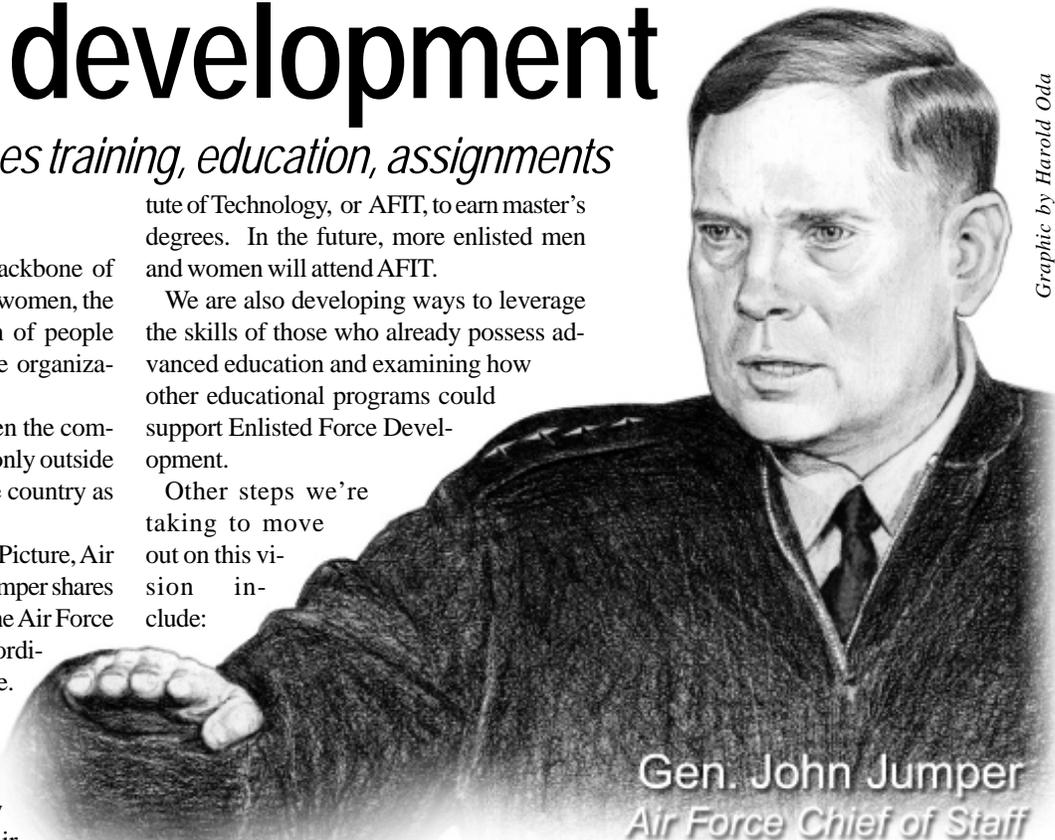
We are also developing ways to leverage the skills of those who already possess advanced education and examining how other educational programs could support Enlisted Force Development.

Other steps we're taking to move out on this vision include:

NCO utilization review: An important initial effort will be evaluating how we use our NCOs, and whether that use has kept pace with the realities of our expeditionary force. By clarifying the requirements and expectations we place on NCOs, we can target training, education, and assignments to more effectively prepare them for success.

Enlisted training assessment: We will evaluate our training processes to ensure our people have the tools necessary to meet demanding mission requirements. We are also assessing how to support force shaping, balancing, and sustainment initiatives by providing advanced training for those moving from overmanned skills to chronically short career fields. We'll continue to expand expeditionary training to dispersed forces for contingency and garrison locations worldwide. We'll also look at how training assignments can help develop our force.

Enlisted PME review: We will take a fresh look at enlisted PME — its timing, content,



Gen. John Jumper
Air Force Chief of Staff

and methods. Our objective is to make PME more responsive to the enlisted force's need to learn and discuss experiences with fellow airmen in preparation for more responsible positions.

Professional development: On some bases, local leaders have established Professional Development Centers that combine airman, NCO, and SNCO orientations and professional development seminars in one facility, and help bridge the gaps between in-resident PME opportunities. We'll conduct an IPT to benchmark some of these excellent programs and explore ways to support other initiatives from the field.

Although our initial efforts are targeted toward our senior ranks, Enlisted Force Development will ultimately touch all ranks and all career fields.

This is a major undertaking and is critical to our Air Force's future success. The time, money, and energy we invest in enlisted training, education, and experience will continue to pay us back many times over in mission success."

Graphic by Harold Oda

Air Reserve Personnel

UPDATE

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IMAs capture AFRC top honors

Abed, Vickers represent command for Air Force 12 Outstanding Airmen

By CMSgt. Lee Boteler
Chief, military training division

The Air Force Reserve Command has named two individual mobilization augmentees, or IMAs, as the command's best for 2002, marking the second time in the three years the IMA force has claimed two of the three possible awards.

SSgt. Omar Abed and MSgt. Justin Vickers, both within the Air Education and Training Command IMA program, were recognized as AFRC's best airmen and noncommissioned officer, respectively, during an awards ceremony at Robins AFB, Ga., April 10.

In all, 18 nominees representing Headquarters AFRC and ARPC, numbered air force units and the IMA program vied for the honors which qualified them for consideration for the coveted Air Force 12 Outstanding Airmen.

The AFRC airman of the year, Abed is an installation entry controller assigned to the 37th Security Forces Squadron at Lackland AFB, Texas.

Abed was mobilized in support of Operation Noble Eagle and assigned to Laughlin AFB, Texas, where he served as an installation patrolman.

During that time, he deployed in support of Operation Fundamental Justice and participated in a total of six flights into Afghanistan to transport more than



Abed

250 Al Qaeda and Taliban detainees to Camp X-ray in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Abed is involved in the community through Habitat for Humanity, General Educational Development instruction and as a Bexar County juvenile probation officer.

A security forces investigator assigned to the 81st Security Forces Squadron at Keesler AFB, Miss., Vickers is AFRC's NCO of the year.

Activated in support of Operation Noble Eagle, Vickers was hand-picked to serve as the midnight flight chief.

During this time, he integrated mission essential training for more than 40 personnel into an already intense 70-hour work cycle and increased the flight's quality control pass rate by 20 percent.

Vickers was also credited with aggressively investigating a tip concerning a known drug dealer who was illegally residing in a Keesler dormitory which resulted in the detention of the subject, seizure of the illegal drugs and recovery of stolen property.

He was also lauded for his life-saving reaction of capturing an armed suicidal airman who escaped from the hospital.

The AFRC nominees compete at the Air Force level against representatives from other major commands, direct reporting units and agencies.

Results of the competition are usually announced publicly in June, and the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Air Force are honored during the Air Force Association national convention in September in Washington, D.C.



Vickers

AT requests past due, waivers required

In order to meet required financial deadlines mandated by Lt. Gen. James Sherard, commander, Air Force Reserve Command, all FY03 IMA annual tour requests were due to ARPC by May 30.

Annual tour requests received at ARPC after the May 30 deadline must include a justification explaining why the request was late. Late requests will be reviewed at ARPC on a case-by-case basis.

All requests should have been submitted through the Web Orders Transaction

System, or WOTS, prior to May 30.

Regarding substitution, Air Force Manual 36-8001, para 1.2.1, states that program managers may request the substitution of military appropriation, or MPA, manday tours in support of contingency (real-world) operations for annual tour and inactive duty training, or IDT, requirements.

These requests must be submitted and approved in advance of the tour; however, ARPC/DPAF will accept these

substitution requests for those supporting contingency operations for FY03. Program managers should submit these requests as soon as the requirement is identified.

IMAs newly assigned after April 1 are not required to perform an annual tour unless it is necessary to meet unique mission requirements or retention/retirement year requirements for a good year.

WOTS is located at <https://wots.afrc.af.mil/wots/>.

SGLI premiums reduced; coverage remains same

RANDOLPHAFB, Texas (AFP) — The amount airmen pay for Service- members' Group Life Insurance and Family Member SGLI will be automatically reduced starting July 1.

Decreased mortality rates allow for the reductions of 1.5 cents per \$1,000 of coverage for military people and as much as a 42 percent decrease for spouse coverage. The premium for servicemembers with \$250,000 of coverage will decrease from \$20 per month to \$16.25.

"(Veterans Affairs) had a surplus partly because of the low number of claims, and they've decided to pass this surplus on to the servicemember," said Scott Hand, chief of Air Force casualty operations at the Air Force Personnel Center here. "This is a great deal for Air Force people. The price for a little peace of mind has just gone down."

SGLI is the life insurance currently available to all members of the uniformed services.

It is purchased by Veterans Affairs from a commercial life insurance company. Members on active duty, active duty for training

or inactive duty for training and members of the ready reserve are eligible for insurance through this program. SGLI is available for the member in \$10,000 increments up to a maximum of \$250,000.

Servicemembers who carry any amount of coverage are also given \$10,000 of coverage for each dependent child at no cost. Those who decline SGLI coverage are not eligible for the dependent child coverage.

"Where else can you get free life insurance for your children?" said Hand.

Members who previously elected to decline or reduce coverage must complete a certification of good health, SGLV 8285 for SGLI and SGLV 8285A for FSGLI, before restoring or increasing SGLI or FSGLI coverage.

Members can have coverage restored, increased or reduced by filling out the proper paperwork through the nearest military personnel flight.

For more information, contact the ARPC entitlements branch at 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 228 or DSN 926-6438.

Reduced rates effective July 1	
Coverage amount	Monthly premium
\$10,000	\$.65
\$20,000	\$1.30
\$30,000	\$1.95
\$40,000	\$2.60
\$50,000	\$3.25
\$60,000	\$3.90
\$70,000	\$4.55
\$80,000	\$5.20
\$90,000	\$5.85
\$100,000	\$6.50
\$110,000	\$7.15
\$120,000	\$7.80
\$130,000	\$8.45
\$140,000	\$9.10
\$150,000	\$9.75
\$160,000	\$10.40
\$170,000	\$11.05
\$180,000	\$11.70
\$190,000	\$12.35
\$200,000	\$13.00
\$210,000	\$13.65
\$220,000	\$14.30
\$230,000	\$14.95
\$240,000	\$15.60
\$250,000	\$16.25

Thrift Savings Plan open season underway

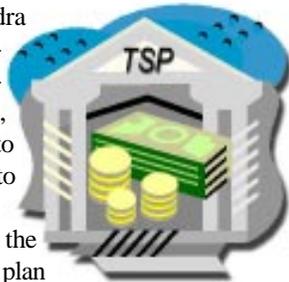
RANDOLPHAIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFP) — Civilian and military employees can sign up for or change Thrift Savings Plan accounts during "open season" from April 15 to June 30.

"TSP is an easy, long-term retirement savings plan that everyone should consider," said Maj. Alessandra Stokstad, chief of the Air Force Personnel Center's contact center. "Current account holders might be interested, too, in transferring money from one fund to another — the TSP folks are set up to handle that."

"Employees already contributing to the TSP are encouraged to review their TSP plan and account balances," said Janet Thomas of the center's civilian benefits and entitlements service team, "as the open-season period is the best time to open an account or make changes to an existing one."

TSP offers investors the chance for lower taxes each year they contribute while not having to pay taxes on earnings until they reach retirement.

Investment money is deposited directly from each paycheck "so you never have to think about it," said Stokstad. "That makes it easy to 'pay yourself first' while only investing what you deem appropriate."



The five TSP funds are: the Government Securities Investment (G) Fund; the Common Stock Index Investment (C) Fund; the Fixed Income Index Investment (F) Fund; the Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment (S) Fund; and the International Stock Index Investment (I) Fund.

Account changes made on or before May 31 will take effect June 1 for both military members and civilians. Changes made on or after June 1 will become effective in the following pay period for civilians and the following month for military members.

Military members can contribute up to 8 percent of their base pay. Airmen also have the ability to invest all or part of their bonuses or special pay.

But their total yearly tax-deferred investment cannot exceed \$12,000, except those serving in tax-free combat zones are allowed up to \$40,000 in annual contributions.

Military members can enroll through the Defense Finance and Accounting Service Web site at www.dfas.mil/emss/. They can also enroll by filling out a Form TSP-U-1 at local military personnel flights, finance offices and family support centers.

People can choose which fund to contribute to by calling the TSP automated ThriftLine at (504) 255-8777 or on the TSP Web site at www.tsp.gov/. Military members with general TSP questions can call the AFPC contact center at DSN 665-5000 or toll-free (866) 229-7074. (Courtesy of AFPC News Service)

ARPC talks mobilization, demobilization issues

By TSgt. Ronald Wuis
Personnel readiness center

Anytime the military resorts to calling up thousands of reservists, there are always lessons learned. The mobilizations and demobilizations associated with the War on Terrorism and Operation Iraqi Freedom are no exception.

Individual mobilization augmentees, or IMAs, who were mobilized for one or both contingencies have provided feedback and stated the necessity of a demobilization order.

Air Reserve Personnel Center, or ARPC, officials are currently in the process of producing demobilization orders for members with impending demobilization dates. This demobilization order, with an associated checklist, will assist IMAs and program managers with a smooth transition from mobilized airman to citizen airman status.

The checklist, found on the back of the demobilization order, outlines items to be accomplished prior to a member's departure from their assigned base. One of the most important things for a member to accomplish prior to demobilization is their Reserve Component Periodic Health Assessment, or RCPHA. This must be completed to perform for pay and points and it's a program that continues to receive senior level attention.

Other items to complete include the DD Form 214 worksheet, to ensure an accurate account of a member's support is recorded, and a general base out processing form.

Another important note is related to demobilization dates. Since accountability is a

major issue, these dates must be coordinated between the active duty supervisor, program manager, and the member. Leave and travel must be taken into consideration when determining the demobilization date.

Following the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, an executive order issued by President Bush authorized the mobilization of reserve members, under Title 10, USC Section 12032, Partial Mobilization in the IMA program to support Operations Enduring Freedom/Noble Eagle/Iraqi Freedom, for up to 24 months.

These months do not have to be consecutive, but can be split into increments that total no more than 24 months. During this period of time, members accrue leave, active duty points and are treated as an active duty member.

They are also entitled to medical care for their families and authorized the use of all base facilities.

Since the current operation is covered under one executive order, members who have served 24 months in a mobilized status can not be recalled involuntarily again unless a new executive order is signed by the president.

However if you have been mobilized and subsequently demobilized you can volunteer on MPA days to assist ongoing operations. Many major commands are using members in a volunteer status to support the con-

tingency operations. Members on MPA orders for 30 days or more are entitled to many of the same entitlements as a mobilized member.

In the past 18 months, ARPC has mobilized approximately 4,100 personnel with one-third of that force extended to the maximum of 24 months as allowed by law. As the mobilization continues, ARPC officials have received volunteers from those previously mobilized to support the new mobilization authorizations.

Many of the IMAs who are mobilized or participating in a volunteer MPA status are being used in a "forward deployed" status, standing next to their active duty counterparts versus filling that member's position at home station.

IMAs are the backbone to the bases when the active duty forces have been deployed. It is encouraged for members of the IMA force to volunteer for MPA tours with the understanding that senior leaders appreciate the continued support everyone has provided toward the War on Terrorism and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Whether serving stateside or overseas, all IMAs are asked to remember their value as noted by senior leaders who said, "IMAs definitely make the difference."

For more information, call the ARPC Personnel Readiness Center at 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71206, or DSN 926-6130.

Points of contact

See Page 8 for a list of points of contact for mobilization and demobilization issues.



By TSgt. Stephen Faulisi



Soldiers prepare to board a C-17 Globemaster flown by associate crewmembers from McChord AFB, Wash., in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Support network available for families of deployed airmen

By SSgt. A.J. Bosker
Air Force Print News

BOLLING AIR FORCE BASE, D.C. — For many years, families of active and reserve component airmen, along with Air Force civilian employees, have had to deal with the stress associated with deployments and remote tours.

However, families no longer have to endure these separations alone, according to TSgt. Rebecca Tester, personnel and family readiness noncommissioned officer.

“There is a support network available at each base’s family support center that offers a wide array of resources to help families cope with these difficult and lonely separations,” Tester said.

To take advantage of these resources, families do not have to live on a base or even near an Air Force installation.

“There are many families who may have moved closer to relatives during the military member’s deployment or live in a town without a base,” she said. “We are still here for them and able to help. We even extend that help to relatives who may be taking care of a deployed airman’s children.”

Tester said that they often work with their counterparts at other Air Force bases and sister service installations to help these families.

“Here in the National Capital Region we work with the other services to put our families in touch with others in their area who are experiencing the same thing, or help them get information on resources and social gatherings on these other installations,” she said.

‘We’re here to help with any problems that may arise, including legal or financial concerns or even how to place a morale call or send a video e-mail to the deployed family member.’

TSgt. Rebecca Tester
Personnel and family readiness

Although Tester and other center staff members may not be able to answer every question, she said they will do everything they can to direct families to those who can.

“We’re here to help with any problems that may arise, including legal or financial concerns or even how to place a morale call or send a video e-mail to the deployed family member,” she said.

According to Tester, regardless of the type of deployment or tour, families should not hesitate to call for help.

“We’ve even assisted families whose military member deployed

stateside,” she said. “Although it may be easier for families to stay in contact with the (stateside) deployed airmen, they shouldn’t hesitate to seek help because they still are coping with the (absence) of an important member of the family.”



Chris Turner, 6, puts books into a plastic bag that will be sent in a care package to his father’s deployed unit, the District of Columbia Air National Guard’s 113th Aircraft Generation Squadron. Families of the guardsmen gathered April 12 for a pot-luck dinner, children’s games and a chance to relieve some stress associated with the deployment.

As the number and frequency of deployments increase throughout the Air Force, family support centers have begun taking a proactive approach.

“We provide more support to the units today,” Tester said. “We work with the unit deployment managers to pass out information to the deploying troops and schedule them for pre-deployment briefings.”

Deploying airmen are encouraged to bring their families with them to these briefings, but that is not always easy with job or child-care commitments, she said.

“But we’re still here for them,” she said. “All they have to do is pick up the phone and ask for help.”

Other resources such as the Air Force Crossroads Web site can help families keep in touch through Global Internet Mail. The site provides a spouses’ forum to ask questions or discuss concerns.

GI Mail is a secure means to allow military members from all services and their families to communicate with each other through e-mail. Account registration and use of GI Mail is available to users from any computer with Internet access. Air Force Crossroads verifies eligibility with the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System. Once validated, the account’s user-ID and password can be used to access the system from anywhere in the world.

President authorizes War on Terrorism medals

WASHINGTON — President Bush has issued an executive order establishing two military awards for actions in the global war on terrorism.

The president signed the order March 12 establishing the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

DoD and military service officials are working on provisions to award the medals. Once the criteria is established the information will be posted on the ARPC Web site at arpc.afrc.af.mil under "Awards and decorations."

A White House spokesman said the medals recognize the "sacrifices and contributions" military members make in the global war on terrorism.

The Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal will be awarded to service members who serve in military expeditions to combat terrorism on or after Sept. 11, 2001. Operation Enduring Freedom is the prime operation the medal may be awarded for. Personnel assigned to operations in Afghanistan and the Philippines are examples of service members who will receive the award.

The Global War on Terrorism Service Medal will be awarded to service members who serve in military operations to com-

bat terrorism on or after Sept. 11, 2001. Operation Noble Eagle is an example of the type of operation the medal may be awarded for.



The awards do not take the place of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, established Dec. 4, 1961, or the Armed Forces Service Medal, established Jan. 11, 1996.

"Any member who qualified for those medals by reason of service in operations to combat terrorism between September 11, 2001, and a terminal date to be determined by the Secretary of Defense, shall remain qualified for those medals," the executive order reads. "Upon application, any such member may be awarded either the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal or the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal in lieu of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal or the Armed Forces Service Medal."

No one may be awarded more than one of the four medals for service in the same approved expedition or operation to combat terrorism. No one is entitled to more than one award of the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal or the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

The medals may be awarded posthumously.

Congress interested in reserve issues

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Congress has increased its focus on helping the reserve components since more than 200,000 members of the National Guard and Reserve have been mobilized for the war on terrorism.

With newly introduced bills to enhance reservists' benefits, along with the existing House Guard and Reserve Caucus plus the newly formed Senate Reserve Caucus, reserve issues have come to the forefront in Congress.

"All reservists should be aware that their voice matters because congressional members are interested in what their constituents have to say," said Wayne Gracie, director of REI.

"Our goal is to facilitate communication between Air Force reservists and Congress. We have a great story to tell."

To enhance congressional efforts, Air Force Reserve Command has streamlined its process to provide timely, accurate

and consistent information by offering reservists numerous pathways to surface issues and ideas.

Besides submitting initiatives through their chain of command, reservists can propose ideas through the Air Force Reserve Advisory Board and the Office of Air Force Reserve's Policy Integration Directorate in the Pentagon.

The AFRAB accepts any issue or initiative, from addressing existing situations to considering the most creative idea, allowing each reservist to be a catalyst to change.

More information on the AFRAB is available at arpc.afrc.af.mil/xp/afrab.htm.

The policy integration directorate, which goes by the designation REI, deals

with all legislative issues for the command at the Air Staff level. The directorate recently expanded AFRC's Congressional Outreach program, which ensures congressional members are aware of the Air Force Reserve and its significant contributions.

REI staffers set up visits for AFRC Commander Lt. Gen. James Sherrard and wing commanders with their congressional members, provide informative briefings to professional and personal staffs of congressional members and their committees, and answer questions posed by U.S. senators and representatives.

More information about REI is available at www.re.hq.af.mil. (Courtesy of AFRC News Service)



Key mobilization, demobilization POCs

The Air Reserve Personnel Center Personnel Readiness Division provides the following information to assist individual mobilization augmentees, or IMAs, with mobilization and demobilization issues.

When dealing with issues, members should first contact those listed below as primary points of contact. If members require further assistance, they should then contact the respective ARPC point of contact listed to the right.

Issue	Primary point of contact	ARPC point of contact
Active duty sanctuary	Active duty military personnel flight	DPAF: 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71210
Awards and decorations		
-- Recommendation	Commander at mobilized unit	DPSSP: 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71343
-- Special Orders	Major command (MAJCOM)	
-- Presentation	Commander at mobilized unit	
Customer service		
-- ID card turn-in	Member turns in active duty ID card to active duty MPF and receives Reserve ID card and verifies entitlements	
-- Emergency data (DD Form 93)	Active duty MPF	DPSS: 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71388
-- SGLI 8286 and SGLI 8286A	Active duty MPF	DPSS: 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71388
Demobilization		
-- Establish Date	Commander at mobilized unit and MAJCOM program manager	DPAR: 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71206
-- Orders	Not required (AFH 10-416, Chapter 13)	
-- Demob date is the last paid date	Reserve pay office	
DD FORM 214	Member completes worksheet through vMPF (link available at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil) and sends it, along with copy of final paid travel voucher, to HQARPC/DPSSS, 6760 E. Irvington Pl #4000, Denver CO 80280-4000 or fax DSN 926-6768 or (303) 676-6768	DPSS: 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71388
Employer support	ESGR - 1-800-336-4590 or www.esgr.org	XP: 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71246 JA: 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71251
Enlisted performance report		
-- 120+ days of supervision	Rater at unit of assignment prior to activation	DPBS: 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71341
Letter of evaluation		
-- Less than 120 days of supervision	TDY supervisor	DPBS: 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71341
Leave accrued		
-- Use or sell back options:	Supervisor and member's reserve pay office	
-- Use before tour ends; sell back or lose it		
Line of Duty (AF Form 348)	Active duty medical unit	SGP: 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71236
Medical		
-- Demobilization medical evaluation (DD 2697)	Active duty medical unit	SGP: 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71236
-- Post deployment health assessment (DD 2796)	Active duty medical unit	SGP: 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71236
-- Blood sample	Active duty medical unit; send to AFIERA/SDE, 2611 Lewis Bower, Brooks AFB TX 78235-5237	SGP: 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71236
Officer performance report		
-- 120+ days of supervision	Rater at unit of assignment prior to activation	DPBS: 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71341
Pay assistance/changes	Member's RPO	
Travel	Member files final voucher with the IMA travel office at Dobbins ARB, Ga., IMAT-OL/FMFQT, 1392 2nd Street Dobbins ARB GA 30069-4823; 1-800-808-5942	
Reenlistments and extensions		
-- Notification	ARPC/DPAFP: 1800-525-0102, Ext. 71307	DPAFP: 1800-525-0102, Ext. 71307
-- Oath administered/signature	Unit commander or any commissioned officer	DPAFP: 1800-525-0102, Ext. 71307
Retention on active duty		
-- Application	Active duty MPF	DPAF: 1800-525-0102, Ext. 71210
-- Hardship	Active duty MPF	DPAF: 1800-525-0102, Ext. 71210
Separations		
-- Retirements	ARPC/DPPR: 1800-525-0102, Ext. 71270	DPPR: 1800-525-0102, Ext. 71270
-- Separations/discharges	ARPC/DPPS: 1800-525-0102, Ext. 71261	DPPS: 1800-525-0102, Ext. 71261

'Operation Salute' offers free admission

SAN ANTONIO – Military members and up to four of their direct family members can enjoy free single-day admission to SeaWorld, Busch Gardens and Sesame Place parks from May 23 to Nov. 11.

Anheuser-Busch recently launched its "Operation Salute" to express its appreciation for the service and sacrifice military members make in defense of the country. Military members present their military identification cards at the ticket window for free admission.

"The men and women in our armed forces have made tremendous sacrifices, risking their lives and being separated from their families during the war," said August A. Busch III, chairman of Anheuser-Busch Cos., Inc., which operates nine U.S. theme parks. "We wanted to express our deep gratitude for their service, and this gives those who serve and their families some needed relaxation and enjoyment."

"It is our privilege to offer our parks to the men and women of our armed forces and their families," said Patrick Stokes, president and chief executive officer, Anheuser-Busch Cos., Inc. "It is a small gesture of thanks for the hardships endured every day by our soldiers and those closest to them."

"Operation Salute" will give free admission at Busch Gardens Tampa Bay; Busch Gardens Williamsburg; SeaWorld Orlando; SeaWorld San Diego; SeaWorld San Antonio; and Sesame Place in Langhorne, Pa.



'It is a small gesture of thanks for the hardships endured every day by our soldiers and those closest to them.'

August A. Busch III
Chairman of Anheuser-Busch Cos., Inc.

"Operation Salute is exactly what we mean at the USO when we talk about the incredible power of 'Thank You,'" said Edward A. "Ned" Powell, president and chief executive officer of the United Service Organizations (USO). "It is an extraordinary example of a company's recognition of the sacrifices our military makes on behalf of all Americans."

Anheuser-Busch has supported the U.S. armed services for nearly 150 years.

In 1921, Adolphus Busch's widow, Lilly, opened the Busch family garden to the public, donating admission fees to disabled veterans.

Anheuser-Busch has previously honored U.S. armed forces with free admission to its theme parks.

Nearly 1 million service members and their families visited free during Yellow Ribbon Summer following the first Gulf War and during the Anheuser-Busch Salute to America's Heroes, a post-9/11 tribute that included all branches of the U.S. military.

'Salute Savings' land military lower airfares

ARLINGTON, Va. -- US Airways recently introduced "Salute Savings," a discount program for U.S. military, with special fares as low as \$79 each way, based on roundtrip purchase.

US Airways "Salute Savings" rates are available to active and reserve military and their immediate families through government-contracted commercial travel offices throughout the United States.

Tickets must be purchased by Dec. 31, 2003, for travel completed by Feb. 12, 2004. In order to take advantage of the "Salute Savings" members must make travel arrangements through a government contracted ticket office.

"The service that the men and women of the U.S. military provide at home and abroad is invaluable," said US Airways President and Chief Executive Officer Dave Siegel. "This program is designed to make special fares and travel bargains available for their widespread use."

Under the "Salute Savings" program, fares must be purchased roundtrip and are available for travel originating in the U.S. to

destinations across the US Airways system, including Europe, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean. For information on these fares, military personnel or their military I.D.-carrying family members should contact their commercial travel office.

Tickets are nonrefundable and must be purchased at least three days in advance of departure. One Saturday night stay is required, and a maximum 30-day stay is allowed. Seats are limited, and other restrictions apply.

Fares are available to the immediate families of members of the Armed Forces when the member is part of the traveling party. An immediate family member is defined as a parent/guardian, spouse/partner, or child.

US Airways is the nation's seventh-largest airline, serving nearly 200 communities in the

United States, Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean and Europe.

Most of its route network is concentrated in the eastern United States, where it is the largest air carrier east of the Mississippi. US Airways, US Airways Shuttle, and the US Airways Express partner carriers operate over 3,300 flights per day.



Briefs

Access to emergency data

The Virtual Record of Emergency Data, or vRED, allows members 24-hour access to their emergency data from anywhere there is a computer terminal with internet access.

A new feature of the Virtual Military Personnel Flight, or vMPF, vRED replaces the Form Flow version of the DD Form 93, *Record of Emergency Data*, and provides real time central data storage and backup capabilities.

Reservists are encouraged to visit the vMPF Web site to update their vRED information as soon as possible.

Completion of the vRED will be mandatory for all Air Force members. The vMPF can be accessed at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil and then clicking on the vMPF logo.

Individuals are encouraged to establish a vMPF account by logging onto the vMPF Web site and following the directions. Individuals will need to provide their Social Security number, major command, pay date and date of rank to establish this account.

Address changes

Reservists can verify their mailing address is correct and make necessary updates through the Virtual MPF, or vMPF, Web site, located at <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afpcsecure/>.

Changes made in Virtual MPF automati-

cally update the Military Personnel Data System, or MiIPDS. Reservists are encouraged to update their address using the vMPF, however, these methods are also available:

❑ Submitting an address change via the ARPC Web site, at <http://arpc.afrc.af.mil/dpssab/custservice.htm>; and

❑ Notifying ARPC customer service of the address change via:

❖ E-mail, address.changes@arpc.denver.af.mil;

❖ Fax, (303) 676-6298 or DSN 926-6298;

❖ Letter, HQ ARPC/DPSSA/B, 6760 E. Irvington Place, Denver, CO 80280-4010; or

❖ By phone, 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71388, or DSN 926-6528/6730.

War-related insurance coverage

SAN ANTONIO -- Military members covered by the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance are covered in the event of death in a military conflict.

But surviving family members of those who choose commercial life-insurance policies may not be so lucky.

Many commercial life insurance policies carry what is called a "war clause" or "military service exclusion," a provision that excludes coverage for death or injury caused by acts of war, according to the National Guard Bureau staff judge advocate. If the policy has a "war clause" or "exclusion," the life insurance company is

not required to pay the full face value of the policy.

SGLI does not have a war clause. People maintaining SGLI and their families are covered in these cases. The NGB noted that some commercial life-insurance companies do not have war clauses in their policies.

Split disbursement mandatory

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - All Air Force government travel card holders must now file split disbursements on their travel vouchers.

Effective April 23, the Air Force mandated split disbursement payments to combat delinquent government travel card payments to Bank of America, which holds the government travel card contract.

Details on mandating this process for civilians traveling on official government orders are in the works. In the meantime, those traveling in a civilian status are highly encouraged to use split disbursement payments.

Using the split disbursement process is a simple, easy way to manage government travel cards, said Rhonda Griggers-Evans, government travel card service coordinator for Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command. Account holders select the option when filing their travel voucher and enter how much they want Bank of America to receive. (*Courtesy AFRC News Service*)

Chaplain news

Worldwide workshop

The worldwide IMA chaplain service workshop has been reduced to two days, instead of three, due to fiscal restraints.

All Category B chaplains and chaplain assistants should submit order requests through the Web Orders Transaction System, or WOTS, for Aug. 4-6, allowing Aug. 7 as a travel day.

Critical readiness training and professional development take place in this workshop, which also serves as a rallying point for IMA chaplain service personnel.

Clinical pastoral education

Eleven Air Force chaplain candidates have

been selected to participate in clinical pastoral education, or CPE, at military hospitals this summer.

Readiness for ministry in a war-time environment is the basis for CPE training, which prepares chaplains for real-world war-zone ministries. CPE immerses the chaplain candidate in crisis ministry, including caring for caregivers in a military hospital setting.

The training connects the emerging chaplain with the medical and health care community, providing a foundation for collaborative practice in caring for the whole person.

It also provides a more intensive style of supervision than a chaplain candidate receives during an internship with an operational wing.

Thanks due for special support

Over the past few months two IMA chaplains and a chaplain assistant provided special support to the chaplain directorate.

Chaplain (Col.) William Rupracht bridged a critical gap as acting chief of the personnel division. Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Alfred McGowen provided outstanding assistance in updating chaplain service records by calling hundreds of members about point credit issues and preventive health assessments. CMSgt. Phillip Bryant identified problems regarding upgrade training for enlisted personnel and put improvements in process.

All three individuals also helped in the ongoing work of recruiting and accessing personnel for the IMA program.

JAG and paralegal news

Address changes in WOTS

IMAs need to ensure e-mail addresses for both members and supervisors are viable in the Web Orders Transaction System, or WOTS.

Personnel have to delete 75 to 100 e-mails daily due to incorrect e-mail addresses, resulting in a large number of IMAs and their supervisors not receiving their intended messages.

If IMAs change their address in WOTS, but fail to change it in the Military Personnel Data System, or MilPDS, via the ARPC Customer Service Branch, their old address in MilPDS will overwrite any input into WOTS alone. A MilPDS refresh of WOTS is accomplished every week which overwrites addresses currently in WOTS. Therefore it's important that any address or phone number changes are also provided to customer service. As a reminder, P.O. boxes cannot be used in WOTS.

All IMA judge advocates and parale-

gals should provide ARPC/JA with address and phone number changes, in addition to updating FLITE's ROSTER as early as possible. ARPC/JA will update the office files and forward the changes to customer service for MilPDS currency as well.

Paralegal Quality Review Panel

The results of the Paralegal Quality Review Panel, or PQR, will be released July 1.

Whether promotion eligible or not, feedback can be invaluable for career guidance and planning for the future. The PQR not only identifies those selected for higher graded positions, but also selection for special duty attachments/programs, and, most importantly, retention in the IMA paralegal program.

If interested in feedback, contact CMSgt. Deborah Fischer at (800) 525-0102, Ext 71251 or DSN 926-6494 after July 1.

IMA paralegal promotions

The list of IMA paralegals selected for promotion to technical sergeant through chief master sergeant will be posted on DocuShare in the IMA/ARC Paralegal Collection, <https://ds.jag.af.mil/View/Collection-2038>, July 1.

Hails and farewells

There are many changes taking place in the ARPC legal office.

Col. Mike McAntee, staff judge advocate, leaves ARPC in July for the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. The new staff judge advocate will be Col. Charles Hasskamp who comes to ARPC/JA from 21st Air Force at McGuire AFB, N.J.

Lastly, JA bids a fond farewell to Jim Prior, IMA Judge Advocate Program Manager, as he retires in June from his second career. He retired from active duty as a chief master sergeant in 1990.

Medical profession news

Enlisted QRP results

The Enlisted Quality Review Panel, or QRP, met Feb. 24-28 as the panel of 10 chief master sergeants reviewed 443 IMA records from 22 medical specialties.

The list of IMAs selected for promotion was released May 2. The effective date for pinning on the new rank is also May 2.

Records were scored between 18 and 30 points, with the cutoff for promotion consideration at 24. Of the 443 records reviewed, 162 received a score of at least 24 points.

These records were then reviewed for time-in-grade, completion of appropriate level of professional military education, or PME, time as an IMA, and the skill level of the member. Fifty-one records were then considered to meet eligibility for promotion.

The next review is conducted by the member's unit of attachment commander. If the commander endorses the promotion opportunity, HQ ARPC/SGE conducts one final review for completion of the annual Reserve Component Physical Health As-

essment, or RCPHA, and Emergency Medical Technician, or EMT, certification currency, if applicable.

QRP panel members noted that only five percent of the eligible IMAs sent a personal letter to the panel president. Letters are encouraged to explain bad years, reasons why enlisted performance reports, or EPRs, may not be current, personal strengths, and educational/self improvement efforts.

All eligible IMAs were also sent a copy of their personal information for review and provided an opportunity to correct errors. Only 20 percent completed their review and returned the record identifying either corrections needed or the information was accurate. This was the member's best opportunity to ensure the panel had their most accurate information.

IHS opportunity

The International Health Specialist, or IHS, program is a way the Air Force Medical Service supports the Department of Defense's Joint Vision which states that

today's joint force must be prepared to operate with multinational forces, governmental and non-governmental agencies, as well as with international organizations.

The IHS program helps identify those with language and/or cultural skills, and provides a database of medics with capabilities tailor-made for specific missions.

Although there are no full-time AFRC/ARPC teams available within the IHS program, all members are encouraged to seek a special experience identifier, or SEI, or add their names to the database. The liaison teams actively work to secure international opportunities for Reserve Component personnel and will take advantage of database personnel and SEI holders whenever possible. Individual mobilization augmentees do not lose their current unit affiliation after joining the IHS program. Intermittently positions and temporary support come available to support IHS program initiatives.

For more on IHS, IMAs should contact their program manager at 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71232.

Career management news

The personnel support division reminds individual mobilization augmentees, or IMAs, to include any needed Reserve participation in their summer planning to ensure they meet their fiscal year requirements by the Sept. 30 deadline.

One requirement IMAs must fulfill to have a "good or satisfactory year" is the fiscal requirement, which is used to meet Reserve program needs such as budgeting, reporting, training and documenting readiness.

Fiscal year requirements vary by training category (see chart) and must be completed between Oct. 1 and Sept. 30. It is important that IMAs are familiar with their specific category, the applicable training requirements and complete them prior to Sept. 30 of each year. An unsatisfactory fiscal year may negatively affect retention in the IMA program. As IMAs plan their summer vacation, they should take a second

Fiscal year deadline nears

look at their fiscal year requirements to ensure they meet them before Sept. 30.

The "IMA Participation Calculator & Scheduler" is an online tool designed to help IMAs determine their optimal time to participate to ensure they meet both fiscal year requirements and a satisfactory retention/retirement, or R/R, year. The "Scheduler" can be found on the ARPC Web site at arpc.afrc.af.mil/analyzer/index.htm.

In order to meet required financial deadlines mandated by Lt. Gen. James Sherrard, commander, Air Force Reserve Command, all FY03 IMA annual tour requests are due to ARPC by May 30. All requests must be submitted through the Web Orders Transaction System, or WOTS, prior to May 30 to provide program managers processing time.

IMAs should direct any questions regarding FY participation requirements to their assigned program managers. For assistance with points reflected in the personnel system, IMAs should contact the personnel support division at 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71307, DSN 926-6503, or e-mail

dpafdl@arpc.denver.af.mil.

IMAs with questions regarding the establishment of R/R dates or R/R participation should contact the point credit division at 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71285.

Annual training requirements by Reserve category

Reserve section	Inactive duty training (IDT) minimum requirement per FY	Annual training (AT) requirements per FY	Minimum R/R requirement
MA	36 paid and 12 non-paid	12-14 days	35
MB, ME, MR	48 paid	12-14 days	35
MC	24 paid	12-14 days	35
MD	24 non-paid	12-14 days	35
MT & MX	16 non-paid	No requirement	35 non-paid

Enlisted incentive list unchanged

The IMA enlisted incentive bonus list remained unchanged for the period of April through Sept. 30.

Authorized bonus amounts are \$5,000 for a six-year enlistment/reenlistment, \$2,500 for a three-year enlistment/reenlistment and \$2,000 for a second three-year enlistment/reenlistment.

The initial payment for the retraining bonus is due upon completion of technical training or award of the three-skill level in the controlled Air Force Specialty Code, or AFSC, as validated by the military training division, ARPC/DPAT. Affiliation bonus payments are paid at the rate of \$50 for each month of remaining Reserve obligated service. Prior service, enlistment and reenlistment payments are paid in yearly increments based on satisfactory participation for the previous fiscal year.

For more information on the enlisted incentive bonus, IMAs should contact the personnel support division at 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 71307, DSN 926-6503, or e-mail dpafdl@arpc.denver.af.mil.

The following AFSCs are approved to receive the bonus April 1 through Sept. 30:

- 1C0X1 1C0X2 1C2X1 1C3X1 1C5X1 1N0X1
- 1N1X1 1N3X2 1N3X5 1N3X5 1N4X1 1N5X1

- 1T2X1 1W0X1 2A1X0 2A1X2 2A1X3 2A1X7
- 2A4X2 2A6X1 2A6X3 2A7X3 2A7X4 2E0X0
- 2E1X1 2E1X2 2E1X4 2E2X1 2E6X0 2F0X1
- 2G0X1 2M0X2 2S0X0 2T0X1 2T1X0 2W0X1
- 3C0X0 3C0X1 3C0X2 3C1X1 3C3X1 3E0X1
- 3E0X2 3E2X1 3E4X0 3E4X1 3E4X2 3E4X3
- 3E5X1 3E6X1 3E9X1 3P0X1 3S2X1 3V0X1
- 3V0X3 4A0X1 4N0X1 6C0X1 7S0X1

Reserve school selection board

The military training division will convene a Reserve School Selection Board, or RSSB, for individual mobilization augmentees in late summer.

Detailed information regarding the application process was released to IMA program managers in mid-April and may be viewed at arpc.afrc.af.mil/dpat/index.htm.

A panel composed of a senior mobilization assistant and two colonels select officers for attendance at the Reserve Components National Security, National Security Decision Making, and Reserve Officer Strategy and Policy short courses. A full description of these professional military development opportunities may be found at www.ndu.edu/rcnsc/index.htm or www.nwc.navy.mil/reperves/cd.htm.

The panel will also review applications and make attendance selection of those members

being nominated for Squadron Officer School, or SOS. Information about SOS is available at www.au.af.mil/au/soc/sos/.

The RSSB chiefs panel designates selectees for attendance at the USAF Senior NCO Academy, or SNCOA, at Maxwell AFB, Ala., and for the USAF NCO Academy at various locations throughout the Continental United States and Europe. Information on the SNCOA is available at www.maxwell.af.mil/au/cepme/sncoa/sncoa.htm.

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