

White's employer support honored

As Reserve and Guard forces are called to serve in the Global War on Terror, Air Force Secretary Dr. James Roche recognized the role of employers in supporting Air Force public affairs.

In his civilian career, Brig. Gen. Tim White, who served as acting director of PA while Brig. Gen. Ron Rand was deployed, is an evening news anchor for Gannett Broadcasting's WKYC (NBC), Cleveland.

In a Pentagon ceremony, Roche honored executives of Gannett and WKYC, saying he understands and appreciates the challenges faced by families and employers when a reservist is called to active duty.

WKYC has also distinguished itself with a series of broadcast specials called "Project Patriotism" that honors veterans, those now serving, and all those who support them.

"Gannett Broadcasting and WKYC help build a great bridge between the Air Force, the military, and the America they defend," the Secretary said.

"It is vital that Air Force members try to recognize their employers in some small way upon their return," White said. "They bear



Courtesy photo

Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche (left) presents an employer appreciation plaque to: (left to right) Micki Byrnes, Director of Marketing and Promotion, WKYC-TV, Cleveland; Dick Mallery, Senior Vice President, Gannett Television; Craig Dubow, President and CEO, Gannett Broadcasting; and Brooke Sectorsky, President/General Manager, WKYC-TV at a Pentagon ceremony Sept. 29. The plaque was given in appreciation for the support provided to the Air Force Reserve and Brig. Gen. Tim White, mobilization assistant to the PA Director, during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

the burden of the void that's left behind when a reservist is called to duty. We should remember, especially as communicators, to make certain our employers are thanked for their sacrifices as well.

"I'm privileged to work for a station and

a civilian corporation that not only understands the invaluable role the Air Force plays in defending America's freedom, but, more importantly, honors those who serve in uniform on a daily basis and the families who love them," General White said.

Changes limit number of training periods allowed per quarter

WASHINGTON – Changes went into effect Oct. 1 limiting the number of inactive duty for training periods a reservist may perform during a three-month quarter.

The changes provide a training schedule policy for all members of Air Force Reserve Command. They provide senior managers better management of training resources, according to Noah Gibson, chief of education, training and readiness policy in the Office of Air Force Reserve's personnel programs and training division.

Under the new policy, individual mobilization augmentees who are required to perform 48 inactive duty for training periods per year will be authorized a maximum of 16 IDT periods per quarter, not to exceed 48 training periods during the fiscal year. IMAs who must perform 24 IDTs per year will be authorized by their supervisor or program manager to schedule a maximum of eight training periods

per quarter not to exceed 24 per fiscal year.

In the past, the number of training periods IMAs could schedule during a quarter was unrestricted.

The changes also require IMAs to project a yearly schedule of IDTs with supervisors not later than Aug. 15 for the fiscal year starting Oct. 1 each year.

Unit commanders must prepare their fiscal year IDT schedule for unit training assemblies not later than May 15 for the upcoming year. They are also limited to scheduling 16 training periods per quarter, not to exceed 48 periods per fiscal year.

Units must go through their numbered air force commander to request an exception to policy, and IMAs must seek approval from their program managers and the commander of the Air Reserve Personnel Center in Denver. (AFRC News Service)

Opportunities

Enlisted PA needed in Alaska

Joint Task Force Alaskan Road is looking for a motivated, independent working reservist public affairs E5-E7 for a temporary duty assignment mid-April until mid-September 2004. "The Road" pays all TDY expenses.

Duties for this one-deep PA position include, but are not limited to, writing, photography, organizing community relation events, working with local media (a daily newspaper and a radio station), and helping to organize distinguished visitor visits and other protocol taskings as directed by the local commander.

Operation Alaskan Road is a multi-year Defense Department Innovative Readiness Training Program on Annette Island in southeast Alaska.

The military mission is to gain a wide range of training for various military specialties while helping the native village of Metlakatla gain access to better health care, education and employment by building a 14-mile supply route.

Interested members can get more information on the PA aspects of this TDY by contacting Dick Devlin, Alaskan Command Public Affairs, at DSN 317-552-7587. For more detailed personnel/money information contact Lt. Hicks at DSN 317-552-0350.

AGR position available at AFRC

Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs plans to re-advertise its chief of news division position, an O-5 slot.

Robins Air Force Base, Ga., is an excellent assignment for those who enjoy a year-round warmer climate, low cost of living, good schools, low crime rate, short commute to work, friendly people and plenty of inexpensive golf courses. More information will be available soon at www.re.hq.af.mil/agr/agrhome.shtml.

USSOUTHCOM needs PAs

Headquarters U.S. Southern Command, Miami, Fla., needs O-3 to O-4 and E-5 to E-7

public affairs professionals to fill fully funded positions for 179-230 days.

Applicants must have a current clearance and an official passport. Fluency in Spanish is desired.

The officer serves as chief of public affairs operations with overall responsibility for the supervision of four active duty military and civilian public affairs specialists as well as reservists serving at the command.

The enlisted member serves as NCOIC of public affairs operations. Coordinates activities among four active duty military and civilian public affairs specialists as well as reservists serving at the command.

Both positions support the Commander's Theater Security and Cooperation Plan as well as current and emerging requirements associated with support to the War on Terrorism and Joint Task Force operations. They are responsible for the development of all public affairs plans, guidance and policy documents for SCPA.

Interested members should contact MSgt. Marilyn Campiz at (305) 437-2375 or DSN 567-2375 for more information.

New split disbursement requirements clarified

The IMA Travel Office is getting a lot of questions concerning mandatory split disbursement and the supervisor's responsibility to sign the DD 1351-2. Reservists and their supervisors should know:

- ♦The supervisor or approving official must sign the DD 1351-2 in Block 20c, "Supervisor Signature Block." They must also ensure Block 1 is complete. If it isn't, the voucher should be returned to the traveler for completion.

- ♦If the traveler does not have a government travel card, only the "electronic funds transfer," or EFT, box should be checked.

- ♦If the traveler has a government travel card, the EFT and the split disbursement block should be checked and an amount entered to reflect all unpaid charges on the charge card.

- ♦The travel pay office will pay only the amount entered in Block 1 of the DD 1351-2 to the travel card. If no amount is entered, no amount will be paid to the travel card.

- ♦The traveler's responsibility is to identify travel card charges separately on the DD 1351-2. This is not for the benefit of the travel pay office. This is for the benefit of the supervisor.

- ♦All ranks must have their DD 1351-2s signed by a supervisor.

- ♦Supervisor's signature is not required for accrual vouchers for extended TDYs (advance payments). Final settlement claims require signature.

- ♦An approving official signature is required when authorizing additional entitlements. There could be times when one person

signs as a supervisor and an approving official.

- ♦The IMA Travel Office began returning incomplete vouchers to the traveler Sept. 2.

Members with questions can contact the IMA Travel Office Customer Service at (800) 808-5942.



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Air Force leaders convene at worldwide

Rand announces Roggero as his replacement

By Lt. Col. Gus Schalkham
HQARPC Public Affairs

Three years have passed since the last one, but the 2003 U.S. Air Force Public Affairs Worldwide Professional Development Seminar Sep. 8-11 outside of Washington, D.C., was a great success.

A who's who among Air Force leaders, from the Air Force Chief of Staff to the Secretary of the Air Force, spoke at this year's event, sharing their experience and appreciation of the important role of Air Force public affairs.

Our leader, Brig. Gen. Ronald Rand, Director of Public Affairs, announced he would pass the reins of leadership off in January to Brig. Gen. Frederick Roggero, Director of Air Force Integrated Marketing.

Rand addressed the assembled PA folks on many issues. One issue that was deeply ingrained was his patriotism and the meaning of our flag. "There is one symbol people look to as equality and justice, and that symbol is our flag," he said. "No matter where in the world you are, people who are not citizens of this country recognize and know what country is represented by the stars and stripes."

He went on to ask, "What does this flag mean to you? Is it just 13 stripes and 50 stars?"

When it came to telling the Air Force story as it related to the Operation Iraqi Freedom, Rand shared, "The public needs to be aware of what is happening. At the same time it is a way for us to communicate to our adversary the will of the USAF."

Rand added when it came to OIF lessons learned, "We kept the focus on achieving Gen. Frank's objective – toppling Saddam's regime. We did everything to avoid collateral damage. What impressed me was the care we demonstrated toward the people. We were not perfect. We lost planes. We did have civilian casualties. The answer when this happens: assume responsibilities, admit our mistakes and correct the problem."

Dr. James Roche, Secretary of the Air Force, delivered his message of the importance of communication. "Knowing what is fact and



SSgt. Todd Lopez

Air Force Chief of Staff General John Jumper receives *Gates of Fire* by Steven Pressfield, from Brig. Gen. Ron Rand, Director of Air Force Public Affairs, after speaking at the Air Force Public Affairs 2003 Worldwide Professional Development Seminar Sept. 8-11.

what is assertion is important.

PA must be party to strategy development listening carefully to the commander," he said. "Doctrine does not exist if we don't communicate it and make it understandable so your airmen can believe it.

"Communication is a two way function. We have to be receptors of ideas and communicate there is a sense that we really are really listening because we don't get answers from the top of the mountain. If we do that, we have the ability to communicate to an audience."

When it came time for the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Gerald Murray, the conference attendees were anxious to hear where he was focused. He said he understands the importance of PA. "For the first time in my office, I have a PA person to have me get work out and making sure it is well written."

Murray told the audience that today's blue suit force is the smallest it has been since 1948 and "We will continue to focus on the AEF and balancing the force. We do not have enough people. We see the imbalance, and we have 20,000 airmen working in areas other than the ones we are missing critical AFSC support."

There were other areas of concern that he

wished to address. "Quality of life is an issue you must be aware of – you have to care about your people."

This led to discussions about AEFs. His view is, "AEF process shows how our AF prosecutes the Air process and how it touches our lives and it shows it works. It's not perfect, but it is better than anything else we have at the time."

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper articulated his pride of serving for 37 years with the men and women of the Air Force. "We have the best training in the world. Whenever we have a conflict our people step forward and do a great job. You need to be proud of what you see in the mirror in the morning because everyone in the world is trying to figure out how to be as good as us."

Of course there were more dynamic speakers at the conference, but space does not allow more detail. For those of you who could not attend the conference, you missed an outstanding event. Make sure you take time when you are performing your annual tour or IDTs to locate someone who attended and learn more about the topics.

Remember knowledge comes about through communication.