

UPDATE

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Quotable Quote

"As we fight the war on terrorism, we have not lost focus on the importance of quality of life for our Airmen. Providing adequate housing allows Airmen to focus on the mission, knowing that their families have a safe place to live. Ours is the greatest Air Force in the world because of the remarkable people we attract and retain. The old adage that "we recruit individuals, we retain families" has never been more true. I am extremely proud of the progress we have made in our housing program as we strive to make it worthy of the outstanding men and women who make our Air Force the world's best."

— Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper, Chief's Sight Picture, July 6, 2004



Reserve medical team arrives in Niger

CAMP TONDIBIAH, Niger — Capt. Andrew Gibson checks a Nigerian girl's health in a medical clinic here. Captain Gibson is part of a 12-person Air Force Reserve Command medical team performing a humanitarian mission in Niger. He is a physician's assistant assigned to the 6th Medical Group at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Chance Babin) **See Helping Hand on page 6 for the full story.**

Absentee ballots can make a difference

by Capt. Kimberly Layne
U.S. Air Force in Europe Public Affairs

In the Nov. 2 general election, the next president, vice president, 34 senators, 435 representatives, 13 governors and hundreds of local officials will be elected.

American voters play a very important role in this process, said Maj. Rickey Harrington, U.S. Air Forces in Europe voting officer.

"The military has a strong voice, and it is imperative that every member is afforded the opportunity to register and vote," Major Harrington said.

The deadline for completing and mailing a Federal Post Card application (for regis-

tration) is no later than 45 days before the election date, or 30 days before the election for the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot.

As long as members complete and mail the necessary paperwork before the posted deadline, their vote will be counted.

The Military Postal Service Agency is also taking precautions to uphold the integrity of the voting system.

Each absentee envelope will be inspected by post office workers for proper date stamping.

"We believe this will diminish the problems we saw in 2000," said Tech. Sgt. Wes

See "Vote" on page 6

Patriot Day - September 11

The following is a Patriot Day message from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper:

“On the third anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001, the world will remember those tragically lost (because of) the heinous actions of terrorists in New York, the Pentagon and Pennsylvania. These were attacks against freedom, democracy and humanity that carried a high human toll as citizens from the United States and many other countries lost their lives.

“This Patriot Day, we honor the memories of those lost, and we pay tribute to those answering freedom’s call to combat terrorism around the world.

“Your efforts over the last three years have been phenomenal. You continue to professionally safeguard the skies of America. You have dispersed al-Qaida and toppled the Taliban government in Afghanistan.

And, you were instrumental in ending a cruel regime in Iraq

and ensuring that a new, democratic government could take root.

“Our superior total force of active duty, Guard, Reserve and civilian Airmen continue to brilliantly answer America’s call to defend peace and freedom. Our country is confident in your capabilities and proud of your service.

“Unfortunately, on this, the third Patriot Day, our mission is not complete. Those who indiscriminately killed more than 3,000 people on Sept. 11, are still dedicated to terrorizing our nation and the world because we value life, believe in liberty and welcome democracy as the people’s voice.

“Let’s remember those who are deployed in harm’s way to defend the American way of life. And, let’s ensure their families are taken care of while they’re away from home.

“As Airmen, our cause is just and noble. Our country depends on us to stay the course.

“Thanks for all you do for America and our Air Force. May God bless you, and may God bless America.”

Why we fight in Iraq

By Donald H. Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense

More than 15 months ago, a global coalition ended the brutal regime of Saddam Hussein and liberated the people of Iraq. As in all conflicts, this has come as a cost in lives. Some of your comrades made the ultimate sacrifice. For your sacrifices, our country and the President are deeply grateful.

In a free, democratic country we have debates of important public policy issues – none more heated than a decision to go to war. But this should not distract us from the mission at hand or lessen the magnitude of your accomplishments.

The threat we face must be confronted. And you are doing exceedingly well. Indeed it has been a historic demonstration of skill and military power.

On Sept. 11, 3,000 citizens were killed by extremists determined to frighten and intimidate our people and civilized societies.

The future danger is that, if the extremists gain the potential, the number of casualties would be far higher. Terrorists are continuing to plot attacks against the American people and against other civilized societies. This is a different kind of enemy and a different kind of world. And we must think and act differently in this new century.

These extremists think nothing of cutting off innocent people’s heads to try to intimidate great nations. They have murdered citizens from many countries – South Korea, Japan, Spain, the United Kingdom and others – hoping to strike fear in the hearts of free people.

Theirs is an ideology of oppression and

subjugation of women. They seek to create radical systems that impose their views on others. And they will accept no armistice with those who choose free systems. They see the governments of the Middle East, the United States and our stalwart allies all as targets.

Consider the background. In the span of 20 years, Hussein’s Iraq invaded two neighbors, Iran and Kuwait, and launched ballistic missiles at two more. He employed poison gas against soldiers in Iran and against Kurdish villagers in his own country. The United Nations and the U.S. Congress shared the view that Saddam’s regime was a threat to the region and the world. Indeed, in 1998, our congress passed a resolution calling for the removal of the regime.

And over the years the U.N. passed 17 resolutions condemning Saddam’s regime and calling on him to tell the U.N. about his weapons programs. He ignored every one.

See “Fight” on page 3

Air Reserve Personnel

UPDATE

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Happy birthday from the top

The following is an Air Force birthday message from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper:

"Happy birthday to the Airmen of the world's greatest air and space force! Our 57 years of history may be short, but they are packed with astounding accomplishments. We've broken the sound barrier, expanded military operations to the reaches of space, ushered stealth technology and precision-strike capability into modern warfare, delivered humanitarian aid to austere locations, jointly won the Cold War and provided decisive air and space power for wars in Korea, Vietnam, the Balkans, Afghanistan and Iraq.

"Your dedication to excellence, your integrity and your faithful service is recognized and appreciated by all Americans.

"Since our inception in 1947, America's Air Force has flown lead in defending peace and freedom around the world. That legacy was made possible by millions of professional Airmen dedicated to accomplishing critical missions with total success.

"Today, you are the torchbearers of our legacy. You are performing remarkably across the globe delivering aid to people in need and defending and protecting our great nation from emerging threats and new enemies. Your competence, dedication to the mission and pride of service is renowned. We know you also have wonderful families who support your long hours and deployments away from home. We are grateful for their support.

"You represent the strength and patriotism of our great nation. America is proud of our Air Force because of you. Thanks for your service and again, happy birthday!"

Fight from page 2

Information gathered since the defeat of Saddam's regime last year confirms that his last declaration to the U.N. about his weapons programs was falsified. The U.N. resolutions had called for "serious consequences" should Saddam not comply. He did not.

The President issued a final ultimatum to Saddam to relinquish power to avoid war. Saddam chose war instead. By your skill and courage, you have put a brutal dictator in the dock to be tried by the Iraqi courts and restored freedom to 25 million people.

By helping to repair infrastructure, rebuild schools, encourage democratic institutions and delivering educational and medical supplies, you have shown America's true character and given Iraq a chance at a new start. But most importantly, your fight - and ultimate victory - against the forces of terror and extremism in Iraq and the Middle East will have made America safer and more secure.

You are accomplishing something noble and historic - and future generations of americans will remember and thank you for it.

Air Force approves humanitarian medal for OEF

The Air Force has authorized the Humanitarian Service Medal for certain people who supported Operation Enduring Freedom.

During the operation, hundreds of Airmen participated in packaging and delivering nearly 2.5 million individual human daily rations that were air-dropped to beleaguered Afghans.

The medal recognizes this and other humanitarian operations that took place Oct. 7, 2001, to May 31, 2002.

To qualify for the medal, Airmen must have been individually assigned or attached to a unit participating in the humanitarian efforts and must have directly participated in the relief actions.

The actions must have affected locations within the land area, airspace, or waters of Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Gulf of Oman, or the Arabian Sea, designated as 20 degrees north latitude and west of 68 degrees longitude.

Other Airmen, such as aircrews, who may be approved are those who were in direct support of OEF humanitarian operations from U.S. locations, or deployed overseas and were assigned to or working from one of the following locations: the Combined Air Operations Center, Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia; the Regional Air Movement Control Center, Al Udeid, Qatar; the 437th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron or 37th Airlift Squadron, Ramstein Air Base, Germany; the 351st Air Refueling Squadron, Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England; the 2nd Space Operations Squadron, Falcon Air Force Base, Colo.; the 315th Airlift Wing, Charleston Air Force Base, S.C.; or the 62nd and 446th Airlift Wings, McChord Air Force Base, Wash.

New booklet helps families of deployed reservists, guardsmen

by Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Separations can be tough on any child whose parent is deployed overseas, but particularly for the estimated 500,000 sons and daughters of deployed National Guardsmen and reservists, said an expert on issues involving military families.

Many Guard and Reserve families lack the tight-knit support network that helps active-duty families during deployments, said Dr. Mary Keller, executive director of the Military Child Education Coalition. This can lead to difficulty adjusting to what Dr. Keller calls their "suddenly military" status. As a result, she said, they can feel isolated and unsure of where to turn for help.

A new booklet is now available to help communities reach out to Reserve and Guard families during deployments. The coalition produced the booklet after repeated requests from military-family representatives, educators and community groups, Dr. Keller said.

The 12-page brochure, "How Communities Can Support the Children and Families of Those Serving in the National Guard and Reserve," explains the dynamics of the deployment process in easy-to-understand language. It offers tips for educators and lists military and community resources for families of deployed troops.

The publications and more information about the coalition are posted on its Web site at www.militarychild.org.

The importance of your retention/retirement date

As a new Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA) or a Participating Individual Ready Reservist (PIRR), it's important for you to know how your Retention/Retirement (R/R) date is calculated and how it's used in establishing the R/R year.

Points earned are credited within the R/R year and are reflected on the AF Form 526, ANG/USAFR Point Credit Summary. Reviewing your AF Form 526 upon receipt and correcting any discrepancies immediately alleviates problems in the future.

Here are some good reasons why you should be concerned about the accuracy of your points:

- Points earned during your career determine your eligibility for a Reserve retirement (20 satisfactory years of service).

- For a satisfactory year of service toward retirement, you must earn a minimum of 50 retirement points (35 plus 15 membership)

- Points earned during your career as an IMA or PIRR determine the amount of money you'll be receiving after retirement.

- For officers, the promotion boards evaluate participation by looking at the point history.

- For enlisted members, the point history is used to verify total years of enlisted service, which determines eligibility for promotion.

How is an R/R date established? The method used to establish your R/R date is based on the date you were initially gained or regained to the AFR. Several factors determine the R/R date.

The charts below list criteria to help you calculate your R/R date.

If you were gained to the AFR on or after 1 Oct.1995 and:	Your R/R date is:
you have no break in service	the date you initially entered active service
you have a break in service	reestablished as the day after the break
If you were gained to the AFR prior to 1 Oct.1995 and:	Your R/R date is
you have no break in service	the date you entered active Reserve status
you entered a regular status or had a break in service	reestablished to reflect the date you returned to an active Reserve status

Note: A break in service is any non-creditable period of time: civilian status, Temporary Disability Retired List, Inactive Status List Reserve Section, Health Professions Scholarship Program, Reserve Officer Training Corps, Retired Reserve and Inactive National Guard time.

How is the R/R date used in establishing the R/R year? The R/R date starts your R/R year.

If you have any questions about your R/R date, please contact the Point Credit Division (800)525-0102, by mail; HQ ARPC/DPPKA, 6760 E. Irvington Pl, Denver CO 80280-2100

Other factors:	time is:
if you entered the Delayed Entry Program (DEP) on or before 31 Dec.1984	creditable
if you entered the DEP between 1 January 1985 and 28 Nov.1989	not creditable
if you entered the DEP on or after 29 Nov.1989	creditable
if you are an officer with academy time	not creditable
if you are an enlisted with academy time	creditable
if you had inactive public health service	not creditable
if you had active public health service	creditable

Mandatory separation date compliance

Headquarters Air Reserve Personnel Center Separations Division reminds reservists and Program Managers participation beyond the mandatory separation date without an approved extension waiver is prohibited by law.

Incidents of participation beyond this date have significantly increased and are causing unnecessary problems.

MSD notification letters are sent to reservists and a copy to the Program Manager a year in advance.

It is the members responsibility to inform their unit of attachment of their MSD notification to preclude participation beyond this date. The notification letter outlines, in detail, options applicable to the situation and is sent in ample time for all parties

to make appropriate transition plans.

MSDs are established by law. Failure to cease participation on the MSD creates legality problems involving recoupment of pay and points, which could result in an unsatisfactory resolution for the reservist.

For more information, contact, HQ ARPC/DPPS, DSN 926-6362.

Air Force to end paper statements

Dave Gallop

Director of Financial Management

The Air Force announced plans to eliminate hard copy leave and earnings statements in Sept. 2004 for military members who have registered on myPay.

MyPay is DoD's Web-based pay account and transaction system.

In a memo to all MAJCOMs Aug. 16, Mr. Michael Montelongo, the Air Force comptroller, stated his goal of all military members using myPay's features for their financial transactions in September.

These include the ability to obtain copies of W-2's for tax purposes as soon as they're ready, pull down expanded statement histories, and provide 'read only' access to designees.

To register and log onto myPay, use the following Web address: <https://mypay.dfas.mil> or log onto the Air Force Portal at <https://www.my.af.mil>

Warning for GTC cardholders!

Although no instances of identity theft or credit card fraud have been identified, people continue to try to collect sensitive credit card and other personal account information.

For example, a recent scam involves a phone call, possibly from someone with an accent, alleging to be calling all Dept of Defense personnel to offer a free government grant of about \$8,000 to help pay off personal debts.

The caller will probably have your address, home and work telephone numbers, and possibly your age.

The caller may ask your bank name, routing number and location, and maybe your credit card number for identification. Do not provide the information.

Never provide this type information over the telephone unless you initiated the call and know exactly with whom you are talking.

AEF tours — Deployment orders

Lt. Col. Edwin Wagnon

AETC IMA Program Manager

The next time the opportunity to volunteer to participate in an AEF rotation stateside or overseas comes your way remember that you must have two types of military travel orders in hand before embarking on your tour of duty.

Recently an IMA discovered while on an AEF tour that they were not getting paid for duty. The reservist contacted the pay personnel for assistance only to find out that they were not on official orders in the military personnel system that impacts the pay process.

Why two orders? The first order, which is a Military Personnel Appropriations order, officially starts the tour of duty for your military pay/entitlements. The second order called a Contingency Exercise Deployment order is man-

datory if you are going to deploy OCONUS.

This CED order is a personnel movement order that tracks and accounts for your tour location. The CED orders cases must be presented as part of your official documentation for entry into a foreign country. The CED orders must be requested through proper coordination from your unit or military personnel readiness unit. The personnel readiness unit then notifies the AEF Center at Langley Air Force Base who in turn contacts ARPC in Denver, CO to publish the orders. Remember your active duty supervisor is also a key part of the coordination to either approve/disapprove your volunteerism to fill an AEF tour.

Again, all this must be accomplished prior to deploying so that you are in official military status and will get paid for this duty.

Air Force fitness program implementation

The recent publication of an AFRC supplement to AFI 10-248, *Fitness Program*, provided valuable information and guidance in the testing of the IMA force. While IMAs and PIRR are held to the same physical fitness standards as the active duty, there are some key differences that need to be highlighted. Most of these differences revolve around people who score in the "marginal" or "poor" categories.

To avoid any legal or medical liability issues, members must be in a duty status to test. This means that testing must be done while a member is performing an IDT or annual tour. Test scheduling and completion of the fitness questionnaire should be coordinated with your supervisor and Unit Fitness Program Monitor. IMAs that are mobilized or on extended orders fall under the provisions of the active duty fitness program.

If the member scores either "excellent" or "good," they do not retest again for 12 months. If the member scores "marginal" or "poor," they retest within 6 months. If the member scores in the "poor" category, they are not permitted to retest sooner than 45 days after the initial test. Reservists are afforded additional time

between retest periods, therefore, administrative actions follow a different timeline than the active duty program.

There is no mandatory Fitness Improvement Program for IMAs. IMAs and PIRR are required to participate in a Self-Paced Fitness Improvement Program.

Additionally, while administrative actions are recommended for non-participation in the FIP, there is no action recommended for non-participation in the SFIP.

Another key difference is the unit fitness program. IMA participation in unit fitness programs during duty hours is at the discretion of the active duty commander.

For members who are not medically cleared for the 1.5 mile run or live in locations that are 4,000 feet below the elevation of their testing location, cycle ergometry is used to assess their aerobic fitness. For locations that do not have access to cycle ergometry, the 1 mile walk test will be used. The 3 mile walk is not authorized for IMAs or PIRR. The deadline for completing your first fitness assessment is 31 December 2004. If you have any questions, please contact your unit fitness program manager.

Reservists give a helping hand

by Tech. Sgt.
Chance Babin
926th Fighter Wing
Public Affairs

CAMP TONDIBIAH, Niger (AFP) — A team of Air Force Reserve Command medical specialists arrived here Aug. 6 and quickly set up shop at the camp's medical clinic. They began seeing patients early Aug. 9.

The 12-person medical team deployed alongside a U.S. Marine counterterrorism team here which is outside Niamey, the African nation's capital.

Airmen from 11 different units form the AFRC team and include dentistry, optometry and general medicine specialists.

While the medical team is treating civilians in the local area, the Marines are training the Nigerian military to maintain a rapid-reaction force.

The medical team will be in the country for more than two weeks and provide health care for residents of eight nearby villages.

Before the team began treating local civilians, one doctor made sure the Nigerian soldiers were ready to train with the Marines. Capt. (Dr.) Steven Tittl, optometrist, examined 130 soldiers, fitting 63 for glasses on the eve of their first day of counterterrorism training. Dr. Tittl is from the 439th Aerospace Medicine Squadron at Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass.

During the doctor's eye exams, he encountered cataracts, dry eyes, corneal erosions, conjunctivitis, visual corrections and mostly far-sighted individuals.

The Nigerian troops will benefit greatly from his services, especially when they begin training with firearms in the next few weeks.

"The eye glasses that we distributed should improve their target skill and accuracy," Dr. Tittl said. "For my first day of work, it was very fulfilling to be able to improve the lives of these soldiers."



CAMP TONDIBIAH, Niger — Col. (Dr.) Omar Eaton checks a Nigerian girl's eye during a medical exam here. Dr. Eaton is part of a 12-person Air Force Reserve Command medical team performing a humanitarian mission in Niger. The doctor is an individual mobilization augmentee assigned to Andrews Air Force Base, Md. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Chance Babin)

All medical team members who are here volunteered for the humanitarian mission, said Maj. Melissa Triche, an AFRC medical planner.

"They're taking time away from their families and civilian jobs to provide top-notch medical care to the local population," she said.

"Everyone is looking forward to this unique opportunity to touch as many lives as possible in the short period of time they're here."

This is the second medical mission to the area as part of the international health specialist programs of AFRC, U.S. European Command and U.S. Air Forces in Europe.

"The (program) strives to build medical bridges and expand the medical capabilities of their reservists," said Tech. Sgt. Rey Garcia, the noncommissioned officer in charge of the program for AFRC at Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

Sergeant Garcia said these missions help Reserve medics gain readiness, cultural and international experience worldwide.

"You can train and prepare day in and day out at home station," he said, "but being immersed gives Airmen a good idea of how prepared they are to deploy."

Vote from page 1

Smith, a postmaster here. "Incomplete and inappropriate postmarks, which plagued the last general election, will not be a problem this time."

People should register and send their

ballots as soon as possible to ensure that the registration forms arrive on time, Major Harrington said.

While voting assistants and post office workers play a major role in the success of the election process, the buck stops with individual voters.

"We want to make sure the tools are in

place to help the voters, but ultimately it is their responsibility to start the process," Major Harrington said.

For more information about overseas voter registrations, visit the Federal Voting Assistance Program Web site at www.fvap.gov. (Courtesy of USAFE News Service)

Air Force symbol now official

by Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter
Air Force Print News

The Air Force symbol is now official, four years after the service first applied for trademark protection.

"I'm proud our symbol is now an official part of our heritage," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper. "It represents our storied past and links our 21st Century Air Force to our core values and capabilities."

The decision to designate it as the official symbol of the Air Force demonstrates the service's conviction to preserving the symbol's integrity and should ease concerns that the symbol is temporary or remains a test.

Trademark protection designates the symbol as exclusive property of the Air Force and gives the service authority to control and enforce its use.

A team of lawyers, public affairs officers, artists and historians are working to expand guidance and standards for the use of the symbol. An official Air Force Instruction is scheduled for release in fiscal 2005.

In the meantime, the intent is to expand use of the symbol today and protect it for the future. Use must be consistent with applicable Air Force instructions and symbol guidelines posted at www.af.mil/library/symbol/.

When Air Force officials began testing the symbol in 2001, it appeared on a limited number of base entry signs and water towers and a small number of aircraft and vehicles. Acceptance during the test was so widespread that in 2002, 90 percent of

Airmen surveyed thought the symbol was already official.

"Since then, I've seen Airmen wear it, drive it, eat it, carry it, embroider it and even brand it," said Maj. René Stockwell, of the Air Force public affairs national outreach and communications division, who manages the symbol Trademark licensing program.

The service is licensing use of the symbol on a variety of commercial goods, from candy and furniture to tires and jewelry, which allows Airmen to display their service pride off-duty.

On duty, the symbol is featured on optional military tie tacs, the proposed utility uniform and gray boots, the Air Force lightweight blue jacket and is being showcased in Air Force marketing campaigns.

"We've used the symbol to help encourage people to join,

Airmen to stay and [to] build understanding, appreciation and support for America's Air Force," Major Stockwell said.

Airmen and their families can help protect the integrity of the symbol by adhering to the guidelines online, the major said.

They have an implied license to use the Air Force symbol on personal items such as printed materials, food, clothing, literature and briefings. These items must be intended for personal or internal use only, not used for retail sales, advertising or unauthorized endorsements.

Any commercial use of the symbol, by individuals or companies, requires completion of a license agreement with the Air Force, Major Stockwell said.

People with questions not covered online can e-mail the Air Force Symbol office at afstory@pentagon.af.mil.



U.S. AIR FORCE

DOD and services battle identity theft

The Defense Department along with the services are taking steps to protect their people and their families from becoming victims of **identity theft**:

- Earlier this year, DFAS dropped the first five digits of Social Security numbers from all hard-copy LESs and checks
- DoD put in place measures in the E-Govt Act of 2001 that control what personal information gets posted on government Websites
- DoD has teamed up with the FTC to launch Military Sentinel,

an online complaint network that enables military people and DoD civilians to report identity theft and other consumer frauds

·The AF plans to launch a new public Internet site that will include identity theft and consumer fraud updates and preventive materials

Senior leaders said...

Last year, nearly 10 million Americans had their **identities stolen** by criminals who rob them and the nation's businesses of nearly \$50 billion through fraudulent transactions.

The government has a responsibility to protect citizens from these crimes and the grief and hassle they cause. (Pres. Bush, July 2004)

Find more info on **identity theft** at the FTC site. Log on to, www.consumer.gov/idtheft/.

JAG and paralegal news

Fiscal Year 2005 JAG school courses

Mandatory IMA Judge Advocate/Paralegal Courses: Attendees will be notified by ARPC/JA if scheduled to attend in FY 05 and will be directed to submit a WOTS request as required.

- **Annual Survey of the Law** – Jan. 21 - 22
- **Reserve Forces Judge Advocate Course** – Oct. 18 - 22, May 9 - 13
- **Reserve Forces Paralegal Course** May 9 - 20
- **Senior Reserve Forces Paralegal Course** Nov. 1 - 5

Optional IMA Judge Advocate Courses: If interested, submit a WOTS request 75-90 days prior to the class start date. ARPC/JA will notify those selected to attend approximately 60 days prior to the course.

- **Advanced Labor and Employment Law Course** – May 23 - 27
- **Claims and Tort Litigation Course** – Jan 31 - Feb. 8
- **Deployed Fiscal Law and Contingency Contracting** – Dec. 14 - 17
- **Environmental Law Course** – Jan. 10 - 14
- **Environmental Law Update Course** – June 27 - 29
- **Federal Employee and Labor Law Course** – Oct. 4 - 8
- **Fiscal Law Course (Army JAG School/DL)** – Feb. 7 - 11
- **International Law Course** – June 8 - 10
- **Military Judges Seminar** – April 19 - 22
- **Operations Law Course** – May 16 - 27, Sept. 19 - 29, 2005
- **Total Air Force Operations Law Course** – Feb. 25 - 27

Optional IMA Paralegal Courses: If interested, the IMA paralegal must submit a letter to ARPC/JA stating the reasons for wanting to attend the course. It must include the Law Office Manager's endorsement with their recommendation and why. A board will

be held to select attendees. Selectees will be notified to submit a WOTS request a minimum of 60 days prior to the class start date.

Law Office Managers Course – June 13-24, **suspense:** April 1
Military Justice Administration Course – April 25-29, **suspense:** Feb. 1

Operations Law Course – May 16-27, **suspense:** Feb. 15 and Sept. 19-29, **suspense:** July 1.

WOTS Accuracy

Going on tour soon? It's very important to ensure all WOTS requests accurately describe the tour and type of duty. The remarks field has plenty of space so please use it, especially for tours other than annual training.

Specifically, if it is a MPA tour, ensure the POC is identified at TDY location that will provide a fund cite. This saves JAR time in tracking this information down, and speeds up processing or orders requests. For all tours, remember to complete any justifications for any Special Authorizations or the request will be returned.

Hails and farewells

ARPC/JA welcomes our new Chief, Reserve Judge Advocate Program, Mr Bill Hoerman, and IMA Judge Advocate orders clerk, Mrs. Maryann Rangel. They are welcome additions to the legal staff. Ms. Denise McGee has departed to take another position outside ARPC.

Hotline available for outside of command chain

Department of Defense Inspector General Joseph Schmitz is reminding servicemembers there are a number of ways to report suspected incidents of wrongdoing outside their chains of command.

His office runs the DOD Hotline Program. Servicemembers and civilians who wish to report incidents without going through their chains of command can take full advantage of this program.

Those with suspicions can call toll free (800) 424-9098, commercial (703) 604- 8569, or DSN 664-8569 to report misdeeds.

Servicemembers and civilians can also mail their concerns to: The Defense Hotline, The Pentagon, Washington, D.C., 20301-1900. The e-mail address is hotline@dodig.osd.mil.

The push to inform servicemembers of this option grew out of the recent series of Senate hearings about prisoner abuse in Iraq. Senators believed there was no way for servicemembers to report wrongdoing outside their chains of command.

For more information, go to the inspector general's Web site at <http://www.dodig.osd.mil/>. (Courtesy of American Forces Press Service)

Fund-raising ethics

The upcoming kickoff of the Combined Federal Campaign serves as a reminder about ethics regulations on fund-raising and solicitation in the workplace.

Only the Air Force Assistance Fund and CFC are officially endorsed workplace fund-raising events.

- Fund-raising or soliciting conducted in a purely personal capacity is permitted if

- It is conducted away from the government workplace

- It occurs exclusively outside the purview of your official position

Whether raising funds or soliciting goods for private organizations (athletic clubs, civic groups, etc.) or for unofficial activities of your DoD organization (banquets, picnics, etc.), you may not

- Solicit DoD contractors

- Solicit subordinates
- Use your official title, position or organization name

- Use government resources such as time, materials or subordinates

- Fund-raise in uniform



Senior leaders said ...

- Ethics is a philosophy of how you do business and how you deal with people and how you view your responsibilities.

When there is an ethical lapse by any one of us, it hurts and taints us all. – Secretary of the Air Force

Ideas that work ...

To learn AF policy on specific ethical issues, please view the issue-specific pamphlets outside of Pentagon 4C916 or visit the SAF/GCA Ethics Web site at <http://www.safgc.hq.af.mil/ethics.htm>.

Briefs

RPA orders reminder

ARPC distributes upwards of 80,000 copies of orders and amendments to IMAs and major commands annually so members can perform annual and special tours. In addition, we receive numerous requests to redistribute orders due to members losing them, throwing them away, destroying them, and forgetting to take them on their tours.

Your orders are official government documents, and should be safeguarded and saved for current and future reference.

Rewritten Airman's Manual coming

An Airman's most important deployment tool just got better.

The original Air Force Manual 10-100, the "Airman's Manual," published in 1999, has been revised and updated and hits the streets July 19.

"Within four weeks, we will distribute more than 675,000 copies to every active duty member, reservist and guardsman," said David Epstein, the training and publications manager for the Air Force civil engineer readiness branch. An electronic version is already available on the Air Force portal.

One major improvement combines the manual with Air Force Handbook 32-4014, Volume 4, "USAF Ability to Survive and Operate Procedures in a Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Environment."

Another important feature is the addition of about 20 pages of potential life-saving information, Steve Prier said.

"The experts reviewed each section to ensure accuracy, then added essential information from lessons learned from operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, or any other items they found to be important over past five years," Mr. Prier said.

Every bluesuiter will get a copy of the manual, with deployed and deploying Airmen getting their copies first through their unit deployment managers. Certain emergency-essential civilians and contractors will also get them.

Shades of Green reopens Walt Disney World doors to military families

More military members and their families can exclaim "I'm going to Disney World," thanks to the recent expansion of Shades of Green Armed Forces Recreation Center on Walt Disney World Resort. Shades of Green makes the Central Florida vacation experience affordable for those who have stayed there. Affordability, a term often lost on visitors to Disney World, is the main attraction to Shades of Green. Room rates are based on rank and range from \$70 to \$225 per night for a standard room and \$82 to \$119 for a poolside room.

With the reopening, it has more than doubled in size with the addition of 299 rooms to the previous 287, plus a 500-seat ballroom, two new restaurants, and a second heated swimming pool. The upgraded complex also better accommodates buses that shuttle guests around Disney's property, separate from the flow of traffic near the hotel's check-in area. For more information, go to http://www.military.com/NewsContent/0,13319,usa2_040604.00.html

Operation Blue to Green

Under Operation Blue to Green, a new DoD program intended to rebalance the size of the military, Airmen and Sailors can continue their service by transferring to the active duty Army or the Army Reserve.

The program comes at a time when the AF plans to reduce its force by 20,000 Airmen and the Navy to cut 8,000 Sailors, while Army strength may see a significant increase by numbers not yet determined.

The program will focus on grades E-1 through E-5, but other grades, including commissioned officers and cadets, will be considered to meet Army needs.

Basic requirements of the Blue to Green program are:

- Be physically fit
- Meet Army height and weight standards
- Eight-year service obligation still applies
- Minimum term of service is three years
- Just have approved DD Form 368, Request for Conditional Release

The Army plans to give bonuses to Airmen and Sailors whose skills convert to the Army's most-needed MOSs. Those transferring will have no break in service and won't lose 'banked' Montgomery GI Bill benefits.

•There are 120 AF specialty codes that will transfer into 37 Army MOSs, and the Navy has 112 ratings that will transfer into 42 Army MOSs. Those are 'Job One,' but we're looking at others as well.

We're also looking for officers, primarily junior officers. (Chief, Army Enlisted Accessions Div, Jul 04)

•For more info on Operation Blue to Green, log on to <http://www.goarmy.com/btg/index.jsp>.

Revised 'Tongue and Quill' available online

What started as a research paper here nearly 30 years ago has become the Air Force's leading reference on writing and speaking.

In 1975, then-Air Command and Staff College student Maj. Hank Staley submitted as his research paper the first version of what is now "The Tongue and Quill."

The latest revision of the handbook is now available online, said Sharon McBride, an ACSC writer and editor who headed the revision effort. A hardcopy version will not be published.

For the most part, the 2004 edition retains most of the writing and speaking tips of past editions.

Revisions include improved organization of the information, a rearranged layout, updated quotes, art and word lists, and new information on writing and speaking such as persuasive communications, meetings, briefings and electronic communications.

Ms. McBride and a team of researchers in the department of communications studies at ACSC started work on the revision in 2000. The last version of "The Tongue and Quill," known formally as Air Force Handbook 33-337, was published in 1997 with 100,000 printed copies. The next revision is scheduled for 2007.

The current edition is available online at the Air Force Publications Web site at www.e-publishing.af.mil.

Briefs

'Military One Source' Helps With Problems

"Military One Source" is a "one-stop" place to go whenever servicemembers or family members need assistance with any kind of problem anytime, worldwide. Military One Source provides information on a gamut of situations: from needing a plumber in the middle of the night to fix a broken pipe, to needing veterinary service for a sick dog. It also helps families new to an area find childcare, or information about the school system, summer jobs. People should not be afraid or embarrassed to seek help from Military One Source. The person at the other end of the phone is not going to be judgmental about the situation.

Military One Source toll-free numbers are (800) 342-9647 in the United States, (800) 3429-6477 outside the United States (where available) and (484) 530-5747 to call international collect.

For more information on Military One Source, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123008091>.

Retroactive reimbursement available for R&R

Servicemembers who traveled on rest and recuperation leave while deployed supporting operations Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom between Sept. 25 and Dec. 18, may be eligible for reimbursement of airline costs.

Reimbursement for airline costs is retroactive for those people who paid for commercial airline tickets from the port they flew into from overseas, such as Baltimore-Washington International Airport, to their final leave destination. According to records, about 40,000 servicemembers traveled during the period. More information is available at www.armyg1.army.mil/WellBeing/RRLLeave/index.HTM.

Some members may get GI bill boost

Guardsmen and reservists whose active duty time is extended past the normal 12-month call-up may be eligible for active duty-level benefits of the Montgomery GI Bill under certain circumstances.

Reserve-component people are now eligible for the greater active duty benefit of \$800 or \$985 per month for full-time training, depending on their length of service when their active-duty time is extended to 24 or more months. Currently, reserve-component people receive only \$282 per month for full-time training. To be eligible for the same benefits active-duty people get, guardsmen and reservists must have served for 24 months without a break in service.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123008117> or visit the Veteran's Administration GI Bill Web site at <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>.

Rules restrict political activity for DOD people

With election activity steadily picking up, defense officials remind servicemembers and Defense Department civilians that they

are subject to rules regulating their involvement in political activities.

Today, two sets of rules help protect the integrity of the political process: a DOD directive for active-duty servicemembers and the Hatch Act for federal civilians. These rules keep the military out of partisan politics and ensure that the workplace remains politically neutral. While the restrictions concerning political activity may vary, the basic rules hold true for all DOD workers. They cannot use their position to influence or interfere with an election, and they can never engage in political activity on the job, in a government vehicle or while wearing an official uniform.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123008146>.

Air force approves 'V' for heroism award

The "V" device, to represent valor, has been authorized for Distinguished Flying Crosses awarded for heroism. It allows any Reserve, Guard or active duty Airman or Air Force DFC recipient honored for heroism on or after Sept. 18, 1947, to wear the "V" device on the DFC. Airmen may purchase the "V" device from an Army and Air Force Exchange Service clothing sales store or contact their servicing military personnel flight awards and decorations section for issue. Veterans may purchase the device through exchange or commercial sources.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123008077>.

PME incorporates Fit-to-Fight program

Professional Military Education students will exercise under a more formal structure beginning in August as part of the Fit-to-Fight initiative. Students will perform physical conditioning three days a week to reinforce the school's new focus. Every program will comply with guidance provided in Air Force Instruction 10-248.

Course attendees will notice a focus on combat leadership throughout enlisted PME. This includes lessons such as national security strategy, joint-force components, expeditionary Airman, terrorism and force protection, force packaging and joint perspectives. The major difference in curriculum is a focus on the combat environment verses a business environment.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123008222>.

NCOs teaching at ROTC detachments

Air Force ROTC cadets at 10 universities will soon see stripes in their classrooms. In a new program, noncommissioned officers will begin serving as instructors at Air Force ROTC detachments, positions normally held by commissioned officers. The three-year program will incorporate enlisted perspectives into the curriculum and highlight the relationship that exists between officers and enlisted Airmen. If the successful, the program will be extended to all 144 Air Force ROTC detachments.

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For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123008116>.

Treatment available to troops suffering from combat stress

DOD health officials are trying to reach out to those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan who may be suffering from combat-related mental-health problems or post-traumatic stress disorder.

A recently released first-of-its-kind medical report that showed frontline action adversely affected the mental health of some servicemembers.

Combat veterans and their families should watch for changes in behavior that can range from mild depressive and anxiety symptoms to trouble sleeping and nightmares, but the problems are not always mild, and the symptoms are not always subtle. Servicemembers can get confidential counseling through "Military "One Source" program.

The 24-hour-a-day service is for servicemembers and their families, and provides quick, professional assistance with problems.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123008174>.

Formflow deleted from publishing site

After replacing FormFlow software with the Information Management Tool viewer, officials at the Air Force's departmental publishing office recently sealed the deal by officially taking down all FormFlow forms from its online Web site repository.

Established at www.e-publishing.af.mil, users will no longer find "forms" as they once knew them.

Instead, they can find IMTs, the new name for forms in the Air Force. As of June, all FormFlow products were replaced with their corresponding IMTs.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123008211>.

PME Career Development Courses

Have you wondered how to enroll in a mandatory Career Development Course or a Professional Military Education course by correspondence? We direct you to go to <http://arpc.afrc.af.mil>, Main Subjects, Education and Training then find the CDC PME ORDER FORM. You must ensure that you fill out the form completely.

When asked for the Test Control Office. Basically, this is the nearest installation nearest you. If the location is not an approved AF TCO, we will contact you. Once you place the order, your materials/test should arrive in 4-5 weeks.

If you need to change your mailing address, TCO address, request an extension or even if you have a question use this form.

The ARPC Web site will indicate (under COURSE CATALOG), what courses are available, enrollment requirements, and enrollment limitations. If you have a question or concern

regarding the Web site, you can contact us at arpc.dpmatmiltng@arpc.denver.mil.

Division realigns branches

In an effort to streamline the retirement processes and improve our customer service the Retirement Eligibility Division has realigned their branches. This new alignment more effectively balances the workload between the three branches using the last two numbers of the member's Social Security number:

- Branch A – 00 – 31
- Branch B – 32 – 67
- Branch C – 68 – 99

What does this mean? It's the elimination of fragmentation between the branches; technicians no longer are delayed waiting for an audit but are responsible for working the entire retirement process from beginning to end.

Now when members call questioning the status of their pay forms or the number of retirement points technicians will have ready access to everything needed to answer their questions. It means pay accounts will be established earlier so retiring members receive their pay on time. It means improved customer service.

CONUS COLA Information

Reservists are not entitled to CONUS cost of living allowance for the first 139 days of a call or order to active duty. The exception is a contingency order.

CONUS COLA is only paid to members who are in the commuting area, and is based on the zip code on the orders. Additional information can be found at <http://www.dtic.mil/perdiem/ccola.html>.

AF pharmacies implement new guidelines

Some high-use, but expensive medications will no longer be distributed by Air Force pharmacies. In addition to being faced with more expensive drugs coming to market this year, there has been an 8 percent price increase in the approximately 150 high-use medications contained on the contract list.

To assist in meeting the medical service fiscal parameters, changes will be made in dispensing non-sedating antihistamines, some arthritis medications and insulin. For patients requesting refills on the medications being deleted, a 30-day supply will be provided to allow them enough time to obtain a new prescription for another medication. Patients who have questions regarding their pharmacy benefit can contact their local pharmacy.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123008207>.

Naturalization benefits

The FY04 NDAA, provided legislation to authorize extension of naturalization benefits to members of the Selected Reserve who have served honorably. The bill extends the immigration benefits to those serving as reservists and in the National Guard.

Visit the following Web site for additional details: <http://uscis.gov/graphics/services/natz/MilitaryBrochurev7.htm>