

Mohawk

442nd Fighter Wing

Vol. 57 No. 1

January 2005

Air Force Reserve Command



**An
employer's
support
... see page 5**



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Chain of command key to organization

By Chief Master Sgt. David Isaacson

One of the most essential and fundamental principles of management in the Air Force is establishing and following of a chain of command. Essentially, there are two key links in the chain that closely affect us.

The first is between our selves and our boss. This link provides us with our taskings and our boss with feedback on our problems and accomplishments. The second link is between us and those Airmen who report directly to us (we supervise them and provide them feedback on their performance). This link provides them with their taskings and provides us with feedback.

All uniformed services of the United States are arranged organizationally to follow this single chain of command concept, which provides a clear structure for orders to flow from the highest levels of the military to the most junior ranking Soldier, Sailor, Airman and Marine. Just as important, this same concept allows information, ideas and complaints to flow upward from the most junior person to the highest levels. The Air Force is organized to permit information to flow both ways through each organization.

We have all heard the adage, “a chain is only as strong as its weakest link.” So it is with the chain of command, it is strongest if we all effectively utilize it. The chain of command provides the control and communications necessary to accomplish the mission. Each level in the chain is responsible for a lower level and accountable to all higher levels. The chain cannot work without loyalty to every level. With loyalty up and down the chain, it is a highly efficient and effective system for getting things done. The key principle is to resolve problems and seek answers at the lowest possible level.

It is imperative that we all follow chain of command to the greatest extent possible in all our official dealings. If we have a task that we know will ultimately be done by an Airman two links down the chain, give the tasking to the Airman’s boss (who works directly for you) and let it flow down from there. If you task the Airman directly, they will wonder who their real boss is. In addition, the intermediate supervisor will wonder what role they are supposed to play when you bypass them and go straight to the Airman. Put yourself in their shoes and you will probably agree you would feel more comfortable receiving all your taskings from a single source (your boss) rather than direct from other people higher up the chain.

The single chain of command concept permits an organization to delegate authority and direct orders from its leadership through all of its members while at the same time members can channel information up to the leadership. If we adhere to the chain of command it will work just as it is designed to work – providing a constant flow of information up and down, strengthening each link with the necessary taskings and feedback. For that reason, it is imperative that all military members follow their chain of command at all times. By doing this, we can strengthen our own contribution, which, strengthen our organization and facilitate our mission objectives.

On the cover: Kansas City Police Capt. Jerry Gallagher and Master Sgt. Lowell Lacy survey the flight line during the captain’s recent visit to Whiteman AFB. For more turn to page five. (Photograph by Master Sgt. Bill Huntington)

Mohawk



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COMMANDER, 442ND FW
Col. Pat Cord
CHIEF, PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Maj. David Kurle
PA NCOIC/EDITOR
Master Sgt. Bill Huntington
PA STAFF
Staff Sgt. Angela Blazier
Staff Sgt. Leo Brown
Senior Airman
Jennifer Adriano

For more information, call public affairs at commercial voice number: (660) 687-3842 or fax at: (660) 687-2985. DSN:975-3842/3844, or fax: DSN:975-2985. E-mail submissions or questions to: william.huntington@whiteman.af.mil

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442nd Fighter Wing Tip of the Spear

Senior Master Sgt. Jonathan Lowe 442nd Operations Support Flight

Senior Master Sgt. Jonathan Lowe is the 442nd Operations Support Flight, Intelligence Superintendent and is responsible for coordinating all intelligence operations for the 442nd Fighter Wing. He oversees external and internal intelligence training for a staff of 12 and has recently provided training to members of U.S. Strategic Command.

Sergeant Lowe seized the opportunity to show others the experiences the intelligence shop gained from Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. His efforts have made the intelligence office an invaluable wing asset. Sergeant Lowe also acts as the group's Force Protection monitor, Operational Risk Management facilitator and is an Exercise Evaluation Team member.

Editor's note: The "442nd Fighter Wing Tip of the Spear" is a monthly award recognizing superior performers within the wing. Nominations are made through the group commanders. Photo/Illustration by Staff Sgt. Angela Blazier and Master Sgt. Bill Huntington



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. BILL HUNTINGTON

Command Changes

The March Unit Training Assembly included several command changes. Above, Capt. Dan Diercks presents a memento from the 442nd Security Forces Squadron to Maj. Charles Cornelius. Earlier Capt. Diercks accepted command of the 442nd SFS and Maj. Cornelius accepted command of the 442nd Communications Flight.

At right Col. Pat Cord presents the 442nd Operations Group flag to Col. Tony Johnson, the new 442nd OG commander. Col. Johnson replaces Col. Mark Ronco who became the 442nd Fighter Wing vice commander.

In another recent command change, Lt. Col. John Hoff accepted command of the 303rd Fighter Squadron upon the retirement of Lt. Col. David Graham.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ANGELA BLAZIER



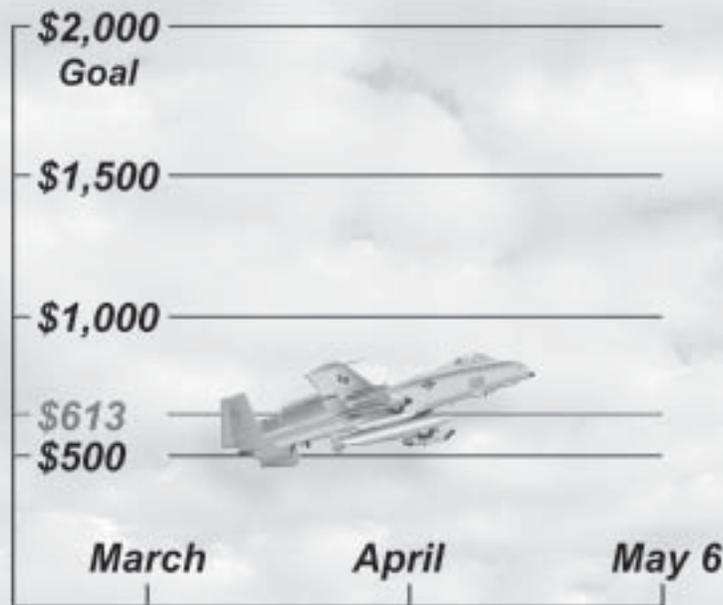
PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. BILL HUNTINGTON

“Gunny” visits 442nd Fighter Wing

Film actor R. Lee Ermey signs an autograph for Tech. Sgt. Becky Smith, 442nd Maintenance Operations Flight, during a visit to Whiteman AFB. Ermey, also known as

“Gunny,” visited the base to film an episode of his show “Mail Call,” a military-related series aired weekly on the History Channel.

Air Force Assistance Fund 442nd FW donations to date: \$613



AFRC senior officer moves

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command personnel officials here announced several senior officer actions in March.

Brig. Gen. Jack C. Ihle, commander of the 917th Wing, Barksdale AFB, La., will retire April 3. Col. Robert O. Tarter, mobilization assistant to the deputy chief of Air Force Reserve, Pentagon, will replace General Ihle as the 917th Wing commander April 3.

Col. Michael A. Cleveland, director of personnel at Headquarters AFRC, Robins AFB, will become director of personnel at Headquarters Air Force Office of Special Investigations, Andrews AFB, Md., effective June 10. Steve L. Mann, deputy director of personnel at Headquarters AFRC, will replace Colonel Cleveland as AFRC director of personnel effective June 1.

Col. Kevin L. Reinert, director of public affairs at Headquarters AFRC, Robins AFB, will retire effective July 1. Lt. Col. Thomas A. Deall, director of public affairs at Headquarters Air Reserve Personnel Center, Denver, will replace Colonel Reinert as AFRC director of public affairs, at a yet to be determined date. Colonel Deall is a colonel selectee. (AFRC News Service)

Employer helps activated reservist return to job

By Master Sgt. Bill Huntington

Most activated reservists know that current law ensures that they will still have their civilian jobs upon returning home. For one 442nd Security Forces Squadron member activated following the Sept. 11, 2001 attack on America, however, it didn't quite mean the same job.

Prior to "9/11," Master Sgt. Lowell Lacy worked as a dog handler with the Kansas City, Mo. Police Department's canine unit. It was a job that he enjoyed it and his military training helped him get the job when he started in November of 2000.

"He was very impressive," Capt. Jerry Gallagher, KCPD patrol support unit commander, said of his first meeting with Sergeant Lacy. "He was by far the superior performer during the selection process [and his] military experience played a huge role in that. When his supervisor, [police Sergeant Frank Jarowitz], told me that they were [hiring] Lowell Lacy, I thought it was a great pick."

Capt. Gallagher's unit is responsible for the canine section as well as the police department's helicopter and critical incident site management sections.

For the next year Sergeant Lacy worked in KCPD blue with his dog at his side.

Following the 9/11 attacks, Sergeant Lacy, then on inactive Air Force Reserve status, decided it was time to re-join the 442nd SFS. An activation order came for Sergeant Lacy the following January and he had to don the Air Force uniform full time.

With the activation, Capt. Gallagher and Sergeant Jarowitz, had a hard decision to make in relation to the unique nature of Sergeant Lacy's civilian position..

Dog handlers, like Sergeant Lacy, are assigned to a single dog and are entrusted with its daily care and training. Handler and dog form a bond which allows the pair to interact as a team. Both handler and animal learn how each other responds in any given situation.

"We had a lot invested [in the training] of [Sergeant Lacy's] dog and we couldn't let the dog sit dormant for a year while he was away," Capt. Gallagher said. "We had to pick another handler [to take Lowell's place] and keep the dog active."

Sergeant Lacy's nine months of activation took him to bases around the US and overseas for Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom. His supervisor and fellow police officers kept in touch with him during his travels.

"I had email contact with [the department] while I was away and was told all of the time that if I ever needed anything to just let them know," Sergeant Lacy said. "Everybody was very supportive and eager to do whatever they could to help me."

Finally the day came when Sergeant Lacy was able to hang up his battle dress uniform and return to police duty. Happy to be wearing a KCPD badge again, he also faced a reality that made the return bittersweet.

"We didn't have the open position as a handler and when Lowell came back, we had to assign him to duties as a



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. BILL HUNTINGTON
Master Sgt. Lowell Lacy (left) greets, visiting police Capt. Jerry Gallagher (right) as Lt. Col. Larry Henshaw, 442nd Maintenance Group, looks on.

regular patrol officer," Captain Gallagher said.

"Everybody was working to get me back in [the canine unit] but I knew that it probably wasn't going to happen," said Sergeant Lacy. "Somebody else was in my old position and I just couldn't go in and take it away from him."

At the time, the department didn't have the money that it takes to add a position, add a vehicle and buy another dog to the canine unit.

Sergeant Lacy drove the streets of Kansas City as a regular patrol officer with the Center Patrol for the next eight months, all the while hoping to someday return to his old job.

"Being a canine handler is all I've ever wanted to do," Sergeant Lacy said.

He kept in touch with the officers in the canine unit and learned that the prospects of returning there were looking brighter. Behind the scenes, Capt. Gallagher, Sergeant Jarowitz, and others on the department, lobbied their superiors intensively to make those hopes a reality.

"When they activated him I said that I would do everything I can to get him back out here [at the canine section]," Capt. Gallagher said. He kept his promise.

Sergeant Jarowitz and Capt. Gallagher's work eventually paid off. At the time [then Police Col. James] Corwin had the ability to do add the position and, after several meetings with the persistent pair, gave approval for the new position.

"They really pushed to add a position to the canine unit," Sergeant Lacy said of their efforts.

Capt. Gallagher was unabashed about supporting an officer like Sergeant Lacy but down played his own role in the matter by giving credit to Col. Corwin, now the department's police chief.

"It was just the right thing to do," he said. "[Sergeant] Jarowitz and I talked about it a million times but the Chief played the big role in it. He is the one that got it done"

Once again assigned to the canine unit, Sergeant Lacy is grateful for their efforts in his behalf. He is also very glad to be back working for Captain Gallagher again.

"He is a great guy," Sergeant Lacy said of Capt. Gallagher. "He did everything he could to help me get back."



PHOTO PROVIDED BY CAPT. EMILE FERNANDO

Capt. Emile Fernando's travels took him to many areas devastated by the Dec. 26 tsunami and to many families left homeless in its wake. Through it all, the 710th MDS reservist repeatedly witnessed the Sri Lankan's tenacity and resourcefulness.

710th MDS reservist brings aid to tsunami victims in Sri Lanka

By Joanne Fox
Sioux City Journal

Editor's note: This article is reprinted with the author's permission.

JEFFERSON, S.D. — Something bothered Emile Fernando for a long time after the tsunami wreaked its havoc the day after Christmas.

"It ate at me," explained the native of Malaysia. "I grew up in that area; I have a bunch of relatives who still live there."

Fernando, a captain assigned to the 710th Medical Squadron, said he felt the need to do something, and started to pursue the possibility of going to Sri Lanka, where he had extended family. He had hoped to hook up with an aid organization, but most of them were looking for a three-month commitment.

The 710th MDS is a medical unit under the umbrella of the 442nd Fighter Wing but geographically separated at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

"I wanted to help in any way possible, and since I'm a physician's assistant at the Center for Neurosciences, Ortho-

paedics and Spine, (in Dakota Dunes located in southeastern South Dakota), I thought helping out medically would be the best thing to offer," he said.

That kind of work was certainly important immediately after the tsunami and earthquake claimed more than 160,000 lives in the Far East (38,000 of those were in Sri Lanka) and the threat of disease was imminent.

"But as the weeks went by, I realized that there might be other ways to help and I had decided by then to go regardless of how I might be used," Capt. Fernando added.

In two week's time, the decision was made, the papers were shuffled and the flight was locked in to visit Sri Lanka for three weeks, from Jan. 30 to Feb. 20.

"My cousin didn't ask me to bring anything when I told him I was coming," Capt. Fernando recalled. "He just said, 'Come here and we'll sort things out when you get here.'"

Capt. Fernando decided to take some of his money and donations from friends, transfer them to traveler's checks and distribute the funds with help from his first cousin's son, Shiran Fernando, a Sri Lanka businessman who works for a company that was a sup-

plier of produce for grocery stores.

“Next thing I know, people at Mercy Medical heard about my trip and were organizing a potluck,” Capt. Fernando marveled. “They raised over \$2,000 which Mercy Medical matched and I suddenly had over \$8,500 in donations!”

“Then another \$2,500 came in while he was over there,” wife Kelli interjected. “We couldn’t believe people’s generosity.”

“I’m no aid organization and there is no tax deduction involved for people,” Capt. Fernando added. “This little trip took on a completely different dimension.”

Capt. Fernando, who was awarded a bachelor’s degree in nursing from Briar Cliff University and his P.A. from the University of North Dakota, still had it in the back of his mind that his health care background would be best used in Sri Lanka. He arrived in the capital city of Colombo and was met by Shiran. His cousin dispelled his ideas about assisting with health needs, pointing out that other countries had medical centers set up that were completely staffed.

“My cousin felt the same way I did; he wanted to do something,” Capt. Fernando said. “So, as a businessman, he took his finances and resources and looked around and decided to load up a truck and take pots, pans and clothing to the areas most in need.”

The pair traveled south first to the Ambalangoda area and visited an elementary school, which had lost its stove and refrigerator. In addition to replacing the appliances, the pair bought bookbags for the students. Capt. Fernando also distributed toothbrushes and toothpaste courtesy of a friend who is in the dentistry business.

The pair took a cross-country trip to the Trincomalee area on the east side of the island which was in the hardest-hit area. Here were fishermen who had lost boat motors in the wake of the tsunami.

“My cousin had contacted the military and found out about the need to fix about 150 engines,” Capt. Fernando explained. “Although originally, the charge was to be \$150 to fix an engine, we talked the repairers down to \$100 to stretch the money we had.”

Capt. Fernando and Shiran traveled to a refugee camp loaded with kids. For the little ones, the pair provided toys, stuffed animals and money for necessities. Another woman, who lost her husband, but still had a son and another child on the way, was also on the list of most needy and was the recipient of a cash donation. A laundry man lost his entire family and was given \$300 by the pair.

“Sure, it doesn’t bring his family back,” Capt. Fernando said, displaying a digital photo of the man standing in the rubble of his house and a child’s bookbag prominent in the foreground, “but it helps.”

Particularly poignant for Capt. Fernando and Shiran was another cousin, who with his wife and child survived the disaster. They lost a son the previous year to a heart defect. This year, they lost their home and all of their belongings.

“‘There are no more beggars,’ my cousin quipped, ‘because we are all tsunami victims,’” Capt. Fernando shared, showing another digital photo of the trio, standing in the debris of what once was a house.

Another relative who received cash was the pair’s aunt; a Catholic nun with the Sisters of Perpetual Help who operate an orphanage. The institution was asked to help children orphaned by the tsunami before less generous folks took them in.

“Kids who lost parents and also extended families are being caught up by people who take them in and make them house ser-

vants,” Capt. Fernando explained. “What do these kids know? They’re just grateful to have a place live.”

In addition to the chaos brought on by the natural disaster, unrest was evident in the country as well. Fighting between the Sinhalese, who have control of the government, and the Tamil rebels has been going on since the early 1980s. While Capt. Fernando was visiting Sri Lanka, E. Kausalyan — the Tamil’s political chief — was killed when he and five others were ambushed after overseeing reconstruction efforts in a rebel stronghold in eastern Sri Lanka.

“With the ugliness of the wave, comes the ugliness of people,” Capt. Fernando mused. “It isn’t just the rebels though; it’s people who try and take advantage of those who have lost so much.”

He continued, “Here are normal people, like you and me, and suddenly any connection to a home is gone. Death has occurred in many families, not to mention loved ones missing, and plus they are in shock over this. They are easily taken advantage of.”

This wasn’t Capt. Fernando’s first visit to the beautiful island country in the Indian Ocean, located about 20 miles off the southeast coast of India. He and Kelli visited there about eight years ago and had kept in contact with extended family through Christmas cards.

Sri Lanka has moved from the immediate emergency of the tsunami to a reconstruction phase. Although countries and organizations have pledged millions, most people have not seen any money, Capt. Fernando noted.

“People were being told they would receive about \$50 a week, based on the potential donations,” he explained. “However, no one we met had received any money and even the food they were getting, for example the rice, was inferior in quality.”

However, Capt. Fernando said the mood among Sri Lankans remained optimistic, despite the red tape surrounding distribution efforts.

“What stood out for me more than anything else on this trip was that these are tough, proud, resourceful people,” he noted.

“They are not ones to sit back or beg or wait for a hand out.”



PHOTO PROVIDED BY CAPT. EMILE FERNANDO

At refugee camps, Capt. Fernando supplied children with stuffed animals and, on many occasions, more than a little happiness.



AFRC Command Post Airman of the Year

Senior Airman Adrian Walker, 442nd Fighter Wing Command Post controller, has been selected to be the Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command's Command Post Airman of the Year Award for 2004.

Airman Walker beat out command post controllers from other Reserve units around the command to earn the title.



New health plan extends care for activated reservists

WASHINGTON – Health care for reservists gets a booster shot April 25. That's when a premium-based health care plan starts for those activated for a contingency anytime since 9/11.

Department of Defense officials announced Tricare Reserve Select at a Pentagon news conference March 24.

TRS offers a bridge for reservists entering or leaving active duty who are not covered by a civilian employer or other health insurance plan. It's similar to Tricare Standard and comparable to the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plan for federal employees.

Monthly premiums for a reservist are \$75. A reservist and family pays \$233. Premiums will be adjusted annually.

Air Force reservists must serve on active duty for 90 consecutive days or more on or after Sept. 11, 2001, in support of a contingency. And, they must enter an agreement with Air Force Reserve Command to serve in the Selected Reserve for one or more years before leaving active duty. If they got off active duty, they have until Oct. 28 to apply.

Reservists earn one year of care for every 90 days of continuous active-duty service and every year of service commitment. For example, reservists with 360 days of qualifying active duty can get four years of coverage if they sign up for four years in the Selected Reserve.

Coverage ends when the service agreement ends. It stops sooner if the reservist separates from the Selected Reserve, voluntarily withdraws from the program or fails to pay the monthly premiums.

The Tricare Web site – www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/reserveselect – will have more details. To get updates by e-mail, reservists and their families can subscribe to www.tricare.osd.mil/tricaresubscriptions/.

For reservists enrolled in the Transitional Assistance Management Program, coverage will start the day after TAMP ends. (AFRC News Service)

Saluting our members moving up, moving in

Congratulations

442nd Maintenance Operations Flight

Senior Master Sgt. Rusty Wedemeyer
442nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Senior Master Sgt. Charles Samson
Master Sgt. Victor Hannah
Airman Zachary Hulm

442nd Security Forces Squadron

Master Sgt. Louis Vallejo

442nd Communications Flight

Master Sgt. Robert Pacheco

442nd Services Flight

Master Sgt. Teresa Gonzalez

442nd Mission Support Flight

Master Sgt. Lawrence Washington
Airman Christifer Mulford

303rd Fighter Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Paul Cheshareck

Airman 1st Class William Raymond

710th Medical Squadron

Staff Sgt. Christina Snyder

Staff Sgt. Anastasia Lopez

Senior Airman Joshua Smith

Airman Mallary Hanger

442nd Logistics Readiness Squadron

Staff Sgt. Jemar Manning

Airman 1st Class Aaron Buran

Airman 1st Class Clint Vangorkum

442nd Maintenance Squadron

Senior Airman Alexis Gangloff

Senior Airman James Lieth

610th Intelligence Operations Flight

Airman Derrick Jones

442nd Medical Squadron

Senior Airman Heather Calhoon

442nd Civil Engineer Squadron

Senior Master Sgt. Katherine Carr

Staff Sgt. Thomas Campbell

Staff Sgt. Edward Jones

Airman 1st Class Jonathan Dillon

Airman Jordan Dingman

Welcome

442nd Fighter Wing

Maj. David Kurle

442nd Logistics Readiness Squadron

Staff Sgt. Craig Alexander

442nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Staff Sgt. Jeramy Higgins

Staff Sgt. Daniel Williams

Senior Airman Konrad Faries

Senior Airman Terrance Jones

Airman 1st Class Tyson Cattoor

442nd Civil Engineer Squadron

Staff Sgt. Eric Elder

Staff Sgt. Billie Knesek

710th Medical Squadron

Staff Sgt. Jeremy Goshorn

Staff Sgt. Marthalene Neagle

Staff Sgt. Nicolas Senior

Staff Sgt. Nicholas Spear

Senior Airman Jennifer Sayre

Airman 1st Class Craig Hart

442nd Medical Squadron

Senior Airman Nyan Schoeman

Senior Airman Anthony Terrell

610th Intelligence Operations Flight

Senior Airman Ransom Ward

442nd Maintenance Squadron

Airman 1st Class Terry Woolery

**Top Performers****442nd Fighter Wing Top Performer****442nd Maintenance Squadron****Senior Airman****Kenneth E. Kephart, Jr.**

Airman Kephart learned to inspect and pack both ACES II recovery parachutes and ACES II drogue chutes for the A-10 aircraft in a minimum amount of time, eliminating the need to request support from the 509th Maintenance Squadron Survival Equipment shop while the 442nd MXS Survival Equipment shop is unmanned.

He updated the survival equipment shop munitions storage boxes for easy identification of serviceable and unserviceable munitions products. He designed and manufactured 12 ACES II parachute universal water activated release system covers. These covers protect the UWARS munition products from the elements of weather when the aircraft are not flying.

He also designed and manufactured 17, A-10 credit card holders utilizing a superior material to withstand weather elements.

Tech. Sgt. David Frith

Sergeant Frith, while TDY was tasked to drive a government stake bed truck. He found his vision was dangerously limited through the side view mirrors, so he took it upon himself and purchased blind spot mirrors. He went one step further and submitted a change in an aircraft job guide, which was approved.

His action helped clarify an ongoing problem and hopefully eliminate it all together. Sergeant Frith goes above and beyond to assist others and never hesitates when asked for help.

Tech. Sgt. Rick Jones

Sergeant Jones, Metals Technology shop, is recognized for his outstanding support and display of techni-

cal abilities in the manufacture of several locally-manufactured tools required by the repair and reclamation shop.

Sergeant Jones not only completed these tools in a timely manner, but offered ideas on how to further enhance the efficiency of the tools he was manufacturing. Sergeant Jones provided both a good quality product and customer satisfaction – a job well done.

Tech. Sgt. Leroy Sharbono

Sergeant Sharbono, aerospace ground equipment flight, continually displays exceptional technical skills and knowledge of all AGE systems. His superior work ethic, appropriate use of technical data and excellent attention to detail enabled the swift and proper removal and replacement of the main high-pressure axial piston pump on a hydraulic test stand. Further, the stand was seven-level inspected and operations checked with zero errors noted. Sergeant Sharbono can always be counted on to perform all assigned duties in a timely, superior manner.

Senior Airman Jeromie Farnsworth

Airman Farnsworth completed six periodic inspections on a unit training assembly weekend insuring a large burden of inspections would not over task the shop during the next week when a few full-time individuals have leave scheduled. He quickly obtained and processed turbine engine flight data from four sorties flown on Saturday to avoid a backlog of data to process due to the fitness testing on Sunday.

He received a MICAP'd bleed air shut off valve for a spare engine on Sunday and quickly installed it on the engine that it had been CANN'd from, returning it to RFI status.

Airman Farnsworth has an excellent attendance record and always displays a positive, can-do attitude, and a pleasant disposition promoting harmony in the work center.

Senior Airman Zachary Ledsworth

Airman Ledsworth performed many repair tasks during the unit training assembly in the fuel system

shop. Several aircraft were “hard broke” for fuel problems. Airman Ledsworth’s dedication and hard work shows that he will go the distance. His dedication to the mission and willingness to work hard on aircraft shows in our fully mission capable rating.

442nd Medical Squadron**Master Sgt. Zoe Zaiser**

Sergeant Zaiser has worked in the dental clinic since June 2004, helping to prepare for the Health Services Inspection and to fill shortages within the department.

Her expertise, work ethic, and positive attitude have helped to keep this high-profile department moving forward and meeting its challenges, while simultaneously completing her upgrade career development course training and maintaining her supervisory duties.

Master Sgt. James McElroy

Sergeant McElroy volunteered to fill the position of unit career manager while the newly appointed manager attended school.

His career field knowledge, organization, and motivation enabled the unit to maintain high standards of operation during the time of transition from August to October 2004.

Tech. Sgt. Angela L. McElroy

Sergeant McElroy filled the position of optometry technician during the months of June, July and August of 2004. During this time, Sergeant McElroy performed Reserve component periodic health assessment examinations, ordered gas mask inserts, and maintained all required paperwork.

Her attention to detail and her eagerness to perform these duties, in addition to her routine duties, set a superb example for other unit members.

Tech. Sgt. Trena M. Leiter

Sergeant Leiter has been assisting in the dental clinic since October 2004.

Her knowledge of dental operations has been an invaluable asset to the dental clinic during a time of transition and development.

She accepted this assignment with enthusiasm, while continuing to maintain her role as a medical technician and supervisor.



April pay dates

The April pay dates are as follows: April 6, 8, 13, 15, 18, 22, 27 and 29. The April 15 and 16 UTA pays April 27.

April ROA/REA meeting cancelled

The Reserve Officer Association and Reserve Enlisted Association will not meet during the April UTA due to the Phase I Exercise.

Members who are interested in joining ROA/REA or would like to know more about the two associations, should contact 1st Lt. Jason Weiser, 442nd Maintenance Group, at (660) 687-6971 or Maj. Christina Abbott Marks, 442nd Fighter Wing, at (660) 687-3564.

Uniform alterations

Uniforms needing alterations may be dropped off and picked up at building 1119, the Composite Maintenance facility, room 103A at the times listed below. Pick up or drop off at any other time needs prior coordination by contacting Senior Master Sgt. Kennedy at (660) 687-1657.

Main UTA

Saturday 1 to 3 p.m.

Sunday 12 to 3 p.m.

Weekdays

Wednesday 9 to 11 a.m.

"USERRA 101"

The 442nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs office has a limited number of "Uniformed Services Employment Re-employment Rights Act 101" CD-ROMs available for Wing members.

USERRA outlines rights and responsibilities of both reservists and employers when a reservist has been activated. The CD-ROM program is designed as an educational tool to help present information.

Tuition assistance

The 442nd Fighter Wing's primary point of contact for tuition assistance is Tech. Sgt. Ron Watkins, 442nd Mission Support Squadron. Sergeant Watkins is available in the Flight Education and Training office or by phone

at (660) 687-3353. The alternate POC is Master Sgt. Anita Brenberger at (660) 687-3527.

442nd FW memorial service

The annual 442nd Fighter Wing memorial service will be held Saturday, May 14, at the Base Chapel, 10 to 10:30 a.m. Members are encouraged to attend as the wing honors the men and women of the 442nd.

There is a need for a pianist to accompany the service and interested individuals should contact the chaplain's office at (660) 687-3829 or send an email to Tech. Sgt. Chiquita Wilson at chiquita.wilson@whiteman.af.mil.

Worship service scheduled

In an effort to accommodate the needs of the unit, the 442nd Fighter Wing Chaplain's office is scheduling an early morning worship service every UTA Sunday at 6:45 a.m., beginning with the May UTA. The services will be held in the 5-bay conference room.

Tip of the Spear schedule

The monthly "442nd Fighter Wing Tip of the Spear" recognition will be given according to the following schedule during calendar year 2005.

The Tip of the Spear is a monthly award recognizing superior performers within the wing. Nominations are made through the group commanders.

May

442nd Maintenance Group

June

442nd Mission Support Group

July

442nd Medical Squadron

August

442nd Fighter Wing staff

September

442nd Maintenance Group

October

442nd Mission Support Group

November

442nd Medical Squadron

December

442nd Operations Group

Fishing tournament

The second annual 442nd

Fighter Wing fishing tournament, open to all 442nd Fighter Wing members and their families, is scheduled for Friday, May 6, on Truman Lake, at the Sterett Creek Marina north of Warsaw.

For more information on the tournament and how to sign up, contact Capt. Mike Sadler, 303rd Fighter Squadron, at (660) 687-3485 or Master Sgt. Tim Glenn, 442nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, at (660) 687-6049.

Exams go paperless

The 442nd Fighter Wing Education and Training office fully implemented the E-Exam computer-based testing program March 1. This means 95 percent of the Career Development Courses and Professional Military Education exams are available via computer. Test takers see their results immediately.

Three courses, the Noncommissioned Officers Academy or Course 00006D&E, Squadron Officer School or Courses 26 and 27 and Air War College, Course 42, are still paper based.

The 10 computers in the Testing Center, building 48, room 104, will be available for testing on a first-come, first-served basis. Testing times are Saturday and Sunday, 12:30 p.m., during unit training assemblies, and 1 p.m. on Tuesdays.

Contact the unit raining manager to schedule a seat for testing. The Wing Training office should only be contacted for reservations if the unit training manager is unavailable. The unit training manager should also be notified of any changes or cancellations. No-show letters will be sent out to unit commanders for anyone who misses a test session.

The Wing Training Testing calendar is located on the "M" mutual drive, click on "~CDC Test Schedule," then go to the desired month. Members can use the calendar to check availability or confirm a schedule.

Retests for students failing a mandatory exam must be scheduled within 90 days of the initial tests. For Course 12, a 30-day remediation period must lapse before a retake is authorized.

Additional questions may be directed to the Wing Education and Training office at (660) 687-3353/3354/3527/3350.

On a related Training **April 2005** of Course exams will be held April 16 at 12:30 p.m. and April 17 at 12:30

April training planner

<u>What (# to call for info)</u>	<u>When</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>What (# to call for info)</u>	<u>When</u>	<u>Where</u>
15 April 2005, Friday			16 April 2005, Saturday (cont.)		
Sign In	1000	Assigned Units	Admin Training (3355)	1430	Bldg 705, Comp.
Phase I Exercise	TBD	All units			Training Room
Sign Out	TBD	Assigned Units	Sign Out	1630	Assigned Units
16 April 2005, Saturday			17 April 2005, Sunday		
Sign In	0700-0730	Assigned Units	Sign in	0700-0730	Assigned Units
CBRNEDT Refresher (3333)	0830-1130	Bldg 705, DP Classroom	CBRNEDT Refresher (3333)	0830-1130	Bldg 705, DP Classroom
QNFT fit test available (3950)	0900-1500	Bldg 604, Bio-Environ.Eng.	Admin Training (3355)	1000	Bldg 705, Comp. Training Room
Must schedule appointment first			CDC Course Exams (3353)	1230	Bldg 48, Room 117
Immunizations (4304)	0900-1100	Base Hospital	Chapel Service (3827)	1330	Bldg 48, Wing Chapel room
Legal Assistance	1300-1500	Immun Clinic			
	1000-1200	Bldg 48, Room 115	SORTS Mtg/ Executive Wrap-Up	1330	Bldg 48, Multi-Purpose Room
Computer Based Testing (3354/3527) (call for appt)	1230	Bldg 48, Room 117 Admin	Sign Out	1630	Assigned Units

Members should report fraud, waste, abuse

By Lt. Col. Keith Kennedy
442nd Fighter Wing Inspector General

Air Force military and civilian members have a duty to promptly report fraud waste and abuse or gross mismanagement. These items are defined as follows:

- **Fraud** — Any intentional deception designed to unlawfully deprive the Air Force of something of value or for an individual to secure from the Air Force a benefit, privilege, allowance or consideration to which he or she is not entitled.
- **Waste** — The extravagant, careless or needless expenditure of Air Force funds, or the consumption of Air Force property resulting from deficient practices, systems controls or decisions. The term also includes improper practices not involving prosecutable fraud.
- **Abuse** — Intentional, wrongful or improper use of Air Force resources. Examples include misuse of rank, position or authority that causes the loss or misuse, of resources.
- **Gross Mismanagement** — A management action or inaction that creates a substantial risk of significant adverse impact on the organization's ability to accomplish its mission. It is more than mere, trivial wrongdoing or negligence. It does not include management decisions that are merely debatable, nor does it mean action or inaction that constitutes simple negligence or wrongdoing. There must be an element of blatancy.

Wing members witnessing any of these activities should report them to one of the offices listed below.

442nd Fighter Wing IG
(660) 687-2342, DSN 975-2342
442nd Fighter Wing IG, alternate
(660) 687-4281, DSN 975-4281
AFRC Fraud Waste and Abuse Hotline
Toll free (800) 223-1784, extension 7-1513
Secretary of the Air Force IG FWA Hotline
Toll free (800) 538-8429
Department of Defense FWA Hotline
(800) 424-9098

President awards GWOT Service Medal

Courtesy Air Combat Command Public Affairs

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. — President George W. Bush approved awarding the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal to all personnel assigned, attached or mobilized to Air Combat Command.

The medal is being awarded to all active duty, mobilized Reserve, and National Guard members assigned to ACC on or after Sept. 11, 2001, command officials said.

To be eligible, members must have served in support of the command's efforts in Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom or Noble Eagle for 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days.

An end date for the eligibility period in support of these operations has not been announced.

Those who supported Air-port security operations between Sept. 27, 2001, and May 31, 2002 are also eligible to receive the medal.

Base military personnel flights have received instructions on awarding the medal and will conduct a mass update for all assigned personnel.

Charge-of-Quarters

**Master Sgt.
Dermoth Higgins
442nd Logistics
Readiness
Squadron**

Call the CQ from on-base at 99-1 (660) 238-7428. Local off-base number; (i.e., Concordia, Warrensburg, Sedalia, etc.) dial (660) 238-7428. To leave a message for the CQ from off-base dial (800) 260-0253 and press seven after the prompt.



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
442ND FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS
931 ARNOLD AVE.
WHITEMAN AFB MO 65305-5070

To THE FAMILY OF:

FAMILY NEWS



Balancing business travel and family

By Tech. Sgt. Calvin Acklin
442nd Family Support office

With the amount of traveling required of reservists, balancing the parental role and Reserve commitment can be tough.

Maybe a member's 10-year-old is singing in the school concert or their teenager is worried about a big report due while the member is away. Maybe there is guilt about leaving a spouse at home with extra family responsibilities—again. With some planning, there are ways to make the next trip more productive and less stressful.

Think about the family's regular schedule. Consider how an absence will affect the routine. Take the time to plan with the spouse and develop creative solutions to fill in the gaps.

Arrange to cover drop off or pick up at the child-care provider while away or arrange for care during those hours when normally home.

Older children often have regular activities, sports or extra-curricular events during the week and need help determining how everything will be done while the member is away. Spend time with the children over their schedule; ask questions to clarify needs and offer creative solutions. Attention and planning can help turn a child's anxiety into confidence by meeting responsibilities in new ways.

Young children generally only need two or three days' notice. School-age children may need more time to

plan for any special arrangements on the days the member will be away.

Is there a responsibility for an aging relative that lives close by and is brought groceries or visited on a regular basis? Let this relative know of the trip and arrange for any help required. If this person cannot be left alone safely, arrange for care with friends, relatives, community resources or paid providers.

Post schedules, announcements and calendars in a central location at home such as the refrigerator. Obtain extra copies of the itinerary from the travel agent and leave the schedule, telephone numbers and any other important information in a visible spot.

Remember, let the staff at the children's school or child-care know the dates of the trip so that they know whom to contact for day-to-day crises and emergencies. Let them know who to call or how to reach the member in

an emergency.

Try to spend extra time with the children before the trip. For example, if leaving on Monday for a two-week trip, set aside special time with the children during the weekend, even if it means cutting out time for oneself.

Because travel is paid for, this might also be an affordable way to have a quick family vacation and with frequent-flyer miles it can be very inexpensive. Perhaps they could visit for a weekend at the end of the trip.

If a member or their family is experiencing stress related to business travel, the Family Support Office is here to assist with information and referral services that can help minimize the stress. Contact Tech. Sgt. Calvin Acklin at (660) 687-3530 or Capt. Joe Walter, Family Support Liaison, at (660) 687-3363. For weekdays, please contact Tech. Sgt. Tammy Klonowski, 509th Family Support Center, at (660) 687-1221.

Child-care considerations

- Does the regular provider offer after-hours care?
- Is there a need for backup child-care?
- Is there a relative, friend or babysitter who can help out?
- Does the child have a close friend whose family might look after him or her?