

# SPACE OBSERVER

Serving Team 21 and its Global Mission  
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Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

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## Affordable housing available for military members

By Capt. Brenda Campbell  
21st SW Public Affairs

Help is on the way for military members assigned to the Peterson Complex who often spend weeks looking for quality, affordable housing.

Peterson Air Force Base has entered into a partnership with the City of Colorado Springs to provide at least 32 units of an 80-unit apartment complex as affordable housing for military personnel stationed at Peterson, Schriever AFB and Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station. The other 48 units will be available at fair market rental rates.

The complex, called Creekside at Norwood, is located at Austin Bluffs Parkway and Woodman Road in the D-11 school system. The first units are expected to be ready for tenants in May.

"This is a great opportunity for our military community," said Brig. Gen. Robert Kehler, 21st Space Wing commander. "Historically, we have had at least a two-year waiting list for on-base housing for some ranks. To help reduce this wait time, we've entered into a one-of-a-kind partnership with the city."

"This is a win-win situation for everyone," Kehler said. "The city is guaranteed they will have responsible tenants in their new complex and the housing office has another option to provide housing for our personnel."

"But most importantly, our personnel will have a quality place to live in a nice neighborhood."

Members interested in renting an apartment in Creekside will have to fill out an application and meet the estab-



Photo by Capt. Brenda Campbell

**Creekside at Norwood located at Austin Bluffs Parkway and Woodman Road will provide at least 32 of its 80 units as affordable housing for local military members. The first units are expected to be ready for tenants in May.**

lished City Housing Authority criteria which is based on grade, years in service, family size and income.

The application process will be handled by the Peterson Housing Flight, but the final eligibility determination will be made by the city's property manager.

"The big eligibility key will be income," said Colleen Miller, housing flight chief. "Eligibility will be based on the income for all members of the household over 18 years old and who are not full-time students. If the member's spouse works, they may not be eli-

gible for the affordable housing units, but could still apply for a fair market rate apartment."

Income limits to be eligible for one of the 32 affordable housing units run from \$21,540 for one person to \$35,700 for a six-person family.

All tenants will sign a one-year rental agreement. If during the year a tenant's status changes, they may have to convert to fair market rental rates at the start of the new rental agreement.

The apartments are not traditional on-base military housing, but the waiting lists for the affordable housing units will be maintained by the Peterson housing flight and will be used to fill vacancies.

"Open apartments will be offered to military members first, but if the military is unable to find a renter within 30 days, they will be offered to the public," Miller said. "Our goal is to keep an accurate waiting list so our personnel have the best chance at getting an apartment in this new complex."

Current rental prices for both affordable housing and the fair market price

units are listed in the chart (1) to the left, and include utilities costs for water and electric.

There are minimum and maximum guidelines used by the City Housing Authority to determine the number of bedrooms an applicant is qualified for. See the chart (2) to the left for specifics.

"This is a precedent-setting initiative for the Air Force," said Miller. "Because there are no established policies, we still have many questions we are trying to find answers for."




Military tenants living in the complex will be required to pay rent through allotments arranged by local finance offices and those who already live off-base must pay moving expenses as well. Members will also be required to pay safety deposits prior to moving in.

While living in Creekside, personnel can still be on the on-base housing waiting list at either Peterson or the Air Force Academy.

Individuals interested in more information should contact their first sergeant or the Peterson housing flight.

1.	Affordable Units	Fair Market Rate
One bedroom	\$536	\$686
Two bedroom	\$654	\$874
Three bedroom	\$783	\$1083

2.	Minimum p/Apt.	Maximum p/Apt.
One bedroom	1 Person	2 People
Two bedroom	2 People	4 People
Three bedroom	3 People	6 People

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## From the top

# Make this year's SnoFest fun, be safe

### Message from the 21st Space Wing commander

Since this was a short work week, like me I'm sure you're all trying to catch up after the holiday weekend. I thank you for your continued hard work supporting the mission of our wing.

We have a great event scheduled for next week – the National Prayer Breakfast. An interesting twist this year is that it will be a luncheon. The last two years the breakfast was cancelled due to inclement weather. So this year, we decided to change the time of the event.

The speaker, Brig.Gen. retired Charles Duke, is a former astronaut and one of only 12 men in the world who has ever walked on the moon. He is well known for presenting a message of spirit and commitment. It will be a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and reflection. I hope to see you all there.

Next up is SnowFest!!! No matter what your interests, there will be something for everyone. Gen. Eberhart has declared March 2 a goal day so everyone who wants to participate in SnowFest!!! can get an early start traveling to Copper Mountain. As you all participate in the variety of winter sports available, please be safe and watch out for each other. Have a good weekend.

*Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler*  
21st Space Wing commander

**By Margie Arnold**  
*21st Services Squadron Marketing Office*

Many people heading up to Copper Mountain Resort for SnoFest 2001, Mar. 2-4, are looking forward to an exciting weekend.

SnoFest begins Mar. 2 with the Commander's Cup Race, Commander's Challenge Broken Tip Race and awards ceremony and party. Activities Mar. 3 include NASTAR competitions, open skiing and snowboarding, a cardboard box derby, an abundance of non-skier events at Copper Mountain Resort and elsewhere, and another great party with prizes and more awards.

To top it all off, the snow is at its best this year. But some planning and care will ensure not only a great time, but a safe one, too. Here are some tips to make your SnoFest adventure more fun for you and your loved ones:

**Getting there.** Roads to the Colorado high country are maintained in the winter, but unexpected snowfall and other winter weather conditions can make driving to SnoFest a challenge. Make sure your vehicle is prepared for winter driving in Colorado. Take it to the Auto Skills Center for a quick winter check-up. Call them at 556-4481 to schedule a time convenient for you.

**Leave the driving to us.** If you want to really enjoy the ride up to Copper Mountain Resort and back home again, take the bus. It's free. Two full-size coach buses will leave from the Enlisted Club parking lot Mar. 2 and 3 at 6 a.m., and will depart from Copper Mountain both evenings at 6 p.m., giving you time to enjoy the parties and snooze on the ride home. Seating is available on a first come, first served basis. For a seat on

Friday's bus, call Outdoor Recreation at 556-4867; for one on Saturday's bus call the Youth Center at 556-7220.

**Dress for the occasion.** You will most likely be outdoors most of the day, so dress appropriately. In Colorado it is best to wear layers of synthetic fabrics that keep your body heat in. Your outer jacket/shell should be waterproof. Wear a warm hat, insulated gloves, and socks that come up over the calf. Goggles will be necessary if it's snowing. Lockers are available at the ski slopes so you can store extra clothing in case there are changes in the weather.

**Good skiing on good equipment.** It can be difficult to have a good time if you're fussing with badly adjusted, ill-fitting equipment. Have your equipment checked out by the professional staff at Outdoor Recreation. You can also rent equipment from them if needed. They have the latest and the safest equipment. For information, call Outdoor Recreation at 556-4867 or 556-4487. (OR will be closed Mar. 2 due to SnoFest participation, so take care of your winter sporting needs in advance.)

**Know your limitations.** You know your skiing ability better than anyone else. But at events like SnoFest, some try to outdo their peers and impress others and are tempted to do things they know they shouldn't. If you want to move beyond your present skill level, take a lesson from a teaching professional and learn how to do it safely. Also, don't ski or snowboard when you are fatigued. That's when you become careless and then injuries and accidents happen. Take a break and enjoy the scenery, too.

**Be alert.** Look. Listen. Be aware of what is happening around you on the

mountain. You may need to dodge an out-of-control skier or skiers speeding out of a blind spot. People move down the slopes quickly. So be prepared for anything by keeping your eyes and ears open.

**Respect the environment.** If you have never been to Copper Mountain Resort, everything will be new. Take time to explore the downhill ski trails. Realize that most of those trees and rocks on the mountain have been around longer than you have. And if you want to set out on cross-country trails, get a good trail map and travel with an experienced guide or organized group.

**Respect others.** Enjoy yourself, have fun, go for it! But don't do it at the expense of others. Be courteous, polite, and smile. This is supposed to be fun.

**Share the experience.** When skiing or snowboarding, do it with a friend or family member.

**Ask.** If you need anything, ask the SnoFest staff, they will be dressed in black caps, crewneck shirts and polar vests—all with the colorful SnoFest logo. They are there to help make your SnoFest a great experience.

### Childcare for SnoFest 2001

Childcare is available for families attending SnoFest March 2-4 at Copper Mountain. Prices are \$67 for a full day (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) and \$57 half day (8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. or 12:30-4:30 p.m.). Childcare facilities are located at the Copper Mountain Plaza adjacent to the American Eagle lift. Reservations are required one week in advance. Call 1-800-458-8386.

Age groups include: Belly Button Babies (ages 6 weeks to 2 years) and Belly Button Bakery (ages 2-4). Childcare is also available from 5:30-10 p.m. If parents spend at least \$30 at night and show receipts, evening childcare is free.

Childcare for SnoFest is not available on-base March 3-4. For more information on SnoFest, call Peterson's Community Activities Center at 556-1733 or 556-7671.

## Action line

### Submitting Action Lines

The Action Line (556-7777 or by fax: 556-7848) is your direct link to me. It provides an avenue for you to voice concerns over unsolved problems, share good ideas or provide some constructive criticism.

As a reminder, the Action Line is not a replacement for using your chain of command. Action Lines can help make the Peterson Complex and the wing a better place to live and work.



**Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler**

**Q.** I am calling about the action line published in the Jan. 26 issue of the Space Observer concerning the Peterson Pharmacy. I think the pharmacy staff does an outstanding job and I hope they keep up the good work. I get a lot of prescriptions filled there and I have never received a wrong prescription. The pharmacy staff deserves a "job well done." They are top-notch performers.

**A.** Thanks for your call. I'll add a personal "well done" to the pharmacy staff. They do a great job. I know they appreciate your kudos.

**Q.** Is the 15-mile-an-hour speed limit coming into the gate active all the time? When I came on base I had two patrol units behind me. I was going 15 miles an hour and two vehicles passed me on the left. One of the patrol units passed me and didn't stop anyone.

**A.** Thank you for the opportunity to update everyone on the current speed limit coming through the gate. The speed limit is always 15 miles an hour as you approach the gate. This is for both safety of the security guard and security of the installation. Also right now, we have an on-going construction effort around the main gate area that changes everyday depending on the weather. The speed limit after you get through the gate is 30 miles per hour. The security forces troops do enforce speed limits, and will be reminded to comply as well, unless responding to an emergency. Thank you for your concern. If you have any additional questions, please contact Lt. Col. Michael Trapp, 21st Security Forces Squadron commander, at 556-4800.

**Q.** I want to commend both housing maintenance and the housing office on their wonderful response to a plumbing problem at my house. I also want to thank them for the concern they showed when that problem became a concern for my daughter's health. Thank you.

**A.** Thanks. We have great people working both in our housing office and for our housing maintenance contractors. You reinforced what I already knew: Our folks do a wonderful job under demanding circumstances. They appreciate your kind words.

**Q.** Why can't security forces hire overhires to work in the pass and identification section and use the military members as gate guards? If you would hire two civilians to do the administrative work in pass and ID, that would relieve the four military for other duties such as patrols.

**A.** Thank you for your suggestion. We previously explored the use of civilian overhires and other options to bolster our overall security forces manning. However, we are restricted in our use of civilian overhires to temporary, short-term duties. Also, we must fund overhires from an already constrained wing civilian pay budget—funds are not currently available to hire civilians for the pass and ID desk. In addition, the 21st Security Forces Squadron receives manpower allocations specifically to man the visitor control center, including pass and ID. It is important that we keep these allocations to maintain our total force and provide contingency support when required. If you have any additional questions, please call Capt. Robert Gray at 556-6280.



# Correctional Custody closes at Peterson

By Airman 1st Class Brian Hill  
21st SW Public Affairs

Correctional Custody at Peterson ceased to exist Feb. 8. The reason: not enough manning to run the facility.

"With the draw-down of active-duty slots here, it's becoming harder and harder to do more with less," said 21st Space Wing Command Chief Master Sgt. Fred Schoettler. "We're having a hard time filling ready team taskings, honor guard and correctional custody -- so one had to go."

Tech. Sgt. Larry Prichard has been working the program here since June. He's seen 22 airmen go through the program.

"It's a good rehabilitative program that gives airmen the opportunity to make a change," said Prichard. "It's proven to work and it saves the Air Force money in separations and recruiting."

Currently, three other Air Force bases -- Goodfellow, Sheppard and Keesler -- have correctional custody programs. The Peterson Complex has the option of sending members to one of these for nonjudicial punishment.

The last airman to go through the program here left in the early morning hours, Feb. 8, with a new perspective and a second chance for a successful Air Force career.

"It's a good program," said Airman Marcus Bell, who spent 31 days in CC. "It gives you time to think about your situation, who you are and what you can be."

Bell's goals are now clear. He plans to finish his Career Development Course and finish a degree in the near future, and he is concerned the second chance he received might not be there for someone else.

"If they're taking CC away they're going to be kicking people out," he said.

As airmen who have experienced the program will say, success or failure afterward is completely up to the individual. The save-ratio (the number of airmen who used their second chance to improve) is about 60 percent for CY 2000-01. In 1999, it was at about 92 percent.

"It's a great loss to the wing and the base ... a tool like this is another option for commanders," said Prichard.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brian Hill

Tech. Sgt. Larry Prichard, correctional custody and transitional flight program director, escorts Airman Marcus Bell and his supervisor out of the CC facility Feb. 8. Bell was the final airman to attend Peterson's correctional custody. The facility closed because of a lack of manning to run the facility.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Shane Sharp

## Keeping baby smiles healthy

Doctor Steve Helm (right) and other representatives from the 10th Dental Squadron meet with the 'Mothers of Young Children', a chapel sponsored play group, to discuss dental health and oral hygiene. This was one of several visits planned as part of National Children's Dental Health Month during February.

## Family members no longer pay TRICARE Prime copays

Active-duty family members enrolled in TRICARE Prime won't have to make co-payments for civilian provider care thanks to a provision in the 2001 National Defense Authorization Act. Family members of active duty members E-1-E-4, and E-5 and above pay \$6 and \$12, respectively per visit. In addition, the family member \$11-per-day civilian in-patient charge will be eliminated, as will the \$11.45-per-day family member rate for enrollees admitted to a military treatment facility.

Legislation included in the 2001 NDAA, such as eliminating co-payments, gives recruiters something to cheer about. As an employee benefit, TRICARE is quickly becoming what military leaders hoped it would be: The world's best health care for the world's best military.

Active duty family members will still have to make pharmacy co-payments for the National Mail Order Pharmacy program and at network retail stores. Military treatment facilities continue to provide free prescription drugs.

TRICARE Prime enrollees must still obtain authorization from their primary care manager before seeking care from

civilian providers to eliminate these co-payments. While they retain the right to seek civilian care without authorization from their primary care manager, the TRICARE Prime point-of-service charges will apply.

Family members who use the point-of-service option must pay the \$300 per member/\$600 per family annual deductible, and 50 percent of the TRICARE allowable charge once the deductible is met. Family members also are responsible for additional charges billed by the non-network provider, up to 15 percent above the TRICARE allowable.

Members are encouraged to consult with a health benefits adviser or beneficiary counseling and assistance coordinator before using the point-of-service option.

Eliminating co-payments for active-duty family members isn't just about cost. It's also about equality for those who see civilian versus military providers. In response to beneficiary feedback, TRICARE Prime will be revamped to take the irritants out of the program.

(Courtesy TRICARE news release)

## Space Observer

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# Most airmen who apply receive their BOP

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** — Changes to the Air Force Base of Preference Program have benefited more than 1,500 Air Force people who have taken advantage of the expanded program since August.

Some 94 percent of first-term airmen who applied for base of preference were approved, and most career airmen have received the same good news.

In an attempt to improve retention and maintain stability, Air Force Personnel Center officials in August expanded eligibility criteria for the program. The new program gives first-term and career airmen opportunities to move among assignments in the continental United States.

First-termers can even receive a BOP returning from an overseas assignment if they meet eligibility criteria.

"The change to the Base of Preference Program is a win-win situation for Air Force members," said Col. Dwayne Hafer, airman assignments division chief. "When you can place people where they want to be, you're going to have people who want to stay with us. Retention is the primary reason why the chief (Air Force chief of staff) approved this program. This is one of the most effective ways to improve Air Force retention."

"We have made decisions on more than 2,000 applications since September," said Fred Beard, chief of the airman management branch. "Currently, we have more than 3,000 applications awaiting assessment. Our assignment folks are working long hours to review each and every application. They are making every effort to put people where they want to be." The initial statistics for the BOP program are as follows:

- 95 percent of first-term airmen who have not retrained had applications approved.
- 93 percent of first-term airmen who have retrained had applications approved.
- 57 percent of career airmen had applications approved.
- Overall, 63 percent of airmen who applied were approved.

"Initially when someone looks at the career airman numbers, they might think they're not that

good," Hafer said. "But what they've got to remember is that before the chief approved the career BOP program, there was no way someone was going to get to choose where they would be going without doing a remote, choosing a follow-on, or (through) the Voluntary Enlisted CONUS Assignment Program which required six years time on station to move. This program now gives career airmen someplace they can call home — someplace with a little stability."

"A person really didn't have that many choices when it came to deciding where they wanted to go," said Tech. Sgt. Charles Mims, noncommissioned officer in charge of computer operations at Cheyenne Mountain, Colo. Mims, a career airman with 17 years of service, recently received a BOP to Langley Air Force Base, Va.

"This change to the BOP program gives people a choice and improves morale," he said. "I was stationed at Langley before and really liked it. I wanted to go back for the end of my career and the BOP made that happen."

First-term and career airmen who would like to apply for the BOP program must first meet the following criteria:

— First term airmen must have a career job reservation tied into the application process; must have eight months time-on-station (move at the 12-month point); have a category one reenlistment code; and have been selected under selective re-enlistment program. Overseas vulnerability and losing manning is not a factor in consideration. Overseas returnees can apply.

— Career airmen must have at least 41 months time-on-station at the time when applying and at least four years time-on-station before departing. Airmen vulnerable for overseas assignment selection may apply; however, overseas vulnerability and losing/gaining manning will be a factor in approval or disapproval. Overseas returnees are not authorized to apply for a BOP.

Consecutive BOP assignments are not authorized. All BOP applicants may request up to eight bases in the continental United States. People requesting more than one base will have their selections consid-

ered in priority order.

"If we can work your first choice, 'it's game over,'" Hafer said. "If not, we'll take a look at your second choice and try to make that happen."

If none of the preferences can be worked, the airman may immediately apply for other bases. Additionally, as long as they are still eligible, they can re-apply for the same bases six months later to see if manning has changed.


The exception is for first-term airmen. Since their BOP application is submitted in conjunction with re-enlistment and retraining, they will be unable to submit multiple applications. But they will be offered three alternatives immediately if their initial choice can't be approved.

"If the retention numbers increase at all, then this program definitely had a positive impact," Hafer said.

A Web-based BOP application is available at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil). (choose enlisted, military assignments, AMS Web login). This application is similar to the current process for updating an assignment preference worksheet.

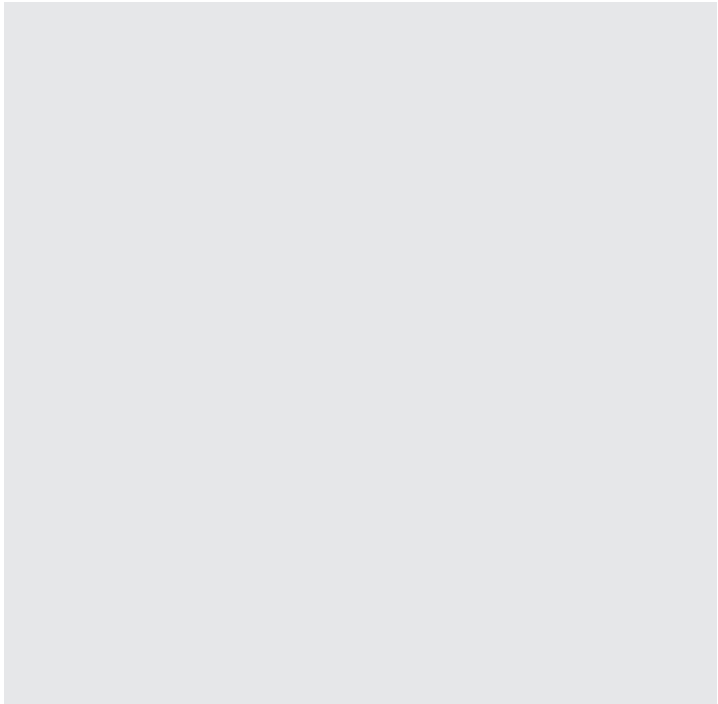
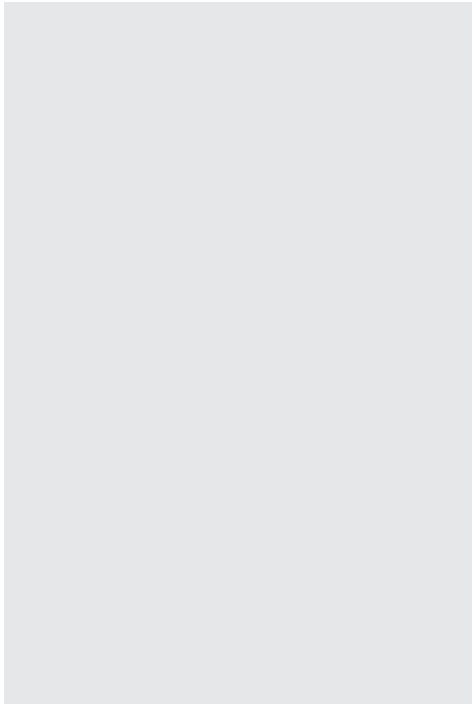
For additional information concerning this program, contact your military personnel flight or commander's support staff.

*(Courtesy of AFPC News Service)*



The 21st Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Flight has created a webpage containing information on topics such as the base recycling program, natural and cultural resources and several other areas of environmental interest.

*Check it out!*  
<https://petecentral/cev/>  
or use the link found on the Petecentral Unit Pages screen.



# Spotlight on justice: Base Legal Office releases January Courts Martial, Articles 15

## COURTS-MARTIAL

An airman first class assigned to the 821st Security Forces Squadron, Buckley Air Force Base, was tried by general court-martial for violation of two specifications of Article 112a, Uniform Code of Military Justice, wrongful use of a controlled substance (Ecstasy and LSD). The accused confessed to use on numerous occasions between April and July. The sentence included confinement for two months, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, reduction to airman basic, and a bad conduct discharge.

An airman first class assigned to the 821st SFS, Buckley AFB, was tried by general court-martial for violation of two specifications of Article 112a, UCMJ, wrongful use of a controlled substance (Ecstasy and LSD); violation of Article 86, UCMJ, absent from unit; violation of Article 108, UCMJ, damage to government property; violation of Article 134, UCMJ, drunk and disorderly; violation of Article 128, assault on a security forces member. The accused pled guilty to all charges, except the assault. A military judge found the accused guilty of all charges and specifications. The member received 14 months of confinement, a bad conduct discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and a reduction to airman basic.

## ARTICLE 15

A senior airman assigned to the 721st Communications Squadron received an Article 15 for violation of Article 92, UCMJ, dereliction of duty. The member received a rank reduction to airman first class, 30 days in correctional custody and a reprimand.

An airman first class assigned to the 21st Civil Engineer Squadron received an Article 15 for violation of Article 92, UCMJ, dereliction of duty. The member received a rank reduction to airman, 30 days

extra duty and a reprimand.

An airman first class assigned to the 13th Air Support Operations Squadron received an Article 15 for violation of two counts of Article 92, UCMJ, dereliction of duty, and violation of Article 107, UCMJ, making a false official statement. The member received a rank reduction to airman.

An airman first class assigned to the 2nd Space Warning Squadron received an Article 15 for violation of Article 107, UCMJ, making a false official statement. The member received a suspended rank reduction to airman, 30 days correctional custody and a reprimand.

A technical sergeant assigned to Headquarters Air Force Space Command received an Article 15 for vio-

lation of three counts of Article 134, UCMJ, disorderly conduct and indecent exposure. The member received a rank reduction to staff sergeant, suspended forfeiture of \$666 per month for two months, and a reprimand.

## UCMJ article review

Article 86 – absence without leave (other elements included are failure to go to duty, absence from unit or organization, abandoning watch or guard.)

Q. What is “failure to go”?

A. “Failure to go” means that you had a duty to be in a certain place at a certain time, and did not go. This covers such things as late for work and missed appointments.

Article 92 – Failure to obey order or regulation (other elements included are violation of lawful general order or regulation, failure to obey lawful order, dereliction of duty)

Q. What is “dereliction of duty”?

A. “Dereliction of duty” means that you had a duty to accomplish, and either willfully or negligently failed to accomplish it.

Example: Your job requires you take out the trash at the end of the day. However, Friday night, you leave for the weekend and you don’t take the trash to the dumpster. It was your duty to take out the trash, but you failed to do it.

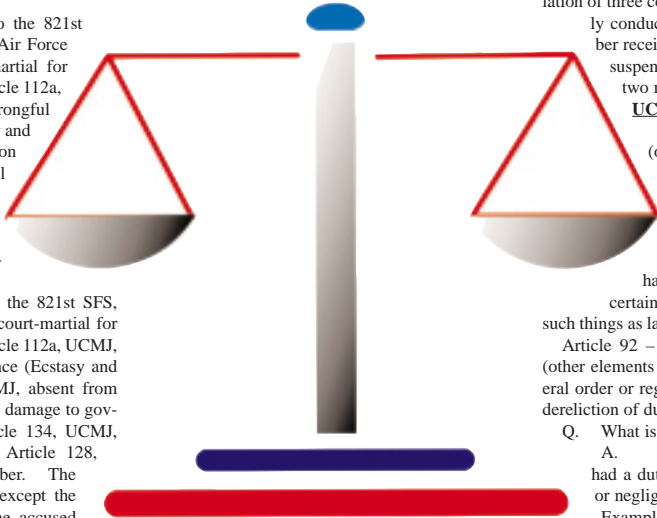
Article 107 – False official statement

Q. What is a “false official statement”?

A. In short, a lie. Telling a lie, no matter how big or small, is punishable under the UCMJ, as long as it is “official” in nature, or relates to your duties. Not only is it punishable under the UCMJ, but violates the Air Force core value of integrity first.

If you have any questions about military justice, contact Staff Sgt. Robert Young in the 21st SW legal office at 556-4500.

(Courtesy 21st Space Wing Legal Office)



## Peterson Museum volunteers needed

The museum needs volunteers to work in the gift shop, act as greeters, perform duties as docents, help clean and maintain the exterior of aircraft on display in the air park, and to be available to support other on-going projects. For information on how you can help, call Tech. Sgt. (ret.) Rick Sherry at 599-9646 or Dr. Mary Elizabeth Ruwell, museum director, at 556-8278.



Photo by Capt. Jason Nahrang

Colonel Paula Thornhill, 50th Support Group commander, introduces the guest speaker, Col. Toreaser A. Steele, at the Black Heritage Committee luncheon Wednesday at the officers' club.

## Black History Month luncheon held Wednesday

By Airman 1st Class Brian Hill  
21st SW Public Affairs

More than 120 people attended the annual Black History Month luncheon at the officers' club here Wednesday.

"The luncheon was a huge success," said Staff Sgt. Yolanda Robinson-Freeman, Peterson Black History Committee president. "We had as large a turnout as we've always had — we appreciate everyone coming out to support this event.."

The theme of the luncheon was Creating and Defining the African-American Community: Family, Church, Politics and Culture.

"Defining and creating the African-American community is an on-going process," said Leroy Howard, Peterson Black History Committee vice president. "But it's important to not forget our past. Without a beginning, you won't know

where you're going in the future. Without a background and heritage, you're lost."

The guest speaker was Col. Toreaser A. Steele, director of personnel resources, Air Force Personnel Operations Agency, and deputy chief of staff for personnel, Headquarters USAF. She focused on family and church as the stepping stones in strengthening not only the African-American community, but communities in general throughout the country.

The luncheon celebrates the annual event of Black History Month, which occurs each February, according to Robinson-Freeman.

Other events the Black Heritage Committee sponsored for Black History Month included a festival at the U.S. Air Force Academy and a soul food plate sale at the base chapel. A gospel extravaganza will be 2-6 p.m. Sunday at the base chapel. Choirs from the local area will perform.

## Black History Month Trivia

1. What date did Rosa Parks become a symbol of the civil rights movement for refusing to give up her seat on a bus?

- a. Sept. 13, 1956
- b. Dec. 1, 1955
- c. Dec. 10, 1953

2. Who founded the nation of Islam

- a. Malcolm X
- b. Joe Johnson
- c. Wallace Fard

3. Why did President Eisenhower send the 101st Airborne Division and 10,000 National Guardsmen to Little Rock, Arkansas Sept. 25, 1957?

- a. To escort black students to Little Rock Central High School.
- b. To stop black students from protesting at Little Rock Catholic Academy.
- c. To help black students protest at Little Rock Jr. High School.

4. The "Separate but Equal" doctrine was imposed by the U.S. Supreme Court during what case?

- a. Brown vs Board of Education
- b. Jones vs Jones
- c. Plessy vs Ferguson

5. What President shared the name of a famous former slave who led an expedition on the Oregon Trail that helped settle the state of Washington?

- a. Richard Nixon
- b. George Washington
- c. George Bush

Answers: 1. b 2. c 3. a 4. c 5. c (Information courtesy of Peterson Black Heritage Committee)

## Submit your articles to the Space Observer

Articles must be received at least 10 days prior to the date you want them to appear in the Space Observer.

Articles can be e-mailed to [shane.sharp@peterson.af.mil](mailto:shane.sharp@peterson.af.mil) or [melanie.epperson@peterson.af.mil](mailto:melanie.epperson@peterson.af.mil). Call 556-7846 for more information

# Drug users can run, but they can't hide

By Tech. Sgt.  
R. R. Becerril  
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Like constantly moving targets, illegal drugs go from base to base, area to area. But the Air Force has a message for those who use or abuse drugs: "You can run, but you can't hide."

"Our ultimate goal is not to get just the user, but the individual who is supplying the drugs," said Stephen Minger, an Air Force Office of Special Investigations supervisory special agent at Andrews Air Force Base, Md.

"I think commanders are becoming increasingly sensitive to the fact that drug abuse is a moving target," said Lt. Col. Pete Durand, the Air Force's Drug Demand Reduction program manager. "What's true today in terms of the substances of abuse may not be true tomorrow."

Recent drug abuse cases at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo., and Langley AFB, Va., illustrate the use of Ecstasy in the Air Force; however, Minger points out the overall number of people involved in drug abuse investigations still equate to less than 1 percent of the total Air Force.

The number of AFOSI's drug abuse investigations totaled 1,100 in 2000, an increase from 1999's total of 710, Minger said.

"About 90 percent of these cases were Air Force-affiliated, said Minger, whose investigative agency is the only one in the Air Force with the authority to pursue civilian drug suppliers.

Even though the number of Ecstasy-related investigations rose to 423 in 2000, compared to only 66 in 1999, the No. 1

drug among abusers remains cannabis, or marijuana, Minger said.

A similar increase can be seen in the service's drug urinalysis testing program. The increase in positive results for Ecstasy is nearly tenfold over the past three years, Durand said.

But the number is still very small, he said.

"Of the 1,000 drug urinalysis test-positives we had in 2000, Ecstasy was identified in 61 tests," Durand said.

Minger and Durand attribute rising drug abuse investigations and positive drug urinalysis tests in part to increased

emphasis on detection, prevention and education.

A three-pronged strategy forms the foundation in the AFOSI's battle against drug abuse, Minger said.

"The first element is supply interdiction. That is done through very aggressive law enforcement efforts, running informants and undercover operations, to try to eliminate the availability of drugs that GIs consume," he said.

The second and third elements are supply reduction and information cross-feed, accomplished through educational efforts, making people aware of drugs on the market and

their effects," Minger said.

Minger and Durand agree that as long as there are drugs in the civilian community and the Air Force is drawing recruits from the civilian community, there will be the issue of drugs in the military.

"We need to deal with it cogently and effectively," Minger said. "Whether it means running an investigation on an airman using drugs and his dealer, or identifying an individual through urinalysis testing or alternate detection methods."

Besides investigations and drug urinalysis testing, methods include testing new recruits for drug use and developing better urinalysis test agents to close the detection window on drugs such as Ecstasy, which quickly pass through the body.

Emphasis is also being placed on expanding drug testing, to include off-duty and weekend testing, Durand said.

"Commanders have always had that option to test after duty hours and on the weekends," Durand said. "We have worked hard to remind commanders out in the field that they have the authority and the responsibility to constantly monitor the drug threat and to

modify drug testing procedures based on changes in the drug threat environment."

Under normal circumstances, the unit (trusted agent) would not contact individuals for testing while on leave, he said. However, if the trusted agent was unaware of their leave status and was able to contact them for testing, they would be required to report within two hours — regardless of their leave status, he said.

"I think our drug testing program is one of the major success stories," Durand said. "When you look at where we were in the 1980s compared to where we are today, there is absolutely no comparison. The testing rate is targeted at 75 percent, but last year, we actually achieved an 80-percent drug test rate, so clearly, many of our commanders are exercising their option to increase testing.

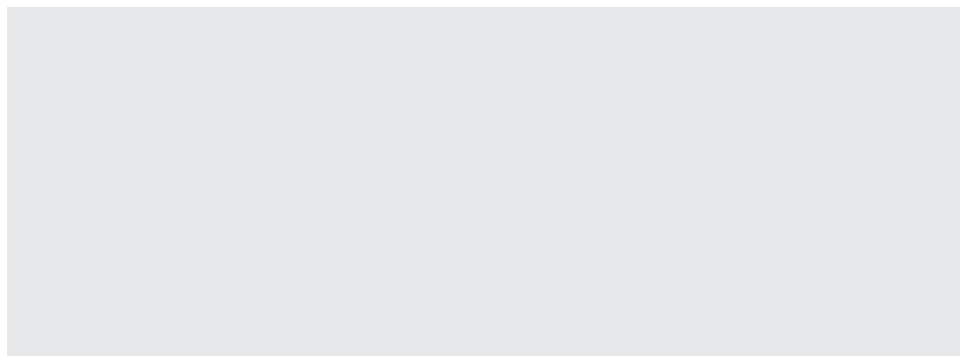
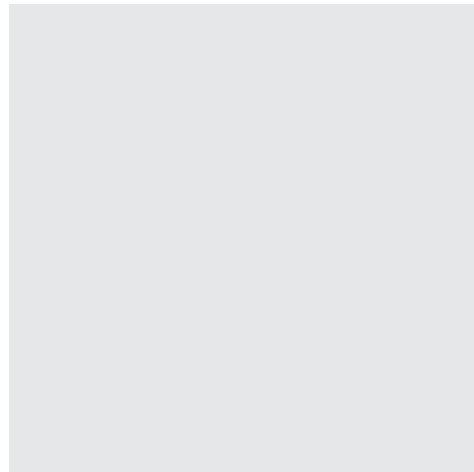
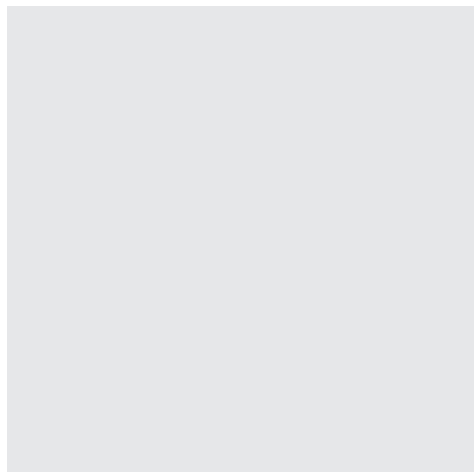
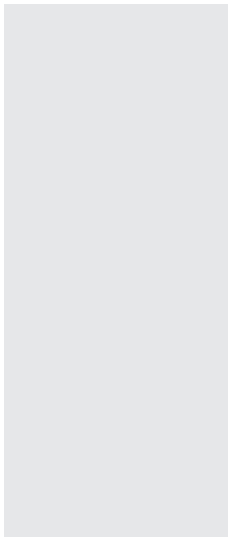
"And, in spite of the increased difficulty in recent years to meet recruiting goals, our senior leadership has held fast and firm to our high standards and have not relaxed them."

"The reality is that as long as drugs exist in America we'll have to stay vigilant in combating their presence in the military," Minger said.



Photo courtesy of U.S. Customs

**Likened to constantly moving targets, illegal drugs go from base to base, area to area. But the Air Force has a message for those using or inclined to abuse drugs: "You can run, but you can't hide."**





# For your information

## New Items

**Ash Wednesday:** The Peterson Complex Protestant chapel program will hold two Ash Wednesday services Wednesday to mark the beginning of Lent. A brief service will take place at 11:30 a.m. in the Cheyenne Mountain AFS Chapel, followed by a 3:30 p.m. service in the Peterson Chapel. Each service will be approximately 30-45 minutes and is open to all interested persons. For more information, contact Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Dennis Alson at 556-4442 or 474-2050.

The Peterson Complex Catholic Chapel Program will hold four Ash Wednesday services. They are 9 a.m. Mass at Building 1; 11:30 a.m. Mass at Schriever; 11:35 a.m. Mass at Peterson Chapel, and 5 p.m. Mass at Peterson Chapel.



## Miscellaneous

**21st Space Wing dorm manager position:** The two-year special duty assignment starts April 1 and is open to master sergeants or master sergeant-selects. Applicants must be releasable from their AFSC. Requirements to apply include a one-paragraph letter explaining applicant qualifications and motivation, commander's letter of recommendation, and copies of the applicant's last five EPRs. Mail the information to 21 CES/CC or drop it off in person at Building 1324, 580 Goodfellow Street, PAFB. The application deadline is Wednesday. For more information, call 556-2105.

**Notice of telephone survey:** The Air Force Survey Branch has approved an official survey to gather information about people's general perceptions of the Air Force, how they feel about serving, and where they may have seen Air Force messages in the media. Survey calls will be made to work centers, and everyone is encouraged to participate.

**Enlisted Professional Development Seminars:** The airman's seminar is scheduled for March 6. The noncommissioned officer seminar is scheduled for March 7 and 8, and the senior NCO seminar is scheduled for March 9. Call Senior Master Sgt. Rene Melero at 268-3599 to sign up.

**Extended care services:** The Peterson Family Child Care Program has added extended care services. For military families working extended hours, the extended care program increased hours of care available in Air Force licensed FCC homes. To be eligible for this program, at least one parent must be an active-duty member, reserve or guard member on active duty, dual-employed (married to civilian) or DOD civilian employee. For more information about the program, call Steve Canales at 556-4322 or 554-9579.

**Internet service:** The Peterson Library now has Internet service with eight workstations: four DSL workstations, for commercial, and four .mil workstations, for research. Three DSL workstations are connected to black and white printers. One has a color printer and scanner. The .mil workstations are all connected to black and white printers. Cost is 10 cents per copy for color prints and 5 cents for black and white prints. For more information, call the library at 556-7462.

## Education Center 556-4064

**Webster University:** Webster University is now enrolling for the spring term, March 17 - May 17. The active-duty military student tuition rate is \$249 per credit hour for all Colorado Springs Webster

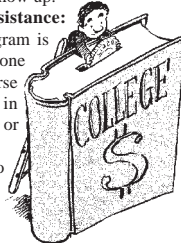
University courses. Call 574-7562 for more information.

**Aerospace Basic Course:** The Air Force Aerospace Basic Course for second lieutenants has experienced an unacceptable number of empty seats and as a result, Headquarters Air Force Space Command has implemented a new policy adding the major commands in the process and raising the reclama level from the group to wing commanders. When individuals are scheduled to attend the course, they need to make sure they show up.

**Civilian tuition assistance:**

The purpose of the program is to pay for 75 percent of one off-duty education course for DOD civilians in AFSPC, pay grade GS 10 or below.

The program went into effect Feb. 1, and will not pay for any courses before that date.



## Family Support Center 556-6141

**Volunteer opportunities:** To review a list of volunteer opportunities from District 11 schools contact Larry Land at 556-9268.

**Job orientation:** This class gives a brief overview of information on the local job market and how the Family Support Center can help with job searching. It is scheduled for Thursday, 1-2:30 p.m.

**Investment seminar:** Professor Emeritus James Agresta will discuss Mutual Funds and Exchange Traded Funds. He'll talk about taxes, expense ratios, loads and no-loads. The seminar will be Monday, 1-4 p.m.

**Resume review class:** To take full advantage of the resume class you must bring a draft of your resume. The employment team will help you improve your product in order to secure the job you want. The class is scheduled for Tuesday, 9-11 a.m.

**Air Force Adult Education grant:** The Society's General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program awards \$1500 grants to sons and daughters of active duty, retired or deceased Air Force members, retired reservists over age 60, and Title 10 reservists on extended active duty (no other reserve or air national guard are eligible). Spouses are also eligible if their sponsor is assigned to CONUS. Visit your Air Force Aide Society office to pick up an application or download one from [www.afas.org](http://www.afas.org).

## Family Advocacy 556-8943

**Children of separation**

**and divorce:** This workshop promotes co-parenting agreements and helps children improve their self-esteem. The next workshop is Wednesday, 1-4 p.m. at the PAFB chapel.

**Play group:** Informative, fun-filled get-together for parents and preschoolers are held Thursdays from 10:30 a.m.-noon at the PAFB Chapel.



## Community Activities Center 556-7671

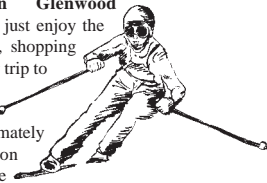
**Rockies season opener game:** The game against Seattle is April 2. The CAC will provide transportation to the game for ticketholders, via van, for \$10 per person. Sign up by March 30.

**Sunlight in Glenwood**

**Springs:** Ski or just enjoy the hot springs pool, shopping in Aspen or a day trip to Leadville, March 9-11.

Cost is approximately \$180 per person based on double occupancy. Rooms must be reserved now for this getaway weekend. Call the CAC at 556-1733 today for reservations.

**SnoFest!!! party vouchers:** Visit the CAC and get party vouchers: \$5 now, \$10 at the door.



## Military Personnel Flight 556-7377

**Attention chief master sergeants:** The AFPC Chief's Group needs volunteers for the command chief master sergeant position, 1st Fighter Wing, Langley AFB, Va., reporting no later than June 30. Contact customer service and ask for bulletin #6 for additional information.

The AFPC Chief's Group needs volunteers for the USAF First Sergeant Academy Commandant position, Maxwell AFB, Ala., reporting no later than April 1. Members currently holding the first sergeant code (8F000) and those who have previously held the code are eligible to apply. Contact customer service and ask for bulletin #7 for additional information.

**Enlisted Aide requirement:** The Air Force General's Group is soliciting applicants to fill a requirement at Kelly AFB, Texas. Contact customer service and ask for bulletin #8 for additional information.

## Officers' Club 556-4181

**Sunday brunch:** Brunch is served from 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and is also open to enlisted club members and their families and guests. Reservations are appreciated.

## Enlisted Club 556-4194

**Surf and turf buffet:** Sliced roast beef and fish will be on the buffet Tuesday from 5-7 p.m. Children 5 and younger eat free.

## Chapel Schedule

### Protestant Services

Liturgical Worship: 8:15 a.m.  
Traditional Sunday Worship:  
11 a.m.  
Gospel Services: 12:30 p.m.  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

### Catholic Services

Mass:  
Weekdays, 11:35 a.m.  
Saturdays, 5 p.m.  
Sundays, 9:30 a.m.  
Reconciliation:  
Saturdays, 4 p.m.  
Religious Education:  
(Adult and pre-K-12th grade)  
Sundays, 8:30 a.m.



## Lieutenant colonel promotion

Maj. Renee A. Barall-Inman, 10th Medical Operations Squadron, was selected for promotion to lieutenant colonel Feb. 15, in addition to the Peterson Complex promotees listed in the Feb. 16 issue of the Space Observer.

## Congratulations Communications and Information annual award winners

Air Force Space Command recently announced the winners of the AFSPC Communications and Information Annual Awards for 2000. They are:

**3AXXX NCO Category** - Tech. Sgt. Devin Glenn of Headquarters, AFSPC.

**3AXXX Senior NCO Category** - Senior Master Sgt. Donna Quijano-Butner of the 21st Space Wing, Peterson AFB.

**3CXXX Airman Category** - Senior Airman Michael Garcia of the 21st SW.

**3CXXX Senior NCO Category** - Senior Master Sgt. Randy Bowling of the 21st SW.

**Civilian, GS-08 and Below Category** - Charles Whitson Jr. of HQ AFSPC.

**Civilian, GS-09 through GS-12 Category** - Laura McDonough of HQ AFSPC.

**Company Grade Office Category** - Capt. Joseph Cox of HQ AFSPC;

**Informational Assurance Professional of the Year** - Tech. Sgt. Kathleen McKee-Braswell of the 21st SW.

**McClelland Award (Large Unit)** - 50th Communications Group, 50th Space Wing, Schriever AFB, Colo.



Courtesy Photo

## A STEP in the right direction

Staff Sgt. Nathaniel L. Tall, 3rd Space Surveillance Squadron, accepts a promotion to technical sergeant through the Stripes for Exceptional Performers Program from Lt. Col. Michael G. Rosas, 3rd SPSS commander, Feb. 15 at Misawa Air Base, Japan.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Shane Sharp

## Heartfelt donation

Maj. Mike Logan, Canadian Forces Support Unit commanding officer, hands a Polar Heart Rate Monitor to Monica Schwartz, fitness center supply director. The Canadian unit donated six heart rate monitors, complete with small Canadian Flags, to the fitness center for patrons' use.

# Make the most of your Air Force career!

By Senior Master Sgt. John Bazemore  
21 Civil Engineer Squadron

Over the past few years there's been a lot of talk about Air Force retention, and many first-term and career airmen have decided not to make the Air Force a career for many reasons (e.g. pay, benefits, deployments). The Air Force may not be for everyone, but are you making the most of your Air Force career, whatever your future holds? Have you taken a personal interest in your own career to ensure you are well-informed and ready to make good decisions?

I believe many people may not make the most of their careers because they're unaware of many programs available, or they haven't taken the initiative to seek opportunities. For example, are you aware of

the rules for in-service use of the Montgomery GI Bill? Do you know the advantages of applying for a career job reservation as soon as you become eligible? Are you aware of the benefits offered through the transition assistance program?

Whose responsibility is it to ensure you are aware of these programs and opportunities? Yours. Yes, commanders, supervisors and individuals all play a part, but its up to you to act and take advantage of opportunities. The Air Force has some super people and agencies (e.g. the career assistance advisor and family support center) to inform and assist you. Although these are effective only when commanders and supervisors support them, the responsibility for using them rests with you.

You have probably heard the saying "people don't plan to fail, they fail to plan!" Regardless of career

intentions, we should develop career progression plans and take advantage of opportunities that come our way. If you have not developed a career progression plan, start one now. Start by defining where you are now, and where you would like to be in the future. Once you've done that, add a timeline with milestones and then follow it. Follow-through is always the hardest part, but with realistic milestones, determination and flexibility, you can make your goals a reality.

There are several sources you can use to assist you along the way. Your commander, supervisor, and referral agencies exist in part to help groom and shape your future, regardless of your career intentions. Take advantage of the expertise and experience available. Remember, it's your career. Make the most of it.

## Congratulations space warfighters on year 2000 accomplishments

By Maj. Gen. William R. Looney III  
14th Air Force commander

Well done to all our space warfighters (that means all of you) for outstanding accomplishment over the past year. As you know, 14th Air Force is the Air Force's *only* numbered Air Force that has a space *warfighting* mission. Our units plan and execute spacelift, on-orbit satellite control, global ballistic missile warning and space surveillance. Last year, impressive progress was made in each of these four mission areas, thanks to all of your hard work.

Here are a few of the accomplishments that I found particularly noteworthy, and for which we can all take pride:

From our eastern launch range, we successfully executed seven military space launches, and supported 15 government and commercial missions. Our western launch range flew 12 space launches supporting military missions and three supporting civilian missions.

We further developed and executed Range Standardization and Automation efforts. The 30th and 45th Space Wings are now integrating RSA products into range operations with minimal impact to launch schedules.

We took great strides in implementing National Academy of Sciences recommendations for range safety as well as Broad Area Review recommendations for improving launch processes. We made (and continue to make) progress in maturing the concept of operations for the Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle, and are defining the manpower requirements for the combined task force.

Last year was our busiest year ever for Global Positioning System operations. We experienced three on-orbit failures as old satellites finally reached the end of their useful lives. However, we successfully replaced these satellites with newer birds.

We also executed a Presidential Directive on navigation signal accuracy, increasing worldwide system accuracy by over 100 percent in two hours. Finally, we drove realignment of a \$1.5 million GPS Support Center for United States Space Command. Fourteenth Air Force now provides a one-stop-shop for GPS users in the Department of Defense, the Department of Transportation, and NASA.

The past year was also a busy year for Missile Warning operations. The 21st SW Operations Center began sensor management

operations on a 24-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week basis with the 14th Air Force Aerospace Operations Center augmenting three days per week. We successfully completed an important upgrade to our missile warning radar at Clear Air Force Station, Alaska. We also improved warning coverage on behalf of our fellow warfighters in the European theater with the successfully launch of a new Defense Support Program satellite.

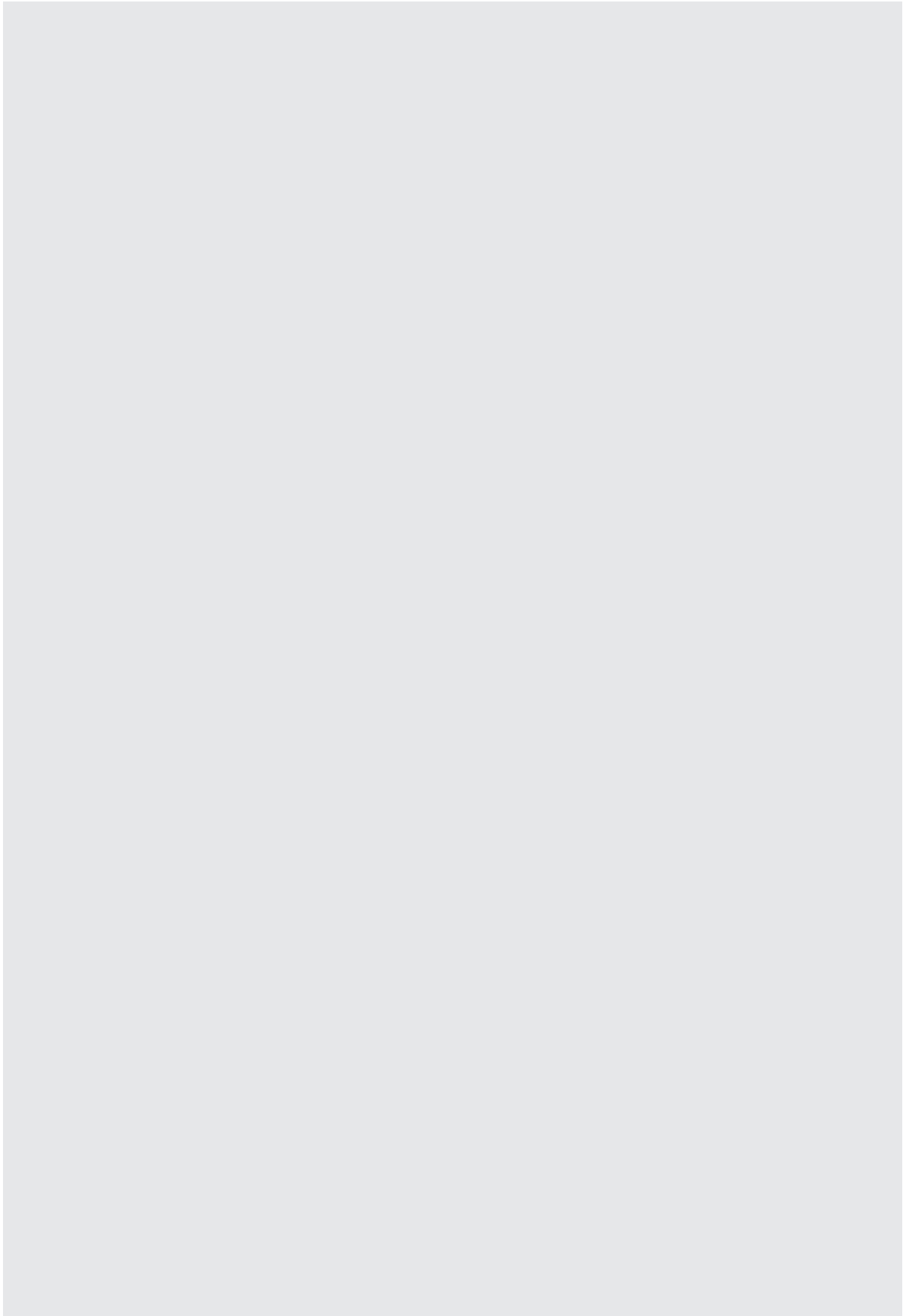
Concepts of futuristic offensive and defensive counterspace weapon systems will soon be taken out of the lab and put to test with the activation of the 76th Space Control Squadron at Peterson Air Force Base. The new squadron, Air Force Space Command's first counterspace technology unit, became part of 21st SW in January and will explore future space control technologies by testing models and prototypes of counterspace systems for rapid achievement of space superiority.

Finally, there were important new developments in our space surveillance mission. The Deployable Space Surveillance Segment of the 4th Space Surveillance Squadron achieved Initial Operational Capability in Summer 2000, marking a new milestone in providing the warfighting community another key space surveillance capability.

Obviously, there were many other great accomplishments but it is simply not possible to list them all here. The important thing to take away from this is that you are all doing great work—work that is important not only to the organization and mission, but also to our families and our country.

Certainly, many challenges lie ahead of us. Short-term mission requirements remain intense and are not likely to slacken soon. These requirements will continue to drive costs, both time and money, that cannot always be planned for. I am optimistic, however, that we are turning the corner on many of our critical resource issues and that the days of trying to do more with less are fading. Hopefully, the future is doing more with more.

Along with that, many of us share expectations that many of today's military missions will move into space—although technical and funding realities do not support such migration to the degree and timeframe some would like. But I am confident that we are on course in transitioning to a Space and air Force (big 'S', little 'a'). The men and women of 14th Air Force are leading (and will continue to lead) the charge toward that bright future!





# 84th ALF beats 11th SW 61-47 in first round tournament action

Jeffrey Bowling, 84th Airlift Flight, blows by defenders for a layup during recreational league playoffs Tuesday night. Bowling led all scores in the game with 25 points.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Shane Sharp

**By Airman 1st Class  
Shane Sharp**  
21st SW Public Affairs

The 84th Airlift Flight intramural basketball team beat the 11th Space Wing in the first round of recreational league playoffs Tuesday night at the sports and fitness center.

Both teams came out shooting in the first half, keeping the score close. As time ran down in the half, 84th ALF pulled ahead with good shooting.

"We came to play," said

Phillip Robinson, 84th ALF coach. "We moved the ball around and hit the open shots."

The hot shooting from outside helped them gain a halftime lead of 14 points, 29-15.

84th ALF hit the floor running in the second half with tough defense, creating several fast-break opportunities.

"We love to run," said Robinson. "Getting turnovers gave us the chance to do it."

And run they did, building a 21-point lead with five minutes left to play.

The 11th SW wasn't giving up. Switching to a full-court press, they caused some turnovers, resulting in lay-ups.

It proved to be too little too late. When the buzzer sounded, 84th ALF won the game, 61-47.

Jeffrey Bowling led all scores with 25 points for 84th ALF. Randall Gibb added 10 points to the victory and Ryan Bailey scored nine.

Anthony Little led 11th SW scoring with 23 points followed by Brian Kemp



Tyrone Clark, 11th SWS, flies high to reject an opponent's shot.

## 20th SPSS sponsors Walton County Special Olympics



Courtesy Photo

Players battle for possession during the 16th Annual Northwest Florida Special Olympics Regional Basketball Tournament at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. Jan. 12-13.

**EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla.** – The 20th Space Surveillance Squadron sponsored the Walton County Bucks Junior Basketball Team in the 16th Annual Northwest Florida Special Olympics Regional Basketball Tournament held at Eglin AFB January 12-13, 2001.

According to volunteers, participating with Special Olympics is time well spent.

"If you've never been around these kids, you don't know what your missing," said Lt. Col. Alvin R. Kemmet Jr., 20th SPSS commander.

Several unit volunteers participated for two days, assisting coaches with scheduling, billeting, bowling, meals and many other events.

"I've never given more 'high-fives' or seen more smiling faces in my life," said Master Sgt. Samuel Bradley, 20th SPSS operations superintendent.

The Walton County Bucks finished first in their division and earned a trip to the finals held in Gainesville Florida, Jan. 26-27, where they won the Gold Medal by a final score of 29-6.

The concept of Special Olympics was born in the early 1960s when Eunice Kennedy Shriver started a day camp for people with mental retardation. She learned that people with mental retardation were far more capable in sports and physical activities than many experts thought. In 1968, Shriver organized the first International Special Olympics Games at Soldier Field in Chicago, Illinois.

(Courtesy 20th SPSS Public Affairs)

## Hang time

Francisco Cruz, 10th Medical Group intramural basketball team, goes for a layup while King Singletary, 721st Communications Squadron, attempts to defend the goal. The 10th MDG and 721st CS met in the first round of the competitive league intramural basketball tournament Tuesday night at the sports and fitness center. The 10th MDG won the game 45-50.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Shane Sharp



Photo by Airman 1st Class Shane Sharp

## Hacked!

Dave Nunez, 2nd Space Operations Squadron, fouls Brian Wilson, 13th Air Support Operations Squadron, as he prepares to shoot during Intramural Basketball Competitive League playoffs Tuesday night at the sports and fitness center. 13th ASOS won the game, handing 2nd SOPS its second loss of the year.