

**By Staff Sgt.
Melanie Epperson**
21st SW Public Affairs

"Is there any doubt that this wing is combat ready?"

This is the question Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler, 21st Space Wing commander, asked an enlivened crowd at the Operational Readiness Inspection outbrief on Sept. 21.

The 21st Space Wing's units came away with three outstanding ratings, 20 excellent ratings and 10 satisfactory ratings.

The overall wing rating was satisfactory. It was based on three weighted scores from major graded areas. In the area of initial response, the wing earned a rating of excellent.

In two other weighted areas, employment and mission support, the wing received satisfactory ratings. According to IG inspectors, increased emphasis was on employment.

The fourth major graded area, ability to survive and operate, was not rated as a part of the inspection due to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11; however, the wing supported real world condition changes and security actions.

"It was amazing to watch this wing transition from the inspection to real world response action," Kehler said. "Everyone knew their role; we were instantly combat ready.

"Our ORI was bigger than a regular ORI," he added. "If we were being graded for



our participation in all the real world events, there is no doubt in my mind we would have been rated an outstanding."

Three units did especially well.

The 21st Contracting Squadron showed strong performance amidst their efforts to support Thule Air Base, Greenland, when record floods disrupted water and fuel supply lines and threatened base operations.

"Our ORI really started

Aug. 1 when the rains began to fall at Thule AB," Kehler said.

"The only reason the 12th Space Warning Squadron is still operating is because of the focused actions of the members of that unit and the support they received from everyone in the wing. They may be 3,000 miles away, but we were right there with them fulfilling the mission of this wing."

The 1st Command and Control Squadron also watered their eyes amidst real world

events. During the course of the ORI, Tropical Storm Barry hit Florida and the 20th Space Surveillance Squadron, the wing's primary space surveillance sensor. Both the 20th SPSS and 1st CACS worked together to get the sensor up and running with minimal effects to the space surveillance mission.

The 11th Space Warning Squadron, despite being geographically separated, impressed inspectors with their operations simulator and its emulation of the functions and capabilities of the Space Operations Center.

"What I think we showed was we have people in incredible places, under extraordinary circumstances, doing a fantastic job, in sometimes harsh conditions, and we continue to get the job done," Kehler said

of the wing's GSUs.

Several support organizations were also lauded for innovative customer support programs.

The 21st SW Family Support Center established the Family Assistance Center within 15 minutes of the simulated aircraft incident and was ready to receive family members 10 minutes later. According to the IG team, it was an extraordinary accomplishment.

With the ORI over, Team 21 has completely shifted its focus to supporting real world events.

"Compliance of Air Force policies is something we need to pay attention to, and we have some work to do in some areas," Kehler concluded. "But we also have a responsibility to be combat

"It was amazing to watch this wing transition from the inspection to real world response action."

Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler
21st Space Wing commander

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**Straight Talk Line
556-9154**

Call the 21st Space Wing Straight Talk Line for current information on wing events and exercises.

Jumper: when nation calls, we listen

By Tech. Sgt. Dee Ann Poole
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Gen. John P. Jumper, Air Force chief of staff, and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Jim Finch visited Whiteman Sept. 20 to update the base's people about America's response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon.

"I'm here to tell you what's going on, and thank you for what you're doing for your nation," Jumper said.

The terrorists tried to unnerve America but were not successful, he said.

"What they don't understand is that hitting our symbols isn't the same as hitting our spirit, and our spirit can't be squelched," said Jumper, who was in the Pentagon when it was hit by American Airlines Flight 77. The attack took 189 lives, including 64 on the plane.

"We're going to take care of business in a profound way. We're going to teach the people of the world that America's spirit is unbreakable," Jumper said, earning cheers from the base's people.

Jumper reminded them how important their work is.

"When the nation is in a crisis, America turns to you to take care of business," he said. "This team needs to stand together, side by side, shoulder to shoulder, until the job gets done.

"This is a different kind of war, but it will include the same tools it always takes: air and space power. No one else in the world can do what you do. The Air Force will pull together and take the fight to the enemy," Jumper said,

causing more cheers from an already buoyant crowd.

Jumper then opened up the commander's call for questions.

The first person asked if current operations would increase end-strength numbers and result in stop-loss actions putting a temporary hold on some retirements and separations.

"I don't think we'll increase our end-strength, but we'll do a stop-loss," Jumper said. "Authority for exemptions will be in the hands of the major command commanders and will be done on a case-by-case basis. But it's not appropriate to call up the Reserves without doing a stop-loss."

Another person asked if there would be changes in the aerospace expeditionary force structure.

Jumper said the AEF may have to be broken for tanker and airlift support, but the Air Force would stay within the predictable AEF framework as much as possible.

"For everything else, if we have to break it, we'll explain it carefully," the general said. "When the nation calls, we have to answer."

The commander's call ended with Jumper praising President Bush and the Air Force.

"You have heard President Bush. He doesn't want a pin prick, but a campaign, and we'll see it through to the end," Jumper said.

"I'm proud to be leading the greatest Air Force in the world. I'm proud to be serving alongside all of you. I'm proud of what you're able to do. When great airmen come together they make great things happen. God bless the United States of America," he said.

(Courtesy of Air Combat Command News Service)

Combat Dining Out on hold

By Chief Master Sgt. Fred Schoettler
21st SW Command Chief

Combat Dining Out for Oct. 20, but in light of the recent events and possible deployments, we decided to put it on hold for now.

In the past two weeks, the Air Force, the United States and the world have all gone through some pretty traumatic events.

From two hijacked airliners demolishing the World Trade Center towers and another crashing into the Pentagon, to watching rescue workers' and service-members' tear up at the sight of the flag, we have had our fair share of heart ache.

I have heard many people say we need to do something to get our minds off of this tragedy and the Combat Dining Out might be the type of event to do that.

We started planning a

We will revisit the idea again in the spring depending on world events.

I would like to say thank you to the people who helped out.

Whether organizing a committee, selecting a mixer and madam vice and sergeant at arms or finding and designing memorabilia, you all went above and beyond.

This is proof that when we do put this event together, it will be a dining out to remember.

I look forward to working with all of you in the spring.

Again, thank you for all your time and effort.



News in Brief

Rebuilding Together

■ A Rebuilding Together event will be Saturday. Skilled and general laborers are needed.

For more information or to volunteer, call Tech Sgt. Marc Levesque at 556-1790.

Order of the Sword

■ Because of the recent world events, the Order of the Sword ceremony for Gen. Ed Eberhart, Commander in Chief NORAD and U.S. Space Command, and Air Force Space Command commander, has been changed to Jan. 25.

Ticket sales will resume two months prior to the event. For more

information, contact Chief Master Sgt. Rick Cargill at 554-3159.

Crime Stoppers

■ Because of recent terrorist incidents in the United States, the Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachment 803 at Peterson Air Force Base is asking the military community to report any and all suspicious activity immediately.

If you see a suspicious activity and you wish to reach an AFOSI agent immediately, please call the Crime Stoppers Hotline at 556-4357.

Uniform changes

■ The security forces blue style jacket will no longer be authorized for

wear by anyone besides security forces as of Oct. 1.

Anyone who is not security forces and has the jacket should clean it and return it to supply.

For more information, call 692-5746.

■ Because of the heightened security posture following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States, the chief of staff of the Air Force has directed that wear of the uniform while traveling commercially is prohibited.

NCO workshop

■ There will be a noncommissioned officer workshop for all new and newly-selected staff sergeants Thursday and Oct. 5.

The workshop is designed to present attendees with information that will help in their supervisory roles.

The uniform will be battle dress for the workshop.

Registration for the workshop will begin at 7 a.m. on Thursday at the Enlisted Club. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. William Stephenson at 556-6336.

New e-mail

■ The *Space Observer* has a new e-mail address. It is space.observer@peterson.af.mil.

Send story submissions, ideas, news briefs and any other information you would like to have considered for publication to the new address.

Space Observer

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Action line

Submitting Action Lines

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

Action Lines can make Peterson a better place to live and work.



Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler

Lest we forget

Photos and story by 2nd Lt. Suzy Kohout
21st SW Public Affairs

Many solemn but hopeful people from the Peterson Complex and the Colorado Springs area gathered to honor their fallen comrades and those that are still missing during POW/MIA ceremonies Sept. 20.

To begin the day, reveille ceremony was held at 7:30 a.m. at the base flagpole outside Building 845.

Reveille began when the honor guard solemnly put the American flag at half-mast, due to the tragic events that occurred at the Pentagon and the World Trade Center. Brig. Gen. Bob Kehler made opening

remarks followed by a wreath dedication.

A 10 a.m. quiet hour at the chapel offered a time for people to remember and pray for their loved ones. Following the quiet hour people gathered outside the chapel for ceremony recognizing the POW/MIA table and honored guests.

"The purpose of this ceremony is to commemorate those who have and may still continue to suffer physical and mental injuries, indignities, humiliation, and even death at the hands of our enemies," said Chief Master Sgt. Terry Speer, master of ceremony.

The POW/MIA table ceremony honored the members of the armed services that have given their lives and freedom for all Americans.

Staff Sgt. Kevin Allen, instructor at the PAFB Airmen Leadership School, announced names of

Colorado's missing in action. A dual reading of the "Loneliest Prayer" and "Answer to the Loneliest Prayer" followed the roll call. Roll call of those still listed as MIAs did not include the name of Maj. Allen Seamens, retired Army Air Corp, who was once MIA. Seamens was a POW for 10 months during World War II. He and his bombardiers crashed in Holland and were later captured by Germans when attempting to flee to England.

"I wrote 12 pages of all the food I was gonna eat when I got home," Seamens recalled, drawing a laugh from the audience. Later Gen. George S. Patton's 3rd Army, 14th Armored Division, liberated Seamens and his fellow POWs April 29, 1945.

A lonely trumpet sounded "Taps" as the ceremonies and the day's events came to a close.



The Peterson Air Force Base Honor Guard raise the flag during reveille in front of the 21st Space Wing headquarters building.



Members of the Peterson Air Force Base Honor Guard take down the American flag during the silent retreat ceremony Sept. 20.



Military members from Peterson congregate at the Chapel for a quiet hour in observance of POW/MIA day.

Staff Sgt. John Miller, 302nd Services Squadron, sets a rose in a vase during the Missing Man Table and Honors Ceremony. The rose signifies the life of each missing person.



Former prisoners of war Gail Turley, Allen Seamens and Robert Beiber exchange thoughts after one of the POW/MIA events.



Stop-Loss measures take effect

Retirements, separations stopped for now

WASHINGTON—The U.S. secretary of defense has authorized the use of Stop-Loss measures in order to support President Bush's campaign against terrorism, Air Force officials at the Pentagon said Sept. 20.

The decision, which gives service departments the authority to retain members beyond established dates of separation or retirement, was made by Donald H. Rumsfeld on Sept. 19, said Lt. Col. Jan Middleton, chief of promotion, evaluation and separation policy for the Air Force.

"The purpose of this action is to meet mission requirements in support of Operation Noble Eagle and any follow-on operations regarding the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the nation," she said.

Those attacks, in which hijackers flew airliners into New York's World Trade Centers, in addition to the Pentagon, killed thousands of Americans and sent shockwaves throughout the world.

In a Sept. 20 address to Congress, President Bush responded to the attacks by essentially declaring war on the world's network of terrorism.

As a result, as many as 50,000 reservists, including people in each branch of service, have been called to active duty in recent days.

Title 10 of U.S. Code permits the president to enact Stop-Loss measures when such a call-up takes place, Middleton said.

"Title 10 permits the president to suspend any provision of law relating to promotions, retirements and separations during any period when members of any reserve component are on active duty under involuntary mobilization authorities," she said.

Middleton said that the Air Force will employ a "total force approach" to capitalize on the unique composition of each force element, including active duty members, Guard and Reserve.

Capt. Amy Anderson, chief of retirement and separation policy for the Air Force, said the key will be to ensure the service retains the critical skills needed for mission requirements. At least for the short-term future, the policy will affect all bluesuiters.

"The initial Stop-Loss period for all Air Force specialties will be for at least 30 days," she said. "All retirement, separation or component transfer actions will be suspended until termination of Stop-Loss, unless an exemption is applicable or waiver is granted. This (Air Force Specialty Code) list will be revised and made available to the public as requirements are validated."

A few exceptions will apply,



Art by Master Sgt. Jim Greeley

The U.S. Secretary of the Air Force, Dr. James Roche, has authorized the use of Stop-Loss measures in support of the war against terrorism, after four airliners were hijacked and two were flown into the World Trade Center towers in New York, one into the Pentagon and the last crashed into a field in Pennsylvania.

Anderson said.

"This suspension does not apply to the mandatory separation or retirement of personnel because of disabilities, or hardships," she said. "But, officers being separated due to nonselection to captain, major or lieutenant colonel will not be exempted."

The captain added that separating or retiring members who, as of Sept. 22, have an approved effective date on or before Oct. 1, or who had made arrangements to ship household goods on or before Oct. 1, are exempt.

In addition, those people serving an overseas unaccompanied assignment where the tour length is 15 months or less, and who will retire or separate upon tour completion, are also exempt.

Personnel officials said military personnel flights around the Air Force have additional information regarding Stop-Loss implementation.

For details on Stop-Loss for people at Peterson Air Force Base who are retiring or separating, call Master Sgt. John Freeman at 556-7500 or Tech. Sgt. John Sunderman at 556-9211.



Cavalier Air Force Station aces ECAMP inspection

By 1st Lt.
Amy L. Shannon
Unit Public Affairs Representative

Cavalier Air Force Station underwent an Environmental Compliance Assessment and Management Program inspection Aug. 27 through 31. A team of inspectors from Headquarters, Air Force Space Command reviewed 13 areas of Cavalier's ECAMP program; areas that involve the handling of environmentally hazardous materials, protection of resources, and waste management. Of the 13 graded areas, CAFS received one "exemplary" and 12 "healthy" program health indicator ratings.

Exemplary is the highest possible rating in an ECAMP inspection and an indicator that the program is among the best in command. Healthy means that an area is fully

compliant with federal, state, and Department of Defense regulations.

Inspectors commented that this was the first time they have seen no repeat or carryover findings. During the inspection outbriefing, ECAMP inspection team leader Gary Maher commented that it was obvious that there is an excellent environmental ethic throughout the facility. He also said the Hazardous Waste Program, at all levels, was "exemplary" and that CAFS was the "first unit [he] could remember that was rated healthy or better in all 13 protocols."

"The Air Force and contractor team here at Cavalier is committed to being good stewards of the environment. These great ECAMP results show that our hard work and dedication have paid off," said CAFS commander, Lt. Col. David J. Doryland.

L.A. organization to join AFSPC

By Hap Parker
SMC Public Affairs

LOS ANGELES AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. – Monday, the Space and Missile Center here, will align under Air Force Space Command, bringing the acquisition and operational worlds of U.S. Air Force space assets under one umbrella for the first time.

Through the realignment, AFSPC gains 1,488 military members and 2,290 civilian employees at the SMC, which handles more than \$56 billion in space assets.

AFSPC commander, Gen. Ed Eberhart, said combining space acquisition and operations functions is an important part of the "transformation" of military space, as envisioned by the recent Space Commission report.

"For example, the same people who acquire our satellites may later be flying those satellites," he said. "This closer-working relationship will benefit the entire life cycle of a space system. Most importantly, blending these communities will grow space leaders who can better understand and translate technical and operational requirements into the world's premier space systems."

From their campus-like setting at Los Angeles AFB, located in El Segundo, SMC employees research, develop and purchase military space systems. It is from this administrative hub that military space requirements and contract funding and management are funneled through individual offices.

Controlling the reigns of this organization is the commander, Lt. Gen. Brian Arnold. He is the enterprise manager responsible for cradle-to-grave acquisition of military space systems.

"I'm a strong advocate for space use," he

said. "The development of revolutionary space capabilities is on the horizon. Since SMC is the center of excellence for space and missile acquisitions, we consider ourselves on the tip of the spear for the development of systems which provide these revolutionary capabilities."

The SMC, through a \$5.8 billion annual operating budget, manages a multitude of current and future space systems. At any given time, there is anywhere from 15 to 19 different defense space programs in the works.

Chief among these programs is the NAVSTAR Global Positioning System. This constellation of satellites provides highly accurate three-dimensional position, velocity and time to a wide variety of U.S. and allied field forces as well as navigation data to civil and commercial users worldwide.

MILSATCOM is a space-based communications system whose satellites support global, joint-service military operations. The Defense Meteorological Satellite Program provides global visible and infrared cloud cover and other data to military operational commands and high priority programs.

The Space-Based Laser project aims to demonstrate the capability of lethally intercepting a ballistic missile in its boost phase. The Airborne Laser Program is a flexible airborne, high-energy system with the capability to acquire, track and destroy theater ballistic missiles during their powered boost phase of flight.

Also at SMC is the Space-Based Infrared System Program office, designing a infrared space surveillance system to replace the 30-year-old Defense Satellite Program, which has provided the "eyes in the sky" of early missile detection and warning.

Patriotism sparks increase in recruiting calls, inquiries

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga.--With patriotism running high, Air Force Reserve Command recruiters are seeing a jump in inquiries since the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington.

"We normally average 200 Internet leads a day, which are our most promising leads," said Col. Kevin Reinert, deputy director of recruiting at AFRC headquarters. "In the past week, we've averaged 450 leads a day."

AFRC recruiting's national telephone line usually averages 150 leads per day, Reinert said.

During the week after the terrorist attacks, the recruiters averaged 600 to 800 calls a day. That number jumped to 1,600 calls Sept. 17.

Some of the calls were from military retirees wanting to return to Air Force Reserve duty.

"People who contact us through the Internet can type in some remarks," Reinert said. "Usually we receive questions about available benefits or particular job opportunities. That's a lot different now; many people just want to know how they can serve the United States in any capacity."

Some of the comments the recruiters have received include, "I want to serve my country to prevent forever what happened on Sept. 11." Another person said, "I was thinking about joining the Air Force Reserve for a while since I left active duty. The time for

"We are within a few hundred of our upper limit and are more than 99 percent manned right now."

Col. Kevin Reinert
Deputy director of recruiting

thinking is over; it's time for action. Our country needs everyone's help."

Air Force Reserve Command has an authorized end-strength of 74,470 reservists.

"We are within a few hundred of our upper limit and are more than 99-percent manned right now," Reinert said. "By the end of September, we will be at 100 percent. But, we are always looking for hard-to-fill, warfighting support positions, such as aircraft maintenance, fuels specialists, air transportation specialists, medical technicians and services personnel."

Air Force reservists range in age from the youngest at 18 to physicians and chaplains in their 60s, Reinert said.

The average reservist is about 34 years old with 12 to 14 years of active-duty and Reserve service.

(Courtesy of AFRC News Service)

Have a story idea? Let us know by e-mailing us at
joshua.clendenen@peterson.af.mil or melanie.epperson@peterson.af.mil
Call us at 556-8476/4351

Academy offers opportunities to mid-level NCOs

A continuing requirement exists for military training leaders at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Military training leaders are mid-level noncommissioned officers who fulfill various roles in the personal and professional development of cadets pursuing their education and commission. MTLs serve as mentors, coaches, and role models for the 100 to 115 cadets in their cadet squadrons. While the day-to-day operations of cadet squadrons are run by Academy upperclassmen, the MTLs and air officer commanding oversee all aspects of cadet life.

MTLs at the Air Force Academy are entrusted with significant responsibilities.

- * Advise and assist the squadron air officer commanding with maintaining standards, good order and discipline

- * Assist cadets with adjustment to military life

- * Advise and counsel cadets on personal and professional matters

- * Plan, design and conduct instruction using the demonstration-performance and lecture methods

- * Provide guidance to cadets on matters of followership, leadership, military drill and ceremonies, customs and courtesies, self-discipline and personal appearance.

To qualify, interested NCOs must be staff or technical sergeants with 8 to 15 years time in service, possess outstanding interpersonal skills, display above reproach military appearance and bearing, and have a desire to shape the future of the Air Force and its future leaders.

For more information, see the Equal Plus advertisements for job numbers 235308 (staff sergeant) and 235309 (technical sergeant) on the Air Force Personnel Center-AMS website, or contact Chief Master Sgt. David Krecklow at 333-9612 or Senior Master Sgt. John Western at 333-4030.

(Article courtesy of Air Force Academy Public Affairs)

DeCA announces scholarships for military children

By **Bonnie Powell**
Defense Commissary Agency

FORT LEE, Va.—It's back to school time. It's also time for military families with high school seniors and college students to "shop" for funds to pay the cost of higher education. Applications for the second DeCA/Fisher House Foundation Scholarships for Military Children Program will be available beginning Nov. 1 at local commissaries and for download at www.commissaries.com.

"The response from military families to the 2001 program was fantastic," said Maj. Gen. Robert J. Courter, Jr., Defense Commissary Agency director. "Over 5,000 students applied for the scholarships, and through the generosity of our industry partners nearly 400 scholarships were awarded."

Qualified sons and daughters of U.S. military identification card holders, may apply for the \$1,500 scholarships. Eligibility of applicants, including survivors of deceased members, will be determined using the DoD ID Card Directive. The deadline for filing applications is Feb. 5.

Two major changes are in store for the 2002 program. Students will not have to show ID at the commissary when turning in their applications, and applicants who don't live near a commissary will be able to mail their applications to the closest commissary. Student eligibility will be verified through the Defense Enrollment and Eligibility Reporting System before scholarships are awarded. Sponsors should ensure that their children are enrolled in DEERS prior to applying for a scholarship.

Hate crimes not tolerated

By **Staff Sgt. Amy Parr**
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON—Hate crimes are reportedly on the rise across America in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in New York and Washington.

But Air Force officials are quick to remind bluesuiters of Air Force policy regarding such conduct.

"It will not be tolerated in the Air Force," said Bob Cook, Air Force Equal Opportunity Policy chief at the Pentagon. "Commanders have been urged at all levels to remain vigilant and take prompt, appropriate action with members of their commands who fail to meet Air Force standards. Discriminatory treatment in any form, including against individuals of Arab-American, Middle Eastern or Muslim descent, simply will not be tolerated."

People who violate this policy are subject to action under the Uniform Code of Military

Justice. To date, Cook said only one Air Force incident has been reported. Individuals should immediately report all incidents relating to hate crimes, discrimination or harassment to local military equal opportunity offices, Cook said.

Air Force leaders have expressed personal concern and determination that Air Force people will not be subjected to inappropriate treatment because of their national origin, religious beliefs or physical appearance. Arab-Americans and members of Islamic faith groups are part of our American society and the Air Force, and they should not be unfairly targeted for attacks on America, Cook said.

"Unfortunately, the suffering, loss of life, grief and anger we are experiencing as a result of (the) tragic acts of terrorism may cause some of our people to react negatively and forget this basic tenet," Cook said. "For that reason, people must be more vigilant and proactive to prevent these acts and, when necessary, respond to acts of harassment or discrimination."

For your information

Today

- Mothers on the Move, 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the Family Advocacy Center.
- Yoga, 12:05 p.m., at the Fitness Center.
- POW/MIA fun run, 11:30 a.m., at the Fitness Center. There is a \$10 fee with a t-shirt and \$1 without.

Saturday

- Youth soccer pictures, 1 p.m., at the Youth Center.

Monday

- Mothers on the Move, 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the Family Advocacy Center.

Tuesday

- Sponsorship training, 7:30-8:45 a.m., at the Family Support Center.
- Keystone Club meeting, 6 p.m., at the Youth Center.
- Karate, 5-7:30 p.m., at the Youth Center.

Wednesday

- Mothers on the Move, 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the Family Advocacy Center.
- Story time, 10 a.m., at the Library.



Photo by Master Sgt. D.K. Grant

Burger burn

A few Peterson Air Force Base members watch the flames jump and the coals burn down as they get ready to cook for the party that followed the Operational Readiness Inspection outbrief Sept. 21. The wing, as a whole, received a satisfactory rating. However, out of the 28 squadrons inspected, three were outstanding, 17 were excellent, and eight were satisfactory. The initial response was rated excellent, employment was rated satisfactory, mission support was rated satisfactory and ability to survive and operate was not rated.

Thursday

- Karate, 5-7:30 p.m., at the Youth Center.
- Homework help, 5-7 p.m., at the Youth Center.
- Job orientation, 1-2:30 p.m., at the Family Support Center.
- Play Group, 10:30 a.m.- 12:00p.m., at the Chapel.

Oct. 5

- Yoga, 12:05 p.m., at the Fitness Center.
- Mothers on the Move, 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the Family Advocacy Center.
- 5K fun run, 11:30 a.m., at the Fitness Center.

Helpful Numbers

- Family Advocacy Center 556-8943
- Education Center 556-4064
- Library 556-7462
- Community Center 556-7671
- Aquatics Center 556-4608
- Fitness Center 556-4462
- Officers' Club 556-4181
- Enlisted Club 556-4194
- Youth Center 556-7220
- Family Support Center 556-6141
- Chapel 556-4442

Community Notes

Community News

TRAGEDY SUPPORT GROUP:

The Family Support Center is offering a support group for people wishing to discuss the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11.

Coffee and cookies will be provided and participants may bring a lunch. Groups will meet Tuesdays and Fridays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Family Support Center, Building 350, Room 1016.

For more information, call 556-6141.

MOVEMENT OF PETERSON

CLASSES: All classes from the four on base colleges and universities have been moved off base to the Centennial Campus for the remaining portion of this term.

For more information, call Pikes Peak Community College at 574-1169.

NCO WORKSHOP: A noncommissioned officer workshop for new staff sergeants and staff-selects is scheduled for Oct. 4 and 5 at the Enlisted Club.

For more information, call 556-6141.

RECYCLING CENTER

RELOCATION: The Refuse and Recycling Center has relocated temporarily to the parking lot behind building 678.

For more information, call 556-1458.

AUTO SKILLS CENTER: The Auto Skills Center now offers emissions testing and VIN verification, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. only.

COMMON ACCESS CARDS: Common Access Cards will be implemented Oct. 4-5, therefore DEERS will be down for software upgrade at Peterson AFB. Common Access Card are only available to active duty members. Each card will take approximate-

ly 30-45 minutes to complete.

ULTIMATE MEMBERSHIP

"DRIVE":The 2001 Officer and Enlisted Club Ultimate Membership "Drive" will be held through Nov. 18.

All club members who sign up during this time are eligible for automobiles that will be given away to club members.

For information about club membership, call the clubs.

CUSTOMER SERVICE IS ONLINE: Commonly asked questions concerning Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance can be answered online at PeteCentral.

GIRL SCOUTS: The Girl Scouts are looking for girls between five and 17 years old to join the Girl Scouts.

For more information, call 597-8603 extension 32.

SAFE HALLOWEEN: The Southeast Family Center YMCA of the Pikes Peak Region will have a "Safe Halloween at the YMCA," Oct. 31, 6-8 p.m., at Sierra High School.

There is a \$.50 entrance fee. For more information, call 393-9620, extension 130.

Youth Center

BASKETBALL: Youth basketball sign-ups will begin Nov. 1.

COACHES NEEDED: Coaches are needed for youth baseball, soccer and basketball. Call the Youth Center for details.

Volunteer Opportunities

RED MOUNTAIN TRAIL SPUR: The El Paso County Parks and Leisure Services Department and the Intemann Trail Committee need volunteers to

help to complete the Red Mountain Trail Spur, off the Intemann Trail, in Manitou Springs.

For details, call 556-9268.

Vote

ON BASE VOTING: Chap. (Maj.) Norman Ellis, base voting officer, reminds everyone to vote.

The voting hotline number is 556-8683 or you can log on to the Federal Voting Assistance Program Website at www.fvap.ncr.gov.

CFC drive

CFC: The Combined Federal Campaign will run through Nov. 6.

The campaign helps a number of different charities and human assistance agencies.

The money is distributed to charitable agencies that donors designate to receive their contributions.

AAPI meeting

AAPI EMPLOYMENT MEETING: The next meeting of the Asian American/Pacific Islander

Employment Program will be Oct. 10, 3 p.m., in the military personnel flight building's atrium.

For more information, call Yong Sharp at 567-4501.

Right start

RIGHT START BRIEFING: The 21st Mission Support Squadron will have a Right Start briefing Oct. 16 and Oct. 30, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the Enlisted Club.

The event combines the Newcomer's Briefing and the Information Fair. For details, call 556-7525.

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.

Sept. 11, second day of infamy

David L. Bullock
21st Space Wing Historian

Sixty years ago, President Roosevelt declared 7 December 1941 a "day of infamy" in response to the sudden attack on Pearl Harbor. Recently, President Bush declared Sept. 11 a "second day of infamy" after the savage, unprovoked attack on New York and the Pentagon.

Both attacks stirred Americans to righteous anger. I offer the following reflections to those of us burning for action. America has already struck the first blow. I am talking about heroism.

At Pearl Harbor, American personnel manned anti-aircraft defenses in the face of withering bomb and machine-gun attacks. Pilots died for the few aircraft left undamaged and took to the air against desperate odds. Similarly, Sept. 11 the Americans also began fighting back.

Four tragic flights took place that day. Aboard each of the four hijacked aircraft, four or five terrorists held knives on the passengers and took over the cockpit. On Flight 93, however, terrorist plans went awry. We know from cellular communications that several passengers voted to "rush" the hijackers.

They did just that, and using bare hands against the knife-wielding assassins, took temporary control. The jetliner then descended, not plummeted, to crash in a Pennsylvania field. Experts believe this aircraft had been heading on a collision course with the White House or Capitol Building. We only know the names of a couple of those heroes. They sacrificed their lives so that others might live.

On Flight 11, headed for the World Trade Center, a similar but unsuccessful attempt seems to have been made. We know that a stewardess reported that the terrorists had stabbed several passengers. I believe these Americans also rose up against the foe as best they could. They were not able to overcome the hijackers, and Flight 11 remained on course, causing devastating destruction to the people of New York.

Those battling the catas-

trophe on the ground were no less heroic. The New York City fire and police departments responded with élan, charging into the flames and crumbling buildings in an attempt to rescue all possible persons. Over 300 firemen and 80 policemen sacrificed their lives above and beyond the call of duty.

Terrorists also commandeered an aircraft and flew it into the Pentagon that day.

Undaunted, American military personnel soon went back to work in that historic building.

Throughout the nation, the response to the murder of several thousand people has been vigorous. Rescue workers have performed herculean tasks day and night. Blood banks are full and relief workers swell the streets. Just like at Pearl Harbor, 60 years ago, a sleeping giant has been galvanized to arms.

Our first blow against terrorism has been struck. Refusing to lie down, America has come forth with heroes who show us the path by example. For those of us who burn for action, let us now have faith in the wisdom and experience of our commander-in-chief and in our elected and appointed leaders. Let us wait, and be ready.

Desire, ability, courage

By Lt. Col. Theresa C. Carter
355th Civil Engineer Squadron

Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz. - I developed the idea for this commentary while attending the Department of Defense fire conference a few weeks ago. "The desire to serve, the ability to perform, the courage to act," is the motto of Air Force firefighters.

Before I could put the finishing touches on the article, the terrorist attacks in New York and at the Pentagon forever changed the world as we know it. After watching those events, it was clear to me that the motto has a much broader application.

The desire to serve: Each of us wearing a military uniform decided to serve our country for a variety of reasons. Perhaps it was patriotism, a desire to travel, or a chance to acquire new skills and an education. Regardless of the reason, we all belong to an organization, and to a way of life, that's bigger than we are. We're a team of more than a million dedicated soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines.

As the nation watched in horror the events following the attacks, nothing brought us closer to tears than the images of firefighters and police officers rushing to provide assistance while everyone else was fleeing the crumbling World Trade Center. Hundreds of emergency responders lost their lives as a result of their desire to serve and place service before self.

The ability to perform: One of the most basic responsibilities of supervisors and leaders is to ensure the people entrusted to our care are ready to perform their duties when called upon. In the military, these duties are performed across the full spectrum of conflict, from daily peacetime activities to armed conflict against our nation's enemies. The training we do every day ensures we are prepared for any situation.

In addition, each of us has a personal responsibility to ensure we are physically and mentally prepared to answer the call. We

achieve excellence in all we do through the collective efforts of individuals and supervisors. In the coming weeks, our military may be asked to respond to the barbaric act of terrorism inflicted on us. I'm confident in our ability.

The courage to act: Courage involves not only physical courage but moral as well. Our military history is filled with stories of incredible physical courage, from the first shots fired at Lexington and Concord to the beaches of Normandy and the sands of Iraq and Kuwait. We've also heard stories of great moral courage, of individuals who had the integrity to do the right thing, regardless of the personal consequences; people like John Hancock and the other signers of the Declaration of Independence, who knew that placing their signature on that sacred document was the equivalent of signing their own death certificate. It's individuals like Sen. John McCain, who refused early release as a prisoner of war in Hanoi because he feared the North Vietnamese would use it for propaganda purposes.

Those in the fire service, both military and civilian, demonstrate the courage to act every day, whether they are responding to a structural fire, an in-flight emergency on a military aircraft, or to the unspeakable horror that we saw Sept. 11.

As the granddaughter, niece, and cousin of several Los Angeles firefighters and as the base fire marshal at Davis-Monthan AFB, I have a special appreciation for firefighters and their desire to serve, ability to perform, and courage to act. My thoughts and prayers are with the families of those who lost their lives in an attempt to save others in New York, and to all of the victims, and their families, of this tragic and cowardly act of terrorism.

My faith, however, in our nation's resolve and in the ability of our military to successfully respond to these attacks remains unshakeable. May God bless the land of the free and the home of the brave.

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Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International

1 888 533-WALK www.jdrf.org



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Gearing up

Ben Eng, outdoor recreation manager, stacks skis in preparation for the upcoming ski season. Outdoor rec has equipment for rent ranging from skis and snowboards to sleeping bags and fishing poles. For more information, call 556-4867.

Sports

Shorts

Youth flag football- The youth flag football season has been cancelled.

5K fun run- There will be a 5K fun run Oct. 5. Cost is \$1. Deadline for registration and start time is 11:30 a.m., the day of the race. Meet in front of the fitness center.

Call 556-1515 for more information.

5K fun run- There will be a 5K fun run Oct. 12. Cost is \$1 per person. Start time is 11:30 a.m., Meet in front of the technical support facility at Cheyenne Mountain.

Call 556-1515 for more information.

Singles racquetball tournament- There is a singles racquetball tournament scheduled for Oct. 9-11. Cost is \$5 per person. Deadline for registration Oct. 2. Game times are between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Call 556-1515 for more information.

Singles racquetball tournament- There will be a singles

racquetball tournament Oct. 22-25. Cost is \$5 per person. Deadline for registration is Oct. 15. Games will be played between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Call 556-1515 for details.

Doubles tennis tournament- There will be a doubles tennis tournament Oct. 22-25. Cost is \$10 per team. Deadline for registration is Oct. 15. Game times are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Coaches meeting- A flag football coaches meeting will be held Monday at noon in gym 2.

Call 556-4475 for more information.

Challenge patches- Earn 14er Challenge patches, one for each of the 56 Colorado peaks over 14,000 feet, on the climbing wall at the fitness center.

Call 556-1515 for details.

Personal trainers- Personal trainers are available for Peterson Complex members.

For more information, call 556-4462.

Get ready for SnoFest!!! '02

SnoFest!!! 2002 is still a few months away, but now is the time to start planning for the military's annual snow sports weekend Feb. 22-24.

Those new to SnoFest!!! can expect a variety of activities geared just for families and youth, competitive ski and snowboard racing and parties.

Keystone Resort is the site of this year's SnoFest!!!.

"SnoFest!!! has become so popular over the last few years that we needed to find a resort that could accommodate all the members of our military family who want to participate," said Lt. Col. Miranda Miranda, SnoFest!!! chairman. "By moving the event to Keystone, we get a facility large enough to entertain all our guests at the nightly parties while still offering the world-class skiing and 'boarding our people demand."

A variety of discounted accommodations have been set aside at Keystone, but because participation at SnoFest!!! is expected to exceed even last year's record levels, it's important to book your lodg-

ing reservations as early as possible to ensure the best rates and availability.

One of last year's most memorable events was the Cardboard Derby. Families, squadrons, teams and individuals built snow racers from cardboard, tape, paint, paper and rope. Some were as simple as a flat piece of cardboard while others were engineering marvels, elaborately crafted into tanks, ships (both Navy and pirate), jets and missiles – one entry was a scale version of the U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet Chapel. Many entries were prepared in advance and trucked to the race site, while others were made on-site with cardboard and tape provided by sponsors. The spectators howled as racers found success and failure on the hill.

Trophies were awarded in several categories at the weekend's Mardi Gras themed party, Partigras.

In addition to the Cardboard Derby last year, the youth staffs of the participating military bases held many other events for youth includ-

ing broomball, tubing and selection of a youth king and queen to be crowned in a ceremony during Partigras.

Non-skiers attending SnoFest!!! won't be left out in the cold. Activities include shopping at the Silverthorne

Outlet Mall, tours, sleigh rides, snowshoeing and cross country skiing.

The 12th annual SnoFest!!! is hosted by Outdoor Recreation, Information, Tickets and Tours and marketing staffs at the U.S. Air Force

Academy, FE Warren AFB, Schriever AFB, Buckley AFB and Peterson AFB.

For reservations or more information about SnoFest!!!, call ITT at 556-7671.

(Article courtesy of Air Force Academy Public Affairs)

