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salutes

Medals, annual & quarterly awards



Photo by Boyd Belcher

Annual award winners from Headquarters AIA posing for a photograph outside of the headquarters building are, front row from left, MSgt. Suzanne Keller, Senior NCO Individual Mobilization Augmentee; SMSgt. Valerie Davis, SNCO; second row from left, Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David Wilshek, Chaplain; TSgt. Leslie Moore Jr., NCO; and Raquel Recio, Jr.-Level Civilian; Back row from left, SMSgt. Calvin McCoy, First Sergeant; Terri Sanchez, Sr.-Level Civilian; Capt. Marcelley O'Hair, CGO IMA; SrA. Heather Goldie, Airman; 1st Lt. Michael Feng, CGO; and Robert Effler, Mid-Level Civilian. For more information on the winners, see more photos and the article on pages 4 through 7.

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Brig. Gen. Paul Lebras
AIA commander

Maj. Steve Doub
Director, Public Affairs

TSgt. Marilyn C. Holliday
Editor

Special recognition goes to AIA unit public affairs representatives who submitted articles and salute inputs for this issue of Spokesman.

Capt. Joye Davis-Kirchner **MSgt. David Gast**
MSgt. Alan Ambrose **426th IOS**
26th IOG

SSgt. Amy Moose **1st Lt. William Rochewski**
97th IS *381st IS*

1st Lt. Michael Paluba Jr.
31st IS

SSgt. John Waldron
543rd IG

Special thanks also to fellow public affairs offices:

Rob Young
NAIC

2nd Lt. Toni Tones
67th IOW

SMSgt. Fred Hagans
AFTAC

MSgt. Rick Corral
SSgt. Kristina Brown
70th IW

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101 Critical Days of Summer

Protect our most valuable resource - people

By Brig. Gen. Paul Lebras
AIA commander
Lackland AFB, Texas

Last month I talked to you about ensuring the integrity and safety of our information systems. This month, I want to talk about protecting and ensuring the safety of something even more vital, YOU! Our people are our most valuable resource, more so than any aircraft, missile system, or computer. Therefore, it is imperative that we, as subordinates, supervisors, NCOICs, superintendents, OICs, and commanders, do everything in our power to meet our established command goal of zero mishaps.

Summer is just around the corner and with the increased daylight hours and warmer temperatures will come opportunities to travel and engage in a wide range of outdoor activities. While I highly encourage you to enjoy the nice weather and the outdoor activities that are a part of summer, I want you to do so safely. Air Combat Command suffered six fatalities during the 101 Days of Summer in both 2000 and 2001. That's 12 of our fellow airmen who will never again enjoy time with their families, friends, and co-workers. Let's ensure that we do not add to that sad total this year.

Historically, AIA does have its share of tragedies, but we have a zero mishap rate for the current fiscal year. I'd like to commend everyone for their efforts in achieving this goal, but to maintain this positive trend there needs to be continued emphasis by all of us. Hopefully you have already begun planning for this year's high-risk period, which began May 25, with the Memorial Day weekend, and concludes Sept. 3, with the Labor Day weekend.

What are your plans for this sum-

mer and what methods will you employ to keep yourself safe? The only correct answer to the second part of that question is identification and management of risks. There's never a good time for a tragic mishap.

To help us maintain the proper attitude and awareness needed to avoid any tragedies, we've developed a campaign to get the word out and give us something to think about and identify with. The vital ingredients for any campaign include a theme, objective, strategy, required resources, dedication, and discipline. This year's theme is "**101 percent of our time, thoughts, and talents to preserve all we treasure.**" The objective is **zero** fatalities and preventable mishaps. The theme and goals are simple; because their intent is keep people healthy and productive, everyone can embrace – and must — embrace them.

The strategy for achieving our objective is not sophisticated. It begins with increased awareness of safety risks, which leads to smart judgment and modified behavior, thereby achieving the mishap prevention objectives. I urge each of you to apply personal risk management principles throughout the summer, particularly in off-duty activities. Identify the risks associated with your projected activities, whether it's fatigue associated with a long drive to see your family or the potential for falling overboard during a boat outing.

Eliminate or mitigate these risks to acceptable levels – plan on frequent stops when driving, and wear flotation devices when you're on the water. Continuously monitor risk factors. Supervisors and leaders, you can make a huge impact by setting the example and assisting the less experienced folks with personal risk management. Your wing and unit safety staffs have a series of

programmed activities designed to keep safety awareness high. I expect commanders and supervisors to capitalize on these initiatives.

In our business, most of us deal with highly classified information, and over the years all of us have integrated security into everything we do. Before leaving work, we all spin the dial on the safe and double-check that the door has locked behind us. Similarly, we take great care to ensure that we don't insert any unclassified data into unclassified systems. We don't need to be reminded to do this — we do it almost subconsciously.

In short, we have integrated security into everything we do – it's second nature. We need to do the same thing with safety. Just like security, it's not something separate from our daily actions; it must be woven into everything we do. Just like security, it is all-encompassing; it applies whether we are at work, at home, or traveling. In short, we need to be as safety-conscious as we are security conscious.

Each of you are important to your families, to our team, and to the nation that relies on your contributions. In a recent briefing with President Bush, Lt. Gen. Michael Hayden, NSA director, was tasked to pass on the message that "You're doing a great job!" Let's continue to live up to that praise by working and playing smart. I am counting on each of you. Take care of yourselves, family members, and each other. We have gone through half the year mishap free.

Let's make sure we keep it up, now that we are entering the 101 Critical Days of Summer.

BEST OF THE BEST

AIA honors top people for 2001

By *TSgt. Marilyn C. Holliday*
HQ AIA/PA
Lackland AFB, Texas

For the first time, all annual award winners at the AIA level were brought together for the awards banquet.

In years past the enlisted program was a separate affair from the tri-awards banquet, which featured winners of the three civilian categories and the chaplain's award.

Winners for 2001 were treated to a week in San Antonio, with the culmination being the awards banquet at Lackland's Gateway Club.

Winners were: 1st Lt. Michael Feng from the National Air Intelligence Center; SMSgt. Valerie Davis from the 23rd Information Operations Squadron; TSgt. Leslie Moore, Jr. from Air Force Technical Applications Center; SrA. Heather Goldie from NAIC; SMSgt. Calvin McCoy from NAIC; Maj. Ernest Muller from NAIC; Capt. Marcelley O'Hair from NAIC; MSgt. Suzanne Keller from 97th Intelligence Squadron; TSgt. Brandon Middleton from 97th IS; Raquel Recio from the 453rd Electronic Warfare Squadron; Robert Effler from the 694th Intelligence Group; Terri Sanchez from HQ AIA/XP and Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David Wilshek.

1st Lt. Michael Feng
Chief Engineer
NAIC
HQ AIA CGO of the Year

Feng is assigned to the Airborne Reconnaissance Signals Analysis Branch, Signals Exploitation Division, Directorate of Data Exploitation at NAIC, which is at Wright-Patterson

AFB, Ohio. He holds a bachelor's of science degree in electrical engineering from Syracuse University and a masters of engineering in engineering management from Cornell University. He was commissioned in May 1998 and assigned to the



1st Lt. Michael Feng

Airborne Reconnaissance Signals Analysis Branch in 1999. He is responsible for all equipment upgrades, maintenance and software upgrades affecting a \$1.5 million lab and 40 enlisted analysts. "It's an honor to win," Feng said. "I've worked with and met some good people and its been a great experience."

SMSgt. Valerie Davis
Superintendent
23rd IIOS
HQ AIA Senior NCO of the Year

Davis is the senior enlisted executive to 110 squadron and detachment members and she expertly manages a \$3.1 million budget annually. She was responsible for managing the creation and manning of the first Air Force Information Operations combat tactics squadron. She enlisted in the Air Force in 1984 as a Morse systems operator. At Lackland she is an active member of the Lackland and Security Hill Top Three and she coordinated the first combination graduation class reception since Kelly's base closure. She graduated

with honors in June 2001 with a dual bachelor of science degree in occupational education and corporate training and development. She is pursuing a dual master's degree in public administration and human resource management from Webster University. When asked if the award will change the way she does things she replied, "No, it makes me work even harder in taking care of your people and then in turn it will take care of you."



SMSgt. Valerie Davis

TSgt. Leslie Moore Jr.
Chief, Current Operations Branch
AFTAC
HQ AIA NCO of the Year

Moore manages the six-person satellite data analysis work center, which monitors multiple satellite constellations in support of specific provisions of several international nuclear test ban treaties. In this role he verified the nature of detected events to national authorities using a unique \$275,000 data processing suite. He also provided operational support for the NASA space shuttle



TSgt. Leslie Moore Jr.

and International Space Station missions. He entered the Air Force in September 1985 and he earned an associate of applied science in criminal justice and an associate of applied science in scientific analysis technology. When not at work he stays busy with community service. He has built homes for Habitat for Humanity, organized base-wide support for Project Goblin - to keep children safe on Halloween and even organized visits to veterans' homes. When asked for his comments, Moore said, "A big thank you to AIA for this opportunity and thanks to 2nd Lt. Yolanda Glen, TSgt. Errin Autry and CMSgt. Don Hatcher and the rest of the staff for a great week."

SrA. Heather Goldie
Scientific and Technical Electronic
Intel Analyst
NAIC
HQ AIA Airman of the Year

Goldie is a scientific and technical intelligence analyst assigned to the Airborne Reconnaissance Signals Analysis Branch at Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio. She joined the Air Force in 1999 and has worked primarily in the scientific analysis section. She was the branch's first choice from 50 people,



SrA. Heather Goldie

to aid the National Security Agency during Operation Enduring Freedom. In her nomination package, Col. Steven Capenos, NAIC commander, said she "epitomizes leadership, technical expertise and exemplifies Air Force standards." Her package also lists her as analyzing more than 40 high priority signals and personally authored more than 20 technical reports. In her spare time

she heads a basewide Air Force Navy tutoring program. She also stays busy with Habitat for Humanity, Mad River cleanup and with NAIC's Enlisted Advisory Council.

SMSgt. Calvin McCoy
First Sergeant
NAIC
HQ AIA First Sergeant of the Year

McCoy oversees more than 600 military members of the National Air Intelligence Center. "He leads our troops in the most powerful way ... by example," Capenos said. "Out among the troops, always looking for ways to improve their quality of life." McCoy entered the Air Force in 1977 and has been

a first sergeant since 1994 and he's been stationed at NAIC since 2000. He is the co-founder of Wright-Patterson's first Airmen Against



SMSgt. Calvin McCoy

Drunk Driving, with no DUIs reported during his 19 months as the center's first sergeant. Some of the ways that McCoy has improved quality of life at NAIC are: briefing airmen about CCAF benefits and pursuing higher education, organizing a visit from the AIA chaplain's office, conducting newcomers' orientation and securing the purchase of \$53,000 worth of game room equipment for all four base dorms. When asked if the award would change the way he does his job he said, "Yes and no. I think it's always nice to be recognized for your hard work and commitment to completing the mission. But win or lose, the success of the center, its people and ultimately AIA should remain our focus."

Maj. Ernest Muller
Individual Mobilization Augmentee
NAIC
HQ AIA Field Grade Officer IMA
of the Year

Muller serves as a risk assessment engineer assigned as an IMA at NAIC. His active duty career began with pilot training at Williams AFB, Ariz. Subsequent assignments led to the HQ TAC/XP as a staff assistant on advanced technology and enrollment in the Air Force Institute of Technology master's degree program in aeronautical engineering. Upon graduation in December 1986, Muller was assigned to NAIC where he served as a technology analyst on foreign aerospace structures. While in this role, he

published more than two dozen defense intelligence products and attained Level 200 acquisition qualification. Upon leaving active duty in 1992,



Maj. Ernest Muller

Muller joined the Reserve forces as an IMA assigned to NAIC. Muller serves as a full-time civil servant at NAIC and is recognized as a national expert in military fixed wing aircraft technology and transfer assessments.

Capt. Marcelley O'Hair
Individual Mobilization Augmentee
NAIC
HQ AIA CGO IMA of the Year

O'Hair is an IMA assigned to NAIC as an intelligence officer and attached to the Defense Intelligence Agency and Central Measurement and Signature Intelligence Organization-Processing and Exploitation Coordination Office at Wright Patterson AFB. She joined the Air Force Reserves in

names in the news

February 1998 and was recalled to active duty just three months after separating from active duty in support of the presidential recall for Operation Allied Force. She was instrumental in ensuring timely flow of critical data into the theater of operations and to the national level so proper decisions could be made during the air campaign. After hostilities ceased, O'Hair continued active duty to co-author a MASINT Kosovo Lessons Learned Implementation Plan. Many of those recommendations have been adopted, resulting in more efficient flows of data.



Capt. Marcelley O'Hair

MSgt. Suzanne Keller
Individual Mobilization Augmentee
 97th IS
 HQ AIA SNCO IMA of the Year

Keller is assigned to the 97th IS at Offutt AFB, Neb. After 10 years active duty, she joined the IMA program as a member of HQ USSTATCOM/J2SS. From 1998 until her assignment to the 97th in 1999 she was an IMA to the chief of Personnel Security, where she managed SCI access, coordinated with directors, command special staff and direct reporting units to ensure personnel actions were completed quickly and accurately. She is currently serving as chief of Operations Information Management at the 97th.



MSgt. Suzanne Keller

TSgt. Brandon Middleton
Individual Mobilization Augmentee
 97th IS
 HQ AIA NCO IMA of the Year

Middleton is the Reserve future requirements director for the 97th at Offutt AFB, Neb. He provides growth management strategies and direction for 76 IMAs and active Guard and Reserve members, 57 of which are airborne cryptologic linguists. He entered the Air Force in 1991 and served for six years as a cryptologic linguist. He served in Operation Southern Watch and Operation Deny Flight.



TSgt. Brandon Middleton

Raquel Recio
Resource Advisor
 453rd EWS
 HQ AIA Jr.-Level Civilian of the Year

Recio is a resource advisor assigned to the 453rd Electronic Warfare Squadron at Lackland AFB, Texas. She has been a member of AIA since 1988. Today, she provides resource management to the squadron and 318th Information Operations Group staffs. Her duties include planning, programming and executing the budget - more than \$16 million in squadron funds. According to her nomination package, she is "an unsung, behind the scenes hero



Raquel Recio

of Operation Enduring Freedom. She single-handedly completed the end-of-fiscal year documentation and initiated new financial disbursement for all squadron projects, freeing squadron analysts to deliver uncompromised technical support to the war effort during a time period usually devoted to annual budget concerns." She is actively pursuing a degree in finance.

Robert Effler
Chief, Plans, Programs & Resources
 694th Intelligence Group
 HQ AIA Mid-Level Civilian of the Year

Effler is the chief of Plans, Programs & Resources for the 694th IG at Fort Meade, Md. He joined the Air Force as a Morse systems operator in 1978 and retired as a chief master sergeant in 2001. He spent 19 of his 22 years in the Air Force in the intelligence career field. After retiring, he began his civilian career in his current position. In this position he is responsible for the planning and programming for the 694th IG and its six subordinate squadrons. He is also responsible for the group staff budget, its expenditures and its manpower. He has a bachelor's degree in intelligence collection with a minor in management and is currently working with counselors to map out a plan to obtain a master's degree in intelligence and information technology.



Robert Effler

"This award was given to me on behalf of the great men and women in the 694th IG and 70th IW," he said. "They earned this and should be recognized for it. I would like to recognize the folks that put me here ...

Team XP and Team Ft. Meade.”

Terri Sanchez
Intelligence officer
HQ AIA/XP

HQ AIA Sr.-Level Civilian of the Year

Sanchez is an intelligence officer assigned to HQ AIA. She currently works in the Strategic Planning



Terri Sanchez

Division as a participant in the Air Force Civilian Career Management Program. She began her intel career as an Air Force cryptologic linguist in 1982. After completing four years of military service she was hired as an Air Force intelligence specialist at the Consolidated Security Opera-

tions Center. During her career she was the first Air Force civilian to receive the National Security Agency's Star Award for excellence in support of U.S. Southern Command and U.S. Special Forces operations. She was selected as HQ AIA Plans and Programs Directorate's Civilian of the Year for both 2000 and 2001 and was recently named the HQ AIA Senior Non-supervisory Civilian of the Year for 2001. "I am thrilled to be included in such an accomplished group of AIA professionals," she said. When asked how the award will change the way she does things she said, "I look forward to future opportunities."

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David Wilshek
37th Training Wing Chaplain
AIA Chaplain Sensor Award

Wilshek has provided pastoral care to AIA, AFIWC, CPSG and the MRSOC since July 1999 when he was stationed at Kelly AFB. After transferring to the 37th Training Wing at

Lackland, he continues to be a big part of everyone's lives. He expanded the number of programs available, programs such as suicide



Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David Wilshek

prevention and intervention, stress management, critical incident stress management, leadership and team building, couple's communication and grief counseling. "I'd like to thank the people of AIA and their family members for the privilege and honor of being their chaplain," Wilshek said. "I am doubly blessed to serve God and country as an Air Force chaplain at AIA."

70th IW annual award winners



The 70th Intelligence Wing annual awards ceremony was held March 28. The nominees spent a week touring the wing and the local Baltimore, Md., and Washington, D.C., area. The winners are from left, 2001 Junior Civilian Mr. Robert Effler, 694th IG; 2001 Airman SSgt. Aaron Edgington, 543rd IG; 2001 Senior NCO MSgt. Warren Wofford, 694th IG; 2001 CGO Capt. Jason Lindsey, 694th IG; 2001 NCO TSgt. Stefano Masi, 694th IG; 2001 First Sergeant SMSgt. Jack Johnson, 373rd IG; and 2001 Senior Civilian Mr. David Guerra, 543rd IG.

67th announces annual award winners

By *2nd Lt Toni Tones*
67th IOW/PA
Lackland AFB, Texas

Eleven members from the 67th Information Operations Wing were recently recognized for their duty performance, significant self-improvement and community involvement during 2001.

The 2001 67th IOW Annual Award winners in their respective categories were:

Company Grade Officer – Capt. Jenifer B.E. Warren, 97th Intelligence Squadron, Offutt AFB, Neb. Warren

was recognized for her involvement of Operations Enduring Freedom. As assistant director of Operations for the 55th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron, Warren led 44 enlisted troops and one officer into a bare-base environment and within 72 hours had it operational. She was a distinguished graduate from Squadron Officer School and is actively pursuing a master's degree in management.



Capt. Jenifer B.E. Warren



MSgt. Douglas Frye

Senior NCO – MSgt. Douglas Frye, 36th Intelligence Squadron, Langley AFB, Va., was cited for leading a 42-person imagery operations

flight, one of the most heavily tasked production organization in the 36th IS, in setting new production records. The flight, under his leadership as NCOIC, produced 10,500 products and responded to 1,955 collection requests driving global Air Force operations. Frye also completed nine credit hours to meet the requirements and obtained a second Community College of the Air Force degree, graduating with a 3.5 GPA.

NCO – TSgt. Rhonda K. Miller, 324th Intelligence Squadron, Hickam AFB, Hawaii, was honored for her involvement in the U.S. Naval EP-3 aircraft international incident. Miller was also a distinguished graduate and the Commandant Award winner at the Hickam (AFB, Hawaii) NCO Academy.



TSgt. Rhonda K. Miller

Airman – A1C Carneisha D. Layton, 488th Intelligence Squadron, RAF Mildenhall, U.K., monitored \$50



A1C Carneisha D. Layton

million worth of warehouse assets and flawlessly ran two semi-annual warehouse validations ensuring warehouse balances and documentation were totally accurate. As the top RAF Mildenhall Base Honor Guard member, she not only

covered more events than any other member, but also was requested by-name more often for retreat and quarterly award ceremonies, and funeral details.

First Sergeant – SMSgt. Michael G. Schmidt, 68th Information Operations Squadron, Brooks AFB, Texas, was cited for his preventive approach to combating discipline problems. Under his leadership, Articles 15 dropped from six in 2000 to zero in 2001 and administrative separations decreased from nine in 2000 to three in 2001. An active member of the community,



SMSgt. Michael G. Schmidt

Schmidt was nominated for a position on the Castroville City Council as a result of his works with city expansion and encroachment projects.

Senior Technician – TSgt. David R. Swartwood, 381st Intelligence Squadron, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, is NCO-in-charge of ESSA Operations. Swartwood single-handedly redirected all Alaskan ESSA assets in less than 12 hours following the September 11 crisis. Despite being 50 percent manned, the unit absorbed 600 percent increase in tasking without any loss of mission. He developed the first forward-ESSA



TSgt. David R. Swartwood

training plan that cut training time by 50 percent for augmentees and new members. After identifying and correcting communications security vulnerabilities, Swartwood reduced 11 Air Force sensitive-information disclosures from 1-in-115 telephone calls to 1-in-1,200.

Junior Technician – SrA. Colbert C. Young, 566th Information Operations Squadron, Buckley AFB, Colo., a personal communications systems analyst, was honored for his support to Operation Enduring Freedom in the Middle East. His performance resulted in a national-level cryptologic award. Fulfilling a role normally held

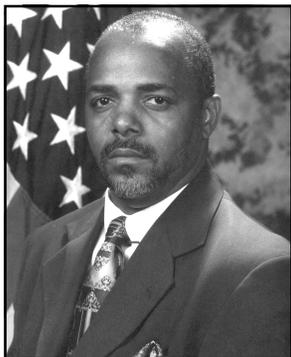
by a seasoned NCO, Young assisted the senior controller in assigning assets to remote sites that ensured exact identification of more than 300 critical communication nodes.



SrA. Colbert C. Young

Senior Civilian – Rudell Rackley, 690th Information Support Squadron, Lackland AFB, Texas, led a team of 115 military, civilian and contract people in operating AIA's network Enterprise Operations Center. Operating with a \$900,000 budget, the unit provided 3,000 customers at Headquarters Air Combat Command, Air Intelligence Agency and 60 worldwide operational units with

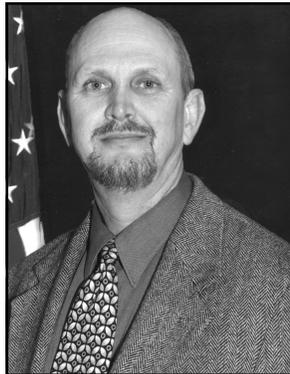
\$70 million information technology services. Rackley directed the renewal of four network support contracts totaling \$1.5



Rudell Rackley

million that ensured availability of intelligence information to the front line warfighter and national command authority regardless of day or time.

Intermediate Civilian – John P. Powers, 27th Intelligence Squadron, Langley AFB, Va., was honored for managing a secondary imagery intelligence dissemination program for Operations Enduring Freedom and Southern Watch. He ensured crucial information was available to combat air forces worldwide, delivering 4,700 national technical means and first time Global Hawk images to Southwest Asia Combined Air Operations Center. Powers also conducted a feasibility assessment of end-to-end dissemination architecture for U-2, Predator and Global Hawk for OEF that ultimately reduced intelligence wartime dissemination gaps and provided SWA CAOC more than 6,000



John P. Powers

images in the first four months.

Junior Civilian – Sheila A. Weiss, 381st Intelligence Squadron,

Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, built a cradle-to-grave suspense tracking system that was later adopted by the 3rd

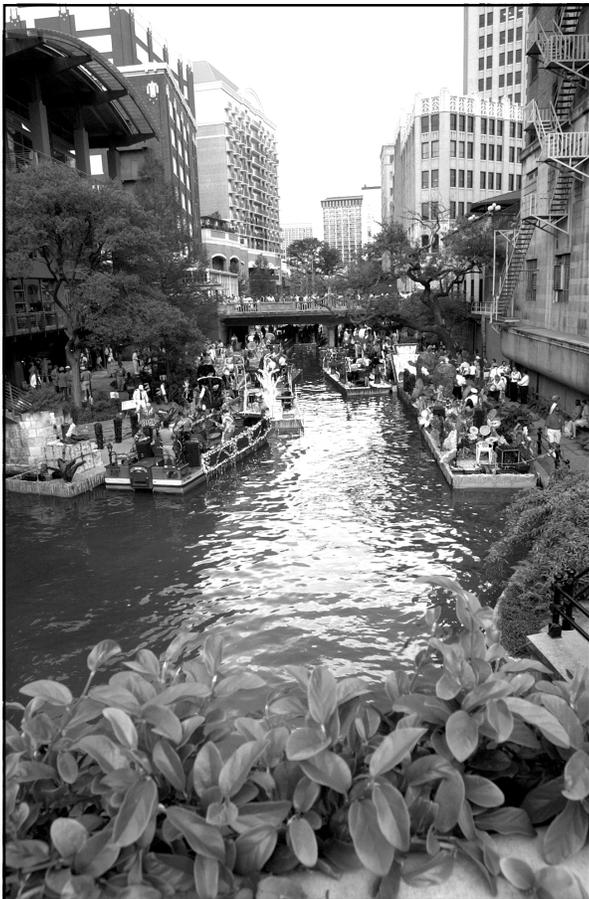


Sheila A. Weiss

Wing at Elmendorf. Her tracking system ranked the 381st IS as the only base unit with a 100 percent enlisted performance reports on-time rate during the PCIII-MILPDS transition. She also teamed with the unit project officer and created a web-based program and web pages to track unit preparations for 2002 Unit Compliance Inspection, staff assistance visits and other inspections.



viva fiesta

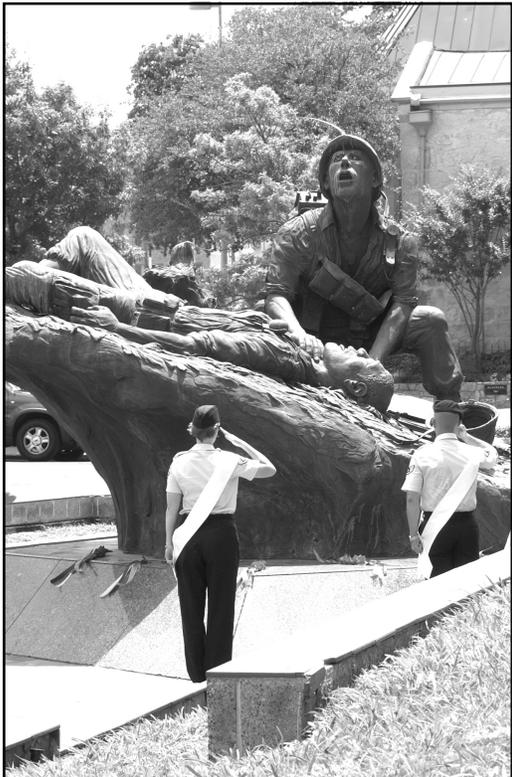


*photos by
Ted
Koniars*

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: SrA. Ed Joseph from the 690th Intelligence Support Squadron and AIA's ambassador for Fiesta, takes a moment to reflect before heading to the Texas Cavaliers River Parade. Young girls perched atop a horse during the Charreada. AIA's Honor Guard, led by 2nd Lt. Jason Glenn, at left, march during the Fiesta Flambeau Parade. At center, AIA Ambassador SSgt. Michelle Simms, an electronic threat analyst with the Air Force Information Warfare Center, waves to crowds during the Battle of Flowers Parade, sponsored by San Antonio's Battle of Flowers Association. The riverwalk as it appeared before the annual Texas Cavaliers River Parade. Each year Lackland AFB holds a Fiesta Military Parade.



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Brig. Gen. Paul Lebras, AIA commander, and his wife, Kris, enjoy opening ceremonies for Fiesta at Alamo Plaza April 19. Local Scouts carry the American flag during the Battle of Flowers Parade. Lebras and CMSgt. Donald Hatcher, AIA's command chief master sergeant, salute during the Pilgrimage to the Alamo, sponsored by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas. San Antonio ambassadors salute during the Veterans Memorial Service at the Vietnam Memorial, sponsored by Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 366. At center, SrA. Ed Joseph, AIA ambassador, waves to the crowds during the Fiesta Flambeau Parade, the world's largest illuminated parade.



San Antonio welcomes millions for annual 10-day celebration

By TSgt. Marilyn C. Holliday
HQ AIA/PA
Lackland AFB, Texas

Millions of visitors and San Antonians alike, gathered daily for the city's annual 10-day celebration - Fiesta.

Military officials and ambassadors from every San Antonio military base participated in a wide variety of

events, all the while fostering a better relationship with San Antonio folks and providing Air Force awareness to all San Antonio visitors.

The celebration featured everything from parades, memorial services, pilgrimages and lots of events with tons of food choices.

The celebration was held April 19-28 and plans for next year's events are already underway.

453rd Electronic Warfare Squadron Looks at where they fit into big picture

photos by Boyd
Belcher

A1C Brandon
Shelton gave the first
certification briefing.
He is a computer pro-
grammer from the
453rd Electronic
Warfare Squadron's
flagging flight.



By TSgt. Marilyn C. Holliday
HQ AIA/PA
Lackland AFB, Texas

"We as airmen must assess each situation, apply doctrine as the situation warrants and make decisions based on the big picture."

These are words taken from Lt. Gen. Bruce Wright, former AIA commander's comments in the November 2001 Spokesman issue.

And these words were taken to heart by the 453rd Electronic Warfare Squadron even before they made it to print.

"A significant shortfall in today's Air Force is an airman's ability to

understand, discuss and apply doctrine-what we as airmen know and do best," Lt. Col. Ricky Sowell, 453rd EWS commander, said. "The AFIWC

"The study of doctrine is one of the most misunderstood aspects of the mentoring process."

SMSGt. Peter Bodenbach
453rd EWS superintendent

has put into motion what General Wright said. "Col. Arthur 'Wally' Wachdorf, AFIWC commander, is in the forefront of applying doctrine to warfighting and support to warfighting and he believes that knowing doctrine and its application is important.

"In understanding the importance and impact of doctrine's influence in our ability to fight and win wars, it's important for us to follow our leadership's direction in applying their vision to the way we do daily operations," Sowell said. "So what we have done in the 453rd is take their vision and applied it to operations through a certification program."

Since the inception of the certification program four airmen have taken the challenge and completed the mission successfully.

"When I came into the Air Force my leadership didn't place much value on doctrine," Sowell said. "Doctrine was talked about at the highest levels but never flowed down through the leadership to us. We did certifications for our jobs, but never on how our jobs supported the bigger picture or the importance of what we did. Col. Thomas Schrader, 318th IOG commander, has challenged us to challenge our airmen to expand their knowledge past their day-to-day jobs. Today, our leadership is much more active and concerned about airmen knowing our Air Force history and experiences and how that applies not only today, but also to the future."

As part of each new 453rd airman's upgrade training, a 30-minute briefing to the commander is required. The first 15 minutes of the briefing is about electronic warfare and what its components, tenets and effects do for the warfighter. The briefer then discusses an example of

EW use in history and how EW has become a force multiplier. The last portion of the briefing describes how EW fits into the overall information warfare effort employed by the Air Force today.

"Using this base knowledge of EW, the second 15 minutes of the briefing details the specific role the individual, his flight, other flights and the entire 453 EW squadron play in the overall Air Force EW effort," SMSgt. Peter Bodenbach, 453rd EWS superintendent, said.

This is what I call the 'big-to-small' picture effect: an understanding of EW as a whole and how every individual makes vital contributions, even an airman first class computer programmer with less than two years out of high school, to the mission of the 453rd EWS," he said, referring to the first briefer for the program, A1C Brandon Shelton.

"We see this program as having three elements: education, understanding and pride," Sowell said. "Knowing that the individual can do the job they're being trained to do. Knowing where the individual fits into the Air Force, how they fit and why they fit. Knowing that what the individual does is important and critical to the Air Force."

"The study of doctrine is one of the most misunderstood aspects of the mentoring process," Bodenbach said. "It is my hope that by incorporating it into our EW certification process that we will learn the lessons of the past and apply them to our future."

Bodenbach oversaw the creation of the certification process striving to create a template similar to the process that aircrews use to prove mission readiness.

"Aircrews brief an entire mission, from route planning to post-strike damage assessment, and then answer questions from the wing commander and wing level subjects matter experts," Bodenbach said. "Using the aircrew as a model, I sat down with our core doctrine document, the Air Force Doctrine Document 2-5.1,



Second Lt. Nathan Morgan and SSgt. Valerie Morrow from the 453rd EWS hold a "Redeye," infra-red surface-to-air missile trainer launch tube.

Electronic Warfare, and wrote questions that would demonstrate that the person understood EW, what parts make up EW, what effects EW has on the battlefield, and the role they play in the EW process.

After the format for the briefing was finalized, A1C Brandon Shelton gave the first briefing in February 2001.

"It's not only about information warfare and the bigger picture," Shelton, computer programmer from the 453rd's flagging flight, said. "But it's about where I fit in and what I'm completing."

In preparing his briefing, Shelton visited other flights and gathered information while learning about the responsibilities of the other flight members.

"The research done for the briefing gave me a good idea as to

how one person can really play an important role in the battlefield, where he or she is on the front line or not," Shelton said. "Since it was my first briefing, that experience alone, I know will benefit me in the future as far as public speaking goes. It also helped me see the big picture of how we in the 453rd support our pilots."

In his particular briefing, Shelton explained how the model programs that he writes enable the 453rd to simulate if a warfighter will properly identify all threats on the battlefield, using EW to give the pilot situational awareness while protecting him.

"Having future airmen come in and learn about EW and how they contribute can only make my job easier," TSgt. Manning Voss, Shelton's supervisor, said. "I haven't seen any changes in my flight as of yet, but as more airmen get this opportunity I

would expect to only see positive effects.”

The mission of the 453rd is to support Air Force electronic warfare objectives and Combat Air Force requirements by operationalizing EW concepts and evaluating test, training and combat operations. The squadron develops and maintains EW-associated engineering databases and technical studies for all DoD organizations. They also provide responsive and realistic EW models, and manage

the worldwide Air Force EW integrated reprogramming exercise.

“It’s important for each of us to know why we are here and why what we do is important to the Air Force,” Sowell said. “Sometimes it’s difficult to see and understand why what we do is important. I want our troops not only to see and know that what they do is important but also understand why it’s important. We may not be directly involved in combat but we have a direct impact, if we don’t do

our job right someone could die.”

The plan for the squadron is to have all of the members brief at some point. In addition to the briefing requirement for upgrade training, a rotating requirement for each flight to brief its mission during commander’s call is also in place.

Even though the certification briefing program is still in its infancy, positive results are bound to be seen and felt from the bottom up as the program reaches its full potential.

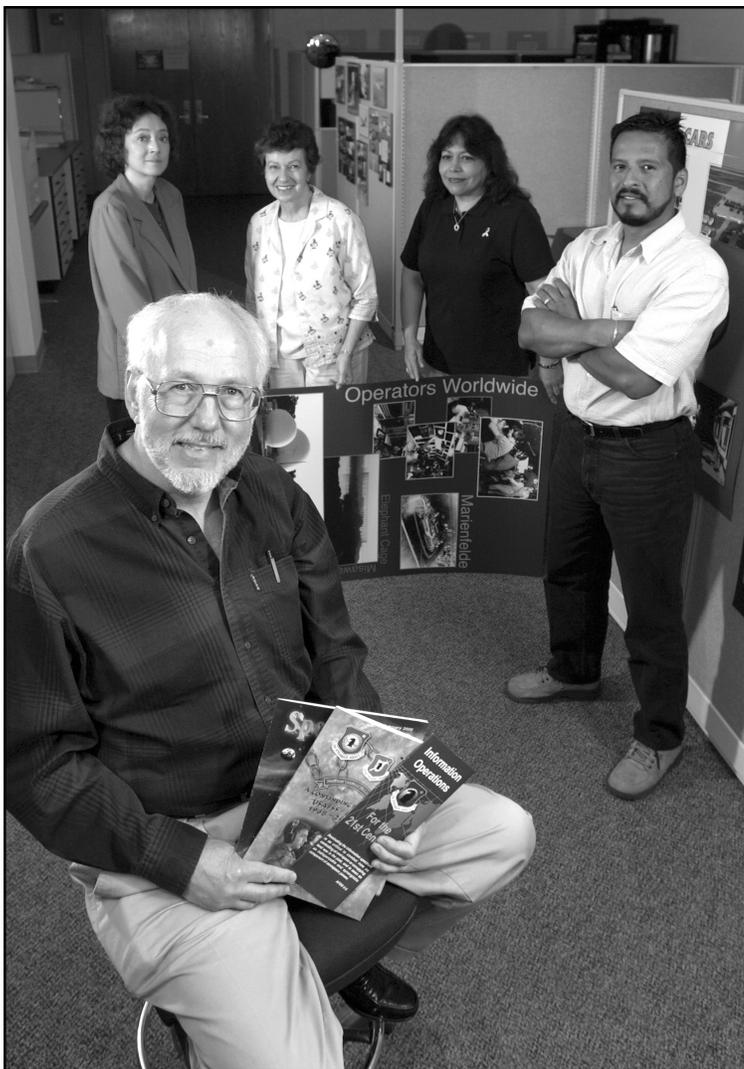


photo by Boyd Belcher

Members of the multimedia element are, seated, John Rice and standing from left, Kathleen Barnes, Catherine Hammer, Olivia Dominguez and Lino Espinoza Jr.

Visual Production Flight members enter 21st Century skilled, ready

By Olivia Dominguez & Catherine Hammer
690th ISS
Lackland AFB, Texas

As you walk the halls or attend events at San Antonio’s Security Hill, chances are the artwork or any of the printed materials you see were produced by the Visual Production Flight of the 690th Intelligence Support Squadron.

Consisting of two elements, print plant and multimedia, the flight’s goal is “to provide the highest quality visual products and best possible service to the customer,” Tim Bellings, chief of the Visual Production Flight, said.

Print Plant

The print plant activities are structured under the Combined Intelligence Publishing Services headquartered at the Defense Intelligence Agency.

“Printing and publishing products are vital to the national security, homeland defense, counter terrorism and intelligence activities throughout the world,” Ken Brown, print plant manager, said.

In 2002 the print plant operates with 10 employees

photo by Boyd
Belcher
George Serna and Sal
Flores, both from the
print plant, look over
proofs.



and state-of-the-art equipment, which includes offset presses and bindery equipment for high quality color printed material, and networked copiers capable of receiving a wide variety of electronic files over the local area network as well as the internet. The results are 200-300 customer jobs per month with an annual output of 12 million printed pieces.

"A few years ago we went through a complete reorganization and downsizing effort," Brown said. "We're now a leaner, meaner and better operation - that translates to dollars saved while services to the customer are more efficient and timely than ever."

Some of the more visible products published by the print plant include the Spokesman magazine, 8th Air Force - AIA Global Vision Plan, voice call sign products, threat recognition posters, AIA history documents and programs for special ceremonies.

"It's an extreme pleasure to be able to support our customers who are often under all kinds of pressure to bring a project to fruition after months of hard work," Brown said. "I know that our customers get a sense of self-satisfaction in holding the final printed product, and so do we."

New technology & customer service: A winning combination for Visual Production Flight

The print plant element also manages the entire copier program, to include more than 100 copiers throughout the Air Force Information Warfare Center, Joint Information Operations Center, Headquarters Air Intelligence Agency, Medina Regional Security Operations Center and several other locations within the San Antonio area.

"Looking ahead, the copier program will be migrating from analog to digital technology copiers as our current machines reach the end of their life cycles," Brown said. "The new digital machines will be capable of network connection, scanning, and providing a higher quality product to the customer."

Graphics

The multimedia element provides support to AIA customers not only at Security Hill, but worldwide.

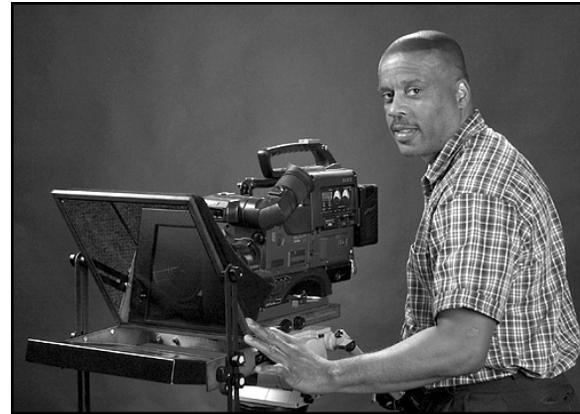
Dennis Harper, multimedia manager, and his staff of 12 members provide graphic and computer design, electronic presentations, web page design, exhibits and displays, multimedia productions, still photography and video conferencing services.

"Let our creativity work for you—take advantage of what we have to offer," Harper said.

"Our job is incomplete if our customers are not satisfied with their product," John Rice, graphic artist, said.

Products created by the multimedia staff include AIA's Heritage Hall display, AIA's hallway displays, design and layout of the 8th AF-AIA Global Vision Plan, Spokesman magazine covers, posters to advertise important events and

names in the news



photos by Boyd Belcher

AT LEFT: Carmen Moreno and Mike Vidaurri run the Spokesman through bindery equipment, as one of the last steps before mailing out the publication. ABOVE: Terry Young, videographer from the 690th ISS, checks out video equipment.

printed. Frequently the customer leaves with the print just minutes after sitting."

Video

For video production, conversion from analog to digital video allows direct connection from camera to computer without digitizing the original, as was the case with analog, giving extremely fast download into the digital editing suite of equipment.

"Because the original is digital and the edit is digital, there is no loss of quality during the production cycle," Terry Young, video production specialist, said. "Not even if duplicated hundreds of times."

Some of Young's titled productions are the Air Force Birthday 2001: A Proud Heritage, Escorts in Action, and ACC-8th Air Force-AIA Integration Ceremony.

Video Teleconferencing

Recent worldwide events have had a marked impact on the video teleconferencing capabilities for the multimedia element. Operating two Joint Worldwide Intelligence Communications System, and one Defense Video Services-Global VTC's has Zayne Harris, VTC facilitator, busy on more than 80 scheduled calls per month. VTC technology provides the customer real-time interaction by combining video, audio and graphic presentations. This capability allows geographically separated decision makers to develop plans and strategies in an interactive mode when connected through these networks. "

With more than 300 sites across the VTC networks we can get the right information, to the right people at the right time," Harris said.

"With highly skilled people, state-of-the-art equipment, and the goal of providing the best possible service to the customer, the Visual Production Flight has entered the 21st Century poised to respond to real world crisis with services and products for decisionmakers in planning and strategies, and continuing support for Air Force ceremonies and events," Bellings said.

many other mission products.

In all, the multimedia element members process about 1,000 work orders annually to support customer requirements.

Photo

Advances in digital technology have been a boon for the still photography and video production areas.

"The major benefits in digital photography are the elimination of hazardous chemicals and a drastic reduction in printing turn-around time," Guido Locati, multimedia systems manager, said. "Photographs shot in the studio are shown to the customer on a computer screen for approval and then

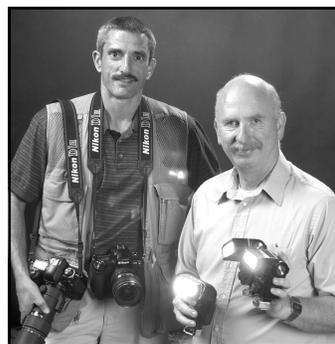


photo by Gloria Trevino
Photographers from the 690th ISS are Ted Koniare and Boyd Belcher.

NAIC director wins national intelligence award

*Rob Young
NAIC PA
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio*

James Boone, director of Global Threat at Wright-Patterson's National Air Intelligence Center, was awarded the National Intelligence Medal of Achievement by Mr. James Simon, assistant director of central intelligence for administration, Feb. 22.

During the awards ceremony at the Central Intelligence Agency's Langley, Va., headquarters, intelligence community leaders honored Boone's numerous contributions to the nation's signals intelligence capabilities.

Boone's outstanding service as the Air Force representative to the National Signals Intelligence Committee's Weapons and Space Systems Subcommittee and the lead team that preceded it, contributed greatly to the signals intelligence efforts conducted by the intelligence community.

Between January 1993 and May 1999, Boone's vast technical SIGINT expertise qualified him for a critical leadership role in the creation of the WASSC subcommittee, as well as the creation of numerous initiatives, which dramatically improved the nation's technical SIGINT collection, processing and analysis capabilities.

He led the development of the National Weapons and Space SIGINT Priority List, providing a fused, prioritized list of weapons and space systems that helped focus collection systems on the community's most critical needs.

This process allows senior analysts to list the nation's top weapons and space systems intelligence needs in priority order, and then to reorder the list according to the degree to which SIGINT is able to address each need.

His work not only helped prioritize collection efforts among the service intelligence production centers, it led the Air Force in developing key inputs to many of the technical electronic intelligence studies resulting in additional funding and substantial improvements. Boone spearheaded a number of improvement initiatives across the intelligence community.

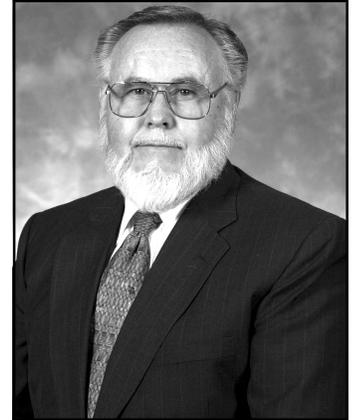


photo by Mitch Albertson
Mr. James Boone, NAIC's director of global threat, recently received the National Intelligence Medal of Achievement.

314th airman shines at World Series

*By SSgt. Bryan Smith
314th Training Squadron
Fort Huachuca, Ariz.*

Young airmen rarely have the opportunity to represent the U.S. Air Force on a world stage.

AB Joshua Shuh had just that opportunity Nov. 3. As a member of the Ft. Huachuca Color Guard, Shuh was selected to perform before Game 1 of the 2001 World Series between the Arizona Diamondbacks and New York Yankees.

Shuh was the lone Air Force representative on the multi-service

color guard from Ft. Huachuca, Ariz., where he is a cryptologic Morse student.

With only one week of practice, the team put on a flawless performance in front of 70,000 fans and millions of television viewers worldwide.

When asked about any pre-game jitters, Shuh said, "I was very nervous before the game, but once we were on the field those nerves turned to a deep sense of pride and excitement."

Col. Michael Boardman, Ft. Huachuca garrison commander, presented Shuh with a commanding

general's coin for his outstanding contributions to the team.

Since joining the Air Force in June 2001, the Detroit, Mich., native has wanted to serve on an honor guard detail.

"I enjoy drill and ceremony and especially representing our service," he said. "I'll always be involved wherever I'm assigned and someday hope to be on the Air Force Honor Guard in Washington, D.C."

With his performance at the 2001 World Series, Shuh is well on his way to fulfilling that dream.

26th IOG members compete for professionalism awards

*By MSgt. Alan Ambrose
26th IOG
Ramstein AB, Germany*

Several members of the 26th Information Operations Group were nominated to compete for the 2001 Communications and Information Professionalism Awards at the 67th Information Operations Wing-level contest.

Capt. Martin Rudy is a member of the 485th Intelligence Squadron at Mainz-Kastel, Germany. Rudy leads a critical component of the European Technical Center's challenging and dynamic information and communications mission supporting the National Security Agency.

He directly supports high-profile ops customers in EUCOM, NATO and SHAPE HQs and 15 forward deployed communications and information support elements throughout EUCOM and CENTCOM.

He has researched and documented an architecture paper to communicate concerns to higher headquarters on the implementation of new technology, led teams to several countries to provide on-the-spot technical expertise and continuously shared his knowledge formally and informally so that others may gain from his insight, according to his nomination package.

He has led significant and comprehensive upgrades to IT infrastructure within ETC and EUCOM, upgrading the critical theater messaging server and spearheading implementation network-based computer accounting.

First Lt. Alexander Ackerman is a member of the 488th Intelligence Squadron at RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom. Ackerman is the Communications and Information Flight commander and in this role leads 27 people.

He is responsible for the unit's critical \$900,000 wide area network and its nonstop support to more than 450 customers in five geographically separated units.

Ackerman is the front-line support link to strategic and theater reconnaissance units throughout Europe and Southwest Asia. He supplies vital command and control communications and computer support to USEUCOM.

Additionally, he supports USCENTCOM, Special Operations Command and the United States in Europe airborne intelligence, electronic combat, special operations and U-2 ground based operations and missions.

Ackerman has led the consolidation and upgrade of Mildenhall's wide area network and cable infrastructure upgrade, as well as, led the unit's acquisition and acceptance of Looking Glass analysis and reporting system.

MSgt. Michael Ronayne is from the 26th Information Operations Group at Ramstein AB, Germany. Ronayne oversees four communication and information Air Force specialty codes within the group, directs daily operations of four local area networks valued at more than \$500,000, and works with planners to anticipate future deployment needs and requirements.

He re-organized the group help desk, training 3A0X1s as workgroup managers and 3C0X1s as functional system administrators, thereby ensuring utilization of the right people for the right job.

He developed the group staff's 3A0X1 rotation plan by expertly matrixing workgroup managers and traditional information management programs to cross utilize and train six 3A0X1s.

Ronayne is a superior planner, having guided the planning and installation of 26th IOG headquarters SCI network expansion. He sourced more than \$30,000 in hardware and infrastructure.

MSgt. Timothy Hodge is from the 488th Intelligence Squadron at RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom.

Hodge manages seven communications workcenters with members in five separate career fields. His air-tight workcenter transition plan during a server transition transparently provided a more robust and secure server array to more than 350 users in just three weeks with productivity unaffected. His oversight of a \$480,000 cable infrastructure upgrade led to an on time completion, and provided increased reliability and faster access times. Hodge foresaw the need to combine several unique network disciplines into one extensive training plan and ultimately reduced training time from one year to less than six months, a figure which includes all detachments and operating locations. He provided communication and computer deployment kits to ACC Direct Support Operators which enables the DSOS to provide real-time situational and threat awareness to special operations command crews during real-world EUCOM and CENTCOM combat support missions. Hodge personally took on the

challenge of creating and modifying more than 19 security accreditation packages accomplishing 100 percent accreditation of unit Automated Information Systems for the first time. His extensive knowledge of this process led to headquarters selecting him to beta test versions of accreditation software before release to field organizations.

TSgt. Richard L. Randolph is from the 485th Intelligence Squadron at Mainz-Kastel, Germany. He is the chief of the CRITICOMM Network Control Center and superbly leads 12 members during a critical manning shortage, keeping 24-hour C2 communication operations up and running, vital to Air Intelligence Agency and other DoD organizations, according to his nomination package.

He aggressively led troubleshooting and resolution of communications problems which kept 200 circuits supporting 300 customers worldwide problem free. His keen attention to detail is the reason for a circuit reliability of 99.2 percent. In his role as chief of the Network Control Center, Randolph has taken the initiative to write six new training plans for streamlining the center, supervised the operation of 10 unique store and forward communication processing systems and initiated routine troubleshooting training for personnel which has slashed the outage log by more than 50 percent.

Randolph initiated and coordinated supplemental Automated Message Handling System training for NCC personnel to expand duties beyond the communications center in support of evolving operational mission requirements. As an eloquent spokesman for his organization, he was selected by the director of the European Technical Center to brief visiting guests on the NCC mission.

SSgt. Pete Quarker is the NCOIC of the Information Systems Branch at the 26th Information Operations Group at Ramstein AB, Germany. Quarker is a stellar manager who directs customer support for 40 users on four local area networks. He makes network certification as his team's priority. His team has completed 600 hours of computer-based instruction and attended multiple base courses.

Quarker is flexible and responds on little notice to help the customer. When he received word that the group staff building would have new occupants who required computer support, he installed eight desktops, three printers, two keyboard/mouse/monitor switches for USAFE Theater Aerospace Operations Support Center Intelligence Center members. Not only is Quarker conversant with his information systems role, he has a firm foundation in traditional career field tasks. Quarker filled in as the theater records manager multiple times to perform records inspections at subordinate squadrons, verifying and approving five records plans and assisting on staff team visits. He is the only 3A0X1 in AIA Europe

who manages help desk and system administration shops.

A1C Tierra S. Rhinehart is an operations information management journeyman at the 488th Intelligence Squadron at RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom. Rhinehart manages enlisted performance reports and decorations for deployed aircrews. She has processed 260 EPRs for 11 branches and three geographically separated European operating locations by creating an electronic tracking system which gives leadership immediate information. This has resulted in improved turn-in-time rates to the group and wing.

Rhinehart continually searches for opportunities to expand her knowledge of the communications and computer field. She has completed the phase one workgroup manager certification training course and acquired five state-of-the-art laptops valued at more than \$15K.

Rhinehart has also authored a step-by-step continuity instruction book on key computer processes. This initiative was lauded by the 26th IOG staff assistance inspector during the last inspection.

During the absence of the chief and NCOIC of Operations Information Management, she performs admirably managing daily office tasks, updating the commander's weekly staff meeting slides and compiling and disseminating the Commander's Weekly Activity Report, a compilation of the squadron's latest intelligence and activities.

SrA. John B. Quezada is a CRITICOMM Network Control Center apprentice at the 485th Intelligence Squadron at Mainz-Kastel, Germany. Quezada was recently selected for senior airman-below-the-zone. He assisted in the acceptance testing of a major communications upgrade to European Technical Center, increasing the total primary link capability by 75 percent.

Quezada's is an integral member of the CRITICOMM help desk handling more than 60 requests to assist high profile NATO members with various communications tasks. As a briefer to the ETC Communications Division Chief, he assisted in forecasting future comm infrastructure requirements to senior ETC Leadership. When he discovered communications failure on a link to Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, he isolated the cause of the failure and directed corrective actions, restoring communications in less than three minutes. In response to Operation Enduring Freedom, he helped in development of the first Watch Center Emergency Response Checklist. His actions ensured 100 percent of ETC and 485th IS members could be accounted for, and clearly defined NCC responsibilities in response to any natural or man-made threats that may arise.

97th takes on OEF deployment

Travels to different place, learns nose-to-tail mission

By SSgt. Justin Needle
97th IS
Offutt AFB, Neb.

Like many units in the military, the 97th Intelligence Squadron at Offutt AFB, Neb., has discovered a new place, located in the Sultanate of Oman.

The 97th's not doing just the regular deployments and exercises any more. It's starting a whole new chapter in its history. Crew, ways of travel, mission, ops tempo and new concepts are being put to the test. Supporting Operation Enduring Freedom, the 97th is learning some tricks-of-the-trade and meeting these tests head on.

Within a matter of days the 97th put together the necessary crews in support of OEF and in reaction to the Sept. 11 attacks. The crews deployed one after another and speedily met the challenge to support the new war.

The 97th schedulers met the

challenge by juggling several lists of names and specialties to anticipate a number of imaginable circumstances. Even as uncertainty ran through the minds of the squadron members and their families, those tasked to deploy handled the short notices with professionalism and confidence.

"I'm continuously impressed and proud to be associated with them, from nose-to-tail, MSgt. David Matthews, member of the 97th deployment for OEF, said. "The pride in self, unit and homeland this unit exhibits on a daily basis is beyond compare."

The modes of transportation were as varied as the personalities that make up the crews. Two crews went with the RC-135 Rivet Joint. One flight headed to Souda Bay, Greece. While the other headed to another location within the Sultanate of Oman. Others headed out via the "Freedom Bird" from Baltimore, and still even more traveled courtesy of the 92nd Aerial Refueling Wing from Fairchild

AFB, Wash. Regardless of how the crews from the 97th got to the place known as OL-X in the Sultanate of Oman, they all soon realized the work that was ahead of them.

Before any missions were flown, the 97th set to work to build a place of business and new homes. Two conexes were moved in by SrA. Matthew Beeman to begin setting up shop.

Concertina wire was stretched and extension cords laid down in conjunction with setting up shop.

Working at night to stay cool, the initial crews assembled about 100 tents in five days in anticipation of the influx of troops that would soon occupy the base.

Missions began Oct. 3. To date, crews have flown about 100 missions. While the exact length varies, each mission demands vigilance and patience from all crew members.

Long hours and TDYs aren't anything new to the 97th. Any time of



Members of the 97th Intelligence Squadron from Offutt AFB, Neb., deploy to the Sultanate of Oman, making up the 38th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron.



*Tent City for
deploying
97th IS
members.*

the year crews can be found in Japan, Alaska, Souda Bay, Turkey, England, Saudi Arabia and now in the Sultanate of Oman.

With most people already going TDY to places like Saudi Arabia, Sultanate of Oman only adds to the nearly 180 days they're gone from home per year.

In addition to a new TDY, the 97th is also learning a new nose-to-tail concept.

"Actually, I think it worked fine on the crew level and for mission execution...at the crew dog level, it has been just like it always has," Capt. Mike Thomas, 38th Reconnaissance Squadron tactical coordinator, said. "We get the job done."

"The nose-to-tail concept encompasses all of the RJ assets under one command," Lt. Col. John Schulte, 38th RS, said. "Although mostly transparent, the whole crew concept allows for tighter coordination between internal assets and a better working relationship between all."

The nose-to-tail squadron was initially known as the 55th Expedi-

tionary Reconnaissance Squadron, and included elements of the 97th IS, 38th RS and 343rd RS as its primary contingent.

As OEF developed in the fall of 2001, the members of this expeditionary mission also expanded to include other parts of the 55th Wing at Offutt and 67th IOW across the world.

Since January 2002, the unit has had members from the 324th IS at Hickam, Hawaii; 390th IS at Kadena AB, Japan; 488th IS at RAF Mildenhall, U.K.; and several other units.

Additionally, the leadership of the 38th ERS included 67th IOW members, as Maj. Jim Klingmeyer served as operations officer from December through January, and Lt. Col. Jon Kimminau served as commander from January to March.

Operation Enduring Freedom has been a test for the 97th and fellow wing warfighters, one that everyone is still learning along the way.

Even with short notices, travel

hazards, long missions and days away from home, the 97th members continue to live by the words that are embroidered on their squadron patches, "We Can Handle It."

Groundbreaking signifies start for new gate

By TSgt. Marilyn C. Holliday
HQ AIA/PA
Lackland AFB, Texas

In an effort to better protect AIA people, the first steps were taken to move the Security Hill gate during a groundbreaking ceremony April 15 at Security Hill in San Antonio.

Officials from the 37th Training Wing at Lackland, along with the Air Intelligence Agency joined together with Rep. Ciro Rodriguez in turning the first shovels full of dirt to signify preparation for the relocation of the gate.

"Today's ceremony kicks off a major investment by Headquarters AETC and AIA to improve the security, safety and appearance of the Security Hill Complex," Brig. Gen. Paul Lebras, AIA commander, said. "By relocating the gate we will better protect our most precious resources, our people, from those that would perpetrate acts such as those we witnessed on Sept. 11 in New York and at the Pentagon, at Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia and at the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City."

Relocation of the Security Hill main entrance gate was planned as part of the original CAMPUS Plan and the current Lackland AFB General Plan, which includes Security Hill, according to Mahesh Kapadia, engineering program manager.

"AIA's information operations mission is critical to the Air Force mission," Rodriguez said. "You are essential to our nation's offensive and defensive air operations throughout the world, and I'm grateful for the contributions you make to our na-



photos by Ted Koniares

Rep. Ciro Rodriguez spoke during the groundbreaking ceremony for the future Security Hill entrance gate April 15.

tional defense. I'm sure that our troops fighting terrorism throughout the world have an even greater appreciation for your services. We will succeed in the war against terrorism and AIA will provide the information operations that will guarantee success."

The relocated gate will meet HQ AETC force protection criteria. It will be located on Southwest Military Drive, east of the existing gate and west of the Mobile Engineering and Alteration Team Compound. The contract was awarded through the Fort Worth District Corps of Engineers with an estimated completion date of Oct. 1.

"This gateway to Security Hill is more than a namesake, it is truly representative of the first steps of plans to improve our facilities, func-

"You are essential to our nation's offensive and defensive air operations throughout the world, and I'm grateful for the contributions you make to our national defense."

Rep. Ciro Rodriguez

tionality and appearance on Security Hill, and continue efforts to prepare the Air Intelligence Agency to meet the information operations challenges of the 21st Century," Lebras said.

The plan also includes construction of a new gym and other community support facilities, the construction of a medical clinic and improved parking.

"This is an ambitious plan that will greatly improve the quality of life of each and every member of Security Hill," Lebras said.

The concept design for the gate relocation was completed in January 2000. Besides AIA and Lackland AFB, the Texas Department of Transportation and local government were involved in the study regarding the gate relocation. A full design review and environmental assessment were completed for the project.

Additional officials on hand for the ceremony were: Brig. Gen. Fred Van Valkenburg, 37th Training Wing commander; Col. Ken Smith, 37th Support Group commander; Col. Linden Torchia, AIA's chief of civil engineering division; and Lt. Col. Spencer Patterson, 37th Civil Engineering Squadron commander.

"This is an ambitious plan that will greatly improve the quality of life of each and every member of Security Hill."

*Brig. Gen. Paul Lebras
AIA commander*



Brig. Gen. Paul Lebras, AIA commander, spoke during the groundbreaking ceremony for the future Security Hill Gate about the plan for future improvements to Security Hill, starting with the relocation of the gate.



photo by Ted Koniares

Members of the official party breaking ground for the future Security Hill gate are from left, Maj. David Ptak, 37th Security Forces Squadron commander; Lt. Col. Spencer Patterson, 37th Civil Engineering Squadron commander; Col. Linden Torchia, HQ Air Intelligence Agency Civil Engineering Division chief; Col. Kenneth Smith, 37th Support Group commander; Brig. Gen. Fred VanValkenburg, 37th Training Wing commander; Brig. Gen. Paul Lebras, AIA commander; and U.S. Rep. Ciro Rodriguez.

Major deploys as military observer

*By Maj. Michael McCarthy
AFIWC
Lackland AFB, Texas*

From July 2001 to January 2002, I served as a United Nations military observer with the U.N. Observer Mission in Georgia.

I served as the senior U.N. liaison officer in our Tbilisi office, interacting with representatives of the Georgian government, foreign embassies and various non-governmental organizations.

I would frequently travel to Sukhumi, seat of the UNOMIG Military Headquarters and capital of the break-away republic of Abkhazia (not recognized by any country in the

world). Sukhumi was twice the location of heavy fighting during the Abkhazian-Georgian war in 1992-1993, and the city still bears the marks. Many of the buildings still have pockmarks from bullet holes, others are blown out from artillery rounds, and there are piles of what look like scrap metal—actually, the detritus of war—all over the place.

After the initial Georgian push to reestablish control over Abkhazia in the summer of 1992, the front lines stabilized along the Gumista River just northwest of the city. The Georgians held the southeast bank and the Abkhazians held the northwest bank. The Georgians laid extensive minefields to defend their positions,

utilizing anti-personnel mines, anti-tank mines, and the Russian equivalent of claymore mines.

They mapped out some of their minefields, but not many. When the Abkhazians attacked across the river in September 1993, they skirted the minefields (for the most part), broke the back of the Georgian positions, and pushed the defeated Georgian army south back into Mingrelia, reconquering Abkhazia within about a week.

Along the way, the Georgian Army tried to lay additional minefields to attempt to slow the advance, to no avail. Now the Abkhazians are left with the legacy of thousands of mines strewn about in



From July 2001 to January 2002, Maj. Michael McCarthy served as a United Nations military observer with the U.N. Observer Mission in Georgia.

unmarked fields.

A non-governmental organization known as HALO Trust operates in Abkhazia clearing the minefields. It is slow, careful work, and occasionally one of their workers gets injured.

One day I visited the minefield along the Gumista River, which is one of the six current projects of HALO Trust.

I went with another UNMO, Maj. Scott Millington from the UK, and we first visited the HALO Trust headquarters in Sukhumi. We received a briefing on the whole program (the U.S. State Department, along with the UK, Germany, Japan and the Netherlands, provides a significant amount of its funding).

Beginning in 1995, HALO Trust conducted a complete survey of the country, identifying and mapping out in great detail known and suspected minefields. They got their information from two sources—the Abkhazian and Georgian military forces, who provided them with notoriously inaccurate maps, and from interviews with local villagers, who told them of military mine-laying activities and locations where people or livestock were killed or injured by mines.

Then HALO Trust started the time-consuming process of clearing each and every minefield, an effort that will likely take another 10 years, if not longer. They establish a priority for each minefield based upon how often it leads to an incident, how close it is to human habitation, how important the land is for agriculture or other purpose, and any special requests by the local government.

Most of their work so far has been along the Gumista River, but they have a few on-going projects in the Ochamchire Region to the south-east. HALO Trust hires and trains locals to do the actual clearing (the training is extensive); each of the mine-clearers works about six hours a day (you can't afford to do this when you are tired) and gets paid about \$150 a month.

After the briefing, we went to the minefield by the river. We received a more detailed briefing on that particular minefield, and then the all-important safety briefing—where to walk, where not to walk, what to do if there is an explosion, etc. Then we went out and toured the minefield, being cautious to always walk behind the site supervisor, who served as our guide.

The cleared areas are clearly marked with red and white stakes, so there is really no danger if you don't stray into areas where you shouldn't be. Nonetheless, we wore full protective gear, including armored vests and face protection.

The mineclearers will work in lanes about one yard wide, and will clear maybe 10 feet in length per day, so clearly this effort is very time consuming. They first use a metal detector, moving ahead about six inches from the last known good position. Then they use a garden trowel to carefully scrape away the soil down to a depth of about a foot, which is about as low as these mines are likely to be (an exception is described below).

As they fill up a pail with the dirt, they empty it onto a pile in a cleared area. It is very slow, slow, work, and they take a break every hour. There are paramedics on standby at the field at all times, in case of accident.

Since this particular minefield is near the river, it poses a unique problem not found elsewhere.

In 1995, the river flooded, depositing additional soil in low-lying areas along the banks. Therefore, HALO Trust workers have to first clear the new soil about 2-3 feet deep, before they can start the actual mineclearing.

During the day we toured this whole area, seeing the areas that are being worked on and noting the spots (identified by yellow stakes) where HALO Trust has found and de-armed mines.

Meanwhile, cows are walking through the minefield. The site

During his demonstration, he accidentally set off a mine, killing himself. That was the last day the Russians worked the field. They simply declared it cleared and handed it back to the local authorities.

supervisor informed us that occasionally a cow will hit a mine.

The Russian military unit assigned to the Sukhumi region had previously cleared this minefield (or so they said); after several locals were killed HALO Trust went in to reaccomplish the task.

Since then, they have found hundreds of mines that the Russians missed. Apparently, they simply did not check areas that had scrap metal, and did not check areas covered by brush (most of which had grown since the war). Hence, a poor job.

In fact, the Russian minesweeping was so bad that some of the soldiers were killed doing it. After that, the Russian colonel in charge of the unit assembled all of his troops together to give them additional training.

During his demonstration, he accidentally set off a mine, killing himself. That was the last day the Russians worked the field. They simply declared it cleared and handed it back to the local authorities.

So, I returned safe and sound, with dusty boots and a few rusty AK-47 shells as souvenirs.

Habitat for Humanity: Volunteers help S.A. families

*SSgt. John Waldron
543rd IG
Lackland AFB, Texas*

When Army SSgt. Cheryl Cade Harding went out two months ago to work on a Habitat for Humanity project for the first time, the homes she and fellow volunteers worked on were barely starting to take shape.

Today Cade Harding, who is assigned to 314th MI BN on Lackland AFB, can hardly believe the homes are almost finished.

"It is quite amazing when you consider that a little hard work and time can literally turn nothing into a family's home," she commented.

Cade Harding is one of a growing number of San Antonio military members that are volunteering their time in support of a housing project that when finished will provide homes for about 70 low-income families on San Antonio's west side.



Army SSgt. Cheryl Cade Harding, 314th MI BN, mops a floor at a Habitat for Humanity House in San Antonio in preparation for tile work.

Christina Lipin, volunteer coordinator for Habitat for Humanity in San Antonio, said military volunteers like Cade Harding make up a sizable portion of their workforce.

"The military bases in San Antonio provide us with a large number of volunteers on a regular basis," she said. "Many of them bring construction skills with them and a spirit of teamwork that makes them easy to train at the worksite."

Lipin says Habitat for Humanity plans to complete 56 homes in San Antonio by the end of 2002.

TSgt. Ricardo Chavez from the 93rd Intelligence Squadron said four members of his work section have participated in two weekend builds at the worksite.

"The first weekend we put up the framing on a house," he said. "The second weekend we worked on a painting crew."

Chavez said the nature of Habitat for Humanity's work makes it an extremely worthwhile charity.

"Every house that Habitat for Humanity builds is one less family that is living in poverty," he said. "So far it has only been the four of us going out there, but eventually we want to get our entire work section to volunteer together."

Army Sgt. Prudence Buitron, also with the 314th MI BN, said she was surprised at how she was able to help out.

"The first day we were there they put my husband and I on a siding project," she said. "It was a bit difficult at first but by the end of the day I had learned a skill that I would never have been exposed to otherwise."



AFIWC tackles

confidence course



*By TSgt. Marilyn C. Holliday
HQ AIA/PA
Lackland AFB, Texas*

Driving around Lackland AFB brings chills to many as new recruits are seen marching past in troop walks. But a trip over to the confidence course is a different experience for many - especially if you completed the course 15 to 20 years ago. For most people the start to our Air Force careers is a bit of a blur.

But for 150 members of the Air Force Information Warfare Center, Lackland's confidence course was the perfect place to let off some steam before an inspection, work as a team and build comraderie April 12.

"We first started working with the cadre for the confidence course in October," MSgt. Todd Bundy, project officer for the event and a career security forces member, said. "It seemed like a good event that we could all take part in and enjoy."

After the mandatory safety briefing, the group headed out to the obstacles to climb under and over, swing past and even belly crawl around.

"The event was such a success that we plan to do it again next year," Col. David R. Stinson, AFIWC vice commander, said. "This opportunity brought all of the center's members together for a great time."

continues on next page

photos by Boyd Belcher
TOP PHOTO: TSgt. David Goddard, at left, stretches across the first obstacle during the Air Force Information Warfare Center's day at the Lackland Confidence Course. ABOVE: SrA. Orlando Garza Jr. from the AFIWC swings across like Tarzan on the last obstacle of the Lackland Confidence Course.



photos by Ted Koniars

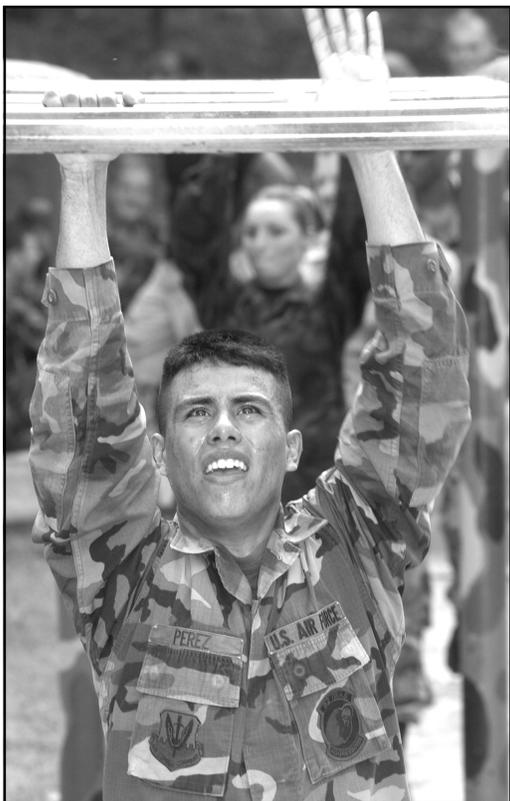
CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Mr. Jim Dennis steadies himself to crawl over the wall. SrA. Young leads the pack across the monkey bar obstacle. A fellow AFIWCer gives a little support to ensure everyone makes it up and over.



from page 27

For a few of the center members, the confidence course was a competition among friends. Challenges were made between people to see who could make it through faster or easier.

For now the confidence course is yet another memory of our Air Force careers - until next year.



photos by Ted Koniares & Boyd Belcher
CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: The belly crawl was one of the favorites of the confidence course. Capt. Timothy Franz negotiates his way off the wall. A1C Julio Perez easily navigates across the monkey bars. Two AFIWCers climb up and over a wall.

Airman gives up civilian life: Heads back to GRSOC for duty

By 1st Lt. Michael Paluba
31st IS
Fort Gordon, Ga.

SrA. Aaron Edgington had already begun the transition to civilian life.

Just before that he served more than four years in the United States Air Force at the Gordon Regional Security Operations Center.

Now, however, it was time to move on...it was time for Mr. Edgington. Having been accepted at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Edgington completed his 31st Intelligence Squadron out-processing, entered terminal leave status and prepared for the future.

Then the unthinkable happened...the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11.

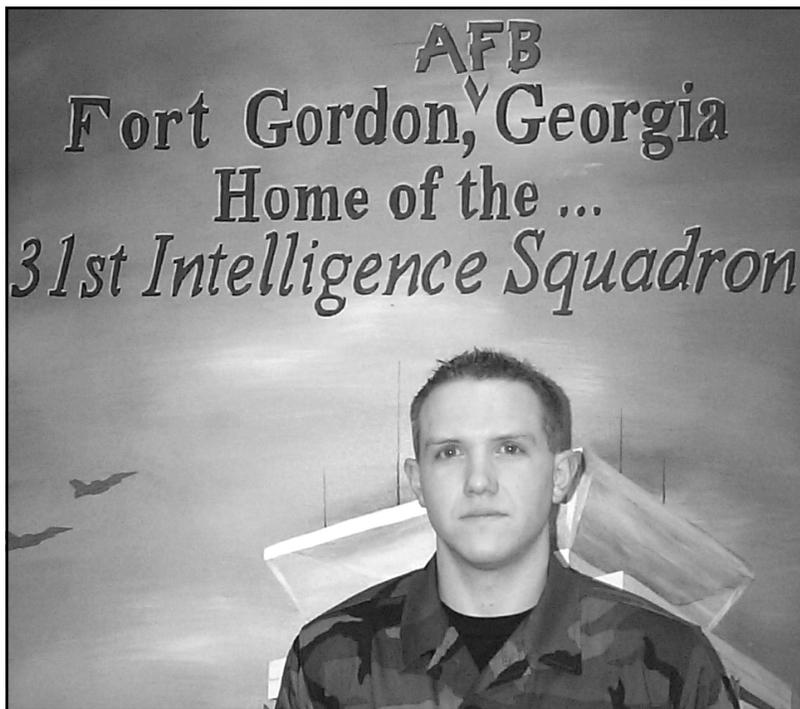
Edgington immediately realized how valuable his military skills would be to the war on terrorism. He returned to the unit, reenlisted and sat back in his familiar chair, barely chilled from his absence.

"I can't get out now...my country needs me," he told Lt. Col. Mark McLaughlin, 31st IS commander.

Edgington spent the next two months working 12 plus- hour surge operation shifts at the GRSOC. His critical surge operation team was awarded a Joint Service Commendation Medal for their outstanding work during this time period.

Edgington's return to the United States Air Force then turned toward Airman Leadership School.

Edgington departed for Shaw



SrA. Aaron Edgington returned to the 381st and reenlisted after the Sept. 11 attacks.

AFB's Airman Leadership School and returned six weeks later as distinguished graduate. Upon graduation from ALS, he fulfilled his civilian flight training requirements, earning a private pilot's license, and completed 21 credit hours with 3.7 grade point average towards his bachelor of arts degree.

As 2001 came to a close, Edgington received a Joint Service Achievement Medal, after being named the top technician in his work center and top linguist, from more than 70 in his division. These two awards, however, were just the beginning.

Earlier in the year, Edgington was

named 20th Fighter Wing Airman of the Quarter, top airman of 1,000, and then 31st Intelligence Squadron Airman of the Year, top of 250 airmen, and 543rd Intelligence Group Airman of the Year, number one of more than 600.

Then in March 2002, now SSgt. Aaron Edgington captured top honors as the 70th Intelligence Wing 2001 Airman of the Year, top airman of more than 2,500. He now competes for selection as one of the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year for 2001.

Epitomizing, "service before self," Edgington is an inspiration to us all.

543rd IG members win at 70th IW

By SSgt. John Waldron & 1st Lt.

Michael Paluba

543rd IG & 31st IS

Lackland AFB, Texas & Fort Gordon, Ga.

Two members of the 543rd Intelligence Group took home the honor of being named the 70th Intelligence Wing Senior Civilian and Airman of the Year for 2001 following an awards ceremony at Fort George G. Meade, Md., March 28.

Mr. David Guerra, 543rd IG/CE, was recognized for his work as site engineer at the Medina Regional Security Operations Center.

Col. Robert Marlin, 543rd IG and Medina Regional Security Operations Center commander, said Guerra's vision and flexibility in managing the MRSOC's development are likely reasons for his receipt of the award.

"It is one thing to have a vision for the future but it is another thing all together to have the skills to make that

vision a reality," he said.

Guerra said being selected for the award is "overwhelming."

"This type of award shows the importance the 70th IW places on the implementation of the MRSOC's community plan," Guerra said. "At the same time it motivates me to press on with future development."

SSgt. Aaron Edgington, 31st IS, received the award based largely on his outstanding efforts following the tragedies of Sept. 11.

Edgington, who was in the process of separating from the Air Force to attend Embry Riddle Aeronautical University when the tragedy occurred, cancelled his plans to attend college full-time and reenlisted on the spot.

"I can't get out now... my country needs me," Edgington told Lt. Col. Mark McLaughlin, 31st IS commander, at his reenlistment.

McLaughlin said Edgington

distinguished himself while working 12 plus hour surge operations following Sept. 11.

"He goes above and beyond what is expected of him," McLaughlin said. "Staff Sergeant Edgington truly does inspire all around him regardless of rank and service."



Col. Harold Beatty, 70th Intelligence Wing commander, at left, presents Mr. David Guerra from the 543rd Intelligence Group with the 70th IW Senior Civilian of the Year honors during an awards ceremony at Fort Meade, Md.

Wing legal staff hosts 2002 Law Day at Lackland

By 2nd Lt. Toni Tones

67th IOW/PA

Lackland AFB, Texas

The 67th Information Operations Wing legal staff recognized 26 Security Hill commanders and first sergeants at its 2002 Law Day celebration May 1.

"This year's theme, 'Celebrate Your Freedom - Assuring Equal Justice for All,' was given to each legal office throughout the Department of Defense to incorporate into their Law Day," said TSgt. Lisa Villalon from the 67's legal office and law day project officer. "I decided it would be appropriate to honor the commanders and first sergeants we support."

The wing's celebration began with opening remarks by Col. Roger Gaebel, 67th IOW commander, thanking the commanders and first sergeants for their

role in ensuring good order and discipline in the wing. It included a breakfast followed by a presentation from guest speaker Col. Edmund Bloom from Headquarter's Air Intelligence Agency's legal office.

The first Law Day was celebrated May 1, 1958, by newspapers, television and radio programs, bar associations and citizens throughout the country.

The justifications for a Law Day were two-fold, one timeless and one very much a product of its times. The first celebration highlighted the benefits of the United States system of rule of law, in stark contrast to the Soviet's grim show of force during the Cold War.

Since 1958, Law Day observances have become a major part of the bar as-



photo by Boyd Belcher
Col. Edmund Bloom from Headquarter's Air Intelligence Agency's legal office was the guest speaker during the 2002 Law Day.

sociation year in state and local bar associations throughout the country, and every president has issued a proclamation stressing the importance of law to the preservation of liberty and individual rights.

Black Demon tests tactics improves network defense

By Dom Cardonita
HQ AIA/PA
Lackland AFB, Texas

Black Demon, a multi-command exercise designed to enhance the Air Force's Computer Network Defense capability, ended after two weeks of extensive exercise play and validated the effectiveness of network defense tactics against worldwide attack.

The Air Force Information Warfare Center's 23rd Information Operations Squadron, a major component of the Air Intelligence Agency, orchestrated the exercise for the Air Force. Additionally, extensive support from the 92nd Information Warfare Aggressor Squadron, another AFIWC unit, as well as the Air Force Communication Agency and various major commands played a key role in the exercise.

Lt. Col. Gregory Rattray, 23rd IOS commander, said the exercise was a "resounding success. "Unlike previous exercises," he explained, "our focus was on a large scale operation. We created an environment with multiple locations under simulated attack by a sophisticated enemy who tried to disrupt the Air Force's ability to operate.

"A major thrust was to improve the ability of our computer network defense people to use the systems that they have to detect and stop intruders," he said.

In all, more than 250 people participated in the exercise. The 23rd's Lackland location was used as "control central" with various scenarios used to evaluate target locations each day.

Of critical importance was the basic premise that the mission must continue. Operators were forced to

continue supporting critical services in the face of a concerted attack. Supporting this activity, a special computer network tactics range was used so that various types of attacks could be exercised without impacting normal Air Force operations.

Significantly, this range involved four separate facilities located in the United States and overseas and allowed network defenders to operate from their home bases. The range also provided exercise planners with the ability to perform more aggressive "attacks" that would otherwise have to be accomplished on operational networks and disrupt normal activities.

Black Demon represented an evolutionary and significant step forward from a related National Security Agency exercise called Eligible Receiver conducted five years ago. That exercise featured a no-notice attack against DOD computer systems and proved that significant vulnerabilities existed.

In contrast, Black Demon participants were aware of the impending exercise. This exercise was designed to evaluate the tactics used by CND operators against specific threats. In this way, the Air Force was able to capture the "best practices" for responding to a variety of key computer attack threats.

"We feel we were successful in proving the value of the tactics and techniques our people used," Rattray said.

The exercise results will enable the Air Force to evaluate its current CND tactics and help map future approaches to improving CND operations.

The results of Black Demon will feed tactical improvements that will

Black Demon was a critical success because it proved we can evaluate tactics and improve the defense of networks while providing realistic training to our CND experts as we do with other Air Force combat capabilities.

*Lt. Col. Gregory Rattray
23rd IOS commander*

ultimately be codified in Air Force tactics, techniques and procedures documents. While Black Demon proved that the Air Force can continue its mission while under attack, efforts to continue upgrading computer network defense are on going and more sophisticated methods have and will continue to be employed.

"Black Demon provided a model for conducting similar cyber defense exercises within the Air Force, Department of Defense and national communities," Rattray said. "The lessons learned in exercise planning coupled with automated evaluation systems designed for the exercise lay the groundwork for future exercise play.

"Black Demon was a critical success because it proved we can evaluate tactics and improve the defense of networks while providing realistic training to our CND experts as we do with other Air Force combat capabilities," he said.

AFTAC civilian named 'Woman of the Year'

"I've always felt children needed protection above all else because they are our future, and if we have a society of neglected and abused children then what does that say about us as adults? The children need a voice."

*By SMSgt. Fred Hagans
AFTAC/PA
Patrick AFB, Fla.*

"Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." Famous and inspiring words spoken by a former president and embraced by society. But few have realized the depths of this altruistic ideal. One person who has is Brenda K. Black, a budget analyst with the Air Force Technical Applications Center.

Black was recently honored for her tireless community involvement — being named the 2002 Woman of the Year by the Brevard County Commission on the Status of Woman. The award is given for the previous calendar year and recognizes the person who best sets a positive example for younger women.

Black was selected from a group of more than 20 nominees to receive the honor from the awards committee of the BCCSW. According to Brenda H. Harris, senior director for development at the Florida Institute of Technology and a member of the BCCSW, "The committee was impressed with Black's ability to identify the things that are important for her. She demonstrates these values through her behavior and communications in every phase of her life — family, career, community and church."

A native of Cocoa, Fla., Black has



photo by SMSgt. Fred Hagans
Brenda K. Black discusses funding documents with SSgt. Laquisha Highsmith.

been an integral part of the community as a volunteer, advocate and leader for more than 10 years. She's been involved with such programs as Meals on Wheels, the crime watch program REACT, the social services program U.N.I.T.Y., the State of Florida Guardian Ad Litem program, and the City of Cocoa Redevelopment Agency Board. She also ran for city council during the past two elections.

"We should all take a look in the mirror and realize that we are blessed and should give back to our community and to those less fortunate," said Black, referencing the motivation for her community involvement. "Helping others should be a part of living. If everyone did what they could to help their fellow man we would all be better off."

While she places a high commitment of service to each community endeavor, Black admits that the Guardian Ad Litem program is especially dear to her. The program provides legal representation for children who are removed from homes because of child abuse or neglect. To qualify for the program Black had to attend a week-long training seminar, provide character references, pass an in-depth background check, and have a face-to-face meeting with a judge. As a certified

guardian ad litem, Black becomes the personal and legal representative on all issues affecting any child assigned to her while the child is in a foster home.

"I've always felt children needed protection above all else because they are our future, and if we have a society of neglected and abused children then what does that say about us as adults? The children need a voice," she insists.

The BCCSW is an extension of the Florida Commission on the Status of Women, which was established following a 1961 executive order by President John F. Kennedy, creating the President's Commission on the Status of Women. The federal program was chaired by Eleanor Roosevelt, with the goal of empowering women from all walks of life in achieving their fullest potential, to eliminating barriers to that achievement, and to recognizing women's accomplishments. The BCCSW was established in 1976 and presented its first Woman of the Year Award in 1994.

"It's humbling, but I'm proud to be honored with this award because it gives me the opportunity to shed some light on community programs," Black said. "But nothing I do is for recognition. If my name is never called out then I'm just fine with that."



Col. Thomas Schrader, 318th IOG commander, passes the guidon to Lt. Col. Jerry Cummin, at right, new commander for the 92nd Information Warfare Aggressor Squadron.

92nd IWAS stages first change of command

By TSgt. Marilyn C. Holliday
HQ AIA/PA
Lackland AFB, Texas

Lt. Col. Jerry Cummin took command of the 92nd Information Warfare Aggressor Squadron at Lackland AFB, Texas, during ceremonies at Kelly USA April 19.

Cummin is no stranger to the 92nd IWAS, serving previously as the director of operations for the squadron.

"The 92nd enables 'defense in depth' to be a reality for our Air Force," Cummin said. "We look at the Air Force units through the eyes of the adversary, helping unit commanders to have an accurate risk assessment of their information warfare vulnerabilities. With this knowledge, commanders build stronger units - better prepared for any kind of adversarial attack."

Cummin replaces Lt. Col. Sergio Muniz, who was the first 92nd commander, will now serve as the acting deputy commander for the 318th Information Operations Group.

When it comes to goals for the squadron, Cummin said, "Stay away from making broad and grandiose speeches and stand with these fine men and women of the 92nd IWAS and enjoy leading them amidst the challenges."

heritage

Donovan: Hero in two world wars

By MSgt. Anthony Pendleton
HQ AIA/HO
Lackland AFB, Texas

In 1914, at the start of WWI, William Donovan was working as an attorney in New York. Millions of people had been displaced by the fighting in Europe, and social conditions there were appalling.

So soon after the war started, Donovan was asked, by friends in high places, if he would go and assist with famine relief efforts there — he accepted. However, Donovan was an Army reservist, and in 1916 the Army ordered him home for duty with the Mexican Punitive Expedition against

Pancho Villa's raiders along the U.S. Mexican border.

By 1917 Donovan was home again and active in his law practice. He was also the newly appointed commander of a battalion of the famous 69th "Fighting Irish" Infantry Regiment.

America's entry into WWI brought a new call to arms, and Donovan soon found himself on the Western front as part of the Rainbow Division. He saw extensive combat, and in fact was wounded three times during the course of his less than 19 months in France.

His courage earned him the nickname "Wild Bill Donovan" - a name incidentally which he hated. He

was a real life hero, as evidenced by his numerous decorations for valor including: the Congressional Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Legion d'Honneur, Order of the British Empire and Croix de Guerre with palm and silver star.

Donovan's first real up close and personal exposure to the world of intelligence did not occur until after WWI.

The U.S. State Department selected him to go to war and revolution-torn Russia as the U.S. liaison officer to the White Russian anticommunist forces under Admiral A. V. Kolchak.

By 1920 it was clear that anti-communist forces would not over-

come the Red Army, so Donovan returned home to resume his career in law. A career which saw him serving as a U.S. attorney, an assistant U.S. attorney general, and a lawyer in a private international practice - one of his clients was Winston Churchill.

Donovan had become enamored with exotic travel, and during the 1920s he traveled extensively. Some of the places and events he chose to visit and see were not usually on the list the tourists of the day generally selected: Ethiopia and the Italian-Ethiopian war, and then Spain and the bloody civil war there.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt recognized Donovan's talents, and in the late 1930s called on Donovan to serve the nation as a special ambassador.

In that capacity Donovan traveled throughout Europe, the middle east and in July 1940, approximately 10 months after the start of WWII, went to Britain to conduct a "survey of Britain's defense situation."

This trip was vigorously opposed by Joseph P. Kennedy, U.S. ambassador in London and father of the future President John F. Kennedy, who thought Britain would soon be forced to surrender to the Germans.

While in England Donovan personally met with a number of British intelligence operatives and several high ranking British officials, Rear Adm. John Godfrey, head of Naval Intelligence; and Maj Gen Sir Steward Menzies, head of MI6. Donovan was well received by the British, and when he returned to the states he told Roosevelt that, with American aid, Britain could hold out against the Nazis. Later in the year, Roosevelt again dispatched Donovan for an even wider ranging, but similar fact-finding mission. William Stephenson, director of British intelligence operations in the U.S., accompanied him, and their trip became a 25,000 mile journey through the war fronts and spy centers of the European War - Britain, Gibraltar, Malta, Greece,

Egypt, the Balkans, Turkey, the Iberian peninsula.

He saw Donovan said, "a never ending procession of military brass, spies, politicians, sheikhs, clerics of all faiths and royalty."

Churchill was impressed with Donovan, and he wired Roosevelt to say that Donovan "has carried with him throughout an animating heart-warming flame."

When Donovan returned to the states in March 1941 reports of his interest in intelligence matters had reached the ears of J. Edgar Hoover and the heads of the various branches of military intelligence. They reacted with jealousy, well fueled by concern for their own turfs, by attempting to counter Donovan's influence.

Donovan had decided the time was right for America to have its own clandestine service, and sent Roosevelt a memo urging him to form one. In it, Donovan had diplomatically stated that this agency should not take over any home duties now performed by the FBI, nor should it interfere with the intelligence activities of the Army or Navy but would instead simply coordinate, classify and interpret all information from any source.

Roosevelt waffled on the issue, and it was not until the British, and more specifically, John Godfrey, head of British Naval Intelligence and Ian Fleming (of later fame as the creator of James Bond) told the president over dinner, that America needed an intelligence agency headed by Donovan, that Roosevelt was convinced.

Once convinced, Roosevelt acted, and on July 11, 1941 naming Donovan the new "coordinator of information." Opposition to the Donovan, and his COI post, continued even after America was attacked, but Brig. Gen. Bedell Smith (who would later serve as Eisenhower's chief of staff, and director of central intelligence) convinced the Army brass to incorporate Donovan's outfit into the JCS.

The Office of Strategic Services

was thus born. Donovan was now in uniform, and some of the pressure was off. However, infighting with other entities, including General MacArthur, continued to plague Donovan throughout the war. He frequently proved himself up to the task, as long as he had high level support, but when President Roosevelt died in April 1945 Donovan found himself with no ally of consequence who would support his efforts to keep his fledgling agency afloat.

Since 1944, Donovan had been lobbying for a peacetime version of the OSS. His enemies had other ideas.

However, the new President, Harry S. Truman, didn't like Donovan, and saw little need for an organization such as the OSS. More particularly so since it was being proposed by Donovan, who also wanted to head it.

After VJ day, Truman, who would later form the Central Intelligence Agency, decided to dismantle OSS, which by the end of the war was colossal in size, scope and payroll.

When Truman unceremoniously cashiered him, William Donovan returned to his law career, and saw service as an associate prosecutor during the Nuremberg trials of Nazi war leaders.

Truman later formed the CIA, which had as the core of its mission and authority the proposals Donovan made for his peacetime OSS.

Donovan's friends lobbied Truman to have him named the CIA's first director, but Truman refused to even consider him. In the early 50s, Donovan was appointed as the U.S. ambassador to Thailand. Sadly, by August 1953, after only 18 months on the job, poor health forced him to resign.

When Donovan passed away in 1959, President Eisenhower said of him, "What a man! We have lost the last hero."

It was a very fitting tribute to a man who had served his country so well, and with such distinction and heroism in two world wars.



Arlington: Final resting place

*By MSgt. Rick Corral
70th IW/PA
Ft. Meade, Md.*

I recently took a tour of the D.C. area and it's many historical sites, including Arlington National Cemetery. As I walked through the gates of the cemetery, up and through the cemetery grounds, I was amazed at how peaceful and well kept everything was. For a brief moment, it was hard to believe that this was the final resting place for so many American veterans.

Walking deeper into the cemetery, it became obvious that everywhere you see row after row of soft grayish white headstones. I found myself mesmerized by them. No matter where I stood or which direction I

looked, the stones were always in a straight line and running off into infinity. It looked exactly like all the photos on all the postcards and in all the history books I've ever seen.

Standing ever so silent, thinking to myself who had planned this all out and what it must take to maintain the plushness, something caught my eye. Something I hadn't noticed in all those photos I'd ever seen.

Something even I hadn't noticed as I walked into the park a few moments before. Names! I walked up to the closest stone and gently rubbed my hand across the deep etchings in the stone, I read out loud, "Adam," then on to the next stone "Steven," then "Carol" and "David," "Tyrone" and "Shawn."

They were everywhere. Men and

women of all ages, with brief notes about each of them carved below the name.

I continued walking through the rows past stone after stone. I saw Tom and then Debra, Carl and William. I came across James under a large oak shaded from the midday sun. He'd been to France! Alice and Audie were at the top of a small hill. They both had survived the horrors of World War II. Donald and Melton had fought in one of the many battles of World War I. It said so on the stones. Now they were together near a large magnolia tree. The had proudly fought and died in the battle of Saint Mihiel.

Benjamin was a sailor, but I'm not sure what happened to him. His stone gave no clues, but the view from his

resting place was magnificent. I think Barbara was a nurse who served in World War II, and Ronnie was a 19-year-old Marine; perhaps far too young to even know exactly where Khe Sanh was.

I walked for the longest time, the stones and the names went on as far as I could see. I found Robert at the base of a gentle hill. His place marked by a simple wooden cross — he was just down the hill from his brother, John, an eternal flame flickering for them both.

Farther on, I walked past William and Connie, Wendy and Juan. Down

the hills, past stone after stone, then up again to the top of a hill. There I saw the most startling sight! The names were gone — in their place, the word “UNKNOWN.” Again, as far as I could see, in every direction, the same thing - “UNKNOWN.”

Who would know these names? How did the mothers and fathers of these unknown Americans know where to grieve? How does a great granddaughter know where to place the flowers for a great grandfather she can't find? How could we not know their names?

I weaved my way down the hill,

through the stones and back toward the gate thinking differently and holding back a tear. This is more than a photograph or a post card. It's a community of heroes with names and faces and stories and family. It's home for so many who have served this great country from the many past wars to the current fight against terrorism.

This sacred ground is more than a resting place for heroes. It is part of the very fiber that makes this country worth fighting and dying for.

It is a beautiful, free and very delicate place. It is America.

91st IS 'Demon Chasers' reminisce at Savannah reunion

*By 1st Lt. Angela Eversgerd
91st IS
Ft. Meade, Md.*

Men and women representing more than 55 years of the 91st Intelligence Squadron's distinguished past gathered from March 12-14 at the Mighty 8th Air Force Museum in Savannah, Ga.

During that time, more than 35 squadron alumni and family members visited a number of local attractions and shared stories about the unit's service in the Caribbean, South and Central America, and the Far East in the 1940s and '50s. They also learned of some of the squadron's more recent operations.

The newly established 91st IS

Heritage Foundation hosted the three-day reunion in the historic city of Savannah.

Committed to keeping alive the distinguished service of the squadron since its inception in August 1917, the foundation invited members to gather from across the nation.

Reunion attendees toured the Georgia Air National Guard's 165th Airlift Wing, the Mighty 8th Air Force Heritage Museum, and Savannah's historic downtown district. The event culminated in a banquet at the Mighty 8th Museum where the 165th Wing continued their support of the event providing the color guard for the evening.

Representing the current 91st IS and the historical 91st IS were the youngest and oldest members, one

currently serving and one who served from 1945-1950. Together, they cut a ceremonial cake at the reunion banquet.

After the dinner, unit members exchanged photos and memories from their many years of service.

On hand to recount these stories were pilots, photographers, gunners and support personnel — the whole team that has made the 91st IS successful through the decades.

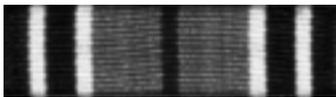
Maj. William Baumer, a former 91st Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron operations officer, shared his experience of when the mission he was flying was brought down over the Yalu River in December 1951. He recounted with the group how he spent three years as a prisoner of war in Communist China.

DECORATIONS



Air Force
Commendation Medal
381st IS
SSgt. Betsinger, Timothy
1st Lt. Erickson, Raymond

426th IOS
SSgt. Graham, Devonna
SrA. Houck, Christy
SSgt. Lee, Kenneth
Capt. Moeller, Christopher
TSgt. Scott, Sebastian

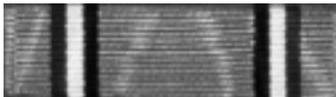


Joint Service
Achievement Medal
381st IS
SrA. Mealiff, Michael

Air Force
Achievement Medal
381st IS
SrA. Burton, Jason
SrA. Massu, Marie
SrA. Nall, Joshua

426th IOS
A1C Bates, Krista
SrA. Bertschy, Anthony

Outstanding Volunteer
Service Medal
381st IS
SrA. Bedford, Michella



Air Force
Good Conduct Medal
381st IS
SrA. Nall, Joshua
SrA. Means, Sheri
SrA. Nall, Fiora
SrA. Hansen, Damien
SrA. Cruz, Ricardo
SrA. Blaine, Jamie

SrA. Pillsbury, Karalyn
SrA. Krueger, Justin
SrA. Lamanna, Matthew
SrA. Francar, Morgan
SrA. Chavez, Sonia
SrA. Nichols, Bonnie
SrA. Cameron, Benjamin
SrA. Stadelbacher, Christine
SrA. Cooper, Stephanie

31st IS
SrA. Beck, Justin
SrA. Belak, Melissa
SrA. Benson, Ryan
SrA. Bielik, Kathy
SrA. Blanda, Bridgette
SrA. Bradley, Rachel
SrA. Brock, Misty
SrA. Browning, Heather
SrA. Brubaker, Erin
SrA. Brunner, Jennifer
SrA. Bryant, Percy
SrA. Busse, Joseph
SrA. Carlson, Wesley
SrA. Cramer, Jessica
SrA. Delacruz, Jennifer
SrA. Goins, Joey
SrA. Hrabik, Kristi
SrA. James, Quartez
SrA. Johnson, Michael
SrA. Johnston, Angela
SrA. Jones, Brandon
SrA. Kaufman, Richard
SrA. Laga, Ariane
SrA. Larsen, Jessica
SrA. Livingston, Eric
SrA. Long, Emily
SrA. Long, Matthew
SrA. Lovell, Kristin
SrA. Moreau, Ian
SrA. Moreau, Rebecca
SrA. Morgan, Jessica
SrA. Newton, Blythe
SrA. Peterson, Rebecca
SrA. Pope, Andrea
SrA. Price, Daniel
SrA. Pulliam, Jeanette
SrA. Rebholz, Matthew
SrA. Rosell, Sarah
SrA. Schiff, Mandi
SrA. Simpson, Megan

SrA. Sowers, Maximillian
SrA. Stone, Christopher
SrA. Sullivan, William
SrA. Teague, Elisa
SrA. Trevithick, Caleb
SrA. Turner, Jared
SrA. Wagner, Mark
SrA. Wood, Dawn

ANNUAL AWARDS

426th IOS Airman
SrA. Gilbert Deleon

426th IOS NCO
SSgt. Mary-Ellen Sheehan

426th IOS SNCO
MSgt. Alan Ramsey

426th IOS CGO
Capt. Steven Marques

426th IOS Civilian
Mr. John Cherry

426th IOS Junior Technician
SSgt. Christy Houck

426th IOS Sr. Technician
TSgt. Kenneth Stewart

NAIC Airman
SrA. Heather Goldie

NAIC NCO
TSgt. Angela Shultz

NAIC SNCO
MSgt. Dennis Reed

NAIC CGO
1st Lt. Michael Feng

QUARTERLY AWARDS

426th IOS Airman
A1C Scott Gousman

426th IOS NCO
TSgt. Matthew Hampton

426th IOS SNCO
MSgt. Daniel Olson

426th IOS CGO
1st Lt. John Hanna

426th IOS Jr. Technician
A1C Robert Lincoln

426th IOS Sr. Technician
SSgt. Douglas Richmond

QUARTERLY AWARDS

22nd IS Airman
SrA. Carina Jones

22nd IS NCO
SSgt. Stephen Masternak

22nd IS SNCO
MSgt. Steven Hahn

90th IOS Airman
A1C Cassandra Wylie

90th IOS NCO
TSgt. Eric Belt

90th IOS SNCO
MSgt. Richard Sollers

90th IOS CGO
1st Lt. David Quinene

694th IG Airman
SrA. Carina Jones
22nd Intelligence Squadron

694th IG NCO
TSgt. James Kniskern
32nd Intelligence Squadron

694th IG SNCO
MSgt. Steven Hahn
22nd Intelligence Squadron

694th IG CGO
Capt. Daniel Pankratz
29th Intelligence Squadron

694th IG Civilian
Anthony Mullins
694th Support Squadron

694th IG Honor Guard
Member
SrA. Michelle Byrd

Security Hill Junior Enlisted
A1C Shannon Sunday
AFIWC

*Security Hill NCO/Petty
Officer*
TSgt. Daniel Warren
690 ISS

Security Hill Senior Enlisted
MSgt. Steven Revels
HQ AIA

HQ AIA Staff Airmsn
A1C Cassandra Wylie
90IOS/OBFC

HQ AIA Staff NCO
TSgt. William Couret III
HQ AIA/DSGP

HQ AIA Staff SNCO
MSgt. Steven Revels
HQ AIA/DOOF

HQ AIA Staff CGO
Capt. Susana Bedesem
HQ AIA/XP

373 IG Airman
SrA. Christain Jaussaud
373rd SPTS

373rd IG NCO
SSgt. Julie Van Tassel
301st IS

373rd IG SNCO
MSgt. Melissa Johnson
373rd IG Staff

373rd IG CGO
Capt. Melissa Moon-Brown
373rd IG Staff

373rd IG Jr. Technician
A1C Joseph Amon
301st IS

373rd IG Sr. Technician
TSgt. Emmanuel Dabu
373rd SPTS

301st IS Airman
SrA. Beth Judd

301st IS NCO
SSgt. Julie Van Tassel

301st IS SNCO
MSgt. Jerry Fails

301st IS CGO
2nd Lt Johnathan Griffin

301st IS Jr. Technician
A1C Joseph Amon

301st IS Sr. Technician
SSgt. William Keenan

373rd SPTS Airman
SrA. Christian Jaussaud

373rd SPTS NCO
TSgt. Patrick Harris

373rd SPTS SNCO
**MSgt. Donna Lopez-
Beniquez**

373rd SPTS CGO
Capt. Stacy Nelson

373rd SPTS Jr. Technician
A1C Gabriel Hernandez

373rd SPTS Sr. Technician
TSgt. Emmanue Dabu

373rd IG Staff SNCO
MSgt. Melissa Johnson

373rd IG Staff CGO
**Capt. Melissa Moon-
Brown**

31st IS & 543rd IG Airman
SrA. Sean Reynolds

31st IS & 543rd IG NCO
TSgt. Tracy McKinney

*31st IS , 543rd IG & 20th FW
SNCO*
MSgt. Jay Hart

31st IS CGO
Capt. Corey Cheers

EDUCATION

Below-the-zone promotion
A1C Cassandra Wylie
90th IOS

ALS John L. Levitow Award
SrA. Sara Peters
22nd Intelligence Squadron

*ALS Distinguished
Graduate Award*
SrA. Yesenia Cory
22nd Intelligence Squadron

*ALS Distinguished
Graduate Award*
SrA. Marc Temple
22nd Intelligence Squadron

ALS Leadership Award
SrA. Nathan Anderson
22nd Intelligence Squadron

*ALS Academic
Achievement Award*
SrA. Cindy Lamb
22nd Intelligence Squadron

ALS Graduates
22nd Intelligence Squadron

SrA. Ryan Clark
SrA. Carla Currier
SrA. Darcil Field
SrA. Gregory Mittal
SrA. Jeanette Hall
SrA. Nathan Hall
SrA. Ismay Jones
SrA. Joshua Jones
SrA. James Sabol
SrA. Thomas Terhune
SrA. Charles Bennett
SrA. Robert Olejniczak Jr.
SrA. Robert Sooter

94th Intelligence Squadron
SrA. Eric Dougherty
SrA. Dove Ilnicki

SrA. Joshua Palmer
SrA. Jamise Wilson
SrA. Andrea Shipman
SrA. Trevor Woodcook
32nd Intelligence Squadron
SrA. James Henry IV
SrA. James Dezerger
SrA. Cherish Jordan

91st Intelligence Squadron
SrA. Kristy Howard

694th Support Squadron
SrA. Dawn Humphries

29th Intelligence Squadron
SrA. Hanni Suhm
SrA. Joshua Walker

*ALS Academic
Achievement Award*
SrA. Patrick Boyle
31st IS

ALS Distinguished Grad
SrA. Patrick Boyle
31st IS

ALS Distinguished Grad
SrA. Patricia Boothe
31st IS

ALS Distinguished Grad
SrA. Dennis Hall
31st IS

ALS Distinguished Grad
SrA. Augusta Crumble
31st IS