

Buckeye Flyer



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First mission to Afghanistan

By Mary H. Allen
445th Public Affairs

The 445th Airlift Wing aircrew left Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, to fly its first C-5 mission to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, supporting Operation Enduring Freedom, May 6, 2008.

The plane left here to pick-up four armored vehicles at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., stopping at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, before delivering the vehicles to Bagram Air Base.

"The flight into Bagram went pretty smoothly," Lt. Col. James Couzins said, 445th Operations Support Squadron C-5 Pilot. "We were on the ground less than three hours and never left the aircraft."

"We can carry more vehicles in one flight than any other aircraft," Colonel Couzins said. The C-5 is the largest aircraft in the Air Force inventory.

Bagram Air Base is home to the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing and is comprised of about 3,500 Airmen. The wing's primary mission is to support the Global War on Terror by providing aerial support for U.S. and Coalition forces on the ground.

The 455th AEW opened a new runway at Bagram Airfield in



Loadmasters from the 89th Airlift Squadron load armored vehicles into the 445th Airlift Wing's C-5 Galaxy May 6, 2008. The plane left here to pick-up the vehicles at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., for their final destination, Afghanistan. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Brian Herriott)

A C-5 landed at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, for the first time Sept. 21, 2007. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Jamie Cabral)



2006. The runway is 2000 feet longer and 11 inches thicker than the previous runway allowing access for the large C-5 Galaxy.

The first C-5 landed on the new runway in 2007. Referencing this historical event, Col. Jon Sutterfield the commander of the 455th Expeditionary Maintenance Group said, "One of the big advantages of bringing the C-

5 here is bypassing the main AOR (U.S. Central Command area of responsibility) hubs to get cargo to the warfighter faster."

The 445th aircrew returned home May 14 completing the mission without any problems due to the teamwork of the maintainers, loadmasters, engineers, and pilots of the 445th Airlift Wing.

Honoring the Fallen

By Chaplain, Maj. Bill Dickens
445th Airlift Wing

Recently, I was given the honor of riding in a Memorial Day parade. But the greater honor was riding with Barry and Pat Billiter. Their son, Chief Petty Officer Gregory Billiter was killed in action in Kirkuk, Iraq, on April 6, 2007. I was in Kirkuk at the time and participated in his Patriot Ceremony. I got home to discover that his parents lived just 10 miles from my house.



We are very good at honoring our fallen comrades. We must insure that we are just as good at honoring those who must live everyday with the loss of their child, spouse, parent or sibling. While those that go into harm's way are certainly heroes, those that are left to carry on and move forward are also heroes.

In the New Testament book of James, the author reminds us of what is near to the heart of our Heavenly Father. James 1:27 reads, "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

As you plan your summer activities, consider including someone who is "newly alone." The best way to honor our fallen comrades is to remember and care for their families. You will be a blessing to them.

First impressions are lasting impressions

By Col. Stephen Goeman
445th Airlift Wing Commander

As I attempt to settle into my new role here at the wing, I realize I need to take a mental inventory of the various things going on around this wing of nearly 2,000 people and try to get clued into the daily rhythm of how this wing conducts its business.

After only one Unit Training Assembly, it is pretty obvious that this wing is loaded with people I like to think of as "Mission Hackers."

Chief Mouser and the group commanders have had the leash on me and we've already visited a few of the squadrons and I have been truly impressed.

Even more impressive is on those occasions where I have escaped my handlers and have wandered about casually through the work centers and what I see is more of the same type of commitment and pride exhibited by our Airman and civilians in getting things done.

Is this indicative of the Midwest type work ethic or a result of superior leadership in the units? I'm not that naïve to think your abilities are only due to great leadership, I believe they

result primarily from the individual and your desire to serve and make a difference.

I've had the pleasure of meeting with your first sergeant's and chiefs and getting their feedback on what is good within this wing and what may need some attention. What they've told me is that we are loaded with great people who are experts at their jobs. They've also expressed concern that we are still overloading our Airmen with far too many ancillary training requirements that compete with the time you really need to use to concentrate on your specific AFSC training and proficiency. I hear that loud and clear and we'll work together to try to alleviate some of these painful training tasks.

I've observed that the attitudes of our Airmen are upbeat and positive but I'm hearing



Colonel Goeman

Continued on Next Page

Buckeye Flyer 445th Airlift Wing (Air Force Reserve Command)

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Wing's final hangar completed



Master Sgt. Doug Werner, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, communicates on the radio as a C-5 Galaxy is towed for a fit test into the third and final hangar May 6, 2008. The hangar is part of the wing's large construction project to support the C-5 aircraft since their conversion began. This hangar has 65,992 square feet and includes shops and a tool crib area used primarily for scheduled maintenance. (U.S. Air Force photo/Mary H. Allen)

First impressions are lasting impressions

Continued from Page 2

comments about how we are so darn busy all the time that the fun is missing. Can we improve in this area, you betcha! The strength of this and all reserve units is the concept of family. We need to get together and pat ourselves on the back for a job well done. We need to sit down and using the analogy of hangar flying, unwind and tell those war

stories good and bad of how we are doing at work. Looking ahead don't be surprised to see some type of Wing Picnic later this year, expect to see wing-wide Commander's Calls at the base theater (1 hour time limit) to recognize our top performers. Hopefully next spring we'll be able to sponsor some type of Military Ball at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force and enjoy the fellowship of our people in a formal setting.

First impressions are lasting impressions. The men and women of the 445th are "Mission Hackers!" Please continue doing those great things that Chief Mouser and I observe every day here. Stay engaged with your squadron leadership; challenge them on your suggestions on how we can improve and how we can take care of our most precious resource, that young Airman who gets the job done time and time again with little fanfare.

Security Forces assist at air show

By Tech. Sgt. Charlie Miller
445th Public Affairs

Eighteen members of the 445th Security Forces Squadron returned recently from a short deployment to March Air Reserve Base, Calif., where they augmented existing security forces during the bases' annual air show.

The Airmen spent most of their time there helping manage the huge number of visitors to March for the air show. The May 3-4 air show, called "Thunder Over the Empire," attracted about 400,000 visitors. It coincided with the 90th anniversary of March as a military base and the 60th anniversary of the Air Force Reserve.

"We assisted the active duty with traffic flow, monitored who came in and out of the flight line and worked at many traffic control points," SFS member Senior Airman Adam Moses said. "It was a 24/7 operation."

Over 100 security forces airmen from many bases were at March. The Civil Air Patrol helped and local law enforcement organizations participated. Interestingly, there was a group of Marines there and they brought a sniper team. "You could see them on top of some of buildings on the flight line," SFS member Airman Christopher Booth said.

"On the flight line we had to make sure people stayed back from the Predator drones and the F-22s," Airman Moses said. "We made sure the people didn't go into unauthorized areas."

It was an "open base" for two days, the airmen said, and that was a big challenge because no vehicles were checked as they entered March. There were no serious automobile accidents and no pedestrians were injured.

Airman Moses did have an interesting incident though;

"I encountered a civilian male who had been drinking and using drugs. He was inside the base and trying to climb a barbed wire fence to get out."

The airman performed a field search on the man and, with the help of his supervisor, turned the man over to the Moreno Valley Police Department. The man suffered minor injuries from his attempt at climbing the fence.

All the 445th SFS members assisted the air show staff with the set up and tear down of the air show.

"The duty was something different," said Airman Booth who has been with the SFS over a year now. "I had never operated a traffic control point before. I got lots of questions about where to go, where to park."

Aside from the challenge of herding 400,000 people, the 445th members had no radios or weapons while at March. Communication between each other was difficult, according to Airman Moses.

"Overall, everything ran smoothly," Airman Moses said.

445th Security Forces members Senior Airmen Jason Gardner and Timothy Sexton direct traffic at March Air Reserve Base, Calif., air show May 3-4, 2008. (Courtesy Photo)





Reservists from the 445th Security Forces Squadron, from left, Senior Airman William Bowden, Staff Sgt. John Brinker, Staff Sgt. Jarrod Applegate, and Tech. Sgt. Daniel Bentancur, walk onto a C-17 from March Air Reserve Base, Calif. The Airmen will augment existing security forces during March's Air Show. (Courtesy photo)



Tech. Sgt. Mike Pennington, 445th Security Forces Squadron, off-loads food and drink for the troops. (Courtesy photo)



Reservists from the 445th Security Forces Squadron place cones on the street to direct traffic at March's air show, called "Thunder Over the Empire". (Courtesy photo)

Freedom's Call 2008

Freedom's Call, the Air Force Material Command Tattoo, is an

adaptation of a time-honored military tradition, featuring ceremonial musical performances by the U.S. Air Force Band of Flight, military aircraft flyovers, airpower demonstrations, static displays and evening fireworks. For the first time in Tattoo history, a major entertainer is making an appearance! The Charlie Daniels Band will be performing.

AFMC's fourth annual Tattoo is Friday, June 27 on the grounds behind the National Museum of the United States Air Force at Wright-Patterson AFB. The Tattoo is open to the general public. Admission and parking are free. Recorded event information is available by calling 937-255-7207.

Tentatively, gates open with pre-show activities at 4:30 p.m. The event can be accessed through the Museum main entrance on Springfield Pike (Gate 28B), and the gate at the intersection of Airway and Spinning Roads. Gate 22B will be open only for visitors with base identification.

Visitors are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets, and a camera. Please note for security reasons that coolers, backpacks, skateboards, in-line skates and glass bottles are not permitted. Strollers, infant diaper bags, cameras and their cases, small purses and pocketbooks are permitted, but subject to inspection. Refreshments are available for purchase during the event.



Reservist's strong leadership recognized

By 445th Public Affairs

Senior Airman Kira Zyski, 445th Logistics Readiness Squadron, was recently awarded the Airlift/Tanker Association Young Leadership Award.



Airman Zyski

The Airlift/Tanker Association recognizes the importance of identifying and encouraging future leaders to participate in various association activities. This award identifies and recognizes 12 outstanding individuals who will likely become future leaders within the Air Mobility community.

Senior Airman Kira Zyski was recognized for her responsibility, job performance, professional leadership, leadership image, and community involvement.

Airman Zyski is a Fuels Journeyman and is directly responsible for supervising two Airmen and has accepted the

responsibility normally held by a Technical Sergeant as the Fuels Information Service Center supervisor. Airman Zyski volunteered to deploy to Al Dhafra AB, United Arab Emirates for 120 days in support of operations IRAQI FREEDOM, ENDURING FREEDOM, and Joint Task Force HORN OF AFRICA.

Airman Zyski was recognized by 4th Air Force and Volk Field Cadre inspectors on two separate exercises for her supervision, knowledge and sense of urgency during Self-Aid and Buddy Care scenarios.

She also represents a strong leadership image and was recognized by the Fuels Chief Master Sergeant in Al Dhafra as one of the best and hardest working troops he has seen in 25 years, calling her a "true professional" that "represented her unit and the USAF in an outstanding manner."

Congratulations to Senior Airman Kira Zyski, one of the shining stars in the 445th Airlift Wing!

Air Force Marathon takes place in September

The twelfth annual United States Air Force Marathon will take place on September 20, 2008, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. Events include the marathon, wheelchair marathon, half marathon, individual 10K, and team 10K. In addition, a 5K race will take place on September 19, 2008, at Wright State University.

The Sports & Fitness Exposition will take place on September 18 and 19, 2008, at the Ervin J. Nutter Center at

Wright State University. All Marathon and Expo

events are open to the public.

The USAF Marathon is always held in September to commemorate the founding of the Air Force as a separate military service on September 18, 1947.

For registration information please go to the official Air Force Marathon website <http://www.usafmarathon.com/>



Awards

Congratulations to the following 445 AW members who recently earned an award.

Meritorious Service Medal

LtCol Karen Turner, 445 ASTS
Maj Eric Piel, 89 AS
Maj Steven Shrader, 89 AS
SMSgt Michael Cambell, 87 APS
SMSgt Phillip Fernandez, 89 AS
MSgt Terry Harlow, 89 AS
TSgt Charles Hatfield, 445 AMXS

Air Force Achievement Medal

MSgt Charles Himes, 87 APS
MSgt John Westermeyer, 87 APS
MSgt Robyn Wilson, 87 APS
TSgt Brian Childers, 87 APS
TSgt Jeffery Dillon, 87 APS
TSgt Michael Goody, 87 APS
TSgt Mark McIntosh, 87 APS
TSgt Steven Purvis, 87 APS
TSgt Roxanne Rubsam, 87 APS
SSgt Matthew Keechle, 87 APS
SSgt Brian Reed, 87 APS
SSgt William Smith, 87 APS
SSgt Benjamin Toops, 87 APS
SrA Jennifer Bowersock, 87 APS
SrA Eric Marshall, 87 APS

Newcomers

Welcome to the following reservists, recently assigned to the 445th AW:

Maj Paula Fiepke, 445 AES
Maj Kim Kahler, 445 AMDS
TSgt Amanda Gilkerson, 445 MXS
TSgt John Kryk, 445 AMXS
SSgt Nina Bailey, 445 MXS
SSgt Kristina Davison, 445 CES
SSgt Thomas Scibelli, 445 CF
SSgt Kyle Hicks, 445 ASTS
SrA Adam Dees, 445 AMDS
SrA Joel Ford, 445 AES
SrA Jeremy Garver, 445 AMXS
SrA Theresa Grof, 445 LRS
SrA Alex Hart, 445 SVF
SrA Todd Hendrix, 445 AMDS
SrA Clifton Pierce, 445 AMXS
SrA Joshua Slusser, 445 MXS
A1C Andrew Protsman, 445 AES

Promotions

Congratulations to the following reservists recently promoted to the rank indicated.



Airman

Adam Clay, 445 MXS
Natasskia Gerald, 445 SVF
Lauren Piscopo, 445 MSF
Andrew Protsman, 445 AES

Airman First Class

Devin Larson, 445 MXS

Senior Airman

Angela Baldwin, 445 SVS
Stephanie Blevins, 445 SFS
James Downs, 445 ASTS
Joseph Easterling, 445 SFS
Jason Gardiner, 445 SFS
Melissa Miller, 445 ASTS
Eric Ruth, 445 OSS
Nicole Shider, 445 SVF

Staff Sergeant

Rachel Bruce, 445 ASTS
Nicholas Helms, 445 LRS
Nathan Jones, 445 AMXS

Joshua Saltzman, 445
ASTS



Technical Sergeant

Nathan Lowman, 445 MOF
Sarah McKown, 445 AES
Timothy Meenach, 445 CF
Brent Pemberton, 445 AW



Master Sergeant

Craig Barnett, 445 MOF
Bethany Frazier, 445
ASTS
David Hayes, 445 LRS
Judy Hunt, 445 LRS
Sharon Stanford, 445
AMDS
Angela Stein, 445 MOF



Senior Master Sergeant

Joseph Tharp, 445 MOF
Mark Young, 445 CES



Chief Master Sergeant

Willie Hooper, 445 CES



Captain

Francis Saul III, 89 AS



Major

Karen Keller, 445 ASTS
Janene Luff, 445 ASTS
Margaret Myslinsky, 445
ASTS

News Briefs

Dayton VA Picnic

The annual Dayton Veteran Affairs Medical Center Picnic is June 7 sponsored by the Air Force Sergeants Association. For more information contact your first sergeant.



445th Golf Scramble

The annual golf scramble is Friday, June 27 at Sugar Isle Golf Course, New Carlisle, Ohio. The cost is \$200.00 per team to include food and drink. For more information contact Chief Master Sgt. John Gram at 257-3434.



Commander's Call

The 445th Airlift Wing's Commander's Call is scheduled in July for both UTAs, July 13 & 27, at 7:30 a.m. in the Base Theater.



Make the Grade

As part of AAFES' "You Made the Grade" effort, students who maintain a "B" average are eligible to receive a variety of complimentary exchange offers for every qualifying report card they bring home. The booklet includes coupons for a free Burger King Hamburger Kids meal, complimentary admission for two to the nearest Reel Time movie theater and a free magazine from the local BookMark.



Past members reunite for dedication

By Mary H. Allen
445th Public Affairs

A memorial dedication to the Strategic Air Command took place at the National Museum of the United States Air Force, Wright-Patterson AFB, May 2, 2008.

Past members of the Strategic Air Command and associates unveil the National Memorial to the Strategic Air Command. The memorial was presented to the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force for display in the Memorial Garden.

The ceremony included flyovers of the B-1 from Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, and the B-52 from Barksdale Air Force Base, La.

The 445th Airlift Wing was honored to have a small part in the weekend events. Members from the former 91st Strategic Resonance Wing toured the wing's C-5 Galaxy and Col. Anna Schulte was the guest speaker at their dinner.

The dedication ceremony attracted about 750 people which include former SAC members and a number of distinguished visitors.



Master Sgt. Jon Brown, 89th Airlift Squadron, talks with members of the 91st Strategic Reconnaissance Wing Association during a tour of the wing's C-5 Galaxy. Association members, which include former pilots, maintainers, and crewmembers, had their annual reunion at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, May 9, 2008. (U.S. Air Force photo/Maj. David Borchardt)



Past members of the Strategic Air Command and associates unveil the National Memorial to the Strategic Air Command May 2, 2008. The memorial was presented to the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force. (Courtesy photo)

101 Critical Days of Summer

May 23 -
Sept. 1



Safety must remain top priority!

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