

Pulling teeth all over the world

By Senior Airman Martin Moleski
445th Public Affairs

Extracting teeth is never a pain-free procedure; neither for the patient nor the dentist. But for Maj. Joe Alvarez, Assistant OIC of the 445th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, his expertise in dentistry has given him the opportunity to travel the world and help those who need it most.

On a recent trip to Nigeria, Major Alvarez was essential to MEDFLAG '06, one of many joint missions between Air Force Reserve Command and African nations that provide dental and medical assistance to Africans.

The mission of the International Health Specialist program or IHS is to provide a cadre of military medical professionals delivering global support to the Air Force Medical Services (AFMS) and unified commands. IHS combines cultural and linguistic proficiency with regional medical expertise, in order to foster partnerships with military, civilian, coalition, and interagency personnel. They also advise Combatant Commanders on the effective use of medical assets in war and peace.

Maj. Melissa Triche, 445th AMDS administrator, also serves as the medical planner for IHS. Her responsibility is to work with



Maj. Joe Alvarez, 445th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, right, provides dental assistance to a Nigerian civilian with the assistance of Capt. Matthew Matocha, Ramstein Air Base Physician's Assistant. (Courtesy photo)

AFRC to staff humanitarian missions and exercises throughout the world. Currently, IHS is planning 16 medical and humanitarian missions for 2007.

IHS usually sends approximately 12 to 15 providers to go on humanitarian missions, or Med Readys, but in September only Major Alvarez, one optometrist and a physician's assistant went to Nigeria. Major Alvarez, who has been on five international missions, was just one of two medical providers to go to Nigeria to provide medical

assistance. He added it was the smallest Med Ready he had ever been a part of.

But that did not keep the major from completing the mission. Over an eight day period, Major Alvarez, with the help of Nigerian medical personnel, extracted 734 teeth from Nigerian citizens. Working about eight hours a day, he pulled an average of 92 teeth per day.

Major Alvarez, who has traveled to Nicaragua, Niger and El Salvador, said his trip to Nigeria

Continued on page 3

Time to celebrate

By Chaplain (Maj.) William Dickens/445th AW Chaplain

This is “the most wonderful time of year” (to steal a line from a famous song). For Americans, we have just celebrated Thanksgiving, commemorating the blessings experienced by the Pilgrims. For Jewish people, they are getting ready to celebrate the eight days for Chanukah, commemorating the victory of the Maccabees over the Syrians in 165 BC and the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem. For Christians, Dec. 25 is celebrated as the birth of the Savior, Jesus Christ. For most people this is a time of giving and reflection on the blessings of life. For all of us, it is a good time to look back on the year, take stock of all the good that has come our way and look forward with anticipation on what is in store for us or, changes we should make, in the coming New Year.

For a Chaplain, this can be a very frustrating time of year because there is so much you want to say, but for many reasons are discouraged from saying. But, I’m going to go out a limb here and say what is on my heart. Here it goes,
 “Happy Thanksgiving,
 Happy Chanukah,
 Merry Christmas,
 Happy New Year and,
 God bless our troops and their families at home and abroad during this Holiday season.”

There, with that said, I want to invite you all to the dedication of the new 445th Airlift Wing Chapel in Bldg. 4010. The dedication will be held at 8:30 a.m on Sunday, Dec. 3.

Thanks for being an "Unrivaled Wingman"

By Col. Brian Dominguez
 445th Vice Commander

I know you are all extremely busy and balancing your family life with your military and civilian jobs can be difficult at times. Given the hectic pace most of us find ourselves in, I think it’s absolutely critical that we in the 445th take care of each other.



Col. Dominguez

We’ve been doing a terrific job of taking care of the Active Duty, and the credit goes to all of you. Recently, Lieutenant General John Bradley, Chief of Air Force Reserve Command, commented on the outstanding team spirit he has observed while traveling around the globe interacting with Air Force Reservists. He noted that our airmen are fully dedicated to the Air Force mission and to making the world a safer place. He went on to say that this tremendous team effort goes to the heart of his vision, which is:

TO PROVIDE THE WORLD’S BEST MUTUAL SUPPORT TO THE AIR FORCE AND OUR JOINT PARTNERS—FLYING AND FIGHTING AS AN UNRIVALED WINGMAN

You have certainly contributed to General Bradley’s vision in all the hard work and effort you have put forth this past year.

It goes without saying, the active duty Air Force could not accomplish their mission without your steadfast support. Despite the fact that we’re still in a conversion status where our emphasis is on training, our maintainers and aircrews are generating and flying C-5 missions into the Middle East on a regular basis. So many of you have selflessly volunteered for AEF assignments and we currently have Security Forces Squadron members in Iraq and Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron members supporting that critical mission both stateside and overseas.

In the coming months many more of you will be deploying into harm’s way as part of the next AEF cycle. In addition to most of our Aerial Port, Civil Engineer, and Services Squadron personnel, we’ll have troops deploying from our Aeromedical Staging, Logistics Readiness, and Maintenance Squadrons, as well as individuals from other units. On top of the two hundred plus deployments, we’re also in the midst of a rigorous training and evaluation program designed to ensure success in our upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI) in 13 months.

Needless to say, with the increased ops tempo and stressors associated with a deployment into a war zone and preparing for an ORI, it’s essential we continue to look after each other. It’s precisely in these times that the Wingman Concept needs to be at the forefront of everything we do. Air Force Chief of Staff General Michael Mosely summed it up well when he declared:

BEING A GREAT WINGMAN MEANS RECOGNIZING WHEN OTHER AIRMEN ARE IN DISTRESS AND HAVING THE COURAGE TO CARE...THAT’S WHERE SERVICE BEFORE SELF BEGINS—WITH YOU AND YOUR TEAMMATES.

Remember there are many facilities and agencies that are available to help Reservists and their families in their time of need. You should all have received the 445th Integrated Delivery System (IDS) trifold pamphlet which summarizes most of these agencies. Don’t hesitate to contact your unit leadership if you need help.

Keep up the great work and remember the Wingman Concept is not just a slogan or a training requirement to be emphasized once a year. It’s simply airmen taking care of airmen all year long.

Brig. Gen. Davis, Command Chief Mouser and I would like to wish you all a happy and safe holiday season and thank you for your awesome dedication, support and enthusiasm!

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

Editorial Staff

Brig. Gen. Bruce E. Davis...Commander
 Maj. Ted Theopolos...Chief Public Affairs
 Maj. Jose Cardenas...Asst. Chief Public Affairs
 1st Lt. Erica Donahoe...Asst. Chief Public Affairs
 Mary Allen...Public Affairs Asst./Editor
 Laura Darden...Administrative Clerk
 Master Sgt. Douglas Moore...NCOIC/AV
 Tech. Sgt. Charles Miller...NCOIC/PA
 Senior Airman Martin Moleski...Writer

This funded Air Force Reserve newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *Buckeye Flyer* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U. S. Government, Department of the Air Force or Department of Defense. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 445th Airlift Wing Office of Public Affairs. Photographs are U.S. Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

U.S. Government Printing Office 5-00001-445AW

Pulling teeth

Continued from cover

was the first in an urban community. In the town of Kaduna, Major Alvarez worked with the Nigerian military, which had dental specialists, and provided free dental care to any Nigerian civilian.

“While it is inexpensive to extract a tooth in Nigeria, costing only about four dollars, that is practically two days worth of pay for Nigerians,” said Major Alvarez.

However, it is very hard to get the citizens of Nigeria proper dental supplies because customs make it very difficult to bring toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss into the country, Major Alvarez said.

The 445th AMDS is one of only a few squadrons that have the supplies for dental humanitarian relief. “We do a lot of these missions because we have the capability to do it ourselves,” Major Alvarez added. Furthermore, the major said he helped write the equipment list that other squad-



Maj. Joe Alvarez, 445th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, stands with two Nigerian dental students who trained with Major Alvarez during an eight day mission to Nigeria. (Courtesy photo)

rons will review and ultimately purchase the supplies for providers to use during a Med Ready.

Major Alvarez, who goes on one or two Med Readys each year, said he would also like to go to Guatemala and Bulgaria to provide free dental care. Why these two countries? Because Major Alvarez has two adopted children, a daughter from Guatemala and a son from Bulgaria.

The major said he recently learned that he and 32 members from the AMDS will fulfill his wish

to go to Guatemala in April 2007, and said he always wanted to go to those countries to, “return the favor.”

Major Alvarez, who practices in McArthur, Ohio, said the opportunity to travel to these countries and take care of the patients has been very challenging but very fulfilling.

“This program has allowed me to practice dentistry on four different continents and there aren’t a lot of people who can say they’ve done that,” said the major.

Sergeants alertness prevents possible flight accident

Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan — Staff Sgt. Jude Snell is commended for his contribution to flight safety as a Flyaway Security Team (FAST)



Staff Sgt. Jude Snell, 445th Security Forces Squadron, in front of a C-130. (Courtesy photo)

member during a C-130 air land mission Oct. 7 to an undisclosed location in Pakistan.

During the mission Staff Sgt. Snell’s superior situational awareness led him to discover a hydraulic leak inside the cargo compartment of the aircraft. He quickly alerted the crew which resulted in diverting the aircraft back to home base before the leak became critical. The affected system controls normal landing gear extension, normal flap extension, normal brakes, nose wheel steering and half of the flight control pressure. The source of the leak could not be identified and the hydraulic reservoir level continued to drop throughout the remainder of the flight.

Sergeant Snell’s alertness was above and beyond what is expected of FAST team members and helped to fill a void in what is normally covered by a loadmaster systems scan. The loadmasters in this particular mission were posted in scanning positions for enemy threats against the aircraft.

Sergeant Snell is deployed from the 445th Security Force Squadron. (Contributed by 455 AEW news flash)



Reservist experience the gas chamber during the chemical warfare training class on November's Scarlet UTA. Reservists stand for five minutes while removing their mask and stating their name, rank, and social security number. Some people barely make it past their first name before coughing and sputtering. Pictured below left to right, members exit the gas chamber, Senior Master Sgt. Mike Wroten, Tech. Sgt. Raymond Smith, 445th Maintenance Squadron, Staff Sgt. David Winslow and Tech. Sgt. John Koehl, 445th Security Forces Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photos/Tech. Sgt. Charlie Miller)



By 1st Lt. Erica Donahoe
445th Public Affairs

Despite burning throats, watering eyes, and runny noses; members of the 445th Airlift Wing emerged from the gas chamber with a new appreciation for their chemical warfare equipment. October's chemical warfare training class was the first to implement a return to the gas chamber, and the November class was the second group in the wing to spend time in the chamber.

The day began with a morning session that focused on chemical, biological, and radiological/nuclear explosives. Participants learned about the dangers of each and what to do in case of attack. They also spent time donning the suits and helmets, making sure they could do so quickly and effectively.

The class returned in the afternoon to partake of the new and improved section of the course—the gas chamber. For some members of the class, it was the first time they'd been to the gas chamber in more than 20 years.

"The last time I did this was 24 years ago, in 1982. I was in Marine boot camp," Tech. Sgt. Mark Monnig recalls.

For others, the day was a special treat. "I'm 59 years old today, and I get to go in on my birthday—what a present," said Tech. Sgt. Jerry Newell.

The members of the class spend around five minutes in the chamber. First they practice exercises to ensure the fit of their mask and make sure the masks work. "It definitely makes you appreciate your gear," Tech. Sgt. Mike Wroten said.

After that, the fun part gets started. Each member removes their mask and states their name, rank, and social security number. That's if they can stand it, of course. Some people barely make it past their first name before coughing and sputtering. Others manage to get out a "hoorah" at the end.

Adding the gas chamber back to the Chemical Warfare class is part of an increased focus on training and preparing Airmen for deployment. The experience is meant to show participants how well their equipment will protect them. It's also meant to reinforce the importance of knowing how to use it.

Overall, the mood was lighthearted as the group made the best of the training exercise. As Master Sgt. Scott McCoy put it, "If this doesn't clear up my sinuses, I'm going back in."

Council snows the competition

By 1st Lt. Erica Donahoe
445th Public Affairs

The 445th Airlift Wing Human Resources Development Council recently returned home with the Maj. Gen. Joseph A. McNeil Award for HRDC Leadership Excellence. The conference, held Oct. 25-27 in Colorado Springs, Colo., is hosted by the Command HRDC and is used to make recommendations to the Chief of Air Force Reserve on all matters pertaining to human resources within the Command.

The 445th sent eight representatives to the conference, armed with the award-winning display that highlighted the accomplishments and outreach programs of the 445th. In particular, the display showcased the C-141 retirement, the Tuskegee Airmen Symposium and numerous other outreach and mentorship programs sponsored by the wing.

"It's such a motivational and inspirational experience to see what the Air Force Reserve is doing in terms of recruitment and retention," Staff Sgt. James Highland, a member of the team that represented the 445th said. "The information on what all the other wings are doing is just amazing.

The conference was a success despite the blizzard that hit Colorado Springs. A few guest speakers missed the conference when the blizzard closed down the Colorado Springs airport. "They found replacements to speak, people who were already in the area. You've got to give them credit, they [the leadership] didn't let it hold up the show," Sergeant Highland said.

The wing HRDC meets each month and focuses on four important aspects of human



Lt. Gen. John Bradley, Air Force Reserve Commander, poses with the 445th Human Resources Development Council who won the AFRC HRDC competition Oct. 27 held in Colorado Springs, Colo. Pictured left to right: Staff Sgt. Jim Highland, Capt. Shelly Benson, Lt. Col. Kathy Staiger, Capt. Anna Ruiz, Chief Master Sgt. Joseph Smith, Chief Master Sgt. Aaron Mouser, Col. Brian Dominguez, Master Sgt. Cynthia Holland and Lt. Gen. John Bradley. (U.S Air Force photo by Staff Sergeant Joselito Aribuabo)

resources development, recruiting, retention, mentoring, and outreach. The council concentrates on problems and areas that need attention in the wing, and then works to solve those problems.

"A lot of people assume that we focus on gender and race, because those are two main components of diversity. The HRDC actually encompasses all forms of diversity—economic, cultural, as well as gender and race," Sergeant Highland said.

The 445th HRDC was excited to bring home the award, but recognized that all the other wings were doing great things as well. Capt. Shelly Benson, Command HRDC member and member of the 445th said, "The competition was fierce—everyone had amazing presentations. We only won by about a half a point, but a win is a win!"



The 445 AW Human Resources Development Council recently returned home from Colorado Springs, Colo. with the Maj. Gen. Joseph A. McNeil Award for HRDC Leadership Excellence.

Veterans Day Tribute



A C-5 Galaxy aircraft from the 445th Airlift Wing fly's over Dorl Field in Norwood, Ohio, a suburb of Cincinnati, to start the ceremony for "The Wall That Heals" Nov. 9. The traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial was there over Veteran's Day weekend. The traveling wall started in 1984 and travels to 22 - 28 cities a year and is visited by thousands of people at each location.



Maj. Mike Baker, 445th Operation Support Squadron, stands in front of the traveling Vietnam Veteran's Memorial before making radio contact with C-5 pilots for a flyover at a Veterans Day ceremony in Cincinnati, Nov. 9. (U. S. Air Force Photos/Maj. Ted Theopolos)



An unidentified woman looks at the names on "The Wall That Heals" at Dorl Field in Norwood, Ohio, a suburb of Cincinnati. The traveling Vietnam Veteran's Memorial was there over Veteran's Day weekend.

Commander sends thanks in holiday message

By Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley
Commander of Air Force Reserve Command

As we look forward to this holiday season and the New Year, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude to each of you, your families and employers for the sacrifices you've made for our country each and every day.

Our Airmen have answered the call to service during a critical time in our nation's

history. Many of you are preparing to deploy overseas, perhaps for the first time in your military careers, while others are deploying for another tour. This courage and willingness to defend our freedom is a beacon for all Americans.

The New Year promises challenges and changes as we continue our mission to defend our nation and the cause of freedom around the world. Please know that our contributions as "Unrivaled Wingmen" make us

valued and respected members of the Total Force.

Jan and I salute you, and wish you and yours Happy Holidays and a safe and joyous New Year. We are proud of your patriotism and loyalty to our great nation. (AFRC News Service)



Newcomers

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

Maj Robert Linn, 445 ASTS
 Capt Justine Walker, 445 MSG
 Capt Robert Wengerter, 445 LRS
 TSgt Kevin Grof, 445 AMXS
 TSgt David Endicott, 445 MXS
 SSgt Robert Shipp, 445 MXS
 SSgt Kelly Kinley, 445 OSS
 SSgt Mark Maggart, 87 APS
 SrA Michael Andrewes, 445 CF
 SrA Michael Repkorwich, 445 SFS
 SrA Michael Mader, 445 SFS
 A1C Nathan Ellcessor, 445 SFS
 AB Tracie Allen, 445 AMDS
 AB Tony Crawford, 445 AMXS
 AB Jennifer Hawkins, 445 AES

Awards

Congratulations to the following 445th AW members who recently earned awards.

Meritorious Service Medal

CMSgt Richard Standridge, 89 AS
 TSgt Mark Guenther, 445 MXS
 TSgt Sherwood Sharp, Jr., 89 AS

Air Force Commendation Medal

Capt Celso Salinas, 445 AES
 MSgt Jon Brown, 89 AS
 TSgt Dwayne Dawson, 445 CF
 TSgt Carl Hayden, 89 AS
 TSgt Michael Straley, 445 CF

Air Force Achievement Medal

TSgt James Ferguson, 445 CF

Promotions

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



Airman

Phillip Lemaster, 89 AS
 Cheryl Beauchamp, 445 AMDS
 Danitra Culberson, 445 AMDS
 Tracie Allen, 445 SFS



Airman First Class

Andrew Megimose, 89 AS



Senior Airman

Christopher Lipps, 445 CF



Staff Sergeant

Nickolas Algren, 89 AS
 Michael Blake, 445 AMXS
 Josef Chlebek, 445 ASTS
 Ashley Clark, 89 AS
 Jermane Coleman, 445 MXS
 William Donaldson, 445 CES
 Joseph Edwards, 445 MXS
 Gregory Geisler, 445 SFS
 James Kantorzyk, 89 AS
 Ryan McBride, 445 MXS
 Joshua McCrabb, 445 SFS
 Lisa Smith, 445 MSF
 Jonathan Stella, 445 MXS
 Robert Thomas, 445 CES
 Cameron Williams, 445 MOF
 Christopher Wolfe, 445 LRS



Technical Sergeant

Aaron Bullucks, 445 MXS
 Richard Ellison, 445 CES
 Paul Errett, 87 APS
 Melissa Holas, 445 ASTS
 Jonathon Lemaster, 445 CES
 Donald Meiners, 445 CES
 Matthew Mitchell, 445 AMXS
 Chad Moystner, 445 AMXS
 Elizabeth Tinsley, 445 AES
 Steven Todd, 445 MXS
 Sandi Golden Vest, 445 AES



Master Sergeant

Charles Cring, 445 MXS
 Donald Ellars, 87 APS
 Edward Kirker, 87 APS
 Victor Lauterbach, 87 APS
 Robert McDonald, 445 CES
 Josef Taylor, 445 MXS



Senior Master Sergeant

Julie Clear, 445 MOF
 Thomas Kanoza, 87 APS
 Barry Storer, 87 APS

News Briefs

Winter Weather

Fall is quickly turning into winter, bringing with it the threat of hazardous weather. All wing personnel are encouraged to tune in to local radio and television stations for information on base delays or closures.



Toys for Tots

Don't forget to add a toy to your shopping list this year for the Toys for Tots program. The wing is collecting new unwrapped toys for the program. Bins are located in Bldgs. 101, 4010, 4012, 4014, and 4035. Toys will be taken to the base drop-off area for distribution Dec. 10. For more information contact your first sergeant.



Holiday Cheer

The annual Veterans Administration Nursing Home holiday party is scheduled Dec. 9. The party is a way to interact with our veterans while spreading holiday cheer. For those who wish to participate transportation is available. A bus will be leaving Bldg. 4010, in front of the flag pole, at 10:30 a.m. For more information contact Chief Master Sgt. Joseph Smith at 257-0398.



Physicals, main part of Medical Squadron



U.S. Air Force photos/Senior Airman Martin Moleski

Lt. Col. Clifton Poling, 445th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, conducts an eye exam on Jawahna Hollins, 87th Aerial Port Squadron, during her physical health assessment.



Airman 1st Class Simeon Mabuti, 445 AMDS, begins to draw blood from Lt. Col. Phil Frederick, 445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, during his physical health assessment.



Master Sgt. Rick Brewer, 445 AMDS, uses advanced technology to administer a hearing test to reservists during a physical health assessment.



Senior Airman David Leija, 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, opens wide during his yearly dental exam.



445TH AIRLIFTWING/PA
5514 MCCORMICK AVE
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OHIO
45433-5113



FIRST CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
USAF PERMIT NO. 1161

