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Senior Airman Mikhail Berlin

Face paint

Staff Sgt. Tame Marshall, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, applies face paint on Alexis Holmes, daughter of Staff Sgt. Alexandra Holmes, 445th Services Flight, during the wing's picnic here Sept. 12. There were a variety of events for all ages as Airmen and families celebrated the end of summer.

445th Airlift Wing Airmen are reminded to use safety reflective belts during hours of darkness.

C-17 conversion preparation continues at wing

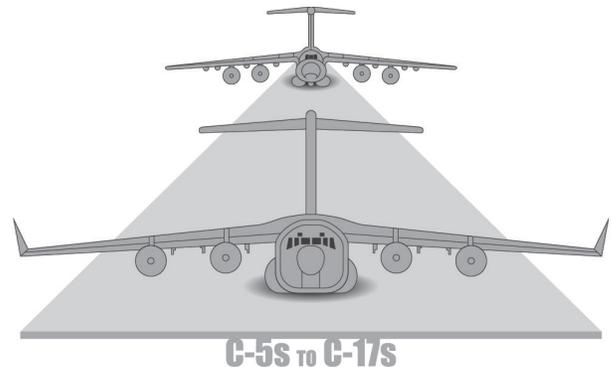
By Tech. Sgt. Julie Weckerlein
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

A team of experts is now set up in the wing's program integration office as part of vast C-17 Globemaster III preparations at the 445th Airlift Wing and things are moving along.

"The conversion process is very dynamic and moving fast," said Lt. Col. David Marlin, C-17 Program Integration Office chief here. "There are many folks in the wing who are working very hard to ensure that we have everything we need to support the C-17 mission way into the future."

The C-17 is replacing the wing's current C-5 mission. The experts working for the conversion are from a variety of career fields: operations; maintenance and logistics; facilities and representatives from Boeing.

"The original program was four C-17s to start arriving in [the spring of next year] and to start losing the first five of our 10 C-5s," said Colonel Marlin. "We are



Graphic by Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Caskey

still on track to do that. Our hopes are that we can deliver the first C-17s in April so that we can start flying in support of our initial pilot and loadmaster qualification training."

See *CONVERSION*, page 6

New chaplain: Living with the end in mind

By Chaplain (1st Lt.) Brian Honett
445th Airlift Wing Chaplain

I'm new to the 445th Airlift Wing, and I just want to take a minute and say thank you. I have a wonderful family--a beautiful wife and three young boys, but I've added to that family here.

Everywhere I go, I have been welcomed with open arms into this family. I am so grateful to be a part of it. I look forward to hopefully being more like the beloved brother rather than the crazy uncle, but I guess only time will tell.

Proverbs 11:4 says *"Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death."*

This goes against everything that television, radio, banner ads and billboards tell us. There is always some kind of ad that tells us we need a fancier car, the newest phone, a bigger house and better vacation. If we settle then we are losers. If we can't outdo our neighbors then we should quit.

"Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death."
- Proverbs 11:4

Again and again, the Bible tells us not to store up our treasure here where it will be destroyed, but to focus on building our heart and mind and character so that we are more Godly.

That's tough when we are told hundreds of times a day to work harder, spend more time at the office so that we can provide a bigger house, better car and the exotic vacation.

If you want help focusing on the eternal rather than the temporary in a world filled with powerful messages, stop by the chaplain's office.

We would love to talk with you. Even if you just want to stop by for a cup of coffee and conversation, I'd love to meet you.

Buckeye Flyer

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My two cents: Words to live by

By Lt. Col. Chris Cunningham
445th Civil Engineer Squadron commander

The Air Force Reserves is profoundly important to our nation.

The strength and power of the Air Force Reserve evolves from its people, a common thread reaching far around the globe.

We are a unique force and one of our unique facets is our age and experience.

As a commander, I lead troops ranging in age from 19 to 57, a nearly 40-year time span. But regardless of the age, I've picked up some "truths" along my 20 year journey.

Performance matters. But what is written about your performance may matter more. Your performance reports and awards often represent you, when you don't have the opportunity to speak. Pay keen attention. These written appraisals are your voice.



"We are a unique force and one of our unique facets is our age and experience."
- Colonel Cunningham

Fitness. If you are unfit, get fit. There is really no way around the fact. It is in your hands throughout the month and year, and it is something completely in your control.

Be professional. Talk to people like your parents are in the room with you along with the parents of the person you

are talking to. You will never find your being unprofessional.

Lead. Leadership is more caught than taught. People watch how you talk and act far more than what you might try to teach and instill.

Career. You are in charge of your career. No one will advocate for you, more than you. When you were young, your parents used to champion your cause. We rarely hear from your parents.

Do your job. Your job is important to the Nation, that's why the job exists in the first place. Learn everything you can about your job. Become the master.

Be humble. While we like having you around, you are not irreplaceable.

Attitude. Attitude is everything.

Be invisible when you need to. Walk with a purpose, no one will stop you.

Combat, hardship pay remain for deployed Airmen

The change from Operation Iraqi Freedom to Operation New Dawn does not affect combat and other hazardous-duty entitlements troops serving in Iraq receive, a Pentagon spokeswoman said today.

Servicemembers deployed to Iraq will still receive hostile fire/imminent danger pay, hardship-duty pay, and incidental expenses.

Some troops will qualify for family separation allowances. Also, all pay for warrant officers and enlisted members is tax exempt, while officers are exempt from taxes for up to \$7,611.30 each month they serve in an eligible area.

"These pays compensate a member for the arduous conditions and additional burdens and dangers associated with being deployed to a combat zone," Eileen Lainez said.

For some troops, the additional pay could mean as much as \$680 a month, not including tax exemptions, while deployed to a combat zone.

Troop levels in Iraq peaked at nearly 170,000 in 2007 during the height of the troop surge. Today, combat operations there officially end. Fewer than 50,000 troops will

Servicemembers deployed to Iraq will still receive hostile fire/imminent danger pay, hardship-duty pay, and incidental expenses.

remain in Iraq until Dec. 31, 2011, to serve in an advise and assist role for Iraqi security forces.

Troop levels do not affect special pay entitlements, Lainez explained.

"Additional entitlements in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait or other countries in the Arabian Peninsula designated as combat zones, or direct support areas, are not tied to troop levels," she said. "Rather, the additional entitlements members receive are based upon a location's designation as a combat zone or direct support area."

The President determines what is, and what is not, a combat zone through executive order, she added.

Iraq and the Arabian Peninsula were deemed combat zones in January 1991. Afghanistan received the same designation Sept. 19, 2001. *(Courtesy of American Forces Press Service)*



Maj. Jose Cardenas

Welcome home

Chief Master Sgt. Peri Rogowski, 445th Airlift Wing command chief, welcomes Capt. Rodney McNany, 445th AW public affairs, at the Dayton International Airport upon his return from Iraq after a six-month deployment Sept. 7.



Senior Airman Mikhail Berlin

445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Col. Stephen Goeman, 445th Airlift Wing commander, left, passes the guidon to Col. Akram Sadaka, right, during a change of command ceremony here Sept. 11.



Senior Airman Mikhail Berlin

445th Operations Support Squadron

Col. Roger Gallet, 445th Operations Group commander, left, passes the guidon to Lt. Col. Richard Webster, right, during a change of command ceremony here Sept. 12.

Reserve MTIs seek 'best of the best'

By Capt. Caroline Wellman
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Two U.S. Air Force Reserve military training instructors visited the 445th Airlift Wing here Sept. 11 and 12 to recruit reservists to the basic military training instructor career field.

Senior Master Sgt. Julie Begley, superintendent of the 433rd Training Squadron at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, and air reserve technician, and Tech. Sgt. Derek Sensenig, a traditional reserve military training instructor, held two information sessions during the wing's September Scarlett unit training assembly.

"It's not a job for everybody," Sergeant Sensenig said. "People either they love it or they hate it."

Because of the unique demands, dedication and skills needed to be a successful MTI, current members of the 433rd TS visit reserve units to increase awareness and provide realistic answers to Airmen who express interest in the demanding career field.

The unit is recruiting traditional reservists to fill four-year tours at the 433rd TS, said Sergeant Begley, an MTI since 1988. Reservists can return to their primary career field, from the unit where they were last assigned, or can pursue different career options, including follow-on tours as MTIs.

First, applicants must complete



Capt. Caroline Wellman

Tech. Sgt. Derek Sensenig, 433th Training Squadron military training instructor, presents information about the career field to Airmen here Sept. 11.

a five-to-seven-day permissive TDY for exposure to the life of an MTI. After the permissive TDY, applicants may be accepted to attend the seven-week MTI school, followed by a 90-day certification process. Only after certification does the four-year tour begin.

The seven-week MTI course consists of four blocks of instruction covering leadership fundamentals; drill instruction and command voice; flight administration and physical fitness instruction; dormitory instruction, obstacle course and BEAST. The 90-day certification helps new MTIs put into practice what they learn during the course.

Reserve MTIs can expect to train

For more information, call 433rd TS recruiting team at DSN 473-2410, commercial (210) 671-2410. Visit this article online at www.445aw.afrc.af.mil.

new Airmen for a few weeks at a time, three or four times a year. The unit often reschedules drill and annual training requirements to allow the MTIs to spend extended periods with trainees, instead of just one or two days each month, Sergeant Begley said.

"Being an MTI is not a responsibility to be taken lightly," Sergeant Sensenig stressed during the informational session. "You get to change [people], mold them and make them into somebody."

Sergeant Begley echoed his sentiment, recounting stories of the lasting impressions and the sizable impact MTIs have on trainees' lives.

"2008 was a big year for me," Sergeant Begley said.

That's when she started getting the emails from retiring Airmen whom she trained.

Despite the enormous responsibility, she says she wouldn't do anything different.

"It's been the best experience of my life to see these young men and women come into our Air Force every Tuesday and Wednesday – to that start – and then to see them eight weeks later," she said.

Tricare Retired Reserve covers 'gray area' retirees, eligible family members

People in the Retired Reserve who are not yet age 60 can now purchase Tricare health coverage for themselves and their eligible family members.

Tricare Retired Reserve started Sept. 1 for retired reservists who are also known as "gray area" retirees.

"This new program offers a health coverage opportunity for 'gray area' guardsmen and

reservists who served America honorably, setting a proud example for today's forces," said Rear Adm. Christine Hunter, deputy director of the Tricare Management Activity.

"Tricare Retired Reserve will provide an outstanding health benefit," she said.

Retired reservists qualify for TRR coverage if under the age of 60 and eligible to receive

non-regular retirement pay when they turn 60.

They don't qualify for TRR coverage if they are eligible for or enrolled in the Federal Employees Health Benefits program.

Instructions on qualifying for and purchasing TRR are available by going to www.tricare.mil/trr.

The monthly premium this year is \$388.31 for the TRR member-only and \$976.41 for

the member and family. Tricare will adjust the premiums annually.

TRR health care coverage is similar to Tricare Standard.

After purchasing TRR, retirees will receive the Tricare Retired Reserve Handbook. The handbook gives details about covered services, how to get care and who to contact for assistance. (*Air Force Reserve Command press release*)

Wing Picnic

445th Airlift Wing Airmen and families gathered here Sept. 12 for the wing picnic.



Senior Airman Mikhail Berlin

Master Sgt. Jude Soriano, 445th Maintenance Squadron, grills hamburgers for the wing picnic. Food was also prepared by the 445th Services Squadron.

Airmen and families move down the food line at the wing picnic. Hamburgers, hot dogs, pasta salad and baked beans were served, along with chips and an assortment of desserts and drinks.



Senior Airman Mikhail Berlin



Senior Airman Mikhail Berlin

Airmen and families play volleyball on the sand court during the wing's picnic Sept. 12 here at Bass Lake. The weather was perfect for the outdoor event.



Senior Airman Matt Cook

Picnic attendees play a game of cornhole at the wing picnic, which gave Airmen a chance to bring their families and enjoy the last few days of summer.

Seminar to aid Airmen professionalism, careers

By Capt. Caroline Wellman
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Register now for wing's professional development seminar. The 445th Airlift Wing is hosting a professional development seminar Nov. 8-9.

There is a \$55, non-refundable landing fee, which pays for two breakfasts, two lunches, snacks throughout the two days of the conference and the icebreaker the first night of the conference, plus a processing fee of \$4.02. Multiple guest speakers are scheduled for the seminar, including:

- Senior Master Sgt. Jose Barraza: an award-winning instructor at the Air Force Senior NCO Academy at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., motivational speaker and former Los Angeles gang member
- Tina Durkin: International Federation of Body Building and Fitness fitness professional and former 445th Airlift Wing Airman
- Lt. Col. Ralph Lund, certified financial planner
- Retired Maj. Carl S. Savino, Maj, co-author of From Air Force Blue to Corporate Gray: A Career Transition Guide for Air Force Personnel
- Master Sgt. Patrick Stevens: 349th Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight, 349th Air Mobility Wing, Travis Air Force Base, Calif., EOD technician and Wounded Warrior

The NFL-themed ice-breaker scheduled for Nov. 8 begins at 5:30 p.m. at Packy's located at the Hope Hotel. Attendees should wear their favorite NFL jersey. The Cincinnati Bengals vs. Pittsburgh Steelers game will be televised for everyone's enjoyment.

All ranks are invited to attend; and wing members are encouraged to use annual tour with coordination and approval of their supervisors. Uniform is BDU, ABU or flight suit. Lodging reservations can be made at (937) 257-3451, (937) 257-3810, or at <http://wpsv.wpafb.af.mil/reservation.htm>. Distinguished visitors should coordinate lodging with the office of the 445th Airlift Wing Command Chief at (937) 271-7955. To register for the seminar, visit www.eventbrite.com/event/789344952.

SPOTLIGHT



Rank/Name
Senior Airman Melissa Miller

Unit
445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Duty Title
Aerospace Medical Service Journeyman

Hometown
Martinsburg, Ohio

Civilian Job
Emergency Room Medical Technician

Education
Working on nursing degree

Hobbies
Traveling, hiking

Career Goal
ER nurse/officer

What do you like about working at the 445th?
The great sense of teamwork and camaraderie the wing shows. It really does feel like we are all a big family!

Why did you join the Air Force?
I joined the Air Force because I wanted to do something to help our country after 9/11. My dream to deploy came true this year when I deployed to Balad, Iraq. I feel truly honored to have cared for those who fight for our freedom. They are the best patients.

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Colonel Marlin said it's fortunate the wing's current facilities only need minor modifications to support the new mission.

"The new C-17 mission requirements include assault landings, night vision device approach and landing training, and low levels. We'll continue to do the air refueling mission, also," he said.

The wing's senior leadership is excited about the future.

"We are looking forward and moving on schedule," said Col. Stephen Goeman, 445th AW commander. "My request continues to be for all wing Airmen to remain focused on the current mission, get excited about the transition to the future mission and get ready for the effort needed for the new and exciting mission."

Colonel Marlin shares the sentiments.

"The new flying mission is going to be exciting as we add on new capabilities with the highly reliable C-17 aircraft," he said. "Our flying hour program is really going to ramp up. We'll be flying more hours and missions with fewer aircraft than we had in the C-5. I'm not sure what our AMC mission taskings will look like but the 445th AW has always had a great reputation and I expect AMC to keep us busy."

News Briefs

In Memory



Staff Sgt. Ross Blackburn, 87th Aerial Port, passed away recently. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

Promotions

Airman

Santana Austin, AW
Jonathan Hawkins, AMXS
Joseph Heck, AMXS

Airman First Class

Jacob Kreuzer, AMXS

Senior Airman

Jessica Houser, LRS
Sachi Sunamoto, AES

Staff Sergeant

Valerie Hart, AMDS
Ryan Minica, CES
Eddie Mulkey, AES
Ron Robertson, LRS
Timothy Sexton, SFS
Justin Staten, AES

Technical Sergeant

Chris Gatza, MOF
Leslie Lovegrove, 87 APS
Elmer Querubin, AMDS
Douglas Schaumleffel, LRS
George Stucker, MXS

Master Sergeant

Christopher Suggs, LRS
Stoni Warwick, MXG
Heather Wherry, AMDS

Senior Master Sergeant

Lowell Pollock, AMXS

Newcomers

Capt Amber Horrell, ASTS
2Lt Richard Jamie, AES
2Lt Joshua Mott, AES
SSgt Dustin Olah, SFS
SrA Daniel Burden, 87 APS
SrA Christon Moore, 87 APS
SrA Bethany Ozinga, AMDS
SrA Shane Rickert, CES
SrA Zachary Simon, LRS
A1C Nathan Collett, 87 APS
A1C Joshua Cox, MXS
A1C Antonio Dillihay, 87 APS
A1C Andrew Finley, ASTS
A1C Daniel Shumard, CF
A1C Sachi Sunamoto, AES
A1C Nathan Volz, MSF
A1C Sara Zimmerman, 87 APS
Amn Trenton Bruner, ASTS
Amn Justin Rogers, LRS
Amn Charles Smith, ASTS
AB Steven Barcey, AMXS
AB Andrew Bohringer, ASTS
AB Martin Crawford, CES
AB Howard Dickten, ASTS
AB Nicholas Gardner, AMXS
AB John McDermott, MXS
AB Travis McKinley, 87 APS
AB Matthew Shaw, AES
AB Michael Sheehan, MXS

Awards

Meritorious Service Medal

Col Karen Nagafuchi, ASTS
Lt Col John Gillham III, 89 AS
Lt Col Linda Stokes-Crowe, AES
Maj George Linder, ASTS
Maj John Pica Jr., 89 AS
SMSgt David Bloomfield, ASTS
MSgt Walter Bennett, SFS
MSgt Darrell Crum, SFS
MSgt Brenda Evans, ASTS
MSgt Bethany Frazier, ASTS
MSgt Georgia Ricketts, LRS
TSgt James Potter, 87 APS

Air Force

Commendation Medal

Capt Robert Wengerter, LRS
MSgt Patrick McCoy, OG
MSgt Patricia Simmons, ASTS
TSgt Daniel Jackson, ASTS
TSgt Linda Thrasher, 87 APS
SSgt Maggie Kocher, ASTS
SSgt Angela Wilson, ASTS

Air Force Achievement Medal

TSgt Autumn Barrett, SFS
SSgt Paul Mohny, ASTS
SSgt Lisa Purk, ASTS
SSgt Omar Reyes, ASTS
SSgt Joshua Saltzman, ASTS

Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal

TSgt Jeffrey Grice, AMXS

Briefs

Commanders Call

The 445th Airlift Wing commander's call takes place 7:30 a.m. Oct. 3 at the base theater.

Picnic photos

Photos from the 445th picnic are available at the wing's official website for download. Visit www.445aw.afrc.af.mil.

Article submissions

The 445th Airlift Wing public affairs office is always looking for good stories about the Airmen and mission here. If you have an idea for an article or know of an upcoming event to be covered, send an email to 445aw.pa@wpafb.af.mil. The office needs no less than two weeks advance notice for events. Call (937) 257-5784 for more information.

Official photos

Airmen and commanders needing official photos should call the 88th Air Base Wing Multimedia at (937) 255-4242. The time for studio portrait walk-ins is 8 to 11:30 a.m.

Social media reminder

Airmen here were recently authorized access to social media sites such as Facebook and YouTube on official networks. Airmen are reminded to always keep operational security in mind when posting images, updates and videos to these sites.



Tech. Sgt. Julie Weckerlein

Remembering the Fallen

Airmen of the 445th Airlift Wing bow their heads during a remembrance ceremony here Sept. 11. They stand in front of the building dedicated in memory of Maj. LeRoy W. Homer Jr., a former wing Airman killed as the first officer of United Flight 93, which crashed in Shanksville, Pa., after it was hijacked by terrorists Sept. 11, 2001.

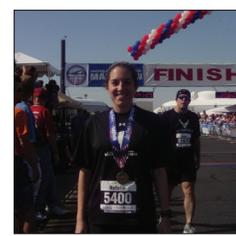
On the Web



Total Force Airmen enjoy combat dining-in



General proposes closer look at active, reserve force mix



Reservists participate in AF Marathon

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