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Snapshots of service

Terrorist attack diverted, former 445th Airman's ultimate sacrifice

By 2nd Lt. Rachel N. Ingram
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Many Americans remember Sept. 11 as the day time stopped. Most can recall exactly where they were and what they were doing when the horrific news footage began rolling across TV screens nationwide.

In less than one hour's time, 19 terrorists overtook four flights during an unprecedented attack on American soil. The first two flights struck the World Trade Center, killing nearly 3,000 people and injuring 6,000 more. The third flight struck the Pentagon, killing more than 100 people. A fourth flight, United 93, never reached its intended target.

United 93 departed Newark, New Jersey, and 46 minutes into the flight, was hijacked over eastern Ohio. For 30 minutes, crew members and passengers worked to sabotage the terrorists' efforts to use the plane as a missile and crash it in Washington, D.C. Phone calls and audio recordings recovered from the aircraft revealed that the crew and passengers aboard the plane made a plan and then rushed the cockpit, scuffling with the hijackers and throwing hot water at them to divert the plane.



LeRoy W. Homer, Jr.

The hijackers slung the plane from side to side, even rolled it over, to get the crew and passengers to back off, but they persisted. The hijackers were forced to nosedive the belly-up plane into a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, 20 minutes from the nation's capital. The 37 passengers and seven crew members died on impact.

"When those planes went into the towers, the Pentagon, and that field in Pennsylvania, we all kind of held our breaths, thinking 'Oh my God, I hope it was nobody I knew,'" said retired Lt. Col. Chris Clark, former deputy commander, 445th Operations Group. "I was physically afraid to call into the airline hotlines on Sept. 11. I'll never forget that feeling."

Later, news sources reported United 93's first officer was 36-year-old Maj. LeRoy W. Homer, Jr., a U.S. Air Force Academy graduate and former member of



the 445th Airlift Wing. LeRoy and the pilot, United Airlines Captain Jason Dahl, were the first two individuals to fight back against the terrorists.

"He was very laidback," Clark recalled. "He didn't talk very much, and he kept a pretty low profile. Nobody ever said a bad word about LeRoy in the time we knew him."

Clark first met LeRoy in the late '80s at McGuire Air Force Base, New Jersey, where both men served on active duty. Upon completing their service commitments, they pursued commercial pilot jobs and joined the 445th Airlift Wing as Reserve pilots in 1995.

"All LeRoy wanted to do was be a Reservist, retire, and enjoy life with his wife and family," Clark said.

LeRoy left the 445th in 2000 to work at the Air Force Academy, but the impression he left was timeless.

"He was a role model for all of us," said Lt. Col. Mike Baker, chief, 445th Airlift Wing safety office.

The building which now houses the 89th Airlift Squadron is named in Homer's honor, commemorating the contributions he made to the squadron, wing, and his country. With his family present, the 445th Airlift Wing dedicated the building to LeRoy in October 2008. LeRoy posthumously received numerous awards and honors, including the Congressional Gold Medal.

"When Airmen start complaining about signing a travel voucher, or completing some mundane training, all they have to do is walk across the street, read that plaque, and think about LeRoy," Clark said. "Reflect on why you decided to serve. When you think you've got it bad, remember Sept. 11 and LeRoy's family."

This article is Part 2 of a 3-Part series, Snapshots of Service

SPOTLIGHT



Staff Sgt. Darrell Sydnor

Rank/Name: 1st Lt. Travis Egger

Unit: 89th Airlift Squadron

Duty Title: C-17 Globemaster III pilot

Hometown: Dayton, Ohio

Education: Bachelor of Science in geography from Wright State University

Hobbies: Disc golf, orienteering, flying, traveling, hiking

Career Goal: To become an aircraft commander

What you like about working at the 445th?: I like that the wing gives people from within the opportunity to advance their career goals while staying in the 445th.

Why did you join the Air Force?: I joined right out of high school as a way to help pay for college, give back to my country and fly.

Buckeye Flyer

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FM tip of the month – DTS updates

Software changes were made to the Defense Travel System (DTS) Jan. 23 – April 29, 2019.

Travelers will notice terminology changes to the expense entries in the DTS authorization and voucher screens. The DTS Expense Module has been updated to reflect clearer labels for reimbursable expense categories. This refresh will also include more categories and the removal of items not authorized in the Joint Travel Regulations. These changes eliminated irrelevant Pre-Audit Flags related to those JTR instructions.

DTS has more than 50 selectable expense items, which are allowable. Personnel completing the authorization prior to the departure of their TDY will also see an increase in some of the expense thresholds, which will mean less Pre-Audit justification for

costs that have risen in certain localities. Each expense category now has thresholds (cost limits, not to exceed). All of this will lead to less processing time for the traveler.

Some of the new expense titles include: Baggage – First Check Bag, Lodging Early Check-In Fee and Lodging Late Check-Out Fee, to name a few. Better descriptions for Rental Cars, formerly called, “Commercial Auto- TDY” is now, “Rental Car – At TDY Area.” The titles are sorted accordingly, in six main categories: International Travel Expenses, Lodging



Expenses, Mileage Expenses, Other Expenses, Ticketed Expenses and Transportation Expenses.

For full details of all the DTS document types, please refer to the DTA Manual, Appendix K at https://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/Docs/Training/DTA_App_K.pdf



445th announces 1st quarter CY 2019 award winners

Amn



Senior Airman Paula Dennis, 445th Security Forces Squadron, fire team member, is the 445th Airlift Wing Airman of the quarter. Dennis fortified Allied Forces Central Europe's busiest aerial port of debarkation, safeguarding more than 51,000 personnel, more than 14,000 tons of cargo and 923 aircraft. In support of Operation Inherent Resolve, she searched 7,048 vehicles, 7,765 other country nationals, seized five contraband items, and secured 587 assigned personnel. Additionally, the Airman safeguarded 910 cargo movements, established an Internal Security Response Team for shipping more than \$6 million in cargo and the Airman supported operations in her area of responsibility. Dennis is pursuing a Community College of the Air Force degree in criminal justice. She devoted more than 60 hours to her deployed location's chapel services and organized \$10,000 in donations, improving the lives of base residents.

NCO



Tech. Sgt. Christian Delacruz, 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, aeromedical evacuation technician, is the 445th Airlift Wing NCO of the quarter. Delacruz is a qualified upgrade flyer who has flown in 84 sorties for a total of more than 200 hours. He was a vital AE crew member for the Patriot Warrior exercise where he teamed up with 7,000 participants from the United States and United Kingdom on a critical care team, flying eight missions and transporting 320 patients. He was selected as the AE technician to fly in two stateside missions and supported transport for 14 patients to a higher echelon of care. Delacruz maintained his squadron's informational technology inventory of more than 200 pieces of equipment and facilitated the transition to Windows 10 with a transition rate of 100 percent. The NCO also supported the Cincinnati/Akron Air Show showcasing AES's capabilities to more than 90,000 attendees.

SNCO



Senior Master Sgt. Gregory Rose, 445th Logistics Readiness Squadron, vehicle maintenance flight chief, is the 445th Airlift Wing Senior NCO of the quarter. Rose managed his deployed unit's vehicle fleet comprised of 806 vehicles and valued at \$106 million. He supported logistics for 8,000 missions and the delivery of 46,000 tons of cargo. He reconditioned 15 assets and safeguarded 39 equipment items worth \$600,000. Rose was selected for the honor guard and played Taps during a 9/11 memorial ceremony, honoring fallen heroes and was lauded by the Air Expeditionary Wing commander. He helped ease the vehicle management manpower shortage while boosting the 227th Aviation Regiments maintenance capability by 75 percent. He cemented the development of a scheduled maintenance program, identifying and resolving a mileage data discrepancy thus garnering a 91 percent mission capable rate, thus awarded, "Team of the Month."

CGO



Capt. Casey Cajalne, 445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron clinical nurse, is the 445th Airlift Wing Company Grade Officer of the quarter. Cajalne is identified as an En-Route Patient Staging System expert and was selected to brief aeromedical evacuation patient care concepts. While deployed, Cajalne was the officer-in-charge of referral management where she coordinated 264 referral appointments with five host nation hospitals, saving the Air Force more than \$2 million. She was selected as the sole trainer for the expeditionary medical group mass casualty ex triage training event, training 111 members in battlefield medical operations. She participates in base-wide Halloween events, serving military and their families including 144 visits and raised \$720 for the force support squadron booster club. She joined her deployed base's Asian-Pacific Cultural Club and was voted treasurer and worked to expand cultural awareness.



87 APS participates in Port Dawg Challenge

By 2nd Lt. Rachel N. Ingram
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Like other 445th Airlift Wing units, the 87th Aerial Port Squadron must ensure its members meet rigorous job-related training requirements. The training task lists can be daunting, so squadron leadership created a semi-annual, all-hands event known as “The Port Dawg Challenge.”

During the May unit training assembly, more than 130 members of the squadron gathered in friendly competition.

“Training like this helps us become better, more experienced aerial porters,” said Tech. Sgt. Aaron Fisher, load planning craftsman. “We often train within our individual duty sections, but this round-robin style of training gives us the opportunity to hone our skills in other areas of the career field.”

The 10 teams of Airmen competed in nine events, culminating in more than 1,000 training tasks achieved in a single day, explained Senior Master Sgt. Robert Rowe.

“Many of the skills incorporated in the events carry over from different duties within our career field. These are critical skills for mission readiness, and practicing even one skill helps us perform better on other tasks when we are out working real-world missions,” Fisher said.

Challenges like this also help newer Airmen learn

how to accomplish mission-essential tasks as a team. Earlier this year, six Airmen from the 87th competed in an Air Force-wide competition for Aerial Porters which incorporated leadership from Air Mobility Command and Air Force Reserve Command.

“We travelled to Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Georgia, to compete against 26 other teams from across all components of the Air Force, and even a Royal Air Force team,” said Master Sgt. Jon Webber, senior non-commissioned officer of load planning and team chief for the competition.

The 87th’s team this year was made up of first-year competitors.

“We placed first in several individual components of the challenge, and earned fifth place overall, behind three returning champions and an active duty team,” Webber said. “In the end, we had the opportunity to excel at our jobs in front of AFRC and represent the 445th Airlift Wing well.”

Although the challenges are designed to be fun and build teamwork, they also hold significant training value for new and experienced Airmen alike.

“When we compete against teams from other bases, we have the chance to learn the best practices across the Air Force and further enhance the quality of the training we’re doing here at home station,” Fisher said.



2nd Lt. Rachel Ingram



Senior Airman Amelia Burnett

(left) Tech. Sgt. Matthew Foster, 87th Aerial Port Squadron load planning specialist, hands chains to Tech. Sgt. David Richards, 87th APS load planning specialist, during a timed chain drag competition at the 87th APS Port Dawg Challenge, May 5, 2019.

(right) Members of the 87th Aerial Port Squadron hang nets after the cargo build up competition during the Port Dawg Challenge, May 5, 2019.



Around the wing...



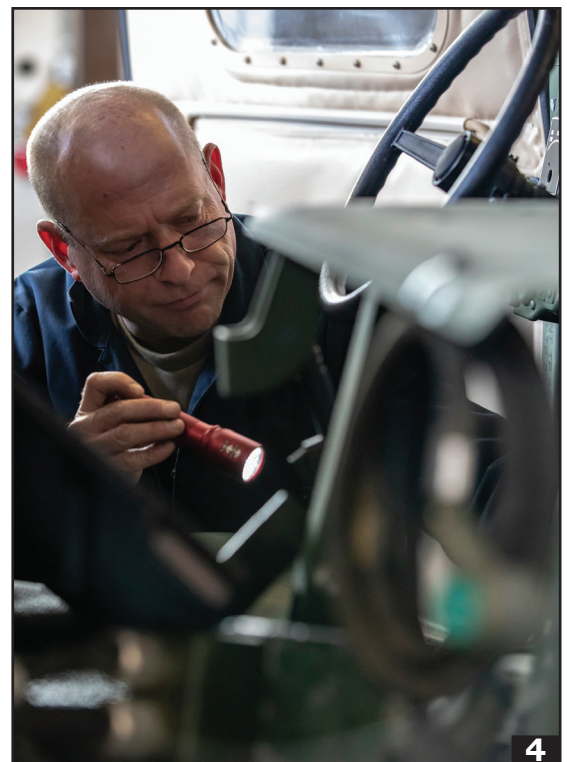
Courtesy photos



Courtesy photos



Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly



Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

1. and 2. Airmen from the 445th Civil Engineer Squadron participate in confined space rescue training during the May 5, 2019, unit training assembly. The training is designed to prepare CES firefighters to retrieve injured personnel who have become stuck in maintenance tunnels, access ways and similarly confined spaces.

3. Staff Sgt. Taylor Smith, 445th Logistics Readiness Squadron, operates a bus on a taxi run during her annual tour, May 16, 2019. Twenty-two LRS members travelled to Travis Air Force Base, Calif. to accomplish training and gain experience working at a new environment.

4. Tech. Sgt. John Stewart, 445th LRS, inspects a vehicle during his annual tour, May 13, 2019, at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.



Team Wright-Patt medical units train to save lives

By Staff Sergeant Darrell Sydnor
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Medical teams from the 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, 88th Medical Group and cadre from the 711 Human Performance Wing's U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine conducted aeromedical evacuation readiness training May 8, 2019.

The Total Force medical training came about as a result of an ongoing relationship between the 445 AES and U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, and the need for active-duty Critical Care Air Transport Team members to get hands on training in the air with an AES crew before being deployed.

Aeromedical evacuation teams consist of two flight nurses and three medical technicians.

The AE crew keeps patients stable while in flight after an evacuation. When patients require extra attention, a CCATT of a critical care physician, critical care nurse and a respiratory therapist augment the AE crew to provide intensive care unit type attention.

The active-duty members who make up CCATT work in hospitals and medical centers until they are called to deploy and come together as a CCATT. Since the AE crew and CCATT only work together when they deploy, it is essential that they train together to enhance the care of injured personnel, said Lt. Col. Todd Mulhorn, 445th AES director of operations.

"We don't want our crews to be that the first time they work with a CCATT to be in a combat environment. We want them to already have a good synergy," Mulhorn.

The CCATT could come from any base and typically don't train with AE units until they deploy together.

"You don't want that to be the first time they've been on a mission," said Mulhorn. "And this is their opportunity to understand what we do, this is also our opportunity to figure out what's important to CCATT."

The coordination for these particular flights started December

other exercises and they're well above and higher functioning when they interface with CCATT crews because they know, because they get this exposure and the fidelity of actually working with them," said Sorensen.

Seeing the training pay off in an exercise isn't the goal of this said Mulhorn, its saving lives. "The benefit is downrange, the training helps them move through the theater much more efficiently, and ultimately the person that most gains from it is the injured warfighter that we're moving."

Sorensen echoed Mulhorn's sentiment, expressing the major impact this training will have.

"I think that this, brings our heroes home," said Sorensen. "It enables the warfighter because we are ready. This is readiness. These guys are doing and practicing the mission that they're supposed to do when they go into the deployed environment and they get to go over it again and again and work out all the kinks, and so I would believe when they show up down range they are a game changer and a force multiplier because they already have this breadth of experience with them."

Both Mulhorn and Sorensen say that to the best of their knowledge, the active duty CCATT deploying out of Wright-Patterson AFB are the only teams getting to train in flight especially in a total force environment.

Forging a training program that has the potential to become a requirement for all AE and CCATT crews prior to deployment improves the U.S. aeromedical evacuation capability even further and increases the chances of survival for the injured warfighters, said Sorensen.



Staff Sgt. Darrell Sydnor

Lt. Col. Derek Sorensen, (standing far right) U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine medical director for en route care training, evaluates a 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron crew during an AE readiness flight, May 8, 2019.

2017 with a proof of concept flight. At least once a month the reserve AE crew is joined by the active duty CCATT to train in the air for a total force aeromedical evacuation exposition. Lt. Col. Derek Sorensen, medical director for the En Route Care Training Department at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine under the 711 Human Performance Wing and the coordinator for these joint aeromedical evacuation readiness flights has already seen a visible difference.

"They are getting consistent at least once a month training, and I've seen their crews show up at



News Briefs

Commander's Call

Mandatory commander's call will be held June 2 in Hangar 4026.

To accommodate all wing members, two sessions will be held. Airmen assigned to the wing staff, maintenance group and operations group will attend the 8 a.m. session. Airmen assigned to the mission support group, aerospace medicine squadron and aeromedical staging squadron will attend at 10 a.m. Airmen are asked to be in their seats no later than 15 minutes prior to the start time.

Newcomers

CMSgt Kylee Engel, LRS
TSgt Douglas Palmer,

445 CES
SSgt Tyler Cupp, SFS
SSgt Scott Delinger, ASTS
SrA Logan Helle, MXS
AIC Aaron Artrip, CES
A1C Nathan Boyer, AES
A1C Sharnita Lloyd, AMDS
A1C Donald Ledman MXG
A1C Krista Tungett, SFS
A1C Austin Wolcott, MXS
A1C Erin Zimpfer, AW

Promotions

Master Sergeant
George Goff, MXS
Russell Smith, Jr., MXS
Cindy Valenzuela, OSS

Technical Sergeant
Nathan Jones, AMXS
Meagan Mason, MXG
Tyler Turner, CES

Staff Sergeant
Tenikwa Fischer, MSG

Ryan Hood, 87 APS
Barrett Lowry, MXS
Charles Swaim, MXS
Brandon Wallace, AMXS

Senior Airman

Jacob Dorsey, MXS
Joel Hale, AMXS
Benjamin Maxfield, CES
Allyson Messenger, MSG
Anthony Miller, MXS
Trey Naber, AES
Jeanette Salgado, ASTS
Brooke Thornton, MXS

Airman First Class

Chukwudi Anekwe, MSG
Erica Jozwiak, MXS
Andrew Ruesga, AES
Jonathan Strunk, LRS
Naomi Thomas, LRS
Artiese Williams, ASTS

Airman

Andrew Blanton, CES
Alyssa Flynn, AW
Alexandra Frantz, CES
Bradley Holcomb, AES
Ryan McCarty, SFS
Austin Millay, CES

Retirements

June 2019

SMSgt Craig Essert, 89 AS
MSgt Michael Dill, FSS
MSgt Cynthia Holland, OG
TSgt Christopher Rapp, FSS
TSgt Steven Todd, MXS

Awards

Air Force Meritorious Service Medal

Lt Col William Gorczynski, 89 AS
Maj Lucas Marksity, AW

Air Force Commendation Medal
TSgt Melisa Lucio, LRS

Air Force Achievement Medal
SSgt Justin Van Niman, SFS

ARPC announces CY 19 major promotions

Headquarters Air Reserve Personnel Center officials announced May 23, 2019 the Air Reserve Component promotions to major.

There were 955 officers selected for promotion to major. The complete list is available on myPers and the ARPC website.

Thirty-four members of the 445th Airlift Wing and 655th Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Wing were selected.

445th AW selectees:

Cletus Schafrath, 87th Aerial Port Squadron; Ryan Armstrong, Emily Nankivell and Jeffrey Guillotte, 89th Airlift Squadron; John Battista, Mark Storre and Dennis Youngpetter, 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron; Edward Brouch, 445th Civil Engineer Squadron; Jeremiah Brown, 445th Operations Support Squadron; Sabrina Deangelo and Dietra Watson, 445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron; Kyle Wylde, 445th Aerospace Medicine Squadron; Sonny Hernandez, William Jenney and

Luke McKeeth, 445th Airlift Wing; Beth Shuler, 445th Force Support Squadron; and Tyler Overholt, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

655th ISWR selectees:

Ryan Decosimo, Brian Hunt and Erin Issler, 14th Intelligence Squadron; Lisa Faulkner and Emilee Philippi, 16th Intelligence Squadron; John Rader, 23rd Intelligence Squadron; Allison Chamberlin and Adam Decker, 28th Intelligence Squadron; Lee Hanan, 38th Intelligence Squadron; Daniel McConnell, 42nd Intelligence Squadron; Cuinn Duchesne Gibbs Morgen, 50th Intelligence Squadron; Michael Smith, 64th Intelligence Squadron; Jason McDowell, 71st Intelligence Squadron; Robert Hamburger and Matthew Kennedy, 512th Intelligence Squadron; Hannah Johnson, 718th Intelligence Squadron; and Frank Blader, 820th Intelligence Squadron

For more information, call the Total Force Service Center at DSN 665-0102 or 210-565-0102.



MXG Airmen keep C-17s flying



Photos by Master Sgt. Patrick O'Reilly

(left) Staff Sgt. Brian Wylie, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, repairs a tire on a C-17 Globemaster III, May 5, 2019. (center) Tech. Sgt. Jeremie Jamito, and Senior Airman Nuren Subair, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, works on a C-17 Globemaster III, May 5, 2019. (right) Staff Sgt. Matthew Card, 445th Maintenance Squadron, inspects the inlet of an engine on a C-17 Globemaster III, May 5, 2019

On the Web



Brig. Gen. Anne B. Gunter visits wing



445th Airmen attend Armed Forces Day Luncheon



AMDS conducts blood drive

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