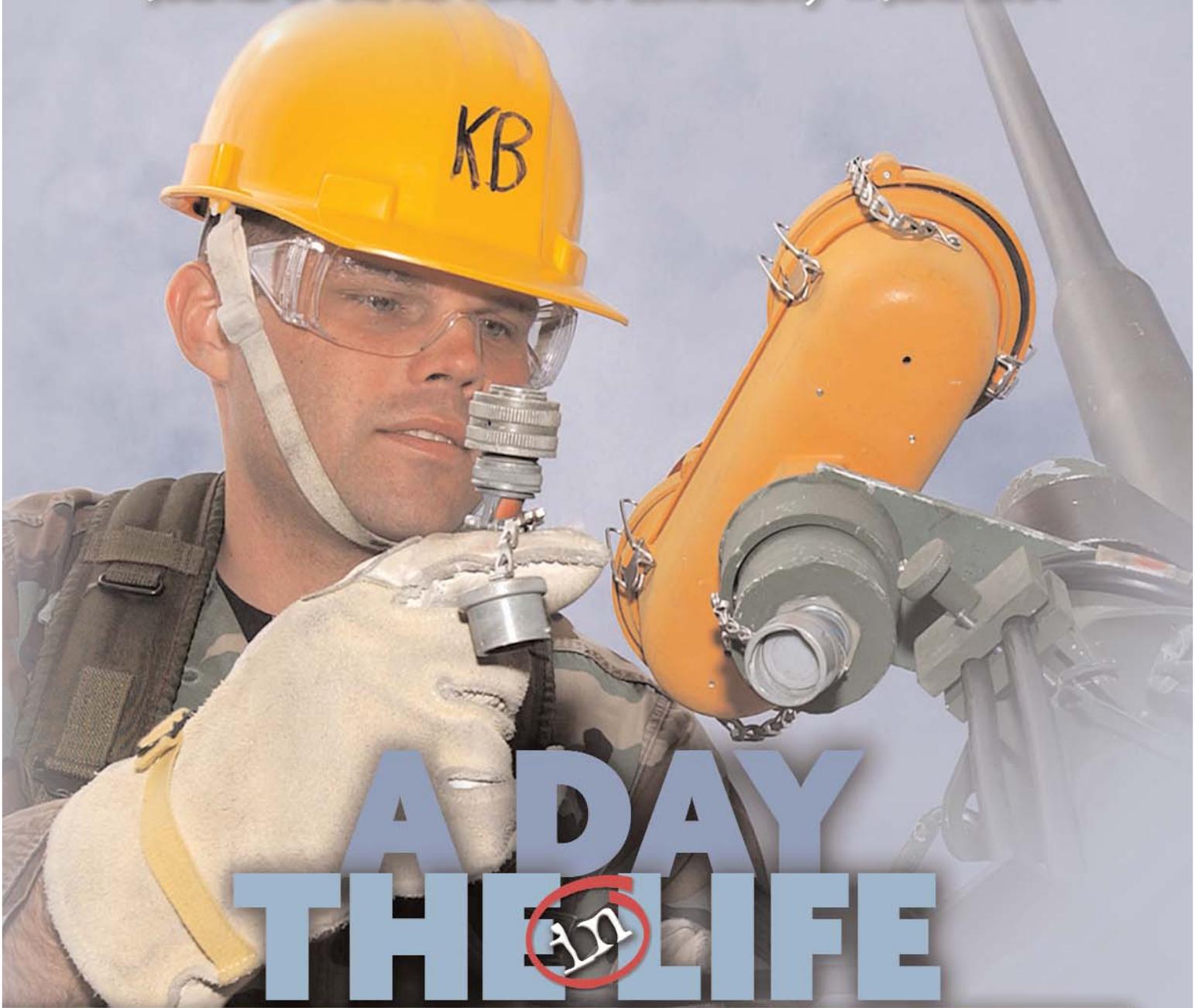


# intercom

Journal of the Air Force C4 community ☆ June 2004



## A DAY THE LIFE

- ▶▶ Back to basics: Ops rigor and discipline
- ▶▶ A comm snapshot in time
- ▶▶ Compass Call: Crew details OIF mission
- ▶▶ Ice mail

# intercom



**4** **From the Top:** PACAF discusses Ops rigor and discipline and a back to basics approach to comm  
*Col. Gregory Brundidge*



**6** **A Day in the Life:** Snapshots and stories from around the Air Force



**26** **Civilian Labor Relations Draft due in November**  
*K.L. Vantran*



This month's cover, themed "A Day in the Life" is designed by Tech. Sgt. Jim Verchio, Intercom Editor.

- 4 **From the Top:** Back to basics  
*Col. Gregory Brundidge*
- 6 **A Day in the Life:** A comm snapshot in time from March 12  
*Submissions from around the Air Force*
- 18 **Ice mail**  
*Submitted by PACAF/SC*
- 20 **Dynamic Network Analysis:** DNA team moving forward, breaking barriers  
*1st Lt. John Picklesimer*
- 21 **Compass Call:** Crew details mission, OIF success stories  
*Senior Master Sgt. Rick Burnham*
- 22 **Communications transformation**  
*Master Sgt. Jeff Szczechowski*
- 24 **Then & Now:** Chief Master Sgt. Laurence 'Pat' Patrick  
*Mr. Don Gasper*
- 25 **Time Machine:** A solid foundation: Hall of Fame hails comm, info legends  
*Mr. Gerald Sonnenberg*

- 26 **Civilian Focus:** Civilian changes: Labor relations draft due in November  
*K.L. Vantran*  
**News Briefs:** Reservations needed, High standards remain; Cyber Ed office; Working hard; 2 for 2; Valuable resource; UAV contract; Remembering; TSP open season
- 30 **Techno Gizmo:** Wearable computers  
*Air Force Print News*



**20** **Dynamic Network Analysis helps put bombs on target**  
*1st Lt. John Picklesimer*

THE JOURNAL OF THE AIR FORCE C4 COMMUNITY

**Gen. John P. Jumper**  
Air Force Chief of Staff

**Lt. Gen. Tom Hobbins**  
Deputy Chief of Staff for Warfighting Integration

**Lt. Gen. Ronald E. Keys**  
Deputy Chief of Staff for Air and Space Operations

**Lt. Gen. Donald J. Wetekam**  
Deputy Chief of Staff for Installations and Logistics

**Maj. Gen. Charles E. Croom Jr.**  
Director of C4ISR Infrastructure DCS for Warfighting Integration

**Brig. Gen. (sel) Ronnie Hawkins**  
Director of Communications Operations

EDITORIAL STAFF

**Col. David J. Kovach**  
Commander, Air Force Communications Agency

**Lori Manske**  
AFCA Chief of Public Affairs

**Master Sgt. Karen Pettit**  
Managing Editor

**Tech. Sgt. Jim Verchio**  
Editor

This funded Air Force magazine, published by Helmer Printing, N. 6402 790th St., Beldenville, Wis., 54003, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the intercom are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the public affairs office of the Air Force Communications Agency.

**Submitting to the intercom**

Stories should be in Microsoft Word format and should be no longer than 600 words. Photographs should be at least 5x7 in size and 300 dpi. Submit stories via e-mail to [intercom@scott.af.mil](mailto:intercom@scott.af.mil).

**Subscription requests**

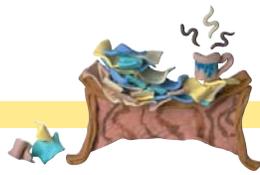
E-mail all mailing requests or address changes to [intercom@scott.af.mil](mailto:intercom@scott.af.mil).

**Comments to the staff**

Comments, and letters to the editor, may be e-mailed or sent via the postal service to AFCA/PA, intercom, 203 W. Losey St., Room 1200, Scott AFB, IL 62225-5222.



<http://usaf.smartforce.com>



## Don't forget this is your intercom

By Tech. Sgt. Jim Verchio  
Intercom Editor

As I'm preparing to bring this issue to press, our Managing Editor, Master Sgt. Karen Pettitt, is on her way to the front lines of Operation Iraqi Freedom. I'm really looking forward to the stories she'll send to us from the front. To that point, comm folks continue to make a difference every day, and I would be remiss if I didn't continue to solicit your stories and images from around the globe. This issue was very fun to put together because you were able to capture a day in time. This *intercom* illustrates that no matter the task, comm is poised to answer this nation's call for freedom. From

Afghanistan and Iraq to



## Letter to the editor

### Cover image

I thought that the cover image of the May 2004 *intercom* was pretty lame — it didn't feature really anything to do with the Air Force or Air Force Comm (a baseball with some techie words is a pretty thin connection to comm). Please consider highlighting our comm professionals, GIs and civilians alike, who are making these "All Star C&I concepts" happen day-in-and-day-out. If nothing else, pick an image that has something more to do with our trade than just a baseball. Please consider featuring Air Force people and real Comm "stuff" on the cover of your publication in the future.

Otherwise, you folks do a fantastic job. Keep up the good work.

—Capt. Fred Reynolds  
Andrews AFB, Md.

Thanks for your feedback. If you look at the *intercom* since June 03,

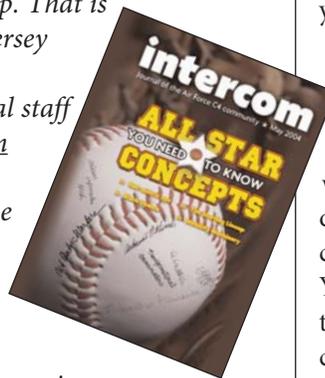
Germany and Japan, comm troops continue to do more with less. It's gratifying to be part of a team that is no stranger to mission success. What's even more satisfying is that I'm able to take those stories and share them with the rest of our readership.

When you're running fiber optic cable in the desert, take out your camera and take some pictures. When you're taking an intra-theater airlift to the fifth location in 30 days, take out a notebook or a laptop and write down your thoughts about the trip and how your team completed the job.

Remember, as important as the job are the people behind the scenes. This is your magazine, and it's your venue to recognize the men and women who refuse to let adversity stand in the way.

*you'll see that we always do covers this way. When we theme an issue, our cover art is used to carry that theme throughout the magazine. In this case, when people think of "All Star"... thoughts of sports are probably conjured up. That is also why the jersey typography.*

*The editorial staff of the intercom spends a great amount of time doing research into industry standards and the things that make a magazine a success — not just military magazines, but commercial magazines as well. We try our best to think out of the box, and bring to the reader a publication that's not only informative, but entertaining as well.*



JAG  
in a Box

Fritz Mihelcic  
AFCA Deputy  
Chief Counsel



## I want my IPTV

**We have Internet Protocol Television (IPTV) capability and broadcast CNN to our commander's computer. Can we send that broadcast to everyone's computer in our squadron?**

Once again, the issue of capability versus legality comes into play.

If you only have the license to broadcast CNN to one computer, then you can't re-broadcast to all the computers you own. Further, you must have additional licenses to use the software to get that broadcast to other computers.

Broadcasts are usually copyrighted and you generally pay a license fee to re-broadcast them. You may use only what you buy; there are no freebies in the copyright field. If you send the broadcast to more locations than covered by the license, you have bought yourself trouble.

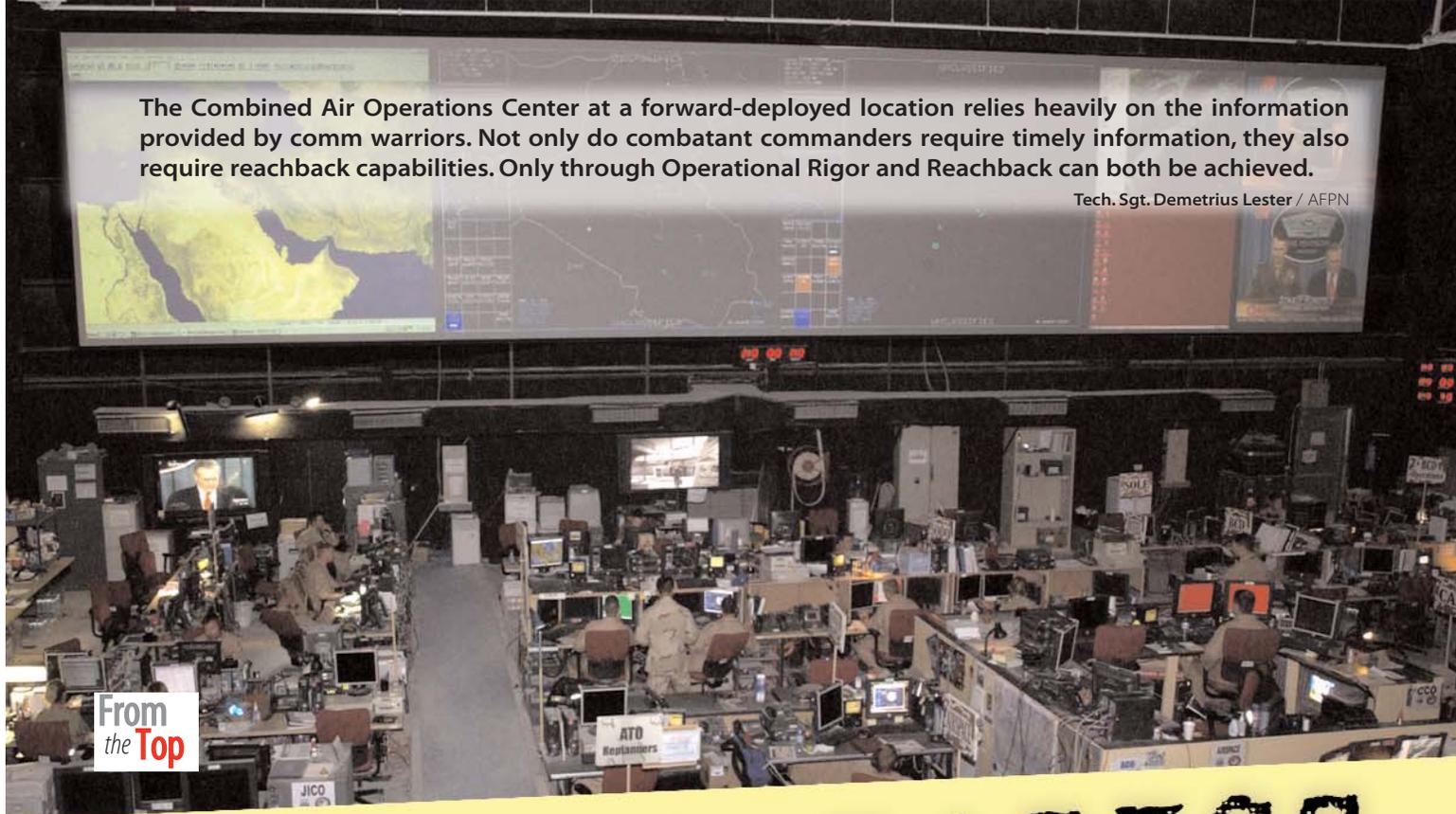
Likewise, there are licensing costs for the software you use. If you buy a single user license, you can't let others use your software on their machines. It is no different than buying a single use copy of a word processing product. You can't legally load it on additional machines. Bottom line: You can only broadcast to the extent of your copyright and software user licenses. Know your limits and follow them.

Send in your question to:

AFCA-JA@scott.af.mil  
or call DSN: 779-6060

The Combined Air Operations Center at a forward-deployed location relies heavily on the information provided by comm warriors. Not only do combatant commanders require timely information, they also require reachback capabilities. Only through Operational Rigor and Reachback can both be achieved.

Tech. Sgt. Demetrius Lester / AFPN



# BACK TO BASICS

For PACAF, 'Operational Rigor and Discipline' is not just a catch phrase. It is a new mindset that elevates our thinking, a framework that optimizes the use of the means, and concept that ensures the right methods for flying our network weapons system for the warfighter.

**By Col. Gregory Brundidge**  
PACAF Director of Communications and Information

**HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii** — The new sight picture for PACAF Network Operations is called "Ops Rigor and Discipline" and it constitutes a change in mindset. This back-to-basics approach is quickly gaining momentum and provides the bedrock for not only theater network operations but ultimately for all theater operations. "Ops Rigor and Discipline" is a simple concept but not so simple to implement.

A Global Hawk Unmanned Aerial Vehicle pierces the dark sky near the battlefield collecting valuable information.

Live video feeds instantly appear on operator consoles 2,000 miles away, are reviewed by local analysts, intelligence is sent to the Air Operations Center and used for mission planning. The find, fix, track, target, engage, assess kill chain has begun and critical command and control is required every step of the way.

The combatant commanders require not only accurate and timely information but also tremendous reachback capabilities. Decision cycles will soon be measured in single digit minutes to achieve battlefield effects against time sensitive targets. Warfighters should focus on "the art of command" and the communicators should handle the flow of information and make the data they deliver as

transparent as possible.

PACAF's Area of Responsibility extends from Alaska through Hawaii to the U.S. territory of Guam and Diego Garcia. As Gen. William Begert, PACAF/CC, often says, "While 70 percent of the AOR is covered by water, all of it is covered by air and space and all of it requires assured command and control capabilities." Daily, the PACAF enterprise network delivers just that.

Imagine a weapons system operating 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, never lands, operates in an AOR covering more than half of the earth, undergoes constant hardware and software upgrades and every other weapon system in the theater depends on it. This challenge accurately describes the critical command and control provided by the PACAF enterprise network. The warfighters at the tip of the spear depend on guaranteed voice, video and data for mission success. Surveillance, reconnaissance, mission planning, operations and battle damage assessment all require connectivity. That connectivity must be available, reliable, secure and assured whenever and wherever required.

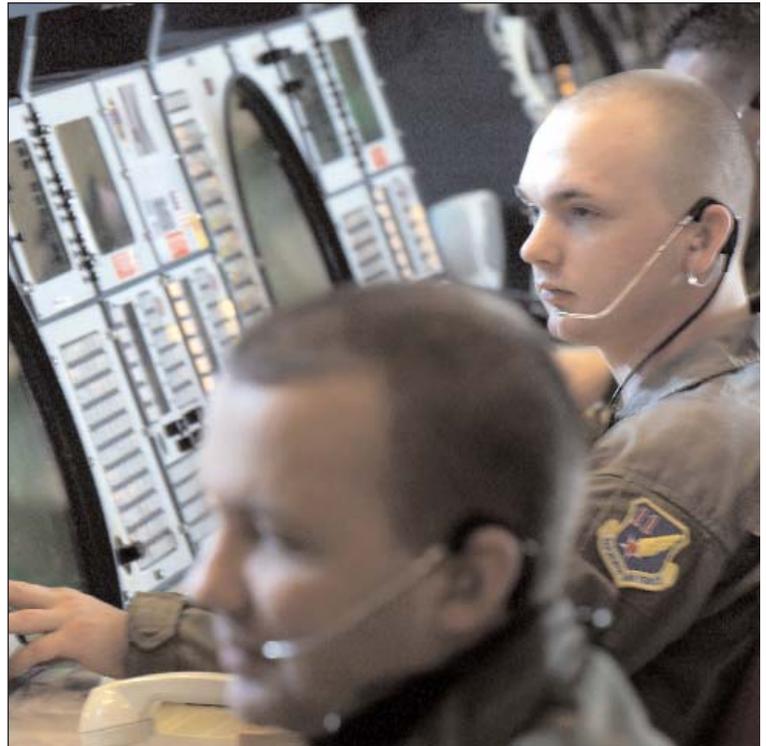
In July 2003, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, Gen. John Jumper said, "The day is coming when prompt global strike will be a reality, when the kill chain will be reliably and consistently compressed to minutes instead of hours or days, and when the sum of all our sensor, command and control, and information capabilities will be a cursor on the target and steel on the enemy. Our technology, conceived in the minds of innovative Airmen to answer warfighting needs, born and nurtured in our laboratories, guided and shaped by concepts of operations, refined in our battlelabs and joint exercises, and forged into revolutionary capabilities by our product and logistics centers, has given us unprecedented ability to achieve that dominance on the battlefield."

Communications for communications sake is pointless. It is a means—a means to achieve successful mission operations. It is a critical enabler providing the "how" for warfighters to globally command and control forces toward a military objective.

Network operations must be considered a science, and we must all strive to standardize our approaches. We must transform the way we conduct our business processes, tools, training, checklists, operations and maintenance.

If we consider the network to be a weapons system, then good Operational Rigor and Discipline clearly is critical to successful network operations. If we are to model our enterprise processes after operational processes, then the network must be monitored, managed and maneuvered. This begins with establishing a mindset where we equate net ops to core mission processes such as missile ops or maintenance where using checklists is the standard rather than the exception.

Those standards enable us to produce improved policies, enterprise infrastructures and core systems across the AOR. Additionally, they would permeate each layer of the Global



Master Sgt. Scott Wagers / AFPN

**Airman 1st Class Melvin Casler, a tracking technician with the 611th Air Control Squadron at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, helps monitor 1.3 million miles of PACAF airspace as part of Operation Noble Eagle.**

Information Grid construct, and establish a foundation for taking the next steps forward. With that vision in mind, we must take the next step and ensure the means are available to execute that mindset. We equate means not only to systems but also to tools, abilities, skill sets, training certification, and evaluation so our professionals work from a position of knowledge rather than guesswork. Training needs to be based on our environment, policies and procedures, preventing us from falling into the typical problem of training to the tool on hand.

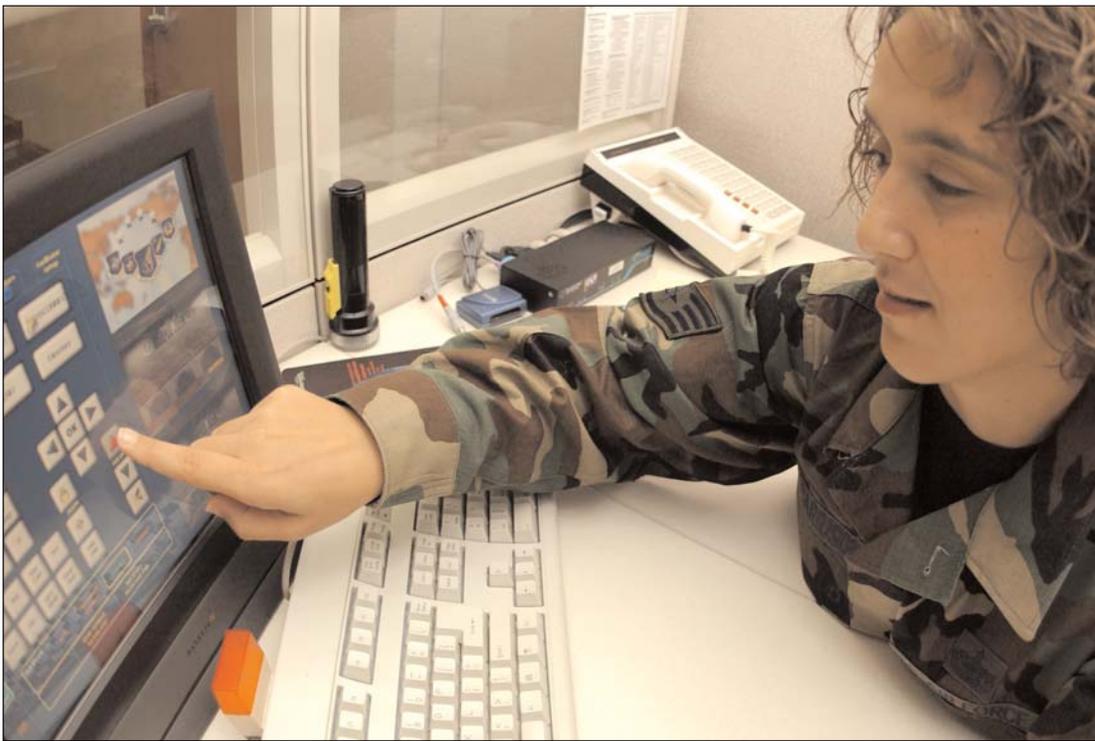
Training should ensure we are able to affect knowledge transfer and understanding—something we can get only from hands-on experience and certification. In the end, we should work toward an environment where we have trained and certified personnel flying the network on a daily basis. Lastly, we should aggressively and systematically ensure the correct methods are in place to capture and document lessons learned as they emerge. These evolve into new TTPs and must stay updated to accommodate our new processes so we can replicate success as an Air Force.

Like any other large organization, we purchase services from a diverse group of vendors. The challenge, of course, is figuring out how to integrate those disparate services into a framework that provides the right information to warfighters at the right time. Disciplined configuration control is crucial.

# A DAY THE LIFE

You can be at the wing comm shop or on the front lines fighting the Global War on Terror. When we decided to theme June's *intercom*, "A Day in the Life," we knew we'd get some extraordinary submissions. The following pages are snapshots in time from March 12, illustrating that when the bell goes off, comm is ready to answer the call to duty.





◀ Staff Sgt. Jamie McCarrison of the 15th Comm Squadron operates the controls of the Video Teleconferencing unit at Hickam.

Michael Dey / 15th CS



Michael Dey / 15th CS



Michael Dey / 15th CS

▲ Members of Hickam's 15th Comm Squadron Network Communications Center relax for a moment while they keep Hickam's network running.

◀ Master Sgt. Cody Vance of the 15th Comm Squadron at Hickam AFB, Hawaii, works on an illustration he created for the Air Force.

► **Tech. Sgt. Lester Sjoblom**, 119th Communications Flight graphic artist, prepares to scan a photo in the 119th Fighter Wing multimedia center, Fargo, N.D.

Senior Master Sgt. David Lipp / 119th FW



## Datebook Entry

**DAVIS MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz.** — On Friday, March 12, the 612th Air Communications Squadron was deeply involved in two major contingency operations.

Fifty-five ACOMS personnel were just completing their first full week at the Al Udeid CAOC in Qatar, part of a 150-member team from 12th Air Force, the first Numbered Air Force tasked to substantially man the Al Udeid CAOC under the AEF construct. At the same time, 40 additional ACOMS personnel were completing the palletization and marshalling of pallets, CAD bins, and rolling stock for deployment to Operation Secure Tomorrow in Haiti.

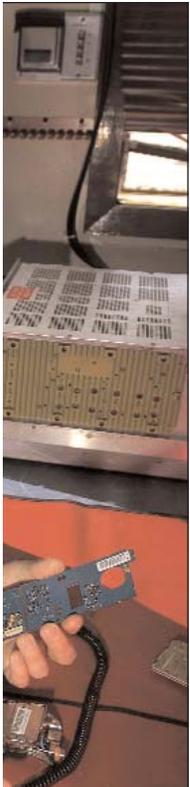
During the day, all 40 personnel processed through the Personnel Readiness Unit in preparation for departure within 72 hours. Four personnel and 3,500 pounds of equipment departed within 24 hours to support the first Joint Personnel Recovery Center in Haiti. Col. Wayne Scott, the unit's commander, assembled the entire squadron in the morning to brief on the mission in Haiti, the capabilities we were deploying and the dangerous and austere conditions these personnel would face. Much of this information was based on input from the first squadron member to deploy to Haiti with the ADVON team. He was in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, living under camo netting and performing a site survey to design the communications architecture for the first deployment of an Air Component Coordination Element to a location with no existing communications infrastructure.

**2nd Lt. Daniel Peden**

612th Air Communications Squadron



Staff Sgt. An



Staff Sgt. Andrew Rodier / 35th CS

▲ Senior Airman Justin Hudson from the 35th Communications Squadron at Misawa AB, Japan, performs a resistance check on the TRC-187 Time Of Day Transmitter. The transmitter provides the time base for anti-jam operation of Have Quick radio sets.

◀ Staff Sgt. John Lontoc a ground radio journeyman at Misawa AB, installs an Advanced Encryption Standard chip into the XTS-5000 handheld radio.

Andrew Rodier / 35th CS

## Datebook Entry

**RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany** — At 5:30 a.m., the shift changes at the Communications Control Center for the 435th Communications Group.

After a quick continuity briefing, the morning shift prepares for the onslaught of calls that usually hits by 8:30 a.m.

A common sight greets Northside Post Office personnel arriving at 6 a.m. Two semi-trailers filled with 36,000 pounds of mail to sort and deliver. With four hours before the post office opens, they have their work cut out for them.

Meanwhile, the telephone and cable maintenance shops of the 435th CS gather in their break rooms to assign the day's work requests.

At 8:30 a.m., the squadron commander briefs the group commander on the previous day's priority work requests, high-visibility outages and classified jobs. Combat Proud, a USAFE initiative to improve the appearance of our bases and strengthen the commitment to our professional military lifestyle, is part of the brief. Projects throughout all three squadrons involve removing unsightly antennas, satellite dishes, telephone cables and improving base appearance.

The post office opens to a large line of customers that doesn't let up until 5 p.m. when the last few people trickle in. Swamped with sorting mail, retrieving packages and working the front desk, postal employees hope to close the doors by 5:30 p.m.

The 'Red Switch,' handling senior-leader world-wide secure communications 24 hours daily, works 540 calls and will dispatch crews to five jobs for STU-III and STE maintenance today.

The Help Desk, tracking computer-related issues from keyboards to wall sockets for a network of nearly 19,000 computers, receives 800 e-mails and 60 phone calls every day.

Working out helps to ease stress before heading home, and some shops, like cable maintenance, hold physical training in the afternoons. Post Office personnel are going strong, with the end of the day in sight. All work centers keep pace getting various taskers submitted by their close-of-business suspenses.

The end of the duty day at 4:30 p.m. is not the end of the group's day. The Network Control Center is always open, providing network services, e-mail and message support, internet access and information protection for 18,000 accounts in the Kaiserslautern Military Community, including more than 100 associate and 14 geographically separated organizations.

The Ramstein Standard Tactical Entry Point site maintained by SATCOM provides communications ensuring the success of 17,600 combat sorties annually. They are responsible for a third of all reachback communications for Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom.

Whether providing long haul communications for warfighters, fixing computers or sorting mail, the 435th CG provides world-class C4 for one of the biggest, busiest and best air-lift and air base wings in the world.

**2nd Lt. Michael Jones**

435th Communications Squadron





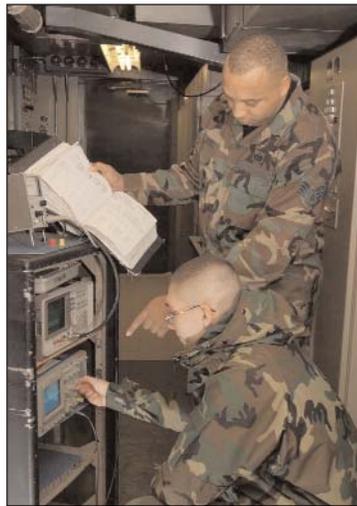
The 435th Communications Squadron, located at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, provides long haul communications to warfighters around the globe.

Courtesy photo

◀ Staff Sgt. Michael Wickersheim of the 435th CS's SATCOM shop drills in a grounding rod for an AN/TSC 100A package deployed to Ramstein. The base is under a \$6.5 million SATCOM modernization program in which tactical equipment was deployed to an in-garrison base to augment its reachback capability while the primary facility undergoes a major overhaul.



Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo

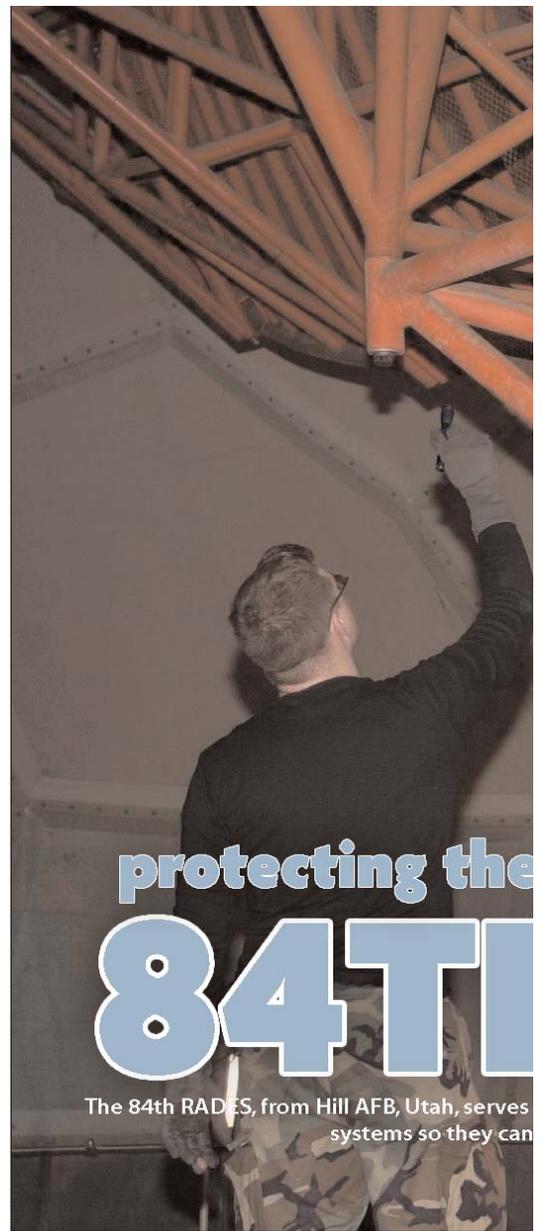
◀ Flight Systems troops, Staff Sgt. Antwane Scott and Airman 1st Class Brian Chandler check the video levels in the processor of the Airport Surveillance Radar at Ramstein AB, Germany.

◀ The mail room at Ramstein as it appears on any given day. The postal clerks average 36,000 pounds of inbound mail and 18,000 pounds of outbound mail daily.



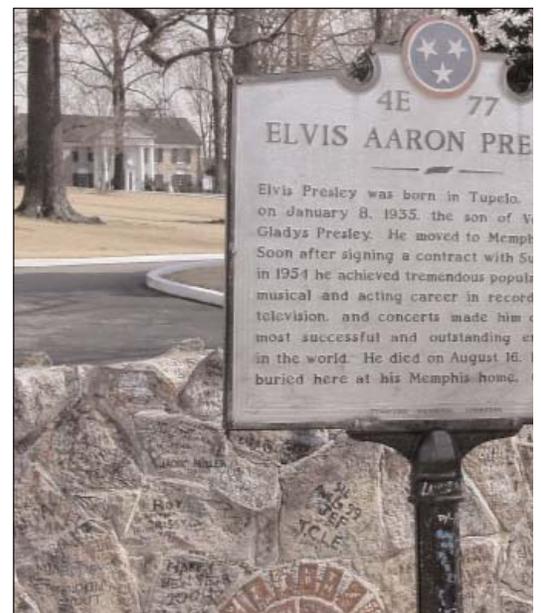
Darrell McFarland / 84th RADES

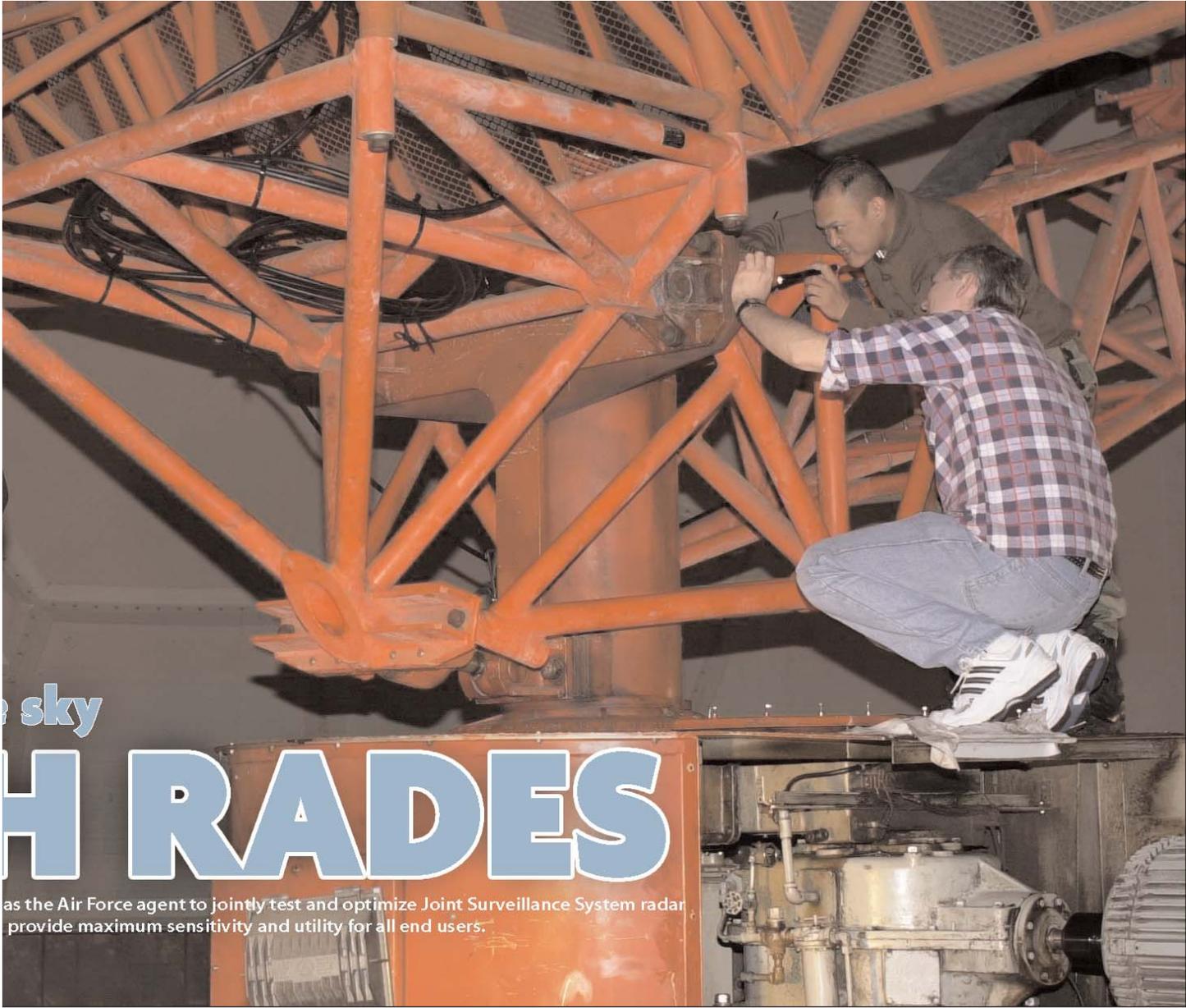
▲ Staff Sgt. Barry Erven, Tech. Sgt. Carl DeWitt and Mr. Jim Kildare, align a radar receiver on an Air Route Surveillance Radar.



# protecting the 84th

The 84th RADES, from Hill AFB, Utah, serves systems so they can



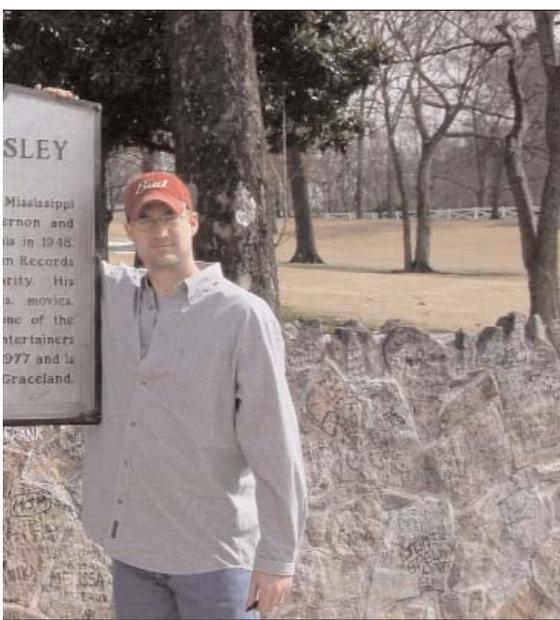


sky

# H RADES

as the Air Force agent to jointly test and optimize Joint Surveillance System radar, provide maximum sensitivity and utility for all end users.

Darrell McFarland / 84th RADES



Darrell McFarland / 84th RADES

▲ Left, Staff Sgt. Keith Downey and Tech. Sgt. Ed Cristobal, inspect an Air Route Surveillance Radar as part of the 84th Radar Evaluation Squadron's efforts to optimize 70 interior, long-range Federal Aviation Administration radars to meet Air Force requirements for detecting slow, low-flying threats.

◀ Staff Sgt. John Dixon, a technician with the 84th RADES, takes time away from the squadron's evaluation of the nearby Air Route Surveillance Radar to visit Graceland.

▶ Airman 1st Class Henry Cervantes, ground radar technician, 48th Communications Squadron, Royal Air Force Lakenheath, United Kingdom, function checks an oscilloscope for Precision Approach Radar.

Airman Jessica Struble / 48th CS



Tech. Sgt. Keith Brown / JCCC

▲ Airman 1st Class Ryan Andrews of Balad Air Base, Iraq's, Communications Squadron, moves sandbags down a human chain. The sandbagging is to re-enforce the protection around the sleeping quarters of Airmen at Balad Air Base, Iraq.

▶ Senior Airman Stephen Aun assists his team in setting up an AN/TSC-94A satellite antenna. Aun is assigned to the 240th Combat Communications Squadron of the South Carolina Air National Guard at McEntire Air National Guard Station.

Tech. Sgt. Marvin Preston / 169th CF





# MAIL CALL

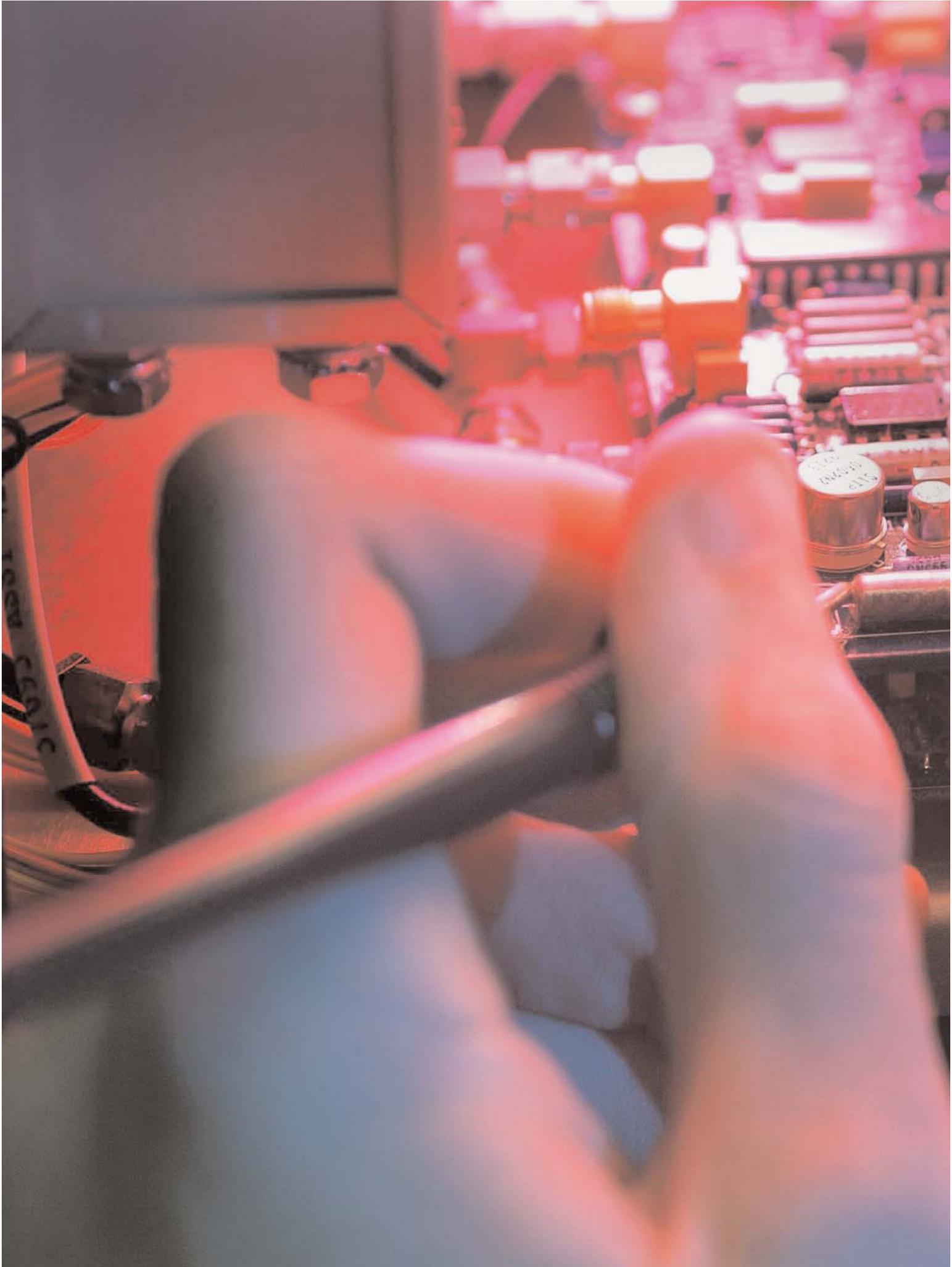
Tech. Sgt Chad Nixon marshals a commercial aircraft which is carrying mail for people deployed in Afghanistan. The aircraft and its crew deliver mail and food here six days a week.

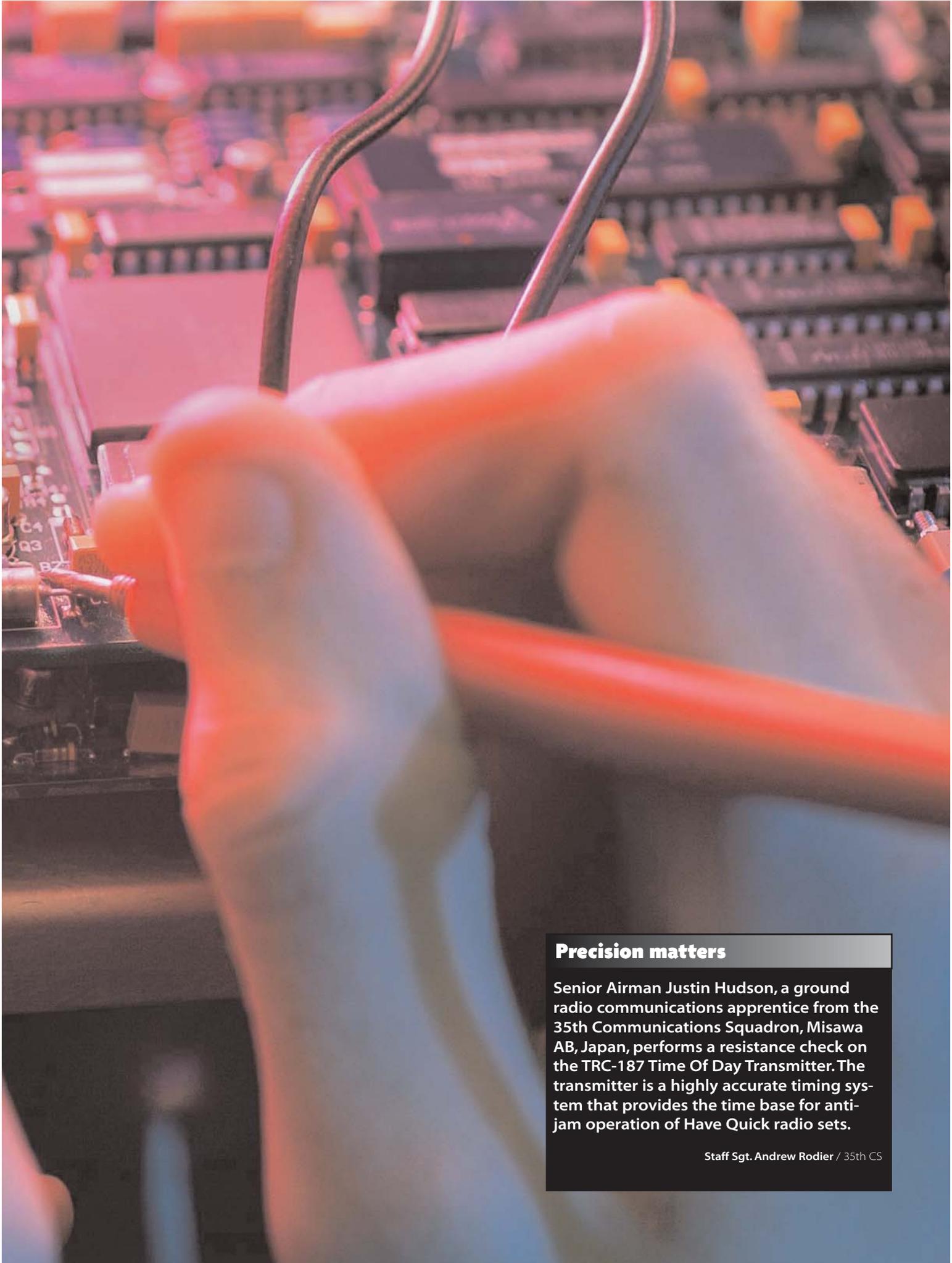
Master Sgt. Jeff Szczechowski / JCCC



◀ Senior Airmen Blayne Souza and Steven Carlock carry Airman 1st Class Erin Gilmore on a litter from the 8th Communications Squadron transport vehicle to the Hospital. Airman Gilmore acted as a heart attack victim. The 8th CS at Kunsan AB, Korea conducted SABC training as part of the base-wide exercise Beverly High.

Staff Sgt. Michael R. Holzworth / 8th CS





**Precision matters**

Senior Airman Justin Hudson, a ground radio communications apprentice from the 35th Communications Squadron, Misawa AB, Japan, performs a resistance check on the TRC-187 Time Of Day Transmitter. The transmitter is a highly accurate timing system that provides the time base for anti-jam operation of Have Quick radio sets.

Staff Sgt. Andrew Rodier / 35th CS



# ICE MAIL

Postal specialists deliver mail, supplies on the rocks



Rain, hail, sleet, or snow—the mail must go.

Though many have heard the saying before, the thought especially rings true when it comes to delivering mail to the continent of Antarctica.

McMurdo Air Station is the Antarctic base of operations for scientists performing research in a variety of fields. Delivering their mail is the job of postal workers from Pacific Air Forces Detachment 4.

These postal specialists support McMurdo Station from



October to February each year.

To insiders, Antarctica is affectionately known as “The Ice,” where approximately 2,500 contractors, National Science Foundation employees, Air National Guard personnel and two Coast Guard ships are assigned. At this very remote station, mail service for mission support and quality of life is extremely important.

Only 260 people stay at McMurdo Station during the winter months of March through September. These caretakers and maintainers are literally cut off from the outside world due to the severe weather conditions. Flights to “The Ice” are suspended during this time, and all mail is held at the Christchurch Post Office.

When the ice begins to thaw, postal workers begin to prepare the mail for delivery. The first week of October is when the summer season officially starts and the mail business jumps into high gear.

The Christchurch Post Office processes an average of 235,000 pounds of mail with 75 percent of that amount destined for McMurdo Station. The other 25 percent is for sup-

port staff stationed at Christchurch.

“As summer approaches, the mail handlers begin preparations to put postal services back in motion,” said Christchurch Postmaster, Tech. Sgt. Al Coe. “Before any mail can be flown to ‘The Ice,’ the postal team ensures each item is X-rayed, inspected and screened by bomb and drug dogs to ensure safety.”

The influx of workers heading back to “The Ice” eagerly use their free mailing privileges to send needed items down for the coming months.

February marks the end of the summer season on “The Ice.” Outbound mail from McMurdo begins to heavily increase as personnel begin to depart. Seven days prior to officially closing McMurdo Station for the winter, Sergeant Coe closes down the mailroom on “The Ice.” Along with contract workers, he cleans, stores supplies, and secures the facility to officially mothball the postal operation.

When Sergeant Coe takes his seat with 100 or so other passengers aboard the C-141 flying back to Christchurch, he is satisfied that he and his team made an impact on this mission’s success. *(Submitted by PACAF/SC)*

# DYNAMIC NETWORK ANALYSIS

## DNA team moving forward, breaking barriers

By 1st Lt. John Picklesimer

AFCAVITAI

**SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, ILL.** — The Air Force Communications Agency's secret weapon for analyzing information systems capabilities and network interoperability, Dynamic Network Analysis, is not so secret any more.

The DNA team is moving forward from consolidating Air Mobility Command's e-mail system and modeling the U.S. Central Command Tactical Air Force network. DNA is now working with USJFCOM, the Army, and is displaying the capability to coalition partners in the Middle East. War game and warfighter level support is still the major focus for DNA, but branching out has opened up new opportunities for data sharing and interoperability.

After Sept. 11, 2001, government agencies began transforming information from a need-to-know to a need-to-share philosophy.

The Thor's Hammer National Space Game hosted by USJFCOM, USSTRATCOM and the National Reconnaissance Office, set out to break down those walls within the government to facilitate data sharing without compromising sources or technologies. This decision superiority game, set in the year 2018, examined intra-government and multinational communications.

The AFCA DNA team played a key role by providing network analysis.

"The Thor's Hammer computer war game demonstrated information sharing and working relationships between military, civilian and coalition organizations," said command officials in Norfolk, Va. "The games taught groups they can train together in these areas using the coalition collaborative information environment."

Although the exercise proved to be challenging, the DNA team takes pride in knowing their involvement directly contributed to

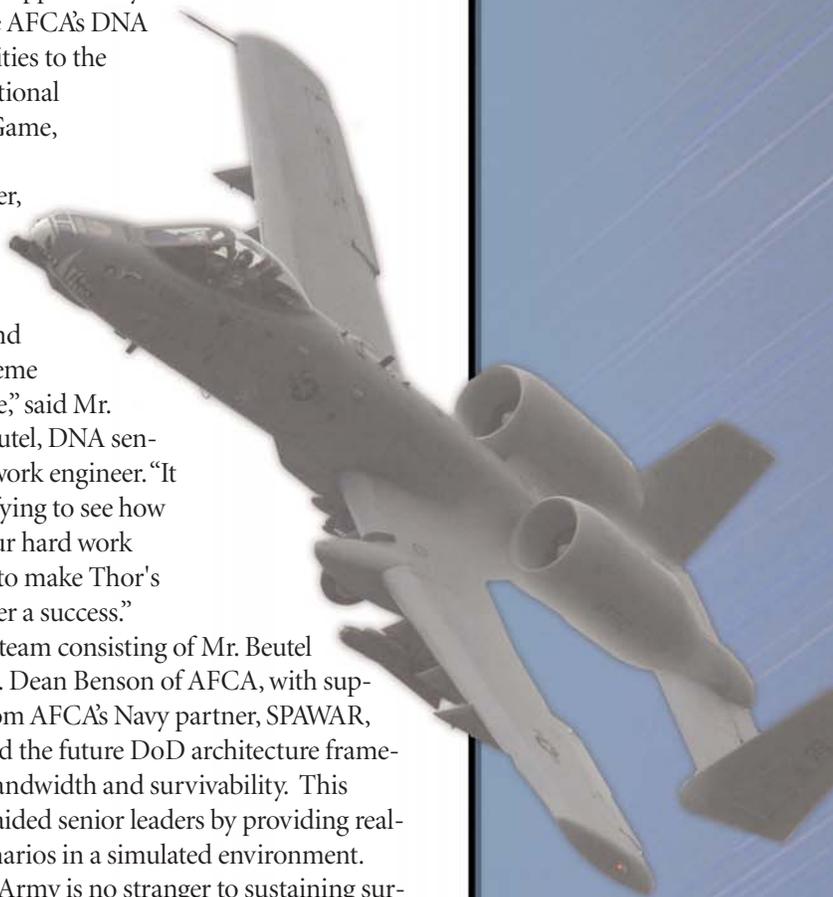
mission success.

"The opportunity to provide AFCA's DNA capabilities to the first National Space Game, Thor's Hammer, was a great challenge and an extreme pleasure," said Mr. Rob Beutel, DNA senior network engineer. "It is gratifying to see how all of our hard work helped to make Thor's Hammer a success."

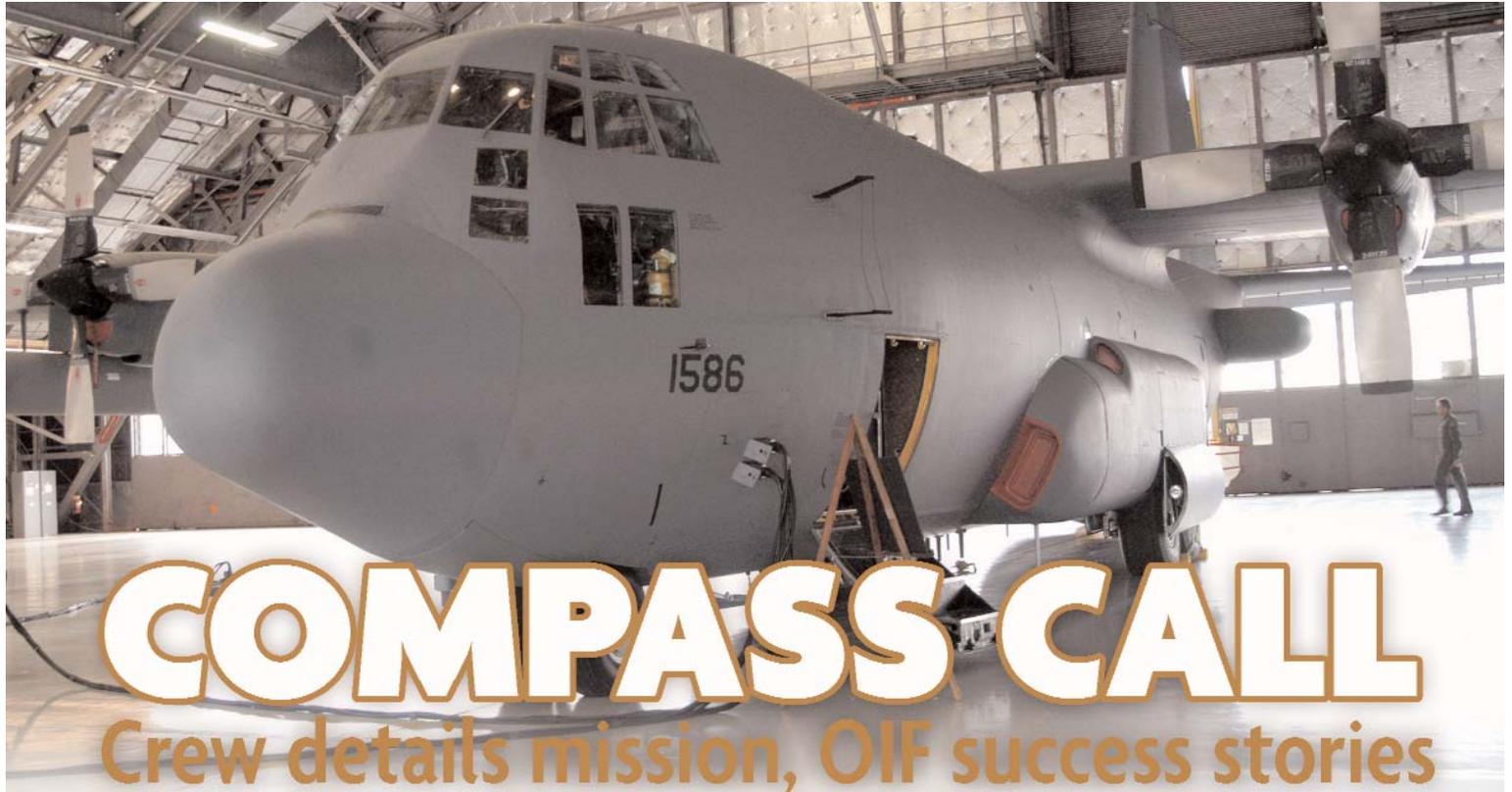
The team consisting of Mr. Beutel and Mr. Dean Benson of AFCA, with support from AFCA's Navy partner, SPAWAR, modeled the future DoD architecture framework bandwidth and survivability. This model aided senior leaders by providing real-life scenarios in a simulated environment.

The Army is no stranger to sustaining survivable communication and has moved into the network modeling business to enhance its mobile and fixed communications systems. AFCA and the Army's Information Systems and Engineering Command at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., have found common ground in modeling the Army enterprise architecture.

Lt. Col. Arthur Aragon Jr., deputy director of the Army Information Systems Engineering Command said, "We are looking forward to partnering with AFCA and exchanging models and reports. "This partnership enhances the joint effort of interoperability between services. Partnerships between uniformed services and government agencies are our biggest resource when compiling data and modeling architectures."



**When networks are secure and reliable, senior leaders are better able to direct bombs on target.**



# COMPASS CALL

## Crew details mission, OIF success stories

By Senior Master Sgt. Rick Burnham  
Air Force Print News

**WASHINGTON** — At the onset of Operation Iraqi Freedom, dozens of Iraqi soldiers waited patiently near the al Faw Peninsula for instructions being transmitted from higher headquarters to blow up key oil fields there.

The message never came.

In its place, courtesy of the U.S. Air Force's EC-130H "Compass Call" aircraft and a handful of crewmembers, was static. Followed by more static. And then, static.

The story is one of many success stories compiled by the Airmen of Air Combat Command's Compass Call mission, flown on C-130 Hercules aircraft modified and configured to perform tactical information warfare. Compass Call crewmembers were at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., on March 31 to detail those successes, along with a host of unit capabilities, to Air Force and media representatives. Those capabilities include jamming and degrading communications essential to the command and control of weapons systems and other enemy resources, according to U.S. Air Force

fact sheets.

The aircraft and the people who fly, maintain and work on it, have reputations as being the military's premier communications jammers, said 1st Lt. James Kovarovic, EC-130H electronic warfare officer and mission crew commander from the 41st Electronic Combat Squadron at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

"When they look at communications-jamming roles," said the Dodge City, Kan., native, "they look at Compass Call first. We offer one of the few aircraft that can provide line-of-sight, airborne capability."

The mission crew commander is one of 13 people aboard a typical Compass Call mission, the lieutenant said. Those include four who are responsible for aircraft flight, and another nine who operate and maintain the primary mission equipment -- a dazzling array of electronic gear -- at the rear of the plane. Among the nine specialists are cryptologic linguists and an airborne maintenance technician. Staff Sgt. Keith Capra, an EC-130H crew chief from Philadelphia, said the aircraft itself is great to work on, and that its capabilities rival those of any

aircraft in the Air Force arsenal. But, he added, what makes the mission so special is the synergy between those people assigned to it.

"Teamwork is what makes our mission work so well," he said. "Operations and maintenance (Airmen) really know how to work together to get things done. Having such a small number of planes, we all learn early on to work together."

Capt. Brian Lamirande, an EC-130H co-pilot, said being on the team is a great job all around.

"I love the plane," said the captain, who flew more than 300 hours during OIF. "But the best part of the entire thing was being over with the people who work on this plane, being part of the mission, doing what we are trained to do."

### FAST FACTS ★ EC-130H

**Primary Mission:** Electronic warfare, suppression of enemy air defenses and offensive counter information

**Speed:** 366 mph at 20,000 feet

**Unit Cost:** \$30.1 million

**Date deployed:** June 1974

**Mission flight crew:** 13 — two pilots, navigator, flight engineer, electronic warfare officer, mission crew supervisor, four linguists, high band operator, acquisition officer and an airborne maintenance technician

# COMMUNICATIONS



▲ Senior Master Sgt. Paul Gorom and Senior Airman Sean Russell, both assigned to the 455th Expeditionary Communications Flight, lay cable to enhance communications capability inside of Camp Cunningham.

Master Sgt. Jeff Szczechowski / 455th CF



# TRANSFORMATION

## COMM TEAM SUCCESSFUL IN AFGHANISTAN DESERT

By Master Sgt. Jeff Szczechowski  
455th Expeditionary Group

**BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan** — It's appropriate that the Airmen currently deployed to the 455th Expeditionary Group's communications flight arrived here around springtime. The communications transformation that's come over Camp Cunningham since their mid-March arrival has been like the new life that sprouts up and covers the landscape after winter turns into spring.

"The entire comm team is working its tail off," said Lt. Col. Bob LaBrutta, 455th Expeditionary Services Squadron commander. "They are working daily to enhance our communications network capabilities. New lines are being dropped every day, new computer upgrades are occurring and the overall archaic infrastructure here is being replaced or modified at an astounding rate."

The flight has done a little bit of everything. 1st Lt. Keith Strandell, 455th Communications Flight commander, said his unit maintains and upgrades computers, telephones and radios. They troubleshoot camera problems, fix television sets, run coax for cable, lay down phone and network lines and set up public address systems for distinguished visitors. They even ran cable to an outdoor break area, so the Camp Cunningham community can watch television.

Everyone in the comm flight has had plenty of opportunities to "get our hands dirty," said Lieutenant Strandell, including the information manager, who readily admitted that

she wouldn't be doing the kind of work back home that she's doing here.

"I've done line and cable installs, dug trenches, run telephone lines and network cables, lots of things, which I would never have done if not deployed — it's been a good experience," said Senior Airman Daisy Almacen.

Senior Master Sgt. Paul Gorom, 455th CF superintendent, said, "from day one, everyone here has hit the road running, and hasn't looked back." He added the brisk pace is a good thing at a deployed location like Bagram.

"My philosophy is to stay busy and time will go by fast. We're pretty much constantly on the move," he said. "We've run telephone and network connectivity to the new buildings, removed old wiring and buried quite a few cables, which extends their life."

Lieutenant Strandell said he's thankful for the opportunity to be a part of Operation Enduring Freedom, working not only with the Air Force, but sister services and other coalition forces, as well. But it's his communications flight that he's most proud of.

"I've been blessed to work with a great team," he said. "They came in with a can-do attitude and pressed full speed ahead. They get the job done, and then ask what else can they do. For the most part, every one of my troops spends a good deal of their time working outside of their normal career-field boundaries. They are learning other aspects of communications and using what they learn to make Camp Cunningham a better place."



◀ Senior Airman Daisy Almacen, 455th CF information manager, pitches in to help out in an area that is outside of her normal field of expertise.

Staff Sergeant Daniel Cord / 455th CF

# Chief Master Sgt. Laurence 'Pat' Patrick

By Mr. Don Gasper  
AFCA Staff Historian

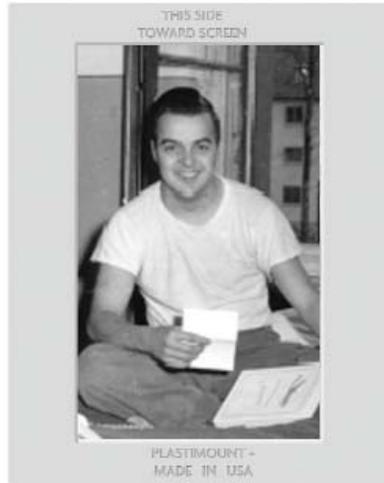
In almost five decades of service to the nation, both in uniform and in civil service, Laurence M. "Pat" Patrick not only excelled in technological endeavors, but also in his commitment to excellence, care for others, volunteer spirit and patriotism. His enthusiasm influenced others who served with him during the years and today he continues his life of service to benefit others.

A legend in the C&I community, he served his country a total of 45 years – 29 years as a bluesuiter retiring as a Chief Master Sergeant in 1980, followed by 16 years in civil service until retirement in 1998. Throughout his career, he was known for his vitality both on and off duty.

"I try to have a positive attitude, and every day I wake up is fantastic," Mr. Patrick said. "However, I think most people take things for granted and don't miss them until they're lost. It's important to take time to enjoy them while you can. I don't mean materialistic things or finances but more important things like family, friends, health, faith and freedom."

Mr. Patrick enlisted in 1951, initially serving as a Morse intercept operator in Germany, with subsequent duties as an airborne radio maintainer and missile maintenance crew chief at several bases in the U.S. In 1968, he moved into communications to become a computer maintenance superintendent, with his final assignment in 1977 as branch chief of computer systems maintenance at Headquarters Air Force Communications Command.

"When I enlisted in 1951, I had no desire to be a lifer," he said. "What convinced me to stay was the co-worker unity, the benefits, job security, retire-



Mr. Patrick in Darmstadt, Germany  
circa 1954

ment, patriotism and travel opportunities. Even though most won't make it a career, the training received and educational opportunities do prepare you for the future."

After retiring from active duty in 1980, Mr. Patrick entered civil service in 1981 as an electronics quality assurance specialist for the Army in St Louis, Mo. In 1982, he returned to AFCC at nearby Scott AFB, Ill.

Mr. Patrick continued to excel in his technical and managerial efforts, serving as chief of 11 different divisions and branches at AFCC/AFC4A/AFCA until his retirement in 1998. In his final position, he was the field support branch chief of the Information Protection Division at AFCA. During the years, he applied four very simple rules in working with others: Take care of your people, and they will take care of you; it's nice to talk to your people but more important that you listen to them; praise in public and counsel in private but be fair to everyone; if you disagree with your boss, tell him/her and let them know why. If they still say do it, give them 110 percent.

Since retiring, Mr. Patrick continues to assist others. Today, with Chris, his

wife of 48 years, they remain a strong team heading a close family with visiting claiming much of their time. Mr. Patrick and Chris reside in their retirement home on what he likes to call Patrick Hill overlooking Scott AFB. Much of the yield from their sizable garden is canned and shared with others. Mr. Patrick also conducts genealogical research and has traced his wife's heritage back to circa 1400. Mr. Patrick supports Sunday school activities and a seniors' program at his local church. He's also an avid runner for many years who often placed at or near the top in numerous competitions.

"The key to a healthy retirement is keeping active. I am past 70, still fit into my uniform, occasionally run four or five miles, and frequently walk with my wife on her daily four-mile walk," he said.

An exemplar of duty, professionalism, patriotism, and compassion, as well as a longstanding mentor to officer, enlisted, and civilian personnel, he salutes those who have served in the past and those who serve today.

"Whether active duty, Reserve, Guard, or civilian, communicators are the best. I know because I have been around the best for 45 years.



Mr. Patrick with his family at his retirement ceremony. From left: His wife, Christina, daughter, Gail, granddaughter, Sara and son-in-law, then Maj. Tony Klucking.

# A SOLID FOUNDATION

## Hall of Fame hails comm, info legends

By Mr. Gerald Sonnenberg  
AFCA Public Affairs

Every profession has its innovators and pioneers.

During the Communications and Information Hall of Fame induction ceremony April 15, at Andrews AFB, Md., successive generations of the communications and information community celebrated the lives and achievements of its pioneers.

Honored for their contributions were retired **Lt. Gen. John S. Fairfield**, and the late **Maj. Gen. John Paul Hyde**. The event had even more significance as General Fairfield was joined by six of the eight living Hall of Fame inductees. Each of these comm pioneers took time to find old friends and to make new friends.

"I've never been to one of these before," said a second lieutenant from Andrews' 89th Communications Squadron. "It's amazing to see all of these individuals in one place."

Since 1999, the Comm and Info Hall of Fame has recognized the achievements of past military leaders and civil servants who have laid the foundation that supports today's dominant, modern Air Force.

Lt. Gen. Tom Hobbins, Air Force deputy chief of staff for Warfighting Integration, hosted this year's ceremony, and Lt. Gen. (retired) James Cassity, Jr., a 2001 Hall of Fame inductee, was the guest speaker.

In his tribute to General Hyde, Lt.

Gen. Harry Raduege, Director, Defense Information Systems Agency, chronicled his memories of a great comm and info leader, whose smile was described by General Cassity as "big as a barn." Often addressing Mrs. Hyde and her children personally, General Raduege remembered his time working as General Hyde's executive officer. It was an emotional moment as Mrs. Hyde accepted the award and thanked everyone for honoring her husband who died in 1996. "On behalf of the happy warrior, we thank you," she said.

Following the Hyde presentation, retired Maj. Gen. George Lampe entertained the group with sincerity and humor describing his experiences working for and with General Fairfield.

"Not a day goes by when I don't miss wearing the uniform," said General Fairfield as his wife and an audience of 150 looked on. "Being inducted into the Hall of Fame is unbelievable. I will continue to tout your (communications) skills, because you stand among giants in caring and commitment."



Staff Sgt. Dennis Henry Jr.

(Left to right) Retired Maj. Gen. Robert Edge, Maj. Gen. Jack Robbins, Lt. Gen. John Fairfield, Chief Master Sgt. Hank Sauer, Lt. Gen. Lee Paschall, Lt. Gen. James Cassity and Col. Glenn Giddings gather to represent five of the six classes of inductees.

### THE PROCESS ✪ IAW AFCA HOI 36-11

The Communications and Information Hall of Fame honors the achievements of military leaders and civil servants who have laid the foundation for today's modern, dominant Air Force.

▶▶ Each Comm and Info general officer, senior executive service, and Hall of Fame member is eligible to nominate candidates. The AF C4 Association, AACS Alumni Association and AFCA/HO (as Veterans Committee) are also authorized to submit one candidate each. Nominations are integrated into a standing list of candidates, who are considered annually for 10 years.

▶▶ Following an annual call for candidates in December, AFCA, as the secretariat, sends a candidate list to the nominating panel.

▶▶ AF/XI solicits three active duty generals or SES members and two Hall of Fame members to serve as the nominating panel.

▶▶ Officer, enlisted or civilian candidates must have served in a branch of the government and have made major contributions to the Army Air Forces or Air Force command and control, communications, computer, information or air traffic services disciplines. They must have ended federal service at least five years before nomination.

▶▶ The panel reviews lifetime contributions, focusing on extraordinary careers, strategic thinking and continued service to the Air Force community after active duty.

▶▶ AF/XI approves the nominees and presents the awards to the inductees at the annual Comm and Info Retired General Officer conference.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

**RESERVATIONS NEEDED:** As part of force-shaping efforts, the Air Force restarted the career job reservation system in May.

The CJR system will reduce career field shortages and overages, and balance the career force within each skill, according to officials. The CJR system allows Air Force officials to limit the number of first-term Airmen re-enlistments in certain skills.

Beginning May 1, all first-term Airmen must have an approved CJR before they may re-enlist. Airmen serving in CJR-constrained skills must compete for a CJR quota. A list of 30 CJR-constrained specialties can be reviewed at local military personnel flights.

Four-year enlistees may apply for CJRs on the first duty day of the month during which they complete 35 months on their current enlistments, but no later than the last duty day of the month during which they complete 43 months of their enlistments. For six-year enlistees, they must apply between 59 months and 67 months. Local MPF re-enlistment office officials have more information. *(Air Force Print News)*

**HIGH STANDARDS REMAIN:** The Air Force will adjust the cutoff score used to gauge new recruits taking the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery in July.

The change — from 40 to 36 — does not mean the Air Force is lowering its standards, said Tina Strickland, chief of Air Force testing policy and research integration.

“We don't want people to think we are lowering the standard of quality coming into the Air Force,” Ms. Strickland said. “It appears that way because 36 is lower than 40, but it will still be the same quality of applicants we are accepting into the Air Force today.”

Test takers get a raw score — the number of questions scored correctly. But, Ms. Strickland said, DOD officials are more interested in where the test taker stacks up against a sample, or

Civilian Focus

# CIVILIAN CHANGES

## Labor-relations draft due November

By K.L. Vantran  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** — Defense Department senior leaders approved the plans for the new national security personnel system, an official announced April 14.

Secretary of the Navy Gordon R. England, who heads the project, made the announcement.

The system, authorized by the fiscal 2004 National Defense Authorization Act, will introduce changes in the way the department hires, pays, promotes, disciplines and fires its civilian employees.

Six teams of about 25 to 30 people, representing various agencies within the department, spent several weeks reviewing the system, said Secretary England at a meeting with reporters in the Pentagon. Representatives from the Office of Personnel Management and Office of Management and Budget also participated. The teams received briefings from Department of Homeland Security and General Accounting Office officials.

Earlier this month, Secretary England and David S.C. Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, sent a letter to the department's civilian employees on the progress of the system.

“The task before us is to design a transformed system for the department's 700,000 civilian employees that supports our national security mission while treating workers fairly and protecting their rights,” the letter stated. “We want to ensure that all stakeholders in the new system — including civilian employees (and) managers — have an opportunity to provide their thoughts, ideas, views and concerns.”

While the system is mission-first, it is also employee-centric, and Secretary England said he encourages input from employees. Mechanisms such as Web pages and town meetings will not only provide information to the work force, but also will allow for feedback.

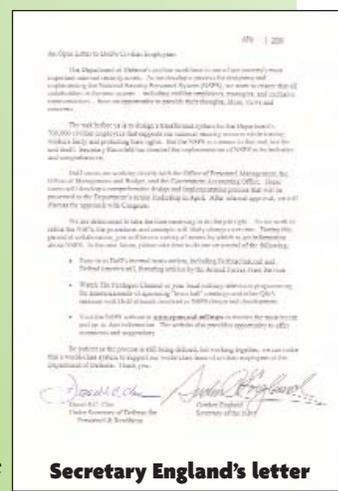
The plan also calls for “aggressive, but event-driven schedules,” he said. The first milestone is to have a labor-relations draft regulation to the Federal Register by November.

“We have schedules, but they could be longer (or) they could be shorter, because it's event-driven, and it depends on how we complete each step,” Secretary England said. “We won't go to the next step until we finish, because we are going to do it right. We won't rush it.”

“We'll go through this in stages and phases,” he said. “We'll get feedback, and we'll keep improving the program as we proceed.”

Secretary England said the system is a great opportunity for employees, the Defense Department and America.

“It's a great opportunity to have a terrific program for our employees, and I'm convinced we will,” he said. “The process will work, and the product will be one that everyone will want to embrace and be proud to embrace.”



Secretary England's letter

"normative," group of test takers. A population of 18- to-25-year-olds who took the test in 1980 is currently considered to be the normative group. Beginning July 1, the DoD will renom the test to reflect that shift. As a result, the same test scored on July 1 would get a slightly lower score than if it was scored June 30.

Ms. Strickland said the change will go unnoticed by most Airmen. (*Air Force Print News*)

**CYBER ED OFFICE:** Four features now available under the Air Force's virtual education system give Airmen more control of their academic pursuits. The Air Force Virtual Education Center is a Web-based system available to the total force that allows Airmen to do many of the things online that once required a trip to a base education office.

Airmen with accounts on the virtual center can now update personal data through the system, including rank, duty phone, and e-mail and postal mailing addresses.

New features allow users to view a complete history of their enrollment in courses taken using tuition assistance. Users will also be able to access a list of notifications concerning missing grades and payment suspenses and they can check Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support and College-Level Examination Program test results.

The virtual center came online in early 2003 and was designed to streamline the process of participating in off-duty education, said Jim Sweizer, Air Force chief of voluntary education.

The center's development is in line with similar developments in the civilian world. Being able to make payments online or to conduct business without leaving your home is something Airmen are familiar with and demand, Mr. Sweizer said.

"This is about convenience," he said. "Today you can pay bills in one place instead of running around to all locations, and that is a timesaver for consumers. In the Air Force, the better customer service you can provide, the better it is for the student. (The virtual center) is about better customer serv-

ice."

One of the most apparent benefits to customer service is the center's tight integration with the Community College of the Air Force, Mr. Sweizer said.

"Airmen can view their CCAF academic progress reports on the system," he said. "That process used to take six to eight weeks when done with a paper request . . . Today, (students) can go on the (virtual center) and immediately see what they need to complete their coursework."

While the virtual center does not currently allow Airmen to apply for tuition assistance online, officials said it soon will. In fact, application for tuition assistance will be a focal point on the site.

"The primary reason an Airman visits the education center is to start or continue college," Mr. Sweizer said. "The key component of that is tuition assistance. We fully fund tuition — the goal is to have them sit at a computer and be able to apply for tuition assistance in the virtual world." From a military computer, Airmen can sign up for an account at:

<https://afvec.langley.af.mil>. (*Air Force Print News*)

## KUDOS

**WORKING HARD:** Airman Tiffany R. Hounshell, an information manager and member of the 341st Missile Security Forces Squadron at Malmstrom AFB, Mont., has recently returned from deployment. Though only a 3-skill level and still working on her career development course, she deployed for 128 days to the 386th Expeditionary Communications Squadron, Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait, contributing to Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. While there, she was assigned duties as a postal augmentee and processed more than 5,000 pieces of incoming/outgoing shipments of mission critical registered mail. She collected, sorted, and distributed more than 60,000 pounds of regular mail supporting 3,000 joint and coalition forces. In less than three days from putting her boots in the sand, she mastered military post office finance and procedures helping to

ensure an astounding 100 percent accountability of transactions. Her experiences did not end there. She was asked to augment the unmanned Land Mobile Radio shop as well. While there, she recalled and reassigned more than 400 cell phones in less than 48 hours to improve communications asset accountability. Additionally, she took over as the records custodian and maintained 13 critical equipment files for assets worth in excess of \$1.5 million. Airman Hounshell also helped to boost morale for the base by assisting in the installment of a cable television switch in the tent-city recreation center. Her efforts while deployed are noteworthy and representative of the outstanding cadre of airmen who are joining our ranks in today's Air Force. (*Senior Master Sgt. Gregory Davis, 341st SSG*)

**2 FOR 2:** On March 25, the Air Force Communications Agency was awarded Thomson NET global's **Illuminati (People of the Light) Award** in the best blended learning category,



Airman 1st Class Heather Forrest / 52nd CS

## ONE RINGY DINGY

Airman 1st Class Jesse Sargent verifies telephone switch systems settings during the Harley Saber exercise at Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, April 19. Airman Sargent is a member of the 52nd Communications Squadron.

which recognizes excellence and achievement in employee learning programs. Submissions were judged on the merits of the organization's ability to identify business needs, deploy a training program that supports organizational objectives, and demonstrate measurable outcomes. All entries were evaluated by a panel of learning community experts, consisting of external learning leaders, prior Illuminati winners and Thomson NETg subject matter experts.

Judging was based on evidence of success in meeting a learning program's objectives within the related category. Past winners include: Baxter Healthcare, Bell Canada, Delta Technology, Eaton Corporation, Ernst & Young, PacifiCorp, U.S. Navy and Wal-Mart.

AFCFA was also recently presented SkillSoft's **Program of the Year**



**Award** at its Perspective's Industry Award's Dinner in Orlando, Fla. Each year, SkillSoft recognizes significant customer contributions and successes at its annual customer conference.

The most noteworthy of the awards goes to the "Program of the Year," presented to recognize a company, agency, or individual that has made significant contributions toward the development and implementation of a program that delivers measured successful results.

Independent judges made the selection based in terms of return on investment, increased usage, timeline for implementation, complexity, and marketing strategy of the program. The winning program must have had clearly defined challenges that required unique solutions to make the program a success. Past winners include: Unisys, U. S. Army and PwC.

## SCPD LIBRARY

**VALUABLE RESOURCE:** Some may not be familiar with a valuable resource located at the Air Force Personnel Center known as the SCPD Library.

The vision is to provide supervisors of Air Force civilians with standardized position descriptions, making the local classification process much easier. The library is already populated with many broad-based position descriptions. Supervisors will no longer have to spend an inordinate amount of time writing individual position descriptions – there will be a standardized source for descriptions (needing only modification for unique requirements).

The Library provides supervisors and personnel specialists with documents that reflect work typically found at installations across the Air Force, that facilitate classification consistency,

save time in both writing and classifying SCPDs, and that expedite the recruitment process. If a customer is seeking to upgrade an existing position, remember that use of a standardized SCPD in and of itself is not sufficient for upgrade approval, the duties at the higher grade must still be validated by the local classifier. With regard to SCPDs for comm & info occupational series, the Air Force Communications Agency creates Information Technology SCPDs through a rigorous process that involves personnelists and subject matter experts at all major commands and the Air Staff, and which are ultimately approved by the senior communicator for the Air Force, AF/XI. These SCPDs are then provided for inclusion into the SCPD Library. The program has been in existence for a few years and there are presently 21 GS-2210, Information Technology SCPDs posted. Other related occupa-



Airman 1st Class Franklin Perkins / 100th CS

## ON THE NET

Senior Airman Barbara Garcia creates a user account as a directory resource administrator while Staff Sgt. Adrian Langford uses a combat information transport system to monitor the network. Airman Garcia and Sergeant Langford are network control center technicians with the 424th Communications Squadron, Royal Air Force Fairford, United Kingdom. The center supports 400 permanent party and 550 deployed personnel from RAF Mildenhall on a daily basis.

tional series are also well represented, including GS-0335, Computer Assistant, GS-0382, Telephone Operations, and GS-0391, Telecommunications Specialist. The library also contains SCPDs on Information Management and Visual Information occupational series.

AFPC's website for the SCPD Library is located at the following URL: (AFCA Civilian Career Force Executive Agent Branch)

**UAV CONTRACT:** A San Diego-based firm will provide equipment to support U.S. Joint Forces Command's program to test unmanned aerial vehicle interoperability.

General Atomics Aeronautical Systems has been awarded a contract for a modular Predator ground control station and a portable ground control station and associated antennas, documentation, and spares.

These capabilities will replace the existing one-of-kind Tactical Control System unmanned aerial vehicle ground station and equipment currently used in the Joint Operational Test Bed System for joint UAV interoperability experimentation with Predator.

The contract has a value of \$1,148,608 and is a firm fixed-price type contract that will build, test, and deliver these capabilities.

The contract's performance period runs from April through its projected delivery date in six months.

Headquartered in Norfolk, Va., U.S. Joint Forces Command is one of nine unified commands in the Department of Defense. Among his duties, the commander of USJFCOM oversees the command's roles in transformation, experimentation, joint training, interoperability and force provision as outlined in the Department of Defense's Unified Command Plan.

Work will be performed at the company's sites in California.

Fleet and Industrial Supply Center Norfolk, Detachment Philadelphia, produced the contract. (USJFCOM Public Affairs)



Airman 1st Class Desiree Palacios / 835th CS

## NEVER FORGOTTEN

Staff Sgt. Kevin Lucius, left, and Senior Airman Donald Cook hang a U.S. Flag on a C-130 Hercules in memory of a fallen Airman from their home base of Royal Air Force Base Mildenhall, England. Sergeant Lucius and Airman Cook are both deployed to the 407th Expeditionary Communications Squadron at Tallil Air Base, Iraq.

## MEMORIAL

**REMEMBERING:** The Pentagon Memorial Fund campaign was officially launched in Washington April 22 during a ceremony on Capitol Hill. Almost \$30 million is being solicited, according to a news release from the Washington public relations firm that is handling fund raising for the memorial.

About \$17.5 million of collected funds will be used to build the memorial, according to the release. Another \$10 million in donations will be used for maintenance.

About \$2 million already has been collected, including a \$1 million donation

from the Anheuser-Busch Foundation, the first major corporate donor to the fund.

The Pentagon Memorial will be built in a parklike setting among maple trees and will consist of 184 individual units — the number of people killed in the Sept. 11, 2001, Pentagon attack. Each memorial unit will consist of a bench by a common reflecting pool. The group of 184 memorials will be located near the spot where Flight 77 hit the Pentagon, according to the release.

The Pentagon Memorial Fund Web site at: [www.pentagonmemorial.net](http://www.pentagonmemorial.net) allows donations through a secure online system. (American Forces Press



## TSP Open Season

The current TSP open season started April 15 and runs until June 30. This is the time servicemembers can start or change their contributions to their TSP account.

► Administered by the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, TSP was available only to civilian employees until 2001, when the program was extended to active- and reserve-component servicemembers, including the Coast Guard.

► TSP enrollment can be done online through the myPay Web site at: <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>, or by completing a TSP enrollment form (TSP-U-1) and turning it in at the local pay or personnel office. Enrollment forms are available on the TSP Web site at: [www.tsp.gov](http://www.tsp.gov).

# WEARABLE COMPUTERS

Techno  
Gizmo

## What are wearable computers?

The small personal computers can be worn either on the chest or hip and are being tested as a possible replacement for printed maintenance technical manuals currently used on the flightline.

## How does it work?

The tools at the maintainer's fingertips are much like a virtual office on the flightline. Computers will have much of the same desktop software that's currently in use, like e-mail capabilities, but they will also be set up to identify, order, ship and pay for parts directly from the flightline.

The computers will also have an electronic copy of technical orders, which maintainers use to perform their jobs.

Not only will maintainers have their TOs at their disposal, but they will also be able to send video of damages back to the shop and aircraft engineers through a wireless network.

## What is the benefit?

This system has the potential to change business on the flight-

line. The capability to order, ship, and pay for parts on the ramp will significantly reduce the amount of time it takes to repair an aircraft.

A spin off is that it will reduce the need for human intervention and potential administrative errors.

## What does the future hold?

Testing is also underway for another pilot program that will incorporate using a unique-identification system, which may benchmark the way the Air Force controls parts inventory. The identification system is a Department of Defense-mandated program that goes into effect in 2005.

The vision for (the system) is to facilitate item tracking in DoD business systems and to provide reliable and accurate data for program management and accountability purposes in our engineering, acquisition, financial, property, plant and equipment accountability.

## TECHNOLOGY @ WORK



Tech. Sgt. Matt Jones uses a new wearable computer while inspecting an engine. With the computers, maintainers will be able to identify, order, ship and pay for parts directly from the flightline. Sergeant Jones is the integrated electronic technical manual program manager.

# COMMITMENT *to* MISSION



**INTEGRITY FIRST  
SERVICE BEFORE SELF  
EXCELLENCE IN ALL WE DO**



“When you see a rattlesnake poised to strike, you don’t wait until he has struck before you crush him.”

— Franklin D. Roosevelt

Navy Chief Journalist Dave Hiesen / JCCC

“As we continue our fight in the Global War on Terror, we should consider history. It reminds us there is no greater motivator, no force for change more compelling, no condition more worthy than freedom.”

- DR. JAMES ROCHE  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

---