

# intercom

Journal of the Air Force C4 community ★ May 2004

## ALL STAR YOU NEED TO KNOW CONCEPTS

- ▶▶ Net-centric ops
- ▶▶ The Starting Lineup
- ▶▶ Black Demon
- ▶▶ Mobility Machinery

*Global Information Grid*

*Net Centric Warfare*

*Airborne Networks*

*C2 Constellation  
Transformational  
Communications*

*Global  
Net*

*Information Assurance*

# intercom



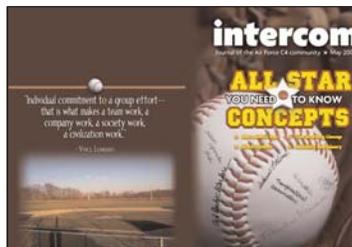
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THE JOURNAL OF THE AIR FORCE C4 COMMUNITY

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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).

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**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>

## From the editorial desk

# Reporting live from Baghdad

By Master Sgt. Karen Pettitt  
Managing editor

It's been great to be able to edit stories from our comm and info troops who are serving on the front lines of the War on Terror. I've seen the photos, read their accounts and have marveled at how they do what they do. Now, I get to see them in action, up close, as I get to spend my summer vacation in Baghdad. I haven't decided if I should pack my "I love the Iraqi Information Minister" T-shirt yet, but I am packing a camera and laptop so I can bring you reports on the great jobs our comrades are doing. The question I get asked the most is "What will you do over there?" The most succinct reply I have found is this: We (Public Affairs types) counter enemy propaganda and disinformation ... or in short, we report the truth. While I chuckle at likes of Baghdad Bob, I don't chuckle about the continued attacks on our soldiers or the fact our troops are still working 24 hours each day to bring stability to Iraq and the region. I'm in awe at the guts and resolve we've displayed as a country. I'm glad I'll have a gun to carry while there, but most important, I'm glad I'll have the tools needed to assist our country in the information war: truth, freedom and integrity. I can triple



Public Affairs reports facts to counter enemy propaganda.

guarantee you that when you want credible news about our efforts in Iraq, you won't find it from the likes of Baghdad Bob.



## Letter to the editor

### Love the lithos

Each month I look forward to seeing your newest litho feature ... each one is just incredible. The February litho is going up in my office. Kudos to each artist, and kudos for making it a regular part of *intercom*.

—Master Sgt. Gregory L. Garrett  
Beale AFB, Calif.

*Thanks so much for noticing! Our staff has enjoyed making these each month. It ends up being one of our favorite things to create. We know there are lots of creative people out there so if you have a litho idea, feel free to send it in. We usually work off a quote or idea that our leadership is emphasizing, and of course photos are the key to making it work. Send your idea to the intercom staff at [intercom@scott.af.mil](mailto:intercom@scott.af.mil).*

## Litho archive

[public.afca.af.mil/lithos.html](http://public.afca.af.mil/lithos.html)



JAG  
in a Box

Fritz Mihelcic  
AFCA Deputy  
Chief Counsel



## Can we use VOIP?

**Because Voice Over Internet Protocol is becoming a mainstream product, can we begin using it at our bases now?**



Not yet. Currently there's no single VOIP standard in use, and we want to be sure everyone is compatible. Because official Air Force policy makes us (Air Force Communications Agency) the clearinghouse for testing and implementation, any base that wants to look into VOIP, must contact us for consulting and approval prior to embarking on this journey.

Several bases are already testing VOIP and some are doing limited operational installation. We hope to get lessons learned in order to serve you better when you do decide to implement. World-wide, just more than 10 percent of all calls are now made using VOIP at some point in the transaction. VOIP technology will become prevalent in the Air Force in the near future, but we need to do it the right way. Some of the legal hurdles we are looking into include Universal Service Fund fees, 911 charges and the extent of possible monitoring of a VOIP telephone call. The technology is moving fast, and unfortunately the law tends to lag behind on the information superhighway. But, we're doing our best to make it happen for you.

**Send in your question to:**  
[AFCA-JA@scott.af.mil](mailto:AFCA-JA@scott.af.mil)  
or call DSN: 779-6060



# net-centric ops

“Constellation Family” overarching concept for warfighting operations

A communications compound is set up during Eagle Flag at Lakehurst Naval Air Station, N.J., for an exercise that integrates Air Force expeditionary specialties into one military operation striving toward a single mission objective.

Staff Sgt. Sarayuth Pinthong / 1st CTCS



**By Lt. Gen. Tom Hobbins**

Deputy Chief of Staff for  
Warfighting Integration

After-action reviews for Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom found that our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines were more powerful and effective than ever before. This effectiveness was seen in increased precision, speed and lethality. Although reaction time was compressed to double-digit minutes during OIF, future operations will require reaction times in the single digits. To reach this goal we must achieve decision superiority and full-spectrum

dominance in a Joint warfighting environment. The Department of Defense's fundamental approach uses the construct of the Global Information Grid to realize network-centric operations with a net-centric force.

**The C2 Constellation— a component of the GIG**

The Air Force's contribution to the overarching concept for warfighting operations is the C2 Constellation — the Air Force's components to the GIG. The C2 Constellation is a family of C4ISR systems sharing horizontally

and vertically integrated information through machine-to-machine conversations enabled by a peer-based network of sensors, command centers and shooters. Both an operational construct and an architectural framework, it guides our development of people, processes and technology toward network-centric operations.

Key network-centric operation elements of the C2 Constellation include the various platforms and sensors the Air Force provides to the Joint Force Commander and key programs that support command centers such as the ►►

**From  
the Top**



▲ Staff Sgt. Anthony Pillitiere, 49th Communications Squadron, Holloman AFB, N.M., sets up the temporary Command Post during Eagle Flag.

► Staff Sgt. Andre Locust sets up an antenna for the local Army's Criminal Investigative Division. Sergeant Locust is a ground-radio technician with the 455th Expeditionary Operations Group at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

Staff Sgt. Vincent Bess / JCCC



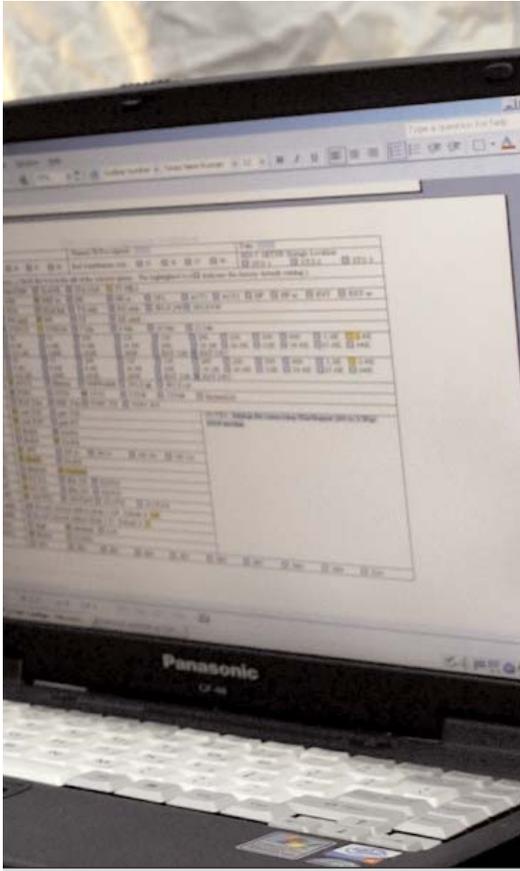
## net-centric ops

the Distributed Common Ground Segment. Underpinning programs within the AOC, such as the Theater Battle Management Core System already serve as the joint standard for air operations planning and execution, and we are continuing to migrate these systems to a more modern, Web-enabled architecture.

The Air Force provides transport and computing layer components of the overall DoD GIG through Constellation Net, the communications network — air, space, and terrestrial — that facilitates free flow of information, rapidly accessible to our warfighters.

The Air Force portion of **GIG Bandwidth Expansion** provides expanded terrestrial service at key Air Force bases globally. **The Joint Tactical Radio System** is essential to our vision for an improved airborne network, which expands genuine network operations to the airborne platforms.

With the installation of **Family of**



Staff Sgt. Sarayuth Pinthong / 1st CTCSS

*The Air Force is committed to providing a comprehensive information capability that is global, robust, survivable, interoperable, secure, and reliable.*



Senior Airman Lakisha Croley / 379th ECS

**Airman 1st Class Brenden McGowan, a telephone maintenance technician from the 379th Expeditionary Communications Squadron, rewires more than 100 telephone lines that were recently damaged at a deployed location.**

**Advanced Beyond line of sight Terminals** on additional aircraft, such as AWACS, JSTARS and Global Hawk, we will have the capability to extend our airborne network to all reaches of the globe. Finally, the Air Force is responsible for a large portion of the space segment communication evolution, including deployment of the **Advanced EHF, Wideband Gapfiller System** and the **Transformational Satellite program**.

### Defining the path — Architecture and Standards

In meeting the challenges of the DoD GIG, the Air Force, like the other services, is both contributing to and deriving planning from the architectural frameworks developed under the leadership of OSD and the Joint Staff.

Starting with these joint architecture frameworks, we apply the activity models and technical standards to the components of the DoD system for which the Air Force is accountable.

The Air Force and the other services are taking the architectural and standards guidance issued by the DoD and

applying it to shape decisions about programs and standards even at the service level.

Applying the data standards from DoD, the Services developed and sent to the Joint Staff a message standard, which transforms **Link 16** messaging standard to Extensible Markup Language.

Drawing from lessons learned in the JTRS Cluster 1, and recognizing the benefits of common software and hardware components, the Navy and Air Force acquisition executives proposed combining the JTRS Cluster 3 and 4 development effort into one program. Early discussion of architecture and network-centric requirements are driving early direction and management decisions for key programs at the

DoD level. Facing the need to re-capitalise its aging DCGS, the Air Force is working to eliminate stove-piped intelligence processes and bridge information divides between the Joint operational and intelligence communities through the Block 10.2 Multi-INT (multi-intelligence) Core. As part of this effort, the Air Force approach develops an open-architecture-based DCGS Integrated Backbone for the broader DoD DCGS modernization effort, designed to be inherently joint and interoperable.

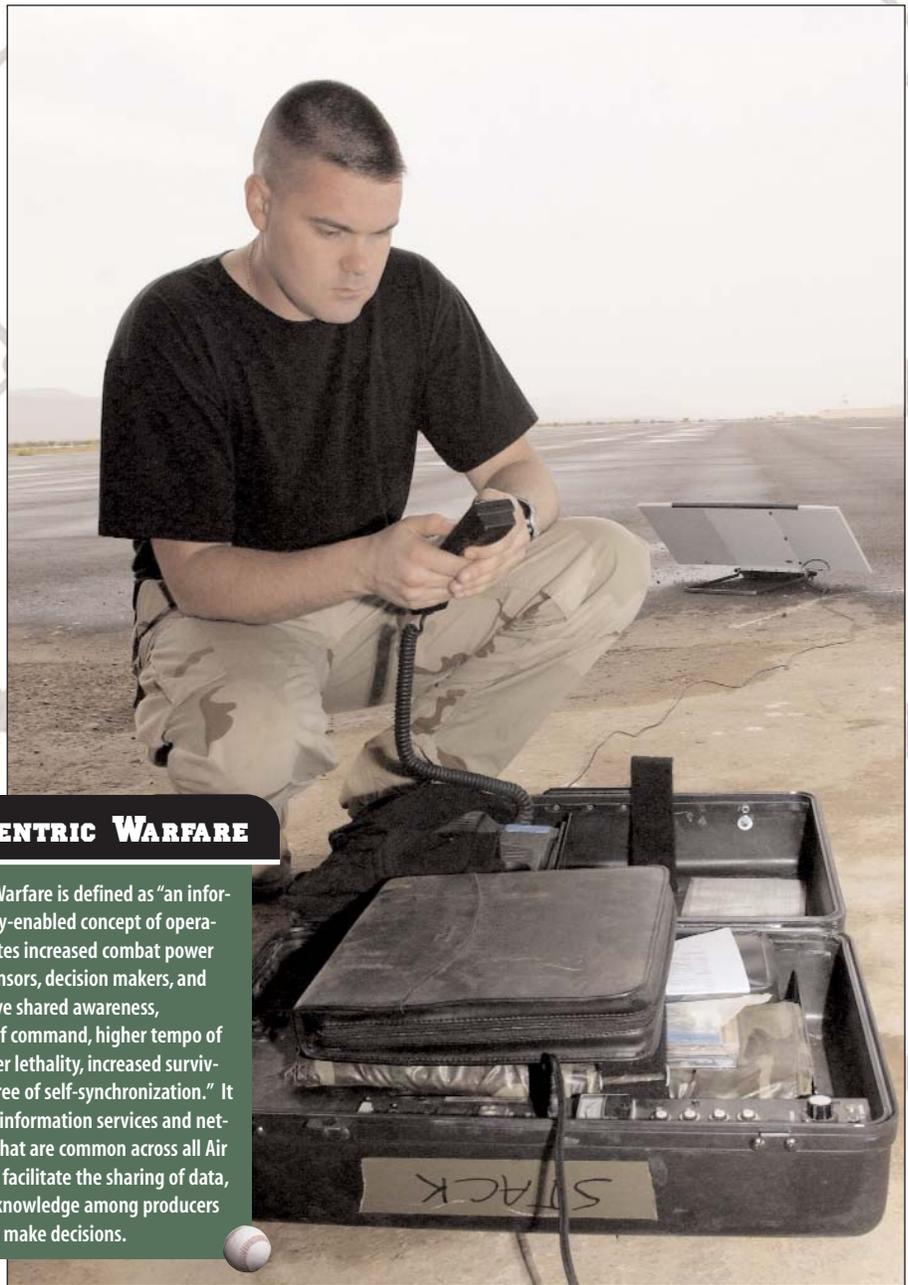
The Air Force-led Transformational Satellite program requirements were derived from two years of architecture-based studies that from the outset cast the TSAT as a component of a joint, interagency network architecture. Potential technical approaches balanced industry and commercial solutions with more specialized capability. Designed as one element of a broader transformational communication architecture, the TSAT requirements were driven by consideration of all potential users and other network providers.

#### **BOTTOM LINE**

**Senior leadership continues to define capabilities and responsibilities within the Joint Comm arena. Most modernization efforts are geared toward the joint environment.**

# THE STARTING LINEUP

The *intercom* staff put our collective heads together to come up with concepts all communicators should have in their playbooks. From the young airman and the new lieutenant, to the seasoned master sergeant and the senior officer, understanding these concepts will ensure that when it's the bottom of the ninth with two outs, you're armed to take one over the fence.

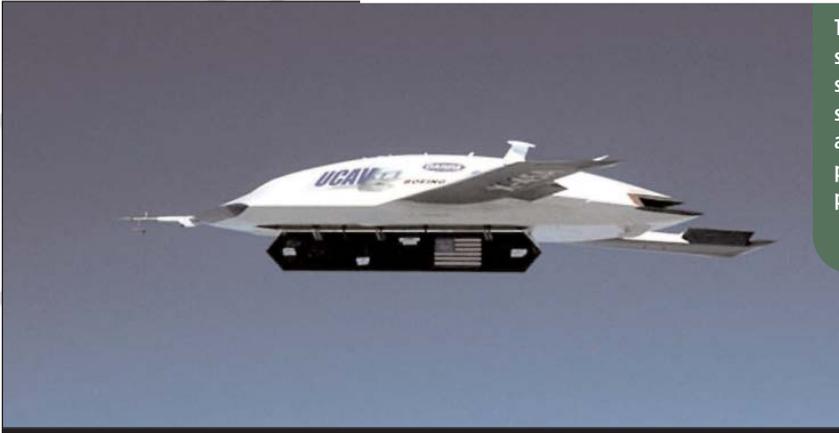


## NETWORK CENTRIC WARFARE

Network Centric Warfare is defined as “an information superiority-enabled concept of operations that generates increased combat power by networking sensors, decision makers, and shooters to achieve shared awareness, increased speed of command, higher tempo of operations, greater lethality, increased survivability, and a degree of self-synchronization.” It encompasses the information services and network operations that are common across all Air Force activities to facilitate the sharing of data, information and knowledge among producers and consumers to make decisions.



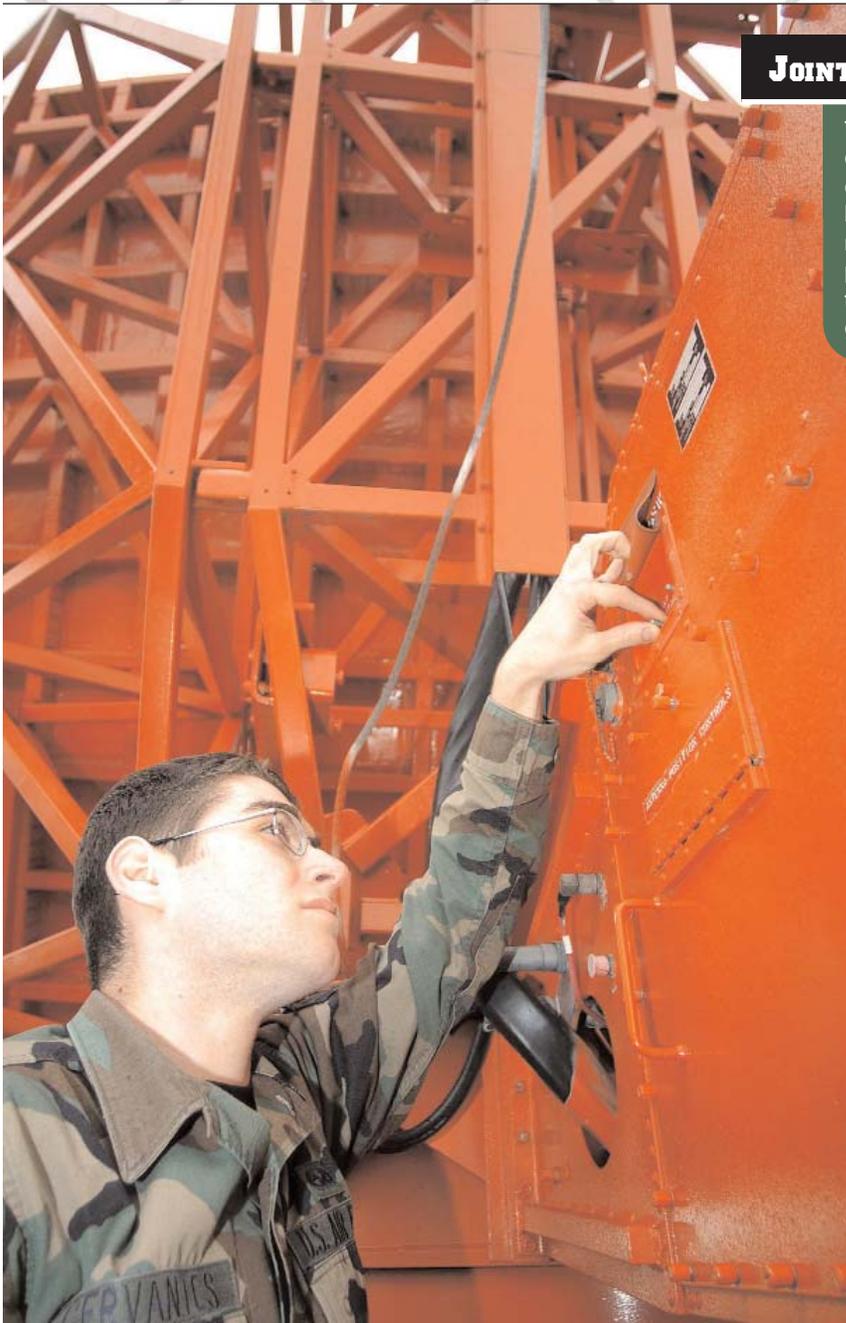
## AIRBORNE NETWORKS



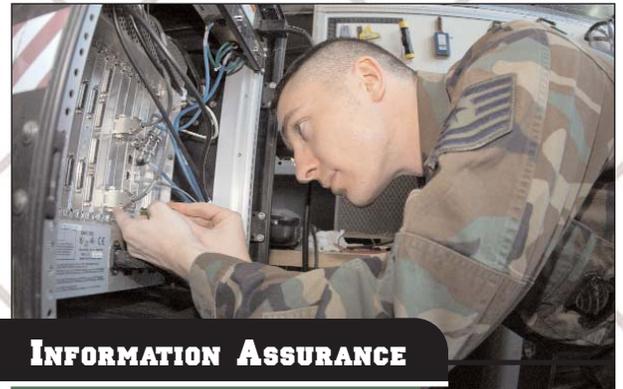
The Airborne Network is a communication infrastructure providing communication transport services to, from, or between network subscribers on platforms that are capable of flight and will provide capabilities to link airborne platforms with surface and space network entry points.



## JOINT TACTICAL RADIO SYSTEM



The U.S. Joint Tactical Radio System represents one of DoD's most ambitious multiservice tactical communications initiatives. The system will be a family of software programmable tactical radios tied to satellite communications that provide voice, data, and video communications for mobile military users in the air, on the ground, and on the sea.



## INFORMATION ASSURANCE

Information Assurance ensures trust and security in a highly distributed network environment such as the Defense Information Infrastructure, or DII. Information Assurance is the actions that protect and defend information systems by ensuring the availability, integrity, authentication, confidentiality, and nonrepudiation. This includes providing for restoration of information systems by incorporating protection, detection, and reaction capabilities. The IA program includes training of IT system users and IT workforce professionals as well as the protection of all information processed on IT systems.





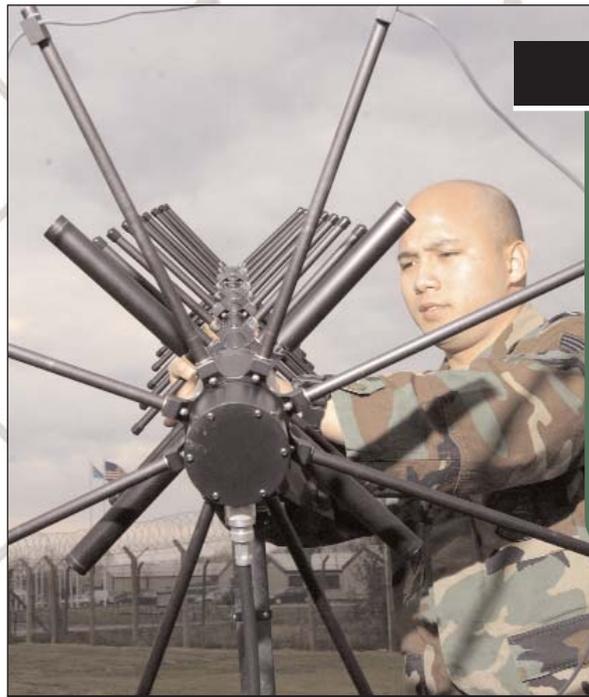
### GLOBAL INFORMATION GRID

The Global Information Grid is a globally interconnected, end-to-end set of information capabilities enabling the collection, processing, storage, dissemination and management of information. The GIG must be thought of and transformed into a truly global, three-dimensional information processing network by developing and integrating airborne and space-based platform networking and information transport capacity. Integrating systems and networks into a unified global system of systems, makes it easier for authorized users to gain access to information, thus enabling dominant battle space knowledge and decision superiority.



### C2 CONSTELLATION

The C2 Constellation is the Air Force's Capstone Concept for archiving interoperability, connectivity and the Air Force C4ISR transformation goals. The C2 Constellation is a family of C4ISR systems sharing horizontally and vertically integrated information through machine-to-machine conversations enabled by a peer-based network of sensors, command centers and shooters. C2 Constellation capabilities will be fielded in Advanced Technology command centers (such as Air Operations Centers), next generation electronic warfare and reconnaissance aircraft, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, and airborne and space-based intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance systems.





## GIG-BANDWIDTH EXPANSION

GIG-Bandwidth Expansion, GIG-Enterprise Services, Joint Tactical Radio System, and Transformational Communications System are several OSD sponsored, IP-based transformational initiatives. The vision is to provide ubiquitous, secure, robust, physically diverse terrestrial, airborne, and space based transmission paths and information services between our fixed and deployed operating locations. These capabilities when coupled with the Air Force's fixed based transport and network operations infrastructure from the Combat Information Transport System, the expeditionary base Theater Deployable Communications program, and via connections through DoD Teleport gateways will allow the warfighter to exchange unprecedented levels of information.



## GLOBAL NET

Global Net is the communications network—air, space, and ground—that must allow a free flow of information so that it's rapidly accessible and presented to warfighters at the right time and right place to create the commander's desired effects. The issue is not moving data faster so much as it is moving the right data to the right people. Global Net ties together information generated from a complex array of sensors in air and space, processes and delivers information, and presents the information to the warfighter.





## CONSTELLATION NET

This concept defines the communications network—air, space, and terrestrial—that must allow a free flow of information so that it is rapidly accessible and presented to warfighters at the right time and right place to create the commander's desired effects. It ties together information generated from a complex array of sensors—air, space, and surface; processes and delivers information; and presents the information to the warfighter.



## TRANSFORMATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

This is an OSD initiative to radically change the future satellite communications architecture. The primary goal is to eliminate bandwidth as a constraint to the warfighter. Transformational comm is designed to integrate DoD, the Intel community, and NASA SATCOM architectures. It eliminates stovepipe SATCOM systems, supports net-centric operations, provides increased capacities, and supports the use of laser communications for Airborne ISR platforms. TC will deliver multi-spectral radio frequency and optical functionality providing the capability to crossband among these spectra and crosslink between satellite constellations. TC addresses the space backbone that provides much of the intra-theater and the inter-theater connectivity that warfighters depend on.



# Mobility Machinery

Mobility machinery is a term used to refer to the process units go through when deploying equipment and personnel for contingencies. The mobility machinery can be thought of as four broad phases, the Intel Gathering Phase, the Unit Type Code Build Phase, the UTC Finalize Phase, and the Deployment Phase.

## PHASE 1

**Intel gathering** – This phase involves much more than checking the SIPRNET for the area of responsibility, force protection condition, information condition and weather conditions. The deployment planners review the preliminary tasking from the MAJCOM headquarters staff and determine what can and cannot be supported. They ensure the MAJCOM staff and the AOR have requested the correct UTCs to perform the mission. Based on the preliminary deployment timelines sent by the MAJCOM staff, the unit commander might recall UTC personnel and begin to prepare the required equipment for deployment.

1

Intel gathering phase

## PHASE 2

**UTC build** – In this phase, the MAJCOM staff and Aerospace Expeditionary Force center give verbal or informal written direction to the unit on specific tasked UTCs, and the dates they expect the airlift to arrive. Sometime during this phase, the AEF Center will finalize the Time Phased Force Deployment Data. While the personnel are getting prepared, the UTC chief directs the packing of the UTC's equipment and building of pallets. The unit engineers get more detailed information from the AOR such as satellite access, frequency clearances, establishment of SIPR and NIPR domains and other details the UTCs will require.

2

Unit Type Code build phase

## PHASE 3

**UTC finalize** – Combat communications units perform this final step as a "check-and-balance" mechanism to ensure there are no delays at the base's Deployment Control Center. The DCC is the final base agency that approves deployment of equipment and personnel. The CRC will recall their team of highly trained equipment and personnel quality assurance teams. The equipment QA team verifies the proper completion of hundreds of checklist items by the UTC chiefs. Everything from packing lists, to pallet weights, to center of mass calculations on vehicles, and hazardous materials declarations are scrutinized.

3

UTC finalize phase

## PHASE 4

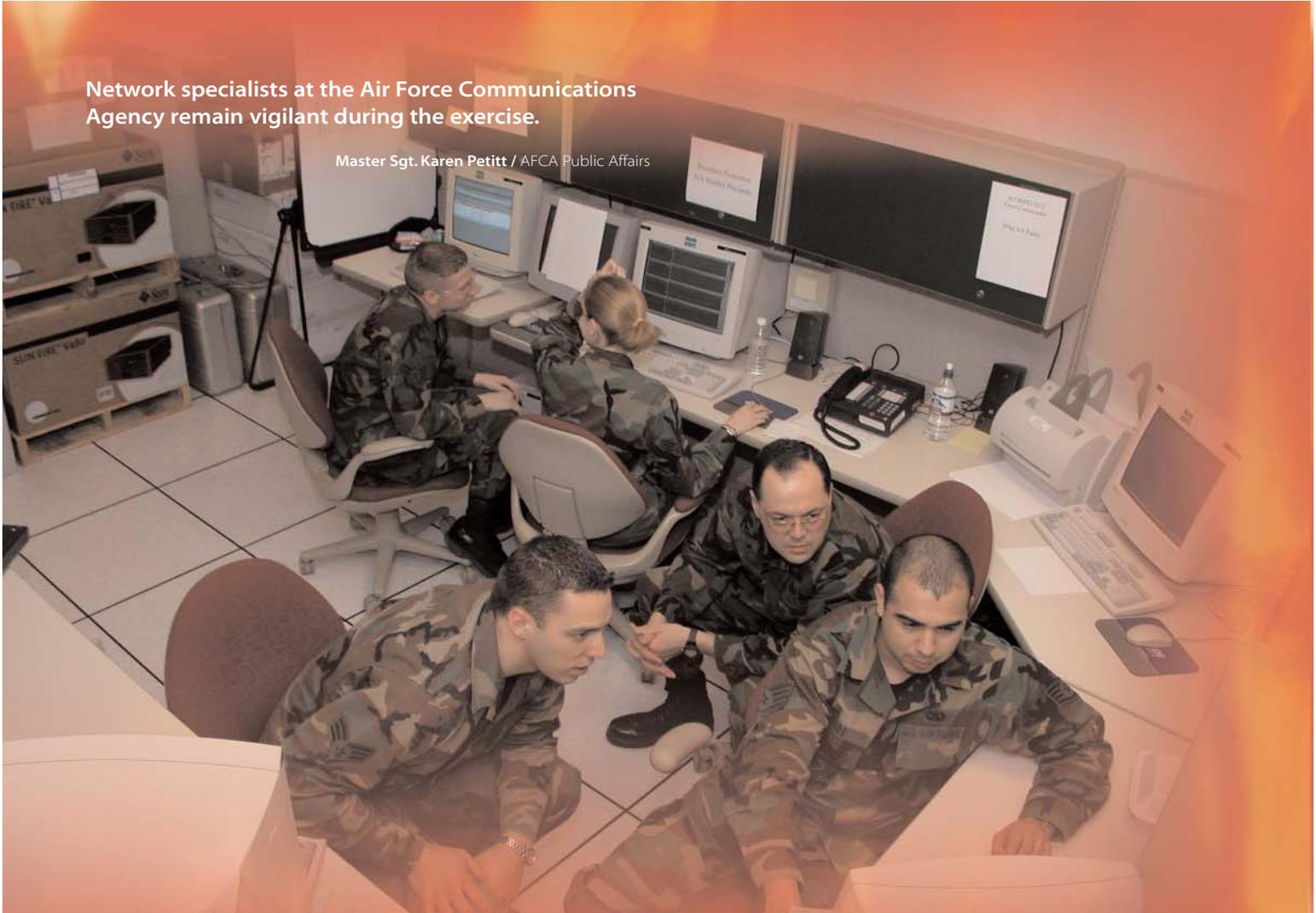
**Deployment phase** – Behind the scenes, the unit's CRC continues to work the mobility machinery. Teams assemble to help the aircraft loadmaster and the base's aerial port personnel load equipment and pallets. The CRC assembles another team to build baggage pallets for the deploying personnel who are processing through the DCC. Another small team is embedded with the logisticians at the DCC, to ensure all the equipment and personnel paperwork is loaded into the DoD's standard deployment databases. Once all the personnel and equipment are loaded up on the aircraft, the unit's mobility machinery finally takes a break.

4

Deployment phase



**By:** Tech. Sgt. Jim Verchio  
**Source:** Maj. Rizwan Ali / 3rd CCG



Network specialists at the Air Force Communications Agency remain vigilant during the exercise.

Master Sgt. Karen Petitt / AFCA Public Affairs

# BLACK DEMON

## NETWORK SENTINELS

PARTICIPATE IN LARGEST  
EXERCISE OF ITS KIND

By Mr. Masao Doi

HQ Air Intelligence Agency  
Public Affairs

LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Air Force officials completed a two-week network defense exercise recently, which validated and strengthened the Air Force's ability to defend its network against attacks.

Black Demon, the largest exercise of its kind in the Department of Defense, consisted of approximately 200 people at network operations security centers and associated network control centers

Air Force-wide. Exercise situations included testing the continuity of communication operations against network attacks, reconnaissance, denial of service, loss of network defense tools,

threats by authorized and unauthorized users, malicious logic and loss of fire-wall protection.

Training is the primary objective of Black Demon.

“The overarching goal is to train our crews in these network operations and security centers to understand the threats to the Air Force network and the network in general,” said Brig. Gen.

Gregory Power, 8th Air Force vice commander and lead for the exercise.

Scenarios simulated attacks on the Air Force network to improve specialists’ ability to discern and respond to real attacks in the future. Attacks were also designed to enhance command and control throughout the network, refine policies and develop and validate tactics, techniques and procedures for a more effective defense.

Entrusted to plan and execute the exercise were members of the Air Force Information Warfare Center at Lackland. They teamed up with

approximately 450 specialists from around the Air Force, including the Air Intelligence Agency, Air Force Communications Agency, the Air Staff, all nine Air Force major commands and the Air National Guard.

The 23rd Information Operations Squadron housed the Exercise Control Center, which served as the hub of the two-week event.

Staffed by personnel from AFIWC, AFCA and the 67th Information Warfare Flight to oversee and manage exercise execution, the ECC provided centralized command and control, evaluation, dedicated data collection and oversight of aggressor force activities.

The exercise played out primarily on the range network—a realistic computer network designed to simulate the operational network.

This training network was developed by AFCA to provide a realistic environment to train network defenders and allowed the ability to interact with other

ranges and the ECC.

“The ranges are interconnected, so that adds to the realism,” said Lt. Col. John Bansemer, 23rd Information Operations Squadron commander.

The range network allows training without disrupting the operational network.

“By using the range, we segregate play from the operational environment reducing the risk of spillage,” said Chief Master Sgt. Stephanie Harwell, AFCA network strategies and tactics superintendent.

Exercise planners believe this year’s Black Demon represented an improvement over the previous one conducted two years ago because all MAJCOMs were able to participate.

“We’ve been able to establish a lot more rigor in our ranges and create a much more realistic environment,” Colonel Bansemer said. “We’ve improved by at least an order of magnitude from the first exercise.”

Other key players helped to make the exercise a success.

The Air Force Network Operations Security Center is a new entity that helps establish a coherent command and control structure with the component elements of the Air Force computer emergency response team and the Air Force Network Operations Center.

“As the exercise progressed, the operators’ responsiveness and their actions improved dramatically,” said Colonel Bansemer. “They just kept getting better and better.”

Members of the 23rd IOS will work with other exercise participants to compile their observations from the exercise in a tactics, techniques and procedures document.

The tactics document will serve as a core training aid for the seven-level, communications-computer systems operator course at Keesler AFB, Miss.

The course will emphasize the importance of information assurance in all communications activities ultimately leading to more effective computer network defense.



Participants had an array of tools at their disposal to combat a variety of attacks. The exercise was conducted on a range network so that scenarios wouldn't spill into the operational network.

Master Sgt. Karen Petitt / AFCA Public Affairs



# SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK

## Ceremony marks revolutionary changes in officer curriculum

By Capt. Rick Black  
AF/ILCXF

**KEESLER AFB, Miss.** — With Air Force major command and agency sponsorship, several McClelland Hall classrooms at Keesler AFB, Miss., are getting a much needed and extensive facelift, along with the curriculum for Air Force Communications Officer Training. A massive rewrite has taken place to bring the right curriculum and delivery method into every classroom.

The new curriculum includes shorter, more focused initial and advanced courses, an engineering trailer course and the standup of seven supplemental courses providing in-depth study of specific communication topics.

“Developing air and space leaders has become synonymous with transformation and future mission success,” said Lt. Gen. Tom Hobbins, Deputy Chief of Staff for Warfighting Integration, during the AFCOT grand reopening ceremony in March. “We are cultivating a new culture of warrior leaders who are able to bridge the gap between the Air Force of today and the expeditionary air and space force of tomorrow.”

With the new training program, the Expeditionary Communications Officer Training course replaces the Basic Communications Officer

### Course upgrades

- ▶▶ Officer Network Training
- ▶▶ Enterprise Network Operations Management
- ▶▶ Executive Officer Education
- ▶▶ Officer Information Operations
- ▶▶ Deployed and Tactical Communications
- ▶▶ Officer Space Education
- ▶▶ Warfighting Integration

Training course and reduces the number of training days from 64 to a more comprehensive 26 days.

While ECOT will provide an overview of the entire communications field and all the functions communications officers perform, it will be focused on base-level communications, communications squadrons and their functions, resource management and project management. Electrical and computer engineers will attend a separate electrical engineering course after ECOT. Supplemental courses ranging from four to 14 days will provide in-depth, specific education necessary for officers to assume new or increased responsibilities beyond their first assignment.

In addition to rewriting curriculum, a renewed commitment to instructors is providing them training and education in contingency wartime planning, space fundamentals, information security, information

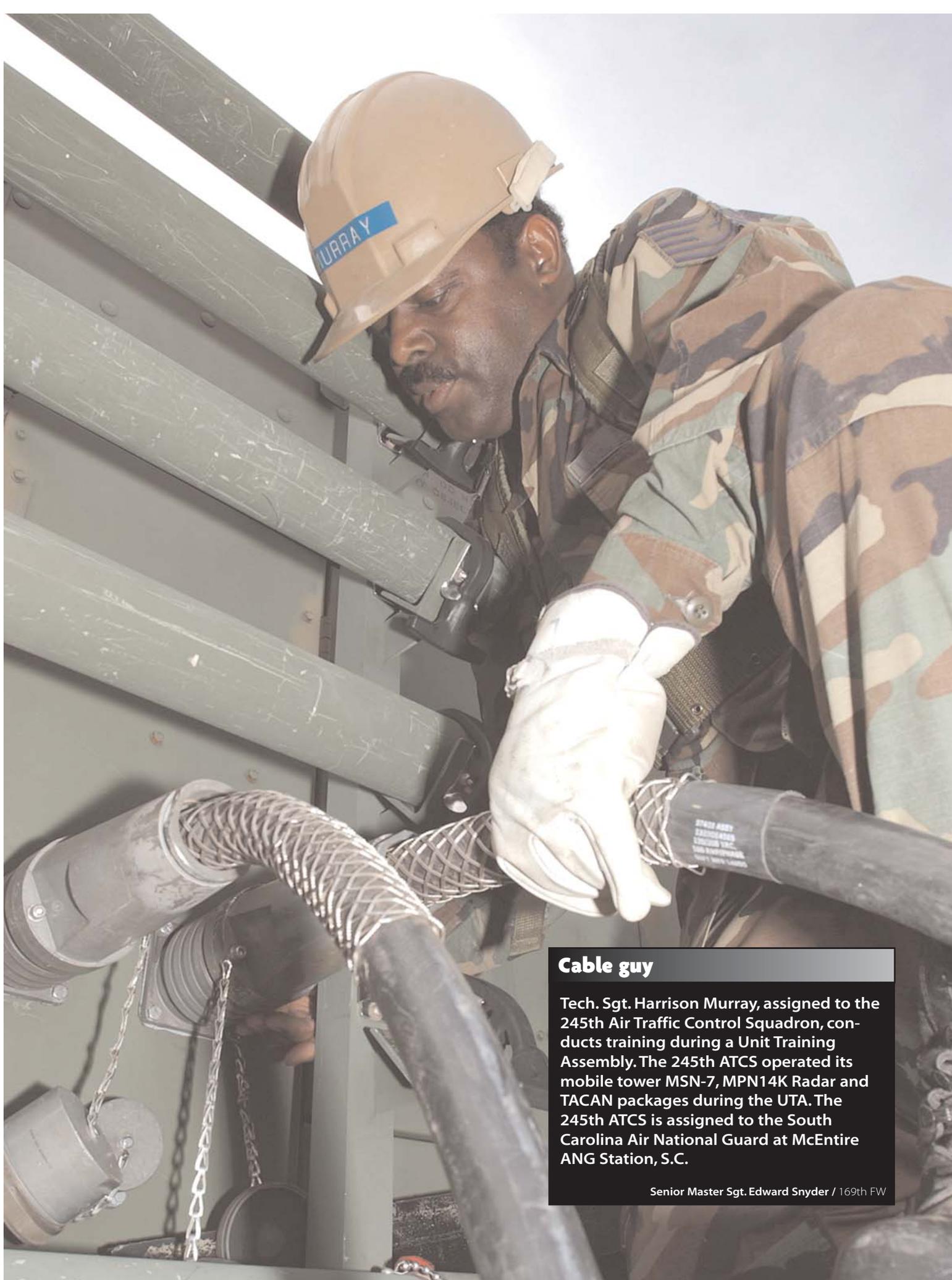
assurance, chief of maintenance, information management and other communications areas.

Senior communications leaders and major command representatives began the process to revamp the curriculum in June. In doing so, they recognized the need for career-long development and training throughout an officer’s career. The new program also addresses the delivery methods used in the classroom. Every course is being reviewed for technology insertion and hands-on training wherever possible and more than \$150,000 in equipment purchases is under way to progress from a lecture and discussion environment to hands-on training.

“Our expeditionary communications training will provide a ‘train when needed’ approach,” said General Hobbins. “We’ll be teaching communications officers the skills they need when they need them—in sync with their new job responsibilities.”

Courses may be taken immediately following ECOT depending on each officer’s duty assignment. More than likely, officers will return to Keesler as their primary duties change to get the supplemental training as an active part of force development. Scheduling for supplemental training will be coordinated between MAJ-COM functional managers and the assignments team at Air Force Personnel Center.





### **Cable guy**

Tech. Sgt. Harrison Murray, assigned to the 245th Air Traffic Control Squadron, conducts training during a Unit Training Assembly. The 245th ATCS operated its mobile tower MSN-7, MPN14K Radar and TACAN packages during the UTA. The 245th ATCS is assigned to the South Carolina Air National Guard at McEntire ANG Station, S.C.

Senior Master Sgt. Edward Snyder / 169th FW



# FIT TO FIGHT

*Comm and info professionals everywhere are making this slogan part of their daily vernacular. But they aren't just talking about it, they're exercising their way to a better, fitter force. Here are just a few of their success stories.*

## Moody AFB, Ga.

As soon as word came that the Air Force was considering a new fitness regimen, the 347th Communications Squadron began developing a plan centered on the heart of the program: The 1.5-mile run, abdominal circumference, push ups, and sit-ups. But, it doesn't stop there. Not only are they running the 1.5-mile run, they are actually running 3 miles, to ensure their "comm warriors" are better able to support expeditionary roles in a tough, deployed environment.

During the past two years, the 347th CS has been

doing PT twice a week, and running 3 miles twice a month, before PT was a "cool" word again. Not only that, they added a vigorous circuit training program three times per month, proven to give every individual an exhausting, one hour total body workout. The old cliché that the comm squadron is famous for sitting in front of a computer has been shattered. The unit began unofficially testing their troops on a monthly basis beginning in September 2003, and found the overall fitness level of performers scoring in the "good and excellent range" was a dismal 45 percent.

However, by January 2004, the overall fitness level improved by 20 percent. Camaraderie has increased, confidence level is up, and people are walking around looking the part of professional "comm warriors."

The 347th CS motto is "lead by example." Leadership must and does start at the top. The senior leaders in this squadron are physically fit and supervisor encouragement is mandatory. So, at least three times per week, you'll find the 347th CS in the gym preparing themselves physically for the challenges ahead. People identified with a profile and not able to participate in



physical training are referred to the base Health and Wellness Center for assessment, who will determine what type of physical training is appropriate for them. In addition to the squadron's PT, each flight has a mandatory organized PT at least once a week. The 347th CS is ready for battle, not because being physically fit



is the “in-thing” to do, but because it promotes a healthful lifestyle. (2nd Lt Jason G. Wood)

### Ellsworth AFB, S.D.

Near the heart of the beautiful and historic Black Hills of South Dakota resides a small 179-member communications unit taking

the lead in the new Air Force fitness test. The 28th Communications Squadron, Ellsworth Air Force Base, initiated a regular physical training program in October 2001. Beginning a squadron PT program can be very difficult for many units. Shift work, single parent families, and high ops tempo have all been chal-

lenging factors in the squadron’s efforts to implement and sustain a unit-organized PT program.

“Our instructions clearly defined the expectations for an effective PT program that fully meets the intent of the Chief of Staff’s fit-to-fight philosophy,” said Maj. Tony Buenger, 28th CS commander. “Our people



Members of the 347th Communications Squadron, Moody AFB, Ga., participate in a 3-mile run at least twice a month. Air Force members are now scored on the amount of push ups and sit-ups that they can do in 1 minute, plus their waist measurement, and finally they're timed on a 1.5-mile run.

Tech. Sgt. Rob Jensen / 347th CS



**Airman 1st Class Michael Drake is one of 179 members of the 28th Communications Squadron, Ellsworth AFB, S.D. who say they're glad to be getting fit as a team. He's an Information Systems Flight infrastructure technician.** Airman 1st Class Michael Keller / 347th CS

understand that they are doing this not just to pass a PT test, but to ensure they're ready to deploy at a moment's notice, hit the ground fighting and sustain their combat effectiveness in any environment. They also understand the second objective of the PT program is to promote team building, morale and esprit de corps. This program gives the squadron an opportunity to help each other improve their physical fitness and to gel as one team."

Due to the extreme South Dakota winters, where temperatures may be from 10- to 20-degrees Fahrenheit all day, most of the sessions are conducted in the base fitness center. The 28th Bomb Wing just renovated its old B-36 bomber hangar, known as the "PRIDE" or "Professional Results in

Daily Efforts" Hangar, to house a 1/6-mile running track. When the weather is warmer outside, there is a 1/4-mile outdoor track and a 1.5-mile street course around the gym that is available for unit PT and for official testing.

All wing leadership, from the wing commander to superintendents, attend PT sessions that set the example for all Airmen. The 28th CS conducted several monthly practice PT tests during 2003 and showed a trend of officers and senior NCOs, most over the age of 30, doing better than the younger Airmen.

"It just surprises me that we [older] folks are doing better on average than our Airmen," said Senior Master Sgt. Paula Lopez, 28th CS Information Systems Flight superintendent and PT

leader. "We need to motivate our young folks to excel so they can overtake us as a group." This intense focus on athletic ability also flows into wing intramural sports.

During the past six months, softball, flag football, basketball, soccer and bowling have been popular sports for 28th CS personnel. The squadron finished second in the wing to take the title of Runner-Up Soccer Champions.

"We're doing OK in over-30 basketball, and it's a great cardio workout for us," said Staff Sgt. Chris Clark, a 28th CS Visual Information Flight photographer. "It's helped me shave about 15 seconds off my normal 1.5-mile time."

There are numerous individual success stories related to this new PT example. "These accomplishments

just show the competitive spirit and motivation of our folks" said Major Buenger. "We hope that the attitude of the 28th CS will be contagious and spread throughout the rest of the bomb wing, so each one of us can truly be called warrior athletes." (Capt. Rob Jayme)

### Peterson AFB, Colo.

Nearly two years ago, the results of an Air Force survey revealed that about 54 percent of active duty members were overweight, but for the active duty at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., estimates were as high as 63 percent. The increased percentage was due in part to its relatively older active duty force, with the majority of Airmen being over 30 years old. These statistics were not lost on the leadership in the 21st

Space Communications Squadron here. While a new concept labeled WarFit was being rolled out at Air Force Space Command bases in 2002, the 21st SCS had already begun a unit level program to address both weight and fitness issues. WarFit encompasses three different areas: a comprehensive fitness assessment, squadron support/oversight, and an individual fitness program.

WarFit officially began base-wide April 1, 2003. And now, a year later, the greatest advantage for most members is a fitness program that is part of the duty day, as opposed to what had become a “free-time” fitness program.

Like most communications squadrons, a significant number of unit members support 24/7 operations, and there are few who enjoy a strictly 9-to-5 schedule. With a top-down recognition that physical fitness is integral to the mission, this renewed approach forced supervisors to build fitness into the workload.

The 21st SCS has been fortunate to have its own cadre of fitness gurus. Capt. Valerie Caruso, a certified personal trainer and yoga instructor, has helped develop the unit workout into one of the most comprehensive programs offered. Along with 1st Lt. Blake Bryson and Airman 1st Class Jeremy Sielken, unit members are constantly challenged and provided a variety of activities to participate in. With an ever-increasing ops

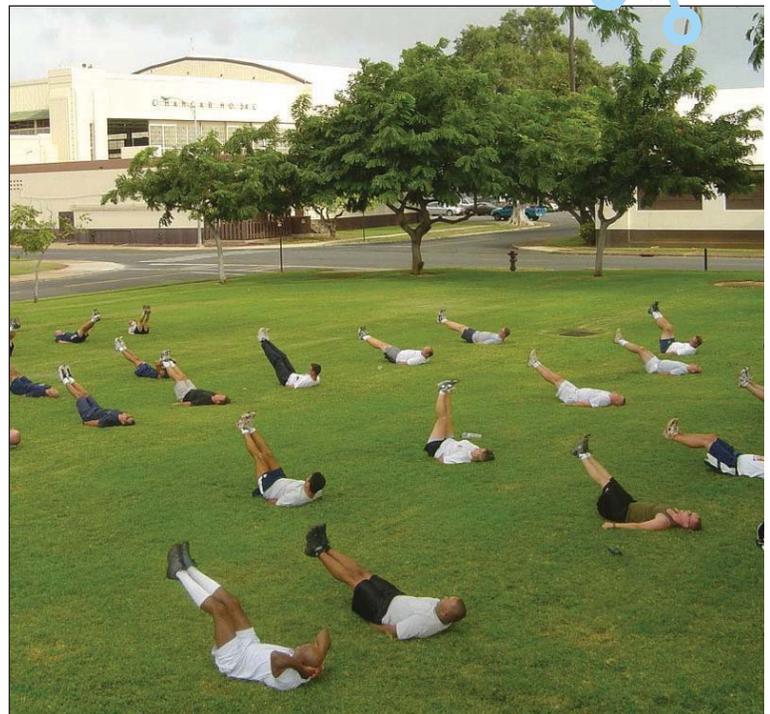


**Members of the 21st Space Communications Squadron have been participating in Space Command’s WarFit program since April 2003, an early start to the formal Air Force fitness program.** Tech. Sgt. Christopher Valgardson / 21st SCS

tempo, and ongoing AEF support, WarFit prepares the communicators of the 21st SCS to fulfill their mission. (Tech. Sgt. Christopher Valgardson)

## PACAF

The warriors of the Pacific Air Forces Computer Systems Squadron believe Airmen must be physically and mentally fit to endure the rigorous operations tempo set by recent global conflicts. With a motto of “Who’s the Best? CSS! Hoo-yaah!”, Airmen across the unit embrace “Fit to Fight” with gusto. The unit began its fitness initiative last August by exercising twice each week as a squadron and once per week as flights. The unit has logged 174 miles in formation runs and more than 700 individual miles. Each unit formation starts with 10 stretches, 10 strength exercises (including at least 100 push ups and crunches of differing varieties), and a 3-mile run. Additionally, the



**Since beginning a fitness program last August, fitness scores have increased in every category. The unit says strong leadership has played a role in the improvements.** Courtesy photo / PACAF

squadron tested under the same conditions it would be in if the tests were graded, and the results proved to be impressive:

► The total unit average score climbed from 63 to an average score of 71 in three months; ► 1.5-mile run

times dropped from the “fast” Airmen making time in 18 minutes down to a respectable 14 minutes and 19 seconds! ► Push ups collectively soared from an average of 15 to 40 per person, and sit-ups rose from 20 to 50. ► Three squadron ►►

members who initially had “fast” times improved so much, they entered a local marathon and completed the course. (CSS tracks these metrics using “FitLinxx,” computer system for logging PT activities.)

Unit morale and camaraderie have been at an all time high. All of this was made possible due to strong leadership up and down the chain, from the PACAF commander down to every supervisor in the flights. Officers, senior NCOs and supervisors are out in front of the troops each week, leading the charge and showing they are willing to go the distance for the team. In CSS, no one gets left behind, and everyone gives their best.

With their official test (done in March) the unit finds their people feeling confident, qualified, and motivated to raise the bar and succeed as a unit. (*Lt. Col. Karlton Johnson*)



**Members of the Air Force Agency for Modeling and Simulation gather each month for PT. Some have signed up as a relay team for the Air Force Marathon in September.** Courtesy photo / AFAMS

## AFAMS

A well-structured physical readiness program includes not just a physical fitness regimen, but also consists of good nutritional practices and a healthful means of stress management.

The Air Force Agency for Modeling and Simulation, a Field Operating Agency, has embarked on a wellness program for its members that centers on preparing its warriors for meeting the recently published standards of fitness. The commander, Col.

David Votipka, conducts monthly physical fitness events that challenge members with push ups, sit-ups, and a 2-mile run.

These monthly events are designed to assist the 16 active duty members in determining their fitness levels and deciding on a fitness program that will help them meet and eventually exceed their goals.

Along with the active duty warriors, the 18 assigned government civilian warriors also take advantage of the monthly events. The members at AFAMS

have now established a relay team for the upcoming Air Force Marathon at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, in mid-September.

Military members also established a monthly lunch time meeting to discuss fitness goals, stress management issues, and world events that affect the Air Force.

Taking care of our Air Force mission is often directly correlated to taking care of our people. And, at AFAMS, they're doing just that. (*Capt. Rachel Castellon*)

# SENIOR ATHLETE

## Stay active philosophy helps keep civilian ‘fit to fight’



Active duty members are getting in better shape ... and so are many civilians. Take Mr. Dave Hansen for instance. He says his “just stay active” mentality has kept him going long after his active duty days were over. The Atchison, Kan., native was what many might call the ultimate athlete when he was in college at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Mo. He excelled in several sports such as track and field, as well as football—he received “letters” in both sports for four straight years. He also set school records in the high jump, and a still-standing highest average per reception of 19 yards as a football receiver. He even competed against future Olympic decathlon gold medalist Bruce Jenner for two years at several track meets. “He never beat me in the high jump,”

said Hansen, who works at the Air Force Communications Agency’s Information Protection Division, at Scott AFB, Ill. After his commissioning from Officer Training School in 1973, he began participating in nearly every athletic-type of competition at the various bases he was assigned during his two periods of active duty service—1972 to 1976, and 1980 to 1988—including playing rugby, baseball and soccer while stationed in Panama. As an Air Force civilian, and despite suffering a “blown knee” on active duty, Mr. Hansen has continued to participate in athletic events. Always a serious competitor, his tenacity under the basketball nets while working at U.S. Transportation Command earned him the nickname “Rhino” by Maj. Gen. (retired) George Lampe. “The younger players did not appreciate my skill and finesse under the basket,” wrote Hansen about the game. “General Lampe responded to that with ‘Mr. Hansen’s skill and finesse under the basket is like a Rhino in a

## Comm officer certifies as ‘International Umpire’

In addition to his job as a communications officer in the Air Combat Command Communications and Information Systems Directorate at Langley AFB, Va., Maj. Randy McLamb is also a volleyball referee and fast pitch softball umpire in his spare time.

After 20 years of softball umpiring, Major McLamb recently received the highest rating an umpire can achieve by becoming certified as an “International Umpire.” He applied for and was accepted to attend the International Softball Federation certification seminar for fast pitch softball umpires. Now certified as an International Fast Pitch Umpire, he’s eligible to umpire at World (adult or junior men’s and women’s) or Regional Softball Championships, including the Pan American

Games and the Olympics. Only 213 U.S. umpires have been certified in this program since it began in 1978. Of that total, only 129 are active—57 in fast pitch, 28 in slow pitch, and 44 in modified pitch. As a result, Major McLamb just became one of only 65 active fast pitch umpires in the States.

Major McLamb first began umpiring as a Little League baseball umpire in 1983, then he became a slow pitch softball umpire in 1984 after enlisting in the Air Force. He became a fast pitch umpire in 1989 and fell in love with the fast pitch softball game because it combined the best attributes of baseball and softball into one sport.

In 1993, he began umpiring NCAA softball games. Since then, he’s worked in more than 12 NCAA Division I conferences in states ranging from Florida, Texas, Colorado, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. He currently works several NCAA Division I conferences along with a few NCAA Division II and III conferences.

In addition to being a fast pitch softball umpire, Major McLamb is also a volleyball referee. He’s currently a National referee with the Professional Association of Volleyball Officials and is completing his National referee certification this year with USA Volleyball.

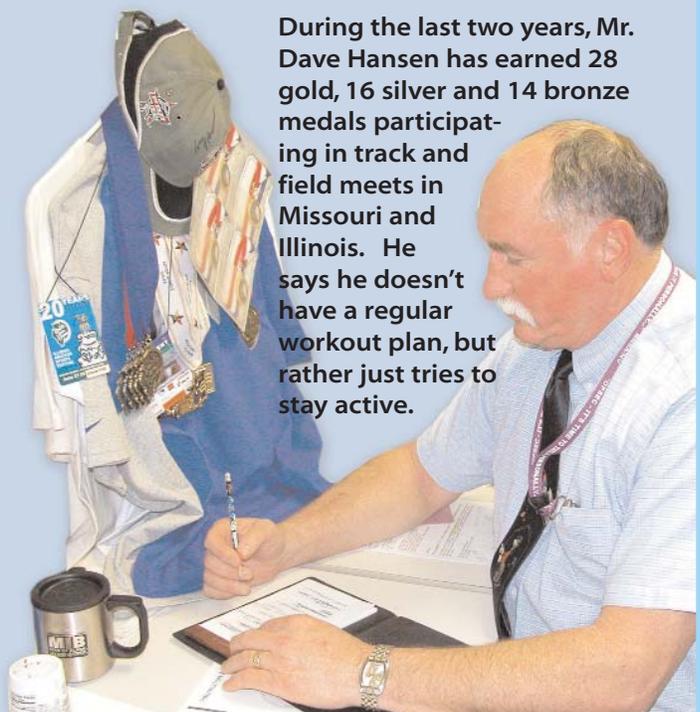
“The people you meet, the friends you make, and being a mentor to others are the greatest rewards of being an umpire or referee,” he said. (HQ ACC/SCXA)



**As a certified International Umpire, Maj. Randy McLamb can officiate at World, Regional, and Olympic-level games.**

china shop.” As a testament to his philosophy of staying active, at age 43, he began participating in a variety of track and field and other events during the annual Prairie State Games competition held in the St. Louis area. Ten years later, there is no slowing him down. During the last two years, he earned 28 gold, 16 silver and 14 bronze medals participating in track and field meets in Missouri and Illinois. He is also an avid hunter and fisherman hosting outings with family and friends. Though Hansen’s philosophy keeps him busier than most people, it’s also unusual in that it doesn’t emphasize regular workouts to stay in shape.

“Even watching sports can keep the blood flowing,” he says with a smile. “I’ll probably compete until I’m unable to get to the meets. The way things are going, my knees are going to make me stop high jumping, so I’ll have to just do the throwing events until my arm falls off,” he explained. “Then, I’ll have to learn to do them with the other arm... It’s something I enjoy and can do with some skill. I’m not sure why. It’s like asking a fisherman that practices catch and release, ‘why do you keep fishing?’” (Gerald Sonnenberg, AFCA/PA)



**During the last two years, Mr. Dave Hansen has earned 28 gold, 16 silver and 14 bronze medals participating in track and field meets in Missouri and Illinois. He says he doesn’t have a regular workout plan, but rather just tries to stay active.**

# Hall of Fame

## 2 communicators inducted during April ceremony

Since 1999, the Air Force Communications and Information 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, inducted Lt. Gen.

(retired) John S. Fairfield and the late Maj. Gen. John Paul Hyde into the Hall of Fame during a ceremony and dinner April 15 at Andrews AFB, Md.

### Lt. Gen. John S. Fairfield

General Fairfield retired after serving in the Air Force for more than 34 years. A graduate of Officer Training School at Lackland AFB, Texas, in December 1962, he became a navigator, bombardier and command pilot. He flew 180 F-4 combat missions in Vietnam. Later, his career expanded to include the vast communications and information career field. He commanded Air Force Communications Command from 1990-1993. Though he was new to



the communications environment, he adapted to its needs and capabilities. He personally directed the AFCC battle staff in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Simultaneously, he handled the many tasks associated with the divestiture of missions and manpower as AFCC became a field operating agency in 1991. His achievements endeared him to the troops under his command as the enlisted corps chose General Fairfield as the final recipient of AFCC's Order of the Sword in 1993. He led the comm community in the mid 1990s as Air Force deputy chief of staff, command, control, communications and computers, as well as deputy chief of staff, communications and information. In this capacity, he was responsible for three Field Operating Agencies: Air Force Communications Agency, Air Force Pentagon Communications Agency, and Air Force Frequency Management Agency.

### Maj. Gen. John Paul Hyde

A career-long communicator, General Hyde was called to active duty after graduating from the University of Cincinnati and receiving his commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1957.

After attending the basic communications officer course at Scott AFB, he was assigned as wire and radio communications staff officer at Headquarters Washington Air Defense Sector, at Fort Lee, Va. Early on, General Hyde was associated with several innovations. These included developing and fielding seismic systems for detecting underground nuclear tests, and developing the first 10-year plan for future defense communications systems. Much of what he did helped lead the Air Force to digitization and the greater reliance on communications satellites seen today.

Some later assignments included commander of the 1964th Communications Group in Vietnam, and the 1974th Communications Group in Thailand. He also served with the Defense Communications Agency and the Tactical Communications Area within AFCC, and as deputy chief of staff for communications and electronics for Tactical Air Command. His final assignment was as deputy director for defense-wide command, control and communications systems, Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. General Hyde retired April 1, 1988 and died in January 1996.

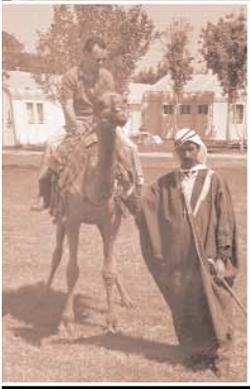


The Air Force Communications and Information Hall of Fame site is maintained by the Air Force Communications Agency, Scott AFB. It was officially dedicated March 2, 2001. For more information, visit the Web site at [http://public.afca.af.mil/hall\\_of\\_fame.htm](http://public.afca.af.mil/hall_of_fame.htm).

Army Airways Communications System ▶ Army Airways Communications System Wing  
 Air Communications Service ▶ Airways and Air Communications Service  
 Air Force Communications Service ▶ Air Force Communications Command  
 Air Force Command, Control, Communications & Computer Agency  
 Air Force Communications Agency ▶ Air Force Flight Standards Agency



Trachten & Bob  
 Bob is our new E



Mac Maginnis, Tom Buckley & Ralph Winters  
 Mac Maginnis wins "at Golf"

# AACS

## Alumni Association

The AACS Alumni Association is a group of former Army Air Corps and U.S. Air Force personnel (both male and female) who have served in the Communications and Air Traffic Control lineage from 1938 until today. A poker weekend in Columbus, Ohio in 1977—with a number of 5th AACS Wing and AACS Group/Squadron members who served in England and Germany during and after WWII—resulted in the creation of the AACS Alumni Association and its first annual reunion.

AACS fosters awareness of the Communications/Information and Air Traffic Control missions accomplished by AACS, ACS, AFCS, AFCC, AFC4A, AFCA and AFFSA; provides a forum for educational and humanitarian services; renews and makes new friendships; and exchanges ideas of common interest. There are annual reunions, usually in late September, held in different cities in the United States to bring together its members to meet, embrace, talk, and remember days of yesterday. AACS has grown since its creation from 50 members to more than 2,600 members today. It's about 85 percent enlisted and 15 percent officers. Approximately 35 percent are communicators, 35 percent air traffic controllers and the remaining 30 percent commanders, staff officers, flight check, administrative and maintenance support personnel. There are 50 General Officers as members, many former commanders of the AFCS, AFCC, AFC4A, AFCA, as well as current active duty personnel. The AACS Alumni Association is one of the few associations that can trace its lineage back over 66 years despite the many Air Force organizational changes, including the demise of a central communications command. One of the long term goals is to continue to provide this lineage for today's dispersed Airmen and officers in the communications/information and air traffic control career fields regardless of what major command they serve in.

There are currently eight AACS Alumni members in the Air Force Communications and Information Hall of Fame. *(Retired Chief Master Sgt. Hank Sauer, AACS Newsletter Editor)*

Time  
 Machine

[www.aacsalumni.com](http://www.aacsalumni.com)

## News Briefs

### NEW DEVELOPMENTS

**MANAGING E-MAIL:** Imagine returning to your unit after a much-deserved leave or week-long TDY, only to find nearly 200 e-mail messages in your inbox, or spend all morning going through your e-mail and take off for lunch only to return to 50 new e-mails waiting for your action. From senior leadership to the newest Airman on the flight line, the Air Force must posture itself to accomplish the mission without spending the bulk of the time behind the computer. Hence, the "ACC Commander's Guide to Managing E-mail" was approved and published and is currently available at: <https://wwwmil.acc.af.mil/aohand-book/understafftools>. The guide contains a commander's "Top 10" list on e-mail and includes professional courtesies and military etiquette rules. In addition, there are various pointers on how to manage your e-mail including step-by-step procedures on the use of rules and wizards for managing important e-mail vs junk mail. (Senior Master Sgt. Michael Harris, ACC/SC)

**FAMILY PERK:** Some Air Force families with a child entering the senior year of high school may get to stay additional time at their current duty stations thanks to a new policy announced this month. The High School Seniors Assignment Deferment Program allows senior master sergeants and below, and officers up through the rank of lieutenant colonel, to apply for a one-year assignment deferment. Back-to-back deferments may be possible and military-married-to-military spouses may also apply. Even with the changes, officials said the mission comes first and will be the overriding factor in granting deferments.

To be eligible, the rising senior in



## Civilian Focus



# CLIMB ON BOARD THE LISTSERV

## New e-mail service keeps you informed

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Streefer  
Air Force Print News

**WASHINGTON** — Officials from the Air Force's National Security Personnel System implementation office recently unveiled a simple way to keep employees informed of coming changes to the Department of Defense civilian personnel system.

The 2004 National Defense Authorization Act established the NSPS, a new human resources management system for DoD civilians. A new chapter of Title 5, U.S. Code, allows the secretary of defense and the director of the Office of Personnel Management to establish the new system. It will provide a new framework of rules, regulations, and processes — rooted in the principles of flexibility and fairness — that govern the way civilians are hired, compensated, promoted, and disciplined in DoD.

"This is going to be such a wide-spread, high-impact change to our workforce," said Denise Walker, Air Force NSPS Implementation Team member. "We want our people to know what is going on as soon as the information is releasable."

To accomplish this mission, the office created a new e-mail list server that will send updates to registered users. To register for the service, users may go to the NSPS Web site, <https://www.dp.hq.af.mil/dpp/dppn/nsps/> and click on the registration link. That action opens a blank e-mail message from the user's e-mail service. Then all the user has to do is click on "send."

"The server registers the e-mail address and sends a confirmation response," Ms. Walker said. "It's that simple."

Once registered, users will receive the latest information as it becomes available. Ms. Walker cautioned against expecting daily or even weekly updates.

"The intent is to have news go out as news comes down," Ms. Walker said. "It's not going to be on a specific schedule because by nature, with the implementation of a major program, things happen sporadically. It might be (that some action) this week is really newsworthy and one or two messages go out, and then it might be awhile before the next message."

Officials hope this authoritative source for NSPS news reduces the misinformation of second- or third-hand rumors.

"This way, information doesn't get passed from person to person to person and distorted along the way," Ms. Walker said. "We want people to know (what is happening), because if we do have a speedy implementation of this program, we don't want people to be taken by surprise."

In addition to the Air Force NSPS Web site and news service, the DoD NSPS Web site is a good source of information, Ms. Walker said. The Air Force Web site provides a link to the DoD site, and it is a good idea to check both places to stay well informed.

"We think this is going to be a really effective way to reach out and touch people who are interested, be they military, civilian or contractor," Ms. Walker said.

<https://www.dp.hq.af.mil/dpp/dppn/nsps/>

high school must be a dependent of and living with the Airman requesting the deferment, and must be enrolled in the dependent enrollment system called DEERS. Officers will need to apply before being put on assignment while enlisted people will not apply until after being matched to an assignment. Applications are available at military personnel flights and commander support staffs.

The Air Force Contact Center offers information about this and other personnel programs all day, every day by calling toll free (800) 616-3775 or online at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil>. (AFPC)

## MISSION READY

**WEB-BASED STATUS:** Commanders, unit deployment managers and individuals Air Force-wide have their readiness status available at the click of a mouse thanks to Air Force Materiel Command experts developing three web-based self-service tools. The Deployment Readiness Service, Expeditionary Force Management Tool and the Commander's Dashboard were born under the Air Force's new Operational Support Concept of Operations that calls for commanders



Files are now at commanders' fingertips

to regularly review their people's deployment readiness. They all work together to give everyone involved in the deployment process a clear picture of what training has and has not been done and why. The old multi-step process required AFMC deployment managers to organize an Airman's equipment and hospital records, schedule training and maintain personnel and other documents before the individual was considered deployable, a cumbersome process at best. On top of that, deployment managers resorted to using personal computer-based tools to assist them, which has created duplicated databases unable to interact with each other. The Commander's Dashboard is the information technology tool that provides commanders a desk-top look at information on his or her people's deployment status. Future releases will include the readiness of equipment

and infrastructure, much like runways and navigational aids under their command. Additionally, it provides a single login for Air Force Portal access, drill down capabilities, integration with other enterprise service, robust interface capabilities and it reuses information from standard enterprise systems. Lt. Gen. Tom Hobbins, deputy chief of staff for Warfighting Integration, said (it) will become an important part of what he sees as a "smart system," which will offer the user reports and other information directly patterned to that individual. (AFMC Public Affairs)

**AIR & COMM SUMMIT:** A global grid where information can be passed from weapons to aircraft to command and control facilities highlighted discussions at the sixth annual air armament summit at Eglin AFB, Fla. March 16-17.

Leaders from government, industry and academia met here with groups who have spent the last 10 months researching specific topics, such as test and training, assessing the global threat environment, networking

weapons and integrated planning.

"It's going to be a joint fight, so it needs to be a joint answer," said Col. Pamela Arias, Air Armament Center Enterprise Program Office director and one of the summit's key planners.

The panels presented recommendations focused on continuing current weapons programs, developing test ranges and airspace to test new weapons that create a larger footprint and continuing to develop directed energy and hypersonic technology.

However, a big focus for the joint community is a recommendation Integrated Armament Planning panel members made to create a weapons datalink. This would be part of the Global Information Grid where information could be passed from weapons to aircraft to command and control facilities using a "language" all involved parts understand.

For example, the colonel said after



DoD leaders are looking at how to improve communications between weapons, aircraft, and command and control facilities.

a weapon is released, it could be re-targeted. It could send back information to the grid about the area it sees to provide intelligence and its location right before hitting the target to verify where it's hitting. It might also have the ability to look at where other targets were hit before it explodes for battle damage assessment.

"Whether it's Air Force talking to a Navy ship talking to a satellite down to some operations center somewhere — all of that information can pass. It's just important that we link up," said the colonel. (Sarah Anne Carter, AAC Public Affairs)



Tech. Sgt. Andy Dunaway / 1st CTCS

## DISH IT UP

Airman 1st Class William Radford, a satellite communications apprentice with the 612th Air Communications Squadron, installs a satellite dish at Port-au-Prince, Haiti, in March. U.S. troops are deployed there to help promote the constitutional political process, to prepare for the arrival of a U.N. multinational force, facilitate humanitarian assistance and secure key sites.

## KUDOS

**AIRPORT COMM:** Airmen at Baghdad International Airport worked for two days rebuilding and improving the communications infrastructure there. A team of 447th Air Expeditionary Group cable maintenance shop and telephone systems Airmen started the job April 3.

"We were asked to come out here and establish high-speed computer and satellite-communications capability to the airport," said Tech. Sgt. Christopher Thomas, NCO in charge of the 447th ECS cable maintenance shop.

The contractor responsible for bringing the entire airport up to international-commercial standards, recently ran short on some supplies and tools. Through a meeting with the Air Force group's leaders, officials determined the communications squadron had the right materials to assist, said Mr. Eric Huppert, the com-

pany's deputy program director in Iraq, and a retired lieutenant colonel.

Saddam Hussein's regime had wired the airport -- but not properly, said Chris Lebiedz, the company's assistant information manager at the airport. The communications lines were run too far off without equipment to boost the signals. The regime also used substandard materials among other problems, he said. Some of the wires were run right across the roof tops, which in the summer heat would melt.

The Air Force donated surplus fiber-optic cable, cable connectors, tools, media converters and communication switches. Training Iraqi employees who will maintain the system after contractors and the U.S. forces are gone is a key part of the joint effort. To that end, Iraqis followed the Airmen through every task, from running cables through floors to attaching equipment to the cabling.

"All this stuff is so new to me, but



Sarah Izet and Airman 1st Class Brendon Vanzile attach connectors to communications wires at Baghdad International Airport.

I'm learning quickly," said Sarah Izet, a contracted information technician and Baghdad native.

After poking through ceilings, cracks, air ducts and crawling through dusty rooms, the team discovered security was tight throughout the airport. Getting doors unlocked was quite a challenge, Sergeant Powell

said. The Airmen said they are proud of the time they spent working side-by-side with the Iraqis to rebuild their country, said Staff Sgt. Shawn German, a telephone systems switch technician.

Especially heartwarming was the welcome the Airmen felt from most of the Iraqis, he said.

"Once, we were running some cable outside and this older man came over for no reason at all and brought us some tea," Sergeant German said. "That is something I will remember for years to come."

The Iraqis are grateful for the Americans' help, Ms. Izet said.

"I'm glad everything is so good now," she said. "We needed the change, and this is for the better."

Mr. Huppert added, "Communications is our lifeblood. All our other operations hinge on the ability to communicate both internally and externally." (Master Sgt. Sean Cobb, 447th AEG PA)



Master Sgt. Mark Green / 332nd CS

## MOBILE HOME

Airmen from the 332nd Expeditionary Communications Squadron deployed to Tallil, Iraq, use teamwork to move a tent to avoid rising water and excessive mud caused by seasonal rain.

## AWARENESS TRAINING

**ANTI TERRORISM:** The March 11 train bombings in Spain, occurring 911 days after "9/11" on September 11, 2001, as well as the daily bombings in Iraq, illustrate the unwavering resolve of terrorists to attack those they fervently hate.

In response to these and past terrorist attacks, a great deal of time, effort and money has been spent gathering intelligence and attempting to safeguard ourselves as well as others. Yet, lives are unfortunately lost to the perpetrators of terror almost daily.

This leads many people to believe if terrorists really want to get us, they will. This is a rather fatalistic attitude, but it's pervasive throughout the world.

So how do we protect ourselves from those determined to harm us? What, if anything, can we learn from all of this violence?

**First, terrorists will continue to innovate and adapt in an effort to strike at the heart of their sworn enemies, regardless of gender, age or military affiliation.** Their goal is to terrorize people into altering the way they or their governments do business. An election outcome was significantly affected by the bombings in Spain.

**Moreover, terrorists are only limited by their imaginations.** Although improvised explosive devices seem to be the weapon of choice, you can bet terrorists are working on new methods to murder innocent people and destroy property. Terrorists are continually working on the next 9/11.

The old rules and Force Protection Condition checklists cannot, on their own, provide the basis for antiterrorism efforts. I'm not arguing their value. They are necessary. However, **it is imperative we innovate and adapt as the terrorists do.**

We can no longer rely solely on numerically sequenced directives in the hopes of sending the terrorists somewhere else. These people are smart and will not attack us when we most expect it.

The most important thing we can learn is anti-terrorism is everyone's responsibility. At least two of the



Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp / 119th FW

### IT'S ALL IN THE MIX

**Tech. Sgt. Michael L. Knodle, 119th Communications Flight videographer, mixes audio and video for live broadcasts on the base closed-circuit television. The 119th Fighter Wing commander addresses the base personnel from the base multimedia center during monthly unit training exercises.**

unexploded devices found during the recent bombings in Spain were left in unattended backpacks. With a little vigilance, lives could have been saved.

Do you recall the Centennial Olympic Park bombing during the summer of 1996 in Atlanta? At a recent anti-terrorism course, I learned people actually tried to walk off with the backpack containing the bomb until they realized it was too heavy.

**Vigilance and a willingness to act are paramount if we are to make the enemy ineffective.**

The expectation that our government can stop every single act of terrorism is unrealistic. As Air Force members, the expectation that security forces or the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, our counter-terrorism experts, can single-handedly thwart a well-planned terrorist event is similarly unrealistic. But we can all help stop events before they occur and steal the initiative from the enemy. (2nd Lt. Darrell Peek, 14th SFS)

### COMSEC vital to mission success

In 1985, John Walker and others were convicted of selling communications security, or COMSEC, cryptographic materials and equipment to the Soviet Union beginning in 1968. Their actions resulted in more than one million U.S. classified messages being deciphered by the Soviet Union.

It's believed that many of those compromised messages were passed to the North Vietnamese, contributing to many of the 57,000 lives lost during the Vietnam War. Those tragic losses reinforce why everyone in the Air Force must fully understand the need for COMSEC and comply with governing directives. COMSEC materials originate with the National Security Agency and are used to protect all national defense information. Users of these vital materials must strictly adhere to Air Force Instruction 33-211, COMSEC User Requirements.

From communications squadrons, base COMSEC managers issue these cryptographic materials and enforce national security policies. Any unit requiring encryption materials must request them through the base COMSEC manager. Using locally derived codes to protect any official communication is strictly prohibited. Once a unit receives COMSEC materials, they must store them in an approved safe or secure facility that can only be accessed by properly trained and cleared personnel. Any improper storage, use or access by unauthorized persons constitutes a serious incident that must be immediately reported to the base COMSEC manager.

Remember, compromised cryptographic materials enabled our past enemies to covertly decrypt our nation's classified communications, gaining significant advantages in battle that resulted in great loss of American lives. (Senior Master Sgt. Alan McClellan, 805th CSS)



### **What is ATN?**

The Air Technology Network is a distance learning satellite service provided by the Air Force Institute for Advanced Distributed Learning, located at Maxwell AFB—Gunter Annex, Ala.

### **How does it work?**

It uses an interactive television network which consists of one-way video satellite uplinks reaching receive-only downlinks but with two-way audio interaction. ATN uses compressed digital video, which greatly reduces the cost of transmission, yet provides high-quality, live, full-motion video.

### **Who uses it?**

ATN now reaches classrooms across 140 Air Force sites within the United States (including Alaska and Hawaii) and 13 locations in Europe and the Western Pacific. Education and training courses are transmitted terrestrially from a variety of locations (Sheppard, Keesler, Maxwell, Lackland, Dobbins, and Robins AFBs) to ATN's central uplink hub at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, for broadcasting.

The connection to Europe is being made through the Global Broadcast Service with a gateway uplink at Norfolk, Va. ATN's service to the Western Pacific region is provided by a commercial service provider, but is currently temporarily suspended while contracts for service are being renegotiated. The new contract will extend ATN's reach across the entire Eurasian continent, allowing ATN to meet the deployed warriors in all theaters of operation.

Since its development in 1991, ATN has been used to provide continuing education and training to more than 32,000 students—and the number is increasing year by

year. Last year alone, an estimated 11,000 AF, AFRC, and ANG personnel received instruction through ATN.

### **What topics are taught?**

Courses broadcast over ATN include a variety of topics from technical and medical training to civil engineering. ATN is fully compatible with the Air National Guard's Warrior Network and the Army's Satellite Education Network. Those DoD networks are part of the larger federal government network, the Government Education and Training Network, pioneered in 1993. GETN is a network of networks operated by a consortium of 17 federal agencies. It has more than 10,000 scheduled hours of broadcasting each year (3,500 from ATN alone) from 12 uplinks reaching more than 1,300 receive sites.

### **What's the future of ATN?**

ATN has been around for a while, but it's meeting the challenge of the future. The Air Force is exploring the capability of using ATN for datacasting.

Datacasting is used in industry to allow for broadcasting computer based instruction, text materials for local printing, interactive TV, and streaming media, among other applications. Satellite is ideal for applications that require rapid deployment of course content to a large number of sites—real-time or otherwise. Satellite can provide a bypass to our heavily burdened communications infrastructure, and to DoD firewalls. Courses can be received by local servers for real time (live) or delayed delivery to the classroom, desktop, or laptop—anytime, anywhere. Datacasting would also be integrated with existing learning management systems in support of computer-based courses developed in conformance with DoD's Advanced Distributed Learning Initiative.

**WEB SITE:** <http://atn.afit.edu>

**Source:** Mr. Philip J.L. Westfall, Ph.D. / AFIADL

LIVE AS BRAVE MEN;  
AND IF FORTUNE IS ADVERSE,  
FRONT ITS BLOWS WITH BRAVE HEARTS.

Cicero (106 BC - 43 BC)



Airman 1st Class Daniel DeCook / 99th KC5



"Individual commitment to a group effort--  
that is what makes a team work, a  
company work, a society work,  
a civilization work."

- VINCE LOMBARDI

