

Southern Flyer

908th Airlift Wing, Air Force Reserve Command, Maxwell AFB, Ala., Vol. 46, Issue 5, May 2009

Get 1 Now

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Replenish the force, refer a friend, co-worker

The most powerful recommendation is one from a friend. That's the idea behind the Air Force Reserve's Get One Now program. Citizen Airmen telling their friends and family members about skills they've learned, extraordinary experiences they've had and great benefits they're receiving as members of the Air Force Reserve make more of an impression on potential Reservists than any magazine ad, billboard or television commercial.

By serving as a very valuable extension of the formal recruiting force, Reservists are helping to keep the Air Force Reserve a very strong, cohesive organization of people with whom they wish to serve. That's why Get One Now is so important. It provides an opportunity to have a say in who becomes a member of the Air Force Reserve.

To acknowledge Reservists' contribution by referring good people, Get One Now has a new award structure. The awards are divided into four levels, and three of those levels give participants their choice of items. For example, those who earn three awards have their choice between six Level 1 items. Reservists may choose three different items or three of the same one.

Those who earn a fourth award may choose an item from Level 2. The more awards a person earns, the more the value of the awards increase.

Awards range from satellite radios to laptop computers, and there is no limit to the number of awards a Reservist may earn.

The current award period began Oct. 1 and runs through Sept. 30, 2009, and that is very important. For instance, if you have earned nine awards in that time frame and you earn a 10th award on Oct. 1, 2009, you will not choose from Level 4 but rather from Level 1.

The key to earning awards is to enter referrals into the Get One Now system. Reservists may enter as many people as they want, but a person who is referred must join the Air Force Reserve within 24 months for the Reservist to be eligible for the Get One Now program awards.

Reservists can track the progress of their referrals online at www.get1now.com. This web site makes it easier to enter leads after logging in with the username and password from a Get One Now card. Can't find a card? Call toll free 877-786-2372 and an adviser will supply a password.

Those who do earn an award will be notified by postcard and directed to the Web site.

After logging on, winners will be prompted to go to the awards page and make their selection. Awards will ship approximately 10 business days after selection. (AFRC News Release)

You Get MORE From GET ONE NOW!

START EARNING AWARDS FOR RECOMMENDING PEOPLE WITH WHOM YOU WISH TO SERVE.

- New awards from *satellite radios to laptop computers.*
- You choose your award.
- The more awards earned, the more their value increases.
- New look to Get1Now.us.



Enter referrals now at Get1Now.us
Forgot your password? Call 877-786-2372


GET ONE NOW



Simulating deploying overseas, 908th Airmen exit a unit C-130 aircraft and head to Maxwell AFB's Blue Thunder Training Complex.

Photo by Jeff Melvin

ORTP-4 Operation Patriot Thunder

Weeklong exercise shows way to ORI success

About 400 908th Airlift Wing members participated in Operation Patriot Thunder at Maxwell AFB's Blue Thunder Training Complex April 23-30. Operation Patriot Thunder represented the fourth stage of the Operational Readiness Training Program developed to prepare the unit for its operational readiness inspection.

The official ORI, scheduled for December 2009, will assess the wing's ability to deploy and to survive and operate in a combat and chemical or biological environment.

During this past exercise, 908th AW Airmen simulated deploying to Korea and arriving before hostilities began.

During the initial portion of the exercise, wing and host base agencies were evaluated by exercise evaluation team members on processing the deploying Airmen and their cargo as quickly as possible.

Once the exercise was underway, participants got a chance to practice exercise procedures as well as how the deployed unit control and emergency operation centers responded to different incidents and communicated with each other.

Another important part of the exercise was putting 908th AW Airmen through the paces demonstrating their Ability to Survive and Operate (ATSO) proficiency by donning their Mission Oriented Protective Posture (MOPP) gear during changes in exercise conditions.

"The exercise has opened our eyes to the road ahead and where we need to concentrate our training to prepare for the ORE and ORI," said Lt. Col. Steve Catchings, 908th Operations Group standardization and evaluation chief, and wing ORI "Warlord." "I saw

a lot of great things and people putting out tremendous efforts. For many folks the learning curve was very steep. The bottom line is we can do great in the ORE and ORI as long as we prepare as a unit and as individuals which means getting into the books and practicing."

908th AW Commander Col. Brett Clark said the exercise involved "worst-case" scenarios to help prepare the wing to meet the most challenging real-world combat missions. He said this was his first ORTP and ORI as a wing commander, and described it as a "humbling experience."

Operation Patriot Thunder, the colonel said, achieved "exactly what we wanted, which was to expose any shortcomings in training, validate good processes versus bad ones and emphasize communication up, down and across the deployed wing. Good effective communication is critical to mission success and this exercise clearly demonstrated its importance."


He said he wanted to thank our 908th airmen and all 42 ABW agencies that assisted with conducting the exercise; both for their commitment and for their hard work.

"I can't emphasize how much I appreciate our Airmen," he said. "Under some incredibly uncomfortable situations, virtually all performed with a smile on their face. I want to personally thank all of them for that."

[See more pictures on Pages 4-7](#)

ORI Milestones

Make sure these dates are checked on your calendar



Operational Readiness Exercise (ORE): Sept. 13-20, 2009 at Gulfport, Miss. w/911th Airlift Wing, Pittsburgh IARS, Pa.

****Operational Readiness Inspection: Dec. 4-11, 2009, (location to be announced)**



Photo by Jeff Melvin

Col. Brett J. Clark -- Commander, 908th Airlift Wing

Lt. Col. Jerry W. Lobb -- Chief, Public Affairs

Jeffery Melvin -- Deputy Chief/Editor

Cover photo:

908th Logistics Readiness Squadron's Master Sgt. John Moody, shown here in MOPP Level 4 gear, and about 400 908th AW Airmen took part in Operation Patriot Thunder April 23-30. See Pages 3-7 for more about the wing's participation in the operational readiness training program exercise.

Southern Flyer

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Photo by Jeff Melvin

In one of numerous pre-deployment activities for Operation Patriot Thunder, 908th Maintenance Squadron aerospace ground equipment shop technicians hitch up equipment in the cargo marshalling yard.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder

Staff Sgt. Josh Burton, loadmaster, 357th AS, completes his task of storing away the last timber from the loading of the pallets on his C-130



Photo by Jeff Melvin

LRS commander Maj. Charles Carver talks to to two of the key players in the wing's ORI prep activities Capt. Hope Norton and Master Sgt. William Fletcher of the wing's Reserve Deployment Readiness Cell



Photo by Jeff Melvin

From left, 357th Airlift Squadron members Capt. Jeff Randall, Lt. Col. Joe Accardo, Capt Chris Constantine, Lt. Col. Ken Holston and Senior Master Sgt. James Rickels meet with 357th AS director of operations Maj. Ken Ostrat discuss ORTP-4 plans during a pre-Patriot Thunder meeting of operations personnel.



Photo by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb

Exercise participants fill sand bags.



Photo by Jeff Melvin

Military Personnel Flight's Staff Sgt. Denise Wesley processes incoming personnel at the Blue Thunder facility.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder

Exercise participants exit the mobility processing facility and head for busses that will either take them directly to Blue Thunder or to the flightline where they will board aircraft that will taxi across the runway simulating an actual flight.



Photo by Jeff Melvin

Aerial port and transportation flight personnel played key roles in the set up and break down of the mock deployed site.



Senior Airman Abby Helton, left, and Tech Sgt. Charlie Banks, 25th APS, man a lookout checkpoint.

Photo by Jeff Melvin



Services Flight members provide one of the highlight of each day, the hot evening meal.

Photo by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb



An evaluator from 22nd Air Force answers questions from assembled exercise participants

Photo by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb



Emergency operations cell in action

Photo by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb



Security Forces Squadron's Senior Airman Taran Walker cleans his weapon as the exercise winds down and break down of the site begins.

Photo by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb



Demonstrating self aid and buddy care proficiency, two exercise participants assist a simulated burn victim.

Photo by Jeff Melvin



Capt. Wendy Hendley, wing readiness and manpower officer, a key organizer of the wing's ORI preparation activities talks to 908th Operations Group commander Col. Ed Jennings.

Photo by Jeff Melvin



During a post-exercise wrap up Col. Brett Clark, 908th AW, identifies critical information that wing members must familiarize themselves with to ensure ORI success.

Photo by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb

Feature



Courtesy Photo
Senior Master Sgt. Brent Solomon, flight engineer, 357th Airlift Squadron, chats with a young firefighter checking out a 908th AW C-130 at the Tuscaloosa Air Show April 4-5.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Celena Wilson
Then-Senior Master Sgt. Gregory Taylor, 908th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, is AFRC Outstanding Senior NCO of 2008. The Decatur, Ala., native spent four years on active duty before joining the Air Force Reserve in 1992.



Courtesy Photo
Medical technician Staff Sgt. Otis Luke, 908th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, poses with the plaque denoting him Hero of the Year presented at the 22nd AF Senior Leaders Conference in April. Sergeant Luke earned the award for actions while deployed that prevented a dangerous detainee's escape.

Feature



Photo by Jeff Melvin
From left, Senior Master Sgt. Harmon Lampella, Capt. Delvin Genenbacher and Maj. Patrick Oates, 357th Airlift Squadron, answer questions and point out features of the C-130 aircraft to area students participating in an Aerospace Education Day co-sponsored by the Montgomery Chapter of the Air Force Association and National Headquarters Civil Air Patrol. About 300 area fourth grade students took part in the day's events.



Photo by Jeff Melvin
Prattville HS AFJROTC cadets perform a flag-folding ceremony at former 908th ASTS nurse practitioner Lt. Col. Carol Anders' retirement ceremony at Maxwell AFB Events Center April 25.



Courtesy Photo
Master Sgt. Vera Berry, 908th Logistics Readiness Squadron, poses with (from left) World War II veterans James (Ted) Calhoun and Joe Ausfahl at the WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C. Sergeant Berry served as an escort on the Honor Flight from Huntsville last month. When informed of her selection as an escort, Sergeant Berry said she was "so excited and extremely honored."

AF leaders name next top enlisted leader

WASHINGTON (AFNS) - Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley have announced the Airman selected to be the service's next enlisted leader. Chief Master Sgt. James A. Roy will become the 16th chief master sergeant of the Air Force during an appointment ceremony June 30 which will coincide with Chief McKinley's retirement. "This is a good day for all Airmen," General Schwartz said. "While they will lose a tremendous leader and advocate in Chief McKinley, they gain a worthy successor in Chief Roy. Given his record and reputation, I am confident that Chief Roy will carry the best interests of our Air Force family forward to our nation's leaders as we support today's joint fight and rebalance our force for the challenges ahead." Chief Roy and his wife, Paula, will come to the Pentagon from Camp Smith, Hawaii, where the chief currently serves as the senior enlisted leader and advisor to the U.S. Pacific Command combatant commander, representing more than 200,000 Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines. Chief Roy joined the Air Force in 1982. His career includes assignments as a heavy equipment operator in the civil engineer career field and then in leadership



Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley (right) introduces his replacement, Chief Master Sgt. James A. Roy, to attendees of the Senior Enlisted Forum May 8 at Maxwell AFB, Ala. Chief Roy, who currently is the senior enlisted advisor to the U.S. Pacific Command combatant commander, was selected by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz to become the 16th Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force. He will assume his duties on June 30, following Chief McKinley's retirement.

positions at the squadron, group, and numbered air force levels. He has served as the command chief master sergeant at wings in Air Education and Training Command, Air Mobility Command and Air Combat Command. He was also deployed as the command chief master sergeant of the 386th Air Expeditionary

Wing in Southwest Asia. Prior to assuming his current position he was the command chief master sergeant for U.S. Forces Japan and 5th Air Force at Yokota Air Base, Japan. Chief McKinley will retire next month after serving for 30 years. He has served as the chief master sergeant of the Air Force since June 30, 2006.

First Sergeant candidates sought for July board

Are you a good communicator? Are you credible, perceptive and exemplify the Air Force Core Values? If so, then you may want to be a First Sergeant! A First Sergeant is time honored and rich in custom and tradition. First Sergeants exercise general supervision over assigned enlisted personnel and are the focal point within the unit for all matters concerning enlisted members. They are a vital link between the commander, enlisted personnel and support agencies. The next First Sergeant board will be held during the July UTA. To be eligible, you must:

- be in the grade of MSgt or a TSgt immediately promotable to MSgt
 - have a minimum physical profile of PULHES 333231 and not have an ALC of C-2 or C-3.
 - have a minimum General AQE score of 62 or Administrative score of 41.
 - be financially stable.
 - have a minimum FIT score of 75
 - have completed NCO Academy
- If selected you must be able to attend the First Sergeant Academy within 12 months from the date of appointment. Additionally, you must complete the Senior NCO Academy within 18 months upon graduation from the First Sergeant Academy and you must maintain FIT

standards and as well as remain a First Sergeant for a minimum of 3 years. Interested applicants who meet the above criteria should submit their military resume, copies of last 3 EPRs, a current Record Review Rip (RRR), and a recommendation from your commander with current FIT score to Master Sgt. Cynthia Barker in the Personnel Employment office at the Military Personnel Flight in Bldg. 1056 not later than June 6. Applicants will be notified via mail, when and where to report to meet the board. For more information, you may contact Sergeant Barker at 493-5525, or your First Sergeant.

Wing Commander's Call, Sat. May, 16, 3 p.m.,
Bldg. 1403 (SOC's Polifka Auditorium)

May exercise tests personnel accountability system live AF-wide

By Maj. Beth Kelley Horine
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas - The Air Force implemented the Air Force Personnel Accountability and Assessment System April 1, a new program to improve global disaster personnel accountability management, reporting and case management across the Force, and plans to test the system in a force-wide exercise May 19-21.

"The May exercise will evaluate AFPAAS to ensure the Air Force is truly ready for the 2009 hurricane season," said Tim Beyland, AF Manpower and Personnel assistant deputy chief of staff.

Designed to synchronize Air Force reporting with the Department of Defense's accountability system, AFPAAS meets combatant commander and DoD requirements for personnel tracking by ensuring accountability of all Air Force personnel—to include active duty Airmen and family members, Guardsmen, Reservists, most civilians, and contractors overseas.

"The only civilian employees not currently required to use AFPAAS are bargaining employees, due to union requirements," said Maj. Romero Reid, Air Force Personnel Directorate Current Operations Branch deputy chief, "but they still must continue to report their accountability status as normal and their Unit Control Center will, in turn, update AFPAAS. We are pursuing coordination with the labor unions to allow bargaining unit employees to use AFPAAS."

An Air Force-wide exercise held March 16-20 tested the AFPAAS system. The exercise allowed Air Force leaders to identify lessons learned and work through some issues before the program went live April 1.

The March exercise achieved its goal to orient and familiarize the Air Force with AFPAAS, according to Major Reid. "Over 750,000 members were accounted for in the system--this was a huge success," he said. "However, we're not done yet. The exercise showed the need for one last fine-tuning exercise before the 2009 hurricane season," Major Reid added.

Lessons learned submitted from the March exercise highlighted challenges related to training, labor relations, privacy concerns and lack of understanding of disaster accountability roles and

responsibilities by commanders and members.

"These challenges are aggressively being addressed and will be closely evaluated during the May exercise," said Mr. Beyland.

The benefits of AFPAAS include allowing commanders and units to account, assess, manage and monitor the recovery and reconstitution process for personnel and their families affected and/or scattered by a wide-spread catastrophic event, every step of the way.

"AFPAAS provides valuable accountability at all levels of the Air Force chain of command, enhancing the commanders' ability to make strategic decisions," said Brian Angell, Air Force Personnel Center Personnel Readiness Cell Operations chief. It also decreases labor costs and manual steps from the previous accountability process the Air Force used, he added.

As of April 1, Air Force personnel and family members log into <https://afpaas.af.mil> or call 1-800-435-9941 to report individual and family member status if affected by a disaster or crisis.

"AFPAAS is a simple and secure system for all users. Anyone can input their details from any internet connection or telephone world-wide, increasing the access and ease of use for all personnel and family members," said Mr. Angell.

"However, protection of privacy is paramount, and only pre-approved trusted agents, commanders and their designated representatives with CAC access, roles and permissions can view personal information," Mr. Angell added.

Using AFPAAS also helps speed up the process to help affected family members in need of assistance. AFPAAS helps commanders identify and verify assistance/aid eligibility and entitlements for affected personnel and their families prior to or immediately following a disaster.

Web-based AFPAAS training is available for leadership, commanding officer representatives and readiness personnel, as required, and can be scheduled through major command personnel directorates. For more information about AFPAAS, visit the website at <https://afpaas.af.mil>, or contact your unit commander. (USAF Manpower, Personnel and Services News)

May UTA Lodging

To access the Lodging Reservation System, please follow these instructions:

- * Make reservations, cancellations or changes at least 48 hours prior to arrival.
- * Call Maxwell at 1 (800) 673-9356. (If cut off dial system directly (334) 953-8557/8558)
- * Input your unit's authorization code (Given by unit's First Sergeant).
- * Dial the system at 953-8557 or 953-8558
- * The system will ask for your SSAN, which you will input with the telephone keypad
- * The system will ask for your personal ID number, followed by the "#" sign. PIN is assigned during Newcomers. If not known, contact 908th Services.
- * The system will ask if you would like to make, change, cancel, or check a reservation.
- * To make a reservation, input arrival date followed by departure date.
- * You will be asked if the reservation is ADT, IDT, or both (ADT: Annual Tour, Mandays, Special Tour) (IDT: UTA, AFTP, RMP, Make-up UTA). UTA is IDT.
- * If making reservations for ADT only please contact Maxwell Lodging for your reservations. (334) 953-6133.
- * If this is a scheduled UTA weekend, the system will tell you where you will be staying. Note: You can also call the system direct DSN or Commercial. The numbers are: DSN 493-8557/8558 or COMM: (334) 953-8557/8558.

If you have a question please contact Senior Master Sgt. Byron Godwin at: Commercial: (334) 953-7332 DSN: 493-7332 E-mail: byron.godwin@maxwell.af.mil Emergency cell: (334) 657-1304

Note: Checkout time at Maxwell Lodging for the May UTA is 0800 Sunday. If you do not have time to go to the front desk, and do not have a phone charge, there will be a key drop box located in Bldg. 682 (Main Lodging) for your convenience. Please do not use this box if you have any charges on your bill. In accordance with AFI 34-246 smoking is not permitted in lodging rooms. You may be charged a minimum of \$50 for cleaning for violating this AFI.

Airlift will be lodged at the Hampton Inn, Prattville.

Huntsville Airlift Schedule

(Reminder to airlift riders: Please be at the airport ready to go at least ½ hour prior to scheduled take-off time)

UTA pick-up schedule Friday:

Depart Maxwell at 1600 local
Arrive Huntsville at 1845 local
Depart Huntsville at 1900 local
Arrive Maxwell at 2000 local

UTA return schedule Sunday:

Bus departs Bldg. 1056 at 1530
Depart Maxwell at 1615 local
Arrive Huntsville at 1700 local
Depart Huntsville at 1715 local
Arrive Maxwell at 1800 local

FY 09 UTA Dates

June 6-7, July 11-12,

Aug. 1-2

and Sept. 12-13

Take Note

Promotions

Congratulations to the following people promoted to the grades indicated:

....to Chief Master Sgt.
Gregory Taylor, AMXS

....to Master Sgt.
John Jackson Jr., AMXS

....to Tech. Sgt.
James Bowler, 25th APS

....to Staff Sgt.
Leslie Jordan, 25th APS
Dusty Moye, LRS

....to Senior Airman
Alisha Bedoya, SFS

**908th Airlift Wing
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Maxwell AFB AL 36112-6501**

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To the Family of:

Ronaldo McConico, OSF
Brandon Self, AMXS

....to Airman 1st Class
Edward Wilson, ASTS

....to Airman
Rachel Andrews, ASTS
Erik Brown, CF
Larique Edwards, ASTS
Alex Rodgers, ASTS

Exercise tests base's readiness, response

Members of the Maxwell Fire Department assist with the rescue of a 908th Airlift Wing aircraft maintenance member who passed out from fumes while inspecting the interior of a C-130 Hercules fuel tank. The scenario was part of the Maxwell-Gunter April base exercise. The multiple scenarios of April's exercise tested capabilities of base personnel and first responders, and the results were good, said the base exercise evaluation team chief Gary Looney.



Photo by Jamie Pitcher