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SOUTHERN FLYER



READY FOR WAR

PREPARE FOR GULFPORT



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PAY IMPROVES FOR WAGE-GRADE EMPLOYEES

REIMBURSEMENT FOR IDT TRAVEL

908TH TAKES 2ND CHAMPIONSHIP

AIR FORCE RESERVE

908TH AIRLIFT WING, MAXWELL, ALA.

SEPTEMBER 2009

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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New vice prepared to serve

Sweet Home, Alabama! Okay, so my actual hometown is Denver, but you certainly couldn't tell that I'm not a long-lost son by the way I've been welcomed to the 908th.

I'm Col. Rob Shepherd and Col. (Brett) Clark has given me the opportunity to serve as your new vice wing commander. My background includes 14 years on active duty and a lot of strategic airlift experience. I've been an undergraduate pilot training instructor, a C-5 flight examiner, a headquarters staff officer and a C-17 squadron commander among other things. This new chapter of my life looks to be the most exciting of all.

My new role has a diverse set of duties. First and foremost, I'm Colonel Clark's "right-hand man." When Greek soldiers fought in a phalanx formation, each man's shield protected his own left side as well as the right side of the man to his left. Likewise, I stand as a protector and advisor to our boss as he leads us into and through our ORI and real-world missions. As the senior traditional reservist, I represent the 1,100+ TRs and remind commanders and supervisors of the limitations and concerns of those members. I chair

COL. ROB SHEPHERD
908th AW Vice Commander

the Human Resources Development Council, which seeks to create a dynamic organization by fully developing our people. In short, I'm here to serve you as the boss's extra set of eyes and ears.

When I'm not wearing my country's uniform, I wear one as a pilot for Southwest Airlines flying the Boeing 737 out of Baltimore-Washington International Airport. While that may seem like an inconvenient domicile, it's not too far from my current residence in Dover, Delaware. My wife, Mary Beth, and children, Josh and Allie, love the small-town living thing, so that's

where we'll be for quite a while.

I spend as much time with my kids as possible, supporting their innumerable activities. We enjoy water sports and family vacations, generally with an active flavor. I'm an avid runner, reader, computer geek and the drummer in an alternative rock band. Aside from that, my life's pretty dull.

I am truly blessed to be part of the 908th with its rich heritage and look forward to serving you as we realize even greater achievements in the coming days.

Special pay approved
for wage-grade employees

U.S. Air Force photo/Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb

908th aircraft maintenance specialists Trey Garrison and Justin Proctor open a panel on a C-130 to perform an inspection. Garrison and Proctor are two beneficiaries of the new special pay rates authorized for the wing's wage-grade employees.

By Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb
 908th AW Public Affairs Officer

Celebrations broke out across the 908th Maintenance Group, July 1, as word spread that special pay rates had been approved for the unit's wage-grade pay scale employees. Approximately 84 positions in the unit are affected by the new special pay scale. Depending on grade, the hourly pay rates will increase an additional \$5.24 to \$7.30 per hour. The rates became effective July 5.

Col. Brett Clark said that, when he arrived in June 2008, it was clear one of the biggest problems the wing faced was a shortage of maintenance personnel. The 908th has been regularly losing people to areas/units with higher pay. He said the initiative to get special pay rates is one of the most important things that could be done to improve the wing and its

ability to meet mission requirements.

Maj. Fred Proulx, 908th Maintenance Squadron commander, spearheaded the effort to obtain the higher pay rates. He started the effort by putting together a package in July 2008 when approximately 27 of the 84 wage grade positions in the unit were vacant. Despite the shortage in people, the unit still maintained one of the highest aircraft mission capable rates in 22nd Air Force.

For a year, Proulx frequently called and pushed the package as it made its way through 22nd Air Force, Air Force Reserve Command, Headquarters Air Force, DoD's Civilian Personnel Management Service and finally the Office of Personnel Management. Proulx said it wasn't until December of 2008 that he began to feel the special pay would be approved. Similar requests

from other Reserve units at March, Homestead and Westover were approved, and a contact at 22nd Air Force said the 908th's package was the strongest they'd seen. One of the major hurdles for previous efforts was to find comparable aircraft mechanics in the region to establish a fair prevailing wage rate. Proulx said the Civilian Personnel Management Service gave the effort a big push by examining the prevailing wage rates for contracted civilians maintaining helicopters at Fort Rucker, in Dothan, Alabama. With those figures to use as a comparison, it was clear the pay scale then used at Maxwell was too low. Finally, Proulx received an e-mail from the Office of Personnel Management and 22nd Air Force stating the special pay rates have been approved and would go into effect on July 5 (2009).

SOUTHERN FLYER

COVER PHOTO:

Senior Airman Christopher Stewart, Staff Sgt. Michael Scheil, and Staff Sgt. Henry Relf move to an activity during the Operational Readiness Training Program 4 event in April.

U.S. Air Force Photo/
Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb

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We solicit articles, drawings and photographs and reserve the right to edit materials to conform to "Southern Flyer" editorial policies. Because of the printing and mail-out schedule the newspaper goes to press on Friday, two weeks prior to the unit training assembly.

The submission deadline for articles or information is the Monday two weeks prior to the UTA. Send inquiries and submissions to 908AW/PA, 401 W. Maxwell Blvd., Maxwell AFB, AL 36112 or e-mail them to 908aw.pa@maxwell.af.mil. Our phone number is (334) 953-6804 or DSN 493-6804; our fax number is (334) 953-2202 or DSN 493-2202. For information about this schedule, call this office at (334) 953-7874.



HELPING THELMA SMILE

U.S. Air Force photo/Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb

Members of the 908th Airlift Wing volunteered at Thelma Smiley Morris Elementary School in Montgomery July 25 by pressure washing walkways, doing yard work, planting flowers and other forms of improvement. From left, Airman 1st Class Gary T. Broaden, Master Sgt. Roderick Parker (kneeling), Chief Master Sgt. Thrasher Jones, Master Sgt. Rick Neal, Master Sgt. Connie Rollins, Tech. Sgt. John Mitchell, Veronica Myers, Tech. Sgt. Teshika Holmes (behind sign), Col. Brett Clark, Senior Master Sgt. Geoffrey Percival, Jessica Matheson, Capt. Wendy Henley, Master Sgt. Donald Matheson, Master Sgt. William Rupinen, Master Sgt. Beverly Williams and Dean Harris.

Money Matters – Reimbursement for IDT

By Staff Sgt. Clairmont Barnes
908th AW Financial Management

Last year, legislation passed authorizing reservists who travel over 150 miles to attend inactive duty training (UTAs, AFTPs/AGTPs, and RMPs) to receive reimbursement for actual expenses incurred up to \$300. This reimbursement applies only to Air Force specialty codes (AFSC's) deemed critical or reported as staffing shortages.

Members can contact their unit orders technician to find if they may qualify for this benefit.

Each orders tech has a list of duty AFSC's qualified for this reimbursement. Below is more information

taken from the HQ AFRC memorandum dated Nov. 17:

- To qualify for this IDT travel reimbursement, reserve members must meet the duty AFSC limitations and be required to travel at least 150 miles one way for IDT.

- For reimbursement, unit members that qualify must submit a DD Form 1610, Request and Authorization for TDY travel of DoD personnel.

- The entitlement began Aug. 14, 2008; however, retroactive payments will not be processed prior to Oct. 1 2008 for 908 Airlift Wing personnel.

- The program is scheduled to terminate Dec. 31, 2010.

- Qualifying members are entitled to reimbursement of "actual expenses" not to exceed \$300 for travel to and from IDT. (Keep your receipts.)

- Does not include mileage reimbursement

- To receive reimbursement, member must file a DD Form 1351-2 and attach ad DD Form 1351-3 listing all expenses to be reimbursed

- Limited to 12 reimbursements per year

- (This is a cumulative total for all IDT, not for each type.)

- Member is not authorized this reimbursement if they are performing the IDT in conjunction with an active duty order



The 908th won its second Maxwell-Gunter intramural softball championship in a row July 30. This year they defeated Gunter's 554th Electronic Systems Group, 15-6, at the Maxwell softball complex. Above, from front and left, Daryl Thornton, Senior Master Sgt. Mark Williams, Capt. Mike McDonald, Senior Master Sgt. Mike Eubanks, Master Sgt. Jim Melton (coach), Senior Airman Robert Shufford, Senior Airman Richard Day and Fred Boyd. From rear and left, Master Sgt. Chris Austin, Col. Brett Clark, Master Sgt. Bill Moore, Master Sgt. Craig Sims, Tech. Sgt. Jamie Womack, Master Sgt. William Mayfield, Chief Master Sgt. Doug Dearth, Tech. Sgt. Hoyt Tidwell, Staff Sgt. Aaron Knight, Staff Sgt. Lee Phillips, Master Sgt. Teresa Lapcheske, Master Sgt. Mark Naglic, Senior Master Sgt. Sammy Gipson and Senior Airman Matt Dearth.

PROVING GROUND

908th wins second softball championship in row



OPERATIONAL READINESS EXERCISE

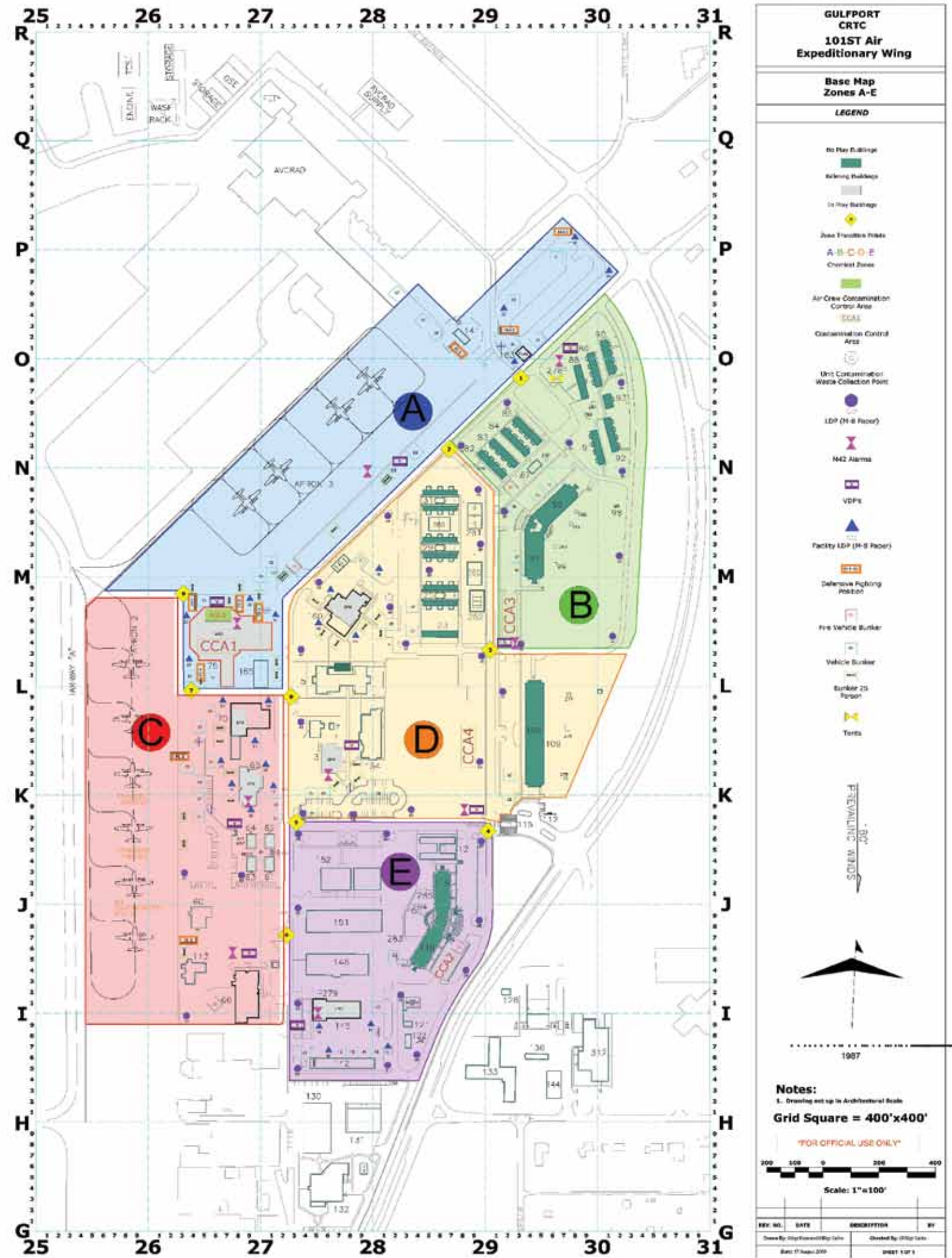
Warning Sirens
Muffled Explosion
Big Voices speak
MOPP 4

The enemy has attacked and you've been ordered to one of two crucial Mission Oriented Protective Postures which require you to don your protective mask. Do you know all the steps to getting that done?

DONNING THE PROTECTIVE MASK

1. Close eyes and hold breath. Hold the outlet valve assembly in palm of one hand and push hair back away from hairline.
2. Place mask on face, forcing chin cup very tightly against the chin. Keeping the hair out of the way, pull the head harness over the head using the quick don tab. The face piece should come well up on the forehead, but shouldn't extend over the hairline at any point.
3. Push mask as high on face as possible. Look down at nose to ensure mask is centered. Hold in this position with one hand until temple straps are tightened. Adjust temple straps using small jerking pulls until the mask feels snug and both sides feel the same.
4. Ensure the head pad or skullcap is centered at the high point of rear of head. Adjust if necessary. With both hands, run a finger under each temple tab front-to-back to check for snugness and remove stray hair from sealing area. Grasp a neck strap in each hand and tighten with small jerking motion and grasp the forehead strap in each hand and tighten with small jerking motions.
5. Shake head quickly from side-to-side and up-and-down. Adjust mask straps as necessary. The mask should be comfortable on the face with no straps cutting or pinching or so tight that the nose cup presses painfully on the nose.
6. Cover the canister inlet port and inhale until the lens deflects, then hold your breath. If lens stays deflected, this is a good indication of a proper fit. If it doesn't, readjust and recheck the mask until you get a proper seal.
7. Pull the hood up and over the head and make sure the cape is beneath the neck cord. Tighten neck cord until the cord is snug around neck, and then secure the neck cord at the base of the hood.

READY FOR WAR



ATSO LESSON

USAF STANDARDIZED ATTACK WARNING SIGNALS FOR NBCC MEDIUM AND HIGH THREAT AREAS			
ALARM CONDITION	IF YOU	THIS INDICATES	GENERAL ACTIONS
GREEN	HEAR: ALARM GREEN	ATTACK IS NOT PROBABLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MOPP 0 or directed (1.3)• Normal wartime condition• Resume operations• Continue recovery action
YELLOW	HEAR: ALARM YELLOW	ATTACK IS PROBABLE IN LESS THAN 30 MINUTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MOPP 2 or directed (1)• Protect and cover assets• Go to protective shelter or seek best protection with overhead cover (2)
BLUE	HEAR: ALARM BLUE, SIREN (WAVERING TONE)	ATTACK BY AIR OR MISSILE IS IMMINENT OR IN PROGRESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Seek immediate protection with overhead cover• MOPP 4 or as directed (1)• Report observed attacks
	HEAR: GROUND ATTACK, BUGLE (CALL-TO-ARMS)	ATTACK BY GROUND FORCES IS IMMINENT OR IN PROGRESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take immediate cover (2.3)• MOPP 4 or as directed• Defend self and position• Report activity
BLACK	HEAR: ALARM BLACK, SIREN: (STEADY TONE)	ATTACK IS OVER AND NBC CONTAMINATION AND/OR UXO HAZARDS ARE SUSPECTED OR PRESENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MOPP 4 or as directed (1.3)• Perform self-aid/buddy care• Remain under overhead cover or within shelter until otherwise directed
NOTES:	1. Wear field gear and personal body armor (if issued) when outdoors or when directed. 2. Commanders may direct mission-essential tasks or functions to continue at increased risk. 3. This alarm condition may be applied to an entire installation or assigned to one or more defense sectors or zones. (Prescribed by AFI 10-2501, Supercedes AFVA 32-4011, 1 December 1997, Distribution F) AFVA 10-2511, 24 December 202		

Drinking through the protective mask



1. Individual must decontaminate the M1 canteen cap and drinking tube coupling before use if in suspected contaminated environment.

2. Uncover the outlet valve cover to access the drinking tube.

3. Steady the mask and remove the drinking tube coupling from the outlet valve cover.

4. Use the buddy system to drink if available. If buddy is used, the person drinking must maintain positive control of their own mask by placing two or three fingers on their front voice emitter while buddy is handling the drinker's mask in any form or fashion.

5. Push on the outlet valve cover and grasp the internal drinking tube between the teeth.
6. Remove your canteen from its carrier and flip open the M1 cap lid. Blow through the internal drinking tube while coupling the external drinking tube into the M1 cap until it seats. You should feel some resistance. If resistance is not felt, the drinking system is leaking. Do not drink! If system leaks, pinch and hold drinking tube and seek help.

7. Invert the canteen above the voice emitter and drink.

8. After several swallows, stop sucking and return the canteen to the upright position. Air should replace the water drunk from the canteen through the drinking tube. If necessary, blow into the drinking tube to return the canteen to its original shape. Repeat the drinking procedure until finished.

9. Disconnect the drinking tube from the canteen by blowing into the drinking tube while twisting and pulling the coupling from the canteen. \

10. Close the canteen lid, return canteen to carrier, return the drinking tube to its normal position in the mask, and replace hood over outlet valve cover (if necessary).

STAY HYDRATED!!

ATSO LESSON

Reporting an Attack

Ref
AFH
31-302

Use the S-A-L-U-T-E report as a quick and effective way to communicate enemy attack information up the chain of command. Example of a S-A-L-U-T-E Report: "Six enemy soldiers, running away from the command post, heading toward the flightline. Uniforms solid green fatigues—possibly Republic Guards. Time was 0230 hours. Equipment—AK-47 rifles, backpacks and gas mask being carried."

Report Area	Information to Report
Size	The number of persons and vehicles seen or the size of an object
Activity	Description of enemy activity (assaulting, fleeing, observing)
Location	Where the enemy was sighted (grid coordinate or reference point)
Unit	Distinctive signs, symbols, or identification on people, vehicles, aircraft, or weapons (numbers, patches, or clothing type)
Time	Time the activity is observed
Equipment	Equipment and vehicles associated with the activity



Facility Control Procedures

1. Use of Sign/Countersign/Number (Chem Code). Knowledge of Duress Word.

2. Secure facility during attack. Assume a proper defensive position during a ground attack.

3. Verify proper contamination control procedures prior to facility entry.

Entrance Control Procedures

1. Duress Word, Sign/Countersign, Number/Chem Code.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR
DURESS WORD?





SHAKING HANDS, TAKING NAMES

U.S. Air Force photo/Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb

New group commander Lt. Col. Constance VonHoffman shakes hands with Chief Master Sgt. Douglas Dearth, 908th Maintenance Operations Flight superintendent, in the greeting line after the 908th Maintenance Group change of command July 12. Colonel VonHoffman comes from the 403d Maintenance Group, Keesler AFB, Miss.

BRIEFS

FY09 switch over issues

Due to the upcoming new fiscal year, several wing processes will temporarily change. All dates below apply until the new fiscal year begins Oct. 1.

All September - Travel Vouchers must be submitted two days after release date of travel.

Sept. 25 — All orders must be closed out by 4 p.m. Any orders required for the last week of September must be processed Oct. 1 as a "vocal order by the commander." Sept. 14 - All federal government purchase cards will be closed at 4 p.m. Wing GPCs will still function.

Exercise and inspection

The Operational Readiness Exercise with the 911th Airlift Wing is scheduled for Sept. 14-20. The Operational Readiness Inspection with the 94th and 911th airlift wings is scheduled for Dec. 4-12. Both events will take place at Gulfport Combat Readiness Training Center in Gulfport, Miss.

Southern Flyer submissions

Deadline for submissions for the October edition of the Southern Flyer is Sept. 14. Submissions may include news briefs, feature possibilities and photos.

PROMOTION ORDERS

OFFICER

Lieutenant Colonel

Craig W. Drescher
Daniel J. Hernandez III
Gwendolyn C. Hill
Alfred G. Proulx
Russell J. Wills
Madella Womack
Doran L. Gillie
Kenneth J. Ostrat



ENLISTED

Master Sergeant

Gloria D. Smith

Technical Sergeant

Tifarah D. Boyd
Keith Daniels
Tron Sutherland

Staff Sergeant

Ali M. Oliviere
Warren O. Moore
Brandon J. Radford
Sean M. Stewart

Senior Airman

Tony A. Donofrio
Nathan L. McCrary

Airman 1st Class

Jasmine S. Heard
Travion D. Spell

Airman

Lauren E. Young



Smile!

Avg. yearly cost of smoking
\$1,500

Samsung SyncMaster 100MDN Plasma TV?
Lana Marks - "Cleopatra Clutch" purse?

Who needs em?? You got cigarettes!

908th Airlift Wing
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The OR is WHEN???

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Dec. 4-11
Gulfport, Miss.

