

Active Duty and Reserve Airmen assigned to one wing? It's coming ... see 6

FRONT RANGE FLYER

Stationed Locally // Serving Globally
Vol. 24, No. 1 Spring 2009



CAUTION:
CHANGE
AHEAD



**+ A new look
for the Flyer**

302ND AIRLIFT WING
U.S AIR FORCE RESERVE COMMAND
PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, COLO.

Changing with the times: Here comes your new Front Range Flyer

by Senior Airman Stephen Collier
Front Range Flyer editor



So what do you think of the new *Front Range Flyer*?

Your Public Affairs office works feverishly to answer these two, simple questions: how do we tell more than 1,400 of our Reserve family members the Air Force

story and how do

we tell you what's going on throughout the wing and, just as important, how you're being affected by changes in the Air Force?

It's obvious the way to distribute news and information changes at the speed of the internet. For starters, just read civilian news sources. Newspapers, magazines, bulletins; they're all going the way of the dinosaur. New media, including Web reporting, social networking sites like Facebook and MySpace and viral video sites like YouTube are dominating the way people seek out and get their information. Even the *Front Range Flyer*, which used to be a monthly publication, has been reduced

to a quarterly product.

Why the change? The same news and information you can find in your *Front Range Flyer* has gone online. If you haven't visited our Web site at www.302aw.afrc.af.mil, you're missing out on keeping plugged in with the Air Force Reserve side of your life. Whether you're a traditional Reservist, civilian working in the wing, an Air Reserve Technician or just a fan of the C-130s parked on the Peterson ramp, every day there is something new for you to read on the Web site.

But the "Flyer" isn't going away. On the contrary, your *Front Range Flyer* staff has put a considerable amount of time and effort into redesigning it for this new information age. We think it's snappier, easier to read and a more enjoyable experience. Also, there will be some things in the magazine you can't get anywhere else, like in-depth reporting on major events and changes affecting you. So when the *Front Range Flyer* comes to your house once a quarter, be sure to pick it up and read it; you might be missing something if you don't.

Feel free to drop us a line at Public Affairs if you have any ideas, suggestions or feedback for the Flyer. Our information is just to the right. The PA staff is ready to serve you!



Major Quinn



Captain Ritchie



Sergeant Morton



Sergeant Butterfield



He's been the wing commander for almost three months and he's got a vision for continued success. Say hello to the man charged with leading the 302nd AW. See 3



Chief Westerlund knows a thing or two about leadership. And as the wing's new command chief, he's ready to set the direction for the wing's enlisted force. See 5



The support you get from your civilian employer helps you and the wing be successful. And it can be easy to take that support for granted. Now it's time for you to recognize your boss. See 10

FRONT RANGE FLYER

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CHANGE CAN COME IN MANY FORMS



Col. Jay Pittman

302nd Airlift Wing commander

As I take command of the 302nd Airlift Wing, I am becoming well aware of one of the biggest challenges facing the wing: change. There is no doubt 2009 will be a year of significant change for the wing.

We began this year with our change of command; the passing of leadership from one person to another. I would like to thank everyone who was involved in the January change of command – it was truly an outstanding ceremony. I am proud to take on the challenges of commanding this wing and I do not take lightly the responsibilities it entails.

As we move into the spring, our wing will face change in our traditional MAFFS firefighting mission. The MAFFS II system has been tested and will be ready for use in the event our wing is called to action for what seems to be a dry 2009 wildland fire season. Both our aircrews and maintainers are working hard to transition to this system.

As we look toward late summer,

early fall, the wing will welcome the Active Duty cadre members of a new squadron joining our 302nd family. These Airmen will begin preparations for the Active Duty association you have probably heard about.

That association will potentially bring Active Duty operators and maintainers together with the 731st Airlift Squadron and 302nd Maintenance Group throughout 2012. I encourage each of you to turn the pages through this edition of the *Front Range Flyer* to learn more about the challenges and vast opportunities this Active Duty association will bring to the wing.

Two of our units are facing change through recent deployments. Our security forces recently returned from an eight-month deployment to Kirkuk, Iraq and will be transitioning from Active Duty back to their Reserve status and civilian jobs.

The 302nd Civil Engineers have deployed as well, making their transition to Active Duty for a deployment to Iraq. In addition

to the larger unit deployments, several of our unit members have recently deployed in small groups or as individuals.

This transition requires the support of their families as well as their civilian employers. Their efforts have not gone unnoticed and are greatly appreciated.

While we work with change, one thing remains constant -- our purpose and mission -- to train, equip and maintain readiness to answer our Nation's call at a moment's notice.

Change is not new, and it can create challenges. I encourage you to think about how you can contribute to your unit and the wing's mission. Keep the lines of communication open within your unit, share ideas and communicate challenges.

I look forward to getting out into the wing over the next several UTAs to see the great work you're accomplishing.

TAKING CARE OF FAMILY

Do you have your Family Care Plan taken care of? Why is a Family Care Plan required? Air Force personnel are deploying like never before on top of ongoing TDY and remote assignments. This support requires unique family arrangements. All Air Force members are responsible for the care of family members during these circumstances. Members who need to develop a plan must contact their unit first sergeant to start the process. For additional information, contact Tech. Sgt. Scott Kopp or Capt. Hugo Escobar at (719) 556-3625. Per Air Force Instruction 36-2908, single parents, dual military couples with family members and members with civilian spouses with unique family situations are required to develop a detailed Family Care Plan that explicitly states their wishes for their dependents in the event of separation due to military obligation. Members affected are required to notify their commander or first sergeant within 30 days if changes in personal status or family circumstances require the development of a family care plan. These circumstances may include the birth of a child, the loss of a spouse through death, separation or divorce, assumption of sole care for an elderly or disabled family member or absence of a spouse through career or job commitments or other personal reasons.



TRICARE OFFERS LOWER PREMIUMS

Reserve families have a reason to cheer in 2009. Monthly premiums for members with TRICARE Reserve Select, or 'TRS,' coverage have dropped as of Jan. 1, 2009, by 42 percent from \$81 to \$47.51. TRS member-and-family coverage dropped 29 percent, from \$253 to \$180.17. In response to the 2009 National Defense Authorization Act, section 704, TRICARE analyzed Reserve Select costs from 2006 and 2007 and adjusted TRS premium rates for 2009. To qualify for TRS, candidates must be members of the Selected Reserve and cannot be enrolled in or eligible for the Federal Employee Health Benefits, or 'FEHB' program. For instance, National Guard or Reserve personnel are not eligible to purchase TRS if their spouses have family plans under FEHB and the members are covered (enrolled) under FEHB.

MEDALS, MEDALS EVERYWHERE



Two Air Force medals may be affecting your life. Recently, Air Force officials announced the comeback of the defunct AF Good Conduct Medal for enlisted members, which left service Feb. 6, 2006. Airmen who are eligible should see an update automatically in their records on the virtual Military Personnel Flight Web site. Also, the 302nd Airlift Wing secured its place in history once again after being named the recipient of the 2008 Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. The AFOUA, awarded for the wing's

outstanding service between Sept. 1, 2006 and Aug. 31, 2008, may be worn by Airmen who were assigned to the wing during those times. Just like the Good Conduct Medal, Airmen can see if they're eligible by accessing the virtual MPF.



TIME TO 'GET-1-NOW'

Changes to Air Force Reserve Command's "Get 1 Now" recruitment program may boost enlistments. The program, which has been around since 2000, relies on reservists to refer friends and acquaintances to recruiters. In March 2006, the already successful program became Web-based, enabling Airmen to submit leads to their local recruiters by accessing www.Get1Now.us. That change quickly made the program the command's most successful recruiting venture with a 39 percent success rate. Earlier this year, the Get-1-Now Web site underwent major improvements. AF Reserve recruiters also sent out Get-1-Now wallet-sized information cards to Reservists with their user identification number, password and the Web site on it.



So you haven't checked the Web site? **Here's what you're MISSING**

- President proposes 2.9 percent pay raise
- Retired Chief Schueler bids wing farewell
- 2009 Reserve Pay Chart



Visit www.302aw.afrc.af.mil

With a unit compliance inspection looming, a potentially-treacherous fire season and enlisted men and women supporting contingencies worldwide, we thought we'd come up with

5 Questions for

by Senior Airman
Stephen Collier

Front Range Flyer

Chief Westerlund



(Editor's note: Chief Master Sgt. Joseph Westerlund was appointed to the position of 302nd Airlift Wing command chief Feb. 7 by Col. Jay Pittman)

There's no doubt he can be a little intimidating at first. Standing at six-foot, three-inches, matched with his sleeve's eight stripes and star, he seems to dominate the room.

But the minute he speaks to you, the tension seems to melt away and ease into history, because one can get the sense that 'here's a man who's looking out for me.'

The *Front Range Flyer* recently sat down with Chief Westerlund, who now fills the important role as the wing's command chief. As the senior enlisted Airman within the 302nd AW, the *Front Range Flyer* wanted to get a better idea of where the wing's enlisted force was heading under his tenure:

FRONT RANGE FLYER: What does being the command chief mean to you?

CHIEF WESTERLUND: It's the attainment of an 18-year goal. Back in 1991, I saw our senior enlisted advisor doing some things and I looked to that individual and said, 'some day, that's what I hope to do.' It also gives me the opportunity to serve the men and women of the wing in a whole new way other than being in the position of a first sergeant.

mechanic on Huey and Cobra helicopters in 1981, then I joined the Air Force Reserve in November 1983.

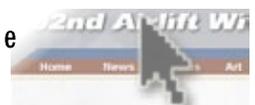
From a very early age, when I was 17 and entering the Marine Corps, I learned there was no question about right and wrong. Integrity was instilled very deeply. Now, my folks did that. But the Marine Corps solidified it. In a way, it took a lot of gray area out of my vision. Believe it or not, going to the first sergeant's academy in the AF Reserve helped broaden my vision, my view of life.

Because I now realize there can be gray in areas like family and your employer. In the Marine Corps, you're either alive or dead or you're a friend or foe; there's a clear distinction. It took a long time to get rid of that. The first sergeant's academy did that. Different circumstances can have a different outcome on a situation.

FRF: Where do you see the wing 12 months from now?

CW: About a year from now we should be very involved in our active associate program. I'm looking forward to that, but I know this will be one of the wing's challenges. I think having Active Duty folks working with us day-to-day is just blending their talent with ours, making us all that stronger as a wing.

The conversation continues online
at www.302aw.afrc.af.mil



THE BOTTOM LINE *on-line*



Get to know more
about the chief and
his take on:

- > Active association
- > Leadership
- > Liars

All of this and more at
www.302aw.afrc.af.mil

FRF: Your service didn't start in the Air Force, did it?

CW: I started out in the Marine Corps in 1975 right out of high school. I finished up as a jet engine

Adapting to and surviving



“The times they are a-changin.”

Famous Vietnam War-era singer Bob Dylan wrote a little ditty in 1964, expressing what he felt was a song for the people and the times. Much changed for America throughout the 1960s and 70s. And while the country was turned upside down and flipped around, it seemed to continue its march into history, even to its 200th birthday.

What can one learn from history such as this? If it was just one thing, maybe that change, while sometimes a painful process, is something needed. And more importantly – change is something that should be embraced rather than feared.

The more than 1,400 members of the 302nd Airlift Wing will add another definition to the term ‘change’ soon enough. Beginning this fall, change, viewed by some as one of the most significant points in history for the wing, is coming to southern Colorado. It’s at this time that Active Duty members of the C-130 maintenance and flying communities will join with their Air Force Reserve family at Peterson to form one of Air Force Reserve Command’s newly-associated units.

In development since 2005, Active Duty Airmen will associate with the 302nd AW to perform the mission of tactical airlift. The initial cadre of leadership will arrive during the third quarter of 2009, creating a basic structural make up for the Active Duty squadron, slated to be designated later this year. This change in the wing’s structure will have a direct impact on maintenance and operations

within the wing, a fact not lost upon Col. Jay Pittman, commander of the 302nd AW.

“Total Force Integration is a priority for the Air Force and I agree with the concept behind it ... TFI is about efficiencies,” Colonel Pittman said. “AFRC owns the aircraft at certain locations and Air Mobility Command has a pressing need for access to aircraft. AMC is going to bring a cadre of aircrew and maintainers to our location to join our family. They will fly and maintain the aircraft along side our Reserve Airmen in order to ensure their combat readiness, both as aircrew and maintainers, to support either peacetime or wartime commitments. We need a greater force available to help support that requirement. So that’s what we’re going to do.”

Associating not new to AF Reserve

The association of Active Duty Airmen with their AF Reserve counterparts is nothing new. Beginning in 1973, the Air Force Reserve’s 445th Tactical Airlift Wing was reactivated after a two-year hiatus from operational status. The wing was given the additional designation of “associate” at the end of its title as it combined with the Active Duty Air Force’s 63rd TAW, each based at the now-defunct Norton Air Force Base in California. While each wing belonged to separate organizations and reported to separate commands, both used the same C-141 Starlifter cargo aircraft to get the job of strategic airlift done. Fast forwarding to today, multiple units throughout the entire Total Force spectrum, including the Air National Guard, have gone the way of “associating.” Even AF Reserve and ANG units have combined, most notably at Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, N.Y.

For more than 40 years, the Air Force has been moving steadily from the concept of associating units to its implementation. But why associate?

“Fiscal imperatives now drive an accelerated rate of association,” wrote AFRC commander, Lt. Gen. Charles Stenner, Jr., in an editorial on association initiatives in the Air Force. The general’s

critique of associating mirrors the Air Force’s current financial situation, but equally reflects the growing age of the service’s fleet of aircraft and the need to address it. In the C-130 community alone, the continued attrition rate of aircraft means strategic decisions are being made by top brass, ensuring every Airman, whether they fly or not, continues to receive the best training on the best airframes. And when called upon, take that training into combat.

The general continued his editorial, advocating for unit associations while stressing that Reserve organizations should team up with their Active Duty counterparts, all the while ensuring the AF Reserve maintains its unique identity.

“Units within each relationship must be able to retain their unique and separate identity – the unit is a source of pride for members of each component, and can be a powerful source of motivation in accomplishing a mission,” the general wrote. “If unit identity is compromised, so too will the motivation to perform the mission, and the motivation to serve.”

TFI brought to life

Sealing the case for associating units came in 1997 as the Department of Defense released the year’s Quadrennial Defense Review. Out of the 1997 QDR came the term ‘Total Force Integration,’ identifying that each military service branch is capable of blending their units with Reserve or National Guard forces to augment any mission. Embracing this stance, the Air Force adopted early measures for securing TFI strategies that would eventually lead to the mission associations taking place today. Ultimately, the Air Force sees the association of its missions as the catalyst for producing greater and more efficient combat capabilities.

“We have to look at the bigger picture,” Colonel Pittman said. “The Air Force has an urgent need to recapitalize. We need to embrace the TFI concept. The country has a requirement to make better use of what’s available and we’re part of that equation.”

See Change, 8

CHANGE

Wing’s transition to active associate C-130 unit most significant structural change since transition from 901st Tactical Air Group

by Tech. Sgt. Daniel Butterfield
Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton
Senior Airman Stephen Collier

Change, from 7

From 'Big AF' to the wing

While the Air Force as a whole continues forward in associating wings, the effects on the 302nd AW and its day-to-day operations won't be seen overnight. Working with an initial cadre, the Airmen and their AF Reserve counterparts will over time beddown in existing facilities.

"AMC is bringing to the table operators and maintainers, however, they're not bringing logistics, civil engineers or communication technicians. We will have to work our way through (the association). There is no handbook to make this successful," Colonel Pittman explained. Do I think TFI is going to have any negative impact on the wing? No. But is there going to be an increased workload? In some areas, there certainly will be."

Associate benchmark

Within 22nd Air Force, the 440th AW at Pope AFB, N.C., is the only C-130 wing that resembles an association construct like the 302nd AW is going through. When AFRC announced the 440th AW would become an associate wing, it was also affected by the 2005 base realignment and closure process, sending the wing's aircraft and people from then-General Mitchell Air Reserve Station in Milwaukee, Wis., to Pope AFB. Because of this special situation, Colonel Pittman said the 440th AW is difficult to compare

with Peterson's active association.

"Pope is really the only organization where 22nd AF has any experience with (associating C-130s) and they have a laundry list of unique challenges," Colonel Pittman said. "We're lucky in that we won't have those challenges here."

Colonel Pittman explained the active duty members may be deployed almost year round, with crews rotating out of Peterson on a continual basis. At Pope, Active Duty members, according to the colonel, take two aircraft, aircrew and maintainers on a deployment. While aircrews and maintainers may redeploy and rotate with others, the aircraft remain in the theater of operations. If the 302nd AW mirrored Pope's situation, two C-130Hs would be deployed with the Active Duty, leaving just 10 aircraft for both Reserve and Active Duty aircrews and maintainers to train on.

"It's going to be a change in how we do business," said Colonel Pittman.

"Having sole access to the aircraft is just something we're going to have to adjust to. We'll do everything we can to ensure these Airmen are combat ready, deployable and the best assets they can be to support AMC requirements. They'll be a part of our family, not outsiders or unwelcome guests. Active Duty will be our family members and I have no doubt this will be a very successful association."

A return on investment

Members of the wing can expect some return on bedding down their Active Duty counterparts.

The Active Duty's availability as a '24 hour a day, seven days a week force' is attractive when it comes to needing immediate, critical maintenance performed on an aircraft due to a mission tasking. And when it comes to moving around the world in support of C-130 operations, Active Duty Airmen benefit from the knowledge of how other units around the globe perform the mission of tactical airlift.

Reservists also bring several attributes to the mission as well, balancing the benefits of their Active Duty counterparts. On average, the AF Reservist has more than 15 years of experience performing their mission. Coupled with being stationed at the same base over a longer period of time, Reservists also bring a vast amount of continuity to their specific job, benefiting the Air Force as a whole. This is especially important when supporting deployments overseas, specifically in Southwest Asia.

"I think there is a good possibility we will be a benchmark active associate wing in the C-130 community within 22nd AF," Colonel Pittman said. "Not only will we be successful, but I intend to create a guidebook to hand to other wings for them to follow in our footsteps in the not-so-distant future. Why should they reinvent the wheel that we have perfected? We'll share what we learn."

Ops ready to make history

The 302nd AW continues to adapt and evolve to meet growing changes within the Air Force as it welcomes the new squadron to the wing. The difference is the new airlift squadron, yet to be designated with a number, will be comprised of Active Duty personnel as part of the active association. But one thing not changing is the new squadron will perform the same tactical airlift duties as the 731st Airlift Squadron.

"We're excited at the opportunity to play a leading role in the associate wing concept," said Lt. Col. Courtney Arnold, 731st AS commander. "Our goals are to maintain our Reserve culture

THE BOTTOMLINE

What you need to know about active duty joining the wing:

WHAT: Active duty Airmen associate with the 302nd Airlift Wing

WHEN: Starting the fall of this year, continuing through 2012

WHERE: Active duty will be located in operations and maintenance

WHY: While there are many reasons to associate, it saves money and increases the wing's efficiency.

Can you tell which of these C-130s is Active Duty or Air Force Reserve?

while providing our new sister squadron with all the tools and opportunities to become a premier tactical airlift squadron. The squadron's air reserve technician cadre is working hard to ensure the process will be as smooth and transparent as possible.

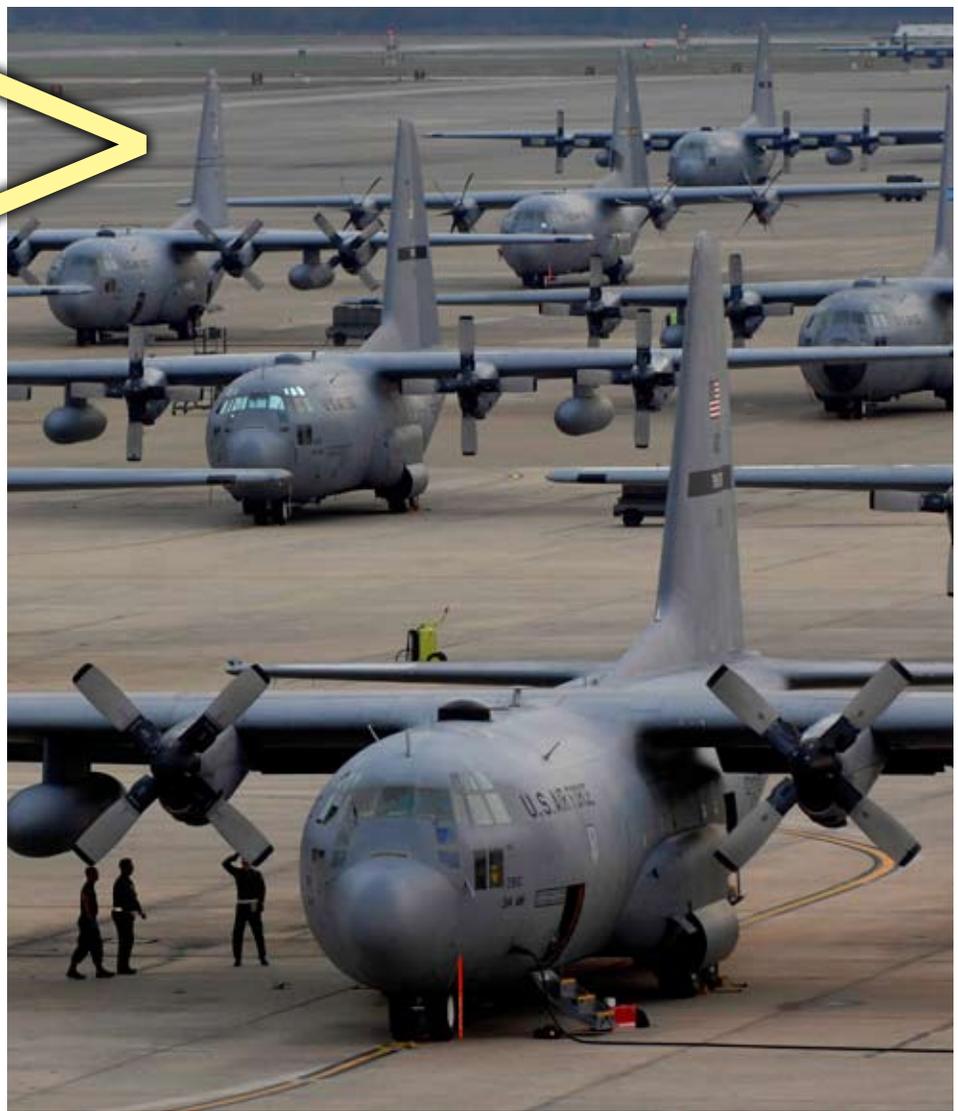
"The 731st AS is working with the 302nd AW and incoming Active Duty leadership now in order to help contribute to building the new squadron's foundation and processes," the colonel continued. "The more we do now to make that possible, the faster our new squadron can commit its resources to the 302nd AW mission."

Lt. Col. Carlos Ortiz, who currently serves as the director of operations for the 53rd AS at Little Rock AFB, Ark., will be charged with standing up and leading the new Active Duty squadron. Colonel Ortiz, a native of New Mexico, is already familiar with the 731st AS and how things are done within the unit.

"I'm excited to have the opportunity to work with the 731st AS again and build the new active associate squadron, and of course, be near the area where I grew up," said Colonel Ortiz. "I've had the opportunity to work and fly with members of the 731st AS from 1996 to 1997 as the wing tactics officer at Ramstein Air Base (Germany) when they deployed as part of the 38th AS (Delta Squadron) in support of the Bosnia airlift missions. I was impressed back then and again recently when I went out to Colorado Springs at the beginning of January for the site activation task force. I can't wait to get there this summer."

Both squadron commanders agreed Active Duty and Reserve members are ready to match their talents and skills, beginning a new chapter of meeting mission requirements.

"In spite of the many challenges this concept entails, all of our squadron



personnel are ready for the chance to mentor and instruct their younger, Active Duty counterparts," Colonel Arnold said. "The 731st AS is also looking forward to learning from them as we know Active Duty will bring many positives to the table. I don't think the Active Duty could have picked a better person to be in charge of the new squadron than Colonel Ortiz. From day one, his goals have matched ours perfectly. I'm confident we have the people in place for both units to make this work well."

Working together and embracing a new concept between the Active Duty and AF Reserve is an ongoing theme throughout the Air Force and implementing the new procedures between the two squadrons will take time. However, everything seems to be on track for a successful merger.

"The bottom line for me as a Reserve member with the same squadron for 25 years is that I've seen a lot of 'us' and

'them' when referring to the differences between Active Duty and the AF Reserve," Sergeant Carey said. "I've done both and now we'll be working together. I think this is an exciting concept for both of us and a lot of new friendships will be developed. There won't be any more 'us' and 'them.' We'll be one big happy family and embrace the forthcoming change."

Ready to fix any situation

Maintenance is another group anticipating a large portion of the Active Duty personnel to Peterson. The influx of these Airmen brings a new set of challenges as well as opportunities for those currently serving in the 302nd Maintenance Group. One of those challenges during the wing's association is the concern over facility space. There are nearly 300

See Change, 11

Flight engineer surpasses career milestone

by Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton

Senior Master Sgt. David Carey knows his way around the C-130 aircraft almost to the point of identifying where every nut and bolt is located. That kind of knowledge comes from serving with the same Air Force Reserve unit and becoming the longest-tenured flyer at Peterson with more than 25 years of experience in the “Herc.”

“Somebody in (Air Force) Space Command on Peterson may have as many flying hours as I do,” said Sergeant Carey, “but they haven’t been flying continuously as far as months and years like I have for the time they’ve been stationed here. It has nothing to do with flying hours.”

Sergeant Carey, a flight engineer with the 731st Airlift Squadron, has amassed more than 9,000 hours of flying time during his career.

That achievement may never have happened had Sergeant Carey gotten the original job he applied for as an aircraft crew chief with the squadron maintenance section of the 901st Tactical Airlift Group upon entering the AF Reserve in July 1984.

While working at the Broadmoor International Center for two years after leaving active duty, Sergeant Carey remembered looking down from the side of Cheyenne Mountain to the flightline where the AF Reserve unit’s C-130 aircraft were parked.

“I could see it from where I worked everyday,” Sergeant Carey recalled. “I answered an ad in the paper from Staff Sgt. Jeff Grezecka and applied as a crew chief for the maintenance section.”

Sergeant Grezecka was a former member of the 302nd Airlift Wing and an AF Reserve recruiter.

“I [was a] crew chief on B-52s during my active duty stint,” Sergeant Carey said. “The funny thing is they

turned me down because the unit was full. Sergeant Grezecka asked if I had ever thought of being a flight engineer. B-52s are twice as large and there are no flight engineers. Why would the C-130 have one? But that’s how I became a flight engineer. There were no slots for crew chiefs in maintenance at the time and only eight airplanes in the 901st TAG.”

Sergeant Carey soon realized becoming a C-130 Hercules flight engineer had some distinct advantages. “There are a lot of things that make this job good,” he said. “It’s in a good location where my family has lived through five generations. I can’t believe they pay me to do this, and I get to travel which is a huge benefit.”

Some of Sergeant Carey’s accomplishments include supporting every Operational Readiness Exercise, Operational Readiness Inspection and Aircrew Standardization and Evaluation Validation inspection in the history of the 901st TAG and, later, the 302nd AW. He’s supported numerous deployments, including Desert Storm/ Shield, Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, Northern Watch in Saudi Arabia and a tour in the Republic of Djibouti. He became the first flight engineer qualified in Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems in 1991. The only regions he’s not visited during his career are the South Pole and Australia.

Of course, there are those in the squadron who look to Sergeant Carey as a leader among flight engineers; however, some also think the 25 year-plus operator could learn a thing or two.

“Our less experienced engineers look to Dave for his guidance and vast C-130 systems knowledge,” said Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Farley, 731st AS chief flight



“I can’t believe they pay me to do this ... there are a lot of things that make this job good.”

- Senior Master Sgt. David Carey

engineer. “However, he could use some help in the celebrity recognition department.”

During a 1992 air show in Aspen, Colo., Sergeant Carey encountered actor Kurt Russell who was waiting his turn to see the flightdeck of a C-130. Sergeant Carey stopped Mr. Russell while actress Goldie Hawn finished with her tour first. According to Chief Farley, Mr. Russell was very gracious and waited his turn.

“Dave’s experience has served the squadron well,” said Lt. Col. Courtney Arnold, 731st AS commander. “All those hours coupled with his personality and professionalism makes him a perfect choice to crew any of our toughest missions. There’s not any part of the airplane, squadron or the wing that he doesn’t know.”

It all adds up to the nuts and bolts of a long-tenured, flying career.



Employer appreciation day planned for June

The June UTA is your chance to thank your boss for their support of your military career.

On Saturday, June 13, employers of Reservists will be treated to a mission briefing, tour of 302nd Airlift Wing facilities, an orientation flight on one of the wing's C-130s and lunch.

Fill out the form to the right and return it to Public Affairs no later than May 29. Forms can be dropped off at Bldg. 893, Room 138,, faxed to (719) 556-4214 or mailed to 302 AW/PA, 450 W. Hamilton Ave., Peterson AFB, CO, 80914. For more information, call Public Affairs at (719) 556-4117 or e-mail at 302aw.pa@peterson.af.mil.

302nd Airlift Wing Employer Appreciation Day

(Return to the Public Affairs office)

Employer information

Employer's full name _____
 Employer's title/position _____
 Company name _____
 Business address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Work phone _____
 Employer e-mail _____

Reservist information

Rank/name _____ Unit _____ Duty phone _____
 Home address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Mon-Fri E-mail _____@_____
 Home phone _____
 Civilian work phone _____
 Military position title _____
 Civilian position title _____
 Would you like to attend lunch? (check which applies) YES NO

Change, from 9 Airmen in maintenance and estimates show the group is in need of an additional 12,000 square feet. Add Active Duty personnel to the mix and things begin to get crowded.

But as plans to add new personnel to maintenance work stations were in the works, so were plans to deal with the overcrowding. According to Col. Mark Rodriguez, 302nd Maintenance Group commander, it's important to find a solution as efficient as possible with regards to financial and host command concerns for the Active Duty arrival.

Besides the addition of Active Duty personnel in already close quarters, maintenance has concerns with training and getting these Airmen up to speed with the unit's highly-trained Reservists.

The maintenance group will see more junior personnel than they have in the past. And to upgrade their training from three-level to five-level status for the C-130 community, junior enlisted Active Duty members must attend their technical school at Little Rock.

"All those Active Duty folks who require upgrade training will be going (on temporary duty) once they arrive or they're expected to go there en route. This could affect manning as Active Duty personnel shuffle back and forth from Little Rock until everyone

has the necessary qualifications that are important to the C-130 mission.

For members of the 302nd MXG, adding Active Duty personnel will give them some glimpses into the lives of the 24/7 Airmen.

"When we deploy, even though it may be for 60 days, it's still a snapshot. Talking to the maintenance chief at Seymour Johnson, they under-

stand they have a mission to do and if that takes working 12 hours a day, seven days straight for 30 days, that's what they will do," the colonel said.

It's difficult to see how the maintenance group will look years down the road, but Colonel Rodriguez does not see a decrease in the amount of personnel assigned to the AF Reserve side of the house. Maintenance is currently undermanned with several career field vacancies. "By the time this is all done, it's possible we may need more manpower. We have a certain number of vacancies needing to be filled, but as the association evolves, the exact maintenance needs are still unknown," he said.

'It's all about people'

When it comes down to it, at the center of all the change, there is one constant.

"It's all about people. It's people working with people," says Colonel Rodriguez. "That's why even in the worst situations or circumstances, you need the right people working with the right attitude to make the work happen."

"It's all about people. It's people working with people. That's why even in the worst situations or circumstances, you need the right people working with the right attitude to make the work happen."

- Col. Mark Rodriguez
 302nd Maintenance Group commander

RESERVE COMMAND

CITIZEN AIRMAN

PROFILE



NAME: Staff Sgt. Greg Dove
UNIT: 302nd Maintenance Squadron
JOB: Aerospace propulsion craftsman
HOMETOWN: Albuquerque, N.M.

TO 1C-130(K)H-1CL-1

FOREWORD

When did you enter the military? I joined the Active Duty Air Force in January 1999.

What's your civilian job? I'm an airframe and power plant mechanic working as a contractor for the National Nuclear Security Administration moving people and cargo. My job is like a flying crew chief; we fly with aircraft when it's important enough to always have a mechanic there in case something happens.

How has joining the AF Reserve impacted your life? The Air Force has been great. It's always been good to me and my family and I've always been able to pursue what I wanted. It's given me the discipline and lifestyle that you need to succeed. The people have encouraged me to go to school and that's going to affect me later in life. If I hadn't had that positive influence, I don't think I would have pursued education or what I'd be doing. I just can't say enough about it — it's been great for me.

What type of hobbies do you have? Family and cars. I'm really into drag racing. I like fast things — planes and cars. I also spend a lot of time on my graduate degree.

What's your favorite music and movie? I like all kinds of rock whether it's classic or modern and blues. I like a good comedy — Chris Farley and Will Farrell, stuff like that.

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