

Get a grip on emerging technologies that affect you ... See 6

FRONT RANGE



FLYER

Locally // Serving Globally
Spring 2010

GET
PLUGGED
IN!



Follow the cord
to your future

See 6



Does your lightweight
blue jacket look like this?
If so, you're wrong

More on 4

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

FRONT &

\\ CENTER //

FRONT RANGE FLYER

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302ND AIRLIFT WING

INSIDE THE FLYER

WWW.302AW.AFRC.AF.MIL

This year is already off to a running start. The Jan. 12 earthquake in Haiti was a clear reminder of the need to be prepared to be called upon in a moment's notice. Within days of the earthquake, 302nd Airlift Wing aircraft and aircrews joined the humanitarian airlift effort by delivering water, supplies and evacuating medical patients from Haiti. The earthquake as well as our response were obviously unplanned events, but as Air Force Reservists, that is our mission – to provide support when called upon and to have the ability to respond within a moment's notice.

While 302nd AW Airmen deployed to Air Expeditionary Force Coronet Oak in Puerto Rico supporting Haiti relief missions, one of our Modular Airborne Firefighting aircrews was in Thailand teaching safe and effective aerial



Col. Jay Pittman

302nd Airlift Wing commander

firefighting techniques to the Royal Thai Air Force. Meanwhile, the Logistics Readiness Squadron deployed to Hawaii's Hickam AFB for their annual tour. These are just a few of the Wing's major missions that took place early this year.

As a surge force, regardless of your unit's specific mission, we must be ready anytime, anywhere. Because of this I ask you to always keep the lines of communication open with your employers and families. Share with them what you're doing for our country and also let them know their support is appreciated.

The Wing has two special events planned for this summer, Employer Appreciation Day on July 9 and Family Day on Aug. 7. These events will help you share what you do here at the 302nd as well as provide recognition to your family and employer. Our Wing members are putting a lot of work into both events and I hope you'll consider participating in them.

Thank you for all you do. The Wing continues to demonstrate its ability to take on a high operations tempo and continues to meet challenges with great mission success. This is only possible because of our outstanding leaders, dedicated Airmen and that solid support our employers and families give to us.

TURN THE PAGE >>



Looking for a good meal during the UTA? Want to eat at the Aragon Dining Facility? Think again. See 4



The 302nd Airlift Wing answers the call to help earthquake victims in Haiti. Read more on 10



Meet a true "lifesaver" among Mus. Courtesy of the 302nd Services Flight. See 11

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THE GREAT SYMPHONY OF HUMANITARIAN RELIEF



Staff Sgt. Stephen Collier Front Range Flyer editor

(Editor's note: Sergeant Collier accompanied members of the 302nd Airlift Wing to Muniz Air Base, Puerto Rico, where C-130 Haiti relief missions were launched while assigned to Air Expeditionary Force Coronet Oak.)

A great conductor always has a strong hand in directing his orchestra through the twists and turns of renowned classical music by composers, such as Beethoven and Tchaikovsky. With a simple twist of the hand, the trumpets flare or the trombones squawk. Then, at the conclusion, he raises both hands to direct the grand finale, wowing the audience beyond compare.

Would it surprise you if the conductor I'm envisioning doesn't have a musical background outside of listening to the radio, and that their "trumpets and trombones" aren't musical instruments at all? The symphony I'm talking about is the Air Force's ability to expertly orchestrate a response to a crisis, especially a humanitarian disaster caused by Mother Nature.

Recently, members of the 302nd Airlift Wing flew to Puerto Rico where they stood ready to conduct humanitarian relief efforts staged out of Muniz Air Base near the capital of San Juan. From the U.S. territory, aircrews and supporting Airmen flew 14 to 18-hour missions, crisscrossing the Caribbean bound for Miami or North Carolina. There, they picked up much needed cargo, including bottled water and food, and delivered it to earthquake-stricken Haiti.

Reading the news headlines can give you a small sense of the massive airlift requests thrust upon the countries that rendered aid and support to Haiti, and specifically the Air Force. All this in the hope of saving lives and restoring basic necessities to the Haitian people. But what the headlines rarely show you is the delicate balancing act, or precision in conducting this life-saving production. A production that, for the Air Force, was directed by the commanders at U.S. Southern Command and carried out all the way down to the "one-striper" Airman ushering pallets at Toussaint Louverture International Airport in Haiti's capital city of Port-au-Prince.

Seeing this incredible "symphony of air power" awed me, much like in 2005 when the Air Force answered the call to support "The Big Easy" and the Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina. From the movement of cargo to flying military and civilian aircraft, to the security forces protecting the airport from needy Haitians rushing the flightline, the Air Force showed the world once again its ability to direct an orchestra of air power unlike any other. The Air Force demonstrated its ability to travel to a place of turmoil and instill order there; certainly not an easy feat.

For those overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as those who keep the "home fires burning" back at their respective bases, all can be proud of their fellow "bluesuiters" for flying and maintaining aircraft that continue to airlift humanitarian aid into Haiti. I hope each of us can sit back and soak in how incredible it is to know the Air Force is supporting two wars in Southwest Asia, keeping the peace in places like Korea and can still find the energy and strength to help one of America's neighbors. From my standpoint, it's not the mighty airframes of the C-17 delivering aid or the rugged C-130 landing on what many would just call an open field; it's truly the people, from the Reserve aircrew to the support personnel on the ground, who make each mission happen.

Being on the ground in Haiti and traveling to points of cargo processing at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., and Pope AFB, N.C., you can see the bags under the eyes of Airmen and the fatigue that comes with working constant 12-14 hour days shuttling cargo and directing air traffic. With that said, I believe it's the spirit of the American trait to help others that drives a deep passion, no matter how exhausting it may be, to volunteer for humanitarian missions and bring care and comfort to those in need. I'm proud to be a part of this Air Force and glad to play my particular instrument in this symphony of humanitarian relief.

Dining facility closes until fall

Peterson's Aragon Dining Facility will be closed April 1 through Oct. 30 for renovations. Reservists must use the Peterson Club as the primary dining facility for Unit Training Assemblies. Reservists should ensure the following rules are followed when eating Air Force-funded meals at the Club:

- Sign the Air Force Form 79 when eating at the Club. The form will be located at the beginning of the buffet line.
- Seating for funded meals will be in the dining room portion of the Club, with overflow in the main lounge.
- All meals ordered in the Club's sports bar "Stripes" are **not** part of this agreement. Members will pay for any meals ordered in Stripes or off the dining room menu.
- Flight meals will be made for the airlift, M-16 and M-9 training as well as 302nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron personnel. All flight meal orders must be called into the Club no later than 2 p.m. the Friday prior to the UTA.
- Airmen on Active Duty orders will pay for all meals.
- For make-up or rescheduled UTAs, the member must leave a copy of their 40A at the reception desk.

Visit www.21fss.com for the Club's hours of operation.

First sergeant vacancy

Packages are now being accepted until close of business April 26 for senior NCOs interested in becoming the 302nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron's first sergeant. Completed packages should be sent to Senior Master Sgt. Anthony Garcia at the 302nd Mission Support Flight. Packages received after the deadline will not be considered. For more information on this position, call First Sgt. Lisa Ferguson at (719) 556-9124.

Chaplain's Corner

A daring mission requires daring leadership. In January 1945, Army Lt. Col. Henry Mucci faced the daunting challenge of forming a force that would secretly navigate behind enemy lines to rescue more than 500 languishing prisoners of war. The POWs, many of whom survived the Bataan Death March and years of brutal incarceration by Japanese forces now faced certain death if help didn't arrive quickly. The force was hand-picked, highly-trained and tactically proficient - but the flamboyant Henry Mucci wanted to give them a winning edge. Assembling the team, he made it clear they were "behind the eight ball." With his characteristic swagger, Colonel Mucci bantered, "I only want men who feel lucky; if you don't feel lucky, leave -- no questions asked!" But no one dropped out. Then, Colonel Mucci gave a final order: "Before each one of you leaves on this mission, I want you to see the chaplain." No matter how lucky or unlucky you may feel, a visit with the chaplain never hurts. Come on by; we look forward to seeing you. Oh, how did the mission turn out? Check out the book *Ghost Soldiers* or see the movie *The Great Raid* with Benjamin Bratt portraying Col. (ret.) Henry Mucci. I think you'll like it.

For spiritual services, the 302nd AW chaplain's office can be reached at (719) 556-4006

No metal rank on blue jacket

Enlisted Airmen are reminded that metal rank on the blue light-weather jacket is no longer authorized. Due to the 98th Uniform Board's decision on changes to uniform wear, dated June 10, 2009, the only rank that can be worn on the jacket are blue-and-white cloth chevrons sown onto its sleeves. The uniform board also released additional guidance on tucking both Airman Battle Uniform and Battle Dress Uniform trousers into boots goes into affect Oct. 1, 2010. For more on changes to uniform wear and dress and appearance standards, see Air Force Instruction 36-2903.



Employer Appreciation Day

The July Unit Training Assembly is your chance to thank your boss for their support of your military career.

On Friday, July 9, employers of AF Reservists will be treated to a mission briefing, tour of 302nd Airlift Wing facilities and an orientation flight on a C-130.

Cut out and fill in the form below and return it to Public Affairs no later than June 6. 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., Ste. 171, Peterson AFB, CO, 80914. For more information, call Public Affairs at (719) 556-4117 or visit www.302aw.afrc.af.mil.

302nd Airlift Wing Employer Appreciation Day

(Return to the Public Affairs office // Bldg. 893, Suite 138)

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 phone _____
 Home address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Mon - Fri e-mail _____ @ _____
 Civilian work phone _____
 Military position title _____
 Civilian position title _____



With 2010 already in full swing, the Air Force Reserve continues to bring a number of challenges to officers and enlisted alike. That's why we thought we'd come up with

A Conversation With



The Command Chiefs

By Tech. Sgt. Daniel Butterfield

by Staff Sgt. Stephen Collier
Front Range Flyer

(Editor's note: Command Chiefs Dwight Badgett and Steven Larwood, from Air Force Reserve Command and 22nd Air Force respectively, visited the 302nd Airlift Wing at Peterson Air Force Base and attended its 2010 Annual Awards Banquet March 5-7 in downtown Colorado Springs. Each sat down with the Front Range Flyer for some questions.)

Enlisted Airmen know it takes a combination of experience, education and training to rise through the ranks to chief master sergeant. It's that same combination that lands a numbered few in the coveted position of command chief master sergeant at the wing, numbered air force and even the major command.

The *Front Range Flyer* recently sat down with Command Chiefs Dwight Badgett from AFRC and Steven Larwood from 22nd AF. Both men are responsible for leading the enlisted corps of their respective organizations, as well as serving as the enlisted advisor to their commanding generals, highlighting the issues affecting enlisted and officers alike.

DB: I think the most stressful part is trying to tackle too many of the issues that affect our Airmen. I had a very wise, former command chief for AFRC write to me the other day. She told me pick three to five issues, and do them very well. As part of our job, every Airman has a personal issue that's very important to them. You want to be able to solve all the problems, but there are some you just can't fix. Between that, and trying to take on too much, is the most stressful.

FRF: Chief Larwood, for our enlisted corps in the 302nd Airlift Wing, what advice do you have for Airmen that face an increased deployment tempo, more time away from loved ones and more challenges in their AF Reserve units at home?

SL: To maintain that Reserve triad balance, we can't have our Airmen pay too much attention to any one part of their life, whether it's their Air Force Reserve career, their job or their family life. All too often, many Airmen believe they need to put their Reserve life in front of the other to advance. That can end up causing other problems in other parts of their life. Secondly, set realistic, yet challenging goals for yourself personally and professionally. Find the people in the system to help you meet those goals. There is a lot of talent in this command. Ultimately, what we don't want is somebody who drives out that gate on a Sunday afternoon who feels they just wasted two days of their life. When they have that feeling, we're doing something wrong. It's either on their end because that delicate triad balance is off or on our end because we weren't doing enough to eliminate those obstacles.

FRF: Chief Badgett, as a command chief representing thousands of our Air Force Reserve Airmen, what do you consider the most stressful part of your job?

THE BOTTOM LINE on-line

Learn more about each of the chiefs' take on:



- > Time-intensive ancillary training
- > Growing an enlisted career
- > And why enlisted development is all about experience, education and training

To see more on these points and others, visit www.302.afrc.af.mil for the whole story

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

Emerging Technologies

(And Why You Should Embrace Them)

Don't forget to update your CEI in vPC-GR before the end of the UTA."

Yes, that is English and it does make sense, but do you understand it? Other than "UTA," many members of the 302nd Airlift Wing may not know what to do if their commander makes this statement. The alphabet soup can be confusing especially since the number of on-line systems individual Reservists must use to update their records has multiplied over the last several years.

In case you don't know, the opening sentence of this article is telling a Reservist to update their Civilian Employment Information in the virtual Personnel Center-Guard Reserve before the end of the Unit Training Assembly. This action, as well as the maintenance of your personnel records, can be accomplished via the on-line applications available through the Air Force Portal.

"I remember when I joined the military personnel flight; every month we'd have people come in for a record review," said Tech. Sgt. Matthew Harding, chief of career enhancement with the 302nd Mission Support Flight's MPF. "Everyone had to do it annually and they had set times to review their entire data sheet. Now all that is done in virtual MPF and can be done 24/7."

According to Sergeant Harding, it's important to check your records in the virtual Military Personnel Flight to ensure they're accurate because that information affects promotions, job opportunities, quarterly boards and more.

"The MPF has changed dramatically," said Staff Sgt. Joe Platt, a program system manager for the MPF. "People need to understand the (virtual MPF) is an extension of the MPF. If you need help, contact your commander support staff."

Personnel-centric applications aren't the only thing available online, employment opportunities are also available, whether you are looking for a new position or temporary orders. Additionally, Air Reserve Component Network's Duty Plan, commonly referred to as "ARCNet," provides members and supervisors the ability to keep up with annual tour requirements.

"You can request and get approval for [Annual Tour] in ARCNet," said Sergeant Harding. "Instead of tracking someone down in the hallway to see if the days I want to do are good, I just request them through ARCNet."

An added benefit of the duty plan in ARCNet is being able to quickly see how many AT days a Reservist has remaining and whether the person has enough points for a good year. Commanders and supervisors have full visibility of each Reservist's schedule.

Recent additions to the AF Portal include the Air Force Training Record and Training Business Area, which are systems that track upgrade training for several Air Force Specialty Codes. The systems overlap in functionality, but each AFSC will only use one system.

"The Air Force has not devised a plan to merge AFTR and TBA," said Tech. Sgt. Jamillah Gonzalez, a unit training manager in the 302nd AW. "And some AFSC's are still using the paper form for training records."

Confusion can result from the myriad of systems Reservists need to use, but remembering that the systems are intended to make Reserve life a little easier is important. Systems being introduced are available to Reservists from home with the AF Portal and common access card, commonly known as a "CAC" card.

Although an initial learning curve may slow an individual down, all the systems are designed to make information available to the individual and leadership whenever the information is needed. The days of requiring a Reservist to visit someone in person to correct an error, find out what jobs are available, or review training records are over. Now a Reservist can perform each of these tasks anywhere in the world at anytime of the day with access to the AF Portal.

The trend toward online applications will continue. So, sit down on your couch, grab your favorite beverage, logon and start managing your career!

Social media improves communication flow

The World Wide Web has evolved into an ever-changing, fluid tool that can, and in some cases, has radically changed the lives of individuals and even nations, as well as the way companies, including the military, do business. New technologies and programs are created on a daily basis with the flow of information through the internet transitioning from what has been a simpler, one-way connection in the past to more

complex, multiple layers of multiple connections available at anytime from virtually anywhere.

Fast forward to today. Not only has the Web surpassed its initial use of simple research and the basic passing of information, it has become the domain for social-networking tools. Social media, as it's known, is

THE BOTTOMLINE

Plug into Air Force Portal jargon

Confused about when to use which system? Log onto the Air Force Portal at <https://www.my.af.mil> and use this guide for the most common uses of each system.

- > **ADLS:** Advanced Distributed Learning Service – Computer-based training
- > **AFTR:** Air Force Training Record – Track and review AFSC upgrade training for some AFSCs
- > **ARCNet:** Air Reserve Component Network – Some required computer-based training, track your training progress, view individual readiness details. You can also use ARCNet's duty plan to request and get annual tour approved, track how many days you've done and how many you have remaining
- > **AROWS-R:** Air Force Reserve Orders Writing System – Submission and approval routing of official orders
- > **TBA:** Training Business Area – Track and review AFSC upgrade training for some AFSCs
- > **vMPF:** Virtual Military Personnel Flight – Record review, record of emergency data, decorations list, assignment history, promotion history, education, point credit summary
- > **vPC-GR:** Virtual Personnel Center - Guard Reserve – Coordinate enlisted and officer performance reports, coordinate decorations, apply for retirement, officer development plan
- > **VRS:** Volunteer Reserve System – List of Manday, Air Reserve Technician, and 365-day tour opportunities sortable by location, rank and AFSC

emerging as one of the quickest and easiest ways to spread information across vast networks of users, continents and time zones.

Three of the most popular social media sites are Facebook, MySpace and Twitter. Facebook and MySpace are communities where users can create personal sites that are used to share an individual or group's real-time updates, upload photos, share links and connect with friends. Twitter uses short, text-based posts, referred to as "tweets," that update the user's status, location, thoughts and more.

Corporate America became one of the first communities to discover the benefits and vast potential of social media. Instead of sending information, one-way to consumers via print advertising or press releases, they realized they could spread their information and messages to networks of computer users as well as receive instant feedback on products and services. With social media

See **TECHNOLOGY**, 8

TECHNOLOGY, from 7

tools, businesses can also respond to problems and opportunities quicker than ever before. Social media became a way to not just connect, but rather, interconnect with their customers, by becoming a part of their daily lives instantly, online.

While the Air Force Reserve does not necessarily have a tangible "product" to "sell" to its "customers," there is a lot of important information to convey to the American public about what the AF Reserve does. Along with that, social media is a tool that can help keep members informed and updated about their wing's latest news and activities. With continuing, real-time status updates and "tweets," the AF Reserve story is now sent to those it affects the most. And just as important, social media has opened a new, two-way line of communication that was previously unavailable.

In an e-mail to all Air Force Reserve Command public affairs personnel, Lt. Col. Leslie Pratt, the command's PA director, wrote "social media is about encouraging conversation, sharing and swapping ideas. The key tenets of which are communication, collaboration, education and entertainment."

Social media and the 302nd Airlift Wing

Did you know a 302nd Services Flight Reservist saved someone's life while on duty? Did you know seven members of the 302nd Airlift Wing traveled to Thailand to train the Royal Thai Air Force on the safe and effective use of C-130 Modular

Airborne Fire Fighting Systems? Did you know the out-bound lane of the West gate at Peterson has been reduced to one lane?

You would if you were plugged into the wing's Facebook fan page.

With social media outlets proving their value within commercial, government and media organizations, it only makes sense the 302nd AW follows suit. In late March, the wing launched its own Facebook fan page with the goal of bringing news and even more information to Reservists, as well as the Colorado Springs community and beyond, as it happens.

The wing's Facebook site incorporates many features "Generation-Y'ers" are used to. The site gives visitors a "push and pull" ability to get information to its "fans" of the page as well as a vehicle to provide instantaneous feedback anytime, anywhere. And for those not-so-savvy internet users, Facebook is built to be a user-friendly site with an environment easy to understand and operate in.

With the use of Facebook, user can be "followers" of the 302nd AW's page, getting daily updates directly to their computer without ever searching the information out.

For easy-to-use instructions on getting online with Facebook, and then later, to the 302nd AW's fan page see the graphic at the bottom of this page. Once on Facebook, become a "fan" of the wing's page, then get ready to connect with other Airmen from the wing, as well as get instant messages on topics that affect you the most, from military pay to the many benefits of being an AF Reservist.

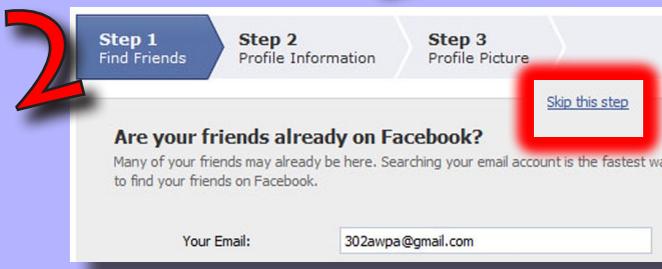
See you online.

THE BOTTOMLINE

4 simple steps to get on Facebook and get connected



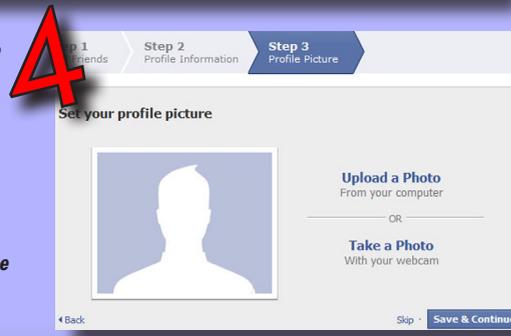
> Go to www.facebook.com
> Type in your first name, last name, e-mail, password, sex and birthday (NOTE: Security settings in Facebook will conceal your birthday)
> Click on "Sign Up"



> On the next page, it will ask you to input your e-mail address and password. This is to find friends from your address book who may be on Facebook. We recommend clicking on "Skip this step"



> After skipping the last step, you will be asked to fill in information on your high school, college and company. If you are interested in connecting with old friends, you can chose this option. If not, click on "Skip"



> Lastly, Facebook allows you to post an image or photo of yourself to go with your profile. You can choose to skip this portion, or post an image, click on "Save & Continue" to finish

BONUS Navigating a Facebook fan page



To follow a group or individual on Facebook, once you have logged in, simply click on "Sign Up". In many cases, profiles will automatically accept you to follow them. If profiles include security measures, the manager of the page will have to approve you first

To add to the discussion of other fans of a page, simply click on "Just Fans" to post your opinion or see what other fans are saying

Both the "comment" and "like" links allow you to either comment on a specific posting, or simply indicate your liking of the posting

Aerial **fire**fighters travel to ‘*The Kingdom*’

Story and photos by Capt. Jody Ritchie
Front Range Flyer staff

PHITSANULOK ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE BASE, Thailand -- Members of the 302nd Airlift Wing’s experienced aerial firefighting cadre traveled Jan. 17 to Thailand to share their knowledge and experience with the Royal Thai Air Force.

This marks the first time the Air Force Reserve has sent a team of instructors to assist a foreign nation in developing their Modular Airborne Firefighting System program.

The trip encompassed two weeks of training, including one week of classroom instruction followed by flying missions in the northern portion of the country. During classroom instruction, the seasoned AF Reserve instructors educated their Thai students on the challenges and demands of the MAFFS mission.

“This [training] is the culmination of many years of planning,” said Lt. Col. Corey Steinbrink, the mission commander for the Thailand training trip. “We’ve worked hard to develop a training program for Thailand based on our years of experience training for and flying actual MAFFS missions.”

The 302nd AW shared their knowledge and experience with RTAF members in an effort to facilitate the safe and effective use of C-130 MAFFS in dense jungle country.

“(The Royal Thai Airmen) already understand the checklists well and have a good understanding of the mission,” said Chief Master Sgt. James D. Riley, chief loadmaster with the 302nd AW. “We have even been able to discuss some emergency response checklists with them.”

The 302nd AW is the only AF Reserve organization certified to perform the MAFFS mission. The wing is regularly called upon to battle wildland fires within the U.S., most notably during the intense 2007 and 2008 fire seasons. The 302nd AW took on the MAFFS mission in 1975.



TOP TO BOTTOM: 1) Master Sgt. Tom T. Freeman (right), a loadmaster with the 731st Airlift Squadron, performs a wai, the traditional Thai greeting, after receiving a Thailand Modular Airborne Firefighting System patch from Wing Commander Prondech Kongpan, 601st squadron commander, Royal Thai Air Force at Phitsanulok RTAFB, Thailand upon the completion of MAFFS training. 2) Water is released from a RTAF C-130 equipped with the MAFFS over north central Thailand during aerial firefighting training. 3) A RTAF C-130 is silhouetted by the sunset at Phitsanulok RTAFB, Thailand, after a day of MAFFS training.



By Staff Sgt. Stephen J. Collier

By Staff Sgt. Stephen J. Collier
Front Range Flyer

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti -- The 302nd Airlift Wing did their part to provide relief to earthquake-stricken Haiti during several missions in January and February delivering food, water and medical supplies, as well as airlifting medical evacuees out of the country and into Florida.

During the San Juan, Puerto Rico-based missions supporting Air Expeditionary Force Coronet Oak, Colorado's "Mile High Gang," as the 731st Airlift Squadron is known, flew 26 sorties for a total of nine missions, flying more than 89 hours. During that time, more than 80 tons of cargo was moved from the East Coast of the U.S., while 19 passengers were airlifted from Haiti to medical facilities in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

During one of their final missions into Haiti's capital of Port-au-Prince, the deployed 302nd AW members and their C-130 Hercules delivered dozens of cases of bottled water, printing



By Staff Sgt. Daniel Osorio

Aircraft from the U.S. and other world countries, as seen from this 302nd Airlift Wing C-130 cockpit, crowd the airport ramp Jan. 30 at Port-au-Prince's airport in Haiti.



At the epicenter of relief:

'Mile High Gang' supports Haiti earthquake relief

supplies and equipment as well as additional parts for awaiting aircraft. The supplies were later passed on to aid distribution points throughout the city and beyond, while the printing equipment was handed off to military relief officials who needed it at Port-au-Prince's Toussaint Louverture International Airport.

For that mission, the aircrew flew from their deployed location of Muniz Air Base, Puerto Rico, to Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., where many of the relief airlift missions into Haiti for the U.S. Air Force have been based. The supplies were loaded onto the C-130 for the three hour flight to Port-au-Prince.

After hearing of the millions of people world-wide donating tens of millions of dollars to earthquake relief, Staff Sgt. Daniel Osorio, an Active Duty C-130 crew chief assigned to the 52nd Airlift Squadron attached to the 302nd AW, said "Being one of the few to actually help on the ground is a rewarding mark on my Air Force career so far."

"It does feel pretty good to be able to, on a small level, fly into Haiti and support the contributions to help these people out," Sergeant Osorio said. "You enlist to fight a war, but sometimes you get a chance to help out with a humanitarian mission. That makes just as much difference in the world."

BY THE NUMBERS

What the 302nd Airlift Wing contributed to Haitian earthquake relief

Number of Airmen
50

Number of C-130s
2

Number of missions flown
9

Tons of cargo moved
80

Number of passengers airlifted
19

Read more about the wing's Haitian relief efforts at www.302aw.afrc.af.mil/news/haiti.asp

302nd Airlift Wing



Services sergeant gives life saving breaths

By Ann Skarban
Front Range Flyer staff

Staff Sgt. Christopher Whigham, an Air Force Reserve services apprentice, knew his training would expose him to real-world experiences, but he never expected his training would also lead to saving a life.

For Sergeant Whigham, Feb. 1 started out as a routine day for both him and the staff at Peterson's Aragon Dining Facility where military members are served three-square meals a day. All that was on Sergeant Whigham's mind was his last day of training in the dining facility before transferring to his next phase of training at Peterson's base lodging.

"It started out as a normal Monday," said Sergeant Whigham, who in his civilian job is a patrolman first class with the Albuquerque, N.M. police department. "I had been working in the dining facility for a few weeks. I was just finishing up with breakfast and walked back toward the kitchen when I saw personnel running and I could tell something serious was happening."

At that point, the normal Monday turned into an emergency situation. A local bread delivery man had come to do his normal route, delivering products to the dining facility when the unthinkable happened.

"All I remember is someone said, 'He had a heart attack.' I looked down and saw [the bread delivery man] on the ground. It happened really fast."

Airman Ross Belknap, another military member who had been working in the dining facility back room, was receiving the bread delivery with John Karagiannes, a civilian employee there. Both were the first to witness the delivery man collapsing. While Airman Belknap ran into the dining room to get help, Mr. Karagiannes called 911. Sergeant Whigham rushed to the delivery man's side to help.

"I got down at his head and checked to see if he was breathing," Sergeant Whigham said. "I checked for a pulse and someone said the word 'CPR.'" I ripped his jacket off and gave him two breaths. At that point I became very focused. I gave him a few rescue breaths."

But Sergeant Whigham said the man remained unresponsive.

"There was nothing in his eyes. I gave him another set of compressions, maybe three rounds. That's when he took a breath on his own. It was more of an involuntary breath. I kept going with the

rounds, maybe six or seven rounds and his body was starting to kick in. It was all happening kind of fast. At that point, I heard the sirens in the background and knew the paramedics were coming. They came in and at that point, they brought in an AED and pulse oximeter and took over."

After getting him stabilized, the man was carried on a back board to an ambulance by local paramedics. Later that day, the Aragon staff learned the man was awake and was moving his arms and legs.



By Ann Skarban

Staff Sgt. Christopher Whigham of the 302nd Services Flight (far right) along with (from left to right) John Karagiannes, Tech. Sgt. Rick Rayos and Airman Ross Belknap from the 21st Force Support Squadron were the first responders to a local bread delivery man who collapsed while making a delivery Feb. 1 to the Aragon Dining Facility at Peterson. Sergeant Whigham used the life-saving CPR skills he learned on his civilian job as an Albuquerque, N.M. police officer.

Tech. Sgt. Rick Rayos, the manager of the Aragon Dining Facility, said everyone working that morning did exactly the right thing and worked as a team to help save a life.

"Sergeant Whigham's public service really took over," Sergeant Rayos said. "It was very fortunate there were people around and, most importantly, that Sergeant Whigham was poised enough to conduct it (CPR). This young man performed well beyond the scope of his duties here. He was all about saving this man's life."

Sergeant Whigham is certified in CPR as part of his civilian police training. He also took part in additional CPR training while on his Reserve Annual Tour this past summer at Andersen AFB in Guam.

"This doesn't happen very often," said Sergeant Whigham. "I am glad I was able to be here and help - at the right place at the right time."



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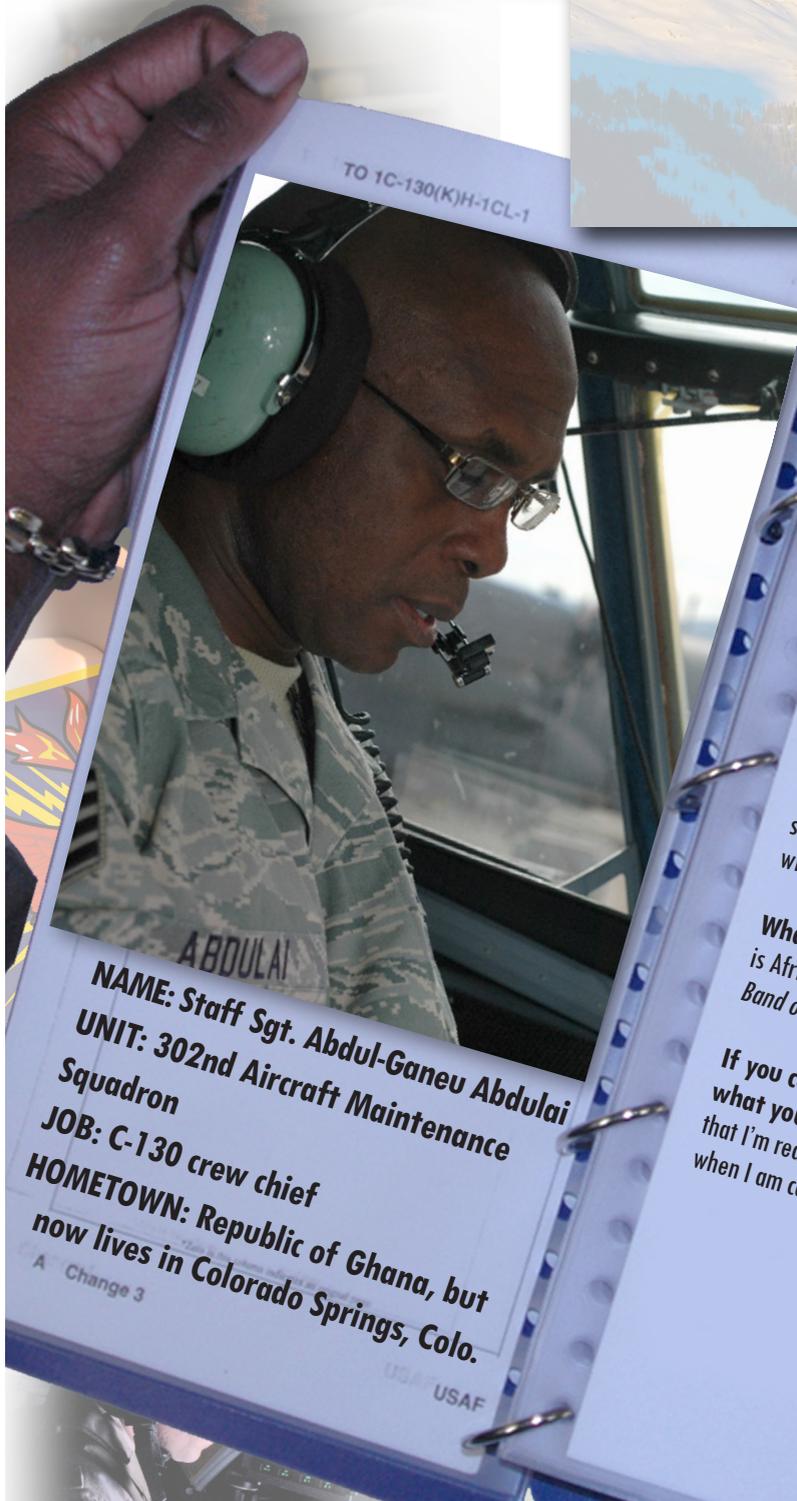
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Photo courtesy/Matt Indent

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



NAME: Staff Sgt. Abdul-Ganeu Abdulai
UNIT: 302nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
JOB: C-130 crew chief
HOMETOWN: Republic of Ghana, but now lives in Colorado Springs, Colo.
 USAF USAF

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

When did you enter the military? I joined the Army in June 2005, and then came to the Air Force Reserve. But my military service began in my home country of Ghana where I was an officer.

What's your civilian job? I'm an Air Reserve Technician in the maintenance group.

How has joining the AF Reserve impacted your life? It has helped me to develop my potential and realize my dream of becoming an aircraft mechanic. Joining the Air Force Reserve also gives me the feeling that I belong to the right organization with the right people and the right leaders.

What type of hobbies do you have? Skydiving in the summer, soccer, reading, swimming and spending quality time with my family.

What's your favorite music and movie? My favorite music is African Highlife, reggae and country music. My favorite movie is *Band of Brothers*.

If you could tell someone on the street one thing about what you do, what would it be? Serving in the Air Force and that I'm ready to deploy anytime, anywhere to defend my country when I am called.



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