

DESERT EAGLE

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A man in a military uniform, likely a sergeant, is shown in profile, speaking to a group of people. He is wearing a camouflage uniform with a sergeant's rank insignia on his sleeve. The background shows other people in military uniforms, slightly out of focus.

Top AF enlisted leader
visits 379 AEW

DESERT EAGLE

Volume 9, Issue 49

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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

Commentaries and warriors of the week are scheduled according to a squadron rotation. Unit commanders and first sergeants are the points of contact for submissions.

For more information, call 436-0107.



Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James Roy speaks to 379th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron Airmen, Monday. CMSAF Roy is touring the U.S. Air Forces Central Command area of responsibility, visiting with Airmen and addressing numerous issues affecting service-members deployed in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Ways to correct correctly

By Capt. Regina Reyes
379th Air Expeditionary Wing
Company Grade Officers Council

Sometime between the years 1705 and 1711, well-known English poet Alexander Pope penned the famous line, "To err is human; to forgive, divine" in his poem, *An Essay on Criticism*. While I like the idea of forgiveness (and Lord knows I've erred many a time in my life), I would like to offer a slight twist on this quote: "To err is human; to correct, divine."

Ask yourself, how many times have you walked past a problem without saying something? How many times have you known someone was doing something wrong, but just chose to ignore it? If we simply "forgive" or turn a blind eye every time we see something that isn't right, then the behavior is essentially encouraged and it will continue to happen. Correction does not just fall on the shoulders of officers or senior NCOs, however. It is the responsibility of every Airman to identify the problems and correct them in a professional manner.

Over the course of my career, I have made corrections and I have been corrected. I've had positive experiences that I learned from, and negative experiences that I'll never forget. One particular unforgettable experience happened when I was a first lieutenant. I was walking through a BX parking lot and distractedly passed a captain without saluting. I don't recall now what I was doing that had distracted me from rendering the proper courtesies. But what I do recall is the way the captain berated me for the missed salute in front of his buddies rather than pulling me aside to handle it unobtrusively. Yes, I needed the correction; however, the unprofessional manner in which that captain addressed my error has left an

indelible impression on me of how not to handle such situations.

Sometimes making corrections can be slightly uncomfortable – I found this out firsthand when I had to ask a female to remove her navel piercing while at the CC pool. I believe the correct way to correct is to not call more attention to the error than necessary. Whether she was intentionally wearing her piercing or not, I chose to take a less aggressive tack by discreetly saying "I'm not sure if you knew this or not, but you're not allowed to wear that piercing out here." Instead of giving me attitude, she was thankful that I brought it to her attention and promptly removed it without further issue. While this might not be the reaction you get from everyone you correct, you still have an obligation to address the behavior. And if you are met with attitude, that's just one more thing that requires correction.

There are many opportunities to make corrections on this installation and many chances for us to practice Wingmanship and professionalism. Whether it's a reflective belt worn like a beauty pageant sash (instead of around the waist) or an untucked PT shirt in the fitness center or on the way to the Cadillac, we can't just let these infractions go unnoticed or uncorrected. Don't walk around with your eyes focused on the ground; instead, walk with your head up and take pride in upholding and enforcing the standards that have been set forth for us. As one of our wing themes states: "Demand a culture of excellence, accountability and constant improvement." Make corrections in an educational and professional manner so that the person you correct will see it in a positive way and in turn assist someone else.

And if you are the one being corrected, don't take offense. Remember that we all make mistakes, but it's how we learn and adjust from those mistakes that define us.



Commander's Action Line

- The Action Line is your direct link to Brig. Gen. Stephen Wilson, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing commander.
- Use it if you have questions or comments about the base that cannot be resolved by your chain of command or base agencies.
- Each question will be reviewed, answered and may be published on a case-by-case basis. E-mail 379aewactionline@auab.afcent.af.mil.

Avoid causing fires when heat's turned up

By the 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron
Fire Prevention Office Staff

We have entered the time of year where the nights can start to get a little chilly. To remain comfortable, some people choose to turn their air conditioners from the cooling setting to the heat setting. When this is done for the first time of the season, the unit may give off a smell indicating something is burning. This is a very common occurrence if the heating elements in the unit have not been energized in some time. Dust collects on the elements over time and it's burned off when the heat is first turned on. This is not normally something in which the occupant needs to be overly concerned. The smell should begin to dissipate after about five or 10 minutes.

If the unit continues to emit the odor for longer than 10 minutes, or if smoke is seen coming from the vents, turn the unit to the off position if it's safe to do so, pull the fire alarm and call 9-1-1 from a safe location. There is a chance this

could accidentally cause the building's fire alarm to activate automatically due to the dust being burned off. As with any fire alarm, if it activates, evacuate the building immediately. If there's a phone nearby, call 9-1-1 and let the dispatcher know what the likely cause may be. If no telephone is

available, notify the firefighters after they arrive on scene and let them know which room the unit is in.

Also, make sure to clean the unit's filter frequently to make sure it remains operating properly and doesn't become a fire hazard.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Robert Barney

Dec. 1 golden anniversary of chief master sergeant rank

By Bryan Carnes
Air Force Materiel Command
Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFNS) -- Chief master sergeants weren't a part of the Air Force's enlisted structure when the service was formed in 1947. In fact, it took 11 years after the fact until the rank even existed.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment by Air Force officials of the rank of chief master sergeant, adding another important chapter to the Air Force's enlisted heritage.

The need to create the chief master sergeant rank was forged from the technology that World War II produced. In the attempt to end the war as quickly as possible, officials in the U.S., along with those of other countries, dedicated teams of scientists and engineers to create the most advanced war-winning capabilities possible.

While the U.S. military was fighting the war in Africa, Europe and Asia, U.S. researchers were producing the most advanced technology ever seen. The emergence of faster aircraft, bombers, advanced electronics, radar systems and missiles were on the rise.

With the growth of aviation during the war, President Harry S. Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947 creating the



U.S. Air Force. It was on Sept. 18, 1947, that the Air Force became a separate entity which "shall include aviation forces both combat and service not otherwise assigned."

It was not until after the Korean War, however, that Air Force officials realized that the enlisted corps suffered from stagnation in rank. Master sergeant (E-7) was the highest enlisted rank a person could achieve. It was then that Congress enacted the Career Compensation Act of 1958.

The act allowed Air Force officials to create two new ranks, senior master sergeant (E-8) and chief master sergeant (E-9). Air Force personnel officials

conducted an in-depth study of all Air Force specialty codes and organized the career fields into highly technical and non-technical fields.

It was decided that 1 percent of the master sergeants from the highly technical fields would be promoted to chief master sergeant. This is still true today, as only 1 percent of the enlisted force at any given time reach the rank of chief master sergeant.

There were 58,000 master sergeants who qualified for promotion to either of the two grades. A promotion board was held to review records and look for demonstrated leadership and supervisory skills, evaluations and commander recommendations. Six hundred and twenty-five Airmen were selected to the rank of chief master sergeant. Since there were no line numbers at the time, they all were promoted on the same day, Dec. 1, 1959, becoming the Air Force's charter chiefs.

The rank has flourished since 1959, earning the respect of all other services and ranks. During the 1970s, Air Staff officials made "chief" the official term of address for an E-9.

One of the original charter chiefs, retired Chief Master Sgt. James J. Flaschenriem, wrote, "The chief does not manage by fear or intimidation as the old first sergeant did, but by knowledge, training and great leadership ability."

CMSAF talks education, PT, joint f

By Senior Airman
Michael Matkin
379th Air Expeditionary
Wing Public Affairs

Chief Master Sgt. James A. Roy, the 16th Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, spoke with and visited deployed service members at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia, Monday and Tuesday, during his first U.S. Central Command area of responsibility tour as the service's top enlisted leader.

During various discussions with 379th Air Expeditionary Wing Airmen, to include an enlisted call attended by a packed theater, the chief focused on specific topics most relevant to enlisted service members.

One of the topics he discussed was the importance of training and education, both off-duty and professional military education.

"We are the Air Force we are today because of the training that was afforded to us," said Chief Roy. "This is why I am committed to making sure Airmen get all of the training they need and more; it is better to have extra training and not need it then need it and not have had it."

He said getting an off-base education is important because it can help create a better quality of life for Airmen and their families. In addition, the Air Force benefits from it as well.

He encouraged Airmen to take advantage of the Community College of the Air Force, especially since the Air Force is the only service with this program. He also highlighted the Air University's Associate-to-Baccalaureate Cooperative at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. The program was developed by Air University and allows Airmen to turn a CCAF degree into a bachelor's degree from an accredited university. As part of this partnership,



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Jason Edwards

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Roy receives a briefing from Battlespace Command and Control Center personnel here, Tuesday. Chief Roy is touring the U.S. Air Forces Central Command area of responsibility, visiting with Airmen and addressing numerous issues affecting service members who are deployed in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

participating schools and universities will accept all of the credits earned by Airmen who have attained a CCAF degree and apply them to a bachelor's degree related to their Air Force specialty.

The chief said PME is an important aspect of developing strong NCO leadership. He said Airman Leadership School is very important, but because there is roughly a 10-year gap between ALS and the NCO Academy, some of those leadership skills do not get finely tuned like they should.

"It is our goal to fill that gap, which is why we have changed the policy where master sergeants must attend the Senior NCO Academy before they can sew on senior; we are attempting to provide Airmen training earlier in their careers," Chief Roy said. "We rely upon our first-line supervisors very heavily, so we are also trying to push the NCO Academy down so those Airmen will have taken this

course before they achieve on the rank of technical sergeant."

While speaking on education, Chief Roy also shared the importance of training with joint and Coalition forces. He said the goal is to expand NCOs' knowledge of joint and Coalition competencies, while broadening their understanding of their strategic and operational requirements.

"Because we are working more and more in joint and Coalition environments, enlisted leaders of the future must be well-versed in joint and Coalition operations," Chief Roy said.

To accomplish this, he encouraged Senior NCOs to take the on-line joint correspondence course, which was created to provide SNCOs joint training so they can quickly integrate and effectively contribute in a joint environment.

To be well trained and work in Coalition environments, the

chief said that Airmen need to be able to attend coalition forces PME schools. The AF is also looking to use the attendance of coalition courses to drive assignments, such as attending a Canadian PME school and then being assigned to a Canadian embassy.

Training and education are important topics on the senior leader's agenda; however, just as imperative is the health and wellness of the more than 260,000 active duty enlisted personnel under Chief Roy's direction. He spoke about the new physical training test and the intended results the Air Force is seeking by increasing the minimum standards as well as the frequency of the PT test.

"We need to have a much more physically fit force, across the board," Chief Roy said. "We want Airmen to focus on the entire element of PT and not just focus on part of it. Physical conditioning has a lot of elements to it – it is not just aerobic and it is not just building muscle strength

Force during Grand Slam Wing visit



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Robert Barney

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Roy meets with Royal Air Force servicemembers from Number 83 Expeditionary Air Group, Monday.

– it’s a combination of both. Overall, it is about the conditioning of our Airmen to be fit to fight.”

Chief Roy said that he doesn’t believe the standards are that much tougher. They were, instead, adjusted to be more aerobic.

“Our weight management program has been incorporated into physical training,”

Chief Roy said, “which is why there are more points associated with the weight and waist standard; it is also why minimum standards were established. In the past, there wasn’t a lot of incentive to go from a 40-inch waist to a 36-inch waist because it was just a matter of points. We need to take care of our Airmen and medical research has shown that people with a waist over 40 inches are much more likely to have cardiac problems. Again, we need to be fit to fight.”

The chief wrapped up his visit with the following comments to all deployed Airmen serving in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom: “I am

here because as your Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, I need to know what is going on in the AOR in order

to represent you. I appreciate all your hard work and all that you endure on a day-to-day basis. On behalf of the Chief

of Staff and the Secretary of the Air Force, thank you and we thank your families for their sacrifices as well.”



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Jason Edwards

Senior Airman Stephanie Lane, 379th Expeditionary Force Support Squadron food service quality assurance technician, provides a facility tour of a Coalition Compound dormitory for Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Roy, Tuesday.

379 AEW Force Protection 'rocks'

By Senior Airman Michael Matkin
379th Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

"What do you do on base? How big is the base? What kind of aircraft does your base have?" asks a cashier at the local mall, seemingly making small talk.

These questions may seem harmless, but providing sensitive information regarding base operations puts all servicemembers here at risk, said Maj. Apryl Cymbal, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing force protection chief.

Force Protection is responsible for the installation-wide antiterrorism and force protection programs. It is their job to coordinate all AT and FP initiatives and ensure wing programs are compliant with Department of Defense, U.S. Central Command, Air Forces Central Command and local policies, Major Cymbal said.

FP is also responsible for training the base populace on off-base travel procedures and managing the installation Random Antiterrorism Measure program, said Tech. Sgt. Kevin Jones, 379 AEW FP NCO in charge, deployed from Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash.

Most servicemembers know about FP through these programs. They also know that security operations play a major role in the installation's AT and FP posture; however, many different squadrons on base are involved in protecting the installation, Major Cymbal said.

For example, new construction on DoD installations must now incorporate AT standards to maximize survivability of the base resources and populace in case of an attack. Installation AT and FP posture includes emergency management, mass casualty planning, infrastructure hardening, such as protecting food, water and power sources; even guarding the third country national workforce, Major Cymbal said.

One squadron that has a major role in protecting the base is the 379th Civil Engineer Squadron. "They establish the barrier plans that protect the installation's critical infrastructure and ensure new buildings are constructed to DoD anti-terrorism standards," Major Cymbal said.

The barriers protecting the buildings around base are a DoD standard that requires a minimum amount of stand-off distance for primary gathering facilities, such as dorms. "The chance of survivability if a bomb were to detonate near a facility is much greater with a



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Jason Edwards

Right, Master Sgt. Kevin Jones, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing Force Protection NCOIC, conducts a random anti-terrorism measure spot inspection with Tech. Sgt. April Coleman, 379 AEW Area Defense Council defense paralegal, Wednesday. The 379 AEW Force Protection office coordinates installation-wide efforts to reduce the vulnerability of deployed personnel and resources throughout the base.

minimum of 25-meter stand-off distance in place," the major said.

"Servicemembers often wonder why there are big rocks scattered all over the base; these are not random or accidental," the major continued. "Here on base, we've established facility stand-off using big rocks; however, the base is growing at such an incredibly fast pace that we are continually reevaluating our barrier planning. The 379 AEW just purchased more than \$5 million worth of new barriers to protect new construction."

Although different squadrons and base offices play a role in FP and AT measures, the base populace, as a whole, is responsible for protecting the base, Major Cymbal said.

"The number one thing servicemembers can do to keep base personnel safe is to guard against intelligence gathering by adversarial forces. The goal is to make it as hard as possible for adversaries to collect information about us and about our missions and daily operations -- in other words, practice good operational security," Major Cymbal said. "When [servicemembers] are relaxing at Memorial Plaza or visiting downtown, it's easy to chill out and think life is pretty good, but no one in the [U.S. Central Command area of responsibility] can afford to forget that we have determined enemies who are constantly seeking information."

The AT and FP working group structure is designed to facilitate installation-wide communication and cooperation, Major Cymbal said. The chief of FP chairs the installation Antiterrorism Working Group, which is comprised of all unit-level AT representatives. The 379 AEW FP also facilitates the Threat Working Group, chaired by the 379 AEW vice commander, and meets weekly to assess AT and FP initiatives and evaluate the current local threat. All 38 units on base, including most of the partner units, are involved in the ATWG and TWG. Many AT and FP programs have a direct impact on the base populace, such as the Off-Base Travel Program, and many of the decisions regarding this program are made at the advice of the TWG. The 379 AEW FP also facilitates the Antiterrorism Executive Committee meetings, which serve as the senior leadership forum for AT and FP matters.

"The overall objective of the AT and FP programs is to make the base a hard and complicated target so the 'bad guy' will give up in the attack planning phase," Major Cymbal said.

With the combined effort of the Antiterrorism and Threat Working Groups, the 379 AEW Force Protection staff captured the 2009 AFCENT, CENTCOM and DoD Best Antiterrorism Program award for a fixed unit.

Airman Alexander Chavanne

816th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron
Aircrew Flight Equipment Technician

Home station: Charleston Air Force Base, S.C.

Arrived in AOR: August

Deployment goals: Finish my 5-level upgrade training, get first-hand knowledge on how C-17 Globemaster III operations play a vital role in the mission.

Best part of the deployment: Getting positive feedback from our C-17 aircrew when they return home from a mission.

Hobbies: Working out in the gym, fishing, and hanging out with my friends and family.

Best Air Force memory: While at technical school I volunteered to act as a deployed and mentally stressed service member for training at the Medical Squadron.

Nominated by Tech. Sgt. Chuck Hall: "Upon arriving here on his first deployment, Airman Chavanne hit the ground running and never looked back. Everyone who encounters him comments on his sense of professionalism and unfailing work ethic. He is responsible for the inspection and safety of more than \$5.1 million worth of aircrew survival equipment assets. His 'get-it-done' attitude is infectious and his positive influence on this base is invaluable."



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Jason Edwards

Staff Sgt. Tommy Haswell

379th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron
Air Traffic Control Watch Supervisor

Home station: Grand Forks AFB, N.D.

Arrived in AOR: June

Deployment goals: Get in better shape, save money, leave my workplace a better place to work for those who follow me.

Best part of the deployment: It's hard to choose the best part of this deployment since a lot of good things have happened, but if I had to choose I would say that making new friends and networking with new people has been a blast so far.

Hobbies: Spending time with my family, writing short stories, playing guitar.

Best Air Force memory: My best service memory would have to be the 1 1/2 years I spent on Honor Guard at Scott AFB, Ill. That is where I met my wife.

Nominated by Master Sgt. Scott Sojak: "Sergeant Haswell's dedication to the facility is unmatched. He continually strives to find better, more logical ways to improve the day-to-day operation of the tower. His positive attitude and initiative is contagious both among his fellow controllers as well as management."



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Jason Edwards

Senior Airman Darryl Hill

379th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron
Alpha Flight Quick Response Force Team Leader

Home station: Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

Arrived in AOR: June

Deployment goals: Complete CCAF degree in Criminal Justice and hone my leadership skills.

Best part of the deployment: Being selected as the Alpha Flight Quick Response Force Team Leader and fostering relationships with our host nation counterparts.

Hobbies: Studying for promotion and cheering on the Alabama Crimson Tide.

Best Air Force memory: While stationed in Germany, my entire chain of command attended guardmount and awarded my promotion to Senior Airman Below-the-Zone.

Nominated by Master Sgt. Jason Clemsic: "Senior Airman Hill consistently demonstrates exceptional leadership abilities beyond his peers. His positive attitude radiates amongst his team and co-workers, facilitating an environment conducive to teamwork and mission accomplishment."



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Jason Edwards



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Jason Edwards

Senior Airman Travis Carlson, 379th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron guidance and control systems technician, utilizes the new self-help laundry facility in Southwest Asia, Wednesday. The self-help facility serves as an alternative to the laundry turn-in program. Airman Carlson is deployed from the Nebraska Air National Guard in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Staff Sgt. Grace Spoerle, 379th Expeditionary Communications Squadron telephone systems repair craftsman, determines which Category 5 cable requires repair, Nov. 27, in Southwest Asia. Sergeant Spoerle helps to keep telephones, computers and other communication systems operating correctly.



U.S. Air Force

Staff Sgt. Dennis Stacey, 379th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron brake central repair facility section, works on the KC-135 brake for Lt. Gen. Loren Reno, 379th Expeditionary Mission Support deputy chief of staff, at the port of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.



U.S. Air Force



orce]photo/Tech. Sgt. Jason Edwards

onary Maintenance chief, demonstrates logistics, Installations Thursday. Sergeant e Base, Kan., in sup- ng Freedom.



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Robert Barney

A 746th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron C-130J Hercules takes off on an airlift mission, Tuesday, in Southwest Asia. The 746 EAS provides intratheater combat airlift support throughout the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.



orce]photo/Staff Sgt. Robert Barney



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Robert Barney

Left, Senior Airman Matthew Brink and Airman 1st Class Ryan Hall, 379th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron fuels systems journeymen, reattach an access panel during maintenance on a B-1B Lancer fuel system, here, Wednesday. Airmen with the 379 MXS fuels section maintain and fix the fuels systems of aircraft that fly in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

CAOC volleyball team three-time champs

By Senior Airman David Dobrydney
379th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

When the Combined Air and Space Operations Center defeated the 379th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron in the intramural volleyball championship, Nov. 28, it was another notch in a string of victories.

“Going into and during the match I knew it would be a close game,” said Staff Sgt. William Bird, team coach, who led his team to victory 25-21.

Sergeant Bird is not a novice when it comes to coaching. While stationed in Colorado, he was assistant coach at a local high school volleyball club. He has now deployed to Southwest Asia three times and each time he has taken the reins of the CAOC team, they have won the volleyball championship. This is the second time they have won three championships in a row.

“I have always been lucky to get a good group of players each time,” Sergeant Bird said.

One of those players is Jason McDonald, a contracted network engineer. In the past, he played volleyball professionally and participated in several U.S. Open Volleyball Championships.

“If you play a sport, you naturally pick it up where

ever you go,” Mr. McDonald said. The CAOC already had two volleyball championship wins under their belt before Mr. McDonald heard about the team and joined. He added that the camaraderie of the team is what’s important to him. “I’ve coached and played professionally, but I like to play with people who just enjoy the game,” Mr. McDonald said.

Not that Mr. McDonald’s experience was lost on Sergeant Bird. “[Mr. McDonald] gave our team a much needed advantage this rotation,” he said.

Sergeant Bird has since redeployed to Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., and a new coach for the CAOC team for the current rotation has not yet been chosen. However, Sergeant Bird said playing sports, besides a way to keep fit to fight, is also a morale builder regardless of who is coaching.

“Playing intramurals brings together people you normally would not have contact with or the chance to get to know,” Sergeant Bird said.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Jason Edwards

Jason McDonald, Argon ST/TTC Team network engineer, leaps into action with the Combined Air and Space Operations Center volleyball team against the 379th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron team Nov. 28. The CAOC team emerged as the base champion in the Intramural Volleyball League for the third consecutive year.

The Combined Air and Space Operations Center intramural volleyball team. Back row left to right: Maj. Robert Seifert, Master Sgt. Steven Wagner, Staff Sgt. William Bird, Jason McDonald, Maj. Mark Anderson. Front row left to right: Staff Sgt. Doris Cook, 2nd Lt. Emily Shanes, Tech. Sgt. John Crisostomo.



Photo by Patrick Lucero

November's non-judicial punishments

Editor's Note: This list does not include actions from the month still under investigation or those disposed of through administrative actions such as LORs, UIFs, etc.

- An active-duty senior airman from the 379th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron received an Article 15 for possessing pornography on his personal laptop. This NJP action resulted in forfeiture of \$400 and a reprimand.
- An active-duty senior airman from 379th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron received an Article 15 for consistently failing to perform his duties up to standards. This NJP action resulted in suspended reduction to the grade of airman, 14 days of extra duty, and forfeiture of \$150 pay per month for two months.
- An active-duty senior airman from 379th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron received an Article 15 for possessing pornography on his personal laptop and allowing a member of the opposite gender

into his room. This NJP action resulted in suspended reduction to the grade of airman 1st class, forfeiture of \$250 per month for two months, and a reprimand.

- An active-duty senior airman from 379th Expeditionary Maintenance Operations Squadron received an Article 15 for saving pornographic images to his unit's shared network drive and possessing pornography on his personal laptop. This NJP action resulted in suspended reduction to the grade of airman, 14 days of extra duty, and forfeiture of \$150 per month for two months.
- An active-duty staff sergeant from the 71st Expeditionary Air Control Squadron received an Article 15 for disrespecting an officer, using Internet relay chat for unofficial purposes, failing to follow a no-contact order, and allowing a member of the opposite gender into his room. This NJP action resulted in a reduction to Senior Airman, suspended forfeiture of \$1,109 pay per month for two months, and a reprimand.

- A reservist staff sergeant from 746th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron received an Article 15 for engaging in an unprofessional relationship with a 1st lieutenant and allowing a member of the opposite gender into his room. This NJP action resulted in suspended reduction to the grade of senior airman and a reprimand.

- A guardsman master sergeant from 1st Expeditionary RED HORSE Group received an Article 15 for drinking in violation of a general order, lying about drinking, and drunkenness in a manner to discredit the service. This NJP action resulted in reduction to the grade of technical sergeant and suspended forfeiture of \$1,613 pay per month for two months.

- An active-duty 1st lieutenant from Air Force Forces received an Article 15 for consuming alcohol in an unauthorized location and for visiting the room of a member of the opposite gender. This NJP action resulted in forfeiture of \$743 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

This Week's Caption Contest

Photo No. 152

The winner is...

"Man, these hideaway keys are getting harder and harder to pry off!"

- Master Sgt. Angel Martell, Jr.,
U.S. Central Command Forward Headquarters

Honorable mention:

"No, I said lefty-loosey, not righty-tighty!!"

- Tech. Sgt. Monte Caldarelli,
746th Aircraft Maintenance Unit



Photo No. 153 (next week's photo)

Do you have what it takes to make the base chuckle? Submit your made-up caption for the photo below to **379AEW.PA@auab.afcent.af.mil** by Wednesday. If your caption is the best (or second best), it will appear in the following week's paper.

Can't come up with a caption but have a funnier photo than we've been using? Submit it to **379AEW.PA@auab.afcent.af.mil** and we may use it.

Tankers enable mission accomplishment

By Senior Airman David Dobrydney
379th Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

Even the most advanced military aircraft needs fuel in order to be of use.

For the 340th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron here in Southwest Asia, its mission is to support other aircraft so they can fulfill their mission of supporting troops on the ground.

“We supply most all the refueling capability in [Operation Iraqi Freedom]

and about a third of the capability in [Operation Enduring Freedom]” Lt. Col. Bret Frymire, 340 EARS commander, said. “We refuel every unit operating in the field right now, to include our Coalition partners.”

To maintain its 24/7 support, the 340 EARS’ operations tempo is very fast-paced, with more than 20 sorties daily.

“We have a [KC-]135 taking off or landing every hour of the day,” said Lt. Col. Bill Stowe, 340 EARS director of

operations. As the DO, Colonel Stowe is charged with scheduling the missions to meet that tempo.

“We have so many taskings with only so many crews; it’s sometimes like putting together a 1,000 piece jigsaw puzzle,” he said. To solve that puzzle, Colonel Stowe will periodically pilot a mission to see where the scheduling process can be improved.

While Colonel Stowe is deployed here from McConnell Air Force Base, Kan., the rest of the crews come from several different places. “We have guard, reserve and active-duty, not just from [Air Mobility Command] but also [Pacific Air Forces], [U.S. Air Force in Europe], etc.,” he said. Colonel Frymire is deployed from Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England, and said the majority of flying squadrons deploy as units. “As far as flying squadrons, we are unique in that regard,” he said.

Regardless of where they deploy from, the 340 EARS Airmen coalesce into a single unit in pursuit of mission accomplishment. “The plane flies the same no matter what, so everyone works together and the mission goes off without a hitch,” Colonel Stowe said.

The mission is accomplished even though the KC-135 aircraft here have been plying their trade now for decades. The newest KC-135 currently on the ramp was built in 1963. “We are flying a classic airframe,” Colonel Stowe said. “Trying to keep them airborne is always a challenge but the maintainers do an outstanding job. We couldn’t support the mission without the support we get from the maintainers.”

With that support underneath them, the tankers continue to fly eight- to 10-hour sorties, providing 50,000 to 120,000 pounds of fuel on a typical mission. Master Sgt. Jeff Van Nortwick, an in-flight air refueling boom operator, deployed from the Nebraska Air National Guard, is the one who monitors the release of that fuel.

When performing refueling maneuvers, such as ‘yo-yo’ operations where one aircraft will come up for fuel while another provides support for ground troops and then rotating, Sergeant Van Nortwick’s job is made just a little easier by the experience of the pilots. “What I’ve noticed in my time here is that the receivers are very stable,” he said, meaning he is able to smoothly connect the boom to the receiving aircraft. “They have the experience and it



U.S. Air Force photos/Staff Sgt. Robert Barney

Capt. Adam Kornitzer, 340th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron pilot, conducts a preflight check of a KC-135 Stratotanker, here, Wednesday. The 340 EARS Airmen fly a variety of missions providing aerial refueling of U.S. and Coalition aircraft throughout the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.



Senior Airman Andrew Deck, 340th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron boom operator, conducts a KC-135 Stratotanker preflight check, here, Wednesday.

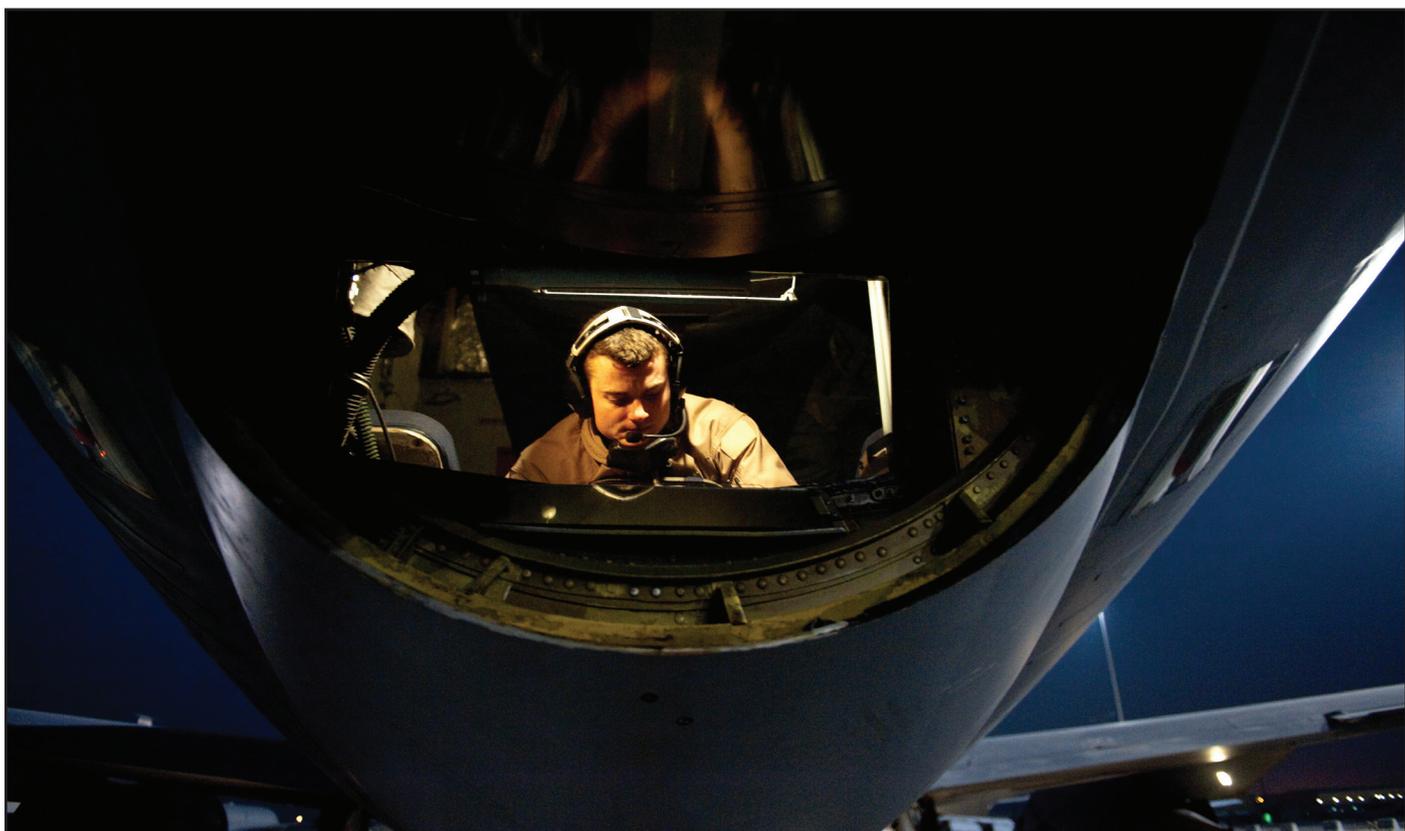
shows,” Sergeant Van Nortwick said.

For Sergeant Van Nortwick, the pace of missions obligates crew members to remain flexible. “You’re not necessarily always flying from 8 to 5 -- it rotates as the taskings come,” he said. “Sometimes it

just happens where you’re flying daytime missions and your day starts later and later until eventually you’re flying at night.”

However, Sergeant Van Nortwick considers his job very rewarding. “It’s extremely gratifying to know when you

give gas to a fighter who’s covering a troop convoy, that [convoy] will make it from A to B,” he said. “We’re directly supporting troops on the ground, which makes their job a lot easier when they have an aircraft overhead providing top cover.”



Senior Airman Andrew Deck, 340th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron boom operator, conducts a KC-135 Stratotanker preflight check on the flightline, Wednesday.



VICTORY CHAPEL

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24 hours a day,
'And overtime on Sundays'

**WORSHIP
SCHEDULE**

**Protestant
Saturday**

7:30 p.m., Contemporary, Chapel

Sunday

9:45 a.m., General Protestant,
CAOC 1st Floor conference room

9:45 a.m., Contemporary, Chapel

11:30 a.m., Traditional Service,
Chapel

Noon, Church of Christ,
BPC Fellowship

1:30 p.m., LDS Service, Chapel

4 p.m., Liturgical, Chapel

7 p.m., Church of Christ,
Multi-purpose room

7:30 p.m., Gospel, Chapel

Roman Catholic Mass

6 p.m., Monday-Friday

Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Saturday Mass

6 p.m., Mass, BPC Mall area

Sunday Masses

8 a.m., Mass, Victory Chapel

11 a.m., Mass, CAOC 1st floor
conference room

6 p.m., Mass, Victory Chapel

Earth Religions

Wednesday

2 p.m., CC Ministry Center

Jewish

Friday

9 p.m., Multi-purpose room

Muslim

Buddhist

Orthodox

See Chapel staff or call 437-8811 for
more information.

Attitude of gratitude

By Chaplain (Capt.) Heather Bodwell
379th Air Expeditionary Wing Chapel

What are we thankful for? Who do we thank? These are important questions that we should consider each day, especially with the recent Thanksgiving celebration and the December holidays approaching. Being truly thankful means we should take the time to contemplate the gifts that we have been given. Our thankfulness is more than just words spoken -- it is the gratitude felt from the depths of our hearts.

This holiday season, and every day, there should be a time in which we share the depths of our gratitude with one another and God. Our life's journey is all about our attitude; are we grateful or resentful? Pessimistic or optimistic? Our attitude about life affects our outcomes in life. A quote from Thomas Jefferson illustrates this point: "Nothing can stop the man with the right mental attitude from achieving his goal; nothing on earth can help the man with the wrong mental attitude."

I was reminded of the attitude of gratitude when I attended a youth rally a few years ago. An example set by the youth reflected how our attitudes affect us. I had a moment to reflect on attitudes when the youth went rollerskating one night; for some of them, it was their first time skating. Asking for help seemed out of the question for some. Pride starts to show itself in adolescence and we are unwilling to admit that we do not have all the answers to life's questions.

I was asked by some of them whether I was going to skate? When I said I was, some of them asked if I would show them how to roller skate. I can usually roller skate without falling, but I am not exactly graceful on wheels. It was a moment in which I was reminded about attitudes because some of the youth who did not know how to skate asked for help while others did not. They chose, instead, to sit and watch. The youth learning to roller skate that night had a bumpy great time while the others watching appeared bored and discouraged.

One of the youth was determined she was not going to give up until she mastered roller skating. She kept

a positive attitude. She could have quit the moment it became difficult or challenging. She spent hours working on skating and would break for only a few minutes each hour. By the end of the night, she was skating around the rink on her own power. What a great effort!

If only we could apply this amount of determination to our own life and relationships instead of giving up because things get too difficult, or walking away because we thought it should have been a piece of cake but instead took time and practice.

Hopefully, we are aware that anything worthwhile in this world, such as our relationship with God and our neighbors, must be obtained through persistence, practice and trust. This moment and many others at the youth rally reminded me that faith grows only if we nurture it. Just as a person learns to master rollerskating, and a new butterfly learns to use its wings, we must trust enough in our God to allow ourselves to ask for help when we need it and share our gratitude throughout life's journey.

**2009 Holiday
Services Schedule
Catholic**

Christmas Eve Mass: Dec. 24, 6 p.m.
and midnight, Victory Chapel
Christmas Day Mass: Dec. 25, 8 a.m.,
Victory Chapel

Combined Protestant

Longest Night Service: Dec. 21,
6 p.m., Victory Chapel
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service:
Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m., Victory Chapel;
10:30 p.m., PAX terminal
Christmas Day Services: Dec. 25,
11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., Victory Chapel

Jewish

Hanukkah Services: Dec. 11-18,
5 p.m., Chapel Multi-Purpose Room

Earth Religions

Yule Celebration: Dec. 21, 1 a.m., CC
Ministry Center, Building 10006

Follow the happenings of the 'Grand Slam' Wing at <http://379aew.dodlive.mil>, on Facebook at '379th Air Expeditionary Wing' and on Twitter @379AEW

Combined Federal Campaign

To give every servicemember and civilian federal employee serving overseas the opportunity to make a charitable contribution, this year's Combined Federal Campaign Overseas campaign has been extended to Dec. 13. Whether the cause is medical research, international relief or environmental protection, the CFC-O allows everyone the opportunity to support those causes which matter the most to them. For questions or to find your unit POC, call 437-2127.

BDOC ribbon-cutting

All base personnel are invited to the Base Defense Operations Center ribbon-cutting ceremony, Dec. 16 at 10:30 a.m., to be held in Bldg. 6881 (adjacent to the Wing Operations Center). For more information, contact Master Sgt. Kenneth Shean at 436-0421.

Right Start, Right Finish - Plan Early

Right Start and Right Finish briefings are held in the CC Theater every Friday; however, briefings will not be held on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1. Any servicemember scheduled to depart in the next month must plan early in order to avoid missing this mandatory appointment. Right Start begins promptly at 6:45 a.m. and Right Finish begins at 5 p.m.

Footwear Regulations

AUABI 36-2903 states that athletic shoes are the primary footwear when wearing the PT uniform. Crocs, sandals, water shoes or "five fingered shoes" are not considered athletic shoes for purposes of this instruction.

Fire Extinguisher Tags

The 379 ECES Fire Prevention Office received a new shipment of fire extinguisher tags and have them available for issue. Stop by the Fire Prevention Office at Fire Station 3 (Bldg. 10130 in the BPC next to the hospital) or call 437-8771 or 437-5505 for any questions. As a reminder, facility managers must ensure fire extinguishers are being inspected monthly as required by AUABI 32-2001, AFOSH Standard 91-501, and NFPA 10.

379 ELRS Arming Requirements

The following items must be presented to the 379th Expeditionary Logistics and Readiness Squadron Armory to be issued a firearm and ammunition: A current AF Form 522 (Weapon Qualification Card), DD Form 2760

(Qualification to possess firearm or ammo), a copy of CED orders and an authorization letter to bear firearms signed by an authorizing official. For more information, contact the Armory at 437-5125 or 437-6082.

No Gift-Wrapping Items

Post Office personnel are required, per DoD 4525.6M, to complete a 100 percent parcel inspection on all mail sent from the AOR. Patrons are asked not to gift wrap any items in the box. This will help prevent items from being confiscated by host nation customs. Direct all questions to MSgt George Flaig, Postmaster, at 437-8717.

Medical Appointments Trial Basis

In an effort to enhance customer service, the 379th Expeditionary Medical Group has begun to offer a limited number of primary care appointments on a trial basis. Same-day only appointments can be made by calling 437-4216 and are available Monday through Saturday from 7:20 a.m. to 5 p.m. Appointments should only be made for urgent care, not routine or follow-up care. As a reminder, patients can continue to be seen on a walk-in basis at the clinic, 24/7.

Uniform Disposal

The proper disposal of military uniforms is a force protection issue. The 379th ELRS transit shipping point has established an unserviceable uniform disposal program. Four locations are available to drop off uniform outer garments; however, boots, PT gear or civilian clothing is not permitted. Uniforms can be taken directly to the TSP (Building 3718 near the wash rack). They can also be dropped off at collection boxes located by Jack's Place, the Coffee Beanery in the CC complex and outside of the BPC BX. For questions, contact TSP at 437-2352.

Off-Base Travel Reminder

In accordance with AUABI 10-6008, personnel may wear the duty uniform off-base when conducting official business. However, when traveling in uniform, uniform blouses must be removed upon departure from installation, and replaced upon arrival at destination; flight suits should be unzipped and folded at the waist upon departure and zipped upon arrival at destination; only the T-shirt should be visible. For more information, contact 379th Air Expeditionary Wing Force Protection at 436-0198.

Professional Development Courses

Professional Development courses are held every Wednesday and Friday at 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. at the Airmen Readiness Center. These classes are taught by senior enlisted leaders in an effort to provide personal and professional growth opportunities for deployed members. Pay grades of E-1 through O-3 are welcome to attend. For more information, to suggest a topic, or to volunteer to teach, call Master Sgt. Mandy Midgett at 436-4184.

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