

Southern Flyer



908th Airlift Wing (Air Force Reserve Command), Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Ala., Vol. 42, Issue 2, February 2005



Photo by Jeff Melvin

APS gets first combat call up

Senior Airman JoEllie Regan shows her skills handling a forklift. Airman Regan and nearly 50 other members of 25th Aerial Port Squadron deployed last month to assist in the nation's Global War on Terror. Aerial port personnel process and load passengers, parts, equipment; mobility gear; and a variety of supplies on C-130 Hercules; C-5 Galaxy; C-17 Globemaster III; and various commercial, cargo and passenger aircraft. With recent departures, the number of unit reservists who've served in the war on terror, supporting Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, surpasses 400 (about one-third of the 908th's total membership).

Hummer shows troops support

908AW Command Chief Amos Moore, right, shows Wing Commander Col. Heath Nuckolls the extent one area resident has gone through to demonstrate his support for troops and their families. Mr. David Lane of the Readiness and Family Support Organization lent Chief Moore this patriotically decorated Hummer H2 to display at one of our recent departure ceremonies to "keep a reminder on the road." To learn more about RAFS go to their web site, readinessandfamilysupport.org.



Photo by Maj. Jerry Lobb

AMC revamps way deployments flow

New processes aim to increase predictability, efficiency, stability in travel to and from AOR

By Senior Airman Shawn Clements
U.S. Central Command Air Forces-Forward Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFPN) -- Airmen deploying to the U.S. Central Command theater in the past knew where they were going to land when boarding Air Mobility Command rotator flights in the United States, but what most of them did not know was exactly how they were going to be routed to their final destination.

Recently, AMC officials briefly froze the rotator system to implement several new processes to increase predictability, efficiency and stability in travel to and from the area. While frozen, the system was temporarily unavailable for travel booking but did not cause anybody to miss needed flights.

The old process did not provide travelers advanced booking from the main transit hub in theater to their final destinations. Airmen reaching the hub were essentially responsible for working with travel planners there to book their own intratheater travel. Since the planners also had limited visibility on Airmen flowing into theater, Airmen often spent days at the hub awaiting transportation.

Additional time en route delayed arrivals at final destinations and in turn held homeward-bound Airmen in place longer. To allow for unpredictable travel time, officials at home station began sending people sooner to ensure they arrived on time.

The resulting backlog of people at the hub stressed support services there and created frustration for individual Airmen. Travel time does not "count" toward a person's 120-day deployment clock that begins when he or she arrives at the deployed location.

To improve the transportation system for the current rotation, planners made major changes to ensure deployments flow well.

The first step was changing the process so transportation schedulers, rather than individual Airmen,

are responsible for requesting the most efficient travel arrangements. Similar to booking travel in the civilian world, logistics planners are working toward a "single ticket" system where each Airman will be given full travel routing before he or she departs from home station.

The second step was providing schedulers better visibility on each person moving through the system. To do that required a major change in airlift scheduling processes. Each Airman is assigned against an individual unit line number that can be assigned to a specific airframe.

Now, many Airmen will know their full travel plans before leaving home stations. They will be met in an upgraded passenger terminal at the transit hub where they will be provided with their follow-on travel arrangements.

"The main goal of this new plan is to be able to get transient people out to their final deployed location within 12 to 24 hours of landing in theater," said Lt. Col. Robyn Burk, CENTAF deputy chief of logistics.

To aid in this effort, Air Force officials will designate additional stateside deployment departure terminals each rotation. Added to the existing hubs of Baltimore and Atlanta are Hurlburt Field, Fla.; Hill Air Force Base, Utah; Travis AFB, Calif.; Whiteman AFB, Mo.; and Lackland AFB, Texas.

The additional departure locations shorten travel time for passengers in other parts of the United States as well as delays that result when heavy baggage must be shipped separately, officials said. It also provides air mobility division officials in theater better advance notice of requirements for intratheater airlift movements.

This additional movement visibility will also make life better for Airmen flowing through the transit hub, officials said. Officials with the 379th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron have created a system that accounts for each Airman and more smoothly transitions him or her onward.

"When transient people get off the rotator, they now come into a reception control center where we tell them everything they need to know," said Maj. Max Massey, 379th ELRS commander.

Passengers should hand carry a uniform and overnight items for their stays at the hub, officials said.

Arriving Airmen will be required to leave their bags in a secured area of the reception center while they await their connections, officials said.

Under the improved system, some Airmen will not be routed through the transit hub. Logistics planners have arranged for several rotator flights to go directly from stateside departure points into final locations.

The new initiatives should make the current rotation smoother for most of the nearly 18,000 affected Airmen, Colonel Burk said.

"The process isn't going to be 100 percent effective in the beginning, but we hope that this will help alleviate the problems," she said. By the next rotation, she said, the system should work even better.

R-E-S-P-E-C-T Find out what it means to Maxwell/Gunter

Projecting professional image, rendering respect, adhering to customs, courtesies part of military life

By Airman Joe Mulvey
Air University Public Affairs

Showing proper customs and courtesies in day-to-day operations is paramount to maintaining proper discipline in our Air Force; both with the enlisted and officer corps, said 42nd Air Base Wing command chief master sergeant Robert Moore.

"Simple acts, such as standing when a senior ranking person enters a room, rendering sharp military salutes, and addressing senior members properly are all essential facets of being a military professional. The respect we display to each other and our flag is a trademark of our professionalism--it highlights Team Maxwell-Gunter teamwork and pride," said Chief Moore.

The playing of the national anthem is a great time to show respect to the American flag. All uniformed Airmen outside should stand at attention, facing the flag or the sound of the music, and hold a salute until the last note of the music is played. All moving vehicles should stop during the playing of the national anthem and the occupants should sit quietly while the music plays. Airmen who are not in uniform should face the flag or the sound of the music and stand at attention with their right hand over their heart. There was actually a



Photo by Carl Berquist
Saluting the flag during the playing of the national anthem and moving vehicles coming to a full stop are two of many time-honored military customs and courtesies.

public law written in 1976 by Congress stating that these actions are taken in order to respect the American flag.

The only instances when Airmen should stand at attention during the national anthem while indoors are immediately before a movie is shown at the base theater and official military functions.

"Taking a few minutes to render the proper respect during the national anthem demonstrates your respect for those who have served before you and those who sacrificed their lives so that we could all live in freedom," said Chief Michael Mazzi, Air University Command Chief.

"Customs and courtesies are vital because they reinforce military tradition. They affect a unit's cohesiveness, morale and team unity, ultimately impacting mission effectiveness.

One of the most important things about customs and courtesies is common sense. You treat people the way you want to be treated and you be the professional that you want other people to be," said Chief Mazzi.

Servicemembers should display military etiquette in everyday life. The phrases "please" and "thank you" are strongly recommended in the workplace in order to show that a person's effort is appreciated.

All Airmen should address one another in a professional manner. Junior servicemembers should address superiors by their proper titles. Acting too familiar with another servicemember, rather than acting formal, can give off an unprofessional impression. Also, civilian contractors should be addressed as "Mr.," "Mrs.," "Miss," or "Ms." and a last name.

Airmen should also pay

proper respect to foreign officers and officers from other U.S. military branches. Airmen should salute those officers and show the same respect they would to an Air Force officer.

"It's imperative we present a professional image at all times. We need to always be on guard to emulate the proper appearance, respect, and military courtesy--both our juniors and superiors--this will be extremely important as we are all evaluated as a base during our upcoming ORI," said Chief Moore.

Airmen should display the proper image not only in their personal appearances but their work places as well. This is especially important during an inspection.

When in the workplace, Airmen should keep their areas neat and clean, and free of any possible safety hazards. Proper bearing should be maintained in the workplace by Airmen not leaning back in chairs and having their feet on top of the desks.

"During an evaluation, when an inspector comes into your section, your customs and courtesies and first impression can go a long way at sending a message saying 'this individual has got his area together.' Customs and courtesies allow them to pay attention to the little stuff, as well as the big stuff," Chief Mazzi concluded.

God knows who we are and continues to care for us

Not long ago I had the privilege of seeing the changing of the guards at Arlington National Cemetery.



Chaplain (Capt.) Jamie Danford
908AW staff chaplain

This solemn ceremony of respect and reverence is something to behold – the guards providing honor and respect to our unknown military members. Chiseled into the tomb are these words: "Here Rests In Honored Glory An American Soldier Known But To God."

In one instance that is an extremely sad statement. In that tomb rests someone's son, maybe someone's husband or father. Entire lives are seemingly forgotten. We don't know their life stories, their

hopes, or where they hail from – as you stand at the tomb many questions will remain forever unanswered.

However by the same token that statement offers eternal hope. While we do not know the men that are buried there at Arlington – God does. God knows everything about them. The same God who knows when the smallest of sparrow falls – holds them as well in his hand.

This thought should give us hope. Sometimes we find ourselves in places or situations where we think

we are forgotten. Sometimes the business of the world and circumstances of life cut us off from everyone. Who remembers us? Who cares about what we are going through?

The answer calls to us – God knows us. He knows our name, knows who we are and continues to care for us.

May we continue to say a prayer for all of our friends who are activated and deployed. Say a prayer for their families as well. May God hold you in His hand.



Commander, 908th Airlift Wing

Col. Heath J. Nuckolls

Editorial Staff

Chief, Public Affairs

Maj. Jerry W. Lobb

Deputy Chief/Editor

Jeffrey Melvin

Writer

Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder

Address

Editor, "Southern Flyer"
401 W. Maxwell Blvd.
Maxwell AFB, AL 36112

Phone Number

(334) 953-6804
or DSN 493-6804

Fax Number

(334) 953-2202
or DSN 493-2202

E-mail

southern.flyer@maxwell.af.mil

This funded Air Force Reserve Command newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the "Southern Flyer" are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the U.S. Government, Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

Editorial policy

Editorial content of the "Southern Flyer" is edited, prepared and provided by the 908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office.

All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

We solicit articles, drawings and photographs and reserve the right to edit materials to conform to "Southern Flyer" editorial policies.

Because of the printing and mail-out schedule the newspaper goes to press on Friday, two weeks prior to the UTA. The submission deadline for articles or information is the Wednesday two weeks prior to the UTA.

For information about this schedule, call Jeff Melvin at (334) 953-7874.

State corrections officials sign Statements of Support en masse

Commissioner Donal Campbell, head of the Ala. Dept. of Corrections, and 49 state corrections officials made history when they signed Statements of Support for the National Guard and Reserve in the Alabama Capitol Auditorium in Montgomery Jan 14.

"This is the largest mass signing of Statements of Support by any private or public employer in history. ESGR is honored to stand with Alabama Governor Bob Riley, Alabama Attorney General Troy King, and Alabama State Auditor Beth Chapman in saluting Commissioner Campbell and Alabama's Department of Corrections in this historic event," said national Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve executive director Bob Hollingsworth.

"The Alabama Department of Corrections is joining a growing cadre of governors, federal agencies, Fortune 500 companies, and thousands of American employers who have pledged support for our troops," Hollingsworth said.

He continued, "A Statement of Support serves two very vital functions: First, it demonstrates the strong level of support for our Guard and Reserve, which is important during this critical time. Secondly, it sends a clear message to the servicemembers that while they're serving their country, they do not have to worry about their civilian jobs."

Commissioner Campbell said he hopes the support signing will raise the level of awareness in Alabama and in other states.



Ala. Gov. Bob Riley speaks to ESGR, military and Dept. of corrections personnel.

"Just as ADOC employees are our most valuable assets, members of the Guard and Reserve are valuable assets to this country," said Campbell. "Each of these men and women are deserving of our continued support, whether in Alabama or any other state."

ESGR is a Department of Defense agency established in 1972 whose mission is to gain and maintain active support from all public and private employers for the men and women of the National Guard and Reserve as defined by demonstrated employer commitment to military service. ESGR volunteers provide free education, consultation, and if necessary mediation for employers of Guard and Reserve employees.

As the 1.2 million members of the National Guard and Reserve continue to perform an increasing num-



Photos by Jeff Melvin

908AW Commander Col. Heath Nuckolls greets Ala. Dept. of Corrections Commissioner Donal Campbell following the statement of support signing at the State Capitol.

ber of unique missions within America's borders and beyond, ESGR will continue as the informational agency for the employers of America's Patriots. More information

about ESGR Employer Outreach Programs and volunteer opportunities is available at www.esgr.mil, or by calling 800 336-4590. (Adapted from an ESGR news release)

Arresting development: Logistics Squadron 1st Sgt named Dothan, Ala.'s interim police chief

By Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder
908AW/PA

Some people equate being a first sergeant to being a baby sitter. Members of the 908th Logistics Readiness Squadron hope their first shirt takes his cue from that group and not



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder

Master Sgt. Nick Monday

from his civilian job. Although they won't particularly like being 'baby sat,' they wouldn't want to be locked up, either. LRS first sergeant Master Sgt. Nicholas Monday was recently named interim chief of the Dothan, Ala. Police Department.

When not performing his reserve duty Sergeant/Chief Monday is the top cop for the city of around 60,000.

"I'm serving between chiefs after the previous one retired," said Monday.

Although the uniforms are different, tasks are similar.

Being a first sergeant, Monday said, is similar to being a police chief. "You make sure people are taken care of."

The First Shirt/Police Chief is originally from Albany, Ga. but finished school in Dothan. His initial interest in law enforcement wasn't about fighting crime. "I was dating a girl and her dad was a policeman and I used to hang out with him at the department," said Monday.

That hanging out led to a career. After several years in the police explorer and auxiliary programs, He joined the force full time in 1983,

progressing to the rank of captain.

Monday's police career has been broad-based. Most recently he headed the Internal Affairs Branch where he ensured department members complied with department rules and regulations.

Police work is an eye opener. "You don't realize what really goes on in the outside world until you get there in it," said Monday who related that while growing up his parents tried to shield him from all the bad things in life. "If you did away with alcohol and domestic calls, you would do away with most crime."

Being close to retirement with the police department, Monday is attending school at night to complete a nursing degree and if there is any time left in his busy days, Monday is active in the Dothan Civil Air Patrol. He has his private pilot's license and owns and flies a Grumman-AA-5.

He has an eight-year-old son, who is proud of his father's law enforce-



Photo courtesy, Jay Hare, "Dothan Eagle"

Dothan Police Capt. Nick Monday speaks to reporters after being named interim police chief.

ment career. "He thinks it's cool," said Monday. But his son seems to like the Air Force uniform more. "He likes to wear my BDU shirt."

Sergeant Monday has 19 years in the military, including 10 years in the Air Force Reserve. He attended Troy State University in Dothan where he earned a bachelor's degree in economics. He is also a graduate of the Montgomery Police Academy and the FBI National Academy.

DoD wants you to name employer for Freedom Award

ARLINGTON, VA – Nominations for the 2005 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award nominations, will be accepted at the ESGR web site, www.esgr.mil, until midnight Feb. 24, national Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve officials said. The award is the highest in a series of ESGR awards that include the Patriot, the Above and Beyond Award, and the Pro Patria Awards.

The Freedom Award was instituted in 1996 to recognize the significant contributions and sacrifices made by America's employers of National Guardsmen and Reservists. The nomination process has been expanded to accept nominations from all public and private employers. There are three categories of consideration: major corporations (100 or more employees), small corporations (less than 100 employees), and public sector (federal, city, state, municipalities, police and fire departments, or any entity funded by tax dollars).

"Today, in support of the war on terrorism and the ongoing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, an essential alliance has been formed as many of America's employers have become inextricably linked to the nation's defense by sharing their most precious asset, their employees", said Bob Hollingsworth, ESGR Executive Director.

"We are encouraging all National Guardsmen and Reservists to visit the ESGR web site at www.esgr.mil to nominate their employers for this prestigious award that recognizes support above and beyond the USERRA Law for employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve," Hollingsworth added.

The 2005 Recipients will be recognized in Washington, D.C. Oct. 22.

ESGR provides free education, consultation, and if necessary mediation for employers of Guard and Reserve employees. For more information about ESGR Employer Outreach Programs and ESGR volunteer opportunities, call 800-336-4590 or visit the ESGR website at www.esgr.mil.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder

Award Winners

3rd quarter Wing NCO of the Quarter Staff Sgt Donald Washington, 908AES, above, and then-Senior Airman David Reza, 908ASTS, right, 3rd quarter Wing Airman of the Quarter, perform tasks in their respective duty sections. Sergeants Washington and Reza are prior service enlistees. Washington has been in the 908th since June 2002; Reza has been with the 908th for 13 months. Not shown is 3rd Quarter Senior of the Quarter, Master Sgt. Marla Gilson, 908AES. The 4th quarter and annual award winners were announced after the

UTA. They will be pictured next month. They 4th quarter winners are: Senior Airman Richard Valarezo, 908OSF, AOQ; then-Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Griswold, 908AES, NCOQ; and Senior Master Sgt. Tony Bowden, 908CES, SNCOQ. Airman Valarezo also top airman honors in the annual award program. He is joined by Tech. Sgt. Daryl Waters, 908CES, NCO of the Year; Senior Master Sgt. Martha Roy, SNCO of the Year; and Master Sgt. David Henry, First Sergeant of the Year.



Photos by Maj. Jerry Lobb

Recruiters set pace for command

HQ AFRC Recruiting Service Director Col. Francis Mungavin, left, presents a plaque to Chief Master Sgt. Annie Cantrell in appreciation for all her support while the 908th employment chief. "Because of her support our recruiting Operating Location has been able to regularly exceed our assigned goal, accessing at least 110 percent of goal, and earn Recruiting Excellence awards for 2003 and 2004. Her direct support contributed significantly to our success and assisted in keeping the 908th AW at the top as the No. 1 wing in CV manning in all of AFRC," said Senior Master Sgt. Kyle Almquist, 908AW senior recruiter. Local recruiters, Master Sgts. Tami Langhorne, center,

and Demetra Nickerson were also recognized recently by 908AW Commander Col. Heath Nuckolls for their contributions to wing recruiting branch outstanding performance. Sergeant Langhorne is the in service and line recruiter here at Maxwell. Sergeant Nickerson is the Montgomery office recruiter; she's located with other service recruiters at the Montgomery Joint Recruiting Office on East Blvd. The recruiting staff is rounded out by Senior Master Almquist and recruiting support assistant Ms. Blenda Taylor here at the 908th, Tech. Sgt. Richard Casavant of the Columbus, Ga. Office and Staff Sgt. David Mackey of the Huntsville, Ala. Office.

News from the front



Courtesy photo

Lt. Col. John Stokes accepts the flag of the new expeditionary airlift squadron from the 379th Expeditionary Operations Group deputy commander during the assumption of command ceremony Jan. 11.

Reserve, Guard C-130 unit soars from desert sands

A 908AW member has been tabbed to lead the newest expeditionary squadron at a deployed location in Southwest Asia.

Last month 357th Airlift Squadron commander Lt. Col. John Stokes took the reins of a newly created expeditionary airlift squadron comprising Air Force Reserve Command and Air National Guard C-130 aircraft and personnel.

The squadron's primary goal, Colonel Stokes said, is to provide combat-ready C-130 aircrew to support the needs of the Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom war fighters.

According to Colonel Stokes, the Air Reserve Component is responsible for most of the Air Force's C-130s. As part of a major realignment of the C-130 assets in the theater, Air Mobility Command tasked AFRC to centralize their assets at one location. However, the number of aircraft required there couldn't entirely be supplied by AFRC, so, the Air Guard provided augmentation.

The Reserve and Guard squadron will work side by side with its active duty counterpart to hold up the wing's motto of "mission first," Colonel Stokes said.

"This squadron will have



Lt. Col. John Stokes

the ultimate responsibility of supplying the majority of all C-130 sorties (from the deployed location)," said the squadron's first sergeant, Master Sergeant Keith Galloway. "It's an awesome responsibility that'll demonstrate that the Guard and Reserve deserve and can handle the opportunity," Sergeant Galloway said.

"It's good to have all three: Guard, Reserve and active duty, working together," said Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Terrell, 379th Expeditionary Operations Group superintendent.

He added that the transition has been seamless and no glitches in the mission will occur. (Adapted from an article in the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing "Desert Eagle.")



Photo by Lt. Col. Richard Stout

Tie-down:

Deployed to Southeast Asia with the 386th Air Expeditionary Wing, 908AW member Senior Airman John Metcalf chains down a HMMWV in a C-130 cargo hold during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Reservists like Airman Metcalf make up 21 percent of the aircrews for the Air Force's tactical airlift mission.



Courtesy Photo

Wing aircrews flies Alabama senator

A deployed 908AW aircrew flew a "homeboy" recently, Sen. Jeff Sessions (R - AL). Senator Sessions, who recently announced plans to introduce legislation in Congress expanding death benefits for America's military personnel and their families, was in theater on a fact-finding tour. "He came to the AOR on 'business' and we just happened to get scheduled to be the crew to fly him into Iraq. He was very nice and cordial and it was great to talk to the Senator from Alabama about the war and its progress," said aircraft commander Maj. Dave Chunn. "He is actually the first VIP that has ever mentioned 'the war' in OEF or OIF and its progress or lack of progress to me," Chunn added. The aircrew, Major Chunn said, appreciated the senator's concern and his "willingness to risk his life flying into the theater for a first hand look." Pictured from left are: the senator's aide, Mr. Arch Galloway; Major Chunn; Sen. Sessions; Tech. Sgts. Harmon Lampella and Pat Timms; Maj. Mark Harrison; Tech. Sgt. Jamie Ray; and Capt. Luke Bentley.

Take Note

Congratulations to the following people:

Promotions

....to Senior Master Sgt. Douglas Dearth, AMXS
to Master Sgt. Cynthia Barker, MSS
 Jason Craig, CES
 Harmon Lampella, 357AS
to Tech. Sgt. Kelly Beeler, SFS
 Willy Dickerson, SVF
 Orenthia Herren, ASTS
 Sharon Jackson, ASTS
 David McCaughtry, SFS
 Gregory Nipper, ASTS
 Ronald Quinton, LRS

Quadro Smith, AES
 Angela Solomon, AES
 Sean Sprayley, MXS
 Prentice Tucker, CES
to Staff Sgt. James Chaney, AES
 Crystal Montague, ASTS
 Kerry Robinson, SFS
 Monica Stallworth, ASTS
 Richard Valarezo, OSF
 ASTS
 James Whittington Jr., ASTS
to Senior Airman Gary Bronson Jr, LRS
 Emmanuel Brown, LRS
 John Hehir, LRS

Elissa Helms, ASTS
 Keldric Hughes, LRS
 Brenda Johnson, ASTS
 Allan Jordan, CES
 Chester Lachowicz, CES
 Derecus Matthews, LRS
 Arnesia Moore, OSF
 Ronald Wilkes, AMXS

....to Airman 1st Class Kathryn Dearing, 25APS
 Michael Hosea, 25APS
 Alisha Livingston, LRS
 Marshall Ford, SVF
 James Rylee, CES
to Airman Sandra Percival, LRS

Retirements

Master Sgt. Tony Burks, AES

Spouses get college help from AEF

Each year the Aerospace Education Foundation helps Air Force active duty, Reserve or Air National Guard spouses worldwide to pursue advanced degrees by awarding a \$1000 stipend.

Applications for the 2005 Spouse Scholarships will be accepted through March 31, 2005. Information and the application is available on the AEF web site "<http://www.aef.org>" or by calling AEF directly at (800) 291-8480. Applications were also mailed to Base Education offices in January. Applications must be postmarked by Mach 31. Thirty recipients will be chosen and the scholarships awarded in early May.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder

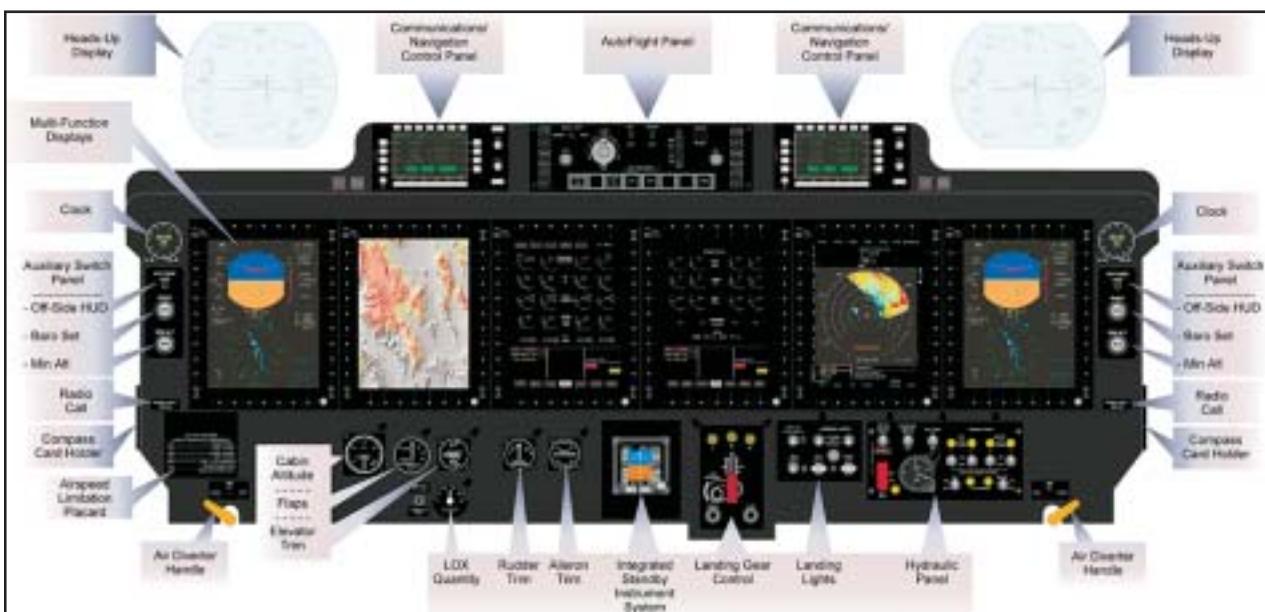
Pin 'em, where they win 'em

908AW Commander Col. Heath Nuckolls pins the Air Force Commendation Medal on Tech. Sgt. Ruth Kirkland. Sergeant Kirkland provides administrative support for the 908AW Command Post.



Photo by Maj. Jerry Lobb

9101 cockpit



Courtesy illustration

AMP cockpit

Maxwell aircraft to get 'extreme makeover'

908th Airlift Wing aircraft no. 9101 lifted off the Maxwell AFB flightline Jan. 6 on the next leg of a historic journey. The aircraft will be the first C-130 in the Air Force inventory to go through the Avionics Modernization Program. The aim of the program is to upgrade the C-130 fleet of more than 520 aircraft comprising 14 variants of five different models (E's, H-1s, -2s and -3s, and the J model) to two - the "M" model as the converted aircraft will become and the "J" model. The "J" model entered service in February 1999 and features substantial im-

provements over all previous C-130 models. With the AMP conversion, the Air Force plans to equip the older models with state-of-the-art technologies, digital avionics similar to the C-130J's and the flight management system Boeing developed for its newest version of the 737. The modernization will allow the aircraft to meet the Global Air Traffic Management requirements, improve the workload management for flight crews and reduce the total ownership costs for the C-130 fleet.

Presented First Class
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit #700
 Montgomery, AL

To the Family of:

908th Airlift Wing
 401 W. Maxwell Blvd.
 Maxwell AFB
 Montgomery, AL. 36112-6501