



# ALI TIMES

August 4, 2006

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Vol. 4, Issue 29

July 21, 2006

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The content is edited, prepared and provided by the public affairs office of the 407th Air Expeditionary Group. All photographs are U.S. Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

The *Ali Times* accepts stories, photographs and commentaries, which may be submitted to the public affairs staff—located in the group headquarters building—or can be sent directly to the newspaper at [Ali.Times@11ab.centaf.af.mil](mailto:Ali.Times@11ab.centaf.af.mil)

Deadline for publication is 7 p.m.

## Cover Photo

Staff Sgt. Gregory McCracken, 407th Expeditionary Operation Support Squadron, air traffic controller, monitors an aircraft on the radar scope. He is guiding an incoming aircraft from center control airspace to approach control. Sergeant McCracken will then hand over control of the aircraft to the tower for landing. Photo by Master Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny

# Commander's top priorities: safety, security, mission fulfillment

By Col. David Orr

407th Air Expeditionary Group Commander

Thanks for your attention and enthusiasm at the 28 July Commander's Call. I hope you gathered that we are executing the mission at a very high level, despite the increased threat activity we faced in July. Every squadron within the 407th Air Expeditionary Group has exceeded my expectations, both in mission accomplishment and in growing professionally as

Airmen who are clearly going to be key leaders in tomorrow's Expeditionary Air Force. You have the slides from the Commander's Call but please accept the following themes:

- Your security and safety is my top priority. We are engaged "outside the wire" and within our perimeter to optimize our Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection posture.

- We are 'green' in meeting almost every element of our three missions. While it's the collective team that has allowed the 407th AEG to meet and exceed all our goals, I enjoyed recognizing the following Airmen for extraordinary achievement: Senior Master Sgt. Chuck Adams (EOSS), Master Sgt. Shane Carbaugh (ELRS), Tech. Sgt. Bill Nystrom (ECS), Staff Sgt. Michelle Messer (ESVS), Staff Sgt. Kathryn Heim (ECS), Senior Airman Franklin Shumpert (ESFS), Senior Airman Dave Eastman (ECES), and Airman 1st Class Haida Boyd (AEG/CP).

- Hot Topics included achieving mission fulfillment by understanding exactly where we fit in this Long War for a democratic Iraq. I also discussed decorations criteria and a review of disciplinary cases on the installation. Re-



Photot by Staff. Sgt Rasheen Douglas

Col. David Orr 407th AEG, commander recognizes Senior Airman Franklin Shumpert for his extraordinary achievement during the July 28 commander's call.

garding the decorations, a large majority of our 407th AEG Airmen have accomplished the mission well. The fact is that we are an Expeditionary Air Force that deploys on a predictable timetable. Our Iraq service will be recognized by the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Expeditionary Service ribbon. In my opinion, the fulfilling satisfaction is that you served honorably in combat. We award the Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal recognition to that very small cadre of Airmen that stand out as the elite of the 407th AEG's best. In highlighting disciplinary issues, we all know the difference between returning home in honor versus being ordered home in disgrace.

Keep up the sustained level of excellence as we take on the combat environment in August. I am grateful for knowing each member of the 407th AEG and proud of our achievements. See you in Bedrock!



# IBD lets Ali Base sleep well at night

By Maj. Benito Barron

407th Expeditionary Security Force Squadron, Commander

Team Ali, we have responded to more rocket attacks than the previous two AEF rotations combined. The installation is fortunate enough to have eluded any major injuries as a result of insurgent activities. This is not luck, but the result of a sound integrated base defense approach.

Indirect fire is difficult to defend against. The terrorists get to choose the time and location for the attacks which are over in a matter of seconds. In an integrated base defense concept, we counter this by leveraging the Office of Special Investigations; all intelligence sources, to include the local population; and sound air base defense tactics, techniques and procedures. All relevant gathered information is presented to the Threat Working Group. The TWG (comprised of SF, OSI, Intelligence, Civil Engineer Readiness, Army representatives, and coalition partners) studies the data and formulates a recommendation to the installation commander.

Once a decision is made, it is implemented in the form of uniform posture changes, increased base patrols, focused intelligence gathering, or any combination of these. This process combined, with our intelligence sources and tactics, techniques and procedures have been extremely reliable in thwarting attacks before they happen. Although we have had some ordnance fall on Ali, our integrated base defense scheme works. We have seized thousands of rockets and mortars, taken into custody dozens of would be intruders, set up operations to negate key terrain for the terrorists, as well as captured and detained



Maj. Benito Barron

southern Iraq's largest improvised explosive device builder.

Just because an attack occurred does not mean the process failed. We will not be able to stop all attacks. The goal is to prevent as many attacks as possible and to safeguard our personnel, so the mission can thrive. In war, there are no guarantees. Although, I hope for no future rocket attacks, I, nor anyone else, can make that promise.

Instead, you have my word that those of us involved in "Defending the Base" are dedicated to the mission and your safety. OSI is constantly outside the wire speaking with local nationals to gather all pertinent data on future attacks. The Civil Engineer Squadron's Readiness team continues to formulate the best way to protect us and respond when an attack occurs. The Intelligence Section is always sifting through threat data with hopes of predicting future attacks. Your Desert Hunters will secure the airfield and provide incident command and control to ensure the mission

is not disrupted. Our brothers and sisters in the Army are "checking our six" outside the perimeter. Their processes, tactics, techniques, procedures and training are those we employed successfully for three years. Although their patrols may look different than those utilized by security forces, they are just as effective. Remember, there is more than one way to skin a cat.

There are times, despite our best efforts, we will not know about an attack until it happens. In these instances, our readiness training is paramount. It is absolutely essential everyone knows how to protect themselves and how to react once an attack is over. No one wants to see anyone get hurt at the hands of the terrorists. But more importantly, we don't want you to get injured or killed.

Ali Base, sleep well knowing all that can be done is being done. Always be mindful of what you should do when an attack occurs, but remain focused on doing your task to keep the mission running.

# Coalition firefighters respond to three-alarm blaze

By Master Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny

407th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

More than 40 firefighters, from the 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Emergency Service responded to a three-alarm fire July 21 at Camp Mittica, an Italian camp located just outside the arches of Ali Base.

Firefighters responded to a fire at the camp's hospital where there were also four vehicles burning outside the building. Fighting the fire was complicated by volatile materials such as acids and radiation from the x-ray machines that were engulfed in the flames.

After six hours, the fire was successfully extinguished with only one firefighter suffering minor heat exhaustion.

The hospital, which serviced personnel assigned to Camp Mittica as well as local Iraqis was a total loss, according to 407<sup>th</sup> ECES Fire Emergency Service Fire Chief, Senior Master Sgt. Daryl Cook.

"Anytime someone thinks there might be an emergency, they should call for help immediately," Tech. Sgt. Danny McDaniel, B-shift station captain added. "Early response to an emergency will determine our ability to save assets or prevent further damage."

According to Fire Chief Cook, the Combined Defense Operations Center notified the fire department of the emergency at 7:45 p.m. and immediately after coordinating with Col. David Orr, 407th Air Expeditionary Group commander, two fire trucks were dispatched to the scene.

Six more fire trucks and seven support vehicles pitched into the



Courtesy Photo

This was the scene of the three-alarm blaze when the first 407th ECES fire trucks arrived to Camp Mittica, Jul 21.

fight, along with 12 Italian and two Iraqi firefighters.

"The initial call to respond to a fire is the first alarm," Sergeant McDaniel said "We knew the situation was going to be grim because we could see the heavy smoke and flames before we got outside the arches. Before we got to the fire, we called in a second alarm so more firefighters could be dispatched to the scene. Once we got there, we called in a third alarm for even more firefighters."

"Our guys quickly deployed hand-held lines and began attacking the fire," Sergeant McDaniel said. "We started with an offensive

attack with hand-held hoses. Due to the complexity of the fire, we switched to a defensive attack and pulled the firefighters with the hoses out of the fire. Once we made progress on the fire, the firefighters were allowed to deploy the hand-held hoses again to finish knocking the fire out."

"In most cases you're fighting a building fire from one or two sides, but in this case the fire was on all four sides," Fire Chief Cook said. "The guys with boots on the

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**Fire**



## Fire

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ground did a great job putting the hoses and trucks where they needed to be and putting the wet stuff on the red stuff.”

After the fire was put out, an investigation determined that an electrical short was the cause of the fire, Fire Chief Cook said. There were no major injuries caused by the fire and all of the hospital staff and one patient were evacuated safely.

“We received one inpatient at the time of the fire,” said Army Maj. Matthew Horsley, Combat Surgical Hospital Patient Administration Chief. “As the result of the fire itself, we admitted one firefighter for heat exhaustion and one Italian soldier for smoke inhalation. Both of these men were returned to duty.”

“I cannot say enough about the professionalism, dedication and the technical expertise that was shown today during a fire of this magnitude,” Sergeant McDaniel said. “We have firefighters deployed from seven different states and seeing them come together as one team was an awesome sight.”

Soldiers from the 144th Area



Courtesy Photo

Coalition firefighters from Ali Base, Iraq put out a three-alarm fire in the Italian hospital at Camp Mittica, July 21, 2006.

Support Medical Company also responded to the fire and provided rehabilitation for the firefighters. Airmen from the 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron were at the scene with snacks and water. The 407th ECES Airmen provided additional water for the trucks and Airmen from vehicle maintenance came out to work on two fire trucks.

“It wasn’t just the fire depart-

ment that saved the day,” said Fire Chief Cook. “It was a team effort to successfully manage this fire. It truly demonstrated the total force, One Team—One Fight Concept.”



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Kennedy

Staff Sgt. Nathan Dubovsky, 407th ECES firefighter has his vitals measured by Spc. Jessica Tickal, Army Medic from the 144th ASMC.

During a fire, firefighters have a rehabilitation period where they rest and have their vitals measured.

“The rehabilitation period determines if a firefighter can return to the fight,” Fire Chief Cook said. “After they work for 15 minutes, they are relieved and then go to the rehabilitation center for 15 minutes where their vitals are monitored and recorded. This information is tracked and used as part of the Incident Command System. It allows an incident commander to effectively manage the manpower at the scene.



Photo by Master Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny

Staff Sgt. Bruce Dally, shift supervisor (standing) assists Senior Airman Joseph Gertonson scope operator and Staff Sgt. Scott Davis.

# Ali Airmen controlling southern Iraqi skies

By Master Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny

407th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

Although Air Force aircraft no longer dominate the flightline at Ali, Airmen maintain an important presence.

The radar operations mission, TPN-19 radar in a box, is located on the flightline between taxiway Bravo and runway "30R". Inside this camouflaged box, a handful of Airmen work around the clock controlling the air traffic in the skies of southern Iraq.

The air traffic control mission is divided into two parts; tower operations and radar operations.

According to Senior Master Sgt. Charles Adams, 407th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron Air Traffic Control Operations Chief, an air traffic controller's primary objective is maintaining safe distances between aircraft, alerting of possible incidents and arranging aircraft in

a logical order as they transition through the airspace.

"It doesn't matter what the call sign is," he said, "either military or civilian, that's still their primary objective."

"By the end of their rotation, the tower operations Airmen will have supported more than 5,200 combat support missions; primarily helicopters, C-130 and C-17 aircraft," said Sergeant Adams.

Air Force air traffic controllers are also trained to be approach controllers, sequencing traffic through small sections of airspace for approaches, landings and take offs. At a typical Air Force base, the radar mission covers an area of about 60 miles and up to an altitude of 35,000 feet. Ali's radar mission covers a 200-mile area and up to an altitude of 45,000 feet.

"Supporting the combat missions and civilian aircraft traffic has taken a tremendous effort

from these guys," Sergeant Adams said.

The radar controller's main mission lies with working the airspace known as center control.

From the time an aircraft is taxiing from a parking spot until they are a few thousand feet in the air, the tower controller handles them. Shortly after they are airborne, they are passed to the approach controllers and as they reach cruising altitude they are finally given to the center controllers.

The different types of airspace are like an upside down wedding cake, explains Sergeant Adams.

"The smallest part of the cake is the tower control," he said. "It is the airspace right around the tower from the surface up to about 6,000 feet and five miles around. The aircraft in this space are landing and taking off from the base. The next layer goes out and up and that's called the approach control. That is the airspace with aircraft that are flying to and from different airports at lower heights.

"As the cake gets bigger and goes out, it becomes center control," he continued. "Once in center control, aircraft can fly around the world from one center control to another."

At most Air Force bases, the air traffic controllers use the newest air traffic control systems in the Air Force. All of the flight information goes through the National Air Space System and flight plans are printed out. Once the air traffic controllers arrive at Ali Base, they have about seven days to learn center control. This increases their air traffic control from approach and tower control to controlling every aircraft that enters the airspace.

They also work with 45 years

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Scope



## Scope

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with the equipment, so they have to learn how to operate non-automated equipment.

"Here at Ali, you work with older equipment, experience different people, different ways of controlling traffic and language barriers. You get a lot of things thrown at you," said Staff Sgt. Scott Davis, 407 EOSS air traffic controller. "It's quite an experience. We don't have automation in our ATC equipment, so it's funny when aircraft call in and ask if we can see their flight plan. We tell them, "Your flight plan is where you tell us, because we hand write everything."

Sergeant Davis said he's glad to have the opportunity to work with this equipment because it makes him a better controller and it also makes him appreciate the state of the art equipment he works with at his home station at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

According to Sergeant McCracken, the 200-mile airspace isn't as big as it sounds. With air refueling tracks, airways that drive right through the middle of the airspace, and required separation between aircraft, the airspace gets much smaller to direct traffic through.

The controllers see each aircraft on the radar scope as a small circle with a four-digit beacon code number, and below this number, a three-digit altitude number. With this information, the controllers direct traffic in the cluttered airspace.

"Air traffic controllers need to take the information they have and visualize where the congestion and conflicts are going to be," Sergeant Adams said. "They have to be able to forecast 10-15 minutes ahead of time because realizing a conflict as it's happening



Photo by Master Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny

Staff Sgt. Gregory McCracken uses the radar scope to guide an aircraft from approach control and then hands the aircraft to tower control for a landing.

is already too late."

Controllers keep track of this information on flight progress strips. They are basically small strips of paper with the aircraft's information on them.

"When the radar is down, they only have voice communication to the aircraft and have to write down all the information they need," Sergeant Adams said. "The controllers are left to do three-di-

dimensional thinking with a one-dimensional product."

their shift, they receive a briefing of what is occurring in the airspace. They find out which airspace is active, the traffic flow and other types of coordination being done in certain sectors or frequencies. After the briefing, the controllers are assigned to either the scope or assist position. They constantly rotate between the positions and take crew rest.

The controllers work two day shifts, two swing-shifts, two mid-shifts and then get two days off. The air traffic volume is different through the day and night, varying from very slow with

only a few aircraft to extremely busy with many aircraft all vying for the same airspace. By rotating shifts, it helps keep controllers proficient with the different types of air traffic.

Though there are many challenges and demands of the job, these air traffic controllers find their job to be very rewarding.

"ATC is very gratifying because you're really making a difference," Sergeant McCracken said. "I am part of the mission getting aircraft safely to and from their destinations."

**"I am part of the mission getting aircraft safely to and from their destinations."**

**Staff Sgt. Gregory McCracken**

dimensional thinking with a one-dimensional product."

"The radar went down for a few days, but we still had to control traffic," Sergeant Davis said. "We had to get aircraft to the targets and people up and down the air ways. Without radar, we use aircraft characteristics (beacon codes and altitudes) as well as timed air speeds between certain reporting points."

With lives on the line, Sergeant Davis said the most important thing is keeping aircraft separated.

Before the controllers start

# Then and Now

## Vietnam Vets

## deployed to Iraq

By Master Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny

407<sup>th</sup> Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

Some of the Airmen serving in Operations ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM today entered the service during the Vietnam War era and will be leaving after serving again during OIF and OEF.

Chaplain (Maj.) Chuck Perry, 407th Air Expeditionary Group, and Master Sgt. Joe Collins, Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron work control specialist, are both Vietnam veterans deployed to Southwest Asia. They recall their experiences during the Vietnam War, and talk about what it was like back then and compare it to what it is like now.

Sergeant Collins received his draft notice three days after Christmas in 1965. He was enlisted into the Marine Corps in January 1966 and spent two years on active duty as an electrician. His first assignment was to Cherry Point, N.C. where he received his orders to deploy to Vietnam.

Six days after arriving in Vietnam Sergeant Collins experienced his first rocket attack. It was only three days after arriving in Iraq when he experienced his first rocket attack here.

"I think back to my first rocket attack when I was only 20, and I didn't have a fear of death. When you're young, you think nothing is going to happen to you, and you're going to be around forever. You don't understand mortality."

"As you get older you start to understand mortality and that life has an end," he said. "Now, when we have a rocket attack, I think a little deeper into it and how it affects other people. I think about how it will affect my family and everyone involved in my life."

For Chaplain Perry, his experience from Vietnam is sometimes hard for him to talk about.

"This time, I'm much more mature," he said. "I have a greater direction and purpose now."

In 1970, Chaplain Perry was an aircraft mechanic on the F-100 Super Saber. The rocket attacks he experienced in Vietnam didn't affect him until more than 20 years later during the Gulf War.



Courtesy Photo

In 1970, Chaplain Maj. Chuck Perry, then A1C Perry, visits an orphanage in the city of Phan Rang Vietnam.

That is when suddenly all of his experiences in Vietnam came to a head.

"During the Gulf War, Air Force Reserve Command only deployed two chaplains," Chaplain Perry said. "I didn't get to go. It really hurt to watch the war on TV and it brought back my experiences from Vietnam."

After being left behind in the Gulf War, he was determined to serve in OIF.

"When I realized this situation was heating up, I called and volunteered to deploy," Chaplain Perry said. "I wanted to be the first Chaplain over here — I needed to be here."

"I'm here on a mission," he said. "I'm here because I remember how messed up I was then. I remember how much pain I had in my life and how confused I was. I was a lonely person looking for people to give me answers about life. What I was searching for and found was a personal relationship with God."

Chaplain Perry believes most people remember the good times and try to block out the bad ones in order to cope with situations they encounter during war. Even Chaplain Perry, who is a therapist, needed help to cope with his experiences.

"It wasn't until several years later that the rocket and mortar attacks and wounded soldiers of the Vietnam War started giving me trouble," Chaplain Perry said. "I started having flashbacks and needed help. Most people try coping with a bad situation by blocking it out, but you need to talk about it. If you have a close encounter with a rocket or see something

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**Then and Now**



## Then and Now

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Courtesy Photo

Chaplain Maj. Chuck Perry—Then, 1970

bad, sit down and talk to someone. Talk to someone until you cry. Get it out and then talk about the same thing again and again until you wonder what you were bothered about.”

Chaplain Perry remembers that it seemed like no one wanted to support the troops back then. Although the American people were not supportive, he was blessed by the kindness of a few people when he returned home from Vietnam. He said didn’t run into too much disrespect when he came home. On his way home from Vietnam, he stayed over night in Seattle, so he could have his uniform cleaned.

“I didn’t want to go home in a dirty uniform, so I waited outside a laundry with my uniform tucked under my arm,” Chaplain Perry said. “A man had seen my uniform while I was waiting for the store to open up. We started talking and he took me out for breakfast. He owned a hardware store close to the laundry, and knew the man who owned the laundry. So after breakfast the man took me in the back door of the laundry and asked them to clean my uniform before the store opened. That night, I stayed in a motel and another person saw me and took me out for a steak dinner. There are always good people who appreciate you.”

One difference that has impacted Chaplain Perry the most is the quality of people who are deployed today.

“During Vietnam we had the draft, so there were many people who didn’t want to join the military or go to Vietnam,” Chaplain Perry said. “These people didn’t have to join the military. They volunteered.”

Another major difference about deployments today is that women are now deploying to combat zones.

“Usually, there were no women in Vietnam,” Chaplain Perry said. “Sometimes the ‘donut dollies’ as they were called (women from the American Red Cross) and local women would come to the camps, but there were no female Airmen. Now, I see these young women deployed here and they are really holding their own. I sometimes wonder what we’d do without them.”

Sergeant Collins recalls another difference between then and now is the support the military has received from the American public.

“The way veterans were looked at back home after the Vietnam War was difference than it is today,” Sergeant Collins reminisces. “Support from home is important. I remembered watching a commercial on TV. It showed this kid—a soldier with a helmet and a rifle walking with his back to you. He’d stop and turn around and all he would say was, “does anybody know I’m here?” That was Vietnam.”

When you came home from Vietnam, there were no parades. Sergeant Collins said it felt like the American people didn’t care about you. You just took off your uniform and went back to work like you never left.

“Now it’s much different,” he continued. “I was pushing my grandson in the carriage one day,

and I was wearing a shirt with a military logo on it. This guy walking by me asked if I served in Vietnam. I said, ‘Yes.’ And he thanked me for my service. It’s different today. Everyone supports us.”

During Sergeant Collins’ deployment to Vietnam he gained a life long friend.

“I have a friend I went to Vietnam with,” Sergeant Collins said. “He lives in South Carolina now. We were great friends in Vietnam. I got out before he did. He wrote me a letter and asked me to be his best man at his wedding. He joined the Air National Guard in Pennsylvania and later retired. When he found out I was coming here, he said, I wish I was going with you.”

Communication was also much different then it is now. Today computers and phones allow people to regularly keep in touch with our family and friends.

“My mother sent me a letter everyday,” Sergeant Collins said. “We called home on a HAM radio. You could only talk for a short period of time. It definitely wasn’t as long as 15 minutes. When you finished talking you had to say,



Chaplain Maj. Chuck Perry

Continued on page 10:

**Then and Now**

## Then and Now

From page 9.....



Courtesy Photo

Master Sgt. Joe Collins—Then, 1968

‘Over.’”

Sergeant Collins who will be 60 years old in November, says he is older than most Airmen’s parents and not by a year or two. He calls the Chaplain ‘the kid’ because he’s only 58 years old. Sergeant Collins recalls some of the good times he had when he was ‘the kid’ in Vietnam.

“I was an electrician,” Sergeant Collins said. “At the camp, there was a 75-foot water tower. It had a red light on the top of it, so the choppers wouldn’t run into it at night. I was on duty one

night, and I got a call that the light was out. So, I had to go up the stairway all the way up to the top to fix it. While I was climbing up the stairs and just about to the top, this kid jumped out and started screaming at me. My heart jumped into my throat, and he started laughing. He had unscrewed the light, so he could ‘break in’ the new guy. This was something the guys did to welcome you and make you feel accepted. I could hardly wait for my turn to break in the new guy.”

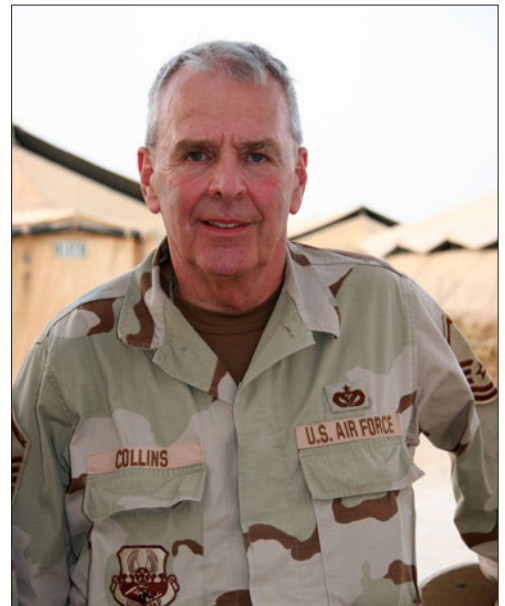
Whether you’re a new Airman or a veteran, Sergeant Collins thinks the Airmen today should take this experience, learn from it and understand what they are doing here.

“In World War II we fought for the world’s freedom and America’s freedom,” he said. “I think what you can say to the Airmen today is you’re fighting for someone else’s freedom by coming over here. I think that speaks well for the Airmen serving in the military today. I think they have a love of country and they are willing to sacrifice to help someone else have the same freedoms we have at home.”

“That’s one reason I came here,” he said. “And because this is my last chance to do something for my country. I came in with a

bang and I’m going out with one.”

(Editor’s note: Master Sgt. Joe Collins is an Air National Guardsman assigned to the 102nd Civil Engineer Squadron, Otis ANGB, Mass. Chaplain Maj. Chuck Perry is a reservist assigned to the 934<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing, Minneapolis- St. Paul Air Reserve Station, Minnesota.)



Master Sgt. Joe Collins

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Staff Sgt. Brandon Snider,  
407<sup>th</sup> ESFS—1 August

Staff Sgt. John Steinlicht,  
407<sup>th</sup> ECS—1 August

Col. David Orr,  
407<sup>th</sup> AEG—2 August

Staff Sgt. Anthony Sowinski,  
407<sup>th</sup> ECS—2 August

Senior Airman Clayton Holcomb,  
407<sup>th</sup> ECS—4 August

## Happy Birthday

Staff Sgt. Jeffery Fairlie,  
407<sup>th</sup> ELRS—1 August

2nd Lt. Joseph Harris,  
407<sup>th</sup> AEG—5 August

Tech. Sgt. Paul Wright,  
407<sup>th</sup> ESFS—5 August

Staff Sgt. Justin Majors,  
407<sup>th</sup> ESFS—5 August

Senior Airman Steven Greenleaf,  
407<sup>th</sup> ECES—6 August

Tech. Sgt. Stephan Jeffres,  
407<sup>th</sup> ECES—6 August

Staff Sgt. Lee Polencheck,  
407<sup>th</sup> ELRS—6 August

Staff Sgt. Waichung Liu,  
407<sup>th</sup> ESFS—9 August



# This Old Tent; Airmen cleaning house

By Master Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny

407<sup>th</sup> Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

Tuesday, approximately 50 Airmen from the 407<sup>th</sup> Air Expeditionary Group started removing mattresses, bed frames and lockers from 30 transient tents located in Bedrock. Tech. Sgt. Denell Montanaro, 407<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Services Squadron, lodging specialist said the tents were old and worn.

The group started working around 6 a.m. and continued into the late morning. They filled six connex containers with furniture from the tents.

"Right now we are trying to get all Bedrock residents to make sure the furniture in their tent is fully functional," said Sergeant Montanaro. "If it isn't, we ask them to coordinate with the lodging office, so we can get them new items."

The Airmen who work in lodging really appreciated the help they received this week.

"We had a great turn out of volunteers from every squadron," Sergeant Montanaro said. "It was nice to see Airmen of all ranks working out there to help us. With only four people in lodging, it would have taken us months to tear down the tents."

The sandbags surrounding the tents have to be removed before the tents can be disassembled. Once that is done, a date for disassembling the tents will be determined and more volunteers will be needed to help complete the project.



Photos by Master Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny

Airman 1st Class Haida Boyd and Airman 1st Class Christopher Fleming move furniture out of the 30 transient tents in Bedrock on Tuesday.



Working together, Airmen from every squadron in the 407<sup>th</sup> AEG filled six connex containers with re-useable furniture.



Airmen volunteers loaded trucks with mattresses, bed frames and lockers from the tents.



# Ali Sports

Who will be crowned Champions? Watch as teams battle out in the regular season for playoff position.

## Basketball Standings

<b>Army</b>	5-0
<b>ESFS</b>	5-2
<b>ECES</b>	3-3
<b>ELRS</b>	2-2
<b>EOSS</b>	1-4
<b>ECS</b>	0-5

## Dodgeball Standings

<b>ECES</b>	5-0
<b>ESVS</b>	5-0
<b>AEG</b>	5-1
<b>AUS</b>	4-1
<b>ELRS#2</b>	3-3
<b>ESFS</b>	2-4
<b>FP#1</b>	2-4
<b>EOSS</b>	3-4
<b>ECEF</b>	2-3
<b>FP#3</b>	0-5
<b>ECS</b>	2-4
<b>ELRS #1</b>	0-5

## Volleyball STANDINGS

<b>PERSCO</b>	6-1
<b>ECS</b>	5-1
<b>ELRS</b>	4-1
<b>ECES#2</b>	3-3
<b>ECEF</b>	3-3
<b>AEG</b>	2-3
<b>ECES</b>	2-4
<b>AUS</b>	1-5
<b>EOSS</b>	1-6

## Competitions

**SQUAT Competition**, Saturday, 6 p.m. Muscle Beach

**Quarterback Challenge**, Aug. 8, Big Top. Gift certificates will be awarded to the first to third winners.

**Strongest Man in the AOR**, Aug 22, Muscle Beach. Are you the strongest person in the AOR? Compete and find out. Competitors will bench press, squat lift and deadlift to get a combined score that will be compared with others in CENTAF to find the strongest people in the AOR. For more information call 445-2136



Staff Sgt. Robert Evans, PERSCO, takes his hacks during the whiffle-ball tournament.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Rasheen Douglas



The Sandstorm Team won the one-day Whiffle-ball tournament, July 23. The Sandstorm team members are: Capt. Daniel Genest, Capt. Robert Garrison, Senior Master Sgt. Daryl Cook, Master Sgt. Andrew White, Tech. Sgt. David Paquin and Staff Sgt. Daniel Little.

Capt. Daniel Genest, misses tagging out a runner at 3rd base.



Col. Orr beats Staff Sgt. Aaron Wood to first base July 23 during a whiffleball tournament game.



# World Series of Poker

Lt. Col. Rick Converse, 407th AEG deputy commander, collects his chips and deals the cards during the World Series of Poker #9. He is currently in 8th place in the series. Below are the standings as of Aug. 3 for the top 30 WSOP players. They are listed below by ranking, name, squadron and points.



Photo by Master Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny

#1, Mike Valenzuela, EOSS, 476  
#2, Chris Spencer, AEG, 332  
#3, Timothy Barney, Army, 331  
#4, George Roig, ECES, 274  
#5, Dale Holland, EOSS, 270  
#6, Jeffrey Kach, ELRS, 265  
#7, Chris Klavetter, ECES, 259  
#8, Rick Converse, AEG, 258  
#9, David Paquin, ESVS, 242  
#10, Nathan Adams, ECS, 229

#11, Ben Lipari, Army, 223  
#12, John Kubilis, ECES, 214  
#13, Rey Solis, ELRS, 212  
#14, Bobby Lewis, EOSS, 208  
#15, Sara Norman, ECES, 207  
#16, Chad Hotvedt, EOSS, 204  
#17, Wes Dear, ECS, 197  
#18, Bruce Dally, EOSS, 193  
#19, Jimmy Roderick, ECES, 185  
#20, Joe Lankford, ELRS, 182

#21, Jared Ey, EOSS, 171  
#22, Shon Bagley, EOSS, 168  
#23, Randy Walgren, ELRS, 161  
#24, Shawn Hawkins, ESFS, 160  
#25, Chris O'Byrne, AUS, 156  
#26, Rowena Walden, ECES, 148  
#27, John Tigner, ELRS, 143  
#28, Dustin Steele, ECES, 140  
#29, Danny McDaniel, ECES, 139  
#30, James Hart, ELRS, 136

## NCORP seeks to fill more than 1,100 positions

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** – The 2007 Noncommissioned Officer Retraining Program began July 26 as the Air Force seeks to fill more than 1,100 shortage career field and special duty positions.

NCOs notified of their vulnerability to retrain must submit their shortage career field choices they would most like to retrain into or apply for a special duty assignment identifier no later than Sept. 18. "During the voluntary phase members have the opportunity to set the course of their future as Airmen," said Chief Master Sgt. Christine Williams, chief of the Air Force Personnel Center enlisted skills management branch here. "Many Airmen failed to act during the voluntary phase in 2006, and ultimately, 36 of those Airmen were separated under the involuntary NCORP phase so there is a conse-

quence for not applying for retraining."

Vulnerability listings by grade and Air Force Specialty Code were posted on the *virtual Military Personnel Flight* July 26; vMPF is accessible from the AFPC home page <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>.

"It's important for all Airmen to understand once they are identified for retraining in Phase I, they will continue to be vulnerable in Phase II unless they are retrained, released or separated from military service," said Master Sgt. Greg McClain, AFPC enlisted skills management branch superintendent.

For more information, Airmen should contact their CSS personnel, their base career assistance advisor or the Air Force Contact Center at (800) 665-5000.

## 407th AEG

### Warrior of the Week



**July 28, 2006**

**Staff Sgt. Sherwin St. Pierre**

**Unit:** 727th Expeditionary Air Control Squadron / Operating Location – B

**Duty title:** 727th EACS/OL-B Detachment NCOIC

**Home station:** 728 Air Control Squadron, Eglin AFB Fla.

**Why other warriors say he is a warrior:** Sergeant St. Pierre manages an eight man geographically separated unit consisting of four different Air Force career fields. He coordinates the maintenance and operation of eight remote radios, four Joint Range Extender network links including all auxiliary network equipment, a Situational Awareness Data Link, along with managing the safety and security of a hardened aircraft shelter.

He also manages the training for the Ali Honor Guard Team. He has trained more than 30 Airmen from around the base to perform details including retreat ceremonies, posting of the colors for base functions and flying personal flags for military members.

**What inspires you?** The opportunity to attend Officer Training School.

**Hobbies:** hiking, canoeing, golf

**Information about his family:** Single, significant other Krystal

## 407th AEG

### Warrior of the Week



**August 4, 2006**

**Staff Sgt. Nicholas Conner**

**Unit:** 407th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron  
**Duty title:** Supply Customer Service

**Home station:** Mobility Air Force Logistic support Center (MAF LSC) Scott, AFB IL

**Why other warriors say she's a warrior:** Staff Sgt. Conner is an exemplary NCO who truly out shines all of his peers. His steadfast devotion to excellence is bar none which makes him the best candidate for this award. I am very proud to have this young man on my team.

**Why did you join the Air Force?** It was a great opportunity to better myself

**What inspires you?** My son, who is a true blessing in my life, and my nephew Dylan Harris who is living with Cerebral Palsey. My ultimate goal is to become a Physical Therapist.

**What is your most memorable Air Force experience?** During Operation Iraqi Freedom, I was at Diego Garcia when the B2 Bombers first deployed to the area of responsibility.

**Hobbies:** Tailgating and staying fit

**Information about her family:** Single, son Nicholas Jr.



# Serenity in the sand

## faith-based services schedule

Worship is at the 407th Air Expeditionary Group **Oasis of Peace** chapel, and at the Army Post Chapel. The *Oasis* is open 24 hours a day for prayer and reflection.

For details on worship opportunities, or directions to worship locations, please call 445-2006.

Oasis = Air Force Chapel/Bedrock

OA = Oasis Annex

ARAC = Army Religious Activity Center

APC = Army Post Chapel

TCN = Third Country Nationals living area by DFAC

### FRIDAY

11 a.m., Catholic  
Confessions: Oasis  
1 p.m., Muslim prayer/  
service: (TCN)  
6 p.m., Roman Catholic  
Mass: Oasis  
6:30 p.m., Jewish Service:  
ARAC  
7:30 p.m., Gospel Choir  
Rehearsal: APC  
8 p.m. (first Friday of the  
month), Eucharistic  
Adoration and Rosary:  
Oasis

### SATURDAY

5 p.m., Catholic  
Confessions: Oasis  
6 p.m., Roman Catholic  
Mass: Oasis

### SUNDAY

8 a.m., Roman Catholic  
Mass: Oasis  
9:30 a.m., Traditional  
Protestant Service: Oasis  
10 a.m., Protestant Service:  
APC  
10 a.m., Latter Day Saints  
Service: ARAC  
11 a.m., Church of Christ:  
Oasis  
3:30 p.m., Church of Christ:  
APC  
7 p.m., Contemporary  
Worship Service:  
Oasis

### MONDAY

6 p.m., Roman Catholic  
Mass: Oasis

7:30 p.m., Back to the  
Basics Bible Study: Oasis  
8 p.m., Band of Brothers:  
Wild at Heart Men's Study:  
OA

7:30 p.m., Gospel Choir  
Rehearsal: APC

### TUESDAY

6 p.m., Roman Catholic  
Mass: Oasis  
7 p.m., Catholic Choir  
Practice: Oasis  
7:30 p.m., Word of Faith  
Bible Study: APC  
8 p.m., Purpose Driven  
Life Book Study: OA

### WEDNESDAY

6 p.m., Roman Catholic  
Mass: Oasis  
7 p.m., Spanish Bible Study:  
ARAC  
7 p.m., Women's Bible  
Study: Army Hospital  
7:30 p.m., Protestant  
Worship Service/Bible  
Study: APC  
8 p.m., Catholics  
Seeking Christ Adult  
Faith Study: OA

### THURSDAY

6 p.m., Roman Catholic  
Mass: Oasis  
6:30 p.m., Ladies Bible  
Study: ARAC  
7:30 p.m., Men's Bible  
Study: APC  
8 p.m., Marriage on the  
Rock (Jesus) Video series:  
OA

# CRICKET MOVIE THEATER

## at the Hot Spot

Today's times and movie descriptions for the week

**The Cable Guy** (1996), 1 a.m., Jim Carrey, Matthew Broderick, comedy, drama and thriller, **Underworld** (2006), 3 a.m., Kate Beckinsale, Scott Speedman, suspense, horror, **Kill Bill Vol. 1** (2003), 5 a.m., Uma Thurman, David Carradine, action, adventure, comedy, thriller and crime drama, **Must Love Dogs** (2005), 7 a.m., Diane Lane, John Cusack, comedy and romance, **Four Brothers** (2005), 9 a.m., Mark Wahlberg, Andre 'Andre 3000' Benjamin, drama, crime, **The Dukes of Hazzard** (2005), 11 a.m., Johnny Knoxville, Seann William Scott, action/adventure, comedy, **Stealth** (2005), 1 p.m., Josh Lucas, Jessica Biel, action/adventure, drama, thriller and war, **The Skeleton Key** (2005), 3 p.m., Kate Hudson, Gena Rowlands, science fiction/fantasy and thriller, **Date Movie** (2006), 5 p.m., Alyson Hannigan, Adam Campbell, Comedy and romance, **The Black Knight** (2001), 7 p.m., Martin Lawrence, Marsha Thomason, action/adventure, comedy and science, **The Rundown** (2003), 9 p.m., Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson, Seann William Scott, action/adventure and comedy, **Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle** (2003), 11 p.m., Cameron Diaz, Drew Barrymore, action/adventure, comedy, thriller and crime.

### Saturday

Brown Sugar ..... 1 a.m.  
Batman Returns ..... 3 a.m.  
Big Mamma's House... 5 a.m.  
The Cable Guy ..... 7 a.m.  
The Black Knight. .... 9 a.m.  
Must Love Dogs ..... 11 a.m.  
Underworld ..... 1 p.m.  
Kill Bill Vol. 1 ..... 3 p.m.  
Charlie's Angels ..... 5 p.m.  
Four Brothers ..... 7 p.m.  
Stealth ..... 9 p.m.  
The Rundown ..... 11 p.m.

### Sunday

Date Movie ..... 1 a.m.  
The Black Knight.....3 a.m.  
Charlie's Angels... .. 5 a.m.  
Brown Sugar ..... 7 a.m.  
The Dukes of Hazzard 9 a.m.  
Batman Returns.....11 a.m.  
Big Momma's House . 1 p.m.  
The Skeleton Key ..... 3 p.m.  
Kill Bill Vol. 1 ..... 5 p.m.  
Underworld ..... 7 p.m.  
Must Love Dogs ..... 9 p.m.  
The Cable Guy ..... 11 p.m.

### Monday

Four Brothers ..... 1 a.m.  
The Dukes of Hazzard 3 a.m.  
The Skeleton Key ..... 5 a.m.  
The Cable Guy ..... 7 a.m.  
The Rundown ..... 9 a.m.  
Stealth ..... 11 a.m.  
Charlie's Angels ..... 1 p.m.  
Must Love Dogs ..... 3 p.m.  
The Black Knight ..... 5 p.m.  
Date Movie.....7 p.m.  
Brown Sugar ..... 9 p.m.  
Batman Returns..... 11 p.m.

### Tuesday

Stealth.....1 a.m.  
Kill Bill Vol. 1 ..... 3 a.m.  
Charlie's Angels ..... 5 a.m.  
The Skeleton Key ..... 7 a.m.  
Big Momma's House . 9 a.m.  
Date Movie ..... 11 a.m.  
The Dukes of Hazzard 1 p.m.  
The Rundown ..... 3 p.m.  
Four Brothers ..... 5 p.m.  
Brown Sugar ..... 7 p.m.  
Underworld ..... 9 p.m.  
Must Love Dogs ..... 11 p.m.

### Wednesday

The Rundown ..... 1 a.m.  
Batman Returns ..... 3 a.m.  
Stealth ..... 5 a.m.  
Underworld ..... 7 a.m.  
Four Brothers ..... 9 a.m.  
Charlie's Angels ..... 11 a.m.  
Must Love Dogs.. ..... 1 p.m.  
The Black Knight ..... 3 p.m.  
The Cable Guy ..... 5 p.m.  
Kill Bill Vol. 1 ..... 7 p.m.  
Date Movie ..... 9 p.m.  
Brown Sugar ..... 11 p.m.

### Thursday

The Dukes of Hazzard..1 a.m.  
Big Momma's House . 3 a.m.  
The Skeleton Key ..... 5 a.m.  
Date Movie ..... 7 a.m.  
The Rundown ..... 9 a.m.  
Stealth ..... 11 a.m.  
Kill Bill Vol. 1 ..... 1 p.m.  
Four Brothers ..... 3 p.m.  
Date Movie ..... 5 p.m.  
Batman Returns..... 7 p.m.  
Charlie's Angels ..... 9 p.m.  
Underworld ..... 11 p.m.

# Bedrock and beyond...

## activities to keep you fit, happy and hungry for more

### Today

8 a.m. **Morning Bingo:** Big Top  
 5 p.m. **Abs Class:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 7 p.m. **Toning:** HOP  
 7:30 p.m. **Intramural Volleyball:** Volleyball courts  
 7:30 p.m. **Bingo and Variety Music Night:** Big Top  
 7 p.m. **Spinning:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 8 p.m. **Spinning:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 8 p.m. **Step Aerobics:** HOP

### Saturday

6 a.m. **Excel Class:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 8 a.m. **Abs Class:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 6 p.m. **Squat Competition:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 6:30 p.m. **Spinning:** HOP  
 7 p.m. **Apollo Talent Show:** Big Top  
 7:30 p.m. **Intramural Basketball:** B-ball courts  
 7:30 p.m. **Table Tennis doubles:** Hot Spot  
 7:30 p.m. **Hip Hop:** ACC  
 9 p.m. **Karaoke:** Big Top

### Sunday

9 a.m. **Around the World Basketball:** B-ball courts  
 10 a.m. **Spinning:** HOP  
 2 p.m. **Dealer's Choice Poker:** Hot Spot  
 7 p.m. **Doubles horseshoes:** Horseshoe pits  
 7 p.m. **Spinning:** HOP  
 7 p.m. **Tae Kwon Do:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 7 p.m. **Darts:** ACC  
 7:30 p.m. **Intramural Basketball:** B-ball courts

### Monday

5 p.m. **Abs Class:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 7 p.m. **Spinning:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 7 p.m. **Dodgeball:** Big Top  
 7 p.m. **Toning:** HOP  
 7 p.m. **Ping Pong:** ACC  
 8 p.m. **Chess 2000:** Hot Spot  
 8 p.m. **Spinning:** Muscle Beach (I)

8 p.m. **Step Aerobics:** HOP

### Tuesday

7 a.m. **Spinning:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 8 a.m. **Body Blast:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 6 p.m. **Quarterback Challenge:** Muscle Beach  
 7 p.m. **Abs Class:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 7:30 p.m. **Tae Kwon Do:** HOP  
 8 p.m. **Tae Kwon Do:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 8 p.m. **Texas Hold'em WOSP #10:** Big Top  
 8:30 p.m. **Salsa:** ACC

### Wednesday

5 p.m. **Abs Class:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 7 p.m. **Spinning:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 7 p.m. **Toning:** HOP  
 7 p.m. **Spades:** ACC  
 7:30 p.m. **Push-up Competition:** Muscle Beach  
 7:30 p.m. **Intramural Volleyball:** Volleyball courts  
 8 p.m. **Step Aerobics:** HOP  
 8 p.m. **Spinning:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 8 p.m. **8-ball:** Hot Spot

### Thursday

7 a.m. **Spinning:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 5 p.m. **Combat Aerobics:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 7 p.m. **Three point shoot out:** B-ball courts  
 7 p.m. **Abs Class:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 7 p.m. **8/9-Ball:** ACC  
 7:30 p.m. **Tae Kwon Do:** HOP  
 8 p.m. **WSOP Tournament of Champions:** Big Top  
 8 p.m. **Tae Kwon Do:** Muscle Beach (I)  
 8:30 p.m. **Salsa:** HOP

(I)—Instructor

(DVD)—DVD

TNY—Tournament

HOP—House of Pain, Army Fitness Center

ACC—Army Community Center

Call the 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron with ideas for activities at 445-2696; for information about the House of Pain, Army fitness center call 833-1709. For information about Army morale, welfare and recreation activities call 833-1745. The 407th ESVS also offers Ziggurat tours Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Check with the Hot Spot staff for details.