

ROCK SLATE



Volume 3, Number 41

386th Air Expeditionary Wing

Nov. 17, 2006



To honor and remember
Pages 6-7

What's the Big Deal about Saluting Anyway?

Capt. Frank Yoon
386th Judge Advocate General

I would like to take this opportunity to air a grievance of which we are all guilty because this little thing that more and more of us are avoiding to do and refusing to perform or enforce is so important it threatens the underpinnings of good order and discipline and the military as we know it. Okay, maybe I'm exaggerating a little, but that doesn't make it unimportant. What am I talking about? In a word: saluting.

It's easy to salute during ceremonies, at the flag, or during retreat. That's not what I am talking about. What I am talking about is the daily, walking down the street on your way the chow salute... or should I say lack thereof. I can hear you now, "Capt Yoon, you have got to be kidding me!" Well I'm not and here's why as I see it: Once we, as an organization, stop acknowledging each other's presence, we stop caring and we lose the sense of belonging that makes the Air Force and military service unique and special. In essence, once we stop saluting, we become strangers.

Don't think so? Pretend you are back at home and someone you've never seen falls on the sidewalk and hurts themselves. Now pretend it happens here at the Rock to a person you've never seen before who is also wearing an Air Force uniform. What is it about the second scenario that makes you want to help more than in the first one? Could it be the camaraderie, esprit-de-corps, and the brother/sisterhood of service, your sense of belonging and even your sense of duty that comes with military service?

Not convinced? Consider this: why in the world should I trust you with my life if I can't trust you with what you yourself consider to be the small stuff? If you go out of your way to avoid having to salute, what's to

say you don't cut corners in your job when you're standing patrol, turning wrenches on a \$2M engine or driving in a convoy? What was that? There's a big difference between saluting someone and performing your job properly when lives are on the line? I guess your copy of the Core Values reads differently from mine because my copy states "Integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do."

Still not convinced? Check the PFE. AFPAM36-2241V1 para 7.6 states "The salute is a courteous exchange of greetings, with the junior member always saluting the senior member first. Any Airman, noncommissioned officer (NCO), or officer recognizing a need to salute or a need to return one may do so anywhere at any time. When returning or rendering an individual salute, the head and eyes are turned toward the person saluted."

You want more? I've got more. AFI 34-1201, para 8.1.1 states "All Air Force personnel in uniform are required to [hand] salute when they encounter any person or situation entitled to the salute." Para 8.1.1.1 states "...the junior member initiates the salute accompanied with an appropriate verbal greeting. Salute and extend the verbal greeting at a distance at which recognition is easy and audible. Offer your salute early enough to allow the senior time to return it and extend a verbal greeting before you pass. All salutes received when in uniform shall be returned [or]... appropriately acknowledged."

So enough already, put an end to the tricks. No more getting out of a car and then suddenly back in, no more about-faces, no more crossing the street only to cross back again, no more looking down at your feet, and no more spontaneous double time. No more avoiding the salute.



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Unless otherwise noted, all photographs are U.S. Air Force photos. The "Rock Slate" may use news and information from the American Forces Information Service, Air Force Print News and other sources.

Contributions for the "Rock Slate" can be made directly to the 386th AEW Public Affairs Office or through e-mail to: 386AEW.pa@salem.af.mil.

The editor can be reached at 442-2312. Submit contributions by 4 p.m. Thursday, one week prior to publication.

The "Rock Slate" can be viewed electronically by clicking the "Rock Slate" link at <http://intranet.salem.af.mil>.



SAFETY SCORECARD

Rock Safety Award Winners for October

Flight Team Award - Major Nichol's Crew from the 737th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron

Maj. James Nichol, Aircraft Commander

1st. Lt. Michael Hardwick, Pilot

1st. Lt. Justine Perlberg, Pilot

1st. Lt. William Bollinger, Navigator

Tech. Sgt. Nelson Reyes, Flight Engineer

Tech. Sgt. Steven Mentzel, Senior Loadmaster

Airman 1st. Class Michael Wilson, Loadmaster

Ground Team Award - 386th Detachment 1, 386th Expeditionary Mission Support Group Safety Representatives

Capt. Charles Campbell

Senior Master Sgt. Marc Kallas

Master Sgt. Jody Laffon

Individual Ground Award - 386th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sgt. Damien Clark, Raptor Flight

Individual Weapons Award - 386th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron

Master Sgt. Jonathan Lohrenz, Munitions Flight Chief

THE ROCK INTRAMURAL LEAGUE STANDINGS

DODGEBALL

Teams	Wins	Losses
ECES	4	0
ESFS/FP1	4	1
ELRS	4	1
Fire Dawgs	2	1
ESVS	2	2
5 EAMS	2	3
EMDG	1	3
ESFS/FP2	0	4
EOG	0	4
PERSCO	0	0

VOLLEYBALL

Teams	Wins	Losses
Fire Dawgs	5	0
ESFS/FP	4	0
ECES 1	3	1
ELRS	3	1
5 EAMS	3	2
EMDG	2	2
ECS	2	2
ESFS/SFO	2	2
Japan	1	2
ECES 2	1	3
ECES 3	1	4
EOG	0	3
PERSCO	0	5
ESVS	0	0

Trash collection ...



Air Force/Staff Sgt. Ian Carrier

Members of the 386th Air Expeditionary wing pick up trash on the flightline during the F.O.D. Walk held Saturday, Nov. 11. Objects ranging from small pieces of paper to large pieces of rebar and old sandbags were collected and disposed of, potentially saving lives, equipment and money.

2006 Holiday Mailing Deadlines

APO to CONUS

Priority & First Class letters/cards:

- Addressed from 093XX locations: 6 Dec 06
- Addressed from 098XX locations: 10 Dec 06

Parcel Post / Space Available Mail (SAM): 19 Nov 06



CONUS to APO

Priority & First Class letters/cards:

- Addressed to 093XX locations: 4 Dec 06
- Addressed to 098XX locations: 9 Dec 06

Parcel Airlift (PAL): 2 Dec 06

586 EMSG DET 1

EXCELLENCE IN COMPETITION ARMED SERVICES M-9 SHOOTING MATCH

Kuwait Naval Base, TSA ranges, 23-25 November

All branches of service invited to attend



Reservation and Information POC's

MSgt. Charles Yates, 722-6391
charles.yates@kuwait.swa.army.mil

Capt. James Arthur, 720-6127

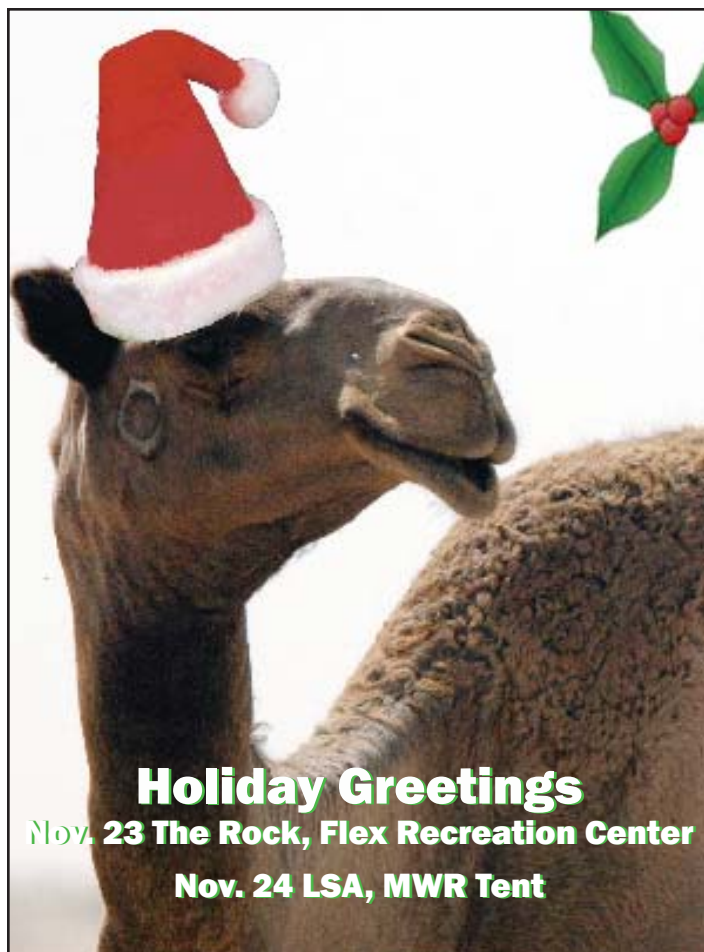
james.arthur@swa.army.mil

SSgt. Keenon Anderson, 839-1074

keenon.anderson@saw.army.mil

SrA. Brandon Stryker, 839-1084

brandon.stryker@kuwait.swa.army.mil



Holiday Greetings

Nov. 23 The Rock, Flex Recreation Center

Nov. 24 LSA, MWR Tent

Crack of the bat ...



Col. Paul Curlett, 386th Air Expeditionary Wing Commander, sends a ball sailing during the Eagles 13-11 loss to the Chiefs Sunday, Nov. 12. The 386th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron/Force Protection 1 team won the intramural softball championship, defeating 386th Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron 12-10. MSgt. Gregory Stevens, hit a 3-run homerun. Services would like to thank all of the umpires and volunteers who showed up to support the games.

Air Force/Staff Sgt. Ian Carrier

Enlisted aviator 'Exceptionally Qualified'

Lt. Col. Howard Ward
737 EAS Commander

"Exceptionally Qualified," is a term associated with the best of the best C-130 aviators. It is awarded to an aviator during a flight examination for superior performance and is usually awarded annually to the top 5 percent of aviators. What if you won this award on 17 different flight evaluations and an amazing 11 in a row? To put this in perspective, this is a feat as untouchable as Joe DiMaggio's 56 game hitting streak or Cal Ripken's record of 2,632 consecutive games...in other words, no one will ever top it.

For Senior Master Sgt. Phillip Poole, 2nd Airlift Squadron, "Exceptionally Qualified" rating is the norm. From day one as an enlisted aviator, Sergeant Poole has excelled.

"He is a walking flight manual, and in seconds he can quote almost verbatim a sentence from the C-130 flight manual," remarked Chief Master Sgt. Mike Lambrecht, 2 AS Superintendent.

His wealth of knowledge was apparent in 2004. A C-130 on a training mission was unable to lower or raise the right landing gear.

The gear was stuck in a transit position and no procedures existed for this emergency, so the Wing Commander called on Sergeant Poole's expertise. Conversing with the crew via radio, Sergeant Poole guided the crew and in less than 30 minutes, the gear was down and locked and the crew landed the C-130 uneventfully.

On another occasion, a crew was experiencing a flight control binding and was unable to execute a right turn. Sergeant Poole asked his Aircraft Commander to delay takeoff so he could converse with the crew. He guided the flight engineer to the binding component and within minutes, the crew was able to repair the component in-flight and land without incident.

Sergeant Poole's knowledge of the aircraft is off the charts, but what makes him an unrivaled SNCO leader is his ability to relay this information to his younger troops. His 'Airmen First' attitude has reached to the lowest ranking squadron enlisted aviator.

In less than a year under Sergeant Poole's leadership, the 2 AS flight engineer section garnered the following awards: USAF's 2005 "Red" Erwin Outstanding Enlisted Aircrew Member of the Year, AMC's 2005 Instructor Flight of the Year, 2 Operations Group quarterly, 4 386 Expeditionary Operations Group monthly, 2 Exceptionally Qualified flight evaluation rat-

ings, 2 CDC Distinguished Graduate, and a NCO Academy Distinguished Graduate.

Master Sgt. Chris Cooper, 2 AS Flight Engineer states: "Sergeant Poole is the primary reason I won 2 high-level awards during 2005. He is demanding, but fair and he will go the extra mile for his airmen."

When Chief Lambrecht deployed for 120 days, Sergeant Poole stepped into the 2 AS Superintendent and never missed

a beat. He expertly led a team of four that managed the squadron's CDC program resulting in an 89% average EOC test score and 7 Airmen awarded AETC Distinguished Graduate honors.

He was selected by Chief Master Sgt. Dave Niehaus, 43rd Operations Group Superintendent, to fill-in for the Chief as the 43 OG Flight Engineer Functional during a 120-day period. Sergeant Poole was responsible for the 43rd Airlift Wing's flight engineer manning, flight engineer instructor selection program, and he ensured the correct mixture of flight engineers between the 2 squadrons. During numerous PCS moves in early 2006, Sergeant Poole worked directly with AFPC assignment section and ensured the mission-ready flight engineer

requirements for both squadrons were maintained. He struck the optimum balance between Air Force and squadron needs. Sergeant Poole assumed the duties of 2 Chief Master Sgt.s and performed brilliantly.

Sergeant Poole's strong beliefs in preparing tomorrow's leaders today is felt across the Air Force. He was responsible for creating the 386 Air Expeditionary Wing Top 3 Professional Development Seminar (PDS) courses. He facilitated 21 classes, developed lesson plans and guided 13 instructors. In the end, 221 worldwide deployed airmen received instructions in Effective Writing, Ethics and Core Values, How to be Recognized, Traits of Successful Airmen, and Steps to Effective Counseling.

Sergeant Poole is a quiet warrior who always places the needs of his airmen before his own needs. He always recognizes his airmen first, but it's hard not to take note of 11 consecutive 'Exceptionally Qualified' ratings. I am consistently amazed at his tireless efforts. He is at the forefront of every squadron endeavor and at this very moment, he is deployed as the 737 EAS flight engineer superintendent. He is leading flight engineers from 4 different bases and is airlifting the fight directly to the doorsteps of our nation's enemies. The Air Force needs leaders like Senior Master Sgt. Poole.



Honor and Remember

Capt. Jeff Clark
386 AEW Public Affairs

More than 300 U.S. military members and multinational partners gathered by the base flagpole Nov. 10 to honor U.S. veterans in general and specifically Airman 1st Class Elizabeth Jacobson.

Airman Jacobson was killed while on a convoy near Camp Bucca, Iraq, on Sept. 28, 2005 when her vehicle was hit by an improvised explosive device. She was the first female Airman killed in the line of duty supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. The tribute included a retreat ceremony, a memorial and emotional words from 386th Air Expeditionary Wing commander, Col. Paul Curlett.

"Article one of the Code of Conduct states 'I am an American, fighting in the forces which guard my country and our way of life. I am prepared to give my life in their defense.' This reminds us that while many will give some, Airman 1st Class Elizabeth Jacobson gave all," Colonel Curlett said. "Remember her and all veterans."

The ceremony continued with a small group of security forces members placing boots, a helmet with Airman Jacobson's name and an M-4 assault rifle in front of a Code of Conduct plaque. One member of the group, Senior Airman Nykita Stoudemire, was deployed with Airman Jacob-

son last year and was honored to be a part of the ceremony.

"It means a lot to me to be here and be able to be a part of this," Airman Stoudemire said. "It's especially important to do it for Veterans Day."

Echoing those sentiments was Senior Airman Jennifer Smith, who was also deployed with Airman Jacobson at Camp Bucca last year and was a part of the ceremony as a member of the flag detail who secured the colors in a unique, but fitting way.

The U.S. flag, which is being sent to Airman Jacobson's parents, was driven off in a security forces Humvee, the gunner of which, Senior Airman Steven Eckmeyer, was not only deployed with Airman Jacobson last year, but was the driver of the truck behind her vehicle when the IED exploded.

Once the ceremony ended, the crowd moved up the road for the final tribute; a

street dedication in Airman Jacobson's honor. The road from the entry control point called Echo 4 to the Republic of Korea Air Force compound is now Jacobson Avenue.

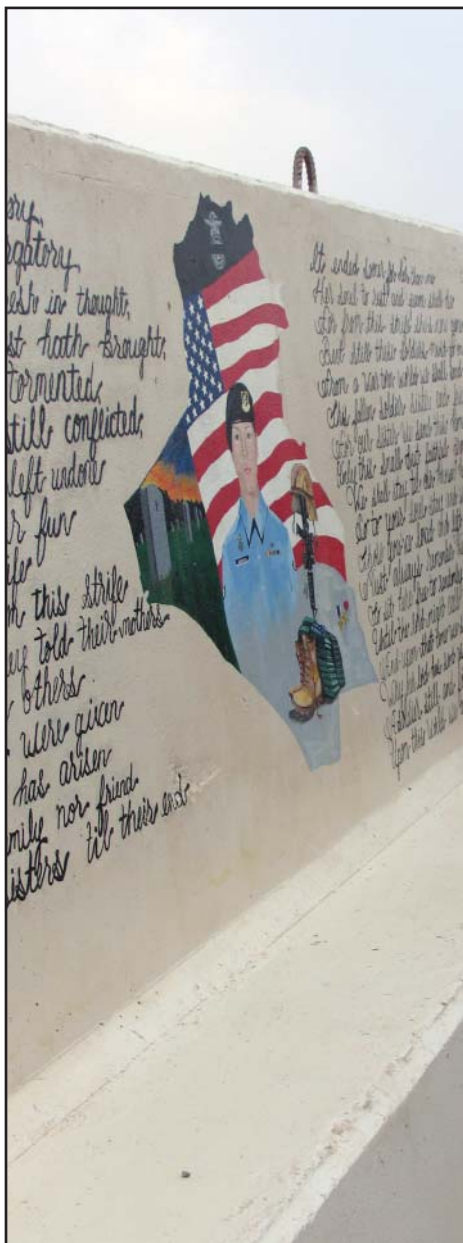
There is a photo of Airman Jacobson along with an inscribed plaque on the wall inside the Desert Winds dining facility that explains who Airman Jacobson was to ensure she'll be remembered at the Rock for years to come.

Airman Eckmeyer was as humbled and proud as the others to be able to honor Elizabeth and all veterans and to remember the person Airman Jacobson was.

"She was always happy and loved what she was doing," Airman Eckmeyer said. "No matter how bad a day you were having, she'd put a smile on your face."

That spirit is evident in a quote taken from a letter Airman Jacobson had written for family and friends which is included on the plaque in the dining facility, "we're only on Earth for a little while, so live life to the fullest and carry a smile."





386th Air Expeditionary Wing Rock Solid Warriors



**Senior Airman
Jason Potoka**

586th Expeditionary Mission Support Group
1N051 Intelligence Analyst/ Intelligence Apprentice

Home unit/base: 20 OSS/IN, Shaw AFB, S.C.

How do you support the mission here? By providing Permission briefs to Convoy Commanders; giving them route analysis and accurate threat reporting. Also providing a Daily Intelligence Summary for 586 EMSG and 386 AEW Command as well as to Intelligence analysts across the AOR for fusion of trend analysis and accurate threat/TTP assessments.

How many times have you deployed and what makes this one unique? This is my third deployment to this AOR. This deployment is unique because I am accustomed to supporting Air assets when deployed, and here I get to support ground operations which increases my ability to interact in the Joint Forces spectrum.

How does your job differ in a deployed environment vs. home base? How does your job differ in a deployed environment vs. home base? At my home base we train hard and exercise a lot. In the deployed environment there is no tolerance for not being trained on all aspects of your job. You have to go above and beyond it.



**Staff Sgt.
Adam James Reay**

737th Expeditionary Maintenance Group
2A671B Quality Assurance Inspector/Engine Mechanic

Home unit/base: 3MXG/QA, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska

How do you support the mission here? I administer the 386th Expeditionary Maintenance Group Quality Assurance Program by providing overall group technical guidance. I assess quality of maintenance performed by the 386 EMXG complex on 16 C-130E/H and EC-130H aircraft, covering three squadrons and over 400 personnel.

How many times have you deployed and what makes this one unique? I have deployed six times to the AOR. This is my first deployment as a Quality Assurance Inspector, second here at the Rock. I built and implemented an SCR tracker; slashing research time 25+%, identified training issues/100% accountability.

How does your job differ in a deployed environment vs. home base? I have several more additional duties. Home station has one person with primary duty as TODO, and doesn't have to perform full QA assessor duties. Also, I have to work issues with PACAF, USAF, ACC, AMC, and CENTAF because we have weapon systems from four different MAJCOMs.