

# ROCK SLATE



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386th Air Expeditionary Wing

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Decorations help bring  
Holidays to Rock  
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# USCENTAF CC offers thoughts for holidays

Lt. Gen. Gary North

*Ninth Air Force/USCENTAF Commander*

As the holiday season approaches, we look forward to spending time with family and friends throughout the world and enjoying the festivities of the season. Whether we celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah or Kwanzaa, this season is traditionally a time for togetherness and sharing with each other.

Due to our military mission, many of us are away from our families this year as we contribute to the greatest gift that military members continue to "give" to our nation – the military support to our highest calling to our American people, that of supporting and defending the Constitution of the United States... said another way, preserving the gift of freedom. Those military members who are deployed can take heart in knowing that our loved ones at home understand our sacrifices, and are proud and respectful of the calling that has you deployed during this period of time.

Additionally, your military is pro-

viding gifts to others throughout the world as we continue the fight against terrorism. United States military members are in the forefront in helping the people of Iraq and Afghanistan as they grow as sovereign nations. As we enjoy our holiday times, whether deployed or at home, we will continue

to stand side-by-side with our Coalition partners in training Iraqi and Afghan forces to support, defend, and protect themselves and their families.

To all the families of those at home and abroad, I especially thank you for the sacrifices

you continue to make each and every day. As we go about our busy schedules, please remember to take time in your celebrations this joyous season and reflect on all the gifts we share as people in a free country. It is this very reason that many of our service men and women are deployed around the world today, to support, protect, defend, and to provide those same very promises for freedom that formed our nation so many years ago.

Best wishes for a happy holiday season and a prosperous New Year.



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



# ELRS helps clarify redeployment questions

Capt. Patrick F. Carpizo  
Installation Deployment Officer

## “When am I leaving?”

This is the question everyone has, yet very few have the answer. The bottom line up front is ask your Unit Travel Representative. They have been given the appropriate tools and an equation to help guesstimate the departure window for each individual in their unit.

At this time, not all specific dates are set due to adjustments being made by USCEN-TAF to the Time Phased Force Deployment Data or TPFDD, a logistical tool used by planners to identify who, what, when, and where an asset/individual should be deployed or redeployed. These adjustments ensure every person assigned here receives the correct number of days overlap with their inbound replacement.

Once all changes are completed, the Tanker/Airlift Control Center will complete the contracting process for all aggregate redeployment missions. These redeployment missions will be loaded between five and 21 days prior to each member's redeployment window. Once 386th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron's logistics plans office receives the missions assigned to each member in the TPFDD, notification will be sent to each UTR.

Your estimated departure date may change due to the availability of airlift. If you don't

know your Available to Load Date -- the time the TPFDD identifies when your redeployment window opens-- or have other questions related to “When am I leaving?” contact your UTR. Please be patient and we will ensure all personnel have a mission to their final destination.

## Redeployment 101: Aggregate vs. Rotator Missions

In January 2005, for AEF 3/4, a new concept for Air Force personnel was implemented to expedite troop movement to and from the area of responsibility, which is still used today. Air Force leadership discovered there was not enough joint airlift to move Airmen during regular AEF rotation swaps.

The Air Force contracted with and purchased “aggregate” airlift for Airmen during the AEF rotation swaps. To make their purchase cost-effective, every seat allocated must be inhabited by redeploying Airmen.

The TPFDD will identify specific personnel coded with an “AK” designation to fly on an aggregate mission. 95% of redeployers during the AEF 3-4 and 5-6 swap out will be postured on an AK mission. However, not all personnel are going on aggregated missions for redeployment. Some will be coded “AC,” or identified to redeploy on the joint airlift, also known as “rotator” missions.

In the TPFDD, the Aerial Port of Debarkation or APOD is the location where Airmen will first off-load from their redeployment mission in CONUS/USAFE/PACAF. The

APOD varies and is determined by the member's TPFDD routing back to home station. The APOD may or may not be the member's final destination. For instance, most personnel stationed in Europe will have an APOD of Ramstein and most personnel stationed CONUS will have an APOD of Norfolk or Baltimore Washington International, unless a direct flight to another location is more cost effective due to the number of personnel requiring travel in the same time period. Examples of “other” APODs are currently identified as Yokota and Nellis.

Rotator (AC) coded personnel are booked by 386 ELRS/LGRT, TMO Passenger Travel, through your Unit Travel Representative. All aggregated (AK) coded personnel are booked directly to a mission by the Tactical Airlift Control Center. Whether you are booked on an AC or AK mission is not a choice made by anyone here, but at USCEN-TAF/Rear at Shaw.

Please understand that being “AK” coded means each individual is automatically assigned to an aircraft mission to the APOD by USCEN-TAF. Individuals will not depart the AOR on any other form of airlift/transportation except for emergency situations or USCEN-TAF-approved deviations. Air Mobility Command only allocates enough airlift to redeploy all personnel; missed flights or departing via another means wastes valuable airlift and could result in large backlogs of travelers that may overwhelm our support infrastructure.



Air Force/Staff Sgt. Ian Carrier

## Legacy project ...

Spc. Jose Rodriguez, B-2/5, 1st Cavalry Division, is presented a certificate and a flag by Staff Sgt. Monica Murray, 386th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron. Spc. Rodriguez, who was wounded in Iraq during an IED attack on his vehicle, was the first person recognized by “Tribute to Troops”. “Tribute to Troops” is a legacy project of the 386 ELRS Booster Team, started with the mission to honor to every serviceman/woman injured in the line of duty that comes through the Rock by presenting them with an American flag which has been flown on one of our aircraft along with a certificate and a squadron coin. Anyone wishing to donate flags or coins for “Tribute to Troops” can do so by contacting Staff Sgt. Kathy Epperson, the point-of-contact for the 386 ELRS Booster Team.



## Words of encouragement ...



Air Force/Maj. Joseph Mercurio

General Duncan J. McNabb, AMC/CC, takes time to visit the airmen of the 70th and 424nd Medium Truck Detachments at Camp Arifjan on Tuesday, 12 Dec 2006. Gen McNabb received a Convoy Mission Brief from the detachments and expressed his admiration of the hard work and dedication of all airmen towards mission success.

### Official Singles League Standings

	Name	Rank	Squadron	Wins	Losses
<b>American League</b>					
1	Perkinson Col.		386 EMSG	8	0
2	Suvill TSgt.		386 ESVS	7	1
3	Brandy SSgt.		386 ESVS	6	2
4	Dougherty SSgt.		386 EAMXS	5	3
5	Agustin SSgt.		386 EMDG	3	5
6	Nikonovich SrA.		386 ECES	1	2
7	Lankford SrA.		386 ECES	2	6
8	Gunn MSgt.		386 ECES	1	7
9	Galtieri TSgt.		386 ECES	0	8
<b>National League</b>					
1	Kennedy Civ		386 ECS	7	1
2	Curlett Col.		386 AEW	7	1
3	McKenzie SSgt.		386 EMDG	6	2
4	Gregson Maj.		386 EAMXS	5	3
5	Young MSgt.		386 ESVS	4	4
6	Gregor SSgt.		386 ECS	3	5
7	Hackworth MSgt.		386 ECES	2	6
8	Getchell TSgt.		386 ELRS	1	7
9	Fair SrA.		386 ESFS	0	8

Col. Perkinson defeated Mr. Kennedy 15 -10, 15 - 10 to win the singles championship.

The Rock **RAQUETBALL** champion is 386th Expeditionary Mission Support Group Commander, Col. Gregory Perkinson.



# WING AWARDS

## Honor Guard Member of the Month

Capt. Steve Dadd, 386th Contingency  
Aeromedical Staging Facility

## Airman of the Month

Senior Airman Gail Rasor, 886th Expeditionary  
Security Forces Squadron

## NCO of the Month

Tech. Sgt. Scott Okoniewski, 386th Expeditionary  
Services Squadron

## Senior NCO of the Month

Senior Master Sgt. Phillip Poole, 737th Expeditionary  
Airlift Squadron

## Company Grade Officer of the Month

Capt. Thomas Walker, 43rd Expeditionary  
Electronic Combat Squadron

## Wing Team of the Month

386th Expeditionary Medical Group, Contingency  
Aeromedical Staging Facility  
Team



Air Force/Tech. Sgt. Andy Bellamy

## Who's got your back?

### Correct use of spotter



- Spotter standing to driver's side of vehicle
- Driver has clear view of spotter on the side of vehicle

### Incorrect use of spotter



- Spotter between vehicle and barrier is incorrect as the spotter may be trapped or crushed if vehicle backs up too far
- Driver has lost sight of spotter

The 386th Air Expeditionary Wing Safety office reminds everyone to use a spotter when backing in to and out of tight areas, around high traffic, and/or when your view is impaired. For more information call the Safety Office at 442-2239/2047.



*It's beginning to look a lot like*  
**Christmas**





# HOLIDAY

## Calendar of events

### *Rock Services Activity Schedule*

**Dec. 17:** 24-hour Holiday Gala at the Flex

**Dec. 24** Christmas Eve 5k run starts at Echo 4 at 6 a.m.

**Dec. 25** Christmas Parade at 9 a.m. at Independence Loop; Christmas meal starts at 10 a.m. in the dining facility. In the auditorium, the game "Deal or No Deal" is set to begin at 1 p.m. The Rock Talent Show is scheduled to start at 7 p.m.

### *Religious Services Schedule*

**Dec. 15-22:** CHANNUKKAH "Festival of the Miracle of Lights" 5-5:30 each night.

**Dec. 24:** Candlelight Christmas Eve Service 8 p.m. and Catholic Midnight Mass 10 p.m.

**Dec. 25:** Catholic Mass 8 a.m. Combined Protestant Service 11 a.m.

**Dec. 30:** Catholic Mass 7 p.m.

**Dec. 31:** Catholic Mass 8 a.m. Protestant Contemporary 9:30 and Protestant Traditional at 11 a.m.

LDS Meetings at 1 and 8 p.m.

Protestant Gospel Watchnight Service 11:30 until midnight



All photos by Air Force/Capt. Jeff Clark





# 386th Air Expeditionary Wing Rock Solid Warriors



**Senior Airman  
Abdel E. Velasquez-  
Villibord**

386th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron  
2S051, Expeditionary Theater Distribution Center  
Journeyman

**Home unit/base:** 60 LRS/LGRMM, Travis AFB, Calif.

**How do you support the mission here?** I currently work at the Expeditionary Theater Distribution Center (ETDC) section of the 386 ELRS. We supply Individual Body Armor (IBA), Enhanced Small Arms Protective Inserts (ESAPI) plates and C-Bags to personnel deploying into different parts of the AOR.

**How many times have you deployed and what makes this one unique?** I've been deployed two times. The first time was to Moron AB, Spain and second is this one. The Rock is unique in the fact that the mission deals directly with the GWOT, whereas the mission at Moron AB was basically the same as a normal stateside base. Here at the Rock, you get to see how diverse this particular base is. Our primary mission is putting "Boots on the ground" and my current job gives me a first hand look at that mission being carried out.

**How does your job differ in a deployed environment vs. home base?** At Travis AFB, I work in the Supply Receiving section and most of everything we do is routine work, such as supporting the aircraft flying mission. Here at the Rock's ETDC section, the work changes from day to day. Any given day, we could process hundreds of warriors throughout the AOR.



**Senior Airman  
Gail Rasor**

886th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron  
3P051, Quad Shift Leader

**Home unit/base:** 10th SFS/USAF/Colorado Springs, Colo.

**How do you support the mission here?** By safeguarding and monitoring detainees under my watch; ensuring detainees follow TIF rules; ensuring detainees are aware of and ready for all appointments and ensuring detainees are treated with respect.

**How many times have you deployed and what makes this one unique?** This is my first deployment, but I believe it differs from others in that it is more of a corrections setting as opposed to a ground combat or base defense setting. I believe it involves more interpersonal skills, contact and unique working relations with Iraqis.

**How does your job differ in a deployed environment vs. home base?** My job at my home base involves law enforcement type duties to include conducting traffic stops, responding to disturbances and conducting community policing. In the deployed environment, the job focuses a lot more on security. The job at this specific location differs greatly in that it's more corrections work. It goes beyond enforcing rules that affect the well-being of others to personally affecting that well being, making sure they receive chow on-time, showers, cleaning supplies and overall health and wellness issues.