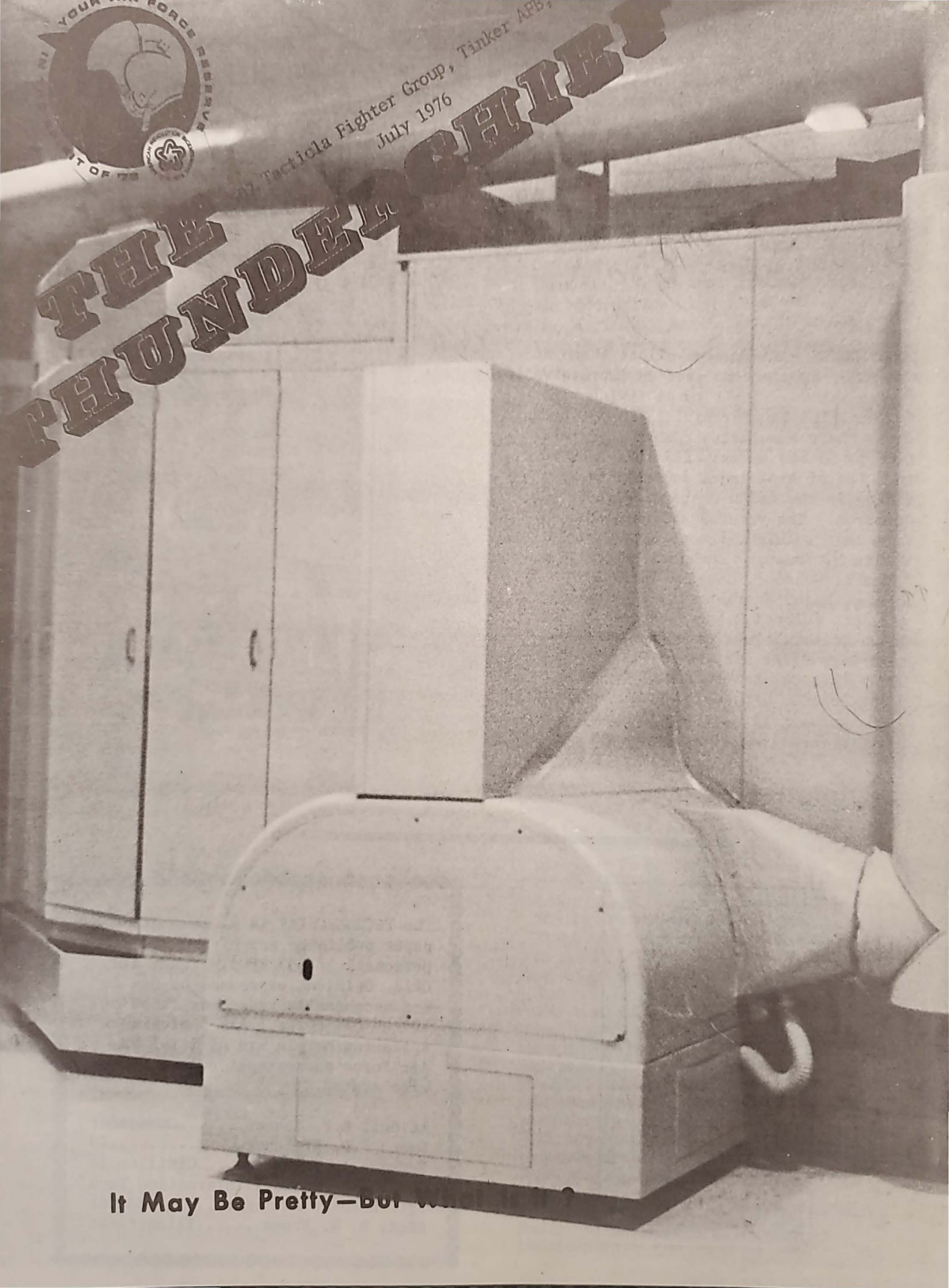




Tactical Fighter Group, Tinker AFB,
July 1976

THE FOUNDED AIRCRAFT



It May Be Pretty—But...



DANDY DOZEN - The twelve pilots shown at the right have accumulated an impressive flying record. Their total flying time in the F-105 Thunderchief is 15,536 hours, while their cumulative combat flying time is 5,668 hours. All this adds up to a lot of experience and ability residing in the 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron. The veteran aviators are, from left to right (kneeling), Captain Willis M. "Buster" Boshears, Major James K. Webster, Captain Jerry A. Wrucha, Major Forrest "Trees" Winebarger, Lt. Colonel Roger P. Scheer. Shown standing left to right are Captain Gary R. Confer, Major William M. Duval, Lt. Colonel George B. Wallace, Major John J. Closner, Captain Stephen S. Summers, Major Martin Case, and Captain Thomas J. King.



The **THUNDERCHIEF** is a Class II newspaper published monthly on UTA's for personnel of 507 TFGp, Tinker AFB, Okla. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the US Air Force. All photographs appearing herein are official US Air Force photographs unless otherwise stated.

Lt.Col. R.P. Scheer.....Commander
 Capt. P.D. Fletcher.....IO
 Barbara A. Vessels.....Civilian IO
 SSgt. Skip Dobie...Information Tech
 Sgt. Richard A. Caram.....Editor
 SSgt. R. K. Brown.....Illustrator

Questions, Answers From NCO Airman's Advisory Council

This column is designed to aid the Airman's Advisory Council in the discussion of problems and questions pertaining to the Reserve Airman.

Question: Is membership necessary to eat in the NCO Open Mess.

Action Line: According to AFR 215-1 The reserve member has similar status to that of a retired member. This does allow use of the open mess without voting privileges. Many reserve members pay a small yearly fee to have full membership to the NCO Clubs.

Question: Are 1505's still authorized for wear during UTA's?

Action Line: The tan uniforms known as 1505's are still in use. They are being replaced by the new blue summer uniform, but at this writing they are legal.

Question: What is the procedure for reenlistment?

Action Line: Any airman is eligible for reenlistment 12 months prior to his/her expiration term of service (ETS), with the following exception: Career airmen with 20 or more year's creditable service and first term airmen must have an AF Form 418 signed by the Unit Commander recommending reenlistment; also the individual concerned must be not less than an E-4. Earlier reenlistment maybe accomplished to meet retainability requirements. (i.e. TDY, Technical School, etc). Fifteen months prior to ETS a list by squadron is furnished to facilitate unit commanders in administering the Career Motivation Program as

prescribed and directed by AFR 35-16, Vol II. This early notification affords the members involved ample time to make this decision for reenlistment or discharge prior to the 12 month period preceeding their ETS. Once a member enters the last six months of his enlistment or declines to reenlist his position is made available to the recruiters. Once the position is filled by the recruiters, the incumbent who declined reenlistment cannot reenlist until he finds another position. Also the Unit Commander has the prerogative of filling the position immediately at the beginning of the 12 month period, from within the squadron.



The Great Seal

On July 4, 1776, following the signing of the Declaration of Independence, John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, said

"We are now a nation and I am ready to hear you vote on the question, 'Resolved that Dr. Franklin, Mr. Thomas Jefferson and Mr. John Adams be a committee to prepare a device for a Seal of the United States of North America.'"

That committee and other committees worked for six years until the Great Seal in its present form was finally approved by Congress in 1782, and bears the date of its authorization, July 4, 1776.

The seven white and six red stripes on a shield with a solid blue field above, represent 13 original states united in the Congress. A North American bald eagle holds an olive branch in its right talon, and a bundle of 13 arrows in its left talon, to signify the United States' preference for peace but preparation for war. In the eagle's beak is a scroll on which is inscribed "E Pluribus Unum," meaning One from Many. One Federal Government made up of many states. Over the eagle's head are 13 stars on a blue field in the rays of the sun surrounded by clouds, a constellation symbolizing the birth of the new Nation. The Great Seal also serves as the national coat-of-arms of the United States.

Medical Exams Frequently Identify Health Threats To Reservists

Times have changed since physical examinations consisted of a pulse check and a curt "Turn your head and cough" order from the medicine man.

Today's Air Reservists undergo a somewhat more sophisticated examination from the members of the 507th TAC Clinic, as shown on these pages.

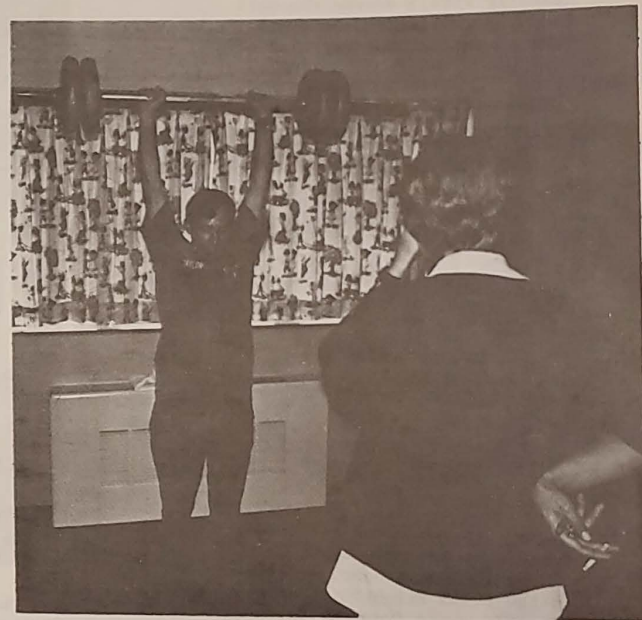
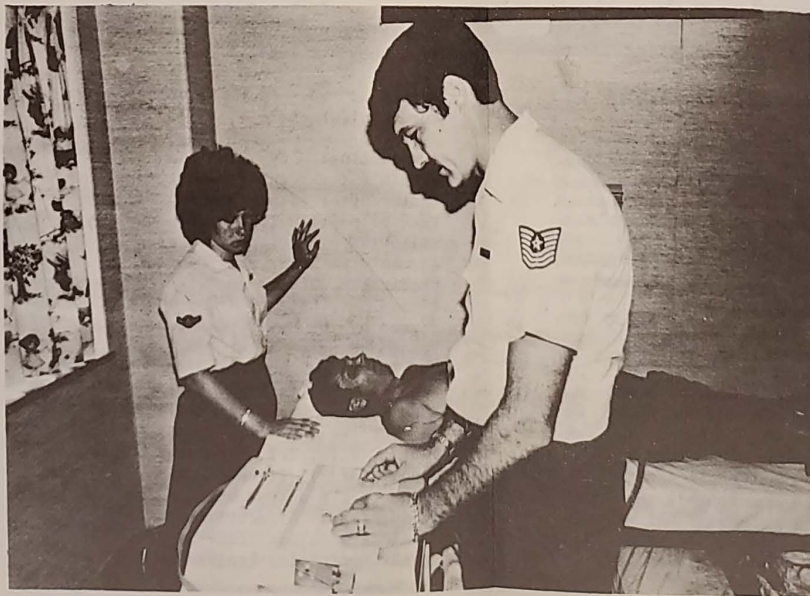
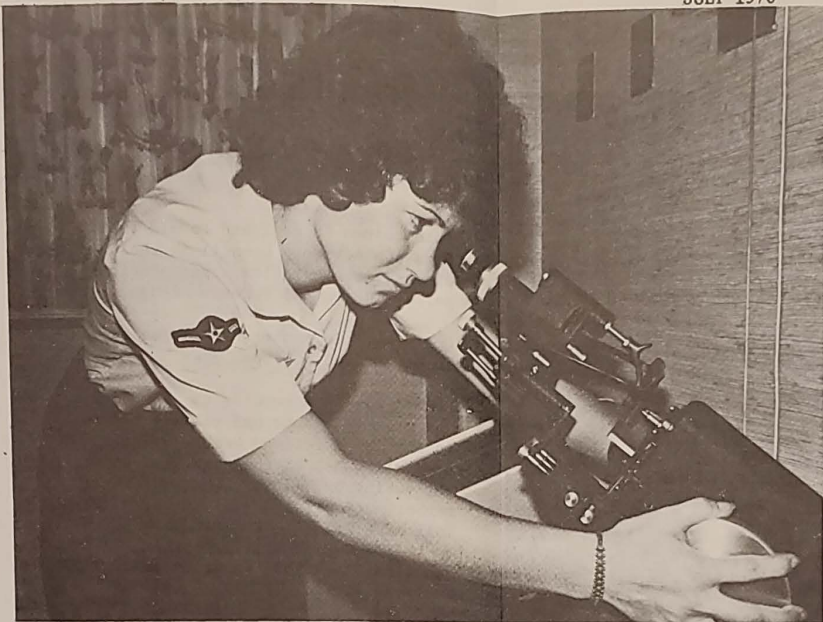
According to LtCol (Dr.) Samuel T. Hucke, 507th Tactical Fighter Group Flight Surgeon, the twenty-strong clinic "performs as thorough and accurate physical exams as are done anywhere in the Air Force.

So complete are the examinations that clinic personnel frequently identify potential serious health threats in time to prevent damage to the patient. Doctor Hucke lists diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure and glaucoma as some of the illnesses "picked up" by exams.

Approximately 400 reservists undergo the exams each year, either for initial enlistment purposes or to maintain flight status or simply periodic physicals.

Each exam takes from two to five hours and can include dental checks, an electrocardiogram, chest X-Ray, lab test and eye checks.

"But the most important part of the exam," Says Dr. Hucke "is the evaluation we have of the patients medical history."



HERE'S TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH - While most of the 507th Tactical Fighter Group spend their UTA's on the "South Forty" of Tinker AFB, the members of the Clinic put in their day at the base hospital, spending much of their time conducting physical examinations. Airman Basic Elaine Gibson inspects a pair of glasses (upper left) for refraction and assists Master Sergeant Gary Grider (lower left) in hooking up Staff Sergeant Bill Taylor for an electrocardiogram test. Above, Sergeant Taylor hoists a 70-pound barbell in a physical strength test.

Bad Weather Never Grounds This Bird

After months of construction and preparation, 465th Tactical Fighter Squadron pilots can now casually stroll across the hall from their briefing rooms and take to the air for any type of



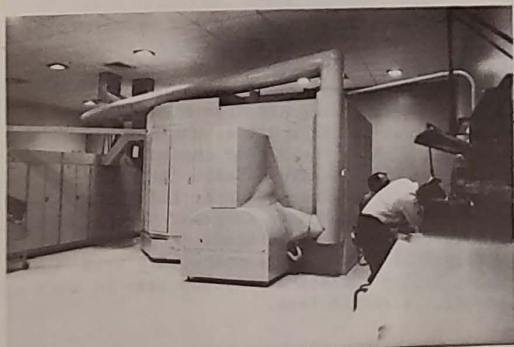
flying mission. And bad weather doesn't bother them a bit.

The flying is done, of course, in the F-105 Flight Simulator, recently moved from the far side of Tinker AFB to the convenience



of the 465th TFS Headquarters building.

Inside the air conditioned comfort of the simulator area (kept to a strict temperature control due to the delicate equipment involved), the unit's pilots are presented flying problems by Sergeant George Romasz (upper left), who commands an impressive wall of instruments and dials that can turn a straight and level "flight" into a real thriller. Major Arthur Hansen, shown at right from a bird's eye view of the simulator cockpit, keeps a steady hand on the controls, which are exact duplicates of an actual Thunderchief. At lower left, Sergeant Romasz and Master Sergeant William C. Betts utilize the shop area outside the landlocked cockpit.



Ten Easy Ways to Sink a Boat

1. Don't bother with life preservers. They don't look very glamorous.
2. Take along all the passengers who want to go. So what if the boat is a little crowded.
3. Drive your boat as fast as possible. It's no fun to just poke along. Let's see what she'll really do.
4. Encourage your passengers to stand up, stretch their legs, and get a better view.
5. Enjoy a cigarette while you're refueling.
6. Extra gear like anchor, oars, boathooks, lines, fire extinguisher, tool and first aid kits just clutter up the boat. Leave them at home.
7. Don't bother to check the weather forecasts. Anybody can see whether or not the sky is blue, and it looks like a good day.
8. If you are boating at night, don't worry about lights. There might be a full moon.
8. It isn't important to know the rules of the waterways. The other boats will get out of the way, or else you can move to one side or the other.
10. Don't learn how to swim and don't worry about first aid training. What possible use would you have for artificial respiration?

VETS ASK:

Q—Does the VA education loan program apply to persons eligible for VA dependents' educational assistance?

A—Yes. Eligible dependents and veterans may borrow up to \$600 per academic year to pursue a course leading to a standard college degree, or if enrolled in a course leading to a professional or vocational objective which requires at least six months to complete. The interest-bearing loan is based upon financial need and is available only to those who are unable to obtain a student loan under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

Q—How much money may I borrow on the GI loan?

A—There is no limit that the

lender can loan as long as the house will appraise for the selling price, your credit is good, and your income is sufficient to meet the payments. The VA will guarantee a maximum of \$17,500 on your loan.

Q—How is the GI Bill allowance paid for correspondence courses? How much entitlement is used for such a course?

A—Instead of a monthly allowance, the VA will pay 90 per cent of the cost of an approved

VETS ASK:

course. Payments are made quarterly according to the number of lessons completed by the veteran and serviced by the school. The veteran's entitlement is reduced by one month for each \$270 he receives.

Q—Who is eligible for CHAMPVA?

A—The Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Veterans Administration (CHAMPVA) is available to the spouse or child of a veteran who has a total disability, permanent in nature, resulting from service-connected cause, or to the surviving spouse or child of a veteran who has died as the result of a service-connected disability?

LIVE & LEARN

by Chaplain
Robert Helmich

Does A Plastic Heart Have Love In It ?

Last week there came to my desk an article prepared by my friend Wallace Hough. After a little editing I would like to share it with you. Its truths are worthy of consideration and application.

Seven year old Linda Greggs of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania asked this question in child-like innocence of the great heart surgeon Dr. Michael DeBakey. Her letter brought back a reply from the famed doctor that should cause us to think. "Yes," said Dr. DeBakey, "a plastic heart does have love in it, a very great deal of love. The love of many people who love other people. It is the love of people who work all day and often all night to build a heart that will help people live longer. If you could think how much love there is in a hundred hearts, then that is how much love there is in a plastic heart."

Dr. DeBakey's answer should cause us to reflect on God's love to us--and then perhaps we should try to understand just how much we ought to express our love to Him. Our thoughts and actions do not often demonstrate the kind of love that they ought to. When the British were blitzed during WW II a newspaper carried an editorial that was also published around the world in many other newspapers. It sounds so much like our nation today. Read these words and see if this isn't what is going on in our country now:

"We have been a pleasure loving people,

dishonoring God's day, picnicking and bathing; now the seashore is barred, no picnics, no bathing. We have ignored the ringing of church bells calling us to worship - now the bells cannot ring except to warn us of invasion. We have left our churches half empty when they should have been well filled with worshippers. The money we would not give to the Lord's work is now taken from us in higher taxes and the high cost of living. The food for which we refused to give thanks is now unobtainable. Lives we refused to live under God's control are now under the nation's control. Nights we would not spend watching unto prayer are now spent in anxious air-raid precautions."

We will do many things to preserve physical life. But what are we willing to spend to provide spiritual life? We say we love God, but our daily walk does not support our statements. We promise God to try to do better, but little is actually done about fulfilling that promise. What will the future hold for a church, for Christian people, or for a nation that does not love God? The nations that forget God. . . who refuse to serve Him "Shall perish; Yes, Those nations shall be utterly wasted." Isaiah 60:12.

Perhaps we need to have a plastic heart inserted into our spiritual life. Could a plastic heart have love in it?

PROMOTIONS

TO STAFF SERGEANT

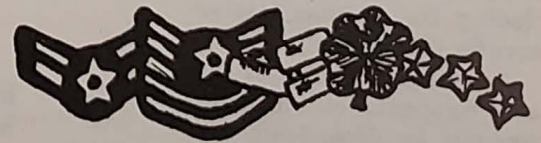
Albert K. Saville
Joe R. Dunsford
Edmund L. Warnken

TO TECH SERGEANT

Donnie L. Christenberry

TO AIRMAN FIRST CLASS

Jamerio S. Knight
Jeanette R. Cochran
Carl V. Bell Jr.
Gina M. Heckerman
Lawanda C. Reece
Maria E. Lopez
Yvonne L. Edwards
Adina A. Williams
Doyle R. Garrison



TO SENIOR AIRMAN

Carol L. Williamson