Sunburst

Vol. 47 No. 26 | Serving the Holloman Air Force Base community | Thursday, July 1, 2004

Briefly

Independence Day

Team Holloman celebrates Independence Day Friday.

• There is a family fun-filled festival from 4 to 7 p.m. at the fitness center.

• Tops in Blue performs at 7:30 outside of the fitness center. Seating is limited, so bring a lawn chair.

•A firework display will follow the show.

For more information about these events or to volunteer , call the Whispering Sands Community Center at 572-7476.

Free inspection

The 49th Logistics Readiness Squadron performs free vehicle inspections from 8 a.m. to noon today at the mini mall.

The 49th LRS encourages Team Holloman to keep up maintenance on vehicles. The 49th LRS encourages Team Holloman to focus on family during this year's 101 Critical Days of Summer campaign.

Photo by Master Sgt. Greg Henneman

A Team Holloman maintainer waives the American flag as F-117A Nighthawks pass by on the taxiway. The stealth fighters and about 300 people deployed to Kunsan Air Base, South Korea.

Commander sends July 4th message

Brig. Gen. Kurt Cichowski
49th Fighter Wing commander

This year's Independence Day celebration marks the 228th anniversary of our nation's birth, when 13 of the original colonies met in Philadelphia to declare this nation's independence. As always, July 4 is a date on which we, as Americans, join together to celebrate our heritage and ideals of freedom, patriotism and sacrifice.

Team Holloman has more than 700 Airmen deployed world-wide, fighting in defense of freedom and all that we as Americans stand for. We must not forget about them, the sacrifices they and their families are making to preserve and defend the price of freedom. We must remain strong and united as a people and remember the principles on which this nation was founded.

Today, we celebrate our forbearers' success with fireworks, feasting, and for many, joyful spirits. But in doing so we must also pay tribute to

see DAY on page 4

Friday	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
High: 94	High: 92	High: 95	High: 94
Low: 65	Low: 66	Low: 68	Low: 69

Weather forecast provided by the 49th Operations Support Squadron Weather Flight

Holloman Hotline 572-7500

The Hotline is your direct link to the 49th Fighter Wing commander. If you've tried to solve the problem yourself and haven't been able to get results, call 572-7500 or e-mail *cc.hotline@holloman. af.mil*. Before submitting a Hotline, please give the appropriate agencies a chance to work out the problem.

If you want to pass on praise for a job well done, contact the supervisor or commander directly who can provide the appropriate recognition to the individual or group. The unit commanders and agency chiefs want to help. Let them try first.

Housing office 2-3981
Housing maintenance 2-7901
Medical clinic 2-5991
Finance 2-5107
Services 2-3528
Commissary 2-5127
Fraud, waste and abuse 2-3713
BX 479-6164

Proud to serve: my view of military

by 1st Lt. Steven James
745th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron

Duty, honor, integrity, commitment and sacrifice. Our deployed units across the world are constantly reminded of these five simple, yet significant words. Recent images of our fight against terrorism have invoked strong emotions in the hearts and minds of our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines.

In front of the world, newspapers, magazines and televisions show our struggle to bring stability to the Middle East. We see and read about ambushes of coalition convoys, roadside bombs, civilian contractors being tortured and killed, and flag draped coffins carrying the remains of our fallen heroes. While family and friends are left with these images, a seemingly heavy blow to our nation's morale, let there be no question of our will and determination to protect America, its allies and interests.

Our resolve remains steadfast in the face of international terrorism. Those who have paid the ultimate price wouldn't want it any other way. The commitment to protect our way of life and to stop the spread of terror is as strong now as it was on Sept. 11.

The brave men and women of our coalition forces and civilian counterparts are extraordinary people who commit their lives on a daily basis to preserve and protect our greatest asset: freedom.

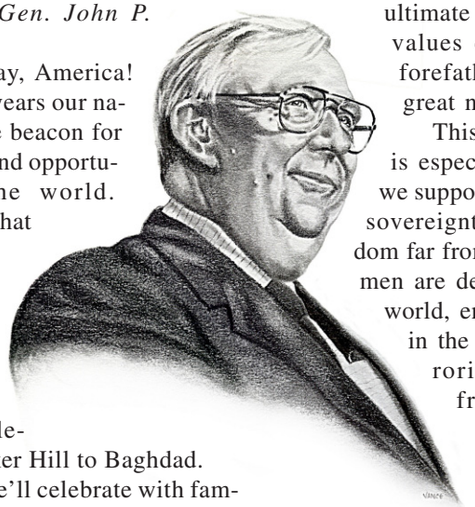
While the media tends to focus on the "gloom and doom" of the war on terror, we must remain on our course. America is proud of us and of the sacrifices we make to protect our values.

I want you to be proud of yourself as well. You have made the choice to fight for what you believe in and to take a stand when others may not have done the same. We aren't in our profession for money or prestige, but simply to make a difference in the world and in the lives of oppressed people.

My heart fills with pride knowing that our nation still produces men and women who are asked to lay their lives on the line every day and yet do it without question, for we already know the answer.

Secretary Roche, General Jumper send Independence Day message

The following is an Independence Day message from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper:

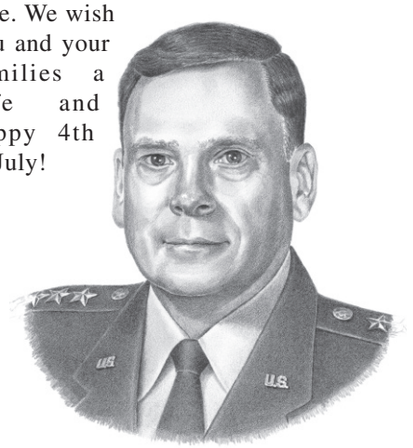


Happy birthday, America! For the last 228 years our nation has been the beacon for peace, freedom and opportunity around the world. America earned that reputation through courageous acts of patriotism by our founding fathers and through bravery on battlefields from Bunker Hill to Baghdad.

On Sunday, we'll celebrate with family and friends the joys of peace and the blessings of freedom. As you celebrate, please remember those who paid the ultimate price defending the values established by our forefathers in forging our great nation.

This Independence Day is especially meaningful as we support the rebirth of Iraqi sovereignty and defend freedom far from home. Today, Airmen are deployed all over the world, engaged on all fronts in the Global War on Terrorism, carrying freedom's torch. Please remember our deployed Airmen in your thoughts and prayers on the 4th of July.

America looks to you as their representatives of pride, strength and perseverance in times of peace and war. We're proud of you and salute your great service. We wish you and your families a safe and happy 4th of July!



DUI Update

Days since last DUI	8
DUIs this year	24
This week last year	15

Last six DUIs

• 49 SVS	June 23
• 49 OSS	June 11
• 49 LRS	May 16
• 49 MDG	May 16
• 49 LRS*	May 15
• 49 AMXS	May 7

* Dependent

572-RIDE works!

Calls made are lives saved

566 Saves this year

23 Saves this week

Sunburst

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1st Lt. Vincent King ..... Public Affairs deputy director
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COMMENTARY

What goes on in your head ...

by Tech. Sgt. Dianne Mula
49th Fighter Wing Safety Office

As my husband and I were driving down White Sands Boulevard, we saw a motorcyclist, and we both commented on the rider's aggressive driving techniques.

I should mention my husband and I are a double threat; not only are we both motorcycle riders, but as a ground safety technician with several years experience, I've investigated motorcycle mishaps, one being a fatality involving a young man I knew.

My husband, aside from being an avid motorcyclist for over 20 years, has also been a motorcycle safety instructor for the last six years. So we can be very critical of our fellow riders and in particular those military riders riding recklessly.

Anyway, we observed this young man riding down White Sands, weaving in and out of traffic, tailgating, and in general, riding aggressively.

As we were talking about what we were sure was an apparent lack of common sense, my husband noted that he was at least wearing a helmet. It occurred to me that although he was in fact wearing a helmet he was not protected in many other ways.

The rider was wearing a short sleeved t-shirt, short pants, tennis shoes, and no gloves. I have a very sarcastic sense of humor and found myself thinking, "How about that. This guy acknowledges that he may be reckless enough to have an accident and by wearing a helmet he says he wants to live. However, by not protecting his skin he appears to be saying that living in excruciating pain for a very long time is ok with him, not to mention the scarring that lasts forever."

I came to these conclusions from the experiences I've had investigating motorcycle crashes. Road rash, as it is commonly known, is a very painful thing. First you slide across hot asphalt with bare skin, and then at the emergency room the nurses will scrub what's left of the raw and very tender skin surface with a wire brush to remove any debris that may have been embedded. Depending on the severity and size of the area some skin grafting may be required, causing yet another sore spot on the body, and yes, more scarring.

So what can a rider do to avoid all this pain and agony? Wear the proper gear.

Not only is wearing the right gear smart it's also required for all active-duty members on or off base and all others who choose to ride a motorcycle on base. The following is an excerpt from Air Force Instruction 91-207 detailing what a motorcyclist must wear:

Requirements for motorcycle, motor scooter, and moped operations on Air Force installations and for operation by military personnel off Air Force installations include the following:

• Only operators may ride mopeds — no passengers.

• Headlights must be on unless prohibited by the Status of Forces Agreement or local laws.

• Vehicle must have rearview mirrors.

• Operator and any passenger must wear a protective helmet. Helmets must meet, as a minimum, Department of Transportation standards and be properly worn and fastened. Helmets may also meet other standards such as the Snell Memorial Foundation or the American National Standards Institute. If stationed overseas, personnel may use host-nation certified, equivalent helmets.

• To increase visibility of riders, they are encouraged to affix reflective material to their helmets.

• Operator and any passenger must wear impact resistant goggles or a full-face shield on their helmet. Exception: Goggles or a full-face shield are not required for the operator if the motorcycle is equipped with a windshield that is equal in height to or above the top of the helmet of the properly upright-seated operator.

• Brightly colored or contrasting vest or jacket as an outer upper garment during the day and reflective during the night. Outer upper garment will be clearly visible and not covered.

• Long sleeved shirts or jackets, full-fingered motorcycle gloves or mittens, and long trousers.

• Sturdy footwear. Leather boots or over-the ankle shoes are strongly encouraged.

So if you choose high risk activities or have a tendency toward high risk behaviors it only makes sense to protect yourself as much as possible from injury.

DAY *Continued from Page One*

the faith that carried them steadily forward to victory through many battles, setbacks, tests, and sorrows. They had faith in themselves and in each other. And, they possessed an enduring belief in the power of American character and American will to achieve noble ends with hard work. But perhaps most of all, they believed that a free people, fighting in defense of their freedom, could prevail against oppression and tyranny.

Many of you will be traveling this weekend and I encourage you to take all the necessary steps to make sure you remain safe. For those of you staying, on Friday Holloman will have plenty of family fun-filled activities at the fitness center starting at 4 p.m. followed by a Tops in Blue performance at 7:30 p.m. and a great fireworks display soon after.

I encourage all of Team Holloman to come out and help Laura and I celebrate the Fourth. Happy Fourth of July!

The 49th Security Forces Squadron handled the following incidents from June 22 to Sunday.

Tickets

Security Forces issued 10 tickets: one for battery against a household member, two for failure to stop, two for limitations on backing, one for no registration, three for speeding 1 to 10 mph over the posted limit and one for speeding 11 to 16 mph over.

Patrol response

• June 22: A family member reported two stray dogs at Keesler Court.

• June 22: An Airman was transported to Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center after cutting his finger.

• June 22: An Airman and his wife were charged with assault after a domestic dispute.

• June 23: An NCO and his wife were charged with child abuse/neglect.

• June 23: A family member reported her child was not responsive. The child was transported to GCRMC.

• June 23: A family member reported her carbon monoxide alarm went off and gave the message, "seek fresh air." The cause of the alarm was caused by a faulty sensor.

• June 24: A family member reported a stray pit bull at Hidalgo Loop. The owner picked up the dog from security forces.

• June 26: A family member reported her child fell off the couch and was not responsive. The child was transported to GCRMC.

• June 27: A family member reported her child was breathing rapidly and had a high fever. The child was transported to GCRMC.

Civil arrest

• June 22: An NCO was arrested for drunken driving while at the NCO academy at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.

• June 26: An Airman was arrested in El Paso for prohibited weapon and unlawful carrying of a weapon. The Airman was stopped for a speeding violation, 96 mph in a 60 mph zone. He is being held at El Paso County Detention Facility on $1,500 bond.

Property loss, damage or theft

• June 25: There was an accident at building 15 involving two privately owned vehicles.

• June 25: There was an accident in the parking lot at building 517 involving two POVs.

• June 26: An Airman reported his back windshield shattered.

If you know of or have any information concerning any of these incidents, contact security forces at 572-7171 or your first sergeant. For the Crime Stop Help Line, please contact security forces at 572-1100 or dial "911".

Tech., master sergeant promotion rates are nearly same as last year

More than 150 Team Holloman NCOs were selected for promotion to technical and master sergeant.

Air Force officials have selected 6,217 of 23,956 eligible technical sergeants for promotion to master sergeant, a 25.95-percent selection rate; and 9,114 of 42,248 eligible staff sergeants for promotion to technical sergeant, a 21.57-percent selection rate.

The final tally will increase as Air Force Personnel Center officials here receive test scores for Airmen currently deployed. Each of those Airmen has 30 to 60 days to test after he or she returns home.

"We have roughly 3,000 warriors who haven't tested yet because they've been deployed," said Chief Master Sgt. Mark Billingsley, enlisted promotions branch chief at the center. "They will be allowed to test when they return, and we'll automatically consider them for promotion. We do this as quickly as possible and announce supplemental promotions on a monthly basis until everyone has been considered."

The master sergeant selection rate rose .39 percentage points from last year, while this year's technical sergeant rate dropped .32 percentage points from last year.

"This year has proven to be another banner year in terms of the number of people who have been able to earn promotions," Chief Billingsley said. "The Air Force had predicted we'd see rates start to stabilize and that's what is happening here."

The Top Three will host its annual Senior NCO Enhancement and Induction Seminar July 14 - 16 at the Education Center with a banquet to follow for all newly promoted master sergeants. RSVP for this event to Master Sgt. Carolyn Peeler by July 9 at 572-7004. ***(AFPN)***

Holloman Salutes

The following staff sergeants for their promotion to technical sergeant

...

Jason Abshire
Brandon Adkins
Ricardo Almengor
Thomas Andrade
Marcus Banks
Brett Baumann
Michael Boschker
Alexander Brown
Alan Calhoun
Fred Campos
Michael Cannon
Scharalene Carroll
Francisco Casas
Marlin Clark
Yolanda Cole
Esther Crider
Charles Cross
Kenneth Daugherty
Robert Davis Jr.
Shelia Davis
Michael Dealy
Michael DeBaar
Jose Dela Cruz
Fransicso Diaz Perez
Vincent Dinges
Loretta Doucette
Mark Dyche
Robert Edyburn
Robert Entinger
Mark Franceschini
Matthew Galiszuski
Brian Gates
Scott Gilkey
Byron Ginn
Arthur Gringle
Bradley Guerry
David Gutierrez
Wayne Gutierrez
Felicia Hamilton
Kevin Hancock
Gregory Harper
Melissa Headrick
Patrick Hemp
Troy Hess
LeRoy Higgs
Brian HInkley
James Hoffman
Jacqueline Horne
Harry Hurt
Felicia Izzard
Colby Jackson
Tanya Jacquez
Tony Jacquez
William Jennings
Michael Larence
Michael Leon
Louis Leyba
Cheri Ludwick
Noah Lujan
Christopher Luke
Daren Luker
Kenneth Lustig
Kevin Mangrum
Jeffrey Mantor
Graciela Martinez
Jacqueline Massey
Rick Maxwell
Dilphia McCollum
Ryan McElheny
Larry McEntire
Michael Middleton
Eric Miner
Richard Mireles
Mark Mitchell
Ryan Mitrik
Nicole Montemayor
Robert Nabonzy
Derek Nelson
Kevin Norton
Richard Oritz
Erik Peacor
Trent Pederson
Terry Porterfield
Keith Pullins
Demitrius Rankin
Curtis Rayborn
Mark reese
Ronald Riffle
Craig Rispoli
Michael Roberts
Ian Rosado
Randel Sauvage
Steven Shulski
DeLora Silva
Manuel Silva
Odell Smith
Virginia Snider
Javier Solis
Matthew Stariha
Roger Swartz
Brian Taylor
Tina Timmerman
Hilario Torres
Travis Treat
George Varghese
Frank Walsh
Kisha Washington
Douglas Watson
Ronald Wilson
Lyn Witte
Billie Wolfe
Dusty Wools
Ileen Wyrick

The following technical sergeants for their promotion to master sergeant

...

Peter Adams
Joy Allison
Robert Anderson
Scott Bahnub
Paul Baldonado
Chard Birchard
Patrick Burke
Willia Chestnut
Paul Coupaud
Lawrence Crayton
David Csicsak
Jeanett Csicsak
Stephen Demers
Angela Dowling
Alvin Earp
Richard Engleby
John Gates
Nina Gilliam
Karl Gregory
Felix Guerra
Darrel Harcourt
Paul Heifner
Matthew Howard
Kenneth Jones
Sandra Key
Jeff Kleinbauer
Mark Leuquire
Randall Little
Matthew Lusson
Harold Marshall
William Miles
John Moravek
John Morgan
Paul Nash
Charles Navarro
Jes Ocamartinez
Robert Persinger
Lee Richards
Bennie Robinson
Eduardo Sims
Trese Smith
Thomas Sullivan
Lewis Thomas
Jeffery Tomasek
Gina Tremmel
Robert Tremmel
Randall Varin
Marvin Wilson
David Wolf Jr.
Ryan Yeggy

U.S. occupation officially ends

by John D. Banusiewicz
American Forces Press Service

Sovereignty in Iraq passed from the Coalition Provisional Authority to the interim Iraqi government June 28, two days ahead of schedule.

In a 10-minute ceremony inside the heavily fortified "Green Zone" where coalition headquarters is located in Baghdad, CPA administrator L. Paul Bremer III read a letter he had signed which dissolved the authority.

"As recognized in U.N. Security Council Resolution 1546, the Coalition Provisional Authority will cease to exist on June 28, at which point the occupation will end and the Iraqi interim government will assume and exercise full sovereign authority on behalf of the Iraqi people. I welcome Iraq's steps to take its rightful place of equality and honor among the free nations of the world," Mr. Bremer read.

Iraqi prime minister Iyad Allawi, who reportedly sought the early transfer, expressed confidence in his government's ability to stabilize the violence-wracked country.

"This is a historical day," he said. "We feel we are capable of controlling the security situation."

A poll cited in a Defense Department document called "Five Steps to Sovereignty" said 68 percent of Iraqis have confidence in the interim Iraqi government, and 79 percent think the interim government will make things better for Iraq. The new government has an 80-percent approval rating among Iraqis, 73 percent of whom approve of Mr. Allawi, and 84 percent of whom approve of President Yawar.

The document said the interim government will operate under the rules defined in Iraq's Transitional Administrative Law, which it called "the most liberal basic governance document in the Arab world."

At a farewell meeting June 27 with the city, regional and provincial councils in Baghdad, Mr. Bremer expressed confidence in the new government's ability to take over Iraq's affairs.

Iraq now has 100,000 police officers on duty across the country, Mr. Bremer said.

"There are not enough yet in Baghdad," he said. "Schools and clinics and hospitals have been reopened, though much has to be done to improve health care in Baghdad and in the country.

"I am very confident that Iraq in fact will get through this process of political development and will wind up as a beacon for countries in the region as Iraq has so often been in its very long 5,000-year history," he said. "The reason I'm confident is because of people like you, people all over the country who are willing to take up the job and the responsibility for Iraq, because the most important thing that happens when sovereignty returns to the Iraqi government is responsibility returns to the Iraqi people."

He assured the Iraqi leaders that they will not have to go it alone.

"We will still be here to help you," Mr. Bremer said. "The multinational forces will still be here to help with security until the Iraqi forces are able on their own to deal with security. The American government will be here in the form of a very large American Embassy, which will help work with Iraqis to oversee the reconstruction projects which are now beginning already to make an impact on the Iraqi economy."

The United States will spend almost $19 billion in Iraq throughout the next 15 to 18 months, Mr. Bremer said, much of it on rebuilding of old infrastructure like electricity, water and sewage systems.

Photo by Mr. Tom Fuller

New group commander on board

Col. Gail Colvin salutes Brig. Gen. Kurt Cichowski, 49th Fighter Wing commander, as she assumes command of the 49th Mission Support Group during a change of command ceremony Tuesday.

Holloman troops arrive in S. Korea

by Senior Airman Martha Whipple
49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

About 300 Team Holloman members and 9th Fighter Squadron F-117A Nighthawks arrived at Kunsan Air Base, the Republic of Korea this week. The group left here June 25 to support the U.S. national defense objectives in the Western Pacific region.

In coordination with the R.O.K. government, U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Forces Korea have identified certain forces deployed to the Korean Peninsula from June to September for familiarization training., said Brig. Gen. Kurt Cichowski, 49th FW commander.

These deployments are an appropriate measure to maintain a credible deterrent posture and presence for the region, and it demonstrates the continued U.S. commitment to fulfilling security responsibilities throughout the Western Pacific.

This deployment also provides a unique training opportunity to help integrate various forces into Pacific Command's joint and coalition exercises from forward operating bases.

DoD officials detail global posture realignment process

by Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

The realignment of U.S. forces in the world will mirror the changing threats and be a result of a fundamental shift in national security, the Department of Defense undersecretary for policy told the House Armed Services Committee June 23.

Douglas Feith said that the effort now under way thinks through how U.S. forces may be used in the coming decades. Key to this thinking is that the United States will be working with allies in the full range of military operations, from combat to peace.

President Bush ordered Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld to study where U.S. troops are based in the world and realign them to mirror the new security environment. In South Korea, the effort has already resulted in a reduction of 12,500 U.S. servicemembers in that country.

DoD officials tout that while that drops the numbers of troops, it does not diminish the capabilities of U.S. forces in the region.

Mr. Feith said U.S. global posture is the legacy of World War II and the Korean War. "And after the Cold War ended, there were substantial reductions taken, but they were reductions in place," he said. "They were really not a realignment of our forces around the world."

In Korea, many U.S. positions are exactly where they were when the fighting stopped in 1953, Secretary Rumsfeld said.

Mr. Feith pointed to the realignment's premise: One important national security asset the United States possesses is its network of alliances and defense partnerships. That concept is one of five ideas that has shaped thinking on the realignment issue, he said. DoD officials want to expand allied roles and build new partnerships.

> **"And the goal of our realignment is to push capabilities forward so that we have greater ability to fulfill our commitments and to perform military operations as needed."**
>
> **Mr. Douglas Feith**
> *DoD Undersecretary for policy*

"Secondly, we wanted to develop the flexibility to contend with uncertainty," he said. During the Cold War, the threat was the Soviet Union. The United States was committed to defend Western Europe. U.S. troops were in place and equipment pre-positioned for them if the Soviets came through the Fulda Gap corridor that ran through then-East Germany into West Germany.

That is no longer the case. "We have found that we've engaged in military operations over the last dozen years or so in places where nobody anticipated engaging in military operations," he said. "And it is clear that one of the most important phenomena in the world today is uncertainty."

U.S. forces must be positioned around the world so they can respond to events, Mr. Feith said. "We do not believe that we know where we might have to do military operations," he said. "We therefore cannot be confident that we are based where we're going to fight. And for that reason, we need to have a force posture that allows for flexibility."

Military leaders will focus not only within regions, but also across regions. "The idea that we have forces, for example, in Europe that are going to fight in Europe or forces on the Korean peninsula that are dedicated to Korean contingencies, is no longer our thought," Mr. Feith said.

Combatant commanders will no longer "own" forces, he said. "(Secretary Rumsfeld) makes clear to everybody, the only person who owns forces, as it were, is the president, who can use the armed forces of the United States across regions as necessary," he said.

The United States also needs rapidly deployable capabilities. "That's a concept that has many parts, ... but among those parts are not simply where you are putting facilities, but also how the forces are organized, how prepositioned equipment is configured, so that you have the ability to move a battalion somewhere without having to unpack a division's worth of equipment," he said. "We need to have capabilities that are readily deployable."

Finally, the key measure of effectiveness is not the numbers of forces, but the capability of those forces. The number of forces in a country is not an adequate measure of U.S. commitment, he said. Rather, the capability the U.S. presence brings is paramount.

"What we are stressing is the importance of capabilities," Mr. Feith said. "And the goal of our realignment is to push capabilities forward so that we have greater ability to fulfill our commitments and to perform military operations as needed."

United States officials will continue to speak with allies worldwide on this program. They will continue to negotiate with allies on the American footprint in their regions, Mr. Feith said.

BRIEFS

Holiday hours

The following are closed on Monday: Furniture store, military clothing sales, service bay, Anthony's Pizza, Frank's Franks, Robin Hood, Popeye's Chicken, theater, beauty shop, barber shop, dry cleaners, alterations, optical shop, flower shop, Olive Branch, and GNC.

Base exchange, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; shopette, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Mini Mall, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Rent-a-Car, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (phone only); and McDonalds, 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Techno expo

The Alamogordo Public School hosts the annual Technology ReBoot Camp from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., August 2 – 5 at Mountain View Middle School, 300 South Canyon Road, Alamogordo.

For more information, call 439-3270 extension 151.

Keystone news

Holloman's Keystone Club has a Summer Youth Olympics July 30 and 31 at the Fitness and Sports Center. The event is a joint project with the Boys and Girls Club of America and Nickelodeon to tackle the issue of youth obesity.

The event will have an opening ceremony and an awards banquet on July 31. A National Kids Day will be 1 to 4 p.m. July 31. Olympic competitions include track and field, swimming, gymnastics, BMX racing, skateboarding and much more.

Youth can sign up for the Olympics at the Youth and Teen Center by July 16. Cost is $5 and this includes the price of a T-shirt. The Keystone Club also needs volunteers for judging, setup, and activities.

For information, call Ms. Matrice Adger at 921-2231 or Mr. Dan Salinas at 572-3753.

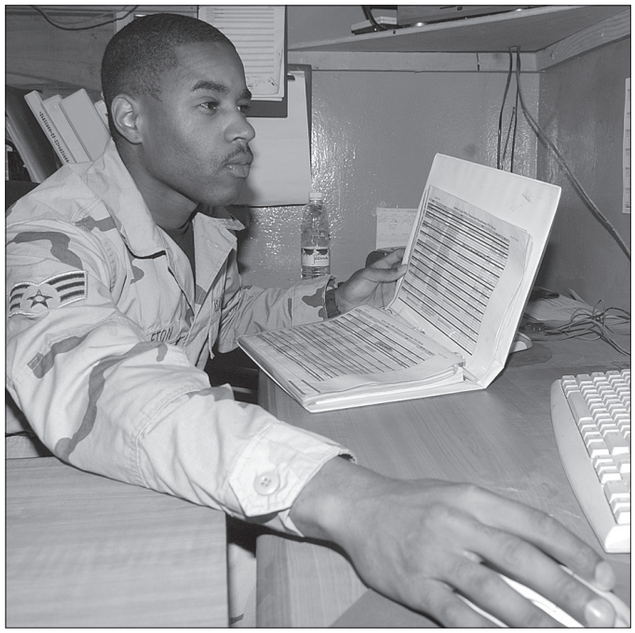


Photo by Master Sgt. Andrew Gates

Supporting America

Senior Airman Rhonnell Singleton, 49th Mission Support Squadron personnel specialist deployed to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, verifies newly arrived personnel with their home stations. The Personnel Support for Contingency Operations at Bagram Air Base is responsible for more than 800 Air Force people.

Correction

The 49th Fighter Wing/49th Mission Support Squadron policy for travel card delinquency is a letter of counseling. This is not a base-wide policy.

Road closure

Due to the re-routing and widening of 49er Road, there will be a road closure on Arizona Avenue from First Street to Arnold Avenue.

For more information, call 2nd Lt. Stacy Nimmo at 572-3066.

Wiccan/Pagan

A Wiccan/Pagan informational meeting is at noon July 10 at the community center.

For more information about the organization, call Staff Sgt. Joshua Savitt at 572-1554.

Assessment

The U.S. Air Force Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact, which analyze a proposal to inactivate the 20th Fighter Squadron here, are available for review at the Alamogordo Public Library, the base library, at the 49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs office and online at *www.cevp.com.*

Chapel Services

Weekday Masses – 11:30 a.m., Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Sunday – Catholic Mass, 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

• Sacrament of Penance, 4 p.m.

• General Protestant Worship Service, 11 a.m.

• Protestant Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., and Catholic Religious Education, 10:45 a.m. at Holloman Intermediate School.

BIG On the SCREEN

Godsend (PG-13)
6 and 9 p.m., Friday

Spiderman 2 (PG-13)
noon., Saturday

Troy (PG-13)
6 p.m., Saturday

Tickets are 99 cents.

Holloman firefighters respond to Boles Acres fire

by Senior Airman Martha Whipple
49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Holloman's Fire Emergency Services team were called out Saturday afternoon to help battle a three-structure fire at 40 Suzy Ann Street in Boles Acres, south of Alamogordo.

Two houses, a garage and a car were destroyed in the fast-moving blaze.

Fire fighters from Boles Acres Volunteer Fire Department, Alamo West Fire/Rescue, Dungan V.F.D., Alamogordo Department of Public Safety, Dungan V.F.D., Holloman Fire Department and Oro Vista V.F.D., were on the scene.

No one was injured in the blaze and the cause has not yet been determined. An investigation is ongoing.

Photos by Ellis Neel/Alamogordo Daily News

A Pontiac Firebird smolders in front of a burning building at 40 Suzy Ann Street Saturday in Boles Acres. Three structures and a car were destroyed.

Wesley Brandon, Boles Acres Volunteer Firefighter, shouts for help while fighting a fire Saturday in Boles Acres, N.M.

Fire fighters battled a blaze Saturday in Boles Acres, N.M. Investigators have not yet determined what started the blaze which destroyed three structures and a car.

Catcher Jessica Culp, 49th Maintenance Operations Squadron, almost makes first base before 49th Communications Squadron first baseman Clint Oppel gets her out.

How old was he?

MOS gives game to COMM after underage player revealed

by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier
49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

It could have been a classic mistake or just an over site, but the June 24 game between the 49th Maintenance Operations Squadron and 49th Communications Squadron was called in COMM's favor after a 16-year old was revealed in the MOS ranks on Vandenberg Field.

It began just like any game with MOS up to bat first, batting two runs in with brought on by pitcher Scott Addis and catcher Francisco Perez. MOS led the way up by two.

MOS headed out to the infield as COMM revved up for two runs of their own batted in by first baseman Clint Oppel. One more run was tacked on before the game entered the second inning with COMM up 3-2.

Both teams continued to tack on runs during the second inning, inching up little by little with a hit by Perez for the MOS ball club. Oppel put one on the board before the end of the second.

It wouldn't be until the third inning that COMM would pull ahead after MOS's Addis walked James Christian to make the base loaded. A big hit by Frank Walsh help to put COMM up by four more runs for a 10-4 lead.

Soon after, speculations began to arise over the age of MOS's right fielder. After looking into it, it was determined that 16-year old Denny Shofner, son of MOS's Denny Shofner, was too young to play, making him ineligible to finish the game and forfeiture by MOS.

COMM continues to battle their way through the intramural softball season.

Photos by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier

Pitcher Richard Ewers, 49th Communications Squadron, catches a pop-up hit near the third-base line. COMM took the win in the fourth inning after a underage player was found on the 49th Maintenance Operations Squadron's team.

Photos by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier

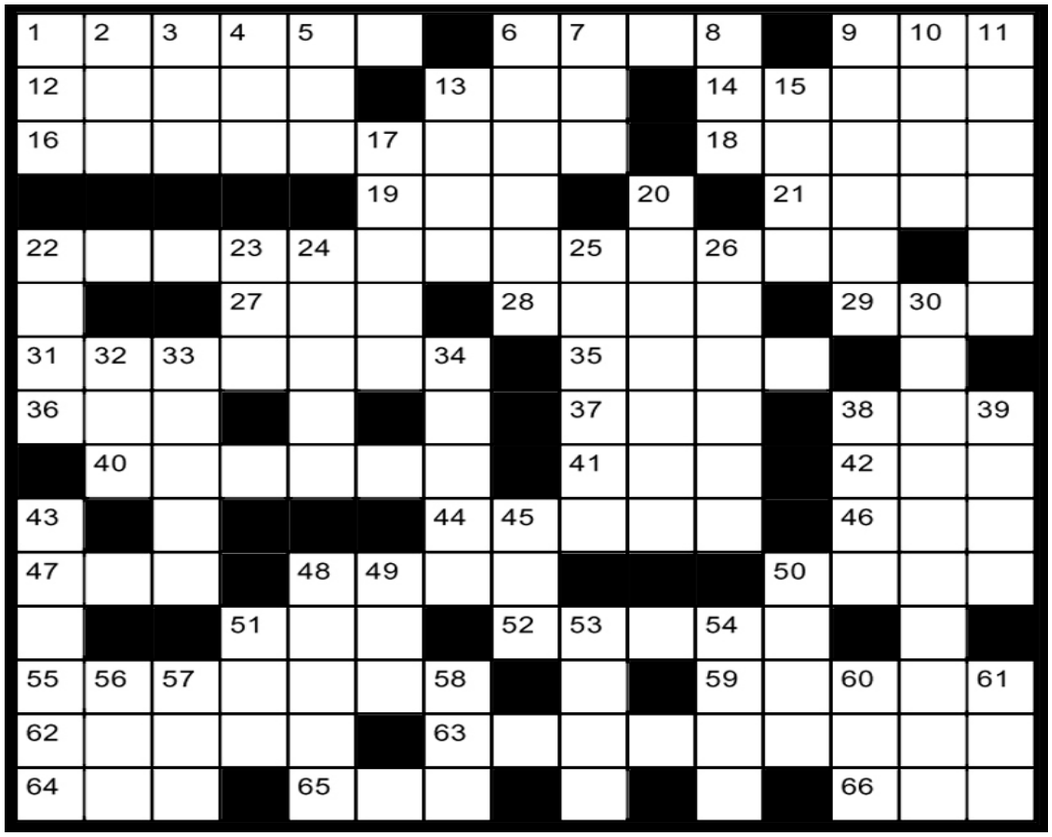
A strong ending

Left: Lady Falcons pitcher Kelsey Osterholm pitches a strike Monday night during the final game of the season against team Too Kool. Right: First Baseman Noelle Perrin recieves the ball a second too late as Too Kool left centerfielder Danika Anaya crosses over the bag during their 8-2 win over the Lady Falcons.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier

You've got the right stuff

Lady Tigers forward Cora Deal makes a jumpshot during the Alamogordo Lady Tigers basketball camp. The camp offers girls ranging from 5th to 9th grade to learn fundamental basketball skills including dribbling, passing, shooting and defensive strategies.



American Independence

ACROSS
1. American Revolution hero, 5th president
6. Assist, as in criminals
9. Pie ___ mode
12. Actress Dunn of *My Favorite Wife*
13. Arid
14. Tall-growing, annual vegetables
16. Faintheartedness
18. Treaty of ___ ended American Revolution
19. Dine
21. *Point Break* actress Petty
22. Group organized against British rule
27. Summer drink
28. Navy ship attacked in Yemen: USS ___
29. Possess
31. Site of "shot heard 'round the world"
35. Rescue
36. "Path of virtous conduct" to Confucians
37. Italian three
38. Handles special security needs (acronym)
40. Cause
41. Possessive form of we
42. Unit of resistance
44. *Common* ___; essay by Thomas Paine
46. 52 in old Rome
47. Greek goddess of the dawn
48. Away from the wind, nautically speaking
50. Bluster
51. Football scores
52. Relaxed
55. Goes back over
59. Italian food mainstay
62. Shine
63. Lead writer of the Declaration
64. Santa helper
65. Body of water
66. Tolkien character

DOWN
1. What Eisenhower warned against (abbrev.)
2. Rio de ___, region in SW Sahara
3. Unused
4. Basic cell material, briefly
5. Army equivalent of officer performance report
6. Region of the North Pole
7. Farewell
8. Uppermost
9. Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-___
10. Den
11. WIth funds, to apportion
13. Knob
15. German cold?
17. Delay
20. European country near Russia, Poland
22. Cult
23. Vesicle
24. Scents
25. Site of Bunker Hill battlefield
26. Midnight rider who warned of British invasion
30. Revolutionary general in charge of all forces
32. Paddle
33. Christmas songs
34. Thick
38. Cola
39. Forget
43. King ___ III during American Revolution
45. Snakelike fish
48. His agitations spurred 51 DOWN
49. Hallucinogenic drug
50. Type of admiral
51. British import dumped into sea
53. Galoots
54. Raced
56. Former measure of about 45 inches
57. Ump
58. Air Force legal advisor, briefly
60. Compass direction
61. Picnic crasher

Answers on Page 18

NEWS

TSP toll-free phone service begins today

A toll-free telephone service for Thrift Savings Plan participants and beneficiaries begins today.

Callers will be able to receive TSP account or transaction information via the service daily around the clock. They will also be able to speak to a participant service representative at one of two call centers 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern time Monday through Friday.

The retirement savings plan is for federal employees and similar to the 401(k) plans offered by many private employers. As of May 31, TSP assets totaled more than $135 billion, and retirement savings accounts were being maintained for nearly 3.3 million participants. Participants include federal civilian employees in all branches of Government, employees of the U.S. Postal Service, and members of the uniformed services.

"TSP is an easy, long-term retirement savings plan that everyone should consider," said Maj. Alessandra Stokstad, chief of the Air Force Personnel Center's contact center at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. "Current account holders might be interested, too, in transferring money from one fund to another — the TSP folks are set up to handle that."

The five TSP funds are: the Government Securities Investment (G) Fund; the Common Stock Index Investment (C) Fund; the Fixed Income Index Investment (F) Fund; the Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment (S) Fund; and the International Stock Index Investment (I) Fund.

For calls from the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, the primary toll-free number will be (877) 968-3778 and the TDD number for the hearing impaired will be (877) 847-4385. The current number (504) 255-8777 can be used for all other international calls. ***(AFPN)***

M	O	N	R	O	E		A	B	E	T		A	L	A
I	R	E	N	E		D	R	Y		O	K	R	A	S
C	O	W	A	R	D	I	C	E		P	A	R	I	S
					E	A	T		B		L	O	R	I
S	O	N	S	O	F	L	I	B	E	R	T	Y		G
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C	O	N	C	O	R	D		S	A	V	E		A	
T	A	O		R		E		T	R	E		S	S	O
	R	E	A	S	O	N		O	U	R		O	H	M
G		L				S	E	N	S	E		D	I	I
E	O	S		A	L	E	E				R	A	N	T
O			T	D	S		L	O	O	S	E		G	
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E	L	F		S	E	A		S		D		E	N	T

AF Chief Murray talks about deployments, force shaping

by Airman 1st Class Jonathan Ortiz-Torres
Air University Public Affairs

Combat needs, not current manpower standards, are what Air Force officials are using to determine how many people are filling the ranks, Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray said. This, he said, is the first time in Air Force history that combat needs have been the determining factor.

Chief Murray discussed this and other current issues during his visit to Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., for the 10th Annual Worldwide Command Chief Master Sergeants' conference June 19 to 23.

"We're engaged in a war that perhaps is not going to end any time soon, so we need to be prepared for that," Chief Murray said. "We have to focus on training, on our leadership and our efforts of preparing our Airmen mentally, physically and emotionally to deal with the rigors of deployment."

One hot topic is force shaping which is designed to return the Air Force to its authorized uniformed population by September 2005.

"How do we bring our force structure down by 20,000 people without losing any of our combat capabilities and without forcing out good quality Airmen that want to stay with us?" asked Chief Murray.

"That's our greatest challenge and clearly concerns our force; however, we will continue to work toward balancing the force," he said.

Fifteen years ago, the Air Force was 40 percent larger than it is today with about 660,000 active-duty Airmen. Today, the force is just shy of 360,000 active-duty people, yet the service is deploying more than four times more than it did back in 1990 before operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Chief Murray said.

"While we are deploying more, for the first time in history over the last couple of years we have been identifying the requirements of our force based on our combat expeditionary needs, not off manpower standards, on how many people (for example) we would have working here on Maxwell Air Force Base, but truly what we would need for combat," he said.

Finding ways to reduce the number of critically manned and stressed career fields in the Air Force is also a part of the plan to balance the force. Examples are the noncommissioned officer retraining program, reinstating the career job reservation program and redirecting accessions in basic training.

"These measures are beginning to show a positive effect on increasing balance in our force," Chief Murray said. "And on top of that, it's also (Air Force Chief of Staff) General (John P.) Jumper's commitment to continue in every way we can to try to get every Airman in our Air Force to be deployable. By increasing our deployment pools, again we minimize the stress on those Airmen in constant demand."

As the chief master sergeant of the Air Force, he said his most important job is talking with Airmen and listening to what they are saying.

"First of all, today I see great pride in our Airmen in the jobs that they are doing out there," he said. "In 27 years of the Air Force, I have not seen the Air Force any better than what it is today.

"Our Airmen are certainly letting me know that they are challenged, and they are certainly talking about the (operations) tempo and the increased deployment workload that we're under," he said. "There's a price that we are paying by having so many Airmen deployed. It's not only how hard they're working deployed, but how hard they're also working at home stations by having teams separated."

One example of concerns being addressed is the recent pullback of code "C" limitations. A code "C" designation is given to Airmen with certain medical conditions.

"Our Airmen spoke out about that and that's part of the reason we decided to step back and conduct a thorough analysis of the processes we use to look at those individuals that are not available for deployment due to medical limitations," he said.

There are currently more than 7,000 Airmen that are not eligible for worldwide deployments, and about 3,600 of those are designated as permanently in that category, Chief Murray said.

"Combat readiness, deployments and deployability is a major concern for us," Chief Murray said. "We'll continue to work with the senior leaders of our Air Force, our Air Staff, and (major commands) to balance our force to meet that mission."

Chief Murray also discussed quality-of-life issues.

"We always have quality of life in our sights because it deals with our pay, our benefits and compensations, our housing, workplace and environments that affect our Airmen and their families," he said.

People can expect to see many improvements in infrastructure, he said. Officials have invested in renovating or replacing more than 5,000 dormitory rooms and more than 30,000 housing units across the force.

It is clear that the Air Force is going through major changes, and as Chief Murray said, "(Air Force leaders) are leading (Airmen) in a historic and exciting time." ***(AFPN)***

Hoaxes affect government cards

by Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter
Air Force Print News

A recent e-mail hoax targeted government purchasing cardholders in an attempt to gain vital account information.

The e-mail message linked users to a Web-based form, which fraudulently requested key information such as Social Security number, credit card account numbers and expiration dates.

"This is really uncommon," said Josephine Davis, Air Force banking officer. "What you see most frequently is some organization trying to pick up a slogan or relationship to (General Services Administration) because GSA administers the government purchasing contract."

Though there were only a couple of e-mail hoaxes this year, Davis said there are a variety of methods used to get government travel or purchasing card information.

"It's not because they're travel or purchasing cards, but because they are credit cards," she said.

"Credit and charge card fraud costs cardholders and issuers hundreds of millions of dollars each year," according to the Federal Trade Commission's Web site.

Both Davis and the FTC offer ways to avoid becoming a victim.

"Be cautious," Davis said. "In general, unless you have initiated the transaction, nobody has any need to know your account number or expiration date. Banks don't even need that information to be able to find customers in the system."

The FTC backs up that advice.

"Don't give out your account number over the phone unless you're making the call to a company you know is reputable," according to the Web site. "If you have questions about a company, check it out with your local consumer protection office or Better Business Bureau."

Any attempts to obtain government card information should be reported.

"If you receive a hoax e-mail or any other fraudulent requests, contact your agency program coordinator," Davis said.

If it is too late, and fraudulent charges appear on a credit card statement, there are still things cardholders can do to protect themselves, Davis said.

"Follow the standard information on the back of you credit card statement, and again, contact your agency program coordinator," Davis said.

While the cardholder is ultimately responsible for resolving the issue, the program coordinator can help work with the card company. Once a card is lost or stolen, or any other type of fraud is detected, the customer should call the credit card issuer.

"By law, once you report the loss or theft, you have no further responsibility for unauthorized charges," according to the site. "In any event, your maximum liability under federal law is $50 per card."

Problems aside, the government travel and purchasing card programs are still a good thing, Davis said.

"The government charge card, though sometimes cumbersome, has been an effective program," she said. "It has saved time and money, and if used and safe guarded appropriately, is a good procurement tool."

Camera phones may pose risk

by Master Sgt. Darrell Lewis
Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center
Public Affairs

Carrying the latest "have-to-have" electronic gadget may mean big trouble for the person who brings it into unauthorized locations.

Officials from the National Security Agency said in an advisory that new cellular phones with integral digital cameras pose an unacceptable security risk to homeland security. This type of phone is not authorized for use or possession within any Air Force facility processing classified information without written authorization from the designated approval authority.

"Communications are getting faster and easier," said Jane Guidicini, Air Force Communications Agency certified emission security technical authority. "While that does help speed communications, it can also unfortunately allow classified information to get out of a classified area inadvertently or otherwise.

"We realize occasionally the restrictions might seem overly strict when the new technologies come out, but it's better to be overly cautious than to have an incident," Ms. Guidicini said.

"It takes just a little common sense to realize that if you have a cell phone with a camera, you should leave it home if you work in a classified area," said Tech. Sgt. Shon Kloepping, 72nd Security Forces Squadron NCO in charge of physical security.

If someone in a restricted area has one of the phones with a camera capability and a security forces troop discovers it, he or she would be forced to confiscate the camera for review of unlawful images, Sergeant Kloepping said.

Additionally, civilian employees could face federal charges and military members could face federal charges and Uniform Code of Military Justice actions, he said.

But it is not just a good idea to limit their use in "secure rooms" where classified information is being processed, said Peter Bryant, Air Force Materiel Command security forces directorate information security chief.

"You should watch how you use and carry those anywhere you're dealing with sensitive or proprietary information," he said.

If people see someone using any unauthorized camera without coordinating with base agencies, contact the base security forces squadron, Mr. Bryant said. It all comes down to being aware.