

**1979 - 1999**

**20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Edition**

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Attachment 1: List of Boom Operators 1957 - 1999 Alphabetical.

Attachment 2: List of Boom Operators 1957 - 1999 by Class Date.

# Preface



The “Boom Signal” is a compilation of Boom Operator inputs, past, present, and future. It is the only one of it’s kind and several attempts have been made to copy it, without success. The primary purpose of the signal is a communication link between each Boom Operator, past, present and future. A historical document tracing fellow boom operators back to, and before, CMSgt Bob Truelson’s January 1979 signal. We need to ensure this tradition continues. We owe it to ourselves, the booms gone before us, and to the future booms who will hopefully continue this tradition after you and I are gone.

Quoted from Chief Truelson’s first issue of the boom signal; **“If this is to become a meaningful and successful venture, it will require the participation of all of us.”** The final comment from the Chief was; “This is the first edition of The Boom Signal. It is only the start, and with your help it will grow.”

This is the third Boom Signal I've had the privilege to put together, and each year since 1997, it has become increasingly more difficult to get the inputs from the field. At first this may seem normal, given our current "Ops Tempo" or "Pers Tempo", but I really think there is an underlying virus eating away at us, eroding this 20 year tradition??? I hope this is far from the truth, but there is some reason for the increased resistance to help produce this one-of-a-kind book. Without question a piece of history goes into each edition of the Boom Signal. Someday each of us will look back into the annals of history and say, "I was a Boom Operator back then, I flew those missions and THIS Boom Signal will be, in some cases, the only written evidence you ever existed. Sure you were there, but where else in SAC, AMC or Air Force history is YOUR name written? Unless you were involved with some infamous event, your name will never appear within the hollowed halls or pages of our history books...This is OUR history, the history of Air Refueling, the history of the Boom Operator. “We Must Not let this tradition die.”

I would like to thank several Boom Operators, who helped make the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition of the Boom Signal possible. When I needed help they were there. **CMSgt Cary Hubbard, SMSgt Todd Salzman, MSgt Jim Wood, TSgt John Foleski, and TSgt Doug Garrett.**

**SMSgt Bricker Martin**, who spent literally months helping me prepare the table of contents, the lists of names in the index, and the two attachments containing well over 6,000 names. Bricker had the meticulous job of editing each signal input I sent him, extracting every name to a concordance file, used in developing the name index. Brick.....Thanks.

**Mr Steve Tuttle** for all the long hours and hard work he put in extracting the names from the class rosters we used in our attachments.

**Harvey Price** of Flight Safety for allowing Steve the time.

Boom stowed, leaving position.....

Jim Eden

**NOTE:** This year’s Boom Signal was formatted using Word 97 and a Hewlett Packard 5Si/Mx printer driver. If you encounter formatting problems, your printer drivers are probably not capable of emulating the HP 5Si/Mx. Solution; reformat the entire document. It should only be one or two lines off....Sorry??

Any comments or questions about the Boom Signal can be directed to CMSgt Jim Eden, HQ AMC/DOV, DSN 779-3665, E-mail: james.eden@scott.af.mil. The 2000 Boom Signal will be due very shortly so, start working your input now. Let’s make it worthy of Chief Truelson’s vision. Instructions to follow. Please include the retirees in your local area. I’m sure they would appreciate it.

We always wonder...what happened to ol’ so-n-so...Now we’ll know.

# History of the Boom Operator Coin

Jim Eden  
*and*  
Steve Meloy  
("Farmer")

In 1994, while stationed at Travis AFB, CA, Steve Meloy and I decided to design a Boom Operator coin. We took some drawings of a coin I had previously done, changed a couple of things, and during the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of Jan 1994 Steve and I decided to go through with our plan. The next one of us to go to Korea would have the coins made. On Saturday, 15 Jan 1994, I spent the entire day refining the drawings into what would become the Boom Operator Coin.

Two weeks later, Thursday 26 Jan 1994, I was able to schedule a Pacific Express West mission and actually ordered the coins from the Rex Shop just outside Osan's main gate. Luckily Steve and I had done our homework, because I only had 4 hours on the ground. John Randall took care of the cargo and pax while I scrambled to get downtown and find the Rex Shop. I paid \$120.00 for cutting the die and made a down payment on the first 150 coins to be made.

On 17 Feb 1994, Steve Meloy returned from Korea with the first 150 coins. The first coins were sold during the 1994 dash 9 Cargo Loading rewrite at Castle AFB, CA, 8-11 Mar 1994. Then we both sold a few at the "LAST" Boom Operator symposium, Castle AFB, CA, 11-13 Mar 1994.

Later, someone suggested we put our initials on the coin like Victor D. Brenner did on the penny. We were very hesitant to put our initials on the "Boom Operator Coin", but later decided we could hide them on the tiger side of the coin. They needed to be hidden, where the average person wouldn't notice them unless they knew exactly where they were, and could not change the appearance of the coin. These are the criteria we used to place our initials on the coin.

On the next trip to Korea I bought the original die (yes, paid for it again), gave them the drawings for the new coin, and once again paid the \$120.00 for a new die. Same design, just added our initials. Mine (JME) rest on the tiger's leg, next to his belly, just under the boom. Steve's (SRM) are on the tiger's tail, under his hip, next to the gas can's nozzle. There were only 150 of the original coins minted without our initials. All other coins have our initials on them, except for a batch of coins minted in southern California for the Altus Boom Association.

Two Boom Operators, once stationed at Altus, who will remain nameless, thought Steve and my initials should not be on the Boom Operator coin and had them removed. So, there are some coins floating around with the initials removed. How can you tell which coin you have? The difference is in the color and cut marks removing the initials. They are also coated with a substance making them darker than the original brass coins, and when dropped sound distinctly different.

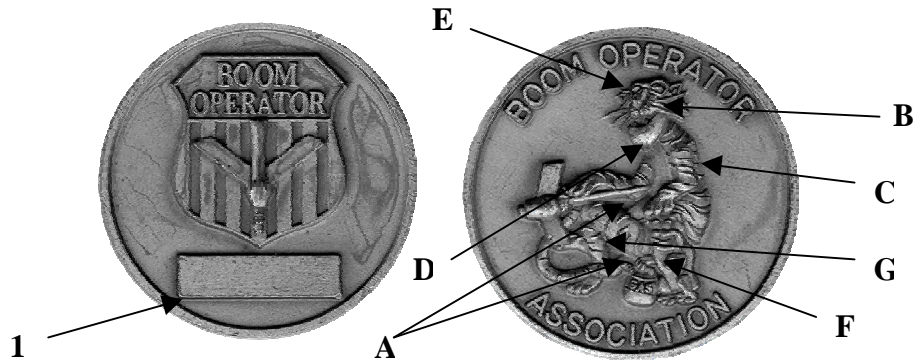
Eventually, Steve and I decided to give the rights and extra coins to the Altus Boom Operator Association with one stipulation; they give each graduating "Boom Operator" student their first Boom Operator coin for free. This tradition continues today.

Along with any tradition there needs to be rules of engagement. See page three for the ROEs Steve and I put together in 1994 to be used with the Boom Operator Coin.

What will happen to the original Boom Operator Coin die? Steve and I both agree, it will someday end up in a Boom Operator museum where it belongs.

For your Boom Operator Association Coin, contact the Altus Boom Association or Rex Shop in Korea.

## Differences in the Boom Operator Coins



**ORIGINAL COIN** (shown above)

**INITIALED COIN** (not shown)

### FRONT OF THE COIN

1- Tall wide box, very small gap next to rim of coin ..... Thin box, large gap next to rim of coin

### BACK OF THE COIN

.....	More stripes on the arm and body of the tiger
.....	Relief of the coin is much deeper
A- No initials (JME or SRM) .....	Initials on the coin (JME and SRM)
B- Three main whiskers on tiger's LH cheek.....	Four main whiskers on tiger's LH cheek
C- Three stripes on his back, behind his arm.....	Four stripes on his back, behind his arm
D- Two out of three whiskers on the chin touch the body .....	Non of the three whiskers on the chin touch the body
E- Rounded RH ear tip.....	Split RH ear tip
F- No collar on the Bull Dog.....	Spiked collar on Bull Dog
G- 6 stripes on Tiger's RH calf .....	5 stripes on Tiger's RH calf

**NOTE:** The third coin, minted in southern CA was unavailable, and therefore not shown. Not all differences are noted in the above illustration. If you know of other notable differences, please let me know. JME.



## **Boom Operator Coin/Card Rules**

1. Rules of the game must be explained to all new coin/card holders.
2. If a Boomer has never received a coin/card they cannot be expected to play the game. This burden of proof is placed on the challenged.
3. The coin and card are equal and interchangeable. (i.e.; having a coin is like having a card, having a card is like having a coin).
4. The coin/card will not be defaced (i.e.; drilling/machining).
5. You can be challenged anytime, anywhere. You must produce a coin/card within 15 seconds of being challenged, and without taking more than three steps.
6. When challenging, state whether the challenge is for a single drink or a round of drinks.
7. Failure to produce a coin/card results in that person buying a drink or a round of drinks (max of 10 drinks). This could be expensive so hold on to your coin/card. Once the challenged has bought you a drink(s), you cannot continue to challenge them.
8. Under no circumstances can a coin/card be handed to someone. This is considered giving it away and you must barter with that person to regain possession of your coin/card. Place the coin/card down on a flat surface and they may pick it up to examine it. This is not considered giving your coin/card away.
9. The person who picks up the coin/card is honor bound to place it back where they got it. You cannot be challenged while your coin/card is in someone else's possession.
10. Lost coin/card: Replacement could be impossible and a lost coin/card does not relieve the holder of their responsibilities.
11. These rules apply to any Boom Operator, or "Honorary Member". Local rules can be used, however, apply to local Boomers only.
12. The coins/cards should be controlled at all times. Giving a coin/card to anyone is like opening the association to anyone. It is considered an HONOR to be a Boom Operator and have a coin/card, let's keep it that way.
13. Roll Call is now in effect...So carry your coin/card.

## Altus AFB, OK 97 OG

### Home of Boom Operator CCTS and CFIC

I can't believe another year has gone by. I can't believe I'm still here after 3+years. I can't believe the changes the KC-135 fleet has undergone. I can't believe losing 19 highly experienced IBOs to OTS, PCS, and DOS over this past year; and being 11 short for the last six months, we're still able to do what the instructor force does so well; mold young men and women into the finest aviators the Air Force could ask for.

Yes I can! Why, because to do less is unacceptable. The boom career field owes a debt of gratitude to the remaining IBOs who've carried this burden, and despite a terrific workload, take great pride in the booms they produce.

Just as with the rest of the fleet, stab trims; Pacer CRAG; and low experience levels continue to challenge the force to create innovative ideas on how to graduate students on time. The new Basic Boom Operator Course (BBOC) is working out as advertised.

I've been promised over 11 new IBOs by the summer time; their arrival will be a welcome relief to those still here. We continue to supply the Air Force the finest 2Lts available.

For you young IBOs out there (this applies to KC-10 IBOs also), if you want to challenge your teaching and flying skills, be home on weekends, and complete your degree, seriously consider an assignment to the schoolhouse. The career opportunities are obvious.

Here's the OG and OSS lineup:

**MSgt Rodney Derringer (OGV).** Did such a great job as program manager for the 55 ARS I moved him to group stan/eval. He's either giving checkrides, checking pubs, or driving around in a poor man's semi (Dodge Ram Diesel 1-ton) pulling his fifth wheel. I expect to see him on the next SMSgt List!

**MSgt Joe Surovy OSS/OST.** Boom field CDC writer. Ex-KC-10 boom but I don't know if anyone remembers him. When you can find him, he's either at his desk, flying, or at the gym. Most likely at the gym.

**TSgt Brad Hamann OSS/OST.** Ham-n-eggs. Brad does our PFT, that 's Program Flying Training. Just as important as your accountant, he keeps track of the student input numbers. Resident computer geek, or so they say. Been here forever!

**TSgt Dean Pickering OSS/OSQ.** Dean keeps his eye on our contract instructors from FlightSafety Services for compliance; he doesn't get much to do however; Harv Price and his bunch do a fantastic job. Dean's been busy, helped bring the new BBOC on line, and working with HQ AMC/Det 2 on the BOPTT MX upgrade. Did such a great job, they hired him, moving over in June. Dean's a new daddy now and loving it.

**TSgt Tom Unefusser OSS/OSY.** Tom took Mike Adams' place, he's got some BIG shoes to fill. Student Flight Superintendent responsible for the care and feeding of our student boom operator population. Just when he thought he heard and saw it all, another student comes up with a new one. Doing a great job, he never misses an opportunity to tell me so, either!

**SSgt George (TeBo) Tobola OSS/OSO.** George has done just about everything at the schoolhouse except get promoted. I know he'll be on the TSgt list this year. As a squadron scheduler he kept complaining about the bad A/Rs, so I sent him over to current ops as the tanker horseblanket long range scheduler to fix em. Loves it and doing a great job!

Well that's it for me, just keep those IBOs coming. The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Boom Operator's Symposium is scheduled over the 2-4 Jun 2000 weekend, mark it on your calender and hope to see you here.

LESLIE E. MCPEAK JR., CMSGT, USAF  
Operations Group Superintendent/Chief Boom

**Altus AFB, OK**  
**54 ARS**

**CFIC/CCTS**

Greetings from Southwest Oklahoma,

It looks like this will be my last Boom Signal input from the schoolhouse; I should be on my way to Scott AFB shortly. Talk about mixed emotions, I hate to leave but I'm excited about the new challenges ahead!

Well, its been a very busy year across the Air Force, AMC, AETC, 97AMW, FlightSafety and 54 ARS Booms as well. The 54<sup>th</sup> CCTS Booms stepped out with training the first initial qual Pacer CRAG booms. It was said it couldn't be done, but as usual we proved it could be! Pacer CRAG gives us a chance to further excel as integral crewmember and there is no better place to start than the schoolhouse. CFIC has started training Pacer CRAG candidates, we changed one scenario to a "PC diff" other than that not much else had changed. A/R demos are on the way back, not with the BUFFs (they are down to 3 classes a year) but with the C17s. The learning curve is high on both ends of the boom, however the C17 drivers are all for it and of course the booms are too.

NOTE: As the candidates pass their check we staple their nametag to our "wall of fame" so bring an extra nametag (an old stained one will do) and you will go down in history too!

Oh yea, we also had an ORI last year, and the 54ARS was...simply OUTSTANDING! In addition to that we had 11 97 AMW IBOs selected for OTS, I've never seen anything like it. If you think gold bars are in your future, Altus is the place to be. If you want to instruct and be home each night, come on down! Altus is and continues to be a terrible place to go TDY, but a great place to live.....really! Well I have to go, I need to gas up my boat.....urr.....I mean do a page count. See you at the Boom Symposium!

FLY THE AIRCRAFT!  
SMSgt DALTON PRATT  
54 ARS Ops Super/1<sup>st</sup> Sgt  
DSN 866-5128

**SMSgt Dalton "Gunner" Pratt- Resident OPS Super/CCF** The big cheese. If you go into his office you would understand. He just got orders to Scott. He will be leaving in the spring to fish in a tournament circuit and do some part time office work. Was awarded the least experienced Boom Operator at the latest Symposium. He was awarded the most experienced bullshi\*\*er at the last Boom meeting. Ask him about his accident, during a recent fishing tournament. Objects in the rear view mirror are closer than they appear. Sgt Pratt is still hoping to fulfill his dream of wearing store bought underwear.

**MSgt Andy "Lassy" Lacasse** — Program Manager. Andy is an excellent candidate for a stroke, due to all of the scheduling stress we create for him. Best program manager in the boom field. Always willing to help. If you need to call him, you can't! He doesn't have a phone. Almost done with his Masters Degree. He thinks he's smart, but in reality, we know better.

**A FLIGHT CCTS**

**SSgt Troy Doane (TSgt select)** – Flight Super, but for how long. Came down as CFIC from upstairs pulled a couple of candidates, now he's back to CCTS pulling students and running things in A-flight. Always asking students to pull his finger.

**SSgt Mike "Bobby Boucher" Murray** – CCTS Line Instructor. He still hasn't received royalties from Adam Sandler "The Water Boy". Mike makes a lot of money for us with all of his hard work during the new class day "burger burns". Registered Cajun from Louisiana. If it sounds like he is speaking in tongue, He probably just got back from a visit with the folks. Don't worry, it'll wear off in a few days!

**SSgt Dave "Seagull" Coleman** – CCTS Line Instructor. Sits around and sqwaks all time, and we have to throw rocks at him to get him to fly. Dave has been here so long, there are IBO's PCSing in, that he put through initial qual. Graduated close to 100 or so students. Dave needs a life, a wife, and a new car. If you are interested give him a call. Ask Dave about his foot fungus. Go ahead, ask him, he'll show you.

## **B FLIGHT CCTS**

**SSgt (TSgt Select) Sean “Haircut” Hughes** – A recent arrival from Monkey town (55<sup>th</sup> ARS). Sean took over B-flight and is whipping it into shape. Took over the flight that nobody wanted and is doing good things. If Sean invests all of the money he saves by cutting his own hair, he will be buddies with Bill Gates pretty soon.

**TSgt Della “I married a gunner” Griffin** – CCTS Line Instructor came here from the KC-10, which by the way she lets us know every day. Her first student got an EQ, nice job Della (well he was a former boom operator who came back from civilian life). Picked up her first pipeline student and gets to see the real world now.

**SSGT Kevin “Lets critique at the club” Beccard** – CCTS Line Instructor Just wants to leave Altus and go on to a better life in Pittsburgh. If you need a smoke break he’s the man to go with, oh yeah don’t forget the beer. Our resident stealth boom, every unit has one.

**SSgt Kevin “Cowboy” Mathews** – CCTS Line Instructor. Another parent to be, he’s so wound up he doesn’t know if he’s coming or going. Trying to figure out how to get a job in Stan Eval. If this guy gets anymore stress, he’ll blow up! Actually, he is one of the finest instructors here.

## **C FLIGHT CFIC**

**TSgt Timmy “I’ll blow anything up” Clark** – CFIC C-Flight Super. Always in role, that’s his story and he is sticking to it. 100% resident redneck. Recently bought a cannon and some powder. Tim’s motto is “if I can’t blow it up I don’t want it”. As you can guess, he’s our resident entertainment for animals in the woods. What else would you expect from an Okie.

**SSgt Fran Nicholson (Tech select)** – CFIC Line Instructor. Came back to us from OSS. She has been a workhorse for CFIC. Fran is doing lots of training with no complaining. She was looking to get out and do the guard thing but was denied due to manning. Eventually we will have to let her go on to bigger and better things. If you are inbound to Altus, Fran will make you a heck of a deal on a house.

**TSgt Tom “I need time off” Hess** – Had a full time AGR slot, didn’t take it because he likes Altus. Tom’s been working on his 57 Chevy really hard lately. His car has a classic nickname “Booty Call”. It was last seen with him and Mark Batties patrolling the Wal-Mart parking lot. None of us really know why that little white pickup is always parked in his driveway.

## **D FLIGHT CFIC**

**TSst Charlie “Jeff Gordon” Weaver** – Flight Super. If you ever talk to him, you need to ask for his dictionary (Weaver to English). We all feel sorry for his candidates because we know they are being polite and agree with everything Charlie says just to be polite. If you ever need anything, the Weav can get it for you. Charlie drives each weekend at the local racetrack and we love to cheer him on.

**SSgt Tom Rice (Tech select)** – CFIC Line Instructor. Bachelor of the Year. Dedicated to servicing the handicapped. If you need a good story or how to shave your personal parts he’s the man to see. Hey Tom how did you get that scar on your a\*\*?

**SSgt Dicky “I’m always in Role” Hunt** – CFIC Line Instructor. Tobacco stains on both sides of Dicky’s mini van indicates Dicky is still married. His second child is on the way. Has Robins on his mind. If you need an opinion Dicky is more than happy to give you his. Especially if it is an opinion on the best position for sleeping in the boom pod.

## **E FLIGHT SCHEDULING**

**TSgt Scott “Bad hair” Hicking** – I’ll take all the good flights Hicking. Oh the joys of scheduling. Scott is a real miracle worker when he sits on the duty desk. When he isn’t at the club, Scott enjoys trying out the latest WWF moves on students.

**SSgt Doug “TTT” Templeton** – (OTS select) only if he quits smoking. Newest Boom who wants to become an officer. He always has a story to tell that is better than yours. Hence the nickname “TTT” (Tall Tale Templeton). Another guy with those seagull tendencies.

## **F FLIGHT TRAINING FLIGHT**

Training flight has been very busy the last year. We began Pacer Crag student training, along with an ORI which by the way the 54 ARS kicked butt. Started CFIC Pacer Crag training which can be a nightmare due to planes on the ramp. Our CFIC candidates are improving steadily, still showing weaknesses in some areas. If you want to know what read the CFIC crossflow. We are getting prepared for block 30 training that will be coming up in the next year. Exciting times down here at Altus.

**SSgt “Pacer” Craig Eyre (TSgt Sel)** – Flight Super. Never here always flying. If he makes it on time, this boy has a chronic oversleeping disorder. If you need electronic equipment, Craig is the man to see, he has more than the BX. Has orders to Birmingham. He’s Jacked. He will be missed.

**SSgt Rocky Rollins** – CCTS Training. It’s a miracle he got this job. If you know him, he can’t keep his mouth shut. He is also gonna be a daddy soon. Lord help the world a little Rocky running around. To top all of that he is also getting out of active duty and moving to Knoxville Tenn. GUARD UNIT that is!

**TSgt Dave “Smokey” Robinson** –Just graduated from OTS with high honors (incredible). He has not lost his lust for the trash talking boom operator that he will always be. What really is the shocker is he sold his land cruiser, I guess if you become an Officer, you can’t have any fun anymore. Like getting a ticket for off roading in a wildlife management area. Only Smokey would do it right in front of the game warden. Hey Smokey have you kicked a dog lately.

#### **CCTS/CFIC Stan/Eval**

Year in review: This has been a very dramatic and eventful year for Stan/Eval. We began Pacer CRAG Student evaluations in February, set the Air Force standard with the highest ratings possible in the April ASEV, swapped out every boom in the flight, and sent four of our squadron evaluators including the flight superintendent to OTS. We’ve been busy! Our door is always open, drop by and see us or give us a call at DSN: 866-7314.

#### **Current Flight Members:**

**TSgt James “Chicken Hawk” Hill: Flight Superintendent** - I was very busy earlier in the year preparing for Pacer CRAG training, but things have slowed down a little in the Fall. I took over Stan/Eval in July. Besides Big Joe Reed (2Lt Joe Reed now) trying to burn my arm off at the campout everything is going well. My nickname here is “EMU” because of my extended DNIF with a torn ACL in my knee. “EMU”....big bird that doesn’t fly....

**SSgt Steve “Stealth” Hines: CCTS/CFIC Evaluator** - Steve has been pulling double duty teaching candidates and doing evaluations so he has been busy. He came into the flight in the late fall and is adjusting well to life in Stan/Eval. I think he is adjusting well, if I ever see him at work I’ll ask to make sure. If you see him at your unit, please send him back to Altus.

**SSgt Andy “Mongo” Stutts: CCTS Evaluator** - “Mongo hungry!” Andy has matured into an excellent instructor and evaluator and he has gained much recognition for his efforts. Our Ground Safety guy with a fresh shotgun wound in his gut. Andy says that when he is getting gripped at he just stares straight ahead and goes to his “happy place.” With four kids I think we know where his happy place is.

#### **Past 1999 Flight Members:**

**TSgt Ken “Peeper” Crowe:** TSgt Crowe is now 2Lt Crowe and has just recently graduated OTS. He was the supervisor in Stan/Eval during the ASEV and up until July. I don’t think I’ve ever been to a meeting when he began to speak and someone didn’t yell out, “Hey Peeper, stand up.” You can still contact him at [kennethcrowe@hotmail.com](mailto:kennethcrowe@hotmail.com).

**SSgt Brett “Shannon” Clark:** Brett is still a SSgt as I am writing this but he will graduate early Feb. OTS. He earned many awards here including AETC Instructor of the Year and the Dutch Huyser Award. Most people wouldn’t have ever figured he could’ve made it past A1C with that mouth of his. Hell must be close to freezing over.

**SSgt Raul David Padilla:** Dave was the bread winner during the ASEV. All of his hard work paid off for the entire wing when he worked here in Stan/Eval. He has left our flight in Dec and has gone on to CFIC to teach with the big boys. The mellow Dave you may have known in the past turns into super-instructor around students. If you are coming down for CFIC ask for him as your instructor and you won’t have to come in until 9:30 every morning. Don’t forget to bring a handkerchief with you so he can clean his nose.

All in all it has been an outstanding year in the 54 ARS both CFIC and CCTS. We have come through an ORI with an OUTSTANDING, have put through countless students and candidates. All this was accomplished without a major incident, except for that shotgun mishap at Andy Stutts’ house. This goes to show the outstanding professionalism of each individual instructor here at Altus. We wish all the former boom operators who have gone on to become officers the best, even you Peeper, who became, who he most hated. We at the 54 ARS wish all the best to every boom operator out there. Above all else, FLY THE AIRCRAFT! Remember us down here in the South and if your thinking about becoming a CCTS Instructor there is always room for you down here.

## **Altus AFB, OK**

### **55 ARS**

**(AKA Monkey Town)**

Greetings from Monkey Town, also known as Altus by the sea. We've been looking for the sea only to figure out that Altus by the sea means, "You're not in hell, but you can see it from here". All kidding aside, this is a great place to sharpen your instructor skills and get to know your family again. We teach boom operator initial qualification training for active-duty, reserve, ANG, and international air force students. About half of our squadron is Pacer Crag, and the other half "Classic" or what we call round dial. Since the last boom signal, we've (Altus) had 9 boom operators selected for OTS; it seems we've become the OTS pipeline for boom operators. So, if you're looking for a stable lifestyle, enjoy instructing and want to finish your education; Altus is the place to be. Not to mention, we have the only Super Wal-Mart within a 70-mile radius. Now for the lineup: (Remember Nothings too cruel if its funny and it doesn't always have to be true!)

**SMSgt Allen (This Ain't Right) Miller-** Ex- KC10 guy; he's determined to single handedly fix everything that's wrong with the KC-135 world. In-coming Squadron Operations Superintendent. When not doing that he can be found frantically trying to get his new dirt bike out of the Oklahoma quicksand.

**MSgt Dean (Bones) Oulela-** Out-going Squadron Operations Superintendent (looking for a job). I swear, when the boy turns side ways, he disappears. Now newly married with another kid on the way, he's been looking at "Flex" magazine looking for workouts to put some meat on those bones.

**MSgt(S) Bruce (The Admiral) Zahn-** Program Manager. Leader of the Altus flotilla, can be found at Lake Altus every Saturday and Sunday usually at flank speed trying to ski behind his boat. When he's not out boating, he's been known to shut his door and bang his head on the walls over students and their instructors.

**TSgt Gordo (King Louie) Ringler-** The head monkey, can be found hanging around Stan/Eval complaining about the ERGO test, and wishing/praying that SAC would come back and stop the insanity.

**SSgt Joe (The Big Toe) Barry-** Without him, we're just four toes looking for our stability in life. When not at the gym, can be found at the flight doc going DNIF for lifting related injuries. "Ouch, my aching back!"

**SSgt Allen (Cliff Claven) Smith-** "Yeah Joe, back when I used to lift".... When not doing MBWA (management by walking around), and when he is not DNIF, he periodically Q-3's a student.

**TSgt Phill (Pinto) Frank-** When not complaining about his students being like a pinto, he can be found nominating guys in his flight for awards, unlike certain unnamed flight superintendents.

**SSgt Ben (The Stuntman) Davis-** We're still waiting to see if he'll get a ticket for keeping his boat in his driveway all year round. When not wake boarding, can be found trying to jump large caverns with his four wheeler.

**SrA Dorian (ACE) Williams-** Ace as in hardware, the boy has collected numerous awards and starting to make the "Dawg" nervous; Altus AFB 1999 Airman of the Year. Is being temporarily assigned to the First Term Airman Center. He is also been added to our list of hanger queens, something about a basketball and ankle.

**SSgt Shawn (Armstrong) Hughes-** Hardly ever seen at the squadron but can be found at local mountain bike races. Puts more miles on that bike than most people put on their cars in a year.

**SSgt Daniel (Farmer) Purdy-** Boy, you sure got a "purdy" mouth. Just kidding. From Nebraska, been talking to the boys about buying some cattle and leasing them back to his brother.

**TSgt Timothy (flagman) King-** When not racing around town in his trusty Ford Falcon, he can be found at the local racetrack waving the flags.

**SSgt Mark (Big Papa) Anderson-** In-between having six boys, he managed to get a college degree and get selected for OTS, will graduate in April (physical conditioning permitting). Congratulations lieutenant.

**SSgt Eric (pizza man) Ball-** When not critiquing other instructors on the proper procedure for erasing chalk boards, he can be found at the local Pizza Hut delivering pizzas.

**SSgt Steve (I hate the Air Force) Mason-** When not bitching about the Air Force, he is rarely seen at all, period.

**TSgt Timothy (gas gage) Ballentine-** Hey Tim, are you ever going to get that gas gage on your truck fixed? When not being picked up when his truck runs out of gas, can be found at his desk writing EPR's.

**SSgt Jeff (Bandwagon Spur Fan) Cathey-** Spurs fan from the very beginning...of the 1999 NBA season. Good thing they only had to play half a season to win the championship.

**SSgt J.D. (Wonderboy) Harston-** After finding out he had to go through initial qualification, and CFIC, and FTC prior to pushing a student, he had been heard muttering, "I think I'll go back to the TALCE".

**SSgt Scotty (I'm there for you) Walker-** If you need him to do something for you, make sure its important to him also or it won't get done. Congratulations for being selected for OTS!

**TSgt David (Super) Monk-** This ex-gunner and ex-Gucci boy, is still trying to figure out the KC-135. Can be found at the NCO Club on Friday nights when his wife lets him. Which is never.

**SSgt Derrick (Peanut Butter) Grant-** This guy always has peanut butter in his mouth or so it seems. Now can be found in scheduling, proud papa of a new baby girl.

**SSgt Marvin (Roggy) Kennedy-** If his nickname doesn't say it all.... He's been seen spray painting his truck in his base-housing driveway. Enough said.

**SSgt Chris (I'm not sure where you're coming from) Ochoa-** New guy... Has been seen making his FTC instructor give his required briefings by using his patented,"I'm not sure where you are coming from" line.

**SSgt Mark (Throw it all away) Villacis-** When not burning every single bridge he has in the Air Force, he can be heard chanting the De' La Soul song- "Me myself and I". Going to the Reserves and UPT. We will see you in a couple of years.

**SSgt Paul (Elvis) Wallace-** And we're not talking about the young Elvis. Has been asked by NASA to join its elite corps of nomex test pilots. Damn it Paul, get a bigger flight suit. We have money to burn.

**SSgt Thomas (Dawg) Roetzler-** Instructor of the millenium. When not at work digging through the dash one for new 847 inputs, can be found at home writing up new tests for students.

**TSgt Mark (smooth) Batties-** His first few weeks in scheduling were anything but smooth, but he's coming along nicely now (NOT!). The only guy I know that can have fun at a scheduling meeting.

**SSgt Russ (I thought I was in the Marines) Gardner-** When not out beating his dog, can be heard over the P.A. system screaming, "I want to be an airborne ranger, I want to live the life of danger..." in his best MTI voice

**SSgt Chris (slumlord) Whatley-** When not running his rental property business, he can now be found by calling American Express Financial services and asking for Mr. Whatley.

In closing...We hope you enjoyed this humorous signal input and remember nothing's too cruel if it's funny. Oh and one last thing, if anyone knows the whereabouts of "Rosco" our pet gerbil or has information on if he is alive or dead please let us know. "Rosco" we miss you! sniff sniff.

## Altus AFB, OK

### Det 2

Howwwwdy,

We here at the DET are the only AMC breed on an AETC base. Our responsibility is assure that FlightSafety accomplishes Contract Requirements. We visit all Guard, Reserve, and Active duty bases to evaluate Contract Compliance by FlightSafety in regards to CBT's and OFT profiles. Our office is manned by one pilot, one navigator, three active duty booms, and one civilian (retired boom). Here is a list of names of who is here;

**Rocky Racoma** GS-11 Office Manager/QA

Who ever thought a Hawaiian would end up in Altus AFB, OK. What people do to make money.

**Jerry Burns** TSgt QA Manger

It looks like you can call Jerry the "Iceman". He seems to be leading everyone here that He might be getting out in Nov 2000, to buy into an ice business with his Dad. Well if he does, it seems he will have a coooooool job.

**Tony Nicholson** TSgt QA Manger

T. Nick is just waiting his time out. He seems to want to go to Scott AFB to serve a tour, or something, and Fran also agrees with that. So if any of you booms at AMC HQ need a replacement, here he is come and get him.

**Elmo Diaz** MSgt (RET)

He left us this year to move on to bigger and a colder place. He is working in Edina MN as an IT Consultant representative, so all you computer geeks give him a call to get the low down. He left the sunny south for the snowy north, what's up with that? Good luck in the new world.

If any booms out there need a helping hand with any kind of training issues, please get hold of us here at DET 2. If you are ever in the area, come on up to the office, and have a cup of coffee or snacks. We are located in building 87, room 311 (thrid floor) and the best view on base. If you need to get in touch of any on us, here is our e-mails and phone numbers:

Rocky Racoma	<a href="mailto:Robert.Racoma@altus.af.mil">Robert.Racoma@altus.af.mil</a>	DSN 866-7181
Jerry Burns	<a href="mailto:Jerry.Burns@altus.af.mil">Jerry.Burns@altus.af.mil</a>	DSN 866-7984
T. Nick	<a href="mailto:Anthony.Nicholson@altus.af.mil">Anthony.Nicholson@altus.af.mil</a>	DSN 866-7991

And if any one to get hold of Elmo here is his info:

Elmo Diaz [ElmoDiaz@hotmail.com](mailto:ElmoDiaz@hotmail.com)  
5151 Edina Industrial Boulevard  
Suite 120  
Edina, MN 55439  
(612) 832-9922 / FAX (612) 832-9944

Aloha  
Rocky



## **Altus AFB, OK**

### **FlightSafety Services Corporation**

Greetings and Salutations from the FlightSafety Services Civilian Boom Association here at Altus AFB.  
New Happenings: BOPTT upgrade and BBOC

One of our two BOPTT (Boom Operator Part Task Trainer) devices has been undergoing refurbishment since August 1999. The original time frame for completion was the end of September 1999 with the second device to be completed by November 1999. Due to lack of schematics and the original wiring not being standardized the completion date has been delayed. We are currently handling the student load with only one device. This has prompted the implementation of quite a few 18 hour days. Hopefully we will get both devices operational before much longer and get back to a "Normal" training cycle. The current thinking is to operate the upgraded device for at least 30 days prior to dismantling the other device to insure full operational capability.

All personnel entering the boom operator career field are required to attend and complete the Basic Boom Operator Course (BBOC). BBOC is a non-aircraft specific course comprised of requirements and tasks applicable to both KC-135 and KC-10 aircraft. Completion of the BBOC will result in award of an Air Force Specialty Code and a 3-skill level. The individual will then accomplish weapons system specific training in either the KC-135 or the KC-10.

The BBOC is a 14-day course intended to prepare graduates of the Air Force Enlisted Aircrew Undergraduate Course (EAUC) for entry into the Inflight Refueling Operator (1AX0) career field. EAUC is primarily used as a flight aptitude screening program. After graduation from EAUC students normally attend at least one other course of instruction, such as basic survival training, prior to beginning training at the Combat Crew Training School (CCTS). EAUC is the primary source of students for the BBOC.

The BBOC course is divided into four (4) phases of instruction for ease of learning, measurement and remediation. The students are administered a graded Computer Based Examination System (CBES) evaluation at the completion of each phase. The students will be required to complete each phase test with a minimum passing score of 85%. The phase test will be critiqued and corrected to 100% prior to the student entering the next phase of instruction. A comprehensive End-of-Course examination is administered and requires a minimum passing score of 85%.

Successful completion of the BBOC results in the award of an Air Force Specialty Code (1AX0) and a 3 - skill level. A formal "Wings" presentation ceremony is conducted at the end of BBOC training. Family members and friends are encouraged to attend this prestigious ceremony. The ceremony awards the individual with their "Wings" and initiates the new inductees into the boom operator career field.

The 3-level boom operator student will then advance to the aircraft specific initial qualification course. Students going through KC-10 Basic Boom Qualification (BBQ) training will depart for Travis AFB California or McGuire AFB New Jersey. KC-135 students attend the Boom Initial Qualification (BIQ) course at Altus AFB Oklahoma.

After academics, which is 35 training days in length, the student advances to the flying phase of training. Upon completion of flying training the individual must successfully pass an initial qualification check. The newly qualified boom operator is then assigned to one of several worldwide locations where they will be an integral member of an operational flying unit.

Harvey Price  
Chief Instructor Boom Operator  
FlightSafety Services Corporation

## THE GANG

We can be reached at the following commercial number (580) 477-3888, ext # (see below)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>EXT</u>	<u>LAST ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>WORK E-MAIL</u>	<u>HOME E-MAIL</u>
<b>Bill Baker</b>	154	(MSgt AFRC)/18ARS(McConnell)	<a href="mailto:bill.baker@kc-135ats.net">bill.baker@kc-135ats.net</a>	<a href="mailto:billyboom135@juno.com">billyboom135@juno.com</a>
<b>Eddie Cole</b>	153	(Ret. TSgt) / 55 ARS (Altus)	<a href="mailto:eddie.cole@kc-135ats.net">eddie.cole@kc-135ats.net</a>	<a href="mailto:ejcole@intellisys.net">ejcole@intellisys.net</a>
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<b>George Dion</b>	150	(Ret. MSgt) / 93BMW (Castle)	<a href="mailto:george.dion@kc-135ats.net">george.dion@kc-135ats.net</a>	<a href="mailto:dee@intplsrv.net">dee@intplsrv.net</a>
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<b>Roger Gossett</b>	151	(Ret. MSgt) / Boeing Test Boom	<a href="mailto:roger.gossett@kc-135ats.net">roger.gossett@kc-135ats.net</a>	<a href="mailto:rdgclg@intplsrv.net">rdgclg@intplsrv.net</a>
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<b>Gene Thomason</b>	152	(Ret. MSgt) / 9ARS (March)	<a href="mailto:gene.thomason@kc-135ats.net">gene.thomason@kc-135ats.net</a>	
<b>Lew Timbrook</b>	151	(Ret. SMSgt) / 22ARS (MT. Home)	<a href="mailto:lew.timbrook@kc-135ats.net">lew.timbrook@kc-135ats.net</a>	
<b>Steve Tuttle</b>	158	(Ret. MSgt) / 97 OSS (Altus)	<a href="mailto:steve.tuttle@kc-135ats.net">steve.tuttle@kc-135ats.net</a>	<a href="mailto:tut@intplsrv.net">tut@intplsrv.net</a>
<b>Greg Wheeler</b>	150	(Ret. MSgt) / 93BMW (Castle)	<a href="mailto:greg.wheeler@kc-135ats.net">greg.wheeler@kc-135ats.net</a>	<a href="mailto:g&amp;mwheeler@intplsrv.net">g&amp;mwheeler@intplsrv.net</a>

### Other FSSC Booms:

**Herb Driskill** (Ret. CMSgt) / 463STS (Carswell) / [driskill@intellisys.net](mailto:driskill@intellisys.net) (Altus)

Manager, Engineering Support, C-5 ATS

Courseware Development

**Steven Vaughn** (Ret. Msgt) / 70ARS (Grissom) / [stevyrayv@aol.com](mailto:stevyrayv@aol.com) (Denver)

**Arlington, VA**  
**NGB/DOOM**

Hello from the National Guard Bureau. The picture above kinda looks like our office in Crystal City(Arlington , VA). We are located on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor at JP1 and are in a little bit of a transitional period. We are in the process of changing from DOOM to DOTE. We are trying to get a better handle on all the training issues and still work the issues that come up in current operations. Our staff is as follows:

CMS Al Williams - Enlisted Aircrew Manager  
SMS Mike Ferrell – C130 Functional Manager  
SMS Dave Power – Pararescue Functional Manager  
SMS Dave Bowen – KC135 Functional Manager  
TSG Demetrius Jones – C130 Training

There is a possibility we will add positions when we formally change to DOTE. Hope everyone has a great year.

DAVID M. BOWEN, USAF  
SMSgt.  
ANG/DOOM

## **Bangor ANGB, ME**

### **132 ARS**

Greetings from all the MAINEiacs.

We'd like to say farewell to two former booms from Bangor who have passed on this year.

### **FINAL BOOM STOWED**

CMSgt Aubrey Margan

MSgt Tom Pound

If you stop by Bangor, make sure you drop by the boom office and say hi. We'll point you in the right direction for food, beer or Lobster! Have a great year and FLY SAFE.

TSgt Ed "SPED" Seymour

### **MAINEiac Boom Operators**

CMSgt Myron E. Reynolds ("Sonny")	Program Manager
CMSgt Ed St Heart (Street Heart)	Traditional
SMSgt Chuck Halsted ("Holster")	NCOIC
SMSgt Robert Phair ("Slick")	Stan/Eval
SMSgt Bruce Geroux ("Bruce")	Training Flt
MSgt Jay Ellingsen ("Tattoo, Smeggy")	Cargo Trainer
MSgt Carla Cyr ("C2")	Traditional
MSgt Scott Hesseltine ("Hydro")	Traditional
TSgt Jim Simmons ("Swimmy")	Traditional
TSgt Ed Seymour ("Sped")	Scheduling
TSgt Fergus Kenny ("Fergy")	Tactics
TSgt Cheryl Martin ("Skid")	Pubs & Regs
TSgt Jerry Martin ("Lord Helmet")	Scheduling
TSgt Ray Rauscher ("Seven")	Traditional
TSgt Chris Boucher ("TP")	Traditional
TSgt Laurie Karnes ("Nurse Ratchet")	Traditional
TSgt Bob Rice ("Clem")	Traditional
TSgt John Haney ("Vindelu")	NETTF
TSgt Jim Dickson ("D'Vin")	Traditional
TSgt Dan Benner ("Devo")	Traditional
SSgt Jason Dupuy ("Zippy")	Traditional
SSgt Dennis Bradley ("Baloney Skin, Disney")	Traditional

### **Retirees**

CMSgt Joe Philippon ("Good-Time Charlie")  
CMSgt Jm Winchester ("Winch, Cupcake")  
CMSgt Glenn Prewitt ("Spyder, Old Chief")  
CMSgt Stanton Hunter ("C-Don")  
SMSgt Jim Wood ("Skybyrd")  
MSgt Joe Gifford ("Joe-Fred")

MSgt Peter Lerette (“Pete”)  
MSgt Tom Jones (“Beacon, Jonesy”)  
MSgt Art Stevens (“Art”)  
MSgt Mike Purcell (“Mike”)  
TSgt Kympton Lovely (“Kympton”)

### **Former Booms Doing Us Proud**

Captain Tim Marquis (“Professor”)	132 <sup>nd</sup> ARS Nav
Captain Rick Thompson (“Kid”)	132 <sup>nd</sup> ARS Pilot
1Lt Mike Stevens (“Little Shaver”)	Seymour-Johnson Pilot
SSgt Andy Shuman (“Shu”)	Command Post

### **Moved On**

SSgt Wayne Vincent (“Banjo, Whiskey Victor, Wayno”)  
SSgt Sue Flagg-Slick (“Sue Slick”)

### **MAINE AIR NATIONAL GUARD**

132<sup>nd</sup> Air Refueling  
Squadron  
Bangor, Maine 04401  
DSN 698-7341/7041  
Comm. (207) 990-  
7341/7041

## **Beale AFB, CA**

### **314 ARS**

Greetings from the 940<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing Beale AFB, California. Formerly Mather AFB and McClellan AFB. We have finally found a home where the buffalo roam! This has been a very busy year for us with deployments to Egypt, Italy, Turkey and a Presidential activation to fight the war from the South of France. The following is a list of our current flyers, followed by a list of past members who have retired, transferred or just departed the fix!

MSgt Spike (shooter) Bell. Spike is the training flight boom and cargo guru. Spent most of the last war on the beaches of France reliving childhood memories, smoking cigars and harvesting grapes. Spends his weekends on his sailboat in the bay trying to figure out how to retire at fifty and hang out with Jimmy Buffett in the Caribbean!

MSgt Warren Daly. Our resident contractor who always has a “job in the works” and manages to put the hammer and saw down once in a while to be a boom operator! Lives in Grass Valley and has recently “married with children”

MSgt Maggie Evans. Sister Margaret Mary (Hot babe for 50) keeps all of us on the straight and narrow. She is the guru of the mobility shop and is determined to quit smoking when cigarettes reach \$7 a pack! Her son in law Chris Sprague is a boom operator on active duty at Fairchild.

TSgt John Fill. Came to us from Selfridge a year ago, married his longtime sweetheart, bought a dog, a new truck.... and is now in the process of buying a new house. Begged for more mandays... so hired him as an Art! He is the body scheduler and is making “friends” quickly! His story goes...”excuse me excuse me from the bottom of my heart, I couldn’t find a job, so they made me an Art”

TSgt Eve (I live in Nevada) Lovelace. Re injured her knee in France and has been on the “Injured reserve list” for the past five months. If it were not for bad luck, she would have no luck at all! May be back on status as soon as all the paperwork is signed sealed and delivered!

MSgt Mike (The Law) Mecum. Our resident Deputy Sheriff. Hooked up with an attorney (a female). Moved into the big house. Now has someone to keep him out of trouble! Bought a motorcycle and can now be found riding around with the Chief, which is an error in judgement in itself!

SSgt Steve Moulton. Steve has worked for Ratheon at McClellan for a couple years and will be a full time reservist when they close the base in the near future. We have loaded him up on a multitude of herbs and vitamins, trying to get him over the cold, which has been with him since 1998.

TSgt Larry (box boy) Naso. Has been driving a truck for UPS now for several years and has not yet wrecked a single truck. He wishes he could say the same about his racecar. OK, maybe a few dents in the UPS truck ...but still finishes the route intact.

TSgt Johnny (mild mannered) Pullen. Going to school full time in Chico and still manages to fly a couple times a week. Got married this year and just bought a new Mercedes which only broke down three times on the trip up from Los Angeles!

SMSgt Dan Quasius. Our senior reservist who followed in the footsteps of the Chief, surfing the Internet for “love in all the wrong places”! Dan is a Physical Therapist, who is always more than happy to poke and prod making you feel worse than when he started.... “Trust me” he says!

TSgt Todd Ruth. “Baby Ruth” is not a baby anymore! He works in mission development and does his best to get us “good deals” on the road! Still looking at the possibility of a pilot slot in the future. Came “back home” from the KC-10 community and has been a real asset to the unit. Super ART.

MSgt Frans Stenken. The Flying Dutchman is the senior fossil of the boom shop. He is older than.. yes.. the Chief! Frans is trying to pay off the national debt and flies every chance he gets and travels to all points of the globe at moments notice. Bought a new boat this year and may get rid of one of his five cars in the spring! Frans is an ART and works in Plans.

SMSgt Bob (Mr. Cleaver) Renn. Stan Eval forever! Bob coaches football, basketball, soccer, ice hockey, badminton, bowling and cricket! He flies 3 AFTPs a year and has never missed a UTA... Makeup! Bob is the guiding light in the Stan Eval shop and continues to bless us all with our no- notice flight checks. He is a "family man" in the true sense of the word!

Amn Jared Wahleithner. Last of the eleven children! Jared (Pigpen) is now in boom school at Altus and has promised to keep his room clean before he returns to Beale!

CMSgt Jim (Welvis) Welborn. Da Chief is still alive and single again! He sold his boat and most of his stock to pay the court system. SHE got the gold mine HE got the shaft! Jim manages to joke about it all and continues to ride herd on his band of "Beale Bandits"

Past Boom Operators:

MSgt Brian O'Rourke. BJ finally had enough "crap" in his life and decided a nice quiet command post job was just what the doctor ordered! He hates it! Don't be surprised if you see BJ wearing a flight suit again some day! He remains an ART with the wing.

MSgt Dave Myrick. Milked his retirement until November due to the stop loss policy of Operation Just Cause! Finally ate his last donut and read his last newspaper at the November UTA. We will all miss Dave. He was a true professional who will be missed. He was promoted to a high level UPS position. Best of luck Dave!

TSgt Mike Harston. Mike moved on to Seymore Johnson a couple of years ago, and from what I understand, is doing an outstanding job for Jerry Snyder and his boys!

MSgt Mike Kibler. Mike was hired by 4<sup>th</sup> AF last year and moved back to March AFB with his family. He says as soon as he finds out what his job is...He's going to make some changes! In all seriousness, Mike has always done an outstanding job wherever he has been. We hated to see him go. But he is now a SMSgt making his mark in the community!

2Lt Wahleithner John S. (formally TSgt) John is at Altus (pilot training) with his younger brother Jared. John was a great boom for us and should continue to do an outstanding job for the 940 when he returns as a pilot. Makes the Chief salute every chance he gets.

TSgt Derrick Jackson. Probably one of the best overall "Good guys" in the career field! Has always been a team player and was hired as an ART when the unit was at McClellan. Came from the Intel community and moved to March AFB with his family and has blended in well with the Guard unit. We still hear from him occasionally and wish him the very best!

# **Birmingham ANGB, AL**

## **106 ARS**

### **BAMA BOOMS**

Greetings Ya'll! Like most it has been a slow year for flying in Birmingham. But the fun never stops in the Heart of Dixie. We are 100% Pacer Crag qualified and are enjoying our Block 30 airplanes. If you haven't heard we are looking forward to another war sometime soon, loved the war(vacation) we had in Kosovo! Lots of new faces appearing in Birmingham, seems everyone who KNOWS wants to be a BAMA BOOM!! Well we do the same thing you do here we just make it more fun so, let me introduce the 2000 BAMA BOOMS to you now:

**SMS Don Doyle (TG):** Don is our new Chief Boom and is still looking around the squadron for his other stripe, if anyone locates it please return it to Birmingham.

**SMS Dickie Drake (TECH):** Dickie's still around. Not sure how to get rid of him. He was a TSG when I was born in 1973.

**SMS Paul "Butch" Turner (TECH):** We can't believe Butch actually passed the test to become a SMS, I think we gave it to him because his wife sold his Harley while he was TDY!

**MSG Rick Dillard (AGR):** Now that we finally got Rick a divorce he expects us to find him a date, FAT CHANCE, no one will go out with a Deputy Sheriff.

**MSG Caroline Bearden (TECH):** Don't let the nice girl mask throw you off, she's the one to go TDY with, knows how to party.

**MSG Hershel Young (AGR):** Hershel made SMS but the stripe is lost with Don's, he loves scheduling, don't you Biscuit?

**MSG Len Naugher (TECH):** Wow no one would have thunk loveless Len would get married or ever tell a woman he loves her. He is still the best Pilot in the unit.

**MSG Phil Lee (AGR):** Almost out of the Active Duty mentality. Phil's giving up his Black belt for a Private pilot license.

**MSG Paul "FB" Hudson (TECH):** Our local plans Boom. Can't find Altus, so he still refuses to go to Instructor school.

**TSG Scott Naden (TG):** Just hope you get "BOX" on your next Space "A" ride, popcorn is only \$.50.

**MSG A.J. Sharit (TG):** Ask A.J. how the wife and kids are, we thought for 5 years that he was married.

**TSG Steve Hay (TG):** Our in house lawyer finds time to slum with his guard buddies when the Law allows.

**TSG Jerry Davis (TG):** Shortly after making his own nickname "SSGT for life Davis" he suddenly got himself promoted.

**TSG Shane Rogers (TECH):** If you ask around all will say, "His excuse for everything is he is just planning for his pilot slot"! I just came back from Altus as our newest Instructor.

**SSG Mark Bryant (TG):** Mark is still running a daycare which consist of many children which are all his own. Mark, how long does the Census Bureau job last anyway?

**SSG Todd Murray (TG):** When Todd is not busy building cabinets he loves to check out mudholes at a close view after asking his buddy to hold his 12 oz.

**SSG Steven Pickett (TG):** He knows it all, just ask him. He is a great Boom as long as we still get free Pepsi's to raise money for the Boom Fund.

Upcoming Booms: (WATCH OUT ALTUS): TSG Scott Newton, SRA Phillip Carroll, SRA Daniel Graham, SRA Dominic Angeles, A1C Jared Ling.....Well that's it from us. Come on down and visit.

TSG Shane Rogers



**Birmingham, AL**  
DCMC-APMO Pemco  
FLIGHT TEST BOOM OPERATORS

Greetings from LA (Lower Alabama)! For those of you who don't know what we do, we are the Boom Operators who perform Functional/Acceptance Check Flights on all models of KC-135s that receive depot level maintenance at Pemco Aeroplex. We don't get many flight hours but the ones we do get can be full of fun and eye-opening surprises! Our TDYs are hardships to places like San Antonio, Hawaii, Sacramento for the rare drop off of a completed jet and Long Beach, CA for training. Unfortunately, we don't get to do air refueling anymore but with a little help from our brothers (and sisters) across the ramp at the 117<sup>th</sup> ARW, that will soon change. If you are ever in town on a drop off, be sure to come see us upstairs. We have the big office with a view! Give us a call anytime DSN 697-4155 or 4156.

**MSgt Michael D. Davis** ("Mikey") - - After "hiding out" here for the past 4+ years, Mike will be PCSing in June. He and his family will be greatly missed but a definite asset to Mildenhall.

**TSgt Tony Rhoden** ("Where's Tony?") - - Finally retired. He is living in the local area trying different jobs to see what suits him. He set the record for most injuries while being a plumber: fell off a ladder, got "bit by a snake", the list goes on...

**SSgt Pete R. Rodriguez** ("Hollywood,Gadget") - - Pete and his family came from the 350<sup>th</sup> in May and is adapting well to the environment. A bit of a change from the pace he was doing at McConnell but very happy now!

**Inbound**

**TSgt (Select) Craig Eyre** - - We don't know anything about Craig but everything we hear is great so far. Looking forward to having him join Team Pemco in May.

**Davis Monthan AFB, AZ**  
12AF

Hello from sunny Tucson, Arizona, we had a dry and very hot summer this year. The family and I are doing well. Twelfth Air Force is manned with different MDS throughout its command. One C-130 Flight Engineer and myself are the only two enlisted flyers in the Headquarters. Overall, we get along well with the single seat pilots.

The pace here at 12 AF has pickup. Along with performing Number Air Force Stan/Eval duties we are visiting many of the South American Air Forces. The visits entail cross talk on how the does the US Forces schedule continuation training and perform stan/eval duties. The trips are very informative and appreciated by the host countries.

I would like to say goodbye to John Buckland. John you did a fantastic job for the guys and girls in ACC. You will be sorely missed. In addition, to the Booms at Mt Home and Offutt, thank you for your support this past year. To any booms, if you find yourself in the area and I can be of assistant please feel free to call me at 228-5346. Jim sorry that I am late with this letter.

Troy L. Sinclair, SMSgt, USAF  
12<sup>th</sup> Air Force Standardization/Evaluation

**Dyess AFB, TX**  
**317 ALCS**

***“TALCE RANGERS”***

Hello and Greetings from the “Lone Star TALCE”. Yes there is an ALCE here at Dyess!!! And Yes! We do have Boom Operators!!! Contrary to popular belief! Although we are a small unit, we do get our share of TDY, believe me we do!!! Our job is to provide the command and control function and the communications required to support AMC’s Worldwide refueling and airlift operations. We as Boom operators provide the KC-135 and KC-10 expertise, to our unit Even though we are separated from our attached flying units, we are able to stay qualified in our respective aircraft, by going TDY to our flying units to fly. This Job is very interesting, as there is no telling what to expect on your next mission. If you are interested in the “TALCE “ job, give us a call. We are always glad to talk to Booms Interested in becoming “TALCE Rangers”!!!! The following is a list of the past and present 317 ALCS Boom Operators. Hope to see yall on the road soon!!!

**MSgt Ruben Mendoza – KC-10 Boom Operator** - *Ruben is our resident KC-10 Boom since O’l Don Hess retired. He came to us from the Travis AMOS. He spends all his free time here in garrison at the Gym. I think he is training for the Mr. Atlas competition or something? Ruben is also our current Affiliation Manager and is in the process of making our program the “Best that it can be”*

**SSgt Jimmy “Jaws” Bautista – KC-135 Boom Operator** – *That’s me! Happy to be here, being a fellow Texan and all. Second time here for me. I was a member of the 917<sup>th</sup> AREFS when it was here. Moved to McConnell when they kicked us out of here, then returned to the “Motherland” of Texas when this job came open. Just moved into the “Operations” section of our squadron. What this means? I don’t know, I think they want me to mission plan every mission that comes down the pike!! Time to go TDY again huh?*

**MSgt Vern Harvey – KC-135 Boom Operator – RETIRED** – *Vern went “Terminal” this past November. Terminal “Leave” that is. He came to us from Fairchild, was here at the 917<sup>th</sup> too, but got caught up in the Fairchild wave of assignments when we left here the last time. He kept his house and land here, cause he planned to come back and raise cattle. He is now a “Happy Rancher” living in Clyde Texas. Pay him a visit when you are near, I’m sure he has some good steak!!!*

**MSgt Don “Dancing Bear” Hess- KC-10 Boom Operator – RETIRED** – *Dandy Don finally retired in June of 98. Finally got tired of the Talce biz, now he is living the high life and going to school. The squadron sure is quite now?*

## **Edwards AFB, CA**

### **452 FLTS**

Our new addition to the booms out here at Edwards. Just in from March AFB, SMSGT Kibler is getting use to running with the coyotes and tumble weeds. SMSGT Kibler is the first of two AGR booms to be hired out here in support of flight test operations. After a quick difference training in the old NKC-135E, he is ready to head off to Travis to get his KC-10 requal.

#### **TSGT Dave Francey**

Finally made TSGT. All is well in the world of flight test. Hurry up and wait for the F-22. Always forging forward for the booms and trying to beat off the additional duties. Currently working on a Masters project for ERAU concerning lead-in lines and boom operators (surveys to follow). All is well with the family unit.

#### **TSGT Todd Cole**

Still at the Wing working as the base CRM King. Todd finished up his Bachelors degree with ERAU and now is looking at making Master first time out of the shoot. Todd tells us that he likes it here but the dessert has a strange effect on him, his hair is thinning and his gut is fattening (we think it is the aging process).

#### **SSGT Pat Denson**

Pat is off the KC-10 school. It took some time but he too will have the coveted dual qual rating. Pat is enjoying life here at Edwards, well kinda. It is a difficult place to be single as there are not too many ladies behind our tumble weeds. Pat took up residence on base in the trailer park, and is now known as the Park Ranger.

#### **News of things going on out here:**

The F-22 is keeping us very busy. Not so much flying but doing a lot of preflights. The Business Effort tankers have really helped support the F-22 flight test program. Thanks

The JSF will start flight test in the near term future.

The test team for the CV-22 just joined our squadron. The CV-22 should be arriving here in September. They will be looking at the possibility of refueling with the centerline drogue on the KC-10.

Again thanks to all the BE tanker crews. The booms have been performing well and the receivers out here really appreciate the gas.

## Eielson ANGB, AK

### 168 ARW

Greetings from the Frozen Tundra,

Here's the latest on a great bunch of folks. With our runway closure and Pacer CRAG conversion we managed to find time to poke a little fun; those of you who know these people will understand where we are coming from. But seriously, we missed having everybody up for Cope Thunder and other assorted events and hope to see you next year. Maybe you can help us christen our new bar and lounge area. Until then, fly safe and we'll see you in the pattern!

**SSG Sean Cain-** New addition from maintenance. Approaching 50 hours, still feels he's ready for instructor school, "Paperwork, where does it say I have to do paperwork?"

**SSG Robert Carr-** Rob who? A true part timer. Who?

**SSG Tanna Carter-** Do you have to be current to pull alert? Oh well, lets promote her. Co conspirator of Jumpseat gate 99'. Chena....Gassr....Artic oh f^&\* breakaway!

**MSG Todd "Scrogglett" Cook-** Spellchek?...what's a spellchek. Todd has no official duty. Be careful how you stop, Chief. Where's woody?

**SSG Christy "Supertroop" Curry-** Airman of the day, week and century. Makes us all look good. If it ain't in the checklist it ain't s'posed to happen.

**MSG Steve "I'm a genius you know" Forge-** Quick, quick, check his pulse. Currently can be found in Stan Eval or in Seattle looking to replace his 1995 Toyota Camry XLE V6, leather seats .....i.e. just like his last one (That is now a permanent attachment to a Chevy pickup).

**SSG Curt "the Enforcer" Gipson-** Green card, pink card pick one! Where the #%\$^ are all the full timers? I'm going hunting.

**SrA Dawn "General" Hansen-** New addition to the boom force with line number for chief. "I'll be there"... "I'll be there"... "I'll be there"... "I'll be there"... "OK so I won't be there."

**TSG Keith "Recon" Henrys-** New full timer, soon to be instructor... Maybe, if we can get him away from building his house. Has single-handedly automated the entire scheduling system, now if he could just read our availability schedules.....

**MSG Karen "Homeless" Holmes-** Depth perception is not a requirement for being a boom. What do you mean I need both eyes? Hopefully she will be back up flying soon!

**Pat Kerber-** Dad, dad is that you? Flies enough to stay current, most of the time. Works for the FAA.

**SSG Elisabeth "Jumpseat" King-** G#\* D\*&% active duty boom from Grand Forks. Part time one day, full time next day. Off to pilot training once MPF finds the package and realizes that females don't need prostate exams.

**SSG Ryan "Legend in his own mind" King-** Yes dear, Alaska will be great, ok dear you're right. Active duty wonder boy. Chicks dig em, guys want to be like him. Yeah right!

**TSG Lyle "Grampa" Kirgan-** Soon to be instructor at the ripe old age of.....50? No he's only 40.

**MSG Mario "Standby day" McGee-** Coming to a base near you as a dependent husband. Soon to be head of the OWC. Rules the (women's) locker program with an iron...uuuh.... fist.

**SMS Mark "The Hammer" McGrath-** Chief Boom and Head Snack Bar Monitor. Usually can be found in the Commander's office (something about a jumpseat), or on a quest for another MGB.

**MSG Paul "I just want to cuddle" Nunemann-** a.k.a. Cornelius New instructor, will the skies ever be safe again? Extra for Planet of the Apes.

**MSG Bridget "We're too busy" Tamburino-** Tail stand? We don't need no stinkin' tail stand.

**Brett "The Chef" Ayres-** New boom just out of Altus. Must have been an instructor or so he thinks. Soon to be mission ready. Already done more work than Todd.

**Floyd Davey (Altus)-** Where's your scarf? But, but, but sir, the guard doesn't wear scarves. Right?

Signed,

A Fly on the Wall  
168 Air Refueling Wing

## **Fairchild AFB, WA**

### **92 ARW**

#### **CHIEF BOOM OPERATOR**

##### **To My Fellow Boom Operators:**

As I reflect back upon my career as a boom operator, it is hard to believe that 30 years has gone by so quickly. The Air Force of today bears little resemblance to the one in which I entered: from the size of the military to the aircraft, missiles, and structure. Then we were deeply embroiled in the conflict in Vietnam; now we are all over the world. The KC-135 belonged to the active duty and the ANG was flying the KC-97. While there were women in the Air Force, there were none that were in the flying business. Tanker crew life was somewhat stable: pulled a week of alert every third week, 3 ½ days CCRR, then flew every other workday. Mixed in was the occasional TDY to a Tanker Task Force and a Coronet. In my squadron, you could expect 1 trip to Young Tiger (60/90 days) and 1 short trip (Eielson or Torrejon for 30 days) each year. We did not do ITUD's. Each squadron in SAC provided individual crews to the Task Forces. We flew hard crews. My first crew was R-118 (Capt Ed Brown - Pilot, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Tom Strickland – Co-Pilot, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt John Pioch - Navigator, and A1C Jack Patton). I stayed on E or R-118 for 5 years. After a co-pilot change (1<sup>st</sup> Lt Dave Pope) the co, nav, and I fly as a crew for 3 ½ years. The nav and I were together for all 5 years.

The KC-135A had J-57 engines and burned “water”. The flight instruments were needle, ball, and airspeed. The Nav station had dials, needles, and oscilloscopes. There were no GPS, INS, or DNS. Primary means of navigation was fix-to-fix and celestial navigation. Airways and Jet Routes were not to be used. HF DF steers were not uncommon on over water flights.

A standard training sortie at my base was:

- Mission Plan and Brief (squadron DO or CC) day prior to flight (72 hours rebrief if required)
- Weather brief and file
- Takeoff and fly published departure
- Air refueling (B-52) on one of two tracks
- Celestial Navigation Leg (usually in Grid)
- Return to one turn in holding and published arrival
- Transition if you had an IP onboard
- Crew debrief
- Average duration was 4.5 hours.

If you had an IP (IP required for touch and go's) you had about an hour of transition. Seldom any visual patterns. But you would do ILS's, TACAN's, and PAR's. With an occasional ARDA. One big difference: You did not retract the gear. Once down – it stayed down. The only time you did gear and flaps was for real. Cargo consisted of bags and the occasional J-57 engine. When you carried passengers the boom or nav was armed with a handgun. You got a checkride and a no-notice each year. YT override was a bad thing to do on your checkride. There was no separate cargo checkride. There was no CFIC. Instructors were unit trained. Satellite alert was the order of the day.

I was in the fourth class of KC-135A airmen boom operators. Class 71-09; Course 42432 Inflight Refueling Specialist, starting on 8 Jan 1971 at the 4017 CCTS, Castle AFB CA.

##### **My airmen classmates were:**

- Amn Steven E. Fromm (CMSgt Retired USAFR – Currently KC-10 Contract Instructor)
- Amn John Wawrykowicz (Sgt Wawrykowicz got out after 4 years)
- Amn William B. Nelson (Sgt Nelson got out after 4 years)

##### **Some of my NCO classmates were:**

- MSgt Robert Suggs (MSgt retired)
- SSgt Warren James (MSgt retired)
- SSgt Robert Benamati (SMSgt retired)
- SSgt Phil Zamagne (CMSgt retired)
- Sgt Dutton

My first flight was on aircraft 63-8883. My flight line instructor was MSgt Larry Poff of the 93<sup>rd</sup> ARS. MSgt Richard P. Hoff (Chief Dick Hoff of Casey 01fame) administered my initial checkride on 11 May 1971.

Even though I have been a boom operator for my entire career, the AFSC has not stayed the same. While the duties and responsibilities have not changed – the designation has. The first designation is a maintenance shredout. If you were a 424X0 you were an Aircraft Fuel Systems Technician; 424X1 you were an Inflight Refueling Systems Repair Technician; 424X2 you were an Inflight Refueling Technician.

A424X2: Inflight Refueling (1971)  
A425X0: Inflight Refueling (1971)  
A112X0: Inflight Refueling (1976)  
X1A0X0: Inflight Refueling (1994)

#### **Qualifications:**

KC-135A – 11 May 1971  
Cat C (Q22)(Day) Receptacle Equipped Receivers - 8 Jun 1971 (F-4)  
Cat B (Q21) Probe Equipped Receivers – 16 Jun 1971 (F-100)  
Cat C (Q23)(Night) Receptacle Equipped Receivers – 18 Jun 1971 (F-4)  
Initial Instructor Check – 31 Jan 1975  
Cat F (Q26) C-5 – 17 Mar 1975  
EC-135L/G Difference – 16 Jun 1977  
Air Refuelable Tanker (R/T) Difference – 16 Jun 1977  
RC-135T Difference – 16 Apr 1979  
KC-10A Initial Qualification – 22 Apr 1981  
Cat E SR-71 – 5 Aug 1981  
EC-135C (Looking Glass) Difference – 6 Jan 1986  
KC-135E Difference – 8 Jan 1986  
Cat H (Day) B-1B – 28 Jan 1986

#### **Participation/Accomplishments:**

Young Tiger (100 missions)  
Linebacker II (Bombing of Hanoi)  
Frequent Wind (Saigon Evacuation)  
S.S. Mayaguez Rescue (Cambodia)  
1<sup>st</sup> Operational Deployment of Air Refuelable Tankers (Grissom to Guam)  
KC-10A Flight Test  
1<sup>st</sup> Operational Deployment of the KC-10 (Tulsa ANG A-7's non-stop to RAF Whittering)  
1981 Paris Airshow KC-10 Flyby  
HQ SAC KC-135 Aft Hatch Escape Slide Acquisition Manager  
HQ SAC KC-10 Wing Pod Acquisition Manager  
HQ SAC KC-10 On-Board Cargo Loader Acquisition Manager  
HQ SAC POC for final KC-10 Delivery to USAF  
First Boom Operator Assigned to HQ MAC  
HQ AMC KC-135 Cargo Roller System Acquisition Manager

#### **Assignments:**

4017 CCTS, Castle AFB, CA: Student Boom Operator (AMN-A1C)  
41 ARS, Griffiss AFB, NY: Boom Operator/Instructor Boom Operator (A1C-SSgt)  
305 ARS, Grissom AFB IN: Instructor Boom Operator (SSgt)  
70 ARS, Grissom AFB IN: EC/KC-135 Evaluator Boom Operator (SSgt-TSgt)  
Det 2, 4200 TES, Barksdale AFB, and LA: KC-10A Operational Test Boom Operator (TSgt)  
32 ARS, Barksdale AFB, LA: KC-10A Flight Supervisor/Aircrew Tng Superintendent (MSgt)  
1 CEVG, Barksdale AFB, LA: KC-10 Command Evaluator Boom Operator (MSgt-SMSgt)  
HQ SAC/XP and XR, Offutt AFB, NE: Aircraft Systems Acquisition Manager (SMSgt-CMSgt)  
HQ MAC/XR: Scott AFB, IL: Aircraft Systems Acquisition Manager (CMSgt)  
HQ AMC/XR and XP, Scott AFB, IL: Aircraft Systems Acquisition Manager (CMSgt)  
92 ARW, Fairchild AFB, WA: Chief Boom Operator/Group Enlisted Manager (CMSgt)

**Where the Active Duty KC-135 tankers were:**

THEN  
Altus AFB, OK  
Barksdale AFB, LA  
Beale AFB, CA  
Blytheville AFB, AR  
Carswell AFB, TX  
Castle AFB, CA  
Dyess AFB, TX  
Ellsworth AFB, SD  
Fairchild AFB, WA  
Grand Forks AFB, ND  
Griffiss AFB, NY  
Grissom AFB, IN  
Hickam AFB, HI (EC-135)  
Kadena AB, Okinawa  
K.I. Sawyer AFB, MI  
Kenchole AFB, MI  
Langley AFB, VA (EC-135)  
Loring AFB, ME  
  
March AFB, CA  
Mather AFB, CA  
McConnell AFB, KS  
McCoy AFB, FL  
RAF Mildenhall, UK (EC-135)  
Minot AFB, ND  
  
Offutt AFB, NE (EC-135)  
Plattsburgh AFB, NY  
Pease AFB, MA  
Rickenbacker AFB, OH  
Seymour-Johnson AFB, NC  
Travis AFB, CA  
Westover AFB, MA  
Warner-Robins AFB, GA  
Wright-Patterson AFB, OH  
Wurtsmith AFB, MI

NOW  
Altus AFB, OK  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
Fairchild AFB, WA  
Grand Forks AFB, ND  
  
  
Kadena AF, Japan  
  
  
MacDill AFB, FL  
  
  
McConnell AFB, KS  
  
RAF Mildenhall, UK  
  
Mt. Home AFB, ID  
  
  
  
  
Warner-Robins AFB, GA

**Permanent Tanker Task Forces:**

Young Tiger Tanker Task Force (YT):	U-Tapao AB, Thailand (60/90-day rotations)
Eielson Tanker Task Force (ETTF):	Eielson AFB, AK (30-day rotations)
Torrejon Tanker Task Force (TTTF):	Torrejon AB, Spain (30-day rotations)

As I take my leave from military service to my county, I want to pass along my high regard to those that come after me. May your service be full of pride and be faithful to your duty to your country and to your fellow boom.

Boom Stowed – Leaving Position.

JACK M. PATTON, CMSgt, USAF  
BOOM OPERATOR  
[jack.patricia.patton@worldnet.att.net](mailto:jack.patricia.patton@worldnet.att.net)



## Fairchild AFB, WA

### 92 ARS

This year has been another busy one. People in, people out, you know the routine. Let see if we can capture some of the glamour of the past year. We began the year working the Atlantic Channel Missions while the C-5 was working its little problems. Then came a little scuffle called Allied Force, where we played the part of tanker pinball. Istres France, Rhien-Mein Germany, Monte de Marson France, Moron Spain, Sigonella, etc., needless to say our crews saw most of Europe on this good deal. We helped shut down the tanker operations at Howard AB Panama and had a few hard-luck Red Flag tours. Egypt, Turkey, Greece, Italy and good ole PSAB, the list goes on and on and is probably very similar to everyone else's resume' this year. We press on, making the difference.

### Here's the BLACKHAWK line-up

#### Chief Boom

**SMSgt Dan Repp** – Came to us via the Combat Employment School.

#### A-Flight

**TSgt Mark Reuter** – That's right, TSgt. Proud father of a new baby boy. Yes, he still has that obnoxious yellow Ducati.

**SSgt Ricky Recaido** – Stan/Eval HAMMER, coming soon to the Altus AOR.

**SSgt Bob Spychalski** – Somebody call the Indiana Guard and tell them he got away. We're gonna keep him working weekends until he gets it out of his system.

**SSgt(s) Jeff Bishop** – Training dude, when he's not TDY. I've still got extra copies of that AIRMAN magazine issue.

**SrA Robert Long** – Spends more time TDY than anyone, complains he doesn't get enough trips. Upgrading.

**A1C Chris McGee** – Has more time in Vietnam than Chief Patton does, just ask him. It's all classified, of course.

#### B-Flight

**TSgt Todd Fairfield** – Can't get the AMMO out of this guy. Somebody get him out of the survival equipment!

**SSgt Derry Callender** – He's so new I had to look up his first name. At Altus completing initial qual.

**SrA Matt Hunsinger** – sold the pimpmobile, and picked up a XOOS beeper. Haven't seen him in months.

**A1C Franky Miranda** – sent him to France to fight the war, he hasn't been the same since.

**A1C David Brandt** "monkeyboy" – it's an Egypt thing... you don't want to know. Finally turned 18. Just think Dave; after you re-enlist you can have a beer. One of our baby booms, doing great things.

#### C-Flight

**MSgt Scotty Menard** – Spent 10 years recruiting, give it a break Scotty, we've already signed up.

**SSgt Bruce Perkins** – We got the AMMO out of him, I don't think he knew it that well anyway.

**SSgt Greg Patterson** – Cross trainee out of comm. Mission qualified, desert bound!

**SrA Jason Burianek** – Still wears that goofy woodpecker patch. Brand new Instructor—doing great things for us

**SrA Ricky Martin** – Took a break from touring. AWACS scope dope, has a permanent left-hand lean. Has had all the skiing he can handle!

**A1C Ken Williams** – FOR ALERT FORCE FOR ALERT FORCE... gentlemen *DON'T* start your engines. Our southern boy, doing great. Still hasn't found the horses for the AMC Rodeo

**A1C Warren W. Weldon** .com – another baby boom who we expect great things from. Deep in the books looking for an air refueling crosswind chart. Keep looking Warren, I know you can do it.

# Fairchild AFB, WA

## 93 ARS

TSgt John Curry	Chief Boom	DSN 657-4950
SSgt Chuck Armstrong	Stan Eval	4965
SSgt Mike McPhee	Stan Eval	4965
SrA Nate Hackney	Scheduling	8765
SrA Josh Rindal	Scheduling	8765
SrA Brad Lampel	Training Flight	2825
SSgt John Baughman	A Flight Super	8754
SrA Chris Sprague	A Flight	“
A1C Jeremy Powers	A Flight	“
A1C Sam Germino	A Flight	“
SSgt Chuck Parsons	B Flight	“
SrA Will Perdew	B Flight	“
SrA Tom Long	B Flight	“
SrA Brad Stracener	B Flight	“
A1C Nate Masunaga	B Flight	“
TSgt Dan Michener	Readiness Flight	4230

V/R  
 TSgt John Curry  
 93 ARS Chief Boom

## Fairchild AFB, WA

### 96 ARS

Greetings from the 96<sup>th</sup> ARS, home of the Screaming Eagles. Life is great in the Pacific Northwest.

**MSgt "Stormin Norman" Arnold:** Norm is the program manager of the 96<sup>th</sup> ARS, during his free time he enjoys spending quality time with his family and hopes to become a professional student some day.

**TSgt Fred "Big Air" Malone:** Fred is our head evaluator for the squadron, he gets the name "Big Air" because he spent the winter snowboarding and dreaming of big air from the bunny slope. Fred is also trying to sell his Jeep. Any takers?

**TSgt Shaun "Shadow" Lewis:** Shaun is head of training flt, and recently added a new member to his family. Congrats!

**SSgt Dominic Peterson:** Dom is B flight super and like the mighty oak has sunk his roots and says "hell no he won't go".

Look for him at Altus or Travis in the near future. Dom is also negotiating with two film companies to produce his life story.

**SSgt Ted "Bundy" Buit:** Ted is A flight super and somewhere between riding his Harley and providing comic relief he gets the job done. We will miss Ted his leaving us for the greener pastures in the 92ARS.

**SSgt Mike "Brute Force" Armstrong:** Mike is also a flight super and when he's not TDY to all the garden spots he does a great job for us. Mike is leaving us for 92ARS as well and will be missed.

**SSgt Ernest "Sugar A\$\$" Burns:** Ernest will soon be in scheduling and is our primary Flt SIM 2000 Boom TERPS IBO.

**SSgt Tom "Mustang" Ireland:** Tom is an evaluator and a member of Fairchild's rodeo team. He loves those Found On the Road Dead Mustangs but we forgive him.

**SSgt Walter "Pooh Bear" Hinton:** Walt is now in the Ops Group training flight and has been at Fairchild for six years and ain't going to leave without a fight. Greets everyone he meets with "Hey Bro." Don't ever let him drive your U-haul.

**SSgt Derry "Snacko" Callender:** Spent several years in the medical career field and didn't go TDY so he cross trained. Currently awaiting information on OTS.

**TSgt(S) Patrick "High Speed" Bennett:** Pat's also a flight super and the founder of the 96ARS Mustang Club, coming to a junkyard near you. Check your local listings.

**SSgt Troy Hales:** Troy just signed in from Mt. Home. A welcome asset to the 96 ARS. Troy says: "I love AMC."

**SSgt Jeff "G-man" Gaston:** Without Jeff the flight dispatch program at Fairchild would be INOP. When Jeff isn't saving the world, he's out tearing up the road on his bike.

**TSgt(S) Rich "Smutley" Geraci:** "Fist", the master of the four-letter word, is currently at upgrade and we're sure he's instructing his instructors on its proper use. Usually he's very, very busy working over in wing scheduling.

**SSgt(S) Jamie "Boogie Nights" Smith:** J.L. upgraded to instructor and finally moved out of the dorms. Currently the 96 ARS Training Flight Instructor Boom. No more police blotters. Director of the Boom Operator's "Shady Ops" department.

**SrA Brandon "Bait" Jacobson:** "How you doin'" has just left for Keesler to cross train. If you want to meet a believer in bicycle helmets give Jacko a call. He's a walking miracle. Gonna miss you kid.

**A1C Adam Torma:** Adam is a baby boom. Always trying to pick up biker girls from Idaho.

**A1C Dan "DJ Jazzy" Leonard:** "Wheels" is a baby boom as well and in his spare time collects vinyl.

**A1C Ken Williams:** Ken recently came over to us from the 92 ARS. Look for Ken's picture in an off-road magazine.

**Amn John "Doc" Solomon:** John hopes to get out soon and build a better mousetrap. Best of luck to ya.

**A1C Justin "Tex" Poteet:** Baby boom, keep away from play grounds.

## Fairchild AFB, WA

### 97 ARS

Greeting from the 97<sup>th</sup>. It's been a busy 12 months. We're now Pacer CRAG complete and it looks as if everyone has completely adapted to their new roles. All the booms are excited about the upcoming challenges flying on a three-person crew. Our booms also headed out to ALLIED FORCE and helped to set up the Tanker Ops at Mildenhall as well as fly some pretty long sorties. Other than that it was the same old song and dance. TDY's to SWA, Turkey, Far East and everywhere in between. We're still hurting for instructors, but then who isn't. Lots of retrainees coming in. We've picked up 5 in the last 12 months, including a Master select. Add that to the two we already had and that's about 50% of the boom force in the squadron. How about you Tech's and Master's hiding at AMC and the Schoolhouse give us a hand. In any event the booms are hanging in tough and doing a great job! See Ya!

**MSgt Jaime "Jim" Recuero-** Finally made Master. Enjoying life at Fairchild. Working on that Senior stripe.

**TSgt Ron "Roscoe P." Marasco-** A-flight supervisor. If he's not busy putting out fires in his flight you can usually find him TDY or at the local airport taking photos.

**SrA Mark "Slim" Schlimgen-** Mister UDM. Pulling his hair out keeping everyone up to date. Did a great job for the wing during Allied Force. Served as ramp tramp and kept things flowing. Selected as the OG's "Airman of the Quarter, Jan-Mar" because of his performance.

**A1C Eric Williams-** Been a boom one year now. Doing nicely. He's our AVPOL rep. Looking to get married this August.

**SSgt Greg "Smitty" Smith (IB)-** B-Flight supervisor. Came to us from Mildenhall this past August. "Don't call me Greg" seems to be his motto. We were glad to get him. He brought our instructor corps to four. Should upgrade to evaluator soon.

**SrA Jayson Chatham-** Our next instructor. If you didn't see Jayson's name on the recall roster you'd never know he was in the squadron. He's tied up doing the family thing, working on the yard, putting in a new driveway, etc....

**SrA Vince "Bugger" Estes-** Looking for an assignment to Robins or MacDill or Mildenhall. He's take any of those three. We've got Vince doing administrative work in Stan/Eval. If he's not busy there he's usually fawning over his girlfriend or mountain bike (not necessarily in that order.)

**SSgt Joe "Thumbs" Corder-** Wears two hats. He's our Stan/Eval boom and C-Flight supervisor. Came to us from El Forko Grande. He'll represent the squadron this years at Airlift Rodeo. Doing a great job for us.

**SrA Billy Wilkes-** Another TEXAN!!! Billy's one of our many retrainees. Just got mission qual'd in Dec and hit the ground running. Already done a tour in SWA. He's got ONW right around the corner. He came to us from Lakenheath.

**SrA Mike Smith-** Just came to us from Elmendorf. Did a great job at Altus. He was the class DG. Just needs night fighter qual and he'll be off running.

**SrA Tina Roy-** Tina's working hard in scheduling. She's our first boom scheduler in a couple of years. She's going to be a mommy this March and was our third BTZ in the last 18 months. Selected as the squadron's "Airman of the Year". Her second consecutive year. Unfortunately we're going to lose her next year. Going back to Connecticut to be a state trooper!

**SrA Frank Warner-** Another scheduler. Squadron "Boom Operator of the Year". Doing a great job. Got his CCAF degree and is working on Bachelor's through Embry-Riddle, then hoping for a commission and pilot wings. Going to CFIC in July.

**SrA Brad Kesterson-** Our newest scheduler. Just enrolled in Southern Illinois University's accelerated Bachelor's program. He's looking to get commissioned and then on to a pilot slot.

**SrA Jesse Olhiser-** Our Training Flight boom. Doing a great job. We're going to lose him this July to the -10's. Oh well, at least he knew what it was like to be a *real* boom operator for a little while.

#### Attached to the 97<sup>th</sup>:

**TSgt Joe Reiner-** OSS scheduler

**TSgt John Curry-** OGT

**MSgt Kevin Watton-** OSS scheduler

#### Inbound to the 97<sup>th</sup>:

**TSgt (MSgt select) Jason Werner-** May 2000 (Retrainee)

**SrA Jeremiah Docken-** August 2000 (Retrainee)

**SrA Michael Bloom-** December 2000 (Retrainee)

**Fairchild ANGB, WA.**  
116 ARS  
WA ANG

**“Guard Guys”**

*Greetings From Spokane!!*

*As you can imagine, 1999 was a tough year for our unit. Losing our crew in Germany was pretty hard to get through. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support during this trying time. If any of you knew Rich Visintainer, you know what a character he was. The four of them are very much missed.*

*We deployed with Pittsburgh to rough duty in Hungary for Operation ALLIED FORCE. They were a great group to work with (Thanks Mike and Nick). We passed a lot of gas and showed once again that the brand new, 40 year old –135 can still “cut the mustard”!!*

*We've had quite a turnover in our unit with retirements and many new faces due to increased manning. Our Chief, Rich Weatherly, retired in December with a mere 35 years in this unit! He was one of our original Booms from the unit's conversion to tankers in 1976. Glenn Nelson, the original, first boom from our unit, is doing a great job as our new Chief.*

*We are gearing up for our unit's conversion to Pacer Crag early next year. We're going to miss our Navs! It sounds like Ike is working hard to try and get the “E” model some new engines. Knowing him, we might just get them for the Guard and Reserve!*

*That's about it for now! Have a great year and thanks once again for your support. It goes to show you just what a tight-knit group we're all in. Here's our current list of booms:*

<i>Full-Timers:</i>	<i>Part-Timers:</i>
<i>CMSgt Glenn Nelson</i>	<i>SMSgt Ray King</i>
<i>SMSgt Ike Isaacson</i>	<i>MSgt Don Roberson</i>
<i>MSgt Bruce Olson</i>	<i>TSgt Lance Dahl</i>
<i>MSgt Tim Flock</i>	<i>TSgt Melinda Hirst</i>
<i>MSgt Dane Porter</i>	<i>TSgt Sheri Paplham</i>
<i>MSgt Sam Via</i>	<i>TSgt Larry Stockton</i>
<i>TSgt Wayne Nelson</i>	<i>TSgt Steve Tilford</i>
<i>SSgt Eric Apelskog</i>	<i>SSgt Bob Gibson</i>
<i>SSgt Steve Waddell</i>	<i>SSgt Kevin Grubb</i>
	<i>SSgt Monica Helman</i>
	<i>SSgt Lyle Johnston</i>
	<i>SSgt Marty Martin</i>
	<i>SRA Dave McDowell</i>

*See You Later!*  
*Dane Porter*

**Fairchild AFB, WA**  
**DET 1/AMWC CADS**  
**KC-135 COMBAT EMPLOYMENT SCHOOL**

**What We Do:**

Advanced employment procedures and combat tactics; increasing global KC-135 effectiveness in real-world operation. Only three boom operators in the entire Air Force are qualified for this specialized KC-135 Combat Employment School. We accomplish syllabus development flights; evaluate value and applicability of advanced aerial maneuvers/ procedures. Our contributions ensure safety of flight and quality tactical training.

**Who We Are:**

**SMSgt Dan Repp** – The Godfather of the “still” developing Combat Employment School (Formerly known as the WIC {Weapons Instructor Course}).

Dan has recently moved over to become the Chief Boom Operator of the 92 ARS here at Fairchild. He’s already been in two 92ARW exercises and a turn in Saudi... He has been the foundation to which this school will forever owe a debt of gratitude. 100’s of hours spent developing the vision of what the future will hold for the students that attend. Though currently established as the “Master Degree” program for tanker pilots and a few of the navigators that are left hanging on – Who knows what the program will hold for the Boom Operators in the next generations.

**MSgt Dan Wells** – Our new boss and CES Quarterback, Dan came to us from MacDill where he was a highly effect leader in need of a place to shine. Plus +, He wanted to get back to the Great Northwest – Montana (close enough...). Since the addition of twins last summer (Benjamin and Craig) and the new job Dan is VERRRY Busy on and off duty. He and his daughter (Megan) have great aspirations of becoming world class fishers. Between the renovation of our school facilities, flying, and being the Superintendent here at the school Dan’s had little time to relax! Some day Dan. By the way YES we did notice the Dan to Dan thing... It made it easier to answer the phones... Really Both Champions of getting the job done the right way the first time we are the lucky ones. So neener neener!!

\* to the other “Sweaties” loving life here at Fairchild as detached members of the: CADS (Combat Aerial Delivery Squadron – Littlerock, AR) Members of the AMWC (Air Mobility Warfare Center – McGuire, NJ)

**SSgt Alecia Judd** – Our “New” Mom of three... Yes Three!!

She has recently taken on the gracious task of raising her brother Derrick (14) and sister Robin (10) in addition to her husband Mike (still a kid) and let’s not forget the love of her life Brandon (a very mature 3...) Mike manages to remain TDY for some reason – You go figure!!! Alecia is our resident GO-TO person for any and all tasks especially if it needed done yesterday... You name it she’s got it going...

And finally...

**TSgt Jerry “Swany” Swanson** – just moved over from 92OG training in November 1999 and glad for the change...

Recently purchased my first home... hoping to stay an instructor here at the CES (hint to “the powers that be...”) I Spend most of my time trying to stay out of the way and learn from the Masters... My daughter is now starting Drivers Ed. (read drive your parents crazy because your almost 16 – Damn I’m old!). My son Tim is now 14 and constantly in hot water over something – usually girl trouble. Tyler’s now almost 10 and king of Pine Wood Derby’s... Work is great and life up North suits us all fine...

The CES is always interested in recruiting the best folks for the positions sooo if your interested in being a part of a “School House” type organization and working for AMWC via CADS via the KC-135 CES drop us a package... Or just call to BS...

**Forbes Field ANGB, KS**  
117 ARS

**KANSAS AIR NATIONAL GUARD**  
**190th AIR REFUELING WING**

Greetings from the land of OZ:

As with most of you we have had an exciting year. Our year started with a planned deployment to Turkey that was rerouted to Mildenhall for the Kosovo Airshow. We then waited out the activation lottery, only to return to Turkey in the summer for some more shopping, needless to say Christmas was pretty predictable. Training has become a constant theme here with the return of John Swinney and Nathaniel Brown from the schoolhouse.

Some of our retired booms drop by every now and then such as Mike Pierson, Tom Cox, Ken Griffin and Lowell Seymour. It's always nice to see the "E" model booms as they come through for the APU modification.

On a sad note, this year saw the loss of one of our retired booms, MSG. John (J.R.) Roth, who battled Lou Gehrig's disease. J.R. had a long career that started in the Missouri Air Guard as a boom on KC-97, transferring later to Kansas and the 135. J.R. viewed each day as another "Operation Creek Party" and will be missed.

Finally the list of deviants:

SRA Nathaniel Brown is one of our recent Altus survivors. Through counseling he has been updating us on the school house ways. At home Nate is expecting his second child, and trying to get adjusted to the guard way of life.

TSG Darrin Coash, is continuing Pharmacy school at KU and has one more year left. Whenever he's not in the thick books, he can occasionally be seen practicing chemistry at the college hangouts. We only see him for spring, summer, or Christmas break.

MSG Harvey Deweese, retired from the fire dept as a Captain and is now our Chief Guard Bum, he sure has been asking a lot of questions about mandays lately.

TSG Brandi "Boom Pod Barbie" Dodds, was hard to miss last year as she was the press boom of the year. It seemed all the major networks flew with her during "Operation Northern Watch". For a small fee she still gives autographs and is awaiting the release of her new Barbie sometime this year.

TSG Jamie Dunbar recently completed charm school at McGee High as a DG, (did graduate). Rumors (and some small wagers) continue to abound about a lifestyle and change of address with some commitment in the form of a ring, we're all waiting.

SSG Trey "Shady" Forrest is about to leave the boom field to become a gear lever actuator. We wish him lots of luck and maybe if he is lucky we will allow him in the boom room.

MSG Chuck Hanna is still our resident TDY tour guide. It seems like Chuck is always on the motorcycle touring the countryside wheeling and dealing.

TSG Marvin "Mav" Hittle just returned to wing plans. He was an active participant in the safety office during our ORI where the safety office received notoriety from the IG team.

SMS Keith Fulton has been pretty quiet, residing downstairs taking care of all the many pay issues, and trying to figure out a training schedule that will not interfere with the many paid vacations the unit has embarked on.

MSG Mark "Spuds" Mertel; not much has been seen of Mark since he had the new interior decorator move in this year. In addition, not all the trips have his name assigned to them. When not in the scheduling office he and the Mrs. are out on the Harley checking out the "specials" calling it a "health night".

MSG Ron May has finally found a place to apply all that Marine Corps training, as the Stan/Eval pubs manger. When not tracking down regs, he has been rumored to be at the lake with a cool one hoping for the big catch.

TSG Matt “Bow Wave” Miltz has been employed with a leading car rental place, with his knowledge of TDY crews I pity the renters.

SMS Lee “Lets Do it Right the First Time” Perry is our Stan/Eval boom and hard core mover and shaker. When not rebuilding the base Lee spends time with the grand kids learning things only they can know.

MSG Jim “Chewy” Spurlock, took a break last year from the racing circuit to devote more time to all the deployments, were all waiting to see if he pulls the car out for this season.

CMS Steve Stucky has had lots of opportunities to adjust to the role of chief this year, and has not lost too much hair in the process. We all keep waiting for the first flight of his homebuilt kit plane.

TSG John Swinney is one of our retreads that finally got smart and left the flight line. It’s taking awhile but we’re getting him trained not to turn wrenches. When not around the squadron he can be found at the job site creating mansions only airline pilots could afford.

TSG Mark Sweeney has kept a low profile lately adapting to the role of father and continuing to work on the phones. One thing however that still brings him out is a trip to Vegas.

TSG Tim Treinen, still living large in a small town, claims he knows how to catch the big fish. We all think someone just loaned him a book and he just looked at the pictures.

TSG Mac “Smac Daddy” Torrez Still looking for that perfect TDY. Spends most of his time with State Troopers so we try not to get too close.

TSG Bryan “Schematic” Thomas just got married to one of our K.C. Chief’s cheerleaders (the Good looking one), and received a nice diploma from the University of Kansas. With all these additions it sounds like he’s trying to settle down to a family life.



**Fort Dix, NJ**  
**Air Mobility Warfare Center**  
**(AMWC)**

Greetings fellow Booms from the Air Mobility Warfare Center, Fort Dix Army Installation, New Jersey. Y2K has come and gone....and we're still here. CMSgt Craig Blessing (and yes it's CHIEF) is awaiting his next assignment and will probably be leaving the Center in the Summer time frame. As for me, I'm still residing in the SCIF vault of the Tactics Division. The Center continues thrive and is an excellent place to work and develop personally as well as professionally. The Center provides vital education to a multitude of Air Mobility Command professionals as well as personnel throughout the Department of Defense. Fort Dix is within a stone throw of McGuire AFB, and is located 35 miles from Philadelphia and approximately 1+30 hours from New York City.

The Air Mobility Warfare Center cadre is about 300 strong. As an organization, we're directly subordinate to AMC/CV. The personnel at the center are comprised of: tacticians, transporters, RAVENS, intelligence analysts, stage managers, combat camera, medics, test & evaluation, and the Air Mobility Command Battlelab. You'll find the Center can provide education and qualification in a number of other areas as well.

Our long-range vision for the future is embodied in the AMWC Campus Plan, which combines the procurement and use of high technology with the growth and development of the AMWC as a World-Class training and education center. We'll teach you to operate in your aircraft in an high threat environment, test and evaluate new equipment for your aircraft and provide force protection. The Center provides training to 8700 students a year through 55 different courses. The Tactics Division runs the Combat Aircrew Tactics Training (CATTS) course as well as the Senior Officers Tacticians course.

We would also like to thank CMSgt Bob Truelson for his vision in creating this wonderful instrument. It has stood for 20 years as a beacon for all Boom Operators and it will continue to stand well into the Millennium.

If your ever passing through this part of the northeast, be sure to look us up. You can find Chief Blessing at DSN 944-2514 and I'm at 944-1165. We hope to see you soon!

[Craig.Blessing@McGuire.af.mil](mailto:Craig.Blessing@McGuire.af.mil)  
[Michael.Barnes@McGuire.af.mil](mailto:Michael.Barnes@McGuire.af.mil)

MICHAEL C. BARNES, MSgt, USAF  
Superintendent, AMWC Tactics Division

## **Grand Forks AFB, ND**

319 OG

Greetings from the land of Lawrence Welk. Looks like I have survived my sixth winter up here, with fond thoughts of Spring. Our wing has had a very busy year, just like everyone else, and it looks like we will be equally as busy in our millennium year. About 80% of our super wing is flying the space age tanker now, and we should all be Pacer CRAG booms by Spring Thaw. We are planning on closing down our runway this summer, so we will be dispersed out all over during July and August. We might show up on your doorstep visiting for a while. Things should be back to normal this Fall though. We will be experiencing some PCS departures and retirements this summer, leaving some key leadership positions open. If you are up to the challenge of being a part of the "Best Air Refueling Wing on the face of the Planet" let me know. We are always looking for good help. Keep in mind that the hunting and fishing is excellent.

Attached are detailed status reports on our four flying squadrons. The individuals assigned to wing/group positions are as follows:

CMSgt Paul Christensen, Chief Boom. Yes, I'm still here.

MSgt Jeff Potter, Wing Training. Been here longer than me.

MSgt Terry "Smurf" Klementz. Tactics & NCOIC of Entertainment.

TSgt (S) Jeff Murphy, Stan/Eval Loves North Dakota.

TSgt Mark Adame, Special Ops. PCS orders to Offutt.

SSgt Brian Lee, Pacer CRAG/MPRS Training. Retire this summer

SrA Bud Verdi, XP Ops Plans. Happy to be here, Mr SIOP.

Attached to this letter is skillfully written and highly interesting articles written by some of the best writers in North Dakota, about each of our four flying squadrons. I hope you enjoy them. If you ever find yourself in our neck of the woods, please stop by. Take Care.

PAUL CHRISTENSEN, CMSgt, USAF  
Chief Boom Operator

## Grand Forks AFB, ND 905 ARS

### “Rhinos Rule”

Greetings from sunny North Dakota, vacation wonderland and home of the 905<sup>th</sup> RHINOS. This past year has been quite eventful up here in the frozen north. In January, we completed our conversion to three person operations in the PACER CRAG. Everything went pretty smooth but isn't making booms responsible for classified materials kind of like giving a gun to an 18 year old cop. I don't know about you but I'm not sure either one is a good idea. During Kosovo the powers that be decided that they didn't want to mix PACER CRAG and other KC-135s so we departed for Saudi in April and returned home in August. It was a wonderful 4 months in the resort community at Al Kharj. Fortunately recent deployments to Turkey and Istres have helped us forget our Saudi experience.

Although there are some interesting challenges (i.e. really cold winters) that come with living in North Dakota I highly recommend that folks consider an assignment here. I arrived here from Scott (TACC) three years ago and being from south Texas I was not looking forward to the cold. However, I've really enjoyed the assignment and getting back into squadron operations. No that doesn't mean I'm going to retire here, you'll find me down south when I'm done. I can tell you that there are numerous opportunities here for young NCOs to enhance their career that may not be available elsewhere.

As with almost any assignment it's the people that really make it great and we definitely have some outstanding booms at Grand Forks and in the 905<sup>th</sup>. The current 905<sup>th</sup> rogue's gallery reads as follows. By the way I challenged SSgt Tickle and AIC Weckerle to compile this list. I believe they must have taken a creative writing class because some of the statements are true while they exaggerated on others. Your job is to figure out which is which.

**SMSgt Jeff “Tex” Boutwell-** (Program Manager)- Planning on retiring in July this year. We think he wants to devote all of his time to fulfilling his life long dream of finally becoming the head choreographer for the Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders.

**SSgt (TSgt select) Paul “Clubber Lang” Swanson-** (Training)- Paul comes to us from Altus. He decided that teaching at the schoolhouse wasn't enough and he could do more damage to the baby booms here at Grand Forks. “What the @#!#\$ are you doing?”

**TSgt Rodney “Hoover” Targos-** (Stan/Eval)- Recently upgraded to Evaluator Boom. Unfortunately Rod was diagnosed with cancer in October. He has completed his chemotherapy treatments and so far everything looks good. We're all pulling for him to beat this thing and return to flying ASAP. Please join the 905<sup>th</sup> and keep Rod and his family in your prayers.

**SSgt (TSgt select) Mike “Poop!” Ward-** (A Flight Supervisor)- This is an actual broadcast heard over comm 1 while in the pattern: “If you don't land this plane soon I am going to poop in your helmet bag”

**SSgt Paul “Good Manners” Danio-** (Training)- Paul was recently upgraded to Instructor Boom. “Burrrrrrrrp! Excuse me”.

**SSgt Bryan “Call me Major” Lee-** (PACER CRAG GURU)- Bryan was recently promoted to Major in the Civil Air Patrol. The airmen aren't sure whether they should salute him or ignore him like they normally do. Bryan will be joining the ranks of the retirees in May.

**SSgt Scott “Scooter” Smith-** (C Flight Supervisor)- Scott has come back to the boom world after years of TALCE at McGuire. Being stationed at McGuire and Grand Forks during one career may constitute cruel and unusual punishment. Scott has the lawyers looking into it. We'll keep you informed.

**SSgt Dave “French” Tickle-** (B Flight Supervisor)-When asked what he wanted to do with the rest of his life he replied, “I want to move to Orlando and take on the demanding yet satisfying job of Eeyore at the Walt Disney World Resort”. Good luck Dave.

**SrA Jason “Twinkie The Kid” Hall-** (Safety)- Jason traded in his Explorer for a Hostess truck, then kidnapped “Little Debbie”, and is now threatening execution if he is not given the location of the “Keebler Elf Tree”. His whereabouts are unknown at this time.

**SrA Dave “Kosmo” Kosmowski-** (Scheduling)- Dave has to be the quietest one of the group. He never says anything! We once asked him how his sortie went that day and he replied, “Potato chip?” and walked away. No one knows to this day what that meant.

**SrA Jaime “Redneck” Lamont-** (Stan/Eval)- Recently upgraded to “Evaluator Boom.” Last time we saw Jaime she was trying to figure out how to give an evaluation while on horseback. Jaime make sure your horse has Oxygen readily available.

**SrA Charles “De Lo” Maxie-** (Mobility)- Leaving us in September this year. Charles plans to “rub out” De Lo Brown and take his place in the WWF.

**SrA Paul “Girlfriend wears the pants” Scheppf-** (Mobility)- Highly motivated troop. He works so fast in fact that he is usually finished for the day and home by 10AM.

**SrA Ken “Prince Albert” Wygant-** (Stan/Eval)- Ken has an appointment for CFIC in March. Ken met his fiancée on the Internet and the date has been set. Hey Ken does she get to see you before the wedding or did she believe that picture you sent was really you?

**A1C Jack “Lifer” Hanson-** (New Arrival)- Seems to be adapting just fine. Jack came in the Air Force after working in the outside world and says he’s staying. He can’t figure out why all the young booms are leaving such a sweet deal. We think he might be a plant from the recruiter’s office to try and increase our retention rate.

**A1C Brian “Hatch” Holbrook-** (Scheduling)- Brian decided to change his checklist a little bit over in PSAB this past summer. Please tell us what you think: “Over wing hatches- 2 required, 1 installed”

**A1C Jeff “Join-Spouse” Saal-** (New Arrival)- Fresh from Altus. Jeff recently got married. The problem is that she’s in McGuire. Does anyone want to swap? Jeff is so desperate to get there he’s talking about volunteering for the TALCE.

**A1C Keith “Muscles” Weckerle-** (Training)- Originally from New York, Keith is still having a difficult time adjusting to his North Dakota environment. Keith’s constant requests for capes to be part of everyone’s flight suit are still being denied.

**A1C Robert “NoDak” Zafke-** (Scheduling)- Born and raised in the beautiful, warm city of Grand Forks. He smells like the Simplot plant. “Figured I better join before I get drafted.” “There is no draft anymore son.” “There was one?”

JEFFREY L. BOUTWELL, SMSGT, USAF  
Inflight Refueling Superintendent

## Grand Forks AFB, ND 906 ARS

543 Eielson Ave, Bldg 541  
Grand Forks Air Force Base, North Dakota  
DSN: 362-6431

Hello from the frozen wastes, uh, I mean tundra; yeah that's it, tundra! The mighty Dakrats of the 906<sup>th</sup> had a busy year. We moved out of the old alert facility, and into a new squadron ops building; our new home kinda makes us feel like someone loves us. While we were moving to a new building we also moved to a new plane. Well, not really new, but pretty cool; we're all Pacer CRAG certified. It is a great system, but we sure miss having navigators to harass! Of course we went on all the same deployments you all went on, some things never change. And since our runway is closing, we plan to be on the road even more in 2000. The bureaucrats are still working out all the details, but we're pretty sure we'll be spread around the world. So, if you see someone at PSAB wearing a pile cap you'll know you've seen a Dakrat! Here's our current crew:

**SMSgt Mark Sletten:** Just got here in Dec 98 following a tour at CCTS. Still not sure how he likes being the only senior NCO in the squadron... How 'bout some help up here guys, huh? It's really not that cold, really! Seriously, it's a fantastic place with a great community. Like all places it has its pros and cons, but almost all here agree the pros have it!

**TSgt Pat D'Augustino** (Program Manager): New arrival from Robins (no, he was not kidnapped). Says he is happy to be here, and since been seeing a doctor for those comments. Has already put a hurting on the North Dakota wild game population. If you ever go to his house for dinner, don't ask, "What kind of meat is this?" It's a safe bet it didn't come from your local commissary. Moose, deer, duck, road kill, etc., does taste better than you think!

**TSgt Chris Campbell** (Flight Chief): Happy to be in Grand Forks. NOT! Chris is looking for orders; if you can help, please call the Chief. Chris and his wife are expecting young'un #2 this summer; must be getting cabin fever after 7+ years up here. Since he used to be a cop I'm not so sure that's a good thing!

**SSgt Nick Burney** (Training Flight): Finally left Altus, for the "Great White North". Got Pacer CRAG certified and has been TDY ever since (so much for his home improvement business). He's still trying to figure out how to get "good traction" on ice with his Mustang. Luckily his wife has become an expert with all the snow removal/handling implements.

**SSgt Jody Riggs** (Flight Chief, Stan/Eval): Give him a Karaoke Bar or a stage and you'll have the time of your life. His only two bases are Minot and Grand Forks. I guess he heard the weather's milder down south! Jody just put in a VSBAP to remain here at Grand Forks. Those of you who know Jody might think this is some kind of a sick joke... But it's not; I told you, people like it here!

**SSgt Dan Rando** (Flight Chief): "The hunting is good, the fishing is even better." We know Dan, we know, but there is more to life... isn't there? Dan just completed CFIC in late 99—got an EQ on his check! He and his wife are expecting their second young'un too. Sounds like a developing trend...

**SSgt Paul Jacobs** (Scheduling): Getting ready to go to CFIC in February. Looking for that special person who can replace him in a fun-filled job. Do you have what it takes to be a scheduler? If so please call ASAP, now, yesterday! If you see him on the beach offer him some SPF 45, he'll get it!

**SSgt Donnie Lambert (aka Osmond)** (Scheduling): "Hello fellow BOOMS!" Donnie cross-trained two years ago and still can't believe people get paid for this. Unfortunately, his rank made him liable for "more responsibility," so we made him a scheduler. He and his wife are also expecting young'un #2. I'm starting to hear the theme from The Twilight Zone...

**SSgt Rafael Him** (Safety): Do you know Him? Yeah, Him, that guy! Finished cross training in May 99. Loves to be in Grand Forks (yeah). From Vero Beach FL, had never seen snow before he got here. Sometimes the Air Force has a curious sense of humor! Says he really enjoys the TDYs. We're still trying to figure out if he's avoiding the weather or his wife!

**SrA Bud Verdi** (Vault): Still in the Mafia, and preaching all that secret squirrel stuff at the vault. Bud had to get a special podium made so he could see over the top. Waiting for his time to run out so he can get promoted to civilian.

**SrA Brian Sinclair** (Stan/Eval): Brian got married last year and is up for CFIC sometime this year. I couldn't write anymore about him because I don't know him very well, he's not around much...

**SrA Scott Conner** (Training Flight): Scott's also up for CFIC sometime this year. He continues to pursue off-duty education. Scott may be the most highly educated boom operator you'll ever meet. Someday he hopes you'll meet Dr. Connor.

**SrA Michael O'Connor** (Scheduling): Recent graduate of the ALS. Trying to teach us about all the latest Air Force Leadership styles. Another fine young boom up here, "don't you know!"

**SrA Dan Beecher** (Bum): Currently at CFIC. What a scary thought, Dan the man as an instructor. He has currently retired his bike for a car this winter. Has a girlfriend, do we hear the sounds of wedding bells in his future?

**SrA Jake Gardner** (UDM) "Scooter" got thrown in the mobility office because he has a knack of going non-deployable a week before a deployment. He also lost his karaoke virginity with Sinclair in Turkey '99. Now he's 21 and can consume alcohol in all fifty states. He's not a DD anymore.

### New Arrivals

**SSgt Ed Smith** (Just in from Kadena): He mumbles a lot, we're not sure why yet. "Tigerman" is his code name, something about 11,000 tiger things in his house. His family now has a place to stay, but they are still waiting for all the tiger things to arrive—hopefully before the snow melts in July. They'll have to be happy with that big 13" TV 'til then.

**Amn Caleb Ramsey** (Fresh from CCTS): Caleb's family lives in Minnesota, sometimes the system works! Has made some very good first impressions. Very polite, willing to help, always asking intelligent questions... We know he's up to something, we just can't figure out what; I think he wants my job.

### Departures

**MSgt Nathan Peachey:** Peach-man jumped ship to the 912<sup>th</sup>—said he could run his own squadron better. See ya Peach-dude!

**SrA Brad Pittman:** Don't worry Brad, I lied when the guard folks called, I think you'll get hired! Brad says he left us to go back to school. We're always sorry to lose one from the career field. Good luck.

**SrA Brian Wright:** Brian has lots of potential, unfortunately someone told *him*; he decided to try his luck as a civilian. Go get 'em Brian!

**SrA Jenny Little:** Jenny was an outstanding asset to our unit and we're sorry to see her leave. She worked hard and everyone liked her. Jenny's also looking for that perfect Guard job... is there any such thing?

**SrA Ryan Dobos:** Ryan got married and started his own business. I guess he just didn't have time for the Air Force anymore! Seriously, good luck Ryan, from all of us.

And that raps it up! All in all, it was an outstanding year. We have a great crew that keeps getting better all the time. With all the excellent personnel, I really don't need another senior NCO (he's lying). Thanks to all the guys for their inputs to the signal, and special thanks to Pat D'Augustino for compiling everything for me. Made my job much easier! To everyone in the career field, take off, eh? Cripes!

Mark Sletten, SMSgt  
Chief Boom

## **Grand Forks AFB, ND**

### **911 ARS**

#### ***HOME OF THE RED EAGLES!***

Greetings from the world famous **Red Eagles** of the frozen tundra of North Dakota. As you probably already know last year was the Year of the Family Separation. We began 1999 finishing up the tail end of ONW, then on to OSW, from there we were scattered to the four winds during OAF, we got home just in time to go back to ONW. Currently, we're getting to know our families again and converting to Pacer Crag. This summer our wing will deploy to MacDill, due to some much needed runway repairs. Currently this is our line-up:

MSgt Gary L. Davis – I'm still the chief boom here, and if I don't screw-up too bad I'll probably remain here, at least another year before I try to scam a cream-puff wing job.

MSgt William Williams – Or Bill-Bill as you may know him. He's returned from his McGuire TALCE tour and he's currently working in our Training section. He wanted to come back to the northern latitudes to manage his rental properties I guess.

MSgt Mike Barton – Oldest baby boom I've ever met. He's a cross-trainee from maintenance (fabrication shop) out of Travis. So it's never too late to see the light!

TSgt Gary Elliott – Gary arrived from Altus last year in March but didn't meet the squadron until July since we were all deployed to Allied Force. He's just been moved from B Flight NCOIC to Stan Eval. Gary celebrated the millennium by getting his sinuses rotor-ruttered, so he was a hurtin' puppy for awhile. Some people will do anything to keep flight pay.

SSgt Ray Ouellette – Ray also recently move into Stan Eval from his C Flight NCOIC position – no more EPRs for awhile! He spends most of his off-duty time fantasizing he's Dale Earnhart playing with his NASCAR 99 computer racing game.

SSgt (sel) James Fitch – It's been a good year for Bill. First, he got himself promoted, then graduated from ALS with the Leadership Award, Finally, recognized as the wing's Enlisted Aircrew Member of the Year. In fact, he's been doing so good I made him our newest flight NCOIC. Right now he's playing guitar in a band working on his second career.

SSgt (sel) Amanda Pearson – Amanda did herself proud and got promoted also. This month she'll attend ALS just in-time to start her new job as a flight NCOIC. If you see Amanda ask her about landing without nosewheel tires – I guess it's bumpy.

SSgt (sel) Max Morkin – Another promotee and new Flight NCOIC. As of this writing Max is in Iceland. I guess Grand Forks North Dakota just isn't cold enough for him. Last year around this time he rolled his rental vehicle and broke his collarbone. Let's just say Hertz didn't send him a Christmas card this year.

SrA Chris Maleski – Our resident KISS freak. We got Chris working in Training Flight helping out Bill-Bill.

SrA Ricky Alvarez – Ricky's so short he could play handball against a curb. He's separates this May and hopes to scam a job with March's guard unit. Hopefully, the guard doesn't let him slip by, he's been a terrific boom and will be missed.

SrA Thom Mosqueda – Thom's working in our mobility shop and doing a great job.

SrA Juan Gonzalez – Juan's also working in Training. He was getting a little too fond of those white square days.

SrA John Tjaden – John's working in ground scheduling so he's paying his dues. We all sooner or later have that bitter duty to do. Although he doesn't seem to mind the chaos and is doing a good job, so good, we'll just have to keep him there.

SrA James Andrews – James is our next CFIC candidate. Right now we got him working in the Stan Eval office and he's been doing a great job keeping that office in shape.

A1C Adam Turk – Our newest boom operator. Not much intel on Adam yet, he just got mission qualified and will be deploying to Iceland soon. From the looks of it, he'll be one of our top booms in no-time.

Amn Amber Brewer – She will be coming to us this March. We look forward to getting her qualified and eating MRE's in the sand asap.

Well that's the line-up for the 911 ARS. For all you old crusty booms (you know who you are) I'm sure you'll agree with me that the KC-135 has change in amazing ways over the last few years. We created thrust from burning water, navigation using the heavenly bodies, going to predictable places, completing predictable missions, to what we have today. I'm as amazed with the upgrades to the KC-135, as MSgt Williams was when they invented the train, so you can imagine my amazement. Now we have a glass cockpit, navigation using man-made heavenly bodies, engines we brag about, a sophisticated drogue system, destinations such as China, Hanoi, and Moscow, all done without a navigator. If you've been in the tanker in the 90's you've been involved in two major wars and more contingencies than we care to count. So, what's my point – my point is this: In a short period of time I've watched the job of the boom operator and the aircraft we fly in evolve into something I never dreamed of. We have greater responsibilities than ever before. We are operating increasingly sophisticated equipment and we're more of an integral part of the crew than ever before. Of course the greatest advancement for booms is - we finally get a **desk to eat our lunch on!** Finally, I'm certain that the job of the boom operator in the last few years has grown more than any other job in the Air Force, and we have a lot to be proud of. So, take care and fly safe. Gary Davis

Personal e-mail address: (note: you can get ahold of anyone through their military address here i.e. [john.doe@grandforks.af.mil](mailto:john.doe@grandforks.af.mil))

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## Grand Forks AFB, ND

### 912 ARS

Another busy year for us “DORKS at the FORKS”. The squadron finished its Pacer CRAG conversion and has been to Turkey, Saudia, and everywhere in between. Our Ops Group Commander promised us a break just as soon as it reaches 90 degrees in January. Grand Forks has pretty much met *all* of our expectations and we are ready to move on...does anyone want to start working on a complete squadron swap? We would love to have some experienced old heads come to help out with training and stan/eval, so send us your tired, poor, or huddled masses because we would be happy to FORK them too! Give a call to the Boom Pod at DSN 362-3494.

**MSgt Nathan “Peach-Man” Peachey** - Program Manager. I started running the show in October after Smurf escaped to the OSS. Trying my best to convince everyone there is a light at the end of the tunnel by turning my flashlight on every time I walk into the squadron. Think I need to get fresh batteries.

**TSgt Gary “Cosmo” Frederick** - C Flight Supervisor. Arrived from Mildenhall and took nearly 6 months to get mission qualified. Completely confused by the Pacer CRAG conversion, (still enters 4 crew on his Form F). He’s counting the months to freedom, (slated to retire this year). You’ll probably find him at Pizza Hut because that’s where he spends most of his duty hours. And by the way he’s still waiting on his car to arrive from overseas.

**TSgt Mike “Endless In-house Upgrade” Cahill** - A Flight Supervisor. Our Enlisted Aircrew Member of the Year. He’s involved in absolutely everything and we’re glad to have him. I did have to pull him aside to tell him to bathe 5 times a day until he gets rid of that nasty the KC-10 stink though!

**SSgt Joe “Altus on my Dream Sheet” Wilkins** - Stan/Eval. Proved my theory wrong about Grand Forks adding stability by never offering assignments. He bagged an Altus assignment by having it on his dream sheet. He wasted no time in adding that to his endless list of things to complain about. Gonna miss you in May Joe.

**SSgt Corey “Sour” Grape** - Training Flight. Proud new dad to Joshua. His game plan was to finish his last year with zero office work and constant flying...A heart murmur changed that to zero flying and constant office work. Despite the fact that the DO told him he’s no longer an asset we’re going to hang onto him as long as we can.

**SSgt Leslie “LA” Yarbough** - B Flight Supervisor. Completed CFIC after finding out that the workbook was not optional. A volunteer to do nearly anything but stay here...Altus, cleaning toilets in Korea, etc.

**SrA Melvin “Dino” Fultz** - Looking for a KC-10 slot to Travis. If that doesn’t work out he plans to apply for every special duty assignment that comes down the pike. Figures he’ll make SSgt this year since he found out that there are actual books to study.

**SrA Matthew “Big Dog” Hartman** - The Big Dog is expecting his second pup this spring. After completing ALS as the Distinguished Graduate he’s looking forward to going to CFIC and testing for SSgt. Perhaps with a little more brainwashing I’ll be able to make him a lifer.

**SrA Tim “GQ” Mitchell** - A new IBO this year. He must have found some hidden clothing allowance that the rest of us don’t know about because he can deploy for 60 days and never wear the same shirt twice.

**SrA Kelly “Mr. Clean” Mueller** - I have no idea who this guy is because he’s always TDY. The only thing I can tell you is that he is a SrA, his middle initial is L., he’s single and lives on 30th Ave. (I got all of the that from the recall roster).

**SrA Richard “Taco” Kelsey** - He occasionally dukes it out with the beet farmers during the late shift at Taco Bell to keep the peace. He plans on using this as his proving grounds to prepare for the next Tough-Man competition. By the way don’t ask for extra cheese if you go to the drive-thru.

**SrA Heath “I got Rabies” Peed** - Has some rare stomach disease that has never been found in humans. He was happy not flying until it was going to impact his pay, then he got a waiver. The medication he takes isn’t helping his stomach, his tendency to lift a leg, or his butt sniffing habits. (Please don’t confuse this with brown nosing, I assure you we don’t have any of that here, nobody cares!)

**SrA Tom “Scheduler” Conley** - Went DNIF with a busted finger to help boost my flying hours. Took some leave at home in Boston and returned with a speech impediment. The closer he gets to separation the more difficult it becomes to understand him.

**SrA Jeremy “The Worm” Morris** - New IBO, just finished up at CFIC. We did our best to prepare him for the ordeal in the middle of our Pacer CRAG conversion, but despite our best efforts he still managed to depart without his helmet. (I think he was just anxious to escape).

**SrA Jason Larimore** - Another new IBO. He attended the same class as “The Worm”. He said he knew Morris forgot his helmet as soon as they headed out, but he was waiting for him to recognize his own mistake. I’m going to have to read his training records to see if Altus worked on his intervention techniques.

**SrA Josh “?” Brown** - Working in Ground Scheduling when not deployed. Turns 21 in a few months so we can stop putting those space hogging sodas in the beer cooler.

#### **DEPARTURES:**

**MSgt Terry “Smurf” Klementz** - He turned the show over to me so he could take over Wing Tactics. He has already mastered tactical deception and camouflage...if you can track him down at the office you’re a better man than me. Sounds like he is planning on retirement sometime this summer.

**SSgt Matt “Mr.” Arevalo** - Cashed in his chips after being denied an extension request. Guess the Air Force has no use for the Instructor Boom Operator of the Year. Plans to hang out in the area until his wife finishes up her degree. He has a job teaching and we hope he becomes a server at Applebees so we can get our 75% Boom Operator discount!

**SrA Johnny “Stone Cold” White** - He was involved in a wreck with an 18 wheeler. The first inning score was Semi-1, Johnny-0. He bounced back just fine and is working as a boom at Selfridge and part time at American Eagle as a load team supervisor.

**SrA Ryan King** - Got out to join his wife up at the Eielson Guard. He still has some unfinished business with us, so if you see him tell him to “deliver the package”.

#### **INBOUNDS:**

**NONE** - We were scheduled for a cross trainee in January but rumor has it he shot himself when he found out he was coming here. Anyone interested in filling the void?

*Nathan J. Peachey*

**NATHAN J. PEACHEY, MSgt, USAF  
912 ARS Program Manager**

## Grissom ARB, IN

### 72 ARS

It's time for all fellow Boom Operators to rise up against the establishment and fight for our morale patch that sets use apart. We are truly the "Jack of all trades", a unique war-fighting instrument of destruction.

**CMSgt Melvin R. Wiemer**, "Chief" or as we refer to him "The Worm". Mel still resides at Boom Lake, where he can live an alternative lifestyle vicariously through his neighbors, who just happen to be life partners. Mel has lost his interest in aviation and only flies for currency, the green kind, that is, which he uses to finance his Bill Gates habitude and to further his evil plans. In case you were wondering how long all this could go on Mel retires in 2009, we have dubbed this event the Mel-ennium and have purchased our countdown timer.

**CMSgt Tony "Fans" Fansler**. Tony is still in charge of Stan-evil and residing at Boom Lake where he keeps an eye on Mel and helps to offset the balance of power. Tony has built himself a two-bedroom house with a 16-car garage and is thinking of adding another addition that will go right up to the property line. Always the family man he constantly acquires children and has a couple of spares for anyone wanting to start a family. Tony continues to purify himself through ritual torture. A few years ago it was a lawn mower blade through the thigh, most recently he crushed his T-5 vertebrae during a feat of strength. We all anxiously await his next attempt to dismember himself.

**MSgt Paul "Doogie" Houser**, He is not the only bread winner of the family now, his wife recently acquired a full time teaching position at a school in Lafayette. His teams still seem to be failing in every sport, so between the Bills and the Cubs, this man will never have anything to cheer for. Doogie's work habits continue to make the Chief as happy as a man can be. Between coming in late, working over, going to the gym at lunch, and earning credit while TDY only Nastrodamus could predict Paul's actual leave balance. The EPA recently initiated a major cleanup action on Paul's desk during which two workers were injured when his in-basket toppled. With all this stress many may wonder how he goes on, he works out every day of the week, can run at least ¾ of a mile and drinks at least 4000 calories in beer each night.

**MSgt Jeff "Heffe" Maier**, he is our resident Pacer CRAG rocket scientist / Internet astronaut. He keeps us constantly informed on the up incoming important information and objectives. As you can see he joined the ranks of the senior NCO status this year, much to our chagrin. He is still happily married and they even have a new addition to their family, a little girl named "Lucy." She is a basenji (the dog equivalent of the African Fruit Bat) and she is seven, in dog years that is. He is still the same obnoxious person he ever was, but now he has some power to go along with it. Since Heffe is required to keep an interior designer on personal retainer, make frequent trips to Paul Harris, and has all new furniture he must follow in Mel's footsteps and constantly fly for currency.

**MSgt Doug "Mudvein" Preece**, he has another job, he is currently helping the less fortunate locate jobs for themselves. The company is called "Bridges" and Doug helps these people bridge the gap between welfare and minimum wage, a transition Doug made himself, just six months ago. He is married now to Amanda, a woman with a keen sense of sarcasm and a cruel sense of humor, which keeps her at least three steps ahead of Doug. They have three children, the most recent is a little boy name Casey. Doug is almost certain this one is his; at least it makes the same noise Doug does when you take his man-days away. He also joined the ranks of the senior NCOs this year, again a promotion that was not a group consensus.

**MSgt James "Soui" Seidle**, Obsessive Compulsive, Obsessive Compulsive disorder does not begin to describe this man. As fussy as a male flight attendant, every thing in Soui's life must be properly folded and squared at the corners. This perfectionism combined with the workload he takes on every day makes an explosive combination. Our former Marine wants to be just like "that guy that shot Kennedy" and if he doesn't get a break soon we fully expect to find him on yonder grassy knoll with his old M-14. Soui continues to collect cars, coins, toy trains, and anything else he can arrange in neat rows.

**MSgt Scott "Leon" Ward**, Mel used a Jedi mind trick on Scott and talked him into working in the wing plans section of the vault, exactly where he needs to be. Since moving to the vault Scott has added a new word to his vocabulary (F\*%#). This year his youngest boy, Jordan, took an interest in the art of auto body and reworked Scott's fenders with a ball peen hammer. When the boy turns six he plans to install a lift kit on the vehicle. Scott stays pretty busy bailing his wife's craft booth during the summer floods, finishing up all his wood working projects, or attending tent revivals in southern Indiana.

**MSgt Jeff “Remo” Williams**, say hello to the newest lieutenant of the Lawrence Township fire department. This recent promotion will ensure that Remo won’t have to pull anymore 300lb. Women out of their bathtub and give them CPR. Remo needed to have more long and meaningful conversations with his fellow booms so he bought a house next door to Ward. Together, Remo and Ward have enough wives and children to start some strange cult. We rarely see him since his activities with the mob; I mean the union, keeps him fairly busy.

**TSgt James “Booger” Maxwell** keeps moving up in the world by negotiating a higher salary with a new company every six weeks. This revolving door policy on employment seems to work for Booger but makes maintaining the recall roster a nightmare. The nice thing about having Booger in the squadron is that he is always willing to fly at night. His translucent skin makes him intolerant of any sunlight whatsoever so if he isn’t flying a TP he’s hiding in his basement smoking and talking to children in chat rooms. Booger was recently promoted, because we had to (HYT).

**TSgt Lisa Polston** just gave birth to a baby girl and won’t be with us for a while. It’s been so long since we’ve seen her that there isn’t anything we can accurately report about her except that we think she may still live in Kokomo.

**SSgt Howard “Tick” MacDonald**, continues to produce offspring, driving by his house on base one may see as many as two dozen children running around starting fires and breaking windows. Tick’s unfortunate wife frequently has to call in the neighbors to help with crowd control. In order to feed all these mouths Tick must throw his integrity out the window and cheat old ladies out of their social security by over charging them on auto repairs. The auto service department seems to be the perfect place for Tick, who believes that money isn’t fun if you come by it honestly.

**SSgt Laura “Wilma” Mckee**, “Wilma” is short for a much more derogatory nickname that she earned in France by saying “Hey, how come everybody has a nickname except me?” She is still a motor head at Chrysler and she is trying to make herself a more proficient NCO by attending NCOLDP (in residence), because she needed the discipline. Laura is engaged to some guy in the 74<sup>th</sup> ARS Named Bob

**SSgt Mike “Leonard” Morgan**, is Scott Ward’s apprentice in the mobility office. Always the hipster, Leonard landed a job waiting tables at the Sycamore grille, because that’s where all the cool people hang out. Leonard goes to school part time and is working on a degree in something (TV, VCR repair?). He wants to be a pilot or some kind of computer guy or a soda jerk when he grows up. Either way Leonard is going to make us all proud and be the first one in his family to complete some kind of formal education.

**MSgt Jeff “Killer” Withrow** is working on becoming part of the Tennessee militia going below the shoe-line to be near his kinfolk. Relocating to the Motherland will allow Killer to free up some space in the house by moving the washing machine, dryer, and couch out to the front porch. In his spare time Killer is prepping his Dodge Charger for the journey, i.e. welding the doors closed, painting a rebel flag on the hood, and installing air horns. We will miss his toothless smile if he ever goes, but we will adapt by hiring some other toothless hillbilly to fill the flight safety NCO position.

Dead Wood list:

**SMSgt Ron Johnston**- retired

**TSgt Gloria Jones**- OTS FAI or UPT

## **Grissom ARB, IN**

### **74 ARS**

CMSgt KIM “Me, I’ll go on that trip” AYERS – (A.R.T) Now that Mike is trained in both he and she duties of the household, it doesn’t bother Kim to go on trips for months at a time. It doesn’t bother anyone in the Wing either.

TSgt DUSTY “Paper Boy” BAKER (Reservist) - Took a leave of absence to be a “find himself” in New York State, but figured out he made more money with less effort being a boomer.

SSgt RENA “Mini Me” BECKHAM (Reservist) - Our newest boom (maybe), still at Altus. Likes them spray on flight suites, and calling and E-mailing the Chief. She will go far in this unit.

MSgt SHAD CULP- (A.R.T.) - Shad is our building manager, cargo loading expert, and jack of all trades. He has taken to being a Kokomo Socialite complete with tuxedo in his spare time now that his wife Holly is a real-estate broker.

SMSgt ROGER DRUMM (Reservist) - Roger is still doing that heating and air conditioning thing. He comes in the back door of the squadron, briefs in the crew van, leaves by same back door, we never see him. He has life down pat here.

TSgt DAVE FRENCH (Reservist) - Dave is bending wrenches for the company that is turning out Pacer CRAG jets here at Grissom, and in his spare time he has become a dad again and again and again. The winters are not that cold here but.....

SMSgt BUCK HENRY (A.R.T.) - Buck has just been PEP’ed to SMSgt. We did not even hear about him going over to Kim’s place for any heart to heart talks like Larry does. Buck is our computer manager, and body scheduler.

MSgt BRYAN “I’ve got a schematic and a reference for that” HETTINGHOUSE (Reservist) - Just back from CFIC and we are ready to send him back. Has been seen consulting with the local Boeing engineers. Has no life! Last seen at KG’s Lounge in his flight suit trying to pickup toothless women.

MSgt KYM “Homie” ORANGE – (Reservist) River Boat Pig. KYM has moved from sticking it to the man on the highway to being a gambling boat Law Enforcement Officer. This allows him to use close circuit TV to monitor any good-looking women who come on the boat. Our tax dollars in action.

TSgt SALT “I need to make Master, Kim!” SANTINE (A.R.T) - Larry has been spending a lot of time at Kim’s place experimenting with new grass seeds with her and buying any junk in her garage. They’ve talked about the injustices of the world and how the man is keeping him down (or women in this case). He has been talking about going back to truck driving; it’s just that work thing that is holding him back.

MSgt JERRY “The Great Hunter” SCHUMACHER (A.R.T.) - takes about half of the hunter wana bee’s at Grissom to Colorado, travels 2000 miles, kills a 700 lb trophy Elk with a Texas heart shot (in the ass). Damn shame though, by the time he fetched it from the woods there wasn’t enough good meat left to make a hot dog.

MSgt TIM “Who has more money in jars in his basement than any bank in town” STIBBE (A.R.T.) - After molesting all the summer help secretaries in the wing and getting dumped by every available booze guzzlin’ member of the opposite gender that would listen to Earth, Wind and Fire Unplugged with him, has finally settled down with his true loves, Tiggy the dog and his pick up truck. Still, all the makings for good country music.

TSgt DARREN “The Sock” ZOLLMAN (Reservist) - Still not sure... Loves to have his picture taken by the guys. Last seen dancing naked and playing bongos at a local establishment.

Departures: TSgt Mike McGowan – Took an A.R.T. job in his old career field.  
SSgt Bob Spychalski – Back on Active Duty at Fairchild (idiot).  
SrA Scott Spangler – Moved to Patrick AFB, Fl. Now a flight engineer on eggbeaters.  
SSgt Dennis Jewel – Left the Reserves to work for Chrysler.

**Hickam AFB, HI**  
**Hq. PACAF**

**Tanker Operations**  
**PACAF AOS/XOK**

*Aloha*, from all the Booms here at PACAF Tanker Ops. It's been a real slow and quiet year here in the Pacific. You all know where the real work is being done, cause y'all been there, and not here. With all that stuff going on over in Europe and the Sandbox, there's not a lot of you folks left to come over and play in the Pacific AOR. (*Quick, hand me another MAI-TAI, I'm getting thirsty doing all this typing*) Things will be picking up in the next few months, once you all thaw out that is. . Well, it's time to go, *SURFS-UP*.

Here is the big list of all of our assigned Boom Operators both active and not....

1. Master Sergeant Jackie Hale ... [Jacqueline.Hale@cidss.af.mil](mailto:Jacqueline.Hale@cidss.af.mil) Active (unless sleeping)  
Our fearless leader ... Jackie started off in the KC-135s, then traded-up (?) for a KC-10. Says she can hardly wait to get back to a real flying squadron... (HaHaHa) Actually Jackie just received an extension to her tour over here with us. So Jackie and the 40 cats she lives with, won't be moving back to the CONUS anytime soon....
2. Technical Sergeant Rick Brack ... [Rick.brack@cidss.af.mil](mailto:Rick.brack@cidss.af.mil) Active (unless working)  
Rick has been here the longest of anyone in the shop. ( 'bout 30 days longer) He doesn't seem to want to PCS and go back to work for a living... ( not that we blame him. ;- ) Actually he just likes riding his Harley all year long without having to put snow tires on it. And Rick has his paperwork in the system for an extension to his tour over here. Don't plan on seeing him in the CONUS anytime soon, either.
3. ThThThTh That's all folks...

Be sure to stop in for a visit if you're in the neighborhood. We are located on the street side of Hanger 2, next to Base Ops. Our phone numbers are DSN- 315 - 449-C135 & 449-KC10. Of course if you're on a Coronet and dragging someone across the pond, we'll meet ya when ya land...

Remember our motto:

*Have Gas, Will Pass !!*

## Hickam AFB, HI

### 203 ARS

Aloooooooooooooooha! Howsit braddahs. Greetings from the land of paradise. Hurricane Daniel just came by approximately 100 NM north of the island and made us a little worried. So far, so good. We're getting use to fly without a Nav now, though they still lingers and sign up for TDY once in a while, whenever the location fits their needs. We have five Pacer Crag, but we'd just lost one due to a cracked fuselage. Place a masking tape over the cracked area and it's good for a one time flight to McConnell AFB, can you believe that! Talking about gutsy....

Anyway here's our current line-up:

#### **FULL TIMER**

Chief Boom	SMSgt	Steve Cid
Stan/Eval	MSgt	Frank Santos
Training	TSgt	Chris Killion
Current Ops	MSgt	Gary Mau
Tactics/Mobility NCO	TSgt	Eric Faurot
	MSgt	Kris (Tisdale) Oka (currently on LWOP status)
Scheduling	TSgt	Mark Sindiong
	SrA	Curtis Yoshimoto

#### **TRADITIONAL**

Unit Career Advisor	MSgt	Warren Faurot
Newsletter	TSgt	Paul Stankiewicz
Self Aid Buddy Care	SSgt	Mark Edwards
Scheduling (Temp Hire)	SSgt	Kula Cummings
Current Ops(Temp Hire)	SSgt	Bruce Roberts
Scheduling (Temp Hire)	SSgt	Jamie Hasuike
Recently Retire (June 00)	SSgt	Gregg Genenbacher (Living in Las Vegas)

We have three boom candidate awaiting Physical Exam results.

That's all folks and Mahalo to everyone. Don't forget to give us a jingle after your post flight here at Hickalulu.

We always have a cold one in a coola fo u.

Stephen V. Cid, SMSgt, HIANG  
Inflight Refueling Superintendent

## **Kadena AB, Japan**

### **909 ARS**

#### **HOME OF THE YOUNG TIGERS**

It's been another memorable year in the Pacific! From boom campouts, Diego fishing trips, to Guam typhoon evacuations, it has been an action packed year filled with plenty of boom stories for the new millennium.

Over the past months we have been preparing ourselves for the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of the KC-135...Pacer Crag! We just received our first block 30 Jet...all I can say is "IT'S ABOUT TIME!" All we need now is an upgrade to the pod! To prepare for this historic event we worked 4 CFIC slots and upgraded our young boom force to almost 100% instructors. Should be an interesting summer with a major conversion, G-8 Summit, typhoon evacuations...oh, and did I mention we will stay 100% operational at the same time? And I thought moving the school house from Castle to Altus was a challenge.

There seems to be a lot of issues these days about the career field and the Air Force. I have to admit the boomer business has changed quite a bit since the days of SAC. However, we still do have the best job in the world! Just last week we had John Zivic belly up to our squadron bar after the Pacer Crag roll in ceremony. Every boom present was mesmerized by his aerial escapades. You see, John was once a boom operator in the KC-97 and also flew the new tanks off the Boeing airfield into the hands of mother SAC. This boom had us crying one minute and laughing the next. He told us about the time this B-47 sheared off his #3 and #4 props during an air refueling...he said "...we saw the bomber disappear into the clouds never to be heard from again." The crew contemplated bailout from their crippled KC-97 but managed to safely recover the aircraft. He told us other stories of having to fly through post detonated atom bomb clouds off Johnson island...he said they would light up Hawaii for 2 whole minutes in the dead of night...Johnson island is over 500 miles away. Upon landing they would strip, wash, get scanned for radiation, get brand new gear, and then hit the local hot spots. To this day John still carries a picture of a fellow boom named Alex in his wallet. Alex was the only boom to give his life while serving proudly as a boom operator at Kadena. To me John is the epitome of what all boom operator should strive to be...even in retirement he is a boom operator at heart. It was truly an honor for all of us present...thanks John.

There are a lot of boomers like John who would probably give up everything to be able to have the chance to do it all over again. Booms...keep the faith, take care of one another, and stand proud to know that you continue the long standing history and carry on the traditions, skill, and expertise of being a Boom Operator in this world's greatest Air Force. It is because of air refuelers like you that allows us to save starving children, prevent loss of life, win wars, and share our freedoms with the world...you are all true Patriots!

I would like to thank SSgt Bert Fristad for tackling this year's signal. If you're ever passing through the Pacific please swing by the boom pod and have a beer on me! Don't forget your coin!

This year we've welcomed two new CCTS graduates and a some outstanding booms from McConnell, Mountain Home, Altus, and Fairchild. If you need some excitement in your boom career...come on over!

V/R...GREG DURAND, Boomer



## **Our Boom Pod**

### **CMSgt "Ditched" Greg Durand (Chief Boom)**

His part time job entails organizing an AERO CLUB and teaching booms how to fly remote control airplanes. Seems he needs some lessons himself...ditched his 27% 300S in the ocean...Should be an ambassador to Singapore...his 2 day trips keep turning into 2 weeks.

### **MSgt "Swayze, the Fugitive" Dave Pileski (PACAF ALCE)**

PCSing to Robbins AFB, GA...hard to find or be seen, always on the run somewhere either doing some site surveys or other ALCE business.

### **MSgt Pat "Chip" Stevens a.k.a. "Skippy the Clown" (18 OSS Scheduling)**

How many hats can this clown wear? He's Superintendent of Wing Tanker Scheduling, solves Current Ops computer problems and flies for us as an Instructor. Is there anything he can't do? He's still looking for a trip back to U-Taphao to get just one more beer!!

### **TSgt Tony "Drill Sergeant" Panganiban (Program Manager)**

Word is he runs the booms like Basic...just got married...says he's ready for a family! I swear, if you need anything on the island, he has the connections to hook you up...can you say "MAFIA"?

### **TSgt Steve "Opie" Flax (18 OSS Plans)**

Opie is another new addition to the Coronet shop. He snuck in under the radar and landed a seat directly at the "Oz". He is quickly learning the ins and outs of planning, "do you follow me?"

### **TSgt (sel) Robert Jepson (PACAF TALCE)**

Recently began his IPCOT...he is "happy" again with a new job across the street in the TALCE Unit. Word is they will be moving the TALCE to Yukota soon!

### **TSgt (sel) Dave "The Stockbroker" Steiner (Stan/Eval NCOIC)**

Want to know something about the stock market, just ask him...rumor has it he's looking to retire and work with the Singapore Stock Commission...provided his wife could teach and tell "knack-knack" stories...there is always the Professional Beach Volleyball Circuit, if it doesn't work out.

### **SSgt Tony Aparicio (Ground Scheduling)**

Decided to stay another 4 more years on the island...honing up on his photography skills...maybe someday he could start another career as a professional photographer working for the National Geographic Explorer!

### **SSgt Rod "Yeti" Cline (18 OSS Plans)**

Rod is the Coronet Guru over in the "Oz". He has had his hands full training Larry, Opie and a KC-10 FE/former Gunner on how to be Planners, no easy task! How many times had he heard "Hey Rod, how do you..." The Coronet Shop would cease to exist without him.

### **SSgt Stephen Estell (A-Flight Boom)**

Stephen is new here, just got in from McConnell AFB...He is very quiet...getting him spun up for CFIC, if that doesn't get him to raise his voice, he can take lessons from Bert...

### **SSgt Bert "Slimfast" Fristad (B-Flight Supervisor)**

Went to CFIC and came back skinny..."wanna be lean", just ask him...I wonder what they did to him at Altus to make him lose so much weight???

### **SSgt Joe "Mr. Pharmaceuticals" Gellis (C-Flight Supervisor)**

Between quitting smoking and his cholesterol he has more drugs than the "Cartel" has...be aware, one day he's Mr. Nice Guy and the next...LOOKOUT!!...Looking into road racing and hoping for Honda as a sponsor.

### **SSgt Chris Harget (633<sup>rd</sup> AMCC)**

Just got in from Altus...hope we can keep track of him and keep him current...we sure can use his help...especially with his CCTS/PC background.

**SSgt Pat “Quiet” Ingram (Stan/Eval)**

Definitely the quietest Instructor and soon to be Evaluator boom at the squadron...I heard he is teaching Fred some lessons on heavy weight lifting (says “Fred is a Wimp”). Avid softball player...Mr. Home Run.

**SSgt Wayne “Mr.Villa” Keiser (A-Flight Supervisor)**

Chief’s assistant remote control airplane instructor ...loves to fly...helped remodel the “Tigers Den” and did an outstanding job. Has a future in carpentry business, once his contacts go bad...

**SSgt Larry “I have no hair” Lewis (18 OSS Plans)**

Larry is the newest addition to the Coronet Shop. He thought he’d be able to work on his golf/softball games working in plans, little did he know...must be a “perception” problem!! He quickly learned in Australia just how long a human could function without sleep.

**SSgt Fred “Flex” Ramey (Training Flight)**

The newest addition to training...really has his hands full getting all the CFIC candidates ready to go to ALTUS...when it comes to lifting he says “Pat is full of BULL!#?\*”!!!

**SSgt Jay “Good Deal” Stiles (Training Flight Supervisor)**

The only person I know who can head to McConnell AFB to become a PACER CRAG Instructor and end up in Europe then Wright Patterson...things that make you go “HMMM”.

**SSgt (sel) Bill McQueen (C-Flight Boom)**

Just arrived to Kadena and getting mission qualified...His wife just got a great job with services...hear he is good at assisting in selling Honda Preludes and jumping curbs...

**SSgt (sel) Steve Spalding (Stan/Eval)**

Just returned to us from ALS...he will be keeping us all in line...loves on work on anything...his wife has a bun in the oven ...“must be the water over here”, huh?

**SrA Shane “54” “Best Friend Jim” Cassily (C-Flight Boom)**

The newest Instructor in the squadron...heard he can give out some new techniques on making contacts with the F-15s...loves to go surfing...always has that “wet hair look”!

**SrA Shane Haney (A-Flight Boom)**

Just arrived here from McConnell AFB...loves playing golf, heard he’s pretty good...couldn’t wait to get his wife on island...they are expecting a bundle of joy! PACER CRAG qualified...he will be a big help during our conversion.

**SrA Tony Trotter (B-Flight Boom)**

The sun must be shining on this boom...picked up orders to McDill AFB (“where the girls are”)...can’t complain too much though, (we all hope we could do the same when it’s time to leave here.

**A1C Larry “Patch” Nahalea (B-Flight Boom)**

The first boom operator that I know that gave the AWAC’s a “new look” to put it mildly...he has had more trips all over Asia than “good deal” Stiles! He likes Diego Garcia...good fishing!

**A1C Shane “Pimple” Nordick (C-Flight Boom)**

On a typhoon evacuation to Guam, he made a lasting impression on the whole squadron...I heard the dancers are eagerly awaiting his return...loves going TDY!

**A1C Yale “Yack” Perkins (A-Flight Boom)**

At this year’s “animals in the woods/on the beach”, he took up-chucking to another level...does a lot of mountain biking and loves to play in the mud...

**A1C Blaise “EQ” Rohan (B-Flight Boom)**

The latest “EQ” CFIC graduate from Altus...Surprised us all...went to CFIC and came back married to Paula...one of our ATC controllers. Baby on the way, talk about quick! He was poking fun and Paula was taking him seriously!!!

**Fly Safe!**

**Kadena AFB, Jap**  
633-TALCE

Here in the AMC TALCE we have 4 booms.

Me, MSgt Snyder, KC-10  
(M)Sgt Dan Hutchinson, KC-10  
TSgt Dan Jorgensen, KC-10  
SSgt Chris Hargett, KC-135

MSgt Snyder  
633 AMCF  
AMC TALCE

If you want to contact any of the above call: 634-1057 or 2593

## **Langley AFB, VA**

### **HQ ACC**

Greetings from Hampton Roads and home of Air Combat Command Headquarters. Yes tankers exist outside of AMC. It has been another very busy year in ACC.

Some may have heard that formalized procedures for Quick Flow A/R is coming out in the air refueling manuals. This is true and is in the latest -3 change. I thought this would be a simple issue since we have been doing it for years but when you have to coordinate with every fighter MAJCOM, it is amazing on the varied opinions. The key is to be safe and not allow situations to progress to a point where you can't recover.

The guys and girls in the 22 ARS at Mountain Home have been extremely busy with AEF taskings and unit deployments. They also have been breaking new ground in conjunction with the Air Expeditionary Force Battlelab in the development of advanced technologies. MSgt Dennis O'Grady is the Program Manager and is doing an outstanding job. Thanks to all of your great efforts in 99. A special thanks to TSgt Steve "Gunny" Myrick for hanging around to help out the unit in a time of need. Gunny is retiring this summer after 22 years of tremendous service to the boom field and the USAF.

We still have two boomers, TSgt Sal Iannucci and SSgt Jeff MaGee at the 55th Wing, Offutt AFB NE. They are providing support for the new RC-135 FTU established to provide specific RC aircrew training. We have a modified EC-135C, now WC-135C, that retained its air refueling capability and is being used in a verity of applications including boom A/R. Sal is leaving this summer for Kadena. His replacement, TSgt Mark Adame is coming to us from Grand Forks where he worked at the NCOIC of the Special Ops branch. Welcome Mark.

At our NAF, we have a great American, SMSgt Troy Sinclair who is doing a super job keeping all of us in line as the 12 AF Stan/Eval Boomer. He also acts in my stead, when I need additional help. Thanks for all your help Troy.

I want to especially thank the guys at McConnell for extending such outstanding support to myself and ACC this last year. With ACC's upcoming Pacer CRAG conversion, I have been flying with the 350th to try and teach an old dog new tricks. MSgt Jim Morman and his troops are some of the most professional boomers I have come in contact with. Thanks also to CMSgt Karasko for allowing me to impose so many times on your hospitality. It has aided greatly in allowing me to answer my bosses questions as they pertain to PC.

As with most, all good things must come to an end. After 25 years in the AF, I am hanging it up. I intend to retire 1 Sept 00 unless events change that. The position is a CMSgt billet and will be advertised on Equal Plus as soon as I get the firm retirement date. The reason for the unconfirmed date is that I have to get some medical problems fixed prior to retirement. I want to thank all of you who sent emails while I was in the hospital in Dec. It is impossible to thank everyone who has made my career as a boomer so rich and fulfilling. From Dick Sanders who got me in, to John Sondrini who took care of me during my development as a boom, to John Randall who taught me how its suppose to be done, to every boom I have met who made me proud to be a member of the best career field in the military. The hardest thing to do is to say good bye but the old adage "Once a Boomer, Always a Boomer" says it all. I take great comfort in knowing that the important job we do is in the hands of such outstanding young professionals. FLY SAFE, FLY SMART, but ALWAYS FLY. "Boom Stowed"

John K. Buckland, SMSgt, USAF  
Command In-flight Refueling Program Manager  
Headquarters, Air Combat Command  
DSN 574-8170, FAX 574-8648

## Lincoln ANGB, NE

### 173 ARS

Howdy from Huskerland. We're in the process of slowly easing into PACER CRAG while dealing with both the uncertainty of our new duties and dodging navigator barbs. Lincoln aircrews spent much of the spring in Germany dealing with the Kosovo crisis, but we were never called to federal active duty. As a result, we don't seem to be appearing on any list of tanker units which participated in Operation Allied Force. It somehow makes us feel like draft card burning, bell bottom wearing, "Hell no we won't go" shrieking, non-contributors. Keep going to those conferences. There is a mountain of information that somehow never makes it back to the base unless someone goes hunting for it, kills it, and brings it home. Everyone says there's no money in the budget for those "frivolities". Yes there is. Here's what the Lincoln booms have been up to lately:

**Gordon Anderson:** Traditional instructor boom. Now happily married, he has taken on the attributes of a dutiful husband rushing home from work to clean out the attic and take out the garbage. Good News!! Gordon's days of DNIF are over and he is back to brewing airborne cappuccino (yes, it's possible) and entertaining space-a dependents by making shadow puppets with the sextant. Gordon's experience as a certified flight instructor is proving invaluable in preparing the boom cadre for Pacer Crag conversion. Unfortunately, he's the only one who can make sense of this stuff.

**Lang Anderson:** Full-time instructor in Current Operations. Just returned from a lengthy TDY to Australia where he spent most of his time learning to play the diggerdoo. Lang now "entertains" his friends and co-workers by making sputtering sounds through a painted wooden tube between gulps of Foster's Ale. He comes to work wearing a broad brimmed hat with the left side sticking straight up and responds to every question with, "no worries, mate." This is worse than his trip to Bavaria last year when he returned wearing lederhosen, knee socks, and a dreiecken hat. We're keeping his name off the trip board.

**Kevin Block:** Traditional boom who has gone to work for an electrical contracting company and is hardly seen anymore. When he was a "totally available" flyer he oftentimes regaled us with stories of his various outdoor adventures dog sledding in Alaska or hunting elk in the Black Hills. To make his stories more believable he used to come to work smelling of whale blubber or bear grease. We pity his new employer and co-workers.

**Gary Bornemeier:** Traditional instructor/evaluator who recently retired as the full-time chief boom. When he's not at the base "sucking up" days, he's spending time restoring a '57 Chevy and mentally reliving his days as a black leather jacket clad high school rowdy. He brought in his 1961 Northeast High School yearbook not long ago and we discovered that he had been named the student "Most Likely To Do Time For Drag Racing". One advantage of his misspent youth is that he has easily won several Elvis Prestley lookalike contests.

**Mary Bundy:** Traditional boom who has recently developed an interest in the mystic arts. She amazes her friends by making herself and others disappear suddenly and unexpectedly. The recent and untimely death of magician Doug Henning has left her in a permanent state of mourning. In his memory she has been working to perfect her ability to make the OPS building disappear. At other times she continues to teach Airman Leadership School classes at various locations around the country. She is experimenting with the idea of instructing her classes using pantomime.

**Randy Douglas:** Full-time instructor, but only just barely. Was hired as our most recent full-timer only days ago, as of this writing. He has also applied for a pilot position. This guy doesn't know if he's coming or going. He was offered a navigator position, but turned it down for obvious reasons. Claims he never "felt right" in his role as a boom. It was either going to be a "gender identity" procedure or a pilot position. The jury is still out.

**Matt Ellison:** Traditional boom who is our resident pop culture fanatic and head banging music guru. His latest ploy is to wait outside of the local Jenny Craig office hoping to get Monica Lewinsky's autograph. Stalking laws were written for this kind of behavior. He narrowly avoided a traffic accident several years ago when the bag of pet rocks in his trunk shifted suddenly. His continual listening to Twisted Sister is beginning to affect his personality.

**Mark Forster:** Full-time instructor/evaluator in Stan Eval who has been a practitioner of martial arts for many years. His skill at unarmed self defense has come in handy on more than one occasion during check ride debriefs. Black powder "cowboy shoots", hunting, and fishing are among his other outdoor avocations. His wife has recently given birth to their first child. We're betting that his muzzle-loading flintlock will soon be listed in the want ads.

**Mark Heithoff:** Traditional boom who works as a Lincoln firefighter when he's not complaining about all the "good deals" the full-timers are getting. Has recently become enamoured with performance art and guerilla-style "street theater". Has been known to smear his body with used motor oil and roll around in snow banks while shouting slogans from Chairman Mao's Little Red Book. Oh yeah, he also likes macramé.

**Mike Hommen:** Traditional boom who is a new hire and is currently at survival school. The last word we received is that he tried to eat a brown recluse spider, but the spider bit back. Now that he's out of the hospital he'll do a final round of RT and then back to Lincoln for more abuse. If he thinks he's got trouble now, wait until Stan/Eval gets him in their clutches.

**Melvin Kauk:** Traditional boom who continues to work for the local ATT affiliate even though he continually threatens to retire and become a "totally available" guardsman. He recently returned from a lengthy trip to Venezuela during which he got the opportunity to fly in the back seat of a Venezuelan Air Force F-16B. He hasn't been the same since, walking—no swaggering—around the OPS building like a fighter pilot, swilling beer, and telling wild stories. When he returns to reality we're going to have to remind him to get that rash he picked up down there checked.

**Mike Mayfield:** Traditional boom, our newest hire, who comes to us from the base fire department. This guy is so new we don't know enough about him to pick on him (and he might take it personally).

**Leighton Michaelson:** Full-time instructor/evaluator in Scheduling who is an expert on all things financial. If it's happening in the stock, futures or commodity markets he's the guy to talk to. Several OPS folks mortgaged their houses a few years back to invest in Jordanian pork belly and Iraqi orange juice futures. If the Gulf War had gone the other way they'd now be living on easy street rather than at the City Mission. Just a reminder; give him a call if you have questions on space-a travel. He's our resident expert.

**Randy Millwood:** Full-time instructor in Current Operations who was recently married to a traditional Guard member. Yes, in true Millwood style, the reception was the social event of the season. For those of you who remember him from his days at Castle, however, we're betting his Wild Turkey boilermaker imbibing and karaoke singing evenings at the Club are over. In fact, he was recently seen in his driveway applying paint stripper to a chest of drawers. Oh, the humiliation.

**Mike Minnick:** Traditional instructor boom who spends his free time working in Scheduling. Married to a Guard member in Finance, helping to keep our pay and travel vouchers straight, he is also a Lincoln landlord who mats and frames pictures on the side. He and his wife have been to the Hale Koa in Honolulu on several occasions. During those trips he has become a proponent of consuming poi and pineapple juice as a purgative. He also maintains that hula dancing will someday replace tai chi as a form of healthful exercise. Saltwater consumption must affect the cerebral cortex.

**Steve Minnick:** Full-time instructor/evaluator in Training who recently returned from a TDY to Australia. An amateur wood worker, he spends his free time cutting and shaping "killer" boomerangs. His claim is that when gun control becomes the law of the land he will still be able to defend his home and family. We're predicting that a mental health professional is in his future.

**Dwight Morehead:** Full-time instructor and new chief boom after the technician retirement of Gary Bornemeier (staying on as a weekender). Still speculating on building that dream "earth" house at his lake on the Kansas-Nebraska border. Also, he still hosting the "booms in the woods" camping extravaganza in July. Continues to come to work bragging about the four pound bass that leaped into his boat and used the step-over-toe hold on him. We're betting that he's spending way too much time and money at those WWF matches.

**Sandy Reynolds:** Full-time instructor in Cargo and still our resident "new age" guru. Her latest craze is a tofu and soy milk shake, eggplant pizza, and a pop tart. Yes, we still doubt her sincerity. Even though her desk is covered with crystals and pictures of angels, her trashcan is full of McDonald's and Hot Pocket wrappers. She was last seen floating down the hallway during an out-of-body experience.

**Russ Sladky:** Full-time instructor in Scheduling and still our local expert on electricity and its various uses. His idea for wiring up "heated seats" in the KC-135 came to a bad end when the squadron cat was found to have assumed room temperature at one of the modified crew positions. As he discovered, sorting out the difference between the red, white, and black wires is more difficult than it appears on the surface. Given his recently acquired expertise in wiring up chairs, the state pen leaves daily voice mail messages inquiring about his services.

**Mark Stocking:** Traditional instructor and the base All Ranks Club manager/ bouncer who, when he's not dealing with unruly Club denizens, is an unqualified Lincoln Stars ice hockey fanatic. According to him, when he's not engaging in fisticuffs as part of his duties, he seeks out settings where "punch ups" can spontaneously develop. In fact, he's in training at the moment for the annual Lincoln Tough Man competition. If he breaks his nose one more time we've going to start calling him "Rocky".

**Jeff Vannortwick:** Traditional boom who is employed in the civilian world as a Lincoln police officer. For some reason he has chosen to practice "take down" techniques on his fellow booms. He made the mistake of trying to hone his skills one night in the Club on the club manager/bouncer. We've heard that he's healing nicely.

**Chris Hatley:** Formerly our Stan Eval instructor/evaluator and Air Force advisor who has retired and is working for Burlington-Northern-Santa Fe Railroad. Recently was transferred from Spokane, WA, to Kansas City, MO. He and his wife, Jody, stopped in during a recent UTA to update us.

**Kerry Gulzow:** Formerly our Air Force advisor instructor/evaluator who is now retired. He stops in once in awhile, but it's been a year or two. We believe he's now a travel agent in Omaha.

See you all "on the road". Stop in for some specially brewed coffee if you're ever in the Lincoln area.

## Little Rock AFB, AR 463 ALCS

“First In, Last Out”

Howdy, from Little Rock Air Plane Patch. We’ve been awfully busy with exercises, contingencies, and affiliation classes. Training is our key word around here due to personnel rotations in and out of the squadron. For those of you who know little or nothing of the C2 (Command and Control) world, here’s what we do. We control airfields all over the world. When AMC goes into an environment where no Air Force/DOD assets exist or where the assets are incapable of increased airlift flow, they send us. “Us” includes pilots/navs/booms/loads, aerial port, maintenance, airfield management, and communications. If it is a bare base set-up (rare, but it happens) we also take CE, SP and whatever other specialties will contribute to mission accomplishment. We handle all aspects of airlift/tanker operations. Some of these tasks include: flight following/reporting of aircraft arrival/departure, servicing/mx of aircraft, crew management, preparation/loading of cargo and pax, interfacing with the airlift user, and attending pre-mission planning conferences. The on-time takeoff is our ultimate goal. Depending upon your qualifications, you will run or be a part of these teams. If you are looking for career broadening, a new challenge, or just like to go TDY, then we just may offer what you need.

We have three boom slots here. Rank is negotiable (SSgt-MSgt preferred but not mandatory). Two of these slots may come available as of October 2000 and February 2001. Give us a call if the TALCE life is something that sounds interesting to you. Here is our current lineup:

TSgt Barry (I want to retire in Australia!) Mayhew- (KC-135) Load/Boom Assistant NCOIC/Affiliation Manager/MST chief- During a recent exercise in Australia, I fell in love with an entire country. What a cool place to live, work, and party. It took 12 years and a TALCE assignment to get there and it was worth it. I’m currently working to upgrade our affiliation program as well as train our MST candidates. I only have 9 months of TALCE duty left and I’m weighing my options. Do you hear that MacDill?

SSgt Tom (I love JRTC!) Morrison- (KC-135) Affiliation instructor/MST candidate- Tom is busy with MST upgrade and still scarcely seen. At a recent JRTC rotation, Tom took the lead on force protection issues and did a fantastic job! He’s also going to Thailand (damn the luck) to run a team. Tom’s still a golf and NASCAR nut. He plays “pasture pool” and performs caddy duties for the Nike tour.

SSgt Stu (Harley Davidson and the Marlboro Man) DeCou – (KC-10) Inbound from the AMOG at McGuire. We are looking forward to his arrival since we haven’t had a KC-10 boom before. It’s way overdue. He’ll join us in April of 2000. Stu loves the C2 world so much that he PCS’d to stay in it. He says he loves TDY. We’ll do our best to accommodate him!

Well, that’s about it. Remember, TALCE duty is without a doubt, one of the more interesting jobs a boom can volunteer for. Give us a call about any questions you have about the TALCE way of life. Our address and phone number is listed below:

463 ALCS/DOL  
1389 First Street  
Little Rock AFB, AR 72099  
DSN: 731-7512/3976      Comm: (501) 987-XXXX

### Boom listing:

Mayhew, Barry W., [barry.mayhew@littlerock.af.mil](mailto:barry.mayhew@littlerock.af.mil), active  
Morrison, Thomas A., [thomas.morrison@littlerock.af.mil](mailto:thomas.morrison@littlerock.af.mil), active  
DeCou, Stu, e-mail not assigned yet, active  
Crews, Michael, e-mail and whereabouts unknown, retired



## MacDill AFB, FL. 91 ARS

Greetings from the sunshine state the base that is by the sea! Another year has come and gone, very quickly down here for us here at MacDiLL. We are busy with our Pacer Crag conversion along with the normal plethora of short notice tasking we take on too support CENTCOM, and SOCOM, CORONA and who ever else needs our support we always get the job done. We have now been up and running long enough to establish our selves a sound operational wing of tankers and our boom union is getting stronger every day. As with most active duty units the faces around here are changing like the tide. Most of the original booms are moving on or retiring and being replaced with a verity of very talented booms. Overall the booms of this wing are doing a golden job (along with the tans) and we are ready for bigger and better things to come this year. We are also looking forward to seeing our friend from up north this summer. Bring plenty of sun tan lotion!

SMSgt Rick **“Uncle Ricky”** Hackett – No one’s sure how he got a fungal infection on his finger, we think from one of Hog wild trips he’s made on his awesome Harley. This old gasser started during the days of SAC and YOUNG TIGER Operations (check your history books). Talk about seeing both the tanker and mission change. Rick will ride out into the sunset this Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> and not looking back. Rick says thanks to all for the good times over the years. Tread Lightly Rick!

MSgt Mervin **“The General”** Arthurton - Merv is our chief boom here at the 91<sup>st</sup>. Merv was step promoted to MSgt last year for his hard work and outstanding accomplishments. Just after his promotion he revamped his Geo Metro with patton leather seats to improve his position. Merv just keep your feet on the ground and keep reaching for that rainbow in the sky, You will find it big guy.

MSgt Clayton Winston **“Geriatric”** Fox – Clayton is the happy go lucky type who works at XPO making sure the wing runs smoothly. Under the circumstances he’s doing a great job. It’s not easy training a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. and managing several old Cols. We often go up to the BX and bet to see who can find him first. It’s not easy picking him out in the sea of gray hair (snowbirds) and the retirees.

MSgt Stephen **“Fuzzy”** Zoller - The BIG GUY just sewed on Master this November. It’s about time! Fuzzy is the new head of training flight. We all keep him busy with training issues, deployments, and exercises. He is also one of the key people the booms seek out for his GOD FATHER advice when he is conducting business on the squadron porch.

SSgt Lance **“I’m wooped”** Quenga- Lance just arrived to us in November from Altus. He’s working with training flight passing on his valuable Pacer Craig and CCTS experience. Since his arrival he often comes to work bruised. Rumor is he still isn’t used to the Florida beauty yet and his wife is training him to keep his eyes on the road. We here are very happy him and his wife with us.

SrA Scott **“Runaway Bride”** Teague – Scott will be leaving us soon for a career in the fast food industry and moonlighting as a country line dancing instructor. Look out world here comes the cowboy stud with pointy boots.

SSgt Phillip **“Winnebago”** Money –When he’s not chasing the old ladies he can be found at home intoxicated on Mountain Dew and fat free hot dogs. Phil recently tried something different and tried to get some exercise. But an old snow bird driving a Winnebago mistook him for a speed bump and our Mr. (sunshine) Phil just hasn’t been the same!

SSgt Howard **“Mylo”** Gibson III - Mylo recently completed CFIC and is now a certified instructor. They now know what we do about Mylo. He is a good talker but when he is done we ask are selves what did he say?. We are confident that with his CFIC training he will step up to the challenge and help the squadron whip our baby booms into shape.

SSgt (sel) Matthew **“Franks and Beans”** Dellalucca- All of us booms hear at MacDill are proud of this boom. When the challenge came up he was a key player rescuing an A-10 pilot in Kosovo. For his Heroism his parole officer set him free and is able to visit the petting Zoo again. We think he deserves the DFC!!!! More reading material to come about this boom and his crew. Great job

SrA David **“Poopy Pants”** Nixon –Dave had quite the incident in Spain during Allied Force. Some how he lost all bodily functions and well messed himself in #2 (liquid fashion.). Dave says he will all ways have fond memories of Allied Force and remember during the next deployment to eat a more balanced meal. He likes gourmet food that includes squirrels, rodents and fava beans (may be not).

A1C Joshua A **“Purple Toys”** Boswell – Josh is one of our baby booms and doing very well here. Despite his busy schedule Josh has had a good time in the dorms, just ask him about his adventures in the shower when you see him! It’s scary!

Amn Tamara **“Touch-n-Go”** Spooner – She had a short tour in the Air Force. Special thanks to CCTS for the hard work and dedication involved with her training.

SSgt Rob **“E-Bay”** Schofield – Rob. He and his wife are expecting a new edition to their family. Can’t say the guy isn’t busy. His other job is ensuring the computer works by giving it full work out each day and trying to keep up with the baby booms as their Flight super.

SrA Michael **“Crash”** Fatone – In November he bought a new 2000 Xterra, 2 months later the truck along with Mike, take a hard hit. The truck was trashed and Mike is enjoying a lot of physical therapy. We hope he makes it back up on flight status. Mike tried riding a bicycle but judging by the pictures we think he is better off walking.

A1C Sara **“Anakan Skywalker”** Tomlinson – If you guys saw Star Wars this girl looks just like Anakan. Sara has been doing well here at the 91<sup>st</sup>. Well that personality of hers has.... well uhhhh? Keep up the good work uhhh, Sara.

Amn Kevin **“Whiplash”** Stoddard – Kevin is a new edition to our Boom Mafia here at Macdill. He has a lot on his mind whether it’s punk rock music, fixing up his Jeep, getting with the flight records girls, or getting into car accidents with SrA Fatone. He also seems to enjoy a lot of physical therapy. Rumor is he has his own special physical therapist.

SSgt Pat **“Mama Smurf”** Brown – Pat will be leaving us soon for Altus to become a full-fledged CCTS instructor. Guess the first time at Altus wasn’t enough. We will miss her as a flight super. scheduler and most importantly as great person here at MacDill. Our loss your gain but we here at MacDill understand the need to move.

SSgt Carmelo **“Pilot, Oops Navigator”** Alamo Jr. – Carmelo was accepted for OTS with a Navigator follow on. we cant wait to see him in the back seat of a fighter or bomber, trust us we really can’t wait! (We will rock his world. CONTACT!).

Bernard B. **“Squirrel Master”** Echiverri – Bernard has a line number for Ssgt. Bernard just upgraded to instructor and is working in our cargo load office. Judging by his well -rounded vocabulary we think he reads the Mike Tysons dictionary in his spare time.

SrA Shawn **“I love Altus”** Reynolds- As one of our newest booms from the schoolhouse we are still getting to know him. But cross training into the boom career field we are sure he will offer us some new perspective on how good we have it as crewmembers.

A1C Bernardo **“Petafile”** Uribe – He doesn’t like a woman who has a better body, higher IQ, or dresses better than he does. We don’t bother him a lot since it’s alleged he has connections to the Cartel. He is pursuing his pilot license in hopes to be hired by the Colombian private air service and can retire from his Virtual Airline job and girlfriends. Good Luck Ben, (a.k.a. Jose Grande)

TSgt Mark **“Where’s Waldo”** Harper- Mark has been here for a while, but we never see him. We have heard a rumor he has disappeared to tactics.

SSgt Shawn **“dominoes”** Lane – Shawn has a line for TSgt. This guy works up in scheduling inciting riots. We at the 91<sup>st</sup> would like to offer a LARGE cash sum to anybody to take him away from us. PLEASE!!! Who ever gets him is not only getting some good boom experience he doses woodwork too and delivers pizza. Taking Bids.

SrA Zachary **“Private Dick”** Hughes – Zach has a line for SSgt. and just completed ALS good job!! He thinks he wants to change jobs but doesn’t know what he want’s to do, ATC, OSI??? He is always investigating everybody. Yea we wonder about him to? Zach is the best slacker among us. He likes stirring a raucous in the squadron for missing 20 minutes of CST. Couldn’t handle the pressure.

## **March AFB, CA**

### **336 ARS**

1320 Graeber Street  
March ARB, CA 92518-1708

Greetings from the RRATS! We're finally catching our breath after being activated and sent to Turkey and then we come home to find out we're the lead unit in Istres, France, and have to come up with crews and planes to spend a few weeks there over the New Year holiday. Yeah, it's a tough job, but someone's gotta do it.

Pacer CRAG has been completed and now, just when we've gotten used to the Nav suites, we lose them to the latest conversion. With all the new challenges and things to learn, this job never gets boring. I guess that's what makes it so great!

Here's what the men and women of the 336th have been up to...

CMSgt Bob Dunning, ART, Program Manager: Busy finishing up classes and will get his parchment soon. Is there a prize for being the squadron with the most degreed Booms?

CMSgt Steve Hamer, Reservist: Newest member of the E-9 club. Talk about being in the right place at the right time! Just don't talk about it in front of Curt...

SMSgt Curt Massey, ART, Stan-Eval: What is there left to say about Curt Massey?

SMSgt Deborah McGuane, ART, Boom Scheduling: PEP'd to E-8, active in the Base Honor Guard, recently bought a new house, is one of the busiest Booms we have here, and still has time to go two-steppin'.

MSgt John Everette, ART, Tanker Scheduling: Still running the Tanker Scheduling office and getting us trips to France over New Years. Whoo Hoo!

MSgt Ken Horner, ART, Pay: Ken says he's cruising e-Bay.com in search of the best deals on Pokemon cards for his son. But something tells me he's a closet beanie baby fanatic...

MSgt Phil Stidham, ART, Training Flight: Has been doing the round of SNCO boards and winning them. Looks like we'll have a new E-8 in town 'fore too long.

MSgt Tina Jimenez-Skropos, Reservist: Tina seems to be calming down in her "old age..." No more Cuba Libre TDY's and impromptu pool parties. We even see the SUV more often than the little red sports car. What happened? Where did the old Tina go? We miss her!

MSgt Maurice Walker, Reservist: This CHP is often seen online at o'dark thirty for hours and hours. What's he looking at for all that time??? Busy propagating the image of the donut-munching cop. Ask Deb for the photo.

MSgt Tony Wright, Reservist: Recently passed the Officer Selection Board with flying colors and we're losing him to the AeroMed Squadron soon. I hope he doesn't expect us to salute him!

TSgt "Beans" Baxter, Reservist: Frank and Beans, if ya know what I mean. Stealth Boom. He may be Government Issue, but Pacific Bell owns his hide...

TSgt John Irish, Reservist: The last Boom Signal we contributed to ('97), John was busy financing his new Corvette. Now he's driving around a brand new "dualie." Puts even the zeroes to shame in the wheels department.

TSgt Nicole Canada, Reservist, Mobility NCO, Supply NCO: While I am supposed to simply say, "Nicole is still here," I have to say a little more than that. Nicole went from being a Boom trouger to a Boom Reservist with a Squadron Civilian job to an ART, replacing Zen Olson. If something needs doing in the Squadron, chances are Nicole has her hand in it, and gets it done better than anyone could. (Latest update... Just got PEP'd to MSgt!)

TSgt Erica Almgren Scott, Reservist, Sq. Historian: Rarely seen in the Squadron except during UTA's and when cramming to finish her CBT's by year-end. Spends so much time in her civilian job as an IT Recruiter and chasing her 2-year-old around that we almost forget she's around. Almost.

SSgt Brent Johnson, Reservist, Alt. Pay: Managed to stay Active Duty for a while after everyone got back from Turkey. We think he's happier now that a couple more of his "Once a Marine, Always a Marine" brethren have joined the squadron.

SSgt Yvonne Sell, Reservist: TDY hussy! Did I say that? Can I say that? Let's just say that "Why-Vonne" is the volunteeringest boom operator in the squadron because she just bought a house up on the mountain. Is volunteeringest a word? Oh, and yes, her hair is still purple.

SSgt Brian Sammons, Reservist: FNG. Got Brian from the Med Fly Squadron next door. Managed to get him fully mission qual'd, sent him to France for New Years, and now we're looking at making him an ART. A great new addition to the Unit.

Retired:

SMSgt Zen Olson, ART. Went to work in Base Ops. Is wearing an earring now, grew (the back of) his hair out, and has more than enough time to play with his wood.

Well...we've got the 'Cory Tarpenning Memorial Ping Pong Table' broken in and now have a 'Jim Vanek Memorial Fussball Table.' Gotta love it when the zeroes retire! Come on out and help us break in the new toys. We'll leave a light on for ya.

ERICA A. SCOTT, TSgt, USAFR  
Boom Signal Wunderkind

ROBERT DUNNING, CMSgt, USAFR  
Air Refueling Program Manager

## March ANGB, CA

### 196 ARS

#### 163<sup>rd</sup> Air Refueling Wing Boom Operators

**Sra. Rick "Al Capone" or "Boots" Alvarez:** Not too much to say about this guy. He is still in FNG status as a Guard Bum since we ripped him off from active duty. He appears to enjoy the Guard way of life, living at the beach either at home or on the road.

**Msgt. Dave "Kim" Basinger:** (AKA Happy Jack): Dave is a newly wed, just back from his honeymoon, and back to his civilian job as a crane operator for highway construction. Also, just got back the stripe he took off to become a boomer. Congrats times two to Dave!

**Tsgt. Steve "Barstool" Barcza:** (AKA Choo-Choo): Steve has just pinned on Tsgt, and finished up his simulator time for his Civilian job as a Rail Road Engineer. Right now, Steve is MIA while he is on the road getting his IOE. He promises to give better availability when he gets back and starts sitting reserve with the company.

**Smsgt. James "Jimbo" Blucher:** Jim just pinned on senior, and this is a good thing, he is going to need the extra fun tickets as his wife just gave birth to their second daughter. Way to go Jim!

**Tsgt. John "Cool Runnings" Bradbury:** John has not changed since he came over to Ops. He got the pink slip from Boeing as a structural test engineer on the C-17, and is currently working on a few private business ventures, as well as being an on-again off again Guard Bum.

**Tsgt. Justin "Sammy" Ciasullo:** Well, Justin got hitched, and had a bouncing baby boy this year, all while finishing up school and beating his head against the wall in scheduling full time.

**Tsgt. Mark "Hasn't earned a nickname yet" Evers:** Mark is currently a standard issue Guard Bum, working on his pilot ratings, still commuting between here and Palm Springs.

**Msgt. Julie "Jewels" Farmer:** Julie just moved back from Florida and pinned on Msgt., which was a long time coming. She is a semi-Guard Bum as her private business keeps her busy most of the time.

**Smsgt Bruce "Riddler" Garcia:** Our esteemed cargo load training manager is working hard with Keith LeQuire to get our scheduling process completely automated through the internet.

**Sra. Al "Gittensome" Gittens** (AKA Keep Dreamin'): Al is also a newly acquired boom off of active duty, going to school through the Guard Bum program. If he is not on the road, he is hanging out with Chad, Rick, and John.

**Msgt. John "Little House" Haus:** After a long and distinguished (?) career with the LAPD, John is finally turning in his badge for the gold watch. (He's not turning in the gun, lets' not get stupid), and joining the ranks of the civilian retired-using the Guard as a source of fun money income and a reason to get out of the house (no pun intended!)

**Msgt.(select) Gary "Duck" Howard:** After seven years, Gary is still a scheduler. He and his wife have decided to take the big plunge and build their own home. Good luck, Gary!

**Sra. Chad "Spanky" Jones:** Still hanging around with Al and Rick, but going to school at the University of Redlands while doing his part for God and Country by flying the Pacer CRAG FCFs out of the Raytheon CFT here at March. I guess what they say is true: kids these days really do have a sense of invincibility!

**Msgt. Keith "Lineman" LeQuire:** Keith is still the resident full-time Alpha-geek in the Ops Group. With all that has been going on with the NT conversion, Keith has still found time to work on the scheduling database and secure servers for the unit.

**Tsgt. Lisa "El Principal" LeQuire:** Lisa started as an assistant principal in Riverside last year, and has moved back as the assistant principal at the High School where she previously taught math. She is always right there to help you out with your essays and form Fs.

**Msgt. (select) Jamie "DJ McFly" McMath:** Jamie is hard at work getting the training shop into shape for our upcoming ASEV, and working 2-4 nights a week at the Club as a DJ. He also does weddings (he did mine), special occasions, etc.

**Msgt. Dave "ChiP" Navarro:** Well, Dave made the transition to the "other" side last year, and is now a Lieutenant in the CHP here in Riverside. Right now, Dave is pulling the throttles back a little, so he will be well rested for his Captains' board coming up this year.

**Cmsgt. Norm "SilverFox" Perry:** Chief Perry is still kickin' a\*\* and takin' names. His daughter just got married this year, graduated from law school and is studying for the BAR exam. Have any of you EVER been TDY with Norm where he DIDN'T know everybody in town? We haven't.

**Ssgt Matt "Real New Guy" Rose:** Matt is yet another boom in transition from KC-10s'. He is working and going to school here. Matt is so new; we have not even seen him in scheduling yet.

**Msgt. Aaron "Bear" Scott:** Its' kind of difficult to keep up with Aaron, as he is locked up down the hall in the Plans office. Aaron spent most of last year TDY at Ramstein running the Intel shop under his previous AFSC. From what the Wing King said, Aaron did a heck of a job.

**Smsgt. John "Waldo" Walund:** Our resident Silent Warrior is still plugging away down in STAN/EVAL getting the No-Notice program whipped into shape, and working with Bruce to put the finishing touches on the cargo check process.

**Smsgt. Jim "Wild Wild" West:** Right now, Jim is busy working the security issues for the Democratic National Convention with the LAPD. Jim if you read this, you still need to get your closed book test done!

## **McConnell AFB, KS**

**22 ARW**

**Wing Boom Operator  
CMSgt William Karasko**

As this Boom Signal input marks the 20th anniversary of the only document fully dedicated to Boom Operators, I thought a retrospective look at the career field as a whole and more particular it's leaders would offer a "then and now" perspective. In order to accomplish this, my troops gathered all past Boom Signals for collation into a single volume. In reviewing the "past", some very prominent names were highlighted...names such as Rutzenbeck, Malseed, Bakken, Mawhor, and yes...Heald. These gentlemen, and many more like them worked countless hours to turn concepts into reality continually looking at what was best for the field...not what was best for them. They did this with vision, perseverance, and intellect. As I reviewed further, I was struck by the single constant in gone-by days ...support of the rank and file and it's leadership in the field. While we may not have agreed with the final decision made by the career field's leadership, as was our right, we always supported it, as that was our obligation. Presently, I find this is not the case and has not been for some time. Somewhere, somehow, our career field has been fractured into smaller pockets of disgruntled, bitter, and yes...self-serving entities not offering full support to those who have been appointed as the functional leaders of our force. We can't blame this failure on the hostile takeover, personality conflicts, or lack of forward thinking. For our lack of support, our functional's have had to work harder, longer only to achieve less.

We have all watched Erskine, Tom, and Jim work every issue we offered up, many times in the face of what was considered "normal" for AMC, all in the hopes of speaking for the field. In return, all that was asked was support from the cadre which they represented and many times we were not there for them. In short...we failed...not them.

With the appointment of Dan Mongeon as the new career field functional, we have a once in a lifetime chance at turning this self-induced situation around. Regardless of our personal agendas, we must offer our suggestions, assistance, and most importantly...our support. Its time to put our parochial issues aside in order to establish a clear roadmap if this career field is to survive, as we know it. If we, the leadership of this elite group of enlisted aviators cannot lead internally I'm certain someone will do it externally for us. Until such time as parasite factions who, regardless of command of assignment, think they know best, come on line with the AMC mandates and desires, we have very little chance of success in forwarding our career field. Our leadership cannot look forward if we force them to constantly look behind. I find this to be a pristine time to be a Boom Operator and with it comes the obligation to stand up and be counted...it's all on us! Strap in...enjoy the ride!

**WILLIAM P. KARASKO, CMSGT, USAF  
22 ARW In-Flight Refueling Program Manager**

## McConnell AFB, KS

### 344 ARS

Greetings from the “*Fightin Ravens*” of the 344<sup>th</sup> ARS. Some of the things that have been keeping us busy the last year MPRS (Multi Point Refueling System) if you do not know what it is you will. We are also the first full up operational PACER CRAG squadron in the Air Force. Yes, the great boom operators carry the red bag of shame around with them, but we miss the navigator sometimes. Then the other standard deployments such as the great place we all call Saudi Arabia cannot wait until we get to Turkey and the occasional road show called a Coronet. Last but certainly not least is the fact that the mighty 344 ARS is still trying to figure out how to spend the \$86 a day that we were making in per diem during our hardship tour in Monte De Marsan, France during Allied Force. Life is way to tough! Other than the things mentioned life is quiet here in the Raven squadron. If you are ever down this way stop by or give us a call.

#### Chief Boom:

**MSgt. T “GLAD TO BE HERE” Taylor** - We in the boom shop think that the Chief boom is a maintenance guy, although some claim to have seen him in a flight suit. When you walk by his office you wonder what is the suit of the day? Although we heard that he was selected as the IG’s TOP Performer during the SIOP ORI...proof of his existence as a Chief boom.

#### Program Manager:

**MSgt Lonny “hi, I’m your new chief boom - well sort of - ok, not really” Hall** - Hailing from parts unknown, we think that he could have been the sheriff of Hazard county if Roscoe P. Coltrain didn’t already have the job. The only thing he’s missing is a floppy eared hat, a blackened tooth and a cousin named Otis. Apparently the only thing holding his “snicker “ white Suburban together is dirt and the will of God. **A Christy Milligan Fan.**

#### Readiness Flight:

**TSgt(S) Cliff “I am never going to Saudi ” Bermodes** - Our soon to be TSgt will be making the move from Readiness Flight Super to Stan/Eval, these are old stomping grounds for Cliff. Cliff had the opportunity to sit in the “big chair” while the boss was at the war this year. When we returned, the poor guy was on sedatives from all the administrative work and calls he received from spouses. “Welcome to the Bigs”. Cliff and Chona added another little one to the fleet and all are doing fine. Believe it or not this guy only has 7 days in Saudi. All that is about to change.

**SrA Brett “I would think of something smart, but I’m not that creative” Prothe** - Brett is our Chief of Training, Rent-a-Scheduler, Resident Aircraft Servicing Guru and soon to be one of our MPRS instructors. We don’t have any dirt on him because he’s too busy to hang out with us in the Boom Pod. He’s pretty good at tracking all of the other Boom’s currency requirements, but it keeps him so busy that he forgets his own.

**SrA Rafael “I’M FROM PUERTO RICO” Cruz Oyola** - Well if we didn’t know before that Cruz was from Puerto Rico (*we think it was the Spanish accent that gave him away*) we do now. He never fails to let you know his heritage. Goes to football games and paints the Puerto Rican flag on his face instead of his team’s colors. He’s the newest addition to the **Raven** family of booms and doing great things for us in scheduling. Can you believe we got this first round draft pick for Mark Johnson? We’re still baffled.

**SrA Rolando “Fidel” Castro** - Boom holler, just in from Altus via Edwards this cross trainee has 20 inch blades on his low-riding Impala. Apparently made a wrong turn in the Crenshaw district and ended up at McConnell. Only boom operator on the base that can hit the switches (whatever the hell that means).

#### A-Flight:

**SSgt. Christy “The founder of the 190 hour work week” Milligan** - SSgt. Milligan has put in ridiculous amount of hours (*yes, she counts the hours she sleeps at her desk*) creating the courseware for MPRS which will be hitting the streets in the near future. She also has been very hard at work being the A-Flight supervisor writing EPR’s, Performance Feedbacks, LOC’s, LOR’s - you know the usual. Soon Christy will be making the move from A Flight Super to Altus-By-the-Sea where she’ll be teaching the future Booms of the career field, if they make it through her marathon debriefs. (*God help ‘em*). *A Lonny Hall fan, Christy has been seen on numerous occasions behind closed doors with Lonny.*

**SSgt Sean “This one time at command post” “Rix - (Ex command post commando)** - Oh were do we begin. He tells sooooo many stories about the command post (*and we thought crew dawgs were bad, he’s giving Floyd the Barber from Mayberry a run for his money*); the rest of us feel like we crossed trained. “Mini-me” hopes to grow up to be like his hero. After all, he is like the chief in every way, except 7/8<sup>th</sup>s his size. Apparently wrote the AFI 36-2903, unfortunately, he thinks it only applies to Senior Airman and below. Assistant Flight Super soon to take over A Flight.



**SrA Alex "Yo! What the @\$% are you looking at Scilletta!"** - Alex will be a Mr. in September. He will be going into business with his father. The theme of the business venture is an Italian Deli combined with PC repair. You could enjoy your cauppachino and biscotti while upgrading your RAM in your computer. First you must show respect and kiss the ring - that's the warranty. If not, you will be sleeping with the fishes.

**SrA Ronald "Just for men" MacMeeken** - Our newest cross - trainee, his head decided to age profusely and then decided to stop just as fast. This guy loves to talk on the radio last time he flew, he called code three with 68 write up's. A little tip for next time Mack start after the red line in the forms; not every write up since the airplane has been in the service

**SrA Jett "You have the right to remain silent" Byrom** - Jett (affectionately known as inmate 35426795) works in our mobility shop since he's knows so much about frequent short notice changes of location. He's the only man known to get some action while at the Texas Country Club. Only guy we know that has a different excuse everyday as to why he's late to work.

**A1C Gerald "It was fun while it lasted" Harrell** - The young Texan gave it a fighting chance in the military. We're proud of you man. Don't worry everyone he's getting out on a medical. It seems he picked up some strange South American disease that nobody can figure out. Oh well, hang in there and have fun on the outs.

**A1C Jake "The Wonder bread poster child" Nagengast** - If this young airman was any more wholesome he would literally be on the package of wonder bread. Just recently arrived at the ***Raven Haven*** from sunny Cali. His fellow ***Ravens*** are meeting daily and conferring diligently on how to corrupt this poor guy's soul. Keep on it fellas, we've got a lot of work to do. He's adjusting well to crew-dawg life here at McConnell. Now if only he could only get at least one good shine on those boots of his.

#### **B Flight:**

**SSgt Warren "Ouch, my head is killing me" Bearup** - Trying to prove you do not need an aircraft to sustain flight, apparently Spain defies the laws of SSgt Bearup. Oh well; cheer up, we believe you, honest. Back at the homestead he is still pretty much the same man. Except for the drool and an occasional twitch. Bear as he is affectionately known is the B Flight Super

**SSgt Kellie "The absolute most important thing a boom operator should know is Hazardous Cargo" Blakley** - This past year has been a big year for Kellie. She has worked very hard in the cargo office putting together a comprehensive Haz-Mat course that takes 2 full days to teach. That would be great if any of us saw hazardous cargo more than once every three years. It's been said that the course may be implemented Air Force wide so all of us get to enjoy. Kelly is the Assistant Super for B flight and quite possibly the next CFIC candidate in the squadron.

**SSgt Ivan "What are we going to do today sarge? The same thing we do everyday airman. Try to take over the world" Rassmussen** - Sitting in the boom pod with a malicious grin, we really don't want to upset SSgt Rassmussen. The man brings in a new soldier of fortune and World Air Power Journal to the squadron every other day. Shrouded in secrecy, we think he has every gun known to man and wants to recruit a few good men. It's going to be okay, just take a deep breath and relax.

**SrA Matt "Please God; just let me gain one pound, JUST ONE POUND, DAMN IT!" Galloway** - Yeah, Matt still here but now he's soon to be married and he's also an instructor. The only problem is that he can't answer his own questions he poses to the other booms. Don't worry Matt you'll be seasoned soon enough. He's still skinny as hell. It's kind of funny, all he has to do to hide from those looking for him is stand sideways.

**SrA Jeremy "Duuuuuuuuuuuude, maaaaaaaannnnnnnnnn, that's gaaaaaaay" Warzybok** - You know how most boom have that story about that one time where they couldn't hold it on a flight and they had to christen the toilet. Well, Jeremy tells us about the one time that he didn't. Single handedly turned Proctor & Gamble (the makers of Charmin toilet paper) into a fortune 500 company. His parents must have given up on diapers and just spread newspapers all around the house.

#### **Last but certainly not least STAN/EVAL:**

**SSgt Clint "What was that? Oh, you want a no notice" Slick** - Sick of the extreme weather in Kansas he decided to move to warm and sunny England. Figuring he was having a tough time busting booms on checkrides here at McConnell he's going to test the folks over in Mildenhall. Good luck Slick and you had better drink a Caffrey's for the 344<sup>th</sup>.

### **Former Ravens that have flown the Haven**

**SrA Allen Gittens:** - Lost a good boom in AL to the Guard at March. Had Go-to-school Itis and is currently pursuing his degree full time in sunny Southern Cal. Al, being the surfing enthusiast that he is could be heard on occasion to say “Charlie” don’t surf at El Dorado Lake”. “Hang Ten Duuuuude!!

**SrA Clint Deeder:** Got PCA'd to the 350 ARS here at McConnell. Still alive and well doing the PACER CRAG schoolhouse stuff.

**SrA John Pickett:** AKA "Sausage Fingers" (fingers have been mistaken for Bratwurst on numerous occasions “Hey that’s my finger”). It’s been a busy year for John - made SSgt, got married and PCA'd to the 384th ARS as a Flight Supervisor. Rumor has it he is going to the reserves sometime soon.

**SrA Dave Chandonnett:** There are those people your glad to seem them come **and those your glad to see them go**. The little brown guy has take his act to the reserves at Seymour. Rumor has it that Dave’s swapping war stories about the big war with the Vets at Wall-Mart while part timing with the Reserve outfit.

**SrA Ben Hopp:** Picked Ben up from the 350<sup>th</sup> just about a year ago and not he’s going back to them damn red birds. Upgraded to instructor this year and is doing a bang-up job. Recently married with one in the oven

### **Inbound Ravens**

**A1C Eddie Johnson:** Inbound May 00 - Pipeliner - No dirt on this newby, but we’ve got a whole year until the next Signal to make some up.

**Sra Richard Kenner:** Inbound July 00 - Rich is a cross-trainee munitions troop (our 2<sup>nd</sup> munitions guy in a year, we’ll soon have little Timothy McVeys running around here) coming to us from the **NOT** (Minot for you newbies). Said something about needing a change in environment “Well, Welcome to the land of OZ!!!!” Home of tornadoes, snow, sleet, rain, hail, and wind, did I mention sunshine.

**A1C Landers:** Inbound April 00 - Pipeliner - No dirt on this newby, but we’ve got a whole year until the next Signal to make some up.

**SrA Tanner, Harry S.:** Cross-Trainee Inbound from parts unknown will hit the yellow brick road into OZ around May 00.

## McConnell AFB, KS

### 349 ARS

Greetings from the 349<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Squadron, the lead air refueling squadron of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Imperial Air Refueling Wing at McConnell. Once again, booms of the 349<sup>th</sup> distinguished themselves as true professionals and a credit to our enlisted aviator heritage. We started the year deployed Operation Southern Watch during Operation Desert Fox and the Holidays. Returned on 3 Feb 99 just in time to join the rest of you, 16 Feb 99 for Operation Allied Force. After Allied force, the challenges continue with the PCS of our chief boom CMSgt Swilling to McGuire AFB. His experience and leadership will be sorely missed.. The experience gained by the young boom operators will lead us in to the next century with a highly competent core of aviators. We look forward to a busy year in 2000. We are preparing for a SIOP ORI, with a planned trip to the SAC museum to find out about this thing called sitting **ALERT**. Not one member of this squadron has ever accomplished this, so were hoping to see pictures. As always, we will be successful at this task. Im happy to report, our squadron of booms promoted themselves well 1999. We made two MSgt, two TSgt, and three SSgt. In conclusion, the boom operators of the 349<sup>th</sup> ARS would like to thank all of the squadrons and follow boom operators who treated us as family during our deployments. We are proud to serve with you in the defense of our nation. I hope this Year of the Family (YOFAM) doesn't stand for (**Y**our **F**ather **A**t **M**oron **A**B). **FLY SAFE! NKAWTG.....NOBODY**

MSgt Milton "GREEDY" Griggs  
349<sup>th</sup> ARS, Chief Boom

#### THE LINE UP

**CMSgt Billy (Bonzai) Karasko (Wing Boom)** As in the 1999 boom signal, the chief is not attached to the squadron, but we feel compelled to past our thoughts. For the boom operator of the 349<sup>th</sup>, we have found new meaning for the word vision. The chief's leadership and wisdom has defined a road map for the professional success of the career airman. We are thankful for his leadership. We also learned that if you put two CMSgt boom operator on one flight, something bound to happen! For clarity of the last comment, please contact CMSgt Karasko or CMSgt Swilling!

**MSgt Milton (Greedy) Griggs (Chief Boom)** The new chief boom of the 349<sup>th</sup> ARS, still learning the job. Pin-on MSgt this year. Still trying to find excuses to go TDY. Sorry Greedy, but you can't be king of the castle and go TDY too. Finally brought a new truck, the garbage truck two. There's no duck tape on the windows

**TSgt Jeffrey (Lizard) Drazil (C Flight Supervisor)** Fresh back from CFIC, with the answer to all the questions from last year. The number two man of the squadron. Pin-on TSgt this year. Definitely a fine addition to the boom force. Want's to take Greedy's place as the TDY king. Good luck at that. Still has the famous last words "I thought I'd ask the question Boss"

**SSgt Rodney (Ravishing) Ward (B flight Supervisor)** Rodney is feeling the pain of pre-CFIC. Can be found at his desk saying; I didn't know that. Still learning the job of flight supervisor. Big outdoorsman and sports fan. Earned a line number for TSgt. Good luck at CFIC

**SSgt Daron (Taz) Talsma (C Fight)** Definitely one of the finest NCO in the squadron. Add a new addition to the family this year, a little girl. A proven performer; building hours for CFIC. Can be found at the scheduling desk asking to fly. Another candidate for Greedy's TDY title.

**SSgt Jason (Croc Dundee) Resler (A Fight Supervisor)** Jason had a busy year with Allied Force, but found time to make SSgt and get married. This young man has been the heart and soul of the 349<sup>th</sup> for the last three years. If we could clone boom operators, he would be one of the molds. Have a great honeymoon Jason.

**SrA Bill (Beautiful Bill) McQueen (Stan Eval)** One of the most remarkable individuals I met in the Air Force. He's been the go to guy the last year, and has answer every challenge place before him. Exceptional evaluator boom. Made SSgt first time testing. He's leaving us going to Kadena, Japan. He will be missed. Good Luck Bill

**SrA Neal (Hopsing) Husong (Training Flight)** Neal had a busy year. He managed to go Operation Allied Force, and CFIC. Single handily ran training flight for a two month period. In his spare time, he became a newlywed; a responsible married man. He's moving to Stan Eval to replace SrA McQueen.

**SrA Greg (Big Guns) Wells (C Flight)** Greg returned from CFIC extremely motivated. Found time for trips to France and Saudi. He's step up an replaced SrA Husong in training flight. In his spare time, he added a new addition to the Wells family, a baby girl. Expect great things from Greg in 2000.

**SrA Patrick (Radar) Haney (B Flight)** Pat had a fine year. Found time for Operations Allied Force and Southern Watch. Still willing to do anything for the mission, except when wrestling is on TV or in the local area. Rumor has it, Pat planning to get married this spring. Pat won the TDY title this year. Good luck Pat, you deserved it

**SrA Dan (Hands) McNitt (A Flight)** Dan has had up and down year, but overall good. He's still pursuing his dream of becoming an officer. Look for Dan to go Place Chase this year. He has more DNIF days then TDY days.

**SrA Darryl (Monster Truck) Hebert (B Flight)**

Darryl can still be found at the gym working out. Named the 349<sup>th</sup> Airman of the Year for his hard work and dedication. Traded in his Jeep Wrangler for a Dodge ram and quickly found out that trucks don't swim. Well Darryl better luck next time.

**SrA Jeffery (CG) Cummings (Mobility)** Jeff has done an outstanding job in our mobility section. Found time for Operation Allied Force and Southern Watch. Solid performer who should be ready for CFIC by years end. Jeff also became a newlywed this year. Great job Jeff. Good luck.

**SrA Mark (Racer X) Johnson (Scheduling)** A free agent we pick up from the darkside (344 ARS). Presently working in scheduling. Should be attending CFIC by the end of the year. Welcome Mark, and slow down!

**SrA Tom (TDY) Trombly (A Flight)** A free agent we pick up from the 350<sup>th</sup> ARS. Tom goal in life is to spend more time TDY than at McConnell. Completed two 21 day rotations in Saudi; called back an asked for another. Sharp addition to our squadron; when here. Can be found in the boom pod calling the other squadron's for TDY's. Welcome aboard Tom

**A1C Kerry (A-Train) Ashby (A Flight)** Another free agent we pick up from the 384 ARS. Kerry doesn't really say a whole lot around the squadron, but lets me know, he wants to go TDY. Can be found standing behind Tom at the scheduling desks. Welcome Kerry. Good luck

**A1C Chad (Sleepy) Poole (C Flight)** Chad arrived this year from Altus. Solid performer, but finds ways to walk the tight rope of danger. He was baptized by fire in Saudi. Good luck Chad.

**A1C Jason (I own fighters) Carroll (C Flight)** Jason arrived from Altus two month ago. He's still trying to recover from the First Term Airman Center. Currently doing well in upgraded training. Will be fine addition to the Squadron

**Amn Todd (Baby Face) Howard (A Flight)** Todd arrived from Altus one month ago. This guy reads everything you give to him. He's my pick to fall for the radar alignment or the keys to the jet. Once again, a fine addition to the squadron. Has a great way of identifying SNCO; they have more stripes turned upside down than I have right side up.

**INBOUND:** SrA Ben Gibes (Altus) Jun 00

#### **DEPARTED:**

CMSgt Scott (Swil) Swilling – PCS'd to McGuire AFB  
SSgt Steve Estell --- PCS'd to Kadena AFB  
SrA Carroll Lewis – Medical Separation  
SrA Cecil Little—Separated

MSgt Marvin ("T") Taylor – PCA to 22<sup>nd</sup> Wing Staff  
SSgt Mike Soper – PCA to 350 ARS  
SrA Rafael Cruz-O-yola – PCA to 344 ARS

## McConnell AFB, KS

### 350 ARS

Greetings from the 22 ARW, 350th Refueling Squadron, the only Pacer CRAG Initial Cadre School house. Our instructors are the cream of the crop for teaching the proper position of the FMS power switch (OFF). Here is a list of our guys that made the cut.

**MSgt Jim “Daddy” Morman:** Has his hands full keeping his troops in check, especially SrA Brantley; which he says is about as hard as picking fly sh#\* out of black pepper. Recently had his nose operated on, apparently it didn’t help cause he would still make a train take a dirt road.

**MSgt Larry “Grumpy” Hopkins:** For the first time in 4 yrs we actually saw him put something in his mouth other than a cigarette or coffee ( he ate lunch twice). The 350<sup>th</sup> ambassador in blue to the Singaporean Attachment, one would think they would pick someone other than Mr. Congeniality.

**TSgt William “W.T.” Moore:** Our most recent arrival from the CCTS school house. He is our computer guru, his desk is locked up so tight, even SrA Brantley can’t hack in. Wants to add he has 544 days, 6 hrs, 36 min and 29 sec., till retirement but who’s counting.

**SSgt Paul “Frowny” Frownfelter:** Spent the last 4 yrs trying to explain how to turn off the FMS power switch. Will be leaving us soon for the promise land of Altus AFB. Doesn’t look like his job will change much.

**SSgt Israel “Izzy” Hanks:** Recently made SSgt, and went wild. Bought a new truck, a new boat, a motorcycle, etc. etc. etc.. Presently attending financial management courses.

**SSgt Jim Pitman:** Can’t figure out the PFE, scored higher than 95 percent and still can’t get promoted. Considers himself an expert in bass fishing, took a trip to Mecca (Lake Fork) and got skunked.

**SSgt Mike Soper:** New arrival from the 349<sup>th</sup>, an outstanding instructor. At last count he had 3.5 instructor hours. Basically a mystery man, we’ll tell you more next year.

**SSgt Jim “Beer, Bowling, Babes” Bakos:** Still looking for his perfect match, who is interested in the same thing. Wants desperately to return to scheduling.

**SSgt Mark “MacDaddy” McIntosh:** Recently came back to active duty from the reserves. Got the run around from MPF. He’s a TSgt, no he’s a SSgt, no a TSgt, no a SSgt, whatever.

**SrA Kelly Morris:** Single at Last. First of many to transfer to the home of wayward Boom’s and fitting in nicely. Started the Morris Foundation to allow other squadrons rejects to join the 350<sup>th</sup>.

**SrA Brian Buss:** Stan/Eval boom. Ensuring compliance with the FMS power switch OFF. Trying to clean up the mess that Slick left him. Another Morris Foundation boom, (I guess we weren’t so bad after all).

**SrA Clint Deeder:** Came to us seeking asylum from another squadron. Currently a line IB (God help us). Decided for the tax deduction, it would be a good idea to have a kid. Good luck.

**SrA Jeff “Real Deal” Villarreal:** His new years resolution was to start working out, currently on the Body by Budweiser program. Asked by a pilot if he spoke Mexican, and replied “ I didn’t know it was a language.”

**SrA Jim “Trombone” Trombley:** Doing a good job in Training Flight, making sure that we keep everyone current. Best of the Trombley brothers (that’s a scary thought), so we sent the other one packing.

**SrA Jason “Hey can I get a ride to the front gate?” Whiting:** After a minor run in with the law, the Morris Foundation is helping him with his recovery. Looking to go to instructor school sometime this summer.

**SrA Benjamin “Benny” Hopp:** Left the 350<sup>th</sup> earlier this year cause he wasn’t an instructor, but he is back ready and willing to teach. Got married during his hiatus and has a baby boy on the way. Good luck.

**SrA Cole “Hal” Brantley:** Where do we start? To see more on Cole watch the next episode of Fox’s when Boom’s Attack.

**A1C Joeseeph “Roscoe P.” Cofield:** Endures more harassment from his peers than anyone else, but we like him anyway. He is anxiously awaiting the arrival of a new boom to the squadron so he can pick on someone.

### **Peace Guardian Detachment**

**2WO P. “Jega” Jegathesan:** RSAF senior boom. Learning the ropes and getting ready for CFIC.

**2WO “Bhones” Bhonesveran:** RSAF’s first instructor boom. Also a member of the hair club for men.

**SSG Shiva “Stud” Shanmugan:** Literally had a few run-ins with an F-16, and is now helping to develop the new TACAAN Proximity Warning System.

**SSG Tan “BK” Boon Keng:** Don’t bet this guy your lunch money in a game of pool, he is a shark.

**SSG Tan “Jack” Check Hwee:** One of the few RSAF booms to experience being a snowman, compliments of Frowny. Hey Jack the checklist for throwing a snow ball is 1. Pick up 2. Pack 3. Throw

**1SG Longanathan “Loga” Ramasamy:** 51% stockholder in Blockbuster Video and AT&T. Currently at CFIC.

**1SG Chin “Bandit” Yew Wen:** We aren’t too sure of how he got this nick name and we are all afraid to ask.

**2SG Khor “Daniel” Chin Keong:** The Singaporean “Deuce Bigallo” just bought a 2000 BMW, and some hair gel.

Now we need to say goodbye to a few fellow booms that left us for other avenues.

**SrA Pete Rodriguez:** A model airman that we should all strive to immolate. Got hired by PEMCO flying FCF’s in Birmingham, Al. We will miss you

**SrA Shane “Slick” Haney:** If you don’t know the story already, next time you are in Kadena ask him. If he won’t tell you; we will, give us a call. Recently Married. Didn’t punfang around got hitched after just six weeks. For all you guys in Kadena his real name is Shannon McDuffy Haney. Sorry Shane, but we can’t keep that quiet.

**SrA Roger “Holy” Kriess:** Finally master the FMS power switch. Now if we can only get him to remember the downlocks. He didn’t go to far from us, just a PCA to the wing for scheduling. Looking to go to K-State this summer.

**TSgt Paul “Gonzo” Lankes:** PCS’ed to Mildenhall this summer. Had a job with A-Rink making fat cash, but he opted to stay in cause he liked taking 2 hours lunches and coming in at 9:00. Good luck man.

**A1C Frank “The Mouse” Esposito:** Decided he didn’t like flying all that much, said the wrong thing to the right person. Besides they wouldn’t let him wear his nose ring. Now he is making bagels in Colorado Springs, Co.

Well I guess that is about it. If we forgot anyone, we will get you next year. If you guys want to give us a call we are at DSN 743-6165. We will be glad to give you more dirt on any of these guys.

Kelly Morris, SrA, USAF	Instructor Boom
Paul Frownfelter, SSgt, USAF	Instructor Boom
Jim Morman, MSgt, USAF	Program Manager

## McConnell AFB, KS

### 384 ARS

#### Home of the Square Patchers *IF YOUR PATCH ISN'T SQUARE THEN YOU ARE*

Greetings from the Heartland. After many years in CCTS , it's good to be operational again. Good things—no taxable income to speak of. Bad things—After only six months, I own 1 of everything in the PSAB BX. Should I be saving up for a new family? “The Yav” and I changed over on Thanksgiving Day while I was in the desert, so I’m still getting my arms around my program manager duties. Luckily, I have a lot of talent helping me out and keeping me on track. ORI is just around the corner (past history by the time you read this) so we’re pretty busy tweaking our performance for the big show. Right after that, it’s our turn in the barrel for OSW support during AEF. We get a quick break to come back for an ASEV in July. Then it’s off to Turkey for ONW! Sprinkle in a few JRX and INF/START deployments and the platter gets pretty full. But, I preach to the choir. Promotions have been good to us this year. Congrats to TSgt Kuiken, SSgt Breitreutz, SSgt Johansen, and SSgt Pickett, who chose to turn in his line number and instructor status to pursue a career in the Reserves. Awards programs have been good to us as well. Congrats to SSgt Todd Daniels, the 22 ARW nominee for AMC enlisted aircrew of the year and congrats to the best airman in the 22 ARW for 1999—way to go SrA Matt Calisi.

Well, here they are, America’s Most Wanted. Entries were submitted anonymously and chosen by a panel of experts :

#### **Program Manager**

Mike (The Da#! patch is a trapezoid, I don’t get it) Adams: “Now that I’m in charge, we will be conducting 5 mile runs every morning @0500. Oh, and by the way...Rob, the camera wasn’t that cool!!” Mike Adams is now in command of the 384<sup>th</sup> Boom Corps. We are looking forward to working under MSgt Adams, and making the 384<sup>th</sup> Boom union even stronger. Welcome to the “Square Patchers!”

#### **Stan Eval:**

Jason (Lord of the Rings) Ryan: “I swear to God that someday I’ll get off my lazy butt, and do something with my life.” Well lets see what Jason has been up to lately: Evaluator, Instructor, Businessman, BA in business, president of Internet sword company: [www.armsofvalor.com](http://www.armsofvalor.com), martial arts instructor... take a breath... Forget it there’s too much. Good luck Jay!

#### **Training Flight:**

Donald (The Brain) Breitreutz: “I swear to God I will break this racket if you score another point!!” Don has his eyes set on making history by achieving CMSgt in 6 years. Congratulations on your promotion to SSgt Don.

#### **A Flight**

Mary (Fatboy) Kuiken (A-Flight Super): “Where the hell is that party tonight, and get your hands off my Harley, or you are going to pull back a bloody stump!!” Fresh to us from Altus, we will be sure to keep her away from home at least 200 days a year!

Ralph (Ralfonso Dinero) Hoffman: “Women suck, and no I am not Puerto Rican!” Ralph has had one hell of a year with the ladies, but he is back on track with a new prospect and a CFIC slot.

Robert (It wasn’t on CAASS) Mcmorrow: “This new camera will kick A#@!!!” Rob has been working as our assistant computer workgroup manager for the past 2 years. Thanks for all the com-illiterate questions answered Rob!

#### **B Flight**

Dave (Y2K) Coggin (B Flight Super): “How did I get stuck being the computer workgroup manager, I don’t even own a computer?” Dave has been kicking butt for the past year getting our squadron ready for the Millennium. Thanks for all your hard work!

Christopher (Slim Shady) Murphy: “Now that I am officially blonde, I shouldn’t have any trouble getting the chicks!” With Murphy’s sporting new haircut and 21<sup>st</sup> birthday; he won the hearts of the “Below the Zone” board...Congratulations SrA Murphy!

Reggie (Cracker-Game Champion) Rittenhouse: “Hey, can someone tell me this...Why am I still here in Wichita, KS?” Well Reggie is leaving the great scheduling job, to do bigger and better things in Awards and Decorations. Good luck at trying to get out of here in the near future!!

Drew (Delta Force 2) Sottovia: “Hey guys I know you’re busy over there, but you really have to check out this game that Bill Gates E-mailed me....” Drew has been an integral part of scheduling for over a year now. Keep up the good work!!

Aaron (Keebler) Tolson: “Hey, shh...come here; check out this new drawing that I did on the throne last night!!” Aaron has been working in mobility for the past 2 years, and is currently finishing his education. Good Luck Aaron, and when is the kid on the way?

Travis (A.M.) Queen: “No really guys, this new supplement really works, check out the results...why are you laughing?” After spending 3 months in Saudi and an extra 3 months in France, Travis has finally settled down with a woman. Did we mention they have a Shar-pei now? Hey Queen when is the wedding?

### **C Flight**

Todd (The Enforcer / should have been a MTI) Daniels: “Ok Calisi, today you will learn exactly why they call me “The Enforcer!” By the way, bring a pen with a lot of ink!” Todd is in charge of keeping our Booms in line, as well as being one hell of an instructor/evaluator. Todd was the 384<sup>th</sup> NCO of the year. Good Job.

Matthew (Flash) Calisi: “So then I tell this chick that I have a nine-inch tongue and I breathe through my eyelids!!!” Matt has more stories than anyone else we know. Did I mention he got “22d ARW Airman of the Year,” and “384<sup>th</sup> ARS Boom Operator of the Year!”--not to mention quite a haul of loot from the wing. One hell of a job Matt!

Justin (more toys than Kaybee) Johansen: “Check out my new bike I got in the back of my new truck!!” Justin is on the fast track, congratulations on making SSgt within 4 years! Good luck with your new roommate!!

Rudy (patudy) Orozco: “No really guys, I’m not in the Mafia!!” Rudy has not been with us that long to break out of his shell, but we can see it coming! Nice hairdo Rudolfo...

### **Attached:**

William (Bonzai) Karasko: “Yavornitzki, if I have to tell you to jump one more time, I swear you’ll go back to the 384<sup>th</sup>.” “I don’t care if you’re hungry, Jump Damnit...Jump!!!”

Steve (Coach) Yavornitzki: “Chief get this...with this new job up at the wing, I should be able to upgrade Mr. Vette to a 99!!” Steve left us to sow his oats up at wing OGV. Congratulations on your position change, we reserve the right to pin on your SMSgt stripe!

Christopher (Greek God) Zaher: “Hey can you guys get me on a flight, I need 4 hours this month!!” The walking Dash 1 is still with the TALCE, but graces us with his presence every few months. Hopefully he will get back to McConnell, so he doesn’t surprise our schedulers anymore!! We love you Chris!!

Greg (Big Daddy) Carron: “I said I would only help out up here at OGT, so can you tell me why I am still here after 2 years...” Greg is working hard as ever up at OGT, and is almost done with his MCSE. Good luck with those tests. (If you have any questions, I’m sure SSgt Gates would be happy to answer them!)

### **Losses:**

Jack (MCSE) Gates: “Hey Queen did you take the networking test yet, cause you are worthless if you haven’t!!” Jack is on his last leg in the wonderful Air Force. Good luck on the outside. Oh, and don’t forget us when you are making your millions with Microsoft!!

John (Bob’s Big Boy) Pickett: “Hey Reggie, I was wondering if you could hook me up with another no-notice TDY, since I’ve only been married for only a few months!!” John is joining the ranks of the Reserves in February, and taking that extra stripe with him. Congratulations on your recent marriage, and good luck in the Reserves!!

Kerry (my boys can swim) Ashby: “Hey, I have an idea...instead of sending me TDY again, send me to another squadron!!” Yes, that’s right Kerry left us to go to the 349<sup>th</sup>. Kerry is a hard worker and a prestigious Boom Operator.

Jason (I can’t believe it’s not butter) Whiting: “I’m sooo hungry; there is not enough food in the 384<sup>th</sup>, so I’m going somewhere else!” Jason has left the Great Square Patcher squadron, to join ranks with the “Fighting Chickens,” and a CFIC slot. (Don’t be late this time!). Good luck Jay...



**McConnell AFB, KS**  
**18 ARS**  
**“SUPER SIZE”**

CMSgt Don Askren – Still the reigning “Commander in Chief,” when he’s not here he’s on his farm. Can often be heard mumbling to himself about why he has to fly so much when there are so many booms sitting around doing nothing in the boom shop.

TSgt Tex Austin – Still working in DONO. We’ve tried throwing rocks at him but we still can’t get him to fly. As of December is married with children. Congrats Tex!

MSgt Bill Baker – The self-proclaimed “War Hero,” he’s still teaching ground classes at Altus for Flight Safety and corrupting young minds.

MSgt Brad Beyer – The Reserves clipped Brad’s wings a few months back when he injured his shoulder in Turkey. Rumor is, he hurt it playing baseball, but after a month alone in Turkey, we don’t even want to know what really happened.

SSgt Kellie Blakley – Seen the writing on the wall and will join the life of a reservist in May. Will be our resident hazardous cargo specialist.

MSgt Rick Clark – He’s milked the squadron In-flight Guide for four years worth of man days and is currently looking for a new project. Decided he didn’t have enough degrees, so back to school for a couple more years to get his master’s.

MSgt Gary “Cookie” Cook – If he’s not looking for Rick with a change to the In-flight Guide, he’s trying to rewrite the Dash-1. He just moved to Wichita from Enid with his active duty wife so he could shorten his commute. Now he’s our full-time lunch coordinator.

SrA Kevin Dark – Hasn’t figured out if he’s a reservist or civilian. Last report he was a reservist, but we’ll wait to see.

SSgt Darren Demel – Came to us from AETC where he was a B-52 instructor crew chief. Leaves for Altus in April then plans on working downtown.

A1C Doug Dick – Yes, that really is his name. The first boom the unit sent through basic training, he just finished up at Altus and is busy trying to “fit in.” When he’s not extending his boom he’s working at Boeing.

SMSgt Monsa Dugger – Still working in the Ivory Tower, Monsa is our Chief Stan/Eval boom, although he’d give just about anything to get out.

TSgt Eddie Estagin – Another one of our students, he claims he’s getting a degree in engineering, but he’s been going for years and still isn’t done. We’re convinced that he’s actually just a male prostitute with a really bad cover story.

SSgt Odie Gamboa – Used to be a Wichita cop but gave it up to manage a Lerner’s. We hear that she kept the handcuffs when she left though. Hmmm. Recently moved to Atlanta where she’s working for the Atlanta P.D. since she discovered that she couldn’t beat shoplifters with her nightstick at Lerner’s.

TSgt Ken Girty – Ken is still working at Vance doing T-37 maintenance as a civilian, but comes up every now and then to stay current. He’s leaving this summer for CFIC.

MSgt Joe Halenka – He claims he flies once a week, but nobody’s ever seen him. He spends most of his time working at Raytheon and is convinced that Tonya is meaner to him than she is to everybody else. He’s wrong.

TSgt Tonya Halenka – Our head body scheduler, don’t let her size fool you. She may only be 5 feet tall, but if you make her have to change her schedule after it’s gone to print she’ll still cut you off at the knees. Be prepared to hear “Do you realize I’m going to have to cut a 40A for you now!”

TSgt Darren Horton – Who? Nobody really knows what Darren does, or where he does it, but he shows up every so often to keep current so we’re happy.

SSgt Amber J. K. Kamm – Our newest recruit from the 931<sup>st</sup> CES will be off to Altus in July.

MSgt Brian King – Brian came to us from Special Ops. where he was a gunner on a helicopter gunship. We’ve tried to tell him the KC-135 doesn’t have a gun on it, but he still keeps looking anyway.

MSgt Tatia Krueger – Found herself a job as a aircraft dispatcher at Ramstein, so we haven’t seen her in a few months, but rumor has it she’ll return to us in April. We’re looking forward to getting her back so she can let all of our young booms know how “friggin’ stupid” they are.

SSgt Sean Lafave – If he hands you a plastic bag, don't take it! Working downtown as a secretary, sorry, "executive assist."

MSgt Troy Lawson – Gave up being an ART to get a "real job" downtown as a Contract Administrator for Cessna Aircraft. That means he brown noses civilians now instead of officers. Now he's a traditional reservist, and it's been strangely quiet around here since he left.

TSgt Debbie Lee – Recently got sent home from her job at "Sherman Williams" after getting a concussion, and thought if she couldn't work there, she'd go fly an airplane. Nice try Deb.

TSgt Christine Lewis – One of "Donnie's Angel's" and recent superstar in Airman magazine. She and Ray recently purchased a new house, and she still hasn't taken the plastic wrap off yet. She tried working downtown for a couple of months but missed us too much and is back trouncing again.

TSgt Ray Lewis – When he's not working in scheduling he's our newest "Bob Villa." He's thrilled because Chris is letting him buy tools, but hasn't quite figured out how to use them yet. Can often be found driving in circles in the parking lot pretending to be Jeff Gordon.

MSgt Mark McGougan – Our self-proclaimed "Currency Instructor," he's currently trying to be an Oklahoma City cop, so make sure you drop his name if you get stopped. If there's anything you want, Mark can get it for you, just don't ask where it came from. He's easily identified by his He milked Sally Jesse-Raphael glasses and his big goofy grin.

MSgt Doug Morgan – Still working full-time for Flight Safety teaching civilians how to fly bug-smashers. He milked the Kosovo activation 'till December, and now we rarely see him.

Amn Christopher Norris – Our second pipe line boom operator getting ready to attend basic then Altus.

TSgt Tracey Plummer – An ex-flight engineer on the C-141, Tracey conformed the best to Pacer CRAG because he gets to sit sideways again. He's one of those guys to actually likes to jump out of a perfectly good airplane.

TSgt Arthur Shamburger – One of our new booms currently down at Altus. He came to us from the Lincoln unit where he worked as a Hydraulics guy.

TSgt Susan Slick – Traditional reservist and full-time Tupperware lady. She's leaving in April to PCS to Mildenhall with her active duty husband. Sorry Clint, you're on your own now.

SrA Carla Sonnen – One of our newest trougers, she recently discovered that booms don't make good cargo stops. She's world renown for her patented method for calling a breakaway.

SMSgt Bill Stacey – The unit's newest ART, he's now in training with Dennis and between the two of them they exceed 500 lbs. Needless to say we get our training done. When he's not beating the booms into submission, he's rebuilding his Camaro. We'd say more but he scares us too much.

TSgt Kathy Steiner – Related to the chic on the new dollar coin, she's still working on her degree in marketing and has conned her professor's into letting her graduate at the end of the year. Often found talking on the phone to her "friend."

TSgt Dennis Struve – Training guru and new dad. Spends most of his free time changing diapers or rebuilding his bronco.

SrA Jeremy Swilling – Our newest acquisition from the Army, he finished boom school in February and hasn't figured out that we don't play revelry each morning to get him up. He surprised everyone by getting married while at Altus and is still enjoying being a newlywed.

TSgt John Wallman – Another ART, he's working in scheduling with Ray and letting the pilot's believe that they really do run the office.

TSgt Jim Yokom – Our newest IBO, recently moved to scheduling with Tonya. Still trying to automate the entire squadron.

SSgt Matt Ziegelbien – Our very own commercial airline pilot. We're convinced he only did it to piss off the pilot's in the unit who haven't been hired yet.

## DEPARTURES

MSgt Lisa Wasierski – Best wishes to Lisa who joined the ranks of full time civilian.

# McGhee Tyson ANGB, TN

## 151 ARS

### *Home of the Volunteers...*

HOWDY Y'ALL,

Welcum from these thar hills of East Tennessee. Weez bin reel bizy round hear the last yeer, but reckon that's not news to anyone in our line of werk. Some feller named Pacer Craig is comin' this yeer. We don't know em, but the navs must and they don't like em at all. Lots of roomers about antracks coming hear in the near future too. With all theese shiny air-o-space macheens, I don't know why we need trains round hear. But I'm sure sum smart feller will writ us a new regulashun to splain it all. Well I gots to go fer now. If youins is ever in our locale, stop in fer a little "SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY!"

### OUR LINEUP:

#### THE FULL TIMERS

SMS James Quagliana (Jim) - "THE BOSS" I wonder why he won't go hunting with us anymore.  
SMS Jeffery Dyer (Jeff) - Our Enforcer Mr. Stan Evil : Don't tell the kids but Santa's dead.  
MSG Michael Buckner (Mike) - Reinvented himself this year: Now he only screams at inanimate objects.  
MSG Randall Keener (Randy) - Politically Incorrect - Need I say more.  
MSG Nancy Martinek - The "Queen Bee" of training: She makes you do it till you get it right.  
MSG Freddie Sunderland (Bo) - Our cargo man : If you load it he will come.  
MSG Thomas Allen (Mark) - Why does this man have three first names.  
TSG Ronnie Dixon (Crash) - Living up to his name, Crash recently totaled a boat on dry land.  
TSG Brian Thomas - It's amazing how much time this man spends in the regs.....(changing pages).  
SSG Stephen Sampson - If any of you run across Steve while going through Hickam; Tell him to call home.

#### THE TRADITIONALS

CMS Joel Lewis - Joel is our first part-time chief. He's discovered babysitting us is a full-time job.  
MSG William Derrick (Todd) - Just made lieutenant with the city fire dept. Don't worry, he's still no gentleman.  
MSG Edward Hatton (Ed) - Ed's a Guitar Pickin' Railroad Man : plans on retiring this year.  
MSG Karen Bryson - SHHHH!!!- Postal Worker on Board  
TSG Gregory Waters (Greg) - Our Renaissance Man : He's always got a plan.  
TSG Hiram Williamson - Lost several brain cells, so were sending him to Pilot training.  
TSG Floyd Atkins (Wayne) - Will somebody please wake him up !  
SSG Chad Cheatwood - Just Married : Well that ruins another good Guard Bum.  
SSG Dennis Greenwood - Always Smiling : I guess he needs more training,  
SSG Lenny Tipton - He's way to big for me to say anthing bad about.

#### RECENTLY RETIRED

CMS Bob Brown  
MSG Bill Witt  
MSG Denny Buchanan

If you would like to email any of us the address is: First Name. Last NAME@TNKNOX.ANG.AF.MIL

**McGuire AFB, NJ**  
**21 AF**  
**Stan/Eval**

Greetings from 21<sup>st</sup> Air Force and the Garden State. The last time I did a Boom Signal I was in a unit and had a lot of guys to bust on. This year, I feel like the Maytag repairman. I have no one to bust on but to keep Chief Eden off my back, (he's been hounding me relentlessly about this), I submit the following.

I've been in the seat now for close to 10 months and I must say the time has flown by. I've managed to get out to 7 of our 14 units represented in 21<sup>st</sup> and have come to the conclusion that there are very few, if any, differences between guard, reserve or active duty units. All units seem to have similar concerns and face the same challenges I faced when I was in a unit. Without exception, each unit I've visited is manned with highly trained, professional enlisted aviators who truly enjoy being boom operators and are meeting their challenges head-on. It's been a great experience for me personally to get out and meet some of our guard and reserve brothers who make up our boom operator "Total Force".

All nine of our R-model units have completed Pacer CRAG conversion with the exception of Robins who is currently undergoing conversion. I'm looking forward to "round filing" my "round dial" dash one. I'm juggling entirely too many dash ones in this job. Conversion among our five E-model units has begun and should be complete in a year and half or so. After much, sometimes heated, debate over the FMS-3 Switch, everyone seems to be functioning very well in the 3-person environment.

Regulations - as you were – Instructions seem to be a hot conversation topic lately. The release of our new Evaluation Criteria instruction seems to have generated more questions than it answered. Keep those questions and 847s coming in, but I ask for your patience as we iron the wrinkles out of our new Stan/Eval directives and come up with products we can all understand and use efficiently and effectively.

Well that pretty much covers the hot items on the 21<sup>st</sup> burner. Chief Eden is going to be happy I finally got off my butt and submitted something and that makes me happy. I look forward to getting out and visiting the rest of our 21<sup>st</sup> Air Force units. If you're ever passing through, come up to 4<sup>th</sup> floor and visit the "Maytag Repairman". It would truly make my day. In the mean time, keep doing what you're doing. The instructions will get fixed and the turbulence caused by Pacer CRAG will subside and we can all concentrate on what we do best – passing gas! Fly Safe!!! NKAWTG

SCOTT SWILLING, CMSgt, USAF  
21 AF, KC-135 Boom Operator

**McGuire AFB, NJ**  
305 OG/OGV

2905 TUSKEGEE AIRMEN AVENUE  
ROOM 16  
M<sup>C</sup>GUIRE AFB, NJ 08641

Greetings from the Black Hole Booms of McGuire! If you remember from last year's signal, I chronicled some of the changes happening here in Jersey and improvements for boom operators. What a difference a year makes! We are rapidly going from the Black Hole for booms to a premier base to be stationed at.

The BBO program is in full swing here at McGuire. We are receiving our new baby booms and we couldn't be happier with the quality of troops coming in. We came up with a static cargo loading program that shaved some days off our training timeline and improves the quality of training for the student. Excellent work by MSgt GW Loftin, TSgt Derek Cantre and the primary instructors, TSgt Chris Edmonds and SSgt Tom Glosser. Our next project is to move all the students into the OSS and have a student training manager hold their hands from start to finish. That program will probably be in place by the time you read this.

How about personnel? Bubba Cox is now the boom daddy in the 2<sup>nd</sup> ARS, "Second to None" and looking forward to Georgia. Ric "Caveman" Kempfer took over the 32<sup>nd</sup> from Al Miller when he left and implemented his own brand of leadership: "Beer call at the V". Actually Ric has things rocking & rolling in the 32<sup>nd</sup>, and put on an excellent show for the KC10 Program Managers Conference held here at McGuire. Doc Gibbs and Rick Taylor are keeping everything straight over in Group Stan/Eval. Ask Rick about his last bout with the APS load planning section on Dave Foster's checkride. "ET" Thomas is cracking the whip in CCTS and he and his boys are looking forward to the heavy workload coming in the early summer. We've got assignments coming and going and the influx of new young booms has added tremendously to the pool of available personnel. Sadly, we have said goodbye to some booms too, mainly through retirement, but also with the untimely death of Rich Lusk. That was a tragedy that affected us all.

What does the future hold? We are anticipating the summer retirement cycle, and some more loss of experience, hate to see those folks walking but, when it's time, it's time! The student workload is increasing and hopefully we will have some additional help in the CCTS arena. Our big event coming is an idea conceived by the Caveman. We'll be having a Combat Crew Wing Ding in September. Anyone who wears or has ever worn enlisted wings is invited to participate. We'll be in one of the big hangers with aircraft displays, box lunches and most importantly, liquid refreshments! If you're in the area, or have a business effort to McGuire, make plans to attend.

Keep the pole in the hole!

DAN MONGEON, CMSgt, USAF  
305 OG Inflight Refueling Manager



## McGuire AFB, NJ 305 OSS/CCTS



Hello all!!! Here is a list of all of our instructors and students down here at the schoolhouse. Lots of changes over the past year. We are starting to get new baby booms right out of basic, which has been a lot of fun (most of the time). They are definitely keeping us on our toes and busy. We also took over the Phase II Cargo Training from the squadrons (whoop hoo per diem), which has been an eye opener for all of us A/R only instructors. Lots of comings and goings over the past year with our lineup, so here's the latest batting order.

### **MSgt Eric "E.T." Thomas**

- Chief CCTS Boom (Head Honcho, Big Cheese, El Numero Uno)
- The "Jock" of CCTS...Loves to play sports, then has a hook at the club to justify all that exercise
- When talking to the O's, he is often heard saying..."We ain't 'bout no foolishness 'round here"
- The "Jazz" man of the school, he likes to get his "*groove*" on

### **MSgt (Sel) Steve "Smooth" Custis**

- Assistant Chief CCTS Boom
- Favorite line to new baby booms, "What the hell is wrong with you?"
- The latest new home owner, had enough of the fabulous life in base housing
- The "Blues" man of the school

### **MSgt (Sel) Joe "Cubans" Duarte**

- CCTS Boom Scheduler Extraordinaire, funny how he always gets the good deals.
- Racquetball wild-man... It's all fun and games until someone loses an eye!
- Loves his stogies and hopes one day to be on the cover of Cigar Aficionado
- Favorite new line to pilots after a bird strike and losing their transition "So Sad"
- Trying to turn the IBO office into a retail smoke shop.
- After 3 years of duty, finally being paroled Sept 00.

### **TSgt David "Gunny" Foster**

- CCTS man of many hats (computers, safety, etc)
- Keeps our new airman in line, often heard saying, "Where's your honor dirt bag?"
- Trying to find a way to fit 25 hours into a 24 hour day (he's almost got it down to a science)
- Office DJ, "Baby got Back" often heard from his computer, makes everyone's ears bleed.
- Hey, just stay out of my freaking desk drawers!

### **SSgt Loren "Bull Dawg" Will**

- CCTS Phase II Program Manager, better keep that haircut and boots shined, damn it!
- Our resident "jack of all trades", after all he's in charge of the Impact Card for the squadron (all our booms are mysteriously driving BMW's now).
- Will get you anything you want, just don't ask how or where he got it. (He assures us it's all on the up and up).
- Often heard talking to himself and calling everything and everybody a "SNAPPER HEAD"!
- If you own a Mustang, beware of his truck door! 1999 Dodge 3500 dually diesel **1**, 2000 Ford Mustang Cobra **0**

### **SSgt Tom "What's Your Point?" Glosser**

- Still has his "simulated oak" name plate for his desk, wants to know why he can't get a real one.
- Seems like eons have passed when he finally gets to the "rest of the story"
- Ready to retire from the USAF, and go teach those rookies how to drive a real NASCAR race.
- Speaks softly and carries a big cell phone (with sonar sound effects).
- He really, **REALLY**, loves his wife.

**SSgt Dan “The Man” Phillips**

- CCTS Scheduler and all around nice guy, trying to buy up all the Cobra Mustangs made since 1996.
- Was going to get out, instead he took the bonus, got a girlfriend (no really) and decided to work harder for a living in CCTS. Now if we can just get him to work to try out that theory.
- Often heard saying after a trip with his students “You won’t believe what this knot head did this time.”
- Phase II Cargo instructor extraordinaire, has totally forgotten how to refuel a plane however

**Current Students and (→) soon to come under our wrath:**

- A1C Rick Dorsey (Phase II)
- A1C Michael Parks (Phase II)
- A1C Anthony Honeywell (Phase II)
- A1C Justin Pascoe (Phase II)
- SrA Mia Nixon (Initial)
- SSgt (Sel) Chris Ottenwess (Instructor Upgrade) →
- SrA Erin Evans (Boeing) (Initial) →
- A1C Dohlman (Boeing) (Initial) →

**Booms who have left the pod:****TSgt Derek Cantre**

Went to the AMWC to take a ground assignment, pretty good deal, keeps his flight pay, no TDY’s, 0430 show times or transition.

*Until next year!!!*

**Boom Stowed, Leaving Position.**

## **McGuire AFB, NJ**

### **2 ARS**

#### **SECOND TO NONE**

Greetings from the Land of Cheese steaks and three-holers

It's hard to imagine that a year has passed, it seems that the demand for our services is even higher. From Kosovo to Al Dahfra to Diego Garcia we have been sent to provide America's Global Reach. As the Chief Boom, I ask my troops to give more and more of themselves....and they do. I consider myself fortunate, to serve with the FINEST group of enlisted aviators on the earth. They serve their squadron and nation proudly, they continue to make the impossible....possible. We as Boom Operators owe to those who came before us, a great deal of thanks for battles that they fought—for us. They expect (demand) that we leave our house better than we found it....for those who will follow us.

I would like to extend greetings and salutations to all past and present BOOM OPERATORS. The 2<sup>nd</sup> ARS moved into their own BRAC sponsored building finally!!

As last reported, fellow enlisted crewmembers are leaving in an ever-increasing number. Many of our finest are still opting to leave rather than stick it out. The force continues to get younger and younger; this trend shows no sign of slowing. By the end of the year 2001 we will be about 75% Sra and below. I know this is the norm for the KC-135 folks. We in the KC-10 can truly say, "We feel your pain" now. However this is the way it will be from here on out. Take the time to listen to all of your troops and let them know when they are doing good and not so good. Be up front and show them the right path to follow. Mentor your young troops....for they are our future. Continue to listen to them....they have good ideas. Show them you really care even when you have to say NO! Be upfront and honest in all you do.

Now, more of the McGuire turnpike.....

Let me run down the list of Boom personnel in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Air Refueling Squadron. I'd like to tell you about each individual, but, space is limited and there isn't enough time.....

SMSgt Don "Bubba" Cox—Chief Boom—looking for that assignment to Robins—has the same policy as Hotel 6—he always leaves the light on and the door open—always wanted a bigger family and now he has 40 more!!!

MSgt John Brannen – B Flight Supervisor and looking for bigger and better opportunities and a bigger desk  
MSgt Phil Deal – Boom Superintendent, also known as the little toe—fills in when the chief is gone—heading to the AMWC  
MSgt C.D. Franklin – Currently in instructor upgrade and taking survival swimming (Guppy) classes at the local YMCA!!  
MSgt Ken Holman – C Flight Supervisor--scheduled to retire this year, a true loss to the boom force—good luck in Atlanta  
MSgt Jay Tuttle – A Flight Supervisor--one of our cross-trainee's and a welcome addition to the boom field. Working towards becoming mission ready (known to be a master in the art of bar chair combat).  
TSgt Randy Crittendon – Assistant C Flight Commander--chosen to attend IBO Upgrade—why do we do it this way again?  
TSgt Phil Blaisse – Assistant A Flight Supervisor who is still trying to get all those EPR's off his desk—yes sergeant major!  
TSgt Chris Edmonds – We think he works in Training Flight, has not been confirmed--currently tinting the Trn/Flt windows  
TSgt Reggie Hammond – Stan/Eval-the elusive evaluator that has mastered the art of escaping and evading from the office  
TSgt Shawn Lamb – Chief Evaluator--he's the sneaky one so always be looking over your shoulder- no No-notices for us!!  
TSgt Danny Mendonsa – Chief of Scheduling--creates order from the constant chaos of scheduling—trying to get to Altus  
TSgt Jim Protzmann – Soon to retire and is always on the road to build up a pre-retirement fund—Connie will miss you!  
TSgt (s) Stacey Tansits – Recently turned down for TI duty because she was too tough—future chief of training for booms  
TSgt Keith "Beans" Van Camp – Chief of Training--Always hard at work despite the Chief Boom's inputs!  
TSgt Jim Van – Assistant B Flight Supervisor—working hard to keep the young guys in-line—a great asset to the boom force  
SSgt (s) Mark Barnette – Boom Scheduler aka Trip Police---No good deal trips for you!!! Back of the line!!! I love this life!  
SSgt Bob Burdick – Currently the boom CDC guru—loves offloading gas in the air vs. refueling them on the ground  
SSgt Todd Cleveland – Stan/Eval-Single and willing to review marriage applications (females only need apply)!!!  
SSgt (s) Dan Cykewick – A KC-135 cross flow boom—Dan just completed ALS—chosen to go to IBO Upgrade this year  
SSgt Bart Jordan – Resident computer Jedi master--no problem is to big for him—the big bucks this guy will make one day  
SSgt Dave Megill – Another of our Cross Trainee's--just became Mission Ready and gained a wife along the way  
SSgt Dan Phillips – Leaving the Air Force for something less dangerous (Like fire fighting). Has a nice car, no tags though  
SSgt Rob Vossen – Recognitions NCO between TDY's--getting married in a few weeks and thinking about the reserves  
SSgt Loren Will – Who?? Oh yeah I remember him--currently attached to CCTS for a few months—dreaming of stan/eval  
SrA Don Butler – Joining the reserves soon and working towards a PILOT slot--following in his dad's footsteps—good luck



SrA Jason Duncan – Scheduler--had an “incident” on leave--long story so please understand if he’s nervous in the rest room  
 SrA Chad Eccles – Putting in long hours in Mobility--married and working on his own basketball team—chosen for upgrade  
 SrA Tim “Lone Star” Land – A new boom doing a great job—a true Texan—always carries his boots when he is TDY  
 SrA Chris Ottenwess – Scheduler-Loves to play ice hockey—one of our up and coming sharp young boom operators  
 A1C Ryan Aspen – Always has a smile on his face—we heard something about cheeseburgers but we don’t know the story  
 A1C Adam Cain – Another of our new mission ready booms. “I was told by....” Wants to someday be a Navy Seal #@^\*&!  
 A1C Jeff Gordy – In CCTS—Richie Cunningham at 18 years old—his dad is getting ready to retire as a first shirt—time flies  
 A1C Mike Parks – Just started CCTS so we have no good info on him—we are looking for good things from him  
 A1C Garrett “MG” Rayno – New mission ready boom--it’s true, you have to watch out for the quiet ones—has a MG for sale  
 Amn Jon Lewis – Just checked out in phase I—built like a linebacker—move that Hummvee!!

#### **Gone but not forgotten.....**

SMSgt John “Big Daddy” Page – Retired to Tennessee—rumor has it he will be the next Boeing hire if it is funded!!!  
 MSgt Mike Barnes – Escaped to the Air Mobility Warfare Center and wishes Jeff Gordon would win more often. Go #88  
 MSgt Terry Dover – Retired to North Carolina—needs that barbecue fix and Tar Heel basketball  
 MSgt Jackie Hale – Currently in Hawaii and will finish out her service there—Jackie, Bubba wants his job back!!  
 TSgt J.C. Coleman – Retired and got the golden apple—new instructor at Boeing and continuing to do an outstanding job  
 TSgt Paul “Dig Dog” Atkins – Retired, last seen riding a Harley towards North Carolina—has anyone seen Elvis?  
 SrA Chuck Fernandez – Separated--quit chasing that elusive SSgt stripe, working as a store manager and lives in Delran NJ  
 SrA Wes Kissel – Left for the Air Force Preparatory School—he will be able to say he gave it and took it one day!  
 SrA Bonnie Campbell – Stayed in New Jersey and joined the Reserves

#### **Attached.....**

SMSgt Glenn Barclay – 305 OSS - Still the Silver Bullet Daddy—trying to get a assignment to the SNCOA  
 MSgt Pete Abrales – Wing Plans – saw a good deal and never looked back—come back to the squadron Pete!  
 MSgt Tony Ceraolo – Still in Germany and looking for the Hawaii assignment  
 MSgt Tim McDermott –Left his group job for the AMOS—where are you Tim?  
 TSgt Tom Ecker – Part time group scheduler and full time student—looking forward to coming back to the squadron  
 TSgt Tim Fowler – CCTS instructor and new Daddy—still looking for the assignment to Robins—its on the way Tim  
 TSgt Jeff Sidles – Still in Germany and doing a great job  
 TSgt Doug Garrett – Moved on to the crystal palace at AMC—hopefully he will figure out the new wt and bal program for us  
 TSgt Al Kaczor – Getting ready to retire this year—currently holding down a job in the OSS  
 SSgt Rich Anderson – Moved out of stan/eval to the OSS—Rich was an asset to the squadron and will be missed  
 SSgt Stu Decou – Heading toward the TALCE at Little Rock AFB—good luck Stu—the road always lead back to the 10  
 SSgt Jim Dudgeon – Group scheduler and future AMWAY millionaire  
 SSgt Brian New – Heading toward the TALCE at Dyess AFB—good luck Brian--watch out for the tumbleweeds!  
 SSgt Chris Sidoli – In the AMOG/TALCE and doing an outstanding job!  
 SSgt Tony Taylor – In the AMOG/TALCE and doing an outstanding job too!

#### **Special note:**

MSgt Richard Lusk retired from the Air Force and moved to Connecticut. We regret to inform everyone that Rick passed away this past year. He was a dear friend and outstanding Boom Operator. He will be sadly missed.

Godspeed to all Boom Operators wherever you may be and may your flight be smooth.

SMSgt Don “Bubba” Cox

**McGuire AFB, NJ**  
**32 ARS**  
**(Blue Tags)**

**Hello Brother and Sister Booms,**

The entire tanker community is busy -- So I won't waste time by explaining what our team has been doing. I'll jump right to the meat of the "Boom Signal" by listing our most awesome gang!

**Our Line Up:**

SSgt Timothy Blackburn: Newly trained in the KC-10 evidently stays extremely busy because no one ever sees him.

SSgt Leo "Shaky" Brown Jr. (Training Flight Instructor): 32nd's newest instructor boom, looking for the next trip over seas to stock up on beedeas. We assume that's what those little cigarettes are.

TSgt Michael "Snake" Casey (Squadron Stan Eval): Spends his weekends up in Maine getting his retirement dream home completed by June. That's when he'll join the civilian ranks.

SrA Eric "Woody" Cox (Boom Scheduler): Doing a fine job in scheduling. Looking to upgrade to Instructor sometime this year. Loves those Jeeps!

TSgt Steven Custis (CCTS Instructor): Enjoying being a homebody since joining the team at CCTS.

A1C Todd Dallmann: Brand new to the KC-10 program. He has just completed his training and is mission ready. Fresh meat for deployments!

MSgt James "Boom Daddy" Davis (Interim First Shirt): Doing a fine job sitting in as 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant. Busy babysitting all the problem children and listening to all the whiners. Getting ready to be the newest Dallas Cowboys fan while riding his new Hog (Harley) down the streets of the Big D (Dallas).

TSgt Scott Dawe (Training Flight Instructor): Finally back in the Squadron after five years. Thinking about retiring in Oct. 2000.

SSgt Devan "Baluga" Debarr (Training Flight Instructor): Currently instructing tomorrows boom operators as well as tomorrow's pilots over at the aero club. Wants to be an airline pilot someday. Scary -- Huh?

SSgt Russell Eaton (Boom Awards/Decorations): Now that he's up and qualified in the KC-10, he is developing a training program for the squadron ergo flunkies.

TSgt David "Gunny" Foster (CCTS Instructor): Enjoying pushing students through CCTS. Gives him lots of time for weekend house building.

MSgt Van "Doc" Gibbs (OG Stan Eval): Mr. Smooth evaluator down at the group. Mostly seen cruising around Base in his new Lexus, talking on his cell phone.

SSgt Thomas Glosser (Training Flight Instructor): Fresh back from the dark side, (civilian life), and the Squadron's nominee for Boom Instructor of the year.

A1C Darius Hunter Woodley: The Squadron's only Airman to be on every good trip tasked to the 32<sup>nd</sup>. (Seen paying off Boom schedulers).

TSgt Steve Johnson (Squadron Safety NCO): Still racing carts after all this time. Hanging around the Air Force for a couple more years. Go speed racer, Go!

MSgt Ric “The Cave Man” Kempfer (Squadron Chief Boom): Owner and operator of the “Porta-Potty Green Machine” -- Can be seen driving down the road (for miles) in his new lime green Geo Tracker.

A1C Shawn Lightner: Still brand spanking new to the program, most of us haven’t even seen this guy yet.

SrA Kevin Locascio: Soon after getting married and his wife having a baby, he opted for the civilian world.

MSgt Garland “GW” Loftin (OG Training): Busy developing new training programs for the newly acquired BBQ program. First face the FNGs see when arriving at McGuire.

SrA Jeremiah “Dr. Love” Love (Squadron Mobility): Between being the Squadron’s Airman of the year and our mobility expert, he spends his time trying to convince the SP’s he’s just driving under the influence of linguine.

SrA Timothy McHugh (Boom Scheduler): Doing a great job at the scheduling desk. His prices are a little high though for the good deals.

SSgt Todd McPeak (Training Flight Instructor): Our Squadron computer geek. If you have a computer problem, he’s the man to call. Wife expecting first child any day now.

CMSgt Daniel Mongeon (Boom Functional Manager): The “Big Guy”-- Whipping our APS into shape while losing more hair working boom personnel issues.

SSgt Eric “Pork Chop” Moyer (Squadron Stan Eval): Doing a bang up job for Stan-Evil. Word has it he’s Hunter-Woodley’s mentor for the “good deal” program.

A1C Justin Mullins: He’s our first BBQ not to pass through Altus, first, on his way to McGuire. All eyes are on him to see if the programs going to work.

A1C Daniel Newberry: High raves from Stan-Evil on his initial checks. Now we’re just trying to get him to open up and talk to us.

SSgt Scott O’Neil (Training Flight Instructor): Looks like he’ll be tying the knot in the near future. Now lets see how he adjusts to married life.

A1C David “Hollywood” Ortiz (Boom Quartermaster): Not seen around a whole lot, rumored to be out combing the world perfecting his proficiency.

SrA Chad Pass (Boom Scheduler): Now married to his home town sweetheart, glad to be living in base housing instead of forking out all those bucks for off base housing.

TSgt Timothy Pates (AMOS): Everyone thinks he’s retired as much as he’s seen on the golf course. Actually he “works”(?) at the AMOS.

SSgt Marvin Pearson (OSS Mission Development): Newly acquired by Wing Scheduling, he prefers being out of the country doing that Boom thing.

TSgt Dennis Pratt (Alpha Flight Commander Boom): Hasn’t flown since Kitty Hawk -- DNIF -- What’s up Doc, Can I aviate yet? In the middle of writing this, his waiver finally came in and he’s up and gone!

SSgt Christopher Prosser (Chief Boom Scheduler): No sooner than getting qualified in the jet, he took over the reins as head Boom scheduler. So much for being a line guy.

TSgt (MSgt sel) William Rappaport (Chief Training Flight): From flight supervisor to taking over as Boom chief of training, he’s feverishly getting the office prepared for the up coming ASEV.

MSgt John “R+12” Reigelsberger (Chief Stan Eval): Recently moved out of flight supervisor to Stan-Evil. Can be seen working part time on a local farm and still driving that old Ford pick-up. Will he ever buy a new one?

A1C Andrew “Opie” Robinson: Recently was volunteered for the Base Honor Guard, a four-month stay. Hopes to go Palace Chase in the near future.

SSgt (TSgt sel) Leroy Robinson: Now that he’s qualified in the airplane and has a line number for Tech, he’ll soon be filling one of the Squadrons Boom positions. No more Mr. line guy.

MSgt Stephen Roche (AMOS): Career AMOS guy, he’ll soon be part of the retired ranks.

A1C Doreen Saal: Formally known as Doreen O’Reily, she’s anxiously awaiting a joint spouse assignment with her newly acquired Boom husband.

SSgt Joel Salley (Squadron Stan Eval): When not on the road administering check-rides, he can be seen 4-wheeling through the woods in his new blue Dodge 4x4 pick-up, fully loaded with no options or accessories left off.

A1C Danish Santiago: Doing a great job flying the Squadrons many TDY taskings. Now if we can just get him to give his pax briefs in English instead of Spanish.

TSgt Mark “Wookie” Schumann (Bravo Flight Commander Boom): Mannnnn -- Where’s the beer? And don’t let a certain engineer borrow your truck anymore. Bad things happen.

SSgt Thomas “Cowboy” Sinclair: The karaoke king. Can be seen at any TDY club, on stage, singing to the oldies.

SrA Derek (Chowder) Tarr: Between TDY and staying home with his dog, he’s also trying for the Palace Chase route.

MSgt Richard Taylor (OG Stan Eval): Since his newly acquired addition to the family, he had to go out and buy a new Suburban with enough room to haul his clan.

TSgt (MSgt sel) Eric “ET” Thomas (Chief Boom CCTS): Put in charge of molding the newbies into tomorrows Boom Operators. Keeps a close eye on the flying schedule for the next trip to U-Taphao.

SrA Kirksy Williams: Coming in the Air Force with a 4-year Bachelors degree; was assured by his recruiter he would be the first “Officer Boom Operator”.

## **BOOM ON!**

MSgt Ric “The Cave Man” Kempfer  
32 ARS Chief Boom Operator



**McGUIRE AFB, NJ**  
**141 ARS**  
**NJANG**



GREETINGS FROM THE 141<sup>ST</sup> ARS NJANG. WE HAD AN INTERESTING YEAR AS I'M SURE ALL OF YOU DID. ACTIVATED FOR THE KOSOVO THING. DID SOME REFUELING OUT OF HERE ON THE B-2s BEFORE GOING TO GERMANY ONE CREW AT A TIME TO FLY OUT OF THERE. ENDED UP REALLY ACTIVATED AND IN INCIRLIK TURKEY. SAT THERE FOR A MONTH, NEVER TURNED A WHEEL UNTIL THE DAY WE LEFT. TIPPED A BUNCH OF BEERS, ATE DOWNTOWN, GOT THE SQUIRTS, BOUGHT THE T-SHIRT.

**THE LINEUP FOR THE TIGER SQUADRON**

**LISA AMEIGH** WORKS IN CURRENT OPS. VERY HARD WORKER. MOST OF US ARE SCARED OF HER BUT IF YOU WANT SOMETHING DONE LISA IS THE PERSON TO MAKE IT HAPPEN. DOES OUR CARGO LOAD PLANNING AND ALL OF THAT HAPPY STUFF.

**JOHN CONNORS** RESIDENT COMPUTER GEEK. LOVES TO STIR THE POT HOWEVER IS IMPROVING IN THIS AREA. KNOWN FOR HIS PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING OF ALL PROBLEMS THAT PEOPLE HAVE. RECENT GRADUATE OF THE DALE CARNEGIE COURSE OF DEALING WITH PEOPLE. IT COST HIM THREE TIMES AS MUCH AS IT DID EVERYONE ELSE BUT HE PASSED.

**GEMINI BEY** WORKS IN MARYLAND FOR THE NAVY FULL TIME. WANTS TO BE A FULL TIME BOOM INSTEAD. FOR ADVENTURE ON THE WEEKENDS HE DRIVES A BUS FOR NJDOT.

**STEVE DESANTO** STILL WITH THE POST OFFICE. LOVES TRAINS AND REMOTE CONTROL PLANES. IN ON A SCAM WITH KILPATRICK AND LAMANTIA. THEY BOUGHT A REMOTE CONTROL JET TO FLY. STILL WORKING ON IT. MORE ON THAT LATER.

**DAVE FALKOWSKI** TIME FOR COCKTAILS. MAKES A KILLER CREAM AND CAPERS SAUCE. NOT BAD WITH THE CRAB AND CREAMCHEESE OMLETTES EITHER. OWNS AND OPERATES A LANDSCAPING BUSINESS. ALL THE AIRLINE GUYS ARE TRYING TO GET HIM TO WORK FOR NOTHING (OF COURSE) DAVE HAS TOLD THEM TO STUFF IT. GOOD FOR DAVE.

**STEVE GONZALEZ** SQUADRON SCHEDULER PART TIME. FULL TIME PARTY PACKAGER. NAME YOUR PARTY OCCASION AND STEVE WILL HOOK YOU UP. DOES A GREAT JOB WITH ALL OF OUR GATHERINGS HERE. YOU JUST GOT TO KEEP HIM AWAY FROM THE WINE.

**CARL HEINERT** FULL TIME BOOM, WELL SORT OF, HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING ON THE SIDE. WORKS WELL, PLAYS WELL. THE ONLY DRAWBACK IS HE HANGS AROUND MATLACK TOO MUCH. WORKS IN TRAINING AND HAS A VERY GOOD HIDEING PLACE.

**JOHN HOLLAND** STILL A HIGH UP THER POLICE OFFICER IN NUTLEY NJ. GETS ALL HIS SQUARES FILLED WITHOUT THREATENING ANYONE WITH HIS ARTILLERY. WE GOTTA GET HIM TO SHAKE DOWN THE BAGEL SHOP ON THE WAY IN TO DRILLS.

**BRIAN KILPATRICK** TRAINING GUY, SCHMOOZER, REMOTE PLANE NUT. WORKING WITH LAMANTIA AND DESANTO. ACTUALLY PICKED THE BEAST UP IN KANSAS OR SOMEWHERE LIKE THAT. GAVE UP TRYING TO BE A COP. DRAWING A BEAD ON SOME OTHER DEAL NOW.

**JOE LAMANTIA** LEFT US LAST YEAR BUT COULDN'T STAND NOT BEING HERE SO HE CAME BACK. THE RINGLEADER OF THE REMOTE PLAND CROWD. SO WHAT IS THIS THING? IT'S A DC-10 WITH ABOUT A 10-FOOT WINGSPAN. WILL GROSS OUT AT OVER 70 POUNDS. RADIO CONTROLLED, SURE TO ATTRACT ATTENTION. I SUPPOSE HE WILL TRY TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO MOUNT HIS PNEUMATIC SPUD GUN ON IT AND TAKE OUT A KC-10 IN THE PATTERN HERE. THE SPUD GUN IS ANOTHER STORY BEST LEFT ALONE TILL NEXT YEAR.

**ED LEARY** QUIT HIS GOVERNMENT JOB TO WORK FOR THE CONTRACTOR CONTRACTED TO THE PLACE HE WORKED BEFORE. GOTTA KEEP AN EYE ON THIS ONE. HELPS US OUT OF A LOT OF JAMS, OF COURSE HE GETS US IN TO SOME TOO.

**PAUL MATLACK** GOT CAUGHT SHOPPIN ON THE INTERNET. LUCKY IT WAS ONLY A PAIR OF BOOTS. ENDED UP WITH K.P. AT THE WING CHRISTMAS PARTY. MADE SOME LASAGNA. NOBODY DIED.

**TOM MILLER** STILL A MA BELL KINDA GUY. WORKS HARD (WE THINK) PLAYS HARD (WE KNOW). FLYS MOSTLY NIGHTS. THREE KIDS NOW. SEEMS LIKE A NEW ONE ARRIVES NINE MONTHS AFTER HE GETS BACK FROM A LONG TDY. WHATS UP WITH THAT?

**JIM MONACO** STILL HERE AND ALIVE. WAITING FOR THE PERPETUAL FISHING TRIP TO START WHEN ITS TIME TO RETIRE.

**ED MONTALVO** ED GUARD BUMMED, DID THE ANTI-DRUG THING, AND ALL THAT STUFF BEFORE GOING BACK TO HIS REAL JOB FOR THE AIRLINES. GOT MARRIED TOO.

**KEN SCHULTZ** LOOKING FOR LIFE OUTSIDE THE AIR GUARD. TRYING TO GET ON ONE OF THOSE RAID TEAM THINGS. I THINK YOU HAVE TO TRANSFER TO THE ARMY GUARD FOR THAT. MEANWHILE WE KEEP HIM BUSY

**RICH EMLEY** IN THE HOME STRECH FOR RETIREMENT. SAYS HES GOING IN OCTOBER OF THIS YEAR. WE'LL SEE.. LOVES TO SURF FISH DOWN THE SHORE.

## McGuire ANGB, NJ

### 150 ARS

Well, we're finally in our new operations building. They call it the Taj as in Mahal. It really is kind of nice. We can even park all 20 planes on the same side of the base now. (The ramp is finally finished) Stop by any time, we're easily accessible from the New Jersey Turnpike; Exit 7 that is.

**MSgt Jim "There's a new sheriff in town" Amrich** – Jim recently left the AGR program for 18 weeks of pure hell. It paid off though. Jim is now a Monmouth County Sheriff here in New Jersey and loving it. (I think we would all love 90 days of ML a year.) Anyway, Jim is now a traditional guardsman and will probably join the illustrious night flyers club. Welcome back Jim.

**MSgt Raymond "Otto" Petersen** – Otto is still doing the plumber thing. No blown out knee this year. (We think he bought a sled that has steering capability.) He is also still doing the infamous pig roasts during the summer months. He gets busy, so book the pig early. 1800-EAT PIGS

**MSgt George B. Grand** – "Of the well known Jersey Grands" Still the only original 150<sup>th</sup> boom left. Finally liquidated some audio components this year, only 1 million plus pieces left. Still trying to stand up his own lighter than air squadron. (That's BLIMPS for you young dudes.)

**MSgt Brian "Killer" Kilpatrick** – Recently acquired from the 141<sup>st</sup>. No longer a South Jersey land baron, just a serf. Sold his hovels to buy just one closer to McGuire, cut an hour off his commute. Still building a remote control DC-10 with LaMantia and DeSanto from the 141<sup>st</sup>.

**MSgt Dave "Coqui" Vasquez** – Recently promoted to master. Adapted well to the East Coast from Arizona. Former Army air defense artillery dog. Resident lobbyist, freedom fighter, scheduler.

**TSgt Darrell "D-Man" Delle Site** – Our resident Tactics expert (or so they think). Got us through the tactics portion of ASEV (Tanker Tactics?) so he must be doing something right. "Hey Chris, that's two L's"

**MSgt Frank "Don't call me Francis" McCarthy** – Still working for the state and sucking up those 90 days of military leave. Looking for a cameo appearance on the "X" Files.

**SSgt Patrick "Toronto" Ogle** – New guy. Former Navy jet mech. Presently holds all sorts of FAA ratings. Fly's checks from Long Island throughout the northeast in a Baron. Looking to log lots of hours and land that high paying airline career. Holds almost as many awards as Chief Emley of the 141<sup>st</sup> ARS. Weekend Canadian citizen. (Something to do with a girl?)

**SSgt Lawrence "The Crusher" Hoffman** – Larry finished college this year and was hired by the NJANG to go to pilot training. He'll be attending AMS in November and UPT soon after that (that's where you get the lobotomy and pay for your box lunch with nothing smaller than a 20 dollar bill). To make ends meet and help pay for his private pilot's license, Crusher guard bums and does tile work on the side. Good luck in UPT.

**MSgt Glenn "HOOT" Houthuysen** – The HOOTS recently adopted a baby boy and are staying very busy with him. Hoot still working for ADT and was recently elected President of the Night Flyers Union. Frequently games the scheduling system so he can commute to McGuire with John Holland from the 141<sup>st</sup>. Congratulations on the new HOOT arrival.

**SMSgt Robert "Stem" Edelschein** – Recently promoted to senior. Resident horticulturist. Still working with the U.S. Postal System and raising young plants in his green house. Stem is also attending college for more knowledge and should be done with his BA early next year. If you would like a lovely, decorative, wreath for the holidays, contact him at: [HYPERLINK http://www.bcity.com/rjfarm](http://www.bcity.com/rjfarm)

**TSgt Kauriee "Cooter" Wood** – Sold her soul to the devil to get a job re-doing stained glass windows in a local church. She also has more time in a drivers seat than in a 135 cause the church is in Delaware. Stay away from her chin cooter.

**TSgt Jose "Hose B" Rodriquez** – Just like McCarthy, he is also sucking up those 90 military days the state gives 'em. Jose is one of our traditional guardsmen and always helps the unit out (he can with 90 days ML) in a jam. He's not doing it for free you know.

**MSgt Mike “Sly” Sylvester** – Yes, Master. Even a squirrel finds a nut every now and again. He is the cause of why people have mosquitos in their ears. Mike is our resident comic relief, coffee dude, picture hanger and oh yea, when he has time, he helps out in current ops and fly’s.

**SSgt Steve “FREEBIRD” Falker** – 150<sup>th</sup> jumpmaster, master nothing. Steve realized he didn’t like watching the pilots do landings, so he decided to jump out of a few planes. Apparently, the chute opened on the count of ten. When he landed he danced the Lindy Hop. Still needs Niwore to impress the women.

**SSgt Marlon “Brando” Chantre** – Marlon is our resident car salesman. Boy does he have a great deal for you, one dollar over invoice on any Chrysler auto. It’ll cost you the savings just to get to the dealership. None the less he has the deal. Oh yea, he’s a boom also.

**SRA Anthony J. Niwore III** – We still think he’s a new guy, but he’ll tell you otherwise. GIRLS, GIRLS, GIRLS. He’ll hook you up no matter where you are. Took the Q-3 in our ASEV.....Oh wait, I mean an EP. Very good, keep up the outstanding work.

**SMSgt Scott “Downtown Scottie” Brown** – Full time Stan Evil boom who just can’t seem to give out EP’s, except for himself that is (he did the reg’s so we’ll never find out if that’s legal). We just don’t understand how he can keep his eyes on that softball with so many beers in his gut. Keep hitting the HOMERS. (not Simpson)

**SSgt Tony “Knuckles” Procopio** – Knuckles is still doing the A & P thing full time with UPS. (What a scam he has going) He commutes an hour and a half each way to work so it must be worth it. Knuckles also moonlights on weekends as a bartender down at the Jersey shore.

**CMSgt Marvin Nichols** – Marv still has the overwhelming task of keeping all of us characters out of trouble. (Not that we’re in trouble much or anything) He still dons his long johns as the temperature nears the low 70 degree mark. His plan of having his new office in the boiler room fell through so he now has a real nice office with 6 space heaters. (We think he had 1 or 2 turned on the other day)



## McGuire AFB, NJ

### 76 ARS

Greetings from the Garden State. Another year has drawn to a close and we have witnessed several changes over the past year and there are many more on the horizon. The 76<sup>th</sup> has had a prosperous year with the arrival of many new faces. We have also seen the departure of several folks that were considered to be landmarks around the squadron.

We are getting ready for our 3<sup>rd</sup> unit deployment to the desert, which should again prove to be an interesting excursion into the unknown. Over the past year we faced almost certain activation during the Kosovo crisis, flying schedules that would try the patience of a saint, and many other tribulations too numerous to list. Through out all of this the guys and gals of the 76<sup>th</sup> pulled together as a total team and proved to the commanders that the booms could hack what ever they threw at us.

We are looking forward to the new millennium with great expectations for all of our booms. We feel that we have the best of the best comprising "Freedoms Spirit". The following are the folks who make the 76<sup>th</sup> ARS shine.

If you are ever in the area, please stop by and say hello. Due to a new base policy, we can no longer keep a cold beverage of our choice in the building, but we do know where some very good watering holes are located and will be glad to have you as our guest any time.

#### ART'S

**CMSgt Ron Jackson** – EB Ron has been the program manager since the 76<sup>th</sup> stood up in Oct of 94. He has performed miracles with his recruiting and as a result has accumulated one of the best groups of booms ever assembled in one unit. His cookouts are still a favorite past time of everyone.

**MSgt Dave "Red" Paullet** – EB Red has had a banner year. He got married twice (to the same lovely lady), got promoted to MSgt, and has recently been selected to take over the OGV Stan Eval position. His presence in the boom shop is going to be missed by everyone, but we all wish him the best in his new domain.

**TSgt James "Gunny" Polhemus** – IB Jim has now inherited the scheduling desk from Red. Can often be heard talking to himself. We're not going to worry until he starts answering himself. Jim finally got another vehicle after he had to put a tire on the one he had and then realized that the new tire was worth more than the car.

#### TRADITIONAL RESERVISTS

**SMSgt Dave Brock** – EB Dave is Ron's assistant and our senior reservist. He is chief of squadron Stan Eval and Flight Safety NCO along with a myriad of other things. It has been rumored that he is looking for a position at 22AF. He can always come up with a unique "saying" to describe any given situation. When he's not here flying, he can be found working in Atlanta where he has his own company.

#### A FLIGHT

**MSgt Luis Perez** – IB Lou is the flight leader of A-Flight. He upgraded to IB and still lives in San Antonio where he retired from civil service at Kelly this past year. We thought we would see more of him after his retirement, but he started his own home repair and remodeling business and is working more than ever. It is always a pleasure to see his smiling face when he does venture this far east of the Mississippi

**MSgt Chris Ruggiero** - MB. Chris is the assistant flight leader for A-Flight. She is currently finishing up school getting her degree as a physician's assistant. Chris is also the Squadron Fund guru. She never ceases to amaze everyone with what she can pull out of hat or paper bag during raffles. She has done wonders organizing the squadron picnic and Christmas party.

**TSgt Rod McClary** – MB Rod has upgraded to MB and is now free to roam the airways by himself. Says he feels kind of lost without an Instructor looking over his shoulder all the time.

**TSgt Craig Shackelford** – IB Craig upgraded to IB and is now working as a loadmaster for Gemini Air Cargo but he still finds time to support the squadron when needed.

**TSgt Jeff Heiby** – **EB** Jeff upgraded to EB and assists Dave in Stan Eval. He is currently attending the NCO Academy and hoping to land an ART job one of these days. He can always be found hovering the scheduling desk scheming to work the best deal possible.

**TSgt Patty Gavuzzo** – **FB** Patty came to us from the Air Evac Unit here at McGuire. She is currently in cargo upgrade training. It is always a pleasure to have Patty's smiling face and cheerful personality around the office.

**SSgt Jimmie Rush** – **IB** Jimmie came to us from active duty here at McGuire. He is currently living in Florida enjoying the good life of fun in the sun. A welcome addition to our squadron.

**SSgt Arnold "A.J." Contti** – **MB** A.J. came to us from AWACS at Elmendorf. He has just completed upgrade training. He is now living in Great Falls Montana with his wife and new daughter and is working as an air traffic controller.

## **B FLIGHT**

**MSgt Jack Reffner** – **MB** Jack is the B-Flight leader. Can often be seen scratching his head when it's time to write an EPR. He lives in Little Rock where he works for the power company and as a result we don't get to see Jack as often as we would like.

**TSgt Stephen Weigert** – **MB** Steve is the assistant flight leader for B Flight. He doesn't get around as much as he used to due to his civilian job and the fact that he moved farther away from New Jersey.

**TSgt Sean Swieringa** – **MB** Sean is now a Park Ranger and enjoys "strolling through the park" everyday. He has some really good stories about things that he has seen taking place in the park. He still manages to keep current, but no one has been able to figure out how. It must be the pencil.

**TSgt Jim Carden** – **IB** Jim is the staple of our instructor force. He seems to enjoy the punishing schedule he keeps as he is always on the road. Too bad he can't rack up frequent flyer miles for all of his efforts.

**TSgt Bob Culbertson** – **EB** Bob is Dave's assistant in Stan Eval. We considered having him committed for a psychiatric evaluation after he decided to move back to NJ from Louisiana. Bob is currently trying to finish up his degree and fly at the same time. Doesn't leave him much time for anything else.

**TSgt John Mercer** – **IB** John still resides in Ohio and we see him about every 45 days for a 3 – 4 day span. He's still going to school, working a full time job, and trying to expand his love life.

**TSgt Gary Kozusko** – **UB** Gary came to us from the 141 side of the house. He recently completed formal training at Boeing and is now back at the squadron beginning his upgrade training. From all indications he is going to be a fast burner and a definite asset to the unit.

**SRA Aaron Hendrick** – **MB** Aaron completed upgrade training and is now a full-fledged boom. He is a flight attendant for Continental so when he's not out flying with his job, he takes a break and goes flying with us.

## **C FLIGHT**

**MSgt Gene Lorandean** – **MB** Gene is the C-Flight leader. He's a high school teacher and comes out to fly when he can get a break from teaching. He still cringes when he hears EPR's mentioned.

**MSgt Tony Pierce** – **IB** Tony is the assistant flight leader for C-Flight. He is one of our premier instructors and a trouger. Tony can always be counted on fill in at the last minute, whether on the job or organizing social activities.

**TSgt Martin Vinson** – **MB** Martin is one of our fellow reservist's who pulls double duty as a man in blue. He works as a police officer in Philadelphia and when he can get a break from the police force he donates the rest of his spare time to supporting the flying schedule.

**SSgt Robert "Pete" King** – **MB** Pete is another defector from active duty. He was a good catch as we got another fully qualified boom to add to our numbers. Pete should prove to be a valuable asset to the unit.

**SSgt Bob Tice** – MB Bob is now fully qualified and working as a truck driver hauling petroleum up and down the NE corridor. He is also working on a UPT slot and finishing up getting all of his tickets so hopefully the airlines will pick him up.

**SSgt Karyn Hendricksen** – MB Karyn came to us from Wright Pat. She's like a weather system in that she arrived, didn't stay around very long, and we never knew what to expect next. She's currently out-processing and going the Pa ANG. She's still undecided on what she really wants to be when she grows up.

**SSgt Mark Harrison** – MB Mark is one of our bright new talents. He completed upgrade training and is now back at work at Lockheed-Martin. Mark is putting together a pretty impressive web page for the KC-10 booms. Log on!

**SRA Kevin Locascio** – MB Kevin also came to us from active duty. His talents will be a definite asset to the squadron. We're glad to have him aboard.

**AIC Kim Asewicz** – UB Kim is inbound to us fresh off the street. She will attend basic this Feb. and then enter the pipeline for tech school.

**AIC Dean Reck** – UB Dean has just completed formal training at Boeing and is on the fast track to getting qualified. He is a welcome addition to the unit and should have a very bright future here.

#### **ATTACHED**

**MSgt Greg Jones** –EB Greg works in mission development and can usually be seen flying the evening locals and occasionally a weekend trip. Mission development keeps him busy 24 hrs. a day and as a result we don't see as much of Greg as we used to.

**TSgt John Aselton** – MB John is our attached ALCE guru. He has been on a hiatus for most of the year. We hope to see him back in the near future.

#### **GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN**

The following booms departed the fix since our last Boom Signal:

**SMSgt Charlie Younce** Charlie retired and took a job at TACC. Although he is no longer with the 76<sup>th</sup>, it is doubtful that anyone will forget him anytime soon. P.S. (Charlie, you were not placed at the bottom of the page this year to ensure that you didn't get dropped from the list when it is e-mailed.)

**MSgt Bruce Hewlett** Bruce was permanently grounded for glaucoma late last year. We haven't seen him since just before Christmas, so we don't know what his status reserve wise is at this time.

**SSgt Jim Shulack** Jim was sent to NARS earlier this year.

**SRA John Soltysik** John got married, his wife had a baby, he got an engineering job, and decided that with the reserves he had more on his plate than he could handle so he asked to be sent to NARS. We haven't seen him since he out-processed. We wish John a successful future.

That's all folks. Until next year..... Take care and fly safe.

Dave Brock, SMSgt, USAFR  
76<sup>th</sup> ARS

## Mc Guire AFB, NJ

### 78 ARS

Hello from exit 7 of the New Jersey Turnpike. We would like to say hello to all the boom operators around the world. It's been another busy year in the Garden State, with manning low and ops tempo high you can't keep from being busy. Here's a quick look at the 78<sup>th</sup> line-up.

#### The Arts (The Gainfully Employed)

**CMSgt Joel Montgomery** - Our new Chief Boom as well as Chief Master Sergeant congrats Joel! He's back in the office after a stint in stan/eval. Still trying to clean out those coke cans from his new office. Runs a much tighter ship than many people would believe.

**MSgt Dan "The Man" Ciambrone** - Dan is basically our flying instructor, flight, and ground training boom. Dan essentially qualifies our initial qual booms and attempts to keep every one else "up to speed" for flight and ground training. As we all know this keeps him busy and frustrated. Flying does give him a chance to get out of the office, but it takes him away from his second love of fishing in PA.

**MSgt Ken Maneely** - Ken is our resident scheduler. He keeps the booms flying, even on our standard training sorties (valve jobs). Even booms need "TP's". He's currently DNIF, but is looking forward flying in the near future. We are looking forward to Ken's return as an instructor, before Dan runs out of flying time.

#### The Reservists (The Partially Employed)

**MSgt Alfredo "The Cheese" Alonso** - Al is the new chief loadmaster for the MD-11's at Gemini Air Cargo. When Al is not in New Jersey he spends a lot of time in Brazil, or so he tells us. If you see him ask him about the new vitamin he has found in Brazil.

**MSgt Anthony "Bartman" Bartolomeo** - Tony still calls us from a top telephone polls in any weather. He got married this year and promoted! It's good to be Tony!

**SSgt Ezzedin "Big Ezzy" Bautista** - One of our newest booms, Ezzy has been to Atlas and is awaiting KC-10 training at Boeing in February. He's learning about the chemical properties of Hefenwizen. Keep working on those travel vouchers!

**SSgt Rick "is this UTA weekend?" Boettinger** - Rick is one of Philadelphia's finest. Somebody has to direct that traffic. Rick has been DNIF for a while, and we're not sure when he's coming back.

**SSgt Bonnie Campbell** - Bonnie came to us from the AD in Jan 99. Due to many factors she has been scarce around the squadron this past year. We look forward to seeing more of her in 2000.

**TSgt PW "Sgt Shultz" Carter** - "I say lookie heere" PW has come over from the 76<sup>th</sup> on permanent loan. He is our expert on the identification of Russian Migs. When PW is not looking for submarine periscopes he's down in Georgia looking for a job. You can do it PW!

**TSgt Anthony "TACO" Cleaver** - TACO "don't call me cheap" Cleaver is one of our resident Troffers and occasional lawn man. He made Tech again, but we think this time we can get rid of the Velcro.

**TSgt Ramon Cruz III (not I or II, but III)** - Ramon is still working for Emery. His wife had a girl this year and we wish him and his family the best. Ray is one of our best instructors.

**TSgt Steve Dolan** - Steve is a fireman in Raleigh Durham NC.

**MSgt Bobby Duckworth** - Bobby is another fireman and part time shop graphic artist. He still lives in Little Rock.

**TSgt Joe Fenick** - Joe came to us from MX and is our newest MB. Formally “Force Recon” in the Marines, he assists Pirogue in collecting for the coffee fund. He works on the mean streets of New York for UPS. Joe has learned a lot this past year; the most important being that he should not open his door in billeting if Alonso is on the other side!

**TSgt John “Furby” Frankel** - John our computer geek extraordinary, when he is not flying his rear off he is making sure the new wt and bal program is correct. He visits as many Star Trek conventions as he can. Just call him Worf.

**SSgt Roswell Friend** - Our postal Friend (so to speak) is in A/R training. Roswell comes to us from aerial port; this should help when it comes to palletized cargo. We got a break on this one, due to his civilian position we didn’t have to qualify him on the 9mm.

**MSgt Dwain “Pirogue” Gerace** - Our Cajun bone breaker is still coming up and flying his additional duty is coffee dues collector. Point man at the local Chinese buffet line, puts new meaning to “all you can eat”. Also very useful for preventing tipping.

**MSgt Henry “Harry” Grill** - Henry is still cruising down the tracks of Philadelphia in his SEPTA train hitting what ever he can, occasionally running over pennies for kicks. He was also promoted this year to MSgt and we congratulate him on his achievement. Way to go Henry.

**MSgt Victor “Chi-Chi” Guzman** - Victor is an MB we think? Victor came to us from the medical squadron after a bad turn and cough incident. You can recognize him in flight by his radio check “this is Victor on Victor”. Flying anywhere we send him as long as there’s a Chi-Chi’s next to the Hotel. He is getting ready for survival school or is survival school getting ready for him? Anyway good luck Victor you’ll need it!

**TSgt Marty “Golly, I was just there last month” Johnson** - Marty is driving trucks down in the “deep south” and still coming up to say hello once and a while. Can’t seem to be able to count to 45 or 120, I guess it may take another 10 years to teach him.

**TSgt Lonnie “LL” Lisser** - Lonnie has had a year full of excitement! He did the Atlantic City grand tour on a local and got married. Not the same night, but it could happen. It doesn’t get better than that Lonnie!

**TSgt Ted “School Tour” Morales** - Another one to get promoted. After milking the system to the fullest extent possible, Ted finally checked out. Ted is from Easton, PA; he threatens to introduce us to Larry Holmes if we ever come to visit.

**SMSgt Steve Reeff** - Steve left his Art position to be a Coronet planner at Scott AFB. Left one headache for another, trying to stay current, travel, and have leave at the end of the year. If you ever have problems on a Coronet I’m sure Steve would be glad to help if you call.

**TSgt Sigrid “Re” Roche** - Re is getting out of the Troffer business, her husband Steve is retiring and they are moving to Virginia. However, she’ll be in on occasion for cross-country drogue missions!

### **Departures (Gone With the Wind)**

**SMSgt Lynn Stoddard** - Lynn has bid us farewell. He officially retired 31 December 1999; he’ll be missed at the squadron and VFW level. He relocated to Eagle, Idaho working as an accountant in a warehouse. Lynn has been officially cleared to the Mozur 3 departure.

### **New Arrivals (Millennium Booms)**

**A1C Angel Gomez** - One of our newest “Baby Booms” right off the street. Angel turns 18 in January, goes to BMTS in February and then is off to Altus. He should be back in time for “animals in the woods” in May.

**SSgt Andrew Mack** - Andrew is coming to us from maintenance. Just what we need another maintenance guy!

**Ted Morales, TSgt, USAFR  
78<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Squadron**

## McGuire AFB, NJ

### 621 AMOS

Greetings to all, from the Tanker Planning Cell up at McGuire. No, we're not a TALCE. We deploy as part of the Air Mobility Division (AMD). We make up the Air Refueling Control Team (ARCT), and we normally get "chopped" to the Combat Plans/Combat Ops section of the Air Operations Center (AOC). Our duty in the AOC is to plan and execute the Air Tasking Order (ATO). So, basically, we're either the ones that planned your mission in the ATO, or we're the ones who control your mission in the execution stage.

#### **Here's the breakdown of our booms:**

MSGT Bob "banjo" Battaglia (KC-135) : Bob is our senior planner now. He's also a newlywed...again. Bob likes to go to the local convalescent homes and brighten their day with a few bluegrass tunes. He's also busy as the "Safety Guy" and our VITA rep.

MSGT Tim McDermott (KC-10) : Tim just moved over from Group Scheduling. Already TDY to Hurlburt for some OJT at Blue Flag 00-02. (With his clubs, of course.) He's still not sure what he's gotten himself into.

TSGT Tim Pates (KC-10) : Still working hard on the golf game. Won the Club Championship in 1999. Still likes to fly when they need someone for a trip to Hawaii.

#### **Losses:**

MSGT George Murman (KC-135) : Terminal leave in December '99. Still living in NJ and going to computer school. Anyone who knows George can imagine how quiet it is around here now.

MSGT Steve Roche (KC-10) : Just started terminal leave this month. Got hired by a contractor down at Langley to do the same thing he's done for the last six years. Oh yeah, for a little better pay.

Well, that's a rap. We're always looking for folks interested in taking on a new adventure. If you'd like to find out more about us, give us a call. (DSN 440-8352)

Tsgt Tim Pates  
621 AMOS, MAFB NJ  
[timothy.pates@mcguire.af.mil](mailto:timothy.pates@mcguire.af.mil)

**McGuire AFB, NJ**  
621 AMS

**FIRST BY CHOICE**

Greetings from the 621 AMS TALCE Booms. **ALIVE AND WELL.** Just waiting out our time.

The three year non-voluntary, tent sleeping, Army working with, camo wearing, career broadening assignment. Incentives include more gear than you can possibly use; you may actually get to supervise, stay in hotels on occasion, and best of all a close working environment with Aerial Port and Maintenance. It's not that bad.....really. To find out more about your local TALCE or just to shoot the bull give us a call DSN 440-3404.

TSgt Michael (Mikey) Barnes: NCOIC Training Flight and a Flintstones trivia expert. Coming soon to a flying squadron near you. Attached to the 99 ARS at Robins AFB, GA.

SSgt Joseph (Tony) Taylor: Affiliation Instructor. Wanted in Italy by Carabinieri for vehicular terrorism. A year and a half left in the TALCE and can't wait. Attached to the 2 ARS at McGuire AFB, NJ.

SSgt Christopher (Sid) Sidoli: Mission Support Team Chief. He finally decided to reenlist, Good thing, that fence couldn't take much more. Willing to testify against Taylor. He really needs some cheese. Has less than a year left in the TALCE. Attached to the 2 ARS at McGuire AFB, NJ.

SSgt Michael (Max) Webster: Affiliation Instructor. A SSgt since November, finally he gets to go TDY. Looking for an assignment to Kadena (ASAP). Attached to the 99 ARS at Robins AFB, GA.

**McGuire AFB, NJ**  
721 AMS

**MSgt Richard Kozak**  
**SSgt Robert Boettcher**  
**SSgt Charles Hunter**

If you want to contact any of the above call:  
650-8182, 8031 or 4691



**McGuire AFB, NJ**  
821 AMS

**TSgt Geoffrey W. Potter-** “I can’t do that, I’m going on a Fly Break!” Currently upgrading to Mission Support Team Chief, always looking forward to going back to Fairchild and being a Boom again, don’t know why!

**TSgt(S) Robert Boettcher-** “Have you got a Pen?” Just found out about making Tech, won’t quit smiling. About to PCA to the 721<sup>st</sup> AMS. Can’t seem to keep his truck running! Hopes to move to England soon.

**SSgt Dan Whetzel-** “Where’s the IG on this Base?” What can you say, it’s Whetzel! He wants to be a Gucci boy, but we don’t know if they’ll take him!

## **McGuire AFB, NJ**

### **KC-10 ATS**

### **Boom Operator Training**

Greetings from the KC-10 schoolhouse at McGuire AFB, NJ. The Garden State (only garden I've seen in five years is "Madison Square Garden" and that's in New York City). 1999 was a typical year of downs and ups (wages), losses and gains (people) and, of course a new company (Boeing). We've managed to stay quite busy. Retirement and retention rates have increased the number of initial qualification classes and with the loss of that experience comes an increase in instructor up grade classes. Lower "entry level" requirements have driven us to new courses that are much more involved and, of course, longer. The original 15-Day initial qual course now goes 35 days. The young men and women that we are getting, with no previous flying experience, are doing very good. The screening process between basic training and here seems to be working. The new BOT visual system is a key factor in training these students. A new centerline drogue visual program, due any day, will be a great enhancement.

### **LOSSES and GAINS**

We had some major losses this year and as legendary booms do, they left their mark.

#### **Losses**

Tom Williams, our Main Support Center Boom was the first to leave. Tom's role in the development of our new Boom Operator Trainer guaranteed a superior device. Its increased capabilities allow us to simulate more events with much greater realism. THANKS TOM

Lynn Stoddard opted for a change of pace and headed for Idaho. He was a favorite instructor for many of the students. We miss his expertise, daily humor and friendship. THANKS LYNN.

A Legend among Legends, John Synove retired at 66 years young on Dec 31<sup>st</sup> and headed for Bossier City La. That John enriched so many careers was never more evident than at his SA-WAH-DEE luncheon. Every KC-10 Boom on base active, reserve, TALCE, CCTS, AMOG, you name it that attended. The single file of 60 plus booms coming through for one more hug and a handshake was truly overwhelming. He was our recognized expert of experts, for all crew positions, on any tanker subject. THANKS JOHN

#### **Gains**

Mike Cardina-Boomin' since Jan 79. Mike started in April soon after Boeing became boss. His last assignment before retiring in Oct 98 was Chief of CCTS. Mike is determined to get us old guys up to speed on Associated Directives. Email mcard1975@aol.com

Phil Zamagne-Boomin' since Jan 71 Jumped the Flight Safety ship at Altus to become our Instructor Design Guru at the Main Support Center at Travis. Maybe we'll see Phil as a site instructor one of these days. Email: phillip.a.zanagne@boeing.com.

Dennis Fox-Boomin' since Jan 71. Also works at the Main Support Center with the title of "Logistics Lead". Dennis may have his eyes on an instructor position. Email: dennis.c.fox@boeing.com.

James "JC" Coleman-Boomin' since Oct 82. Our latest new guy J.C. retired as the 2 ARS Chief Stan/Eval in Dec. 1999. Big overtime volunteer and always ready to give an evaluation. Only man brave enough to get in a racket ball court with Andy Miller. Email: jocsjet@hotmail.com

**The rest of the highly qualified instructors staff:**

Frank Junge-Boomin' since Aug 61. Our Boom Operator Flight Check Airman, scheduler, quality assurance, and I am sure there is more. Thinks he has us all going in the same direction. Email: fhjunge@bellatlantic.net

Leroy Sweeny-Boomin' since Jun 56. Publication Guy. He makes sure we get the latest the soonest (Hope he never leaves, I hate pubs). NJ has been tough on his 79 Cougar "Chick Magnet", but still plenty of room for new rust.

Chuck Gurkin-Boomin' since Dec 71. Still a bachelor! Just bought a new All-the-Options Z-28 to go along with his Tahoe. He is ready for the high performance babes and the ones that need a little more room and 4-wheel drive. Email: kc10instr@uscom.com.

Greg Heffron-Boomin' since Feb 73. Union President (Hail to the Chief). Diligently listens to all our grievances (AKA Whining). The site manger just wants to know which end zone he'd prefer. Email: star1701d@yahoo.com.

Andy Miller-Boomin' since Mar 73. Bass fishing and NASCAR are still his favorite past times. Invented BASSCAR....Its not just how much they weight but do the gills and fins meet specs. Email: admbass@home.com

Steve Fromm-Boomin' since Jan 71. Boom signal author (I used to delegate this). Unbelievably still commuting from N.C.. I actually own small part portions of the NJ Turnpike, Delaware Memorial Bridge, and the Baltimore Harbor Tunnel. Email: sfromm@webtv.net.

**If you ever in our neighborhood stop in, say "HEY", and help us give Leroy a jump or a push.**

## **Meridian ANGB, MS**

### **153 ARS**

Now that deer season is over, we have found time to continue with our Pacer Crag conversion. Currently, we have one grounded airplane on the ramp and the CBT room is filled with eager boomers. I managed to kill one nice deer this year and then discovered my youngest teenage son gave away the meat to impress a little girl's family. What males won't do for sugar! Anyway, I wish to thank Chief William's for his hard work and efforts. He has accomplished more than I ever dreamed possible for the ANG Enlisted Aircrew community. Take care and drop by if you ever get to the South. We are still the best and only tanker unit in Mississippi.

#### **The Line Up:**

Gerald Harper  
Chuck Smith  
Sonny McCarra  
Ned McCormick  
Robert Knight  
J. R. Benson  
Lee Martin  
Glenn Hancock  
Rick Robinson  
Tom Stamper  
Ronnie Blackwell  
Tony Boykin (transferred to BHM)  
Sean Holdiness  
Arie Latimer  
Steven Lewis  
John Massey  
Lane Meadows (retiring in Dec.)  
Mike Powell  
Al Rigdon (transferring to AREFS)  
Blake Stanley  
Brian Turbyfill  
John Ziller

**Edward L. Mikell, SMSgt, ANG**  
186<sup>th</sup> ARW Program Manager  
DSN [778-9473/edward.mikell@msmeri.ang.af.mil](mailto:778-9473/edward.mikell@msmeri.ang.af.mil)

## R.A.F. Mildenhall, UK

### 351 ARS

Greetings from the land of Real Ales and Road Tax. We have been quite busy during the past year as have the rest of you. With the ETTF standing down, weekends mean nothing; each day is “just another day.” That leaves a lot less time for us to go to London and Scotland to get all of our sightseeing in, but we manage. It also means we get the airshows the Guard and Reserve doesn’t want. We are looking to start Pacer CRAG conversion late this year. Rumor has it that the ETTF will stand up for a short time while we convert. The beer is still lukewarm, stop by if you get the chance. Here is the current line-up:

SSgt. Frank Antonsen: Frank (Sasquatch and Beer Buddha) is leaving us for greener pastures at Robins in March. Good luck in Georgia. **Info Note**: for the gaining Computer Work Group Manager: Spurious Electron Boy is coming your way

SrA. Damien Ash: Damien came to us from Kadena. Bought passes from Tickets and Tours to Edinburgh for the Millennium New Years party and got turned away by the cops for forged passes. Welcome to Europe!!

(T)SSgt Randy Bishop: Had a BIT of an accident down at Souda Bay; fell five stories and LIVED!!! He’s currently getting fixed up at Walter Reed. Supposed to be back in England by May 2000, hopefully fully recovered and able to fly.

SSgt Cliff Bond: Headed off to CFIC in February. He is currently a Flight Superintendent and resident auto mechanic. He did a short stint in squadron scheduling and had just started to get the bald spots to fill in when he began his pre-CFIC sorties.

A1C Doug Boren: Semi experienced baby boom and rock star wannabe. Hangs out with Joel Jones all the time, but with the new policies, we can’t ask or harass!! Got a big visit from the Tooth Fairy; had all four wisdom teeth pulled at the same time since they weren’t working.

SSgt Mel Brewer: (Goat, Big Daddy) Been hiding in Tactics forever. Finally had to do some work when Kosovo kicked off. Finally stepping to Robins in April. The greatest Ground Safety rep we have ever had

SrA John Carter: Says he is actually studying for Staff this time. We think he will make a GREAT **Chief Senior Airman of the Air Force!!** Sentenced to Scheduling; he comes up for parole around April. Member of the Watton Mafia, a Military housing area **40** minutes away from the base

TSgt Mike Conner: Working in Stan/Eval and due to make the move to Training Flight. He’s our Cargo Encyclopedia, just don’t mention “TALCE” in his presence. VERY hard worker, we usually have to order him to go home.

TSgt Dave Cox: Dave “Volunteered” to go over to scheduling after spending three months in the ARS as a Flight Super. Will be NCOIC for Wing Scheduling when Mark Miller PCS’s. Advil and Roloids are at the ready!

SrA Andrew Diaz: Our newest Senior Airman didn’t order his new name tags in time. The rest of us thought our eyes were going bad when we kept seeing AIC (nothing a little embossing tape didn’t fix). Does a great job when he decides to show up to fly; he always leaves an impression - on the receiver. Writing a book called “Contacts – The Braille Method”

A1C Ivan Eggle: “Leggo My Eggo”. The Quiet One. Ivan is a good boom from what I “hear”. Is occasionally seen in the office, very occasionally. His 791’s, on the other hand, ARE seen outside the squadron

A1C Mike Garman: “Patches” says he’s ready for CFIC upgrade, so we’re preparing The Rack to see just how ready he is. We might send him if he figures out how to correctly fill out a 791 for FMS receivers.

SMSgt Doug Hershey: Decided he had way too much time on his hands and took over the 1<sup>st</sup> Shirts job for a couple of months. Figured he was already qualified to do the job because of all the gray hair. He’ll move to OGV later this spring.

SSgt Shawn Hewett: Another one of our Booms that just came back from CFIC. Doing a good job for us in the squadron. He is the self-appointed “Godfather” of the Watton Mafia.

SSgt Gary (Forrest) Isbell: Had another child this year, which makes three boys altogether. I think he finally figured out what causes that. Currently in Stan/Eval

SrA Joel Jones: Just returned from CFIC, just had another kid, just can't stay away from Boren. DON'T ASK, DON'T HARASS. He's also our newest OSS Scheduler. He likes the position, just not the lack of TDY that comes with having "a job".

SSgt Randy Kay: Working in Training Flight and soon to be moved upstairs to Stan/Eval. His Bronco's sucked this year, but GO O.U.!!

TSgt Paul Lankes: Fresh from McConnell, he joined us and became a Flight Superintendent. His plate is full mentoring some of our younger booms and he's doing a great job. Another member of the Watton Mafia

TSgt Dan Miller: Escaped the rigors of the recruiting world to become a boom operator where there are no quotas, just currencies. No sooner did he become mission ready that they put him in Squadron Scheduling. Yet another member of the Watton Mafia.

TSgt Mark Miller: After two previous attempts, Mark is finally leaving Scheduling, but he had to PCS to do it. Going to McDill in July. Good luck Mark.

Amn Joey Meyers: "PB" Our youngest of the young. On a high learning curve and doing great. After three months on station he finally bought a "GOOD Deal" car. He required extensive help from Cliff Bond to rebuild the engine after it "just blew up". Has become quite proficient on how the urinals work (or at least supposed to) on the jet.

SSgt Chris Rieger: Finally got his pardon from scheduling, Moving to Ops Group Training for PACER CRAG conversion. Finally, no more stupid phone calls from Command Post at 0300!! His 49ers didn't fare any better than Kay's Broncos.

SSgt Matt Shaffer: When not on leave or in school, you can find Matt in Squadron Scheduling working ground training for the crewmembers. Trying for fit 12 months of training for everybody into the first three months of the year. Swears he's doing it for our benefit.

MSgt Bobby Skaggs: Bobby recently found out that there is a maximum age up to which one can remain on active duty (as anyone who's seen one of the original Flying Wings actually fly can attest). He will either be PCS'ing or retiring soon and will be greatly missed, whatever the situation

MSgt Robert "Red" Skelton: Red is flying less and less these days, looking forward to retirement. He's still hiding in Wing XP and that keeps him plenty busy.

TSgt Mike Steinkraus: Trying to schmooze a job with AFRTS here in USAFE. "Hello, I'm TSgt Steinkraus, welcome to my aerial ballet!" (You have to watch BBC 1 to appreciate that one)

MSgt Jim Sugden: Got STEP'ed in 98 (Dec 24<sup>th</sup>) and has finally returned to the fold after a year in Protocol and the tour in the ETTF. He's still trying to figure out why no one's around when 1630 hits. We can't say too many bad things about him because he is the new program manager for the 351<sup>st</sup> and it could reflect!!

A1C Antonio Turner: "The Fresh Boom of Mildenhall". Antonio supposedly has a technique of ensuring the walk around bottles have "fresh" oxygen when he flies (purging them). Forget the fact that most of our aircraft still have some of the "fresh" oxygen serviced at depot. This technique caught the attention of a crew chief that became curious and asked a few questions. Antonio denies doing it, but some of the best stories out there were created in this manner.

SrA Mike Usevich: Has bought several scooters since he has been here. You know what they say; they are fun to ride until a friend sees you. Trying to make a responsible Boom Operator out of him in squadron scheduling.

(M) TSgt Jerry (Spanky) Linscott: Attached flyer from the Ramstein TALCE. Only hear about him flying occasionally. Still has the complete Evaluator distraction library.

TSgt Shawn (ROAD) Miller: 11 months and counting. Anybody want a GREAT job in USAFE AMOCC??

MSgt Mike Sage: USAFE/DOV/DOT/Snack NCO/gopher boy. Retiring soon. He will be greatly missed. Thanks for the liquid refreshments in the Atlanta International Terminal.

SSgt Glenn Stallard: Since the CEAFIP started we haven't seen Stally at Mildenhall, he was mumbling something about "the last time I have to drive eight hours and through the "Chunnell" to come fly with you guys...."

### **Dearly Departed**

SSgt David Stadnicki: Left for Robins after Kosovo. Heard he volunteered for scheduling again, HEY DAVE, does Glutton for Punishment mean anything to you??

MSgt Terry Casey: Retired and moved back to Virginia, Permanent Civilian Status. Good luck Terry!!

TSgt Tim Ballentine: Left us to go to Altus and teach. They have better soil there for growing Giant Pumpkins.

TSgt Gary (Cosmo) Frederick: Tried and tried to get out of the Grand Forks assignment, to no avail. Hey Gary, your 300Z is in route. It might have a couple extra miles on it. We didn't think it would get over 180mph but we were wrong!!!

SSgt Greg (Call me Smitty) Smith: Smitty left us for Fairchild last year. We hated to see him go, he taught us so much about customs and courtesies, or the lack thereof.

SSgt Jeff Hy: Jeff punched out and called the Air Force quits. He is working for a civilian airliner in the Pease area as a dispatcher. We hear that he is getting a promotion, you know what they say, "It's not who you know..." Remember Jeff, nothing is too cruel if it is funny!!

### **Inbounds**

MSgt Davis from PEMCO  
SSgt Slick from McConnell  
SSgt Babel from Mt.Home

### **Retirees in the area**

Biff Gentry - Currently working as a stereo rep at the Lakenheath BX.  
Jim Stevens – Manager of the Mildenhall Bowling Center

**Milwaukee ANGB, WI**  
**Gen. Mitchell IAP**  
**126<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Sq.**

**Frozen Tundra Booms**

Well, another year has past, and we find ourselves knee deep into the PACER CRAG conversion. The trip board is thin, what with a few trips to Hickam in February, Allied Force, and some presidential support to Travis in March, there is nothing going on. Alas, we the professional guardsman persevere. I must say though, if you're going to have a war, there really is no other place to fly from than RAF Brize Norton.

We were aloud to **renovate** some of the old base housing at RAF Croughton (HF radio station near Bicester). From there we made the almost daily drive 45 minutes southwest to the airbase for the sorties, as Eche would say "God bless America". To Quote CMSgt. Steckhan "I'm not a fan of long speeches, so to hell with this the beer is getting warm". If ever you see a Wisconsin finflash on your ramp, seek us out and have a beer with us, chances are you'll be able to figure out who we are. See Yah!

**CMSgt. Roger "Rasco" Steckhan, (Ret):** Officially stowed the boom for the last time on 23 Dec. 1999, great retirement party, good food, and copious amounts of beer. Roger received a handheld GPS, from the boom section, as well as a Sharps handheld computer we used for computing weight and balance before the acquisition of our HP 200's, Happy Trails Rog.

**CMSgt. John "Felix" Famularo:** Now the official Chief Boom of the 126<sup>th</sup>, Fammy has taken over right were Roger left off, fighting every other section on base for promotions and what not. Eclipsed the 10,000 hour mark this past year and is showing no signs of stopping there.

**SMSgt. Cliff "TROUGH" Klingbeil:** As suspected, Cliff has taken off the uniform of the man, and has donned the familiar greens of the elite Professional Guardsman force. Rumored to be next in line for the Chief stripe. If you happen to meet a crusty SMSgt. from Milwaukee, who is about 4 ft. tall, ask him how he feels about staff guys flying with him during W.W. Serbia.

**SMSgt. Terry "Pimp Daddy" Sands:** The latest recipient of the "Total Package" award, SMSgt. Sands distinguished himself by not only A. acquiring an extremely large harem in his 30 plus years in "the guard" but also by B. having them all sit at the same table for Rogs' retirement party without incident. Way to go Sands!

**MSgt. Robert "Q-3 RD" Derrick:** One half of the 2B (2 Boom) scheduling team, recently heard to have exclaimed, "I need a new job". Owner of one very nice sport ute, and a most debonair set of specs.

**MSgt. Dave "No Nickname Required" Eddy:** Update, Dave has been spotted roaming the halls and occasionally flying, nuff said.

**MSgt. Dean "I Love Midwest Express" Dachenbach, (Ret.):** Lost battle with flight Surgeon on both sides (Air Force and Airline) now comfortably residing somewhere in Sunny? California.

**MSgt. Steve "Woody" Schweiss:** Seen wearing less than the normal amount of hair, PACER CRAG, or side effect from Viagra? Findings soon to be released. Rumored to soon be enjoying vacation at an undisclosed sanitarium, eh, location.

**MSgt. Jerry "Snitzel" Schiessl:** Still the aforementioned new sheriff in Stan/Eval, still filing changes to the dash 1 and is anxiously awaiting the chance to win big money during lunch time financial meetings.

**MSgt. George "One Damn Nice Guy" Snamiske:** Other half of the 2B scheduling office, enjoys job so much that he regularly can be seen checking stock quotes, completing course 5, or answering the phone to the tone of "tanker re-scheduling".

**MSgt. Mark "Marty" Lipinski:** Distinguished himself by being the Corporal Klinger of Allied Force, if there was something you wanted he was known as someone who could get it for you. Lived with the CC of the 128<sup>th</sup> during the latter half of the war and produced one of the best-looking Elvis shrines these eyes have seen. During the first half of the war Marty was working staff out of Rhein-Mein, rumored to have had his own staff BMW, ah the perks.



**TSgt. Don “NMTT” Harvey:** Probably by the time this gets submitted Don will be a MSgt. Still the same old solid performer, still a vampire, occasionally seen on trips, and day flights.

**TSgt. Dan “Boomer” Schmidt:** Quite possibly the hands down winner of the “Same Day, Same S\*\*\*\*” award. When researching for this esteemed journalistic output, I found that Dan was the same person as he was last year, nothing had changed.

**TSgt. John “The Rock” Magnus:** Current Ops/Intel guru with a passion for anything machinery related, I.E. planes, trains, firetrucks. Can tell you the specific mission of air guard firetruck 100, Cliff Claven beware, John Magnus-Super Genius.

**TSgt. Mike “Dean Wermer” Weimer:** Nothing new here, still professional guardsman, alert slug, trougher, nomad, becoming less grunted everyday. Still loves to fly and loves to travel.

**TSgt. Teckla “T” Thorn:** Another boom to forever stow comewhat May? Teckla also lost a battle with the flight surgeon this year and will probably be seeking some other job here in Ops.

**TSgt. Marlin “Too Many Nicknames To Mention” Mosley:** Mavis, Mervin, Marvin, whatever the nickname, a truly good boom and friend to all. Rumored golden boy of the CC during the war, until Lipinski took over. Current ops guy working the many, many, many wonderful and splendid trips on our trip board.

**2 Lt. Lauri “RO” Hrovatin, (SSgt honorary):** Update, RO has been selected to leave for UPT sometime in FY 2000. Now she’ll be giving the rest of us orders instead of vice versa. Good Luck.

**TSgt. Pat “Slosinski” Sosinski:** Found time during the war to coach a girls basketball team in Oxford, Hmmm? I don’t recall the presidential call-up orders saying anything about that, my loss. The only problem was, when Pat flew missions the team won, and when he coached they lost.

**SSgt. Donald “TOG” Strickland:** Quit the banking industry to become a professional guardsman, something about more lucrative returns, and the price of March porkbellies accelerating, HUH? Seen sometimes to be working active duty days in Base Ops, filing flight plans and what not, one versatile boom.

**SSgt. William “ECHE” Echevarria:** Adjusting well to his desensitizing training, Home and Gardens did a 10 page spread of Eche and his converted base housing style war shed turned boom parlor of shenanigans, in a special “world at war” issue, circa June ’99. Wet bar and everything, take note you young fellow booms, But Of Course.

**Chief Master Lt. Col. Lon Hansen:** New head of naviguesser Stan/Eval issues, HUH? Enjoying life much more as an honorary Boom Operator, who in fact holds a coin, and loves to drink beer, don’t test him.

## **RETIREEES**

All listed below have KC-97, and various models of the KC-135 under their belt.

**CMSgt. Richard “Dick” Harvey**

**CMSgt. Floyd Polzin**

**CMSgt. Ron “State Staff” Puzia**

**CMSgt. Ralph Ellis**

**SMSgt. Ray Bazen**

**SMSgt. Herbie “From Milwaukee” Kiefendorf**

**SMSgt. Lee Cornell**

**SMSgt. Earl Gaurke**

**SMSgt. Jerry “Nelsonese” Nelson**

**MSgt. George Sweet**

**MSgt. Robert Kowalski**

**MSgt. Ray Fasset, 37 years as a boom!**

**Honorary**

**SMSgt. Rocky Poisel (Flight Engineer)**

**Lt. Col. Gary Tenney (Pilot)**

**Lt. Col. Roddy Langford (Navigator)**

**Lt. Col. Lon “Loon” Hansen (Navigator)**

**SMSgt. Charlie Schweiss**

Well, that seems to be the news that is news to me, we have a couple of Altus inbounds by the names of, SSgt. Julie Van Aert, and SSgt. Tony White. Julie comes to us by way of the Duluth Air Guard and our Base Ops, Tony, is another Milwaukee Firefighter who was also an Air Guard Firefighter here on base, they should be on final sometime in April-May. We will also be hiring up to 4 new booms in Feb. of 2000, UGH! On a lighter note, everything in the above paragraphs is meant as a joke so please don’t take any of it serious, so much for the disclaimer. Hope to meet some of my fellow booms somewhere out there, for now adios. *N.K.A.W.T.G., Nobody!*

# **Moutain Home AFB, ID**

## **22 ARS**

### **AIR COMBAT COMMAND**

Greetings from all the ACC Boomers at Mt.Home. Another year behind us, and a busy one at that. The Booms stayed true to form rising to meet all challenges that came their way. Seven weeks in Saudi, ten weeks in Fairford and of course the dreaded wing exercises. Hey somebody has to get promoted! The New Year starts with the Wing in Turkey, followed by the AEF on call period. Fellow Booms are always welcome to stop by for a visit. Somebody has to drink the Red Dog in the beer fridge. Here's our current line up.

**Program Manager – MSgt Dennis “Gray Ghost” O’Grady** - Getting good at the desk job. It's easy, just ignore the officers and let the Booms do their job!

**A Flight - TSgt Glenn “Killer” Harris** - As A flight boss Boom Glenn takes no prisoners!

**A1C Rob Iliff** – New guy, doesn't even have a nick name yet.

**SrA Todd “Fruit” Lupo** – Scheduling God! Of course he hates it. Has applied to be a Gucci boy KC-10er.

**SrA Brian “Tiny” Johnson** – Mr. Johnson! Look for Brian at his pool hall in Minnesota.

**SSgt Brad “Tacan” Wolfe** – New mobility guy. Quiet as always but doing a great job.

**A1C Anna “Snuggle Bunny” Moreno** – Our shining star! Stay away from the MX guys!

**B Flight - TSgt Tim “Snapper” Tuttle** – Fresh from the Academy. The lobotomy scar is healing nicely.

**SrA Scott “Bonz” Hoke** – Busy with ONW, CFIC and Leadership school all this year.

**SSgt Mark “Tower” Babel** – The quiet man heads to Mildenhall this summer. Good luck!

**SSgt Jeff “Mudbug” LeDoux** – How about those Braves! Mudbug can't buy a winner.

**SSgt Troy “My Way” Hales** – The wizard who makes sense out of scheduling.

**Training Flight – SSgt Jessie ‘Tally’ Talamontes** – A new Daddy to be! Maybe this will slow down our hot “Latin Lover”.

**Stan Eval - SSgt Mike “Redneck” Morris** – Still in pain over Bama's loss. Keeps mumbling “Wide right wide right”!!!!

**Wing OGV – TSgt Brian Thayer** – Brian has a bigger smile on his face this year as his Vikings keep winning.

**Headquarters ACC – Our Functional Manager, SMSgt John Buckland.** John hasn't been out here lately but our East Coast Flying Connection is always there when we need him.

**12 Air Force DOV – SMSgt Troy Sinclair** – Troy came up to but the fear of God in the boys earlier this year. It must have worked as I've never seen so much T.O. study in my life.

**So Longs – TSgt Steve “Gunny” Myrick** – Gunny said not to mention him in the signal. After 22 years how couldn't we? Like the true “SAC Warrior” he always was he worked right up to his last day. Thanks Gunny.

## Niagara Falls ANGB, NY

### 136 ARS

GREETINGS FROM THE NIAGARA FALLS BOOMERS! Bring on the new Millenium, hopefully it has as many tax free pay days as 1999. With all the TDY's to Turkey and France most booms scored three to five months of tax free cash. Speaking of France we are getting ready to go again for the month of March, "Cha Ching". Well, I hope that I have not angered our Active Duty counterparts with talk of good TDY's, (i.e. not Saudi), because we have an ASEV visit in October. So if you ever find yourself here at Niagara look us up. We can enlighten you culturally with a quick trip to the Canadian ballet, accompanied by some frosty beverages. Here is our current lineup:

CMSGT JACK TUCHOLS ("Mole Man") Program Manager -- Technician

The Chief is closing in on his technician retirement, about a year and a half left. After that he aspires to play golf full-time and still try to fly part-time. The Chief a guardsman, I wonder who is going to get all the "good deal" trips?

SMSGT HAROLD CLARK ("Smoothee") Stan Eval -- Technician

Harold starts our long list of walking wounded, however his knee surgery is minor compared to the rest of da' boys. He probably injured his knee playing volleyball or body surfing in Hawaii, where he conveniently breaks while TDY.

SMSGT JIM CICHOCKI ("Penguin") Scheduler -- Technician

J.J. has yet to come "back" on flying status. So he can be regularly seen at his desk in scheduling sorting through his vast amount of medical waivers, which outweighs the weekly flying schedule.

MSGT JAY HOPPER ("Time Cop") -- Technician

Jay's the only "old" boom that actually has zero medical waivers, WOW! I think Jay becoming a boom relaxed his lifestyle. We have heard him swear, seen him drink a beer and get this, actually overlook a few timeclock violations. Jay you've come a long way in the 6 years we've known you.

MSGT SAM DAVIES ("Torch") Stan Eval -- Technician

Sam is a tough but fair evaluator who will ask you as many questions on a checkride, as Regis Philbin does on "Who Wants to be a Millionaire", and just as difficult. Flame on buddy.

MSGT DAVE WOHLEBEN ("Chia") Cargo Load Manager -- AGR

Dave took over the cargo shop from J.J. so now everybody has to actually accomplish a cargo load, get out the pencil with the BIG eraser. If you run into Dave ask him about his evil, drunken, non-politically correct, alter-ego DIRK!

MSGT JIM SIEVERT ("Worm") Current Operations -- AGR

Jimmy has a new job in current ops he actually has to work for a living now, that Hall Monitor gig was not working out. At least he is not in scheduling, we don't want to owe him BIG. The AGR "Comp" time KING.

MSGT KEN ISGRIGG ("Casper") Traditional Guardsman

Congratulations to Kenny on the arrival of his new daughter Tessa, she was born with more hair than her Daddy.

MSGT BOB MAJOR ("Snake in the grass") Tactics Boom -- Technician

Bob is the resident whiz on how to get the most out of the technician pay system. Going to talk to Bob is like going to McDonald's, instead of Super sizing you will be Maximizing. 2 for 1, no way, 3 for 1 the norm, 4 for 1 ideal.

MSGT GARY HENNING ("The Professor") Training Flight -- Technician

To say Gary is culturally enlightened is to say the least. He has traveled in various cultural circles, such as Vietnamese, Panamanian, and his latest is Native American. No more BAQ for Gary, he now resides on the reservation in a tee pee, collecting all our money for cheap gas, and gambling at the casino's.

TSGT JIM POHLE ("Pee Hole") Traditional Guardsman

Jim Who? Jim's schoolteaching job keeps him away from flying regularly. So much that we are considering a waiver to extend his contact currency to 365 days.

TSGT TERRI SANTORO ("Oompa Loompa") Stan Eval -- Traditional Guardswoman

The Drill Excusal Queen, is now holding down two jobs, Boom operator / Recruiter. I don't know but I think she is getting flight pay and recruiter incentive pay, hmmm. She will take a full-time job on base anywhere.

TSGT TIM GEMSHEIM ("Motor Mouth") Traditional Guardsman

Congratulations to Tim and Debbie on the birth of their son Matthew. Tim also has a new house, and a new job. I think he is the C.E.O. there, just ask him.

TSGT RAY FITZPATRICK ("Ace") Traditional Guardsman

The old Ray, a SSgt, in the Chief's doghouse, I don't need your stinking paydays. The new Ray, a TSgt, out of the doghouse (for now), and currently on a temporary AGR tour. See what happens when you show up for work regularly.

TSGT BRIAN DILLON ("Link") Traditional Guardsman

Our resident permanent part-timer, trying to survive on AFTP's, UTA's, and the trip list. Hey don't sign up for that trip, I need the hours. Brian, if you need a full-time job the Archaeology department at the University is hiring for the Neanderthal exhibit.

SSGT MIKE CHAN ("Jackie") Traditional Guardsman

Mr. Attitude. "Jackie" is a college student and also holds down a part-time job as a loadmaster for Gemini Airlines. That makes him non-existent around here, he did not tell us that when we hired him.

SSGT TOM OBROCHTA ("Iceman") Traditional Guardsman

We welcome Tommy back to the boom operator career field after a two year sabbatical. He is still in training, but I think he was always in training, wait was he ever qualified? Not glad to see Tommy back in the boom saddle are E-3 pilots, and the maintenance people in charge of the ice shield.

SSGT DALE FRANKLIN ("Moog Man") Traditional Guardsman

Dale left the Guard for bigger and better, his spontaneous strange sense of humor will be missed. Good Luck to Dale in his future, he will always be welcome to come back to Niagara.

TSGT LARRY MOSES ("Crazy Larry") Traditional Guardsman

An FNG, awaiting a class date to attend school at Altus by the Sea. We have installed metal detectors outside the squadron upon finding out his civilian job is with the post office.

SRA DAMIAN MARTELLI ("Barney Fife") Traditional Guardsman

Damian is finally back from Altus, and he is qualified! If you fly with Damian as an instructor you will be earning your pay, no nap time. The DD Form 365-4 is the Form F Damian. I think he still has a bullet for his gun, damn that's scary.

## Pease ANGB, NH

### 133 ARS

Hello to all our fellow boomers!

Here it is, the latest and the greatest from the great Northeast. ASEV came and left in November and two of our boomers were recognized as exceptionally qualified... more to follow. Pacer Crag is complete (finally) now our biggest job in the airplane is to make sure the pilots can follow the little white line, (Not as easy as it sounds). We're scheduled under the EAF to support an AEF in LFMI in FY00 provided, of course, that the Y2K issue doesn't cause our CPU's to go TU. But, hopefully, any problems will be fixed by then. We now have 24 boomers assigned to the Boom Shop and we hope the following will create some impressions that will renew old memories or perhaps generate some new ones.

**CMS Carl Sneirson:** Carl has his hands full trying to juggle the schedules of four "Bums". He's doing a fine job keeping all four of them busy as he continues to schedule flights for all of the Booms.

**CMS Steve Morgan:** "Stevie B" is wearing many hats these days, Wing SEA, Stan/Stat, Mentor, ASEV EQ recipient and friend. If you see him out and about ask him about the mental state of "Molly Sue", his 4 year old Doby. She had an incident where a hawk broke through the upstairs window in his house thinking it could get a quick meal. So you ask yourself "Where's the problem?" Well, the hawk had a six-foot wingspan and scared the S\_\_\_ out of poor Molly.

**SMS Kelly Philbrick:** Kelly finished his house this past year, it cost him a lot of leave time but he saved a ton of money. If anyone has carpentry issues you need advice on call him...but don't tell him we suggested that. He's still in the training office, chasing folks down to qualify with the 9mm...good luck Kel.

**SMS Denis Boucher:** Denis handed off the Cargo Loading duties and spends most of his time at the local Home Depot, although you can occasionally reach him in the Current Ops office, where he's usually calling Home Depot looking for good deals. He has informed me that in his next life he wants to be reincarnated as a dance pole in a gentleman's club.

**MSG Mike Blandina:** Mike has taken on the added duty of Cargo Loading, as well as being our security manager. One of our resident Pacer CRAG experts, Mike is passing on all of his knowledge about the system to the rest of the Booms. Mike just returned from a trip to Germany where he made a new friend, Ula, all he kept saying was that he wished she was 20 years younger.

**MSG Glenn Senechal:** Glenn has decided to give up the post office job, but was able to transfer all his seniority to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. Although Maine still claims to own it. He always shows up with a smile on his face, and a wad of one dollar bills in his pocket. Hmmm, where has he been?

**MSG John Lennon:** John actually did the unthinkable this past summer, he got married. John and wife Linda are deliriously happy, and the wedding was quite an event. 14 Booms showed up in full dress Uniform, and they even let us use sabers, no injuries and no fatalities, except John's bachelor status, may it rest in peace. . For those of you who bet he would never get hitched you can send the checks to....John has decided to hang up the flight suit and try his skills at refueling airplanes from the ground. With all the responsibilities and after twenty years of "juggling" his schedule he found that he needed a little more stability in his Guard career than the flying field could give him.

**MSG Marc St. Cyr:** Marc is still pole climbing for the Utility company, Hey Marc, can the Doc. Give you something for the Chaffing? Rumor has it that in his next life he wants to continue being a pole climber...in a gentleman's club...won't Denis Boucher be surprised!

**MSG Dave Lajoie:** Dave decided to pursue his artistic talents and leave the full time force, but stay as a traditional. So if he's not working in the scheduling office he'll be at home either painting or playing the six string. We've told him that if he wants to be in a rock -n- roll band he'll have to get a wig, his present follicular deficit just wouldn't be credible.

**MSG Elaina D'Orto:** Elaina still occupies space over at our TTF facility. If you pass through here on a TTF mission that was planned here you'll get a chance to meet her. If Elaina ever wants to cook dinner for you and you don't like "natural" vittles then you better ask to see the package from the grocery store, otherwise you'll get some good local grown eats.

**MSG Glen Starkweather:** Glen is still plugging away at the airport taking care of the grounds. His house is finished and they are all moved in. Just be careful when you're around him...his wife works for the FBI. Glen is our only part-time instructor even with the house, four children and the airport he still manages to fly at least once a week.

**MSG Tony Casella:** Tony is one of the Chiefs newest teenage Master Sergeants and still our resident computer expert, as well as being one of our Pacer CRAG experts. The Chief was actually overheard saying that he wished all of his booms knew at least 50% of what Tony knows about the new airplane. The only drawback to all this newfound knowledge Tony's carrying around is that he never gets to fly alone, he's always in instructor status.

**MSG Mike George:** Mike is still delivering mail on the outside. This year he was selected as NCO of the year, "Congrats" Mike. As well as Booming he's our part time Unit Career Advisor, he does a fine job with all of his tasks thus justifying his status as the other of our Chiefs teenage Master Sergeants.

**John Gibb:** John no longer has a girlfriend...she's now his wife. He's doing publications changes and working in crew comm, and getting prepped for instructor school later in the year. Fortunately for John he's better at being a Boom Operator than picking fantasy football teams...the first regular season game he lost three of his starters to injury, hey John, I bet they were more upset by it than you were.

**TSG Jim Doyle:** Jim is still swinging the hammer for his own construction company. He's one of our part-part timers, he just reenlisted for six more years...Hey Jim, six more flights eh!

**TSG John Craig:** John holds the temporary indefinite technician position but he's been here so long we're thinking of redefining what that exactly means. John still hasn't lost it, but we think his time is coming. John has a skill that he's been able to keep well hidden until this year. As a result of his finish carpentry expertise John has been able to build a gazebo in our back yard...come on by and we'll throw a shrimp on the barby for ya.

**TSG Steve Munt:** Smunt has been with us for a year and a half now. He's doing a fine job in the airplane. He received a check ride in November on was deemed exceptionally qualified, then a week later he got a spot check from the ASEV team, in that week he proved the benefit of short term memory and was exceptionally qualified by them as well. Wow, two EQ's in one week, is that a record?

**SSG Sam Blackwell:** Sam has relinquished his "Bum" status in order to work for Pan Am. So now he's making the big bucks scheduling for the "new" airline. We see Sam occasionally around here but not as often as we would like, we can't find anyone to do the additional duties that he used to do with as much enthusiasm as he had.

**SSG Michelle Champagne:** Miss Mosely got married a couple of years ago and as a result she not only has a name change but a couple of months ago she gave birth to a wonderful baby daughter. Dad, Mom and baby are all doing well and Michelle has decided to give up her job on the outside to stay home with her newborn. We do see her around here quite often and welcome the wonderful display of enthusiasm she brings each time she flies.

**SSG Alan Beaulieu:** Alan is still doing the grind as an auto mechanic on the outside. Like it says in the -3, "the boom must be accurately and precisely inserted into the receptacle", well as a result of the fine Air force training Al received he is now a proud Papa. Nice Boom control Al!

**SSG Mike Dunlap:** Mike is a new addition to our family. He came to us from active duty as a -10 operator. He took a year away from flying so he could become a cop with the Manchester police department. Mike brings a lot of experience with him, and we welcome him aboard.

**SSG Mark Brophy:** Mark is freshly back from Boom school. He's progressing exceptionally well in the airplane and we look forward to great things from him once he's fully qualified. One of Marks hobbies is black and white photography, he just finished building a dark room in his basement, he's processing his own negative film and having a little difficulty loading the film into the cartridge. Is there a CBT for that?

**SSG Melanie Matthew:** Unfortunately for Mel she sustained an injury that has had her on DNIF status for some time now. Mel has spent the last month of her sabbatical in TTF. Mel's logged more time being the crew bus driver than she has in the airplane...not to worry she'll be flying again soon, at least that's what the Doc tells us.

**SSG Ralph Siemer:** Ralph is our Baby Boom. He's one of the lucky guys that went to Pensacola for water survival, well he's here so I guess he survived the para-sailing.

That's it for this year folks, best wishes and good flying to you all.

The 133<sup>rd</sup> Boom Operators.

If you'd like to E-Mail any of us you can do so at...**First Name.Last Name@NHPEAS.ang.af.mil**

# Phoenix ANGB, AZ

## 197 ARS

### FULLTIMERS

IRPM	CMS	Trujillo, Carlos, E.	853-9031
DOV	SMS	Hetrick, David, R.	853-9014
DOTT	SMS	Rogers, Donald, L.	853-9041
DOTO	MSG	Johnson, Sharon, L.	853-9024
DOTS	MSG	Warren, Tyson, G.	853-9363
DOTS	MSG	Cullum, Mike, A.	853-9057
T.O.'S	MSG	Waite, Rodney, K.	853-9012
CLTM	MSG	Ellington, Thomas, P.	853-9085

### TRADITIONAL GUARDSMAN

MSG	Brady, William L.	SSG	Gonzalez, Rene, G
MGT	Garrett, William, T.	SSG	Graziani, Tony, A.
MSG	Hanson, David	SRA	Groner, Robert
TSG	Bell, Craig, D.	SSG	Sanchez, Hilario
TSG	Wright, David, P.	SSG	Snodgrass, Jason
TSG	Bonnett, John, A.	SRA	Jones, Vincent
SSG	Madorski, Jeffrey,		

### RETIRED

CMS	Mesquita, Juan	CMS	Field, Russ
MSG	Young, Joseph	MSG	Escobar, Jorge
SMS	Benbow, Burney	CMS	Combs, Roger
MSG	Duncan, Gary	SMS	Johnson, Henry

### TRANFERED

MSG	Hanson, Steve	SSG	Raymond, Larry
TSG	Suladie, Lorena	SSG	Cowles, Mark
TSG	Vasques, David	SSG	Weilend, Monte
TSG	Doyle, Valerie	SSG	Yanez, Roger
SSG	Johnson, Scott	SSG	Robinson, Robbi
MSG	Hauer, Robert	TSG	Brown, Ron
TSG	Hardy, Richard		

### DECEASED

TSG Plough, Donald (*Copper 5*)  
MSG Madorski, Jerry

**Pittsburgh ANGB, PA**  
**146 ARS**

PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD  
HEADQUARTERS 171ST AIR REFUELING WING  
PITTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
CORAOPOLIS PENNSYLVANIA

Once again he 146 ARS boom line-up has A FEW new faces. Our list of OUTSTANDING BOOM OPERATORS:

**Guardsmen**

SRA MIKE SCHANCK  
SSG NATHAN HROMIKA  
SSG JASON REBHOLZ  
SSG JOE MORRIS  
SSG MIKE NAGY  
TSG TERRY DAVIS  
TSG AARON EDISON  
TSG JOHN LOMBARDO  
TSG JIM PERROTT  
TSG PATRICK SHARKEY  
MSG JOHN FITZPATRICK  
MSG JIM BLOOM  
MSG RANDY MILLER  
SMS JOE GALLIK

Graduated CCTS Mar 00  
Working towards Mission Qual  
Fed Ex Cargo Mover  
Another Master of Carpentry  
Our politically correct guardsman  
Financial accountant  
Counselor for the incarcerated  
Guard Bum Supreme  
Pittsburgh City Firefighter  
Master of Carpentry  
Pittsburgh City Firefighter, Recent Promotee  
Crafton PD Blue  
Fed Ex Management  
US Airways Coordinator

Active Guard Reserves (AGR):

MSG BILL QUILLEN

Long Range, Recent Promotee

Civil Servants:

TSG MIKE WORTHINGTON  
MSG JOHN CIMA  
MSG CRAIG SMITH  
SMS NICK LUCYK  
SMS TONY TRENGA  
CMS PAT PLONSKI

Squadron Scheduling  
Training  
Current Operations, Recent Promotee  
Current Operations  
Stan/Eval  
Chief Boom

Regretable losses since last edition:

SSG John Gamble  
MSG Larry Stockton

Pursuing Professional Bicycling Career  
Our Loss is Fairchild's Gain

PATRICK PLONSKI, CMSgt, PaANG  
146 ARS/Chief Boom  
DSN 277-7536  
E-Mail [PAT.PLONSKI@PAPITT.ANG.AF.MIL](mailto:PAT.PLONSKI@PAPITT.ANG.AF.MIL)



**Pittsburgh ANGB, PA**  
**147 ARS**

PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD  
HEADQUARTERS 171ST AIR REFUELING WING  
PITTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
CORAOPOLIS PENNSYLVANIA

Once again the 147 ARS boom line-up has A FEW new faces. Our list of OUTSTANDING BOOM OPERATORS:

**Guardsmen**

SRA RYAN CONLEY	Graduated CCTS Mar 00, Skycop Convert
SSG DAN CERVONE	Awaiting CCTS, Life Support Convert
SSG SCOTT LARUE	Awaiting CCTS, Medic Convert
SSG JASON COSTANZO	Professional Student
TSG SAMANTHA BROMLEY	Recent Bouncing Baby Boy
TSG STEVE GRINDLE	Penn Hills Policeman, Recent Promotion
TSG STEVE MOSER	Professional Student
TSG CASEY O'CONNOR	Guard Bum Extrodinair
MSG MIKE SABATASSE	Jailhouse Gatekeeper
CMS SKIP KUBACKI	Teacher, Retiring Jun 00

Active Guard Reserves (AGR):

MSG MARK BARNA	Current Operations, Recent Promotee
MSG RON GUTOWSKI	Long Range, Recent Promotee
MSG DON HENDRIX	Training
MSG KEITH STEPHENS	Current Operations
MSG KEN TEYSSIER	147 ARS Program Manager

Civil Servants:

TSG SCOTTY TROWBRIDGE	Current Operations
TSG JOHN BUCKWALTER	Squadron Scheduling, Recent Full Time Hire
MSG MIKE STRAUCH	Training

171 OG Stan/Eval  
MSG JERRY LEVATO

Regretable losses since last edition:

TSG Sandy Zenk	Family Ties
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KENNETH TEYSSIER, MSgt, PaANG  
147 ARS/Chief Boom  
DSN 277-7431  
E-Mail [KENNETH.TEYSSIER@PAPITT.ANG.AF.MIL](mailto:KENNETH.TEYSSIER@PAPITT.ANG.AF.MIL)

**Ramstein AB, Germany**  
**HQ USAFE**  
Stan Eval

**“Trust, But Verify”**

Greetings to all boom operators, past and present. I will be retiring effective 1 Jan 01. It has been a wonderful 20 years and I would do the whole thing over again if given the chance. I would like to thank all the great people in the boom operator career field for helping make this more than merely a job. Nathan Peachy will be taking my spot sometime around the end of October. My family and I are looking forward to new challenges in the civilian world.

Europe has been a very busy place over the past year and a half. Unfortunately, I did not get to fly nearly as much as I would have liked or needed, but everyone involved in staff work knows what I'm talking about.

As I look back over the past 20 years, I think of the changes that have occurred to our community, both good and bad. I feel that most have been positive changes, but the one that stands as not being the best way of doing business is the assignment system. I realize that you cannot make all of the people happy all of the time, but I think that there must be a better way than racking and stacking folks. I think that this method significantly contributes to our losing highly qualified people. Just my thoughts.

Presently, there are three USAFE boom operator positions at Ramstein and I think two at the AMC TALCE. Mine is a MSgt slot and there is one SSgt and one TSgt at the AMOCC (USAFE's version of TACC). Germany is a great place to live and work. I know that the SSgt position at the AMOCC is the next to come open (fall of 2001). If you are interested, I would update my dreamsheets by spring of 2001.

I was drinking a coke at a local establishment last week and ran into retired boom operator, Randy Haylor. He has recently left employment with the Jr ROTC program at DODDS high schools and is starting a new job in computers. His email is available on the boom worldwide listing.

Again, thanks to everyone who have made this job so enjoyable. Take care.

**Mike Sage**

## **Ramstein AB, Germany**

### **HQ USAFE AMOCC**

Guten Tag (Good Day) from the tip of the sword in USAFE. We missed last year's signal because no one really knew we were here so I will get you up to speed. The USAFE AMOCC stood up 1 Oct 97 during that time we have been extremely busy here in Europe from Kosovo, Presidential support missions, ONW, OSW, and the multiple tasks and requests we are sent everyday. For those of you wondering, what an AMOCC is it is an Air Mobility Operations Control Center, another word for in-theater TACC. We are responsible for all Tanker, Airlift, OSA, and Medivac missions within the European AOR. We are not a TALCE or AMOG. Here in the tanker branch we have 2 officers and 2 KC-135 booms we are responsible for all of EUCOM's tanker assets. We are the go to guys on tanker issues. Our day to today is just tasking and working with the 100<sup>th</sup> ARW at Mildenhall on a day to day basis. We work with the Foreign Military Sales such as the Germans, Belgians, Netherlands, Portuguese, Norwegians and the Danish to fulfill their training needs. We also work closely with the TACC on a range of issues. The learning curve here is steep and the hours are long but the job is rewarding and very educational. If you are looking for a job at the headquarters level soon and you want to get out of the grind of the ITUD schedule you might consider a job here at the AMOCC. The area is great, lots to do, 45-minute drive from France and centrally located in Europe with ITT tours and C-130's going all over the theater. So if you are ever at Ramstein airplane patch come on by for a cup of good strong German coffee and we will be more than happy to show you around the office and answer any questions you may have and just shoot the breeze.

#### Contact information:

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Tatia.Krueger@ramstein.af.mil

#### The Booms:

TSgt Shawn Miller: Came in from El Forko Grande (Grand Forks) to polish up on his German. Shawn is looking forward to retirement in a year so start thinking of how you are going to break it your significant other you are volunteering for the AMOCC. Shawn has got big plans on becoming a farmer after retirement, you can tell by the stack of John Deere tractor manuals and the centerfold pin up of a combine on his wall. No pictures of his family on his desk just of farm equipment.

SSgt Glen Stallard (Stally): Well Stally came in from the land of OZ (McConnell) and there must be something in that German water because 9 months after his arrival his wife gave Stally a little girl. Stally's little girl has cut into his UMPAHPAH time with Mike Sage but he makes due. Stally is always looking for a training class or seminar to go to. Claims he cannot wait to get back to the slow paced life of AMC.

MSgt Tatia Krueger: Tatia is here on extended TDY from the 931<sup>st</sup> ARS at McConnell is hard at work directing airplanes around the sky in Europe. Tatia is working in the AMOCC's newest division the Initiation cell (Flow Control). Tatia claims she is here to earn enough money to get herself a new car but she has been spotted running around in custom-made lederhosen at local festivals.

## **Ramstein AB, Germany**

623 AMSS/TALCE

Unit 3295

APO, AE 09014-3295

Greetings from Germany! Was Ist Los! (What is happening?) This has been a long and tedious year with deployments all around the European Theater. We manage to keep busy by supporting Bosnia, Kosovo, Africa, fly breaks and accomplishing Affiliation training for our Army affiliates. We currently have three Boom Operators assigned to the Ramstein TALCE, 2 KC-10 booms and 1 KC-135 Boom.

MSgt Tony Ceraolo (KC-10 Instructor Boom Operator) [tony.ceraolo@ramstein.af.mil](mailto:tony.ceraolo@ramstein.af.mil) I am still residing in Germany and trying to stay for another year. I married a female copy (mini-me) of myself (Kim) and I'm a lot calmer (Trying to be!) than in the past. I'm buying a Harley Fatboy (Pearl White) but I'm still keeping the Kawasaki ZX-11 for those high-speed autobahn runs.

TSgt Jeff Sidles- (KC-10 Instructor Boom Operator) [jeffrey.sidles@ramstein.af.mil](mailto:jeffrey.sidles@ramstein.af.mil) I am still here in the Ramstein TALCE. I still enjoy Germany, but will be looking forward to getting back to flying full time. My wife and kids keep me busy during the limited time the job leaves. If you ever make it to Germany, give us a call. If the TALCE is knocking on your door, this is the place to do it. Aufwiedersehen.

MSgt (s) Jerry "Spanky" Linscott (KC-135R Instructor Boom Operator) [jerry.linscott@ramstein.af.mil](mailto:jerry.linscott@ramstein.af.mil) I have been here about a 1 ½ years now with 2 ½ left and I am still trying to learn all the tricks of the trade, dreaming about the day I get to go fly on a full time basis. (This isn't Kansas Dorothy!) Nick and me just had our second little boy on 1 Jul 1999 and continue to argue about who he gets his behavior (Grumpiness) from her or me. (I know it has to be her!)

Well, good-bye until till next year! If you guys pull through Ramstein give us a call at ext 480-7969 or drop us an e-mail sometime just to say hi.

**Randolph AFB, TX**  
**HQ AETC/19 AF**

**AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND**

Greetings from sunny San Antonio, Texas. First of all, we would like to express our appreciation and best wishes to CMSgt Erskin Glast and Chief Minton and their families as they retire from the Air Force. Both of these outstanding men have been true friends, mentors, leaders and made enormous contributions to our career field. We wish them the best! We would also like to extend a big thanks to each active duty MAJCOM, the wings, and groups and our KC-10 brothers and sisters for their continued support in manning our schoolhouse. You have sent us some great instructors and they have all brought a fresh expertise to our training program. In the months ahead schoolhouse manning will continue to be an area of great concern. We have had several individuals recently selected for OTS. So far, congratulations to: Ron Strobach, Joe Reed, Dave Robinson, Tim Arsenaault, Brett Clark, Mark Anderson, Jim Eustis, Ken Crowe, and Doug Templeton on their OTS selection and several other individuals are building packages for the upcoming boards. We wish each of these outstanding individuals the very best of luck. As for our manning, I still believe it is better to have a volunteer instructor than a non-volunteer and would like to continue this selection method. Unfortunately because of our manning shortfalls, we are on the verge of having to request non-volunteer action to improve manning. Every boom operator should view a schoolhouse tour as part of their career progression and an opportunity for adding to our great legacy as the best enlisted flying career field in the United States Air Force. PLEASE, PLEASE, keep the instructor volunteer packages coming so we can keep the normal process of rotating instructors! Remember that the AF Form 392 (assignment dream sheet) is the most important way to express your assignment and location desires to AFPC. It is critical for you to keep the dream sheet updated and make sure it reflects your TRUE assignment preferences. Don't put locations on your sheet, even as number 6 or 7 if they are not location you would want...You might just become a volunteer for an assignment you really do not want! Last, we would like to thank each of our schoolhouse instructor for the tremendous job they are doing in training the future of our career field. Their hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated. They are all doing a super job!

2000 is starting out as quite a year for those of us in AETC and looks to be extremely fast paced. We continue to scramble and work on ways to requisition of new simulators commonly known as the BOWST (Boom Operator Weapon Systems Trainer), to replace our aging BOPTTs. FY00 has seen the addition of the Basic Boom Operator Course a "feeder" course for the Boom Operator career field and used to award the 3-skill level it paved the way for a true direct accession to the KC-10. This greatly reduced the KC-10 training days. We would especially like to thank Chief Minton, Chief Hubbard, Chief Glast, Chief McPeak, and the folks at Flightsafety Services Inc. for making this happen. Their efforts lightened the load of the KC-135 schoolhouse and save the Air Force a large chunk of change.

As most of you know, Chief Carrier carries the big stick over at AETC. He has done a tremendous job of working assignments in and out of the schoolhouse. He really cleared the road and made the assignment process work the way it was intended. As for me I'm still at the NAF. Dawn and the girls finally decided to join me after staying in Altus long enough for the girls to finish school. I'm still on the road a lot more than I thought I would be but I have enjoyed getting around and seeing a lot of you.

Finally, Chief Carrier and I would like to thank the schoolhouse Operations Superintendents, Program Managers, Schedulers, Flight Supervisors, and Instructors for the outstanding job they are doing in training our boom students and future career field leaders. SMSgt Pratts presence will be missed at the schoolhouse. His hard work and conviction to duty has left the schoolhouse a much better place than when he arrived.

If any of you are ever in the area please stop in it is always great to hear from folks passing through or to see a KC-10 or a KC-135 parked here at Randolph. Please give us a call.

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## **Rickenbacker ANGB, OH**

### **145 ARS**

#### **145<sup>th</sup> Boomers Met the Challenges**

During the past twelve months members of the 145<sup>th</sup> Boom Shop at Rickenbacker have enthusiastically accepted the challenges of Pacer Crag modification and training, the recent ASEV visit by higher headquarters, and the demands of the local flying mission as well as off-station mission requirements. This has been a very busy period for our team. As Program Manager of the 145<sup>th</sup> ARS, I'm very proud of the way our Booms have stepped up to the plate and done an outstanding job supporting our unit and the Guard Mission. The Boomers of the 145<sup>th</sup> will continue to meet the challenges of the next few months as our Ops Tempo continues to grow and we participate in the upcoming AEF commitments.

Due to the hard work of CMSGT Al Williams, the boom career field enjoyed an increased rank structure, making it possible for several boom promotions during the past year. Thanks Al, we really appreciate your hard work and leadership.

The following booms have advanced in rank during the past year: Allen R. Berg (SMSgt), Eric Shoemaker (MSG), Delmar McGee (MSG), Rex E. Robertson (MSG), and Kevin Cartwright (TSG).

The following personnel are also outstanding members of the 145<sup>th</sup> ARS Boom Shop:

CMS Terry Kerr TSG TAB Bursk SSG Shawn Carr

MSG William McIver TSG Scott Keller

MSG Robert Reffitt TSG Paul Emler

MSG Mark Hamilton TSG Heidi Rempe

MSG Matt Foster TSG Kevin Black

Hope everyone has a great year. From CMSGT Dick Grein and the Boom Team of the 145ARS.

## Rickenbacker ANGB, OH

### 166 ARS

CMSgt Jack A. Bishop  
Aerial Refueling Program Manager  
DSN: 950-3399

SMSgt Tom E. Guard	Standardization/Evaluation	DSN: 950-4579
MSgt Samuel D. Given	NCOIC/Training/CLT	DSN: 950-3514
MSgt Todd A. DeVoe	Boom Scheduler	DSN: 950-4574
MSgt Jose Isern	Current Ops.	DSN: 950-3249

#### Line Booms

MSgt Mike McKinnon	DSN: 950-3123	TSgt Mike Bursk	DSN: 950-4574
MSgt Lib Malbon	DSN: 950-4575	TSgt Pat Helgerman	DSN: 950-4574
MSgt Richard Schontzler	DSN: 950-4574	TSgt Dave Luce	DSN: 950-4574
MSgt Dan Toskin	DSN: 950-4574	TSgt Steve Schlinkert	DSN: 950-4574
TSgt Barry Anderson	DSN: 950-4574	TSgt Joe Semeraro	DSN: 950-4574
TSgt Bob Derryberry	DSN: 950-4577	TSgt Marq Thompson	DSN: 950-4574

Over the last couple months the 166 ARS has promoted several Booms, we would like to acknowledge them. SMSgt Thomas E. Guard, MSgt Daniel V. Toskin, MSgt Richard Shontzler, TSgt Micheal Bursk, TSgt Patrick Helgerman, TSgt David Luce, TSgt Steven Schlinkert, TSgt Joe Semeraro, TSgt Marq Thompson

We have completed our 21<sup>st</sup> AF ASEV and I am happy to say that overall the boom operators did well. TSgt Barry Anderson received an outstanding performance on his checkride. The wing cargo load-training program also received an outstanding. (Thanks for the help Pittsburgh)

#### *Quotes from the Booms:*

I've learned that you can keep puking long after you think you're finished.

Don't worry it only seems kinky the first time!

Where's our **BONUS ?**



**Robins AFB, GA**  
**HQ AFRC DOTV**  
155 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

“The only Boom in the House”

Fellow Boomers:

1. How y'all are? PACER CRAG gotcha down? Are you tired of searching for cargo missions so you can get your certification changed to a qualification? Do you feel that the lead command just don't have the big picture? Well buck up little campers!! Help is on the way; **it's called the KC10**. Just kidding, I feel the pain of my 135 brethren and the struggles they have been through attempting to drive a rubber nail through steel. **AFRC has the best training programs of any command, keep up the great work!** Don't give up when the nail keeps hitting you in the head.
2. We are usually up to our ears fighting C130 battles but do give us a call if you need an extra hose on an AFRC fire. Our functions include: augmentation of 21<sup>st</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> AF ASEV's, writing AFRC supplements, trying to stay current, and a multitude of conferences at the Burger Bar down the street. We are finishing up the AFRC 130 supplements as well as the little tube of pain that won't go away. (Not Barney and not Fred). We are always in need of a good Reservist to augment the many duties assigned to our small, enlisted side of the house. So if you're looking for a week of mandays give me a call!
3. Fly Safe and keep the tradition alive!! Teach something today to that young student that made an impression on you.

**SMSgt Robert Wolfe (ART)**  
**Command Inflight Refueling Examiner**  
**HQ/AFRC Flight Standards and Tactics**  
DSN 497-1155 / email: [robert.wolfe@afrc.af.mil](mailto:robert.wolfe@afrc.af.mil)



## Robins AFB, GA

### 99 ARS

TO: All Booms Past and Present

Greetings from the 19<sup>th</sup> ARG, Black Knights and the 99<sup>th</sup> ARS, Ramrods, home of the back to back winners of the Spaatz Trophy. Right now we have just started our PACER Crag conversion so things are really hopping around here. We all so have our ATSO ORI, SIOP ORI and ASEV coming up in the next 18 months. A lot of things have changed since the last signal and we'll try and bring you up to date.

First, **CMSgt Chris Sadler** retired after 20 plus years of service. Chief is still in the local area and is still looking for a job. **SMSgt Bubba Cox** will be taking his place in November. Bubba is coming to us from McGuire. I know of at least one boom that will be happy to see Bubba's smiling face around here.

**CMSgt Lee Winter** PCS'd to Fairchild. Chief Winter jumped over the broomstick again and will soon be a new Dad again.

**MSgt Jim Morman** took CMSgt Winter's spot and is trying to keep his head above water right now.

**MSgt John Beringer** retired in July and is training to be a Warner Robins Cop. We feel really safe since we all know how many guns John owns.

**TSgt Mike Rollins** retires this October and is staying in the local area looking for a job.

We've had several booms PCS or crosstrain.

**SSgt Eric Arcara** is now at Altus corrupting young booms minds. Not really, Eric will be missed around here and will be a real asset at Altus.

**SSgt John Phillips** crosstrained as a C-17 loadmaster and is at Charleston. John wanted to follow in his Dad's shoes and we wish him the best.

**Sra Chris Huelsenbeck** crosstrained as a C-130 loadmaster and is on his way to Pope. He also is following in his Dad's footsteps and we wish him the best also.

Here's the current lineup of booms:

#### A-Flight

**TSgt Melton "Goatboy" Brewer (Flt. Sup)** - PCS'd in from Mildenhall now trying to cope with his underlings. Still can't get over the fact that you get caught with an animal one time and people JUST won't let it go.

**SRA Dustin "Fish" Schales** - Doing a bang-up job as Vehicle dude. Can't figure out the difference between a -135 and a Lionel Train set.

**A1C Chris "Hoopty" Zahner** - Not sure what he does around the squadron. Usually found screwing around with the "boyz" on LakeTobesofkee.

**A1C Bruce "Superstar" Klima** - Working hard doing all the jobs around the squadron that others don't either have time to do or don't want to do. Helping IB's in training flight get everything up to speed. Has high-speed, low drag hair cut fashioned by weed eater every three weeks or so.

#### B-Flight

**SSgt Kevin "RaileR" Cantrell (Flt. Sup)** - Thinks he's Wayne Gretzky at the local Red Neck Skating Pond (Bibb Arena). PCSing to Altus next July to join the local Beach Bums. Gotta whole lotta sand with no damn beach.

**SRA John "Cracker" Rickenbach** - Usually seen being drug by fast moving watercraft wondering why work always seems to interrupt the process of having fun. Next in line for upgrade.

**SRA Ralph "Key-mo" Huston** - Thinks coming to work is an additional duty. Has more gadgets and toys than McGyver would after a shopping spree at Home Depot. RaileR's roommate, we don't ask, we don't tell.

### C-Flight

**TSgt Tom “Packard” Hewitt (Flt. Sup)** - Back Booming after three year stint as a computer geek working with YOBO’s and Soju swilling fiends.

**SRA Eric “Sticks” Hicks** - New instructor in the squadron. Has girly-man rims on his wanta-be truck and thinks they are it. Gonna have him instructing the new-bees in the near future.

**SSgt (SEL) Bronson “Worm” Lerma** - President of the Water Boyz Sporting Society. Working on becoming a well rounded individual by completing his Bachelors Degree this fall.

**A1C Heath “Hambone” Hampton** - We are still trying to figure out how a guy from North Carolina talks like he’s from California. When asked by the Chief Boom how he liked being a boom, his reply was, “Rockin’!” Also been known to call the Chief Boom “Dude!”

### Stan/Eval

**TSgt Jeff “Pop it” Whited** - Retrained from the three holer after a Millenium. Doing a super job as NCOIC. Next time you see him ask about his new house.

**SSgt Tony “Shaft” Knowlton** - If you know Tony then you know how he got the nickname. AMC Instructor of the Year on his way to Altus-by-the-sea in July.

### Training Flight

**TSgt (SEL) Frank “Psycho” Antonsen** - PCS’d in from Mildenhall, and hit the ground running, into trees, cars, airplanes and other inanimate objects. His truck loses it’s way home after weekend visits to the VFW.

**SSgt Dave “Nugget” Coleman** - PCS’d in from Altus after 10+ years there. Local Bill Dance and Hank Parker want-a-be.

### Group Booms

**MSgt Scotty “Beam me up” Bradshaw** - Retiring after 21 years this November. Thinks he’s the Mark McGuire of Softball. Doesn’t want to play the field, but more than willing to bat.

**SSgt Dave “Hat Full” Keller** - The Boom formerly known as “Doogie aka Doog-a-nator.” The new nickname fits him better. Just ask him why. If not MSgt Morman will be more than happy to tell you.

**SSgt (SEL) Denim “Levi” Beeler** - SHHHHHHHHHHHH! He’s in Special Ed/Ops. New instructor after upgrade.

**SSgt Dave “Icki” Stadnicki** - Came in from Moldy-Hole last year. Cruising the web looking for love, wound-up in Scheduling.

If any of you get down our way please stop in and say hi and the first round is on us. All of the above was written on the sprit of fun.

**MSgt Jim Morman**  
Chief Boom

**SSgt Frank Antonsen**  
Training Flight Boom

**SSgt Kevin Cantrell**  
B Flt Super

**Salt Lake ANGB, UT**  
**191 ARS**  
**SLARCO**

As this is the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary issue of the signal, it would be fitting to have some really nice centerfolds and some playmates from the past. The mental picture of any SLARCO members, past or present, is too scary so it will just be a short bio.

**CMSgt Val Petersen:** Val is our ambassador of good will when he is TDY. It's rumored that he was seen recently in a Cheyenne, Wyoming hotel spreading good will in his birthday suit.

**CMSgt Doug Cline:** Doug is the program manager. He and his wife are expecting their 3<sup>rd</sup> child even after the "big fix". The mailman? Joe used to be a mailman.

**SMSgt Jim Zaelit:** Jim is the NCOIC of the section. He's living in a cabin in the mountains while he builds his wife a new palace in the valley. He still denies the mafia connection.

**SRA Santiago Avila:** Santiago came to us from the Hydraulics shop and is doing a great job! He has the shiniest boots in the section but we still love him.

**SRA Kurt Armstrong:** Kurt is our newest addition here. In a former life he was a body double for Michael J. Fox.

**SSgt Dan Boyack:** Dan recently left us for AMS and the pilot bonus. Hopefully he'll be just as good a pilot as he is a Boom Operator.

**TSgt Jason Blood:** Jason is Dan Boyack's brother-in-law so we get to keep the better part of the family anyway. He is currently enjoying the summer at Altus.

**MSgt Jarvis Brown:** Jarvis is our Cargo Load Manager. He is currently on an experimental "work from home" program.

**MSgt Eric Henderson:** We think we've finally bred the KC-10 out of Eric. Just the other day he said he hopes he never sees another one in his life.

**MSgt Brian Jensen:** Brian is the scheduler these days. He enjoys it so much it may be a long time before anyone else will be able to have his job.

**TSgt Karen Keely:** Karen is offended by the centerfold comment so you can log on to [www.karen.com](http://www.karen.com) to see her centerfold.

**MSgt Brian Lawson:** Brian moved recently to a new home. At his house-warming bash all the neighbors got to know he and his friends really well. Most of them have put up "For Sale" signs.

**SMSgt Joe Mace:** Joe is the Stan Eval guy in the section. What a clown!

**SRA Jason Moffat:** Jason is in school and only comes out at night.

**MSgt Tim Molder:** Tim is one of our newest technicians and if we can get him off E-bay for a few minutes we think he'll do a great job! He's on his way to CFIC in September.

**SMSgt Marty Nielsen:** Marty left Stan Eval for the "greener pastures" of Training. We're all breathing a little easier now come check ride time.

**TSgt Matt Ocana:** Matt is the sections ladies man. He just bought a new boat so we don't see much of him anymore.

**TSgt John Salazar:** Sal is our resident chef. You haven't had good Mexican until you've had one of Sal's creations!

**MSgt Brian Steenblik:** Steemy is still AGR and working in the pubs department. Does AGR still stand for what we think it does?

**MSgt Suzette Umphrey:** Suzette is leaving us for bigger and better things in sunny California. We wish her the best!

**MSgt Ben Williams:** We have all been trying to figure out where the elevator shaft is in Ben's office so we can come and go without being noticed like he does.

**SMSgt Jim Zaelit:** Jim is the NCOIC of the section. He's living in a cabin in the mountains while he builds his wife a new palace in the valley. He still denies the mafia connection.

We'd love to hear from any and all of you out there so give us a call @ DSN 924-9282 or 1-800-214-5739.

**If anyone would like to bribe us for tickets to the 2002 Winter Olympic Games call Jim Zaelit. (Remember the Mafia connection?)**

**Scott AFB, IL**  
**HQ AMC/DO**

**CMSgt Erskin Glast:** Erskin left us for greener pastures. He decided to wash trucks for Blue Beacon Truck Wash. If any more boom operators join the club we'll need to call it Boom Beacon. Guess they're making good money??? If you ever need your truck washed, stop in and say hey.

**CMSgt Cary Hubbard:** Greetings from the KC-10 side of HQ AMC/DOV. By the time you read this I will be gone, and my replacement should be in place. Having spent 29 years as a Boom Operator, both on the -135 and -10, I have seen many changes, some good, some not so good. But the fact remains that things have changed. I will miss being a boom operator. I won't miss the flying a whole lot, I'm getting too old to enjoy beating myself up regularly.

I'm trying to finish up a couple of major projects. The new Weight and Balance program is at Boeing for engineering, and should be ready to go shortly. The centerline drogue modification to the BOT should be in place. We may not have to put tail numbers on 791s anymore if a test is approved and is a success.

A few things that I probably won't get to finish; the AE tests for the KC-10, an FMRC for the -33, and trying to consolidate all the air refueling manuals.

Other than that, and making fun of the KC-135 Booms and their cooking, life up here has been hectic, but satisfying. I hope I have helped the career field in more ways than I have hurt it. Good luck to all.

**CMSgt Tom Minton:** Disappeared??? Anyone know where he went???

**CMSgt Jim Eden:** Still holding out for a unit job and dreaming of greener pastures. HQ is taking it's toll on my crop of grey hair. Saving the last two strands for Pacer CRAG and Cargo Certs....

**SMSgt Ted Inwood:** The folks in the DO Directorate are staffed by some of the finest in the command and are great to work with. DOTK is next door to DOV affording quick access for Stan/Eval issues. I'm on the back stretch of my tour here at HQ AMC with the finish line nearly in view (2 years). The inputs from the field are greatly appreciated and very helpful, keep the e-mails coming and the phone ringing.

## **Scott AFB, IL**

### **AMC/IG**

#### **SMSgt Bricker Martin**

Still sitting up here at Scott on the AMC IG team, not flying. A lot of us were disappointed in that, but at least we are still getting the flight pay. Well, as I write this, I still haven't seen mine. I guess DFAS screwed it up. Can't wait to see many of you, and remember, I'll be there to help.

#### **MSgt Paul Pillar**

Assigned to AMC/IG. Still living the good life in the IG house. All that is coming to an end soon, as he prepares to pack-up his '66 Mustang Fastback and head back to flying (Hooray!!!). He'd hoped to end up someplace warm, but it's looking like he might need a jacket or too (and a new heater core in the Mustang)!

#### **MSgt Wally Tennyson**

On short final from TACC.

**Scott AFB, IL**  
**HQ AMC/TACC**  
**TANKER AIRLIFT CONTROL CENTER**

The Gateway Boomers

CMSgt Eden, on behalf of all the TACC Boom Operators I would like to thank you for putting this 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary Boom Signal together. Following is a note from the three directorates and the one contractor of the TACC that have Booms in them. To all, best wishes. The TACC is a great place to work, we're always looking for new and ambitious talent.

<b>XOO</b>
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The one constant is that everything changes here on a regular basis. Since the last Signal we've had some turnover, bringing fresh new ideas from the Wings. We are bidding a fond farewell to Dan Goewey, retiring, and welcome our three civilian booms (once a boom, always a boom).

**SMSgt Todd Salzman** - While we are so lucky to be 100% manned we have Todd doing every miscellaneous major project our leadership can come up with. Top three officer, President of the local Boom Association, home construction laborer, his sign: Cancer, and <sup>TM</sup>Shell answer man for any calls to x4194. His 2-man shop is devising ways to put a tanker planner on scene for all Coronet missions, any volunteers out there?

**MSgt Scott Konieczka**- Still working in the Coronet Delivery shop. Getting ready to start going to school full time on the weekends at SIU. I'm working hard on my education now and for everyone out there, it is never too late to start. My door is always open if you are in the area; KB and I will take care of you and fix up a great meal.

**TSgt Chris Hactor** – Survived a whole year without breaking any bones, although a semi tried to finish my family and my van off, we're fine, but the van.... Planning Coronets, fixing computers, fixing the van, finishing up my 12<sup>th</sup> year as a college senior, my son may beat me to graduation (I'm pacing myself!).

**TSgt Dan Goewey** – Was the sole active duty guy in his shop, which helped him get used to being a civilian again. Dan is retired this month after 22 years of service in the Air Force and Air National Guard. We'll miss him, but hope he'll put in an application to work here again.

**TSgt Jose Martinez** – The Nomadic desk man, latest migration was to Contingency Branch where he is mastering the art of War Planning, making good use of his old SAC trained killer instincts. The newly elected vice president of the Rising Six organization, local life saving hero, Pokemon daddy.

**TSgt Alton Lundin** – Got fired from XOP (never could hold a job). Now working for XOO pushing Coronets. Still auditioning female roommates, without much success. Has yet to find the one woman that will ruin his life the slowest. Card carrying <sup>TM</sup>Craftsman Club member since 1997.

**TSgt Scott Anderson** – The SAAM giant, trying to figure out how years of boom training helps with planning whale moves. Or how it applies to dispatching C-9A missions. But he's mastered it all, and is looking for a job having to do with tankers. Any volunteers out there to take his place?

**Laroche J. Placide, Retired** - I retired April 1, 1996. I am now working in the Coronet shop at TACC. I am a coronet planner. My shop consists of six civilians and a seventh on the way. If you enjoy keeping up with the military life, this is the job to get. We go TDY like the military guys and we also do on-call duties. Unlike the military life we can say **NO** to working late or turn down TDY with no fear of reprisal. I like this job. Please don't get me wrong, my job has its ups and downs but is easier to speak up for yourself. I had the chance to be part of the civilian working force for a whole year and a half. It was not pretty.

Also joining us from McGuire are Mr Steve Reeff and Mr Charlie Younce.

<b>XOB</b>
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**MSgt Larry Hudnut** – Loving life as the Alpha computer geek for Mobility Management. Your best chance to catch him in the office is around conference time plus or minus a week. Otherwise he is at Busch Stadium. If the Cards are out of town, J.D. McGurks, with Jim and John would be your best bet. Be sure and ask him about his four-legged fish.

**MSgt Jim Wood** – Still enjoying the desk job I hid from for so many years. CEFIP implementation adds an extra little incentive for staying here too. You can actually schedule your days off for a ball game and never miss a Race due to TDY.

**TSgt John Felisky** – Happy at home, happy at work. What more could you want? The Felisky family loves it here at Scott AFB. Short-Range Scheduling in the Tanker Barrel is where I work. Occasionally you get screamed at whilst handing out a “good deal”, but overall it’s fun and interesting. Stop by if you’re in the area, and say hello.

**TSgt Doug Garrett** – Short Range Scheduling. Happy to be back home in Illinois. Still can’t get use to going to work the same time every day. Miss the fly breaks to McGuire but not the nighttime pattern rides after a valve job.

#### **XOP**

**MSgt Wally Tennyson** – This past year came in like a lion, and out like a lamb here at the TACC. The Headquarters life has been pretty good. Every time I start to question this assignment, I just reflect on Christmas in Saudi, oh and Turkey and Moron and Guam and.....well I’m sure you know what I mean. Everyone be safe out there. I also have TSgt Kevin Schlegal and TSgt Scott Stern working TALCE and a million other issues here in XOP, hope you’ll stop by and visit or drop us a line (bring a resume!).

**MSgt Julie Cassard** – Had car trouble going through the St Louis area, so she stopped in here to use the phone and we stuck her with a part time job. The world’s only KC-10 TALCE TACC Boom Operator IMA (say that 5 times fast). Still a full time flight attendant with Delta, but do you think we can get her to bring us a cup of coffee!?

#### **Logicon Corporation**

**Tina Wallace** – Another victim of the “trashed van syndrome” due to collision. The insurance company loves her. Doing a great job with Logicon keeping our programs running. We all ask her to put in a good word for us for follow-on employment.

## Scott AFB, IL AMC/DOOM

**MSgt Greg Conrad; Supt, Mobile C2 Deployed HQS Operations:** Works at HQ AMC/DOOM, the mobile command and control branch. Been on the AMC Staff for 4 ½ years, first working TALCE issues and now working deployable wing, ops group, and OSS staffs for both tankers and airlifters. Angie and the 3 kids doing great! Finishing up bachelor's degree this year. Retirement eligible in Jun 01, decisions!!!! Can be reached at DSN 576-7979 or e-mail: [gregory.conrad@scott.af.mil](mailto:gregory.conrad@scott.af.mil).

**TSgt Ken Strother; AMC Affiliation Manager:** Works at HQ AMC/DOOM, the Mobile Command and Control Branch. Been on the AMC Staff for a little over a year now as the AMC Affiliation Manager. Been at Scott for 3 ½ years and loving every minute of it. He's also the assistant to SMSgt Sands ( A loadmaster and TALCE Function Manager) on managing boom slots in the TALCE and AMOS. Can be reached at DSN 576-7979 or 618-256-7979 or e-mail: [kenneth.strother@scott.af.mil](mailto:kenneth.strother@scott.af.mil)

**TSgt Kevin Schlegal:** I Kevin, have been paroled from the TACC after 3 years in the bowels of AMC! TALCE people , don't worry I haven't forgotten you, but plans and policies move slowly here on the AMC Staff. Give a call if you need help.

**TSgt Scott Stern:** HQ AMC/TACC/XOPMC -- DSN 779-4015 -- Manager, Mobile C2 Operation, Mission Support, Global Readiness. I had the privilege of being PACAF mission planner and would have loved to go back to a normal lifestyle, better hours, social life. Instead, I was the chosen one to move to the back and strictly work TALCE taskings and TALCE issues that arise in this glorious world of ours. There is no life, but days and nights go fast. If anyone wants a great TALCE job within the TACC. Give me a call and I have a great deal for you act quick and you will receive a free office cell phone. (You can call anywhere around the world with it), so act quick, and give me a call. Now, on a honest note -- This place is a fast paced arena, but I do like working TALCE issues and making new friends. AKA -- Hardcharger.

**Mr. Randy Seip (MSgt Ret.):** Happily retired 1 Feb 99. Missed HQ AMC so much, he now works, as a contractor, two cubicles down from DOOM. Marla is doing well and the kids are growing like weeds. Resides in Troy, IL (listed phone #). E-mail: [randy.seip@scott.af.mil](mailto:randy.seip@scott.af.mil).



## Scott AFB, IL 108 ARS

Home of the Boomers Prayer“Physically at Scott AFB, but our Hearts are in Chicago!”

Well, after 27 years of trying by the city, we finally got kicked out of O’Hare, compliments of Mayor Richard M. Daley. Funny, no one wanted us out of there from 1967 to 1973 when his two brothers were members of the unit. One of which is the Commerce Secretary in President Clinton’s cabinet.

**Allendorfer, Brian: “Shingles”: Traditional Guardsman**

Brian’s building a new home, so beware of any roofing jobs you get from him. Someone has to pay!

**Buckwalter, Bill “Uncle Buck”: Traditional Guardsman**

Presently matriculating at the garden spot of the western world, Altus AFB Oklahoma.

**Butler, Steve “Iceman”: AGR**

Another honor student currently at Altus. Newly hired as an AGR., former supply guru.

**Buzenski, Mark, “Boo Boo”: Traditional Guardsman**

Received the highest scores in the history of CCTS. Aced every test and even beat out the famous boom *Sinbad*. He’s an ATC controller in real life.

**Fusek, Paul, “Fusebox”: [fusey15@yahoo.com](mailto:fusey15@yahoo.com) AGR wannabe**

Another new graduate of Altus, former jet shop creature. Can take an engine apart blindfolded and looks damn good for 30.

**Gerros, Sammy, “PM”: [sammyg36@hotmail.com](mailto:sammyg36@hotmail.com) Technician**

Better known as the Golden Greek. Our beloved program manager...tough but fair. ANG's answer to Wayne Gretsky.

**Glover, Matt, “The Hated One”: [daboomkc135@hotmail.com](mailto:daboomkc135@hotmail.com) Technician**

Matt is loved by all except those that lose money to him playing hearts. Landlord of Shiloh’s “Animal House”.

**Heimann, Jay “Time hack”: Traditional Guardsman**

Periodically makes long distance calls to the squadron for time hacks; very precise.

**McCauley, Pat “McGoofey”: Traditional Guardsman**

Chicago Fireman who gets the same thrill air refueling as he does saving a life.

**Meinken, Chris “Curly”: [curlyq@intertek.net](mailto:curlyq@intertek.net) AGR**

Still giving those wild parties, only now it’s bring your own soda pop, not the same as Georgia.

**Olson, Steve: [steveolson@hotmail.com](mailto:steveolson@hotmail.com) Traditional Guardsman**

New hire straight from the home of survival school, Fairchild AFB.

**Quaid, Pat “Lonewolf”: [patrickquaid@hotmail.com](mailto:patrickquaid@hotmail.com), Technician**

Boom Scheduler to the stars, world-renowned author of Pulitzer Prize winning “Boomer’s Prayer”.

**Rizzo, Rob “Ratso”: [rarizzo@hotmail.com](mailto:rarizzo@hotmail.com) AGR**

Finally married the lovely Christine. He can’t get enough flying. He’s our PACER CRAG guru.

**Smedley, Sean: Traditional Guardsman** Too new for a nickname, just started Altus.

**Spejewski, Rick “Spoogio”: [rspejewski@hotmail.com](mailto:rspejewski@hotmail.com) Technician** Still has the biggest muscle in the unit, he needs them to draw those charts.

# Selfridg ANGB, MI

## 63 ARS

### Boom Shop

1999 was an outstanding year. The unit's Presidential call up allowed us to do what we've long trained for. What an incredible team was forged during that operation.

#### ARTS:

SMSgt Reg Nolte:	Chief Boom
CMSgt Bill Shaw:	OGV
SMSgt Niki Zachary:	Current Ops
Msgt Frank Dejaurigui:	Tactics
Msgt Greg Ringel:	Mission Development
Msgt Larry Wyland:	Current Ops
Tsgt Michael Weir:	Training
Tsgt John English:	Mission Development

#### RESERVIST:

CMSgt Jeff Rooding	Acting First Shirt
Msgt Joe Bozzo:	The Post Man
Msgt Fred Goettsche:	The few, the proud, the Fred - Ooh Rah
Msgt Rick Morrow:	Bob Villa's alter ego
Tsgt Ben Lance:	Mr Real Estate
Tsgt Dale Ryan:	A Buckeye
Tsgt Andre Jones:	The Hacker
Ssgt Tom Polk:	Tim Allen's protege
Ssgt Michelle Keller:	Registered Nurse!
Ssgt Brian McDonald:	Marathon Man
Ssgt Karl Kivela:	"Taxi into position and hold."
Ssgt Johnny White:	FNG

That's All Folks!!!  
Smsgt Reg Nolte

## Seymour Johnson AFB, NC

### 77 ARS

#### Home of the “Totin’ Tigers”

This has been a banner year for the 77<sup>th</sup> Booms. We deployed to Istres, France for the crisis in Kosovo last spring. One of our crews was the first tanker to fly in Hungarian airspace and “I’ll” tell you it was strange to have a Mig 29 flying formation with you! We returned early for conversion to PACER CRAG, en masse! Five bouts with hurricanes caused the worst flooding in NC State history. And another NC first, the worst snowstorm in state history – 20 inches in 24 hours! We’ve just completed our AEF commitment to Istres, France, and our first operational deployment using the PACER CRAG system. It’s nice to have a desk to do all the paperwork on *and* PACER CRAG doesn’t eat your lunch! No Nav to pick on is a major drawback but, we manage...

Our Jurassic jets still have their problems. Our maintainers daily perform many major and minor miracles keeping us flying. Anyway, now for your enjoyment is the current roster of 77<sup>th</sup> ARS Boom operators:

#### **TSGT Carl (Bubbles) Sisco**

**SMSGT Brad (HAMMER) Baxter:** Now in Mission Development has had his hands full trying to make deals getting AR activity then going back and smoothing it all over when we maintenance canx. Has got a patch of ground on the water front with a trailer to ease the frustration.

**SRA Dave (CHANDO) Chandonnett:** Finally we have an Airman to kick around! Dave comes to us from McConnell (thanks active duty!) and is our acknowledged computer wizard. Working with us, going to school full time and holding down a job with a software development company keeps Dave pretty busy. He’s a sharp young man and presently engaged, so his party days are numbered around the squadron.

**TSGT Barry (WEASEL) Bradley:** Still hanging tuff as the junior Art in the Boom Shop. He’s managed to make himself irreplaceable as the building manager (he has the keys to the beer machine)! He has done a fantastic job of getting our building renovated. Also has the worst job – doing the section body scheduling! Keeping the constantly fluctuating schedule filled and the booms and the chief all happy.

**TSGT Keny (THE BACHELOR) Fallin:** Keny is living the life all us old married guys recall fondly. Just bought a new pickup truck and ski boat. Is routinely seen with the required options to compliment such equipment. Time to find his own roof to live under though.

**MSGT Sean Martin:** Sean continues to do an outstanding job in Training flight! Sean knows more about the airplane than a lot of pilots. Sean was just honored as the 916<sup>th</sup> ARW, “Senior NCO of the Year” for 1999!

**MSGT Betty (BOOM) Matthews:** Betty is another one of our traditional reservist who somehow manages to find the time to do it all. She always answers the call to duty – and most recently the call of “Gramma”!

**TSGT Mark (MAC-EL-HANY) McElmurry:** Our newest instructor boom that is doing a fine job in training assisting Sean. This guy has all the tickets: instructor pilot, multi-engine, instrument rated, but just loves being a boom. Mark also received the 916<sup>th</sup> ARW NCO of the Quarter award!

**TSGT Rai Miller:** Still a boom at heart doing a fine job as the Wing historian. Was honored as the top historian in the Air Force Reserve much to her surprise!

**TSGT William (CHUCK) Norris:** A traditional Reservist, still manages to make every UTA on time and maintain all flying and ground training requirements. Second time he has come home from a deployment to be handed a pink slip at work as a result of “downsizing”.

**MSGT Randy (BERNIE) Palumbo:** Still bearing a STRONG resemblance to our WG Commander (and Bernie of movie fame). Randy a recent DG recipient of the Senior NCO Academy (Done Graduated), now hopes to make SMSGT. Still the consummate scrounger does a fine job as our Mobility NCO and is also a member of our safety team.

**MSGT Tony (WOODY) Parris:** Our computer guru, Tony is our newest graduate of the Senior NCO Academy. Intent on being a CMSGT someday, he has attended every possible school and a few we didn't know about! Tony has been a major player in our PACER CRAG conversion and continues to be another outstanding member of our Squadron.

**TSGT Rick (PUSHROD) Powell:** Still a serious Jeff Gordon fan, although he's been seen driving a Mustang upon more than one occasion! Still in Mission Development fighting for A/R's for us after numerous schedule changes.

**TSGT Carl (BUBBLES) Sisco:** One of our first Booms in France last year and was there for 30 days. Unfortunately, Carl was medically grounded after his last physical. Carl is still hanging tuff and doing odd jobs around the squadron and plans to retire in November. Another Wilmington resident who despite 5 hurricanes and a snowstorm still has NO storm damage to his house.

**TSGT Rodney (ROWDY) Smith:** Another confirmed Bachelor and lover of guitars and KISS. Rowdy has been working down in Mission development, when he's not driving his 18-wheeler that is! Bought a new air gun and has been painting everyone's car with it! Someday maybe he'll finish painting his?

**CMSGT Jerry (BTC- Big Tall Chief) Snyder:** Still recovering from his weekend at Lowe's (Charlotte) Motor speedway. Cooped up with Carl Sisco and Jamie Ward in a motor home for four days waiting for the rain to stop so the racing could start. Roots for anything with a Chevy emblem on it.

**MSGT Don (DADDY) Templeton:** Don is the proud father of a new baby boy. The King of computer wizards working full time as a computer technician in the civilian world (making REAL money). Don is one of our Evaluator Booms, flies every Tuesday night – aircraft permitting.

**MSGT Kerry (VAN-ODD-BALL) Vanausdall:** A true Reservists from Atlanta. Still working for Lockheed Martin near Dobbins ARB, GA. You wouldn't believe the ideas they have down there for some airplanes...

**SMSGT Ret. Ronnie (THOR) Wade:** Has retired after a distinguished career that goes back to 1957. As one of the booms older than the KC-135, he has a civilian job in CE! Just won't quit, will he? Good Luck Ronnie!

**SMSGT Jamie (ACE) Ward:** As our Stan/Eval Boom, Jamie keeps us on the straight and narrow with a iron will and a sharp pencil! Still the sports fanatic, Jamie roots for anything with a Ford emblem or from St. Louis.

Working with a great bunch of booms, in a great squadron, with the best job in the Air Force! What more can one ask for!? If you are in our area (Oh! Forgot to mention the great area!), stop by and we will buy you a cold one. Fly safe – keep your eyes on the highway and your forward scanners!

**Sheppard AFB, TX**  
EAUC  
362nd Training Squadron (AETC)  
SAFB, TX 76311-2352  
DSN: 736-6498/5365

Greetings from the Enlisted Aircrew Undergraduate Course (EAUC), 362nd Training Squadron, AETC. Yes, we have tankers here at Sheppard AFB; however, they never fly! They are merely static displays just like the two booms here at EAUC. During the past year, we responded to just about every exciting worldwide event: crying students eliminated from an aircrew career, alcoholic derelict students, students breaking phase, student lock downs, numerous parades, weekly change of commands, retreat ceremonies, hail storms, 100+ summer days—it's just like being in the desert rotation w/o mandatory pool time! and extremely witty young attitudes.

We take our job here very seriously and hope we are turning out the finest aircrew members in the Air Force. We function as the first step in screening future aircrew members for all ten enlisted aviator careers: Boom Operators, Flight Engineers (Fixed Wing and Rotary Wing), Loadmasters, Airborne Communicators, Airborne Battle Managers (Air Surveillance Technician & Weapons Director), Airborne Mission Systems, Flight Attendants, Sensor Operators, and Aerial Gunners. We measure students on "Attitude, Aptitude, and Motivation" and truly hope you are receiving outstanding future boom operators in the field who exemplify these qualities.

Currently we have two static booms and we are not growing.

**THE LINE UP:**

**SSgt Marc Weddleton:** Marc is an EAUC Instructor and recently met all the requirements for promotion. He spends most of his time in the classroom where it's safe from all the other aircrew specialties; however, he keeps mumbling something *da Vinci* said, "Once you have tasted flight, you will always walk with your eyes turned skyward. For there you have been, and there you long to return." Maybe his wife will let him fly again one day.

**SSgt Mark Yandell:** Mark (The Hammer) is an EAUC Instructor and Vice President to the Chief Information Officer (CIO). He is still a master at coordinating extracurricular activities outside of the office or classroom. He has three children—two boys and a little baby girl, and one wife. Pam outranks him in the Air Force and the home; however, she recently promoted him to Chief Domestic Officer (CDO) and he has completely taken over all household chores. He looks forward to the day when he can once again escape all real responsibility and earn a little *per diem* on the side by going TDY.

## **Tinker AFB, OK**

### **465 ARS**

#### **Home of the “SH OKIES”**

#### **HOWDY YOU ALL!!!**

Greetings and salutations from the OKIES!

Listed below you will see the current Y2K lineup of booms, we thought it would be interesting to place them in order of age (oldest to youngest), and yes we still have the oldest active participating reservist/guardsman in the Air Force.

We are still going through the on going PACER CRAG conversion block 25's to 30. Along with that we seem to be the premier unit to take ex T Tail officers and train them to run a Tanker Unit will the learning curve ever stop? Course there are times when you have to agree with the command, I mean think about it, what better to mold a T-Tailer than boom operators!

SMSgt Dennis Smith: Reservist. (James): Dennis is the oldest living, actively flying boom on this planet and yes he has a pulse, (a weak one but a pulse non the less). It is with a sad heart that I have to admit that this is the last boom signal DD will be in the boom signal (as an active member). DD will retire in the year 2000 as a vibrant 60-year-old. We have chosen to honor his last TDY request and send him to Asia, he said it had something to do with the fact that they sell VIAGRA at the grocery store, or something like that.

SMSgt Rodney Sanders: Reservist. (Bartles) Rodney is the second half of the Bartles and James act here in the squadron. Not much new with Rodney, although we currently have a crisis counselor on staff for the day that Rodney realizes that Dennis is not around anymore. Can you separation anxiety, can you say a 6foot 4inch 250 pound moping around the squadron boom operator. I think the pilots should be very afraid.

MSgt Rick Erwin, ART (Reborne): What can I say about a guy that names his dog “sugarbaby”? Not a lot new with reborne, still working under Big John, boy that just sounds funny. Since last boom signal Rick has became the resident golf pro, now if only BJ would let him have some time off to play. I wonder can you say separation anxiety?

CMSgt John “B.J.” (That stands for BIG JOHN) Beasley, Program Manager: Big John was supposed to write this but alas he said he had real important management type stuff to do. I know I left that opening line in from last year, but here it is the 8 of March and he wants me to get this out when it was due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February. Well if you can recall last boom signal the Chief bought a LTI Trans Am. Well it's gone and he now has a cherry 55 Chevy convertible. I think the Trans Am was a little too much for his heart.

MSgt Marty Lochman, (Hooter hound) / Boom Training Guy: Still the body in Training. Although we thought about changing the title to read Chief Enlisted E Trade Representative of the Wing. Seems like every time you get a training folder from Marty it comes with an application for E Trade and a heart felt letter listing him as the one who referred you, and we thought the Amway guys where annoying!

MSgt John Wilson, (Scooter) OSF Indentured Servant: He quit no he didn't, yes he did. Oh he just now quit, no he didn't yes he did. This is how the conversation goes when you talk about scooter. Thankfully, he has accepted the challenge and stayed with us. As the premier indentured servant in the OSF he makes all the booms look sharp.

MSgt Dave Fruge' Reservist: (Peacock): I was really excited about writing this one, unfortunately he only comes to the squadron about once every other month, so I'm at a loss for words about what to say. Yeah right, if you see the peacock out and about ask him to call us or write or email or carrier pigeon or smoke signal or fax or.....Please Dave forgive us for whatever we did and let us know you are still alive and well, we miss you. Oh yeah you also need to complete all your CBT's and start your testing!

MSgt Max Staats, Reservist: (Mad Max): Our premier local reservist and primary night guy. Max is SLOWLY wheening himself off the weekend alert, okay only for the UTA's. Course he was heard as saying, “man why do I come to these, all you do ALL DAY is sit around and drink coffee, hey what a minute all we do is sit around and drink coffee.”

MSgt Larry Greenfield, A.D. (Bonehead): Larry works across base with the Depot folks. Unfortunately either he fell out of good graces with Erskin or we did, currently a great asset is not allowed to fly with us, or anyone else. Good thing to see the total force concept is alive and well. I'm keeping Bonehead in the signal as long as he's at Tinker in hopes someone will see the light. Hello is anyone out there.

TSgt John Williams, Reservist (John BOB): Still the best-smoked rib cooker out there. Recently a bolt of lightning struck John and he decided he wanted to commit himself to putting one of our new IBO's candidates through Pre CFIC. It was awesome to watch him work. (Finally) John just bought a couple of Jet Ski's and is in the process of rebuilding his Cuda. So anyone who knows where any parts are given him a call.

MSgt Steve Switzer, (CHUNK): Chief of Scheduling: It must be something in the water Steve is another one of our revitalized IBO's. Currently doing a great job in scheduling. Unfortunately for Steve he may not be able to hide out down there much longer. The hot rumor is, next OSF indentured servant. But that's our little secret don't tell him.

MSgt Kathy Lowman, (SHEBA): Social Chairperson Extreme, and CLT Manager: Currently in Instructor school and I'm sure she will do a bang up job. It was rumored she was having nightmare flash back's from when she went there during boom school. We assured her it was all in her head and that she had better have one drink the whole time she is there. Another hot rumor is Sheba will be working under our own little Napoleon in training, but don't tell her till she gets back or she may not want to come back here.

SSgt Kelley Witt, Reservist: ( ): Super sharp baby boom, who is tearing up her CDC's. Still haven't nicknamed her yet so if anyone has any dirt, I mean some fun non-threatening little story about her we would love it if you would share it with us. We will pay for it. Seriously, I've never met someone who could go so long without getting nicknamed.

MSgt Philip Brand, (X-MAN): Short Range scheduler. Almost got a new nickname of "readymade" but cooler heads prevailed. Still the sharpest IBO we have on station and now probably the sharpest EB, next to me of course! Still a little too honest when it comes to that scheduling thing, but we have faith that time will change all that.

SSgt Darby Perrin, Reservist: ( ): Another boom not nicknamed, we are so embarrassed. Darby is still working on his starving artist character. Course we keep saying you can't be a starving artist and trough. That's called a starving trougher. Recently agreed to paint all the nose art on our tankers. Should be some of the finest painting to ever grace a 135.

SMSgt Steve "Bif" Robinson, Stan Eval Guy: I'm not sure what to say, I'm writing this year's signal. AGAIN (I know I'll leave it too one of the Flight Booms that's what I'll do..) (Editor note: as of this point I have not seen a Flight Boom so off this goes to AMC) This is the same entry as last year, further proof that this flight system sucks! Did I mention if you see Peacock.....

If any Booms are interested we here at the OKIES have our animal in the woods/float trip every year and everyone is invited, just give us a call. 884-3269/3803/2135

So if your here for a Depot In/Out or any other reason stop in and see us, if you give us a call we can usually work a U-drive for you. Keep the boom in the hole and push to get the cargo door welded shut. Fly safe all.

**Tinker AFB, OK**  
**OL-B, HQ AMC**

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Greetings from the great state of Oklahoma. This is my third input to the great boom signal. I've been here almost three years now, my where does the time go? Anyway back to the subject of what goes on here at the Oklahoma Air Logistic Center. One of the biggest changes coming for the PDM facility is Air Force material Command 10th Flight Test here will be transferred to the 507th Reserve squadron, with the change-over completion date sometime in 2002. So if you have your heart set on coming to Oklahoma City, and your in the rank MSgt give me, or CMSgt Eden a shout because this is position will be the only show in town. Of course my good buddies at the 465 ARS Reserve squadron might be hiring. I truly enjoyed flying with the crews there, however with the onset of CFIP they have restricted me to flying a desk. I guess there are worse things that could have happened, but I can't think of what they could be right now. One of the issues I have been involved with over the past year include trying to work on procuring the Improved Boom, you might not be aware of it but AMC bought one Improved boom, which is being flown by the Phoenix ANG. So far it's performing great, I will be heading that way soon to be involved in the tear-down to see if anything is wearing out quicker than anticipated. Did you know that Foreign Military Sales has bought 18 of the new booms. With the number of booms we need (approximately 540) we can't afford a complete new assembly. So what Boeing is proposing is a kit that will allow us to convert our existing booms to the improved boom. And yes, we are looking at converting the low speed booms and getting them out of the inventory. You might ask why do we need a new boom for the KC-135? The first and main reason is the rising cost of getting both the low speed and the high speed booms overhauled. As of this writing that figure has been climbing fast than an F-16 in afterburner. The second reason is the technology used to overhaul our booms, each boom has over 2500 rivets which have to be set one at a time, as you can imagine this is a time consuming process, and the final reason is the availability of parts, or to put it correctly the unavailability of parts. Well enough shop talk, I think you get the idea, honestly, this job is a real eye opener, you really get to know the internal workings of the In-flight Refueling Boom, and just about everything else on the 135. If you're tired of living out of a suitcase, and can live without flying for a few years, this is the place to be. If this sounds interesting you can give me a call, or get in with Chief Eden. The position becomes available in the spring of 2001. If you find yourself in Oklahoma City, and would like to see what goes on here, feel free to give me a call, or stop by the office. If you have never seen the extent of the work being done here, you are in for a big surprise. Really makes you wonder if the aircraft will ever get airborne again. And talk about job security, the latest word on how long are we going to keep the KC-135 flying is looking like 2040. Well fellow boomers, I'm terminating this Air Refueling and heading for home, keep the sunny side up and the dirty side down. Boom's off inter-phone.

Larry Greenfield



**Tinker AFB, OK**  
**10<sup>th</sup> FLIGHT TEST SQ.**

**AFMC**

Greetings from the 10<sup>th</sup> Flight Test Squadron, home of the F-5 Tornado. Once again, it's been a very busy year for us but we managed to weather the storm. We had an F-5 tornado go through here on May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1999, it's unbelievable what Mother Nature can produce. I was very lucky with only having my roof and two vehicles customized, lesson learned is to have full coverage on your vehicles. If you live in this area and the tornadoes don't get you the softball size hail will.

We are still manned in the 10th by only two booms, TSgt Quinn Janke and myself. We complete flight test support \$89 million depot functional/acceptance flight test program, the USAF's largest C-135 overhaul and upgrade facility. We still fly the KC-135A after the PDM process then fly them up to Boeing Wichita KS for reengine. We now have picked up the C-135 Flight Test operations at the new Boeing facility at Kelly AFB TX. With this tasking of aircraft, Quinn has the distinct pleasure of maintaining 20 different models of C-135 tech orders, also B-1, B-52 and E-3. Gary Mott C-135 FMM (Flight Manual Manager) and the other MDS FMM's help keep him very busy with all the changes--can you say, "sign off your FCIF card".

We are looking forward to the first FMS (Foreign Military Sales) Singapore aircraft delivery this summer, I haven't told Quinn RHIP yet but he's used to getting the shaft around here.

Boom Operators that have retired from this job are; Ron Poe, (Ret MSgt) currently working in Edmond OK for the US Postal Service, and Bud Naylor, (Ret TSgt) who departed for Michigan in 1996. That's about all the news from us here at Tinker. If you're in the area to pick-up a jet from depot, stop by for a visit. We are located in building 3102 NW corner, next door to Fire Station #3.

Beve Katus, MSgt, USAF  
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**Travis AFB, CA**  
**HQ 15AF**

“It’s not just a job...  
A job would require you to actually work!”

**20 Years! Can you imagine that?**

**Greetings and glad tidings from the penthouse atop Travis!**

Well, we all survived the “Y2K” scare pretty much un-touched. Ammo in the stores ran short, but we saved enough Form 8’s to stop any hostile action against the office!

Well lets start off with a farewell to our KC-10 guru! Chief Paynter will be departing the fix at the end of this year (starts terminal leave in November), and we will miss him. It is always a little sad to see that much experience leave the career field and the AF. A man sacrifices a lot to be a Boom Operator, things like time with family, a wife or two, hair, the list is long! Chief Paynter can always be proud of the Air Force he leaves to the next generation of Boom Operators.

Gene and I have been pretty busy on the road the last year. I went to France with the Okies, and he went to France with the RRATS. To all my reserve brothers and sisters, I am officially “in sanctuary” as of 9 Sep 1999! Will be looking for a replacement to start in Jul/Aug 2001 time frame. More on that at a latter date!

Lots of changes with the AFI’s and Tech orders this year and I can only see more on the horizon! We need more input from the field in the form of AF Form 847’s. Especially now that the new PACER CRAG manuals have been released. We have started working on the “E” model Pacer CRAG manuals and hope to have them out this summer. No major trends from our ASEVS, everyone is doing an outstanding job. Anyone else remember the CC meeting on Boom Duties in the PC aircraft? What did the pilot say he wanted us to be more like? FE’s!!! No thanks, my mom and dad are not brother and sister!

Here is our line up for the 2000 Hq 15AF Team:

CMSgt Mike Paynter, KC-10 Evaluator, [mike.paynter@travis.af.mil](mailto:mike.paynter@travis.af.mil)

CMSgt Tim Holt, KC-10 IMA, [timothy.holt@travis.af.mil](mailto:timothy.holt@travis.af.mil)

SMSgt Gene Hagge, KC-135 Evaluator, [eugene.hagge@travis.af.mil](mailto:eugene.hagge@travis.af.mil)

SMSgt Jim Hackworth, ARC KC-135 Evaluator, [james.hackworth@travis.af.mil](mailto:james.hackworth@travis.af.mil) (AKA “T”)

## Travis AFB, CA 60 OSS/CCTS

### KC-10 Combat Crew Training School

MSgt Chris Powell, [Chris.Powell@Travis.af.mil](mailto:Chris.Powell@Travis.af.mil), Active

I think I've got the best enlisted job in the Air Force. My staff and I get the opportunity to turn knuckle-heads, who are now coming right out of Basic Training into fully qualified, night fighter refueling, (humvee & 2 ½ ton truck)-cargo carrying **BOOM OPERATORS**. Hands down, I have the best Instructor Booms in the Air Force working for me. Experience has shown me that it is not particularly how good you can do something, but it is how good the folks you surround yourself with can do. The following is a list starting with my oldest and most experienced instructor to my newest cargo instructor.

TSgt Jeff Russell, [Jeff.Russell@Travis.af.mil](mailto:Jeff.Russell@Travis.af.mil), Active

Jeff is my #1 and now he has the rank to match. He is one of only two of the IBs who aren't from the Beale Bandits. Jeff has the ability to make his students feel like crap and then have them come back and ask for more. I'm not sure yet, but we are trying to get him over to Det 1 so he can help us even more with the school-house.

SSgt Mark Storrey, [Mark.Storrey@Travis.af.mil](mailto:Mark.Storrey@Travis.af.mil), Active

Mark is my other rock in the school. He has been here almost two years and has the local hours to prove it. Mark is the leader of our Beale Bandits and he likes to remind us of it all the time. Mark is also a big proponent of the: it doesn't matter what your rank is, it is how long you have been in CCTS that dictates the pecking order. He has a line number and we are all anxiously waiting to pin it on.

TSgt Mark Redden, [Mark.Redden@Travis.af.mil](mailto:Mark.Redden@Travis.af.mil), Active

Mark is another one of our Beale Bandits. He came to us from 9 ARS Stan/Eval the same day I came over to CCTS. We have learned a lot together over here. Mark is currently shooting for the 30/60/90 day flying time waiver. He currently has almost 60 hours in the last 30 days. Mark has had a good year so far, he recently got to sew his new stripe on and he has had his boys put successfully back together again.

SSgt Curtis Harke, [Curtis.Harke@Travis.af.mil](mailto:Curtis.Harke@Travis.af.mil), Active

Curtis is also another Beale Bandit and is our most recent addition to the instructor force, he came to us from a stint in Air Ops. Curtis has probably grown the most since he has been here. His first few students were an IBs dream, however he is now being challenged quite a bit. Curtis' ATPR writing skills have grown significantly also, from a quarter of a page with 14 font, to a good two pages with 8 font. He has also learned that students need to take a break for lunch.

SSgt Lynn Thatcher, [Lynn.Thatcher@Travis.af.mil](mailto:Lynn.Thatcher@Travis.af.mil), Active

Lynn has been loaned to us from the 6<sup>th</sup> ARS as a cargo loading instructor. CCTS is now taking care of cargo training and we supply the squadrons with fully qualified Mission Booms. He is also an "ole" Dyess boy like myself and is one of my two cargo loading gurus. Lynn doesn't think too much about having to fly CCTS locals with student pilots, he has told me on numerous occasions that he would much rather be on the road instructing. Lynn has also grown a lot since his coming here, his knowledge on pre and post mission crew rest has grown immeasurably. He has also taught the rest of us instructors how to get pilots to do trip reports on us after every trip. Lynn loves the road so much that he is trying to get to the C-17.

SSgt Gary Hall, [Gary.Hall@Travis.af.mil](mailto:Gary.Hall@Travis.af.mil), Active

Gary has also been loaned to us as a cargo instructor, but from the 9<sup>th</sup> ARS. Like Lynn, Gary would much rather be on the road collecting per diem and hostile fire pay. However, he doesn't seem to mind taking up initial A/R students every now and again. Gary has also grown quite a bit since he has been at CCTS. Experience has shown him not to get on students too harshly at the beginning of a trip for being late for the bus, because it could come back to haunt you. Gary is also great about discussing the differences between practice emergency separations and breakaways.

## Travis AFB, CA

### 6 ARS

MSgt Aldapa: Set to retire in Nov. Going to be working at San Francisco International as an airport safety officer. A college degree and TALCE experience paid off. (Starting pay \$58,000 before overtime) Still talks so fast know one has a clue what he's saying half the time. We're going to miss ya Mike!! Good luck

TSgt Lemons: What can be said about Jacky Lemons. Always working on some scam. Currently Chief of DOV and a MSgt (sel). OGV keeps trying to nab him. Our latest Rodeo Queen did us proud again bringing home some hardware for the wing and making sure he's in every picture displaying them.

TSgt York: Pinned on TSgt the 1<sup>st</sup> of August. Working in training flight and always trying to stay on the road (some things never change). Now has three Mustangs and a Bronco in the garage/driveway. Ever wonder where all those Ford stickers you see in the crew buses and air stairs come from? Dave's your man.

SSgt Ashby: Stan/Eval boom recently selected to OTS with a follow on UPT slot. Watch out.... You never know who that receiver pilot could be.... or who your new co-pilot might be! His latest edition to his family just turned one year old. That makes one wife and two little girls.

SSgt Molina: On loan to air ops, now she can work on her own good deals. She's still having trouble reading the AFORMS ground training printout and understanding those three stars translate to overdue. You can see her zipping by every now and then in her fast ride.

A1C Myers: The son and brother of marines. He too displayed some "semper fi" traits to begin with, but left that in CCTS. You would think he has been around for years. Just had his first ORI experience.... Didn't believe the commander's remark about the ORI crews being our best folks...he thought he was going because he was a new guy!

TSgt Arendse: Flight supervisor going to OTS. The little hairy guy will be sitting with his head in a radarscope doing circles in the sky for 12 hours. "Bandits!! bullseye 240 at 32.... angels 240". Still can't find a woman.

A1C Jolley: Living off base with super boom Lane and eating food off their cardboard box dinner table. Two wild guys chasing the women of Northern California (they say women). Dave's been good doing a great job for us flying the line and never complaining.

SSgt Lane: Yes SSgt, can you believe it during Desert Shield and Storm this guy was 12 years old? Recent ALS grad. Currently upgrading to instructor. Airman on the move. Likes patting guys on the butt.

SSgt Hermosillo: Hard worker when you can find him. New instructor extrordinair..graduated DG....working in scheduling. Still as smooth and suave as he ever was. Going to school at break neck speed trying to get into OTS.

SrA Balderas: Didn't really care for the boom operator way of life. Working full time in the wing trying to keep up with 791 problems for us. Of course most mistakes are made by our sister squadron...those pink tag 9<sup>th</sup> guys and not us.

A1C Campbell: Another one of our young booms doing a good job for us. Recently tied the knot. This guy and cars don't mix, he can't seem to keep from crashing and denting them. Good thing his boom control is a little better.

SSgt Saenz: Believe it or not Abel is out of Stan-Eval (all his stuff just disappeared one night...along with him) and working in air-ops. We know we can get some good trips now. Still sending all those softball e-mails that nobody reads except for Jack Lemons. We don't see Abel too much anymore these days.

SrA Konicke: SrA below the zone, what an outstanding contribution to the air force and boom field. Has this thing with shooting lighter fluid from his water cannon in the dorms and other types of bafoonery.

SSgt Acevedo-Toledo: You should hear this guy on the radio...."Say again there boom? In English this time" Just about cried when his high dollar mountain bike was stolen. Despite relentless jabbing he still kept that missile badge on his name tag. Fortunately our new name tags have no room for two badges. Recent ALS grad and new supervisor cracking skull already. Also doing the scheduling thing.

SrA Tiffany: Another below the zone guy and now SSgt Select. He was last seen running off base looking for that perfect apartment. Full-time boom operator, part-time heart breaker. This guy must've taken some lessons from the archives of Hermosillo. The dorm rats say he's the next to tie the knot though....time will tell. Additional duty in the pubs office.

SrA Wall: SrA “no one is better than me” Wall in now a SSgt select. This is good because somehow he has too keep paying his auto repair bills, tickets, and outrageous insurance premiums. Sean’s really come around and works his butt off in the mobility office.

SrA Chaves: Another new boom and SSgt select who got tired of loading bb’s in F-15s. He and Wall can fight over who will be running the mobility office soon. When we said airlift rodeo he asked if it was at Prescott or Tuscon? You can take the Boy of the Bull...

SrA Eisenbrown: Still in training trying to be one of the new booms. Comes to us from the Security Police forces.

SSgt Novicki: Another new one just recently qualified. Should be on the way to UAE in no time. Used to be a wrenchhead in transportation. Be careful, you might hear him speak once in a while.

A1C Shelly: “But your Honor! I was only doing 97!” Dennis has been DNIF more than not. He’s become a close personal friend of the first shirt.

SSgt Rissabute: Re-enlisting in the desert to get the big \$\$\$\$. Recently married. Working in sched. Overjoyed to do the ORI.

MSgt Bracht: “What, I am a Master Sargent and I should stay around and take care of things?” Working on his 4<sup>th</sup> finny trip before going to the AMOG. Josh was doing the boot strap thing for the past several months and just recently graduated with honors. Glad to have him back, but it looks like he’s off to the AMOG.

SSgt Elam: Just moved into his 5<sup>th</sup> house since arriving at Travis AFB. Currently recovering from a severe blow out (hernia). Cause and effect. Recent graduate of instructor school.

TSgt Atkins: Purchased a BIG motorcycle, trying to use it to pick up chicks. Working in trng flt. Doing the school thing.

SSgt Adkins: Ex fireman...you know, the guys that always deploy our escape slides while they’re training. Now a welcomed recently qualified boom.

SSgt Ennis: TSgt select, getting ready to open up his own car dealership in his driveway. Throws down Captain Morgan like water. Another scheduler getting ready for upgrade soon.

SSgt Slahor: Looking into investing in the Hair club For Men. Scheduler - currently in upgrade. If you can’t find him he’s on the lake in that boat of his.

MSgt Keller: One of the best basketball playing, wakeboarding supervisors the squadron has. You can also find him on the lake from time to time. Finally gave in and tied the knot about a year ago.

A1C Coomer: New guy on the block still in CCTS learning to air refuel. He’s going to make all of us rich. Used to be an accountant or some kind of investment broker.

SrA Minnihan: We hear every mission wants to refuel F-16’s from Hill AFB. Still in CCTS. Used to work with computers stationed in her homeland of Germany. Would rather replace her entire windshield instead of a few screws. SSgt select.

SrA Brady: Mr and Mrs Brady are doing fine, with a young one on the way. When this guy picks up the phone all the dorm rats split for fear he’s calling the cops. Working in the pubs office.

SrA Barrett: Has Elvis pictures hanging in his room and wears his side burns just like Elvis. Still looking for his \$300 satin sheets in the laundry room. Don’t know why, he’s never here. Loving the tdy. SSgt select.

MSgt Morales: Wing safety guru. Don’t see ‘ol Bob much, except at the end of the half when he still needs all his beans.

SSgt Tabor: Growing serious roots in Stan/Eval. TSgt select. Still going through a mid-life crisis. The fast car wasn’t enough...now thinking about one of those crotch rocket motorcycles.

TSgt Risselada: Ris decided to opt for the civilian life. Hardest working computer geek we ever had.

CMSgt Endrizzi: Chief comes out of his office every now and then for a little air and to see what’s going on. You ought to see the fright and flight when he says he is looking for volunteers to go to the AMOG.

## Travis AFB, CA

9 ARS

“Home of the Gucci Boys”

**SSgt Frank Acosta**-(Vato)Altus reject, Mafia #3 AF poster boy, it's not a good deal unless he's on it. Squadron scheduler, upgrading in the fall. Part time handyman.

**SSgt Deans Ainsworth**- Ex-bus driver, allergic to work, “that's the end of the story”.

**A1C Bobby Airhart**-(Surf Boy wannabee)New guy, trouble finds this guy in his sleep. Fell and got a black eye, Yeah right! And a monkey flew out my butt. Owns two kegs!

**MSgt Billie Black**-(**B-Squared**)-Chief boom, part time first shirt and leader of the boom triad. Love'n the life of a bugger-eater. Always seems to have his door closed when the young guys are in his office. Not gay, but pretty close to it. Touches me more than my wife. OG SNCO of the year! Nice Butt!

**SSgt Seth Bunker**(**Bunk Master**)- Criminal # 2 Arrested in Yokota, currently signed out on Hand Receipt from the SP's. Squadron Scheduler and is upgrading in the fall. Working part-time at Adult Book store out in front of the base.

**MSgt Luis Drummond**(**Sweet Lou**)-Travis Chili Champion and AMC enlisted instructor of the year. Attitude leg of the Boom triad. Still fuming about getting shafted at Rodeo. Don't leave your email open around him. Ever hear of Loubonics?

**TSgt Tony Edwards**(**Tony the Tiger**)-Altus Mafia Don, Chief of Stan-Eval. Tony who? Top TDY Road Dog, Loven' life in the Gucci Jet! Wife's a Stu for South West.

**SSgt James Fisher**(**Fish**)- Finally got his Security clearance after a year waiting. Investigators didn't like the Drug Cartel Background. UB to IB in record time!!

**SSgt Jack Fortner**-Computer Guru. Full-time Computer guy, part-time Boom.

**SrA Roy Galloway**-(**Sexy Man**) Criminal # 3 Arrested for fighting with Criminal # 4 Ex- bb Stacker, Currently at CCTS. Pillsbury dough boy that thinks he's Arnold.

**SrA Shay Gilliam**(**Honey Love**)-Reformed Male-stripper, and Squadron Fashion Guru.

**SSgt(Sel) Shane Hickman**- New Guy from Tennessee; this one can spell and wear shoe's. Other Ex-bb stacker.

**SrA Mike Hinton**- F-16 wannabee, quiet, going to school.

**SSgt(Sel) JD Langley**-(**Harry Connick Jr.**) Another Ex-Bus Driver. Criminal # 1 and # 4 Bodyguard, future Criminal # 5 currently at CCTS. Likes swimming with girls with little feet.

**TSgt(Sel) Al Leaton**(**Planet Al**)-Finally made Tech. One class away from a master's degree. Squadron's most veteran boom, just ask him. Been there done everything.

**SSgt(Sel) Ron Littleton**- Went from player to Newly wed over night, you did what?! Married a Lawyer and currently going to school. Show me the money!

**SSgt Tom McCoy**-Squadron scheduler, does everything we ask—nothing more.

**SSgt Dusty McMillan**(**DMAC**)- The Next Eric Lindros! Between Hockey, NASCAR, and School, you never see the guy. Stan Eval Santa Claus.

**SSgt Al McNamee**- Newest Computer geek and Squadron scheduler. Knows per-diem rate of every good deal spot by heart. Works mostly out of his home. He calls it telecommuting.

**SSgt Roman Munoz-(Terror of the old folk's home)-** Roman's motto of a prefect woman is "Older and wider is BETTER!! Training FLT Boom, hasn't had a student in over a year! A proud new homeowner.

**SSgt(Sel) Mark O'Conner-** Ex-Transportation maintenance guy, never around don't know much more about him. Oh yeah, he's from Ireland.

**SrA Steve Rodrigues-**We know he's on the road, by the number of phone calls we get from his wife. Ex-comnd post guy.

**MSgt(Sel) Mike Routheau** Altus Mafia #2 chief of Training Flight. Will become a lot more visible in the near future, if he can part with new philly. Part of the Gucci jet ski club.

**SSgt(Sel) Laura Theis-** Squadron Bravo Alert Expert. Good kid, but never around so not much to say. Loves E-6A's AR and picking up trash at Sear's Point Raceway.

**SrA Scottie Thomason (Gene's TDY love child)-** Knows how to refuel in Emcon 3. We just put him on Emcon 4 permanently in the squadron so he'll keep his mouth closed. Talks more than the rain man. Ritalin Boy.

**MSgt Greg Warren-**Muscles behind boom triad. Best fishermen in Northern California. If it swims, Greg can catch it. Raised over \$6,000 for sq through various fund raisers. Flight supervisor. Will never leave his email open again. Learning Louebonics on his off duty time.

**SSgt(Sel) Robert Weitershaun(W+12), (WhiteHouse), (Vanilla Ice) and (BlingBling)** More alias than a pick pocket. Sq artist. Painted new sq bar mural and designed award winning coin. Messed with Sweet Lou's email and will pay the price.

**SSgt Dennis Wright-** Started Instructor upgrade 6 months ago. Broke his Femur while TDY in Vegas, No alcohol involved? Ex-E-3 and EC-130 guy. Future training flt guy.

**TSgt(Sel) Randy Zaiontz(Z-Man)-**Stan Eval hammer, loves that tequila. Found a house with a lime tree in the back yard.

#### **Boom Stowed**

**MSgt Herb Hughes-**Retired in July. Currently in the local area might be heading back down to Florida. His experience and knowledge can't be replaced.

**TSgt Randy Johnson(Dial Tone)-** Retired in Dec, currently somewhere in Texas running up a phone bill.

## **Travis AFB, CA.**

### **70 ARS**

#### **Home of the Orca's**

Greetings: from sunny Northern California. This has been a busy year for the Orca Pod. Between flying the busy local schedule and normal TDY's, the Orca booms were deploying to the Desert for the third consecutive year and flying missions in Kosovo. The Boom section has been instrumental in the 70<sup>th</sup> winning two AFA awards this year. The 70<sup>th</sup>, has been awarded the AFA outstanding crew of the year and the AFA outstanding unit of the year award. It takes a whole crew to do the job, but we are especially proud of our Boom section.

Chief "O" Rich Olshefski: Still hanging around holding all the pieces together. Says he is the glue to the section. "And we all know what glue is made from"

Chief Celeste "Black Widow" Barcelo: We are proud of Celeste for being Pep promoted to Chief. She is working down in LA LA land, but still comes up here from time to time to check up on Keith.

SMSgt Gary Plain (ART): Gary has just come on board to us via the 79<sup>th</sup> and Air Ops. He is now the Scheduler and is feeling out who will fly and who just wants to do Air Shows.

MSgt Joe "Gassy" Lambertus (ART): Joe is now in our Stan Eval shop and says he can't play Santa Claus any more at our Christmas parties until he gets over the shock from last year. If you see him, ask him about it sometime. He received a present he wasn't expecting.

MSgt Terry (Hugh) Monges (ART): Terry has moved over to Air Ops, if you go and talk to him, just ignore the blank stare. We have been informed that the look is natural and never goes away, until you move out of that particular job.

MSgt Keith "Rainbow Kid" Stephens (ART): Keith has moved over to the Training Section and is trying to confuse all the new booms that Chief O keeps throwing at him. So far Keith is 3 for 3.

MSgt Chris Youngblood: Chris just got off another successful Rodeo competition. Only problem was that Chris was so into winning the Cargo load Trophy that he forgot to tell the C-17 that Delta doesn't have KC-10's.

MSgt Dave Bablo: Dave is still with Boeing down in Long Beach but is getting ready for his move to Seattle. He has been asking when the UTA shuttle will be coming to McChord.

MSgt Dave "Green Mile" Donaldson: Dave has moved to new heights as a prison guard, he was recently promoted to guard tower 3. Says he has never slept better. As a newlywed Dave has been very busy.

MSgt A.J. (Iceman) Baxter: AJ just got his first real job ever with Southwest Airlines. So if your baggage is crushed or missing you know whom to blame. AJ was also upgraded to instructor this year so he has been a busy person.

TSgt Chad (The Joker) Courtney: Chad just recently graduated from the Sheriff's Academy in Sacramento. He says that serving the inmates meals is easier than breaking their door in. He keeps trying to tell us stories about the jail but no one wants to hear what he does for fun.

TSgt Leon "Bad Boy" Limon: Leon finished up his training at the local Sheriff's Academy and is busting skulls in Cotra Costa County. Claims he'll be a millionaire from all of the overtime pay.

TSgt Jeff Odell: Jeff got married this past year and they are expecting their first child soon. He blames Chad everytime he gets pulled over by the Highway Patrol.

TSgt Steve Sila: Steve just graduated from Emory Riddle in Arizona. Putting the finishing touches on his commercial ticket. Says he wants to wear the round hat and pilot planes for a living.

TSgt Rick "Are we okay" Marshall: In between his regular job and his Amway enterprises Rick tries to come out and see us once in awhile. When does this guy sleep, eat or breathe?



TSgt Barry Green: Barry lives this secret life as a multimillionaire. This guy has broken the code!

SSgt (Teflon) Don Mora: Don has started his third Engineering job since he found out he can't by a home as a trougher. One more job interview and Don will be publishing his own book.

SSgt Corbet (Mongo) Cadwell: Mongo is still selling houses in the Bay area. Say's he can finance anyone. (Except trougher's.) Sorry Don.

SSgt (Dirty) Ernie Valles: Ernie is our hardcore trougher. If it's going off station he wants to go on it. He's still trying to explain a certain Wake Island trip.

SSgt Tony Calhoun: Tony is one of our new hires. He comes to us from the Crew Chief shop downstairs.

Sra Matt Fisher: Matt has been busy working down in So Cal. And has still found time to get married.

Sra Michelle Buck: Michelle is another new hire for us. She came off of Active Duty as a Scope Dope on Awacs.

Sra Cathy Mattson: Cathy is a new hire we picked up right off the street. She teaches high school math as her regular employment. For some reason she didn't enjoy Survival training.

Sra Donald Butler: Shawn comes to us from Active Duty at McGuire. He is learning the Reserve system and will be flying with us very soon.

## **Travis AFB, CA**

### **79 ARS**

Greetings from the Golden Gate Wing, (now) home of the 79<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Squadron. It's been quite a while since our last installment and since then we've sadly said "goodbye" to several of our senior statesmen due largely to the BRAC directed move from March to Travis.. It is our good fortune however to be in a target rich environment for sharp boom candidates. If you're in the area drop by and see us. It's good to see a familiar face come through the door. Our "Crew Staging Area" is open every afternoon & the beer is always cold. The current lineup of some of the world's finest booms is as follows (alphabetically):

### **AIR RESERVE TECHS**

CMSgt Mike (Big Daddy) Boozer – Chief Boom. I asked Chili and Big Wave to start this off so they figured they could write whatever they wanted about me. I had to make a few adjustments, otherwise they get all the credit (blame).

TSgt David (Big Wave) Kielhorn - Stan/Eval. When he's not dancing in the streets of Vegas, he follows the NASCAR circuit around the U.S.

MSgt Shawn (Chili) McMahon - Training. Still breaking hearts (and wind) everywhere he goes. One more class to go and his Master's degree is finished.

TSgt Jeff (BooBoo) Heiby - Scheduling. Recent acquisition from McGuire. Has a newfound penchant for "body modification". Jeff hasn't slowed down since he got here.

### **RESERVISTS:**

SRA Jennifer (Hoss) Boshart – Straight from the active duty IM world. Used to work in the cop squadron, could come in handy. Currently at the schoolhouse. When Ralph Rogers & Jimmy Gaddy get finished, we'll have another good one.

SRA Frank (Santana) Carlos - Frank works for Anheuser Busch and is very popular with his squadron mates (imagine that). Currently in cargo training doing a great job!

TSgt Richard (Snuffy) Costafelis - Now flying the friendly skies with United Airlines. Every TDY is a party (especially the airshows), the morning after is a whole different story. (We've got pictures)

TSgt Don (Donger) Davis - Every squadron has a clown - Don is ours. You never know what he will say or do next. Will do anything for a buck. Been known to swim nude across a lake of alligators in Florida, eat a handful of horseradish, etc...

TSgt Joe (Huhn) Huhn – Former Flight Engineer. Saw the light and rejoined the Air Force after a stint in the Navy. (Seems to be a trend here – can you spell "U in judgement"?). Builds custom homes in high rent districts.

TSgt Mike (Burglar) Frazer - Currently in training. Crossed trained from the Air-Evac Squadron. Works in the E/R at a Sac hospital when he's not busy flying. Proud new papa.

SMSgt Steve (Stevie-Ray) Hampton - Senior Reservist. Works for Boeing in southern Cal. Always good for a game of "Pull my finger."

MSgt Vic (PeePaw) Hite – Flight Leader. Provides most of our adult supervision. Also a new Grandpa.

TSgt Tim(Chocolate CHiP) Jones - Traffic reporter (TV celebrity) for the CHP in Fresno. Anyone seen Tim lately?

TSgt Mike (Boy Lou) Llewellyn: "What's in it for me"? If he is not eating, he's probably sleeping. Shares Heiby's newfound passion for "perforations" and "ink". Slings bags for Southwest Airlines in Sacramento.

MSgt Dave (LoveMaster) Palmer – Just one bit of advice folks - lock up your wives & daughters and hide your whiskey.

SSgt Matt (Opie) Rose - Matt lives & works in Riverside. Did someone forget to tell him the unit was at Travis now? Don't see too much of him.

MSgt Erik Sandvik – Flight Leader. TDY hound. Sometimes X-ray Technician. If he's not on the road for us, he's probably on loan to another squadron.

TSgt Shawn Simmons – Corrections Officer. Lives locally, but only comes around when there is a good deal TDY

TSgt Harold (Leroy) Wenner – Airline dispatcher in real life. Came to us from active duty.

TSgt Matt (Barney Fife) Willing - His department only issues him a single bullet to put in his pocket.

MSgt Al (The Flying Hawaiian) Young - Climbs trees for a living (and the power company). Recently became a proud papa for the second time.

#### **ATTACHED:**

SMSgt Russ Martin – Wing Stan/Eval. The nicest guy in the world – and a “noteworthy” performer! (C'mon, he's the Big Kahuna Evaluator – you don't think we'd slam him.)

MSgt Dave (Smartiepants) Smart Wing Plans. Mobility plans expert when he's not balancing the budget in the state comptroller office..

#### **DEPARTURES:**

TSgt Dan (Little Round Mound) Able – Retired. Saving the world from crime down south with the Sheriff's office.

TSgt Jill (Jilligan) Anderson - Moved to Oklahoma when hubby got off active duty.

SMSgt Virgil (Chico Adams) Anderson – Retired. Now flies for Gemini as a loadmaster.

SMSgt Gerry Broussard – Retired. Chasing down criminals in Southern Cal. Remarried for the 5<sup>th</sup> time that we know of.

TSgt Joe (Pacific Flyer) Cupido – Combat Camera at March ARB.

TSgt Tom (TC) Killian - Something about his T&G technique that the Wing Commander didn't like. Another Gemini loadmaster.

MSgt Mark Lager – TALCE at March ARB. Heard he was going to qualify on the –135.

MSgt Dave (Denzel) Murray – Retired. Works for the Department of Corrections in SoCal.

MSgt Sammy (Doughnut Boy) Owens – Retired. Working for Kitty Hawk as a Loadmaster. Somebody tell Sam to come get his shadowbox.

SMSgt Gary Plain – All the initial quals wore him out. Went to Air Ops to work in scheduling, now attached to the folks down the hall. Fortunately he hasn't gone far away.

TSgt Lattie Robertson – March ARB Command Post.

SMSgt Jeff (Sluggo) Spence – Retired. Still works for McBoeing in SoCal.

TSgt Rich Zak – Last we heard he was a flight attendant for Southwest in Phoenix (we think).

SSgt Steve (Stinky) Zasqueta – Sent him off to OTS & made him an officer. Now in the Intel world down south.

## **Travis AFB, CA**

### **615 AMOS**

Here at the 615<sup>th</sup> AMOS we deploy as Air Mobility Element Tanker Planners directly supporting the DIRMBOFOR in training exercises. Most of our time is spent in Korea – and you know what that means.....Shopping trips and Ammo bowls! We also spend a lot of our time training at Hurlburt Field. From the moment we step off the airplane it's strictly business, we're there to be trained, not for the Ft. Walton Beach nightlife.

There aren't many Boom Operators in our unit, but we are 100% manned. Here's our line-up.

SMSgt D. K. Smith – Superintendent of this lowly bunch of castaways. He's has been a breath of fresh air since his arrival, finally someone to stand up for the little people.

MSgt Jon Hilyard – Our resident Iron Man. If he's not in the office or TDY, you can find him swimming in the San Francisco Bay training for the next Triathlon.

MSgt Bob Yelverton – Bob is our TDY King. Since his family is back at McConnell he's been volunteering for every TDY he can. Anything to keep him occupied while he's away from Mama.

SSgt Brian Valadez – The most Jr. guy in the office. This, unfortunately, makes him busier than most of the others. He's proven that he'd do anything to get out of going to Korea in August to live in a tent – he's decided to get married.

Next year has much in stored for us. Alaska, Korea, Arizona, Louisiana and Florida if we're lucky. If you find yourself in the area give us a call (707) 424-4971 we'll be glad to show you around our "digs."

**Travis AFB, CA**  
615 AMS

MSgt Chuck O'Banion- heading back to the GUCCI life.

Msgt Josh Bracht- New to the TALCE.

(M)Sgt Chris Zaher- Looking for an assignment back to the KC-135 at McDill.

(M)Sgt Rob Henson- Affiliation "GOD" and loving it.

SSgt Brian Quam- Ready to go back to the KC-135.

If you want to contact any of us: DSN 837-4228

## Travis AFB, CA 715 AMS

Greetings from the wonderful world of TALCE! Since the last boom signal input the same boom operators are still around. However, (and this is a HUGE "however") we'll soon lose two booms. So, all you booms with high time on station - look out! SSgt Jim Webb is going back to the flying world and I am PCSing to Ramstein. I'm not trying to scare you or anything, but the two of us will have to be replaced shortly. This really shouldn't cause any alarm - TALCE is an awesome assignment. Coming from the -135 world, I love this job because I get to see so many interesting places; it's not Saudi Arabia or Moron over and over again. This past year we've been to Egypt, Estonia, India, Japan, Kenya, Oman, Russia, Scotland, Turkey, and many stateside locations. This year we're scheduled to visit Australia, Scotland, Tunisia, and South Korea. If you love to travel, this job is for you. But you're not reading this to find out about TALCE, you wanna know about the booms, so here they are:

**(M)Sgt Troy Keach** (KC-10) – Training Boom - Troy didn't really have a job as a TSgt and now that he has a line number for MSgt we still don't know what to do with him. Supposedly he works in the training section but that's subject to change.

**MSgt Christy Kilmer** (KC-135) – Team Chief/Scheduler - Been here 3+ years. I love this job so much that I volunteered to go to Ramstein to do it for 3 more years. I report to Ramstein NLT 15 Oct 2000 and look forward to all the wonderful beer awaiting me.

**MSgt Jon Purdue** (KC-10) – Ops Flight Super/Team Chief – Poor Jon! Ever since he put on MSgt he's been in the First Shirt's office getting chewed out for all the overdue currency items and EPRs from our section. If he didn't show his face much in the office last year, he's definitely making up for it now.

**MSgt R. Sonny Sampayan** (KC-135) – Current Ops Super/Team Chief – Rumor has it that Sonny is retiring this fall and heading back to the Phillipines.

**SSgt Jim Webb** (KC-10) – Team Chief/Training Boom – Jimbo had orders to Kadena, then they got changed to Yokota and finally he finessed his way out of any orders at all and surprised us all by somehow getting back to flying. He's leaving us in Nov 2000 and his expertise will be very sorely missed.

As you can see we've got a very small boom section here and it's about to get smaller. If you know any of these guys and want to talk to them, give us a call at DSN 837-7602. And if you pass through Travis, call us – if we're home we could use another excuse to get out of the office and have a beer.

CHRISTY KILMER, SSgt, USAF  
TALCE Boom Operator

### 715 AMS BOOM OPERATORS

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**Travis AFB, CA**  
815 AMS

***FIT TO FIGHT!!***

1. Greetings all, from one of the three TALCE squadrons that make up the famous “Golden Gate TALCE.” It’s been a very busy year for us, and we’re proud to be the road warriors that keep the great AMC machine moving. From North to South, East to West, there aren’t many places that we *haven’t* been this year.
2. There aren’t many Boom Operators in the TALCE, but we bring a big level of operational expertise into the unit. The most interesting part of the job is that we work completely outside the specialty, and get to develop leadership skills normally used by senior officers. When you deploy, your team may have up to 30-40 people of all different specialties—and **YOU’RE** in charge. *You* are the base commander, and get the notoriety that comes with that. General Ryan knows most of us by name, and we frequently get feedback from him through 15<sup>th</sup> AF. That’s my plug for the TALCE—if you think you can hack it, call/email Chief Glast, we need the best!
3. Here’s our current line-up of Boom Operators:

C3 Flight Superintendent: MSgt Robert “B.B.” Wiggs (KC-10)

- Ask anyone—I had to be the “instant expert” on TALCE ops!

Chief of Scheduling: TSgt Doug “Spud” Micklich (KC-135)

- Great Mission Support Team Chief—should be back in the –135 by June (he keeps telling me)

Unit Mobility Director: MSgt Jeff Sargent (KC-135)

- The consummate Road Warrior, Jeff starts terminal leave in April—we’re gonna miss his expertise!

MSgt Steve Kleman (KC-10)

- Steve’s preparing for his MST checkride—we’ll be glad to have him fully checked out!

That’s it for our current roster. Last October we said goodbye to another Road Warrior, TSgt Jeff Keeton. He retired after 20 loyal years of service, and he’ll be missed around here.

4. That’s our report for this year. If you or your people are interested in what the TALCE has to offer, you can call me at DSN 837-7365, or email me at [robert.wiggs@travis.af.mil](mailto:robert.wiggs@travis.af.mil). Hope to hear from you soon!

V/R,

ROBERT L. WIGGS, MSgt  
C3 Operations Superintendent

## **Travis AFB, CA**

### **KC-10 AIRCREW TRAINING**

#### **BOEING AEROSPACE OPERATION**

Hi, from the Boom Instructors at “ Logicon, American Airlines, McDonnell Douglas, CAE Link, Hughes, GM Hughes, Raytheon, and believe it or not, recently Boeing Aerospace Operations. A subsidiary to the “Mother Boeing”, those folks in the Seattle area, course our headquarters are located in Midwest City Oklahoma, somewhere near those Flight Safety guys. We have no home!!

The program is now training booms from the Altus folks and starting from ground zero in the training world. It used to be we would get a fully qualified KC-135A/Q/R boom, not the case anymore, haven’t seen a, experienced boom in about two years. The student that comes through now have a grand total flying time of “zero”, but it makes our job that more interesting.

#### **Here is a short list of the player here at Travis.**

**JIM GADDY:** The “God Father” of the KC-10 training world, started out at Long Beach with Logicon in 1979 before it was even a KC-10, and still doing a great job with all who come through. Flew the KC-135 from 1968 to 1979 till his retirement.

**CORY MILLER:** Our current “FCA” Flight Check Airman, yes we get check rides in a simulator, makes sure the instructor hit the right buttons. Cory is right behind Jimmie, the been, here forever list, signed on with American Airlines when they where awarded the contract. Cory flew the KC-135 from 1968 till his retirement and signed on with the reserves flying the KC-10 down at March, till they closed the program to retirees.

**TIM HOLT:** Got him in a trade, McGuire didn’t want him, so he’s back in his home state. Born and raised in the area, so we test him on all the great fishing areas, except Tim likes to go places where you need a rope for a good fishing hole” I Don’t Think So”. Started teaching in the program in 1986, and has flow on the KC-10 sense 1981, is still with the reserves and works at 15<sup>th</sup> AF on his reserve days.

**GEORGE HAWKINS:** George is another native of the state, has spent most of his years stationed in the state. Signed on after his retirement from 15<sup>th</sup> AF down at March, started with company in 1987 and made the move north with the rest of us. George started flying the KC-135 in 1968 till his retirement as a CMSgt.

**RALPH ROGERS:** Last count Ralph had four pick-ups parked in his front yard, loves to work on motors. Keeps taking one out and putting in another, wish he would make up his mind. We would love to see the end product? Ralph started in 1985 with the company after teaching at Castle for over 6 years. Ralph started flying KC-135 in 1970 until his retirement in 1982.

**LEE EVANS:** Lee was KC-135/ KC-10 Boom Operator from 1974- 1988, his wife is currently a reserve Boom Operator with the 940<sup>th</sup> at Beale, his daughter was a boom operator with the reserves, till she married another boom Operator, who is stationed at Fairchild, and his father is a retired boom Operator in the Spokane area, so would anyone like to guess what the grand-kids grow up to be? I do believe this family has the distinction of having the first pure bloodline of boom operators in the Air Force. After slinging asphalt with the city Lee signed on with us in 1989, realized this was a lot cooler job!

**JOHN BOND:** Doesn’t know how to age like the rest of us, just bought a new “HOG”, Soft-tail. Lives in little town north, but is never there, knows every biker joint in Northern California. John flew the KC-135 and KC-10, was one of the first to go over 5,000 hours in the “10”. After handing out camping equipment at outdoor recreation at March AFB, John also realized this was much better and signed on in 1994.

**STEVE OOTHOUTD:** Started out just down the road at Mather AFB in 1970, moved south to Castle AFB, then onto March AFB on the KC-10’s. Somehow looped back north to join the training at Travis. All total has spent almost 17 years in the state, and no longer considers Winnebago as his hometown, that’s in Minnesota by the way? Not the camper! Has been with the company sense 1994.

Stop by the site if you are on the West Coast and say hi. There has to be a few cargo runs that still go through Travis, “ the KC-135’s do still carry cargo don’t they”? just kidding. Remember, and most folks don’t, we all started out on the old “Steam Jets”. And all of us, to this day are darn proud of it. Yet love teaching the new ways of the KC-10A.



**Washington, DC**  
**HQ USAF/XOOT**  
Pentagon

1480 Air Force Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20330-1480

**Home of...one Boomer**

**Greetings from the Great Puzzle Palace,**

I'm coming up on the end of my third year here. Next year will be my last at the Puzzle Palace whether I go PCS or go PCS (permanent civilian status). If you ever wanted to work at the Pentagon or live in northern Virginia, start thinking about putting a package together. Just remember this is not a Boom Operator position, it's a 1Axxx position. If you want more information, please email me.

Many things have gone on this past year. The biggest is implementation of CEFIP and management of Career Enlisted Aviators (CEA). What you need to understand is CEFIP is not a management program. It is strictly pay. CEFIP is the same as the officer's ACIP (Aviation Career Incentive Pay). No one talks about ACIP, the talk about rated management. Since we are not (and can not be) rated, we say Aircrew Management. What you need to get out of all of this (besides your money) is, you don't have to fly 4 hours every month AND you can take a non-flying staff job somewhere and still get paid. You do have to be aware of "gates" though. But you'll be pleased to know that AFPC will be monitoring your gates also. They will ensure you have an assignment back to flying so you don't "bust" a gate. For more information check out our web site <http://www.xo.hq.af.mil/xoo/xoot/>. The site is restricted to ".mil" computers so you won't be able to view it from home.

If you haven't heard, we created an enlisted aircrew statue (trophy) for both male and female. You can buy them directly from Midwest Trophy, Oklahoma City, OK. See my public accessible web page: <http://www.xo.hq.af.mil/xoo/xoot/xoota/nonrated/trophy/statue.htm> for pictures and details.

I don't know how many of you had the chance to meet our AF Career Field Manager, CMSgt Francis Mitchell **Error! Bookmark not defined.** He will retire this year, after 31 years of service. Effective date is 1 July 2000 with a ceremony on 31 March at Andrews AFB, MD. Mitch has done more for enlisted aviators than both of his predecessors have. It will be a tough act to follow, but I'm sure CMSgt Bob Shannon will do his best. CMSgt Shannon is a Flight Engineer by trade and comes to us from Tinker AFB.

Regards to all,

*Jim*

James Haskell, SMSgt, USAF  
Enlisted Aircrew Training Manager  
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