

❖ **AFTAC ALUMNI** ❖

Volume 4 Issue 1

March 1996

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hi Gang,

It is now time for y'all to start thinking about coming to the 50th birthday of the Long Range Detection System. This will occur about 14-16 Sept '97. As you may remember our Air Force will be 50 years old too.

The birthday of our Air Force is also in the month of September. So there will be a great deal going on all over our country at the same time. I tell you this so that if you plan now, it will all work out for everybody. Having said that about these events, I need you to think about how you can help us pull all this off. The active duty folks, namely Brig. Gen. (select) Glen Shaffer, Col. Rick Larson, Maj. Ron Smith and Capt. Don Pickinpaugh are already well on the way to putting on a great couple of days' worth of events with some very heavy hitters in attendance. But we need you to think about what you can do to specifically contribute to our effort. Please call or write with your thoughts on this event. If each of us do our little part, then this will truly be a great 50th!

The AFTAC Awards banquet was held 4 March, 1996 at the Patrick Officers Club. In addition to all of the awards being handed out was AFTAC Alumnus of the Year.

The winner was our past alumni President Clark Creery. He has done a great job for all of us. It was only fitting for him to receive this award from the active duty AFTACers. All of us AFTACers salute you, thanks Clark! Well, that is it for now, write when you get a chance.

Tom Niquette

P.S. Please send all letters to us typed if you have the capability so we then can scan them into the newsletter without transcribing.

**Your Newsletter Staff**

Editor: To Be Announced

Secretary: Judy Milam

Publications: Carl Gailey
Swede Swansen

Advisor:

AWARDS

The following individuals were recognized at the AFTAC Annual Awards Banquet on 4 Mar 96, 1800, at the PAFB Officers' Club.

AFTAC Company Grade Officer of the Year
1Lt Adrian M. Butler (HQ/SC)

AFTAC Senior NCO of the Year
MSgt Steven E. Crouse (HQ/DO)

AFTAC NCO of the Year
TSgt Michael E. Geggus (HQ/XP)

AFTAC Airman of the Year
SrA Tyrone R. Bazzell (TOD)

AFTAC First Sergeant of the Year
MSgt Edward D. Cahoon (TOD)

AFTAC Resource Advisor of the Year
Major Gary A. Killian (HQ/TT)

AFTAC Enlisted Senior Information Manager of the Year
MSgt Pamela E. Robertson (TOD)

AFTAC Enlisted Technician Information Manager of the Year
SSgt Linda M. Martin (TOD)

AFTAC Enlisted Apprentice Information Manager of the Year
SrA David A. Malinski (HQ/SC)

AFTAC Civilian Technician Information Manager of the Year
Ms Patricia M. Snyder (HQ/DO)

AFTAC Civilian Apprentice Information Manager of the Year
Ms Brenda K. Black (HQ/XP)

AFTAC Applied Geophysics
Manager/Supervisor of the Year
MSgt David M. Osier (06X)

AFTAC Applied Geophysics Technician of the Year
SSgt James A. Smith (HQ/SC)

AFTAC Applied Geophysics Specialist of the Year
SrA Andrew S. Morgan (HQ/DO)

AFTAC Applied Sciences Manager/Supervisor of the Year
MSgt John F. Lewis (HQ/TM)

AFTAC Applied Sciences Technician of the Year
SSgt Vance Hawley (TOD)

AFTAC Applied Sciences Specialist of the Year
SrA Keith A. Mills (HQ/TM)

AFTAC Outstanding Supply Superintendent of the Year
SMSgt Nicholas J. Skorupski (TOD)

AFTAC Outstanding Senior Supply Technician of the Year
TSgt Diane M Brocchi (TOD)

AFTAC Outstanding Junior Supply Technician of the Year
SrA Kirk B. Vore (TOD)

AFTAC Senior Level Civilian of the Year -
Dr Fredrick Schult (HQ/TT)

AFTAC Mid-Level Civilian of the Year
Mr Thomas Millard (TOD)

AFTAC Junior Level Civilian of the Year
Ms Patricia M. Snyder (HQ/DO)

AFTAC Alumnus of the Year
Mr Clark E. Creery

AIA Financial Analysis Civilian of the Year
Ms Deborah L. Ward (HQ/XP)

AIA Financial Management and Comptroller
Organization of the Year -

Lt Col Joseph E. Strohfus (XP)
Ms Deborah L. Ward
Ms Brenda K. Black
Maj Andre B. Burgess
Capt Deborah E. Meadows
Capt William J. Wirtz
MSgt Robert V. Stonesifer
TSgt Stephen C. Titus
SSgt Dennis D. Wideman
SrA Dayna M. Bryson



LETTERS

NICEVILLE, FL

Dear Editors:

After reading the newsletter for two years now I have yet to see any mention of the three detachments I was stationed at during the 60's. DET 206 ADAK NAS 1963, DET 176-OPA-LOCKA, FL 1965-67, DET 433 AMERICAN SAMOA 1967-68. I would appreciate hearing from anyone assigned to those detachments during the sixties.

Regards,
B.P. Petroski

LOS ALAMOS, NM

I have enclosed \$75.00 for a life membership. My wife and I hope to be in Florida in the coming year and plan to stop by to see the hall.

Don Bartram

CAMP HILL, PA.

Dear Staff,

I received the directory today and have enjoyed relocating a number of "old" friends. It has surely brought back great memories of my assignments in AFTAC.

If you do not already have an address for Mary Porter, it is 10 Greenbrier, Oroville, CA 95965. Mary lost her husband, Russ, several years ago. My wife and I visited Mary in 1993 and enjoyed remembering her many years as the secretary for the Chief of Supply at the 1155th. Thanks again for your prompt action.

Sincerely
Jack Tucker

SAN FRANCISCO, CA.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your recent information regarding membership in the AFTAC Alumni Association. Unfortunately, due to my age (83 years old) and health I feel that membership in the association would not be feasible. I have very fond memories of my tour of duty as Deputy Commander of the 1009th Special Weapons Squadron from 1953-1956. The quality of our personnel was outstanding. Thank you for sending me the information.

Jack A. Gibbs

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO.

Dear Staff;

I was stationed at Det 141 from Aug 66 to Sep. 68, at Det 220 from Sep. 68 to Sep. 69, and at HQ from Sep. 69 until I retired in April 72. All of these

assignments were within the Geophysics Operations Branch areas of responsibility.

I would be pleased to correspond with anyone who also shares fond memories of their times at AFTAC. My E-Mail address is KTBF38A@PRODIGY.COM. My home address is 6540 Delmonico Dr. #302.

We travel a lot so if I don't respond right away, we are probably on the road.

James & Lydia Diehl

NICEVILLE, FL

Dear Editor

The newsletter is very enjoyable bringing back memories of a unique, challenging and exciting period of our lives. However, seldom if ever is there a letter from a former MCL troop. Come on you guys from chemistry, physics and lab ops—get with the program. It was impossible to get these guys to stop talking (or arguing) in the “old days” and now this disconcerting silence.

Our journey after leaving MCL (chemistry) in 1970 included stops at Cape Newenham, Alaska, Kirtland AFB, MIT (Draper Lab), WPAFB and then retirement in 1983 at Eglin AFB. Ten years working for SAIC assessing radiation and EMP effects on military systems (including recommended redesign efforts). Ann and I are now retired living Niceville, FL. Our daughter Liz lives in New Hampshire, works in the computer industry in Massachusetts and is a Captain in the Army(Reserves).

Some memorable events from the MCL days include

Physics vs Chem football, "roasting" of people being reassigned, Arnie Celicks "canon", Arnie Celicks "staff" meetings, Christmas/New Years alerts three years in a row, Dewey Weiford "commanders" Call on Friday afternoons, and getting over ten percent yield on a tungsten sample. Above all, the most memorable is the outstanding competence, incredible creativity, dedication and hard work of the people in AFTAC.

Some people (whose names are remembered) from MCL it would be nice to hear from in this news letter after 25 years are Blouin, Harry Johnson, Chris Kavakos, Robinson, Trainor, Lafontaine, Bingson, Jim Eveland, Miner, Bailey, Paquette, Unrein, Moto, Button, Jubber, Samuelson, Al Pavik, Mike Lubin, Meyers, Baker, Dettmer, Hanna and the many others whose faces are clear but alas whose names have fled.

Sincerely yours,

Frank Liberatori

KENLY, NC

Dear AFTAC Newsletter Staff:

Just want to let you know that I really enjoy the newsletter and especially the letters from AFTACers. I know all members of the association feel the same. You're doing a fine job.

I joined AFTAC in the spring of 1962 from an assignment at Seymour-Johnson AFB. I was assigned duty in OIS (Intelligence & Security) and worked with Joe Gataletto and Jess Minturn. After a period of time I was reassigned to DOA (Air Operations) down in the basement and worked with

Lt Col Rodney Quinn, CMSgt Bill Taylor, Maj Boaz, Major Purdy, Major Smith, Major Wrinkle, MSgt Jerry LaBarre, MSgt Pete Tompkins, SSgt Ross Breon, SSgt Pobieglo. Of course there were many others and I don't want to miss mentioning any of them, but it would make my letter just too long.

When the 1158th Squadron was activated at Albrook (I believe it was 1966) I was assigned as Admin Tech in the Material Branch and was associated with Col Max Pea, Col Wood, SMSgt Rice and others too numerous to mention. Col Martin was our Commander and Major Harold Mills was Chief of Administration.

After a short tour (unaccompanied) in Panama I returned to Air Operations Branch back at Headquarters on Telegraph Road. My number came up for reassignment to SEA about the time AFTAC was beginning its move to Patrick and I was sent to Takhli, Thailand for a year (a real experience). From Thailand I was given an assignment at Langley with Hq, 5th Weather Wing. I retired on Nov 1, 1974.

I have visited Chief Taylor in MacArthur, Ohio, and have communicated with Chief LaBarre in North Pole, Alaska. Also I have exchanged letters with Bob Paulk (a friend who worked in Air Operations when I worked there). I would like to contact Don Trollinger and Doug Williamson if anyone knows where they might be. Doug was in Plans upstairs (admin) when I was at Headquarters.

Currently I am managing the office for a group of psychologists here in Wilson NC. One advantage of this job—I get a cut rate on psychotherapy!

Have a good year,

Johnnie D. Page

WAYNESBORO, PA

Did someone mention procrastinating? Alas, the Holiday season seems to jog the mind. Please find enclosed my lifetime dues.

I am truly honored to be included in the AFTAC Alumni Association. I was assigned to Det. 1, 2044 CommGp, Pentagon, from 1966-1969 performing duties in the AFTAC communications center, Alexandria VA. Those were intense & exciting times!

As a young enlisted man then, my duties at AFTAC left me with a great deal of satisfaction realizing I and everyone involved in the AFTAC mission contributed to the security of the free world. When Rolling Thunder mission message traffic was relayed thru our comlines, there was additional satisfaction knowing we contributed to the Vietnam conflict.

During 1983-1986, while assigned to the AFCC IG Team, I revisited AFTAC (at Patrick, of course) to inspect the comm function. It was a wonderful feeling, something akin to returning to your hometown after a long absence.

Again, many thanks for letting me join as an alumni. By the way, I left the communications field behind and performing duties as the local ambulance chief.

Regard,
Hans G. Bader

NAPLES, FL,

Enclosed check for ten dollars is for membership dues in the association. Although I spent 8

wonderful years in the "outfit" from 1948-1956, I have just learned of the Alumni Association and want to join right away.

I joined what was then called the 51st AFBU (Air Force Base Unit) in the Pentagon in about April, 1948, moving briefly to Gravelly Point and later to 1812 G Street. Assigned to Team 407 in September 1952 until I left the outfit for graduate school in May 1956. I was one of the few at that time who did not spend time at McClellan on the way to 407. Very exciting years!!

My initial job assignment was under Capt. Reuben R. Belongia, a fellow weather officer, who did not remain very long. I did the trajectories for the vectoring of aircraft for the Pacific tests of 1948 and did the same at Team 407. And the story goes on and on.

I wonder if you could include both our summer and winter addresses at top of page as we spend half a year at each. Please send everything to Florida until the end of April, when we return to Minnesota. I would like a copy of the latest roster as well as some of the newsletters if this is possible.

Sincerely,
William J. Malloy
WASHINGTON, D.C.

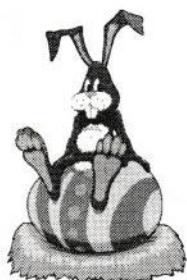
It's hard to believe it's the Holiday Season again. Where does the time go? speaking of time, it's once again time to change our address. We moved again (3rd move in 21 months) this past May. However, this time it wasn't cross country, but just a mile away. In January, Jim's assignment to the pentagon firmed up, so we began house hunting. We love the Vienna VA area and wanted to stay close to where we were extremely fortunate to purchase a beautiful new townhouse directly across the street from the Vienna metro station in Vienna VA. Great neighborhood, kids in the same schools, and Jim is able to take the Metrorail from this station to the

Pentagon instead of fighting the traffic to and from DC. In June, Jim graduated from the Industrial College of the Armed Force (ICAF) and began his new assignment on the Joint Staff in the Pentagon. He's enjoying his new assignment even though his days are very long. With all of his "free time" (not!), he's once again playing soccer, this time with a group of fellow ICAF graduated also assigned in the area.

I continue to work part-time at National Court Reporters Association, where I started in January. The hours are great because I see Jeff and Jaclyn off in the morning and get home before they do. The highlights of this year for me (sorry Jim, Jeff, Jaclyn, and Shadow) has to be my trip to Rome two weeks ago. I sing in our church choir and we were invited to sing for the Pope as well as perform in a concert there. It was incredible, especially seeing the Pope at St. Peters Basilica. It was an awesome experience one that is difficult to put into words. Aside from all the singing we did, we were fortunate to do quite a bit o sightseeing. We toured Rome, Vatican City and Assisi, The historical sites are phenomenal!!

We hope you and your loved ones had a blessed 1995. May 1996 be a prosperous year filled with good health, happiness, and love. Keep the spirit of the Holidays alive throughout the coming year.

Happy Holidays,
Mouse, Martha, Jeff, and Jaclyn
Nuemeister



CALANDER

APRIL 1996

6 April 1996 - AFTAC Picnic

8 April 1996 - 17:30 AFTAC HQ Meeting

MAY 1996

10 May 1996 - 13:00 Alumni Golf Tournament
Baytree Golf Club

13 May 1996 17:30 - AFTAC HQ Meeting

JUNE 1996

10 June 1996 - 17:30 AFTAC HQ Meeting

14 June 1996 - DENVER REUNION

25 June 1996 - Newsletter Mailing

JULY 1996

8 July - 17:30 AFTAC HQ Meeting

AUGUST 1996

12 August - 17:30 AFTAC HQ Meeting

SEPTEMBER 1996

9 September 1996 - 17:30 AFTAC HQ Meeting

16 September 1996 - Newsletter Mailing

OCTOBER 1996

7 October 1996 - 17:30 AFTAC HQ Meeting

18 October 1996 - Golf tournament and general
membership meeting

NOVEMBER 1996

18 November 1996 - 17:30 AFTAC HQ Meeting

DECEMBER 1996

9 December 1996 - 17:30 AFTAC HQ Meeting

12 December - Newsletter Mailing

AFTAC: Watching, Waiting, Detecting

A reprint of an article published in the *Missileer*, Feb 9, 1996

Story by Master Sgt. Fred Hagans

When the Soviet Union tested its first nuclear weapon in 1949, it was detected by instruments of the U.S. Atomic Energy Detection System. The same was true for the most recent nuclear test conducted by France at its test site in the Pacific. While the USAEDS is not a well-known entity to every American citizen, it has been the eyes and ears of the U.S. government for almost half a century for a wide range of issues centering on nuclear compliance and treaty monitoring issues. The challenges have grown with time as more nations have developed nuclear capabilities and other weapons of mass destruction.

The dawn of the nuclear era began in July 1945 in the New Mexico desert with the testing of the first atomic bomb. It resulted in an eventual nuclear arms race and proliferation of technologies that gave birth to the USAEDS in 1947. The USAEDS was created at a time when the mysteries of the atom were still emerging and the ability to detect nuclear detonations quickly developed from a visionary dream to reality. The operation and maintenance of the USAEDS today are the responsibility of the Air Force Technical Applications Center.

It was a sensor aboard an RB-29 aircraft flying between Alaska and Japan in September 1949 that detected debris from the first Russian nuclear test. That was a significant accomplishment for the USAEDS, especially since most experts felt that the Russians would not be nuclear-capable until the early to mid-1950s.

The USAEDS today consists of a global network of seismic and hydroacoustic sensors that detect subsurface vibrations and satellite optical sensors that look for above-ground or atmospheric events. "Any significant nuclear explosion, whether it's underground, underwater, in space or in the atmosphere will be detected," said Col. David E.

Cormack, AFTAC's director of operations. Data from a suspected nuclear explosion and collected debris samples are analyzed at AFTAC's Atomic Energy Detection Center laboratories for nuclear identification.

In the event of a suspected explosion, AFTAC's own weather experts would predict the movement of airborne debris from the explosion. Based on such predictions, AFTAC orchestrates aircraft and ground collection of nuclear gas and particle material samples. The samples are analyzed at the Technical Operations Division, McClellan Air Force Base, Calif., the only low-level nuclear radiation laboratory in the Department Of Defense. Throughout the process, AFTAC's findings are reported to national command authorities through Headquarters Air Force. In addition to its headquarters at Patrick Air Force Base, and TOD in California, AFTAC has 14 manned operating

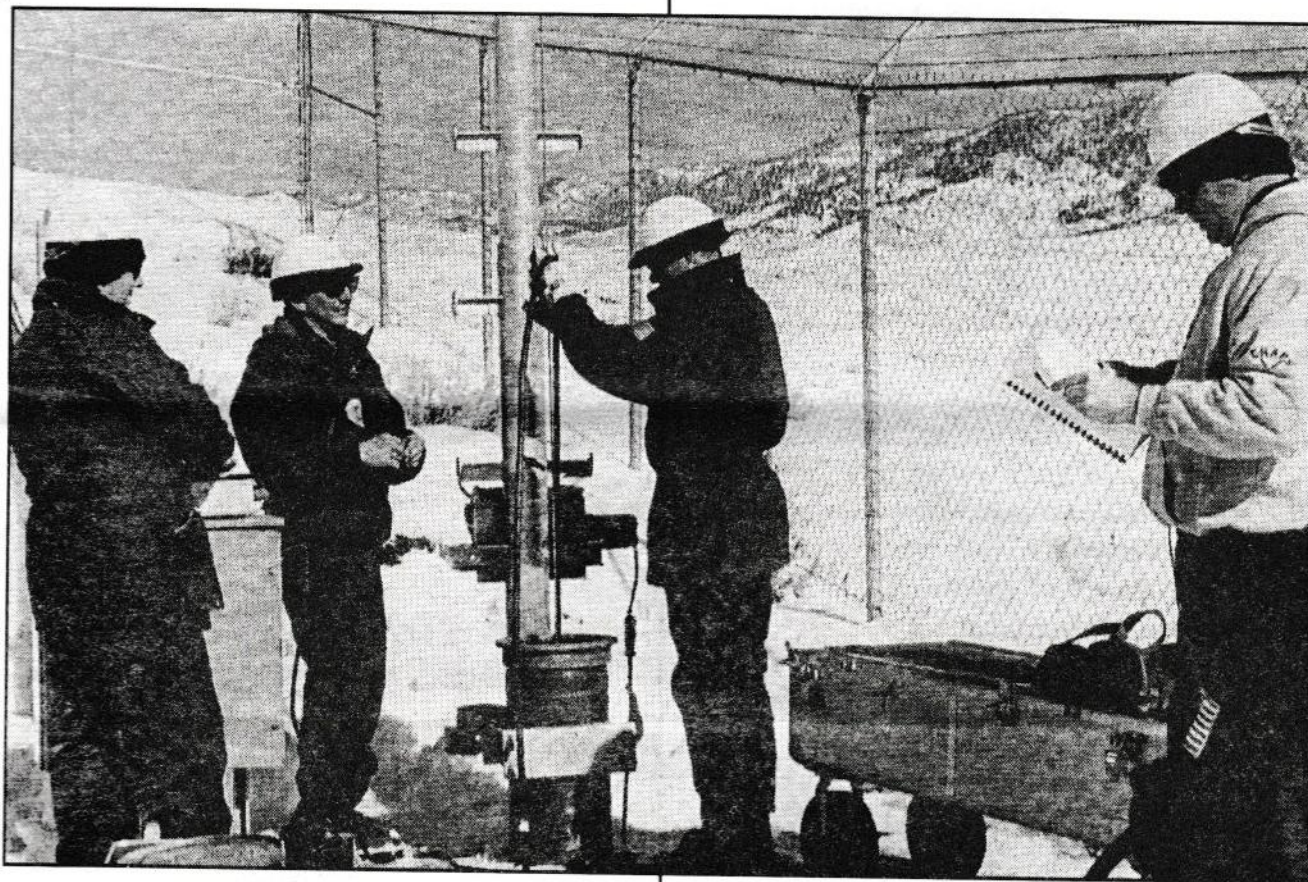


locations and more than 70 equipment locations worldwide.

Nuclear event detection remains the heart of AFTAC's principle mission of monitoring nuclear treaty compliance. AFTAC monitors several important international nuclear treaties to include the Limited Test Ban Treaty, Threshold Test Ban Treaty, and the Peaceful Nuclear Explosion Treaty. The Limited Test Ban Treaty of 1963 prohibits signatory nations from conducting nuclear tests in the

helped develop specialized radiation monitoring equipment and frequently travel to the former Soviet Union as members of the INF teams," Colonel Cormack said.

AFTAC's role in nuclear debris measurements has served the national community well. In January 1978, when a nuclear-powered Russian satellite (COSMOS 954) reentered the earth's atmosphere and crashed over a sparsely populated area of Canada, AFTAC provided the results of collections to the NCA. On another occasion as the world



atmosphere, underwater or in space, and prohibits the venting of test debris outside national borders.

The Threshold Test Ban Treaty of 1974 limits the yield of nuclear weapons to 150 kilotons. The Peaceful Nuclear Explosion Treaty of 1976 governs the use of nuclear weapons outside agreed upon test sites. "More recently we began supporting The On-Site Inspection Agency in verifying compliance with the Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces Treaty and the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty. AFTAC people

watched with horror at the nuclear reactor explosion at Chernobyl, AFTAC provided vital information to Washington, which shared it with a number of allied governments. AFTAC also provides support and information to numerous other organizations to include NASA's manned space flight center for warning of potential radiation hazards to astronauts, to the FAA with information for safe aircraft routing to avoid radiation hazards and to the Air Force Space Command for its mission requirements.

AFTAC is a key player in the proposed Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, which the president has called for signing in September. The CTBT will prohibit the testing of nuclear weapons. In an attempt to set a global example for other states to follow, the U.S. has observed a moratorium on nuclear testing since September 1992.

In order to be effective, a CTBT requires a reliable mechanism to ensure compliance. A verification regime, seen as 'fool proof,' builds international confidence among member states. As envisioned in CTBT planning as part of the international monitoring system, each participating signatory state will develop a national data center and will provide agreed-upon data collected by its own resources to an international data center.

The degree and extent of each nation's participation will depend on the resources expended by each member state. Due to its recognized technical expertise in nuclear treaty-related matters, AFTAC has been selected to establish and man the U.S. NDC. AFTAC is also participating in a "proof of concept" test to further develop the prototype IDC. Although the prototype IDC is in Washington, D.C., the actual IDC, in a CTBT environment, will likely be located in a European capital.

Despite the end of the Cold War, President Bill Clinton and Secretary of Defense William Perry have cited the worldwide proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (nuclear, biological, and chemical) as the principle threat to the national security of the United States.

Over the last 50 years AFTAC has been a key player in the counter-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The United States is now drawing upon its established experience to combat the other two principle threats, chemical and biological weapons.

AFTAC Commander Brig. Gen. (sel.) Glen Shaffer vows, "We'll maintain our current capabilities to identify nuclear threats and will develop new

techniques to protect the United States and its allies from those countries developing other weapons of mass destruction, including chemical or biological weapons."

The mission of the USAEDS is as old as the USAF, dating back to Sept. 16, 1947.

Although the Soviet Union no longer exists and the Berlin Wall has come down, the USAEDS and AFTAC are alive and well, developing new technologies as the U.S. prepares for the challenges of the 21st century.



EVENTS

AFTAC Annual Spring Picnic

April 6, 1996

BCC Pavilion

Wickham Park

Ticket Prices:

Age 11 & Under: Free

Age 12 and above: \$5.00

For Tickets:

Call Mary Welch

(O) 494-6867

(H) 259-0629

or Judy Milam

(O) 494-4587

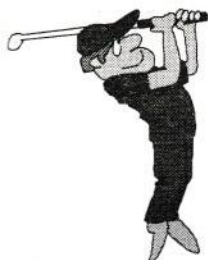
AFTAC Alumni Golf Tournament

May 10, 1996

1:00 p.m.

Baytree National Links

For more information, contact Frank Hall at
773-2430



SHOPPING CENTER

JACKETS

Unlined Windbreakers * \$20.00
Royal Blue - Large and Extra Large

GOLF SHIRTS

Jersey with pocket \$14.00
Blue/Teal - Large and X Large
Royal Blue - Large and XX Large
Navy - Medium and Large
Red - Medium, Large, and X Large

Cotton without pocket \$14.00
White - X Large

Cotton with pocket \$18.00
Medium Blue - Large and X Large

T-SHIRTS \$7.00
Mint Green, Light Blue, Royal Blue, Purple,
and Fucia - Large and X Large
Medium Green, Ash Green, and Red - X-Large

HATS

Mesh \$6.00
Green, Gray, Red, Navy, Royal Blue, Light Blue

Cotton \$5.00
White and Medium Blue *

* These items have white logo: others have
multicolored logo.

Coffee Cup - Ceramic \$6.00

Beer Mug - Plastic \$2.00

Logo Pin \$3.25

Logo Coin, Bronze (members only) \$4.00

Logo Disk - 2 inches round \$5.50

Wooden Nickle \$1.00

Worldwide Directory (Printed) \$25.00
(Choice of cover photo)

Ordering and Shipping Information

Please include \$3.00 to cover shipping and
handling. Logo pins, Wooden Nickles, and Beer
Mugs have no charge for shipping and handling.

Mail your orders to: AFTAC Alumni Association

Attn: Sales Staff

PO Box 254892

Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892