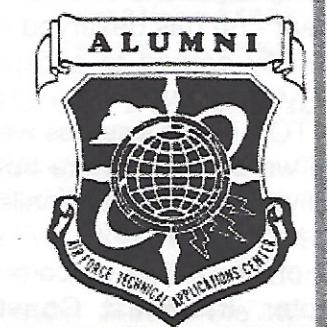


♦ POST - MONITOR ♦

Volume 6 Issue 4

Membership Stands at 712 (436 are Lifetime)

March 1999



The Alumni Anthem
Over the years and at
younger ages ...
GS, E and O were our
gauges

But now we've reached
the best of stages ...
Being one of AFTAC's
SAGES



SUBMITTED BY THE EDITORS

This quarter we Salute an 'old friend' who's closing up shop after serving faithfully for almost 50 years. Oh sure, someone else may - do Assays and Counting, Mass Spectrometry, and know the physics of cryogenics almost as well as the "Gas House Gang"

- be able to look up the parts some lonely technician is waiting for in the cold and get it shipped to them on a Priority 02
- fix that damned equipment that we had to give up on out in the field
- come out and give us a hand when it was just too much to go it alone at the detachment ...but it won't be the same ones who spent "trench time" with us. Many of our best served here, some who wanted to and some who didn't - but we don't know of anyone who wasn't proud of his time and contributions there and better for the experience.

They had to be the best...they were serving the best - a finer group cannot be found. So now we bid farewell to a part of AFTAC...and a very big part, mind you. It is with pride, and a lot of sadness, that we bid a final adieu to the men and women, and yes, the mission and tradition, of the Technical Operations Division, better known to most as the "Lab" or "Depot"... "Ye Served Us Well"

The Big Story

TOD Shuts Down ... Leaves a Rich History

By Lt. Col. Kenneth Denbleyker Assistant to the Commander, TOD

After almost 50 years of superior service, the Technical Operations Division (TOD) on McClellan Air Force Base, CA. will be closing its doors. TOD is the largest subordinate unit of the Air Force Technical Applications Center (AFTAC), headquartered at Patrick Air Force Base, FL.

AFTAC is responsible for monitoring several nuclear test ban treaties by detecting and making positive identifications of nuclear explosions underground, in the atmosphere or in (page 11)



Alumni Alerts-What's Comin' Up

Golf & Get-Together 7 May, 1230, Cocoa Beach

SUBMITTED BY FRANK HALL

Did you enjoy the last golf tournament that we held in October? Well, if you did we have another one that should be better than the last one. We will play on the 7th of May, 1999, at the Cocoa Beach Country Club Golf Course, swinging out at 1230. We will be playing a scramble, or select shot as it is known to many golfers. Recommend that you sign up as a team, but if you cannot find enough players please call in and sign up as single golfers. We will certainly find a team for you to play with.

We are looking at holding it to 144 players and it will be first come, first selected to play. The cost will be \$32.00 for AFTAC Alumni members and \$37.00 for everyone else. (continued on page 3)



Association Honor Roll

Alumni Of The Year Recipients

Frank Hall 1998 - Judy Milam, 1997
 Carl Gailey, 1996 - Clark Creery, 1995

AFTAC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Association was formed in March 1985 and chartered later the next year. It was created to provide a forum for those who wish to maintain an ongoing connection with the organization and its people, both active-duty and retired. Membership is open to current and former employees of all organizations associated with Long Range Detection (LRD) (AFMSW-1, 1009th SWS, AFOAT-1, 1035th FAG, and AFTAC), and any subordinate field detachment.

Florida chapter

Membership dues, \$10 per year (based on FY, 1 Oct.-30 Sep.), payable in Oct., or **\$75 for a life**. You're encouraged to attend scheduled monthly meetings beginning at 5:30pm on the second Monday of each month (verify if coming) at the AFTAC headquarters building (#989) at Patrick AFB., FL. For verification and association information, its meetings or membership, contact **Mary Welch**, (407) 259-0629 or **Judy Milam**, (407) 494-3871 (days) or "jem2415@worldnet.att.net". Dues, membership applications, and other queries/information should be mailed to:

**AFTAC Alumni Association, PO Box 254892
 Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892**

The association provides a quarterly (Mar., Jun., Sep., Dec.) newsletter, "Post-Monitor" (staff data below), name-sake of a previous AFTAC active-duty publication, "Monitor" & a Webpage, "<http://www.csihq.com/aftacalumni>", with association/alumni information, a "Post-Monitor" Sampler, and photos - Webmeisters are **Dave Johnson** and **Mike Black**

"PERENNIALS"

Members who have served on the Florida Chapter board for five or more years

Frank Hall, President/Vice, '89-'98 Judy Milam, Secretary since '89

Mary Welch, Membership, since '91 Carl Gailey - Treasurer since '91

Swede Swansen, publicity, since '93

Colorado chapter

Membership dues are \$5 per year, payable in February; chapter publishes a newsletter, "Echoes," and meets several times a year. For additional information contact Bill Schmied, (303) 367-0625.

West Coast (California) chapter

Formed in 1999, dues are \$5 per year, \$50 for lifetime; for additional information contact **Joe Johnson**, (916)783-8676, email, 'TOD.Alumni@bigfoot.com', mailing address:AFTAC/WFO-1155th-TOD, PO Box 888, North Highlands, CA 95660-0888 They plan to hold regular meetings and social activities, host a webpage and publish a periodic newsletter.

AFTAC and Alumni Honorarium

There are several permanent and ongoing projects representing and honoring AFTAC people and history. Two of these, the "Hall of Heritage" (with information and artifacts) and the Photos/Biographies of Alumni who served AFTAC for 20 plus years, are housed at AFTAC Headquarters, another is an AFTAC display at the Encampment Wyoming Museum.

Your Newsletter Staff

Newsletter Editor(s): John and Chris Horsch

Information/Proofing: Judy Milam, Pat Snyder and Mary Welch

Executive Review: Frank Hall and Carl Gailey

Photographers: Judy Milam (film) and Bob Wiley (digital)

Rovin' Reporter(s): Clark Creery

Publications: Carl Gailey and Swede Swansen

"A TEAM" ...of Horsches'

'58-'87

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING



We want to start with congratulations to **Frank Hall**, our Alumni Of The Year - he has deserved it for some time now and finally agreed to accept this honor.

A lot of rich history about TOD in this issue as we enter the final days - wish we could be there but we will have to count on all your letters and emails to bring us up to speed on how well it went.

While we are on that side of the US, we welcome aboard our newest chapter, the **West Coast (California) AFTAC Alumni Association Chapter**. Planning for the TOD closure/reunion probably spurred this along, but this was one of those "had to be" things what with all those AFTACers and Alumni roaming the California hills and plains. We wish them "good weather and good flying."

You'll find a lot of things "Comin' Up" and "Goin' Down" as you peruse this newsletter - we've got golf, a picnic and a new responsibility...read about them, then help us.

We asked Chief (Ret.) **Bob Jones** to share some memories and he was kind enough to comply...he does have one lapse when he refers to some landscaping work he requested...he continues to refer to this as, in his words, "digging ditches."

Part two of **Mike Gingrich's** Virginia escapades continue...hope he sends us more, and we've got more active-duty information. We believe there is a lot of interest on Alumni's part in knowing "how the old outfit is farin'" so we are trying to have more inputs from our "fightin' forces." We also like to think we are helping to make the Post-Monitor a little more interesting and useful to the active-duty forces that we make our publication available to.

We are also working on what we hope will be a very interesting series of articles, especially poignant as we approach the millennium. We are seeking inputs from previous AFTAC commanders (for whom we have addresses) about their AFTAC tenure. We appreciate the immediate replies we have received from L/Gen (Ret) Clappier, B/Gen's Silliman and Shaffer, and Col's Meisenheimer and Wigington - we look forward to receiving many more replies.

(from page 1) If anyone would like to attend just for the food and awarding of prizes, the cost will be \$7.00 per person. Prizes will be awarded immediately after golf and during dinner at the Cocoa Beach Country Club Pavilion.

Call **Judy Milam** at **494-3871** (through April, Judy retires 3 May) or **Frank Hall** at **773-2430**.

Picnic - 1 May, Wickham Park Pavilion

SUBMITTED BY THE EDITORS

Always a great time...starts around 11am, don't miss it this year. An event where alumni and active cooperate and participate. As usual, we'll draw the beer, so don't think that we're just standin' around the tap and drinkin'...that's work we're doin'. Please call Carol Warfield, 494-2334, AFTAC/CC for ticket today.

The cost (\$4 for adults, \$2 for children) for food and drinks is nominal, there's entertainment and games (horse-shoes, volleyball, etc.) and we'll guarantee you'll meet someone you have not seen for a while if they and you show up.

TOD Inactivation Update

SUBMITTED BY BOB FITZGERALD

AFTAC/WFO-1155th-TOD Reunion

Reservations for the April 8-12th reunion in Sacramento and the TOD Inactivation Ceremonies have been arriving daily. At this time, February 16th, we have about 400 registered to attend the Ceremony and Banquet. (editors note: the following changes arrived too late to apply to readers but are included for information purposes [contact numbers, etc.]) Although the official cut-off date for registrations was Feb 1st, the committee has voted to continue to accept registrations as late as March 25th, provided that anyone sending their registration in after March 3rd contact the committee either by email to 'TOD.Alumni@bigfoot.com' or by phone call to Joe Johnson, 916-783-8676, to let us know you plan to attend. You will still need to follow-up your contact with your registration forms to arrive at our address no later than March 25th. Hotel reservations at the Holiday Inn Hotel Northeast can be accepted right up to the start of the reunion on April 8th. Contact them by calling 1-800-388-9284. Our block of hotel rooms are guaranteed until March 3rd. After that you take your chances. The address for your reunion

registration forms is: AFTAC/WFO-1155th-TOD Reunion P.O. Box 888 North Highlands, CA 95660-0888

California Alumni Assc. Update

SUBMITTED BY BOB FITZGERALD

AFTAC Alumni Assc. - West Coast Chapter

The West Coast Chapter of the Alumni Association has been formed. We already (as of February 16th) have over 50 members that have signed up with their reunion registration forms. At least half of those have signed up as lifetime members. If you would like to join the chapter and are unable to attend the TOD ceremony or reunion, you can still send your check and request to the same address stated above. The dues are: \$5/year or \$50/lifetime. The chapter hopes to have regular meetings & social activities, a periodic newsletter, and hopes to sponsor the next reunion on the West Coast in the year 2005 or 2006. The committee also plans to have a world-wide-web site where photos, people and events can be showcased. Lots of good things are being planned, so don't miss out - plan to join us! On behalf of the committee, Thank You!

Bob We thank you Bob for these two great updates, and good luck to the West Coast Chapter, we'll be including your chapter info in the PoMo

Hall of Heritage Committee Forming

SUBMITTED BY THE EDITORS

At a recent meeting the AFTAC Vice-Commander, Col. **Guttmann**, introduced an idea the Commander wanted to implement, a 'Hall of Heritage' committee. With the retirement of **Mary Welch** the hall lost its primary maintainer and as a result, the commander asked for the alumni's assistance in forming that committee.. This idea was warmly received by your board, not only because it will be another area where we can participate with the active-duty, but also, who better to tend our 'heritage' than those who 'were there.' Tom Niquette volunteered to head up the committee and has already formed a basic core of people. They are in the process of forming ideas and policy at this time and can use as much help as is willing. If you're interested, please let us know.

Alumni Events-What's Gone Down

AFTAC Winter Socializing

NETPICKED FROM THE WEBPAGE'S ACTIVITIES SECTION - CLARK CREEERY

Wonderful event! 347 in attendance and a very nice showing of our Alumni. Our table (23) sported **Carl and Mayme Gailey, Curt and Eunice Harris, Jerry and Terry LaBarre and Jack Jackson** and his guest. We elected Carl as our 'waiter' - (Ya had to be there to understand why!) Also noted that **Leo Orr** was at the function, **Tom and Judy Niquette, Dave Johnson, Joe Goldian, Tony DeMarco, Larry Silhanek** and others I did not get to talk to.

Jack Jackson is quite a dancer to the music "YMCA"! **Col Beatty** can cut a mean rug! How you can get that many folks on a dance floor set for 50 or so still astounds me. We in the Alumni thank AFTAC for a really nice evening and our thanks to the folks, behind the scenes, who put this together and included us. Good Job!

SnowBall I, A Good Time

SUBMITTED BY OUR PRES & ROVIN' REPORTER, CLARK CREEERY

Our thanks to those of you who joined us at the Patrick AFB, NCO Club on 23 January 1999 for 'SnowBall I'. Those who forgot, got busy, could not be bothered, or just did not care, missed a really nice evening. **Chief Myers and Judy Milam** teamed up to organize and manage the event and we send a hearty thanks to each.

I do not intend to list all who attended - you know who you are! Thanks for joining us. **Colonel and Mrs. Beatty** agreed to attend, and with a bit of coaxing by yours truly, consented to give us a few words. AFTAC is changing, the world is changing, and the role that the Alumni Association plays is very important. With the loss of personnel, the streamlining of management and the requirements to work on a lean budget our role in providing continuity is ever increasing. We assist in the preservation of the AFTAC history, we provide a news outlet to our worldwide detachments, and we show that the organization is solid, even after active duty.

Thanks to 'snowbird' suggestions sent to the 'Post-Monitor,' we decided to have an event

following the hectic days of Thanksgiving and Christmas, and at a time when seasonal Floridians could attend, and 'Snowball I' was born - a night to call the Alumni together and give a state of the union message.

Our union is strong and our plans for the future are many. Our call for personnel to assist us with the 'Hall of Heritage' was not what we expected, however, we will see that the job gets done. Our Charter needs a review and an update, our methods that we use to create the WorldWide Directory and the Mini Member Directory needs improved and automated, member billing needs automated, and a host of other menial tasks must be accomplished this year. With the help of the membership we will become even stronger. The support shown during 'Snowball I' is appreciated and we are sure that those who came out had a very nice time.

Winddown II, Another Good One

ANOTHER ARTICLE FROM OUR PRES AND ROVER, CLARK CREEERY

Friday, 5 February 1999 - Outback, AFTAC Headquarters. The site of an Alumni sponsored activity. We alumni arrived to the treat of a new way of retirement. **Chief Gilbert** was in the retirement mode and the active duty folks conned him into pictures in front of the building.

Somewhere in that activity, they managed to tape him to the chair in which he was sitting. Then they carted him to the outback, placed him in a swimming pool (kiddie type) and proceeded to put eggs, sardines, and whip cream inside his flight suit. He did have goggles to prevent any of the stuff from entering his eyes, but in the 20 minutes that I saw him captured, he had stuff all over his bod. They ended by cutting him loose from the chair and giving him a good hose down with firehoses. Now if this is not a novel way to retire, I just do not know what is?

The winddown was a success. We had a really good showing from the alumni (excuse me if I miss someone) **Hall, Johnson, Silhanek, Gailey, Harris, VanDyck, DeMarco**, and others that I apologize for not talking to.

Pizza and brewski went well, and the Commander made a wonderful speech. Our thanks to **Ken Myers** who set up this whole thing...we understand how it goes when you order that

many Pizza's from a local source.

For those of you who just do not want to come out to enjoy the festivities, meet folks, and share the present and the past, we hope you will reconsider. It is fun and it is rather nice to remake old friends, establish new ones and see just what is going on.

We made a pitch to the active folks telling them that an alumni was not really a retired person, just relocated. They should join us and become a part of our organization, because one day - they too would be older and retired or away from the organization. We do not discriminate!

All in all, the event went very well and we look forward to the next one. Watch for it...

AFTAC Annual Awards Banquet

BY OUR PRES AND ROVIN' REPORTER, CLARK CREEERY/PHOTO, BOB WILEY

Dateline 11 March **Franklin D. Hall** was honored



Col. Harold J. Beatty
Frank Hall
Clark Creery

tonight by the AFTAC Command at the NCO Club, Patrick AFB, Florida. Frank, the foundation of our AFTAC Alumni Association, was the recipient of the 1998 Alumni of the Year.

(active-duty awards noted on page 11 in this issue) This award has been long coming and it is Col. (Retired) Frank Hall who is primarily responsible for the reactivation of the modern day association. We won't belabor you with all his involvement-if you know him, read the newsletters, talk to folks, you know what he has done. Above and Beyond has been his motto and we thank him for his service. Col. Harold J. Beatty (AFTAC CC) opened the evening with a welcome, our own Senior Enlisted Advisor (Ret.) (John Horsch) conducted the ceremony for the POW/MIA personnel still "out there" but not forgotten, and the High Flight Band provided entertainment music for the evening. The ceremony was a tribute to all of the Committee Members who gave of their time to make it a precise military event. The Alumni wishes to thank those from that committee, the personnel from the Club, the NCO's and Officer's who gave of their time and all the awardees for a night to remember. Colonel Beatty closed with three words:

"People-People-People!"

(completed on page 14, right column)

REMEMBER

AFTAC HISTORY BY THOSE WHO WERE THERE...

PREPARED FROM YOUR INPUTS. We solicit your unclassified remembrances of highlights in your AFTAC career (events, people, etc.). Forward these memories to us at "chrisjohn@juno.com" or ATTN: Remembrance column to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2) - we will publish them as soon as we can. Thanks

This issue we hear from an early trooper...a person several of us "grew up under." Come along as he remembers, at our request, and relates what it was like to be in AFTAC in the early fifties. Chief (Ret) **Bob Jones** was in the AF from Mar '51 to Aug '75. While he was not in the first group of AFTAC Chiefs (as he told us..."the first ones I know of were **Bob Fernandes** and **Eugene Dunn**. I came a long time after that. I was notified in Dec '69 and pinned them on Aug '70. I was in the third group to come into the 1009th - **Charlie Butler**, **Ed Gardiner**, **Bob Fernandes**, etc., were in the first group, **Joe Johnson** was in the second group and **Frank Winter** and I were in the third group of 12 airmen. I think Joe's group was the big one, about 60 came in when he did.")

SUBMITTED BY ROBERT JONES, ONE OF AFTAC'S EARLY CHIEFS

Hi, hope this finds you all well. I have done a lot of remembering but couldn't come up with any "stories." Hope the following will do -

I remember it all started with a so called Radiological Equipment Operator Tech Crse at Keesler AFB in Jan 52. Another name for GFU. After that it was on to Splinter City (WFO) where the terms pig, papers, counters etc were everyday words. Then onto St Louis University for a summer semester where we learned about p and s waves, Benioff's etc.

Next came tent city at Ft Sill where we learned about tent living and Army chow. Finally to a Det (301) where we climbed poles, sat in vaults and listened for 1 -2- 3 snatch sometimes all day long. Also learned how to snow shoe into work from the main road.

Then onto the Wyo experience (142) where sno cat became a winter word and the Cowboy Bar was the only gathering place in town. Next was the Hq experience with TDY's to almost everywhere. Then back to Wyo (162), a bigger town but with the same Cowboy Bar and much ado about elk, deer and antelope. The place where a future AFTAC SEA baby sat for us, and for whatever reason, he also learned to dig ditches there?? Next came the Field Office experience (EFO) where there

were more TDYs to places like Aust., and about every Island in the Pacific - and of course couldn't forget Saigon Apt on the way to CMai. Next came another few years at HQ and more TDY's. Then to the north country (Det 207) and who could forget 'Black Dog', our three legged guard dog. Had to be chained whenever we had visitors from Generals on down - but played with our kids. Then back to HQ in VA and the move to FL and then on to Retirement in '75.

Most of all I remember the people that made and make an outfit such as AFTAC. For most of us it wasn't just a job but a way of life. The outfit was a family and almost everyone knew each other and shared in each others lives. There was never a place you went where you didn't know someone who made you feel at home. There was always a togetherness that carries on through the current Alumni associations and each of us feel a sense of pride for the outfit and especially for the people who made it all possible.

Thank you Bob...we know this is something you wrote only because we asked you for it. You help us all realize that AFTAC does go back a ways...and that it has always asked unique things of unique people..



WHERE ARE YA?!!!

PREPARED FROM YOUR INPUTS. Where, through this newsletter or through more direct contact, we attempt to get you, the alumni reader, to let us know "where ya are" and "what'cha been doin" - contact info, page two

Xenia, OH

12/10/98

I am a former member (military) of the 1009th SWS. I was assigned to the lab at McClellan from Dec 1950 to March 1956 and then to the lab at Det 407 from March 1956 to April 1959. I would like to make contact with anyone who was also assigned to these labs at these time who may remember me. Thanks.

Robert E. Thompson (Lt. Col. USAF Ret.), 1351 Eagle's Way, Xenia OH 45385, Ph (937)372-0850 good luck Robert...if you have access to the internet it might also be useful to go to the Association Webpage and use those resources for finding past associates.

Kalispell, MT

2/99

Hi, I need to send you my new address as I've left Alaska and settled into Montana I enjoy reading the Alumni Newsletter.

If any of my AFTAC friends come to Glacier

National Park stop by or give me a call. 219 W. Nicklaus, Zip 59901, Ph. (406) 257-3514.

Duane Bracken Good to hear from you Duane, thanks for your readership and your update...Duane also wrote of his memories of Mike Pennefather, please see "Alumni to Remember" section

Cyberspace

1/27

It is a really nice day up here in Joplin, Missouri, for a January, Cloudy and some where in the 60's. This has been a rather strange month. We've had a lot more really nice days than wintry ones although we have had a couple of rather severe ice storms which lasted less than a week each and about a 4" snow which lasted about 3 days.

For old folks, we're doing about average, whatever that means. Of course I'm retired but Verna says a house wife's job is never done so she is still keeping the homefront going. In a sense we've managed to stay busy although it's a change where your goals and accomplishments are quite different.

I finally have gotten up on the net and I checked my name on the data base which is part of the alumni's web page and it has my address incorrect but I didn't try to change it or add my name again with the correct address. You are probably not the folks to lay this on but perhaps you can point me in the right direction. My address is, Donald R Mosley, 3334 Garrison Ave, Joplin, MO 64804-4330, and email address is: dayraymos@janics.com

If perchance you run into Shaw tell him he might be interested in a recently published book with the title "Blind Man's Bluff" which is about submarines and their spying for the most part. You folks may also be interested in it. It is a \$25 book so you may want to check it out of a library. I don't recall the authors names.

You folks take care and if we don't hear from you, I'll assume its taken care of and we are planning on going to Sacramento. Thanks,

Don Mosley

Don, we will not admit whether we see Shaw or not...would you? But we do know Carol sometimes reads the Post-Monitor to him, so he will probably get to hear about this. and you know him, he should hear this from you - you know how an O troop would never listen to a B troop about something like this anyway.

A BARELY SUBSTANTIATED (BS) TALE!

PREPARED FROM YOUR INPUTS. We solicit unclassified humorous stories about AFTAC events and people - recognizing these anecdotes may be Barely Substantiated (BS). Forward your stories to us at "chrisjohn@juno.com" or ATTN: BS column to the Alumni Address (see left column, page 2) - we will publish as soon as we can. Thanks



Charles E "Mike" Gingrich (AFTAC HQ, 1965-69) was ambitious enough to send us two tales, and then kind enough to allow them to be published in separate issues - his first appeared in the December issue - his second follows. As a "heads-up," we've got great BS continuing in the next issue. **Frank Liberatori** (MCL 1965-1970) passes on a tale of "Poison Gas," stay tuned, and give us your BS, AFTAC has great story tellers, and we'd like to hear from all of them...

Dog Tag Day

SUBMITTED BY MIKE GINGRICH

In late 1965 or early 1966, there were about five or six of us Lieutenants and junior Captains situated in the same bullpen in the TD-3 Ionospheric Division. We were the Phenomenology group for the U, W, V, T, E, Z, and H Techniques. Most of us were either master degreed electrical engineers or physicists by academic background, and most had experienced a previous operational assignment in the "real Air Force," which may have given us a somewhat warped outlook. There was one mathematician, Newby, a second lieutenant, who had recently joined us, coming directly from a large mid-western campus upon completion of his Ph.D. coursework. In getting to know Newby, we found he had been commissioned several years earlier through ROTC, but had gone directly to grad school. His only military possession was the standard Air Force ID card. He had never had any military orientation. He had no uniforms. He had received no shots, he had no medical records. Nothing! He had been plunked into the middle of our culture as if he had been a civilian hi-jacked off the street. Well, we helped the Newby find uniforms, coached him on the various military nuances and customs he had to know, and got him started toward being a productive AFTACer.

Sometime later, one of the guys who was to go flying later that day, had his dog tags laying

on his desk. Newby spotted them and asked what they were. When told they were dog tags, he said he had never seen any before. We were incredulous. "My gosh, everyone in the military has dog tags." "Not me," Newby responded. One quick thinker in the office then asked him "What in the world are you going to do on Dog Tag Day?" "What's that?" he asked. Quick thinker responded that Dog Tag Day is the day each year when the First Sergeant comes around to inspect each individual's dog tags and dosimeter, and it happens to be coming up next Monday. We then had to explain what dosimeters were. "If you don't have your dog tags here and up to date, you're in deep kimchee, and it reflects on your OER." By this time Newby was panic stricken, and the rest of us had great difficulties in keeping a straight face. And we, in our perversity, eagerly awaited Monday.

Meanwhile, one of our softer-hearted cohorts went to see the First Shirt, and told him of Newby's background and predicament, and how he believed the wild tale about Dog Tag Day. The Shirt responded that he'd see what he could do about the situation.

Monday morning arrived. Everyone in the office had his dog tags prominently displayed upon his desk ... except Newby, who was remaining unto himself and was very subdued. The office door opened and in came the First Shirt: "Dog-Tag Day, Gentlemen." He went from desk to desk, inspecting every dog tag, and muttered approval with each. Finally he approached Newby, who was squirming in his chair. "I don't have any dog tags Sergeant," Newby croaked. "You don't have any dog-tags?" the Shirt repeated loudly, punctuating his exclamation with a pregnant pause... "What do you think these are?" as he laid a brand new set of properly made up dog tags on Newby's desk. After everyone recovered from their mirth, we took Newby to lunch and promised him no more practical jokes at his expense, and pointed out the prime military lesson of the day: a good sergeant can solve any problem!

MONITORing Active-

Duty Doings' prepared by the editors from your inputs sent in from around the AFTAC World

Command Section



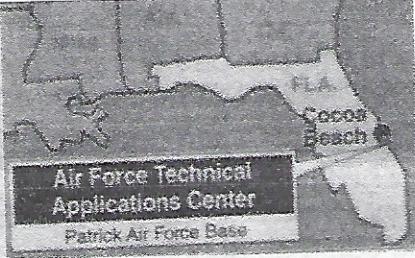
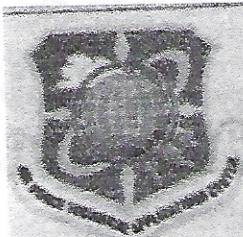
Col. Harold J.
Beatty

AFTAC Commander, 7/98, previously at Shaw AFB where he was the Chief of Intelligence for the US Central Command Air Forces and commander of the 609th Air Intelligence Group, received commission upon graduation from Officers Training School (distinguished graduate) in 1980. He is a native of Bonny Blue, VA, his wife Diane is from Quebec, Canada - they have two children Matthew and Melanie.



CMSgt Kenneth
Myers

AFTAC Superintendent, 11/98, a 20-year AFTACer, he enlisted 3/79, trained as a scientific measurements technician and is a Distinguished Graduate from all three AF NCO Leadership schools. He has been the AF Intelligence Command Senior NCO of the Year twice, '91 and '93. He served at Dets 301, 415, 421, and in the HQs with DO, CC, TT, TA, LS. Chief Myers is from Doylestown, PA - he has two children, Douglas and Melissa and is engaged to Ms. Heather Miller from Melbourne, Florida



The following article is reprinted from a 12/98 AF Times column, "Transitions, Air Force Snapshot", research by staff writer Bryant Jordan

Air Force Technical Applications Center

Patrick AFB, FL

Mission: Long-range detection of nuclear weapons and technology.

Operations: The Center operates the US Atomic Energy Detection System. Its network of sensors monitors foreign nuclear tests and compliance with various international nuclear treaties. It is the Defense Departments only agency for monitoring nuclear testing and the proliferation of nuclear technology. If its sensors detect a nuclear explosion-whether on Earth or in space-the center's analysis laboratories try to identify the explosions characteristics and source, reporting findings to Air Force headquarters. The detection systems are used to monitor compliance with several nuclear treaties, including the 1963 Limited Test Ban Treaty, prohibiting all but under-

ground nuclear testing and stopping countries from venting radiation into the atmosphere beyond their borders

Top Leaders: Col. Harold Beatty, commander; Col. Paul Guttman, vice commander; Chief Master Sgt. Ken Myers, superintendent; David O'Brien, chief scientist; Frank Pilote, technical director, treaty monitoring; Charles McBrearty, director, materials technology; Col. David Trask, director measurement and intelligence technology development office; Col. Richard Garr, director, advance technologies; Col. Charles Bohn, director, operations; Col. Edward Gorczyca, director, logistics; Col. Boyd Lease, director, plans and programs.

Personnel: 166 officers; 586 enlisted member and 134 civilians

History: Two years after the first nuclear bomb was dropped on Japan, Gen. Dwight Eisenhower directed the Army Air Forces to develop the means to detect atomic explosions worldwide. It was a timely order, for just two years later - and about five years earlier than predicted - the Soviet Union conducted its first nuclear explosion. The test was detected by a specially equipped Air Force B-29 flying between Alaska and Japan. Long-range detection was carried out by several units over the next 10 years, with responsibility eventually falling to the 1035th Field Activities Group in Washington D.C. The group was redesignated the Air Force Technical Applications Center in July 1959.

What's next? The center's mission is expanding with the progress of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, which - once ratified - will ban nuclear testing by countries that agree to it. The center is the U.S. lead for developing an international cooperative system for monitoring the treaty's terms. Toward that end, it will be installing up to 20 seismic arrays worldwide by 2001, along with two hydroacoustic arrays, a network of infrasonic arrays and a string of radionuclide collection sites to detect geologic, sonic and radioactive signs of nuclear explosions.

AFTAC was also mentioned in the local Brevard County paper, Florida Today, on 1/10/99, when they covered tenant units at Patrick...

Patrick's units bring more than space to Base - Local forces also detect nuclear test, detonations

By John McCarthy Florida Today

Mention Patrick Air Force Base and most people likely will think of one thing: space. While the base is rightly known for its major tenant, the 45th Space Wing, other units at the base employ hundreds of people in jobs not related to space, such as monitoring the detonation of nuclear weapons, improving race relations in the armed services and test firing Navy ballistic missiles. Perhaps the least-known unit at the base, the Air Force Technical Applications Center, is the one that has the widest reach globally.

AFTAC, as it is commonly referred to at the base, is the Department of Defense agency responsible for monitoring the detonation of nuclear weapons worldwide. The unit accomplishes this through the U.S. Atomic Energy Detection System, a global network of nuclear explosion detection sensors, including 14 manned and 70 unmanned sites. The sensors monitor seismic activity, ocean disturbances and atmospheric radiation. When the system detects an explosion, which can occur underground, underwater, in the atmosphere or in space, AFTAC analyzes the data collected by the system. AFTAC reports its findings to senior military officials in Washington.

David O'Brien, chief scientist for AFTAC, said the unit operates "24 hours a day, 365 days a year." AFTAC was put to the test last year when India and Pakistan unexpectedly conducted a series of underground nuclear explosions. O'Brien said it was AFTAC's job to detect such detonations. "We accomplished that mission, we detected those explosions."

O'Brien said the India-Pakistan tests were the first such explosions in several years.

Though AFTAC has been at Patrick for more than 25 years, much of that time it was cloaked in secrecy. In recent years, though, with the end of the Cold War and the advent of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty,

AFTAC has become more public about its mission, though much of its technical capabilities remain classified. More than 140 nations have signed the treaty, which calls for the end of all nuclear testing. Though President Clinton has signed the treaty, the U.S. Senate has yet to ratify it.

AFTAC's home is a familiar landmark on the West Side of State Road A1A, just across the street from Patrick's Officers club. (Editors-actually the NCO Club) About 900 people are assigned to AFTAC, with about 500 of those stationed at Patrick. O'Brien said the people working at AFTAC are "very, very technically oriented," with a high number of them holding advanced degrees.

AFTAC Honors Pearl Harbor Vets

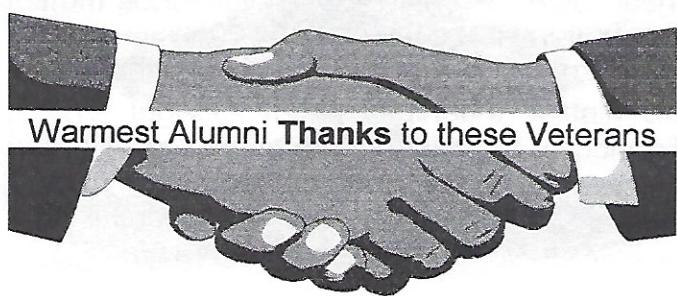
submitted by the editors, from PAFB Mis-siller article by MSgt Ronald Hyink, AFTAC Public Affairs

AFTAC held its 4th annual Pearl Harbor Day Cere-

mony on the James A. Jones renders a salute during the ceremony.

Honor Guard fold flag during the ceremony.

mony on the James A. Jones renders a salute during the ceremony. steps Dec. 4 to honor the men and women who served in Hawaii during the infamous attack. More than 200 military members and 50 Pearl Harbor veterans and family members attended the ceremony. The guest speaker, retired AF Col. **John Boyle**, shared his life. Boyle was a member of the 7th Weather Detachment at Hickham Field, HI, at the time of the attack. AFTAC Commander Col. **Harold Beatty** also presented an American flag flown over the USS Arizona to **Ralph Landreth**, who was stationed aboard the USS Arizona that fateful morning



Warmest Alumni Thanks to these Veterans



Congratulations!!



SENT BY CLARK CREEERY **AFTAC ANNUAL AWARDS, 1998**

AFTAC Outstanding Intelligence Awards

Senior Level Civilian Category - Ms. Doris A. Bruner, AFTAC
 Enlisted Contributor Category - TSgt Gregory E. Kidd, AFTAC
 Senior NCO Category - SMSgt Paul H. Weseloh, AFTAC
 Officer Contributor Category - Capt Jeffrey P. Leeder, AFTAC
 Officer Category - Capt Daniel F. Gifford, AFTAC

AFTAC Information Professionalism Awards

Airman Category - SrA Dennis H. L. Viernes, TOD
 NCO Category - TSgt John A. Archer, AFTAC
 Senior NCO Category - MSgt Yvette Cartagena, AFTAC

AFTAC Communications Professionalism Awards

Airman Category - SSgt Paul A. Bishop, AFTAC
 NCO Category - SSgt Roxanne L. Krebs, AFTAC
 Senior NCO Category - MSgt Frederick McClain, AFTAC
 Company Grade Officer Category - 1Lt Marc L. Packler, AFTAC

AFTAC Outstanding Supply Personnel Awards

Junior Supply Technician Category - SrA Christopher P. Martin, TOD
 Senior Supply Technician Category - TSgt Richard F. Robertson, TOD
 Supply Superintendent Category - MSgt Beverly J. Weiser, TOD

AFTAC Applied Sciences (AS) Personnel Awards

AS Specialist of the Year - SrA Kevin A. Carter, TOD
 AS Technician of the year - TSgt Stephen D. Rice, OL CW
 AS Manager of the Year - MSgt Kevin P. Rummels, Det 319

AFTAC Applied Geophysics (AG) Personnel Awards

AG Specialist of the Year - SeA Kevin P. Rohde, Det 460
 AG Technician of the Year - TSgt Otis G. McDaniel, HQ AIA
 AG Manager of the Year - SMSgt Dennis A. Kauffmann, AFTAC

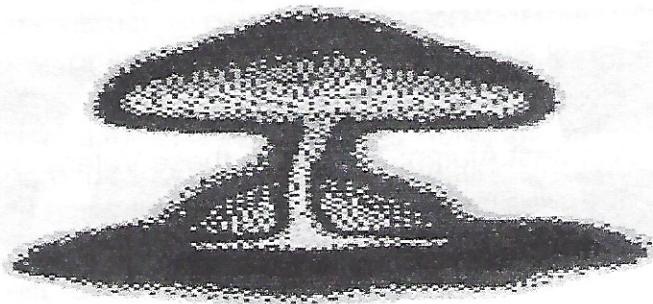
AFTAC Outstanding Civilian/Military Personnel Awards

Resource Advisor of the Year - Capt James S. Wilson, AFTAC
 First Sergeant of the Year - MSgt Dennis F. Gilroy, AFTAC
 Airman of the Year - SSgt Paul A. Bishop, AFTAC
 NCO of the Year - TSgt Douglas F. Snyder, AFTAC
 Senior NCO of the Year - MSgt Theodore Noonchester, TOD
 Company Grade Officer of the Year - Capt Matthew P. Murdough, TOD
 Junior Civilian of the Year - Ms. Olga Jean Poulin, AFTAC
 Mid-level Civilian of the Year - Ms. Terry L. Jackson, AFTAC
 Senior Level Civilian of the Year - Ms. Doris A. Bruner, AFTAC
 Alumnus of the Year - Mr. Frank D. Hall, AFTAC

HQ AFTAC Annual Award Winners:

Airman - Senior Airman Paul Bishop/LS
 NCO - TSgt. Doug Snyder/LS
 Senior NCO - SMSgt. Dennis Kauffmann/DO
 Company Grade Officer - Capt. Doug McCobb/DO

We Alumni members sincerely appreciate the tradition of excellence you pre-sages carry on...thank you all for your efforts, ideas and actions that brought you this recognition. All awards, (except the "HQ AFTAC" awards above) were presented at the AFTAC Annual Awards Banquet on March 11th - see story on page 5.



Command Update

Wherein we ask AFTAC Active-Duty personnel to bring us up-to-date on duties and mission areas - in this issue we hear from the Command Section and the AFTAC Superintendent (and our Alumni Association Activities Chairman) CMSgt Ken Myers

Just like you hear about in political circles, I've been in office now for 100 days. The office I'm referring to is AFTAC Superintendent (Senior Enlisted Advisor may be a term you are more used to hearing). Chief Silhanek retired on 30 Nov after 30 years in the service and I've been on the go since. Luckily, I've had 20 years of AFTAC experience getting prepared for this position.

I have a few themes and goals that I bring with me to this new job. Teamwork is at the top of the list. My leadership style has been to work with people, try and promote unit esprit-de-corps, and motivate people to work together. I will be teaming with the commander, command staff, AFTAC's senior staff, and the base leadership in trying to improve teamwork throughout our worldwide organization.

On the enlisted side, 1 Oct 98 saw the rebirth of the 9S100 career field (9S100 and 9S200 merged into one). Our new name is Technical Applications Specialist and for the first time in our history a 9S Career Field Educational Training Plan (roadmap for a career field) is being published as you read this. 488 9S personnel are now in 4 major commands, several joint commands, and soon to be in several numbered Air Forces. At the same time, all our assignments are now being advertised/made by the Air Force Personnel Center via the Equal/Equal Plus system. This aligns our career field along with the rest in the Air Force.

At Patrick, AFTAC has now joined the 45th Space Wing in their monthly NCO promotion ceremony at the NCO Club. This is a continued step in trying to integrate programs and have a "one team-one fight" attitude on the Space Coast.

As an alumni you know what missions we performed in the past, you know what kinds of conditions you were asked to work in, and you know how the force always rose to meet the challenge. (continued on page 14, right column)

TOD COMMEMORATION AND REUNION

AFTAC Alumni Association, Florida Chapter

11 ♦

The Big Story^(from page one)

space. In addition, AFTAC provides direct support to the International Atomic Energy Agency with an enhanced safeguards inspections program to monitor nuclear proliferation activities in Non-Proliferation Treaty signatory states. To meet its responsibilities TOD supports the operation of the U.S. Atomic Energy Detection System (USAEDS), a network of sensors and environmental samplers, nuclear debris sampling aircraft, and an analytical laboratory system, which collect and identify indicators of foreign nuclear tests. TOD traces its history to 1948 when AFTAC's predecessor, the 1009th Special Weapons Squadron deployed personnel to McClellan to work with the 55th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron in flying nuclear debris sampling missions with WB-29 and WB-50 aircraft. This proved invaluable when an AFTAC sensor aboard a B-29 aircraft lying between Alaska and Japan detected debris from the first Soviet atomic weapon test in September 1949. The detection was even more noteworthy considering that most experts had predicted that the USSR's first atomic test would not occur until the 1951-53 time frame.

In 1950, a permanent extension of the 1009th SWS, called the Western Field Office, was created at McClellan, marking the beginning of TOD as an Air Force unit. With the signing of the Limited Test Ban Treaty of 1963, the 1155th Technical Operations Squadron (renamed from the Western Field Office in 1960) reached its peak strength of 1,500 personnel.

By the late 1970s, technology allowed redundant systems to be phased out, and the squadron's manpower reached a level of a little more than 400. However, because of the increased complexity and importance of the McClellan-based mission, the Air Force upgraded the unit to a named division in 1984, with its present designation, Technical Operations Division.

The division consists of an analytical laboratory, a logistics depot, and a mission support unit. The analytical laboratory, McClellan Central Laboratory, has really been four distinct laboratories running three national programs support-

ing nuclear treaty monitoring and research and development of systems to detect evidence of weapons of mass destruction.

The Applied Physics Laboratory is responsible for analysis of particulate matter using mass spectrometers, optical and electron microscopy, and other microanalytical techniques. An electron microprobe is used to take "photographs" of particles for topographical information and to perform elemental analysis. Using this instrument, technicians can identify particles one-tenth the diameter of a human hair. Subsequent analysis is performed on a Thermal Ionization Mass Spectrometer to determine the isotopic composition. Machine alignment and operating parameters are critical and require operators to have extensive technical knowledge and dedication.

The Gas Analysis Laboratory is responsible for the separation, purification, and quantification of gases from air samples, which are collected by ground samplers. A gas chromatograph is used to extract a small amount of an air sample to determine its contents. Once this sample is verified, the Microprocessor Automated Chromatographic System is used to separate the key components, which are then loaded into the apparatus to accurately measure their volume and radioactivity.

The Applied Chemistry Laboratory has recently transferred its mission to Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) and the British Oxygen Corporation (BOC). Technicians at LANL are now responsible for processing filter paper samples from ground samplers, as well as airborne filters on WC-135 aircraft, both of which collect nuclear debris released during foreign nuclear weapons tests. The filters are measured for radioactivity on a gamma spectrometer, which can indicate that a nuclear test has occurred, and may differentiate these debris from accidental reactor releases. BOC operators process gaseous debris from possible nuclear weapons tests.

The logistics depot engineers sustain USAEDS equipment worldwide. Their responsibilities include systems and item management to ensure proper levels of systems and spares are available at a moment's notice. The Engineer-

ing and Maintenance Division provides a depot-level repair facility for the field's air and particle samplers, and equipment used on the WC-135 aircraft. They also maintain McClellan Central Laboratory's analytical equipment. This depot-level support function is presently undergoing mission transfer to the CPSG organization at Kelly AFB TX. In 1996, TOD's depot maintainers won the Air Force's Outstanding Small Depot of the Year Award.

TOD's Supply serves not only TOD but all of AFTAC's detachments worldwide. These folks handle everything from managing supply contracts to stocking over 9000 equipment items valued at more than \$50 million. "A lot of our orders are critical," says Master Sgt. Mike Baken, deputy chief of Supply. "The detachments depend solely on us since they generally aren't supported by a local Air Force base." TOD won an Air Force-level Supply Effectiveness Award and secured two Major Command-level awards in 1996 and 1997.

The Mission Resources and Systems Directorate provides computer and communication services, as well as contracting, budget, information management, security, and facilities management. They maintain not only a Local Area Network, but also a large mainframe critical to supplying mission data to TOD customers.

TOD's people possess a wide range of technical expertise. Many hold graduate degrees in chemistry, physics, nuclear engineering, computer science, and electronics engineering. Complementing this impressive scientific capability is an experienced and talented operational force supported by a skilled, hand-picked group of technicians. The division is a recipient of eight Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards between 1961 and 1982 and six Air Force Organizational Excellence Awards between 1984 and 1998.

Because of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission decision to close McClellan, TOD's mission will transition by outsourcing laboratory operations to the commercial sector and other government laboratories, and by transferring logistics operations to Patrick Air Force Base and Lackland Air Force Base,

Texas.

Although TOD will be officially inactivated as an Air Force unit Sept. 30, an inactivation ceremony is planned for April 9 at 9 a.m. in the Coast Guard Hangar, McClellan AFB. The ceremony will be followed by an open house at Building 1080. The theme for the scheduled events will be "A Heritage Remembered" and will focus on the history of the unit and those who served proudly. Although TOD is inactivating, its missions will be carried on by AFTAC, other Air Force and government organizations, and contractors - unit members are scheduled to leave by 13 August 1999.



TOD's "new" facility, the Irving J. Russell Building

And now, a brief synopsis of the planned events recognizing this momentous occasion follow - complete information was provided in a separate mailing and in the September '98 Post-Monitor.

A TIME FOR REMEMBERING

WFO-1155th-TOD alumni are planning a reunion for everyone, active duty and retired, who has ever served anywhere under the 1009th Special Weapons Sqdn., 1035th FAG, AFOAT-1, AFTAC or any of the Squadrons or Field Units. Put April 8-11, 1999, on your calendar.

The reunion committee is working hard to make this a truly memorable event worthy of the ending of a historic era, which many of us will never forget. The committee is making plans in such a way as to allow time for everyone to really enjoy their short time together here in Sacramento.

I urge all to come and see the current TOD operation. Those that are only familiar with the operations at Building 628 will be impressed by the current facilities in the Irving J. Russell building.

A last thought: none of us is getting any younger. Come visit with old friends now, lest St. Peter be your host.

by Joe Johnson, Committee Chairperson

Wed, 4/7/99, Registration , Holiday Inn Northeast

Thu, 4/8/99, Golf Tournament

Thu, 4/8/99, Cocktail Buffet Party

Fri, 4/9/99, TOD Closing Ceremony and Reception

Fri, 4/9/99, Tour of McClellan Air Museum

Fri, 4/9/99, Banquet Dinner/Dance

Sat, 4/10/99, Tour of Old Sacramento

Sun, 4/11/99, Farewell Buffet

CLARK'S

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATIONS

REMARKS

 Our year has begun with a bang! AFTAC has asked us to become a permanent part of the "Hall of Heritage" Committee and my personal thanks go out to Colonels **Tom Niquette** and **Frank Hall**. They will ensure that we approach this project like starting a detachment and the results will be professional.

At our staff meetings we continue to monitor our finances, look at mailing costs, discuss ways to enhance our products to each of you and manage the Association in a manner that supports each of you.

We were pleasantly impressed with the Active Duty Christmas Party and thank them for including us in the festivities. That act will be tough to follow!

We saw the retirement of Chief **Silhanek** and welcome Chief **Ken Myers** as the new superintendent.

We are actively working on a more automated billing and label processing system so we can ensure that the data we have on each of you is up-to-the-minute. Thanks to **Dave Johnson** and **Mike Black**, those of you who change data on the Alumni Webpage now have that data transmitted automatically to **Carl Gailey** who maintains our database.

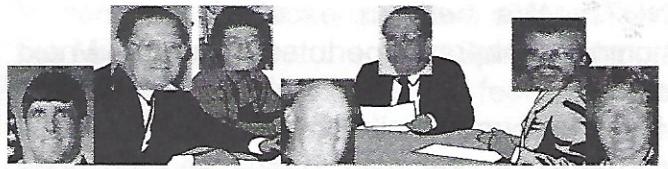
As we dive into the future and follow the mode of electronic communication I envision a time when you may get your newsletter via e-mail or electronic notice. This would potentially save us postage dollars and possibly give you current information at a faster rate. Currently, this is under study!

This year we will have to look at our Constitution and By-Laws to ensure that we operate within the bounds of regulations and assure that we are doing what we have said we will do.

Another golf tournament is in the works, the

California reunion is in full swing (our hats off to those folks), and we will see California becoming an Alumni Chapter.

We have grown, we continue to grow, and the credit goes to each of you. Without your support I would not be able to give this glowing accolade as we prepare to enter a new millennium. Thanks and keep us informed!



Ken Carl Judy Tom Clark Joe Swede

BOARD MEETINGS

Alumni Association Board Members

Elected

President-Clark Creery
Secretary-Judy Milam

Vice-Joe Goldian
Treasurer-Carl Gailey

Membership-Mary Welch
Activities-Ken Myers

Appointed
Heritage Hall Chairman-Tom Niquette
Publicity-Swede Swansen

A Few Minutes from the Minutes

SUBMITTED BY OUR SECRETARY, JUDY MILAM

December 1998 to February 1999

The Alumni Association will team with active duty AFTAC personnel to maintain the AFTAC Hall of Heritage. With the recent retirement of the active duty person who maintained the Hall of Heritage, there is concern about future maintenance and the ability to keep the hall current, while ensuring that all eras and systems are represented and the displays are not duplicated. Alumni Association volunteers will be granted access to the building and will be given workspace for the project. Col. (Ret.) **Tom Niquette** will head the Alumni contingent of volunteers. They will work closely with the AFTAC History Office.

We voted to allow publication of the POST MONITOR on our Homepage when the issue is over a year old.

Col. (Ret.) **Frank Hall** was chosen to receive the Alumni of the Year award this year; the award will be presented at the annual AFTAC awards banquet on 11 March.

Brochures were provided to the AFTAC orderly room to introduce outgoing AFTAC per-

sonnel to the Alumni Association. A special introductory offer is available to new Alumni members to join the Association for 3 years for the price of 2 years (\$20).

The Alumni Association sponsored the AFTAC Wind-Down on 5 February. This is a regularly scheduled get-together of AFTAC personnel at the Outback behind the HQ building on the first Friday of the month. (NOTE: We had an excellent turn-out of Alumni members; hope to see you at the next one.)

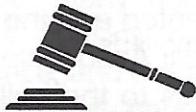
Plans are underway for the next Alumni golf tournament to be held 7 May at the Cocoa Beach golf course.

The second annual Alumni dinner was a big success – nearly 50 attendees. We had a few people from out-of-town and hope to have more "SnowBirds", out-of-towners, as well as "locals," at our next "Snowball."

Membership currently stands at 704 members, of whom 415 are lifetime members and 15 are complimentary.

The AFTAC annual spring picnic is scheduled for 1 May (Note: just 2 days before my retirement on 3 May) and we're expecting a good Alumni turnout.

The Brevard County Stand-Down for homeless veterans will take place 24 April; volunteers are needed for the 8 AM – 4 PM project. Jack Jackson is the alumni person to contact.



the finest...ONLY becoming finer

Important Information

INFORMATION FROM FRANK HALL

In accordance with section 1084 of the Fiscal

Year 1998 National Defense Authorization Act, the Secretary of Defense approved awarding Cold War Recognition Certificates to all members of the armed forces and qualified federal government/civilian personnel who faithfully served the United States during the Cold War era, from Sept. 2, 1945, to Dec. 26, 1991. Applications will be accepted beginning April 5, 1999. An online application form will be posted on the net at that time. Beginning on April 5, 1999 you may apply for a Cold War Recognition Certificate if you qualify.

Preview, who is eligible? All members of the armed forces and federal government civilian personnel who faithfully served the United States during the Cold War era, Sept. 2, 1945, to Dec. 26, 1991. Be prepared for April 5th,. Obtain the required documents and be ready to mail or fax them in support of your application. Online application is preferred; however, the application form may be printed and mailed, or faxed. The application form also will be available through other sources to be announced

(Awards Ceremony continued from page 5)

Let us not forget that success in any endeavor is based on such a principle, most emphatically our AFTAC Alumni Association.

P.S. I had the honor of being seated beside Mrs. **Bobby Cobb**, Colonel Cobb's wife. He is doing as well as can be expected, and he sends his best. Remember Alumni "He is our Chairman of the Board." Godspeed sir and congratulations to Frank Hall.

(Command Update continued from page 10)

You've also heard over the past ten years how things are changing. There is no doubt this is a very true statement. The traditional national level missions are still our cornerstone, but we've been getting into numerous areas that directly support the warfighter. No matter what we do though, people are what continue to make the mission happen.

I look forward to the challenges ahead, both as the AFTAC Superintendent and your Florida Chapter Activities Chairman. See you soon.

**HOPES OF HEALTH FOR...**

Col. (Ret.) Walker

**TAPS**

**In Memory of Those We
Knew But Are Now Gone
(1862) by Gen. Daniel Butterfield**

Day Is done; gone the sun,
From the lakes, from the hills,
from the sky.

All is well, safely rest;
God is nigh.

Fading light dims the sight,
And a star lights the sky, gleaming bright;
From afar, drawing nigh,
Falls the night.

Thanks and praise for our days,
'Neath the sun, 'neath the stars, 'neath the sky;
As we go, this we know:
God is' nigh.

IN MEMORY OF

THOMAS ELVIN DESSERT (see article)
CHARLES (CHUCK) VESLEY

BEST IN ETERNAL PEACE

Information provided by Al Williams <abwilli@digital.net>

Funeral Services for AFTAC Alumni Maj (Ret)**Thomas E. Dessert**

Ms. Dessert and her two sons, Tom and Dan, reside at 3501 Monarch Street, Melbourne, FL. Funeral services were held at Suntree Methodist Church, North Wickham Road, on Tuesday, 12 January

BIOGRAPHY, MAJ (RET) THOMAS ELVIN DESSERT

Major Dessert reported to Headquarters AFTAC in Dec, 1987. He was the resource advisor to the Communications-Computer System Directorate. As the resource advisor, he was in charge of all long-haul communications, ADPE, frequency management, to include

cellular, and TEMPEST. In October of 1991, Major Dessert was assigned as the Commander, Det 11, 39th Communications Squadron, Incirlik Air Base, Turkey - mission - high frequency radio relay and weather interception.

In Memoriam, Mike Pennefather

DUANE BRACKEN REMEMBERS

I was sorry to read about the death of Col. Pennefather. I was a young two striper when "Big Mike" met me at the Alice Springs airport in March 1963. Mike made me feel welcome as did "Janie" and I recall a few good bridge games at their home. Mike was a young 1st Lt. at the time and we played baseball, basketball and hunted kangaroo together. Seems like only a few years ago - yet its 35. How fast the time rolls by.

In Memoriam, Chuck Chunn,

RON COOK REMEMBERS

I recognized Chuck in the picture that was printed in the last Post-Monitor and it brought to mind the following memory. Great work.

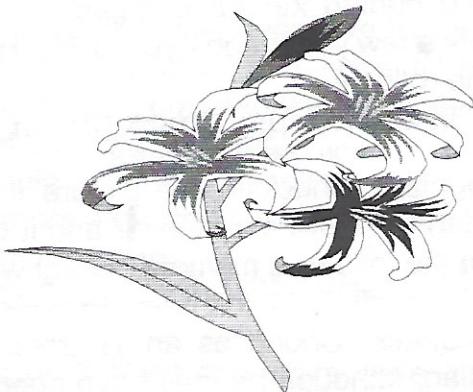
"Saved my life?" I think, I recall correctly that I met "Chuck" Chunn as an 'H' troop out at McClellan, although he may have been 'B' as I was to shortly cross-train. At Lackland, I remember asking the Major for the longest school, "B," and ended up with the shortest, "H." Maybe Chuck cross-trained with me. At any rate, I wound up at Ankara, Turkey, Aug. 1966.

After about 10 months there, someone from McClellan appeared TDY to install new equipment, or some such, and Chuck was among them. His mild, thoughtful manner left a memorable impression on me, so I was happy to see him again.

An afternoon party was planned in the backyard of someone "living on the economy" and we were all sitting in a semi-circle, myself at one end, Chuck at the other. I had finished one beer and Chuck was, face-covered, reading a newspaper. Exciting, eh?

I began to feel a loss of equilibrium and being quite frightened owing to a family history of heart attack (both grandfathers had

lived through 4), I was about to tell the fellow beside me that I was in trouble and may need assistance. I couldn't believe one beer was affecting me that way. My stability returned, but only momentarily when I seemed to be having another attack. Frantically, I glanced at the others and arriving at the newspapers held aloft opposite me, I saw them drop to reveal a quizzical look on Chuck's face and was immediately trans-fixed. He said, "We're having an earthquake." There have been few times when I have been so relieved: 350 km to the northwest, and northwest of Istanbul, there had been a 7+ earthquake that cracked some walls in the city of Ankara.



The Mail Room

Any requests for action should be sent to AFTAC Alumni Association, PO Box 254892-Patrick AFB, FL 32925-0892

Letters of a general nature, requesting no action, may be e-mailed to the editors, chrisjohn@juno.com

Letters may be edited for clarity and space; any opinions are those of the writer(s) and may not reflect Association belief or policy

Cyberspace 12/98

Col. Meis. follows up last issue's email with this one...

Am now in South Carolina. Good to hear from you. My address, "RMeisenhe@aol.com". Best (and belated) Holiday Wishes and Happy New Year!

Bob Meisenheimer thanks for the update, you're close enough now to come down once in awhile, see you then...

Cyberspace 12/22/98

Subject: Wasamottoyou? I remember most of reunion , heckkuva party, but I don't remember that we divorced. Either I've forgotten my

dues or there was more at the reunion than I can recall. You don't write or send flowers or even call, please, lets make-up. Seriously, if I'm over-due let me know, I miss the newsletters. **Bill Taylor, CMSGT** William Taylor

(bntaylor@ohiohills.com) Bill, thanks for your email, and Judy and Mary will fix you up... the divorce was probably not final, just a trial separation so you would realize the importance of the relationship...**Mary (Welch)** is a great counselor, for a price and will get back with you...John PS glad you miss us

Cyberspace

1/15/99

Subject: for Joe Goldian

Would you please tell Joe Goldian, I've almost run out of that jar of instant Nestea he left at the CMR when he and I were there. He was working on Workflow. Thanks,

Ron Cook consider it done Ron...and expect the strong hint here is to have Joe replenish the Nestea, and thanks for the well written memoriam to Chuck Chunn

Lawrence, KS

12/98

sent with a Christmas card with a snow scene...

I thought I would send this snow scene so you can remember better what snow looks like. We have not had any snow this year, we are hoping for a white Christmas. I can still remember my 10 months ('65-'66) in Thailand (Ubon Rachatani) when the temperature never got under 50 degrees.

In fact I can still remember my 2 years ('63-'65) in McClellan AFB, CA. The temperature there never got under 30 degrees, and one winter we had just a few flakes of snow. By '63 I was with HQ. Ground Electronics Installation Agency instead of Western Field Office.

I can even remember the four inch snow we had while I was stationed in Temporary Bldg T on Constitution Avenue. The city lost almost all power for at least 48 hours and we had no electricity in Pimmit Hills, VA, for a week.

Jack and Frances Wagley we remember some snow years in VA also Jack. One winter (year escapes me, I'm sure some of our readers remember) our shift got snowed in for almost 24 hours - the only guy that managed to relieve us was Harvey Shaw, and you know we could not trust all that "chinery" to him

Cyberspace

1/26/99

TOD MEMORIES

I view the deactivation of Tech Ops Div with great sadness. I have great memories of TOD, Bldgs 628 and 626, the Russell Bldg, Bldg 949, and FTD 510L in Splinter City. I had some great leaders and supervisors there-

people like Wayne Zahm, Marv Gibson, Jim McMurtry, "Butch" Kemna, "Bo" Ferris, Fred Van Dyck and "Chief" Edwards, men who talked the talk and walked the walk, to use current Army vernacular. I also developed some great friendships with the "Lab" folks-spending after-duty hours learning to do Initial Assay and Counting, trying to learn the fundamentals of Mass Spectrometry, or getting involved in the physics of cryogenics with the "Gas House Gang." Moving the entire operation to the new Russell Bldg was an eventful chapter; meticulous planning brought it off without only minor hiccups; the guys in the lab had a monumental task engineering the movement of "built-in-place," one-of-a-kind systems while maintaining an operational capability. I could go on for pages with memoris of people and events. I'll miss the festivities in April, but my memories will live forever.

Clark Wilberg Clark, thanks for the memories and we'd like to be flooded with these for the next issue...if we get enough, we'll run a separate column of them

Cyberspace

2/23/99

Guess who? How r u guys? Finally got on line but still trying to figure out how it works. Hate these damn things anyway. Something about old dogs and new tricks I think. Since I got on line and updated my info in the alumni directory I've gotten a couple of emails from ya'll down there. Thought that was pretty neat. I even corrected the spelling of my last name after all these years. Thought that was even neater. I do look at the AFTAC info every so often and really enjoy it. You guys do a great job down there with all that stuff and I'm sure there are a lot more people out here like me who visit every now and again and get some enjoyment from it. Thanx. later.

Bill Schmied thanks Bill, but Chris says next time capitalize properly so it won't be so much trouble to use your missives

Cyberspace

2/28

What follows are a series of electronic transmissions across the AFTAC world - it started with Chief Jim "Red" Davis (Canada) calling with a plea for Chiefs stripes...and us deciding to put his request out to the alumni ...well, we'll just let the email content relate this outstanding series of events...typical great AFTAC work and support. My "email to all alumni" request was put out the same day we asked for it by our outstanding webmeisters, Mike Black and Dave Johnson, it follows:

From: alumni@picard.csihq.com

To: undisclosed-recipients:;

Date: Sat, 27 Feb 1999 08:30:59 -0500

Subject: Any old chiefs out there?

Alumni, John Horsch here asking for help. Last night an old alumni friend, and a friend of many of us, called - CMSgt (Ret.) Jim (Red) Davis - he is finally getting around to building himself a shadowbox, and he'd like to put the old-style (previous style) chief stripes in it - both a large one and a smaller one. If anyone can help with the donation of stripes or selling them or advise on where to find them, please email (us)

Jim is still kicking around Canada and is not wired, so I'll have to work with him by phone or mail. Thanks for reading this and appreciate any input you have. John and Chris

many answers came, this was one of them
On Sun, 28 Feb 1999 09:11:01 -0600 "Robert MacManus" rmacmanus@worldnet.att.net writes: John let me know if you haven't received a response to this. I believe I can go looking and find both. I worked in the zip room for Chief Davis and you in 69-70 and would be honored to send him mine. Regards, Al MacManus (CMSgt, Ret)

OUR REPLY

Al,

This is a great idea..."Red" getting the stripes from someone who worked for him 30 years ago, that would mean a lot to him - there's been several ideas/offers but yours is by far the most meaningful.

Chief (Ret.) Davis's address and ph # are in the Florida Chapter directory, and I think it would really tickle him if you would go ahead and send them to him with a note explaining how we did this (I did not tell him I was going to put his request out on the internet - since he's not wired he probably does not know about this great resource at our finger tips).

If you do not have the directory, give me another holler and I'll send you his address and ph #. This is great to hear from you like this and I'm so happy for you that you also made Chief...good work - we'd like an update from you on your life both for us and for the newsletter, if you would. John Mike Black sends us these phone #'s helpful for memorabilia seekers, 817-855-0988/941-775-2100 Ben Vlassick passes this reply on from a Post-Monitor letter he carried in the CO newsletter

Hi Ben, I was reading the recent issue of Echos and noticed the letter from Bert R. Miller regarding Frank (Dungan). Frank left AFTAC and was assigned to the Western Missle range in Ca. He died of a heart attack several years ago. Col. Charles D. Johnson, TD-5 .AFTAC.

❖POST-MONITOR Alumni Album❖

Album Three

Photos, Alumni Association

Sponsored Events

January 1999



Sages gathered for the first annual "SnowBall" on 1/23. Herewith we provide some "up-close and personal" experiences with the event and the participants. Whether you view these on the website or in the Post-Monitor, enjoy - John and Chris!!!



Col. Beatty Jerry
LaBarre Bob
Jones

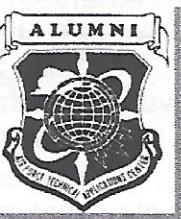
Ken Myers Heather
Miller

Our Photographers collaborate
Bob Judy
(digital) Wiley (film) Milam

John Caban Diane/Col.
Beatty



Ron Couch Marlene Swede/Chun Hui
Swansen

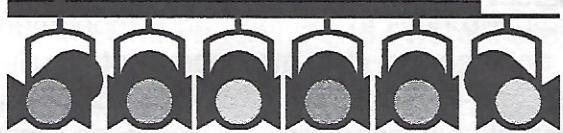


The Alumni Anthem
Over the years and at younger ages ...
GS, E and O were our gauges

But now we've reached the best of
stages ...
Being one of AFTAC's SAGES



Bob/Sharon
Davie



Terry LaBarre Col. Beatty Ethel Jones Liz/Bill Cronin PJ/Dave O'Brien

Tom/Judy Niquette Judy Milam

PJ Terry/Patty O'Brien Hammond

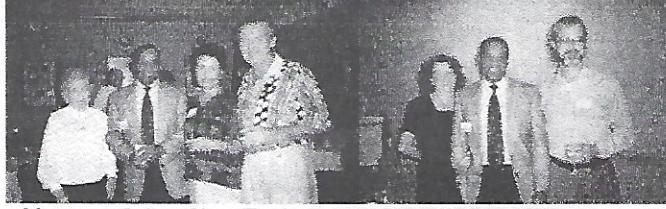


Gail Bill
McCune



Ruth/Clark Creery

(up, far right) Karen Thomas/Dave Johnson
Eunice John Curt Carl John
Joe/Sue Bob Ken Harris Horsch Harris Gailey Hamlett
Goldian Wiley Myers Chris Horsch Jean Hamlett



Mayme Col Cisco/Fred Diane/Col. Joe
Gailey Beatty VanDyck Beatty Goldian

Fred/Cisco VanDyck Ethel/Bob Jones Gail/Bill
Mayme Gailey Jerry/Terry LaBarre McCune John
Caban



Important Dates

Association Board/Membership Meetings

All members and prospective members are encouraged to attend. Meetings are scheduled (verify before coming) for the second Monday of each month (dates listed below):

WHEN: 1730 (5:30 PM)

WHERE: AFTAC HQ building

HOW: come to the lobby and a Board Member will meet, greet and escort

CALENDAR, 1999

Major Event!!!

April 7 - 11 WFO-1155th-TOD Closure/Reunion, see page one, the webpage or the short synopsis on page 10

April 12th

Board/Membership Meetings, 1730

Two Major Events!!!

May 1st, AFTAC Annual Picnic, Wickham Park (BCC) pavilion, \$4 Adults, \$2 Children - Sage participation and assistance encouraged (beer-meisters, games, etc.) mark this on your calendar and bring your fun (page 3).

(**May 3rd, 1000am**, Judy Milam retirement)

May 7th, 1230pm, Alumni association golf tournament and get-to-gether at Cocoa Beach, followed by eats and prizes (page 1).

May 10th

Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

June 14th

Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

End of June - Post Monitor mailing

July 12th

Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

August 9th

Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

September 13th

Board/Membership Meeting, 1730

End of June - Post Monitor mailing

Shopping Center

Mail orders to: AFTAC Alumni Asc., ATTN: Sales Staff, PO Box 254892. Patrick AFB FL, 32925-0892

Include additional \$3.00 for shipping and handling*

*no shipping and handling charged on logo pins

Thanks for your support!!

INVENTORY OF CLOTHING/MEMORABILIA ITEMS

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SALE (as of 16 February 1999):

PURCHASED WITH ALUMNI FUNDS - Multi Color Logo:

		MED	LG	XL	XXL
JACKETS - Unlined/Royal Blue ~ \$20		2	2	0	1
GOLF SHIRTS - with pocket - \$14	Sea Teal (aqua blue)	1	5	3	2
	Jade (medium green)	2	3	2	2
	Navy	2	1	2	5
	Red	2	2	1	2
	White	1	1	2	2
	Royal Blue	2	1	1	2
	Teal (dark aqua)	2	0	0	2
	Maroon	1	2	4	2
T-SHIRTS - without pocket - \$7.00	Light Blue	1	0	2	1
	Royal Blue	1	2	3	4
	Navy	3	3	3	0
	Ash Gray	1	1	0	2
	Purple	1	2	1	1
	Red	2	2	2	2
	Fuscia	2	2	2	2
	Mini Green	2	2	2	2
	Jade Green	1	2	3	2
HATS:	Green	11		Ceramic Mugs (\$7)	4
(\$6.00)	Gray	12		50 th Commemorative Coins (\$3)	~365
	Red	11		Logo Pins (\$3.25)	100
	Royal Blue	8		Logo Disks (\$3.50)	16
	Light Blue	13		Alumni License Plates	
	Navy	10		(\$7-members/\$10-nonmembers)	13

PURCHASED BY THE ROOSTERS CLR - most say ALUMNUS rather than ALUMNI:

	LG	XL
JACKETS - Unlined/Royal Blue - \$20		3
GOLF SHIRTS - Med. Blue/with pocket/White logo - \$14.00	14	10
GOLF SHIRT - White/no pocket/multi-color logo - \$14.00		1
HATS - Cotton - \$5.00: Medium Blue: 2		

CONTENTS

NOTE: the web-like pound sign (#) identifies articles that are also featured on the association webpage "cshq.com/aftacalumni"

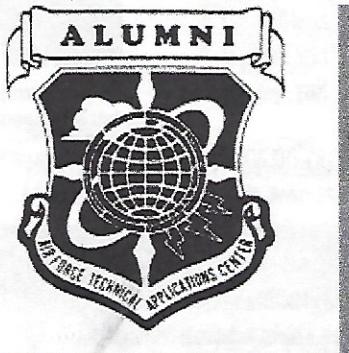
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|------------|---|--|
| Page 1 | - | #Spotlight - The Big Story (TOD Closure) - #Alumni Alerts - "What's Comin' Up" |
| Page 2 | - | #Association Honor Roll - #Chapter Information - #Editorial |
| Page 4-5 | - | Alumni Events - "What's Gone Down" |
| Page 5-7 | - | Features, "I Remember" - "Where Are Ya?!" - "A Barely Substantiated (BS) Tale" |
| Page 8-10 | - | Monitoring Active-Duty Doins' |
| Page 13-14 | - | Your Board Writes |
| Page 15 | - | #Alumni To Remember |
| Page 16-17 | - | The Mail Room |
| Page 18- | - | Insert - Post-Monitor Alumni Album #3 |
| Page 19 | - | #Important Dates - #Calendar - #Shopping Center |
| Page 20 | - | #Contents - Address Label/Dues Due Notice |

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The AFTAC Emblem symbolizes the unit and, when in color, contains the AF (blue and gold) as well as the national colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of AF operations; yellow, the sun and excellence of personnel. The globe indicates worldwide mission, locations and geophysical studies; the lightning and cloud depict study on natural phenomena and the compass points reflect the assigned tasks around the world. The rings around the globe symbolize electronic instrument readings and unity of purpose and display electronic measurements accomplished. The elliptical belt symbolizes the study of the atmosphere.



LT <- FY Dues Due in Oct!
EDWIN A JACHIM
218 S. NORTON ST
NEW BUFFALO MI 49117 1445

IN GOD WE still TRUST - ALL OTHERS, WE used to MONITOR!